

## In Memoriam.

By the sudden death of Professor ROBERT HARKNESS F.R.S., F.G.S. the Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological and Antiquarian Society has been deprived of one of its most valuable and highly esteemed members. Robert Harkness was born at Ormskirk, July 28th, 1816; educated at the High School, Dumfries, and subsequently graduated at the University of Edinburgh. In the year 1853, he succeeded Professor Nicol in the Chair of Geology in Queen's College, Cork. Three years ago, by new regulations for the Queen's Colleges in Ireland, in addition to the Professorship of Geology, Mr. Harkness was required to lecture on Physical Geography, Mineralogy, Palæontology, Zoology, and Botany. The work was too heavy; he suffered from heart disease, and after resigning the Chair at Cork, he succumbed to that insidious complaint at Dublin, on the 4th October, 1878.

Those whose privilege it was to know our departed friend will fully recognize the truth of the following remarks made by Professor A. Geikie, F.R.S., in "Nature" of Oct. 10, 1878.

"But important as was his scientific mark, it had not a wider and more hearty recognition among his brother geologists than his own admirable qualities of head, and heart. Who that has been privileged with his friendship will not cherish the memory of his earnestness over even the driest of details, his quiet enthusiasm, his generous admiration for the work of others, his unflinching cheerfulness. Who will forget that beaming ruddy face, never absent from the platform of section C. at the British Association meetings, always ready to rise among the speakers there, and to

IN MEMORIAM.

reappear at the festive gatherings in the evening. There have been men who have graven their names more deeply on the registers of scientific thought and progress, but there have been few whose sunny nature has more endeared them in the recollection of their friends than Robert Harkness."

Had the Professor's life been spared longer his intention was to settle at Penrith. Through his sister's marriage with the late Dr. Pearson, Mr. Harkness became connected with, and thoroughly interested in our two Counties. His vacations, of late years, were generally spent among us; and from the date of his joining our Society in 1874, he was a constant attendant at our Summer Meetings. While thus commemorating the loss of this learned and genial member, our Society would desire most sincerely to express to Mrs. Pearson its heartiest sympathy in her irreparable bereavement.

