

The Museum.

THE Museum formed a very attractive feature at the meeting. A portion of the Hall having been divided off by a partition, the various articles contributed were arranged in excellent order by the Curator of the Society, Mr. BAKER, assisted by several persons who very kindly volunteered their services. The circular issued by the Honorary Secretary of the Local Committee having been very cordially responded to by the ladies and

gentlemen resident in the town and neighbourhood, the Museum was well furnished. Among the most attractive and interesting objects contributed were the following by GEORGE HARBIN, Esq., of Newton House:—A Deed of Grant out of the Exchequer, under the Broad Seal of England, by Charles II., of Annuities of £200 each for their respective lives, to Rachel and Frances Wyndham, daughters of Sir Francis Wyndham, of Trent, on the petition of his wife, Lady Anne Wyndham, and on the surrender of an annuity for her life of £400 granted by Charles II., to the said Lady Anne Wyndham in the 19th year of his reign, in consideration, as recited in the said Deed, of the good and faithful service performed by Lady Anne Wyndham, in being instrumental to his preservation after the battle of Worcester. Date of Deed 34th year of the reign of Charles II. A Cap worn, and a Knife used, by Charles II., whilst in concealment at Sir Francis Wyndham's, at Trent, in the county of Somerset, after the battle of Worcester, September 3rd, 1651. A Medal of Charles I., and Henrietta, his wife, belonging to the late Sir Thomas Wyndham, Bart., father of Sir Francis Wyndham, of Trent. A Portrait (in distemper) of Elizabeth Woodville, wife of Edward IV., Date 1461. A Drinking Cup, with part of a Buck's horn, found in a field at Stoford, in Barwick, belonging to Mr. Harbin, in 1826, in a stone vault hewn in the solid rock, and covered with a rough stone slab, three feet in width and four feet in depth, containing a human skeleton, placed in a sitting posture with the drinking cup on one side and the Deer's horn on the other, near which another vault was opened, containing the skeleton of a horse; at a little distance another very large vault was discovered, containing an immense quantity of human bones, mixed with earth and stones, the covers being broken by

the pressure of the superincumbent mass of earth, from five to six feet in thickness.—Mr. R. SHOUT contributed some fine Rubbings of Sepulchral Brasses from Westminster.—A curious Carved Oak Panel, representing Abraham offering up his son Isaac, and which for many years adorned the kitchen of the Old Angel Inn, Yeovil, was exhibited by Mr. H. M. WATTS.—Another very fine piece of carved work was contributed by the Rev. J. WILLIAMS.—Mr. DOWTY, of Bridgwater, sent a great variety of antique curiosities.—Mr. ALFRED A. CLARKE, artist, of Taunton, exhibited a Portfolio of Original Sketches in pencil outline, of Somersetshire subjects; and a Portfolio of Pencil Drawings of mediæval remains, ecclesiastical, and manorial.—The Society was also indebted to Mr. JAMES YATES, F.R.S., for the exhibition of some plants of the order Cycadææ, &c., and of a Leopard's skin, which had been worn by one of the Grandees of Abyssinia, it still being the practice in that country to wear this costume at court and on the field of battle, a costume preserved in those ancient Greek sculptures, which represent Bacchanalian processions.—A small but valuable collection of Fossils was exhibited by Mr. C. MOORE, of Ilminster. Among others, a small Teleosaurus, found in the Lias, containing in its stomach a small fish; and a series of minute shells of the family Foraminifera, from the neighbourhood of Yeovil.—Dr. SYDENHAM, of Yeovil, exhibited a fine and very perfect, though not large, specimen of the Ichthyosaurus; and his father, the Rev. J. SYDENHAM, contributed a valuable collection of Manuscript Books, comprising: 1. A large Folio MS. written in Roman letter, the Homilies of St. Chrysostom, written at the cost of Christopher Urswyhe, for the Monastery of Hales, in Gloucestershire, in the

ninth year of the reign of Henry VIII. It is stated to have been written "Arte Petri Maji Unoculi, Teutonicus Nacione, Brabantine." 2. A Psalter with interlinear Commentary, written in 1514, for the Monastery of Hayles. 3, 4, 5. "Books of Horce," one of the use of Rouen, another of that of Poictiers—all being exquisitely illuminated with delicate borders of flowers, and large drawings of sacred subjects, saints, &c. The first contains numerous entries of the Deny family, dated from 1550 to 1600. 6. A curious MS. relating to ceremonies and discipline, with forms of excommunication for a great variety of offences. 7. A MS. collection of French Poems, 13th century, in its original oak boarding. 8. A beautiful MS. of the Vulgate, 14th century.*—Among the curiosities contributed by J. M. QUANTOCK, Esq., of Norton House, were the remains of a skull dug from Ham Hill, about 30 feet below the surface.—A sword found in Sedgemoor, and supposed to have belonged to an officer engaged in battle in that locality, was contributed by Mr. CAVE.—A rich collection of ancient armour was contributed by Mr. NORRIS of South Petherton.—Mr. G. P. SLADE contributed some very beautiful little sketches of the old George Inn, Yeovil, the oriel and door of the Abbey at Nash, the Font at Bradford Church, and drawings of the Ilchester Mace, with its inscription, "Jesu de Deu Crie neme Dun et Mic."—Mr. T. MANNING contributed some Rubbings from the Sepulchral Brasses of Giles Pennie and his wife in Yeovil church, and the inscription on the lectern, which has puzzled antiquaries to decipher.—Mr. CUSTARD, junr., contributed fifteen drawings on various subjects, which were greatly admired. He also contributed a sketch of Bradford Tower, Dorset, which he presented to the Society.—Mr. HIGHMORE

* Now deposited in the Society's Museum, at Taunton.

exhibited some Roman Coins found on Ham Hill, and on the Roman Road which runs through his property at Preston.—Mr. WARRY, of East Chinnock, contributed some beautiful specimens of Moorish Pottery, and a box of Moorish Coins.—Mr. WATTS, of the Mermaid Hotel, sent an ancient Roman Vase, dug up at Ham Hill some years ago; it was in a perfect state of preservation, and when discovered was filled with copper coins, chiefly of the later Roman Emperors.—Mr. BABINGTON, of Sherborne, contributed twenty Ammonites, illustrative of the Geology of Sherborne.—Mr. W. STUCKEY contributed a local curiosity, in the shape of a venerable copper tea-kettle, which was the first ever used in the parish of Muchelney; and some antique silver spoons, date of 1673.—Rev. G. FAGAN, Rector of Kingweston, exhibited some very rare and interesting curiosities; a Monumental Tablet from Thebes, in Egypt, of the date of the Ptolemies, representing the judgment of the deceased.—Mr. BRITTON, of Butleigh, exhibited the figure from a crucifix, and a death's head, (both in Ivory), found in the old chapel of the Magdalen Alms House, at Glastonbury; an old glass, containing a crucifix in wood, and other figures, many years in the possession of a family at Kingsdon; and Fossils.—Mr. E. BATTEN contributed a curious sketch of Porter's Tomb, Rampisham, with the bas-relief representing the murder of Thomas à Becket.—Mr. ALFRED GILLET, a case of shells, &c.—Mr. VINING showed four fine specimens of conglomerated fossils, dug up in Marston Magna. Two of these were cut and beautifully polished. Also, a turtle stone (polished), found in the Backwater, at Weymouth.—Mr. W. FFOOKS, of Sherborne, contributed a carved stone cross, with eight carved figures, representing the Crucifixion, Virgin, &c. This is a very curious and interesting piece of sculpture,

and probably formed the top of a churchyard cross.—Mr. ARNOLD COLES contributed a very fine collection of medals; and other objects of interest.—Mr. J. PYNE, of Somerton, presented a very perfect figure of Hercules, found in the ruins of Corteia.—Mr. RAWLINS showed a number of Ammonites, highly polished.—Mr. SWATRIDGE contributed some very beautiful Mosaic slabs.—A Case of Birds from the neighbourhood of Yeovil, was sent by Mr. SEWARD.

In addition to the above, many other contributions were forwarded from the neighbourhood, and a considerable number of articles were sent up from the Society's Museum, at Taunton.
