

HIS WORK AND PUBLICATIONS.

Although he had made extensive discoveries in vertebrata, especially birds, he is best remembered for his work in malacology and entomology. It is claimed that his knowledge of the crustacea was superior to that of any other naturalist of his time. He was a profuse writer. During the nine years of his active scientific life, he contributed no less than 31 papers to the organs of learned societies, and in addition four voluminous treatises entitled respectively (1) *The Zoological Miscellany*, 3 Vols., (2) *Malacostraca podophthalma Britannicæ*, (3) *Systematic catalogue of the indigenous mammalia and birds*, (4) *A synopsis of the mollusca of Great Britain*. He also described the animals taken by the Congo Expedition and contributed articles to several encyclopædias.

THE END.

No wonder that such an output in the first 9 years of active life led to a premature termination of his labours. After 15 years of slow recovery and secluded life under the care of his sister, he died of cholera in Italy on 25th August 1836.

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Black, Greene Vardimen (1836-1915).

G. V. BLACK, the American dentist, was born on 3rd August 1836 at Winchester, Illinois. At 17, he took up the study of medicine and three years later he became an apprentice in dentistry. A year later he began practice in his own town and later in Jacksonville. He was Lecturer in Dentistry at the Missouri Dental College from 1870 to 1880. He then became Professor of Dentistry in the Chicago College of Dentistry (1883-1889), in the University of Iowa (1890-91) and in the North-Western University Dental School (1891-1915). He was the Dean of the last-mentioned school from 1897. It is an unusual coincidence that his son, Dr. Arthur Davenport Black, who is also an eminent dental surgeon, was Professor of Operative Dentistry for many years during his father's deanship and himself continues as the dean from 1917.

HIS WRITINGS.

Black's first paper appeared in the July 1869 issue of the *Missouri Dental Journal*. He was a frequent contributor to several dental periodicals of America. He also published several books on dentistry. His first book came out in 1884 under the title *The formation of poisons by micro-*

organisms. In 1887 came *A study of the histological characters of the periosteum and periodental membrane*. The two famous books of his are the *Dental Anatomy* (1891) and *The Operative Dentistry*, 2 V. (1908). At a banquet tendered to him five years before his death by the Chicago Odontographic Society, a pamphlet was distributed containing more than 500 titles of books, papers and reports written by him. At the time of his death, it was estimated that their number had reached 1,000.

HIS CONTRIBUTIONS.

Black was a pioneer in many departments of dentistry. The pages of *Dental Cosmos* contain many of his discoveries. He gave the successful rule of practice for dentists in preventing the loss of workability by cohesive gold when stored in the dental cabinet. He evolved a method of making alloys for amalgam as a filling for tooth cavities. He invented the cord driven, foot power, dental engine. He supplied the patterns for 102 cutting instruments necessary for the proper excavation of cavities. He steadily refused to commercialise his work and freely placed all the results of his labours at the disposal of his profession.

HIS HONOURS.

In 1901, he was elected President of the National Dental Association of America. Five universities conferred Honorary Degrees on him. In 1910, he was the first recipient of the Miller Memorial Prize awarded by the International Dental Federation for "eminent services to dentistry". This international prize was established by the Federation in memory of its president Professor Miller of the Berlin University. The award is biennial and consists of a gold medal, a diploma of honour and the interests of a fund of £3,000. His former pupils are said to be scattered over the world—in America, in Europe, in Asia, Africa and Australia. His activities continued till within a few weeks of his death. In 1915, appeared his last book, *Diseases and treatment of the investing tissues of the teeth and the dental pulp*, and his last article appeared in July 1915, while he died on August 31. An estimate of his personality was given as follows by one of his colleagues. "He was great in achievements, great also in his simplicity and sincerity. He climbed the heights, but he took his fellows with him every step of the way."