news has been cabled from London of the death of James Mackenzie Davidson, at the age of 62 years. No information is yet available concerning the circumstances of his death. His many friends in Australia, as well as all who are interested in the youngest specialty of medical science, radiology, will receive the news with deep regret. James Mackenzie Davidson was one of the pioneers in this specialty and his teaching and practice were responsible for much of the development of the diagnostic and therapeutic use of Röntgen rays and radioactivity in the British Empire.

James Mackenzie Davidson was born at Buenos Aires in 1856. He was the son of the late John Davidson, of Estancia Santa Domingo, Buenos Aires. He began his education in the city of Buenos Aires, and later proceeded to Scotland, where he received a private education. His medical studies were undertaken in Edinburgh, Aberdeen and London. At the age of 24 years he graduated in medicine and surgery at the Aberdeen University. His first appointment was as assistant to the Professor of Surgery at the Aberdeen University. Early in his career he turned his attention to the study of ophthalmology and he soon attained some eminence in this specialty. He was appointed lecturer on ophthalmology at the Royal Infirmary, leaving Aberdeen he was invited to join the staff of the Edinburg Royal Hospital for Children as ophthalmic surgeon, and he was also appointed to the staffs of the Eye Institution and the Blind Asylum in the capital city of Scotland.

James Mackenzie Davidson went to London in 1888 and at the age of 8 years.

Professor H. G. Chapman writes:

Few men have possessed a greater capacity for influencing good work with whom they have been brought into contact than the late Sir Edward Stirling. Of this power I can bear personal witness. I met him for the first time in 1900, when I was still young and impressionable and in the prime of life. Next year I carried on my teaching work in physiology in the University of Adelaide while he paid a visit to America and Europe. On his return I enjoyed for some months the benefit of a constant association. The memory of those few months has remained one of the strongest impressions on my mind. My recollection is still at the kind of that I received from his family in the home which reflected so strongly the courtesy, the liberality and the goodwill of its head. It to Adelaide a boy and returned home fortified by the ample of a good, great and earnest man. The death of a good man seems ever to have been before him. The opportunities of renewing friendship which fell to me from year to year only served to strengthen my early veneration.

JAMES MACKENZIE DAVIDSON.

It was at this epoch that Röntgen announced his famous discovery and Mackenzie was among the first members of medical profession to apply it to diagnostic purposes. For many years he combined the specialties of radiology and ophthalmology and much of his work was concerned with the application of the former in the superintendence of the eye. It was he who initiated the X-Ray Department at Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, and through his influence that radiology was taught while science was still in its infancy at the London School of Tropical Medicine. He was placed in charge of the X-Ray Department at Charing Cross Hospital. Later, when services were being sought in private practice and in hundred other channels he resigned from his honorary positions and was appointed Consulting Radiologist at Moorfields and at Charing Cross Hospitals. When war broke out