GOWERS' MEMORY

Oliver Sacks

Neurology 1996;46:1467–1469

In his delightful biography of Gowers, Macdonald Critchley compares him to a naturalist (Gowers indeed wrote a small monograph on mosses):

Gowers brought to the bedside all his skill as a natural historian. To him the neurological sick were like the flora of a tropical jungle, and his keen eye and collector's flair enabled him to identify, arrange and classify. . . .To his botanist's bent he added the virtues of diligence and orderliness, probably to an obsessional degree.

And, of course, an extraordinary memory, as is obvious to anyone who reads his great *Manual*.

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Comment from Robert A. Gross, MD, PhD, FAAN, Editor-in-Chief: A typically insightful contribution by one of our better-known contributors.

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