

pupils. When the Oxford Local Examinations were established, in 1857, he took a leading part in establishing a committee for making the necessary arrangements for conducting these examinations in London, and undertook for a time the laborious duties of honorary secretary. Although not one of the original founders of the College of Preceptors, he joined it very shortly after its establishment, and was closely connected with it until his death. He was elected treasurer in 1873.

Between 1863 and 1866 he kept terms at the Middle Temple, and was called to the bar. He was the author of a manual on Elocution.

In 1850 he married Sarah Ann East, who died a few months before him. Five sons and two daughters survive him.

He was elected Fellow of the Society on May 13, 1859, and was a regular attendant at the evening meetings.

CARL CHRISTIAN BRUHNS was born at Ploen, in Holstein, on November 22, 1830. He was the son of a locksmith, and was sent to the school of his native place, it being intended that he should be a mechanic. In the spring of 1851 he went to Berlin. His desire for knowledge, which in his boyhood had been checked by bad health, here found more scope. Through some pieces of work which as a mechanic he had to perform at the Berlin Observatory he became known to Encke the Director, who soon found out his extraordinary capacity as a computer. Encke supplied him with the means of further improving himself; and by strenuous efforts he in a very short time supplied the chief deficiencies in his knowledge, and entered the university as a student.

In 1852 Encke appointed him Second Assistant in the Observatory, and in 1854, on Galle's leaving, he was made First Assistant. He graduated at the university in 1858, the title of his dissertation being *De planetis minoribus*. He won also an academic prize with an essay on astronomical refraction; and in 1858 became a Privatdocent in the university. In 1860, at Encke's suggestion, he was appointed Extraordinary Professor of Astronomy at Leipzig in succession to D'Arrest; and when Möbius died he was made Ordinary Professor and Director of the Observatory. The existing observatory being inadequate, Bruhns was commissioned by the Government to build a new one, and selected the site and prepared the plans for the present Observatory, which was built under his supervision. The numerous observations made at this Observatory, both by Bruhns and his assistants, bear witness to the energy which he devoted to it. He discovered six comets, and applied his remarkable talent for calculation to the determination of the orbits of many comets and minor planets. During his twenty years' professorship he had as his pupils many astronomers whose names are already famous.

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When in 1862 General von Baeyer founded the geodetical survey of Central Europe, Bruhns, with Nagel and Weisbach as colleagues, was appointed Commissioner for Saxony; and the latitudes and longitudes of the trigonometrically important points in Saxony were determined under his direction. Up to the time of his death he took the greatest interest in geodetical work, to which he devoted much of his time.

The establishment of a network of meteorological observations, extending over the whole of Saxony, was entirely his work. Eleven volumes of results testify to his great activity in this direction. Recognising that a science like meteorology could only be really advanced by the united cooperation of civilised countries, he urged, and successfully carried out, his project for an International Meteorological Committee. His last creative effort in meteorology was the establishment in Leipzig of the Bureau for Weather Prognostics. Bruhns took the most active interest in geographical science. He was also desirous that science should be diffused as much as possible, and made many popular communications upon astronomy and meteorology to different societies.

Besides his numerous astronomical papers, which consist chiefly of observations or calculations, his editorship of geodetical publications, and his eleven volumes of meteorological results, he published a history and account of the Leipzig Observatory, a Life of Encke, and other works. Conjointly with several others, he edited the great biographical work, *Alexander von Humboldt*. The calendar of the Statistical Bureau, the astronomical portion of which was edited by Bruhns, always contained a popular essay on some astronomical subject. Bruhns also published a very convenient table of seven-figure logarithms of numbers, and trigonometrical functions to every ten seconds, which is well known in this country.

He was possessed of great talent for organisation, as was displayed in his arrangements for the German expeditions to observe the Transit of *Venus* in 1874.

Personally, Bruhns was extremely popular, and his loss is keenly felt by his more intimate friends. He died rather suddenly on July 25, 1881. He had been unwell for some time, but it was only shortly before his death that his illness was regarded as serious.

He was elected an Associate of the Society on November 8, 1878.

BARON HERCULES DEMBOWSKI, of Milan, to whom the gold medal of the Society was awarded, in 1878, for his researches upon double stars, died at Albizzate, in Upper Lombardy, on January 19, 1881.

About the year 1852 he commenced, in his own private Observatory at Naples, a series of observations on double and multiple stars, and, being sufficiently favoured by fortune, was