

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.