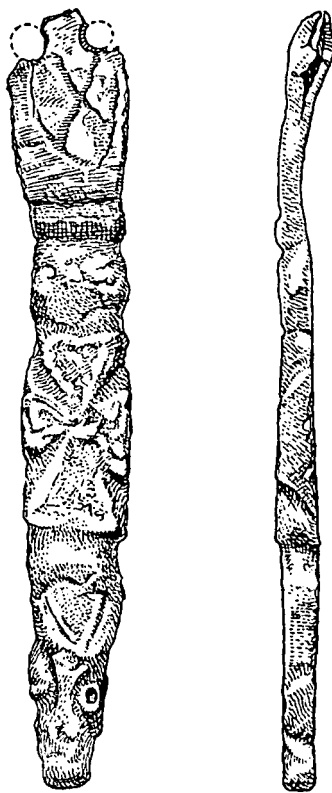*An Anglo-Saxon Strap-end from Bledlow, Bucks.*—Mr. J. F. Head, F.S.A. contributes the following:—Through the kindness and courtesy of Mr. W. F. Grimes, I am able to publish his delightful illustration of a little bronze strap-end picked up by the writer on the surface of Coney Lane, an old trackway leading from Bledlow village to the Upper Icknield Way and thence to Wain Hill and the Chiltern ridge way. As will be seen from the illustration, the design is much worn and corroded, but sufficient remains to indicate the main features and to suggest a date towards the close of the ninth century for the piece, and interesting evidence of continuity of occupation in the neighbourhood. The part outlines of two rivet-holes appear on the butt, which itself has been split to take the leather strap. The ornamentation is in relief and is contained in a series of divisions marked by narrow and stepped recesses, each section narrowing and swelling in accordance with the design it portrays. The familiar animal-head terminal shows deeply marked eyes and lengthened ears, but emphasis mainly is laid upon the central panel with its prominent cross. Owing to the war it has not been possible to make a full comparison with other published specimens, but the design in the uppermost compartment appears to be a decadent repetition of the motive similarly placed on the Stratton example (*circa* 880) and illustrated in the British Museum *Guide to Anglo-Saxon Antiquities* (1923), fig. 131, no. 3. The ornamentation upon the latter example is confined within its unbending border, but the detailed and fiddling treatment of the cross motive in the central panel

An Anglo-Saxon Strap-end from Bledlow, Bucks ($\frac{1}{1}$)

has given way in the Bledlow specimen to a simple but bold and dignified representation of the subject.

Bledlow is at the foot of the Chiltern escarpment and the find-place of the strap-end was on the south side of the trackway referred to above, near the Warren. Some 120 yards above is a chalk-pit yielding Saxon inhumations furnished only with a knife (O.S. 6 in. Bucks, XXXVII. SW.) and the strap-end may well have been brought out with the chalk from this pit. Above the Upper Icknield Way and beside the trackway, which here continues up to the Bledlow Cross turf-cutting, is a round barrow which has yielded several secondary burials both by inhumation and cremation of the Anglo-Saxon period (*Records of Bucks.*, vol. xiii, p. 313), and which appear to be earlier than those from the chalk-pit referred to above.

Obituary Notice: William Kennett.—Fellows of the Society and many others will grieve to learn of the death of William Kennett, the Society's porter, which took place after a long illness on 14th June in his 84th year. He had returned to his duties when his successor was called up for service, and carried on until

December, when he broke down and had not been able to come back again, although up to almost the last he had still hoped to do so. Kennett served in the Royal Navy until he retired from the active list in 1896, when, at the instance of the late Canon Dalton, he came to the Society. Here he stayed until he resigned on a pension in June 1938, having been retired for just four years when he died.

During his service of forty years Kennett made a host of friends. Everybody liked him, and he was always so willing to help in every possible way that he could. He was also never averse to recounting his service in the Navy, especially on the China Station, where he served for many years. His last service was with the special squadron commissioned for a short time when the late Kaiser sent his famous telegram to President Kruger. He retired from the service in about 1913, just before the outbreak of the last war. He was buried on Wednesday 17th June when the Secretary and Assistant Secretary represented the Society. The notice was too short to enable the Fellows to be advised of it: otherwise there must have been a goodly attendance, for he was respected and beloved by everyone in the Society.