

OBITUARY.

SIR JOHN EVANS, F.R.S., F.S.A., &c.

By the death, on May 31st, of Sir John Evans, our Society lost not only its oldest but also its most accomplished member. He was elected so long ago as July, 1856, and we can only regret that the **BUCKS RECORDS** have benefited so little by contributions from his pen. In Vol. II., p. 141 (1860), is a short paper by him, entitled "Flint Implements from the Drift;" and in our last issue—at an interval of 47 years—are some notes by him on Coins found at or near Wycombe. Only a few months ago he presented to our Museum tradesmen's tokens from several towns in this county.

Sir John was born November, 1823, and was thus in his 85th year, though looking younger. He received his chief education at the hands of his father, Dr. Arthur Evans, Head Master of Market Bosworth Grammar School. He became a partner in John Dickinson and Co., paper manufacturers. In 1852 he was elected to the Antiquaries; and in 1864 to the Royal Society, and was treasurer of the latter for 20 years. He was President of the Geological Society 1875-'76, the Anthropological Institute 1878-'79, the Society of Antiquaries 1885-'92, the Numismatic since 1875, the Egypt Exploration Fund 1890-1906, the Microscopical Society, &c. In 1897 he presided over the British Association meeting at Toronto, when in his address he made a survey of the enquiry as to the antiquity of man. He was a Trustee of the British Museum and Correspondent of the French Institute. This surprising list does not include all the Societies here and abroad to which this distinguished *savant* not only belonged, but worked for, so that it is small wonder if our **RECORDS** have been so little enriched by him. What one marvels at is the energy and the strong intellect which could accomplish so much. Others may possibly have belonged to as many learned and scientific societies, but none ever took a leading

part in so many as he did. Sir John was D.C.L. of Oxford University, LL.D. of Dublin, and D.Sc. of Cambridge. He was created Knight Commander of the Bath in 1882.

Amongst the more monumental of his works may be mentioned: "Coins of the Ancient Britons," 1864; "Ancient Stone Implements," 1872; "Ancient Bronze Implements," 1881; in addition to many papers in *Archæologia*, the *Numismatic Chronicle*, &c., &c. In "Coins of the Ancient Britons" he described and illustrated the British gold coins discovered in 1826 on Keep Hill, &c. His work was ever remarkable for its accuracy and thoroughness. He has left an important collection of implements of the Stone and Bronze Ages in the museum attached to his house, Britwell, Berkhamsted.

His eldest son, Dr. Arthur Evans, keeper of the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford, has greatly distinguished himself as an antiquary, especially by his excavations in Crete.

W. N.

RICHARD EDWARD GOOLDEN, F.S.A.

Born in John Street, The Adelphi, London, on 24 July, 1839. He was the eldest son of Richard H. Goolden, M.D., F.R.C.P., of Cookham (Berks). His mother was the youngest daughter of J. Naylor, Esq., an intimate friend of the famous *raconteur* and literary gossip Crabbe Robinson, some of whose stories R. E. Goolden used to relate.

He became a partner in an East Indian firm, and went out to Calcutta in 1863, but returned to England in 1866 in consequence of ill-health.

He continued, however, in business as an East India merchant for some years. After his retirement he went to live with his sister at his parents' old home, The Grove, at Cookham.

In November, 1893, he was elected a member of our Society, and in 1897 married the widow of Henry Seeböhm, the well-known ornithologist, Hon. Sec. Royal Geographical Society, and a recently elected V.P. of our Society.

In the last-mentioned year, R. E. Goolden was elected a Member of the Royal Archæological Institute, and was for some years on its Council.

In January, 1901, he was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries. He was the donor of several interesting antiquities from the Thames to the British Museum; and to our County Museum presented various objects from the collection formed by Mr. Seebohm, besides liberally contributing towards new museum cases, and to the expenses of the Hedsor Pile-Dwellings excavation, in which he took great interest. Lately his health had failed, obliging him to give up taking an active part on the Committee of our Society; he died 11 March, 1908. He was of a singularly genial and friendly disposition, and is very sincerely regretted by his old friends.

For most of the above facts the present compiler is indebted to the obituary notice of him in the "Archæological Journal" (2nd ser., XV., p. 136), written by a very well-known member of nearly every learned Society in London, but signed only "H. H. H."

A. H. C.