

OBITUARY.

FREDERICK JAMES MÖCKLER.

FREDERICK JAMES MÖCKLER died on March 12, 1913, aged 68. After a varied career, in which he became best known, perhaps, as an authority on Baxter Prints, Mr. Möckler was appointed curator of the Holburne Museum, Bath, a post which he was obliged to vacate some ten years ago on account of ill-health. Up to this time he had become acquainted with geological matters by handling material of Charles Moore's collecting, and by gathering and washing Faringdon Sponge Gravel for the use of E. C. Davey in his work on the fossils contained in that deposit.

It was not, however, until his employment for preparation-work in the Geological Department of the British Museum that he found scope for the exercise of the skill, amounting to genius, with which he resolved intractable sediments into a paste from which the particles of clay could be washed, and extracted thence organisms of extreme minuteness and delicacy; taking a genuine pleasure in the labour involved in picking over the residues grain by grain and separating the fossils from the inorganic particles. It is too soon to be possible to estimate the value to science of his labours; this will be fully appreciated by those who in future work out the Museum collections of Foraminifera, Polyzoa, Echinoderms, etc., with the material his skill has provided. But the untiring industry and humble conscientiousness with which he employed his talent declared his value to those who knew him. Science has lost in him a hard-working devotee, and his colleagues a genial and warm-hearted friend.

W. D. L.

MISCELLANEOUS.

GEOLOGICAL SURVEY OF INDIA.—The Secretary of State for India in Council notifies that one appointment to the Indian Geological Survey Department will be made in July next. A further vacancy is expected to occur in the year 1914.

INTERNATIONAL GEOLOGICAL CONGRESS.—Since the preliminary notice of the Session to be held in Toronto (given in the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* for September, 1912, p. 431), the dates of the meetings have been fixed to commence on Thursday, August 7, and to terminate on Thursday, August 14, 1913. Particulars have now been printed concerning the dates of excursions, the areas to be visited and the cost, accompanied by maps of the routes. (See second circular, to be obtained from the Secretary, Twelfth International Geological Congress, Victoria Memorial Museum, Ottawa, Canada.)

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON, APRIL 9, 1913.—Mr. William Rupert Jones (son of the late Professor T. Rupert Jones, F.R.S.), who has filled the office of Assistant Librarian to the Geological Society, will retire on pension after forty years' service. He was a man with a remarkable knowledge and memory, and for many years had prepared a valuable list of additions to the Society's Library, which was regularly printed and circulated to the Fellows.