

IN MEMORIAM.

ROBERT FLOWRIGHT  
Rector's Churchwarden from 1917 to 1935.

The death of Mr. Robert Flowright on 16th May at Gt. Longstone marks the ending of a long St. Thomas' Brampton tradition. His grandfather, the founder of the firm of Plowright Bros. Ltd., of Brampton, Mr. Henry Plowright was Churchwarden in 1878, his father, Mr. Oliver Wheatcroft Plowright, was Churchwarden in 1897 and Mr. Robert Flowright succeeded Mr. Bowery Douglas as Rector's Churchwarden in 1917 and retained office continuously until Easter 1935 when he had removed from "Hillside", Walton Road to Longstone Hall, near Bakewell. During all those 17 years in which he held office he was a most regular attendant at Public Worship and a regular communicant, a most generous contributor to Church funds, and an unfailing and loyal and strong support to the Revd. F. H. Burnside and his successor the Revd. H. J. Sillitoe. In all this he was most ably assisted by Mrs. Flowright. The Flowright family over many years did indeed occupy an unique place int the affections and esteem of Brampton people - Church people and work people alike. It should be recalled that the fine Tabernacle for the Blessed Sacrament and the Crucifix and ~~two~~ <sup>two, principal</sup> candlesticks on the Lady Altar were the gift, in 1926, of the Flowright family in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Wheatcroft Flowright. In 1938 Mrs. R. Flowright gave new curtains for the Lady Chapel.

In 1934, their last year in Brampton and also their Silver Wedding Anniversary, the Garden Party was held on 25th July at "Hillside" by invitation from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Flowright.

Mr. Robert Flowright, in addition to his great business interests as Chairman and Managing Director of Flowright Bros. Ltd. led a very full

life with a wide variety of activities. He was a great sportsman - yachting, shooting, fishing, golf. He was a keen supporter of Chesterfield Operatic Society. He possessed that great treasure, a supremely happy home life but even so he knew and experienced great griefs - in the loss of both his sons. But in the midst of a very full life, in sunshine and very dark cloud, he remained an unwavering Churchman in faith and practice. He was a fine example of a typical English gentleman and Christian.

His mortal remains, most fittingly, were brought into St. Thomas' Church on 18th May and were received by the Revd. H.J. Sillitoe and Revd. K.E. Servante and a short service was held. The Rector, to his great regret, was precluded by his illness from being present.

The large congregation which assembled on 19th May for the Funeral, and which included a great number from Plowright Bros. Works, bore witness to the affection and esteem in which he was held. The service was conducted by the Revd. H.J. Sillitoe, who gave an address, assisted by the Revd.

Vicar of Gt. Longstone, and the Revd.

K.E. Servante.

At the "Epiphany Tea", held on 12th February 1936, gifts were made to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Plowright on their leaving Brampton. The then Rector, the Revd. H.J. Sillitoe, handed to Mr. Plowright a Prayer Book bound with a (complete) Bible. This brief note, in memory of a most loveable man, may well be concluded with the inscription written in that book: "Presented to Robert Plowright, Esquire, by the congregation of the Parish Church of St. Thomas the Apostle, Brampton, on the occasion of his leaving the Parish, as a token of affection and esteem and in commemoration of his 17 years' tenure of the office of Rector's Churchwarden and numerous other services and benefactions. June 1935".

So let him be remembered, as we take our human farewell of him, until  
we all meet again, "until the day break and the shadows flee away".

May he rest in peace. Amen.

H.J.S.