

## OBITUARY

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### ROBERT HARVEY BARTON

At the great age of 89, Mr. Robert Harvey Barton passed away in March, 1939. Mr. Barton became a member of the Society thirty-six years ago, and for nearly thirty years acted as one of the Trustees.

He was the son of Robert Barton, of Bishopsgate, who was also a member of the Society between the years 1870 and 1890.

Although Mr. Barton had resided in Bishopsgate for some thirty years only, he had, during the whole of his life, been associated with the ward in some official capacity. He had served as Churchwarden of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, Hon. Vestry Clerk of St. Helen's Parish, Governor of the Bishopsgate Institute, Estates Governor of Dulwich College, Governor of the Central Foundation Schools, Governor of Sir John Cass Foundation, and Past President of Bishopsgate Ward Club, of which he was a member for sixty-six years. He took a lively interest in all City affairs, more particularly in the ward of Bishopsgate, and almost up to the last he regularly attended all meetings of the institutions with which he was associated. In the death of Mr. Barton the Society has lost an old and valued friend.

### ARTHUR BONNER, F.S.A.

The Society has suffered a great loss by the death on 11th July, 1939, of Arthur Bonner, for ten years Editor of the *Transactions*, a Director of Meetings for some years, and a Vice-President.

Born in 1861, the eldest son of the Rev. William

Harding Bonner, he entered, at a very early age, the employ of J. Curwen & Sons, music publishers. At 19 he discarded his early religious views and became a disciple of Charles Bradlaugh, subsequently acting as his printing manager. At 23 he established the printing business of Bonner & Co., and a year later he married Bradlaugh's daughter, Hypatia. In 1930-31 he was President of the London Master Printers' Association, and served for many years on the Council of the British Federation of Master Printers.

In the limited space allotted one, it is only possible to enumerate a few of his many and varied interests. He was a keen cricketer, gymnast, boxer, ardent walker, mountaineer and a professional singer. Early in the "nineties" he became actively interested in archaeology, and one of the moving spirits of the Balham Antiquarian Society. Encouraged by our late respected President, Sir Edward Brabrook, he devoted his attention to archaeological activities enthusiastically, and served as Treasurer of the Surrey Archaeological Society. He was quite an authority on "dene-holes," a keen "cave man," and a member of the Bristol Spelaeological Society; but he was regarded, more particularly, for his studies of place names, a subject upon which he proved himself an acknowledged master. He was a severe critic and a persistent foe of all insufficiently grounded speculation. His thoroughness was shown by the work he undertook of examining all the six-inch ordnance survey maps of England, in order to prove or disprove various theories as to the origin of the name "Coldharbour," discovering some 350 places bearing that name.

His contributions to the *Transactions* bear the titles of the "Name of Chelsea," "Name of Battersea," "Name of Marylebone," "Name of Rotten Row," "Some London Street Names" (two articles), "William Camden and Camden Place," "St. George-in-the-East and Minories," and "Staple Inn."

Mr. Bonner will be remembered by his ever readiness to act as lecturer and as guide at places visited by the members.

He died of cancer of the lung, which distressing malady he bore with admirable fortitude. To his colleagues on the Council, and the members generally, his passing is a heavy sorrow.

### F. J. BRAND

Mr. F. J. Brand, who joined the Society in 1933, died at his Ilford residence on 29th December, 1939, at the age of 82. He was more particularly interested in the history of Essex, his native county, and devoted many years to the patient and laborious accumulation of detailed information, which he made available in his *Index to Essex History*, copies of which, bound by himself, in four volumes, have been deposited in various public libraries. His ready sympathy and warm generosity endeared him to a large circle of friends, among whom were numbered many distinguished scholars. He was founder, and afterwards Chairman, of the Barking Archaeological Society, a member of Council of the Essex Archaeological Society, and a member of the British Archaeological Society and of the Royal Archaeological Institute.