

of last year he resumed his labours, completing the survey at twenty-four other stations in Scotland and the adjacent islands.

Through the winter of 1857-58, Mr. Welsh had suffered from an affection of the lungs; and on his return from Scotland, in the autumn of 1858, the disease had evidently made rapid progress. Arrangements had been made which would have enabled him to pass the winter in a tropical climate; but acting under the best medical advice that could be procured in the metropolis, he, accompanied by his mother, proceeded to Falmouth. In that place, by the kindness of Mr. R. W. Fox and his family, Mr. Welsh received every attention which they had it in their power to offer. His only regret during his illness appears to have been his inability to complete the works he had undertaken. He died on the 11th of May, 1859, in the 35th year of his age, not less esteemed for his private worth by those who had the pleasure of his acquaintance, than appreciated for his eminent abilities and valuable services by men of science.

PETER GUSTAV LEJEUNE DIRICHLET was born at Düren, where his father was Commissaire de Poste, on the 13th of February, 1805. After going through the course of instruction followed in the Gymnasium of Cologne, he went to Paris to continue his studies, and in May 1823 he became tutor in the family of General Foy. Here he formed an acquaintance with the most distinguished mathematicians of France. On the recommendation of Fourier, who was the first to appreciate his genius, and aided by Gauss, Von Humboldt procured for him an appointment in Prussia. In November 1827 he obtained the position of Teacher in the University of Breslau, and in the year following was nominated Professor Extraordinary. Being appointed soon after to lecture at the Royal Military School of Berlin, he became Professor Extraordinary in the University of that place. On the 13th of February, 1832, he was elected a Member of the Royal Academy of Sciences of Berlin; on the 6th of May, 1833, Corresponding Member of the Institute of France; in 1833 Corresponding Member of the St. Petersburg Academy; in 1839 Ordinary Professor of the University of Berlin; in 1846 Member of the Göttingen Academy of Sciences. In 1847 a Professorship in the University of Heidelberg was offered to him. In 1854 he was elected Member of the Academies of Stockholm and Munich, and Foreign

Associate of the French Academy ; and in 1855 Member of the Belgian Academy, and Foreign Member of the Royal Society.

After the death of Gauss he was appointed Professor of the Higher Mathematics in the University of Göttingen, in the spring of 1855, and entered upon the duties of his office in the autumn of the same year. He returned in bad health from an excursion in Switzerland in the autumn of 1858, and died at Göttingen on the 5th of May, 1859.

By his death the University of Göttingen has lost not only a distinguished teacher and a man of the brightest intellect, but perhaps the only mathematician of the time likely to succeed in completing the unfinished works of Gauss, a task which he had declared himself willing to undertake.

His mathematical memoirs, the first of which was presented to the Institute of France in 1825, are too numerous to admit of introducing their titles into this notice. They are published in the 'Transactions' of the Berlin Academy from the year 1833 to 1854, in 'Crelle's Journal' from 1828 to 1857, in the 'Monatsberichte' of the Academy for 1852-1855, and in volumes iv., v., ix., xii. of 'Liouville's Journal.'

THE BARON FRIEDRICH HEINRICH ALEXANDER VON HUMBOLDT, was the second son of Alexander George von Humboldt, descended from a noble Pomeranian family. His father was a major in the Prussian army, and had served with distinction as aide-de-camp to the Duke Ferdinand of Brunswick in the seven years' war. The distinguished subject of our present brief notice was born at Berlin on the 14th of September, 1769. At the age of ten years he lost his father. From 1787 to 1789 he studied, first for some months in the University of Frankfort on the Oder, and afterwards in that of Göttingen. During the vacations, he made geological excursions to the Harz, and on the banks of the Rhine, and published the results of his observations under the title 'Ueber die Basalte am Rhein, nebst Untersuchungen über Syenit und Basanit der Alten.' In the spring of 1790 he made a hasty excursion through Holland, England, and France, in the company of George Forster, who sailed with Cook in his second voyage round the world. On his return from this excursion, he passed some months at Hamburg, preparing himself for a post in the Finance department of his native country. In June 1791