THE LATE HERBERT KELSALL SLATER.

SIR,—I am informed by Dr. W. F. Smeeth, the principal officer of the Geological Department of Mysore, that a fund is being formed to make some provision for the family of Mr. H. K. Slater of that department, who died recently from the bite of a large Russell's viper while engaged in Geological Survey work in the Shimoga District. An obituary, in which his services to geology are recorded, appeared in this Magazine in July last. He leaves three young children almost entirely unprovided for, and it is urgently necessary to raise a sum sufficient for their upbringing and education.

Contributions may be sent either to Dr. W. F. Smeeth, Bangalore, India, or to me at the address below.

JOHN W. EVANS.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE,
LONDON, S.W.

OBITUARY.

SIR GEORGE HOWARD DARWIN,
K.C.B., M.A., LL.D., D.Sc., F.R.S.

BORN JULY 9, 1845. DIED DECEMBER 7, 1912.

IN his opening Address to the British Association the President, Sir Oliver Lodge, writes (Birmingham, September 10): "Through the untimely death of Sir George Darwin the world has lost a mathematical astronomer whose work on the tides and allied phenomena is a monument of power and achievement. So recently as August, 1905, on our visit to South Africa, he occupied the Presidential Chair." It was on his return to England after his visit to South Africa that he received the honour of Knight Commander of the Bath from His Majesty.

The second son of the late Charles R. Darwin (author of *The Origin of Species*, etc.), George Darwin was born at Down, Kent, in 1845, and was educated privately by the Rev. Charles Pritchard (later Savilian Professor of Astronomy at Oxford). He entered Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1864, and graduated as a Second Wrangler and Smith's Prizeman in 1868, and in that year he was elected to a Fellowship at Trinity College, which he held 1868–78, and to which he was re-elected in 1884. At first he studied the law, and was called to the Bar in 1874, but returned to Cambridge, where he spent the rest of his life, devoting himself to Solar Mathematics. His *Collected Papers*, which form four volumes, were recently published by the Cambridge University Press. In 1884 he was chosen Plumian Professor of Astronomy in Cambridge.

Sir George Darwin's writings had a most important bearing on Dynamical Geology, especially "On the influence of Geological Changes on the Earth's Axis of Rotation" (Phil. Trans., 1877), "On the bodily Tides of viscous and semi-elastic Spheroids and on the Ocean Tides on a yielding Nucleus" (op. cit., 1879), "On the Precession of a viscous Spheroid and on the Remote History of the Earth" (op. cit., 1879), and "On the Secular Changes in the

Elements of the Orbit of a Satellite revolving about a Tidally Distorted Planet" (op. cit., 1880).

Another of his memoirs may be appropriately recalled, bearing upon the same subject as that recently dealt with by Colonel Burrard (GEOL. MAG., September, 1913, pp. 385–8) and the Rev. O. Fisher: "On the Stresses caused in the Interior of the Earth by the Weight of Continents and Mountains" (op. cit., 1882).

In 1877 George Darwin became acquainted with Lord Kelvin, who from that time took a warm interest in all his work and greatly influenced his subsequent researches.

In 1884 he married Maud, daughter of Charles du Puy, of Philadelphia, and leaves two sons and two daughters. His eldest son, Charles, was a scholar of Trinity in 1905, and graduated as Fourth Wrangler in Mathematics in 1909.

Sir George delivered a course of lectures at Boston, U.S., in 1897 under the title of "The Tides", which was subsequently printed as a popular volume entitled *The Tides and Kindred Phenomena of the Solar System* (1898).

He was a Vice-President of the International Geodetic Association, a member of the Meteorological and Solar Physics Committees, Doctor of nine Universities, Foreign Honorary Member of twenty Societies and Academies, and Foreign Correspondent of twelve others. He served as a member of Council of the Royal Society for seven years, and as Vice-President for two years, and was President of the Cambridge Philosophical Society and Vice-President of the Astronomical Society.

Sir George Darwin was also the recipient of the Royal Astronomical Gold Medal in 1892, Royal Medal, Royal Society, in 1884, and the Copley Medal in 1911, and several others.

TEMPEST ANDERSON, M.D., D.Sc., F.G.S.

BORN 1846. DIED AUGUST 26, 1913.

THE death is announced from enteric fever whilst on his voyage home from the Philippine Islands of Dr. Tempest Anderson, of York. The son of the late Mr. William C. Anderson, M.R.C.S., a member of an old and well-known Yorkshire family, Dr. Tempest Anderson was born at York in 1846. He was educated at St. Peter's School, York, and had a distinguished student's career at University College, London. He was a well-known scientist. As President of the Yorkshire Philosophical Society he spent a great deal of time and much money in its interests, and it was through his influence that a new lecture hall was recently added to the York Museum. Dr. Anderson's special branch of study was volcanic phenomena, and this subject, illustrated by photographs, he brought on many occasions before the British Association. He was author of *Volcanic Studies in Many Lands*, 1903 (see review by W. H. Hudleston, GEOL. MAG., 1903, p. 160). After the terrible eruption in May, 1902, of the Soufrière, in St. Vincent, one of the West India Islands, he and Dr. J. S. Flett were commissioned by the Royal Society to investigate the matter. Their joint report was published in the *Philosophical Transactions* for 1903. Dr. Anderson revisited the West Indies in 1907, and gave an account