

Obituary

accompanied by a photograph of his holiday haunts: Glenora, Appin, or his beloved Auchallatar in Braemar, where his forebears, on his mother's side, lived for many generations, and where, he was fond of recalling, Stevenson wrote his *Treasure Island*. This year there was no Christmas letter, and next day came the news of his death.

Stewart had many of the personal qualities of his master: modesty, simplicity, tenderness, sympathy with suffering, and an unobtrusive religious faith. It was not in levity that he was affectionately nicknamed "Saint John."

A. M.

JOSEPH MONTAGU COTTERILL, Kt., C.M.G.,
F.R.C.S., M.B., C.M.

WE regret to record the death of Sir Montagu Cotterill, which occurred at his home, 24 Manor Place, Edinburgh, on 30th December, at the age of 82. Until within a few months of his death, Cotterill retained remarkable vigour of body and of mind, and almost to the end he was planning his next golfing outing.

He was born at Brighton in 1851, and spent part of his boyhood in South Africa, where his father, who subsequently became Bishop of Edinburgh, was then placed. He was educated at Brighton College and St Andrews College, Grahamston, S.A., and he studied medicine at the University of Edinburgh, where he graduated M.B., C.M. in 1875. Three years later he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, of which he was at the time of his death the senior resident Fellow. He acted as house surgeon, and later as clinical tutor to Professor Thomas Annandale in the Royal Infirmary, where he laid the foundations of his subsequent work as a surgeon. In due course he became Assistant-Surgeon and Surgeon-in-Ordinary to the Infirmary, and Lecturer on Clinical Surgery in the School of Medicine.

In 1907 he was elected President of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, and he held office for three years, during the period when the new hall was being constructed. He presided at the commemoration dinner when the hall was opened in 1909, and when the guest of honour, Lord Rosebery, was admitted an Honorary Fellow and presented to the College a copy of the bronze mortar and pestle of his ancestor, Gilbert Prymrose, who was President of the College in 1574. Cotterill continued to take an active interest in the affairs of the College, and seldom missed a meeting as long as his health permitted.

He was a member of the *en suite* staff of the Royal Army Medical Corps (Territorial), and in 1914 was mobilised for service at the 2nd Scottish Hospital at Craigmyle, where he served throughout the period of the War. In 1917 he was awarded the C.M.G. for his services, and in 1919 received the honour of Knighthood. During this period he sustained a serious head injury in a motor accident,

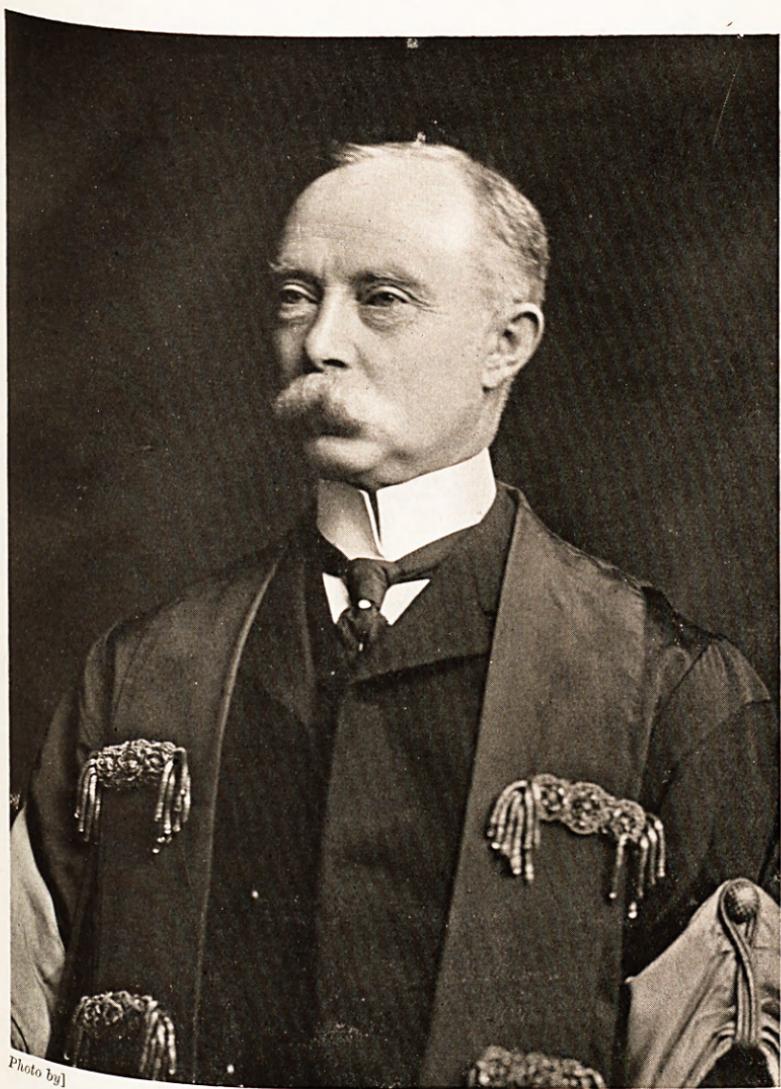


Photo by]

[A. Swan Watson, Edinburgh

JOSEPH MONTAGU COTTERILL

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from which, however, he completely recovered, and was able to resume his hospital duties.

As a Surgeon Cotterill carried on the Annandale tradition, and if he wanted the dash and brilliance of his teacher, he was not without daring as an operator. His teaching was marked by method and thoroughness, and his aim always was to impart practical clinical instruction suited to the needs of the future medical practitioner. He devoted special attention to the surgery of the brain, then in its infancy, and most of his writings (he was not a voluminous writer) deal with this subject, and were, at the time, advanced and practical.

For many years he was medical officer to Fettes College, and he took an active and interested share in the management of the Royal Hospital for Mental Diseases, the St Andrews Ambulance Association, and other public bodies. The activities of St Mary's Episcopal Cathedral also shared his attention.

Cotterill was essentially an out-of-doors man. In his young days he was a prominent member of the Sussex County Cricket Team, and he was proud to recall his association with W. G. Grace on the cricket field. Later, shooting, fishing, golf and fives occupied his spare time.

He never quite got over the death of his son, Denis, a promising young surgeon in the Edinburgh School, who after serving with the Army from 1914, succumbed to an attack of virulent influenza at Bohain, three weeks after the Armistice. He is survived by one son and three daughters, to whom we offer our respectful sympathy.

A. M.

JAMES COSSAR EWART, M.B., F.R.C.S. Edin., F.R.S., LL.D.

THE death of Emeritus-Professor Cossar Ewart, which occurred at his residence at Penicuik on 30th December, at the age of 82, removes from our midst the last of the professoriate who participated in the tercentenary celebrations of the University fifty years ago.

Although a graduate in Medicine (1874) and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (1878), Professor Cossar Ewart's life-work lay in fields other than those of medical practice. His teaching duties as Professor of Natural History for forty-five years brought him into association with many generations of medical students, who profited greatly by his instruction.

This is not the place to appraise his pioneer work on applied biology and genetics, which is universally recognised as of the highest order. He was largely instrumental in founding the Chair of Animal Genetics in the University, and in the development of this department he always took a helpful, fatherly interest.

To his widow and family we offer our sincere sympathy.

A. M.