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the meetings, and was a constant reader in the library. His caustic wit and humour were well known, and he delighted to refer to himself as the "enfant terrible" of the Society. Writing of him in *The Times*, "M. N." says :

> "His knowledge of astronomy, botany and all tree-lore, and geology, as well as archæology, was immensely wide, and he went on learning joyfully and eagerly to the day of his death. His visits are some of the best memories of my childhood. I shall always visualize him arriving to stay, armed with a stone hammer, a telescope and an aneroid, and specimens of stones and flowers collected on the way. To go for a walk with him or to look at the stars through his telescope opened new doors in one's mind. For he had the gift of sharing his knowledge in a way which made it a prelude to adventure."

He was the third son of the Rev. J. S. Horner of Mells Park, Somerset, where he was born in 1849 June 10. He went to Eton in 1861 with his twin-brother George, afterwards rector of Mells, and was in the XI which drew with Harrow and severely defeated Winchester. He left Eton to become a merchant in London. He died on 1937 January 17, just one year after his twin-brother George.

THOMAS CHARLTON HUDSON (born 1868 June 10) was the son of the Rev. William H. Hudson of Wimbledon, who wrote several books of mystical and religious poetry.

T. C. Hudson was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1898. At the City of London School, where he was educated, he shared the position of Head Boy with his friend (now Sir) Frank Delavigne. At Cambridge he was a scholar of Sidney Sussex College, and he early came under the influence of Sir J. J. Thompson at Trinity. After leaving Cambridge he served for a time at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, and then joined Dr. Downing's staff at H.M. Nautical Almanac Office in the old days at Verulam Buildings, Gray's Inn. These were congenial surroundings, and his inventive genius soon led him to produce his Star-correction Facilitator, fully described in *M.N.*, **54**, 90, 1893. This was probably Hudson's first matured effort. This machine reduced to a minimum the labour involved in the preparation of star ephemerides. It may be justly regarded as the germ of the progressive movement which culminated some forty years later as shown by the sentence "Logarithms are no longer used in the Nautical Almanac Office," written in the preface by Dr. Comrie to the *Nautical Almanac* for 1935. At about this time he was asked to review what was then the standard book on Interpolation, written by Professor Rice of the American Ephemeris, and thereafter the subject fascinated him, with the result that in 1901 he published his improved method of "interpolation to twelfths" (*M.N.*, **62**, 17, 1901). Later by some score of years he became an enthusiastic student of Vectors, and, strengthened in this direction by his friendship with Silberstein, he has been known to halt at the most draughty corner of a busy station and by the aid of a rectangular box of matches to give an inquirer an initiatory lesson in Vectors Made Easy.

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