

AUTOBIOGRAPHY

OF

GEORGE CHRISTIAN HOFFMANN,
LL.D., F.I.C., M.M.S., F.R.S.C.

FORMERLY ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF, AND CHEMIST AND MINERALOGIST TO, THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF CANADA, AND CURATOR OF THE MINERALOGICAL AND LITHOLOGICAL SECTION OF THE MUSEUM OF THAT INSTITUTION.

George Christian Hoffmann was born in London, England, on the 7th of June, 1837. He received his early education in his home and in private academies in England, and continued the same in Darmstadt, Germany, at first by private tuition under Hofrat (Aulic Councillor) Friedrich Haas—Professor in the Gymnasium there, and afterwards at the Groszherzogliche Provinzial-Realschule in that town.

On his return from Germany, 1853, he became a matriculated student at the Royal School of Mines, Jermyn Street, London, at that time under the Directorate of Sir Henry T. de la Bèche, C.B., F.R.S., where he received instruction under—A. W. (afterwards A. W. von) Hofmann, LL.D., F.R.S., in chemistry; John Percy, M.D., F.R.S., in metallurgy; Warrington W. (afterwards Sir Warrington W.) Smyth, M.A., F.R.S., in mining and mineralogy; George G. Stokes (afterwards Sir George G. Stokes, Bart.), M.A., D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., in physics; Andrew C. (afterwards Sir Andrew C.) Ramsay, LL.D., F.R.S., in geology; Thomas H. (afterwards the Right Hon. T. H.) Huxley, D.C.L., LL.D., F.R.S., in natural history; and the Rev. R. Willis, M.A., F.R.S., in applied mechanics. Having followed out the course of study prescribed at this Institution and, in addition, taken a special course of instruction in assaying in the Metallurgical Laboratory under Dr. John Percy, connected with it, he then, purposing to devote his attention more especially to chemistry, further prosecuted his studies at the Royal College of Chemistry, Oxford Street, London, under Professor A. W. Hofmann, where, after having gone through a systematic course of chemistry extending over several years, and subsequently acted for two years in the capacity of a