

OBITUARY.

The Council regret that they have to announce the loss by death of the following Fellows and Associates during the past year :—

Fellows :—J. G. Barclay.
 L. H. Bradford.
 Latimer Clark.
 Edwin Dunkin.
 John Hippisley.
 W. B. Hutchinson.
 Henry Perigal.
 Rev. T. J. Potter.
 Rev. Bartholomew Price.
 Herbert Sadler.
 A. F. Smith.
 J. E. de Villiers.
 George Williams.
 Rev. A. Wrigley.

Associate :—Cyrille Souillart.

JOSEPH GURNEY BARCLAY, who was born in 1816, was the son of Robert and Elizabeth (*née* Gurney) Barclay, in direct descent from Colonel Barclay (1610), who purchased the Urie Estate, and from his son, Robert Barclay, author of the "Apology." When J. G. Barclay was a boy, his father purchased and went to live at Knott's Green, Leyton, which has since been a family residence of the Barclays. For more than fifty years J. G. Barclay was a partner (in later years the head) of the well-known banking firm of Barclay, Bevan & Co. ; he retired from the firm on its amalgamation with a number of other banks and conversion into a limited company in 1896. He twice married, his first wife being Mary Walker Leatham, of the well-known Yorkshire family, by whom he had two sons and one daughter, of whom only one, Robert Barclay, is now living. On his marriage he took up his residence at the Limes, Walthamstow, coming into possession of Knott's Green on his father's death. His second wife, Margaret Exton, of Hitchin, survives him, together with her three sons and two daughters. Mr. Barclay was a Quaker. He read a great deal both of scientific and ordinary books up to within a few years of his death, and never lost his powers of taking interest in what

was going on round him. He died 1898 April 25, at Exton House, Brighton, in his 82nd year.

Mr. Barclay began to take an interest in astronomical work some time before 1854, as he tells us in the Introduction to the *Leyton Observations*, vol. i. In the autumn of 1854 he set up an Observatory with 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch equatorial by Cooke, and transit circle by Troughton & Simms. He scrutinised *Procyon* for a companion which might explain its irregular proper motion, and detected a wide (45'') faint (10.5) companion, which was not however measured till eight years afterwards. He made drawings of the planets, observed partial eclipses; and did similar astronomical work. He was elected a Fellow of this Society 1855 December 14.

In 1860 the 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch was exchanged for a 10-inch by the same makers, and "the possession of this fine instrument soon taught him the necessity of having someone fully competent to carry on a regular series of observations and reductions." He thus secured the services, as assistant, first of Hermann Romberg, who, however, very shortly left for Berlin and then for Pulkowa (he died 1898 July 6, less than three months after Mr. Barclay); and then of Mr. Talmage, who was continuously in charge of the Observatory from 1865 till his death in 1886.

On the appointment of a regular observer, the work of the observatory settled down into a regular routine, chiefly of double-star observations, though in the first two years Romberg observed some minor planets and comets. Four volumes of *Leyton Observations* were published (size of page 11 in. $\times$ 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.; No. of pages, vol. i. 120, ii. 140, iii. 42, iv. 140), and a fifth was promised (*Monthly Notices*, xlv., p. 231), but has not yet appeared. On Mr. Talmage's death the observatory was discontinued, the equatorial being presented to the Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford, and the transit circle to the University Observatory, Oxford.

In the introductions to these volumes a brief description of the observatory and instruments is given. The following remarks about the dome are worth recalling:—

"... A wooden dome, covered with copper and lined with American cloth, which I found prevented the internal condensation of vapour." (Vol. i., date 1865.)

"Several gentlemen who are building observatories have visited Leyton for the purpose of inspecting the dome, the arrangements of which continue to give perfect satisfaction." (R.A.S. report, 1876 February.)

LATIMER CLARK was born at Great Marlow, Bucks, 1822 March 10. He originally studied chemistry, and was manufacturing chemist in a large establishment in Dublin; but the activity in railway construction had too great a fascination for him, and in 1847 he commenced railway surveying under his brother, Edwin Clark (who was also a Fellow of this Society, and died in 1894). The latter was soon appointed Superintending Engineer for the Britannia Tubular Bridge across the Menai