

of our intercourse, were not infrequent, what always impressed me most was Nettleship's candour, his entire absence of bitterness or partisanship, his readiness to acknowledge a mistake or misconception, and his constant desire to find out points of agreement and minimise points of difference—surely the essential characteristic of the truly philosophic temperament! This sketch of his intellectual interests would be incomplete, were I not to mention the keen interest which he took in politics. He was an ardent, though not an intolerant, Liberal, and, when the Liberal party was divided by the introduction of Mr. Gladstone's Home Rule Bill in 1885, he warmly espoused the side of the Liberal Unionists. During the later years of his life, he was also much interested in some of the social questions of the time, such as popular education, the higher education of women, and trades-unionism, especially in its relation to female workers.

The moral and emotional side of Nettleship's nature was strong and deep. During one of our first walks, I was much struck by the affectionateness and tenderness of his disposition, a characteristic which I am glad to see pointedly noticed in the excellent obituary article in the *Times* of July 11. He had a strong sense of injustice. The only occasions on which I have seen him indignant were at two or three college meetings where it was proposed to deal, as he conceived, harshly and unjustly with undergraduates or college servants. As a rule, his manner was peculiarly sweet and conciliatory. This amiable characteristic, together with his natural shyness and diffidence, and a certain hesitancy of manner, sometimes led to the supposition (an erroneous one, I always thought) that he was not fitted for the conduct of practical affairs. On the other hand, I always thought his practical judgment remarkably clear, impartial, and penetrating. Thus, though he was undoubtedly somewhat inclined to hero-worship, I never knew his admiration for literary or intellectual excellence bias his opinion where important practical issues were at stake, or where the oracle transcended the sphere of its competence. Indeed, if I were confined in my delineation of his character to a single clause, I should say that what specially distinguished it was the singular combination of independence of judgment with modesty of manner and feeling.

As I write these lines, I am pervaded with a deep sense of the grave loss sus-

tained, through the death of my friend, alike by my college, by my University, and by the world of letters.

T. FOWLER.

H. D. DARBISHIRE.

WE regret to record the loss that we have sustained by the death of one of our most valued contributors, Mr. Herbert Dukinfield Darbishire, Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge. He died on Tuesday, July 18, at the early age of thirty, only a few days after coming into residence for the Long Vacation with a view to giving a course of lectures on Comparative Philology. He had recently gone to Hunstanton for a change of air; during his absence he caught a chill which was followed by an attack of pleurisy. He was recovering from this, when a sudden and unexpected hæmorrhage from the lungs took place, and he died in a few minutes. Dr. MacAlister, who had attended him in his illness, was alone with him at the time of his decease.

Mr. Darbishire was born at Belfast, and received his early education at the Royal Academical Institution in that city. He afterwards entered the Queen's College, Belfast, where his career began in 1880 by his winning the Sullivan Scholarship, and ended in 1883 with his attaining a Senior Scholarship in Greek, Latin, and Ancient History. In the same year he obtained a first class with honours in Classics in the examination for the degree of B.A. in the Royal University of Ireland. In October, 1884, he came into residence at St. John's College, Cambridge. He had already given good proof of his proficiency in Classics at the Examination for Entrance Scholarships, but want of practice in Verse Composition prevented his attaining the place to which his general merits might well have entitled him. To the same cause it was due that, when he presented himself for the first part of the Classical Tripos at the end of his second year, he was placed in the second class, though in the first division of that class. Two years afterwards, in 1888, he was in the first class of the second part of the Classical Tripos, the subjects for which he obtained that position being classical scholarship and comparative philology. Meanwhile he had been elected to a foundation scholarship. In January, 1889, he was elected to a McMahan law studentship, which he held for the full term of four years. He

read for the Bar in the chambers of Mr. J. G. Butcher, now M.P. for York. In November, 1892, he was elected to a fellowship at his College, and was called to the Bar shortly after.

At Cambridge he had devoted much of his time to the study of Greek philosophy, but it was as a comparative philologist that he showed the highest promise. Several of his papers were published in the Transactions of the Cambridge Philological Society. His 'Notes on the *Spiritus Asper* in Greek,' together with some contributions to Greek lexicography (*ἐπιδέξιος, ἐνδέξιος, &c.*), appeared in 1890; and his paper on the Indo-European names for Fox and Wolf, in 1892. To the *Journal of Philology* he contributed an article on the 'Numasioi Inscription,' and to the *Classical Review* a paper on 'Abnormal Derivations,' besides several reviews and the Index for the year 1888.

In 1891, when the Readership of Comparative Philology at Cambridge was vacated by the resignation of Dr. Peile, Mr. Darbishire was urged to be a candidate for the office; of all the candidates, he was the youngest, but he was acknowledged by competent authorities to be also one of the ablest. He had already begun to make his mark as a philological investigator and as a teacher. As a private tutor, during several Long Vacations, he gave courses of lectures on the Elements of Comparative Philology. These lectures were highly valued by those who had the privilege of attending them, and the same course was delivered at Girton College. The Principal of the latter wrote as follows on hearing the announcement of his death: 'We have seldom had a lecturer who has inspired his pupils with greater admiration for his methods and greater confidence in his knowledge; and even those who have known him for a short time only, feel that they have sustained a great loss in his death.'

Mr. Darbishire won the affection and admiration of his many friends by the singular beauty of his character, and also by the unwavering courage and the perfect good temper with which he struggled against physical weakness resulting from an accident which befell him in early life. The brightness of his intellectual ability, as well as the dignity of his bearing, and the charming and unaffected courtesy of his manner, will long be remembered by all who knew him.

I quote the following from an appreciative tribute to Mr. Darbishire's memory which appeared in the *Athenaeum* for July 29:—

'He was one of the most promising, if not the most promising, of British comparative philologists, and might have been expected to found a new school. His papers published in the *Transactions* of the Cambridge Philological Society and in the *Classical Review* display singular acumen and originality, together with a thorough grasp of sound scientific method; his separately published "Notes on the *Spiritus Asper* in Greek" is quite a model. Mr. Darbishire was also an excellent classical scholar and critic. His very attractive character was ennobled by the modest dignity and cheerful courage with which he bore serious physical disadvantages entailed by an accident during infancy. His intellectual power and brightness, his rare charm of manner, his wit, and his genial mood, made him a delightful companion and he was a prime favourite with children.'

I append an extract from Dr. Postgate's notice in the *Academy* of the same date:—

(His dissertation entitled 'Notes on the *Spiritus Asper*') 'was a very remarkable performance; especially noteworthy was the way in which it used hitherto unobserved coincidences in Greek and Armenian, (the correspondence) of the *spiritus lenis* to Armenian *g*, and of the *spiritus asper* to Armenian *v*, to distinguish two different *w*'s in the parent language. All his contributions to the *Classical Review*, and other learned publications, showed the same acuteness of vision and freshness of treatment...

'He was an excellent teacher; and it was a matter of some regret when he left us for the Bar, though there is no question that his acumen and subtlety admirably qualified him for that profession.

'Mr. Darbishire, as all his friends can testify, was a man of a singularly modest and amiable character. His loss makes us sadly feel, in the words of Horace,

"neque candidiores
terra tulit, neque quis me sit devinctior alter."

It remains to be added that, after the funeral service in St. John's College Chapel, a hope was expressed on the part of friends from other Colleges, that it might prove possible to arrange for the publication of Mr. Darbishire's papers in a collective form. His books and manuscripts have been accordingly placed in my hands by members of his family, and have been examined with the aid of Mr. R. A. Neil, Fellow of Pembroke, and Mr. R. S. Conway, Fellow of Gonville and Caius College, and now Professor of Latin at Cardiff. Mr. Darbishire's work has met with due recognition abroad at the hands of M. Victor Henry in France, and Professor Brugmann in Germany; and it is hoped that, under the editorial care of Professor Conway, a small volume containing about a dozen of Mr. Darbishire's published or unpublished papers may possibly be put together. Such a volume would serve as a fitting memorial of a philologist whose early death is lamented in more than one seat of learning in the United Kingdom.

J. E. SANDYS.