

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
DURING THE YEARS 1861-2.

PART I.

THE Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was held in the Town Hall, Langport, on Tuesday the 27th of August, 1861, under the Presidency of RALPH NEVILLE GRENVILLE, Esq.

The PRESIDENT expressed the pleasure he had in seeing present so many of those Members of the Society who had attended the previous Meeting at Clevedon. He fully anticipated as successful and as pleasant a Meeting at Langport. The district over which the Excursions extended was most interesting, and the friends of the Society and the inhabitants of Langport had done all in their power to promote its success. He alluded to the projected new edition of Hutchins's Dorsetshire under the super-

VOL. XI., 1861-2, PART I. a

vision of an able and accomplished editor, and expressed a hope that the County of Somerset might, ere long, be equally fortunate in connexion with our own County History.

The Rev. F. WARRE then read the

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE:

"Your Committee, on this, the 13th, occasion of presenting their Annual Report, have great pleasure in being able to congratulate the Society on its present position and future prospects.

"That it may not appear that the congratulation is without sufficient foundation it seems advisable to enter somewhat into detail as to those points of prosperity in which it is absolutely necessary that the Society may with truth be pronounced to be in a flourishing condition.

"The Treasurer's Account will shew that when the arrears now due are collected our funds, though still much too small to enable us to do what we wish for the advancement of archaeological and natural science, will be sufficient to meet our present liabilities, and to leave a small balance in hand.

"It will be seen also that a very large proportion of the income of the Society is necessarily expended in bringing out a volume of sufficient merit, both in form and matter, to afford all our members some return for their Subscriptions, while the surplus hardly covers the necessary expenses of the Museum and the Annual Meeting. The publication of the Volume of Proceedings for the present year has been unavoidably delayed, but it will be issued forthwith and the Committee believe that the Members will not fail to regard it as in every respect worthy of the Society.

"The Committee feel that the interest evinced by the presentation and deposit of many valuable articles in the Museum since the last Annual Meeting, is really a subject of congratulation to the Society, and they wish at the same time to call attention to the expediency of depositing, if not of presenting, to institutions such as our own, objects of antiquarian interest that may be discovered, the value of such things being too often forgotten and the things themselves and the circumstances connected with the discovery of them irretrievably lost if they are suffered to remain long in private collections, whereas, if placed in a public museum, these circumstances would be carefully recorded and the objects carefully preserved; while, by the system of depositing, the property continues to be vested in the original owners as much as if the curiosities remained in their own houses.

"The attention of the Committee having been directed to a Collection of Somersetshire Cave Bones, which were offered for sale, and reputed to have belonged to Mr. Beard, of Banwell, a Deputation was appointed to examine, and, if thought desirable, to purchase such as would be serviceable for the Museum of this Society. When, however, it was found that they did not form a part of that Collection, no further steps were taken. Should the Collection referred to ever be dispersed, there are many specimens which the Society ought not to allow to go out of the county. In fact, the Banwell Collection and the Williams's Collection, purchased by the Society, are each the complement of the other.

"The Committee cannot but lament the loss of your late Curator, Mr. Parfitt, under whose able superintendence much was done to arrange and classify the Natural History department of the Museum. The offer of a more lucrative

situation has been the cause of his leaving a post in your Museum, the duties of which his knowledge of Natural History enabled him to fulfil with very great success.

"The number of Members remains nearly the same; the losses by death and removal being pretty well supplied by the accession of new Members. The Committee are anxious not to increase the amount of the annual subscription, and would, therefore, earnestly impress upon Members the importance of their interesting themselves to increase the number of Subscribers, thereby increasing the funds of the Society and enlarging the sphere of its operations.

"By the lamented death of the late Professor Quekett this Society has lost a most valuable and distinguished Member. By his great scientific discoveries and attainments Mr. Quekett had established a world-wide reputation, and his renown reflects much honour on his native town, Langport, and on the county of Somerset.

"Conversazione Meetings have been held in the Museum during the past winter, and have sustained the interest and promoted the objects of the Society; while the cost has been defrayed exclusively by those Members who have attended them.

"On the whole our prospects are satisfactory; but the work we have to do is one which requires considerable outlay, and the active co-operation of all our Members. If our funds can be increased, the effects of our labours will be more apparent. But we have not gone back in any point, and we trust that in many we have made as great an advance as, under the circumstances, we could reasonably expect."

The following Financial Statement was read by the
Rev. Wm. ARTHUR JONES;

The Treasurers in account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and
 Natural History Society. Cr.

1861.	£ s. d.	1861.	£ s. d.
To Balance of former account	2 2	By expended at Annual	
„ Subscriptions - - -	169 12 0	Meeting at Clevedon, 1860	4 3 8
„ Arrears - - -	16 0 0	„ Ditto ditto hotel bill -	4 2 0
„ Entrances - - -	4 10 0	„ Advertising - - -	5 19 3
„ May, sale of vols. - -	7 5 0	„ Coals and gas - - -	4 3 5
„ Donations - - -	15 0	„ Petty disbursements -	18 0
		„ Stationery - - -	4 6
		„ Hare (glazier) 6s.,	
		Hartnell, (ditto) 10s. 2d.	15 2
		„ Hartnell for glass case -	1 16 8
		„ Hortop (carpenter) -	5 3
		„ Hartnell, repairing table	1 2 6
		„ Rent to Christmas, 1860	25 0 0
		„ Insurance to Christmas, 1861	1 2 6
		„ Subscription to Arundel	
		Society - - -	1 3 0
		„ Ditto Papworth's Armoriale	
		2 years - - -	2 2 0
		„ Curator's salary to	
		July 23, 1861 - - -	35 12 10
		„ May, printing - - -	11 7 0
		„ Clarke, ditto - - -	11 0
		„ Carriage - - -	1 0 8
		„ Travelling expenses -	10 0
		„ Postages - - -	4 13 1
		„ May, on account of printing	
		Vol. X. of <i>Proceedings</i>	40 0 0
		„ Ford, lithographic	
		illustrations - - -	6 0 0
		„ E. C. Dyer, photographs	2 1 8
		„ Crump, drawing and	
		engraving - - -	18 4 0
		„ A. A. Clarke, ditto -	2 2 0
		„ Carriage of Vol. IX.	
		to Members - - -	8 8 8
		„ Sundries - - -	3 14 11
		„ Balance - - -	6 2 9
	<u>£198 4 2</u>		<u>£198 4 2</u>

August 24, 1861.

Examined and found correct. Balance £26 2s. 9d.

WM. P. PINCHARD.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by Mr. WARREN, the Reports were received and adopted.

On the motion of the PRESIDENT, seconded by F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., Edward Ayshford Sanford, Esq., was unanimously elected President of the Society for the ensuing year.

The Officers of the Society were then severally re-elected, with the addition of R. N. Grenville, Esq., as Vice-President, and W. W. Munckton, Esq., as Local Secretary for

Langport. The following gentlemen were elected on the Committee:—The Rev. W. R. Clark, the Rev. W. T. Redfern, Messrs. Henry Alford, W. P. Pinchard, W. G. Rawlinson, C. F. Perkins.

It was then proposed by F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., seconded by W. A. SANFORD, Esq., and resolved :

“That this Society concurs with the Mayor and Corporation, and the Literary and Scientific Societies of the city of Bath, in their Memorial to the Council of the British Association for the advancement of Science, requesting that the meeting of the Association should be held in Bath, in the year 1863, or as soon as may be after ; and that the members of this Society pledge themselves to do all in their power to further the objects, and promote the interests of the Association.

“That this resolution, signed by the President, be presented to the Council, by R. W. Falconer, Esq., Bath, one of the Vice-Presidents of this Society.”