

degree of LL.D. upon him in recognition of services he rendered to it, and he was also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Edinburgh. After the death of his father, in 1864, he lived with his mother at Felbridge, until she died in 1876, and subsequently his life became akin to that of a recluse and almost a hermit. Like his father he was most munificent in his contributions to anything and everything for the public benefit or advantage. The present Felbridge Church was built by the elder Mr. Gatty, and possesses the remarkable peculiarity of standing in the two Surrey parishes of Godstone and Tandridge, within a quarter of a mile of the Sussex border. Dr. Gatty was chairman of the East Grinstead bench of magistrates in Sussex, and for years attended the bench at Godstone, in Surrey, of which county he was also a justice of the peace. He had no near relations and very few intimate friends, leading, as has been said, the life of a recluse and shutting himself up with his fine and valuable library and instruments. He possessed an elaborate and probably almost unique orrery.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on the 13th of May 1870, and was at one time a regular attendant at our meetings, but never contributed any paper. His scientific interests were largely divided between astronomy and botany. He died at Felbridge on the 12th of December 1903.

W. N.

JAMES GLAISHER, although in early life attached to astronomical pursuits, will be hereafter remembered principally as a meteorologist, not only as having for so many years held the position of Superintendent of the Magnetical and Meteorological Department at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, but also, in a great degree, on account of his independent work in many directions in the cause of meteorological science. A pioneer in meteorology, he very early turned his attention to the organisation of the many amateur meteorological observers dispersed throughout the country, who, hitherto working in an isolated manner, and too often with inferior instruments, became by his vigorous action federated, as it were, into a system having a common object, thus making it possible, with improved instruments and methods, to produce a reliable body of information on the meteorology of the country—an early type of the more extended international systems that became in after years established. He was also largely instrumental in founding the British Meteorological Society, now known as the Royal Meteorological Society, in the early years of which it was by his own personal exertions that the Society was placed on that secure and stable footing the fruits of which the existing Society now enjoys.

It may be convenient, in the first instance, to speak of his astronomical work. Born on the 7th of April 1809 at Rotherhithe, London, Mr. Glaisher was first heard of as receiving