In again meeting the Members the Council are glad to report favourably of the Society's position and prospects. There have been elected during the year 38 new members, 30 being resident and 8 non-resident; while during the same period 2 resident and 3 non-resident members, and 1 life and 1 honorary member have died, and 7 resident and 2 non-resident members have retired from, and 2 non-resident members have become life members of the Society, which now consists of 40 life, 127 resident, 108 non-resident, 5 honorary associates, and 15 honorary members, and its yearly income amounts to £190 1s., or thereabouts.

In August last an honorary member, connected with the Society almost from its commencement, Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.R.S., F.S.A., a frequent contributor to our Transactions, and the donor of many objects in our own and the Liverpool Museum, died at a very advanced age.

During the year ten papers, nine of them directly bearing on the history or archaeology of Lancashire or Cheshire, and one of a more general character, have been read before the Society.

In June Honorary Local Secretaries were appointed to represent the Society in various parts of its district, and to report to the Council upon all matters of historic interest coming to their notice in their respective neighbourhood; and these appointments have already borne fruit.

Last September the Council deputed two members of the Society to confer with the Vicar and Wardens of St. Mary’s Church, Birkenhead, in view of the proposed restoration of St. Mary’s Priory there, with the gratifying result that their names were placed upon the Restoration Committee, and the suggestions contained in the elaborate report prepared by one of them (Mr. E. W. Cox) will probably be adopted in carrying out the repairs needful for the preservation of the ancient fabric.

For some time past the Council have been anxious to put the contents of the Society’s library in order, and there being no funds available for the purpose, they have been fortunate in selling a number of incomplete series of the Transactions of scientific societies having no bearing on the subjects which come within the scope of the Society. The proceeds of this sale will be from time to time devoted to completing and binding the valuable series of proceedings of learned societies which our library contains.

Volume IV, New Series, of the Society’s Transactions was issued in February, and Volume V in December last. The latter, being exceptionally well illustrated, and its contents being of a varied character, seems to have given general satisfaction. This standard the Council desire to maintain; but in order to do so, and to put forth the mass of material, both literary and pictorial, at the editor’s disposal, the number of subscribers must be considerably increased—an object to the importance of which the Council once more beg most earnestly to direct the attention of the Members of the Society.
PAPERS READ 1890.


"Notes on the Hardman Family." Lieut.-Col Fishwick, F.S.A.


March 6th. — "Lancashire and Cheshire Bell-founders in the 16th, 17th, and 18th Centuries." J. P. Earwaker, M.A., F.S.A.

March 20th. — "Birkenhead Priory." Charles Aldridge, F.R.I.B.A.


December 18th. — "The identity of the Mediolanum of the 2nd and 10th Iter of Antoninus." G. W. Shrubsole, F.G.S.

MEMBERS ELECTED 1890.


" Charles Gatehouse.

" William Robinson.

23. William Ayrton.

" W. D. H. Deane, M.A.

" John Dickinson.

" George Hughes.


" Capt. Henry Earle, D.S.O.

" Hugh F. Hornby.

" Capt. A. M. Molyneux.

" John Naylor.

" S. G. Prentice.

Nov. 6. Bootle Free Public Library.

" James Cornish.

" H. T. Crofton.

" John Fornby.

" Willoughby Gardner.


" C. E. L. Gregson.

" A. M. Hannay.

" Edgar S. Holland.

" W. F. Irvine.

" J. Kerfoot Jones.

" R. R. Meade-King.

" Lieut.-Col. Edm. Molyneux.

" Henry Peet.

" A. M. Robinson.

" T. C. Ryley.

" Rev. Percy Stewart, M.A.

" W. A. Tonge.

" John Thompson.


" Henry Gray.

" N. L. Van. Gruisen.

" William Kirk.

" Geo. A. Pilkington.