

They had already learned to appreciate his powers and capacity and to admire his manifold attainments. He was a cultured, well-read man with many interests, literary and scientific, a somewhat fastidious critic with a high standard of excellence, but with sympathy and of sound judgment. As a colleague he was all that a colleague should be—unselfish, painstaking, hard-working, and loyal, always ready to put his knowledge and his experience at the service of his fellows. In the college councils he was never argumentative or captious—a man of few words, disposed more to listen than to speak. When he did intervene in a discussion what he said was weighty and strictly to the point, and seldom failed to convince the majority of his colleagues. His sense of fairness, his impartiality, and his freedom from prejudice made him strive to see the other man's point of view and to give it its due weight. This was so obvious that it gave his judgments much of their power and influence. One felt that when Miall reached a conviction, and gave utterance to it in his characteristic slow and deliberate tones, he was probably right.

The development of the Yorkshire College, as compared with that of Owens College in its early days, was comparatively rapid. The times were of course different, and public appreciation of the benefits of such institutions was far greater in 1874 than in the early 'fifties. Moreover, the Leeds institution had never to struggle against the prejudices, religious and social, which at the outset dogged the progress of John Owens's foundation. But this rapid development was not unattended with its crises. There were times of difficulty and of anxiety which the teaching staff was called upon to share. It was on such occasions that Miall's strong common sense, sound judgment, knowledge of affairs, and business aptitudes were of special service, as, for example, in the movement to house the college in more appropriate and more dignified quarters than it at first possessed; in the discussions concerning the plan and arrangements of the projected new buildings; and finally during the course of the delicate negotiations which preceded the federation of the college with the Victoria University.

As one who took his fair share in the various stages of the development of the college during the first eleven years of its existence, and recalls its early struggles, and their outcome, with no small measure of satisfaction, it affords me a special gratification to bear testimony to the loyal and devoted service of one of the truest friends the University of Leeds ever possessed.

T. E. THORPE.

THE Editor invites me to write a few words about the late Prof. L. C. Miall, a man whom I seldom met, but when I did, always with interest and pleasure. More than twenty years ago, when we were editing White's "Selborne" together, I wished to know more of him, and invited him to Oxford for a Sunday. It was like

NO. 2679, VOL. 107]

him to have brought no evening dress, but we had a fruitful time, and I found in the man a rare simplicity of mind and manners, and a great interest in his own experience, which he perhaps imparted more freely to a classical man than to one of his own circle. I heard the early history of the chance given him through Prof. Rolleston: how he asked a question after a lecture and was invited to talk it over next day before Rolleston left for Oxford, the result being that Rolleston stayed all day to talk to him and thereafter never forgot him. I heard the story of the little society of scientific men formed to read Homer, and later on he wrote me several letters about the best way to teach a boy Latin: a job which in his "emeritus" days he greatly enjoyed, doing it of course in his own peculiar and independent way.

Miall's enthusiasm in his own work was unbounded, and to communicate it to others the great delight of his life. He fairly astonished me, after a visit here at Kingham, by sending me as a gift the five splendid volumes on insects of Réaumur, and later on his own book on the early naturalists, one as great a treasure as the other, for his own beautiful English was as clear and enjoyable as Réaumur's French. He did, in fact, fit me out with a simple apparatus following the course of his own studies, so intensely did he wish his friend, only five years younger than himself, to share his enthusiasm. He once gave me a whole morning's microscopic teaching in his laboratory at Leeds, but though he fitted me out to continue his course I had no time to do so. That at my age he should have thought it possible shows the simplicity of his mind. Miall was one of those men who love teaching for its own sake, and the charm of his personality was such that I spent the time gladly and gratefully. But it was difficult, I found, to get him to bring his mind to bear on something quite new and out of his own experience. At Kingham I once took him to see the work of some mice in a flooded meadow which was new to me, but he had something else which he was expounding to me at the moment, and was not to be enticed. I shall always cherish his memory as one of the straightest and simplest Englishmen I ever knew.

W. WARDE FOWLER.

PROF. R. B. CLIFTON, F.R.S.

PROF. ROBERT BELLAMY CLIFTON was born on March 13, 1836, and so had nearly completed his eighty-fifth year when he died on February 21. The only son of a Lincolnshire gentleman, he received his education at University College, London, and at St. John's College, Cambridge, coming out sixth wrangler in the Tripos of 1859 and second Smith's prizeman, the senior wrangler and first Smith's prizeman being Canon Wilson. His Cambridge record is typical of his subsequent career; he was a man of great learning, but also of great deliberation. Obtaining a fellowship at St. John's, he went to Owens College, Man-