

OBITUARY

C. E. BURNELL

Mr. Charles Edward Burnell, of Charlton House, Shepton Mallet, who died on April 3rd, 1959, aged 87 years, joined the Society in 1902. For many years he was a Local Secretary; in 1942 he became a member of the Society's Council, and he was elected President for the year 1955-56, when he gave an address (in the Somerset Room on March 26th, 1955) entitled: 'Turnpike Trusts—Shepton Mallet and Ilchester'. Subsequently he became a Vice-President up to the time of his death.

Mr. Burnell was much interested in the affairs of the Society, and made some generous contributions to its work. He was President of the Shepton Mallet Natural History Society for over fifty years. He frequently attended the excursions of the Parent Society and visited, and subscribed to archaeological excavations conducted in the county. The writer of this note, who had known Charles Burnell for sixty-eight years, was driven by Burnell in his first motor-car — a baby Peugeot — to the excavations carried on at Small Down Camp, near Evercreech, in 1904, the finds from which are exhibited in the Somerset County Museum.

During the last war Mr. Burnell served a term as High Sheriff of Somerset, and for twenty-nine years he was President of the Wells Divisional Conservative Association. He was also a trustee of the Somerset and Wilts Savings Bank.

Mr. Burnell's close association with the well-known Charlton Brewery is described in the Shepton Mallet Journal, 10th April, 1959.

Space forbids us to speak of the charm of personality and the several other qualities which won Charles Burnell the admiration and love of a wide circle of friends.

H. ST. GEORGE GRAY.