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OBITUARY.

SIR JAMES GALLOWAY, K.B.E., C.B.,
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Consulting Physician to Charing Cross Hospital.

By the death of Sir James Galloway the medical profession as a whole loses a prominent member and a great gap is left in the ranks of British dermatologists, for although his interest in this special branch of medicine had been less active in recent years than in pre-war days, his influence amongst his dermatological colleagues had in no way diminished up to the time of his death. After a short illness, due to renal calculus, in which acute complications developed, he passed away, practically at the height of his activities, only a few days after having resigned his position as Senior Physician at Charing Cross Hospital as he had reached the age-limit of 60.

Born at Calcutta in 1862, but of Scots descent, he was educated at the Chanonry School, Aberdeen, and afterwards at the University of Aberdeen, where he graduated M.A. (1883), M.B. (1886), and M.D. with highest honours (1892), and received the honorary degree of LL.D. (1919). In 1889 he took the F.R.C.S.Eng., and in 1897 obtained the F.R.C.P.Lond.

On coming to England he became attached to the London Hospital Medical School as Demonstrator of Materia Medica. He was attracted to the study of dermatology very early in his career, when he came under the teaching and guidance of the late Sir Stephen Mackenzie at the London Hospital. At this time skin diseases in this

country were just beginning to be regarded as a special branch of medicine, the majority of them being looked upon as symptoms of some general morbid condition, and the influence of this early teaching remained during the whole of his career and can be traced throughout his writings.

About this time he laid a sure foundation to his subsequent dermatological work by the interest he took in pathology, one of his earliest appointments being that of Assistant Physician and Pathologist to the Great Northern Hospital. In 1893 he was appointed to give the Morton Lecture on Cancer at the Royal College of Surgeons, choosing as his subject "Parasitism of Protozoa in Carcinoma," and about this time contributed several important papers to the Pathological Society. In 1894 he was appointed Physician to the Skin Department at Charing Cross Hospital, and thus began his long connection with that institution.

His interests were not confined to dermatology, however, for in 1901 he was appointed also Assistant Physician to that Hospital, becoming full Physician in 1906.

During his tenure of office in the Skin Department he was an indefatigable worker, a painstaking teacher, beloved alike by students and patients. He retired from the Department when he became Senior Physician, but in the position of Consultant continued to interest himself in it and to benefit it by the wealth of his experience.

Outside the hospital he was an active member at first of the Dermatological Society of London, and, later, of the Dermatological Section of the Royal Society of Medicine, and was honoured by being elected President of the Section in 1917. Previous to this he had been Secretary of the Section of Dermatology at the British Medical Association meeting in Montreal in 1897, and President of that section at the meeting in Birmingham in 1911. He also held the appointment of Consultant Physician for Skin Diseases to the Metropolitan Asylums Board.

In his earlier days he was a prolific writer on dermatological subjects. From 1896 to 1904 he edited the *British Journal of Dermatology*, and during his *régime* the Journal achieved a success which has not been surpassed since, not only with regard to the form and the matter, but to the care which was taken over the reports of the Societies and the abstracts of current literature.

Though not responsible for a text-book, he contributed numerous articles to systems and dictionaries of medicine and to the contemporary journals. His earlier papers were notable for their detailed pathological descriptions—for example, his papers on “Granuloma pudendi,” “Granuloma annulare,” “Porokeratosis” and “Mycosis fungoides”; his later writings were concerned mostly with the relation of cutaneous manifestations to general derangements, such as “The Nature of the Skin-lesions in Nervous Diseases,” “Erythematous Indications of Disease,” “The Cutaneous Manifestations of Gout and Rheumatism,” and subjects of a kindred nature. The leading characteristics of these contributions were a careful marshalling of known facts, a thoughtful commentary on them, and the avoidance of unproved theories or hypotheses. He approached the subject of skin diseases from the general medical standpoint, and invariably insisted that the proper education for a specialist was to become a general physician first.

Galloway, however, had much wider interests than the ordinary routine of general medicine or dermatology. He had essentially a judicial mind, and his admirable tact, wide outlook and capacity for work made his services greatly sought after in public medical life. He was a member of the Advisory Committee of the Army Medical Service which was appointed after the South African War to reorganise the education of the Royal Army Medical Corps. He was Consulting Physician to the armies in France during the recent war, and, later, Chief Commissioner of Medical Services in the Ministry of National Service. He was an active member of the British Medical Association, and was chairman of the successive conferences of representatives of the medical staffs of voluntary hospitals held under the auspices of the Association in London during the last three years.

He was exceptionally well-informed on subjects outside medicine. A geologist of some note, he had in view the making of a geological survey of Essex as a holiday recreation, and, keenly interested in antiquarian studies, he had published several important brochures, such as *The Story of St. Roncevall*, and *Eleanor of Castile, Queen of England, and the Monuments erected in her Memory*, etc., and was planning a book on the relation of the English hospitals to the monasteries. He was a collector of old prints, of which he had a

considerable knowledge, and as a student he was a keen musician and an accomplished pianist.

This brief sketch of his life and work would be incomplete without some reference to the man himself.

Those of us who knew Galloway intimately, who worked with him in hospital or on committee, found him always to be courteous and dignified, kindly in his judgment of others, and with an intense human interest in everyone, and his great power of expressing himself logically, and the moderation of his counsels, made him a valued colleague. He was punctual in all his doings, never in an obvious hurry, and always managed to do his work calmly and thoroughly, however arduous and pressing it might be.

He was universally liked, and his very presence at a meeting tended to produce an atmosphere of geniality and kindness. He was a past-master in the art of pouring oil on troubled waters, and many are the instances where the little frictions of young enthusiasms have been turned to advantage through his tactful intervention. His loss is great, but his influence will remain as an example of strenuous service and generous desire to help those with whom he came in contact.

He was married in 1898, and is survived by his widow, two sons and two daughters, to whom we extend our deepest sympathy.

J. M. H. MACLEOD.

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