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In Memoriam.

MRS. DENT, OF SUDELEY.

Mrs. Dent, who died on February 22nd, 1900, at the age of 77, was a daughter of Mr. John Brocklehurst, of Macclesfield, and she married, in September, 1847, Mr. John Croucher Dent, of Severn Bank, Worcester. She found a beautiful heritage awaiting her. Messrs. John and William Dent, uncles of her husband, had purchased the Sudeley Castle estates from Lord Rivers and the Duke of Buckingham, and restored the main fabric of the castle. Mr. and Mrs. Dent went to Sudeley in 1857, on the death of their last uncle, and at once began the restoration of the chapel, under the direction of Sir Gilbert Scott: it was re-dedicated to the service of God by the present Bishop of Gloucester in August, 1863. In 1877 she published a most interesting book, *Annals of Winchcombe and Sudeley*, to a very great extent an outcome of the loving and reverent care with which she had watched and guided the work of the completion of the castle, and of gathering the collection of treasures which it contains. In 1885 her husband died, and henceforward the lady of Sudeley lived alone, for she had no children. But hers was not a life that could be self-contained. In 1887 she provided at her own expense a water supply from St. Kenelm's Well for the town of Winchcombe, and afterwards a swimming bath. She was a thoughtful and munificent contributor to the work of beautifying the parish church of Winchcombe, of which she was patroness. At the west end she placed a stone screen and statues of Kings Kenulf and Henry VIth, and she placed a new clock in the tower; and at the east end she placed a fine oak screen within the choir. She gave also a new pulpit and font cover, and restored the churchyard cross. At her expense the site of Winchcombe Abbey was explored, and the position of the church was ascertained; and here she erected a cross in the centre of the tower. She took a lease of the land surrounding the barrow at Belas Knap, and built a wall so as to secure the barrow against dilapidation. The two Roman villas on her estate, those at Spoonley and in the Wadfield, were excavated at her expense; she built substantial sheds over the tessellated pavements, and surrounded the Wadfield villa with a wall. Among

other good works for the town of Winchcombe, she preserved from destruction the beautiful Jacobean house which is one of the ornaments of the place, she enlarged the almshouses and heated them throughout, and built a large class-room for the girls' school. The closing years of her life were saddened by partial failure of sight; but this did not check her interest in her beautiful home, or her care for the welfare of those around her. Her health had failed about six months before her death, which followed at last on an attack of influenza.

MR. C. J. MONK.

By the death of Mr. Monk another of the founders of our Society has passed away. He was present at the Inaugural Meeting at the Bristol Museum, on April 22nd, 1876, as M.P. for the city of Gloucester, and as Chancellor of each of the dioceses of Bristol and Gloucester. He proposed the resolution nominating the various officers of the new Society, about fifty in number, and after reading the names he observed that in his opinion they had been chosen with great judgment and care. Mr. Monk was best known as M.P. for the city of Gloucester, for which constituency he was first elected in 1859, and which he represented also in the last Parliament, declining re-election when that Parliament came to an end, only six weeks before his death. He was born at Peterborough, of which cathedral his father was Dean from 1822 to 1830, and he was educated at the College School, Gloucester, at Eton, and at Trinity College, Cambridge, where he graduated in 1847, after a most brilliant University career. He was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in 1850. During the whole of his long and honourable career, Mr. Monk showed the greatest interest in all that concerned the welfare of the city of Gloucester. He began the movement which resulted in the building of St. Catherine's Church. When the College School was revived he gave £1000 for the endowment of Scholarships in his old school; and he was a most liberal benefactor to the Cathedral Restoration Fund, the School of Art, the Infirmary, and to other local charities. Mr. Monk, who was a life member of our Society, died of heart seizure on November 9th, 1900, in his 76th year.

MR. WILLIAM GEORGE.

Mr. William George, one of the promoters and founders of this Society, died at his residence in Durdham Park, Bristol, on the 10th January, 1900, within a few days of completing his 70th year. He was a native of Dunster, to which his family had removed from Hampshire in the previous century. Having lost his father when a boy, he was sent to Bristol by Mr. T. Fownes Luttrell, of Dunster Castle, and was apprenticed to his uncle, Mr. William Strong, of College Green, at that time the most extensive bookseller in the city. Through the death of that gentleman before his term of servitude had expired, the youth was thrown upon his own resources, and forthwith commenced business on his own account in Bath Street, where he soon acquired repute amongst book collectors. He subsequently removed to more extensive premises in Park Street, and eventually retired from an active career about twenty-five years ago, owing to failing health. From an early period Mr. George was a keen and indefatigable student of the history and bibliography of Bristol and the adjoining counties, in which pursuits he was aided by a memory of facts, dates, names, and family connections that was often the marvel of his friends, and he left behind him a vast store of valuable manuscript material and many literary and artistic rarities. As his peculiar talents became known, appeals for information flowed in upon him from inquirers in all parts of the kingdom, as well as in Canada and the United States, and the labour he ungrudgingly bestowed in responding to such demands made inroads on his time that seriously interfered with his own literary projects. A devoted admirer of Chatterton, he had planned a work intended to deal exhaustively with the unhappy poet's life in Bristol, and to throw much light on his local contemporaries; but after a few preliminary sheets had passed through the press the design was abandoned. Besides his contributions to the Transactions of this Society, Mr. George was an occasional contributor to the Transactions of the Somerset Archæological Society, and more frequently to the *Athenæum*, *Notes and Queries*, *Gloucestershire Notes and Queries*, and the Bristol and Somerset newspapers, and the information thus afforded was always novel and often valuable.

Some of these essays were the fruits of long research, and were printed in a pamphlet form for distribution amongst his friends. He also supplied many items, directly or through others, to the *Dictionary of National Biography*. His best known production, "Some Account of the Oldest Plans of Bristol," originally appeared as a contribution to the fourth volume of this Society's Transactions, and was subsequently published separately in an extended form, accompanied by three rare illustrations. By his first wife Mr. George left three sons and a daughter. His second wife, who survives him, is childless.
