

OBITUARY

The Society has to record with deep regret the loss of LADY DICKENSON BERRY, wife of our Vice-President, of CANON M. GRAVES, of Marlow, and of LORD DAVENPORT, of Medmenham. Most particularly have we to deplore the loss of Mr. HORACE HARMAN, author of two books: *Bucks Dialect* (1929), and *Sketches of the Bucks Countryside* (1934). Whilst these were not of philological importance, they contained many conversations and stories of our county which are strictly veridical; and in writing them Mr. Harman preserved much relating to times past; his work will always be regarded as a happy and valuable repository of Bucks lore, and it was made possible from the itinerant nature of his duties to the Educational Authorities, and to a singularly retentive memory for a speech which is rapidly disappearing. In another capacity Messrs. Mawer & Stanton handsomely acknowledged their indebtedness to Mr. Harman in their work on *Place-Names of Bucks*.

To this sad list must be added yet another name,—that of SIR D. M. WARMINGTON. Although not an antiquary himself Sir Denham was always interested in the Past, and ready to support any movement to preserve or to record that Past, so far as it related to Bucks. At Quarter Sessions and in other public activities he played his part fully, and the County as a whole, and many of us in particular, have lost in him a good friend.

LT.-COL. F. T. H. BERNARD

Whilst these proofs were being passed for the press it is unfortunately necessary to add to the names of those we have lost that of one who, amidst many public and semi-public duties, most faithfully served the Council of our Society for many years. Few were more regular in their attendance and the advice of Col.

Bernard, delivered in his singularly clear and pleasant voice, was always available. Without pretending to very deep antiquarian knowledge himself he had that true sympathy with and understanding of the Past, which enabled him to interest himself in all that concerned the preservation of historical monuments; to this feeling Nether Winchendon in particular, Cuddington and Chearsley bear witness.

His second name, Tyringham, indicates his representation of one of our old Bucks families which, by the marriage of Thomas Tyringham with Petronilla Goodwin in the 16th century, brought them into alliance with that distinguished family and explains the presence of the great Goodwin family portrait at Nether Winchendon. The Francis Tyringham, who was High Sheriff in 1728 and died in 1735, was the last of that line.

Without a pedigree it is not easy to explain how the Nether Winchendon property passed to Sir Francis Bernard, Governor of Boston, at the time of the American rebellion. Three of his sons and two grandsons successively succeeded him in the baronetcy, and Colonel Bernard was grandson of the sixth and last baronet.

The house at Nether Winchendon had suffered somewhat from the "Strawberry Hill Gothic" taste, and the late Col. Bernard did much to restore its glories, and to make it, as is generally admitted, one of the most interesting houses in Bucks. In that pleasant setting he delighted to play the part of perfect host, and the Society was last made welcome there in 1929.

Our Society as a body, and many members individually have lost by Colonel Bernard's death the most staunch of friends.

G.E.