

9th May, 1861. MISCELLANEOUS MEETING.

JOSEPH MAYER, F.S.A., V.P., in the Chair.

This meeting was held in the Chairman's Museum of Antiquities, and was attended by several hundreds of ladies and gentlemen, who after inspecting the various objects of interest, assembled in the principal room, when the following Papers were read:—

- I. ON A GOLD PLATE, ENBOSSED WITH HIEROGLYPHICS, IN THE MUSEUM OF JOSEPH MAYER, F.S.A. &c.,* by C. Simonides, Ph. Dr.
 II. SOME ACCOUNT OF THE ART OF ENGRAVING ON GEMS, by the Chairman.
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APPENDIX.

27th July, 1861. SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING.

On the above date the Annual Excursion took place. The members with their Friends, including several ladies, took their departure in the morning by railway from Birkenhead, and proceeded in the first instance to Beeston Castle, the ruins of which were explored, the Rev. Dr. Hume, Honorary Secretary, giving, on the spot, an interesting detail of the various events of historical note connected with the building. From all sides of the ruin a magnificent view of the surrounding country, extending in almost all directions for many miles, was presented, several of the principal buildings of Chester, the river Mersey and other distant objects being distinctly visible. From thence the party passed, by a pleasant walk through the fields, to Peckforton Castle, a noble modern red sandstone building, one of the country seats of Mr. Tollemache, M.P. for South Cheshire, by whose kind permission the party were escorted over the interior; and having inspected the numerous works of art contained in it, including various pictures by Vandyke, Rembrandt, Gainsborough, Sir Joshua Reynolds &c., took their way to Bunbury Church. After having examined the interior the excursion party returned to Chester, where a numerous company dined at the Queen's Hotel, the Chair being occupied by Joseph Mayer, Esq., one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society. The usual loyal toasts, and sentiments appropriate to the occasion, having been proposed and responded to, the party took the return train to Birkenhead.

* Transactions, p. 305.