

In Memoriam.

MR. STANLEY HUGHES LE FLEMING, D.L., J.P., of Rydal Hall, Westmorland, who died at Windermere on October 12th, 1939, aged 84.

By the death of Mr. Stanley Hughes le Fleming, Westmorland has lost one of the most prominent of her public men and our Society one of its oldest and most enthusiastic members. Born at Madras during the time of the Indian Mutiny, the son of the late General George Cumberland Hughes le Fleming, he received his education at Repton School and Trinity College, Cambridge. Upon his succession to Rydal Hall he took a prominent part in local affairs. He was appointed a magistrate in 1877, was High Sheriff for Westmorland in 1878, and since 1931, Lord Lieutenant for that county. He was keenly interested in country pursuits and in all kinds of outdoor sports, among other offices holding that of President of the Vale of Rydal Sheep Dog Trials, and being senior member of the Royal Windermere Yacht Club. He was deeply attached to his beautiful estate of Rydal Hall and cherished its many interesting historical associations. Members of our Society who took part in the summer excursion of 1933 will remember the charming hospitality shown them by Mr. and Mrs. le Fleming and the trouble taken to arrange the valuable documents at Rydal Hall for their inspection.

He became a member of our Society in 1889 and was elected a Patron in 1934, on more than one occasion presiding at our general meetings. He never missed an opportunity of furthering the interests of the Society and his kindly presence will be much missed at our excursions. He married in 1896, Cicely, daughter of the late Colonel G. B. H. Marton, of Capernwray, Lancaster, and is survived by his widow, his eldest son, Mr. Michael George Hughes le Fleming, another son and two daughters.

MR. ARNOLD M. BEATY, who died in a Glasgow nursing home on Saturday, November 5th, 1939, aged 65, was the third son of the late Mr. James Beaty, who in 1862 established in Carlisle the well-known printing and publishing firm of Messrs. James Beaty

& Sons. After receiving his education in America Mr. Beaty came into his father's business, of which he was at the time of his death managing director. Keenly interested in his work, he did much to enhance the reputation of his firm and was moreover at one time a director of the *Carlisle Journal*, the *Whitehaven News* and Messrs. Moss & Sons, Whitehaven. He was president of the Alliance of Master Printers in 1921-22, and served as a member of the Whitley Joint Industrial Council for the printing industry. He was an enthusiastic musician and a strong supporter of local choral societies. A lover of nature and open air pursuits, he took a special interest in Border history and antiquities. He joined our Society in 1922 and was a regular attender of its meetings and excursions. He is survived by a son and two daughters.

LADY OLIVIA CAVENDISH BENTINCK, widow of the late Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck, who died at Underley Hall, Kirkby Lonsdale, on Sunday, November 29th, 1939, aged 70, was one of the best known figures in the public and social life of Westmorland. She was the only surviving child of the late Earl and Countess of Bective, and married the late Lord Henry Cavendish Bentinck in 1892. Endowed with a remarkable talent for organisation and deeply interested in a wide range of subjects, Lady Henry Bentinck devoted much of her time and energies to the furtherance of causes concerned with both the material and social welfare of the district in which it was her lot to live.

Among these were the improvement of agriculture and dairy farming in Westmorland, the work of the local Womens' Institutes and the management of the schools in the Kirkby Lonsdale neighbourhood, with special reference to Casterton School, of which she was a governor and to the Firbank National School of which she was a generous supporter. She was moreover interested in the work of the Keastwick Men's Club, the Kirkby Lonsdale Fellowship, the British Legion, the local V.A.D. and the N.S.P.C.C. of which she was president of the Westmorland Branch. During the great War, she was chief organiser of the V.A.D. hospital which was opened at Underley and later transferred to Lowfields. An artist herself, Lady Henry Bentinck did much to encourage local artists and local art exhibitions, she was a great lover of animals and of life in the country-side.

She became a member of our Society in 1932 and showed an active interest in its work, being a constant attender at its excursions. She was keenly interested in the history and

antiquities of the Kirkby Lonsdale district and took an active part in the preservation of the "Devil's Bridge." In her, Westmorland has lost a friend whose place it will be hard to fill.

MR. HENRY GARNETT GANDY, M.A., C.B.E., D.L., formerly of Skirsgill Park, Penrith, who died in a nursing home at Bourne-mouth on November 30th, 1939, came of a well-known Westmorland family who formerly resided at Heaves, near Kendal. He was by profession a solicitor, and for some time was in partnership with the late Mr. J. Broatch of Keswick. The enthusiastic interest he displayed in Voluntary Aid work proved invaluable during the time of the Great War when he was County Director of Voluntary Aid Detachments, with a seat on the board of the Cumberland and Westmorland Territorial Army Association. His successful management of his department was recognised by the award of the Queen Alexandra Medal. He was an active member of our Society which he joined in 1912, and while he still resided in Cumberland was a regular attendant at its meetings.

LT.-COL. CHARLES E. HOLLINS, of Editso, East Park Road, Blackburn, a member of our Society since 1922.

MR. GEORGE B. POSTLETHWAITE, of Fairland, Fleet, Hampshire, for many years an enthusiastic member of our Society which he joined as long ago as 1896.

MR. WILLIAM HARRISON HOBSON, a well-known and respected inhabitant of Maryport. For more than 40 years he was a member of our Society which he joined in 1899.

MISS HELENA THOMPSON, of Park End, Workington, who died on January 7th, 1940; a member of our Society since 1922.

MR. J. HAROLD BIRLEY, of Stonecroft, Parkfield Road, Didsbury, Manchester, who died in January, 1940, took an active interest in municipal government and was an alderman of the City of Manchester. He was a student of local history and archæology, and did much to help in the organisation of the recent Manchester Historical Pageant. He became a member of our Society in 1930, and despite the long journeys involved in attending our meetings, more than once took part in our excursions where his genial presence will be missed by many of our members.

COLONEL PERCY THEODOSIUS DENIS DE VITRE, D.S.O., of Gresgarth Hall, Caton, near Lancaster, who died in the Royal Infirmary, Lancaster, on August 15th, 1940, was a well-known and respected leader in many political and civic activities in the Lunesdale district.

Born in India in 1870, Colonel de Vitre received his education at Clifton College and the Royal Military Academy. After a distinguished military career, including service in the Great War at Mons and in the first battle of Ypres, he devoted his energies to the furtherance of many good causes in his own district, where he was Lord of the Manor of Caton. He was appointed a deputy-lieutenant for Lancashire in 1935 and was a magistrate for the Petty Sessional Division of Hornby. He was an active supporter of the Lancaster Agricultural Society and other kindred local enterprises. He was deeply interested in the preservation of rural amenities and was largely instrumental in saving the famous beauty spot known as the Crook of Lune from desecration. He took an active interest in local history and archaeology, and his presence will be missed at meetings of our Society of which he became a member in 1936.

LORD STRICKLAND OF SIZERGH, G.C.M.G., died in Malta on Thursday, August 22nd, at the age of 79 years, and after a long and distinguished career in the Colonial service.

Born in Malta in 1861, he was educated at Oscott College, Birmingham, and subsequently at Trinity College, Cambridge. While at Cambridge, he had the distinction of being the first Catholic undergraduate to be elected president of the Cambridge Union since its inception, while he was at the same time president of the University Carlton Club. Most of his public activities were associated with the island of Malta, where he had inherited estates from his maternal grand-uncle, Sir Nicholas Scerberris Bologna, but in the earlier years of his governmental career he occupied in succession the appointments of Governor of the Leeward Islands, of Tasmania, of Western Australia and of New South Wales. He had been elected to the Malta Council of Government in 1886, attended the first Colonial Conference in 1887, and was Chief Secretary for the island in 1888.

For some years after the Great War he had the curious distinction of being Member of Parliament for Lancaster, which constituency he represented from 1924 to 1928, and at the same time member of the Malta Legislative Assembly. He was Prime

Minister of Malta from 1927 to 1930, and during his period of office was instrumental in introducing many reforms. Fearless and outspoken in maintaining due authority, he had to encounter on occasions opposition of a serious nature, and in 1930 had a narrow escape from death at the hands of a would-be assassin. The good results of his work are shown by the constancy with which the native Maltese are adhering to the British cause during the present ordeal through which we are passing. He was knighted in 1897 and created a baron in 1928.

He was a munificent benefactor of the island, where in 1928 he and Lady Strickland gave and endowed an English College. He was owner of three newspapers in Malta, including "The Times of Malta," the leading local journal.

He had a warm affection for his Westmorland estates, and in recent years did much to restore Sizergh Castle and add to the amenity of its surroundings.

Lord Strickland was twice married. His first wife was Lady Edeline Sackville, eldest daughter of the seventh Earl De La War. She died in Malta in 1918, leaving five daughters.

In 1926, he married Miss Margaret Hulton, sister of Sir Edward Hulton and a Dame of the Order of the British Empire.

Lord Strickland was a member of our Society from 1899 till his death. He took a keen interest in Westmorland and its affairs, and it will be remembered that he played a prominent part in the acquisition for the town of Kendal of Queen Katharine Parr's prayer book.

SIR GEORGE MACDONALD.

SIR GEORGE MACDONALD, who became an Honorary Member of our Society in 1927, died at his house in Edinburgh, after more than a year of failing health, on 9th August, 1940, at the age of 78.

He was the son of Dr. James Macdonald, schoolmaster and antiquary, from whom he inherited his interest in Roman Scotland. Educated under his father at Ayr Academy and then at Edinburgh and Oxford, he travelled widely during his university career in France, Germany and Italy, and after its completion became a classical master at Kelvinside Academy, Glasgow. In 1892 he became Lecturer in Greek at Glasgow University, and in 1904 he joined the permanent staff of the Scottish Education Office. In 1928 he retired from the secretaryship of that office, which he had filled with great distinction and with memorable consequences for education in Scotland, having been knighted as K.C.B. in the previous year.

He first distinguished himself as an antiquary in the field of numismatics. Soon after he went to Glasgow he began a catalogue of the Greek coins in the Hunterian Collection, which was not finished until 1905; a great work which was received with the international applause of the learned. His friendship with Haverfield, who was two years his senior, further strengthened his interest in Romano-British archaeology; and in 1911 he published his second great work, *The Roman Wall in Scotland*, which did for the northern Wall what John Collingwood Bruce had done for the southern, but with the difference of quality and equipment due to half a century's progress in scholarship: a difference even more discernible in the historical background, and what may be called the general theory of the Roman frontier, than in the study of the remains themselves. The much enlarged and revised edition of 1934 is the finest book in existence on any part of that frontier; and the model upon which, some day, our historians will give us a book on the Roman Wall in England. In 1913 he was elected a Fellow of the British Academy; of his many later honours it must suffice to mention his honorary degree at Cambridge in 1936 and his presidency of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

The present writer first met him as a guest in Haverfield's house about 1912; the beginning of a friendship broken only by his death. He was a striking figure; broad and powerful, red-haired and red-bearded, visibly charged with immense physical and mental energy, and conspicuous at the same time for the delicacy of perception and nicety of expression which had made him a great student of Greek art and a great writer upon it. Lowland born and Lowland bred, he was a Highlander to look at; a Highlander of the west coast, where the Highland stock is most obviously affected by Viking blood. You saw him in your mind's eye clad in a blue jersey at the helm of a Loch Fyne herring-skiff; and fancied him one of those old-time lads of the West Coast who came from the croft and the fishing-boat to study at the university with a barrel of salt herring for their sustenance.

In the retirement of his old age he was the king of Scottish archaeologists, and his services to the history of his country were innumerable. But his learning was tempered by a modesty and a generosity no less royal than itself. He dearly loved a fight, and antiquarian controversy was a thing he enjoyed for its own sake no less than for the sake of the historical truth which, he was convinced, emerged less often from the solitary researches of a fugitive and cloistered virtue than from the *concordia discors*

of archaeological fisticuffs; but he deferred with royal grace to specialized knowledge wherever he found it; he had a royal welcome for English invaders in Scottish archaeology, (no easy matter for any patriotic Scot but the greatest of heart) and a warm appreciation of their work, without prejudice to the rigour of his criticism if he thought it here or there amiss; and he put his exquisite command of written English royally at the service of any fellow-student (and they were many) whose writings in manuscript or proof came to his hands short of publication. The interest with which he followed and aided the work of our own Society and that of our sister Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne on the problems of Hadrian's Wall, was as keen as that which he took in the problems of the Antonine Wall that he had made peculiarly his own; and will be remembered with gratitude as long as we who gained by it shall live. He was a man, morally as well as intellectually, whom our Society (like very many others) honoured only thereby to honour itself yet more.

R.G.C.