

## OBITUARY

HUGH CLAYTON FOX, M.R.C.S. (ENG.),  
F.R.C.S. (IRELAND)

Aurist and Laryngologist to the Marylebone General Dispensary; late Assistant Surgeon to the Metropolitan Ear, Nose, and Throat Hospital, Fitzroy Square.

OTO-LARYNGOLOGISTS will learn with deep regret of the sudden and unexpected death on 13th June, from angina pectoris, of Mr Clayton Fox, at the age of 59, after only a few hours' illness. Up to the time of his death he was apparently in the best of health, and carrying on his strenuous work with the greatest vigour.

He was born, in 1864, at Coddendam, Suffolk, and was the eldest son of the late Frederick Fox, Esq., of Coddendam, Suffolk. Educated at Needham Grammar School, Clayton Fox studied medicine at the Middlesex and Charing Cross Hospitals, and ultimately in Dublin, taking the M.R.C.S. (Eng.) in 1888, and, in 1901, the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons of Ireland.

After an experience of general practice in the North of London, he commenced the study of Oto-laryngology at the Central London Throat and Ear Hospital, Gray's Inn Road, and held the appointment of Clinical Assistant and Assistant Registrar. Later, he joined the staff of the Metropolitan Ear, Nose, and Throat Hospital, Fitzroy Square, first as Clinical Assistant and afterwards as Assistant Surgeon—an appointment which he held for seven years.

He generously devoted a great deal of his time as Chief Assistant, for many years, to the Throat Department, Brompton Consumption Hospital, and also as Registrar to the Aural Department of the West End Hospital for Nervous Diseases, Welbeck Street.

During the Great War he acted as Chief Assistant and Deputy at King George's Military Hospital, as well as at the Endsleigh and Vincent Square Hospitals for officers. He was appointed Aural Surgeon to the Ministry of Pensions, London District, and became attached to Queen Mary's, Duncane Road Military Hospital. He was constantly employed on Aural Pensions Boards, and during the past four and a half years he held three aural clinics a week at Hammersmith Broadway.

Two days before his death he was appointed Aurist and Laryngologist to the Marylebone General Dispensary.

Clayton Fox was a man of somewhat reserved nature, but he possessed a large and sympathetic heart, and those who had the opportunity of working with him, and knowing him, soon realised the sterling merits of his character and became greatly attached to him.

## Obituary

He was a student, in the best sense of the word, and a man of wide general knowledge; he accumulated an extensive library containing books upon almost every conceivable subject, including more particularly all the English and many foreign classics, and ranging down to the latest works on wireless telegraphy.

Sir James Dundas-Grant adds the following tribute to his memory:—

“Death has again visited our ranks and, as in several lamented instances, heart-failure has been the immediate cause. Mr Clayton Fox, who seemed a few days ago the embodiment of health and strength, died of angina pectoris after one day's illness. On the 18th June, in the presence of a small sorrowing party consisting chiefly of his widow, his family, and companions of his toil, he was laid to rest in the rural cemetery of Staines. Born and bred in the country, it was appropriate that his remains should repose away from the town where he had laboured too strenuously even for his splendid physical strength.

“As the result of his extensive reading, both in the specialty and in physiology, he was always armed with the latest views and greatly enjoyed discussing them. Indeed, he sometimes quoted them so emphatically as to surprise those who were not quite so well informed, and occasionally to ruffle some who were more sensitive as to their own dignity than grateful for fresh information. The writer acknowledges with gratitude the constant accession of information which he owes to him, as well as the unwearying help and support he has received from him in the execution of work which he could not possibly have carried out without his stalwart aid. During the War he worked with ardour and devotion in the Throat and Ear Departments of various military hospitals, and when Clinics for Pensioners suffering from deafness and diseases of the ear were instituted by the Ministry, several of them were entrusted to Mr Clayton Fox, who worked with herculean energy and made them an extraordinary success in circumstances which were sometimes difficult. Even in face of a large clinic he was able to carry out the details of scientific and practical otology with remarkable skill and acceptance. All those who have had the privilege of knowing him will certainly realise that they have lost a staunch, able, and never-failing fellow-worker.”

He wrote an admirable translation from the French of George Laurens' *Oto-Rhino-Laryngologie*, which, first published in 1919, has been in such great demand as to call for two new editions.

Clayton Fox leaves a widow, the only daughter of the late Louis F. Scott, Esq., of Wrexham, North Wales.

IRWIN MOORE.