

Rhoda Peck Todd, and a descendant of Johnathan Edwards. He enrolled in Columbia College, New York, in 1870, and entered Amherst College in 1873, where he received the A.B. degree in 1875, with membership in Phi Beta Kappa. He received the honorary Ph.D. degree from Washington and Jefferson College in 1888. After an absence of six years, in which he served under Simon Newcomb at the U. S. Naval Observatory in Washington, he returned to Amherst, in 1881, to take the new chair of astronomy. He was appointed professor of astronomy in 1892; he also served as secretary of the faculty of the college from 1891 to 1909, and was professor of astronomy and higher mathematics in Smith College from 1882 to 1887. He became professor emeritus in 1920.

More than a hundred technical and popular articles were contributed by Dr. Todd to various periodicals; they relate to solar eclipse problems, the solar parallax as derived from the transit of Venus, the orbits of the four bright satellites of Jupiter, the search for a trans-neptunian planet and other subjects. He contributed to Webster's Dictionary and to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His best-known book is the "New Astronomy," first published in 1897, which has gone into many editions and is translated into Hungarian, Turkish and Chinese. He was a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a member of the American Astronomical Society, the Washington Philosophical Society, the Astronomische Gesellschaft and honorary fellow of the Sociedad Geografica de Lima, Peru. He designed and supervised the construction of the Observatory of Smith College, and was instrumental in procuring funds to build the Amherst College Observatory, completed under his supervision in 1905, and to equip it with the excellent 18-inch refracting telescope by the Clarks.

Dr. Todd's interest in solar eclipses led him to many parts of the world. He was in charge of the National Academy of Sciences expedition to Japan in 1887, the U. S. Scientific Expedition to West Africa in 1889, and the Amherst expeditions to Japan in 1896, to Tripoli in 1900, to the Dutch East Indies in 1901, to Tripoli again in 1905 and to Russia in 1914. He invented an automatic device for photographing eclipses, and his misfortune with clouds on some of these occasions led to the keeping of meteorological records at selected sta-

tions for several years in advance of the eclipse. In addition, he was invited to direct the observations of the transit of Venus of 1882 at the Lick Observatory, then under construction on Mount Hamilton, California, and he cooperated with the astronomers of the Lowell Observatory in an expedition to Chile to photograph the planet Mars around the favorable opposition of 1907.

Dr. Todd's hobby was aviation, beginning as early as the 1880's. He took part in a number of balloon flights. He was founder member of the Aero Club of America, a member of the Board of the National Advisory Association of Aeronautics and of the Board of Governors of the Aerial League of America. In 1908, he founded at Amherst one of the first college aviation clubs, the Amherst Aero Club, the forerunner of the present Amherst College Flying Club.

Dr. Todd married Mabel Loomis, in 1879, who died in 1932. He is survived by his daughter, Mrs. W. V. Bingham.

ROBERT H. BAKER

HARVARD OBSERVATORY

RECENT DEATHS

DR. CHARLES ADDISON ELLIOTT, professor of medicine at the Medical School of Northwestern University, chief of the medical service of Passavant Hospital, Chicago, died on June 26 at the age of sixty-six years.

DR. HARRY VICTOR ATKINSON, professor of physiology and pharmacology at the School of the Medical Sciences of the University of South Dakota, died suddenly on May 7 at the age of fifty-two years.

GUY PINNER, chief engineer of the American Cyanamid Company, died on June 26 at the age of fifty-one years.

EMMA SAREPTA YULE, pioneer in educational work in Juneau, Alaska, and in the Philippines and for fifteen years editor of the *Philippine Agriculturist*, died in Los Angeles on April 16.

PROFESSOR HARRY HUNTINGTON BARNUM, head of the department of mathematics at Robert College, Istanbul, Turkey, has died at the age of sixty-one years. He had been a member of the college faculty for thirty-nine years.

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

EXCHANGE OF VISITS BETWEEN THE ROYAL SOCIETY AND THE KAISER WILHELM GESELLSCHAFT

IN the autumn of 1938, following a suggestion of the president of the Kaiser Wilhelm Gesellschaft, arrangements were made by the president of the Royal Society of London, Sir William Bragg, and representatives of

the Kaiser Wilhelm Gesellschaft, for an exchange of visits between these two bodies. The Kaiser Wilhelm Gesellschaft, founded in 1911 at the suggestion of the Kaiser Wilhelm II, has at its aim the encouragement of the natural and human sciences, primarily by establishing and maintaining research institutes for natural science in Germany.