

quished double-star measuring, for which, as you justly say, your O.G. is so admirably suited. Indeed, you will not wonder that, as I consider you to possess in a very high degree the essential qualities of an accurate observer of these objects, I have felt not a little jealous of such a telescope and such an observer being mainly employed on variable stars, on which, to say nothing of the observer, a vastly inferior telescope would do as well." Thus the choice of his particular line of work was entirely Mr. Knott's own, for certainly no other astronomer exercised the same influence on his work as did Mr. Dawes. In later years he corresponded chiefly with other variable-star observers (Baxendell, Birmingham, Espin, Gore, E. C. Pickering, Webb, Yendell and others) about their common difficulties. Many of these letters, too, are of interest.

It only remains to add that Mrs. Knott has not only placed these observations and letters at the disposal of the Society, but has signified her desire to contribute in a most generous manner towards the expenses of publication of the observations. Mr. Knott wrote during his lifetime more than 30 short papers, besides the double-star memoir above mentioned, but the greater part of the variable-star observations will be published for the first time.

Mr. Knott was proposed by Mr. Dawes and elected a Fellow of this Society on 1860 November 9. It is noteworthy that at this time the two friends who had corresponded so intimately had never met. It is plain from the letters that several urgent invitations were exchanged, but to no purpose until some years later. This devotion did not, however, prevent Mr. Knott from attending the meetings of this Society with the greatest regularity, although each visit entailed a midnight drive of two miles on his return to Cuckfield. He was elected on the Council first in 1868, and was a member of it with few interruptions from that time onwards.

JAMES LEIGH was born at Liverpool on 1838 June 1. His professional career as a banker commenced at Liverpool, and after being for some years at Warrington he removed in 1873 to Birmingham, and from 1876 to the time of his death was manager of the Metropolitan Bank of England and Wales. He married in 1863, and leaves two daughters and a son.

He was thoroughly engrossed in his work, and was rewarded by considerable success; his unsparing devotion unfortunately hastened his death. He rarely took part in public affairs, though he occasionally wrote to the Press on financial matters. His spare time was chiefly given to the study of natural science, especially astronomy, entomology, and ornithology. His most active period of astronomical work was in the years 1863-73, when he resided first at Rockferry, Cheshire, and afterwards at Penketh, Lancashire; and he regularly and systematically observed the Moon, noting occultations and taking micrometrical measurements of lunar craters and of double stars with an

8-inch reflector and a 4-inch refractor by Cooke, of York. His intention to resume astronomical work in 1882 was frustrated by an attack of rheumatic fever, and he was compelled to limit himself to indoor work with the microscope.

He was elected a Fellow on 1882 March 10, but contributed no papers to the Society.

JOHN MORGAN was born at Gretna on 1809 December 7. He was the younger son of the Rev. John Morgan, minister of the parish of Gretna, Dumfriesshire. In early life he went to Cartagena, in South America, and afterwards spent some years in business in Trinidad, returning with a modest fortune in 1842. Very shortly after, he came to reside at Springfield House, Bishopbriggs, with his brother William Morgan, an East India merchant, who died in 1856. Unmarried and of a retiring disposition, Mr. John Morgan lived in quiet seclusion at Springfield till his death, which took place on 1894 May 4.

ARTHUR COWPER RANYARD was born at Swanscombe, in the county of Kent, on 1845 June 21, and, after his father's removal to 13 Hunter Street, Brunswick Square, he was educated at University College School, Gower Street. On leaving the school he entered the adjoining college, where, from the influence of the late Professor De Morgan, whose classes he attended, he acquired a strong love for mathematics and astronomy. Whilst at University College he collaborated with Mr. George De Morgan in founding a "Students' Mathematical Society," which had a most successful career, developing eventually into the present "London Mathematical Society." Mr. Ranyard read the first paper before the new society, one "On Determinants."

From University College, London, Mr. Ranyard went to Cambridge, entering on residence at Pembroke College in the October term of 1865, and taking his degree in 1868. Three years later he was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, but, whilst adopting the law as his profession, his leisure hours were mostly devoted to science. Thus he joined the Physical Society in its first session, and in 1872 worked with Lord Lindsay (the present Earl of Crawford) in the study of photographic irradiation. Again in 1885 and 1886 the same subject of photography occupied his attention, and he conducted a number of experiments in order to determine the relations between the length of exposure and the intensity of photographic action.

His connection with Lincoln's Inn gave scope for the exercise of another side of his character, his interest in relics of the past. The preservation of ancient monuments appealed strongly to him, and he took a great part in saving the old gateway of Lincoln's Inn from destruction, and also the houses in "Old Buildings," including Lord Thurlow's chambers. In the latter he was especially interested, as the character of Cromwell himself, and