

of the franchise for women and succeeded in persuading the Legislative Assembly to pass a measure which, however, failed to gain an absolute majority. He acted for three years as President of the State Children's Council. He was defeated at the general election in 1887 and did not seek re-election.

The British Medical Association has found him an active and valuable member. In the South Australian Branch his counsels were of the wisest and his high ethical standards, his wide knowledge of men and things and his large grasp of medico-political problems were of great value to his fellow-practitioners. His influence for good on his students is widely reflected to-day throughout the profession. In 1888-1889 he was the President of the South Australian Branch and his active interest in its affairs spread over a long series of years.

Of his association with the Australasian Medical Congress and its predecessor, the Inter-Colonial Medical Congress, Dr. Verco and our Adelaide colleagues have already spoken. Nor is it necessary to refer again to the valuable contributions he has made to medical science through the medium of the medical press. As a teacher he was eminent; he had the happy knack of being able to impart some of the wide knowledge he himself possessed. He was a true scientist and his enthusiasm for science was infective. His achievements in many spheres forced others to recognize his proper place in the scientific world. The most notable of his attainments was the blue riband of science, the Fellowship of the Royal Society, while the decoration of the Companionship of Saint Michael and Saint George and later the conferring of Bachelor Knighthood are evidence of the value which was attached to his contributions to knowledge.

Edward Charles Stirling married in 1877 the eldest daughter of the late Joseph Gilbert. Lady Stirling, whose grief at the loss of an ideal husband must be tempered by pride in having been the consort of so eminent a man, survives him. Of his five daughters, one is the wife of Professor Brailsford Robertson, Professor of Bio-chemistry at the University of Toronto. His only son was accidentally killed at the age of eight years.

Professor H. G. Chapman writes:—

Few men have possessed a greater capacity for influencing for good those 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 he in the prime of life. Next year I carried on his 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 stirred still at the kindness that I received from his family in the home which reflected so strongly the courtesy, the gener-

osity, the liberality and the goodwill of its head. I went to Adelaide a boy and returned home fortified by the ample of a great, good and earnest man. The desire for justice in every act of his life and in every thought of his mind seems ever to have been before him. The opportunity of renewing friendship which fell to me from year to year only served to strengthen my early veneration.

#### JAMES MACKENZIE DAVIDSON.

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 cause 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 uses of Röntgen rays and radium in the British Empire.

James Mackenzie Davidson was born at Buenos Ayres in 1856. He was the son of the late John Davidson, of Estancia Santo Domingo, Buenos Ayres. He began his education in Buenos Ayres at the Scotch School, and later he proceeded to Scotland, where he received private tuition. 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 assistant to the Professor of Surgery at Aberdeen. 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 Edinburgh Royal Hospital for Sick 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 1881

It was at this epoch that Röntgen announced his famous discovery and Mackenzie was among the first members of the 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 application of the former in the superficial diseases of eye. It was he who initiated the X-Ray Department at the Royal London Ophthalmic Hospital, Moorfields, and it was through his influence that radiology was taught while the science was still in its infancy at the London School of Clinical 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 a 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