

RICHARD BROOKE, Esq., F.S.A., exhibited an ancient and very curious deed, dated the 2nd of December, in the 4th year of the reign of King Charles I., (1628) between Sir Cuthbert Halsall, of Halsall, in the County of Lancaster, Knight, and John Barnes of Sutton, in the same County, Gentleman, relative to a Mansion called Micklehead Hall, and a Dove House, and other property in Sutton. Mr. Brooke exhibited two other deeds relating to the property in Sutton, one dated 5th November, in the 23rd year of Charles I., and the other 13th July, in the 19th year of Charles II.

THOS. MOORE, Esq., exhibited a very complete and interesting series of Acts of Parliament, Maps, Drawings, Views, and Documents relating to the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

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The following papers were then read :—

I.—A DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THE HISTORICAL DECORATIONS NOW PUTTING UP IN THE GRAMMAR SCHOOL, PRESTON.

*By Frank Howard, Esq.*

At Preston, there is a Grammar School fast rising into eminence, of which the original endowment is unknown. The property having become undistinguishable from the estates of the Corporation, that body has made a liberal calculation of the value which the endowment of the School would have attained, in the present condition of the town, and makes an annual allowance of a fixed sum, as an equivalent for the rents which the trust would have been entitled to receive, and a subscription is entered into by various gentlemen of the town and neighbourhood, to place the School on a footing with the best public Schools in the Kingdom.

The new buildings in Winkley Square, Preston, into which the school has been removed, form, with other public buildings erected adjoining to them, a very picturesque composition; and the opportunity has not been neglected of making the walls a medium of instruction in history. For this purpose, Mr. John Addison, the judge of the County Court and Recorder of Clithero, one of the leading patrons of the school, applied to Mr. Howard for a design for the decoration of the school with paintings. The whole school consists of three rooms, called respectively the Greek, Latin, and English schools; the decoration of all of which was contemplated in the original design;—and it was therefore proposed to illustrate in these schools the Greek, Roman, and English Histories respectively, in which case the large gable end of the English school, twenty eight feet high above the