

THOMAS STATTER, born at Knowsley on the 10th of February, 1816, was the son of the late Mr. Robert Statter, then agent to the great-grandfather of the present Lord Derby. At the age of nineteen he was placed in the estate office at Knowsley, and at twenty-five entered the service of the present Earl's grandfather as steward for the large manors of Bury and Pilkington, and the extensive landed properties at Cheetham, Cheetwood, Manchester, Salford, Brightmet, and Colne. This important post he occupied for fifty years, until his death in 1891.

Mr. Statter at once devoted himself to the development of these estates. He was also actively engaged in laying out Lord Derby's estate at Bootle, and in the formation of the town of Bury. When the Lands Clauses Consolidation Acts were passed, in 1845, he was constantly occupied in inquiries relating to Private Bill Legislation before Committees of both Houses of Parliament. He was an excellent witness, terse and to the point, yet competent to enter into detailed explanation when necessary, and thoroughly reliable as to facts and figures. In land compensations and arbitrations he acted for forty years as an arbitrator, and often as an active witness. He was for some years Chairman of the Southport Waterworks Company, which, under his guidance, became one of the most prosperous of such undertakings in the North of England. For thirty-five years Chairman of the Radcliffe and Pilkington Gas Company, he was mainly instrumental in obtaining the erection of new works which considerably improved the position of the Company.

Mr. Statter took great interest in agricultural pursuits, and was a keen sportsman. In his kennels at Stand Hall, near Bury, he bred some well-trained dogs, with which he would be found every August on the moors in Scotland. He won numerous cups and prizes at the National Field Trials, of which he was one of the originators. Latterly he devoted himself to the cultivation of orchids, for which he obtained favourable notice at exhibitions of the Royal Horticultural Society and of the Royal Botanical Society. He was for some years a member of the Council of the Royal Agricultural Society. Mr. Statter died on the 25th of December, 1891. For some time his failing health had become more marked, and for the last sixteen months he had been confined to his bed; but, whenever able, he attended to his correspondence and directed other business matters with the aid of his son, who resided latterly at Stand Hall. His zeal for the welfare of his family and friends

was active to the last, and within an hour of his death he was able to talk to those around him with a cheerfulness which showed no signs of intellectual decay. He was elected an Associate of the Institution on the 4th of May, 1858.

* * The following deaths, in addition to some of those included in the foregoing notices, have been made known since the 13th of June, 1892 :—

Members.

ELLIOT, WILLIAM; <i>born</i> 17 February, 1827; <i>died</i> 19 June, 1892.	SAUNDERS, RICHARD JAMES HARRIS; <i>born</i> 7 January, 1836; <i>died</i> June, 1892. (<i>Drowned at sea off the coast of Brazil.</i>)
HYNES, FREDERICK MARGARSON; <i>born</i> 23 February, 1842; <i>died</i> 1 January, 1892.	SHINN, WILLIAM POWELL; <i>born</i> 4 May, 1834; <i>died</i> May, 1892.
LAVALLEY, ALEXANDRE; <i>born</i> 1821; <i>died</i> 21 July, 1892. (<i>Complication following an operation for cataract.</i>)	

Information respecting the life and works of any of the above is solicited in aid of the preparation of Obituary Notices.—SEC. INST. C.E., 28 *July*, 1892.