

opened to the public in August 1874, and is well spoken of. He also designed, as his contribution, the Seamen's Church at Shanghai, a simple, appropriate, and pretty building, opened in 1864, of which a drawing appeared in the "Illustrated London News" at the time. In 1872 he drew up three schemes for the supply of water to the district under his charge, but although these met with general approval from the ratepayers, the estimated cost was considered to be too great for so young a settlement. Early, however, in 1875 the water-supply question was again agitated, and, following out suggestions then made, an amended scheme, on a smaller scale, was prepared, which has been favourably reported upon by Mr. Hawksley, Past-President Inst. C.E. The quantity of water proposed to be supplied is 1,000,000 gallons per day, at an estimated cost of upwards of £100,000.

Although the post of Engineer to the Municipality of Shanghai may not afford much scope for professional ability, yet Mr. Oliver carried out what he had to do so well that he earned for himself a good name. Straightforward and a thorough man of business, he was much respected, and in him the municipality lost an energetic and a capable servant, to whom the foreign community in particular were much indebted. In private life he was esteemed for his open-handed generosity, his liberal hospitality, and his unaffected good nature—qualities which made him a valued friend and a trusted adviser. Mr. Oliver was elected an Associate on the 6th of February, 1872, and he died at Shanghai on the 16th of January, 1876.

---

MR. GEORGE POTHECARY was born on the 1st of October, 1841, at Munslow, Salop, where his father practised as a surgeon for nearly twenty years. In the year 1852, on his father removing to the South of England, he was sent to Sherborne Grammar School, entering the house of the head master, the Rev. H. D. Harper, where his amiable disposition rendered him a general favourite with his companions, and secured him the esteem of the masters. On leaving school he chose the profession of a Civil Engineer, and was articled, in 1859, for three years to Mr. W. Humber, Assoc. Inst. C.E. At the expiration of his pupilage, failing to secure employment in London, he entered a college at Chester to prepare for a competitive examination for an appointment in the Indian Public Works Department, which he passed in  
[1875-76. N.S.]

July 1863, standing sixth on the list. On reaching Calcutta he was appointed Probationary Assistant Engineer on the second division of the Grand Trunk Road at Shergotty, and was engaged in the erection of some large bridges. On this division he remained for about three years, being gazetted Assistant Engineer, 2nd grade, in September 1864, and Assistant Engineer, 1st grade, in October 1865. At the latter date he was appointed to the Lower Assam Division, where he had charge of a district of 20,000 square miles, but was obliged to return to Calcutta owing to an attack of fever. In February 1867 he passed the examination in the native languages, by the higher standard, and was posted to the Mahanuddy Division; and later in the same year was promoted to Executive Engineer, and was transferred to the Pooree Division. On the 1st of March, 1869, he was appointed to the charge of the Southern Cuttack Division, and afterwards to that of the Hooghly River Division. Early in 1870 he was transferred to the Circular and Eastern Canals Division, and was selected as Assistant to Mr. Leonard, M. Inst. C.E., in carrying out the important works for the improvement of the Port of Calcutta, the commencement of the fine works for facilitating the import and export of goods. In the same year he officiated for seven months, during the absence of Mr. W. Clark, M. Inst. C.E., as Engineer to the municipality of Calcutta, and took the entire control of the drainage, road, and water works; and subsequently, in 1871, he was again employed by the Justices of Calcutta in making investigations as to the drainage of that city. After a visit to England, he, in the middle of 1871, was appointed Assistant to the Chief Engineer of Bengal (Mr. H. Leonard), and Assistant Secretary to the Government of that province. On the outbreak of the famine in Berar, early in 1874, he was sent to Mozufferpore as special Superintending Engineer of the Sarum, Champarum, and Tirhoot districts, under Sir Richard Temple, although at the time only a second-class Executive Engineer. The arduous labours there incurred told upon a constitution never strong, and his health became seriously impaired. For his management of the famine relief works he received the commendation of the Government of Bengal. He paid a short visit to England in 1875, returning to Calcutta to resume the duties of his appointment as Assistant to the Chief Engineer, in September; but was obliged finally to leave India at the end of February 1876. He died at Paris, of disease of the heart, while on his way to England, on the 17th of May, 1876, having only been elected an Associate on the 13th of January, 1874.

Though without opportunity of doing any very conspicuous work, Mr. Potheary saw much and varied service, and he was held by his superior officers, as well as by his contemporaries, to be one of the ablest of those selected by competitive examination, and to be one of the most promising men in the department. Fond of the profession, of easy and polished manners and refined taste, endowed with a good memory, well read in the current literature of the day, with a good voice and a correct ear, he was a favourite not only with the members of his own department, but also with the other officers of Government with whom he had to deal. His geniality, amiability, and kindness of heart endeared him to many a home, and he was as much liked in private life, as he was esteemed and respected in his professional capacity. The Royal Indian Engineering College at Cooper's Hill is indebted to his exertions as Secretary to the Committee which inaugurated and successfully established the scholarships given by the Indian Civil Engineers to the College.

---

Mr. RICHARD STEVEN ROPER, son of the late Mr. Thomas Roper, of Ulverston, was born on the 20th of February, 1835. He studied under Dr. Muspratt in the School of Chemistry, Liverpool, from whom he received, in 1852, a certificate in praise of his diligence, progress, and accuracy in analyses and assays. He afterwards became a student at the School of Mines, London, and on the 20th of January, 1855, he received a first-class certificate. After leaving the School of Mines, he was engaged under the late Mr. Ebenezer Rogers at the Abercarn Collieries, Monmouthshire, where, in addition to attending to the general routine of colliery work, he was much occupied in the laboratory. In 1856 he was employed at Dudley under Mr. Samuel H. Blackwell (a brother-in-law of Mr. Ebenezer Rogers), and in 1857 he entered the service of the Ebbw Vale Company, Monmouthshire, and was engaged at their Ebbw Vale and Victoria Iron Works, and also at their Pontypool works. Shortly after this, in conjunction with Mr. George Claridge, of Dudley, he took out a patent for an improved mode of manufacturing coke, and wrote a useful pamphlet on the desulphurization of coke. In 1859 he entered into partnership with Mr. John Lawrence, of the Cwmbran Iron Works, Monmouthshire. In 1856 he was elected a Fellow of the Geological Society of London; in 1859, a Fellow of the Chemical Society; in April 1872, an