In Memoriam.

AUSTIN MELDON, F. & Ex-P.R.C.S.I., M.R.C.P.I., J.P., D.L.,
Consulting Surgeon to Jervis-street, Hospital, Dublin.

FOR a second time within a month the hand of Death has taken away with startling suddenness a notable personality in the ranks of the medical profession in Dublin. On the early morning of Friday, April 8, Sir Philip Smyly passed from the scene of his earthly labours after a few hours' illness. And now we have to chronicle the instantaneous death on the evening of Thursday, April 28, at his residence, 15 Merriion-square, Dublin, of MR. AUSTIN MELDON, one of the best-known and most esteemed hospital surgeons of this city. The suddenness of the call may be realised when we state that MR. MELDON went about his duties as usual on the day of his death, which occurred as he was smoking a cigar in his study after dinner—the cigar was seen by his wife to drop from his hand, and he was dead.

AUSTIN MELDON was born on August 26, 1844, at Milltown, Co. Dublin. He was a son of the late James Dillon Meldon, Esq., and his wife, Bedelia Ingham, and was a scion of an old Celtic family from Fore, Co. Westmeath. From Tullybeg College, Co. Kildare, young MELDON passed to the Catholic University (now "University College"), St. Stephen's-green, Dublin, where he had a brilliant career, winning gold medals in Midwifery and Diseases of Women and Children, in Surgery and Practice of Medicine, and first prizes in the same subjects. In the year 1864 he was awarded the gold medal of the Pathological Society of Dublin for an Essay on the "Pathology and Diagnosis of Diseases of the Ovaries." In the following year he became a Licentiate in Medicine and Midwifery of the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, and took the Letters Testimonial of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. To the Fellowship of the latter body he was admitted after examination in 1874, obtaining the Membership of the Royal College of Physicians in 1880. From June, 1889, until June, 1890, he filled the position of President of the Royal College of Surgeons, and during his year of office he

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presided over the Surgical Section of the Royal Academy of Medicine in Ireland. Among other professional honours may be mentioned the fact that on three occasions he was chosen as President of the Irish Medical Association. Early in his career he began to devote particular attention to the subjects of gout, rheumatism, and skin diseases, on which he from time to time contributed a number of valuable papers. For a long time he was attached to the staff at Jervis-street Hospital, and at the time of his death he was Consulting Surgeon to that Institution. He was also Consulting Surgeon to the National Lying-in-Hospital, Holles-street. MR. MELDON was a Justice of the Peace and a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Dublin.

In addition to numerous communications to various Medical Societies, AUSTIN MELDON was author of "A Treatise on Gout, Rheumatism and Chronic Rheumatic Arthritis," published in 1873; "A Treatise on Skin Diseases" (1873); "Fourteen Consecutive Cases of Successful Lithotomy" (1882); and "A Treatise on Gout" (1885). One of his latest contributions to medical scientific literature was an Address on the Distribution of Cancer in Ireland, delivered in the Theatre of Jervis-street Hospital at the opening of the Winter Session of 1902-1903.

MR. MELDON was twice married—first in 1867, to Miss Margaret Ryan of Tipperary, by whom he had two children—a son and a daughter; secondly, to Miss Katharine Pugin, by whom he had also two children—a son and a daughter. His younger son, Dr. George Edgar Pugin Meldon, is a graduate in Arts and Medicine of the University of Dublin, and a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland. Since his father's death he has been appointed a Visiting Surgeon to the Westmoreland Lock Hospital, Dublin.

MR. MELDON had a charming personality, and was one of the most popular members of the Medical Profession in Dublin. The universal esteem with which he was regarded was pathetically shown by the large gathering of friends who attended on the morning of the funeral to pay the last tribute of respect to his memory.

J. W. M.