

SIDNEY LUXTON LONEY

HAROLD SIMPSON.

Sidney Luxton Loney was born at Tiverton in 1860, educated at Maidstone and Tonbridge Schools, and subsequently at Cambridge, where he was Third Wrangler in 1882 and Fellow of Sidney Sussex College. A keen observer and intensely interested in the practical affairs of life, it is perhaps not surprising that he found no time for research, especially as his financial skill and remarkable faculty for organization were willingly and gratuitously put at the service of any educational or social cause to which he could be of use. Nevertheless he could take a real enjoyment in mathematics, as generations of students can testify who were fortunate enough to come under his inspiration at the Royal Holloway College, during the many years of his professorship. As a teacher he had extraordinary success, and he could teach in print with the same facility as in the lecture room. His text-books on mechanics, coordinate geometry, and trigonometry evidently supplied the needs of the student, for they became household words and the "best sellers" of the mathematical market. They excelled in their collections of "exercises", of a type which is perhaps a little too artificial (planes always inclined at 30° to the horizon when it isn't 45° or 60° , and particles describing central orbits under weird laws of force), but attractive in their variety and the neatness of their answers.

He died on 16 May, 1939, after a short illness, leaving two daughters.