



E. W. SCOTT CARMICHAEL.

complacent practitioners of medicine, who, in spite of their boasted skill, were incapable of saving his life.

Can there be anything more touching than the words which the dying man puts into the mouth of the shepherdess who sings the prologue to his last play?

Votre plus haut savoir n'est que pure chimère,
 Vains et peu sages médecins ;
 Vous ne pouvez guérir, par vos grands mots latins,
 La douleur qui me désespère :
 Votre plus haut savoir n'est que pure chimère.

OBITUARY.

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As the solemn strains of "Peace, perfect Peace" floated through Holy Trinity Church on 15th June 1915, around the bier of Teddy Carmichael no man or woman present but realised that for him death had long lost its sting

In the midst of Life we are in Death! Death, cruel and devilish, stalks the world to-day; our fellow-citizens, friends, relations are facing violent deaths in many parts of the world, are fearlessly upholding the name and fame of the Old Country, are doing heroic deeds and dying heroic deaths. Young men fall in the flower of their youth, middle-aged men are cut off in their prime, and everywhere is the shadow of Death.

Even at such a time the death of Carmichael arrests attention. A comparatively young man, strong until recently, happily married, and with a young family, with many friends, much ability, and a numerous and rapidly increasing professional clientele, the ball of this world's happiness and success seemed at his feet.

He had fought a good fight. He was strong and progressive. Early in his career he marked out for himself a definite line of study and work, and to the principles which guided him in that choice he adhered with unswerving tenacity. Painstaking study in many medical and surgical centres in this country and abroad had convinced him that the future of gynæcology lay with the surgical expert, that the basis of surgical accuracy was thorough knowledge of anatomy and pathology, and that first-class gynæcological work could only be done by one who was not only an anatomy specialist, a first-class surgeon, and one particularly experienced in dealing with abdominal cases and cases of diseases peculiar to women, but also one who was personally engrossed in working out scientific problems in the laboratory and in the experimental room as well as in the ward and side-room.

He trained himself assiduously. Step by step he slowly mounted the ladder to fame and perfection he had set before him. The novel course he had set himself in Edinburgh was no easy one to pursue. To carry it out required rare determination and courage, complete self-confidence, and exceptional ability such as could take advantage of opportunities gained by individualistic effort. And he succeeded. Looked at from the broad, impersonal, professional point of view his life was a great success.

By his efforts the Edinburgh School of Medicine has benefited greatly. Largely owing to him gynæcology in Edinburgh has been raised to a higher plane, and though throughout the world the outlook in gynæcology had changed and was changing during the past years, yet his lifework alone has advanced this branch of surgery in Edinburgh in a manner which nothing else could have done.

To him "The School" meant everything that is best and noblest in medicine, and nothing short of ideal work was worthy of it. He devoted himself whole-heartedly to strive after his ideal, and while many of the fruits of his labours have been denied him, he yet lived to realise that he had vindicated his position, that he had not fought altogether in vain, and that had not the higher call come he could look back to the rapids of professional struggles and forward to the clear reaches of fame and success.

In the field of medical science he did much good work. His capacity for close and accurate observation is evidenced in many contributions to medical literature, and his operative skill was great. At the bedside he invariably disclosed rare judicial qualities in adjudicating the niceties of diagnosis and prognosis, and these qualities, added to the influence of a wide experience and an extensive knowledge of modern literature, made his professional opinion exceptionally reliable.

For many years he worked very hard, and during recent months, while strength was slowly ebbing from him, he continued to work hard in spite of constant suffering and distress.

His professional life stamped him as a bold man, his conduct during the past year showed him a very brave man.

Among his contemporaries no one was more popular. His ingenuous smile and cheerful attractive manner endeared him to everyone in ordinary social intercourse.

He was essentially virile. He loved life, he was determined to take all he could out of life, he subordinated all minor considerations to the basal elements in life, and consequently everything mean or petty was utterly alien to his character.

He leaves behind him a clean record. His lovable personality will long be missed, and for many and many a day his mental picture will at times arise before us and we will look back with a sigh to those days when he was with us.

A. D. F.