

from his local influence is likely to have the ear of the rising generation of clever men, who may not yet have learned the difference between a clever mathematician & a physical philosopher.

My reason for writing just now is to ask you to look at two plaster models which I have sent Ellis, & which shew both the linear markings and crevasses very well.

Believe me, Yours very truly
James D. Forbes.

Edinburgh
22 Dec. 1844
Revd. W. Williamson

I imagine that no reader of this *Journal* needs reminding who Forbes was, but perhaps a few notes should be appended on the recipient of these letters.

William Williamson was born at Campton, Bedfordshire, in 1804 and educated at Westminster. He entered Clare Hall in 1820, and was second wrangler and won the second Smith's prize in 1825. After leaving Cambridge he went to Lincoln's Inn and was called to the bar in 1830, after which he practised as an equity draftsman and conveyancer until he returned to Clare to become tutor in 1839. He was ordained priest in 1842 and took a B.D. the following year. In 1850 he retired from his fellowship and married, spending the rest of his days as rector of Datchworth, Herts. He died in 1875. These biographical notes are based on the information in Venn, J. A. *Alumni Cantabrigiensis*.

I am indebted to Dr. A. B. Pippard, the Librarian of Clare College, for permission to publish these extracts.

REFERENCE

1. Forbes, J. D. Eighth letter on glaciers: Experiments on the plasticity of glacier ice. *Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal*, Vol. 37, No. 74, 1844, p. 375-81.

REVIEWS

CLIMATOLOGICAL ATLAS OF CANADA. MORLEY K. THOMAS. A joint publication of the Division of Building Research, National Research Council, and the Meteorological Division, Department of Transport, Canada. Ottawa, National Research Council, 1953. 256 pages. Price \$2.00.

THROUGHOUT the world climate is one of the determinants of building practice; nowhere is this more evident than in the great northern continental interiors of which Canada claims so large a share. This publication is indeed apposite, for in recent years the development of large-scale construction by numerous public authorities has been marked, especially in connexion with defence programmes and the exploitation of natural resources. Eighty-four climatic maps covering all the normal requirements are here presented; for example, we find winter and summer design temperatures on a percentage basis, and mean annual totals of degree days below 65° F. as a basis for design of heating systems. To the glaciologist, the maps referring to snowfall and to the limits of permanently frozen ground will have decided interest. The relationship of the latter to other climatic elements is by no means simple. Among the snowfall maps, that showing the computed maximum snow load likely to occur is noteworthy; in parts of Quebec it may exceed 90 lb./sq. ft. (10.12 kg./cm.²). The greatest recorded depths of snow on the ground lie through south-east Labrador, apart from small areas in British Columbia at high altitudes. The mean annual snowfall is also greater in south-east Labrador than anywhere else in Canada; so far as observations go, some places average over 200 in. (5 m.). The maps are clear and well printed; a large amount of information is efficiently displayed, in this compact, unpretentious and very soundly conceived atlas.

GORDON MANLEY