

## OBITUARY.

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JOSEPH BOURNE was born on the 5th of August, 1836, and commenced his engineering career at the early age of fifteen as a pupil in the Locomotive Works of the Great Western Railway Company at Swindon. After the expiration of his five years' apprenticeship he was occupied from 1854 to 1856 on the construction of the South Wales Railway, now part of the Great Western system. He was then engaged for two years as an Outdoor Locomotive Superintendent on the Great Western Railway, the service of which Company he resigned in 1858 to accept the post of manager to Messrs. Tredwell's Railway Works at Gloucester, since extinct. After remaining with that firm about three years, he was occupied from 1861 to 1864 as assistant manager at the Hednesford Colliery in Staffordshire.

In June, 1864, Mr. Bourne was appointed Resident Engineer, Locomotive Superintendent and General Manager of the Isle of Wight Railway, a line 12 miles in length from Ryde to Ventnor. The duties of that post, which he held for twenty-one years, may be said to have occupied the most important part of his life. On leaving the service of the Isle of Wight Railway Company in the summer of 1885, Mr. Bourne took up his residence at Stafford, where he remained for about three years. Between 1877 and 1883 he was lessee of the Britannia Works, Birkenhead, in which he carried on the business of the extinct firm of Messrs. James Taylor and Co. In the autumn of 1892 he left Birkenhead for Wylde Green in Warwickshire, where he died on the 2nd of July, 1893, in the fifty-seventh year of his age.

Mr. Bourne was a man of high honour and a marked sense of rectitude, and whatever work he undertook was conscientiously and carefully performed. He was elected an Associate of the Institution on the 6th of December, 1870, was subsequently placed in the class of Associate Member, and on the 6th of February, 1883, was transferred to the class of Member.

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