

elected an honorary member of this Society. During the period 1870-88 he published the results of many mineral analyses, more particularly of silicates, while during the longer period, 1865-1901, he analysed a number of Austrian mineral waters. The mineral ludwigite was named after him by G. Tschermak in 1874. He was born at Freudenthal in Austrian Silesia, and died on October 14, 1915. An obituary notice, by F. Berwerth, has appeared in *Mitt. Wiener Mineralog. Gesell.*, 1916, No. 77, pp. 2-17 (issued with *Min. Petr. Mitt.*, 1917, vol. xxxiv).

HENRY SKEFFINGTON POOLE (1844-1917) was born in Nova Scotia and educated at King's College, Windsor, where he took the degrees of M.A. and D.Sc. He also studied at the Royal School of Mines, London, gaining the associateship in 1867, and was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society in 1866. In 1872 he was appointed Government Inspector of Mines in Nova Scotia; and subsequently, for about twenty years, he acted as manager of collieries in Nova Scotia. He was the author of several papers and reports on mining geology, more especially with reference to coal and gold, some of which were prepared for the Geological Survey of Canada. His father, Henry Poole, had also written on the Nova Scotian coal- and gold-fields, and this has given rise to some confusion in the Royal Society's Catalogue of Scientific Papers.

Very shortly before his death, on March 31, 1917, at Stoke near Guildford, Surrey, he had decided to present his collection of minerals, ores, and rocks to the British Museum. The value of this collection lies in the number of well-localized specimens illustrating occurrences in eastern Canada, more particularly Nova Scotia, where Dr. Poole had such exceptional opportunities for collecting.

SIR WILLIAM RAMSAY (1852-1916), the celebrated chemist, was a nephew of the Scottish geologist, Sir A. C. Ramsay. He will be remembered by mineralogists as the discoverer, in 1895, of helium in uraninite, fergusonite, and other minerals.

ROBERT HENRY SCOTT (1833-1916), a past-President and Trustee of this Society, died on June 18, 1916, at the advanced age of eighty-three. He was born of Irish parentage in Dublin on January 28, 1833, and, after a school education at Rugby, had a brilliant career at Trinity College, Dublin, graduating in 1855 in experimental physics. He afterwards (1856-8) studied chemistry, physics, and mineralogy at Berlin and Munich. In 1862 he was appointed Keeper of Minerals and Lecturer

on Mineralogy to the Royal Dublin Society. It was during this period (1862-7) that his original work in mineralogy was done. This dealt more particularly with the minerals and granites of County Donegal; but he also gave an account of the minerals of Strontian in Argyllshire. In collaboration with Prof. S. Haughton he edited in 1862 G. C. Mahon's 'Mineral Agents' Handbook' and A. Smith's 'Blowpipe Vade Mecum', and in the same year published a 'Manual of Volumetric Analysis'.

In 1867 he was appointed Director of the new Meteorological Office in London, a title changed in 1877 to Secretary of the Meteorological Council. This post he held until his retirement in 1900, and it was as 'Clerk of the Weather' that he was best known, and in this subject that he did his best work. He did not, however, entirely give up his interest in minerals, for he was an original member of the Mineralogical Society, serving on its first Council (1876), and energetically acting as General Secretary (1881-8) and Editor of the Journal (see *Min. Mag.*, vol. viii, p. 144). Later he was President (1888-91), and since 1894 a Trustee of our Society. He was elected a Fellow of the Royal Society in 1870, and received the honorary degree of D.Sc. of Dublin in 1898. He was also an Officer of the Legion of Honour.

SILVANUS PHILLIPS THOMPSON (1851-1916), the well-known physicist, wrote papers on the optical and electrical properties of tourmaline, and on the nicol prism and other polarizing devices. He was much interested in the early history of physics, and prepared English translations with notes of Huygens's 'Treatise on Light' (1912) and Gilbert's 'De Magnete' (1900), the former dealing with 'the strange refraction of Iceland crystal', and the latter with loadstones.

ISIDOR WEINBERGER (1838-1915), a founder and honorary member of the Vienna Mineralogical Society, and a councillor of commerce, died on August 15, 1915, in his seventy-eighth year. In early life, as an official on the Hungarian railways and stationed at Dognacska, he had opportunities for collecting minerals. Later he was connected with iron mining and smelting in Bohemia. His collection of minerals is very complete for a private collection; some particulars respecting it are given in the 'Mineralogisches Taschenbuch' (1911, p. 186) of the Vienna Mineralogical Society. The frontispiece of the volume just quoted shows his portrait. The meteoric mineral weinbergerite was named after him by F. Berwerth. An obituary notice has appeared in *Min. Petr. Mitt.*, 1915, vol. xxxiii, pp. 521-2.