

Mr. Aldis worked as a mathematical coach at Cambridge for several years, during which time he and his wife organised a petition for the admission of women to the examinations and degrees of the University. This petition was widely supported and succeeded in gaining admission for women to the Triposes.

In 1870 Mr. Aldis was appointed Professor of Mathematics in the College of Science, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of which he afterwards became principal. In 1883 he accepted a similar position in Auckland College, New Zealand, which he held till his retirement from active work and return to England in 1896. He published in the *Monthly Notices*, 62, 633, extensive tables of the function $\frac{1}{2}(\theta + \cos \theta)$, for use in the computation of orbits. His two books, *Solid Geometry* and *Optics*, were for a long time standard works. He was remarkable, apart from his mathematical attainments, for the keen interest he took in social and political reforms. He had a wide circle of friends, who were attracted to him because of his lovable and unselfish disposition, the outcome of a deep religious faith.

Mr. Aldis married in 1863 the eldest daughter of the Rev. William Robinson. He died on 1928 March 7 at the age of eighty-nine, leaving a son and two daughters.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1885 March 13.

THOMAS WILLIAM BUSH was born at Nottingham in 1839, and at the time of his death on 1928 April 23 was near his eighty-ninth birthday. His early years were spent amid humble surroundings, but he soon developed a keen desire for knowledge, and made himself proficient in mathematics and optics, whilst also devoting attention to linguistic studies, including German, Greek, Hebrew, and Latin. But practical astronomy became his favourite study, and he was constructing reflecting telescopes, whilst also holding the position of secretary to the Nottingham Hospital. One of his telescopes was shown at one of the national exhibitions, for which he was awarded a gold medal, and thereby introduced to Queen Victoria and Mr. Gladstone, the latter of whom presented him with a spectroscope as a mark of appreciation. His fellow townsmen also presented him with a sidereal clock. After this he was in charge of Lord Forrester's Observatory, at Willey Park, where he made many observations of the planets with an 8-in. refractor. He came to live in the district of East Grinstead in 1909, and whilst there made several 24-in. specula and mountings, one of which was intended for Nottingham University.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1873, resigned in 1900, and was re-elected on 1909 December 10.

W. S. F.

WILLIAM BLADEN CROFT was born in London in 1851, and was one of ten children of a doctor practising in the City. He was educated at Christ's Hospital and Pembroke College, Oxford, taking first-class honours in Mathematical Moderations and the Final Schools of Mathematics and Natural Science. He was assistant master at Winchester