

he contributed several papers to the Geological Society, British Association, etc. In 1871 he removed to Hendon, Middlesex, and since that time he carried on researches in North Wales and Scotland, the results being communicated in numerous papers to the Geological Society, Geologists Association, and the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*. Of late his investigations were confined mainly to the oldest (Pre-Cambrian) rocks of Great Britain, and he has shown that they are exposed in many areas in which their presence had been hitherto unsuspected. Dr. Hicks described many new fossils discovered by him in the Cambrian, Ordovician, and Silurian rocks, and has written several papers on their classification. He published the results of explorations carried on by him in the ossiferous caverns in North and South Wales, in which evidence is given to show that man occupied some of the caverns during a part of the Glacial Period. In 1891 he described the glacial deposits at Hendon and Finchley, and in 1892 he published an account of the discovery of Mammoth and other remains in Endsleigh Street, London, with sections of the deposits in which they were found. He also wrote several papers on the rocks of North Devon, and discovered a rich fauna in the "Morte Slates," which until then were considered to be entirely unfossiliferous. In 1896-7 he published his views on the "Morte Slates" of North Devon and West Somerset in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE*. He prepared a new Geological Map of North Wales for the International Geological Congress which met in London in 1888. Dr. Hicks was awarded the Bigsby Medal by the Geological Society in 1883, and served that Society as Hon. Secretary and afterwards as President during the years 1896 and 1897. He was President of the Geologists Association in 1883-5, and was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1885. He was an Honorary and Corresponding Member of many Geological and Natural History Societies in this country and abroad. Dr. Hicks died rather unexpectedly at his residence at Hendon, after only a very short illness, on November 18th, in his sixty-second year. His loss will be keenly felt by his many friends in the Geological Society and the Geologists Association, who appreciated his great abilities and sterling worth.

SIR J. WILLIAM DAWSON, C.M.G., LL.D. (EDIN.), D.C.L.,
F.R.S., F.G.S.

BORN OCTOBER 30, 1820.

DIED NOVEMBER 19, 1899.

A TELEGRAM in the *Morning Post* of November 20th announces the death on the 19th inst., at the age of 79, of this eminent Canadian geologist, who was almost equally well-known and beloved among geologists on this side of the Atlantic.

Sir J. William Dawson was born at Pictou, Nova Scotia, on October 30th, 1820. He graduated at the University of Edinburgh, and returning home devoted himself to the study of the Natural History and Geology of Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. The results of these investigations were published in his "Acadian Geology" (3rd ed., 1878). In 1842, and again in 1852, he accompanied Sir Charles Lyell in his explorations in Nova Scotia,

aiding him materially in his investigations. Since 1843 he contributed largely to the Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London, the GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE, and to other scientific periodicals. He has published numerous monographs on subjects connected with Geology, more especially on the Land Animals and Plants of the Palæozoic Period and on the Pliocene Deposits of Canada. His two volumes on the Devonian and Carboniferous Flora of "Eastern North America," published by the Geological Survey of Canada, are among the most important contributions yet made to the Palæozoic Botany of North America. He described *Eozoon Canadense* of the Laurentian limestones, at that time considered to be the earliest known form of animal life.

In 1850 he was appointed Superintendent of Education for Nova Scotia, and in 1855 Principal of M'Gill University, Montreal. He was a member of many learned Societies in Europe and America. Among his works are "The Story of the Earth and Man," 1872, in which he gives a popular summary of geological history; "The Dawn of Life," 1875, an account of the oldest known fossil remains, and of their relations to geological time and the development of the animal kingdom; "The Origin of the World," 1877; "Fossil Men and their Modern Representatives," 1878; and "The Chain of Life in Geological Time," 1880, a sketch of the origin and succession of animals and plants.

In 1882 he was awarded the Lyell Medal by the Geological Society of London in recognition of his original researches in the South Joggins Coalfield, Nova Scotia, and his other valuable contributions to geological knowledge. The same year he was created a Companion of the Order of St. Michael and St. George; and was selected by the Governor-General, the Marquis of Lorne, to be the first President of the Royal Society of Canada. He was also President of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. In the following year he attended the meeting of the British Association at Southport, and travelled in Egypt and Syria; on the geography and geology of which he published several papers. He was knighted by Her Majesty in 1884. In 1886 he served the office of President of the British Association for the Advancement of Science at Birmingham. In 1893 he was elected President of the American Geological Society. He retired from the office of Principal of M'Gill University July 31st, 1893, and was appointed Emeritus Principal, and Professor and Hon. Curator of the Peter Redpath Museum. Some of Sir W. Dawson's more recent works are "The Geological History of Plants," 1888; "Salient Points in the Science of the Earth," 1893; "The Canadian Ice Age," 1894; "The Meeting-place of Geology and History," 1894; "The Historical Deluge in its Relation to Scientific Discovery and to Present Questions," 1895; "Relics of Primeval Life," 1897.

Throughout his long and active career, Sir J. W. Dawson has contributed in a high degree to the advancement of geology and of science generally in Canada, and under his leadership the M'Gill University has risen to be the principal centre of scientific education and research in the Dominion.