

J. W. Whitehead, Esq. Prospectuses of Projected Schemes in Liverpool, about the year 1836. Of 102 which were proposed, Mr. Whitehead had collected as many as 80 Prospectuses.

The following Articles were EXHIBITED :—

- By Joseph Mayer, F.S.A. Six stone Celts of various sizes and shapes ; four bronze do. ; part of a sword blade ; an ancient spear head with the wood in it ; and a palstab found in the County Antrim, Ireland.
- By Dr. Hume. Bag of a "leubra" or native Australian woman, made of the stringy bark tree. A New Zealand basket made throughout of the *phormium tenax* or native flax.
- By Alfred Rimmer, Esq. Three Drawings by George Ormerod, Esq., D.C.L., &c.,—viz., Smithell's Hall, exterior and interior views, 1810 ; and Hale Hall, 1820.

#### MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNICATIONS.

Dr. Hume exhibited and read extracts from certain MSS. forwarded by Major-General the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, K.C.H., Vice-President. The following extracts sufficiently explain their import and shew their character.

" Deposiconns of witnesses taken within the King's Ma'ts Court of Excheq<sup>r</sup> within his highnes Castle at Chester, the vij<sup>th</sup> daye of Maye, Anno Regni Regis Jacobi, Angliae &c. quint. et Scotie xl<sup>o</sup> 1607. Upon the ple & behalf of Gilbert Vrmeston defte against John Vrmeston compl<sup>t</sup>

" Henrie Watte of Moreton w.thin the Countye of Chester husbandman, aged three score yeares and upwards, sworn and examned. Saith he knoweth the p.tyes, and hath knowne them for the space of thirtye yeares nowe last paste and above. And did also knowe William Vrmeston in this Interr. named, and that the said defte is eldest sonne and next heire to the said William Vrmeston. The said William in his lief tyme and at the tyme of his death, was taken and reputed to be lawfully seised in his demesnes of fee, of and in the messuage & certeyne howses and buildings garden and yord to the same belonging, scituate in Moreton, nowe in the plts occupacion, and also of and in one Close or p.cell of land in Moreton aforesaid, called the West-car-hey, \* \* \* And verilye thinketh that the said cottage is builded upon the deftes owne landes, or upon the waste landes in Moreton aforesaid, But whether the deftes father did fynd tymber to the building of the same he knoweth not. \* \* \* Hee saith that there was heretofore a survey taken and made by Henrye Connye John Roberts and Myles ffells, officers for the said henry the late Earle of

derbye of the landes in the Interr. mentioned. And that there weare p.sent at the survey with the deponent William Bennet and Richard Rob<sup>ts</sup> with others whose names he certainly rem'breth not. And that theis p.celles of land hereafter named, Viz the lytle Kyllonde, the two hullondes in the Gorstefield, the dovehowselonde, the Waynsharelonde, the Smyrllonde, the hadlonde at the head, the hullonde in the oulde field, the hullonde in the Hawthorne, the Waye butt, the Wyldmarelonde, the borde meadowe, the pyke by the rake, and the hullond by the rake weare then surveyed \* \* Also saieith that the said Compl<sup>t</sup> hath used and taken one Cowe grasse in the Towne More of Moreton aforesaid, as Ten'nt thereof to the defte, And that the right ho<sup>r</sup> William Earle of derby is Chief lord or owner of the Inheritance of the said Moore, And that the said defte hath the said Cowe grasse as app'ten'nte and belonging to his Inheritance in Moreton aforesaid, and p'mitteth the Compl<sup>t</sup> to use the same, And that the defte doth putt one Cowe less in the said Moore by reason that the Compl<sup>t</sup> hath the superior title there. And further saieith that the defte is a Charterer w<sup>th</sup>.in the said Townshippe of Moreton. And that there are divers other Charterers w<sup>th</sup>.in the said Townshippe, that have Comon of pasture or grasse for kyne or Cattle in the said moore, by reason their Inheritance in Moreton aforesaid." Other Witnesses were William Martin of Saughauill Massye, yeoman; Thomas Fabon of Moreton, husbandman; Henrie Smith, Arthure Vrmeston, and Henrie Irbie of Moreton, husbandmen.

The Society resolved to join in the invitation to the British Association for the Advancement of Science, to meet in Liverpool in 1853.

## PAPERS.

### I.—A LANCASHIRE CHARM, IN CYPHER, AGAINST WITCHCRAFT AND EVIL SPIRITS.

*By John Harland, Esq.*

Many years ago, certainly prior to May 1825, some men engaged in pulling down a barn, or shippon, at West Bradford, about two miles north of Clithero, in this county, were attracted by seeing a small square piece of wood fall from one of the beams; and with it dropped a paper, folded as a small letter [ $3\frac{3}{8}$  by  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches], but measuring, when opened,  $7\frac{1}{4}$  by 6 inches. A sort of superscription was in large and unknown characters; and inside, the paper was nearly covered with a sort of hieroglyphics, with strange symbols and a table or square, of 36 small squares, filled with characters in red ink, the great bulk of the writing being in black ink. For the loan of this paper I am indebted to its possessor, Jeremiah Garnett, Esq., of Roefield, Clithero.