

PROCEEDINGS.
SIXTEENTH SESSION, 1863-64.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Free Public Library, 19th October, 1863.

JOSEPH MAYER Esq., F.S.A., VICE-PRESIDENT, in the Chair.

The SECRETARY read the following

REPORT.

The Council have little of special interest to report in resigning office at the close of their year of service. During the Session Eighteen Ordinary Meetings were held, with an average attendance of members; twenty-two Papers were read, and the most important of them have been placed in the hands of the printer for publication in the Annual Volume, which is expected to be ready for delivery in November. It will also be found to contain a paper contributed by the President in the preceding Session. The number of members on the roll is about the same as at the close of the last Session, as will appear by the following Table :

COMPARATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF
THE SOCIETY.

	Life.	Resident.	Non-Resident.	Lady Assoc'ees.	Total.	Honorary Members.	Gross Total.
Session XIV	57	183	152	2	394	26	420
„ XV—Died or Resigned	1	10	4	..	15	1	16
	56	173	148	2	379	25	404
New Members	1	10	8	..	19	..	19
	57	183	156	2	398	25	423

The last meeting of the Session, on the 14th of May, was held at Mr. Mayer's Museum of Antiquities, which was again liberally thrown open by the Proprietor to the Members and their Friends, including Ladies, of whom there was a numerous attendance. In June the Annual Excursion was made, to Sefton Church and Ince-Blundell Hall, where, by the obliging permission of Thomas Weld Blundell Esq., its owner, the members, again accompanied by a numerous party of their friends of both sexes, had an opportunity of inspecting the admirable series of works of art there collected.

The usual interchange of publications with kindred Societies has been maintained, and the Society's Library steadily increases in extent and value; it will therefore be desirable that the Society should take steps, at an early period, to provide for it additional accommodation. The Museum is laid out in the Gallery of Inventions and Science and constitutes a part of that exhibition, which, on the authority of the delegates appointed by this Society to take part in its management, the Council are able to report is open to the public, and promises to be an institution of great public interest and usefulness.

The Treasurer's Balance Sheet will be presented as soon as the whole of the printing, in connection with the Annual Volume, is completed. In the meantime the Council have reason to believe there will be a satisfactory balance to the Society's credit. The current expenses have been at the ordinary rate; the only special payment being a sum of Twenty Pounds to the Assistant Secretary for extra labour, including the entire removal of the Library and Museum on two separate occasions.

The approaching celebration of the Shakspeare Tercentenary being of peculiar interest to all learned societies, the Council have appointed a Committee to confer with other Societies of the district, with a view to united action in such proceedings as may be deemed suitable. To this subject the Council invite the attention of the members generally, in the hope that it will receive from them such support as its importance demands.

In conclusion the retiring Council submit, as required by the Laws, the names of one gentleman for election to the Vice-Presidency, and of six others for the Sectional Committees, in the place of those who retire. All are likely to assist in the necessary labours it is proposed to assign to them; and all are believed to be willing, if elected, to serve.

It was moved by PETER R. McQUIE Esq., seconded by THOMAS DAWSON Esq., M.R.C.S., and resolved unanimously :—

That the Report now read be adopted, and printed and circulated with the Proceedings of the Society.

It was moved by JOHN NEWTON Esq., M.R.C.S., seconded by EDWIN BEAN Esq., and resolved unanimously :—

That the thanks of the Society be given to the Officers and Sectional Members of the Council for their services during the past Session.

It was moved by H. A. BRIGHT Esq., M.A., seconded by J. T. TOWSON Esq., F.R.G.S., and resolved unanimously :—

That the thanks of the Society be given to JOSEPH MAYER Esq., Vice-President, for his reception of the members and their friends at his Museum of British and Foreign Antiquities on the 14th of May; and to T. WELD BLUNDELL Esq., for his kindness in throwing open his mansion of Ince-Blundell for the inspection of the members and others at the Annual Excursion in June last.

A ballot having been taken for the Officers and Sectional Members of Council, the result was announced from the chair. (See page iv.)

It was proposed by the Rev. A. HUME, D.C.L., Honorary Secretary, and resolved by acclamation :—

That the cordial and special thanks of this Society be given to Lieutenant-General the Honorable Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., D.C.L., F.R.S. &c., for his valuable services as President during the past eight years.

It was moved by PETER R. McQUIE Esq., seconded by WILLIAM BURKE Esq., Treasurer, and resolved unanimously :—

That this meeting do now adjourn to the 3rd of December next, at Seven p.m., for the purpose of receiving the Annual Balance Sheet.

At the adjourned Annual General Meeting held in the Free Public Library on the 3rd of December, 1863, the Volume being still unfinished, a further adjournment took place to the 4th of August, 1864, when the following Statement of Accounts for the year ending 18th October, 1863, was submitted by the Treasurer.