

PROCEEDINGS,

TWENTY-FIRST SESSION, 1868-69.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, October 19th, 1868.

THE REV. DR. HUME, IN THE CHAIR.

The Minutes of the Meetings held on May 28th and July 30th, were read and approved.

The SECRETARY read the following

REPORT.

The close of the Session 1867-68 completes the second decade of the Society's existence, and the Council are gratified to find that, after twenty years which have elapsed since its formation, the objects for which it was established still continue to excite interest, and notwithstanding the great changes which have taken place in the physical and social aspects of Lancashire and Cheshire during that period—the extension of railways causing residences to be multiplied in the suburban districts, and the rapid spread of cheap literature superseding in a great measure the necessity for oral discussion in the various societies—the Historic Society has steadily maintained its regular course of Meetings, and the Papers contributed by its Members are as numerous and important as heretofore. During the past Session thirteen Meetings have been held, at three of which a large number of the Friends of Members, including Ladies, have been present. Thirteen New Members have been elected during the Session, and eighteen Papers have been read. Twelve of these will appear in the forthcoming Volume, which is now nearly ready for distribution. These Papers will be illustrated with Lithographs and Woodcuts, equal, it is believed, to any that have hitherto appeared in the Society's Volumes.

The alteration which was made last year in the Constitution of the Society by the abolition of the Sectional Divisions, has been carried out. The purposes for which it was effected were to enable the business of the Society to be conducted more efficiently, and to the greater convenience of the Members of the Council and Committees.

The removal of the Society's place of Meeting to the Royal Institution has, it is believed, proved more convenient to the Members generally.

The Treasurer having been empowered to dispose of the large Bookcase which formerly contained the Society's Library, and which

it was found inconvenient to remove to the Royal Institution, has disposed of the same to the Library and Museum Committee of the Corporation. At the suggestion of a Member, application was made to the Museum Committee of the Town Council, that objects of antiquarian interest, presented to the town, might be lent for exhibition at the Society's Meetings, and the Museum Committee have, with the restrictions deemed necessary to secure the safety of the objects lent, acceded to the request.

The Council have decided to recommend the appointment of Local Secretaries, in various parts of the two counties, to extend and maintain, in their respective districts, the operations of the Society. The following gentlemen have agreed to act in that capacity—Mr. Charles Hardwick, Manchester; Mr. Thomas Newbigging, Bacup; and Mr. T. G. Rylands, Warrington.

The Council have pleasure in announcing that several important Papers have been promised for the next Session, to which they look forward with much interest, and they urge upon the Members generally to assist in promoting to the utmost the usefulness and prosperity of the Society.

The Report was unanimously adopted.

The Meeting then proceeded to the election of the Officers and Council for the ensuing year, and the result was stated from the Chair, as shown on page iv.

On the motion of Mr. GENN, seconded by Mr. FORREST, the Meeting was adjourned till after the First Ordinary Meeting in January, for the reception of the Treasurer's Accounts.

On the motion of Mr. GENN, a unanimous vote of thanks was passed to those who have contributed Drawings and Woodcuts for the current Volume of Transactions.

November 19th, 1868.

JOSEPH MAYER, F.S.A., President, in the Chair.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. T. J. Kilpin.

A playbill, dated 1783.

By Mr. Mayer.

A collection of bronze and terra cotta objects, in statuettes and coins, collected by Dr. Storr, of Liverpool, during a recent visit to Egypt, and presented by him to the Liverpool Museum.

By Mr. Wordley, in illustration of the Paper of the evening, a number of sketches and drawings by the late Mr. Elmes, Architect.

The following Paper was read :—

A BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF THE LATE H. L. ELMES, ESQ., ARCHITECT OF ST. GEORGE'S HALL, &c.,* by T. J. Kilpin, Esq.

* Transactions, p. 233.