



THE LATE DR. J. H. T. TUDSBERY.  
SECRETARY OF THE INSTITUTION 1896-1922.

## OBITUARY.

JOHN HENRY TUDSBERY TUDSBERY, D.Sc., the son of William Tudsbery Turner (he assumed the patronymic Tudsbery by royal licence in 1894), was born at Storeton (near Birkenhead), Cheshire, on the 1st October, 1859, and died at Emsworth, Hampshire, on the 10th October, 1939. He was educated at the Birkenhead School, and later graduated at Glasgow University, of which he was a Hunter Medallist, and where he obtained the degree of D.Sc. On leaving the University, he was articled to the late Dr. G. F. Deacon, M. Inst. C.E., and after spending a short time at Barrow Steel and Iron Works in the study of mechanical engineering, he became, in 1881, Dr. Deacon's assistant on the Vyrnwy Waterworks scheme of the Liverpool Corporation. In 1885 he entered the service of the Japanese Imperial Government, and was engaged on the construction of waterworks and other engineering undertakings, including the water-supply of Yokohama. From 1887 until 1892 he was in private practice in Liverpool, and in addition to hydraulic schemes and other engineering works, he carried out the first engineering survey of the Mersey estuary. During this period he became Honorary Secretary of the Liverpool Engineering Society.

In 1892 he was appointed Assistant Secretary of the Institution of Civil Engineers, and moved to London to take up his duties; in 1896 he succeeded Mr. James Forrest as Secretary, which position he retained until he retired early in 1922. His appointment as Secretary was almost simultaneous with the decision to set up a system of examinations for entry into The Institution, with the object of ensuring that candidates possessed adequate general education and scientific knowledge, and he contributed a large share to the development of the examination system. He was also concerned in the various steps leading to more rigid definitions of the conditions of training necessary for young men desirous of becoming engineers. During his secretaryship he had to supervise the removal of The Institution to its present building, and upon him devolved the organization of four Engineering Conferences in 1897, 1899, 1907, and 1921, as well as of the Conference on the Education and Training of Engineers which was held in The Institution in 1911. Upon him also fell the task of organization when The Institution invited members of the American Society of Civil Engineers to visit Great Britain in 1900. He undertook subsequently the arrangements for the return visit of The Institution to New York as guests of the American Society and of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers (now the Engineering Institute of Canada), the tour including a visit to St. Louis at the invitation of the American Society, who had organized an

International Engineering Congress in connexion with the great Exposition held there. In performing such duties Dr. Tudsbery imparted great impetus to the establishment of friendly relations between the engineers of Great Britain and those of the North American continent.

To commemorate the centenary of the founding of The Institution, on the 2nd January, 1818, he prepared a record of its origin and progress, which he presented to the members at a meeting of The Institution on the 8th January, 1918 \*. He did much to maintain the already high standing of The Institution, and to further its essential aims as defined in its Royal Charters, and during his term of office his organizing ability found full scope in regard to the putting into practice of important changes made by the Council affecting policy and administration. On his retirement from the secretaryship in 1922 he was appointed Honorary Secretary, a position that he held until his death.

In 1885 he presented to The Institution a Paper entitled "The Gauging of Flowing Water" †, for which he was awarded a Miller Prize, and later he presented two other Papers ‡. He was also joint author, with Dr. A. W. Brightmore, M. Inst. C.E., of the well-known work "The Principles of Water-Works Engineering", of which three editions were published, the last in 1905. He was admitted to The Institution as a Student in 1877, and was elected an Associate Member in 1885, being transferred to the class of Member in 1892. He was a Past-President of the Smeatonian Society of Civil Engineers, and was an Honorary Member of the Institution of Royal Engineers, of the Koninklijk Instituut van Ingenieurs, Holland, and of the Liverpool Engineering Society.

In 1885 he married Roberta Emeline, daughter of John McMurdo Cannon, of Liverpool; she died in 1935. There were four sons and one daughter. Two of his sons are engineers and Members of The Institution, and one was called to the Bar in 1911; the youngest son, a Student of The Institution, lost his life during the war of 1914-18.

\* Minutes of Proceedings Inst. C.E., vol. ccv (1917-18, Part I), p. 216.

† *Ibid.*, vol. lxxx (1884-85, Part II), p. 318.

‡ "Notes upon Useful Japanese Timber." *Ibid.*, vol. lxxxix (1886-87, Part III), p. 417.

"The Construction of the Yokohama Water-Works." *Ibid.*, vol. c (1889-90, Part II), p. 277.