

# Obituary

## LAWRENCE EDWARD TANNER

We record with regret the death, in his ninetieth year, on 15th December 1979, of Lawrence Tanner, C.V.O., M.A., Litt.D., F.S.A. Dr. Tanner was the senior Vice-President of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, having been first elected a Vice-President in February 1956.

Lawrence Tanner was Librarian and Keeper of Muniments at Westminster Abbey, and Secretary to the Royal Almonry over a period of fifty years. He had a life-long connection with Westminster Abbey and was for many years a history master at Westminster School. He was also Clerk to the Weavers Company.

His best-known published works were *Unknown Westminster Abbey* (1948) in the King Penguin Series and *Recollections of a Westminster Antiquary* (1969). In 1933 he contributed to the research on the bones considered to be those of the Little Princes in the Tower, and after the cleaning of the royal and other wax effigies in the Abbey, he read an impressive paper on the subject to the Society of Antiquaries (*Archaeologia* 85 (1936) 179-202). He was a frequent lecturer on the Abbey and its treasures, and his death deprives Westminster of an outstanding historian.