

Obituary

paths of his friendship. But to those fortunate few, what did it mean? Always the best of everything was freely at their disposal, and no one who has experienced them will ever forget those intimate and inspiring talks, the memory of which will last a lifetime.

If any man fulfilled the postulates of Kipling's famous poem, "If," he did.

"If you can fill the unforgiving minute
With sixty seconds' worth of distance run,
Yours is the earth and everything that's in it,
And, which is more, you'll be a *man*, my son!"

And he was a man.

Early in 1928, he was seized with an acute abdominal malady, and after a severe operation followed by pneumonia, his life hung in the balance for several months, but with indomitable will power, he gradually pulled through, and in February 1929, he presided over the Meeting of the Visiting Association of Throat Surgeons in Birmingham. In full possession of his vigour, and with his brain alert as ever, he carried through the Meeting with success. But a few weeks ago, he was again seized with an acute abdominal condition, to be followed by pneumonia, and after a severe illness, borne with patience and courage, he succumbed on 19th December 1929.

Thus ended a life cut off in the full possession of his faculties, and humanity has suffered the loss of many years of active and beneficent service.

And so a great man has passed on.

MUSGRAVE WOODMAN.

CHARLES W. RICHARDSON, M.D., F.A.C.S.,
Washington, D.C.

The death of Charles W. Richardson on the 25th August 1929, at the age of 68, has removed from amongst us one of the leaders in our specialty in the United States. As his name was well known and honoured in this country, it is fitting that the *Journal* should pay tribute to him, to his ability, to the value of his work, to the position which he held among his contemporaries, to his zealous devotion to his profession and to the high moral standards which throughout life guided all his thoughts and actions.

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It was both a pleasure and a privilege to know him. Those of us who, as strangers in a strange land, had the good fortune to visit him in his charming home in Connecticut Avenue, standing in the shadow of the Capitol, must always preserve a delightful memory of the kindness and hospitality shown to us, and we must ever retain the impression that we had really found a second home on the other side of the water. Nothing was left undone by his wife and himself to make our sojourn in Washington pleasant and profitable.

At the Memorial Service held on 8th December last in the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church—in which there had gathered high and low, rich and poor—many tributes of appreciation were paid both to the man and to his work by those among whom he had lived and laboured.

It is not our desire to enumerate in these pages his many contributions to the literature of the specialty and the character of the work he accomplished, nor to record the high offices which in his long career he had been called to fill. At the time of his death Dr Richardson was President of the American Laryngological Association, a position which must have given him the greatest pleasure and satisfaction. The advance and the honour of the specialty were ever foremost in his thoughts. In his Presidential Address delivered at Atlantic City in May last, in which he briefly referred to the wonderful evolution of laryngology during the fifty years of the life of the Association, he warns us of the danger of concentrating, too closely, our thought and energy upon the region in which we work. It may not be inappropriate to conclude this very brief notice with the following quotation from his address, a final message containing perhaps a word of warning from one whose outlook was always wide: "In the intensive work in the field in which we are engaged, have we not grown a little narrow, and have we not lost, in a degree, our relation to the body and its affections as a whole? Are we as keen in preventive medicine as we should be; are we keeping in touch as thoroughly as we should with the great progress in all branches of clinical medicine? Let each of us study these questions in the solitude of his own conscience."

A. LOGAN TURNER.