

then a wild heather-clad hilltop, where they built what Tyndall termed a "retreat for my old age". After Tyndall's retirement from the Royal Institution in 1887, most of their time was spent at Hindhead, and it was there that he, whose health had been failing for some years, during which his wife nursed him devotedly, died on December 4, 1893, as the result of an overdose of chloral accidentally administered by her.

The rest of Mrs. Tyndall's life was mainly devoted to the collection of material for Tyndall's biography, which they had jointly planned during his lifetime, and which she intended to write; but the work was constantly interrupted by the claims of her family and of friends and dependents, and especially of her mother, Lady Claud Hamilton, who died after several years' illness at Hindhead in 1900. Though she lacked the qualifications to deal with Tyndall's scientific work, she contributed an admirable memoir on him to the "Dictionary of National Biography", but owing to her intense admiration for him and devotion to his memory, she was unwilling to entrust the work to anyone else, and various proposals and suggestions as to the choice of a biographer, which might have resulted in the production of the work in her lifetime, came to nothing.

A vast amount of material relating to Tyndall's life and work was collected by Mrs. Tyndall, with the valuable assistance of several friends, among whom Miss M. Dodd (Mrs. Lewin) may be specially mentioned, with the result that when Mrs. Tyndall's health broke down five years ago, the greater part of the preliminary work had been completed. Since then, what was still needed in the way of arrangement and sorting of the material has been put in hand by her nephew, Mr. Granville Proby, and a biography of Tyndall, for the publication of which she provided in her will, is in course of preparation.

In addition to Tyndall's scientific papers, the material includes thousands of letters, among them being a large foreign correspondence with Helmholtz, Bunsen, Clausius, Pasteur, and many others.

It is fortunate that, by her devotion to her husband's memory, Mrs. Tyndall was able to preserve so much material relating to his original scientific work, as well as of his advocacy of the use of scientific thought in other fields of inquiry, and his influence in extending general interest in advance in natural knowledge during a very fertile period of development. The biography will be a valuable record of this period and a long-needed memorial to one who did so much to shape it. Two other tributes to Tyndall's memory are the gift by Mrs. Tyndall, some years ago, of a fund of £1,500, administered by the Royal Society for the purpose of encouraging and furthering research in matters relating to mining, and a fine valley at Hindhead, known as Tyndall's Wood, which has become the property of the nation through the National Trust.

WE regret to announce the following deaths:

The Duke of Bedford, K.G., K.B.E., F.R.S., formerly president of the Zoological Society of London, on August 27, aged eighty-two.

Dr. J. Burt-Davy, formerly University demonstrator in forestry and lecturer in tropical forest botany in the Imperial Forestry Institute, Oxford, on August 20, aged seventy.

Prof. C. F. Jenkin, C.B.E., F.R.S., emeritus professor of engineering science in the University of Oxford, on August 23, aged seventy-four.

Sir Oliver Lodge, F.R.S., on August 22, aged eighty-nine.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Daniel Solander

THE June issue of the *Anglo-Swedish Review* contains an address recently delivered at the annual meeting of the Swedish Academy of Science on Dr. Daniel Charles Solander, F.R.S., the Swedish botanist, in whose honour the Academy's commemorative medal has been issued this year. Solander was born in the small town of Pitëa in the north of Sweden on May 13, 1735. At the age of twenty he entered the University of Uppsala, where he studied medicine and became one of the most gifted pupils of Linnæus, who sent him to London in 1765 to encourage the study of natural history in England. He soon came in contact with Mr. (afterwards Sir) Joseph Banks and was made an assistant in the British Museum Library in 1763. In 1768 he was engaged by Banks to accompany him on Captain Cook's voyage in the *Endeavour* to Tahiti, and in 1772 visited Iceland with Banks. The following year he

was appointed keeper of printed books at the British Museum.

Solander was not the author of any independent work, but in 1756 he edited Linnæus's "Elementa Botannica", in 1766 he described the fossils in Brander's "Fossilia Hantoniensia", and in 1786 arranged and described the material in John Ellis's "National History of Zoophytes". In 1764 he was elected F.R.S. and in 1771 was made hon. D.C.L. at Oxford. His name has been commemorated in the genus *Solandra* and in an island in the Pacific Ocean near the south coast of New Zealand discovered by Captain Cook in 1770. He died at the early age of forty-six of apoplexy on May 16, 1782.

### Dr. Felix Gerlier (1840-1914)

DR FELIX GERLIER, a distinguished Swiss physician, was born at Ferney-Voltaire in 1840, the son of a local practitioner. He qualified in Paris in