

THE
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THE MORELL MACKENZIE RELICS.

By the kindness of Mr. E. Mayer, of Messrs. Mayer & Phelps, we are able in the present issue of this journal to publish a descriptive list of the Morell Mackenzie relics which have been recently presented by him to the Royal Society of Medicine, and are now, and will remain for all time, on view in the House of the Society.

The list, which appears on p. 278, has been compiled by Dr. Irwin Moore, who has taken great pains to arrive at accuracy, and as he has had the opportunity of collaboration with Dr. James Donelan, President of the Section of Laryngology, whose authority in matters connected with Mackenzie is unquestionable, we may take it that Dr. Irwin Moore's references and statements are historically correct and in every way reliable.

For the care which Mr. Mayer has taken of these valuable and interesting objects during the long years when Mackenzie's reputation was passing through the shadow of disparagement, not only laryngologists but all British medical men must feel deeply grateful, and on behalf of this wide constituency we offer to Mr. Mayer our hearty thanks.

We have also to express to him our indebtedness for the fine reproduction, which appears as a plate in the present issue, of one of the water-colour drawings made for Mackenzie by Lennox Browne, who was an artist of great skill and taste.

It is with gratitude and satisfaction that we welcome to our House these, the last personal remains of the work of the founder of laryngology, and it is right and fitting that this honour should be paid to them, for whatever may have been his mistakes and shortcomings, simple justice compels us to recognise in Morell Mackenzie a far-seeing and enthusiastic pioneer as well as a scientific and precise clinician.

Recent events, both public and private, have united to bring Mackenzie's life and works once more prominently before a generation which only knows him through the tradition of the elders. Many of us have also listened to his traducers, albeit with an ever-growing sense that there was something in the man and in his work which survived, and continues to survive, all the attacks that have been made upon him, both during his life and since his death. Time passes; critics are

talkative; calumniators are not silent; and yet we still go back to Mackenzie's "Diseases of the Throat and Nose" for our statistics, and we use his laryngeal forceps.

Of the vexed question of Mackenzie's treatment of the Crown Prince's laryngeal disease, and of Mackenzie's outspoken criticisms of his German colleagues in that case, this is not the place to speak. Suffice it to say that it would be a little difficult nowadays to compel the resignation of any man from a British Medical College for plain speaking with regard to the practices of German surgeons!

That by the way. What we wish to observe now is that the storms that have been raging around this great man's head are at last being dissipated, and he is once more emerging into view, still worthy of our respect—still worthy, indeed, of our admiration—for, as the years roll on, Time is proving his work to have been both durable and sound.

D. M.

SCIENTIFIC RELICS OF MORELL MACKENZIE.¹

EXHIBITED AT THE FIRST SUMMER CONGRESS OF THE SECTION OF
LARYNGOLOGY AT THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE ON
MAY 2 AND 3, 1919.

PRESENTED BY MR. MAYER (MESSRS. MAYER AND PHELPS)

TO THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF MEDICINE.

MANUSCRIPTS COMPILED BY DR. IRWIN MOORE.

Diagrams prepared by Dr. James Donelan to illustrate a lecture given by Morell Mackenzie before the Philosophical Institute of Edinburgh in December, 1888, on "Speech and Song." One of these diagrams comprises the history of "Pitch," as illustrated by the variations and vibrations of the note A from the time of Mozart.

A comparative scale of different classes of voices, with notes by Morell Mackenzie. This chart was kept in his drawer to refresh his memory when he saw singers. Inscribed in Morell Mackenzie's handwriting (blue pencil): "Not to be taken from the drawer."

Reprints of articles, by Solis-Cohen, from the *American Journal of Medical Sciences*, 1883, pp. 84-93, on "Laryngoscopy as a Means of Diagnosis." Presented to Morell Mackenzie, with the compliments of the author. Marked "Important" in Morell Mackenzie's handwriting.

Twelve water-colour drawings by Lennox Browne, signed and dated (see below).

Morell Mackenzie's interest in the pathology of his speciality is shown by the large number of cases he exhibited at the meetings of the Pathological Society of London between 1862 and 1874 (*vide Transactions*, vols. xiii to xxv).

These cases were invariably worked out with great thoroughness both as regards history and symptoms, and constitute a valuable addition to literature.

The beautiful water-colour drawings by Lennox Browne, presented to the Royal Society by Mr. Mayer, represent the most interesting and important cases which Morell Mackenzie contributed to the Pathological Society of London during this period.

¹ These relics have been placed in a case, and are exhibited in the Library of the Royal Society of Medicine, 1, Wimpole Street, London, W.