

collaborated in the production of the 'Manual of the Mineralogy of Great Britain and Ireland', which though published in 1858—nearly half a century ago—still remains the only work dealing with the general distribution of minerals in the British Isles. The book was written in four years, a remarkably short space of time for a work of that kind. With its publication Greg's interest in minerals seems to have waned, and in 1860, two years after its publication, he negotiated on behalf of his father the sale of the collection to the Trustees of the British Museum. He published a few papers on mineralogical subjects, the most important of which are the description of a new oxychloride of lead, matlockite, the discussions of the crystalline forms of leucophane and of rhodonite, and a paper with the late Professor Heddle on British pectolites. During the succeeding eighteen years he devoted much attention to the study of meteorites and meteor-showers, mainly from the astronomical point of view. He was a member of the Committee appointed by the British Association to report on observations of luminous meteors, and he wrote a large number of papers bearing on this subject, which form an enduring contribution to science. He got together a small collection of meteorites which was sold in 1865 to the Trustees of the Calcutta Museum for £500, and commenced in 1875 the formation of a collection of prehistoric implements which he sold in 1889 for £304. In consequence doubtless of the lengthy visit which he and his wife together with a party of relations paid to Egypt and the East in 1880, he commenced, three years later, a book on the comparative philology of the old and new worlds; it, however, did not actually appear till 1893, owing to the intervention of the severe illness already alluded to.

Besides being a member of the Mineralogical Society (1876–86), Greg belonged to the Royal Astronomical Society (1868–81), the Society of Antiquaries (1878–94), and the Geological Society (1853 till his death), and he frequently attended the meetings of the British Association. According to the Royal Society's Catalogue of Scientific Papers, Greg published twenty-six papers, and was joint author of two others, in addition to the two books mentioned above.

G. F. H. S.

#### JOHN GEORGE GOODCHILD (1844–1906).

Mr. J. G. Goodchild, who died at Edinburgh on February 21, 1906, was an officer of the Geological Survey, to which he became attached in 1867. He was born near London on May 26, 1844. For many years

he was engaged in mapping part of the Lake District, and, although glacial geology occupied much of his attention while there, he became greatly interested in the local minerals and published 'Contributions towards a List of the Minerals occurring in Cumberland and Westmorland.' This paper appeared in the 'Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Association' (1882-5), of which he was editor. Compelled by ill-health to abandon field-work, he was stationed for some years in the London office of the Survey, whence he was transferred to Edinburgh in 1887. There he took charge, first of the collections of the Scottish Survey, and afterwards of the mineral collection of the Royal Scottish Museum, formerly the 'Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art'. Under the influence of Dr. M. F. Heddle, whose collection passed officially into his charge, he became an enthusiastic student of the minerals of Scotland, and many papers, dealing especially with their probable genesis, proceeded from his active pen. He prepared, too, an excellent guide to the collections under his care, and on Heddle's death he undertook the editing of 'The Mineralogy of Scotland'. The manuscript required much labour in its preparation for press, and important additions, including many plates, were made by the editor. Mr. Goodchild was a man of extremely varied interests, giving at times serious attention to ornithology, botany, ethnology, and archaeology. He was a ready writer (being the author of some two hundred papers) and remarkably fluent as a speaker, so that he was induced to devote much time to lecturing, and in spite of long continued ill-health achieved in this direction pronounced success.

#### VIVANT LÉON MOISSENET (1831-1906).

By the death of Professor Moissenet at Chaumont on February 2, 1906, the Society loses one of its earliest Honorary Members, he having been elected in 1877. He was born on August 2, 1831, at Chalon-sur-Saône. After passing through the courses of the Polytechnic School and the School of Mines in Paris, he became attached to the French Department of Mines, from which he retired in 1893 with the title of Honorary Inspector General of Mines. In 1869 he became Professor of Assaying and Analytical Chemistry in the School of Mines at Paris. In earlier years he paid several visits to the mining districts of England, and his first paper, in 1857, was on the deposits of lead-ore in the Carboniferous Limestone of Flintshire. In 1874 he published a pamphlet entitled 'Études sur les filons du Cornwall', which was translated into English by Mr. J. H. Collins in 1877.