

OBITUARY NOTICES.

EDWARD JOHN PAYNE.

Mr. Edward John Payne was a native of Wycombe. He received his early education at the Wycombe Grammar School under the Rev. James Poulter. After leaving the School he became associated with Mr. Pontifex, a Surveyor and Architect at Wycombe. He studied architecture under the distinguished Architect, Mr. William Burgess, and designed the Easton Street Almshouses at Wycombe, opposite to the Grammar School. Whilst residing in his native town he was organist of the Parish Church, and took an earnest interest in the Church, its history, and services. From Wycombe, Mr. Payne in 1867 went as a student to Oxford, matriculating at Magdalen Hall; from thence he went to Charsley's Hall, and took his degree in 1871 with first-class honours in Literæ Humaniores. He was subsequently elected Fellow of University College. In 1874 Mr. Payne was called to the Bar by Lincoln's Inn. As an appreciation of his talents and an evidence of the esteem in which he was held, Mr. Payne was appointed Honorary Recorder of Wycombe in 1883, and held the office till the time of his death. Mr. Payne was essentially devoted to literature, and he has left behind him evidences of his literary labours which will be of lasting benefit, not only in this country, but also in America. And here they may be briefly referred to. He edited Burke's "Select Works," with introduction and notes, in 1874-5, published by the Clarendon Press: "The Voyage of Elizabethan Seamen to America," published by the Clarendon Press in 1893. The Clarendon Press also published his edition with notes of "The Vanity of Human Wishes" (Johnson), and just before his death he wrote a small and valuable work on "The Colonies and Colonial Federation," published by Macmillan. To the *Encyclopædia Britannica* he contri-

buted articles on the *Violin*, and one on *Earl Grey*. He also contributed some papers of considerable interest to *THE RECORDS*, the publication of the Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society, of which Society he was Vice-President. But his *Magnum opus* was the two volumes on "The History of the New World called America." His enormous labour and research in undertaking this work can only be realised by referring to the foot-notes to these volumes, quotations from the classics, from Portuguese and Spanish literature in the golden days of letters in Portugal and Spain, at a time when enterprise and discovery were the absorbing purpose of the foremost men of the age; quotations, too, from English and German literature bearing on the momentous discovery of the New World. Volume I. appeared in 1892, and Volume II. in 1899, and there may be still MSS. of an unfinished volume. In reviewing the second volume in *The Athenæum* (No. 3739), the Reviewer says: "Mr. Payne's work is an historical work of a high class, but it will never be widely popular. . . . Such learning is both too profound and subtle for the production of a history which shall outvie a romance in charm, but it will entitle Mr. Payne, if his completed work shall be equal to the first two volumes, to a place in the first rank among historians." And surely the time will come when Americans will realise the foundations of history which the author has discovered for them, and will mourn the untimely death of one whose task is so incomplete; and it may be hoped that his laborious investigations will stimulate and encourage some historian to continue his great undertaking. Nothing could more strikingly exemplify the appreciation entertained by scholars of Mr. Payne's knowledge of the subject to which he had mainly devoted his attention than his selection by Lord Acton to write the first two chapters in Volume I. of "The Cambridge Modern History;" the first on "The Age of Discovery," the second on "The New World." Before concluding this very imperfect appreciation it should not be forgotten that as an enthusiastic musician Mr. Payne was at one time President of the Cremona Society. To those who knew Mr. Payne intimately,

his geniality, his unselfishness, his many acquirements, musical as well as literary, his willingness at all times to impart information which his deep reading and astonishing memory made so valuable, to those his loss is an irreparable one, the loss of a true friend whose friendship can never be effaced from memory.

On a bronze tablet erected in the Parish Church of High Wycombe is the following inscription to the memory of Mr. Payne:—

In Piam et Sanctam Memoriam
EDVARDI JOANNIS PAYNE A.M.
Coll: Univ: apud Oxonienses Socii
Litterarum, Juris, Artis Musicae periti,
Historiae Scriptoris,
Necnon huius Ecclesiae olim organistae,
qui natus apud High Wycombe, die xxii Julii
MDCCCXLIV
per xxi Annos Recordator eius Municipii usque dum
mortem
obiit apud Wendover
die xxvi^o Decembris MCMIV.

JOHN PARKER.

HENRY GOUGH.

Mr. Henry Gough, of Sandcroft, Redhill, was an honorary member of this Society, and died on the 15th May last, at the advanced age of eighty-four. He was called to the Bar as a member of the Middle Temple in early life, but after a short time retired from legal practice and devoted himself to heraldic and antiquarian studies. He will be chiefly remembered in Buckinghamshire for his contribution of a list of books relating to the County issued with the annual parts of THE RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE for the years 1885—1890, subsequently collected in a separate form and styled *Bibliotheca Buckinghamiensis*. This list treats of books and papers under different headings, such as Topographical Dictionaries, Roads, Tours, Churches, Parishes, Civil War Tracts, Local Newspapers, and Local Acts of Parliament. An exhaustive paper on "The Swan of Buckingham," by Mr. Gough, also appeared in Vol. III. of THE RECORDS

[and one on "The Territorial, Corporate, and Local Armory of Buckinghamshire" (with 6 plates) in Vol. IV. In Vol. VII. appeared a note by him on "Cowper and Newton," and a paper on "Olney Church." (A. H. C.)] The useful work, therefore, which Mr. Gough accomplished for the County will ever be gratefully remembered by local archæologists. Mr. Gough's literary labours in a still wider sphere should here be referred to. *The Athenæum* gives a summary of his works, from which we here take some few examples. He was the original author of the "Glossary of Heraldry." He made a voluminous index of the publications of the Camden Society in its first series. In 1855 he published "The Quotations in the New from the Old Testament collated with the Hebrew and Greek Texts." Amongst his other literary labours for the late Marquis of Bute he edited, in 1888, "Documents relating to the Campaign of King Edward I. in Scotland in 1298," and in 1900 the "Itinerary of Edward I. throughout his Reign," in two volumes. We are told that he had almost completed before his death the printing of the register of a Guild at Luton "in sumptuous form" from a MS. in the possession of the Marquis of Bute. He has left behind him numerous MSS. of great antiquarian value, and his reputation among specialists is that "he was one of the most accurate genealogists of the present century."—JOHN PARKER.

THE REV. W. H. SUMMERS.

Born at Dorking June 27, 1850: in 1878 he entered Hackney College as a student for the ministry of the Congregational Church. In 1883 he undertook his first pastorate, at Beaconsfield. Here, having a considerable knowledge of botany, he began a long tale of literary work with a series of papers in the *South Bucks Free Press* on the Wild Flowers of Bucks. About the year 1890 he was elected a member of our Society, and to the VIIth Vol. of THE RECORDS, between 1893-7, he contributed four papers (besides adding considerably to the present writer's second instalment of Bucks words in that volume, which he did in an extremely kind manner, leaving a very pleasant recol-

lection of the ensuing correspondence), also one paper to Vol. VIII. in 1899. In August, 1897, he was elected an Honorary Member of the Society, his membership having lapsed by 1895, when he removed from Beaconsfield to Reading. In 1901 he removed thence to Hungerford, where he died after a long and painful illness, April 30, 1906. Besides the papers above mentioned, Mr. Summers was the author of numerous newspaper articles, lectures, etc.; several of which were reprinted in book form; those referring to this county being: "Our Lollard Ancestors," "Memorials of the Jordans and Chalfonts," "History of Congregational Churches in Berks, Bucks, and S. Oxon," etc.—[A.H.C., with kind assistance from the Rev. G. P. Jarvis, of High Wycombe.]

GENERAL SIR H. A. SMYTH.

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General Sir Henry Augustus Smyth, Colonel Commandant Royal Artillery, K.C.M.G., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., etc. Born 1826; entered the Royal Artillery 1843; served in the Crimea 1855-6; was a member of the Ordnance Committee 1881-3; in command of the Woolwich district 1883-7; commanded the troops in S. Africa 1887-9, including the decisive operations against the rebellion in Zululand, 1888; and was Governor and Commander-in-Chief at Malta 1890-3. He then retired, and came to reside at St. John's Lodge, Stone. In 1895, he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. Since 1901 Sir Henry showed a warm interest in this Society, to which he has been a very liberal benefactor, besides being a regular attendant at its Committee and other meetings until July, 1905; since which date he was prevented by gradually-increasing feebleness from doing so. His death took place Sept. 18, 1906. Sir Henry's courtesy and the gentleness of his nature will never be forgotten by those who experienced them.

His father was Admiral W. H. Smyth, F.R.S., etc., well-known as an astronomer, and author of "*Ædes Hartwellianæ*," published in 1851, with a volume of "*Addenda*," published 1864, and other works, who was an original member of this Society, and a frequent

contributor to the first two volumes of *THE RECORDS*. The last fifteen years of his life were spent in retirement at S. John's Lodge, which was built for him by his friend Dr. John Lee, of Hartwell House; his death taking place there in September, 1865.—[A. H. C.]

JOHN WILLIAMS.

The late Treasurer of our Society was born in 1832, and passed his early years in Oxford. In 1855 he was created a Freeman of that city. Shortly afterwards he was appointed Manager of the Bucks and Oxon Bank in Aylesbury, which from that time forward became his home; until he finally retired from banking life soon after his bank was amalgamated with Lloyd's widely-spread business. In 1858 he joined the Bucks Lodge of Freemasons, and outlived all his contemporaries therein except Colonel Horwood and the Rev. O. J. Grace (late of Saunderton). Taking great interest in the craft, Mr. Williams became a member of several other Lodges, and held numerous high offices in them. Mr. Williams was elected a member of this Society in May, 1859; and on the resignation by the late Rev. Chas. Lowndes at the beginning of 1884, of his tenure of all the offices of the Society, Mr. Williams was appointed Treasurer, and was annually re-elected to that office until July, 1905, when, completely prostrated by extreme weakness, he wrote tendering his resignation, being quite unable any longer to give that attention to its duties which during so many years he had bestowed on them. Though wholly confined to his bed for some time previous to that step, he sank very gradually, and lingered until Sept. 23, 1906. Mr. Williams leaves a widow, a son, and two daughters, one of whom is married to Mr. G. L. De Fraine, whose father is among the oldest members of this Society, and has published *THE RECORDS* since the second volume. Mr. Williams took a great interest in the affairs of the Society, and on several occasions kindly undertook the organization of the Annual Excursion, the complete success of all of them being the best proof of the care bestowed on their arrangement.—[A. H. C.]

JOHN PARKER.

By the death of Mr. John Parker, F.S.A., the senior Honorary Secretary, and Editor of *THE RECORDS*, the Society has lost a faithful friend and supporter, who, it is not invidious to say, has done more for its maintenance and welfare than anyone since the Rev. Charles Lowndes.

Born at High Wycombe in May, 1833, and educated at Thame, Mr. Parker was admitted a solicitor in 1856, and soon afterwards joined his father in business at Wycombe. In, or shortly after 1860, he became a member of this Society, and in January, 1880, was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. Since 1876, he contributed nearly forty papers (inclusive of prefaces, obituary notices, etc.) to *THE RECORDS*, and four papers to the publications of the Society of Antiquaries, besides others of a more ephemeral character, lectures, etc.

At the beginning of 1884, the Rev. Charles Lowndes having met with an accident, was obliged to resign his able management of the Society, and his duties were divided between four members; the Rev. R. H. Pigott and Mr. Parker becoming Joint Hon. Secs., the latter taking the Editorship of *THE RECORDS*; Mr. Robert Gibbs, F.S.A., undertook the office of Curator of the Museum and Librarian; and Mr. J. Williams was appointed Treasurer.

Mr. Parker was the last survivor of the four, having outlived Mr. Williams by seventeen days; his death occurring on October 10, 1906. He had been ailing for some little while, and more especially since the Annual Excursion on July 18th, which had proved altogether beyond his strength. On the following day, however, he wrote pluckily to his Co-Secretary as follows:—"I was very sorry that I was obliged to leave you and the Members so abruptly yesterday, but I was so overcome by the heat that when I found you were pursuing your way to the new Eton buildings I took the first cab I could find for Slough station, as I was quite unfit for more sight-seeing. To-day I am resting. The Provost was most kind in his attention

to us. If no formal thanks was given at the time, he should be written to; as you followed out his leading perhaps you will write—but if you want me to do anything please wire to-morrow, as should I feel fit I propose to go to Winchester on Saturday for two or three days. The day was a great success both as to weather and objects to be seen, and I think our party must have been pleased.” After that he wrote several more letters to his Co-Secretary, showing his constant solicitude for the interests of the Society, cheerful in tone, in spite of his incidentally admitted weakness. A visit to S. Wales (including S. David’s and other places of special interest) had to be taken very quietly, but he wrote, still cheerfully, hoping to be able very shortly to fix a date for a Committee Meeting.

He thus died in harness, after over twenty-two and a half years’ persevering and painstaking service in the Society’s behalf; in the face, during much of that time, of very great discouragement; in fact, it is by no means an unlikely supposition that without him the Society would have collapsed, and the issue of *THE RECORDS* ceased.

Mr. Parker’s father, author of “*The Early History and Antiquities of Wycombe*” (4to, 1878), who was also a member of this Society, died in December, 1880, and his son continued the business, at first alone; later on he took into partnership Mr. E. Wilkins, now the Society’s Treasurer, and domiciled in Aylesbury. This partnership was dissolved in 1896, and in the following year Mr. Parker took into the firm his son, Mr. John Clement Parker, B.A., who has just been elected a member of the Society—an election memorable in its annals as being, apparently, that of the first member of the third generation.

In 1881 Mr. Parker had the misfortune to lose his wife, and the exceptionally handsome font cover which he presented to Wycombe Parish Church in memory of her is worth mentioning here.

To him belongs the entire credit of initiating (early in 1903) the celebration of the Society’s Jubilee, so successfully carried out by the co-operation of many kind helpers in July, 1905.

Mr. John Parker was essentially a busy man, and filled many important official positions in his native town; he was Registrar of the County Court, Magistrates' Clerk, and Clerk to various Boards, Trusts, Commissioners, etc. Originally a Nonconformist, he was Vicar's Churchwarden at High Wycombe for about 25 years, and had been associated with almost every Church work in the parish, being at different times a teacher in the Sunday School and Night School, a member of the Choir, member of the Diocesan Conference, and connected with numerous other movements in the town and neighbourhood. In 1869 he was elected to the Town Council of Wycombe, and in 1879 filled the office of Mayor.

To this brief outline of a life of usefulness (for some of the facts in which he is indebted to an appreciation of Mr. Parker which appeared in the *South Bucks Standard*), the writer would like to add his conviction of the impossibility of finding a colleague, in any association whatever, more uniformly kind and forbearing; and among the happiest reminiscences to carry to the end of life, will be the memory of JOHN PARKER.—[A. H. C.]

Besides the above, of whom short obituary notices are given as having been active members, the Society has to deplore the deaths of the following, making a total of ten, during the year 1906:—Lady Cottesloe, of Swanbourne House, where, with Lord Cottesloe, she kindly received the members in 1889; elected to the Society in July, 1890; died November 4th. Mr. Wilberforce Bryant, of Stoke Park, High Sheriff of Bucks 1892; elected April, 1898; died February 3rd. Mr. William Geo. Mount (formerly M.P.), of Wasing Place, Reading; elected July, 1890; died January 14th. Mr. Joseph Elliott Viney (of Messrs. Hazell, Watson, and Viney), Creed Lane, Ludgate Hill, London; elected July, 1892; died April 21st. And the Rev. C. F. Wyatt, of Broughton Rectory, Banbury; elected 1884 (died early in the year).