

THOMAS ROXBURGH POLWHELE, J. P., D. L., M. A., F. G. S.

BORN 1831.

DIED SEPTEMBER 2, 1909.

MR. POLWHELE, who graduated at Cambridge, joined the Geological Survey under Murchison in July, 1857, and in the following year became a Fellow of the Geological Society. He was engaged in the mapping of parts of Oxfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and drew boundary-lines, which have proved to be substantially correct, for the clayey equivalents of the Corallian rocks between Wheatley and Quainton. He also surveyed areas of the Bagshot Series and other formations on the borders of Hampshire and Surrey. His geological notes were published in memoirs by his colleagues Mr. Whitaker and the late Professor A. H. Green.

Having succeeded to an estate at Polwhele, near Truro, he resigned his post on the Geological Survey on March 3, 1862. He was chosen President of the Geological Society of Cornwall in 1896 and 1897, and delivered addresses on "The Relation of other Sciences to Geology" and on "The Physical Geology of the Earth". He died at his Cornish home, aged 78.

MISCELLANEOUS.

RETIREMENT OF MR. W. A. E. USSHER, F. G. S., OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF ENGLAND.—Mr. W. A. E. Ussher, who joined the staff of the Geological Survey early in 1868, retired on September 30, after a service of more than forty-one years. Commencing work on the borders of the Mendip Hills, he has surveyed and mastered the geological structure over a continuous tract of ground extending from that region through Bridgwater to the Quantock Hills, and through the vales of Taunton, Honiton, and Exeter to Plymouth and the Cornish borderland. Although the main features in the geology had been represented on the old one-inch maps of De la Beche, the re-survey was to all intents and purposes a new one as regards details of the strata and tectonic features. To Mr. Ussher we owe the recognition and mapping of the subdivisions of the New Red rocks from West Somerset to the south coast of Devon, the first account of which was published in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* for April, 1875. To him also our knowledge of the subdivisions, the palæontology, and the foreign equivalents of the Devonian rocks of South Devon is most largely due. His strenuous and long-continued labours on the geology of that intricate district demanded not merely enthusiasm but an amount of physical energy unsurpassed. In other regions he was occupied for shorter periods, among the Jurassic rocks and drifts of North Lincolnshire, and in the survey of the superficial deposits on the borders of Greater London and in parts of the south-east of England.

CHANGE OF NAME.—Bibliographers should take note that Mr. H. B. Muff, F. G. S., of the Geological Survey of Scotland, has changed his name to Maufe.
