

He has been known to remain days in his laboratory hard at work and eating only by snatches. He was retiring in his disposition and is known almost entirely by his life-work. Such lives afford inspiration to all sincere students, in every realm of knowledge. Though we may develop "the capacity for taking pains" but to a finite degree, we too may become helpers of humanity. The concentration, the consecration of the great man are means of enlightenment to all who will see. Not only is science strengthened by its giants, but the world's heritage is enriched by all earnest thinkers and honest workers. "He that receiveth a prophet in the name of a prophet shall receive a prophet's reward."

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By the death of Professor Thomas H. Huxley science has lost one of her greatest discoverers, and the English people one of its greatest men. In Prof. Huxley the love of science was deeply seated and early developed, but it is to be especially noted that his reputation does not rest solely on his standing as an exponent of science to others. He was himself an original and accurate observer. Many discoveries rewarded his patient and laborious investigations, and these, no less than his power of logical deduction and broad generalization, were instrumental in placing his name in the first rank of British scientific thinkers and writers. It was Huxley who first extended to man Darwin's much abused, much lauded theory of natural selection, an extension which is as probable as it is unprovable since—

"Only God should know,
Whether the fair idea he did show
Agreed entirely with God's own or no."

In 1858 he published his "History of the Oceanic Hydrozoa," besides contributing largely to the journals of scientific and other learned societies. But his name became still better known by the publication of "Man's Place in Nature," which appeared in 1863. The reputation he thus acquired as a scientific author was further confirmed by "Lectures on Comparative Anatomy" in 1864, while his clear and concise "Lessons on Elementary Physiology," especially adapted to the wants of young students, exemplified his ability to present a difficult subject in an attractive style. In his theory on protoplasm and several of his latter writings Prof. Huxley left the domain of inductive science and trespassed on that of rather obscure metaphysics. His death lives Spencer alone living of that little company of world-famous philosophical scientists headed by Darwin.

We crave the indulgence of those whose contributions we are compelled to hold over until next issue.—Editors.

THE LATE REV. DR. WILLIAMSON, M.A., LL.D., VICE-PRINCIPAL QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY.

WE are informed that James Williamson was born in Edinburgh in 1806, educated at the high school and university of his native city, graduating in 1827. Having devoted himself to the ministry of the church of Scotland, he was licensed as a probationer in 1831, filled for a time a missionary appointment at Kilsyth, and thereafter was assistant minister at Drumelzier. Queen's University had opened on the 7th of March, 1842, with a staff of two, Principal Liddell and Professor Campbell. In May the Principal left for Scotland and returned in the beginning of October, bringing Mr. Williamson with him, as professor of physics and mathematics, who entered at once with energy and earnestness on his work. From that day until a few days before his death, a period of fifty-three years, his life was a continued and uniform practice of loyal devotion and effort for the progress and success of the University. In the dark days which so soon came on, the retirement of the Principal and also Professor Campbell left Mr. Williamson with mere temporary assistance to struggle for the very existence of the institution. But firm as a rock, he never gave way to discouragement, but labored on in faith in God, and in the soundness of the foundation on which the development of the University had been begun. Here the breadth of his scholarship showed its excellence and value. It is seldom that a man shows very high proficiency in a number of diverse subjects, but so it was with him. With mathematics and physics for his specialties, he was also a proficient in chemistry. He was also noted for the high degree and accuracy of his knowledge of classics, and he would have been fitted for a professorship in that department. Nor was this all; he was an enthusiastic student in natural sciences, and was at much at home in botany, geology and mineralogy as in the others, and during his whole life here he showed his accurate knowledge of astronomy. These varied acquirements made his services most valuable to Queen's in the days of its struggles with poverty and slender equipment. He also lectured for a time on logic and church history. He was appointed Vice-Principal of the University in 1876. In 1882, having completed a service of forty years, he proposed to resign his professorship. The trustees, however, would not consent to part with him, but relieved him of the teaching of physics, appointing him Professor of Astronomy and Director of the Observatory, which was removed to the University grounds.

He received the well-deserved degree of LL.D. from the University of Glasgow in 1855. Largely by his efforts, aided by John A. Macdonald, Dr.