

OBITUARY.

MR. VINCENT BURROUGH REDSTONE.

Mr. Vincent Burrough Redstone, who for nearly fifty years was an active and enthusiastic member of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology, died at Woodbridge on April 26, 1941. He was a Hampshire man by birth; but from the time when he was appointed as a young man to be English Master at Woodbridge School he devoted himself to studying the history of Suffolk, using especially original sources for the social history of the County. He was Honorary Secretary to the Woodbridge Field Club which was responsible for excavations on the Roman site at Castle Field, Burgh, in 1900 to 1901.

Mr. Redstone was author of "Bygone Woodbridge" (1893), "Annals of Wickham Market" (1896), "Memorials of Old Suffolk" (1898), "The Ancient House, Ipswich" (1912), and "Suffolk Protestant Dissenters" (1912). For this Institute, he edited "Suffolk Ship Money" (1904), and compiled a "Calendar of the Pre-Reformation Wills at Bury" (1907). He also contributed to our Transactions numerous articles, upon different subjects and invariably compiled from original records. He worked indefatigably for the Institute as Hon. Secretary and Editor from 1898 to 1905, and as Hon. Excursion Secretary from 1905 to 1915.

Most of Mr. Redstone's leisure was spent in working upon Suffolk Archives, the wills at Ipswich and Bury, Corporation Records at Ipswich and Suffolk Manuscripts at the British Museum and the Public Record Office. He compiled for the Ipswich Borough Library a series of abstracts of the Corporation Records between the reigns of Henry III and George III. His extracts as to Players at Ipswich (1553-1625) were published in the Malone Society Collections, Vol. 2, part 3 (1931).

With characteristic generosity he always placed his knowledge and his continually-growing collections at the service of students, whether novices making a first enquiry into the past of their own parishes, or scholars from Sweden, Holland and America in search of solid contributions to the knowledge of dialect, history or literature. His own favourite subjects were the origins of Thomas Wolsey and the Ipswich Ancestry of Geoffrey Chaucer, a topic upon which he spent some years of research in conjunction with Dr. John Manly of the University of Chicago.

Mr. Redstone was a member of the Council of the Suffolk Preservation Society. He was a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society, before which he read the Alexander Prize Essay on "The Social Condition of England during the Wars of the Roses" in 1902, and in 1913 a paper on "Some Mercenaries of Henry of Lancaster." He was also a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries and read before that Society a paper upon "The Fifteenth Century Gaol of the Liberty of St. Etheldreda, Melton." He was particularly interested in immigrations into Suffolk and contributed a paper on "The Dutch and Huguenot Settlements of Ipswich" to the Proceedings of the Huguenot Society of London in 1921. His love for solving problems led him to decode the Diary of Sir Thomas Dawes (1644) which was published in the Surrey Archæological Collections, Vol. 37, part 1 (1926).

His Collections from Suffolk sources remain in his old home at No. 3 Seckford Street, Woodbridge, where his daughters are ready to make them available to any genuine student of the County and its history.