HUBERT ANSON NEWTON.

HUBERT ANSON NEWTON was born in Sherburne, N. Y., March 19, 1830, and died at New Haven on the 12th day of August, 1896.* He graduated at Yale, taking the degree of A.B., in 1850, and spent the next two and one-half years in mathematical study. He became tutor at Yale in 1853 and on account of the sickness and subsequent death of Professor Stanley, the whole work of the department of mathematics devolved upon him from the first. In 1855 his great ability was recognized in his election, at the early age of twenty-five, to a full professorship of mathematics at Yale, the duties of which he assumed after spending a year of study in Europe, where, under the inspiration of Chasles, he became especially interested in the subject of Modern Higher Geometry. He carried on most vigorously work and studies in various lines in addition to the duties of his professorship. Sometimes it was a profound study in pure Mathematics, sometimes a rich contribution to the education of the public, and sometimes an original investigation in the field of Astronomy.

He published in 1857 a paper on the Gyroscope in the *American Journal of Science*, and soon after, a paper in the *Mathematical Monthly*, in which he seems to have been the first to apply the principle of inversion in the solution of the problem of constructing circles tangent to three given circles. He showed how deeply rooted in his mind were the ideas of the Modern Geometry in his elaborate papers published in the same journal in 1861 on the geometrical construction of certain curves by points, where he extended the ideas of Chasles, of de Jonquières, and of Poncelet. The subject of transcendental curves he studied for a long time with great interest, and constructed a myriad of interesting patterns, but contented himself with publishing, in the joint name of himself and his pupil, the discussion of the single group of equations which he found would give the most beautiful and symmetric forms, and which he had set for his pupil to investigate.

Professor Newton was very active in securing the prompt adoption of the Metric System of Weights and Measures, both by the Connecticut Legislature and by Congress after the Conference of Nations on the subject, held in Berlin in 1863. He wrote a popular tract in 1864, giving an expla-

*Professor Newton was Vice-President of the AMERICAN MATHEMATICAL SOCIETY at the time of his death.—ED.