

PROF. LIONEL SMITH BEALE, F.R.S.

PROF. LIONEL SMITH BEALE, F.R.S., whose death occurred on March 28 at the age of seventy-eight years, was the son of Mr. Lionel John Beale, and was educated at King's College School and King's College, London. A year after taking his degree in medicine he established a private laboratory in Carey Street, Lincoln's Inn, for pathological, microscopical, and chemical research and teaching; and in 1853, at the early age of twenty-five, was appointed professor of physiology and general and morbid anatomy at King's College. He afterwards held the chair of pathology, and finally that of the principles and practice of medicine at King's College, resigning the latter in 1896. For forty years Prof. Beale was physician to King's College Hospital, and among other honours and appointments received by him during his active career may be mentioned the Baly medal in 1871 for researches in physiology; Croonian lecturer to the Royal Society, 1865; Lumleian lecturer, Royal College of Physicians, London, 1875; president of the Royal Microscopical Society, 1879; and Government medical referee for England, 1891-1904.

As a teacher, Prof. Beale was remarkable for his lucidity; and his lectures were admirably delivered, riveting the attention of his hearers. He had the esteem of all his pupils; and those who had the privilege of a closer intimacy with him feel that they have indeed sustained a great loss by his death.

His principal work, that which gained him the Fellowship of the Royal Society, was on the minute structure of the tissues; "Beale's carmine stain" and his injection mixtures are well known to all microscopists.

Prof. Beale was the author of many works, among the best known being the "Archives of Medicine," containing researches carried out in the laboratory at Carey Street; "How to Work with the Microscope"; "The Microscope in Medicine"; "Protoplasm, Physical Life and Law"; "The Liver"; and "Slight Ailments and their Treatment," besides many papers in the Philosophical Transactions and other publications of learned societies.

R. T. H.

NOTES.

THE fourteenth "James Forrest" lecture of the Institution of Civil Engineers will be delivered by Mr. K. A. Hadfield on Wednesday, May 2, the subject being "Unsolved Problems in Metallurgy."

THE Government of India has decided, with the approval of the Secretary of State, to establish an institute in India as a centre for practical instruction of medical officers and subordinates in the use and management of Röntgen ray apparatus, and as a depôt for the storage and repair of such apparatus. The institute will be located at Dehra Dun, and will be under the superintendence of an officer of the Indian Medical Service.

PROF. R. MELDOLA, F.R.S., has been made an Officier de l'Instruction publique of France for his services in connection with the foundation of the Alliance Franco-Britannique, of which association he is the honorary secretary.

A REUTER message states that, after perceptible shocks of earthquake, a crevice, out of which lava flowed, opened on the side of Mount Vesuvius, on March 28, some hundred yards from the upper station of the Funicular Railway. The eruption from the principal crater also continues.

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At the Meteorological Office Mr. R. G. K. Lempfert has been appointed superintendent of the statistical branch, Mr. Ernest Gold has been selected for appointment as superintendent of the instruments branch, and Mr. J. A. Curtis succeeds Mr. J. S. Harding as cashier and chief clerk.

THE Easter excursion of the Geologists' Association will this year be to Lyme Regis. The party will leave London on Thursday, April 12, and return to town on Tuesday, April 17. A detailed itinerary and time-table has been published by the association. The excursion will be directed by Dr. H. B. Woodward, F.R.S., and Mr. G. W. Young, the excursion secretary.

THE death is announced of Mr. Carl Heinrich von Siemens. Born in 1829 at Menzendorf, in Mecklenburg, he was the sixth son of a family of fourteen. For the greater part of his life he cooperated with his brothers Werner, William, and Friedrich in the development of the various undertakings with which the name of Siemens is associated. A detailed notice of his career is published in the *Engineer* of March 30.

ACCORDING to a Laffan telegram from New York, dated March 31, the De Forest Wireless Telegraphy Company has been sending experimental messages from its station at Coney Island to Ireland every night for some time, and on March 28 a thousand words were transmitted, of which 572 were received and recorded. The longest distance that had previously been covered by this company's service was from Coney Island to Colon, 2100 miles; the new record is 3200 miles. The sending stations in Ireland are not yet completed, so that a tetrahedral kite is used temporarily for receiving work.

THE following are among the lecture arrangements at the Royal Institution after Easter:—Prof. W. Stirling, three lectures on glands and their products; Dr. P. Chalmers Mitchell, two lectures on the digestive tract in birds and mammals; the Rev. J. P. Mahaffy, two lectures on (1) the expansion of old Greek literature by recent discoveries, (2) the influence of ptolemaic Egypt on Græco-Roman civilisation; Prof. W. J. Sollas, F.R.S., three lectures on man and the Glacial period; and Sir J. Dewar, F.R.S., two lectures on the old and the new chemistry. The Friday evening meetings will be resumed on April 27, when Prof. J. W. Gregory, F.R.S., will deliver a discourse on ore deposits and their distribution in depth. Succeeding discourses will probably be given by the Hon. C. A. Parsons, F.R.S., Prof. J. H. Poynting, F.R.S., Prof. A. Schuster, F.R.S., Mr. L. Hill, F.R.S., Prof. H. Moissan, F.R.S., Sir James Dewar, F.R.S., and others.

IN the House of Commons on Monday, Sir W. Foster asked why dead specimens of cancer, preserved in a non-deleterious fluid, have been declared to be forbidden admittance to the post, and why certain specimens, addressed to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund, were ordered to be destroyed immediately on their arrival in this country from abroad. In the course of his reply, Mr. Buxton said:—"The cancer specimens addressed to the Cancer Research Fund are, I am informed on the highest authority, harmless; and, as I am assured that the use of the post is of great importance for the successful prosecution of the researches of the fund, I hope to be able to make a special exception in their favour. I think it desirable, however, that the matter should be discussed with the delegates of the countries principally concerned at the approaching Postal Congress, and I have instructed