

Obituary.

James Mollison.

Through the death of Mr. James Mollison, J.P., M.I.N.A., grandfather of the famous Scottish airman, the West of Scotland Branch has lost its oldest member. Mr. Mollison was a native of Alexandria, Dumbartonshire, and served his apprenticeship as an engineer at Arbroath. He was subsequently employed by the Fairfield Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, Govan. Some time later he held an important engineering appointment with the Turkish Admiralty. In 1874 he entered the service of Lloyd's Register. For several years he was the sole engineering surveyor for the Society on the Clyde, in which capacity he did valuable pioneering work. He retired in 1909, after having acted for 35 years as a Lloyd's surveyor. During his period of office he took part in important develop-

ments in marine engineering, the Clyde being the chief centre in the development of steam power as applied to ocean-carrying trade.

Mr. Mollison was highly respected both for his intellectual attainments and his affable disposition. He took a prominent part in civic and philanthropic work. He was a member of the Corporation of Glasgow from 1912 till 1920, was elected a River Bailie, and served for a time as a City Magistrate. He was one of the founders of Partick High Free Church, and for many years one of its leading elders. He became a member of the West of Scotland Branch of the British Astronomical Association in 1898 December, and for a considerable period took much interest in its affairs, holding from 1900 to 1905 the office of Treasurer.

Mr. Mollison died on 1933 April 5, in his ninety-first year. He had a family of six daughters and one son. Mr. J. A. Mollison and Mrs. Mollison, the noted aviators, came to Glasgow by aeroplane to visit him in his last illness, and were among the chief mourners at his funeral, which took place on April 7 in Craigton Cemetery, after a memorial service in Partick High Church.

At the close of his sermon at the memorial service, the Rev. W. Stoddart spoke of Mr. Mollison's faithful service to the church as a member and office-bearer. The Presbytery of Glasgow, he said, had recognised his valuable work on several of its committees by electing him one of its special representatives. Mr. Mollison was held in the highest honour in the community of Partick for his many public services. He had followed with special interest the achievements of his grandson in the realm of aviation. His many efforts to help the unemployed and to relieve those in distress would make his memory one to be cherished.

J. J. R.