

OBITUARY NOTICE

DR. EDMOND LANDOLT

On May 9 last there passed away in the person of Dr. Edmond Landolt a link between the heroes of ophthalmology of a previous generation and the specialists of the present day. He worked as a pupil under Helmholtz, von Graefe, Snellen, and Donders, and published his first book in Paris nearly fifty years ago.

Landolt was born in Switzerland of a French mother and a Swiss father. He came to France during the war in 1871 with a Swiss ambulance hospital, and was present at the battles around Belfort, where he contracted enteric fever. After study and practice at Utrecht and in Germany he established himself in Paris in 1874, working particularly with Charcot, at the Salpêtrière. Later he was offered the chair of ophthalmology at Berne, and also at Zurich, but having become oculist to the Institution Nationale des Jeunes Aveugles he preferred to remain in Paris, where with Panas and Poncet he re-founded the *Archives d'Ophthalmologie*, which had ceased publication many years previously. In 1882, with de Wecker, he published a complete treatise on ophthalmology, while many translations of his works have been published in England and America. He also contributed with Snellen an important volume to the second edition of the Graefe-Saemisch Handbuch.

He was particularly interested in the action of the ocular muscles and their disorders, and will go down in history as the pioneer of their study and treatment. In 1911 he delivered the Bowman Lecture, and was made an honorary member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. The last of his many visits to England was in 1924, for the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress, where he read a communication on strabismus: those who were present will remember his pathetic forecast that it would be his last visit.

In addition to his outstanding merit as an ophthalmologist he was conspicuous for his tact and charm of manner. He received much royal patronage as shown by the Orders he held. In addition to the 1870-71 medal and the rosette of the Legion of Honour, they included those of Spain, Italy, Roumania, Greece, and Turkey.

Of distinguished appearance, he was a man of the world, an interesting companion, and an affectionate friend. He leaves a widow and two sons; Dr. Fernand Landolt, a laryngologist, who was very severely wounded in the war, and Dr. Marc Landolt, who is a member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom. We desire to express our profound sympathy in their loss.