

adopted; the Treasurer presented his report, in which he announced that the number of members had risen to 1,700, but the cost of printing made it imperative that there should be a large increase of membership, or otherwise the subscription would have to be raised. The election of Dr. Walter Leaf as President of the Association for 1920-21 was carried unanimously, on the motion of Professor Cruickshank, seconded by Professor H. Browne, of University College, Dublin. The retiring President, Dr. Wight Duff, and the Master of University College, Oxford, were added to the list of Vice-Presidents. Mr. Norman Gardiner was re-elected Treasurer. In place of Professor Slater and Professor Ure, who retired, Professor A. C. Pearson, of Liverpool University, and the Rev. G. C. Richards, of Oriel College, Oxford, were elected secretaries. The vacancies on the Council were filled by the election of Miss Higgs (Roan School for Girls), Dr. Crees (Crypt Grammar School, Gloucester), Professor G. Norwood (Cardiff), Professor Slater (Bedford College), and Mr. E. A. Upcott (Wellington College). It was announced that the next meeting would be held at Cambridge at the end of July or beginning of August, 1921, and that American scholars would be invited to attend. A cordial vote of thanks to the hosts was moved by Mr. Richards, seconded by Mr. A. Bruce Roberts, H.M.I. (Leeds). Bishop Welldon then kindly entertained the members to tea at the Deanery.

In the evening, at Newcastle, the Armstrong College Dramatic Society gave a very fine performance of Euripides' *Electra* (in Professor Gilbert Mur-

ray's translation) in the King's Hall at Armstrong College. Professor Wight Duff is to be congratulated on the brilliant success of the representation. He was fortunate in having a good trainer in Mr. Vernon Brown, a sympathetic musician in Mr. W. G. Whitaker, and a clever scene-painter in Mr. R. J. S. Bertram, who skilfully adapted an illustration in Wordsworth's *Greece*; but the whole caste rose to the occasion. The chorus, led by Miss M. Wade, sang and danced with perfect ease and grace.

In spite of the broken weather twenty-one were bold enough to visit Corbridge and the Wall on Saturday. Mr. Knowles described the excavations at Corstopitum, and the party proceeded along the Wall under the guidance of Mr. Gerald Simpson, visiting Chollerford (camp and museum), Procolitia, Borcovicus, and ending at the fort by Haltwhistle burn.

During the meetings there was an exhibition of early printed books and facsimiles of MSS. in Armstrong College Library, and Mr. S. E. Wimbolt showed two models of a Pompeian house. Special mention should be made of the hospitality shown by the Durham and Newcastle hosts, which was organised by Mr. Basil Anderton, M.A., the City Librarian, whose classical catalogue was presented to any member of the Association who desired to possess a copy. Besides Mr. Anderton, the bulk of the work fell on Professor Wight Duff and Professor Cruickshank. To those three gentlemen in particular the thanks of the Association are due, and they are to be congratulated on the great success of the meeting.

OBITUARY

ROGER JAMES CHOLMELEY.

NOT a few scholars of note won distinction as soldiers in the war. Among them was R. J. Cholmeley, the editor of *Theocritus*. His death last summer was scarcely noticed at the time. He had lived long in the Dominions, and his English friends were few in number ;

but he left behind him work of permanent value, and some of us who knew him well and admired his qualities and gifts feel his death as a grievous personal loss.

Born in 1872, educated at St. Edward's School, Scholar of Corpus

Christi College, Oxford—where he won the Chancellor's Prize for a Latin poem—Cholmeley held masterships, first at Manchester Grammar School, and afterwards at City of London School. In 1900 he went out in the Imperial Yeomanry to serve in the South African War, and later he became Professor of Latin at Rhodes University, Grahamstown. August 1914 found him Lecturer in Classics and Librarian in the University of Queensland at Brisbane.

Cholmeley was ever a fighter—his combative spirit reveals itself in his writing; well past forty, he was rejected for service by the Australian authorities; but he came to England, and obtained a commission in the Cheshire Regiment. He could have had, no doubt, some secure administrative post, but he was out for the real thing: he must be in the trenches, better still—out beyond the trenches exploring the enemy lines. For his daring and resource as Brigade Intelligence Officer near Messines, he was awarded the Military Cross. In the trenches he read Homer, Herodotus, and Caesar *Bell. Gall.* ('one of the best books ever written,' he called it.) He was wounded twice. Visited in hospital he was found, while in great pain, to be reading Plato's *Republic*.

Early in life he had acquired some knowledge of Russian. After the armistice he was sent to the Murmansk coast, and in that melancholy sequel to the war he lost his life. He was drowned in August, washed overboard on a wild night while overhauling guns required for action at daybreak, and the Service 'deplores the loss of a very capable and gallant officer.'

No attempt can be made here to deal adequately with the merits of his *Theocritus*. Yet it may be said the first edition (1901) was acclaimed by the late Professor Butcher as 'full of sound scholarship.' In later editions some immature judgements have been revised, and the results of recent research reckoned with. At the Antipodes, and even on active service, Cholmeley succeeded in keeping abreast of modern criticism. The last edition, 'revised and augmented,' issued since his death, represents his final judgements, and embodies not only the results of an exhaustive study of the continental commentators, but much original matter, including emendations which are almost certainly right. He has given us the standard English edition of the poet, which is not likely to be superseded for many years to come.

J. M. S.

NOTES AND NEWS

THE Annual General Meeting of the Northumberland and Durham Classical Association was held in Armstrong College, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on February 28, the chief business being the confirmation of arrangements for the entertainment of the Classical Association in Newcastle and Durham in April. Professor J. Wight Duff, who presided, announced the main details of the programme, which includes the reading of papers; inspection of the Roman inscribed stones at the Black-gate Museum, Newcastle, and in the Cathedral Library of Durham; demonstration of lantern-slides illustrative of the Roman Wall; receptions by the Lord Mayor of Newcastle, by Armstrong

College, and by the University; and, finally, the production in English of a Greek play. The play selected is the *Electra* of Euripides, which will be rendered by the Armstrong College Dramatic Society. Dr. Duff explained the progress made by the various sub-committees on problems connected with staging, dress, and music, and reported the arrangements proposed for hospitality and the establishment of a Guarantee Fund to cover expenses.

The business meeting was followed by a paper which Mr. Basil Anderton, M.A., read on 'The Lure of Translation.'

THE Prime Minister has appointed a Committee to inquire into the teaching