

## In Memoriam.

---

The Rev. FREDERICK WILLIAM RAGG, M.A., of Trinity College, Cambridge, and fellow of the Royal Historical Society, died on August 13th, 1929. He was born in 1845 and was vicar of Masworth, Bucks. from 1880 till 1906; how he, with the help of his wife, restored the church, building and carving in wood and stone with their own hands, in the absence of paid labour, for which the wages were not forthcoming, was widely known forty years ago. Some reference to this was made in a notice of his collected poems, published last year, and reviewed in these *Transactions* (N.S. xxix, 35of.), but here we must confine ourselves to his work on the antiquities of our district, on which he entered with a view to a Victoria County History of Westmorland, never published, as indeed much of his other work in other counties never completely saw the light, to his great disappointment. For example, his tables of hides and tenants in Berkshire and Bedfordshire were made over to the Hon. F. H. Baring, who used them in his book on "Domesday Tables" (1909). Before his retirement from Masworth he had joined our Society, being attracted by the fact of his own origin in Furness and Westmorland; and after he had settled at the Manor House, Lower Boddington, Northants., he began the long series of papers (these *Transactions*, N.S. ix—xxviii) which give in detail the medieval history of most of the great families of Westmorland. This work was by no means mere compilation from published matter; he had the advantage of access to original MSS. at Lowther Castle, and had made himself an efficient decipherer of ancient script, so that each of the papers is a study from authentic sources and of the greatest possible value. In these twenty years he has printed, we believe, most of the work he undertook in our district; there remained only notes on his own ancestry, incomplete, and some papers which he has left to the Society, now deposited at the Jackson Library. After service from 1909 as a Member of our Council, in 1920 we elected him an Honorary Member of our Society. He married, in 1901, Isabel, fourth daughter of the

Rev. E. J. Edwards, incumbent of Trentham, Staffordshire, for 48 years, and prebendary of Lichfield Cathedral, who survives him.

Mrs. F. LEYBORNE POPHAM, of Johnby Hall, Greystoke, who died, November 12th, 1929, was a member of our Society from 1911. She was daughter of the late Henry Howard of Greystoke Castle.

Mrs. CALVERLEY of Wray Head, Holmrook, Cumberland, who died January 3rd, 1930, aged 81, was the widow of our member, the late Rev. W. S. Calverley, a frequent contributor to these *Transactions*, and author of "Notes on the early Sculptured Crosses, Shrines and Monuments in the present Diocese of Carlisle." She was a member of our Society from 1899.

MR. DANIEL SCOTT, who died aged 68, at Penrith, on January 6th, 1930, after a long and painful illness heroically borne, was a valued member of our Society from 1908, a member of the Council from 1916 and of the Parish Register Committee from 1918.

He was born at Wakefield in 1861, and served his apprenticeship to journalism in that town. After working with a press agency in Manchester, he came to Cumberland as a member of the staff of the *West Cumberland Times*, and it was during this period of his life that he acquired a love for matters of historical and archaeological interest. He left Cumberland to become editor of the *Hertfordshire Advertiser*, only to return, in 1889, to take up the editorship of the *Penrith Observer*, a post he continued to hold during the remaining forty years of his active and useful life.

His articles upon matters connected with local history or folklore, written over the signature "Northerner," were a feature of his weekly issues. He wrote many pamphlets upon subjects of archaeological interest, and among his published books are *Bygone Cumberland and Westmorland*, *The Stricklands of Sizergh* and the Cumberland and Westmorland edition of Methuen's Guides.

Among his contributions to the pages of these *Transactions* were many notes upon spots visited during the course of excursions and an article "Millrigg" in Vol. xxvii, n.s., but perhaps his special claim upon the gratitude of the Society is his Catalogue-Index of the volumes of our *Transactions*, n.s. i-xiii.

He frequently attended the excursions of the Society, and his intimate knowledge of the district was always at the service of

committees appointed to make the arrangements for these outings.

He was widely known and respected both by members of his own profession and the general public, and his loss will be deeply regretted by all who knew his kindly and generous nature.

MR. ALAN DELANCY CURWEN, Lord of the Manor of Workington, who died, aged 60, in a Carlisle Nursing Home, on January 7th, 1930, was a member of our Society from 1900.

Educated at Charterhouse and Corpus Christi College, Oxford, he entered the engineering shops of Messrs. Armstrong-Whitworth at Newcastle, but his engineering career was cut short, when, on the death of his elder brother, he became heir to the family estates, and had to help in their management. He succeeded to the title and the vast Curwen property, upon the death of his father in 1900.

Being a keen archaeologist, Mr. Alan Curwen took an enthusiastic interest in the family seat, Workington Hall. He did much to lay bare its original foundations and other old work at the hall, but in later years he spent most of his time on his Windermere estate at Belle Isle.

He was a thorough sportsman, an excellent shot, a skilful archer and fisherman, and before the War he owned probably the finest pack of foxhounds in Cumberland. He was a gifted linguist and an accomplished classical scholar, while his marked artistic abilities showed themselves in his work in painting, etching and metalwork. His wife, a daughter of the late Sir Wilfred Lawson, predeceased him in 1918.

MR. JAMES WALTER BROWN, who died, aged 79, at his residence, 35, Chiswick Street, Carlisle, on March 1st, 1930, was a member of our Society from 1914. Born at Troqueer, near Dumfries, in 1850 he came to Carlisle in his early years and lived the rest of his life in that city.

After spending five years in the office of Mr. John Reid Donald, solicitor, he obtained a post with Messrs. Cowans, Sheldon and Co., ultimately becoming secretary and director of that firm.

It might be said that Mr. Brown's life was devoted to Carlisle and its intellectual advancement, while upon its history he was an authority. His contributions to *The Cumberland News*, many of which are collected into the nine volumes of his *Round Carlisle Cross*, are a valuable source of information upon all that concerns Carlisle and its neighbourhood.

His keen memory and wide sympathies make his work of special interest, when he deals with characters and events of seventy years ago. He was a student of the Cumberland dialect, and when the late Dr. E. W. Prevost died suddenly with his work unfinished, he completed the supplement to his *Glossary of the Cumberland Dialect*.

He published a book of poems in 1893, and several of his lyrics were set to music by Canon T. W. Stephenson and by Dr. Sydney Nicholson, while an anthem of his, with music by Dr. Wadely, was sung at the inaugural service held in the Cathedral at the opening of the Carlisle Historical Pageant in 1928.

For many years he was the moving spirit in the Carlisle Scientific and Literary Society, into which, as hon. secretary, he instilled new life. He was a past president of the same society, and his services as a lecturer were much in request.

In his youth a member of the cathedral choir, he maintained through life an unflagging interest in the musical activities of the city. He was a past president of the Choral Society, and for many years a member of the executive committee of the Carlisle Musical Festival.

The sterling qualities of his character and his personal charm won him a wide circle of friends, and his loss will be keenly felt in the city he loved so deeply and for which he worked so well.

Mrs. STEWART of Shambellie, Dumfries, who died March 13th, 1930, was the daughter of the late Mr. William Brown, of the Old House, Sowerby, Thrisk, who contributed many articles to these *Transactions*. She was the wife of Captain William Stewart of Shambellie.

Mr. WILLIAM DIXON DENT, of Ashness, Grange-over-Sands, was a member of our Society from 1925. He was a regular and enthusiastic attender of our meetings and excursions, and took a keen interest in all relating to the literature, history and archaeology of the district. He is survived by his widow.

---