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W. C. Burford removed the body from the Hospital to the Morgue. The Coroner, in summing up, referred in high terms to the deceased. He was, he said, a man of extensive acquirements, and a most valuable man to the colony. He (the speaker) personally had a great deal of respect for Mr. Turner, having some knowledge of his capabilities. Professor Rennie, with whom the deceased was intimately acquainted, had spoken of him as one of the rising men of South Australia, and had a very high opinion of his ability. With the evidence before them he thought the Jury could come to no other conclusion than that death was accidental. The Jury, after a short retirement, brought in a verdict that the deceased met his death by accidentally drinking cyanide of potassium.

THE FUNERAL.

The remains of the late Mr. E. F. Turner were interred in the Woodville Cemetery on Tuesday afternoon, when a large gathering assembled to bear testimony to the high esteem in which he was held, and to mark their deep sorrow at his untimely end. During the short period he was identified with the Customs and Marine Departments the late gentleman earned the greatest regard of those with whom he came into contact, and by his lovable manner, made many personal friends. The cortege left the residence of Mr. F. Hustler, North-parade, shortly after 4 o'clock. The first mourning coach contained Messrs. F. Hustler and A. E. Hustler, and was followed by about twenty other vehicles. Pall-bearers were chosen from representatives of the University, the Gawler School of Mines, and the Customs and Marine Departments. The Registrar, Mr. C. R. Hodge, and Messrs. R. W. Chapman and W. Fuller represented the University; Mr. E. Potter, the Gawler School of Mines; Mr. J. Darby, the Marine Board; and Major Cate, the Customs. The Customs was represented by the Collector, Mr. T. N. Stephens, and Messrs. W. H. Cammell, A. C. Threlfall, W. H. F. Bayly, M. J. Conlon, H. P. Stokes, A. A. Simons, H. Howell, A. Skinner, W. Cammell, and A. Brock. The Wardens of the Marine Board present were Messrs. W. H. Phillips, Berry, Neill, and Campbell, while apologies were received from Wardens Gibbon, Cave, and Hamilton. The department was also represented by Captain Inglis, Harbourmaster; Mr. J. Campbell, Engineer-Surveyor; Mr. Smith, Superintendent Mercantile Marine; and Mr. P. W. Jones, the late Mr. Turner's assistant. Professor Tate and Mr. S. Hughes represented the Council of the Adelaide School of Mines; and Messrs. T. Forsyth, J. Dalby, G. A. Goyder, W. S. Chapman, and W. S. McKenzie, the staff; while, in addition to those already mentioned, Messrs. J. B. Allen and Purdey attended on behalf of the University. The shipping firms who more directly had business relations with the deceased gentleman in his capacity as Inspector of explosives were represented by Mr. Crompton, Elder, Smith, & Co.; Mr. Thomas, G. Wills and Co.; H. E. Hancock, Butterworth and Co. Among those who stood at the graveside were Mr. Stevington, Manager of the Produce Depot; the Revs. W. Jones, Father Enright, E. B. Turner, R. Woolcock, Captain Allan Macdonald, late R.A., and Messrs. J. H. Willis, C. J. Reynolds, J. H. Cooke, F. H. Snow, G. H. Glover, and J. E. McColl. The funeral service was conducted by the Rev. J. G. Raws. The Treasurer, Hon. F. W. Helder, sent a sympathetic message, and apologized for his unavoidable absence. Among the wreaths were beautiful ones from the University staff, the students of the Adelaide School of Mines, the School of Mines, Gawler, and the Collector and officers of Customs and Marine. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr. J. C. Haddy.

Our Gawler correspondent wrote on Tuesday:—"The death of Mr. E. F. Turner is a serious loss to Gawler, and has caused much grief to those whom his frequent visits to the town brought him into association with. He was appointed Instructor of the Science Classes of the Gawler School of Mines when the School was established in May, 1893, and he had retained his connection with the institution ever since. His deep interest in the School led him to accept much less remuneration than the work was worth, and had it not been for his readiness to meet the financial exigencies of the School operations would have had to cease. The

curriculum had just been revised, at his suggestion, with the view of making the School a training-ground for the Adelaide School of Mines, and he was very hopeful of the future. As a practical chemist he was exceptionally skilful and proficient, and, in view of this, his tragic death seems all the more pathetic. A meeting of the Council of the School of Mines was held last night. The Chairman, Mr. E. Potter, said that if they had searched the world they could not have obtained a more conscientious, thorough, and interested teacher. Time after time he stepped into the breach when financial difficulties faced the Council, and he undertook considerable responsibility, trusting alone to the honour of the Council to recoup him when funds permitted. The work of teaching the students was to him a labour of love. His salary was altogether a second consideration. The Council would look a long time before they could find one who would perform the duties as ably, conscientiously, and satisfactorily as Mr. Turner had done. He (the Chairman) felt his loss keenly. Mr. Turner had lived in his house for two nights a week for the last five or six years; he therefore knew him better than any other member of the Council. He sympathized most sincerely with his wife in her terrible bereavement. Mr. J. B. Coumbe, Hon. Secretary, proposed—"That a letter of condolence be sent to Mrs. Turner." He had been closely acquainted with Mr. Turner, and it seemed hard to realize that he was with whom he was sitting at that table but a few evenings ago would visit them no more. He endorsed what the Chairman had said about the deep interest which their late instructor took in the School. He had worked it up to its present satisfactory position. The scheme for making it a training-stone to the Adelaide School of Mines had been completed, and he was looking forward with pleasant anticipation to the arrival of the students from the Adelaide institutions for the purpose of their instruction, and would be glad to see them. He had never received

from the School the salary he ought to have had. He had consented to a reduction in a time of financial difficulty, and at another time, when the operations of the School were extended, he advanced the sum of over £50. Mr. J. F. Martin seconded. Mr. Turner's death was the greatest blow the School had had. Mr. W. Dawkins supported. He had often thought that no man would come to Gawler week after week twice a week and undertake the responsibility he had unless he had the interest of the School thoroughly at heart. It was something more than the mere remuneration that caused him to do it. Mr. A. May supported. Mr. Turner's ability in his own line was undoubted, and his death was a national loss. The proposition was carried. It was decided that the School be closed for that and the following evening.

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AN ADELAIDE MEDICAL MAN IN INDIA.

It will be remembered that some months ago Mr. Rupert W. Hornabrook, M.B., B.S., of Adelaide University, and M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P. of London, was with several other medical men selected in England to proceed to India to do battle with the bubonic plague, which at that time had gained a firm hold in the Bombay Presidency. From time to time information has come to hand which has proved that the South Australian medico had abundantly justified the confidence placed in him, the latest and most striking proof of this being afforded by his appointment to organize measures for combating the plague in the Transvaal. By the last mail we received from Mr. Hornabrook a well-bound volume of about twenty foolscap pages, containing his report, dated February 8, 1899, as Chief Medical Plague Officer at Dharwar. This interesting and valuable record is illustrated by large-sized and well-executed photographs, one of them representing the author engaged in the operations of inoculating natives with Professor Haffkine's prophylactic, another giving a view of a morning inspection at "Contact Camp," and a third depicting the process of dressing convalescent outpatients at the hospital. The report, which covers a period extending from August 28 to December 18, 1898, is most comprehensive. Beginning with an outline of the history of the appearance of the disease in Dharwar, it goes on to describe the rapid strides made by it in a marvellously short space of time. Then follows a description of the plague hospital and its staff, of the number of patients admitted, and of the methods of treatment adopted. Special prominence is given to the results of inoculation, which appear to have been most satisfactory. Thus it is stated that out of 83 cases once inoculated 59, or 71.08, recovered, and of 16 cases twice inoculated 13, or 81.25 per cent., recovered. At the beginning of the epidemic the hospital officials numbered 17, but by the middle of October the total had increased to 32. Many details are supplied respecting the degree of infectiousness of the plague at various stages of its development, and the precautions taken to guard against the spread of the malady. A high compliment is paid to the whole of the staff, and in particular to the head assistant, to the three English lady nurses, and the native helpers. It was the last-mentioned, it is remarked, "who ran the greatest risks, and bore, to a very great extent, the full force of the battle, yet in no instance was there any serious complaint, and never a word about retiring from the contest." The municipal authorities are commended for their hearty co-operation, which seems to have been effective, in counteracting native prejudices against the treatment, which in some places proved a serious impediment in the way of the proper carrying-out of remedial measures. A memo. of results indicates the virulent nature of the disease, for of 757 patients admitted 434 died. This heavy mortality is attributed to the fact that at least half of the sufferers brought to the hospital were beyond the reach of medical aid when they entered its portals. Appended to the report are notes illustrating the advantages of inoculation with Professor Haffkine's prophylactic, and tables setting out the occupations and castes of patients and various other particulars of a more or less interesting character.

DEATH BY POISON.

Seldom has a bright and useful career been suddenly cut short by an accident of a simpler or more easily explained nature than that which on Sunday last caused the death of Mr. E. F. Turner, the late Inspector of Explosives and Customs Analyst. A tumbler containing a solution of the deadly poison cyanide of potassium was mistaken for a glass of cold water, and, the day being warm, a considerable quantity of the liquid was imbibed at one draught. The flavour of the solution must at once have apprised a skilled analyst like Mr. Turner of the terrible mistake which had been committed, and in that moment he must have known, practically for a certainty, that he was marked for almost immediate death. A sad case of a similar mistake occurred in Queensland not long ago, although under different circumstances. A lad, who had just been taken on by the Manager of a Company engaged in cyaniding tailings for the extraction of gold, mistook a solution tank for the receptacle which held the drinking water, and quenched his thirst from it. Returning to work he remarked that the water had tasted very bitter, and soon the fatal error was discovered. A few minutes afterwards the poor young fellow sank down paralysed in his limbs, and he died before the evening. Skilled chemists, of course, have to take the risks incidental to their profession just like any other class of men. In the medical profession there always exists an appreciable amount of special peril of contracting deadly disease, and if any doctor tried to ensure himself against this his life would become almost a burden to him through the multitude of precautions which he would have to take. In reference to such an article as cyanide of potassium it is hardly practicable to provide that it should carry its own danger signal by tinting it red, as is done with some popular carbolic preparations. The analyst very frequently makes his tests with the chemical through noting the changes of colour produced by adding it to solutions of other reagents. A good rule, however, is never on any account to put poisonous substances when in a liquid state into bottles or glasses which bear the least resemblance to those employed for potable fluids. The antidote described by Mr. J. C. Fraser, whose letter appears in another column, is an effective one, but is not always at hand. With regard to poisons generally, however, it can never be too frequently impressed upon the public mind that a simple emetic, such as a teaspoonful of mustard in a large tumbler of lukewarm water, is generally the first thing that should be tried while medical aid is being summoned. The deadly nature of cyanide of potassium is only now being generally recognised and understood by that very large section of the public who have no expert knowledge of chemicals. The tragic deaths of the man Miller and of the woman with whom he was living at Newcastle were presumably brought about by the use of this extremely virulent poison. Hitherto the law has usually taken it for granted that persons contemplating suicide or murder by the use of poison could not possibly obtain the drugs of which they were in search unless from some regular chemist and druggist, and the consequence has been that proprietors of pharmacies under the Act are subjected to restrictions from which other people are practically free. The assumption upon which this distinction was first based has now become little other than a fiction. On all hands large quantities of the most potent poisons are being sold and used for a variety of industrial and artistic purposes, and those who are bent on poisoning themselves are no more at a loss for the means of carrying out their intention than those who contemplate suicide by drowning. Rabbit-destruction is carried on wholesale in this country, enough of strychnine to kill the residents of a whole township being sometimes mixed in a pot for soaking twigs. Two grains of this death-dealing drug would prove almost immediately fatal to a strong man. Then, again, arsenic and prussic acid are being extensively used for cleaning trees from grubs and fungus parasites. While the regular dispenser is forced to take elaborate precautions every time that he sells an ounce of cyanide of potassium or corrosive sublimate, the photographic depot—perhaps just a few doors away—may be sending out parcels of the same commodities by the pound weight virtually without check. The time has now arrived for insisting that, in an age when all sorts of deleterious articles have their manifold industrial applications, intelligent precaution and not restriction is the true safeguard against poisoning. Certain colours of wrapping-paper and prescribed forms of tins and bottles should be adopted as giving the conventional warning against substances that cannot be swallowed without the risk of fatal results. People should be discouraged from putting away odd remnants of deadly drugs on shelves and presses, but poison cannot be got from the shop, the garden,