CHANCELLOR FERGUSON.

The losses to the Institute by death during the last few years have been heavy indeed, and it now becomes a duty to pay a last and well-earned tribute to a highly-valued fellow-labourer, lately removed from among us in the fulness of zeal and purpose. It was in the nature of things that the distinguished men who rallied round the unique personality of Mr. Albert Way, nearly sixty years ago, such as the Marquis of Northampton, Dr. Hewell, Professor Willis, Dr. Guest, Mr. Hartshorne, Dr. Buckland, Dean of Westminster, Mr. Petit, and others whose names will readily occur to the mind, should have long since departed. Associated with later days, when Mr. Ferguson joined our ranks, we recall the familiar and courteous presence of Lord Talbot de Malahide, Mr. Bloxam, Mr. G. T. Clark, Precentor Venables, Mr. Beresford Hope, the striking individuality of Mr. Freeman, and the co-operation of numerous earnest workers, all borne away in their turn on time's ever-rolling stream. Many, indeed, had long passed the allotted period of the Psalmist, and it is a melancholy thought to members of the middle period of the Institute's life, who had so willingly followed their leading, and admired them, busy and keen to the last, that the old volume is now well-nigh finally closed.

Within the recollection of the members now fast merging into the elders of the Institute, methods have changed, and the conditions of the pursuit of archæology have changed with them. In the general movement that brought about these changes an active antiquary like Chancellor Ferguson naturally took a part, and it is well if we can feel assured that the work so solidly founded and raised is still being carried on by at least not less capable hands than those of the founders of the Society.

Some there may be still among us who heard the idols demolished at Carnarvon, who have conversed with Way in one of his delightful "temporary museums," or sat at the feet of Willis, hailing him as the true "professor,"

while he unfolded "the architectural history" of a cathedral. Chancellor Ferguson was not then of the elect, but he listened many a time with admiration at Annual Meetings to a vivid exposition of a Hill of the Burh, wrought, for example, by the Lady of the Mercians, or followed the scheme of a Shell Keep under the magic touch of a master, and sure may we be that the information sank deep into his receptive mind. And he certainly realised with ardent appreciation, among many other impressive addresses in the Historical Section at the yearly gatherings, the place of a great Border City in English history, set forth in eloquent and stirring words under his own municipal leadership at Carlisle in 1882, hearing with delight, and as he well knew, that Rufus, and not the Conqueror, was the father and founder of his native city.

We may, indeed, feel satisfied that members of the Institute who enjoyed, as Chancellor Ferguson did, at least some of the privileges to which these retrospects refer are capably carrying on the torch, and trust that younger men who had no such advantages are referring to them for guidance, because it is to the experience and teaching of the elder antiquaries of the present generation that rising students must in their turn look.

To say that our lamented friend was a most competent and willing teacher, a modern antiquary of the best type, a scholar, a gentleman, and a worthy successor of the great men of the Institute who have passed away, is but to put on record what is well known to the general world of archæology. Fortified by his bringing-up at Shrewsbury, St. John's, Cambridge—where he graduated as 27th wrangler—and at Lincoln's Inn, his unusual capacity quickly ripened, and long ago procured him the seat of Chairman of Quarter Sessions and his Ecclesiastical dignity. He brought to the consideration of knotty points in Roman archæology the powers of a well-balanced intellect, and to his exertions the present efficient state of revised knowledge respecting Hadrian's Great Barrier is largely due. Occasional papers from his ready and straightforward pen have appeared in the *Journal*, and during many years at the prompting of the Editor he contributed excellent notices of antiquarian

works. Diligent and conscientious as he was in the pursuit of archæological knowledge in many branches, it was naturally towards the antiquities of his native city and county that his activity was mainly directed, and a worthy monument of his great industry remains in the sixteen volumes of the *Transactions of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society*, founded chiefly through his exertions, edited by himself from the beginning, and long carried on under his able presidency up to the time of his death. It is by far the best of the county society transactions.

Early in Chancellor Ferguson's antiquarian career he recognised the importance of recording evidence, and that with tireless energy he worked to this end his numerous contributions to the *Transactions* fully attest. Allusion has been made to his readiness in imparting information to less favoured friends. In this regard his promptitude was conspicuous—antiquaries may note with advantage that his answers usually came by return of post—and that his hand never wearied or his feelings wavered, the present writer has full evidence in a cordial and unbroken friendship and constant correspondence of more than a quarter of a century. Others will speak more at large of his multifarious labours in Carlisle, which city to its honour gave him its Freedom, and had his portrait painted in duplicate, and of his stimulating example, and continual exertions on behalf of Cumberland and Westmorland antiquities, setting the study of the teeming history of those wide districts on a firm and solid basis—assuredly no one man ever did so much for them. Doubtless others also, with the evidence of Chancellor Ferguson's industry and wide grasp constantly before them, will carry on the work thus so well advanced, for northern antiquaries in general and Cumberland men in particular are the most loyal and forward of modern inquirers. A better monument to their dead leader there could not be.

Though many years of Chancellor Ferguson's work were years of suffering, and his strength constantly labour and sorrow, he bore himself throughout with manly courage, facing the end with calm steadfastness at the early age of sixty-two. His terse diction, native

humour, and bright flashes will long be remembered, and he will be missed in countless northern circles where knowledge is appreciated and learning held in repute, while those who had the privilege of his intimacy will cherish the memory of an upright, warm-hearted man, a true and faithful friend.

A. H.

LIEUT.-GENERAL A. H. LANE FOX PITT-RIVERS.[1]

General Pitt-Rivers, who died on May 4th, at the age of seventy-three, was, without any exaggeration, one of the first men of the century as an anthropologist and exact antiquary. As a young officer in the Grenadier Guards he went through the Crimean campaign with considerable distinction, being mentioned in the despatches. But at an early age his tastes and abilities developed in an extraordinary degree in the direction of collecting from all countries objects which illustrated the history of human development. He began this work just fifty years ago, and gathered together, mainly through personal travel, ethnological specimens, not as mere interesting curiosities, but with the idea of showing "to what extent the modern savage actually represents primeval man." Notwithstanding many instances of remarkable similarity in habits, uses, and culture, he came to the conclusion that the modern savage presents us with a traditional portrait of primeval man rather than a photograph, and that the resemblance might well be compared to that existing between recent and extinct species of animals. In 1874 the catalogue of the anthropological collection lent by Colonel Lane-Fox (as he was then termed) to the Bethnal Green branch of the South Kensington Museum was published by the Science and Art Department, with a valuable introduction. This, with various additions of later years, forms the grand Pitt-Rivers collection, illustrative of savage life and embryo civilization, which was so generously presented to the New Museum, Oxford.

In 1880 Colonel Lane-Fox inherited the very extensive Rivers estates, on the death of the sixth Baron Rivers, in accordance with the will of his great-uncle, the second baron. General Pitt-Rivers has more than once told the writer of this notice how, when he visited the Rivers

[1] Reprinted by permission of the Editor of the *Athenæum*.

property early in the "fifties," and noticed the signs of abundant prehistoric remains, the thought flitted through his mind how desirable such an estate would be to an antiquary of his tastes. But he almost instantly dismissed the idea as an impossibility, for there were at that time twelve lives between him and the succession. However, by a strange series of accidents and incidents, and through the fifth baron having only eight daughters, and the sixth dying childless, this distinguished anthropologist came into that great tract of Wiltshire land, formerly Cranborne Chase, which closely borders on Dorsetshire. This area proved indeed to be a most happy hunting-ground for a prehistoric archæologist. Works of excavation were begun in 1881, and from that time to the end of his life the most patient, minute, and thorough investigations were being continuously made and duly recorded throughout the district, under the immediate supervision and direction of the General. He realized that the determination of the age of prehistoric works of the Stone, Bronze, and Iron Ages depends almost entirely on the identification of relics, such as fragments of pottery or broken household utensils, and therefore nothing was too small to be noted, and its exact site duly marked. The results of these explorations have been summed up in four magnificent quarto volumes, sumptuously illustrated, and privately printed for personal friends and museum libraries. The first was printed in 1887, and the last in December, 1898. The three earliest volumes were devoted to villages of the Roman or Romano-British type, and to tumuli of the Bronze Age. The fourth volume chiefly relates to the Bronze Age, and to a single long barrow of the Stone Age.

With regard to the finds themselves, General Pitt-Rivers most wisely decided that they should not leave the locality, and, with the utmost generosity, supplied not only admirable rooms for their accommodation, but provided every facility for the comfort of those desirous of visiting the collections in the model country museum of the little village of Farnham. This museum consists of eight rooms and galleries. Here in side cases, against the walls of the four largest rooms, are exhibited the

various objects from the different Romano-British villages that have been uncovered, whilst exact coloured models of the excavations occupy the centre parts. Other rooms contain specimens of peasant costume and personal ornament of different countries; peasant carvings, chiefly from Brittany; household peasant utensils from all parts; a marvellous collection of ancient and mediæval pottery, literally of all nations and countries, from early Celtic, Swiss lakes, and Etruscan, to mediæval British, Moorish, Cingalese, and Peruvian; the history of glass-making from the earliest times, including three stages of Egyptian glass; and agricultural implements and appliances. Another room contains an interesting and unique collection of primitive locks, keys, and padlocks, showing their gradual development. On this last subject General Pitt-Rivers issued in 1883 a valuable monograph, excellently illustrated, which was published by Messrs. Chatto and Windus. It is the only English treatise of any real worth on the subject.

Not far from the museum is "King John's House" at Tollard Royal. It is a building of the thirteenth century, considerably altered and enlarged during the Tudor period. It contains a series of small, and for the most part original pictures, illustrating the history of painting from the earliest times, beginning with Egyptian paintings of mummy heads of the twentieth and twenty-sixth dynasties (B.C. 1200–528), and one of the first century A.D. General Pitt-Rivers took the keenest interest in the exceedingly careful restoration of this historic house during the latter part of his life, as well as in the purchase and arrangement of the remarkable series of pictures. He wrote a good treatise on it, which was well illustrated and privately printed in the year 1890. It was characteristic of the man that he should do all this for the good of the public, and it was a special delight to him to find the number of visitors to the museum, to King John's House, and the beautifully laid out Larmer Grounds steadily increasing year by year.

It would take far more space than can possibly be spared to enumerate, even after the most abbreviated fashion, the vast number of papers and reports on

almost every branch of anthropology and prehistoric research. The index volume to the *Journal of the Anthropological Institute* shows that General Pitt-Rivers was a constant and prolific contributor from the origin of this association in 1871, and, indeed, for several years previously, when it was known as the Anthropological Society of London. The list of his contributions covers nearly three pages, and includes such diverse subjects as remains of pile-dwellings near London Wall and Southwark. discovery of chert implements in stratified gravel in the Nile Valley, the Egyptian boomerang and its affinities, arrow-marks in use among the Esquimaux, a dug-out canoe in the Thames at Hampton Court, votive statuettes found at Tanagra, Bœotia, and a rough stone implement from Borneo. On three occasions he gave the anniversary address to the Institute—namely, in 1876, 1877, and 1882—and was for many years its president.

The reports of the British Association for the Advancement of Science from 1872 to the time of his death afford proof of the important part that General Pitt-Rivers took in their discussions. For more than twenty years he was never absent from their annual gatherings, and was always considered one of the most distinguished of their number. Even during the last two or three years of his life, when his health was unhappily failing, he took an active interest in much of the work of the Association, particularly in connection with the two committees on which he was serving, the Ethnological Survey of the United Kingdom, and the Lake Village of Glastonbury.

In addition to being a Fellow of the Royal Society and of the Society of Antiquaries, General Pitt-Rivers was an active member and vice-president of the Royal Archæological Institute. For this last society he wrote in 1866 on Roovesmore Fort, co. Cork, and the Ogham inscriptions there, and in addition to other contributions delivered remarkable presidential addresses to the members of the Institute when they met at Salisbury in 1887, and again at Dorchester in 1897. The address at Dorchester was his last public deliverance, and was in the main a summary of what he had accomplished

on his Wiltshire estates. The address at Salisbury, in 1887, on early man was slightly controversial, and one sentence gave rise to much subsequent discussion. Dealing with the question of the very low type of skull of many of the earliest specimens, he said: "Nor are our relations with the Supreme Power presented to us in an unfavourable light by this discovery, for if man was originally created in the image of God, it is obvious that the very best of us have greatly degenerated." The result of this and other like reflections was that they brought forth two powerful sermons on the origin of man, on the following Sunday, in Salisbury Cathedral: one by Bishop Wordsworth, and the other by Canon Creighton, now Bishop of London.

One of the disappointments of General Pitt-Rivers's life was the very little good he was able to achieve in the honorary office that he held of inspector under the Ancient Monuments Protection Act of 1882. He would occasionally wax indignant over the timidity of the Act, and over the thoughtless and selfish ignorance of certain English landowners. Until his health began to fail, the General was a most able conversationalist, and would pour forth from his abundant treasure-house of knowledge the most varied information, provided he was in scientific company or with those who were genuinely anxious to learn. The extraordinary variety of his knowledge, and the rapid way in which he could turn from one subject to another, reminded us on several occasions of Mr. Gladstone. We can call to mind one occasion, in his own grounds at Rushmore, when, well within an hour, he discoursed most learnedly and clearly on forestry, on Mexican pottery, on Egyptian painting, on modern brass bands, on the forms of the Christian cross, and on simony in the Church.

He was generous in his gifts of his noble and costly volumes, but only provided he felt sure they would be really appreciated. On one occasion he was deceived, and listening to the importunate hints and eventually downright request of a troublesome museum visitor, he presented him with the first of his great volumes on the Rushmore excavations, but not without some misgivings and a variety of questions as to his identity. Within a

month of the gift the General found this very volume at a second-hand bookshop at Exeter. He had no legal remedy, but he left no stone unturned till the man was found, and then gave him no peace until he had paid two guineas to the Dorset County Hospital.

He was a man of wide sympathies and generous instincts, in addition to being the possessor of a rare and discriminating intelligence. He will be sorely missed by many in different walks of life, as well as by the scientific world at large.

SIR TALBOT HASTINGS BENDALL BAKER, BART.

We have very much to regret our sad loss by the death of Sir Talbot Baker, bart., a loss which cannot be passed without record.

Born 9th September, 1820, in due course Mr. Baker went up to Oxford to Christ Church, where he took his B.A. in 1843, and M.A. in 1847. In 1844–1845 he was ordained in Lichfield diocese, and from 1844 was curate of Brewood, near Wolverhampton, until 1848, when he was collated to the vicarage of Preston with Sutton Poyntz, in Dorset. In 1868 he was appointed honorary canon of Salisbury, and in 1870 was made rural dean of Dorchester, second portion. On the death of his brother, 29th March, 1877, he succeeded as third baronet, and removed to the family seat at Ranston, near Blandford, resigning all clerical duty, retaining only the canonry which he held to the time of his death. He acknowledged that the taste for archæology which developed in his college days was afterwards fostered, as doubtless with many another, by a study of Rickman and of Parker. In time he became a member of the Cambridge Camden Society and of the Institute. He was elected on the Council of the Institute, and afterwards appointed a vice-president, and in all the affairs or work accruing he always took the greatest interest. Whenever in town, he was present at the general meetings or a Council, and was ever an attendant at the larger annual meeting. Not being a fluent speaker he was not perhaps so much heard as his undoubted information and qualification would have warranted, but yet he was ever ready to speak if called upon.

He did not contribute often to the Journal. In 1888 he gave a paper on Wisby and some churches of South Gotland, which was printed in Vol. XLV; and at the Dorchester meeting in 1897 he gave an excellent and scholarly paper on the House of the Vestals in the

Forum at Rome and the discovery of Anglo-Saxon coins in the excavations there.

At the Salisbury meeting of the Institute, in 1887, he took an active part in making the arrangements, which were admirable in every respect, and took a house in the Close so that he might entertain during the meeting. At the Dorchester meeting, too, he was greatly interested, and lent his aid towards making it the great success it was. He offered hospitality at Ranston, but it was found that the district could not be included in the programme. At Ipswich in 1899, two years later, he appeared well and hearty save for a diminishing eyesight, which made occasional assistance, if unobtrusive, rather valued, but he entered gaily into all the work and joined the excursions and discussions as if he were ten years younger than he was. His last appearance at the Institute was at the general meeting in Hanover Square on the 7th March, 1900, when he took the chair as vice-president. Afterwards he expressed his pleasure in anticipating the Dublin meeting, which he had planned to attend, and by letter to the writer later he again mentioned how much he was looking forward to July, and hoped the time of the meeting would not clash with the coming of age of his son in that month. Alas! he was destined to see neither event. He passed away suddenly, but peacefully, from "heart failure," on the morning of Saturday, 7th April, and the Institute can know him no more.

Besides his attachment to the Institute, he was, as may be supposed, a great supporter of his own county antiquarian society, and in all other respects locally fulfilled the quiet duties of a country gentleman. Yet he will not be more missed in this circle than he will be by the members of the Institute, by whom he had been so long known and valued for his regular attendance and very welcome presence.