

makes the fact that many, who have the chance of advancement under favourable hygienic and social conditions in secretarial work, deliberately select constructive distinction, one of the many creditable features of a Department which is itself, in these days, one of the most satisfactory branches of our Government of India."

Mr. MacLean was elected a Member on the 4th December, 1888.

JOHN METHVEN, Engineer of the Beckton Works of the Gas Light and Coke Company, passed away in his sleep on the 4th April, 1898, at 2 Westbourne Terrace, Brighton, where he had been staying for some time in the hope of alleviating, by rest and change, a serious affection of the heart.

The subject of this notice, born on the 7th March, 1845, was the son of Mr. David Methven, Engineer of the St. Pancras Works of the Imperial Gas Company, and the lessee of the Portsea Island Gasworks. After serving an apprenticeship to the firm of Walter Mabon and Co., of the Ardwick Ironworks, Manchester, John Methven became, in 1864, an assistant to his father at St. Pancras. In the following year he was appointed to the staff of the Phoenix Gas Company's Works at Bankside, and from 1868 to 1870 he acted as Engineer and Secretary to the Redhill Gas Company. He then became Engineer and Manager of the Gravesend Gas Company, and in 1872 was Assistant Engineer at the Windsor Street Works of the Birmingham Gas Company.

In October, 1872, Mr. Methven entered the service of the London Gas Light Company, and under Mr. Robert Morton, the Engineer to that Company, was charged with the general superintendence of the numerous extensions carried out between that date and 1883, when, on the amalgamation of the London Gas Company with the Gas Light and Coke Company, he was appointed Resident Engineer at the Nine Elms Works. That post he held until 1891, when he was entrusted with the control of the Company's Works at Beckton, where, during the winter, he had over 5,000 men under his charge.

In addition to his engineering work, Mr. Methven devoted much time to the study of photometry, and in 1878 he read a Paper¹ before the British Association of Gas Managers, describing the

¹ Report of Proceedings of the British Association of Gas Managers, 1878, p. 54.

apparatus which has since been known as the "Methven screen." Four years later he contributed a Paper to the Gas Institute entitled "Photometric Experiments with Gas of different qualities Carburetted, and the use of the same as a Standard for determining the Illuminating Power of Coal Gas."¹ In 1893 he served the office of President of the Incorporated Institution of Gas Engineers, and in 1896 he took an active part in the work of the Committee appointed by that Institution to investigate and report upon the proposed standard of light and the relation of gas measurement to temperature. He was also a Member of the Southern District Association, the chair of which he occupied in 1891, having previously read, in 1889, before that body a valuable Paper on "Photometry."

Mr. Methven always took great interest in the welfare of the men under his control, and the relations between them were of a most amicable character. He was ever ready to take part in any good work for their benefit, and was instrumental in establishing a branch of the London City Mission at the Beckton Works.

He was elected an Associate on the 5th February, 1884, and was transferred to the class of Members on the 22nd December, 1896.

GEORGE PHILLIPS MULLOCK, born on the 16th July, 1851, was educated at King's College, London. After serving on the Metropolitan Railway, under Mr. R. H. Burnett, he was articled in 1874 to Sir John Hawkshaw, Past-President, and was placed under the late Mr. William Hunt, who was acting as Resident Engineer for Sir John Hawkshaw on the construction of the East London Railway. He then became Assistant Resident Engineer, and subsequently Resident Engineer, in charge of the construction of the Fleetwood Docks of the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company, under Sir John Hawkshaw. On the completion of those works in 1878 he was appointed District Engineer for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway on the Preston and Wyre joint lines of that Company and the London and North-Western Company.

Mr. Mulock held this appointment until his death, which took place on the 16th March, 1898. During that period he carried out

¹ Transactions of the Gas Institute, 1882, p. 155.