OBITUARY

to note that not a single case of tetanus developed. Neither spreading gangrene nor erysipelas was met with. The writer expresses an opinion that about 200 persons have been or will be blinded as the result of the explosion. In conclusion, he pays a handsome tribute to the heroism of the people of Halifax, and to the generous response made by the American medical profession and the American public in conveying prompt help to the stricken community.

OBITUARY

We learn with sorrow of the sudden death, on July 27, of Frederick Eustace Batten, M.D., F.R.C.P., aged 52 years, from haemorrhage and collapse shortly after a severe operation. Born at Plymouth he was the third son of the late John Winterbotham Batten, K.C. He was educated at Westminster and at Trinity College, Cambridge, and received his medical training at St. Bartholomew’s Hospital, London. Batten’s name was well-known to ophthalmic surgeons, especially from his researches on certain familial diseases of the eye and of the nervous system. The affection to which he devoted most attention was the one first described clinically by his brother, Rayner D. Batten in 1897 (Trans. Ophthal. Soc. U.K., Vol. XVII, p. 48). His first contribution on “Family cerebral degeneration with macular change,” was published in the Quarterly Journal of Medicine of July, 1914, and dealt with a family of five children, three of whom were affected with a progressive disease leading to dementia, blindness, and paralysis, one of the patients showing macular changes. The affected children died at ages ranging from four to eight years. In one case a microscopical examination showed diffuse degenerative changes in the ganglion cells of the cerebrum, cerebellum, and spinal cord. Batten’s next communication was made in 1915 in the Section of Ophthalmology of the Royal Society of Medicine conjointly with M. S. Mayou, and dealt more especially with the pathology of the eyes and of the central nervous system in two cases of the kind. Batten selected the same subject for an address he delivered before the Oxford Ophthalmological Congress on July 13, 1916. Briefly, he took the view that the affection was a form of Tay-Sachs’s disease, but occurring in a later period of life. Although not a member of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom at the time of his death, he had served on the Council of the Society from 1904 to 1906 and as Secretary from 1906 to 1909. Batten held the posts of out-patient physician to the National Hospital for the Paralysed and Epileptic, Queen Square, physician
to the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormond Street, and honorary physician to the King George Hospital. He had a charming personality—lovable, modest, genial, and tolerant.

Charles Edward Glasgott, senior consulting surgeon to the Manchester Royal Eye Hospital, died on August 14, after a brief illness, at Budleigh Salterton, Devon, where he had lived for some years in retirement. He had been Vice-President of the Ophthalmological Society of the United Kingdom (1902-1905).

We regret to announce the death, on July 19, of William James McCulloch Ettles, at the early age of 49 years. For many years he practised in the City, but on devoting himself exclusively to ophthalmology, he migrated to Harley Street. He was Treasurer, and had been President of the Hunterian and Optical Societies.

The following deaths are announced from America: John Chase, 62, of Denver; I. S. L. Bermann, of Washington, D.C.; H. T. Moore, 31, of Wilmington; A. F. Sanders, of Cincinnati; N. J. Hepburn, 71, of New York City; and Frank C. Todd, of the University of Minnesota.

Stephen Bernheimer, Fuchs’s successor in the Vienna chair, died at the age of 57 years, on March 19, 1918. Ewald Hering, widely known for his researches on colour vision and other physiological problems, died on January 26, 1918, at the age of 84 years. A full account of his scientific achievements is to be found in the June number of the Klinische Monatsblätter für Augenheilkunde.

Dr. Nicolai was killed in France, at the age of 50 years, on April 13, 1918. In civil life he enjoyed an extensive eye practice in Berlin.

NOTE

Mr. R. R. Cruise, C.V.O., has been appointed a Surgeon-Oculist to His Majesty the King.

CORRIGENDUM

In Wardrop’s biography, published in the August number of this journal, it was stated that the brothers Hunter, like Wardrop, were born near Bathgate. The writer of the biography now informs us that the Hunters came from a district considerably farther west than Bathgate. The author was misled by a reference from a book generally considered as authoritative.