

PENSION TO MRS. HUGH MILLER.

Government has marked its sense of the services rendered to science by the late Hugh Miller, by bestowing upon his widow an annuity of £70 sterling.—*Edinburgh Witness*.

SPURGEON JUNIOR.

The Rev. J. A. Spurgeon, younger brother of the famed Spurgeon, appeared in Boston, England, one Sunday lately. He preached two sermons in the Corn Exchange Hall, on behalf of the Zion Chapel, West street. At the morning service the immense hall was crowded to excess, and on the preacher making his appearance a sensation of surprise at his youthful appearance seemed to pervade the audience; his age is said to be seventeen years. He took the text of his sermon from 1 John iii. 1, 2. His distinct utterance, fluency of speech, and earnestness of soul, together with the graceful ease and dignity of all his movements, are qualifications calculated to excite an extraordinary amount of interest in favor of a preacher of his early years. The younger Spurgeon's style of speaking possesses nothing in common with that of his brother, but in command of language and the choice of words he is, though still but a student, at the very least equal to his brother.—*Lincolnshire Times*.

Obituary.

OBITUARY NOTICES.

THOMAS DICK, LL. D., F. R. A. S.

This very popular and useful writer died at Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, on the 29th of July. The following narrative of his life is given by the *Dundee Advertiser* :—

“Thomas Dick was born in the Hilltown, Dundee, on the 24th November 1774, his father being Mungo Dick, a small linen manufacturer, and a member of the Secession Church, by whom he was brought up with the exemplary care common amongst Christian parents in Scotland in those times. As early as his ninth year he is said to have had his mind turned to astronomical studies by the appearance of a remarkable meteor. At the age of sixteen he became an assistant teacher in one of the schools at Dundee, and began to prepare himself for the University of Edinburgh, which he entered as a student in his twentieth year, supporting himself by private teaching. At this period he began to contribute essays to various publications, and was preparing himself for the works which were afterwards to give him a name and make him more conspicuously useful to his fellow-men. In 1801 he was licensed to preach in the Secession Church, and officiated for some years in different parts of Scotland; at last, however, he settled for ten years as teacher of the Secession School at Methven, where he experimented as to the practicability of teaching sciences to adults; established a people's library; and may be said to have founded the first Mechanics' Institute in the Kingdom—a number of years before the name was applied to it. For ten years more he taught at Perth, where he wrote the ‘Christian Philosopher,’ which at once and suddenly became a favorite work, and in a short time ran through several editions. The success of that work induced him to resign his position as a teacher and retire to Broughty Ferry, near Dundee, in 1827. From that time until within the last few years, when the chill of age stayed his hand, his pen was ever busy preparing the numerous works in which, under different forms and by various methods, he not only, as an American divine has said, brought down philosophy from heaven to earth, but raised it from earth to heaven. The number of editions through which Dr. Dick's works have run, both in this country and in America, where they were equally popular, could not be readily told. Unfortunately the author, through careless arrangements with his publishers, did not always reap the rewards of his labours that he