

ALAN MACDOUGALL.

Alan Macdougall, F.R.S.E., M. Can. Soc. C.E., M. Inst. C.E., for ten years Secretary of the Canadian Institute, died on 23rd April, 1897, at Exmouth, Devonshire, England, after a lingering illness. For a long time his health had been failing, and early in the summer of 1896 he went to Scotland, in the hope that change of scene and a visit to his native land would lead to his recovery. But the hopes of his family and friends were to be disappointed, and he died at the comparatively early age of fifty-five. His services to the Institute as Secretary for ten years were of inestimable value, and numerous papers read by him on subjects more or less connected with his own profession of engineering bear testimony to his scientific zeal and diligence. He was son of the late Col. Macdougall, of Edinburgh, Scotland, and received his education in that city. In 1859 he entered the service of the North British Railway Company, and continued with that company till 1868, when he came to Canada, and became connected with the Toronto, Grey and Bruce Railway, then in course of construction, after which he was employed for about four years in some important lake and river improvements by the Department of Public Works of the Dominion. From 1877 to 1882 he was again in the employ of the North British Railway Company, but in the latter year he returned to Canada, and for a season was a divisional engineer on the Canadian Pacific Railway in Manitoba, after which he engaged in private practice in Toronto until, in 1887, he was made assistant city engineer. As such he conducted some interesting and valuable experiments to determine the velocity and direction of the currents in Lake Ontario, and made surveys in connection with the water supply of the city. He did not long retain his connection with the city service, and after his resignation he devoted his attention chiefly to sanitary science, being consulted as a sanitary engineer by many municipalities all over Canada, from St. John's, Newfoundland, to Victoria, British Columbia. To his enthusiastic devotion to civil engineering is very largely due the formation, in 1887, of the Canadian Society of Civil Engineers, and to the last he bent every energy to the elevation of the status of his profession in Canada. He was an ardent Scot, and took much interest in the work of the St. Andrew's Society, of which society he was elected Secretary for the year 1896; but, unfortunately, his failing health compelled him to resign after a few months' tenure of the office. He was also a member of the Gaelic Society. He was genial and kindly in his intercourse with his fellow-men, and will be long held in grateful remembrance by those who were associated with him on the Council Board of the Canadian Institute.