

**James Stuart Thomson, M.Sc. (Manchester), Ph.D. (Berne).**

JAMES STUART THOMSON was for many years Lecturer in the Zoology Department, Victoria University, Manchester, under Professor S. J. Hickson, D.Sc., LL.D., F.R.S. He was born at Pilmuir, East Lothian, on 21st July 1868, youngest son of the Rev. Arthur Thomson, Free Church minister there. He got his scientific education in the Universities of Edinburgh, Freiburg, and later Berne, and at various marine biological stations. After holding various teaching posts, *e.g.* at Plymouth and in Edinburgh (as assistant to his brother, J. Arthur Thomson, then lecturing on Zoology in the extramural School of Medicine), he became in 1903 Assistant Government Biologist at the Cape of Good Hope. He had also worked for some time in the *Challenger* Office in Edinburgh and at Granton Marine Station. After some experience as Lecturer in the South African Collegè and in the University of Bristol, he was appointed in 1910 Senior Lecturer on Zoology in the University of Manchester. He held this post till 1929, when he had to retire for health reasons; and after this he lived quietly and happily at Cirencester. He died suddenly on the 28th August 1932. Dr Thomson published numerous zoological papers, most of them on Alcyonarian Corals, to the investigation of which he had been prompted by Professor Studer and encouraged by Professor Hickson. Notable among his researches on other lines was his pioneer work on the markings on the scales of fishes as indication of periodic growth, and thus of age. Latterly he worked out a detailed account of the structure of the tortoise, which is being published by the Royal Dublin Society.

He was elected a Fellow of the Society in 1906.

J. A. T.