

I was unable to see the collected edition of the Tavoy lectures, published at Rangoon, until October, when Mr. J. F. L. Vogel, of High Speed Steel Alloys, Ltd., of Widnes, was kind enough to lend me the copy belonging to his company. I need hardly say that I should have been only too pleased to quote the results of more recent work had such been available at the time. Much of the difficulty of obtaining information no doubt arose from the prevalence of war conditions and the slowness of communications, but it is much to be regretted that geologists who have worked in Tavoy have almost always elected to publish their results in more or less obscure and inaccessible forms; copies of such publications are not always to be found in the principal scientific libraries. May I venture to suggest that the pages of the *GEOLOGICAL MAGAZINE* are readily open to receive either original contributions or abstracts of other publications on matters of such high scientific interest and practical importance?

R. H. RASTALL.

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OBITUARY.

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GROVE KARL GILBERT.

BORN 1843.

DIED 1918.

GROVE KARL GILBERT was born at Rochester, N.Y., on May 6, 1843. He received his early education in the same city and graduated in the classical course at the University there. After a year spent in teaching at Jackson, Michigan, he returned to Rochester, where he was employed for five years as assistant to a well-known dealer in scientific materials. In 1868 he became a voluntary assistant on the Ohio Geological Survey, but his real career may be said to have commenced in 1871, when he joined the Survey of Utah, Nevada, and Arizona; here Gilbert began the field-studies which led to the great work of his life, the investigation of the dependence of physiographic form on geological structure. The earlier publications of this Survey contained his exposition of the fault-block structure of the Basin Ranges and his masterly monograph on Lake Bonneville. In 1876 he explored the Henry Mountains and put forth the now accepted explanation of the peculiar forms of igneous intrusions, introducing the well-known term "laccolith". The report on the Henry Mountains also contains a chapter on land-sculpture, which is a classic of geological literature and the foundation of modern theories of denudation and the development of river-systems.

From 1884 to 1888 Gilbert was employed in the Appalachian region and occupied high administrative posts on the United States Geological Survey. Later he studied many other parts of the United States, including the Great Lakes and Alaska. He published a volume on the history of the Niagara River and a report on Earth-movements in the Great Lakes Region. His observations in Alaska in 1899 led to his introduction of the now universally used term "hanging valleys" with an explanation of their origin.

The physiographic work of G. K. Gilbert must always remain one of the outstanding features of physical geology in the nineteenth

century; while it cannot be denied that he enjoyed exceptional advantages in working in regions built on a large scale and of notable simplicity of structure, nevertheless it needed a broad grasp of principles and great powers of generalization to formulate the laws of geological processes and their results which will ever be associated with his name. Not only in America, but throughout the world, his influence has made itself felt, and his death removes one of the outstanding figures of the geology of our time.

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### J. P. JOHNSON.

BORN 1880.

DIED OCTOBER 18, 1918.

J. P. JOHNSON was born in London, 1880, and died in Johannesburg, October 18, 1918. He was educated at Dulwich College and the Royal School of Mines. He made many important discoveries in the Pleistocene geology of the South of England, the results being published in the *Essex Naturalist*, the Proceedings of the Geologists' Association, and in the columns of this Magazine.

Considerations of health compelled him in 1902 to leave England for South Africa, and in this virgin field his early training stood him in good stead, and numerous works and papers testify to the good work he accomplished; the most important being: *The Mineral Industry of Rhodesia*, *The Ore Deposits of South Africa*, *Geological and Archaeological Notes on Orangia*, *The Stone Implements of South Africa*, and *The Prehistoric Period in South Africa*; two editions have been published of the last two. He was a member of the Council of the Geological Society of South Africa, and was appointed by the South African Government a member of the Commission to report on the petroglyphs and rock-paintings of South Africa.

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### MISCELLANEOUS.

#### POST-WAR HONOURS.

His Majesty the King has been pleased to confer upon Dr. Aubrey Strahan, F.R.S., Director of H.M. Geological Survey, the title of "Knight Commander of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire, established in 1917, for services rendered to the kingdom whether at home or abroad". Every geologist will congratulate Sir Aubrey Strahan on this well-merited recognition of his own personal labours and that of his admirable staff of co-workers, who have contributed so largely to our increased scientific knowledge of geology, both stratigraphically and economically, not only within the British Isles, but beyond; many members of the Survey having joined our Forces abroad.

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#### DIAMONDS, SOUTH AFRICA.

A telegram from South Africa announces the discovery of a large diamond at the Jagersfontein Mine, in the southern portion of the Orange Free State. The new diamond weighs  $388\frac{1}{2}$  carats, and is therefore small in comparison with such great gems as the Cullinan