

He was very fond of music, and his love of books began at an early age, when he spent all his pocket-money in the acquisition of them. He had a very retentive and accurate memory, and to exemplify the service which this proved to his friends as well as to himself, it may be mentioned that while on a visit to the Mediterranean with the Lords of the Admiralty, soon after the acquisition of the Island of Cyprus, at an entertainment in Toulon Harbour, sitting next a French admiral, he discussed the peculiarities of the harbour, which he then visited for the first time; and on the French admiral begging to know whence he had obtained such particular information, Major-General Pasley promised him extracts from books at home—a promise which he afterwards fulfilled. He had been ill with increasing weakness for over five years, and died rather suddenly on November 11th, 1890. He was elected Associate of the Institution on the 10th of April, 1866.

WILLIAM MARSTON WARDEN, the eldest son of the late Mr. Joseph Warden, was born at Birmingham on the 1st of May, 1815. He was educated at a private school, and at an early age joined his father in the business still known as Messrs. Joseph Warden and Sons, Railway Iron-works, Birmingham, and of which, from his untiring energy and business capacity, he soon became the leading spirit. Later, he joined the Oak Farm and the Whittington Iron-works, and in 1857 established the Phoenix Bolt and Nut Works, now located at Handsworth, near Birmingham. He was also a partner in the firm of Messrs. Warden, Clark and Muirhead, electrical engineers and contractors, and during his connection with them many important undertakings were executed, including the telegraph from King William's Town to Queenstown and Beaufort West, some 1,200 miles into the interior of Southern Africa, at that time but little explored.

In the early days of railway development, wherever extensive works were being carried out, Mr. Warden was constantly to be seen, a favourite alike with engineers and contractors, among whom Messrs. Brassey, Wythes, Betts, Walker and many other eminent railway pioneers were his personal friends. From Mr. Warden's wide experience and sound judgment, his advice in commercial and financial matters was much sought after, and for some years he was Director and Chairman of the Birmingham Banking Company, the Birmingham Waterworks Company, the

Alliance Assurance and many other important companies. He was also a Justice of the Peace for the county of Stafford, sitting regularly on the Bench, until unable to attend through failing health.

Movements of a philanthropic character ever found in him a generous supporter, and for a long course of years he was a willing subscriber to most of the charitable institutions of Birmingham and the neighbourhood. Hospitality and kindness of heart were the prominent features of his character, and although not taking an active part in public life, either politically or otherwise, he was always ready to lend a helping hand in promoting institutions for the benefit of the poor and needy, and in an unostentatious way he exercised much generosity. He possessed artistic tastes of no mean order, and has left a fine collection of paintings by leading artists. He was also a keen sportsman, yearly looking forward to the 1st of September, and until within a few years of his death was fond of horse exercise.

Mr. Warden died at his residence, Fairlawn, Edgbaston, on the 16th November, 1890, from a painful disease of which he had been a sufferer for some considerable time. He was elected an Associate of the Institution on the 3rd of March, 1863.

WILLIAM HERON STEEL. Since the Obituary notice appeared in Vol. C, Session 1889-90, Part II, some additional information has come to hand relative to his professional career in the Colony of Victoria.

It appears that Mr. Steel entered the Public Works Office of the Colony in Melbourne in a comparatively subordinate capacity; but he there displayed such marked ability, that the head of the Department, Mr. W. Wardell, Chief Inspector, soon caused him to be promoted, and to be entrusted with much more important work than had previously been committed to his charge. At Mr. Wardell's instance, Mr. Steel was before long appointed that gentleman's Chief Assistant, and so remained until he succeeded to the office of Inspector-General.
