

as old subscribers fall away we would ask new ones to come forward, and thus secure the continuance of its somewhat useful mission. As it is the official organ of the Berks Society it has a special claim upon the support of the members. It would add greatly to the interest of the Journal, and lighten the labours of the Editors, if correspondents could be found in all parts of the three Counties who would contribute notes on antiquarian discoveries in their immediate districts and send us articles or extracts from the local press. We would earnestly ask for volunteers.

This "coming-of-age" number is born in a time of especial difficulty amid the sounds of the booming of guns and the cries of the distress of nations. Ere this volume is completed may peace be restored to a distracted world, and the cause for which England is fighting triumph.

P. H. DITCHFIELD, EDITOR.

THE LATE MR. WILLIAM COZENS.—A keen antiquary and an occasional contributor of interesting notes to this Journal passed away in the early morning of Tuesday, February 16th. He belonged to a Berkshire branch of an old yeoman family which was settled some centuries ago in the neighbourhood of Thame in Oxfordshire, and bore the variable name of Cozens or Curzon. William Cozens was born at Little Wittenham in 1839. Having lost his parents at an early age he made his home at Dorchester, and there he became greatly interested in the antiquities of the place, and especially in the coins which were found in large numbers in the fields and gardens. He was brought up to agricultural pursuits, but while still a young man he had a fall from his horse which caused serious injury to one knee, and instead of giving it the needful rest he was aroused by a cry of fire at a farm in the village and spent the night working hard at the fire engine. He became drenched with water and at the same time over-heated by the conflagration, and the injured limb was violently inflamed; but with his characteristic energy he went about with a crutch and would not spare himself, with the result that the other leg gave way, and from that time he lost the use of both, and was compelled for the remainder of his life to move about on a wheel-chair, taking also frequent drives in his pony-carriage. He made his home for several years at Bishop's Court, Dorchester, whence in 1893 he removed to Benson. Chess and his violin were his favourite recreations, and he was a great reader, though in recent years weakened eyesight allowed him to read but little. He had acquired a wide knowledge of history, both ancient and English, and was well informed about the antiquities of the country, and more especially about those of his own neighbourhood. He made a valuable collection of coins, including a series of those of the Roman Emperors, which he greatly prized, and which he has bequeathed to the Ashmolean Museum at Oxford.—J. E. FIELD.