

## OBITUARY.

## ANDREAS ARZRUNI.

ANDREAS ARZRUNI, born at Moscow on November 27th, 1847, was the last male descendant of the ancient Armenian family Arzrunier, which, from the 11th century until the conquest of Armenia by the Turks in the 16th century, held the Principality of Waspurakan, of which Van was the capital.

After a short stay at the St. Petersburg University, Arzruni migrated to Heidelberg, where he studied chemistry under Bunsen. He then (1872) for a time assisted Prof. Groth at Strassburg, and in 1877 became Privatdocent in the Berlin University. From 1880 to 1883 he acted as Assistant in the Mineralogical Museum at Berlin, of which Websky was then director. In 1883 he was appointed Extraordinary Professor at Breslau, and a year later Ordinary Professor of Mineralogy in the Technical High School at Aachen, which post he held till the last. In the winter of 1895-6, while on a visit of inspection to the gold fields of British Guiana, he had an attack of fever, and this, together with consumption, compelled him to spend the last year or so in sanatoria in Switzerland and on the Rhine. He died on September 22nd, 1898, and was buried at Tiflis, his Armenian home.

Arzruni was the author of some 50 papers published in various scientific journals, including Russian and Italian. Notices of a few of these have appeared in the *Mineralogical Magazine*. His first paper, published in 1871, was on a chemical subject; others in ethnological journals related to prehistoric stone implements, especially those of jade and jadeite; and several were descriptive of the minerals and rocks collected on his journeys in the southern Urals. Two minerals, groddeckite and utahite, were first described by him, and before his illness he was investigating a new Chilian mineral, the description of which still remains unpublished. His best known work, however, is the *Physikalische Chemie der Krystalle* (1893), this being a subject which he had especially studied; and the book displays evidence of an immense amount of bibliographical research. (A more detailed account of his life is to be found in *Zeits. prakt. Geol.*, 1898, 446-8.)