

fell to his lot. He was the first President of the Pathological Society, and at a subsequent date President of the Royal Medico-Chirurgical Society, and in 1874 was appointed Physician Extraordinary to the Queen. Retirement from practice took place in 1875, when he took up his residence at his villa at Cannes, visiting England only in the summer. Death was the result of congestion of the lungs. Dr. Williams was author of the well-known standard text-book "Principles of Medicine," as well as of "Diseases of the Chest" and (jointly with his son) of "Pulmonary Consumption," and contributed numerous papers of great scientific value to the medical journals of the last half century.

Medical Items.

YOUR DUTY TO YOUR NEIGHBOR.—The case of *Horne versus Jessop* recently tried before Mr. Justice Denman in England is interesting from a medico-legal point of view. Mrs. Horne, a laundress at Huddersfield, sent her little boy to collect an account from her customer, Mr. Jessop, having no reason to know that Mr. Jessop's daughter, then in the house, had been stricken down with scarlet fever. That was on the 8th of June, and on the 11th little Horne was found to be sickening. On the 11th his little sister was, under like circumstances, sent to Mr. Jessop's abode to fetch a bundle of linen for the wash, and two days after this child showed the initial symptoms of the same disease. Altogether four children were affected. The medical evidence went to show that from the fourth to the seventh day is the common period of infection, though it was admitted that it could take place within two days, and it was urged by the defence that scarlet fever was in the neighborhood, and that infection may have arisen from other sources. Further, it was contended that the linen carried by the children had not been exposed to the infection of the disease. The suit ended in a verdict, by consent, for the defendant, who was understood to have made a satisfactory arrangement with the Horne family. As Mr. Justice Denman hinted, there was much doubt and uncertainty in the case, but the lesson to be learnt is plain enough, viz., that when infectious disease occurs soiled linen must be washed at home.