

GEORGE MORGAN LANE, born on the 31st of May, 1856, was the youngest son of the late Mr. Michael Lane,¹ a former Engineer-in-chief of the Great Western Railway. At the age of eighteen he was articled to Messrs. Stothert and Pitt, of Bath, for three years, during which time he passed through the fitting-shop, foundry, smiths'-shop, and drawing-office. In 1877 he went to the Cape and served for a time as an Assistant Engineer on the Western Province Railways, under the late Mr. Henry J. Pauling (*ante* p. 359), and then in a similar capacity on the Orange River bridges erected by Messrs. Westwood, Baillie, and Co., for the Public Works Department of the Cape of Good Hope. On the completion of that work, he obtained in 1880 an appointment in Brazil, as an Assistant Engineer on the Pará Waterworks and Engineer-in-charge of the Custom House Jetty. These posts, however, he resigned in the following year, in order to visit the United States with the object of acquiring a knowledge of the American system of bridge-building.

Mr. Lane's visit to the United States was destined to become a residence of six years. For some months in 1881 he acted as an Assistant Engineer on the Northern Pacific Railroad, under General Anderson, and was then for two years with the Milwaukee Bridge Company as Chief of Erectors and Assistant Superintendent of the shops. In 1884 he was occupied for a short time in designing for the Keystone Bridge Company, and in the two following years was engaged on general work for the Morgan Engineering Company. Towards the end of 1866 he was appointed Engineer to the Detroit Patent Foundry Company, but during the latter part of his residence in the States he had become greatly interested in copper mining, and in the following year he relinquished this post for that of Engineer to the Bede Metal Company's mines at Valdelamusa, near Huelva, in Spain. Mr. Lane remained in charge of these mines until 1890, when he was commissioned by the Cuba Fibre Company of London, to report upon special machinery requisite for the development of the fibre industry, and it was during a second visit to Cuba that he had the misfortune to contract yellow fever, from which he died at Nuevitas on the 24th of October, 1892, at the early age of thirty-six.

Mr. Lane's ability as an engineer gave promise of a successful career, and all with whom he came into contact bear testimony to his upright, frank, and kindly disposition as a man. He was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 7th of February, 1888.

¹ Minutes of Proceedings Inst. C.E., vol. xxx. p. 441