

PROCEEDINGS,

TWENTY-FOURTH SESSION, 1871-72.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING,

Royal Institution, Colquitt Street, Liverpool, October 18th, 1871.

REV. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., PRESIDENT, IN THE CHAIR.

REPORT.

The Session which has just closed has been comparatively free from events, some would say it has been monotonous; yet probably not more than three or four Sessions in the history of the Society have surpassed it in the importance of the work done. This consisted chiefly in two things—strengthening the Society in the present, and making arrangements for extended usefulness in the future. The Council have prepared their programme better than during the immediately preceding Sessions; there has been a good supply of papers, and these of a high and varied character; and the attendances have been more numerous than usual.

The Volume, which contains a record of the proceedings as well as the principal papers, is on the eve of issue, and in a few days will be in the hands of Members. It will be sent to those only whose payments are not in arrear.

Owing in a great degree to the resignation and lamented death of the late Treasurer, some of the payments fell into arrear, and a few misunderstandings arose as to whether previous acts of resignation had taken place or not. The Council are glad to be able to say that they have put these matters on a satisfactory footing, much of the arrears having been paid in before this day, and all questions as to membership having been thoroughly explained. They beg to recommend to their successors a careful attention to the finances, on the ground of prudence, and also on the ground of necessity; inasmuch as all matters connected with learned societies were placed by the Legislature on an ordinary business footing more than seventeen years ago.

Among the changes which took place in the Laws of the Society in July, 1867, was one the effect of which has not been beneficial. This was the removal of the three Vice-Presidents *ex officio*, the High Sheriffs of Lancashire and Cheshire and the Mayor of Liverpool for the time being. The permanent recognition of the chief officers in the two shires proclaimed the Society's true territorial character; and the Council recommend that the laws be altered so as to restore that arrangement.

The following resolution, moved by the President and seconded by Mr. Wilson, was passed unanimously, viz. :—

“That a former Law be revived—that the High Sheriffs of Lancashire and Cheshire and the Mayor of Liverpool be Vice-Presidents *ex officio*.”

Mr. E. F. Evans moved, seconded by Dr. Buxton, and it was unanimously resolved :—

“That in conformity with the practice of other societies meeting in Liverpool, an entrance fee be not charged in future.”

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

November 2nd, 1871.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

Mr. John G. Jacob exhibited several newspapers, containing very curious and interesting items, of the dates 1793, 1800, 1801, 1802.

The following

INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS

Was delivered by the PRESIDENT :—

Another Session has closed, and we have started on a new one. The last had nothing of a special kind to mark it; indeed it was one of the least exciting that we have had. There was nothing special, like the *meeting of the British Association*, which gave an impulse to the two previous Sessions ;—to the former in expectancy, and to the latter in retrospect.

Perhaps this was so much the better, as the quality and usefulness of the Society have thereby been more fairly tested. We can thus know more clearly whether or not it is in a healthy condition. If in a sound state, it is like a healthy body, independent of artificial stimulants; but if in an unsound state, such temporary excitement may delay, but cannot prevent, premature old age.

It is folly and waste of time for a provincial society to imitate the best of the metropolitan ones; to say that no matter shall be produced and no facts stated but those which are original,—or to look to the

world of learning at large when we are only engaged in cultivating a small corner of it. We may, it is true, glance incidentally at what is passing beyond ourselves; and notice our own relation to the good work; but we should never lose sight of our special objects and duties.

A society of this kind has very definite objects and aims of a local character, the value and importance of which cannot be doubted. It should endeavour to keep the lamp of learning burning brightly in our own neighbourhood; to utilise the materials which are at present available, and to prepare others for the future; to cultivate friendly relations with sister societies, established for common or for kindred objects; to give and receive suggestions and publications; and in general to remedy as far as we can the absence of any intellectual organization in our town. I shall, therefore, direct your attention to what may be called our Home policy, and to circumstances connected with our general working; and I feel certain that such practical suggestions will be at once more valuable and more highly appreciated by you, than if I attempted a dissertation either on the general subjects of human inquiry or upon some specific portion of them.

At our last Anniversary, we had completed twenty-three years of continued existence, or two beyond the attainment of our majority; yet some of us remember well our earliest meetings, and the prospects of success or otherwise which were entertained by various friends according to their enthusiasm or capability of judging. We were, I believe, the very first in the provinces to attempt the issue of an annual volume; and with greater or less success the pledge has been fulfilled to the present hour. The plan has been imitated by others, partly no doubt from a feeling of emulation, as well as on grounds of policy, or from a sense of duty. But, whatever may have been the motive, it is gratifying to see a higher class of intellectual investigations, and greater regularity in laying the results before the members at large.

In other respects also, we have done something of which it may be well briefly to remind you. We have accumulated an interesting collection of books,—many of them the Transactions of other societies older or younger,—and a small number of illustrative objects. Our labours have promoted and popularised intellectual research, in a district where manufactures and commerce too frequently exclude literary and scientific subjects from human attention. We have had the gratification of seeing Archæology,—which has been and should ever be a prominent subject with us,—rise from its despised condition in England and other countries, to take its rank as an important branch

of Science; the handmaid to History and General Literature, to Geology and Ethnology. For our own locality, we have thrown upon the surface a large amount of materials which the future Historian of the district, the Genealogist and Topographer, will know how to value. And contemporaneously,—partly we may believe as a cause and partly as an effect,—numerous local treatises have been produced, of a larger and more important kind, for their respective districts, than the memoirs which find a place in our volumes.

Probably we have failed in one respect of late. We have been too much of a Borough Society and too little of a County and District one, narrowing our ground instead of keeping the entire area steadily in view; and the fact has been noticed by some of our best friends. This certainly is not a move in the right direction; and the most successful years of our Society, such as we hope to realise again, were those in which our County friends felt that they were quite in their place in aiding us. We should enlist the talent and concentrate the information procurable, from North Lancashire on the borders of Cumberland and Westmoreland, by Yorkshire on the east, on to South and West Cheshire on the confines of the counties of Stafford and Flint. We must therefore return, in so far as we have diverged from them, to our first great aims; and strive against the narrowness or local centralization which would make us in effect a Society of South-west Lancashire, under a false name.

It is for this reason, as one of several, that I am glad to see a return to our *ex officio* Vice-Presidents; recognising the chief officers of the shires year by year, and enrolling them at the expiration of their respective terms of office, if they testify a wish to be retained on our list of Members in their private capacity.

We should make it a point, too, to illustrate obscure localities, to throw more light upon others which are well known, and to embalm the history of public institutions year by year, especially those that are passing away. The knowledge respecting our own district will thus gradually increase; and inquirers will know where to look with the hope of finding it. Why should we not have every Session a full history of some parish or smaller district, or the illustrated genealogy of some existing or extinct county family, or the biography of an eminent person? All these are comprised in our varied and interesting bill of fare, and each would be readily acceptable to some intellectual appetite. I am persuaded that for such a harvest the labourers are not few, except by comparison with our numerous gross population. There

are many able and willing workers, the majority of whom require only a hint respecting the manner in which they can be most useful,—ready to become earnest colleagues and fellow-labourers. So long as any of these are strangers, there is a want of economy of our intellectual material; and I trust it is only necessary to refer to the fact to secure attention to it by the members of our new Council.

The illustration of a wide area and the keeping of first principles before us is analogous to the division of the business into Sections. By covering the whole field, even in effort and intention, we are kept alive to the question whether certain branches of knowledge are feebly represented or not at all, and we are able from time to time to strengthen the weak links of the chain. But, when subjects of all kinds are grouped together in one promiscuous mass, when instead of specific treatment of selected subjects a Society takes what comes readiest to hand, it practically sinks its demand for quality and stipulates for quantity only. A Society need never be at a loss for papers, if that be all that is required, just as a newspaper is never at a loss for matter; but I am assuming that the best of their kind should be sought for. In such a case, and we have known not a few, the Society sinks to the limits of the knowledge of its two or three active and leading men; and its researches lie say for five sessions in one groove, for three in another, and, perhaps, for four in another,—perpetually changing. It is this want of system which explains the difficulty sometimes felt of getting papers in sufficient number or at the required time; and it is the complaint of the Councils of several Provincial Societies, that in order to produce volumes at all, they are obliged to print papers which should never have been even read.

During the past Session two very important facts have occurred.

First the finances have been placed on a better footing,—as owing mainly to the illness of the late treasurer and his subsequent lamented death, arrears had been allowed to accumulate. A large proportion of these have been called in; and much of the dead wood of the Society has been lopped off. The true principle is never to suffer arrears to accrue; and it is obvious that any gentleman would more readily pay a single subscription for the current Session, than two or three, the volumes representing which he has never seen. As the volume is not sent out to members who are in arrear, at all events they are not entitled to it, the interest awakened by the reception of it is wanting, and when two or three volumes have lapsed, a member is inclined to fancy, erroneously of course, that he had resigned. It is not sufficiently known, or rather

I should say it is too readily forgotten, that resignation is impossible while a member is in arrear. I am persuaded that if ever we or our successors be found in troubled waters it will not be from want either of public sympathy or intellectual material, it will be from some oversight on the subject of finance. I have more than once alluded to this; even in the early years of the Society's existence.

Second, our collections have been put in better order; and will be made interesting and useful to the members. Some of our friends are not aware that we have a Library or objects at all; and others do not know the extent of the former. The three catalogues, as you have learned from the Report, are being posted up and will soon be complete.

On the subject of Members, it may suffice to say that a Society possessing a large geographical area requires for its proper cultivation a large intellectual one also. All men have not the same tastes, nor the same materials for investigation, nor the same opportunities; yet each may possess some knowledge of value, in a greater or less degree. Among 400 or 500 members, there should be a large number of instructors; but it should be borne in mind that more is required than mere numbers. Good men, like good papers, deserve to be selected and sought for, and in some instances this is required. Besides, we have had a good many papers, some of them of great interest and value, from gentlemen who volunteered from without, but who were not enrolled with us. There is reason to believe that auxiliaries of both classes may still be found.

It has been mentioned that we have already completed twenty-three Sessions, and that our twenty-third volume is on the eve of issue. I venture, therefore, to recommend that our next volume,—viz. XXIV, for the Session on which we have now entered,—be the last of the series; and that we begin a third series with Volume XXV. There are many of our members who do not possess the whole of the Second Series, commencing with Volume XIII, and still more who do not possess the earlier volumes. Hence, new members often regard their volumes as somehow forming a broken set, if they do not possess the whole of a series, though of course each volume is complete in itself. The two old series could then be sold to members at moderate prices; and we should get rid opportunely of our accumulating and now somewhat cumbrous stock.

The Report has alluded to the Excursion for the year; and it was very interesting for special reasons. It is a pity that the details of the Excursion are sometimes fixed upon rather hastily; for it may be made,

on the one hand, either merely a day of rustic enjoyment, a holiday with pleasant companions, or, on the other, a day of important special information not easily obtainable otherwise. Within our own limits there is no lack of suitable places to visit,—mines, factories, ancient buildings, ruins, &c.,—the age, the manhood, and the infancy of English life are all within our reach. But on all such occasions if we wish to profit there should be one or two persons responsible for the duty of teaching. Sometimes a formal paper should be read, but often a brief oral lecture is preferable; and besides the fact of seeing objects for ourselves *in situ*, it is wonderful what an amount of light is thrown on our past history and present state by a few even rude drawings. In some societies of the Kingdom, especially those for separate shires, the work is largely done at such excursions, prolonged sometimes over two or more days; and it certainly is a charming way of bringing us into familiar acquaintance with whatever is of value or interest in our own part of the country. There are obvious limits in distance, as the time expended in travelling is just so much taken from the intellectual part of the proceedings; and in like manner the indispensable duty of refection should be brought within the narrowest possible limits.

On more than one occasion I have alluded to the necessity which exists in Liverpool for Education of a higher class, such as Manchester and Durham possess, or even Birmingham; such as Wales has recently vindicated her claim to; and such as in countries of less national importance than England, or in districts far below Lancashire is found, as at St. Andrew's in Scotland, and Galway in Ireland. As population increases and material wealth is multiplied, the want is felt with increasing force; and what is worse still, there are too few intellectual men and these too little united to make any important impression on public opinion. Two important opportunities have been lost, viz., in 1854 and 1870; the second and third occasions on which the British Association for the Advancement of Science visited our town. On the first occasion of its visit, viz., in 1837, there was great popular enthusiasm, but Literature and Science had then scarcely obtained a hearing among the resident population. It was when men's minds had been awakened to the importance of sound learning, when Science in its widest sense was popular, that means should have been adopted for finding it a permanent home. The tide was not taken at the flood; the prestige has been lost; and such an opportunity may be long in returning.

It is true that an attempt was nominally made to collect our *disjecta*

membra ; that the persons forming our various societies and institutions were invited to send deputies for consultation, and that a consultation such as it was took place. But the promoters of the movement seemed incapable of looking beyond the Prospectus of the British Association : they aspired to form a College of Science only, but with an immense number of subdivisions ; while other branches of human study, of at least equal importance, such as Philosophy or the Literature of ancient and modern times, were not for a moment thought of. Instead of beginning at the beginning,—like Owens College, which was at first limited to three primary Professorships and three secondary ones, embracing with more or less completeness the whole area of intellectual research—these gentlemen wished their project, like Adam, to start into adult manhood at once. And they would have had one limb larger than the whole body ; one branch or section of study costing more than that for which a framework for the whole course of education could have been constructed, like the German or Scottish Universities or like the Queen's Colleges in Ireland. As a matter of course, the project collapsed without any further result than a few meetings and much discourse ; so, as on many previous occasions in Liverpool, we have sown the wind and reaped the whirlwind. On the one occasion when all appeared to possess the same general idea and there was no one in opposition, the failure has been unusually complete ; chiefly because the movement had a sectional origin and sectional aims, and because the extravagance of the scale on which the castle was proposed to be built almost invited ridicule. For, Liverpool is not yet London or even Manchester.

But to conclude. I think I am justified in presenting congratulations to the Society on the following grounds :—that a new and better spirit has recently been stirred up among our members,—that there is a visible and appreciable increase of industry and order,—that there is an extended and growing prospect of intellectual support,—and that there is an improved condition of the Society's income and property. And I close with the expression of an earnest hope that when I lay down the sceptre which your kindness has entrusted to me now for the third time, I may be able to introduce my successor in this chair to a Society of which he will have no reason to be ashamed, and in which he may place unqualified confidence.

The following Paper was read :—

ON THE HIDE OF LAND,* by *Joseph Boulton, F.R.I.B.A.*

November 16th, 1871.

JOSEPH BOULT, F.R.I.B.A., in the Chair.

The friends of Members, including ladies, were present at this meeting.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By Mr. Charles Potter.

A hand mill-stone, taken from the remains of an old building on the sea coast of Great Meols, Cheshire.

By J. T. Towson, F.R.G.S.

Locusts taken from a ship *en route* to South Australia, on July 7th, 1871, in lat. 11 N. and long. 26 W.

By T. J. Moore, Esq.

1. Belt of a Patagonian chief, presented to the town museum by Mr. Musgrove.

2. A piece of the Corsica and Spezzia Submarine Telegraph Cable, laid in 1854, and taken up in 1870.

3. A Scottish broadsword.

By Dr. Forsyth.

An interesting botanical specimen—the bark of a tree found at Ambriez, West Africa, used for making paper.

By Mr. S. G. Robinson.

1. An earthenware drinking cup found in excavating a drain at the New Windsor Iron Works, Garston.

2. Symbolical ecclesiastical scourge found in the same excavation.

The following Paper was read :—

FRAGMENTS FROM FORGOTTEN FOLIOS,† by *David Buxton, Ph.D., F.R.S.L.*

November 30th, 1871.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were elected Members of the Society :—

Mr. Edward A. Heffer, 2, Dale Street.

Mr. David Hutton, 61, Canning Street.

Mr. Alfred Rimmer, The Cross, Chester.

* Transactions, p. 1.

† Transactions, p. 165.

The President drew attention to the fact that a sum of £100, and afterwards another sum of a like amount, had been voted by the British Association for the Advancement of Science towards the further exploration of the Land of Moab. It is thought that other remains, illustrative of Scripture and ancient history generally, still exist there, and that they might be procured, though the cupidity of the Arabs has been excited by recent experience. Accordingly a party for exploring has been organized, some of whom will proceed at their own expense, and others by the assistance of the public funds. It embraces Dr. Ginsburg, late of this town, Canon Tristram, and other eminent Oriental scholars, about seven or eight in all. The President further stated that Dr. Ginsburg would deliver a lecture on the general subject before the Members of the Society on the 14th December.

The Assistant Secretary laid upon the table copies of the New Volume. It is XXIII in consecutive order, and Vol. XI of the Second Series.

The following objects were exhibited:—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A number of Chinese articles carved in soapstone, comprising,
 - (a) A small lamp rudely carved.
 - (b) An ink well and separate stand.
 - (c) A fruit dish carved in the shape of a vine leaf.
 - (d) A breakfast plate turned in a lathe, and then carved.
2. Three sermons which had belonged to three generations of the name of Smith. The first was entitled a Christmas Sermon, 1750; the second was a composite sermon, four pages of printed matter being joined to twenty-two MS pages; the third was dated 1821.

The following Paper was read:—

ON THE TRADITIONS OF THE BEAR IN THE BRITISH ISLES,* by James Paterson, Esq.

December 14th, 1871.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

A large number of ladies and gentlemen, introduced by Members, attended this meeting.

The Rev. Dr. Ginsburg gave an interesting lecture on the Moabite Stone, and on the proposed exploration of the Country of Moab. The Rev. Canon Tristram made some supplementary remarks on the subject of the lecture.

* Transactions, p. 151.

January 11th, 1872.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were elected Members of the Society :—

Mr. James Holme, 109, Mount Pleasant.
Mr. Reginald Evans, 56, Hanover Street.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A stone celt found at Ely, mounted with an ozier handle like a smith's punch.
2. A large stone wedge, used for cleaving timber by some of the present generation of New Zealanders.
3. Tobacco pipe heads and a gun bullet, found in excavating near one of the churches at Lichfield.

By T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S.

1. A copy of the *Morning Herald* for "Wednesday, October 21, 1801," containing the announcement of peace between France and Russia, by "Bonaparte First Consul."
2. A fac-simile copy of the first number of the *Manchester Guardian*, issued "Saturday, May 5th, 1821."
3. Printed pedigree of the "late Sir Robert Peel; and the Peels "of Lancashire, from the year 1600 to 1850;" including extracts from the registers of the Parish Church of Blackburn, and "a copy of a letter from the father of the late Sir Robert Peel to John Corry, the Lancashire Historian." This pedigree appears to have been printed at Manchester.
4. A political squib, entitled "The Conciliad, or the Triumph of Patriotism, a Poem. Translated from the Latin of Tertius Quartus Quintus. The third edition, London, 1762." This is a very smart, and, in some respects, coarse satire on the granting of Mr. Pitt's pension of £3,000 a year. Most of the persons alluded to are distinguished by initials only, and hence some of them cannot now be identified.
5. A few loose leaves of a mathematical manuscript, written by the late J. H. Swale, author of *Geometrical Amusements*, and editor of the *Liverpool Apollonius*. The leaves contained some problems on circles of contact, which formed the basis of the Paper for the evening.

The following were expelled from the Society for non-payment of their subscriptions :—

W. G. Bradley,
John Mills, and
John Cape.

Mr. Wilkinson communicated the following :—

NOTE ON A MAP OF CHESHIRE.

In Robert Morden's map of Cheshire, contained in Gibson's *Camden*, 1695, which is admitted to be very accurate, (Gibson's Preface,) there are two branches of the River Dee which appear to unite with the Mersey. The junction is a little above Hooton Park; and this branch then runs past Pool, Stanlaw, and Thornton, where the two branches unite. The northern branch then passes Stoke, Croughton, Backford, Chorleton, The Baits, and so on to the Dee below Chester. The southern branch commences at Thornton—Coughall being nearly at the point of the delta; it then passes by Picton, Bridge Troughford, Plemslew, Stanford, Hockenhall, Stapleford, Huxley, Tattenhall, Heath, Lea Hall, and Aldford, a little below which it joins the Dee from Poulton, &c. The question now arises, did these junctions exist three centuries ago, or are they defects in the map?

On consulting a relative resident at Chester on the question, he thus writes—"It is difficult to make out the source of Crimes Brook (on the "Ordnance Map), one of the main tributaries of the River Gowy; but "it is evident from the elevation of the Peckforton Hills that the sources "of it do not interlock with the streams which run into the Dee near "Aldford. All the hills from Peckforton to Helsby seem to rise at once "from the plain. The various heaths found between Tattenhall and "Whitby Heath suggest a table land, of slight elevation certainly, but "sufficient to mark the watershed. I cannot find any water connection "between Croughton and Mollington, except the canal; which may have "been constructed out of the bed of a brook; but the map does not "give any signs of it. Personal inspection would decide whether there "is any cutting near Butter Hill to cross what appears on the "map to be the watershed of that part of the county. No rocks "are noted between Croughton and Mollington. North of Stoke are "The Moors, and here there seem to be numerous brooks or ditches, "which cross each other. I may add that numerous tributaries of the "River Gowy are omitted in the map on both banks."

This scarcely settles the matter; and I would suggest the examination of other old manuscripts and documents, by some one near this locality, in order to ascertain whether there formerly were such junctions of the Mersey and the Dee as are set forth by Morden and other geographers.*

* The apparent island, and the two rivers joining the Mersey and the Dee, are nothing more than the usual exaggerations and inaccuracies of the old geographers. We have examined several large maps of Cheshire, from 1794 to the present time; and they concur in showing the following. (1) There is a series of low levels, nearly coinciding with the boundary lines of Wirral and Broxton Hundreds; and along these the Dee and Mersey canal is carried. But there is a water-partition at Backford, from which the natural streams flow east and west to the Mersey and the Dee respectively. (2) The southern river nearly coincides with the boundary between the Hundreds of Broxton and Eddisbury; but the water-partition is at Peckforton hills and Tattenhall. One set of small streams, including the brooks of Beeston, Ashton, Salter, and Crimes, unite with the Gowy and flow into the Mersey:—another originating in Keysbrook, flows into the Dee at Aldford.—H.

The following Paper was read :—

ON CIRCLES OF CONTACT, AS TREATED GEOMETRICALLY BY APOLLONIUS, VIETA, AND THE LATE J. H. SWALE,* by *T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S.*

January 25th, 1872.

JOSEPH BOULT, F.R.I.B.A., in the Chair.

The Chairman alluded to the recent death of Mr. John Perris, who had for more than fifty years been connected with the Liverpool Library, and for the greater part of that time as its Librarian; and it was resolved that a letter of condolence be written to Mr. Perris's family.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. An ancient tobacco box of brass, carved with quaint figures, and inscribed with Dutch legends. Boxes of this kind were common in England in the early part of the last century; and often there was a hook at the hinge, to which a chain was attached for suspending it over the arm.
2. A bottle made of leather, supposed to be of the 16th century. Inside of it was a paper, with a copy of an old English song in disparagement of all other kinds of bottles. The burden of each verse is—

“ I wish his soul in heaven may dwell,
“ Who first invented the leathern bottel.”

The following Paper was read :—

ON THE POOR-LAW SYSTEM OF ELBERFELD, by *B. L. Benas, Esq.*

Mr. J. T. Towson, F.R.G.S., made some remarks on the late Sir Roderick Murchison's views in reference to the Australian Gold Fields.†

February 8th, 1872.

Rev. CHARLES JONES, M.A., in the Chair.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume, for General Bellasis.

1. A coloured drawing of the large window in Bowness Church, representing St. George and the Dragon. St. George is

* Transactions, p. 25.

† Transactions. p. 77.

represented in armour, with a chain round his loins for suspending the sword. The buckles are of a type well known here. He is holding the spear in a position for forcing it, and it appears to have pierced the jaws of the dragon. The animal has teeth of the shark kind, and the spear has a piece broken out of it on one side, as if it had encountered some hard object. The grass grows in tufts like the star-grass in this neighbourhood and along the shore of Lancashire and Cheshire. There appears to be a tree on the saint's left. He has a shirt of mail on under the plate armour, and the Red Cross (now the symbol of England) on his breast; but the upper part of the helmet, where the window has been taken away, has been filled up by the painter.

2. A drawing, by Mr. Knight Watson of the Society of Antiquaries, the full size of the painting in the Window, of the Virgin and Child. The Virgin is clothed in a blue robe, with a mantle of brown over it, having a studded border; the head is covered with what appears to be a cap or kerchief, and over all a crown. She holds in her right hand the representation of a heart over the breast; the left encircles the Child; both hands are very peculiar in their shape. The crown is encircled with something like a nimbus, but red in colour. The background appears to have been diapered, but in most places that has given way to time. The Infant Saviour is dressed in a lighter blue, with two cross stripes. The right hand is elevated in the attitude of blessing, and the left holds a chalice; the head is surrounded with a golden nimbus. This figure is supposed to have come from Furness Abbey; but the St. George has been painted specially for the window in which it is placed.

On the recommendation of the Council, Mr. Henry Eeroyd Smith was elected an honorary Life Member, in recognition of his valuable services to local Archæology.

The following paper was read:—

ON THE PECULIARITIES OF THE GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE OF CHESTER AND ITS NEIGHBOURHOOD,* by *Alfred Rimmer, Esq.*

The Paper was read by the Assistant Secretary, in the absence of the Author.

February 22nd, 1872.

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

The following objects were exhibited:—

By Joseph Mayer, F.S.A.

An oaken chest, containing the boots, gloves, and spoon of King Henry VI of England. The chest is made of one of the

* Transactions, p. 71.

beams of Hornby Castle near Lancaster, the residence of Pudsey Dawson, Esq. Inside the lid is the following inscription on a brass plate. "This ark contains the boots, gloves, and spoon of King Henry the Sixth of England, which were given by him to his loyal friend and adherent, Sir Ralph Pudsey, of Bolton Hall, in Craven, County York, as a token of grateful regard, and a pledge (the only one within his power in those disastrous times to bestow), for the zealous attachment shown to his royal person, and for the hospitality and security from his enemies afforded him for several weeks at Bolton Hall, after the fatal battle of Hexham, A.D. MCCCCLXIII." King Henry, when apprised of the discovery of his retreat, being desirous to save the possessions of his faithful servant, Sir Ralph Pudsey, from forfeiture, withdrew in haste from Bolton Hall, and was taken soon after at Waddington (within six miles), when he was delivered to the Earl of Warwick, by whom he was sent to the Tower of London. In the possession of Pudsey Dawson, Esq., a direct descendant and heir of Sir Ralph Pudsey, A.D. MDCCCXXII.

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A bouquet holder of silver filagree, of beautiful workmanship.
2. A Chinese enamelled box, containing a number of smaller boxes.

By the Assistant Secretary, for Frank M. Youd, Esq.

A collection of articles of Chinese manufacture, comprising needlework, embroidery, metal work, toys, swords, vases, &c.

The following Paper was read:—

ON THE FEE OF MAKERFIELD, WITH AN ACCOUNT OF SOME OF ITS LORDS, THE BARONS OF NEWTON,* *by William Beamont, Esq.*

March 7th, 1872.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

The friends of Members were present by invitation.

The following objects were exhibited:—

By Frank M. Youd, Esq.

1. A number of very fine enamelled vases, of Japanese manufacture.
2. Beautifully carved Chinese flower vase, in wood.
3. A piece of ancient Chinese earthenware.

* Transactions, p. 81.

By Captain Brown.

1. A number of lamps found in graves and temples of the Phœnician period in the Island of Cyprus, 1865-71.
2. Dish found in the mound of a ruin in Cyprus in 1868.
3. Specimens of earthenware lachrymatories from graves in Cyprus, found 1865-71.
4. A number of vessels, supposed to be measures for selling wine, oil, or grain, found at Cyprus, 1865-67.
5. Metal disk, supposed to be a mirror, from a Phœnician grave.
6. Three small glass bottles from Phœnician graves, one with engraved characters.
7. Beautiful irradiant glass bottles from Phœnician graves, found 1867.
8. Glass bottle, glass jug, and tumbler, of peculiar shape.
9. A number of small jars and vases in earthenware—red, white and black—some painted and others engraved.
10. A number of heads and mutilated statuettes from ruins and temples in Cyprus.
11. A book of plates of Modern Egypt, and photographs of statues, found by L. Cesnola, Esq., U.S.A. Consul.

By G. H. Float, Esq.

1. A small bone altar-piece, with carved image of the Virgin and Child, given about a century ago by the Lady Superior of the Convent of Ursulines at Boulogne to an English pupil. It was then described as an antiquity, and is reported to have been blessed by a former Pope.
2. A carved representation of the crucifixion, supposed to be of an older date than the above.
3. Carved ivory cigar case and Japanese cabinet.
4. Black-letter Prayer Book, of the time of Queen Elizabeth.

By F. W. Holder, Esq.

1. Two swords of Chinese manufacture.
2. Japanese pocket book.
3. Chinese ladies' shoes.
4. Chinese compass.
5. Chinese spectacles and case.
6. Japanese doctor's medicine case.
7. Japanese chopsticks.

By Mr. Dyall, Assistant Secretary.

A scarf ring, of pure gold, of Chinese manufacture. It is ornamented with a number of figures in high relief, and has a very chaste and rich appearance.

The President read the following Papers:—

1. AN INVENTORY OF CHURCH GOODS AT STANLAW ABBEY,* *temp.* 1537, *by the Rev. Mackenzie E. C. Walcott, B.D.*

2. SOME REMARKS ON THE SITE OF THE BATTLE OF BRUNANBURG, *by Ralph Carr Ellison, Esq.*

March 21st, 1872.

HENRY DAWSON, Esq., in the Chair.

The friends of Members, including ladies, were present at this meeting.

The Marquis of Salisbury was elected a Life Member of the Society.

The following objects were exhibited:—

By Robert Rawlinson, C.B.

Thirty pieces of Japanese carving in ivory, of the most exquisite workmanship, being most accurate representations of animals, such as oxen, dromedaries, dogs, monkeys, &c.; and insects, human figures, skeletons, grotesque heads, &c.

By Mr. Heffer, in illustration of his Paper.

Drawings of the armorial bearings of many of the great families of Lancashire and Cheshire.

By the Rev. Dr. Hume and Mr. Frederick Broughton.

Twenty shields of the arms of Lancashire families.

The following Papers were read:—

OBSERVATIONS ON THE ARMORIAL BEARINGS OF THE FAMILIES AND RELIGIOUS HOUSES OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE, *by E. A. Heffer, Esq.*

AN ENGLISH LADY'S DESCRIPTION OF CHRISTMAS IN EAST PRUSSIA. Read by Dr. Buxton.

April 4th, 1872.

Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., &c., President, in the Chair.

The following were elected Members of the Society:—

Lord Skelmersdale, Lathom House, Ormskirk.

Lord Ebury, 35, Park Street, Grosvenor Square, London.

* Transactions, p. 53.

Sir Thomas Edwards-Moss, Bart., Roby Hall.
 Rev. Daniel Vawdrey, Darley Rectory, Matlock.
 John Crossley, Esq., Briar's Hey, Rainhill.
 Frederick Broughton, Esq., Brecon, South Wales.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By Robert Rawlinson, C.B.

A number of beautiful carvings in ivory, of reptiles, birds, insects, &c.

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

A collection of ancient and modern finger rings, including massive gold rings from California and Australia, and a copper thumb ring, which tradition says had been the signet ring of the Abbot of Lancaster.

The following Paper was read :—

ON SOME OLD LANCASHIRE BLOOMERIES,* by James Kerr, Esq., M.D.

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion of the Society took place on Tuesday, June 25th, 1872, the locality chosen being Windermere. The Members and friends, including ladies, to the number of nearly 100, left Lime Street Station at 8-35 a.m., and proceeding by the ordinary train, arrived at Windermere about 12-30 p.m. The weather was unfavourable during the journey, the rain falling heavily; but as the train neared its destination it cleared up, and was fine for the remainder of the day. The party proceeded to the Old England Hotel, where arrangements had been made for dinner. The chair was taken by the President, the Rev. Dr. Hume, who had on his right the Rev. Canon Stock and the Rev. Mr. Bright, who were the guests of the Society on the occasion. The vice-chairs were filled by Joseph Mayer, F.S.A., Dr. Buxton, and John G. Jacob, Esq. After the removal of the cloth, several toasts were proposed and responded to. The party then visited the Old Church of Windermere, where the Rev. Canon Stock courteously explained the curious monumental tablets, and the fine old stained glass window. The party then proceeded by special steamer along the lake to Ambleside, where most of them alighted and explored the beauties of the neighbourhood; returning by steamer to tea, which was served at the same hotel. Soon after, most of the party returned by train to Liverpool, others following by a later train; and all having spent a most delightful and enjoyable day.

* Transactions, p. 57.