

*Obituary.*

RICHARD FORDE FOOTE, M.D.—“ We are pained to record the death of Richard Forde Foote, M.D., a member of the Association of Medical Officers of Asylums and Hospitals for the Insane, after a very brief illness, and in the mid-way of life. Dr. Foote was a graduate of St. Andrew's. During the great epidemic of cholera in 1848-49, as one of the special physicians appointed by the General Board of Health, he rendered good service to the public in the serious outbreaks of the disease at Mevagissy, in Cornwall, and Merthyr Tydvil, in South Wales. Subsequently, when medical superintendent of the Norfolk County Asylum, he was the means of bringing about much needed reforms in the management of that institution. In the spring of 1855 the British Government, at the request of the Sublime Porte, sent a small staff of surgeons to the aid of the British army under the command of Omar Pasha. Dr. Foote was a member of this staff. He served at Eupatoria, Varna, and in Mingrelia, and received the Queen's as well as the Sultan's Crimean medal. At the close of the Crimean war Dr. Foote married, and took up his residence at Constantinople, where he practised as a physician until the past winter. In the course of 1863 he suffered from long and serious indisposition, and while still an invalid one of his legs was accidentally fractured in two or three places. Before he had recovered from this injury, Mrs. Foote was seized with scarlet fever, then epidemic in Constantinople, and she died after a few days' illness. Shattered in health and broken down in spirits by this accumulation of ills, Dr. Foote returned to England. Benefited by the change, he appeared to be rapidly gaining strength; but it is highly probable that his previous indisposition had permanently damaged both the lungs and the kidneys. On the 12th inst., after several hours' unusual physical exertion, Dr. Foote was suddenly seized with severe dyspnœa, acute pain in the right hypogastrium, and alarming prostration. The dyspnœa and prostration were never relieved, and he died on the 17th inst. An examination of the body was not made. Dr. Foote had reached his 37th year. He was a man of great and untiring energy. During his residence in Constantinople he contributed a series of articles on the state of medical practice, and on the treatment of diarrhœa, dysentery, intermittent fever, and scurvy, in Turkey, to the 'Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science,' also various articles to the 'Journal of Mental Science,' and other journals. In 1860 he established an English quarterly review, printed in Pera, and entitled 'The Levant Review of Literature and Science.' This journal was edited by Dr. Foote up to the period of his leaving Constantinople, and it contains many articles from his pen. He founded also in Constantinople the Local Association for the Promotion of Social Science, in connection with the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science. The most noteworthy labours of the Local Association, of which Dr. Foote was the general secretary, were those directed to the relief of shipping from the vexatious quarantine regulations which are in force in Turkish ports. The latest effort of Dr. Foote's pen is a highly interesting report from the Constantinople Association, which appears in the recently published volume of 'Transactions' of the National Association for the Promotion of Social Science.”—*The Lancet*, June 25.