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JOHN HUNTER.

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COLLECTION OF CONTEMPORARY
PORTRAITS.

The story of a discovery of a collection of contemporary portraits of John Hunter, the famous anatomist, was told on Saturday by Sir D'Arcy Power in a lecture on John Hunter given at the Royal British Nurses' Association, Queen's Gate.

"Last February, a few weeks before I was due to give the Hunterian oration," said Sir D'Arcy, "I was reading the proofs of the life of the late Sir William Osler, when I noticed the mention of the fact that he had just missed buying an illuminated edition of Jesse Foot."

The Museum authorities at the College of Surgeons did not know of the work, but he learnt that it had been sold at Sotheby's some years ago, and ultimately he traced it to a firm in Wignore Street.

Mr Jesse Foot was a contemporary of Hunter, and there had been frequent differences between the two, Sir D'Arcy explained. The result was that the reproduction of the portraits shown during the lecture were mainly caricatures of the famous surgeon. The lecturer recalled the fact that Hunter used to drive along Piccadilly in a trap drawn by two buffaloes.

Sir D'Arcy Power said that he hoped to publish a book of reproductions of the portraits of Hunter. The originals in water-colour were bound in two large volumes, which were so heavy that only one could be lifted at a time.