

MR. CHARLES LOUIS AIMÉ DE BERGUE, born at Kensington on the 24th of September, 1807, was the eldest son of seventeen children of Mr. de Bergue by his wife, daughter of Mr. Rain, native of Ireland. At the age of twelve he accompanied to Paris his godfather Prince Louis de Broglio, who had, with the Prince de Polinec and several other French noblemen, commenced engineering works in the Place de la Bastille. Here he had the opportunity of exercising his natural taste for that profession, and, though almost a child, took an active part in making some valuable improvements in machinery. He was afterwards for a time with Mr. J. Waddington, an English Engineer, at St. Renie. After the Revolution of 1830 the establishment in Paris broke up. The Prince de Broglio and the Prince de Polinec came to England, and Mr. Charles de Bergue went for three years to Spain. He returned to settle in England in 1834, taking the contract for the gates of the Seraglio at Constantinople. In 1850 he built engineering works at Manchester, and engaged to construct the railway from Barcelona to Tarragona, for which he invented a new iron permanent way, that was afterwards laid down on several other lines in Spain, and was found to make a great reduction in the cost of maintenance, especially in hot climates. He also invented a useful carriage for laying the same with perfect exactitude. In 1861 he built works at Cardiff, entering extensively into bridge-building. In 1871 he took the contract for the erection of the Tay Bridge, on the plans of the Engineer of the North British railway. After completing the calculations for that work, which greatly fatigued his brain, he was seized with congestion, softening of the brain supervening, which ended his life on the 10th of April, 1873, having lost the power of speech for above twelve months. He was the inventor of many valuable tools, now in use, for shearing, punching, riveting, rail-levelling, and rivet-making. He was also the inventor of a new system of tramway, which has been laid down in Java, Syria, and other places; likewise of a new construction of lattice bridge, uniting lightness with great strength, upon which system the new Wandsworth Bridge has been built.

Mr. de Bergue was elected an Associate of the Institution of Civil Engineers on the 6th of March, 1849, and occasionally took part in its proceedings.

MR. JOHN EVANS was born at Cawsherton, near Pembroke, on the 3rd of October, 1818, and was sent, when he was six years old, to Lady Cawdor's school, where he remained three years and gained the