

problem in mechanical design. Exceedingly fair and upright in his dealings, he was much liked by all his men, and though his constant ill-health and retiring disposition prevented his mixing so much with those around him as he might under other circumstances have done, he was untiring in his efforts for the general welfare of his subordinates. He took a keen interest in volunteering and to his efforts is due the formation and present state of efficiency of the corps of Madras Railway Volunteers, of which he was Commandant from its inauguration to the time of his retirement from the service.

Mr. Trevithick was also a Fellow, and examiner in engineering, of the University of Madras. Possessed of much general information, he was most interesting in society when his natural reserve allowed him to do himself justice. He suffered acutely from chronic asthma, an affliction he bore with an uncomplaining courage which was the wonder and admiration of all who knew the pain and weariness it entailed. On retiring from the Madras Railway Company he received a bonus in consideration of the exceptional services he had rendered in connection with the re-design and construction of the greater part of the wagon and carriage-stock, nearly the whole of which was rebuilt at the Perambore works under his regime; and was presented with a farewell address and a handsome silver bowl by the employees of the Locomotive Department, and with a silver casket containing an address by the Madras Railway Volunteers. Speaking at the last half-yearly general meeting in London of the Madras Railway Company, the Chairman referred to Mr. Trevithick as "our late valuable and accomplished locomotive superintendent, who served us in that capacity very ably and faithfully for a period of sixteen years."

Mr. Trevithick married the eldest daughter of Captain Alexander Goldie, R.N., of Douglas, Isle of Man, who survives him.

He was elected a Member of the Institution on the 19th of May, 1885.

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HARRY MACDONALD BECHER, son of General S. H. Becher of the Bengal Staff-Corps, was born at Simla on the 29th of January, 1855. He was sent to England at an early age and was educated at various private schools. At thirteen he was placed at school in Dresden for three years and then became a student at the Royal Mining Academy of Freiberg in Saxony. Returning to England in 1873, he went through the regular

course at the Royal School of Mines, of which he gained the diploma of Associate two years later. From October, 1875, to October, 1878, he was engaged at Patani in the Malay Peninsula as Engineer and Manager to the Galina Mining Company of Singapore, and had control during that time of over 500 men. He was then for four years in the employment of the Borneo Company at their Antimony Mines at Busao, where he had charge of more than 1,000 men and was engaged in making roads and tramways and in mining and smelting operations generally.

In 1882 Mr. Becher visited China and Japan, and, subsequently, surveyed and reported upon the coal deposits of Vladivostock Amoor in Eastern Siberia. On the completion of that work he spent some little time in England and, after inspecting various mines in the south of Spain, returned in November, 1883, to China to examine and report upon the mineral resources of Korea. He subsequently spent nearly three years in the interior of China inspecting mines, and in 1887 started, at Chantung, the first Chinese gold mine and quartz-mill. He then reported on gold mines in the north-east of Siam and early in the following year was engaged at the Punjom Pahang gold mines.

Mr. Becher's promising career was, however, unfortunately brought to an untimely end. While engaged on an expedition for the Royal Geographical Society to explore a mountain known as the Gunong Tahan and supposed to be the highest in the Malay Peninsula, he was drowned in the River Tahan on the 16th of September, 1893.

Mr. Becher was a Fellow of the Royal Geographical Society and of the Geological Society, and a Member of the American Institute of Mining Engineers. In June, 1892, he read, at a meeting of the Institution of Mining and Metallurgy, a Paper on "Mining in the Malay Peninsula." His frank, manly disposition, gained him many friends, among whom he was extremely popular. He was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 29th of May, 1883.

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CHARLES RICHARD ERNEST CROOK, son of Mr. John Crook of Northam, near Southampton, was born on the 17th of September, 1863, and was educated at the School of Engineering attached to the Hartley Institution at Southampton, where he obtained a special prize for general work. He was then engaged for some two years in superintending various contracts carried out by his father's firm, among which may be mentioned a new quay and coal-