

milieux P, Q des arcs BPE, CFQ . Ainsi, les segments rectilignes MN, NQ sont les diamètres des cercles $(w_b), (w_c)$ qui coupent les bissectrices BE, CF en K, L , et on a

$$\left. \begin{aligned} MB^2 &= MK \cdot MP = MI \cdot MA = ME^2, \\ NC^2 &= NL \cdot NQ = NI \cdot NA = NF^2. \end{aligned} \right\} \dots\dots\dots(i)$$

Si $BE = CF$, les cercles $(w_b), (w_c)$ sont égaux ainsi que les triangles isocèles MBE, NFC , et la relation (i) donne

$$MI \cdot MA = MB^2 = NC^2 = NI \cdot NA,$$

ce qui prouve que $M \equiv N$.

La bissectrice AI constitue donc l'axe de symétrie de la figure formée par les deux cercles égaux $(w_b), (w_c)$. Les cordes AB, AC de ces cercles étant également inclinées sur l'axe de symétrie, sont égales et le triangle ABC est isocèle.

V. THÉBAULT.

SIR THOMAS MUIR.

THE historian of the theory of determinants died at his home near Cape Town on 21st March last, aged 89. Sir Thomas Muir was always a friend of the Association, which he joined on its formation in 1871, and he corresponded regularly with Mr. Greenstreet for many years. At his suggestion and with his encouragement Mr. Greenstreet compiled single-handed the *Catalogue of Current Mathematical Journals* which the Association issued in 1913. Fragments of correspondence which survived among Mr. Greenstreet's papers reveal the immensity of a task which ought to have had the resources of some national institution behind it. Rendered hopelessly out of date by the War within a few months of publication, and superseded presently by the *World List*, this catalogue is now only a domestic monument to the vision and industry of two patient workers.

To the Library Muir gave copies of all his books. In 1926 he sent a set of offprints of his papers, as complete as he could then compile : some 250 papers, spread over more than half a century. He was active till the end of his life, and his later writings have come in unbroken sequence.

It was in 1892 that Muir left Edinburgh, to Scotch the educational system of the Cape, not to kill it, as a friendly wit declared. After forty years abroad he was only a name to most English mathematicians, to the few who have visited Rondebosch perhaps the most vivid memory is of a voice whose lovely tones in everyday speech were a perpetual joy.

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