

ERNEST TALBOT, born at Smethwick on the 30th September, 1857, was educated at King Edward's Grammar School, Birmingham, and obtained his engineering training at the lighthouse works of Messrs. Chance, Brothers and Co., under the late Dr. John Hopkinson. When, in 1880, the latter commenced private practice in Westminster, Ernest Talbot became his principal assistant, being employed in connection with various works, chiefly installations of electric lighting and electric traction, upon which Dr. Hopkinson was engaged. On the death of his chief in 1898, Mr. Talbot entered into partnership with Messrs. Charles and Bertram Hopkinson, to carry on the consulting practice established by Dr. Hopkinson, and between 1898 and 1903, when the partnership was dissolved by mutual consent, he was consulted by many local authorities and others in connection with electric-lighting and electric-traction schemes. In conjunction with Dr. John Hopkinson, he carried out the initial installation of electric tramways in Liverpool, and later he completed the conversion of the Leeds tramways to electric traction. He was thus well qualified by experience to write, in collaboration with Messrs. Charles and Bertram Hopkinson, the Paper on "Electric Tramways"¹ which was read before the Institution in 1902, and for his share in which he was awarded a Telford premium. Mr. Talbot died on the 5th May, 1904, in his forty-sixth year.

He was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 11th April, 1893, and was transferred to the class of Members on the 11th February, 1902.

PERCY FREDERICK TARBUTT, born on the 10th December, 1848, left Magdalen College, Oxford, to serve an apprenticeship to Messrs. Simpson & Co., of Westminster, and to Mr. E. A. Cowper, afterwards pursuing his studies at the School of Mines. He then obtained employment under the late Sir Charles Bright, and was engaged from 1870 to 1877 in superintending the construction of telegraph-cables and in cable-laying in the West Indies. Proceeding subsequently to Servia, he was there employed by Sir Charles in mining operations and in the design and erection of pumping,

¹ Minutes of Proceedings Inst. C.E., vol. cli. p. 39.

air-compressing, and boring machinery. In 1877 he accepted service under the late Colonel Sir Francis Bolton, being occupied during that and the following year in designing mining and other machinery, and in examining and reporting on mines. In 1878, Mr. Tarbutt founded the firm of Tarbutt and Quentin, afterwards Tarbutt, Son and Janson, mining and consulting engineers, on whose behalf he visited many countries, prospecting and reporting on mines, and superintending their working and the design and erection of their machinery. Mr. Tarbutt was one of the first to realize the value of deep-level mines, and for many years prior to his death, which took place on the 30th May, 1904, he devoted his energies to the direction of mining enterprises in all parts of the world.

Mr. Tarbutt was elected an Associate Member of the Institution on the 14th April, 1885, and was transferred to the class of Members on the 18th December, 1888.

JAMES WILSON, who died on the 13th April, 1904, in his eighty-first year, obtained his preliminary training under the late Mr. John Hague, and was subsequently employed by various firms upon railway construction work, in the design and erection of machinery, and on the construction of gas- and water-works and other engineering structures. Between 1857 and 1862, he was engaged as principal Resident Engineer upon the construction of the Altona Gasworks, superintending their working for two years of that time, and afterwards of the waterworks for the same city, Mr. Thomas Hawksley, Past-President, being the Consulting Engineer. From 1862 until his death, he practised on his own account as a civil engineer, designing and carrying out gasworks for many continental cities, including Como, Genoa, Milan, Moscow, Ravenna and Strasburg. He also acted as the Engineer in this country for the works and equipment of the Cordoba and Tucuman Railway in South America.

Mr. Wilson was elected an Associate of the Institution on the 7th February, 1860, and was transferred to the class of Members on the 29th May, 1877.
