# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

# SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY

DURING THE YEAR

1921.

THE Seventy-Third Annual Meeting of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society was held at Crewkerne on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 19th, 20th and 21st.

There was a large attendance at the Annual General Meeting, which took place in the Old Grammar School, beginning at 11.20 a.m. The chair was taken by the retiring President, Mr. A. HAMILTON THOMPSON, F.S.A., and he was supported by Sir C. Hercules Read, LL.D., P.S.A. (*President-Elect*), the Rev. Dr. Armitage Robinson, Dean of Wells, and Mr. A. F. Somerville (*Vice-Presidents*), the Rev. Dr. S. J. M. Price (*Chairman of Council*), Messrs. Charles Tite and Henry Symonds (*Hon. Secretaries*), and Mr. H. St. George Gray (*Asst.-Secretary and Curator*).

Mr. HENRY SYMONDS, one of the Hon. Secretaries, read the Annual Report, which was as follows :—

## The Annual Report.

" In presenting the seventy-third annual report, the Council wishes to state that since the last annual meeting 90 new names have been added to the list of members. Losses caused by death and resignation for the year 1920–21 have been 53. The net gain has been 37. The total membership at date is

1054, against 1017 at the time of the annual meeting last year. Considering the necessary increase in the subscription this is regarded as very satisfactory.

"The Society records with much regret the loss by death of Mr. Winwood, Mr. Hudd and several others.

"The Rev. H. H. Winwood, M.A., F.G.S., the oldest member and one of the Vice-Presidents, joined the Society in 1860, and died at Bath on Christmas Day, aged 90 years. An obituary notice of Mr. Winwood was published in the *Proceedings*, vol. LXVI.

"Mr. Alfred E. Hudd, F.S.A., F.E.S. (1884),[1] Recorder of the Entomological Section, died last autumn. He was associated with much antiquarian work in the West, and was secretary and editor of the Clifton Antiquarian Club during the whole period of its existence, 1884 to 1912. He was one of those chiefly responsible for the formation of the Natural History Sections of the Society.[2]

"The Society has also lost by death:—Miss Henrietta Badcock (1901), the Rev. S. O. Baker (1892), Mrs. James Bennett (1891), widow of a former honorary secretary of the Society, Mr. Charles Bere (1895), Mrs. A. M. Boyle (1921), Mr. Robert C. Bush (1892), Mr. Sholto H. Hare (1903), Mr. E. A. Hingston (1904), Miss E. C. Impey (1880), Mr. F. W. Lawrence (1906), Mr. W. L. Leng (1897), Mr. F. C. Milford (1918), Mr. F. G. Sage (1904), Mr. J. G. E. Sibbald (1903), Mr. L. R. Tanner (1917), Lady Tylor (1917), the Rev. Preb. H. Vaughan (1906), Mr. C. N. Williamson (1920), and Mr. A. E. C. Woodhouse (1912).

"The balance in hand on the Society's General Account at the end of 1919 was £14 13*s*. 10*d*., after having paid £50 of the cost of the volume of *Proceedings* for that year. At the end of 1920 there was an adverse balance of £8 12*s*. 6*d*., and no payment had been made on account of the 1920 volume, as bills for external painting and repairs—work which had been long delayed owing to the war—had to be met.

"The Society's property known as Castle Lodge and a

1. The dates in brackets indicate the time of the member's election.

2. *See* also *Proceedings*, LXVI, lxiii.

garden adjoining the courtyard of the Castle have been re-let on more advantageous terms than previously.

"The net expenses attending the issue of Vol. LXVI of the *Proceedings* for 1920 amount to £324 16*s.* 5*d.* This volume contains 288 pages, forty more than in the previous year. It is feared that this standard cannot be maintained, unless there is a decided decrease in the cost of printing. Special thanks are due to Dr. A. C. Fryer for his generosity in defraying the cost of ten plates of Monumental Effigies.

"Annual subscriptions exceeding the old minimum subscription of 10*s.* 6*d.* now bring in an additional income of about £222 (including the extra income derived from members elected. under the new rules, since last July), but this is insufficient to meet the high prices prevailing. There are still about 600 members who pay an annual subscription of 10*s.* 6*d.* only. and it is hoped that a large proportion of these will see their way to increase that amount as soon as possible.

"A meeting of Local Secretaries was held at Taunton Castle on April 21st for the first time, when the representation of the Society in various parts of the county was considered and some new appointments recommended. A meeting of this kind will be held at least once a year.

"The Bye-laws of the Society have been revised. and these, together with the new Rules, were printed in the last volume of *Proceedings*.

"During the year Mr. Henry Symonds has compiled a complete rough list of the manuscripts preserved in the strong-room at Taunton Castle, and the assistant has ticketed all these documents, which are now arranged in books, boxes and bundles. A lexicographical index yet remains to be compiled.

"Among the new acquisitions in the manuscript department of the Library are the following: A number of Court Rolls of Tintinhull and Charlton Adam, dating from 1624, presented by Mr. F. J. H. Hawkins (through the Rev. G. W. Saunders); about twenty Somerset deeds, mostly of the Stuart period, given by the Rev. J. D. C. Wickham; twelve local deeds, etc., dating from the XVI Century, from Mr. C. Tite; about 380 Somerset deeds and an album of manuscripts, presented by Mr. A. W. Marks; and volumes of notes having

reference to Phelps's 'History of Somerset,' acquired by the late Rev. Preb. C. Deedes and presented by Miss Margaret H. Glyn. About one-half of the Society's collection of documents has now been catalogued.

"Small collections of printed books have been added to the Library by Miss Colfox, of Bridport, and from the estate of the late Lady Tylor. A set of the publications of the Canterbury and York Society has been received from the Rev. Dr. Price. Several useful reference books have been purchased from the income of the book funds, including Foster's 'Alumni Oxonienses.'

"The Museum has acquired, chiefly by presentation, a large number of specimens to be elsewhere reported upon, including remains from Ham Hill and from local excavations, a large bell reputed to be from Ilchester Gaol, and an iron 'treasure' chest.

"The collections of Lace and Needlework, Lamps and Lighting Appliances, the Wiglesworth Birds, and the various series of iron objects have received special attention during the year. The Cornish collection of antiquities from Ham Hill, deposited on loan, has been removed from the Museum, at any rate for a time.

"Since the last meeting archæological excavations have been conducted by the Somerset Earthworks Committee on a prehistoric site at Murtry Hill, Orchardleigh Park. Mr. St. George Gray is preparing a report upon the work. Trial-excavations have also been in progress for a couple of days on a Roman site called 'Ollergrove,' close to Barrington Court, the labour for which was kindly provided by Colonel Lyle. The pottery, etc., found, corresponds, for the most part, with the remains dug up on the same site in 1913.

"Several enquiries have been made with regard to the renewal of work on the site of the Meare Lake Village. Arrangements have been made to conduct excavations there from August 29th to September 17th. Dr. Bulleid and Mr. Gray will superintend the work on behalf of the Society. A small fund has been accumulating for this purpose for some time, but further donations will be required for the season's work.

"The excavations at Glastonbury Abbey have been recommenced, with the permission of the Trustees, under the co-direction of Mr. Bligh Bond and Mr. Sebastian Evans. The work on the Loretto Chapel is to be completed and a trench cut from the south-west angle of the Lady Chapel towards the cloisters, in the hope of finding some foundations of the earlier churches mentioned by Adam of Domerham. The funds in hand are not nearly sufficient if the work is to be continued, and the treasurer, Mr. St. George Gray, will be glad to receive subscriptions for this work.

"The Council notes with satisfaction that the Abbot's Kitchen with site-area of one-and-a-half acres,—which used in olden days to form an integral portion of the medieval establishment of the Abbey of Glastonbury and has hitherto been in private hands,—has provisionally been secured for the Church of England by the Diocesan Trustees, at the price of £1,750, the purchase being subject, however, under the Abbey Trust Deed, to confirmation by the Archbishops' Council. Built 500 years ago the Kitchen is an interesting specimen of early Tudor architecture, which should be safeguarded for the nation, not only as an ancient monument in itself worthy of preservation, but also by reason of the historical associations bound up with the great Benedictine monastery, of which it formed so prominent and useful an adjunct. It is the hope of the Council that both the Kitchen building and site-area may be incorporated in the grounds of the Abbey ruins to which they rightfully belong, and may also be preserved intact in their present condition.

"The Bath and Wells Advisory Committee for the Protection of Churches has been formed this year, for the purpose of assisting clergy or parishioners who desire to obtain trustworthy advice, without charge, on questions relating to the erection, restoration, and enlargement of churches or their fittings. This diocesan body, on which our Society is strongly represented, has already dealt with several applications. The chief objects of the Committee, of which Prebendary Hamlet is honorary secretary *pro temp.*, are set out under three headings in the *Diocesan Gazette* for May, 1921.

"The Ordnance Survey having appointed an Archæology

Officer (Mr. O. G. S. Crawford), active steps are now being taken, through the medium of honorary correspondents in the various counties, to check and revise archæological information given on the 6-inch Ordnance Maps, to use an improved nomenclature, and to make additions in the light of recent archæological discoveries. The Society has been requested to give a helping-hand in furtherance of this scheme, and would, therefore, be glad to hear from those willing to revise Somerset maps, copies of which can be lent for the purpose. Further particulars may be obtained from the report of the Congress of Archæological Societies, sent to members with the programme of this meeting.

"The Natural History Sections have held their usual meetings during the year. Both the Botanical and the Ornithological Sections have appointed divisional recorders in the county; and the former has recently appointed, as its President, Mr. J. W. White, author of the 'Flora of Bristol.' The Ornithological Section issued one of its longest reports last spring. In connection with the work of the Botanical Section, Dr. Watson's report on 'The Liverworts of Somerset' has been issued as a separate handbook, price 2*s*. The Entomological Section has recently lost, by the death of Mr. F. Milton, a keen worker who gave a portion of his Insect collections to the Society, and kept the same in good condition. The Microscopical Section, formed a year ago, held two meetings during the winter, when a large number of microscopes and slides were brought to Taunton Castle for the benefit and instruction of those present.

"The Museum was visited by 8962 persons last year, including 1704 visits from members. This showed an increase of 202 over 1919, which was the largest total previously.

"In accordance with Rule II one-third of the elected members of the Council retire annually by rotation, but are eligible for re-election. Those retiring at this meeting are Mr. A. E. Eastwood, the Rev. Preb. Hamlet, the Rev. J. Byrchmore and Mr. H. B. Sheppard, all of whom are willing to act again."

Mr. A. F. Somerville, in moving the adoption of the Report, said it showed they were a very "live" Society which

was progressing in all the chief branches of its work and activities. He trusted that a much larger proportion of the members would see their way to increase their small subscription, so that no department of the Society's work would suffer from curtailment. The speaker then proceeded to give a full explanation of the purchase of the Abbot's Kitchen at Glastonbury Abbey, and its withdrawal from auction at the price of £1,750. That sum would have to be raised by December 24th next.

The Rev. H. DURBIN LEWIS, Vicar of Crewkerne, seconded, and the Report was adopted unanimously.

## Finances.

Capt. R. C. BOYLE, M.C., one of the Hon. Treasurers, presented the Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 1920, and proposed its adoption.

The Rev. Dr. S. J. M. PRICE, F.S.A., seconded, and the adoption of the accounts was then carried.

# Annual Accounts of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR 1920. (*GENERAL ACCOUNT*).

| RECEIPTS. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|
| To Balance at Bank, 31st Dec., 1919 ... ... | | 14 13 10 |
| ,, Members' Subscriptions 1919 ... ... | 13 2 6 | |
| ,, ,, 1920 ... ... | 590 13 6 | |
| ,, ,, 1921 ... ... | 12 1 0 | |
| | | 615 17 0 |
| ,, Entrance Fees ... ... ... | | 65 12 6 |
| ,, Donations—General ... ... ... | 5 4 0 | |
| To Illustrations Fund, "Proceedings," 1919 | 26 2 3 | |
| | | 31 6 3 |
| ,, Museum Receipts ... ... ... | | 140 16 11 |
| ,, Publications and Parchments ... ... | | 38 19 6 |
| ,, Wiglesworth Books .. ... ... | | 2 2 6 |
| ,, Rents ... ... ... ... | | 31 17 6 |
| ,, Annual Meeting, Bridgwater ... ... | | 2 6 9 |
| ,, Dividends—New Zealand 4% Stock (Book Account) ... ... ... | 4 6 0 | |
| 5% War Loan Bond ... ... | 3 10 0 | |
| | | 7 16 0 |
| ,, Transfer from Woodward Fund ... ... | 12 0 6 | |
| ,, ,, ,, Capital Account, 1920 ... | 2 12 7 | |
| | | 14 13 1 |
| ,, Bank Overdraft as at 31st December, 1920 ... | | 8 12 6 |
| | | £974 14 4 |

| PAYMENTS. | £ s. d. | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|
| By General Printing and Stationery ... ... | 18 8 2 | |
| ,, Fuel and Light ... ... ... | 46 1 9 | |
| ,, Repairs to Buildings ... ... ... | 74 14 9 | |
| ,, Repairs and Renewals of Furnishings ... | 13 6 6 | |
| ,, General Postages and Telegrams ... ... | 13 13 3 | |
| ,, Insurances ... ... ... ... | 30 3 8 | |
| ,, Rates and Taxes ... ... ... | 121 3 4 | |
| ,, Petty Expenses ... ... ... | 7 3 5 | |
| ,, Sundry Payments ... ... ... | 0 10 0 | |
| ,, Rent of Yard ... ... ... ... | 2 0 0 | |
| ,, Watermain Wayleave ... ... ... | 0 1 0 | |
| ,, Assistant-Secretary and Curator's Salary ... | 262 10 0 | |
| ,, Wages of Staff ... ... ... | 147 9 6 | |
| ,, Accountant's Charges ... ... ... | 5 5 0 | |
| | | 742 10 4 |
| ,, "Proceedings," 1919* (including £26 2s. 3d. subscribed to Illustrations Fund) ... | | 180 12 5 |
| ,, Removal of Wiglesworth Collection ... | 5 11 2 | |
| ,, Subscriptions to Societies ... ... | 4 13 6 | |
| ,, Books and Bookbinding ... ... ... | 37 7 10 | |
| ,, Annual Meeting ... ... ... | 1 16 7 | |
| | | 49 9 1 |
| ,, Transfer to Wiglesworth Deposit Account ... | | 2 2 6 |
| | | £974 14 4 |

* The total cost to the Society of the "Proceedings," Vol. LXVI, for 1920, was £321 16s. 5*d.*, of which nothing had been paid on 31 December, 1920.

Audited and found correct. February 12th, 1921.

A. C. MOLE & CO., *Incorporated Accountants, Taunton.*

H. J. BADCOCK, R. C. BOYLE, *Hon. Treasurers.*

## WOODWARD FUND, 1920.

| | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| To Transfer to General Account, ... ... ... | 12 0 6 | By Balance from 1919 ... ... ... ... | 162 7 0 |
| ,, Balance c/d ... ... ... ... ... | 155 10 7 | ,, Interest for the Year ... ... ... ... | 5 4 1 |
| | £167 11 1 | | £167 11 1 |
| | | ,, Balance b/d ... ... ... ... ... | 155 10 7 |

## CAPITAL ACCOUNT (LIFE MEMBERSHIP FEES).

| | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Debited by Bank late ... ... ... | 0 7 7 | By Balance, 1919—Deposit at Bank ... | 30 3 0 |
| To Transfer to General Account ... ... | 2 12 7 | ,, ,, ,, 5% War Loan Bond ... ... | 95 2 9 |
| | 3 0 2 | | 125 5 9 |
| ,, Balance - 5% War Loan Bond ... ... | 95 2 9 | ,, Bank Interest ... ... ... ... ... | 2 5 5 |
| ,, ,, Deposit at Bank ... ... | 129 3 3 | ,, Life Membership Fees ... ... ... ... | 99 15 0 |
| | 224 6 0 | | |
| | £227 6 2 | | £227 6 2 |

## BOOK FUND.

| | |
|---|---|
| By Balance from 1919 (New Zealand 4% Inscribed Stock) ... | £107 11 4 |

## WIGLESWORTH COLLECTION ACCOUNT.

| | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | By Cash ... ... ... ... ... | 25 0 0 |
| | | ,, General Account ... ... ... ... | 2 2 6 |
| | | ,, Interest... ... ... ... ... | 0 3 4 |
| | | | 27 5 10 |
| | | | £27 5 10 |

## GENERAL STATEMENT.

| | £ s. d. | £ s. d. | | £ s. d. |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| To Deposit at Parr's Bank (Woodward Fund) ... | 155 10 7 | | By Balance, Woodward Fund ... ... ... ... | 155 10 7 |
| ,, ,, ,, ,, (Capital Account) ... | 129 3 3 | | ,, Capital Account ... ... ... ... | 224 6 0 |
| ,, ,, ,, ,, (Wiglesworth Account) | 27 5 10 | | ,, Book Fund ... ... ... ... ... | 107 11 4 |
| | 311 19 8 | | ,, Wiglesworth Account ... ... ... ... | 27 5 10 |
| ,, Less Overdraft on General Account ... | 8 12 6 | | | |
| | | 303 7 2 | | |
| ,, New Zealand 4% Stock at cost ... ... | | 107 11 4 | | |
| ,, 5% War Loan Bond (£100) ... ... | | 95 2 9 | | |
| ,, Balance being amount overdrawn on Receipts and Payments Account ... ... | | 8 12 6 | | |
| | | £514 13 9 | | £514 13 9 |

Audited and found correct, February 12th, 1921.

A. C. MOLE & CO., *Incorporated Accountants, Taunton.*

## The New President.

Mr. HAMILTON THOMPSON in proposing the election of Sir Charles Hercules Read, LL.D., P.S.A., F.B.A., as President of the Society for the ensuing year, said it was a pleasure to resign office in favour of such a distinguished successor—a man recognized as one of the chief archæologists in England, possessed of exceptional versatility and learning, coupled with administrative skill and initiative.

Mr. C. TITE seconded the motion, which was adopted with acclamation.

The new PRESIDENT then took the chair, and assured the members he would do his utmost to help forward the work of their Society.

## Election of Officers.

Mr. SEBASTIAN EVANS proposed that the officers of the Society be re-elected, including the four outgoing members of the Council, *viz.*, the Rev. J. Byrchmore, Mr. A. E. Eastwood, the Rev. Preb. J. Hamlet and Mr. H. P. Sheppard; also the election of Mr. A. Hamilton Thompson as a Vice-President; and the following as Local Secretaries,—Mr. F. Beale for Weston-super-Mare, Mr. Roger Clark for Street, Dr. H. Downes for Ilminster, the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill for Frome, the Rev. F. E. W. Langdon for Chard, Mr. R. de Havilland Hoskyns for South Petherton, the Rev. H. D. Lewis for Crewkerne, and Miss Ida Roper for Bristol.

Mr. F. BLIGH BOND seconded the motion, which was carried.

bearing upon certain matters connected with the feudal system. This volume will be issued to all who have paid their subscriptions for the years 1917 and 1918.

Volume XXXIV will deal with records of Quarter Sessions in Somerset in the reign of Charles II. The manuscript is now ready for the printers. Among other materials awaiting publication there is an interesting document showing in great detail the internal economy of Glastonbury Abbey.

The finances of the Society are, however, in a very unsatisfactory state. The cost of printing and binding has of late increased so largely that it will no longer be possible to issue an annual volume, unless the Society receives a much larger measure of support in the future.

An analysis of the List of Subscribers for 1918 is not without interest in this connection. Out of a total of 97, no less than 33 were Libraries, many of them on the other side of the Atlantic; 17 were persons living in London or elsewhere at a distance. The whole County of Somerset, including even Bristol, yielded no more than 47. A few new subscriptions about counterbalance losses by death.

It is only too obvious that, under present conditions, the Society cannot carry on its work on an income of about £100 a year.

Mr. A. F. SOMERVILLE said that unless the necessary support came soon he feared the affairs of the Record Society would have to be wound up.

The Rev. G. W. SAUNDERS made an appeal for more subscribers on behalf of *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries.*

## Roman Remains, Keynsham.

An interesting announcement was made by Dom Ethelbert Horne, O.S.B., to the effect that he had lately seen some Roman remains uncovered in the new part of the cemetery on the Bristol Road at Keynsham. Mr. St. George Gray said he had already examined some of the specimens, all of which were undoubtedly Roman. The President suggested that a plan of the buildings might be obtained by probing along the walls.

## The Presidential Address.

The President, Sir C. HERCULES READ, LL.D., then delivered his address entitled "Somerset Archæology—a Suggestion," which is printed as the first paper in Part II.