

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.