

THOMAS ELCOAT LAING, born on the 14th September, 1848, passed through the engineering course at Owens College, Manchester, and subsequently served articles for three years with Mr. Edgar Gilkes, Engineer, of Middlesbrough. In 1870 he entered the service of the Middlesbrough Corporation as Assistant Engineer on municipal works. Between 1873 and 1878 he carried out for a company of Belgian concessionaires large waterworks at Hof, in Bavaria, and at Schwarzenberg, in Saxony, on the completion of which he was elected a Member of the German Association of Engineers and Architects. He returned to England in 1878, entered the service of the Wolverhampton Corporation as Assistant Engineer, and subsequently obtained a similar appointment under the Salford Corporation, where he was engaged on the carrying out of extensive sewerage works, main drainage, bridge and tramways, under the late Mr. Arthur Jacob. In 1882 he entered the service of the Leicester Corporation as Assistant Engineer for the extensive flood prevention and navigation works at Leicester, on which he was engaged under the late Mr. Joseph Gordon. He was also employed on the sewerage and main drainage works of that town. From July, 1892, until the end of 1894 Mr. Laing acted as a District Surveyor under the Corporation of Sheffield. Early in 1894 he proceeded to West Africa to take up the appointment of Director of Public Works for Sierra Leone, which post he held for nearly five years. Mr. Laing died of fever at Freetown on the 19th November, 1899.

He was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 20th May, 1890.

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THOMAS ROBERTS, son of the late Mr. Griffith Roberts, of Coedisaf, was born at Dyffryn Ardudwy, Merionethshire, on the 17th February, 1837. He commenced his professional career in the office of Mr. J. Y. Robins, Civil Engineer, of Birmingham, in 1859, and in 1866 he began to practise on his own account at Portmadoc. During the thirty-four years of his residence in that town he designed and executed numerous works in the Festiniog slate quarries, such as tramways, inclines, reservoirs, slate converting machinery, etc., for Mr. Samuel Holland, M.P., and others; made Parliamentary plans and sections for the proposed North Wales narrow gauge railway; surveyed, set out, and prepared a working section of the Merionethshire Railway; made a Parliamentary survey for the Bala and Festiniog Railway; designed and executed

works of water-supply for Dolgelly and sewerage works for Portmadoc; assisted Mr. George Owen in connection with the extension of the Cambrian Railway to Porthdinlleyn; designed inclines and a large pile pier at Portnant, Carnarvon, for the Cambrian Granite Company; prepared Parliamentary plans, and acted as Engineer for the Portmadoc water scheme for the extension of works to supply the towns of Portmadoc, Penrhyn, Borth, and Tremadoc; and designed and executed works of water-supply for the towns of Barmouth, Pwllheli, Bala, Festiniog, and the Rural Sanitary Authority of Llanrwst, and sewerage works for Portmadoc, Barmouth, Pwllheli, Nevin, Trefrew, Dolyddelen, and Penmachno. His services were frequently in demand in arbitration cases affecting rights of property, and for many years he acted in the capacity of Engineer to the Tremadoc estate.

Mr. Roberts died at Portmadoc on the 13th January, 1900.

He was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 31st May, 1881.

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FREDERICK WILLIAM SLAUGHTER, born at Brixton on the 16th December, 1863, was educated at Vale Academy, Ramsgate, and at the City Guilds Technical College. He served an apprenticeship to Messrs. J. & G. Rennie, of Blackfriars, afterwards gaining some experience as a sea-going engineer for one year on board the s.s. "Plymothian." In the year 1885 he was engaged as a draughtsman at Messrs. Stones' Brass and Iron Works, New Cross, on leaving which firm in 1891 he obtained the post of Chief Assistant to Mr. W. T. Douglass, under whom he was engaged in designing lighthouses, optical apparatus, fog-signals, life-boat launching slips, bridges, etc. In June 1899 he proceeded to Calcutta. His death took place on the 28th December following, from enteric fever.

Mr. Slaughter was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 6th December, 1892.

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NOWROSJEE NESSERWANJEE WADIA, C.I.E., died at Boscombe, Bournemouth, on the 19th December, 1899, at the age of 50. Born at Bombay in 1849, Mr. Wadia was educated in England, where he obtained some experience in the cotton mills of Lancashire. Returning to India he was employed under his father