

Regenter 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 1847

tion with Drs. Covernton and Lyman, it was decided that the best course was to amputate the leg below the knee above the seat of injury. During the operation deceased became a good deal collapsed, but rallied, and later on in the evening seemed fairly comfortable. He, however, sank early on Thursday morning. The immediate cause of death was shock to the system. Every thing was done that could be done for deceased. Obtained a professional nurse from Adelaide at his own expense, and the district nurse attended the operation. The injury was a very severe one, and he never saw a man in greater pain. Should judge, from the symptoms, that deceased had not a sound constitution, though he was robust. The Jury concluded that Duncan McAuley died from injuries received through being accidentally run over by the 1.27 p.m. train from Adelaide on the 27th inst. whilst engaged in his duties, no blame being attachable to anyone.

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#### DISMISSAL OF PROFESSOR WATSON.

On Friday morning a special meeting of the Executive Council was held at the Government offices, and effect given to the recommendation of the board of management of the Adelaide Hospital to dismiss Professor Watson from his position as non. consulting surgeon of the Adelaide Hospital. It was on October 2 that the board decided "that the best interests of the Hospital require that Professor Watson be requested to immediately resign his positions as honorary consulting surgeon and pathologist. Should he not resign by Monday at 10 a.m., this board recommends his removal, and that such recommendation be forwarded to the Government accordingly." Professor Watson did not resign by the time appointed, but owing to there being a possibility of the difficulty with the late honorary medical staff being settled the Government, at the request of the chairman of the board, did not immediately give effect to the recommendation. The collapse of the negotiations resulted in the recommendation for his removal at once receiving Ministerial approval.

sorry to announce that they had fallen through. He could assure them that it came as a great surprise to him to see by the paper that the negotiations had collapsed, because right up till the previous evening the Government and he, as representing the board, had been led to believe that the probability of arriving at a settlement was stronger than ever, and they were practically assured that certain resolutions would be carried to enable the staff to go back individually. But as they knew a resolution was passed that the medical staff could only go back as a body. The difficulty pointed out was that there were two or three who were unprepared to go back except on certain terms and conditions. Suggestions had been made with a view to conciliation and involving an amount of giving and taking, and they could imagine his astonishment that morning to find that a very direct resolution had been carried by the local branch of the British Medical Association. He felt sure he was only voicing the regret of the whole board when he deplored the result of the



PROFESSOR WATSON.

negotiations, which might have afforded a happy termination to the vexed trouble, and one that would have been hailed with satisfaction by the board and the public generally. The difficulty had been of long duration, and now they were practically as they were before the negotiations started. The board and the Government would decide what would have to be done now, and they would no doubt carry a resolution that day which he hoped would considerably facilitate matters. In the meantime he might mention that the Government had approved the board's recommendation for Professor Watson's removal. The Premier had forwarded to the Chief Secretary and the Chief Secretary had forwarded to the board a minute in regard to

certain statements which had been published in a certain paper with reference to alleged proposals during the negotiations for a settlement. He would ask the secretary to read it.

The SECRETARY then read the minute as follows :—