

William Jacob Holland, LL.D.

BY the death on December 13, 1932, of Dr W. J. Holland, Director-Emeritus of the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, America lost a distinguished man of science, and a large circle a genial and charming associate and friend. Born in Jamaica on August 16, 1848, of American parents, his thoughts first turned towards the Church, and after graduating M.A. with highest honours at Amherst College, he entered Princeton Seminary to study for the ministry. From boyhood he had been interested in entomology, and during a pastorate of seventeen years in Pittsburgh he continued his scientific studies to such purpose, with numerous publications, that he was selected as naturalist to the United States Government Eclipse Expedition to Japan in 1887. Four years later he was appointed Chancellor of the Western University of Pennsylvania, now the University of Pittsburgh.

In 1898 he assumed the duties of Director of the Carnegie Museum, Pittsburgh, which offered more scope for his scientific interests, and he held the post till 1922, when he became Director-Emeritus. Meanwhile he founded the American Association of Museums in 1907, of which he was President until 1909. His wide culture and organising abilities led to his being a coveted member for various associations and corporations. Thus he was Vice-President of the Carnegie Hero Fund from 1904 to 1922, and President thereafter. As such he was, *ex officio*, a member of the Carnegie Corporation of New York, and a trustee for many academic institutions.

During several years Dr Holland directed palæontological explorations in Utah, Wyoming, Montana, and North Dakota which resulted in highly important scientific finds, including the *Diplodocus carnegiei*, the original specimen of which is set up in the Carnegie Museum. He continued to publish great numbers of papers in his particular branch, now being regarded as the dean of American entomologists, while at the same time he edited the *Annals* and *Memoirs* of the Museum. Of his many books, *The Butterfly Book* and *The Moth Book*, popular guides to the North American forms, are well known in the States. Membership, ordinary and honorary, of a host of scientific societies (mainly entomological) at home and abroad, recognition by decorations from five European States of his contribution to science, and at least half a dozen

honorary degrees, including one greatly valued from St Andrews University, left the rugged simplicity of his character absolutely unspoiled. He worked hard up to the end in the rooms reserved for him in the Carnegie Museum, and it is characteristic of the man that the same number of the *Carnegie Magazine* that contained an article on "The Passing of Dr Holland" should also contain possibly his last paper, a popular account of how he secured the skin and skull of the mounted specimen of the White Rhinoceros (*R. simus* Burchell) that is a feature of the Museum.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1911.

J. Y. S.