

native language he rambled the Eifel district, the Auvergne, parts of Norway, and Southern Italy. In the same way he visited Egypt, going up the Nile to the First Cataract, Jerusalem, Damascus, Athens, Constantinople, Vienna, Berlin, and Amsterdam. He also paid a visit to Switzerland and accompanied the British Association in its meeting to South Africa.

His contributions to the literature of geology are contained mostly in the Transactions of the Royal Geological Society of Cornwall and of the Devonshire Association, in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*, and the *Journal of the Torquay Natural History Society*, the present number of which contains a list of twenty-four of his geological papers. Unfriendly criticism attended the publication of some of his views, but he never alluded to the matter nor appeared to resent the harshness of the treatment.

His interest in geological matters continued unabated. Apparently little concerned by his critics he pursued his favourite study satisfied with the new facts and interest it unflinchingly gave him. The value of his services to the Torquay Natural History Society will be long appreciated, and his memory will be kept green by a legacy left by him to its funds, which betokens the interest and pleasure he experienced in the performance of his duties to that institution.

H. J. L.

PROFESSOR M. H. NEVIL STORY MASKELYNE, M.A.,
HON. D. SC. OXON., F.R.S., F.G.S.

BORN 1823.

DIED MAY 20, 1911.

WITH deep regret we have to announce the loss of the well-known mineralogist Professor Story Maskelyne, at his residence, Basset-Down House, Swindon, Wilts, at the age of 87. His grandfather, Nevil Maskelyne, was Astronomer Royal for forty-seven years; his father was a Fellow of the Royal Society and a double-first at Oxford when he was 19. Mr. Maskelyne followed his father, and graduated from Wadham College, Oxford, of which, afterwards, he became an honorary Fellow. He was Professor of Mineralogy in Oxford 1856–95.

But his most distinguished services to Mineralogy are those associated with his appointment of Keeper of Minerals in the British Museum in 1857, a post which he held for twenty-three years, until he entered Parliament in 1880. The collection he found was but a small one, but by timely purchases he was enabled to make it probably the best in the world. He practically created the collection of Meteorites, now one of the finest in existence. His researches in the structure and composition of Meteorites were amongst the most important of his time, and led to the discovery in 1862 of a new mineral in the Bustee Meteorite, which he named 'Oldhamite', and in 1863 he detected enstatite as a meteoric ingredient. Another new mineral named 'Asmanite' was added in 1869. Commencing in 1858 with only Mr. Thomas Davies to assist him, he acquired (1) the eminent services of Dr. Viktor von Lang; (2) W. J. Lewis, F.R.S., now Professor of Mineralogy in Cambridge; (3) Dr. Walter Flight, a very able chemist; and (4) Mr. Lazarus Fletcher, M.A., F.R.S. (afterwards his successor as Keeper of Minerals and now Director of the Natural History Museum).

Mr. Maskelyne was elected a F.R.S. in 1870, and was awarded the 'Wollaston Medal' by the Council of the Geological Society in 1893, in recognition of his great services to Mineralogy. He represented Cricklade in Parliament 1880-5, and North Wilts. 1885-92.—*Morning Post*, May 22, 1911.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF GREAT BRITAIN.—Dr. John Horne, F.R.S., who joined the staff of the Geological Survey in Scotland in 1867, retires from the public service on June 30. As notified in the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE for April, 1901, Dr. Horne was appointed in that year Assistant Director for Scotland, under Dr. Teall as Director. Dr. Horne's service, which has extended over nearly forty-four years, has ever been characterized by enthusiastic and strenuous labour whether in the field or in the office, and by much brilliant research in all parts of Scotland, notably in the North-West Highlands.

We learn (from *Nature*, April 13) that Dr. J. S. Flett has been appointed to succeed Dr. Horne as assistant in Scotland to the Director of the Geological Survey. Dr. Flett is a graduate of Edinburgh University, where he was Baxter Scholar, Falconer Fellow in Geology, and a Heriot Research Fellow. He was for four years lecturer on petrology in the University, and in 1901 joined the Geological Survey. In 1903 he was appointed petrographer to the Survey. After the West Indian eruptions in 1901 he was sent out with Dr. Tempest Anderson by the Royal Society of London to report on the volcanic phenomena. He has published many scientific papers dealing principally with the volcanic and metamorphic rocks of the British Isles, and he has contributed largely to the memoirs of the Geological Survey, not only on Scotland, but also on Cornwall and Devon. For scientific research he was awarded the Neill Medal by the Royal Society of Edinburgh (1902) and the Bigsby Medal by the Geological Society of London (1909).

THE FIRST UNIVERSAL RACES CONGRESS is to meet at the University of London, July 26-9, under the presidency of the Right Hon. Lord Weardale, and with the Right Hon. Lord Avebury as one of the Vice-Presidents. The Congress aims to be an assemblage of members of all the races of the world. Professor A. C. Haddon will give a "Demonstration of Racial Types", and he is Director of the Exhibition that will be organized in connexion with the Congress.

THE TENTH INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS will be held in Rome in the week beginning October 15, under the presidency of the Marquis Raffaele Cappelli. It is interesting to note that the Congress will be divided into the following sections: (1) Mathematical Geography, (2) Physical Geography, (3) Biogeography, (4) Anthropogeography and Ethnography, (5) Economic Geography, (6) Chorography, (7) Historical Geography and History of Geography, (8) Methodology and Didactics.

INTERNATIONAL VOLCANOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT NAPLES.—Although for some time past an observatory has existed on Vesuvius, the means at command have always been insufficient to carry on the systematic