

PROCEEDINGS.

FIFTEENTH SESSION, 1862-63.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Free Public Library, 18th October, 1862.

ALEXANDER CRAIG GIBSON, F.S.A., CURATOR, in the Chair.

The SECRETARY read the following

REPORT.

The Council, at the conclusion of their year of office, have to report that the regular course of the Society's proceedings has been pursued with the usual success; and they retire with the confident feeling that the position of the Society, during the period of their service, has, in some important respects, been materially improved.

The total number of members on the roll of the Society is 420; viz., 57 *life*, 183 *resident*, 152 *non-resident*, 2 *lady associate*, and 26 *honorary* members.

Eighteen Meetings were held, at which twenty Papers were read during the Session. Three of the Meetings, of a more popular character, were attended by ladies; the last partook of the nature of a *Soirée* and was numerously attended. On that occasion the Derby Museum was lighted up for the first time and some of the chief objects of interest were explained by Mr. Moore, the Curator. The arrangement by which ladies and other non-members are occasionally invited to the Society's Meetings has proved to be advantageous both as respects the general attendance of Members and the variety and interest of objects exhibited in illustration of the Society's three great subjects of enquiry; the Council also think it likely that it may be the means of adding to the number of lady-associates, and recommend its continuance.

In their last Report the Council had pleasure in acknowledging the kindness of the Town Council, through their Library Committee, in granting to the Society the use of a suitable room in the Free Public Library, for the purpose of holding its Meetings. That accommodation has been increased by additions since made to the comfort and elegance of the room. Hitherto the Library and Museum have been comparatively inaccessible to the Members generally, owing to the difficulty of approach and uncertainty of attendance at the room in Ranelagh Street where they were placed; but during the year just expired accommodation has been provided for these also within the Free Public Library. The Museum and miscellaneous objects, in four large cases, occupy a separate apartment; and, to receive the books, a very elegant and commodious book-case has been purchased, at a cost exceeding £100. Although this is a large sum, the Council felt justified in expending it, trusting that voluntary contributors would reimburse the Society, in a great part, if not all, of the amount. In this manner a portion of the outlay has already been repaid and the Council expect further contributions from other Members, before whom the subject has yet to be brought. They have great pleasure in acknowledging the kindness of some gentlemen, not Members of the Society, who have shewn their sympathy in its pursuits by assisting in this purchase.

Donations of their published Transactions and Proceedings have been received during the past Session from several Provincial learned Societies with which this Society had not previously been in union; and an effort to complete various imperfect series of such volumes has been partially successful. The fourteenth annual volume is expected to be ready for delivery about Christmas, when the plates necessary to complete the last will also be supplied.

As the new volume is not wholly printed off, the Council deem it prudent to recommend the postponement of the Treasurer's balance sheet for a short time; they are, however, in a position to state that a balance in their favour, not less in amount than that of last year, may be expected when the accounts are formally produced.

The Delegates nominated by the Society to co-operate in the management of the Gallery of Inventions and Science are unable to report that satisfactory progress has been made towards the fulfilment of the duties imposed on them. The expressed inability of the Library and Museum Committee of the Town Council to contribute funds for defraying the cost of management appears to render hopeless, for the present at least, the accomplishment of the principal design. This impediment is the more to be regretted as the closing of the Exhibition at the end of the present month would, under more favourable circumstances, have afforded ample opportunity to establish the proposed collection on a promising basis.

The names of six new Sectional Members of Council, and of a Vice-President, in lieu of those who retire, are submitted, agreeably to the laws, in the printed balloting lists.

COMPARATIVE ACCOUNT OF THE NUMERICAL STRENGTH OF
THE SOCIETY.

	Life.	Resident.	Non-Resident.	Lady Associates	Total.	Honorary	Gross Total.
Session XIII	52	185	150	2	389	27	416
„ XIV—Died, re- signed or erased . . }	1	11	7	..	19	1	20
	51	174	143	2	370	26	396
New Members	6	9	9	..	24	..	24
	57	183	152	2	394	26	420

It was moved by the REV. THOMAS MOORE, A.M., seconded by JOHN R. JAGO, Esq., and resolved unanimously,—

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

It was moved by THOS. REAY, Esq., seconded by WM. MATHISON, 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 the REV. A. HUME, D.C.L., Hon. Secretary, seconded by WILLIAM BURKE, Esq., Treasurer, and resolved unanimously,—

That the thanks of the Society be given to the Town Council and their Library and Museum Committee for their liberality and kindness in affording accommodation in the Free Public Library and Museum for the books and other collections of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.

It was moved by JOHN G. JACOB, Esq., seconded by the REV. THOMAS MOORE, A.M., and resolved unanimously,—

That the thanks of the Society be given to those gentlemen who have contributed Illustrations to the forthcoming volume.

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

It was moved by the REV. A. HUME, D.C.L., seconded by J. G. JACOB, Esq., and resolved unanimously,—

That this meeting do now adjourn to the 14th of May next, for the purpose of receiving the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts.

At the adjourned Annual General Meeting, held at the Museum of Antiquities, No. 8, Colquitt Street, on the 14th May, 1863, A. Craig Gibson, F.S.A., presiding, the Treasurer submitted the following Statement of Accounts for the year ending 18th Oct., 1862 :—

THE HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE in account with
WILLIAM BURKE, Treasurer.

Dr.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Cr.
I.—THE VOLUMES:—			
Balance delivery Volume I, N.S., and new block	2 10 0		
Printing and binding Vol. II, N.S.	79 13 4		
Illustrations, ditto	9 2 0		
Delivery	4 13 6		
		95 18 10	
II.—SESSIONAL EXPENSES:—			
Printing Circulars, &c.	11 5 6		
Stationery	1 0 6		
Postage Stamps	11 10 5		
Refreshments at meetings	11 8 0		
Advertisements, delivery of circulars, messages, parcels, & miscellaneous	15 12 4		
Insurance	1 0 0		
Rent of Room in Ranelagh Street	16 0 0		
Commission to Collector	5 10 0		
Assistant Secretary	50 0 0		
		123 6 9	
III.—PERMANENT INVESTMENTS:—			
Papworth's Ordinary, and Gore's Directory	1 9 9		
Large book-case for library	101 0 6		
Small book-shelves	1 11 11		
		104 2 2	
IV.—SPECIAL EXPENSES:—			
Removal of cases, books, objects &c.	4 18 1		
Expenses in connection with purchase of large book-case	0 14 6		
		5 12 7	
Balance in Treasurer's hands	33 14 7		
		£362 14 11	
			£ s. d.
			25 11 4
			By Receipts in Session xiv, viz:—
			Arrears 20 0 6
			Entrance Fees, Session xiv 13 13 0
			Annual Subscriptions, ditto 214 14 6
			Ditto (in advance) Session xv 4 4 0
			Life Compositions 36 15 0
			Books and book covers 6 9 6
			Postages returned 0 4 1
			Diplomas 0 4 0
			Removal Fund; towards book-case purchased 37 16 0
			Sale of Furniture 2 14 0
			£362 14 11
			Balance down £33 14 7

Examined by
PETER R. McQUIE, } AUDITORS.
SAM. GATH, }

(E. and O. E.)
Liverpool, 27th April, 1863,
WILLIAM BURKE.

It was moved by PETER R. McQUIE, Esq., seconded by BELL WILLIAMS, Esq., and resolved unanimously,—

That the Treasurer's Statement of Accounts be passed, and printed and circulated with the Proceedings of the Society.

6th November, 1862. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

THOMAS DAWSON, Esq., in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Ordinary Members of the Society:—

George Stone, 57, Ranelagh Street.
William Whatham, 7, North John Street.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Society of Antiquaries.
1. Archæologia, vol. 38, part ii.
2. Proceedings, N.S., vol. i, Nos. 2 to 7.

From the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries.

1. Antiquarisk Tidsskrift, 1858-60, parts 1 and 2.
2. Mémoires de la Société, 1850-60, 1 vol.
3. Det Kongelige Nordiske Oldskrift-Selskab, 1860-61.

From the Author.

Inscriptions runiques du Slesvig méridional, interprétées par C. C. Rafn, 1861.

From the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society.

Views of the Gates of Norwich, made in the years 1792-3.

From John Peacock, Esq.

1. Three sheets, containing copies of coins recently disinterred in the neighbourhood of St. John's Church, Chester, supposed to be the foundation-coins of that edifice.
2. A broadside, containing an account of the above, as delivered before the Chester Archæological Society.

From the Chairman.

1. Map of Manchester in the year 800.
2. Map of Saxon London, about 1000 A.D.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A Chinese cross-bow, surmounted by a receiver from which six arrows drop in succession into the position for being discharged. This is accomplished by a simple movement of part of the bow, without removing it from the shoulder.
2. Specimens of Burmese, Chinese, Moorish, Canadian and other shoes, illustrating the habits and necessities of the respective wearers.

By Mr. Newton.

1. A richly-illuminated French MS. "Book of Hours" of the 15th century.
2. A small framed picture, cut from a similar MS., representing the performance of the rite of extreme unction at the bedside of a dying Flemish burgher of the 13th century.

By Mr. Burke.

A specimen of the Gulf-stream weed.

The following Paper was read :—

ON THE FORMS AND USES OF TINTINNABULA IN MEDIEVAL AND MODERN TIMES, by the Rev. A. Hume, D.C.L., Hon. Secretary.

The existence of bells at an early date was deduced from Scripture ; and the difference was noted between them and the sacred hand-bells of the mediæval period. Their material and shape, in various ages and countries, were described ; and an interesting account was given of their numerous uses, amongst which are their employment to decorate the dress of the clown or jester ; as pendants to the rings worn round their ankles by the women of Persia and Arabia, as mentioned by Sir John Chardin ; as portions of the dress of the morris-dancers of Old England ; and at the *festa fatuorum*, or fools' festivals, in which

the superior clergy changed places for the time with the humblest people, and the latter, as Abbots of Unreason &c., had bells attached to their mock-priestly robes. The bell was used as a sacred symbol by the clergy and, it is said, by the Druids; it also formed an article of personal adornment for ordinary apparel. It is found depicted on monumental brasses, and was used on the harness of horses as early, at the least, as the time of Zechariah. The paper contained, in detail, instances of the similar use of bells from that period down to the present age; and proceeded to notice the ceremony of "belling the cat" and the distinction of "bearing the bell." Hawks' bells, the beggar with his bell, and bells on the arms of warriors were adverted to; the ceremony of excommunication by "bell, book and candle" received mention; and the paper concluded with a particular account of the bells found at Hoylake.



Ancient Crotal,
or Pear-shaped Bell.

18th November, 1862. LITERARY SECTION.

REV. A. HUME, D.C.L., in the Chair.

At this meeting the attendance was increased by an invited company of non-members and ladies.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester.

1. Memoirs, third series, vol. i, 1862.
2. Proceedings, vol. ii, 1862.
2. Rules, 1861.

From the Liverpool Royal Institution.

Report for 1861-62.

From the Liverpool Naturalists' Field Club.

Report for 1861-62.

From the Author.

An Account of the Colony of South Australia. With a Catalogue of all the Products of that Colony exhibited at the International Exhibition, 1862. By Frederick Sinnett.

The following Paper was read:—

A SUMMER SAUNTER IN THE SOUTH OF ENGLAND, by David Buxton, F.R.S.L., Hon. Librarian.

20th November, 1862. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

J. T. TOWSON, F.R.G.S., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Royal Society.

Proceedings, Nos. 49 to 51 (vol. XII.), 1862.

From the Geological Society.

Quarterly Journal, parts 2, 3 and 4 (vol. XVIII.) 1862.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. Forrest.

1. Four life-size portraits, enlarged from a quarto plate negative, by Woodward's Solar Camera as improved by Mr. John Atkinson.
2. A Solar Camera, by means of which the exhibiter shewed how enlarged portraits are produced.

By Mr. Towson.

1. A Daguerreotype produced by a non-achromatic glass in 1842.
2. A miniature photogram on ivory.

By Mr. Newton.

Various maps and prints, shewing the application of photography to the production of enlarged or diminished copies of such works.

By Mr. Burke.

1. Diploma of doctor of laws, granted by the University of Bologna in 1753.
2. Speech of the Earl of Macclesfield in the House of Lords, 18th March, 1750, on regulating the commencement of the year.
3. The Mariner's Everlasting Almanac, Aberdeen, 1683.
4. Vox Urania, or Aberdeen Almanac, 1683.
5. The London Daily Advertiser, 14th November, 1734.
6. Articles of Union as passed, with Amendments, by the Parliament of Scotland. London, 1707.

The following Paper was read :—

ON PANORAMIC PHOTOGRAPHY, WITH ILLUSTRATIONS AND MODELS,
by *Thomas Sutton, B.A.*

This Paper was read, in the author's absence, by Mr. Forrest, who exhibited and explained the apparatus employed; it consists of a circular glass, by means of which an angle of 90° is obtained, instead of the usual angle of 30 or 40°. Two pictures, one taken in the ordinary way and one by the means now shewn, were laid on the table. The latter contained about three times the customary extent of view; but was as perfect in the remote portions as at the centre. Several pictures, taken in the neighbourhood of Bath, by the process described were also exhibited.

4th December, 1862. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

JOHN F. MARSH, Esq., in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were duly elected ordinary members of the Society :—

Right Hon. Viscount Cranborne, Childwall hall.
Lieut.-Col. V. A. King, Point of Ayr, Oxtou.
Thomas Goodier, 9, Lord street.
John Henry Green, Buenos Ayres.

Rev. W. T. Barry, B.A., 19, Lansdowne place, Everton.
 C. J. Ashfield, 51, Knowsley street, Preston.
 John Anderson, 42, Bold street.

The following donations were presented :—

- From the Essex Archæological Society.
 Transactions, vol. II., parts 2, 3 and 4.
- From the Société Archéologique de l'Orléanais.
 Bulletin, No. 40, 1862.
- From the Kilkenny and S.E. of Ireland Archæological Society.
 Proceedings and Papers, vol. IV., N. S., Nos. 35 to 37.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Chairman.

Specimen of a plough in modern use in Spain.

By Joseph Mayer, F.S.A. &c.

A large glass tumbler or beaker, the lower part fluted and left as it came from the mould, the top having a border engraved with trefoils and leaves in compartments, a space being left on which are engraved the characters N. O. ii. It formerly belonged to Mrs. Unsworth, of the Manor House, Maghull, whose father, Thomas Seel, Esq., of Liverpool, died at the age of 77 in 1802. He received it from his grandfather, who died in 1751. The family of Seel were strenuous supporters of the Stuarts during the Civil Wars and the Commonwealth. It is supposed that the engraved characters signify "No Oliver the Second," a favourite toast of the cavaliers.

2. A photographic view of "El Sakhra," the Holy Rock under the dome of the Mosque of Omar, in the ancient temple of Jerusalem, taken by the Rev. Dr. Turner, of the Liverpool Royal Institution. The Holy Rock is believed by all the best authorities, except Mr. Fergusson, to be the site of the Sacrifice of Abraham and of the Holy of Holies in the temples of Solomon and Herod.*

3. By the kindness of Mr. H. Beckwith, Tower Buildings, five very rudely cast silver figures, apparently idols found near Lima; they closely resemble two silver figures engraved in vol. I., N.S.

By Mr. J. J. Hall.

1. A large bronze model of the Temple of Theseus.
2. A copy of the Medicean Vase, made of the pith of the elder.
3. A dagger, said to have belonged to Tippoo Sahib. It is in the form of a creese, and the scabbard is set with diamonds and rubies.
4. Two daggers; a pirate's knife; three Indian war implements; an Indian bow.
5. A sword, with leather case, elaborately ornamented with the colours peculiar to the people of South Africa.
6. The head dress of an American Indian, composed of feathers and shells.
7. Two curious books of the early part of the sixteenth century.

* The reasons for deeming it the scene of the Crucifixion are given by the Hon. Sir Edward Cust, President of the Society, in vol. X.; *vide* pp. 131 *et seqq.*

8. An iron chest, said to have been presented by the Great Mogul to Sir William Norris of Speke, when he was sent to the Porte as Ambassador about the year 1690. A history of its transmission, written since 1812, accompanied it; but on one point its accuracy was open to question.

By Mr. F. J. Jeffery.

Four specimens of photo-zincography, published in 1858, under the name of "Photoglyphs," in the *Photographic News*, by Mr. Fox Talbot, the patentee.

By Dr. Macintyre.

A photogram of one of the Roman altars found at Chester in 1861, and recently described by Mr. Roach Smith in the *Collectanea Antiqua*. It bears a votive inscription to the goddess Minerva.

By Mr. J. H. Gibson.

Fifteen silver coins found at Cawthorne, near Doncaster. They have been supposed, by a writer in the *Numismatic Chronicle*, to belong to the reign of Henry III.; but reasons were advanced to shew that they were of the second mintage of Henry II., and issued in 1182.

By Mr. John Peacock.

Drawings, on a large scale, of seventeen rare Saxon coins lately found in the neighbourhood of St. John's Church, Chester.

The Rev. Dr. Hume read a brief account of belts and girdles in continuation of previous papers* on the same subject.

The following Paper was read :—

ON VIRGIL'S PLOUGH, AS ILLUSTRATED BY A RUDE IMPLEMENT IN MODERN USE IN SPAIN,† by *John Fitchett Marsh, Esq.*

11th December, 1862. LITERARY SECTION.

JOHN R. HUGHES, Esq., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Statistical Society.

Journal, vol XXV., parts 2 and 3.

From the Société Impériale d'Emulation d'Abbeville.

Mémoires, 1857 to 1860.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. Mathison.

1. An ancient sword, the hilt ornamented with gold in the Oriental style.
2. An iron casket, apparently of English manufacture, of the fifteenth century.
3. An iron casket, of Italian workmanship, of the 14th-15th century.

4. A Cologne-ware jug of the 16th-17th century.
5. A Spanish copper lustre vessel of the 16th century.
6. Book of Hours, printed on vellum, with illuminations; date, early part of the 16th century.

By Mr. Fabert.

1. A complete series of the silver and copper coins now used in Russia.
2. A Russian coin in platina.
3. Seven bank notes of various Russian provinces, ranging in value from 1½d. to 3s.

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. Two heraldic MS. books, compiled with great care by Mr. John Tocke in the year 1700, and preserved in the library of the Herbert family.
2. A British man-of-war under full sail, worked in worsted by a seaman of H.M.S. *Majestic*, during her late Summer cruise.

The following Paper was read :—

ON THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF SCHILLER,* by the Rev. Hermann Baar, Ph.D.

18th December, 1862. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

THOMAS DAWSON, Esq., in the Chair.

Thomas Somerville, LL.D., Hawthorn Hall, Manchester, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Royal Society of Edinburgh.

1. Proceedings, Session 1861-62.
2. Transactions, vol. XXIII., part 1.

From the Royal Geographical Society.

1. Journal, vol XXXI.
2. Proceedings, vol. VI., Nos. 3 and 4.

From the Liverpool Chemists' Association.

Annual Report, 1861-62.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. J. R. Hughes.

An interesting record in MS. relating to smith's and iron work in Liverpool during the last century.

By Mr. Jacob.

An elaborate model in ivory of the *St. George*, line-of-battle ship of 120 guns; valuable as illustrating the old naval architecture.

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A Fibula of tortoiseshell, the pin also of shell, and a complete miniature comb, supposed to have been used in the early part of the reign of George III.
2. Four elegant gold buckles of the same period.

* Transactions, p. 21.

The following Paper was read :—

ON MICRO-GEOLOGY.* by *Edward H. Birkenhead, F.G.S.*

1st January, 1863. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

WILLIAM MATHISON, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. Bell Williams, 57, Grove street, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented :—

From Mr. C. Roach Smith.

1. Mediæval houses and castles in England, by Ch. Wykeham Martin, Esq.
2. The Excavations at Wroxeter, by C. Roach Smith.
3. *Collectanea Antiqua*, part 1, vol. VI., by C. Roach Smith.

From Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt.

The Reliquary: a Depository for Precious Relics—Legendary, Biographical and Historical—illustrative of the Habits, Customs and Pursuits of our Forefathers, volumes I. and II.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. T. Dawson.

An extensive collection of rare or notable etchings, coloured drawings, books &c., including the first sketches by B. R. Haydon for his large picture in the Church for the Blind, Liverpool; an original view of Liverpool, 1728; an original etching, by Gibson, 1812; a caricature, entitled "Last Scene in the New Play of the "Old Corporation," 1835, &c.

By Mr. Sansom.

Numerous specimens of British and foreign fossil plants and animals, shells &c., dredged from a depth of nearly two miles in the bed of the Atlantic; and some diatomacææ from the Rappahannock.

The following Paper was read :—

ON CERTAIN DEEP-SEA AND OTHER SPECIMENS OF NATURAL HISTORY, AS SEEN UNDER THE MICROSCOPE, by *Thomas Sansom, F.B.S.E.*

8th January, 1863. LITERARY SECTION.

JOHN F. MARSH, Esq., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Royal Society of Literature.

Proceedings, vol. VII., part 2.

From the Statistical Society.

Journal, vol. XXV., part 4.

From the Royal Asiatic Society.

1. Journal, vol. XX., part 1.

* Transactions, p. 41.

2. Report, Prospectus and Publications of the Oriental Translation Committee, 1861.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

Two spears; one from New Zealand, the head elaborately carved and ornamented with feathers and tassels of hair.

By Mr. Forrest.

A book of emblems printed at Lyons in 1551, containing numerous wood cuts.

By Mr. J. H. Gibson.

1. A bronze medal, being one of those presented by Alexander Davison, Esq., to the officers and seamen of the fleet which gained the victory of the Nile in 1798.
2. Two tiles found at Chester, bearing the inscription L E G XX—VV.

The following Paper was read :—

EVERY-DAY LIFE OF A COUNTRY GENTLEMAN OF CHESHIRE IN THE 17TH CENTURY : AS SHEWN IN THE PRIVATE EXPENDITURE JOURNAL OF COLONEL HENRY BRADSHAW, OF MARPLE AND WYBERS-LEIGH,* by *A. Craig Gibson, F.S.A.*

15th January, 1863. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

JOHN HARTNUP, F.R.A.S., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Royal Society.

Proceedings, vol. XII., Nos. 50 to 52.

From the Geologists' Association.

Proceedings, vol. I., Nos. 1 to 8.

From the Royal Irish Academy.

Transactions, vol XXIII., part 2, and vol. XXIV. part 2.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

Three Chinese objects, viz. :—

1. An inkstand in soapstone, representing a vessel floating on the water, with shore and trees in the background.
2. A small lamp in soapstone, of Roman form.
3. A piece of mother-o'-pearl, apparently formed for a pendant from a child's neck.

By Mr. C. S. Gregson.

1. Five species of the Sandpiper with their eggs, including two of the Sanderlin, now exhibited for the first time.
2. Objects illustrative of the life history of the honey-bee.
3. *Scolytes destructor*, a coleopterous insect well known as a destroyer of the elm.

* Transactions, p. 67.

By Mr. H. S. Fisher.

Seventeen species of the wild rose found in this neighbourhood, being an addition of several to those given in Dickinson's "Flora of Liverpool," 1854.

The following Papers were read:—

LIST OF THE BRITISH ROSES AND BRAMBLES OCCURRING IN THE LIVERPOOL DISTRICT,* by Mr. H. S. Fisher; and

ON THE HABITATS OF SOME OF OUR BRITISH FERNS,† by Nicholas Waterhouse, Esq.

5th February, 1863. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

A. CRAIG GIBSON, F.S.A., in the Chair.

Alexander Steele, Ph.D., Douglas, Isle of Man, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Society of Antiquaries of Normandy.

Memoirs, third series, vol. iv, parts 3 and 4.

From the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

Archæologia Æliana, new series, No. 19.

From the Author.

Documents relating to the Winkley family, collected by William Winkley, Jun., F.S.A.

From Mr. Wilkinson.

The Lady's and Gentleman's Diary, or Poetical and Mathematical Almanack for the year 1863.

From Dr. Kendrick.

1. A hollow brick, many hundreds of which were found in the foundation of an old dye house in Norton Folgate, London, said to have been erected in 1685 by French Protestant Refugees.
2. Drawing of a Roman brand-iron or fire-dog, found during recent excavations at the Roman station, Wilderspool, near Warrington; the original in the donor's possession.
3. Tricking of the arms of Moore of Bank Hall, Liverpool, in the year 1582, done by the late Sir W. Betham, Ulster king-of-arms.
4. Seal of Henry Moore, Esq., (probably a Liverpool man), Lieut. Governor of Jamaica in 1760.

From Mr. J. H. Gibson.

A halbert-head formerly carried before the Mayor and Corporation of Clitheroe, mounted by the donor on a new staff.

The following objects of interest were exhibited:—

By Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith.

1. Fac-simile of Magna Charta, with the arms and seals of the barons emblazoned in gold and colours.

* Transactions, p. 93.

† Transactions, p. 97.

2. A companion sheet, containing the Chartulary or Roll of Battle Abbey, surrounded by the arms of the Conqueror and the Norman barons who took part with him in the battle of Hastings.

By Mr. Thomas Dawson.

1. An old newspaper, containing "a relation of such news as was brought to Liverpool in Lancashire from Ireland—by Captain George Cranage—5th April, 1650."
2. Catalogues of the first three Exhibitions of the Academy of the Liverpool Royal Institution, 1822, '24 and '25.
3. The Liverpool Chronicle, Nov. 19, 1767, vol. I, No. 1.
4. Twenty-one Views of the Lakes, with descriptions by P. Holland; engraved by Rosenberg, Liverpool, August 1, 1792.
5. A printed letter "To the Worshipful the Magistrates: To the Gentlemen of the Council: and To the whole Community of the Town of Liverpool," on the subject of supplying the town with fresh water, dated Liverpool, Dec. 17, 1751.
6. Moss's Medical Survey of Liverpool, 1784.
7. A complete set of Liverpool Guides, by W. Moss.

By Mr. Morris C. Jones.

An ancient bronze spear-head, one of a considerable number found on a farm called "Crowther's Coppice," about three miles to the North-east of Welshpool, Montgomeryshire, and at a distance of little more than a mile from Buttington, where a great battle was fought between the Danes and Saxons in the year 894.

By Mr. J. H. Greene, Oldhall Street, through Mr. Mayer.

Various family relics, including two earthenware dishes, said to have been taken to New England in the *Mayflower*; a pair of high-heeled embroidered silk shoes, worn by Mr. Greene's great-great-great-aunt at her wedding in 1747; a glass goblet which belonged to the same lady; and a queen's-ware earthenware plate bearing a medallion of Frederic the Great and, in three compartments, in raised letters, the inscription, "success to the King of Prussia and his forces."

By Mr. Mayer, F.S.A., V.P.

Several specimens of the celebrated leaden figures, &c., found at Shadwell, on the Thames, where articles of this description have been found in such numbers as to suggest the supposition of their being portion of the cargo of a foreign vessel wrecked on her passage up the river. Mr. Mayer expressed his suspicion that they are forgeries.

The following Paper was read:—

ON THE LIFE AND WRITINGS OF THE LATE HENRY BUCKLEY,*
by T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S.

12th February, 1863. LITERARY SECTION.

COL. SIR WILLIAM BROWN, BART., V.P., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Bureau of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.

1. Report of the Commissioner of Patents for the year 1861, Agriculture.
2. Circular from the Commissioner of Agriculture of the United States on the present Agricultural, Mineral and Manufacturing Condition and Resources of the United States, 1862.

From the Author.

Annual Report of Brevet Lieut.-Colonel J. D. Graham, Major of U.S. Topographical Engineers, on the Improvement of the Harbours of Lakes Michigan, St. Clair, Erie, Ontario and Champlain. 1858.

From Major Greig.

Report on the Police Establishment and the State of Crime, with Tabular Returns, for the year ending 29th September, 1862; by the Watch Committee of the Borough of Liverpool.

From the Author.

The Lesser Lights of Literature: a Paper read before the Philomathic Society by David Buxton, F.R.S.L., &c. &c.

The following objects of interest were exhibited:—

By Mr. Geo. M. Browne.

Two numbers of the Liverpool Chronicle, dated 1768.

The following paper was read:—

ON THE APPLICATIONS OF ELECTRICITY,* by *Edward B. Bright*, F.R.A.S.

[This Meeting was attended by numerous friends of the Members, amongst whom were many Ladies; and the Paper, which was illustrated by a succession of very effective experiments, was read in the Theatre adjoining the Society's ordinary meeting-room.]

19th February, 1863. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

NICHOLAS WATERHOUSE, Esq., in the Chair.

W. A. F. Saunders, Esq., Wennington hall, late High Sheriff of Lancashire, a member *ex officio* during his Shrievalty, was duly enrolled as an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Royal Irish Academy.

Proceedings, Vol. VII, Nos. 1 to 8.

* Transactions, p. 223.

From the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

Proceedings for 1861.

From the Leeds Philosophical and Literary Society.

Annual Report for 1861-62.

From the Liverpool Philomathic Society.

Proceedings, Vol. VII, 1861-62.

Mr. Adam Holden exhibited a black letter copy of the translation into English of the Spanish work of Peter Martyr, detailing the voyages and discoveries of the Spaniards in the Indies, &c., dated 1555.

The following paper was read :—

ON THE IDEA OF SHAKESPEARE'S MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM, *by the Rev. Hermann Baar, Ph.Dr.*

5th March, 1863. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

JOSEPH MAYER, Esq., F.S.A., V.P., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented :—

From Messrs. R. Besley and Co., London, through Mr. Brakell.
A General Specimen of Printing Types.

From the Société Archéologique de l'Orléanais.
Bulletin, No. 41.

From the Leicester Archæological Society.
Proceedings, vol. I., part 1.

From the Norfolk and Norwich Archæological Society.
Original Papers, vol. VI., parts 1 and 2.

From the Numismatic Society.
The Numismatic Chronicle, N.S., Nos. VI., VII., VIII.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By Mr. T. Dawson.

1. A collection of broadsides and views referring to Liverpool, principally of the last century.
2. Copy of "A Sermon preach'd on the occasion of the death of her late Majesty Queen Ann of glorious memory, in the Parochial Church of St. Peter in Liverpoole, on Sunday, Sept. 5, 1714."

By Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith.

An object, unique in respect to its date (12th or 13th century), recently found on the Cheshire sea-shore. It had evidently been used as a perfume-casket, and bears round the side an inscription which has been variously interpreted, but no conclusive explanation of it has yet been suggested. An engraving of this box was lately published in the Gentleman's Magazine.

By Mr. Newton.

“Discours du Songe de Philophile;” a folio volume printed at Paris in 1546, containing numerous wood-cut illustrations of superior execution for the period.

The following paper was read:—

ON THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE GULF STREAM, *by the Rev. Charles W. Denison, Boston, U. S. A.*

12th March, 1863. LITERARY SECTION.

WILLIAM MATHISON, Esq., in the Chair.

The following donations were presented:—

From the Smithsonian Institution.

1. Annual Report of the Board of Regents for the year 1860.
2. Catalogue of Publications of the Institution, corrected to June, 1862.

From the Literary and Philosophical Society of Liverpool.
Proceedings, 1861-62, No. XVI.

From the Publishers.

Poor Rabbin's Ollminick for the Town o' Bilfawst, 1863; being an illustration of local dialect.

From Mr. C. S. Gregson.

Proceedings of the Northern Entomological Society for June and December, 1862.

From Mr. J. R. Hughes.

On the manufacture of puddled or wrought steel, by William Clay.

The following objects of interest were exhibited:—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

A fragment of mountain limestone containing corallites, being part of a boulder found on the Egremont shore of the Mersey.

By Mr. A. Craig Gibson, F.S.A.

Thirty bronze medals referring to events in the reign of the First Napoleon; a medal of Charles IX., dated 1572; and one of Henry IV., dated 1604.

By Mr. Fabert.

1. An engraving entitled “Tentation de St. Antoine,” containing numerous grotesque and monstrous figures, published at Paris, *n.d.* The designer's name is Callot.
2. Two octagonal gold coins of Australia, being a fifty dollar piece and quarter dollar respectively.

By Mr. Gregson, in illustration of his Paper.

1. Specimens of forest and fruit-bearing trees destroyed by the larvæ of insects.
2. A collection of coleopterous and other insects.

The following Papers were read :—

NOTES ON INSECTS INJURIOUS TO FRUIT AND FOREST TREES,* by
Mr. Charles S. Gregson; and

POPULAR RHYMES AND PROVERBS CONNECTED WITH LOCALITIES,
Second Series,† by *Alex. Craig Gibson, F.S.A.*

19th March, 1863. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

THOMAS DAWSON, ESQ., in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were duly elected ordinary members of the
Society :—

Edward Dawson, Aldcliffe hall, Lancaster.
Richard Newsham, Preston.
Edward Satterthwaite, Lancaster.
Andrew Tucker Squarey, Apsley villas, Lower Bebington.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Royal Society.

Proceedings, vol. XII., No. 53.

From the Royal Geographical Society.

Proceedings, vol VII., No. 1.

From the Geological Society.

1. Quarterly Journal, vol. XIX., part 1.

2. Charter and Bye Laws.

3. List of Members, 1862,

From the Royal Dublin Society.

Journal, Nos. 26 to 28.

From the Geological Society of Dublin.

Journal, vol. IX., part 2.

From Mr. W. G. Herdman.

Diary of a Journey from Coalbrookdale to London, anno 1743; to
which is added an estimate of the relative importance of the
Thames and Severn. Anonymous.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A horn of *bos primigenius*, obtained in the opening or tunnel discovered in Liverpool last summer, running from the site of the old Castle, near St. George's Church, down towards the water.
2. A two-handled Vase, manufactured near St. Helen's three or four years ago. It was made, with some others, after a copy left by a stranger who never returned for them. It is supposed they were intended for forgeries of the antique.

* Transactions, p. 203. † Transactions, p. 159.

3. A bow and four arrows from the Marquesas Islands. Two of the arrow-heads are barbed and two pointed; and all are said to be poisoned.

By Mr. J. H. Gibson.

1. A Turkish yataghan, mounted in silver.
2. A horse-pistol, with silver mountings, about 100 years old.
3. An American "Eagle," or gold ten-dollar piece, dated 1800; a Half-Eagle, dated 1806; and a Quarter-Eagle, dated 1807; being of the earliest types of the gold coinage of the United States.

The following Paper was read :—

ON THE TYPICAL QUADRUNA,* *by Cuthbert Collingwood, M.B. &c.*

16th April, 1863. SCIENTIFIC SECTION.

PETER R. McQUIE, Esq., in the Chair.

Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith, Aldboro' House, Egremont, Birkenhead, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented :—

From the Royal Society.

Proceedings, vol. XII, No. 54.

From the Society of Arts.

Journal, Nos. 471 to 542.

From the Statistical Society.

Journal, vol. XXVI, part 1.

From the Publisher.

Health; a Family Medical Journal, Nos. 5 to 9.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Dr. Hume.

1. A glass bead, belonging to Mr. Ecroyd Smith, excavated by a rabbit on Hilbre Island. It is of a bright cobalt blue, veined with enamel of yellow, banded with a small thread of green.
2. Two specimens of earth; one dredged from a depth of 1950 fathoms in the Atlantic, the other from a warm spring in Iceland, near Geyser.

By Mr. Mathison.

1. Four small dishes of copper, covered with enamel, being part of the *loot* from the Chinese Emperor's Summer Palace.
2. A small image, of Chinese work, in jade-stone.
3. A pair of Spanish fans of the early part of last century.
4. A picture in the Greek style, by an Italian artist of the 13th century, representing the Annunciation.

* Transactions, p. 141.

By Mr. Forrest.

1. Specimens of a $2\frac{1}{2}$ -inch globe-lens for photographic purposes, invented by Harrison of New York. The glass covers a flat field of 60 degrees.
2. Two pictures taken by Harrison's new globe lens above described.

During a conversation arising out of the exhibition of the lens, Mr. Forrest undertook to read before the Society a statement of the grounds on which he claimed for Liverpool the priority, in England, in the art of photographing the moon and other celestial bodies by their own light.

The Rev. A. Hume, D.C.L. &c., Hon. Secretary, called attention to a proposal to raise, near the spot, a memorial of the execution of James, seventh Earl of Derby, at Bolton, in 1651.

The following paper was read :—

WHAT IS THE PHOTOGRAPHIC IMAGE? *by Mr. J. H. Glover.*

The author, after stating the various theories proposed from time to time, based respectively on chemical and electrical agency, and the experiments recently made by himself in elucidation of the question, summed up the result of his enquiries in the following terms :—

The action of light is first chemical, disturbing a portion of the iodine or bromine, which is not actually separated until brought in contact with some combining substance in the developing fluid, producing an image of *subiodide of silver*. This substance possesses an electrical affinity for the particles of metallic silver, as reduced from its solution by the subsequent *intensifier*.

The question naturally arises—how do you account for the action of the old developers which contain no recognized substance capable of combining with the suspended iodine? The answer is simple enough. When a solution of pyrogalic acid and silver is applied to a sensitive plate which has been exposed to light, the action of the developer is reversed. The pyrogalic acid having no affinity for iodine, has first to reduce a portion of metallic silver from its solution. We have then all the conditions for the formation of the image. The metallic silver has a strong affinity for the iodine, subiodide is formed, reduction of the nitrate progresses, and intensification is the consequence.

Again, the proto-sulphate of iron developer is more rapid in its result than the pyrogalic acid. The reason is obvious. The salt of iron is the more energetic reducing agent, and the metallic particles consist of pure silver, which is not the case from pyrogalic acid, they being more or less associated with organic matter. In the iron development then, we have closer contact of the combining substances, consequently greater rapidity of action.

While on this subject we ought not to overlook the beautiful images produced by the now neglected, because evanescent, Daguerreotype process, the pioneer of all photography.

The foundation of the image consists of a surface of highly polished silver, having a delicate superstratum of sensitive iodide of the same metal.

The action of light is precisely the same as upon the collodion film, but in this instance we have an absorbent of the liberated iodine in the metallic substratum, so that the plate itself possesses all the elements of chemical action, and in consequence the subsequent electrical affinity for the condensed mercurial vapours which form the visible image.

7th May, 1863. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

JOSEPH MAYER, Esq., F.S.A., V.P., in the Chair.

Mr. Edward B. Bright, 2, Exchange buildings, was duly elected an ordinary member of the Society.

The following donations were presented :—

- From the Royal Geographical Society.
Proceedings, vol. VII, No. 2.
- From the Numismatic Society.
The Numismatic Chronicle, N.S., No. 9.
- From the Architectural and Archæological Society of the County of Buckingham.
Records of Buckinghamshire, vol. II, No. 8.
- From the Kilkenny and S. E. of Ireland Archæological Society.
Proceedings and papers, N.S., No. 38.
- From the Sussex Archæological Society.
Sussex Archæological Collections, vol. XIV.
- From the Manchester Literary and Philosophical Society.
Proceedings, April to June, 1860.
- From C. Roach Smith, F.S.A.
 1. On an unpublished coin of Carausius and two of Allectus ; by Churchill Babington.
 2. Florin d'or de Tecklenbourg.
 3. Trois Bulles d'or des Empereurs belges de Constantinople.
- From Mr. H. S. Fisher.
Naturalists' Scrap Book, part 1.
- From M. de Perthes.
L'Abbeillois, French Newspaper for the 18th of April, 1863.
- From the Proprietors, through Mr. T. Reay.
The *Liverpool Compass*, a Literary and Scientific Journal, Nos. 1 to 9.
- From Mr. T. Dawson.
A copy of a reprint of Mr. John Eyes's Map of Liverpool, 1765, with the addition of the names of the principal contemporary land owners.

The following objects of interest were exhibited :—

- By Mr. T. Dawson.
 1. Liverpool editions of Everard's Book-keeping, 1764, and the History of Colonel Jaque, 1784.

2. Thirteen views in Chester and Cheshire, taken in 1810 for Lysons's "Magna Britannia."

3. A photogram of the Bazaar which stood until recently at the corner of Church-street and Whitechapel.

By Mr. H. Ecroyd Smith.

The plan of a fine hunting villa of the Roman period found some years ago in the neighbourhood of Treves, with numerous coloured drawings of its Mosaic pavements.

By Mr. J. H. Gibson.

1. An elaborately carved oval picture frame of Chinese work.

2. A group in ivory procured at Penang, believed to be the work of the Malays.

By Mr. J. S. Dalton.

A copy of the *Liverpool Chronicle* for May 12—19, 1768.

The following papers were read :—

ON THE TRAINING, CEREMONIAL, AND MAXIMS OF CHIVALRY, *by the Rev. W. T. Barry, B.A.*; and ON THE SCARCITY OF HOME GROWN FRUITS IN GREAT BRITAIN, WITH REMEDIAL SUGGESTIONS,* *by C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., &c.*

14th May, 1863. MISCELLANEOUS MEETING.

JOSEPH MAYER, Esq., F.S.A., V.P., in the Chair.

This meeting was held by invitation of the Chairman, at his Museum of British and Foreign Antiquities, 8, Colquitt street, and was numerously attended by ladies and other friends as well as members. After having inspected the contents of the various rooms, the company assembled in the principal apartment, when Mr. Mayer, after cordially welcoming his guests, announced his intention to offer his collection to the town of Liverpool on a suitable building being provided for it.

Mr. J. A. Forest then read—

AN ACCOUNT OF THE EARLIEST SUCCESSFUL EXPERIMENTS MADE IN ENGLAND IN PRODUCING, BY THEIR OWN LIGHT, PHOTOGRAMS OF THE MOON AND OTHER HEAVENLY BODIES.

In the first number of the *Liverpool Photographic Journal*, published on the 1st January, 1854, is announced the fact that the British Association had offered a premium for the best photograph of the moon, for which it was expected our resident photographers would compete. On the 12th of January I waited upon Mr. John Hartnup, at the Liverpool Observatory, and asked him if he would co-operate with the Liverpool Photographic Society in endeavouring to obtain photographs of the moon for the coming meeting of the British Association, which was proposed to be held in Liverpool in September of that year. He acqui-

* Transactions, p. 129.



THE MOON.

*From a Photograph taken at the Liverpool Observatory in
Sept. 1854 by Messrs. John Hartnup and J. A. Forrest*

PHOTOELECTRIC ENGRAVING (TALBOT PROCESS)

Printed by Messrs. W. & A. G. & Co. Liverpool

esced most cordially in the proposal, and we commenced our arrangements immediately afterwards. At this early stage of our proceedings we were assisted by the counsel of Mr. G. R. Berry, and in February we were joined in our operations by Dr. Edwards.

Before proceeding further with the narrative, I will describe the position of lunar photography in the beginning of 1854. The discoveries of M. Daguerre and Mr. Fox Talbot were both brought out in England under the bane of the patent laws: the result was that our American cousins, free from such trammels, made rapid progress in the development of the Daguerreotype silver-plate process. We find that Professor Bond, of Cambridge, U.S., was the first person that applied this process to the delineation of the moon. He possessed instruments of larger magnifying power than those at the Liverpool Observatory. His perseverance was highly creditable to him as a scientific investigator, for he spoiled one or two hundred Daguerreotype plates before he obtained a good result. Some of these specimens reached England, and stimulated the British Association to make the offer above named in the session of 1853. In the meantime a new discoverer had appeared in Mr. Scott Archer, of London, imparting his valuable collodion process to the world, with a disinterestedness which cannot be too highly praised, no restrictions having been imposed after the discovery. Had he done otherwise, his fortune was secure; for at this moment all other photographic media have nearly ceased to exist, and his alone remains.

The telescope of the Liverpool Observatory is furnished with an excellent equatoreal mounting and clock-work motion of great firmness and steadiness. The object-glass has a focal length of about 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ feet; and a small camera-box being substituted for the eye-piece, the image is received upon the ground glass or the prepared plate in the ordinary manner. After much fruitless labour the chemical focus was discovered to be about eight-tenths of an inch beyond that of the visual one, the glass being over-corrected to that extent in respect to its actinic focus. It was at first difficult to decide whether the want of sharpness of outline observed was due to the motion of the object or to imperfect focussing, and the most excellent specimens were obtained by the continual guidance of Mr. Hartnup's steady hand in addition to the clock-work movement, while his eye was kept on the finder with a micrometer eye-piece of good power, crossed with fine wires, by which he could maintain the position of a given point in the field. The time for taking these pictures varied from thirty seconds to three minutes, and the chemicals employed were those ordinarily used for taking positive collodion pictures. The bath was slightly acid, and the developing agent was sulphate of iron, in the proportion of ten grains to the ounce of water. The pictures were afterwards converted into negatives by aid of chloride of gold. The impressed image measured one inch and one-third in diameter. This was too small to be useful, and the consequence was, that Mr. Hartnup and I called upon an optician to inquire how far we might safely enlarge it without losing sharpness. He said he thought two or three diameters. A few days afterwards Mr. Hartnup proposed to send to Mr. Towson for his magic lantern, and our first attempt was to enlarge it on the screen to twenty-five feet diameter. You may easily imagine our astonishment to find it nearly as sharp as the original, and our optical friend's theory utterly groundless. We beheld the crater of Copernicus, which is almost invisible in the original, six inches in diameter, with its shadow

beautifully delineated; and, like Cuvier when he placed the bones of the mammoth together for the first time, we looked with delight on seeing the surface of the moon as no one had seen it before. With data like this to go by, we proposed to get a screen made fifty-six feet square, to cover the side of St. George's Hall, and to project the image across the hall by the means of an oxyhydrogen light. We were very kindly assisted in this by Mr. Wood, of the firm of Messrs Abraham and Co., Lord street.

It was found necessary to enlarge the first impression suitable for the magic lantern. This part of the arrangement was intrusted to Mr. John M'Innes, who adopted the mode of enlargement proposed by Mr. Stewart in a letter to Sir John Herschel, which appeared in the *Athenæum* early in 1854—with only this difference, that instead of having the box made in one piece he used his small camera, introducing the lens into the opening of a half-plate camera box, thus placing them front to front. The negative to be copied he placed in the groove of the slide of the small camera, and exposed it to the direct rays of the sun, or to the brightest portion of the sky, the picture being received upon a collodionised glass plate placed in the side of the larger box.

In the course of our experiments a question arose as to the practicability of taking a stereoscopic view of the moon. Mr. Hartnup suggested a plan by which this would be settled: it was by taking the moon twelve hours before her full and then twelve hours after, and the result was that we got a shadow of both sides. We put these impressions into the stereoscope, on looking through which the moon appeared a perfect ball.

This paper was followed by a description given by the Rev. A. Hume, D.C.L., Hon. Secretary, of the Ancient Messedag Stave or Prim Stave, derived chiefly from a treatise of the learned Professor Munch of Copenhagen.

After describing the old Scandinavian system of measuring and dividing the year, the rev. gentleman proceeded to say that, although the calendar was altered, on the introduction of Christianity, everything which could in any way be retained was transferred from the old to the new. Instead of Pagan festivals came those of the Christians, which out of church were celebrated as before by merry-making, and several, as, for instance, Christmas (yule) did not even change names. The Summers-feast became St. John's day, and the harvest-feast was either transferred to Michaelmas day, fourteen days before, or to All Saints' day, fourteen days after. Instead of the old pagan Gods, to whom special days had been dedicated, came the Catholic Christian saints, and the confidence reposed in the former as patrons was transferred to the latter. Inasmuch now as particular Gods were supposed to exercise influence over the weather, the yield of the crops, &c.; and the days dedicated to them denoted when particular work, as ploughing, shearing, &c., ought to be done, or were supposed to indicate the coming state of weather and the prosperity of the year (the so called Mark-days)—it became necessary to have saints to supply their place. As may be supposed, it was the office of the clergy to keep account of the time, and calculate when the various holydays would occur. For the laity this was much more difficult than formerly, as so many Christian festivals do not fall on any fixed day, but are governed by Easter, and thus occur now sooner and now later. The fixed holydays could be more

easily remembered by the common man, as, without knowing how to write, he might make a list of the days of the year in the shape of points or strokes, and denote the holidays by certain marks. It was of importance to know the proper "mark-days," not so much in a religious point of view, as to be able to make the necessary prophecies regarding the weather. There can be no doubt that such self-made calendars existed in Pagan times, and the same system prevailed after the introduction of Christianity up to the last century, by arranging the so-called Messe or Prim Staves.

There are two descriptions of Staves, Messedag-Staves (Messedag i.e. day of mass) and Prim-Staves. The former, which are the most simple, only contain the days and signs for those to be particularly observed; the Prim-Staves, besides, contain the marks for the Sundays and the changes in the moon, whence their name, as the first full-moon after equinox, (in Latin *prima luna*) was thus ascertained. The Messedag-Staves are met with most frequently. They consist mostly of flat pieces of wood, about an ell long, two inches broad and half an inch thick, and have frequently a handle, giving them the appearance of a sword. Sometimes they have served as measure of an ell. The flat side is divided into two unequal parts by a line running lengthways. In the narrower space the days are marked at equal distances, half a year on each side, or 182 marks on the one side and 183 on the other side. In the wider space, and connected with the days, stand the signs for those to be particularly observed. On the edges the weeks are indicated. The marks for the days do not run from January to July and from July to December, but, on the side called Vetr-Leid, i.e., winterside—from the 14th October till the 13th April; and on the other, called Somar Leid, i.e., summerside—from the 14th April till the 13th October. The signs are partly taken from the meaning they have with regard to the weather, husbandry, or from some legend of the Saint for the day. Hardly two staves alike can be found; they are more or less elaborately carved, and the days marked often vary. Nor are the Staves all of the form described: some are made of a round or oblong shape, and the name "Stave" can, therefore, hardly be applied to them. A semi-circular mark sometimes placed immediately before a Saint-day, denotes the eve of such a day.

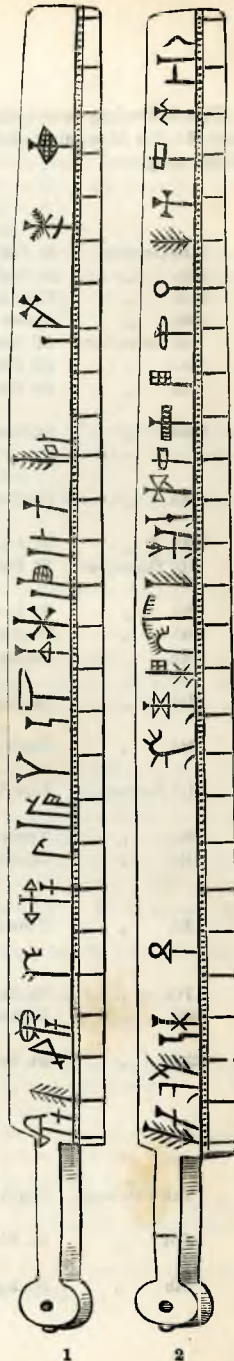


Fig. 1, Winter Side. Fig. 2, Summer Side. (One-fourth size.)

The following description will be seen to apply, with tolerable accuracy, to the Messedag stick belonging to the Society, an illustration of which is given.

WINTERSIDE.

14th October.	St. Calistus—Sign generally a fir tree.
18th "	St. Luke—Sign, a cross.
21st "	The 11,000 Virgins—A ring or some female figures.
28th "	Simon and Judas—A treble cross or a sledge.
1st November.	All Saints'—A ships mast, "the navigation then ceasing."
2nd "	All Souls'—A cross.
11th "	St. Martin's Day—The neck of a goose, which was then eaten (This custom is still observed.)
23rd "	St. Clement's Day—An anchor, the Saint being tied to one and drowned. All vessels should be in port on this day.
25th "	St. Catherine—A cross—sometimes a wheel to indicate the way she died.
30th "	St. Andrew—A fishing-hook or St. Andrew's cross. X
4th December.	St. Barbara—Generally a tower or a chain to indicate her imprisonment.
6th "	St. Nicholas—Sometimes a candle with three branches.
8th "	Virgin's Conception—Generally a cross.
13th "	St. Lucy—Sometimes a pike "many fish being then caught." Sometimes a stake, St. L. being burnt.
21st "	St. Thomas—Sometimes a barrel as the Christmas ale was then brewed.
25th "	Christmas—A drinking-horn, seven branched candlestick or a sun.
1st January.	New Year—A small sun, a treble cross or an hour-glass. If the sky was red, war would follow.
6th "	Three Kings—Generally three crowns, sometimes a can.
11th "	St. Brictiva (a saint not known)—Generally a horse, as a peasant, who neglected the day and drove out, broke one of his horse's legs.
13th "	Twentieth day after Christmas—Generally a reversed horn or a barrel, the Christmas ale being then finished.
17th "	St. Anthony—Generally a cross.
20th "	Fabian and Sebastian—A double cross or an axe, as firewood should be cut about this time.
25th "	St. Paul's Conversion—A cross, sometimes a bow or a sun. If the sun shone, even so long only as it took to mount a horse, the year would be a good one:—Storm would bring war; Fog, sickness; Snow and Rain, famine.
2nd February.	Purification of Virgin—Some candles or a seven branched candlestick.
8rd "	St. Blaise—Generally a vessel or a horn. If it blew on that day it would blow all the year.
5th "	St. Agatha—Generally a mouse.

- 22nd February. St. Peter's Stool—Generally a key—sometimes a stone. The mariners should commence getting their vessels ready. There would be no change in the weather for forty days following.
- 24th „ St. Matthias—Sometimes a cross.
- 12th March St. Gregory—Sometimes the figure of the saint; also a bird.
- 25th „ Annunciation of Mary—The sign was generally a figure representing Mary.

SUMMERSIDE.

- 14th April. Tiburtius and Valerianus—A fir tree. If it snowed that day it would snow nine times more before Midsummer.
- 16th „ St. Magnus—A pickaxe, as the fieldwork was then to commence.
- 23rd „ St. George—Sometimes a cross.
- 25th „ St. Mark—No definition of sign.
- 1st May. Philip and James—Sometimes a double cross, or a bird in a tree.
- 3rd „ Invention of the Cross—A cross.
- 15th „ St. Hallvard—A millstone, sometimes a number of dots signifying corn, three days before and three days after being the best time for sowing.
- 17th June. St. Botolf—Generally a cross or a scythe.
- 24th „ St. John the Baptist—Sign sometimes a head on a dish. If it rained there would be a wet harvest.
- 29th „ St. Peter and St. Paul—A key—sometimes a flower, as medicinal herbs should then be gathered.
- 2nd July. Visitation of the Virgin—St. Swithin—Generally two branches of a tree crossways. As the weather was on that day it would remain till 29th July.
- 8th „ St. Sunniva—A great holyday, sign generally a double cross.
- 14th „ Midsummer—A rake or a stave.
- 20th „ St. Margaret—Generally a bucket the day being often wet.
- 22nd „ St. Mary Magdalen—Sometimes a stool or a half-moon.
- 25th „ St. John the Apostle—A sword.
- 29th „ St. Olaf—The axe of St. Olaf. If full moon fell on that day a severe winter would follow.
- 3rd August. Discovery of St. Olaf's Body—A small axe
- 10th „ St. Lawrence—A gridiron. If the day was clear, the winter would be severe; if misty, damp.
- 15th „ Assumption of Mary—A crown, or a female figure.
- 24th „ St. Bartholomew—Generally a figure of St. B. If the day was clear good harvest weather would follow.
- 1st September. St. Giles—A millstone, because if the day was dry the mills would want water.

8th September.	Nativity of the Virgin—A tree—sometimes a crown or a pair of shears, as the sheep should then be shorn.
14th "	Exaltation of the Cross—A cross.
21st "	St. Matthew—Sometimes a balance denoting equinox.
29th "	St. Michael the Archangel—Sometimes the face of St. M. If it froze before that day it would freeze after the 1st May.
4th October.	St. Francis—Sometimes a cross.
7th "	St. Birgita—Sometimes a cross with a ring at the top.

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

The Annual Excursion was made on Saturday the 27th of June, 1863; when the members, accompanied by numerous friends of both sexes, visited the Parish Church of Sefton, which was inspected under the guidance of Mr. Picton, the Rev. Dr. Hume and other gentlemen acquainted with the remarkable features of the building. On quitting the church the party proceeded to Ince Blundell Hall, which was kindly thrown open on the occasion by the proprietor, Thomas Weld Blundell, Esq.

A considerable time was spent in the examination of the fine collection of works of art in sculpture and painting for which the hall is renowned, and the beautiful pleasure-grounds were also visited; after which the company drove to Waterloo, where they dined together, Joseph Mayer, Esq., F.S.A., &c., Vice-President, occupying the chair, A. Craig Gibson, Esq., F.S.A., Hon. Curator, and D. Buxton, Esq., F.R.S.L., Hon. Librarian, acting as vice-chairmen. The usual loyal and complimentary toasts were proposed and responded to, that of "Continued Prosperity to the Historic Society of Lancashire and "Cheshire," being given by the Venerable Archdeacon Jones, and acknowledged by the Rev. A. Hume, D.C.L., &c., Hon. Secretary. Dr. Ihne, Dr. Heywood Thompson, J. A. Picton, Esq., F.S.A., George Artingstall, Esq., and other gentlemen also delivered addresses, at the close of which the party returned to Liverpool highly pleased with the day's proceedings.