

Reginald Barnicott.

MR. Reginald Barnicott, of Taunton, who had been a member of our Society for thirty-three years, passed away last July. Mr. Barnicott was head of the firm which has for some years past printed our *Proceedings*. He was a keen collector of Somerset books, pamphlets, and prints; and was treasurer and joint secretary of the Taunton Field Club. His interest in local history and archæology, and his love of good printing, had brought him into touch with many Somerset authors, who sought his advice as printer and publisher, and always found him most helpful.

C. T.

R. P. Brereton, D.A.

MR. Robert Pearson Brereton, of Oundle, Northamptonshire, who gave a most interesting illustrated lecture on "Somerset Church Towers" at the Gillingham meeting in 1904, died on January 2nd, 1906. Mr. Brereton enlarged his paper for the Archæological Institute, and it was published in their journal for 1905, under the title of "The Characteristics and Classification of the Church Towers of Somerset." This was illustrated by a series of collotypes from beautiful photographs he had personally taken. He intended to publish a work on the subject, and shortly before his death sent an advance set of the views to the Museum Library with a copy of his paper. Mr. Brereton has left a residuary estate of more than £6000 to the University of Cambridge for the promotion and encouragement of classical studies.

C. T.

Edwin Sloper, F.G.S.

MR. Edwin Sloper, of London and Crouch End, who was for about thirty-five years an active and zealous member of our Society, died rather suddenly on February 7th, while visiting a friend at Taunton. Mr. Sloper was a native of Wiltshire, but came to Somerset in connection with one of the local banks; residing at Yeovil, Wiveliscombe and Taunton. He lived in the county town about twenty years, and while there did good work for our Society in many ways. He was a member of the committee from 1879 to 1892, when he removed to London, and was subsequently elected one of the local secretaries. He was a real lover of Somerset, and an enthusiastic collector of books, pamphlets, etc., relating to the county, many of which have been added to our library, in accordance with the terms of his will. Mr. Sloper had considerable knowledge of Somerset history, legend and genealogy, about which he would chat by the hour; and he contributed scores of columns on these subjects to some of the county papers. On the occasion of the pleasant and interesting gathering held at Athelney, in celebration of the Millenary of Alfred the Great, Mr. Sloper read a paper on "The Physical conditions of Athelney in the time of King Alfred;" but this did not appear in the volume of our *Proceedings* for 1901, as it had been previously printed for private circulation.

Special reference should also be made to the efforts Mr. Sloper made in connection with the purchase of Taunton Castle and some of the adjoining property, as he took an active part in the negotiations and in the work connected with the raising of the necessary funds. Mr. Sloper was a fellow of the Geological Society, and was connected with a host of other organizations for the promotion of science, art, and education.