

MISCELLANEA.

Obituary.—Within the past year, the Institute of Actuaries has lost several most influential and respected members, whose devotion to its permanent interests, and the objects for which it was founded, was constant and conspicuous.

WILLIAM BARWICK HODGE, who died on 17 November 1885, was for many years the secretary and actuary of the General Reversionary and Investment Company. From the earliest days of the Institute's existence, Mr. Hodge took the keenest interest in its progress, and he evinced both his interest in the Institute and his mastery of the science of life contingencies by some instructive papers contributed to Volumes vi, vii, viii, x and xii of this *Journal*. Previous to 1870, Mr. Hodge filled the post of Vice-President of the Institute for several years, and at that date he was elected President, a post which he continued to fill for two years.

MAJOR-GENERAL J. C. HANNYNGTON, who died in March last, was attached to the War Office. He was a Member of the Council of the Institute at the time of his decease. In the pages of this *Journal* contributions have appeared from his pen on the subject of the use of the arithmometer in actuarial and other computations.

CORNELIUS WALFORD, who died on 28 September 1885, had, at the time of his death, won for himself a wide renown as a writer on all insurance subjects. The complete list of his works includes the "Insurance Guide and Handbook" and the "Insurance Year Book"—productions of his early life—the "Insurance Cyclopædia", still unfinished (*J.I.A.*, xix, 64), and the "History of Life Assurance in the United Kingdom", to which the Samuel Brown first prize of fifty guineas was awarded in 1884 (*J.I.A.*, xxiv, 145, and xxv, 114), and portions of which have already been given in these pages. Mr. Walford likewise contributed some papers to this *Journal*, and, outside the domain of insurance literature, had produced treatises on "The Ancient Guilds of England", and the "Fairs" of the Kingdom. Mr. Walford was a barrister-at-law of the Middle Temple, a Fellow of the Statistical Society, the Royal Historical Society, and other learned and scientific bodies, in whose transactions he took a great personal interest.

In America, the death of **ELIZUR WRIGHT**, on 22 November 1885, has removed a prominent figure from life assurance circles in that country.

It is stated that the introduction of the principle of State supervision into American life assurance legislation was largely due to his action in 1858, when he commenced an agitation having for its object the enactment of a measure framed upon these lines. Mr. Wright was the first Commissioner of Insurance in Massachusetts, and in his early manhood wrote many works upon life assurance of considerable value and merit.
