

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion took place on Tuesday, June 24th, 1873, when the Society visited Congleton, Cheshire. The party, numbering 110 members and friends, including ladies, left Lime Street station at 9-15, arriving at Mow Cop, on the North Stafford line, soon after 11 a.m. Here about fifty alighted, for the purpose of visiting Old Morton Hall, about a mile distant; the rest of the party went forward to Congleton, and were rejoined by the first portion in about two hours afterwards. At Congleton the Society was received with the most cordial hospitality by the Mayor, James Pearson, Esq., the Town Clerk, Mr. J. Wilson, and several members of the Corporation. The Mayor granted the free use of the Town Hall for dinner, &c., and afforded other facilities which added much to the enjoyment of the party. Dinner was served at half-past two, the Rev. Dr. Hume, President, occupying the chair, the vice-chairs being filled by Joseph Mayer, F.S.A., one of the Vice-Presidents, and Dr. Buxton, Hon. Secretary of the Society. The Mayor and other members of the Corporation, with the Town Clerk and Borough Treasurer, were the guests of the Society. After the usual loyal toasts, Mr. J. Wilson, Town Clerk, proposed success to the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. Mr. Joseph Mayer responded, and proposed the health of the writers of local history, coupling with the toast the names of Mr. Councillor J. A. Picton, author of *Memorials of Liverpool*, and Mr. J. B. Earwaker, author of the *History and Antiquities of East Cheshire*. These gentlemen having responded, the President proposed the health of the Mayor of Congleton, which was drunk with great enthusiasm. The Mayor responded, and proposed the health of the Mayor and Corporation of Liverpool, which was responded to by Mr. Councillor J. A. Picton. The health of the President was then drunk, and the toast of the ladies brought the dinner to a close. The party afterwards visited Astbury Church, and the beautiful grounds of West House, the residence of His Worship the Mayor. The party again assembled at the Town Hall for tea, and returned to Liverpool by the 7-30 p.m. train, having spent a most enjoyable day, and being highly gratified with the hospitable and kind reception accorded to them by the Mayor and members of the Corporation of Congleton.
