

OBITUARY NOTICE OF THE LATE CHURCHILL
BABINGTON, D.D., F.L.S.

The members of the Institute have sustained a great loss by the death of one of their Vice-Presidents, the late Dr. Churchill Babington. It will be remembered that he ever took a lively interest in its proceedings, and was a large contributor to its publications.

The late learned Doctor was gathered to his fathers on Sunday, January 13th, 1889, in the 68th year of his age.

Churchill Babington was born at Roeclyffe, in Leicestershire, on March 11th, 1821, being the only child of the Rev. Matthew Drake Babington, rector of Thringstone, in the same county. On his father's side he was of the same family with Abbot Babington, of S. Edmund's Abbey, Bury; Anthony Babington, the conspirator, and Gervase Babington, Bishop of Worcester (1597-1610). His mother was a Churchill, related to the poet. A more famous man was his connection, Thomas Babington, Lord Macaulay. Mr. Charles Cardale Babington, Professor of Botany at Cambridge, is his father's cousin. Churchill Babington was educated privately, and in his youth showed a strong liking for natural history, especially botany and ornithology. After an education at home he was admitted a member of S. John's College, Cambridge, in March, 1839, and graduated in 1843, taking the 7th place in the 1st class of the Classical Tripos. He was also Senior Optime in Mathematics. He was soon elected a Fellow, and ordained in 1846, in which year he obtained the Hulsean Prize for an essay upon "The Influence of Christianity in Promoting the Abolition of Slavery in Europe." He remained at Cambridge till 1867, and during this time he took part in college and university work, serving as junior Bursar of the former, and public examiner in the latter in Theology and Natural Science. In 1848 he published a reply to that part of Macaulay's History of England, which deals with the character and status of the English clergy of the 17th century, endeavouring to convict the great historian of partiality and unfairness in his picture there drawn. Though Mr. Babington's pamphlet did not have much effect at the time, when every one was fascinated by Macaulay's brilliant pages, it has since received favourable notice from the pen of Mr. Gladstone, who in reviewing Macaulay's Life and Letters, went fully into the question, and strongly argued for Mr. Babington's view. The latter had during the last few years collected a great store of materials upon the same subject, with a view of publishing a history of the English clergy of that period, and demonstrating the groundlessness of Lord Macaulay's charges

against them. In 1850 he was entrusted with the task of editing the recently discovered *Fragments of the Orations of Hyperides* from the papyri found at Thebes in Upper Egypt. Some further orations were edited in 1853 and 1858, also with a *facsimile* of the original MS. and a learned commentary. In 1855 he brought out an edition of a scarce work called *The Benefits of Christ's Death*, supposed to be by Aonio Paleario, an Italian Reformer of the 16th century. This book contains a *facsimile* reprint of the Italian edition of 1543, with the English version of 1548, and the French version of 1552, with an introduction and notes. Another work requiring much toil and research in which he was engaged was the edition of the *Polychronicon Ranulphi Higden* with two ancient English versions, published in 1865 under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, in 9 vols., of which Mr. Babington was responsible for the first two. Five years earlier he had edited Bishop Reginald Pecock's *Repressor of overmuch blaming of the Clergy* for the same series. In 1865 he was elected Disney Professor of Archæology in succession to the Rev. J. H. Marsden, who survives him. For 15 years he held this office, and devoted great care to the preparation of his lectures, the first of which, an introductory one, was published.

To Smith and Cheetham's *Dictionary of Christian Antiquities* (1880), he contributed the articles on medals, glass, gems, inscriptions, seals, rings, and tombs. His contributions may also be found scattered among the records of many learned societies, *e.g.*, the Royal Society of Literature, of which he was a vice-president, and the Cambridge Antiquarian Society. The *Numismatic Chronicle*, the *Cambridge Journal of Classical and Sacred Philology*, Sir W. J. Hooker's *Journal of Botany and Kew Miscellany*, the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History*, Watson's *Botanist's Guide to England and Wales*, Seeman's *Botany of "The Herald,"* and Hooker's *Flora of New Zealand*, were all under obligations to his pen. During his Cambridge residence he undertook the cataloguing of the classical portion of the MSS. in the University Library, which extended to four volumes, and compiled the catalogue of the Greek and English coins in the Fitzwilliam Museum. His last work was the *Birds of Suffolk* (1886), a store-house of facts relating to the ornithology of this county, which took him four years to arrange, and is a monument of conscientious labour. We are informed that the *Flora of Suffolk*, now being prepared for publication by the Rev. Dr. Hind, rector of Honington, will owe much to the assistance and advice of Dr. Babington. Cockfield was not the first scene of his pastoral labours. During his residence at S. John's he held the chapelry of Horningsea, near Cambridge, and on resigning it after thirteen years' service, received a gratifying testimony of respect and affection from the parishioners. Since 1866 he had held the living of Cockfield, in the gift of his college, and during his incumbency the church has been almost completely restored with great taste. The National schools have also been enlarged during the same period. His sermons were, as may be imagined, full of accurate information and sound reasoning. In 1869

he married the third daughter of the late Col. John Alexander Wilson, R.A., and in all his labours, parochial and literary, has had an energetic and able helper in his wife. In 1879 he took his D.D. degree, and in 1880 was elected an Honorary Fellow of S. John's. He was for some time one of the Governors of Bury Grammar School. From 1860 to 1867 he was Junior Bursar of his College, chaplain of Horningsea from 1848 to 1861, and in 1866 accepted the college living of Cockfield, where he died and was buried, having been rector of that parish twenty-three years. Cambridge has lost a scholar, and Cockfield a venerated parish priest.

The foregoing notice of this late-learned divine, is derived partly from the *Cambridge Review* for January 24, 1889, but chiefly from an article signed "C. G.," written by an intimate friend, and forwarded to the press for publication.

The following resolution was passed at a meeting held at Bury, May 2, 1889:—"That the Council of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History desire to record their deep sense of the loss the County and the Institute have sustained by the death of Dr. Babington—a man whose great and varied knowledge, largely used to illustrate the History of the Birds of Suffolk, was only excelled by the charm of his character; and they wish to express their sympathy with Mrs. Churchill Babington in her great bereavement."

Mrs. Babington, in a letter dated May 5, 1889, thus acknowledged the Resolution:—"I am very grateful to the members for their sympathy, and for the warm expression of their regard for my husband. It is no little comfort to me in my sorrow, to find on all sides how, not only his learning, but also his beautiful character has been appreciated.

FRANCIS HASLEWOOD, F.S.A.

The Treasurer in Account with the

FROM JANUARY 1st TO

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
January 1st, 1887.						
To Balance at Bankers on Current Account ...	24	10	2			
„ „ „ Deposit ...	95	0	0			
„ „ „ Interest on Ditto ...	4	11	2			
„ In hands of Secretary ...	2	6	11			
				126	8	3
„ Subscriptions received by Rev F. Haslewood	7	0	0			
„ Dr. Babington, part Cost of Water Birds ...	20	0	0			
„ Interest on Deposit Account to Dec. 31st, 1887	2	7	6			
„ Subscriptions received by Bankers ...	18	4	6			
„ Sale of Publications by Mr. Stephens ...	3	7	6			
				50	19	6

 £177 7 9

Examined with the Vouchers and found correct,

March, 1888.

HENRY PRIGG.

Suffolk Institute of Archæology, &c.,

DECEMBER 31st, 1887.

Payments.

1887.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By F. J. Groom, Old Account for Stationery, 1886			7			6
„ J. C. Ford, for a Glazed Bookcase....	2	2	0			
„ W. Armstrong and Son, Bookbinders	1	12	6			
„ John Watson, for a New Bookcase	5	19	6			
„ Professor Alfred Newton, for Books returned		13	6			
„ C. Griffin, 1886 Book		7	6			
„ Lewis and Leney, Sudbury Meeting		12	0			
„ J. G. White, for Portfolios for Pamphlets in Library		18	0			
„ G. W. Ruffle (Engraver), for Wooden Blocks and Electro Seal	7	7	6			
„ S. H. Cowell—Illustration		12	6			
„ Denston Excursion, Postage of Circulars		12	7			
„ Spalding, Printing Cards for G.E.R.		7	6			
„ Advertisements in Newspapers	1	3	6			
„ Excursion Expenses at Denston		13	0			
„ Pawsey and Hayes, Printing and Posting New Rules, Index Vol. v., &c.	4	1	6			
„ Ditto, Printing Part 3, Vol. vi., with Index, Binding, Addressing, Postage	39	18	10			
„ Ditto, Subscription to East Anglian		5	0			
„ Authors' Copies of Papers		11	6			
„ Mr. Stephens, Librarian, Salary 1887	2	0	0			
„ „ Postage		10	9			
„ Secretaries—Postage	1	17	11			
„ „ Stationery		6	10			
„ „ Travelling	1	10	6			
					74	11 11
„ Balance—Banking Current Account		17	2			
„ „ Deposit	95	0	0			
„ „ Interest due, but not credited	6	18	8			
					102	15 10
					£177	7 9

The Treasurer in Account with the

FROM JANUARY 1st TO

Receipts.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
January 1st, 1889.						
To Balance in Bank Current Account	...	17	2			
Do. on Deposit	...	95	0	0		
					95	17
„ Cash—Rev. W. H. Sewell, Life Member	...	5	0	0		
„ Interest on Deposit to Jan. 1st, 1887	...	6	18	8		
					11	18
„ Subscriptions—By Bankers	...	56	13	6		
„ Mr. Stephens	...	21	11	0		
„ Rev. F. Haslewood	...	3	10	0		
					81	14
„ Due to Secretary (and since repaid)	...				14	1
„					2	6

 £203 14 1

I have examined the Vouchers and Bank Book
and certify the above account to be correct.

Ipswich, 26th April, 1889.

T. EDGAR MAYHEW, A.C.A.

Suffolk Institute of Archæology, &c.

DECEMBER 31st, 1888.

Payments.

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
By Printers—Pawsey & Hayes, 300 Programmes of Excursions	2	3	0			
„ A. Spalding, Tickets for same ...		18	0			
				3	1	0
„ Lithographer—W. Griggs	5	0	0			
„ S. H. Cowell	3	0	0			
				8	0	0
„ Engraver—Pocock				3	0	0
„ Fressingfield Excursion Expenses ...				1	9	1
„ Advertising Meetings— <i>Bury Post</i> ...		8	7			
„ <i>E. A. D. Times</i>		3	0			
„ <i>Free Press</i>		5	0			
„ <i>Ipswich Journal</i>		2	0			
				18	7	
„ 111 Stamped Envelopes for Subscriptions ...		9	10			
„ 242 Do. inviting new members ...	1	1	2			
„ 32 Do. summoning Council		2	10			
„ 196 Do. for Excursion Programmes ...		17	1			
„ 156 Do. for Subscription for 1889 ...		14	0			
				3	4	11
„ Repairs to Book Case—Townsend ...		2	6			
„ Binding „ W. Armstrong		8	6			
„ Subscription to <i>East Anglian</i>		5	0			
				16	0	
„ Mr. Stephen's Librarian's Salary ...	2	0	0			
„ for Postage and Parcels	-1	5	6			
				3	5	6
„ Secretaries for Postage and Stationery ...	2	8	10			
„ Do. Travelling, arranging excursions ...	2	1	10			
				4	10	8
„ Balance on Deposit (at Bankers) ...	95	0	0			
„ Do. in Bank Current Account	80	8	4			
				175	8	4
				<u>£203</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>1</u>

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM MAY, 1887 (WHEN THE LAST
RETURN WAS MADE) TO JANUARY 28, 1888.

- Index to the first 20 Vols. of Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society.
 East Anglian Notes and Queries, Vol. II., parts 29 to 38.
 Great Domesday Book of Ipswich, from Rev. C. H. E. White, F.S.A.
 Index to the Visitation of Norfolk, made 1664 ,,
 Journal of William Dowsing ,,
 Old Inns and Taverns of Ipswich ,,
 Official Year Book of the Scientific Societies of Great Britain and Ireland,
 from Rev. C. H. E. White, F.S.A.
 Fourth Annual Report of the Bureau of Ethnology, 1882-83.
 Smithsonian Report, 1885, I.
 Reports, &c., of the Associate Societies, Vol. XVIII, 2.
 Essex Archæological Society, Vol. III., 2.

Received since January, 1888.

- Archæologia Cantiana, Vol. XVII.
 Roman Walls of Chester.
 Domesday Studies, Vol. I.
 East Anglian Notes and Queries, April to Dec., 1888.
 Proceedings of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Vol. III., 1886-87.
 Collections of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Vol. X., fifth ser.;
 Vols. I. and II., sixth ser.
 Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland,
 parts 70-76.
 Use of Gold among the Antient Inhabitants Chiriqui, Isthmus of Darien.
 Bibliography of the Siouan Languages.
 Work of Mound Exploration of the Bureau of Ethnology.
 Bibliography of the Esquimo Language.
 On Perforated Stones from California.
 Transactions of the London & Middlesex Archæological Society, Vol. VII., 22.
 Acts and Resolves of the Province of Massachusetts Bay, Vols. I. to V.,
 1692-1780.
 Twenty-first Report of Trustees of the Peabody Museum.
 Archæologia, Vol. L., 1 and 2; LI., 1. [Vol. XII., 1 and 2.
 Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Vol. XI., 3 and 4;
 Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological Society, Vol. XXXIII.,
 Report of the Smithsonian Institution, 1885, 2. [N.S. XIII.
 Associated Societies Reports and Papers, Vol. XIX., 1.
 Transactions of the Leicestershire Architectural Society, Vol. VI., 4 & 5.
 The *Meteorite* of the 20th November, 1887; by H. G. Fordham, F.G.S.
 Cambridge Antiquarian Society's Reports, part 28.
 Journal of a Tour through Flanders and France, in 1773 (Cambridge
 Antiquarian Society).
 Montgomeryshire Collections, Vol. XXI., 1, 2, and 3; Vol. XXII., 3.