

OBITUARY

JOHN MACINTYRE, M.B. (Glas.), LL.D. (Glas.) F.R.F.P.S., D.L.

JOHN MACINTYRE, who died on the 29th October last, belonged to the older generation of specialists, having been born in 1859 in Glasgow, in which city he received his early education.

After studying in Vienna he returned to Glasgow and commenced practice, directing his attention mainly to the study of laryngology. He was appointed Surgeon for Diseases of the Nose and Throat to the Royal Infirmary, and later held the appointment of Lecturer in the University and Professor of Laryngology in the Anderson College of Medicine, Glasgow. During his long life many distinctions were conferred upon him by foreign societies. He was made a Deputy Lieutenant of the City of Glasgow, a Knight of Grace of the Order of St John of Jerusalem, and his *Alma Mater* conferred on him the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

If anyone doubts the reality of the *perferoidum ingenium Scotorum*, he cannot have known John Macintyre in the period of his full activity. Those who were associated with him will never forget the volubility and the intensity with which he would dilate on the new subject—and these were many in turn—on which he was, at the moment, engaged. When bacteriology came on the *tapis*, Macintyre immediately became enthusiastic in its application to diseases of the throat. The pages of this *Journal* bear testimony to the character of his work in this direction. In Volume V., published in 1891, he deals with "Bacteriology in Relation to Diseases of the Throat and Nose," and in Volume VIII. his Presidential Address to the British Laryngological Association was concerned mainly with the bacteriological causes of disease and their relation to treatment. The invention of the small filament lamp started him upon its adaptation to the exploration of the air-passages, a subject in which he did pioneer work.

With the introduction of the Röntgen rays, Macintyre was the first rhinologist in this country to demonstrate their utility in the diagnosis of accessory sinus disease, and his paper, published in the *Journal* in 1900, was entitled, "The Röntgen Rays in Diseases of the Nose, Throat and Neighbouring Organs." His practical knowledge of medical electricity and physics was very considerable, and he was justly recognised as an authority in this branch of science. His investigations on X-rays were demonstrated to the Royal Society. Some of his statements with regard to the use of the rays in the treatment of malignant disease, notably the sarcomata, were in advance of their time.

The incidents of his life were not sensational, but were eminently



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straightforward. He made his way by steady industry and the unwearied application of his natural ability without the advantages—or disadvantages—of station and fortune, to a position in which he became the trusted co-operator and friend of those who possessed these endowments. Solidity was the characteristic of his work and his views were invariably founded on such well-considered research and reasoning as to convey conviction to those to whom he communicated them.

Macintyre's association with the *Journal of Laryngology and Otology* was a very long and faithful one. He contributed many articles to its pages at a time when its circulation was not so large as it now is. In 1891, his name appears as co-editor with that of Dr Norris Wolfenden, one of its founders. At a later period Macintyre became joint-proprietor and editor, with Dr Sandford, Mr Lake, Sir William Milligan and the present writer, and he contributed freely both literary material and financial support.

He was a very active member of the British Laryngological Association founded in 1888, under the ægis of Sir Morell Mackenzie. Macintyre was twice President, in 1893 and again in 1901, a unique distinction in the history of the Society. The Association received many of his scientific contributions, often copiously illustrated by experiments, lantern slides and electrical apparatus.

A cheerful companion, Macintyre became enthusiastic about such sporting events as yacht-racing on the Clyde or evenings in the Art Club of Glasgow of which he was a member. For a number of years he had ceased to visit the meetings of the Section of Laryngology in London, and it is probable that the strenuousness of his earlier life and work had proved too great a strain even on one of his vigorous constitution.

JAMES DUNDAS-GRANT.

GEORGE WILLIAM HILL, M.D., B.Sc. (Lond.),
F.R.F.P.S. (Glas.).

To his intimate friends and colleagues the sudden death of William Hill, on 29th November, must have brought deep feelings of sorrow and to many a sense of personal loss.

His "passing" makes another gap in the ranks of the early pioneers of British Laryngology and Otology, in which for more than forty years he had rendered loyal, faithful and distinguished service.

The following brief outline of his career (*Lancet*, 1st December) gives an excellent estimate of his brilliant career and of his many-sided attainments.

"Born in 1858, William Hill was the son of George Hill, of