

3.—ROBERT SPENCE; by Thos. Hodgkin, LL.D., &c. [read on the 27th August, 1890].

We regret that we have to record the death of one of our oldest members, Mr. Robert Spence, of Rosella Place, North Shields, who died on the 9th of August, 1890, in the 73rd year of his age.

Mr. Spence entered very early on a business life, having at the age of fourteen commenced his duties as a clerk in the banking house of Chapman & Spence, in which his father was a partner. Till about six months before his death, with a few intervals caused by broken health, he continued his business career as a banker, in connection first with the Union Joint Stock Bank, and afterwards with the private firm of Hodgkin, Barnett, Pease, & Spence, of which he was one of the founders.

The assiduity with which throughout life he attended to his duties as a man of business made his attainments as an archaeologist and numismatist the more remarkable. From boyhood he was an enthusiastic collector. Books, autographs, coins, medals, engravings, tracts of the Commonwealth period, illuminated MSS., were all bought by him with much judgment, but also with boldness.

By study and experience he became an expert, especially in bibliography and numismatics, though as he never wrote on either of these subjects the knowledge thus acquired necessarily dies with him.

He became a member of the Society of Antiquaries in the year 1864. Owing to his delicate health he never attended a meeting of the Society, but he took a deep interest in its transactions.

Mr. Spence leaves one son surviving him, who is a member of the Council of the Society and a Curator of its Museum.

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4.—WILLIAM ALDAM.

The following short notice is from the *Times* of the 29th July, 1890:—‘News has been received of the death of Mr. William Aldam, of Frickley Hall, Doncaster, which occurred at Healey, his Northumbrian residence, on Sunday, the 27th July, 1890. The deceased was returned as M.P. for Leeds in 1840 in the Liberal interest. He was chairman of the West Riding bench of magistrates and of the Finance Committee of the West Riding County Council, and was chairman of the Aire and Calder Navigation Company.’ He became a member of the Society in 1883.