

own desire, he undertook the particular investigation which he was completing at the time of his death. Though a man of gentle disposition, and very modest in his demeanour, Haward undoubtedly was conscious in the right way of his experimental powers, which excited the daily admiration of those whose privilege it was to watch their rapid development. He had in a marked degree the instinct of the true artist, which was never satisfied with anything less than the best. He was twenty-six years of age, and was married only fifteen months ago.

ANOTHER Kew veteran has passed away in the person of JOHN READER JACKSON, who died on October 28 at his house at Lymptstone, near Exmouth, Devon, aged eighty-three. Mr. Jackson was born in 1837 at Knightsbridge, but his family removed about 1843 to Canterbury, where he received his early education, returning in 1851 to school in London. Through the influence of Prof. Thomas Bell, then president of the Linnean Society of London, he was given charge of the museums at Kew, then in process of development under Sir William Hooker, and for nearly twenty years he discharged his duties single-handed, until in 1879 he received the help of an assistant. His work left him but little time for literary diversion, but we owe to him not a few contributions in applied botany in various journals, as in those of the Linnean and Pharmaceutical Societies, the *Technologist*, *Gardeners' Chronicle*, and the like. Mr. Jackson brought out a new edition of Barton and Castle's "British Flora Medica" in 1877, and in 1890 appeared his excellent "Commercial Botany of the Nineteenth Century." He was elected an associate of the Linnean Society in 1868, and was the senior on the list at the time of his death.

WE regret to record the death of DR. CHARLES INFROIT, late head of the radiological service at the Salpêtrière Hospital, Paris. The death of Dr. Infroit adds one more to the list of victims to X-ray dermatitis. A pioneer in the subject of X-rays in medicine, he was injured through over-exposure to the rays at a time when these dangers were not fully appreciated. Despite the disabilities by which he was handicapped, he made numerous contributions to the literature of the subject of radiology, especially from the diagnostic side. So recently as last year a paper appeared by him on the subject of concretions in the lung simulating the presence of a foreign body. A joint communication with Pascalis upon the surgery of the bones of the head appeared in the *Journal de Chirurgie*, 1912. Dr. Infroit designed and put into use a localiser of foreign bodies, which was used very considerably during the war; details of this instrument and the results obtained by its use may be found in the *Bulletin de l'Académie de Médecine*, 1915.

NEWS has just been received of the death of HOFRAT ALEXIUS MEINONG, on November 27, after a short illness, at the age of sixty-seven. Professor of philosophy at the University of Graz, to which he was appointed in 1889, Meinong was well known to philosophical students throughout the world by his important contributions to a special branch of study which he named "Gegenstandstheorie." His earliest published work was "Hume Studien," 2 vols., 1877. His principal work, and that by which he is best known, is entitled "Ueber Abnahmen," published in 1902, and a second edition of which appeared in 1910.

WE regret to announce the death, on December 13, at seventy-two years of age, of DR. ALEXANDER MUIRHEAD, F.R.S.

### Notes.

THE position of scientific men employed in the Government service has long exercised the minds of scientific workers. The responsibility for the National Physical Laboratory and for the Geological Survey has been handed over to the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research. Kew is still under the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. The Government Chemical Laboratory and the British Museum, with its Natural History Branch at South Kensington, remain distinct institutions for which the Treasury is responsible. All these institutions are largely concerned with the preservation and routine examination of specimens, testing, and the standardisation of methods, and do not serve solely for research. The Ministry of Agriculture has farmed out its research work to institutions such as Rothamsted, the Imperial College of Science and Technology, Cambridge and Oxford, etc.; it still retains, however, on its fisheries side a Research Division. Dissatisfaction has long been felt at the positions, rates of pay, and

prospects of promotion in all these offices. Scientific men claim that the positions offered to them should be at least equal in rank, in prospects, and in pay to those offered in the regular Civil Service. The matter came up for discussion at the meetings of several Sections of the British Association at Cardiff. It was referred to the council of the Association, which has now unanimously passed the following resolution and forwarded it to the First Lord of the Treasury:—"That the council considers that no scheme of payment of professional scientific men in the service of the State is satisfactory which places them on a lower level than that of the higher grade of the Civil Service." It is clear that the Treasury must agree with this resolution if the services of scientific men of the first grade are to be obtained for research purposes.

IN addition to revolutionising the methods of wireless telegraphy and rendering possible the practical development of wireless telephony, the thermionic