

## SPECIAL GENERAL MEETINGS.

*Royal Institution, 9th March, 1854, 1 p.m.*

The Venerable ARCHDEACON BROOKS, Vice President, in the Chair.

[This Meeting was called "to take into consideration a 'Report of the Delegates from the four Learned Societies of Liverpool, which publish Transactions, on the subject of Union.'"]

The subject of Union was brought formally before these four Societies, by a meeting of gentlemen who are members of two or more of them, held at the Egyptian Museum, Colquitt Street, on the 13th of October, 1853. At the Annual General Meeting on the 18th of October, five Delegates were appointed, consisting of Dr. Thom, Vice President,\* the Treasurer, Curator, and two Secretaries. A similar number were appointed by each of the other three Societies, and the Report was their joint and unanimous production. It recommended that the Architectural and Archæological Society should remain as it is; but that a great Society should be formed from the members of the others. Such a Society should have sectional divisions for Archæology, Literature, Natural History and Science; and members of Council representing those subjects respectively. The union of the Historic Society and Literary and Philosophical Society was recommended in the strongest terms; and that of the Polytechnic with these was considered on the whole desirable.]

The following Resolutions were adopted unanimously:—

1. That the Report having been sent to each Member, be now considered as read.
2. [A resolution of the Council, of date 1st March, having been read, recommending the adoption of the Report,] That the Report be adopted.
3. That the best thanks of the Society be given to the Delegates of this Society; and that they be re-appointed† to assist in preparing a Code of Laws, and in making such further arrangements as may be necessary for the completion of the Union.
4. That the best thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Brakell, for his generous donation of a thousand copies of the Report, to the Learned Societies of the town.

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\* As he was unable to attend from ill health, his place was occupied by John Mather, Esq.

† The Literary and Philosophical Society, on adopting the Report, 31st March, having appointed ten delegates, the Historic Society subsequently added five others.

Clarendon Rooms, 22nd June, 1854, 2 p.m.

JOHN POOLE, Esq., in the Chair.

[This Meeting was called "to receive the Report of the Delegates who were appointed (9th March) 'to assist, &c.' Also, to make such provision for contingencies, on the subject of Union, as the Meeting may think necessary." It was recommended, in the Report itself, that it be adopted, "subject to such revision as may be thought necessary at a joint meeting of the members of the two\* Societies." Part of the Report consisted of a new Code of Laws.]

The following Resolutions were unanimously adopted:—

1. That the Report, with the exception of Law I,† be adopted; subject to such revision as may be thought necessary, at a joint meeting of the members of both Societies.
2. That on the subject of a Name, two principles only appear to be equitable,—viz., the avoidance of the names of both the uniting Societies, as suggested in the former Report, or the union of both, as suggested in this,—either of which principles this Society is prepared to adopt; but as it does not, on the one hand, insist on the retention of its own name merely, so it will not, on the other, accept the name of the Society proposing to unite with it.
3. That in the event of any difficulty arising on the part of the Literary and Philosophical Society, respecting this Report, or even in the event of unnecessary delay, this Society is prepared to extend its basis of operations from local to general,—on the two great principles of both Reports, viz., increase of desirable members, and sectional working: and the Council are hereby authorised and directed to take such steps as may be necessary to provide for this contingency; their arrangements to be submitted for approval to another Special General Meeting of the Members.
4. That the Corresponding Secretary be directed to forward a copy of these Resolutions to the Secretary of the Literary and Philosophical Society.

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\* The Polytechnic Society had declined to join in the Union.

† This referred to the *name* of the enlarged Society.