

In Memoriam

The Rev. C. E. Last writes: "Mr CHARLES COLLISON died at St Bees on 16 March 1951, at the age of 84. He had been a master at St Bees School from 1907 to 1938 and had won the affection of successive generations of boys, not only by his interest in their games, but also by organising outings on their three-quarter holidays, when he introduced them to his two hobbies of natural history and local history. For more than 25 years he produced a duplicated school magazine, the 'Busy Bee', and in 1940 he had printed for private circulation a volume of 350 pages entitled 'Ye Booke of ye Busie Bee' (printed by P. C. Dickinson & Son, Millom); in spite of its title, this book provides a very interesting history of the School (I think it is the only continuous record of the kind that exists), and it also contains the results of researches carried out by the late Philip Fox of St Bees, giving details of the law-suits that followed the dissolution of the priory. It is also of great value for the history of the ancient parish of St Bees in the post-Reformation period. It was typical of his diffident and retiring disposition that he did not allow the book to receive wide publicity or circulation, but it deserves to be brought to the attention of historians and all who are interested in St Bees." Mr Collison became a member of the Society in 1918; the only contribution which he made to its publications was a note on a reference in the *Cumberland Pacquet* of 24 February 1823 to the new cross at Egremont (CW2 xxiv 375), but he was a keen though characteristically unobtrusive supporter of its activities, and a regular contributor to the Parish Register, Research and Record Publication funds.

Major GEOFFREY WRENCH TITHERINGTON died suddenly, while out shooting, on 20 October 1951 at the early age of fifty-eight. He was the son of the Rev. A. F. Titherington, rector of Bramshott, Hants, and was educated at Radley and Queen's College, Oxford, winning a scholarship at each of these foundations. In his youth he was a fine oar, rowing in the Radley Eight in the Ladies' Plate at Henley in three successive years, 1909-1911, and in the Oxford Eight in 1914. He served with the Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry in France and

Mesopotamia during the first world war, reaching the rank of major; in 1919 he was seconded to the Egyptian army, for duty with the Sudan Political Service, with which he remained until his retirement in 1942: in 1934 his services earned him the Order of the Nile. He had been a district commissioner in the Sudan; on his return to England, he was appointed deputy A.R.P. officer at Portsmouth, and he held that important post until the end of the second world war, when he came to live in our district. For six years he lived in Penrith, where Brent House became a welcome magnet to a wide circle of friends; early in 1951 he moved to Ormside, where he had been looking forward to making his new home, the Old Rectory, equally well known. He was a man of wide interests — a zealous churchman, a keen gardener and a good shot, ready and eager to take his full share in the life of the community in which he had settled; he had first found an interest in archæology during his service in the Sudan, and it was a natural consequence that he should join our Society in 1945. He rarely missed a meeting, and many members will remember him as a most friendly and entertaining companion; he never contributed an article to our *Transactions*, but on several occasions he exhibited interesting local finds, most recently at the annual general meeting in Penrith last autumn, when he showed us some photographs of a remarkable carved stone head, perhaps of medieval date, which had been found at Ormside church. In 1949 he was invited to become a member of our Council, to which he devoted faithful service. Our deepest sympathy is extended to Mrs Titherington, herself a member of the Society.

Mrs MARY KYNASTON WATTS-JONES died on 27 September 1951 at the age of seventy-two. She was the widow of Captain Hector Watts-Jones, R.N., and a daughter of Edmund Peel Potter of Bowfell, Windermere; in her youth she studied sculpture and painting, and she had the honour of painting a miniature for Queen Mary's dolls' house. She had been a member of our Society since 1932.

Mr THOMAS CLARKE BUTLER-COLE of Tunstall House, Tunstall, died there on 11 February 1952. He was born in 1870, the eldest son of the Rev. Thomas Foster Clarke, vicar of Rosthearne, Cheshire, and assumed the name of Butler-Cole on inheriting the properties of Kirkland Hall, Garstang and Beaumont Cote, Carnforth in 1915. He was educated at Rossall School, and thereafter devoted himself principally to farming and to the varied activities of country life; he was a skilled

horseman and shot, and in his day owned a notable hound in Thruster, the champion trailer. In public life he was a justice of the peace for Cumberland and for Lancashire, and for several years served as chairman of the farm committee of the Royal Albert Hospital, Lancaster; and at Tunstall, where he had resided since 1936, he was vice-chairman of the parochial church council and a sidesman. The Society, of which he had been a member since 1910, offers its deepest sympathy to Mrs Butler-Cole and to their children.

We also record, with regret, the deaths of the following members of the Society, whose dates of joining it are added in parenthesis:—

Mr H. N. CLARKE, Grange-over-Sands (1930).

Mrs WHILE, Ulverston (1937).