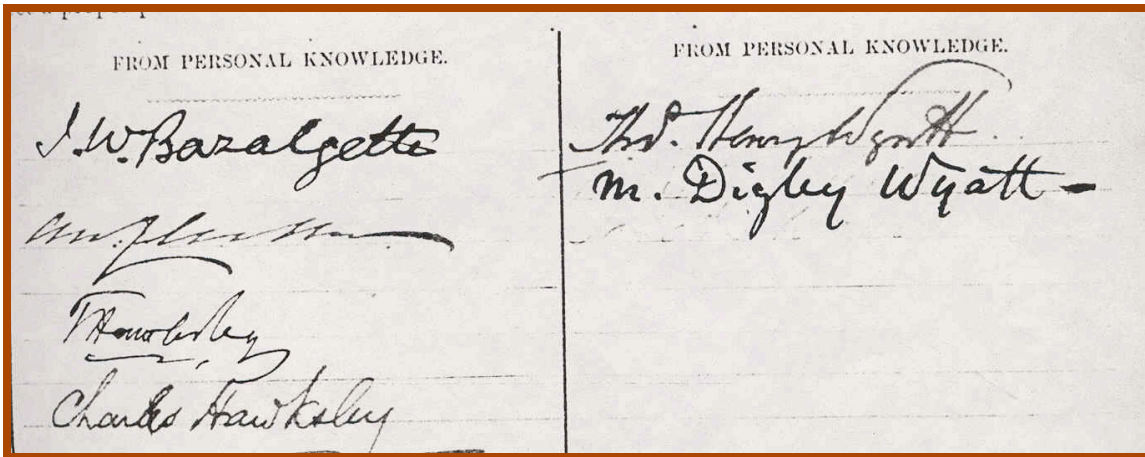


SUPPORTERS of WILSON WEATHERLEY PHIPSON

In 2002 the CIBSE Heritage Group produced a biography *Wilson Weatherley Phipson, Victorian Engineer Extraordinary 1838-91*, written and edited by Brian Roberts, Chairman of the Group. It was updated in 2006 and a limited number of copies printed. It ran to 142 pages with 63 illustrations and featured many of the Victorian hand-written Phipson documents in the Heritage Collection. An electronic book version was subsequently added to the Heritage web site. In addition, further updates have been posted under *Victorian Heating Engineers* by Heritage Group Webmaster, Frank Ferris.

When Phipson returned to England around 1860 after a number of years in Belgium and France he decided upon an engineering career by introducing Van Hecke's new system of heating and ventilation. At this time there was no professional body for this type of work (The Institution of Heating and Ventilating Engineers was not formed until 1897). His early difficulties are described in his biography. Bit by bit he succeeded and in 1868 he was able to apply for Associate Membership of The Institution of Civil Engineers being duly elected in 1869. He transferred to full Membership in 1878.

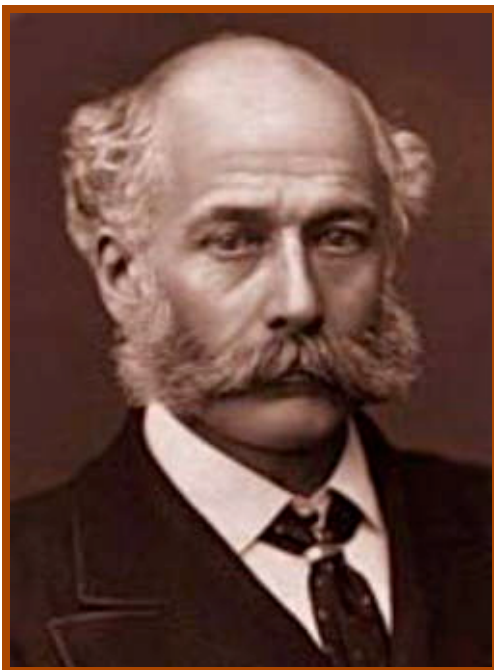
It is interesting to look at the probable influence of his friends and engineering associates during this period by investigating the background and experience of the men who supported his applications to the ICE.



Signatures of Phipson Supporters on **Form A**, ICE Application for Associate

The signatures read J W Bazalgette, unknown, unknown, Charles Hawksley, Thos. Henry Wyatt and M Digby Wyatt.

His proposer (signature not shown here) was F J Bramwell.



Sir Joseph William Bazalgette 1819-91 and his memorial on London's Embankment. One of the greatest engineers of the Victorian era, he was Chief Engineer of London's Metropolitan Board of Works and created the intercepting sewer system to clean up the River Thames. Bazalgette was President ICE in 1883.



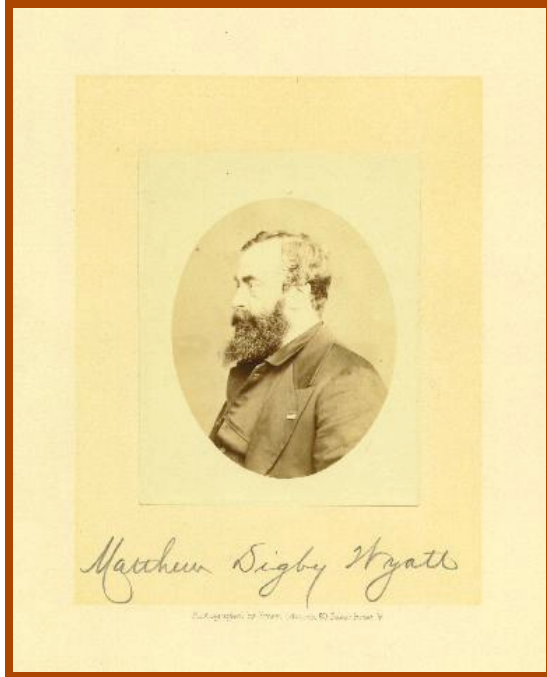
Charles Hawksley 1839-1917

He was an eminent civil engineer specialising in water-related projects in the north of England. President ICE 1901-02 (His father Thomas had been President 1871-73).

He was also President of the Smeaton Society of Civil Engineers in 1911 and a Council Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers. He supported Phipson's ICE applications for both Associate and Member.

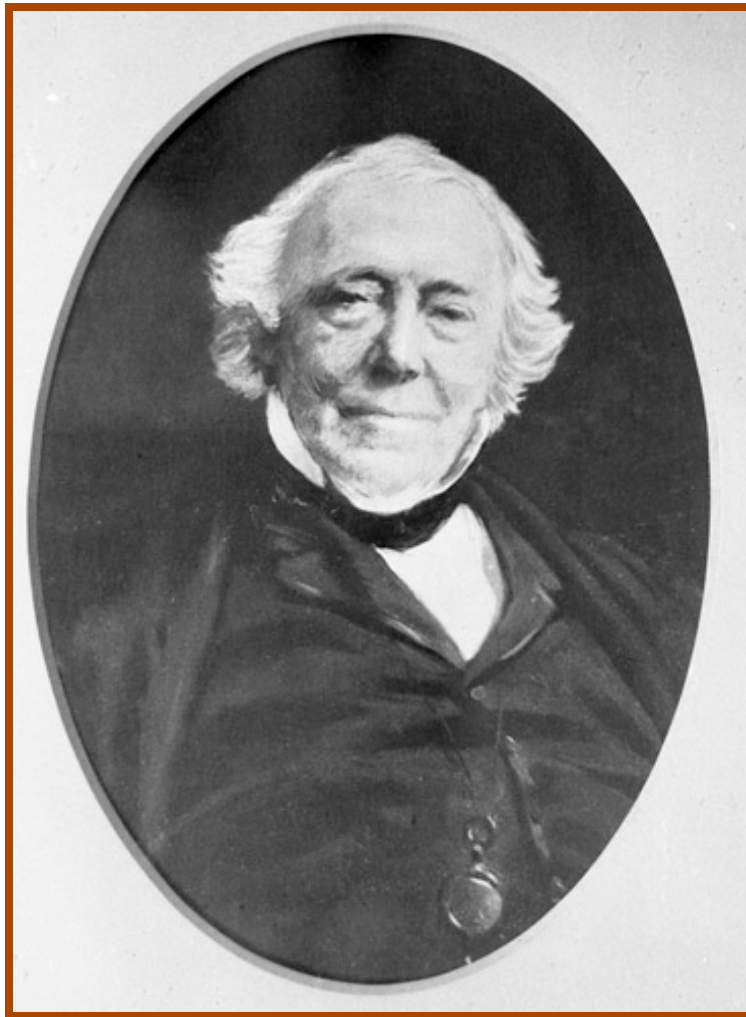
Thomas Henry Wyatt 1807-80

Architect and President RIBA 1870-73. He specialised in church architecture and was the elder brother of Sir Mathew Digby Wyatt.



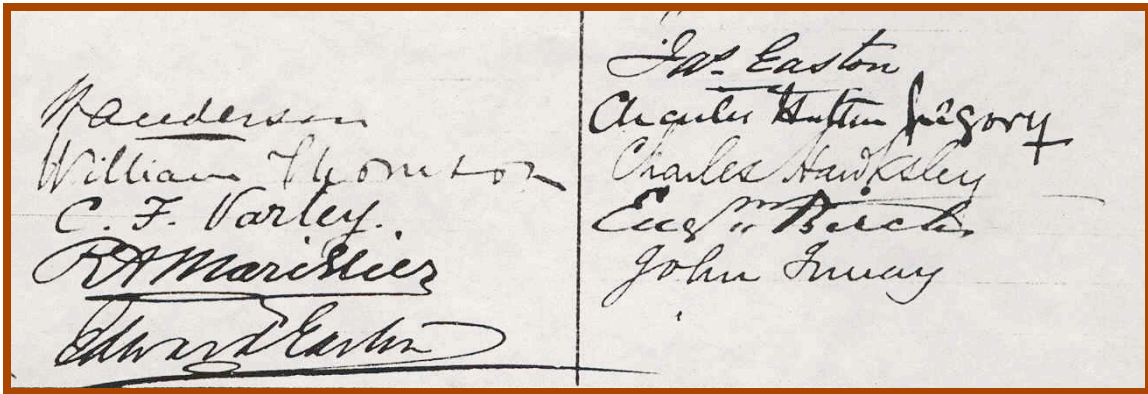
Sir Matthew Digby Wyatt 1820-77 and his Rothschild Mausoleum (1866) Prolific English architect. He was a personal friend of Wilson Phipson and served as a witness on the Marriage Certificates at the weddings of both Wilson and his brother Thomas. Matt (as he was known to his friends) was Secretary to the Executive Committee for the 1851 Great Exhibition (Crystal Palace), worked with George Gilbert Scott on the interior design of the Durbar Court at the India Office in Whitehall (1863-65) and collaborated with Isambard Kingdom Brunel on Temple Meads Railway Station in Bristol (1865-78). Which leads to the intriguing thought: “Did Phipson know Brunel?” Phipson later worked for Scott.

Also did Wyatt’s appointment to design the Rothschild Mausoleum in the Jewish Cemetery, Buckingham Road, West Ham, Essex, have any connection to Phipson’s early projects for the Rothschild Mansion in Piccadilly (1862) and Rothschild’s Bank (1864). Was Phipson recommended to Rothschild by Wyatt?



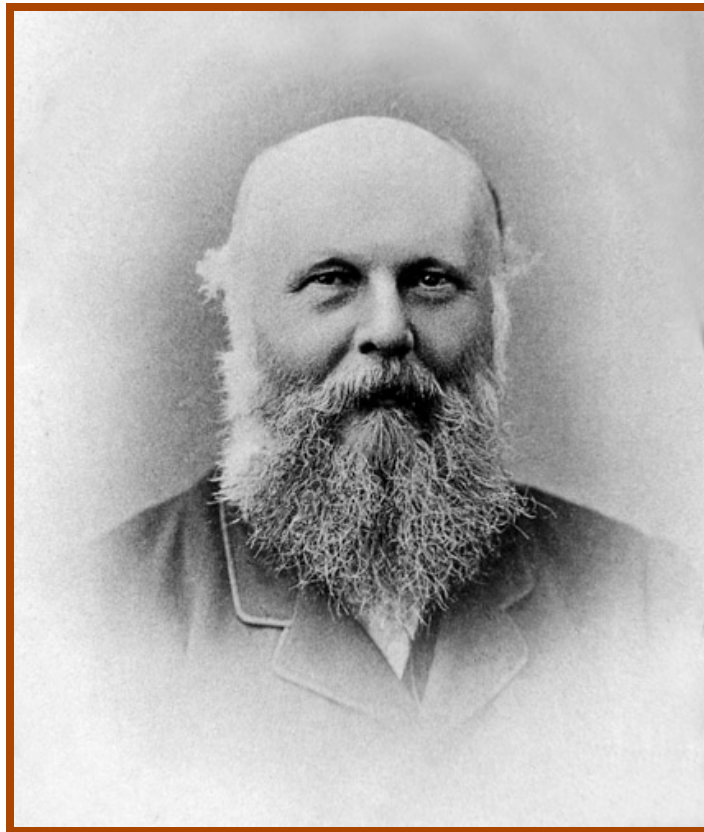
Sir Frederick J Bramwell, Bart DCL LLD FRS 1818-1903

He acted as Proposer on Phipson's application form. Bramwell was President IMechE 1874-75 and President ICE 1884-86. He had a particular interest in boilers and stoking equipment.



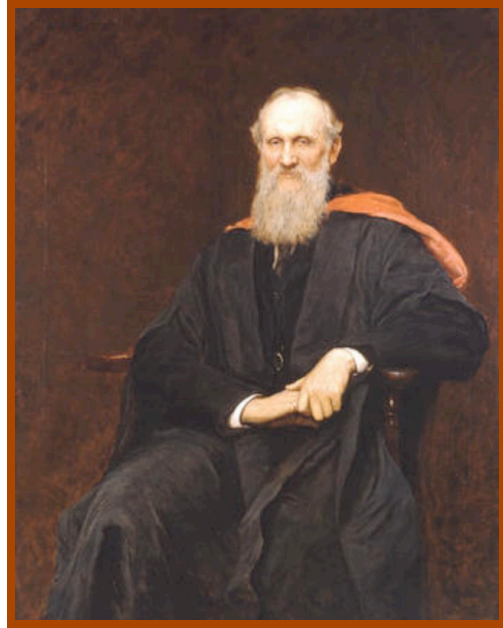
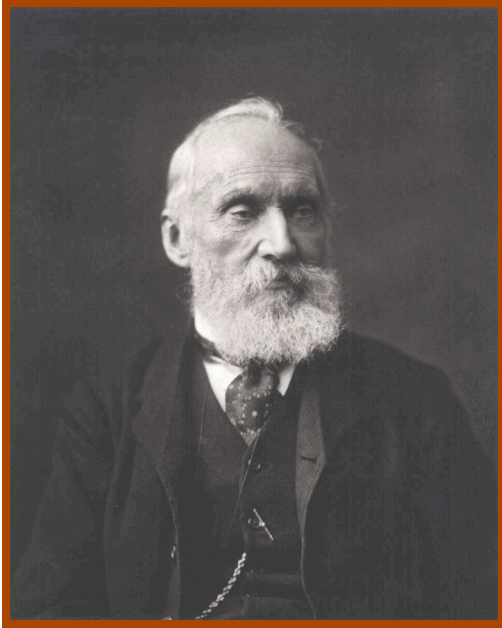
Signatures of Phipson Supporters on **Form B**, ICE Application for transfer to Member

The signatures read (?)Anderson, William Thomson, C F Varley, unknown, Edward Easton, Jas. Easton, Charles Hutton Gregory, Charles Hawksley, unknown and John Imray.



Sir William Anderson KCB DCL FRS 1834-98

It is complete speculation whether or not this is the Anderson who supported Phipson's Application. However, Anderson was a versatile engineer who worked in and around London, knew Kelvin and was President IMechE 1892-93. Anderson came to specialise in munitions and armaments becoming Director of the Government Ordnance Factories.



William Thomson, Lord Kelvin, 1st Baron of Largs 1824-1907, OM FRS
Mathematician and physicist regarded as the inventor of the heat pump. The Absolute Temperature Scale (degrees Kelvin) is named for him. He came into contact with Phipson as a member of the Professors' Committee overseeing the heating and ventilation for the new University of Glasgow at Gilmore Hill. Thomson later became involved in telegraphy and laying of transatlantic cables.



Cromwell Fleetwood Varley FRS 1828-83

Member ICE 1861. Chief Engineer Electric Telegraph Company and business partner of Lord Kelvin. He was a Founder Member Society of Telegraph Engineers which became the Institution of Electrical Engineers.



Sir Charles Hutton Gregory KCMG 1817-98 and his tomb in Brompton Cemetery. Consultant on major railway works and the first to use railway semaphore signals (London and Croydon 1842). President ICE 1867-69.

Charles Hawksley (see page 3)

John Imray

Member IMechE who in 1874 developed the helical pump as an alternative to centrifugal types.