

CHARLES ROEDER.

BORN JULY 22, 1848.

DIED SEPTEMBER 9, 1911.

CHARLES ROEDER was a native of Gera, Thuringia, and came to this country when 21 years of age as a clerk in a Manchester shipping house. He later started in business for himself as an agent for several important Continental and English manufacturers.

He devoted a large measure of his spare time in research work of various kinds, geology, botany, philology, and history being his chief subjects. Prehistoric archæology, also, came in for a good share of his time in later life.

His geological investigations were by no means small, and one has only to peruse the Transactions of the Manchester Geological Society and various other local journals in order to gain some idea of his work in this science.

The sections of Upper Coal-measure and Permian strata exposed in cutting the railway from Fallowfield to Levenshulme, on the south side of Manchester, afforded him excellent opportunities to pursue one of his pet subjects. To him science is especially indebted for a knowledge of these beds. With unflagging energy he examined and measured this section inch by inch, collecting, often with considerable difficulty, the various fossils contained therein, afterwards forwarding the results of his labours to Messrs. Jones and Kirkby, Professor Geinitz, and others, for expert examination and identification. In his honour a new species of Ostracoda was named by Messrs. Jones and Kirkby, viz. *Carbonia roederiana*.

Mr. Roeder later presented a fine series of fossils from this and many other localities at home and abroad to the Manchester Museum.

J. W. J.

ROBERT CAIRNS.

BORN 1854.

DIED DECEMBER 29, 1911.

By the death of Mr. Robert Cairns, which took place from heart failure at his residence, Hurst, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire loses a well-known local geologist. The deceased came to Ashton from Hawick, Roxburghshire, about 1875, and for many years acted as assistant to Mr. Abraham Park, J.P., at the Albion Schools. This position he relinquished later in order to take over the headmastership of the Hurst Undenominational (Old British) School, which he held for the past thirty-five years.

He was a man of wide culture and endowed with a strong personality that brought him numerous friends. As an enthusiastic geologist and conchologist he made a name for himself among a wide circle of local naturalists.

For many years he assiduously collected fossils from the numerous coal-pits lying between Ashton and Oldham, and formed an extensive and valuable collection of fish and other remains. During the sinking operations of the Ashton Moss pit, at Audenshaw, he took advantage of the excellent opportunity afforded of collecting and studying the various fossils met with, and by his unwearied labour got together a fine series of interesting specimens. He also collected extensively