

The subject of this notice was a man of quiet and unassuming character, considerate to those under him, whose respect and esteem he enjoyed. He extended a ready support to any social and philanthropic schemes which came under his notice, especially those which promised to benefit railway servants. While at Bow he was largely instrumental in founding the Bow and Bromley Institute.

He was a Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers and of the Society of Engineers, of which he became President in 1870. In 1895 he contributed to the Proceedings of the Institution of Civil Engineers, in collaboration with Mr. W. F. Pettigrew, a valuable description of "Trials of an Express Locomotive,"¹ carried out by them on the South Western Railway. For this Paper the Authors were each awarded a George Stephenson medal and a Telford premium.

Mr. Adams was elected a Member of the Institution on the 6th April, 1869.

WILLIAM ELSDON, who died in Melbourne, Victoria, on the 10th March, 1904, aged 74, commenced his professional career in the Colony as far back as 1855. In that year, on the recommendation of Messrs. Robert Stephenson & Co., with whom he had served his articles, he received the appointment of Chief Engineer to the Hobson's Bay Railway Company, a post which he retained for twenty-five years. During that period various extensions were built and other lines were added by purchase to the Company's system, which developed with the growth of Melbourne. In addition to the increased responsibilities of his position as Engineer, the duties of which he discharged with vigour and ability, Mr. Elsdon carried on private practice in Melbourne as an engineer and architect, in which capacity he designed and carried out various important works, including the Collingwood and Fitzroy Gasworks, the City abattoirs, and some large public buildings. In 1871, feeling the effects of overstrain, he was obliged to take a year's leave of absence, which he spent in visiting England and the Continent; and on his return he furnished to the Government, at their request, a report on railway progress in Europe.

¹ Minutes of Proceedings Inst. C.E., vol. cxxv. p. 282.

When the Hobson's Bay lines were taken over by the Government in 1880, Mr. Elsdon was appointed General Manager and Engineer-in-Chief of the State Railways. Subsequently, however, he retired on political grounds.

On leaving the public service Mr. Elsdon interested himself actively in various coal-mining undertakings at Newcastle, New South Wales. He served on several Royal Commissions, and also acted for three years, pending the appointment of a permanent officer, as City Surveyor of Melbourne, receiving the thanks of the municipal council for his services.

Mr. Elsdon was elected a Member of the Institution on the 5th April, 1870.

ALFRED JOHN MANSELL, born on the 20th April, 1834, served a pupilage to Messrs. John Penn and Sons, Greenwich, and after a year's experience in the works of the Thames Shipbuilding Company, Blackwall, he went to Brazil in 1858 as Superintending Engineer of the Shipbuilding and Engineering works of the Ponta de Area Company at Rio de Janeiro, where for five years he was engaged in the construction of steamers for the coasting trade, of bridges and pontoons and agricultural machinery. In 1864 he erected a large sugar refinery in the city, and acted until 1879 as Manager of the works, in which he was financially interested, practising at the same time as a consulting engineer. During intervals in his consulting practice, which he retained up to the date of his death, he conducted a general commission business in Rio, acted as manager of a biscuit factory, and as Engineer to a firm of importers of European machinery, and superintended the drawing-office of the locomotive department of the Leopoldina Railway. At various times he lent his professional services to the Brazilian Government, once as referee for machinery at the International Exhibition at Rio in 1866, and on two occasions in connection with the customs and the revision of the tariff. Mr. Mansell died suddenly in Rio de Janeiro on the 16th April, 1904.

He was elected a Member of the Institution on the 3rd December, 1889.