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JOSEPH ALFRED HARDCASTLE,

F.R.A.S., Vice-Pres. B.A.A.

It is with great regret that we record the death, on 10th November, 1917, at the age of 49, of Mr. Hardcastle, a Member since September, 1906, of our Society, to which he contributed two papers: "Astronomy without Instruments," Vol. 15, 1907, and "The Tides," Vol. 19, 1911.

Great-grandson of Sir William, and grandson of Sir John Herschel, he inherited no small portion of the scientific capacity of his distinguished forerunners.

As a University Extension Lecturer he was extremely successful, and many of us still remember with pleasure his admirable address on "The Shape and Motion of the Earth," delivered before the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society on 19th December, 1911. His work was specially marked by lucidity and originality, and he had the rare faculty of translating into simple terms very difficult problems.

Among pieces of very valuable work done by him we may mention the precise mapping of positions on the moon's surface, and the charting and classification of the nebulae photographed by Franklin-Adams.

It was my privilege to correspond with him, and to spend some days in his society at Paris on the occasion of the Solar Eclipse of 17th April, 1912, when he was accompanied by Mr. Hollis, and my dear wife was with me.

It is unusually sad that he should have been removed from us just as he was about to take up the work of Director of the Armagh Observatory.

"Fungar inani munere."

C.T.W.