Obituaries
April 1917

DR. W. H. HOSKING, MASTERTON.

The death has occurred at his residence in Masterton of Dr. William H. Hosking, M.R.C.S., aged 75 years. The late Dr. Hosking had a memorable career in New Zealand, playing an important part in the colonising days of various districts. He was born at Cornwall, England, and educated at Falmouth and Taunton. He studied at the Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, where he obtained his English qualifications. In 1863 he came to New Zealand in the ship New Great Britain. He practised for a time at the Bluff, and made regular visits to Stewart Island in whaling vessels.

A few years later he journeyed in a whaling boat around the Sounds to Hokitika. He was in charge of a public institution in that township for a time, and afterwards went to the Ross goldfields, where he was surgeon to the Ross Hospital for a period. While in Hokitika he married his first wife (Miss Archer), who died in 1890. He went to Masterton in 1875, after completing one of his several trips to the Old Country, and has resided there ever since. He was appointed to the charge of the Masterton Hospital at the time of its establishment, and retained the position until a few years ago, when he retired in favour of his son (Dr. Archer Hosking).

In recent years the late Dr. Hosking had devoted himself to researches into the hidden mysteries of electricity and radiography, and became so infatuated with the latter that he expended large sums of money in importing radium, and he received patients for the treatment of cancer from all parts of the Dominion. He was very enthusiastic over the introduction of the antiseptic treatment some years ago, and he was one of the first in New Zealand to introduce the X-rays apparatus. In the year 1900 he accompanied the 4th Reinforcements to South Africa, holding the rank of major. He had been for many years a Justice of the Peace.

The deceased was married a second time to Miss Alice Vallance. He leaves a widow, four sons, and one daughter. The sons by his first wife are Dr. Archer Hosking, Mr. F. A. Hosking (Bay of Plenty), and Dr. Rupert Hosking (Cook Islands). His second family are Mr. Douglas Hosking (at present on active service in Egypt) and Miss Christina Hosking.

CAPTAIN JOHN MACDIARMID, N.Z.M.C.

Captain J. MacDiarmid died in Wellington on March 18th as the result of appendicitis and general peritonitis. He had been in practice at Huntly, but for some time past was a medical officer at Featherston Camp. He was buried with military honours at Karori. Captain MacDiarmid graduated at Edinburgh University in 1907.

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