

PIERRE CURIE (1859-1906).

Professor Curie, the co-discoverer with his wife, Madame Sklodowska Curie, of the element radium, and also well known as a physicist, met his death as the result of a street accident in Paris on April 19. He was born in Paris on March 15, 1859, and received his early training at the Sorbonne, graduating as Doctor of Science in 1895. In the same year he became Professor of Physics in the Municipal School of Physics and Chemistry, and in 1900 Professor at the Sorbonne. Some of his earlier work, done in conjunction with his elder brother Jacques Curie, related to the piezoelectricity of crystals (1880); he also published papers on the symmetry of crystals (1884-5) and the capillarity constants of their faces (1885). Electrical researches occupied his attention until his work on radio-activity led to the discovery, in 1898, of radium in the mineral pitchblende. He was a life-member of the French Mineralogical Society.

HENRY AUGUSTUS WARD (1834-1906).

Dr. Henry A. Ward, who, at the age of seventy-two, was knocked down and killed by a motor-car at Buffalo on July 4 last, was born at Rochester, New York, on March 9, 1834. After studying for four years at the School of Mines in Paris, he became, in 1859, Professor of Natural Science in the University of Rochester, a post which he held till 1865. For a time he acted as superintendent of gold mines in Montana and South Carolina, but soon afterwards returned to Rochester and founded the now well-known 'Ward's Natural Science Establishment', with which he was actively connected for over thirty years. Always an enthusiastic and energetic collector and distributor of specimens belonging to various branches of natural history, he in later years turned his attention largely to meteorites. He could tell many interesting tales of adventure which had befallen him during his travels in out-of-the-way places all the world over, undertaken with the object of securing examples of meteoric falls not represented in his collection. After disposing of large collections of meteorites to the Field Columbian Museum in Chicago and to Mr. C. S. Bement of Philadelphia, he commenced in 1894, at the age of sixty, the Ward-Coonley collection, which in the comparatively short space of ten years became one of the finest in existence. A detailed catalogue of this collection, together with a list of all known meteorites, was published by Professor Ward in 1904 ('Catalogue of the Ward-Coonley collection of Meteorites', Chicago, 1904, 4to, pp. xii +

113, with 10 pls.). At that time the collection, which is now exhibited in the American Museum of Natural History at New York, contained representatives of 608 meteoric falls, with a total weight of material of 2,495 kilograms. Professor Ward was the author of several papers on meteorites, and had collected a large amount of information relating to these bodies, on which he intended to publish a treatise.
