

life he accomplished the valuable work to be found in the *Monthly Notices* for 1914 June, which is a classification of the nebulæ shown on the series of 206 plates covering the whole sky, taken by Mr. Franklin Adams, and placed at his disposal by Sir Frank Dyson. He served on the Council of our Society from 1907 February to 1910 February, and again from 1912 to 1914. Very naturally he acted on the Committee of publication of Sir William Herschel's papers, and gave much efficient help. On the retirement of Dr. Dreyer from the Directorship of the Observatory at Armagh, Hardcastle, whose health had apparently improved, was chosen by Archbishop Crozier, Primate of Ireland, to succeed him, and was to have taken up the appointment in June last. The selection was an ideal one, but its actual realisation was tragic. Mr. and Mrs. Hardcastle with their family were on the point of starting for their new home when Hardcastle's complaint renewed itself, and he was not able to make the journey, but was obliged to go to his father's house at Oxted, where he died on November 10 last at the early age of forty-nine, and was buried at Oxted on November 13.

Alfred Hardcastle was a deeply religious man, and took an active part in the parochial and church life of the parish of Crowthorne. He was a delightful companion, and had a charm of manner that endeared him to all who met him. The high regard and esteem in which he was held by his pupils is touchingly expressed in an appreciative contribution to the *Journal of the British Astronomical Association* for 1917 December, written by two of them, Miss Blagg and Miss Cook, now both Fellows of this Society. He leaves a widow, a son, and one daughter.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society on 1902 January 10.

H. P. H.

WILLIAM ERNEST HARTLEY was born at Walsall, Staffordshire, in 1877, and was educated at King Edward's High School, Birmingham; and at Trinity College, Cambridge, of which foundation he was a Scholar. In 1899 he graduated as sixth Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos. For several years subsequently he held the post of Demonstrator in Physics at the University of Aberdeen. In 1903 he was appointed Second Assistant at the Cambridge Observatory, and when Mr. Hinks left to take a secretaryship in the Royal Geographical Society, Mr. Hartley succeeded him as Chief Assistant, where he was placed in charge of the meridian-circle and employed on the re-observation of the faint supernumerary stars of the Cambridge Zone Catalogue, as well as in the preparation for press of the detailed observations of this Zone—a work which he completed a few months before his death. These tasks left him little time for original work. But he took a large share in a determination of the systematic motions of stars from the radial velocities, which indicated a close quantitative agreement between the radial velocities and proper motions in regard to the phenomena of star-streaming. He was also very successful as a teacher of practical

astronomy to university students at the Observatory ; and he gave considerable assistance to the late Director, Sir Robert Ball, in connection with his professional publications. Mr. Hartley's great gifts of lucid explanation, combined with his skill in the manipulation of astronomical instruments, made him eminently popular and successful in the weekly Saturday night demonstrations with the Northumberland equatorial. Towards the close of 1915 he decided to put his services at the disposal of his country during the war, the tragic possibilities of which for himself he and his wife fully and fearlessly faced. On 1916 January 4 he accepted a post as naval instructor for the duration of the war, and went to reside at the Royal Naval College, Greenwich. During this time he paid regular week-end visits to Cambridge and helped to carry on the work in the Observatory. In May he was appointed to H.M.S. *Africa* ; and in December of that year was transferred to the ill-fated *Vanguard*, in the disaster to which he met his death during the night of 1917 July 9. Before joining the Navy he had been qualifying himself for military service in the M.A. Training Corps at Cambridge. As a naval instructor he naturally found full scope for his special talents. In a letter of condolence written to the widow, Admiral Sturdee spoke in the highest terms of his excellence as an instructor, and of the conscientious thoroughness of his work in general.

In 1909 Mr. Hartley married Norah Winifred, fifth daughter of Mr. James A. Aldis, of Miasmere, Suffolk, formerly headmaster of Queen Mary's School, Walsall. She survives him, with two daughters. He will long be remembered by his friends and his professional colleagues, both in the Observatory and in the Navy, as a keen and devoted worker, a genial comrade, and a man of singularly unselfish kindness. That a career of such promise should have been so abruptly broken off is one of the tragedies of war.

He was elected a Fellow on 1914 January 9.

[For the above notice the Council are indebted to Mr. H. L. Aldis.]

MAURICE EGERTON LEIGH-HUNT was born on 1871 June 1, matriculated from St. Paul's school, and shortly afterwards went to Mexico on a mining mission. Upon returning to England he became ultimately a member of the London Stock Exchange and a partner in a well-known firm of brokers. A keen observer, he built a movable shed for his principal telescope, and thought no outlay of time or money too great if it facilitated the astronomical studies to which he was devoted.

He died suddenly in his office in the City on 1917 September 15. He had been suffering for some time from a weak heart, but it was not regarded with any seriousness, and his sudden death came as a great shock to the wide circle of friends by whom he was warmly esteemed.

He married Georgina Millicent, daughter of the late Mr. J.