

COMMUNICATIONS.

THE LATE W. H. RYLANDS.

WILLIAM Harry Rylands, F.S.A., died on 8th September last at his residence, South Bank Lodge, Campden Hill Place, London, W., in his 75th year, and was buried in Brompton Cemetery. He was the second son of the late Thomas Glazebrook Rylands, F.S.A., of Highfields, Thelwall, a former President of the Historic Society, and was born at Warrington, 20 December, 1847. He took an active part in the work of many archaeological and historical societies, contributing essays, editing volumes and supplying his clear and beautiful drawings to illustrate these and other works, being in particular an expert in drawing Egyptian and Assyrian monuments and hieroglyphics. His "restoration" of the Shield of Achilles appeared in the *History of Greek Sculpture* (i, 42), by the late Dr. A. S. Murray of the British Museum, and, among other Greek scholars, the late W. E. Gladstone was highly pleased with it.

He was an enthusiastic Freemason, becoming a Grand Lodge Officer, and wrote many papers on the early history of the craft. In 1894 he became a freeman of the City of London and joined the Masons' Company, of which he was Master in 1909. He was twice married and left one child, a daughter, by his first wife.

He was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries 8th January, 1880. He was Chairman of the Harleian Society, sometime Fellow of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and of the Asiatic Society of France, and a member of the Councils of the British Archaeological Association and the Palestine Pilgrims Text Society, and was also on the committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund

and an Hon. Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects. For more than 25 years from 1878 he was secretary of the Society of Biblical Archæology, and was a member of the Huguenot Society and the Jewish Historical Society. He wrote an introduction to the *Young Scholar's Illustrated Bible* (1899), contributing drawings from the monuments; other of his drawings appeared in *Records of the Past*, 2nd series, and books by the Rev. C. J. Ball—*Monumental Illustrations of the Holy Scriptures* (1897) and *Light from the East* (1899). He also wrote a *Notice of some Professions of Spanish Nuns* in 1885.

He was elected a member of the Historic Society 10th December, 1874, and contributed the following papers to our *Transactions*:—

Deeds relating to Knutsford. Vol. 35 (1883).

Booksellers and Stationers in Warrington, 1639 to 1657, with a list of the contents of a stationer's shop there in 1647. These are amply annotated. Vol. 37 (1885).

Masons' Marks at Burscough Priory, Ormskirk Church, Birkenhead Priory, and some other marks from buildings in the counties of Lancaster and Chester; together with notes on the general history of masons' marks. Vols. 43 and 44, double volume (1891, 1892).

Freemasonry in Lancashire and Cheshire (17th century). Vol. 50 (1898) and Vol. 51 (1899).

Lancashire and Cheshire Heraldic Documents. Vol. 58 (1906); Vol. 60 (1908); Vol. 61 (1909); Vol. 62 (1910) and Vol. 63 (1911).

He also edited the following volumes:—

Harleian Society's publications.

Visitations of Berks., 1532, 1566, 1623, 1665-6 (2 vols., 1907, 1908).

Visitation of Bucks., 1634 (1909).

Visitations of Norfolk, 1664-8 (1910).

Visitation of Warwick, 1682-3 (1911).

Staffordshire Pedigrees (with Sir G. J. Armytage, 1912).

Visitations of Hants., 1575, 1622, 1634 (1913).

Grantees of Arms (3 vols. 1915, 1916, 1917).

Holbein Society's Fac-simile reprints.

Ars Moriendi, 1450 (1881).

Adventures of Tewrdannckh, 1519 (1884).

New Found Land of Virginia, 1590 (1888).

Pronosticatio in Latino, 1488 (1890).

Martin Luther's Catechismus, 1553 (1892).

NOTE.—The above notice was compiled from information supplied by his brother J. P. Rylands, F.S.A., who himself passed away suddenly while this volume was being prepared for the press.