

The background of Mr. Walter Goodin's "The River, Beverley" (429) is occupied by intensely black thunder-cloud, and the foreground, beneath brighter sky, by a great poplar obviously waving and rustling in the wind against which the storm is coming up—a most realistic example of landscape meteorology. Dazzling lightning, with the branching structure revealed in photographs, leaps across the mountains in Mr. Frederick C. Tilney's "Nothing Matters to a Machine" (571), in which a motor-car is seen speeding through a rugged defile. If it be objected that the landscape artist should paint what he sees of lightning, not what he knows about it, one can retort that some artists have extraordinary sight for lightning structure, as evidenced by Turner, in whose time photography was in its infancy.

There are various snow scenes from different parts, but that exhibited in J. McIntosh Patrick's "An Exmoor Farm" (313) is peculiarly charming by reason of the delicate contrast of the expanse of misty glaucous sea, very true to type, seen away in the distance. "The Bow in the Clouds" (192) of Victor Weingott, wherein a rainbow with secondary arc appears over a number of well-portrayed human figures, may be mentioned because it is very unusual in pictures to find the luminosity of the sky so accurately graded as between the inside of the primary, and outside of the secondary, bow.

The convolutions, rifts and gulfs in the white

surface of a magnificent chain of cumulo-nimbus cloud are rendered with some success in Mr. James Bateman's "Farm Yard" (227), but it may be questioned whether the lower mass of cloud to the right of the picture is in the correct plane. Lawn and trees in a midsummer setting of deep blue sky and small radiant cumulus clouds are given in Mr. Algernon Newton's "Wimpole Hall, Cambridgeshire" (407), and it is interesting to note the same type of study by the same artist on foreign soil in "The Villa Starhemberg, Bad-Ischl, Austria" (144). Lawn and trees are in brilliant sunlight in front of the villa, but stormy-looking clouds are beginning to rear up over the Alps behind, and very intense shadow is being cast by the mountain shoulder on the left—an impressive illustration, to be sure, of Ruskin's "mountain gloom". The fault of this telling picture is the uniform dull brown colour in which the foliage of the trees in front and the mountain slopes behind are painted.

Landscape art makes a unique contribution, not so well appreciated as it ought to be, to meteorological science, in fixing just those subtle scenic aspects of atmosphere and weather, in short, those imponderable elements in climate, that not only produce profound psychological reactions but also inevitably leave their stamp on the development of art and literature.

L. C. W. BONACINA.

Obituary Notices

Mr. T. H. D. La Touche

WITH the death on March 30 at the age of eighty-two years of Thomas Henry Digges La Touche, the Geological Survey of India has lost its oldest member. Educated at Shrewsbury and St. John's College, Cambridge, that breeding-place of geologists, he was appointed to the Geological Survey of India in 1881, promoted superintendent in 1894 and acted as director in 1906 and 1909, retiring in 1910.

During his service of almost thirty years, La Touche acquired an exceptionally wide acquaintance with all aspects of Indian geological problems, scientific and economic. His work extended from Baluchistan in the west to the Burma-Chinese frontier in the east, and included investigations of the coal-measures of Assam, Kashmir and the Northern Shan States; the sapphires of Kashmir; oil in Baluchistan; the great silver-lead-zinc deposits of Bawdwin in conjunction with Dr. Coggin Brown; and the Lonar Lake with Dr. Christie. He also investigated the geology of western Rajputana, and his account includes a detailed petrological description of the igneous rocks of that region.

La Touche's greatest work, and the one which he

himself looked back upon with legit mate pride, was the survey of the Northern Shan States of Burma. This was undertaken during the later years of his service, and from time to time he had the assistance of other members of the Department. The results, embodied in *Memoirs, Geological Survey of India*, vol. 39, part 2, with descriptions of the fossils by various specialists in the *Palaeontologia Indica*, opened up an entirely new chapter in the geological history of Burma and embodied "many valuable discoveries bearing on the question of the extension of Asian Zoo-geographical provinces during the Palaeozoic era"

In addition to his official publications, La Touche found time to edit for the Asiatic Society of Bengal, of which he was president, the journals of Major James Rennell, the first Surveyor General. He was also a superb amateur photographer, and his ingenious adaptation of the Walker balance to the rapid determination of the specific gravity of rock specimens is well known to all his colleagues.

After his retirement, La Touche's services were not lost to India. In 1914 he published "A Bibliography of Indian Geology and Physical Geography with an Annotated Index of Minerals of Economic

Value". This was followed by the index to genera and species described in the *Palaeontologia Indica*; an index to the *Records*; and finally, the last proof reaching him just before his death, the index to the *Memoirs*. This series of publications is of inestimable value to all interested in Indian geology, and the Survey can congratulate itself on being the best documented service in existence. In addition, he prepared for the Geological Society a list of literature added to its library during the War period.

La Touche's interest in geology was very wide, and his knowledge was always at the disposal of any inquirer. His work is characterized by a minute attention to detail, a scrupulous accuracy of observation, and a strict regard for truth. He received no recognition from official nor from non-official bodies, but he has left behind him a record of a lifetime's work which can rarely have been equalled, and a lasting monument to his industry, the more surprising as he suffered throughout his career from greatly impaired sight.

La Touche married Miss Handy, an Irish lady of great charm, and had five children, two boys and three girls. One son was killed in the War while the other carries on the family tradition of service in the East as a member of the Burma Forest Service. To his widow and the surviving members of the family the sympathy of all his old colleagues is respectfully tendered.

G. H. TIPPER.

Prof. John Taylor

By the death of Prof. John Taylor on April 11, Irish engineering has lost one of its best known figures. Born near Gask, Perthshire, in 1865, he received his early engineering training in Glasgow at the Cowlairs Locomotive Works of the late North British Railway. In 1888 he won a Whitworth exhibition from the Anderson Technical College, Glasgow, and a Royal scholarship tenable at the Royal College of Science for Ireland, and proceeded to Dublin. He took the associateship of that College in 1891, after which he received a junior appointment on the staff and in 1902 became lecturer in engineering. In the University of Dublin, in 1903, he gained the large gold medal and senior moderatorship in experimental science. In 1929, a few years after the Royal College of Science for Ireland had been taken over by University College, Dublin, he was appointed professor of mechanical engineering in the National University of Ireland. About two years ago he received the degree of D.Sc. (*honoris causa*) of the National University.

Prof. Taylor did much work on the causes behind the failure of materials, and his technical advice was frequently sought by Irish public bodies. He conducted tests necessary for the planning of the dam in connexion with the proposed hydro-electric undertaking of the Liffey scheme at Poulaphouca, and carried out experiments with fish passes for the Shannon hydro-electric scheme. In recent years he devoted a considerable amount of his time to an investigation into the efficiency of turf burning appliances, a study which he undertook at the

request of the Industrial Research Council of Eire, of which he was a member. His work in this connexion has already resulted in efficient domestic cooking ranges, suitable for the Irish turf consumer, being placed on the market.

In his teaching work, Prof. Taylor was noted for his thoroughness and enthusiasm. During his long career as a teacher a very large number of students passed through his hands, by all of whom he will be remembered as a man of the highest character with the most conscientious devotion to duty.

Mr. F. J. Gould

MR. F. J. GOULD, who died on April 6, was one of the most devoted and persistent workers in the cause of humanism and world peace. He was born in 1855 and kept up his activities in writing and speaking for his faith to within a few weeks of his death. He himself published annually an account of what he had done in the way of writing, editing and above all giving moral lessons to the young, and this amazing record moved large numbers of persons to subscribe to a sustentation fund which had become necessary for him when his uneasy relations with the London School Board came to an end in his early years. He had been an assistant master in East End elementary schools, and the kind of religious teaching which was required of teachers in those days was much more hotly debated than it is now in less dogmatic days. But Gould's ideal was never in doubt and never changed. He advocated from first to last the teaching of a sympathetic outline of the chief faiths of the world and the education of the young mainly by moral and historical lessons based on the admirable features of the past.

Gould had in early years been deeply influenced by the Englishmen, who, like Frederic Harrison, owed their spiritual direction to Auguste Comte. To this he added a strong socialist leaning and a faithful association for more than fifty years with those who defended the claims of free thought in the pages of the *Literary Guide* and elsewhere. His apostolic journeys took him over the greater part of the United States as well as India, while for many years he laboured as secretary for the International Congress of Moral Education. He acted in this capacity in London, The Hague, Geneva, Rome, Paris and Cracow. Before the Hitler régime he had been co-operating with liberal-minded Germans on a plan for an improved and more international method of teaching history. This perhaps was his deepest and most abiding motive.

Gould's mind was a rare compound of peaceful and loving appreciation of men and opinions of every type, combined with an unbending and untiring tenacity in promoting the type of thought to which as a young man of just over twenty he had given his allegiance. It may be safely predicted that one day—and not very far distant—his name and work will be more loudly acclaimed and recognized than they have been in the first days following his demise.

F. S. MARVIN.