In Memoriam.

SIR PHILIP CRAMPTON SMYLY, M.D.

(UNIV. DUBL.); F.R.C.S.I.

THE death—tragic in its suddenness—of this accomplished and highly-esteemed member of the Medical Profession, took place in the early morning hours of Friday, April 8, 1904, at his residence, 4 Merrion-square, North, Dublin. By it Irish Surgery has lost a distinguished representative; Dublin a polished, affable, and generous citizen.

The immediate cause of SIR PHILIP'S death was cerebral hæmorrhage in one who long had been a victim of gout. For several months he had been in very indifferent health, and not many days before the end had returned from Nantwich, in Cheshire, a health-resort which he was in the habit of visiting once or twice every year.

PHILIP CRAMPTON SMYLY was born at No. 8 Ely-place, Dublin, on July 17, 1838. His father was Josiah Smyly, Surgeon to the Meath Hospital and County Dublin Infirmary from 1831 to 1864, in which year he died of pneumonia. His mother was Ellen, third daughter of Mr. Matthew Franks, of Merrion-square, Dublin, and Jerpoint Hill, Co. Kilkenny—a lady, whose name is still a household word for philanthropy and Christian zeal. In 1853, according to the custom of that day, he was apprenticed to his grand-uncle, Sir Philip Crampton, Baronet, also Surgeon to the Meath Hospital. He entered Trinity College, graduating in Arts in 1859, when he won a moderatorship and silver medal in Experimental Science. A year later he graduated in Medicine in the University of Dublin and became a Licentiate of the Irish College of Physicians, taking the Membership in 1883. In 1861 he obtained the letters Testimonial of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. He immediately proceeded to Berlin, where he studied under von Langenbeck, von Graefe, and other eminent specialists. He also seized the opportunity of studying the laryngoscope, which had lately been perfected by Czermak, of Pesth, to whom the laryngeal

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speculum introduced by Garcia in 1855 had suggested the instrument.

Returning to Dublin, young Smyly was, on the death of Mr. William Henry Porter in 1861, elected Surgeon to the Meath Hospital, thus becoming his father's colleague at the very early age of 23. This appointment he held until his death—three and forty years afterwards—towards the last at the earnest request of his colleagues.

In 1863 he took the degree of Doctor of Medicine in the University of Dublin and became a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. In 1864 he married the Hon. Selina Maria (Nina) Plunket, whose elder brother, the fourth Baron Plunket, afterwards became Archbishop of Dublin, and whose second brother, the Right Hon. David Plunket, was created Baron Rathmore in 1895. The marriage proved a most happy one, and before he died, SIR PHILIP had the joy of seeing three sons successfully embarked on life's voyage: his eldest son and namesake is Chief Justice of Sierra Leone; his second son, Gilbert, is a Fellow of Trinity College, Dublin; and his third son, Cecil, is winning honours in College, and purposes to join his father's profession.

SIR PHILIP'S professional career was one of distinction and marked success. He enjoyed a large practice, and placed his services most generously at the disposal of those whose means were straitened as freely as if they were rich and able adequately to reward him. He was more successful as an operating surgeon and practitioner than as a clinical teacher, but successive generations of medical students esteemed, nay loved, him for his sterling goodness and gentle courtesy.

State and professional honours were showered upon him as the years passed by. He was in turn President of the British Laryngological Association, of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (1878-1879), of the Irish Medical Association (1900), and of the Irish Medical Schools and Graduates' Association (1902). From 1893 to 1900 he represented the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland on the General Medical Council. At the time of his death he was President-Elect of the Leinster Branch of the British Medical Association. From

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1869 to 1892 he served as Surgeon or Physician-in-Ordinary to successive Lords Lieutenant of Ireland. In 1893 he was appointed Surgeon-in-Ordinary to Her Majesty Queen Victoria in Ireland, and after her lamented death he was appointed Honorary Surgeon to His Majesty King Edward VII. in Ireland. In 1892 he received the honour of knighthood from His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant.

SIR PHILIP SMYLY was Consulting Surgeon to the Rotunda Lying-in Hospital; the National Children's Hospital, Harcourt-street, Dublin; the Hospital for Diseases of the Throat, Nose, and Ear, Hume-street, Dublin; and the Clergy Daughters' School. He wrote but little, yet several papers from his pen, and addresses to the students at the Meath Hospital, were published in this Journal from time to time during his busy professional life.

This is not the place to dwell upon SIR PHILIP's happy family relations and consistent, upright character. Speaking at his funeral, the Rev. Herbert B. Kennedy, B.D., Incumbent of St. Andrew's Church, recalled an incident pathetic in the light of his sudden call to rest. It had been SIR PHILIP SMYLY's custom for many years to write one or more texts of Scripture on the first page of his visiting-list at the beginning of each year. The text which he transcribed as his motto for the present year was the last verse of the 48th Psalm—"This God is our God for ever and ever. He will be our guide even unto death."

J. W. M.