

with his own hands; many excellent gratings were made with a ruling engine of his own device, the result of twenty-five years, modification and improvement. In this engine the diamond point is brought very gradually into contact with the surface to be ruled, so that the risk of disaster from its breaking is entirely avoided. When Röntgen announced the discovery of the X-rays, Lord Blythswood had already obtained photographic effects through opaque objects, and had come very near to making the discovery himself. His principal researches were in spectrum photography, the Zeeman effect, and in radio-activity. During the last few years of his life he was much interested in the problem of flight, and in conjunction with Mr. Scoble he invented an engine worked by compressed air, and which developed one-half of a horse-power, although weighing only two pounds.

He had for some time been suffering from heart weakness, and died on July 8 at his seat of Blythswood.

Lord Blythswood was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1907, and a Fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society on 1875 April 9.

CECIL GOODRICH JULIUS DOLMAGE was descended from a Protestant refugee family which settled in Ireland at the beginning of the eighteenth century. He was born in Naples in 1870. He received his early education at Ipswich School and from private tutors, and at the age of seventeen he passed successfully his examinations for the army. But an accident following almost immediately upon this success, weakened his constitution and altered the course of his career, and, as it has since proved, cut short a life that was full of promise.

He was, however, within a year or so of this unfortunate mishap, which so changed his life, able to enter Trinity College, Dublin, and after a distinguished course there he graduated, taking high honours in history and political science, in 1893, and, later, the degrees of M.A. and LL.D.

He was called to the Irish Bar in 1897, and to the Bar of the Inner Temple in 1903.

Mr. Dolmage wrote many articles and essays on historical and astronomical subjects. His book, *Astronomy of To-day*, appeared but a few weeks before his death last autumn, and showed him to be gifted with the power of a sympathetic insight and a facile pen.

He was only thirty-eight when he died from a decline which followed upon the unfortunate accident of his earlier years.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1898 November 11.

ROBERT LEWIS JOHN ELLERY was born at Cranleigh in Surrey on the 14th of July 1827. In early life he studied medicine, but devoted much of his leisure to astronomy and meteorology. He first went to Australia in 1851, and superintended in 1853 the erection of a small observatory at Williamstown for the Government of Victoria, which was constituted a separate colony in that