

It was his intention to supplement these by a similar set of charts of the South Polar Constellations, but this work he never completed.

Mr. Cottam used two telescopes in his observations, a $4\frac{1}{2}$ -inch refractor by Merz, and a 12-inch reflector. He acquired the latter instrument from Mr. N. E. Green, who had it constructed to his own design for the purposes of his observations of Mars in 1877.

In 1860 Mr. Cottam married Mary Gibbs, of Kingsbury, who survives him, and he lived to celebrate their golden wedding a year before his death. They had one son and two daughters, of whom only the younger daughter is now living. His son died in March last, unexpectedly, after an operation, and there is no doubt that the shock of this loss hastened his own death, which occurred 1911 November 23, at Bridgwater, where he had lived since 1905.

He was elected a Fellow 1862 February 14.

LOUIS STROMEYER LITTLE was the third son of the late Dr. W. J. Little, physician to the London Hospital, and was born in London on 1840 November 23. He was educated at St. Paul's School, in Germany at Hanover and Kiel, and at University College, London, where he studied under De Morgan. After taking the degree of Bachelor of Arts at London University, he became an articled pupil at the Royal College of Surgeons, and took the diploma of M.R.C.S. in 1862, proceeding to the F.R.C.S. in 1866. In 1862 he was appointed assistant surgeon to the London Hospital, and soon became known as an original and skilful operator. In 1864 he was attached to a field hospital during the Schleswig-Holstein campaign, and in 1866 he took an active part in dealing with the epidemic of cholera in the east of London.

In 1869 he was appointed to the charge of the Shanghai General Hospital, and in Shanghai he built a small observatory, where, in the midst of his arduous professional duties, he found time to do interesting astronomical work. In collaboration with some officers of the fleet he determined the longitude of Shanghai by exchange of telegraphic signals with Nagasaki; this was the first telegraphic longitude determined in China. An account of the work is published in the *M.N.*, vol. xli. pp. 64 and 415. On 1881 November 8 he observed the transit of Mercury (*M.N.* xlii. p. 104).

In 1899 he resigned his position in China, and returning to England *via* South Africa saw further war service with No. 9 hospital at Bloemfontein during the Boer war; but after three months his health failed and he came home.

He died on 1911 October 4, at Whitehill, Bletchingly, Surrey, leaving a widow and one son.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1877 January 12.

WILLIAM THYNNE LYNN was born in London on 1835 August 9. His father, William Bewicke Lynn, had served as

an army surgeon and was attached to the 5th Fusiliers in the Peninsular war, but at the time of the birth of his son William held the post of senior surgeon at Westminster Hospital. Mr. Lynn's early days were spent in the country at the village of Claygate, near Esher, in Surrey, where his family lived after his father's retirement from practice. He was at first educated at home, and afterwards at King's College, London, of which he became an associate. He always showed a strong leaning towards the study of natural phenomena, but astronomy especially attracted him, and in his nineteenth year he obtained a post as supernumerary computer at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich. A year later he became assistant at the Cambridge University Observatory, but after eighteen months returned to Greenwich, where he was appointed assistant in 1856 September. In 1859 he became superintendent of supernumerary computers; but though he was now responsible for the work connected with the publication of the annual Greenwich volume, he nevertheless managed to make time for private study, and obtained the degree of B.A. at London University in 1861. In 1871 he was placed in charge of the Altazimuth, and became a first-class assistant in 1874, but unfortunately his health began to give way, and for this reason he retired from the Observatory Staff in January 1880.

During his connection with the Royal Observatory he communicated to the Society a number of papers dealing chiefly with the proper motions of certain stars, including Procyon, Groombridge 1830, Arcturus, and others.

In Mr. Lynn's case retirement from official work afforded the opportunity for a kind of research for which his knowledge of classical literature and of the French and German languages specially fitted him, and which he prosecuted with conspicuous success. While deeply interested to the last in modern astronomical problems and investigations, he became an exceptionally diligent and accurate student of astronomy on its historical and antiquarian side. He was often to be found at the British Museum and the library of the Society, and his studies enabled him to bring to light a host of interesting details connected with the personal history and work of past astronomers, with which he enriched the pages of various periodicals devoted to scientific matters. He was a prolific writer on topics of this kind, and was also the author of several small books dealing with more ordinary subjects. His *Celestial Motions* was the basis of a larger work by Professor D. P. Todd entitled *Stars and Telescopes*, and his little books *Remarkable Eclipses* and *Remarkable Comets* are well known and have passed through many editions. Ancient chronological and biblical matters also interested him deeply, and he published small books on these subjects.

In 1900 Mr. Lynn joined the British Astronomical Association, and was a member of the Council during several years and at the time of his death. He took an active part in the work of the Association; and during his eleven and a half years of membership

contributed a very large number of papers and notes, his last being read at the November meeting, less than a fortnight before his death.

Mr. Lynn possessed a good memory and a keen sense of humour, and his mind was well stored with interesting reminiscences of former days. He died on the night of 1911 December 11, after a few hours' illness. His familiar figure will be much missed at meetings of the Society and of the British Astronomical Association, and especially by those who enjoyed the privilege of his personal friendship.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society 1862 February 14.

T. E. R. P.

JAMES ODDIE, son of James and Margaret Oddie, was born at Clitheroe on 1824 March 31. After a somewhat slight education, partly at a school held in a blacksmith's shop, he started life as assistant to a tinsmith, and was soon afterwards employed as a foundryman and journeyman moulder. For some time he was employed at the foundry of Nasmyth's engineering works, and remembered seeing the early trials of the steam hammer. Then he went to London, and worked in shipbuilding yards on the Thames; was for some time employed at Rotterdam; and thence moved to the railway works of the Great Western Railway.

Mr. Oddie sailed for Australia on the ship *Larpent*, and in 1849 June he landed at Geelong as one of the "forty-niners"; he lived to take part in the celebrations of the sixtieth anniversary of the landing. He found himself in Ballarat on the day after the first discovery of gold, and it is said that his imprudence in admitting to a journalist that he was winning thirty ounces of gold a day led to the great rush to the field. From that time Mr. Oddie lived at Ballarat, and was closely identified with every form of public enterprise in the rapidly growing city, devoting his time and fortune in particular to the foundation of an Art Gallery and the equipment of the Mount Pleasant Observatory. The observatory has been purchased by the School of Mines, but some of the best instruments he presented to the Federal Government for the proposed Federal Observatory.

Mr. Oddie was twice married, but no children survive him. He died on 1911 March 3, at the age of eighty-seven, the last survivor in Ballarat of the days of the gold discoveries.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1889 November 8.

EMANUEL JOSEPH RISTORI was born in Rome in 1857. His father, Henry Ristori, was one of the pioneers of railway enterprise in Italy. The Marchesa del Grillo, better known as Adelaida Ristori, the famous tragic actress, was his aunt. Ristori studied engineering in the University of Rome, but took his degree of Doctor of Philosophy in that of Naples in 1881. For a short time he was Assistant Astronomer in the Observatory of the Roman College and in the Royal Observatory of Naples. In 1882