

OBITUARY.

Bernard Barham Woodward.

The subject of this notice was the son of Bernard Woodward, Royal Librarian at Windsor, and therefore a nephew of S. P. Woodward, and of Dr. Henry Woodward, the founder and first editor of this *MAGAZINE*. After a short business career, he became Curator of the Geological Society's museum, and in 1876 he joined the staff of the British Museum in Bloomsbury. In 1881 he took charge of the library of the Natural History Museum, then newly removed to Cromwell Road. His greatest work was undoubtedly bibliographical, in the formation and cataloguing of the vast science library at South Kensington, but he found time also for a large amount of original research. This was mainly concerned with living shells, but on several occasions he contributed papers to geological journals on the fauna of various sedimentary deposits of earlier date; in fact, his first important publication dealt with the mollusca of the Barnwell gravels at Cambridge. He also took part in many archæological investigations. He died 27th October, 1930, aged 77.

John William Evans, C.B.E., D.Sc., LL.B., F.R.S.

By the death of Dr. J. W. Evans, British science has lost an eminent and esteemed geologist, whose record as a teacher and investigator, as an explorer and administrator, is one of consistent and devoted service to science, to industry, and to the State.

Of him as an author it may be truly said that he wrote only out of the fulness of knowledge which, grounded in study and research, was expanded and matured by long and varied experience abroad—in India, in Brazil, in Bolivia, and the Amazon basin. Substantial as is the work he actually accomplished, yet he had planned to do still more in his retirement—which began only three years ago and was, for him, wholly nominal; his zeal for applied science took him immediately to Egypt on a geophysical investigation; a desire to see still more of the world carried him last year to Africa, with the British Association, where his powers of endurance astonished even his younger colleagues, and sustained him during an arduous and entirely independent tour through Tanganyika. He was virtually in harness until a week before his death.

Educated at University College and the Royal College of Science, London, he was called to the Bar in 1878. Though he soon transferred from law to science, he lost none of his early zeal for social service, and continued to take an active interest in constitutional progress, being ultimately appointed a Justice of the Peace. Meanwhile (1889) he gained his first distinction in geology—the Murchison

Medal, awarded by the Royal College of Science, and during the ensuing two years he served that College as a demonstrator. After taking the D.Sc. degree, he accompanied the 1891-2 Expedition to Brazil as geologist and geographer, and on his return proceeded to India as State Geologist, first in Junagarh (Kathiawar), then in Mysore, where he was also Chief Inspector of Mines. He left India for England in 1898 to resume purely academic work, and in 1901 was awarded the Lyell Fund by the Geological Society. He led the 1901-2 Expedition to Bolivia, returning by the Madeira and the Amazon. The records he compiled while with this and the earlier expedition to South America form a valuable contribution to geographical knowledge.

From 1904 until his death, he served the cause of pure and applied geology while residing in London. From a technical post on the staff of the Imperial Institute, he was appointed Lecturer in Geology at the Birkbeck College (1906-20), and six years later (1912) extended his teaching work by accepting an appointment as Lecturer in Petrology at the Imperial College of Science (1912-27). He was elected President of, in turn, the Geologists' Association (1912-14), the British Association, Section C (1919), and the National Union of Scientific Workers (1919-20). During the Great War he was entrusted with many responsible duties in connection with Home Defence. In 1922 he was awarded the Murchison Medal by the Geological Society, and two years later became the Society's President (1924-6), having in the meantime (1923) been made C.B.E., and elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society. From 1927 until his death, at the age of 73, he was Chairman of the Geophysical Company.

To the period 1904-30 belong the more outstanding of his numerous contributions to petrology (including mineralogy and crystallography), and stratigraphical and dynamic geology. His status as a petrologist of distinction, and an authority on Devonian stratigraphy, was universally acknowledged.

As an earnest advocate of applied science, he was associated with pioneer work on the application of geophysical methods to the investigation of the lithosphere and to prospecting for concealed mineral resources.

Quick to perceive either weakness or gaps in a linkage of scientific fact, he stimulated research by defining new problems and indicating new fields of inquiry, and to much of the geological research he thus inspired, he also contributed, in no small measure, by direct co-operation and fruitful suggestion.

In Dr. Evans were blended learning and wisdom, distinction and modesty, and a nobility of character which won for him the respect and esteem of all whose privilege it was to know him personally.

A. BRAMMALL.