

## OBITUARIES

DR. PHILIP G. LAVER, M.R.C.S.

THE death in 1941 of Philip G. Laver, M.R.C.S., has deprived Colchester of a most distinguished friend and archaeologist. Though he was not primarily a numismatist, he was a member of the Society from its foundation; unfortunately he was not often able to attend meetings, and so was not well known to many members.

As Deputy Chairman of the Colchester and Essex Museum, and a past President of the Essex Archaeological Society, his unflinching and devoted interest in all matters of local history and antiquities will be greatly missed. Through his generosity the Museum was enriched with many valuable gifts during his lifetime, and by the kindness of his sister, Mrs. Lyon Campbell, much of his private collection is now in the Museum.

His collection of coins was not, judged by numismatic standards, large, but included some fine Ancient British, some from the Clacton find; and a number of rare pennies of the Colchester and Maldon mints. He always extended to students a sincere welcome, and to many it is sad to be no longer able to seek the help always so freely given by "the Doctor".

T. M. T.

DR. F. B. PENFOLD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

It is with regret that we record the death on 31 January 1941 of Dr. F. B. Penfold, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., a member of this Society since 1934.

Of a somewhat reticent and retiring disposition, he may have been but little known to most members of the Society, but his interest in coins was lifelong, and his study of minor varieties, mostly purchased at sales, intense.

The name of Penfold is an old one in Sussex and Surrey. Two of that name issued seventeenth-century tokens at Arundel and Storrington and two at Dorking, and many Penfolds still survive in these counties.

It was in Sussex that Dr. Penfold was chiefly interested, and he left a collection of some thirty Anglo-Saxon pennies and 112 seventeenth-century tokens of that county to the Sussex Archaeological Society. These are now in the Barbican Museum at Lewes, but will not be available for reference until after the war. The token collection is probably the third or fourth best known. Both these have been described by the writer and lists will be published in the next volume of *Sussex Archaeological Collections*.

In addition he left to the S.A.S. a very fine and valuable library of some thousand books, many magnificently bound, as well as plates and maps, all relating to Sussex.

J. B. C.

## MR. V. B. CROWTHER-BEYNON

MR. VERNON BRYAN CROWTHER-BEYNON, who died on 8 April 1941 in his seventy-sixth year, was one of the best-known members of the Society. He was a well-known antiquary and a member of numerous antiquarian and archaeological societies, in most of which he had held office. Born at Beckenham, Kent, of which his father was Rector, he was educated at Wellington and Trinity College, Cambridge, of which he was M.A., and called to the Bar. Crowther-Beynon lived for many years in Rutland, on the antiquities of which he was an authority and wrote several papers. He also acted as local secretary to the Society of Antiquaries for Rutland. Later he moved to Beckenham, the proximity of which to London enabled him to take a more active part in the antiquarian world. He had many interests and collections, but the by-paths of numismatics interested him most. Crowther-Beynon was an authority on the neglected field of coin-weights, to which he devoted special attention. He served for many years on the Council of the British and Royal Numismatic Societies: of the former he was President from 1933 to 1937, and of the latter Vice-President. He had also served on the Council of the Society of Antiquaries, of which he had been a Fellow since 1905. Some years ago he went to live near Bath, to the great loss of many societies in London. His knowledge was wide and varied, but he wrote comparatively little. To the *British Numismatic Journal* he contributed, between 1926 and 1930, three short papers on "A Collection of Money-scales and other Coin-weighing Appliances", "An Eighteenth Century Coin-clipper", and "Peny-yard Pence". He was a frequent and interesting exhibitor at the meetings of the Society. In the Great War he took an active part in relief work, and his services as honorary Secretary to the Belgian Refugee Relief Fund gained him the M.B.E.

J. A.