

PROCEEDINGS,

TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION, 1872-73.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, October 18th, 1872.

E. F. EVANS, Esq., IN THE CHAIR.

REPORT.

In resigning their trust at the close of the Twenty-fourth Session, the Council beg to inform the Members that, though they have nothing very novel to report, they believe that the Society has faithfully done its work, and has fully maintained its position both as regards the character of the papers and its numerical strength.

Thirteen Meetings were held, at four of which the friends of Members were present in considerable numbers. Of the papers contributed some were of more than usual interest, local or otherwise. Among these may be mentioned one on the "Fee of Makerfield," by William Beamont, F.S.A., containing the result of much antiquarian research, and written in his usual agreeable style. One by Mr. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S., of Burnley, from the Notes of a local geometrician, on "Circles of Contact;" and another of great interest, containing some curious and original information respecting the "Old Bloomeries of Lancashire," was read by Dr. Kerr, of Crawshaw Booth. These, with seven other papers read during the Session, will appear in the volume of Transactions, which is in the press, and which the Council expect will be ready for delivery early in November.

In addition to the ordinary Meetings of the Society, the usual excursion took place in the summer, the locality chosen being Windermere. In spite of unfavourable weather the Society had a pleasant re-union, many old and valued members and their friends being present.

The Society has witnessed the removal of several Members by death during the Session, a few have resigned, some have been struck off the roll for non-payment of their subscriptions, and others have been expelled by ballot for persistent non-compliance with the laws. On the other hand, the Council have sought the co-operation of prominent residents in the two counties, and they have received applications for enrolment from several gentlemen who will probably be of great service to the Society. Among those already enrolled, are the Marquis of Salisbury, the Earl of Sefton, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Lancaster; Lord Ebury, Lord Skelmersdale, the Bishop of Chester, Sir Thomas Edwards-Moss, Bart., &c.

During the Session a very important work has been carried out, viz., the re-arrangement of the Library, the identifying and recording of the miscellaneous property, and the storing of the stock of spare volumes of Transactions. The Council were fortunate in securing the services

of Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith for this purpose, the result being the preparation of a new MS. catalogue of the Library. A new list has also been made of the Society's property; and the unsold volumes of Transactions have been placed in new presses specially made for them, in such order that they are readily accessible. By the present arrangement of the Library any Member will in future be able, on referring to the catalogue, to find with facility whatever book he may require. Each shelf is marked by a distinctive letter, and cheque receipt books have been provided, in which to record the issue and return of volumes. The Rev. Dr. Hume, President, to whose enthusiasm and ability the Society has been so much indebted, has compiled a complete key to the contents of all the twenty-four volumes of Transactions. This it is intended to print without delay. It exhibits the contents of each volume, the number and nature of illustrations to each paper, the entire communications made by the author since the commencement, and the subjects treated of throughout. It will probably be of great use to persons pursuing particular lines of inquiry, and to Members and strangers wishing to supply themselves with volumes from the stock.

The Balloting lists have been prepared and forwarded according to the laws.

The Report having been unanimously adopted, the Treasurer, John G. Jacob, Esq., presented his Balance Sheet for Session XXIV, as follows:—

SESSION XXIV.—1871-72.

THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE, in Account with

Dr.	JOHN G. JACOB, Treasurer.	Cr.
October 17, 1871.		
Balance due to Treasurer	£ s. d.	October 17, 1871.
Stationery (T. W. Riby)	117 5 4	Subscriptions received
Royal Institution	3 10 0	Life Members
Petty Expenses, Assistant Secretary	10 10 0	Donation from the Rev. J. J. Moss ..
Posting Volume	2 11 4½	Diplomas
Assistant Secretary	3 6 1½	Volumes sold
Royal Insurance	25 0 0	Ditto, Blackburn Free Library
Mrs. Johnson, for Refreshments	0 16 0	Balance due to Treasurer
Stephen Burke, Attendance	10 7 10	
Receipt Stamps, Postages, and Envelopes	2 0 0	
Collector's Commission	2 3 0	
Stationery & Printing (Mr. Walmsley) ..	4 12 3	
Mr. Brakell, for Printing	2 3 0	
Paper for Mr. Mayer's paper	18 5 6	
C. Tinning, for Advertising	2 2 0	
Postage, Envelopes	0 4 0	
Mr. Brakell, printing Volume	1 5 0	
	60 14 11	
	<u>£266 16 4</u>	
		<u>£266 16 4</u>

FRANCIS JAMES BAILEY, }
JOHN R. HUGHES, } Auditors.

E. E.

(Signed)

JOHN G. JACOB, Treasurer.

October 18th, 1872.

On the motion of the Chairman, the Treasurer's Balance Sheet was unanimously adopted.

The Election of Officers was then proceeded with, and the result announced, as shown on page iv.