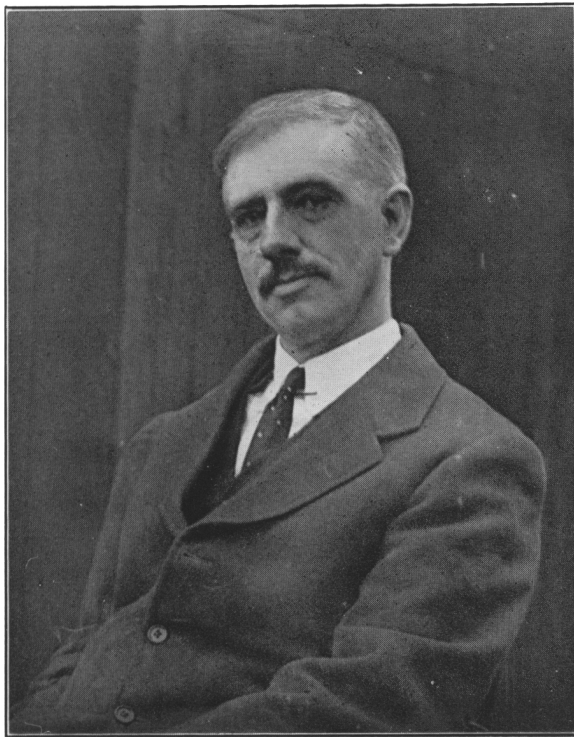


## In Memoriam.

W. G. C.

With the passing away on June 14th, 1925, of W. G. Clarke, F.G.S., the Prehistoric Society of East Anglia and especially its Norfolk members suffered an irreparable loss, for in him were combined powers of original research, a breadth of knowledge, and an ability to interest others in his own enthusiasms such as are rarely found combined in any individual.

In 1905 he first considered forming a purely local society for the study of prehistory in East Anglia, a modest venture that gave little promise of the wonderful development the Society has since undergone. It is indeed difficult now to realise the condition of the science when this Society was inaugurated. To suggest at that period that man in England was preglacial was rank heresy, and accordingly any deposit in which artifacts occurred was automatically classified as post-glacial. In Dr. Sturge's words, "Geologists had not



W. G. CLARKE, F.G.S.  
Founder and first Hon. Secretary of the Prehistoric Society  
of East Anglia.  
Died June 14th, 1925.

yet recognised that flint implements were the true fossils of the gravels"; indeed one wonders whether they are even yet recognised as such. The existence of relics of the later Palæolithic cultures was hardly suspected—all surface finds were neoliths, and the sub-crag implements were included as "eoliths." The epoch-making work at Ipswich had not yet begun. Such were the conditions when in 1909 the little band of enthusiasts gathered round Clarke launched the Society, and so unambitious were their plans that the annual subscription was fixed at eighteen-pence.

The first meeting took place in Norwich on October 23rd, 1908, a year before Reid Moir began his wonderful discoveries in Suffolk. In 1910 it was resolved to publish Annual Proceedings, and of the Journal Committee of six only two now survive—F. H. Burrell and H. H. Halls. It is interesting to note that they gravely expressed the opinion