

OBITUARIES.

WILFRID HUDLESTON HUDLESTON (1828-1909).

By the death of Mr. W. H. Hudleston we have to deplore the loss of one of the past-presidents of the Society. Although taking no active part in the affairs of the Society during recent years, he acted as President during the years 1881-1883, at a time which witnessed several important changes. The financial position of the Society was far from satisfactory, and the practice of holding country meetings had been for the most part discontinued, while the amalgamation of the Mineralogical and the Crystallogical Societies was under consideration. These and other matters affecting the welfare of the Society were discussed by Mr. Hudleston in his presidential address in 1883 (vol. v, pp. xxi-xxiv). The only paper published by him in the Magazine was a criticism 'On a recent hypothesis with regard to the diamond rock in South Africa' (Min. Mag., 1883, vol. v, pp. 199-210). Most of his papers were on geological and palaeontological subjects. He formed a collection of minerals, but a far more extensive collection of fossils, the latter, including many type specimens, having been bequeathed by him to the Sedgwick Museum at Cambridge.

He was the eldest son of Dr. John Simpson, of Knaresborough, and Elizabeth Ward, the heiress of the Hudlestons of Cumberland, and on coming into these estates in 1867 he changed his name from Simpson to Hudleston. On leaving Cambridge in 1850 he studied law and was called to the Bar, but being a man of leisure he travelled extensively in the pursuit of ornithology, afterwards turning his attention to chemistry and later to geology. A biographical notice with portrait and list of his publications appeared in the 'Geological Magazine' in 1904 (dec. 5, vol. i, pp. 431-438), and an obituary notice in the same journal in 1909 (vol. vi, pp. 143-144).

ALBERT AUGUSTE DE LAPPARENT (1839-1908).

Professor de Lapparent was best known to mineralogists as the author of the lucid 'Cours de Minéralogie', a fourth edition of which appeared only shortly before his death. Of other excellent textbooks and treatises

his 'Traité de Géologie' is of special importance; this first appeared in 1881, and a fifth edition, in three volumes, was published in 1906. His mineralogical papers were few in number; he wrote on crystal-structure in 1878, on the origin of igneous rocks, and on the eruptive rocks of Jersey. After passing as a student from the Polytechnic School at Paris, he joined the 'Corps des Mines' and was attached to the French Geological Survey. Since 1875 he was professor of geology and mineralogy at the Institut Catholique, and later also at the École libre des hautes études. In 1907 he succeeded Berthelot as secrétaire perpétuel of the Paris Academy of Sciences. He was president of the French Mineralogical Society in 1885 and again in 1906; and an obituary notice with portrait has appeared in the 'Bulletin' (1909, vol. xxxii, pp. 38-41). His charming personality was abundantly evident at the time of the centenary celebrations of the Geological Society of London in 1907, and during the subsequent visit to Cambridge, where he received the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

GUSTAV MELCZER (1869-1907).

The early death of Dr. G. Melczer removes a worker of considerable promise. He had already published sixteen papers, dealing not only with the crystallographic description of minerals from Hungarian localities, but also with the general crystallography of corundum, haematite, and some other species. While working in Munich in 1900 he described some of the material brought back from Ceylon by Dr. F. Grünling. He was an assistant in the Technical High School, and since 1902 Privatdozent in the University of Budapest. An obituary notice with portrait and list of his publications appeared in the Hungarian journal, 'Földtani Közlöny' (1908, vol. xxxviii, pp. 1-6, 103-106).
