WILLIAM MILNER CROWE, born the 12th of September, 1846, was the second son of the late Mr. John Crowe, Architect, of Canonbury. Even as a child he was constitutionally delicate, and as he was thereby unfitted for the rough life of a public school, he was placed under private tuition with the late Rev. G. Ewbank, of Brighton. He had shown, at an early age, a decided taste for mechanics, and on his leaving Mr. Ewbank's charge in 1865, it was decided to allow him to follow his natural bent, and he was accordingly articled for one year to Messrs. Easton and Amos, Erith. He passed through the various shops, working hard and with much zest, but at the end of the year his taste had declared itself for purely civil engineering, and he was then formally articled to the late Mr. George Willoughby Hemans, V.P. Inst. C.E., serving the first eighteen months at the London office. For the remaining eighteen months of his pupilage he was placed in charge of works in course of construction in the Ennis district of the Athenry and Ennis Railway under the late Mr. Edgeworth, M. Inst. C.E. In 1870 he married a daughter of the late Mr. Robert Lattey, J.P., of Cregg Park, County Galway. At this period some question arose as to whether he should not retire on the moderate competence of which he was possessed; but with little hesitation he decided to continue in active practice, and in 1871 he was engaged as an Assistant for the Burry Port and Gwendraeth Valley Railway Company in South Wales, preparing parliamentary plans, setting out works, &c. In the following year he undertook, on his own account, as Engineer and Contractor, the construction of a short branch line of railway, 2 miles in length, for the same Company, which he satisfactorily completed. In 1873 he left South Wales and joined the Bridgewater Engineering Company, of which he became a Director and the London Manager. In the same year he was elected an Associate Member of the Institution. After a somewhat chequered career, the Bridgewater Engineering Company failed, and as the liability was unlimited, the failure involved the Directors and Shareholders in heavy losses, and made very serious inroads on Milner Crowe's income. Unhappily this was followed by domestic misfortunes, which necessitated his retirement from active life. In 1874 his health began to decline, and the first signs became apparent of the insidious and, as the event proved, incurable malady from which he was destined to suffer for many long years. In 1876, and again in 1877, when his eyesight was fast failing, he was sent to pass the winter months in Egypt. The change, however, brought

him no permanent benefit, and in 1878 he quite lost his eyesight, and to this calamity was added the very sudden death of his wife, to whom he was devotedly attached. The history of the last ten years of his life was one of much physical suffering, patiently endured with Christian fortitude, and with the same unflagging cheerfulness which had always been marked points of an altogether admirable character. Blind, partially paralyzed, and of wasted physique, his intellect up to the last remained active and unclouded, while his memory was clear and unfailing. He took the warmest interest in his surroundings, and to the end was well-informed on all professional questions, greatly enjoying a chat with a chosen friend on the engineering doings of the day, or a discussion of the last Paper read at the Institution. He passed away peacefully and painlessly on the 21st April, 1888, at the early age of 42 years. A high-minded, honourable man, talented, and enthusiastic in all that he undertook, his career was cut all too short, and he was deprived of the opportunity of making the mark in the profession, which under other and better fortune he would certainly have achieved.

COLONEL SIR FRANCIS JOHN BOLTON was born at Kilburn, Middlesex, on the 5th of June, 1830. He was the son of Dr. Thomas Wilson Bolton, a physician practising in London. Frank Bolton (as he was more familiarly known to his friends) was the architect of his own fortunes. His success in life was mainly, if not entirely, due to his own exertions. Owing to Dr. Bolton's death whilst Frank was still a child, the latter had from a very early age to face the fact that he had his own way to make in the world. His career was in many respects a remarkable one. Starting with a fair middle-class education, his early experiences (to which he was fond of referring) appear to have been as curious as they were varied. When the late Sergeant Cox first started that now well-known legal journal, "*The Law Times*," he employed young Bolton for some time as his clerk. Frank next occupied the position of Secretary to the late Sir Valentine Blake. In connection with that employment, an incident may be mentioned, which occurred some years after Colonel Bolton had retired from the Army. He one day saw an advertisement in *The Times*, to the effect that Frank Bolton, who formerly acted as Private Secretary to Sir Valentine Blake, would hear of something to his advantage by applying to the advertisers, an eminent firm of solicitors. He