

## Correspondence.

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*A Member writes with reference to Capt. Marshall Hall's query in the last number of the Mineralogical Magazine:—*

"As far as the problem is concerned I hardly know what to say. I have enquired after a Bordas circle and find that a number of geodesic instruments of different construction and use go by that name, none of which I have ever come in contact with. A Theodolite could of course be used for measuring crystals, but as there would be no means of centring or adjusting the crystal, nor any independent axial movement, the measurements would necessarily be cumbersome and inexact. (Either the horizontal or the vertical circle could be used). I do not think it would be advisable to adopt a theodolite for crystallographic work, as the cost of such an alteration would be considerable compared with that of a small goniometer capable of excellent work, and now to be bought for a very small sum."

## Obituary.

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THE REV. JAMES CLIFTON WARD, F.G.S., an associate of the Royal School of Mines; formerly an officer of the Geological Survey of England and Wales, one of the original members of the Mineralogical Society and a contributor on several occasions to the pages of the *Magazine*, died at Rydal on the 15th April, aged only 37.

An experienced and energetic field geologist, a fair chemist, a skilled petrologist, a zealous antiquary, an enthusiastic naturalist, a practised lecturer, he was the author of many original papers on geological subjects, more especially relating to Cumberland and Yorkshire.

He will be especially missed in the Lake district, where he had succeeded in overcoming local jealousies among the scientific and antiquarian societies of the county, and in establishing their joint action as the "Cumberland Association."

Short as was his life he has left his mark in the field of Science—and more especially in relation to the Lake district, and what may be called Wordsworth's country.

IN DAVID THOMAS ANSTED, F.R.S., F.G.S., &c., for many years Professor of Geology at King's College, London, the Mineralogical Society has lost another of its original members, who took great interest in its work, but who, from increasing age and infirmities desired to be excused from partaking of its labours.

Professor Ansted was born in London, in February 1814, and died at Melton, Suffolk, on the 20th May, 1880.

As the author of standard works on geology and physical geography Professor Ansted enjoyed a more than European reputation, and in his capacity as Assistant Secretary of the Geological Society, an office which he held for many years, he became personally acquainted with nearly all the geologists of his day.

For some years his work had been chiefly confined to practising as a consulting geologist and mining engineer, and his death leaves a blank which it will not be easy to fill up in the ranks of the professional geologists.

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PROFESSOR W. H. MILLER, F.R.S., the eminent crystallographer was not a member of the Mineralogical Society although he frequently expressed his great interest in its work and progress. He died at Cambridge, on the 20th May, in his eightieth year. His great and important "Treatise on crystallography" now almost universally adopted by crystallographers, was first published in the year 1838.