his lease of life would have rendered complete, bears comparison with anything that has been elsewhere accomplished in this direction.

He by no means limited himself to the mere routine work, but was prompt in collecting and discussing the results, as sixteen short papers in the *Monthly Notices* amply testify.

His physical frame was, as already remarked, not vigorous, but he showed certain powers of endurance in "hare and hounds"—possibly the same endurance which enabled him to achieve so much in the observatory. He was also fond of geology, chess, and stamp collecting. He married Mrs. Lyons in Bangalore in 1915, who is left with two baby daughters, one born ten days after the father's death. The Nizam has granted her a pension of £100 a year, and she contemplates returning to England.

Mr. Pocock was elected a Fellow of the Society 1914 February 13. He died on October 9 last.

George Mitchell Seabroke was born on 1838 April 1, and was educated at Rugby, but left school in order to enter a solicitor's office before he reached the Sixth Form. But he remained connected with Rugby School all his life, acting as honorary curator of the "Temple" Observatory, teaching practical astronomy, and training successive generations of schoolboys to the use of the instruments. It was while young Seabroke was still at the school that his House and Science Master, the Rev. J. M. Wilson, now Canon of Worcester, interested him in astronomy, and after he had left the school Dr. Wilson placed at his disposal a small telescope mounted in his garden. Seabroke soon set to work to make a reflector for himself, devising and constructing the grinding and polishing machine together with a small engine to work it. With these he made two or three mirrors and mounted them. A little later Dr. Wilson secured the famous $8\frac{1}{4}$-inch refractor that Alvan Clark had made for the Rev. W. R. Dawes. This became the chief instrument of the Temple Observatory, and with it Seabroke and Wilson made the series of measures of double stars and spectroscopic observations which were communicated to the Royal Astronomical Society and appeared in the *Monthly Notices* and the *Memoirs* between the years 1873 and 1890. His work at the Temple Observatory was his most important contribution to astronomy from two points of view: here his own direct observations were made, and here he influenced many hundreds of schoolboys, not only giving them interest in the "wonders of the heavens," but training them to the order, method, and accuracy which the pursuit of astronomy develops. The first report of the Temple Observatory, Rugby, appears in the Report of the Council of the R.A.S. to the Fifty-Third Annual General Meeting in 1873 February 14, in these words:—"This is an observatory founded at Rugby in memory of the present Bishop of Exeter, late Headmaster of Rugby School. . . . The observatory is used for educational purposes, and the work of

observing is therefore much interrupted. . . . Drawings of sun-spots, Encke's Comet, Venus, Jupiter, and Mars have been made repeatedly by some of the boys, who also assist in double-star measuring and in some of the calculations." It was in this observatory that he spent the last evening of his life. The attendances of the boys at the observatory seem to have numbered between three and four hundred in the year.

Several of his early papers, communicated to the R.A.S. and dealing with the work of the Temple Observatory, show his thoughtful treatment of the facts of astronomy as then recognised. In the xxxivth volume of the *Monthly Notices*, p. 29, under the title "Remarks on Spectroscopic Observations of the Sun, made at the Temple Observatory, Rugby School, in 1871–2–3," Mr. Seabroke, in conjunction with Dr. Wilson, suggests eight points for inquiry to be determined by observation. Of these several have now been more or less settled, but some still await further investigation. Thus we read, No. 5: "Faculæ should have a proper motion in the opposite direction to that of a spot"; No. 6: "A spot should be more frequently bridged from the West, as we see the Sun, than from the East"; No. 8: "The period of spots ought to coincide with that of some assignable cause of disturbance of pressure."

Mr. Seabroke was one of the founders of the British Astronomical Association and an original member of its Council. He served as President, 1900–1902, was Director of the Double-Star Section, 1892–1915, and of the Saturn Section, 1898–1911. His Presidential Address in 1901 dealt with problems of the ether, relativity, and gravitation, which now occupy a considerable place in astronomical thought, but were then just coming into notice.

He also took a considerable part in the civic life of Rugby. He was one of the founders of the National Union of Fire Brigades, and in 1895 he organised for the town a volunteer fire brigade, in the efficiency of which he always took an active interest. He became a member of the Board of Health in 1875, and took a leading part in perfecting the Rugby water-supply. He was an active member of the old Rugby Volunteer Corps for forty years, and on his retirement was given the rank of honorary Lieut.-Col. of the 2nd Royal Warwickshire Volunteer Company. He was appointed Deputy-Lieutenant of the County of Warwickshire a few weeks before his death, which took place suddenly, through heart failure, on 1918 April 1.

Quiet and unassuming in disposition, he never pushed himself forward, but whenever he was asked for the help which his knowledge and sound judgment so often enabled him to give, he was prompt and ready to supply it. His old Master and life-long friend and colleague has thus summed up his character:— "In my long life and fairly wide experience I have known no one more truly scientific in spirit and in aims, more conscientious, truthful, modest, accurate; none of sounder judgment, none more faithful to his friends, or to any cause or work which he took up.

For fifty years I held him in the highest honour and confidence and love."

He was elected a Fellow of the Society 1878 April 8, and served on its Council from 1894 to 1902.

Beauchamp Prideaux Selby was born at Bradley Hall, Northumberland, on 1841 August 23. He was educated at Harrow, and St. John's College, Cambridge. He studied for the Bar, and became a member of Lincoln's Inn, but never practised as a Barrister. For many years he was a zealous member of the Inns of Court Volunteers, and an excellent rifle shot, winning several prizes at the annual meetings of the N.R.A. at Wimbledon.

He resided at Pawston, Northumberland, and became Chairman of the Bench for Northumberland and Islandshire, continuing to attend the Courts till within a few months of his death.

Throughout his life he took much interest in astronomy and geology, though he did not write any papers on these subjects.

He married in 1881 Fanny Pocklington Senhouse, and had two sons: the elder, Beauchamp Henry, became a Captain in the 5th Northumberland Fusiliers, and was killed at the battle of the Aisne in 1914 September; the younger, Prideaux Joseph, enlisted in the Northumberland Fusiliers in 1914 August, immediately after the outbreak of war; he died of fever at Gibraltar on 1915 October.

Mr Selby died at Pawston on 1918 November 6, his estate passing to his nephew.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1897 January 8.

Peter Thompson was born at Liverpool, on 1836 July 13. He adopted a nautical career, and on 1878 July 2 he was admitted and sworn a Younger Brother of the Hon. the Corporation of Trinity House.

Afterwards he held for many years the post of Senior Examiner in Navigation and Seamanship for the Port of London, and Secretary of the Local Marine Board, London.

During this period he wrote several text-books on navigation, the latest being a pamphlet entitled *Navigation Simplified*, published not long before his death. It is unfortunate that, owing doubtless to inadvertence on the part of the author, this pamphlet is so worded as to convey the erroneous impression that both longitude and latitude can be derived from a single observation of a heavenly body.

He died at Bickley, Kent, on 1918 April 13.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1880 June 11.

Henry Addenbrook Wassell was born in 1838 at Oldswinford, Stourbridge, Worcestershire, and remained there all his life, save for a brief period in early manhood spent in study in London. After this he engaged for a time in commerce; but after a few years, finding himself in possession of a modest competency, he