

PROCEEDINGS,  
TWENTY-NINTH SESSION, 1876-77.

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ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,  
*Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, October 27th, 1876.*

REV. CANON HUME, D.C.L., VICE-PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

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In the absence of the SECRETARY, there was read the following

REPORT.

The Session which has just closed has been one of special interest to the members, for an unusual amount of work has been done with much less than the customary amount of assistance.

The papers have been good and sufficiently numerous, and the attendance of members and their friends has exhibited a growing interest in the pursuits of the Society.

At the last annual meeting the volume for the previous Session was incomplete, and a period of the year had been reached when the printing of it could not be proceeded with conveniently, so that it was the spring of the present year before it could be proceeded with. The Council have the pleasure of stating, however, that it was delivered to the various members who were entitled to receive it early in September.

The volume for the Session now concluded is nearly all in type, except the Proceedings and Index, and it is hoped that it will be in the hands of members in the course of the month of November.

In addition to their usual publications, the Council have to express their grateful acknowledgments to Joseph Mayer, Esq., F.S.A., one of the founders of the Society, for his present of a new and complete edition of the Catalogue of the Museum and Library. This also was carried through the press in the course of last Session, and was forwarded to all the members, and to the various Societies and Institutions in friendly connexion with the Society.

The supply of papers has been increasingly good, and very varied, while still keeping close to the Society's original object of illustrating the two counties. It is also a matter for well-grounded hope, that in-

vestigations of a public character may soon be made in connexion with Ribchester or Lancaster, or both, and the results in any case will afford valuable materials for further papers to be laid before the Society. Mr. W. T. Watkin, two of whose papers will appear in the forthcoming volume, has exhibited unusual interest in connexion with these arrangements.

In the early part of the Session, the new Assistant-Secretary, Mr. Wakefield, had the misfortune to suffer from a delicate condition of the eyes, and the caution which he was obliged to exercise prevented him from rendering the usual services during the Session. Thus the labours of some of the Honorary Officers have been unexpectedly increased during a second session : but the interests of the Society do not appear to have suffered in any respect.

On the whole, the business of the Session has attained more than average success ; and the issue of three publications in a single half-year,—which they have confident hope of seeing accomplished,—is evidence that the officers have been faithful to their duty.

In consequence of delay in the printing and issue of vol. xxvii, the Treasurer was not able to hand in a Balance Sheet for that Session, at the usual time ; but it is now ready. It shows a balance in favour of the Society of upwards of £40. The Balance Sheet for the last Session is not yet ready, for the same reason ; but it is hoped that it will be submitted to the members early in December.

There is a good promise of suitable papers for the forthcoming session ; and the Council look forward to it as likely to be a thoroughly successful one.

The Balloting Lists have been made out in accordance with the Laws, and are now submitted to the members.

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It was moved by Mr. RICHARDS, seconded by Mr. BELLEW, and resolved,

That the Report now read be adopted, and be printed and circulated with the Proceedings.

It was moved by the CHAIRMAN, seconded by Mr. MERCER, and resolved,

That the Treasurer's Balance Sheet be printed in like manner, in the Volume to which it belongs.

A Ballot was then taken for the election of Council and Officers, the result of which is shewn on page iv.

It was moved by Mr. MERCER, seconded by Mr. BELLEW, and resolved,

That the best thanks of the Society be given to the Officers and Council, for their services during the past year.