

## OBITUARY NOTICES.

HARRY JAMES POWELL, C.B.E., B.A.

Mr. Harry Powell, C.B.E., whose death took place in his house at Dulwich, London, on Sunday, November 26th last, may truly be said to have done more than any man during the last fifty years to uphold the art of British glass craftsmanship.

Mr. Powell, coming of a family that for more than a century had carried on the Whitefriars Glass Works, inherited the love of glasswork. He undertook the management of the factory in 1873, and from that date until 1919, when he officially retired but by no means gave up interest in the craft, he devoted the whole of his energy to the advancement of the industry, both in the sphere of pure Art and of utility. Some of the finest of his productions are now on exhibition at the Victoria and Albert Museum.

It was under his direction that the first lens-front thermometer tubing was made that is now in general use for clinical thermometers throughout the world.

Mr. Powell's knowledge and skill were always at the disposal of men of science, in new manufactures, and novel applications of glasswork. In this way he greatly aided in the development of the early incandescent electric lamp, the bulbs of which were blown from flint glass tube made in the glass-works; in the production of the Dewar vacuum flask; the X-ray tube; Sir William Crookes's spectacle glass, and in many other directions.

At the factory, Mr. Powell's influence over his workmen was very great, and by his training the works employ some of the best craftsmen in the country. The decision of Mr. Harry was always taken by his men as the last word to be said upon any matter.

The writer, to whose lot it has fallen to continue his work and to carry through the projected removal of the glasshouse to a more convenient locality, had the honour of his acquaintance for many years and, until a few weeks before his death, the benefit of his advice and great technical experience. By him, and by many others who were in personal touch with him, his loss is keenly felt.

Although naturally of a retiring disposition, Mr. Powell found

time for a good deal of public work. He was one of the judges of the glass exhibits at the Paris Exhibition in 1887, was a recognised authority on mediæval glass decoration, a contributor to the "Encyclopedia Britannica," one of the first Vice-Presidents of the Society of Glass Technology, and a member of the Glass Research Association. He was a governor of Dulwich College and Chairman of James Allen's Girls' School.

The burial was at Gerrards Cross, and the service was conducted by his brother, Dr. E. N. Powell, formerly Bishop of Mashonaland.

J. H. GARDINER.

#### CHAUNCEY WILLIAM WAGGONER.

Dr. C. W. Waggoner, Professor of Physics in the University of West Virginia, Morgantown, W. Va., died on October 27th from injuries suffered by being thrown from his horse. Dr. Waggoner, who was elected a member of the Society in April, had acquired a special interest in glass technology and was engaged in research work on glass for the Bureau of Standards. He was also connected, as consulting engineer, with the United States Window Glass Company.

#### ALFRED WILSON.

Mr. Alfred Wilson died on June 23rd last, aged seventy-one years. He was the son of the late Mr. Chas. Wilson, of Garstang, Lancashire.

His active business career was devoted chiefly to gas engineering, and he played no small part in the development of the gas producer and its application to the driving of gas engines, and for the firing of industrial furnaces of various kinds.

Mr. Wilson, who was a member of the Society of Friends, was buried at Kendal.

L. W.