

PROFESSOR FREDERICK JASPER ANDERSON (1886-1957).

C.I.E., M.C., I.M.S., M.B., B.S. (Lond.), L.R.C.P. (Lond.), F.R.C.S. (Eng.) – Professor of Surgery, University of Calcutta.

“He had two ruling passions in life - surgery and racing. For years he owned and raced a string of horses in Calcutta with considerable success.”

British Medical Journal (1957).

Frederick Jasper Anderson (1886-1957) [Epsom College 1898-1901] was the son of Dr A. J. Anderson of Blackpool, Lancashire. He received his medical education at St Bartholomew's Hospital, graduating M.B., B.S. in 1912. In the same year he passed high into the Indian Medical Service. During the First World War he saw service in France, Belgium, Mesopotamia and Egypt. He was twice mentioned in dispatches, and was awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry in action. He remained on semi-active service until 1921 when he returned to England and obtained the F.R.C.S. in 1922. In 1923 he was selected for civil employment in the Madras Presidency and held various appointments there until 1928, when he was appointed Principal and Professor of Surgery at Andhra Medical College, Vizagapatam. In 1934 he was transferred to Calcutta as Professor of Surgery, a post that he held until retirement in 1941, when he was immediately re-employed in the same capacity for the duration of the Second World War. He was awarded the *C.I.E.* in 1939.

In his obituary it was written that Jasper Anderson: “combined boldness and dexterity as an operator with great surgical wisdom and judgement – a combination that brought him a reputation that was far from local, and patients from all over India. He was a good teacher who preferred the bedside and the operating theatre to the lecture-room for this purpose, and many of the leading Bengal surgeons received their first impetus and encouragement from him.... His brusque, abrupt manner concealed, from those who knew him slightly or whom he considered bogus, an essential kindness which his patients and his students soon discovered. He did not suffer fools gladly, and he hated any form of pose.”