

JOHN EDGAR LOWE, born at Derby on the 20th May, 1839, served a pupilage of six years in the works of Messrs. Handyside and Co. of that town. In 1861 he came to London and entered the engineering department of the old established firm of Messrs. William Bird and Co., of which department he subsequently became manager. In 1878, in conjunction with his colleague, Mr. Francis Bolling, who had for many years been manager of the commercial department, he took over the business of the firm, which from that time was carried on in the name of Bolling and Lowe. Three years later Mr. Leopold Reincke and Mr. Clarence Bird entered the firm as partners, the former gentleman taking over the engineering department. Mr. Lowe took an active share in the business of the firm, and was one of the pioneers of the light portable railways, which have of late years been adopted in the colonies and in many foreign countries, the first orders of any magnitude for that description of work being executed from his designs and under his supervision. Mr. Lowe died at his residence, Leeminster House, Blackheath Park, on the 17th October, 1897, after three years of great suffering. He was elected an Associate on the 3rd February, 1874, and was subsequently placed in the class of Associate Members.

---

FRANK MEAD, born at Peckham on the 28th October, 1852, was educated first at Dulwich College and subsequently at a private school at Reigate. He then entered the office of his father, Mr. C. R. Mead, who was at that time Engineer to the Sutton Gas Company. When the latter, in 1873, became Engineer to the Bournemouth Gas- and Water-works, Frank Mead was appointed his successor at Sutton, and held the post of Engineer to the Gas Company of that town for twenty-four years. During that period works were erected, from his designs and under his superintendence, for the manufacture, purification and treatment of 500,000 cubic feet of gas per day. Mr. Mead also acted as Engineer to the Gas Companies of Newhaven, Reigate, Leatherhead and Oxted, for the last of which he designed and carried out entirely new works, and to the Leatherhead Water Company. He was professional adviser to the Colombo Gas Company, and he designed gasworks for Kow-Loon, near Hong-Kong, and subsequently had charge of the development and re-construction of the Hong-Kong Gasworks.

Mr. Mead died at his residence, Elm Lea, Sutton, Surrey, on the 4th April, 1897, from peritonitis. In character he was painstaking and high principled, kind-hearted and unostentatious, and his genial manner and sociability made him universally liked. He was ever ready to assist, quite in a simple way, which rendered his aid doubly welcome. He was a promoter and constant supporter of the Sutton Scientific Society, before which he read several Papers, and he took great interest in the University Extension movement. He was also a skilled musician, and for some years gave his services as organist at Christ Church, Sutton. Mr. Mead was elected an Associate Member on the 7th December, 1886.

---

CLAUD MONCKTON, born at Spratton, Northamptonshire, on the 26th July, 1844, was the second son of the late Mr. E. H. C. Monckton, of Fineshade Abbey in that county. After serving articles to Major Lamorock Flower, now Engineer to the River Lea Conservancy, he was appointed, in 1863, an Assistant Engineer to the Madras Irrigation and Canal Company. Two years later, however, he was compelled, by an attack of cholera, to resign that post and return to England. Having regained health he went out to Bombay in 1867, and for seven years was engaged as Engineer to the Thakoor of Bhownuggur. During that period he constructed many miles of roads, bridges, public buildings, water-works, canals, lighthouses and harbours. On the occasion of an outbreak among the prisoners in the State gaol, during which the guards were overpowered, Mr. Monckton—the only European there—suppressed the revolt at the risk of his life. The climate, however, proved too trying, and fever and ague drove him home again.

From 1874 Mr. Monckton lived and worked in and near London. Amongst other things he carried out some interesting experiments in boring for water in the neighbourhood of Harefield and Uxbridge, with the object of testing a source of increased supply for the Metropolis. Latterly he was engaged in reporting on various mining claims in the Transvaal and in Northern Canada. In Canada he endured great hardships—bad food, constant exposure to wet, and sleeping on sodden land; and although on his return to England he seemed well, there is no doubt his health was seriously affected. He died at his residence, Croxley Green, Rickmansworth, on the 11th October, 1897. Mr. Monckton was a