# Second Day's Proceedings.

Heavy and frequent showers considerably detracted from the pleasure of the day's excursions. A party of over 80 members left the George Hotel, at 9.30 a.m., half-an-hour's drive bringing them to

# Doulting Church, etc.

The Church was first visited, and after a preliminary inspection the Rev. F. W. Weaver, f.s.a., gave an interesting paper on its history. He pointed out that they were now in the Glastonbury country, Doulting Church, with others, having been formerly attached to the Abbey of Glastonbury. Such churches were usually very fine, and there was no doubt that prior to its restoration Doulting Church was a magnificent edifice. There was hardly any part of it that had not been taken down stone by stone and built up again. One of the few

things allowed to remain in its original state was a beautiful Norman door. The Church was practically rebuilt in the year 1869, and it was extremely pleasing to think that that Society visited it four years before it was touched; and they had on record a very valuable article, written by Professor Freeman, who told them exactly what the building was like before it was touched. Professor Freeman, speaking of the original Church, said its history was pretty plainly written in Sir Richard Paget had also contributed some interesting details concerning the restoration, which sought to reproduce the Church in exactly its original form. All the old material, however, was not re-used, and the party would be able to see in the vicarage garden several fine portions of the s. doorway, etc., which were discarded, he thought, unwisely. In the churchyard there were a number of interesting tombs, one recording the death of an old lady, aged 102. The chief point of interest in regard to Doulting, however, was the fact that it was the deathplace of St. Aldhelm, Bishop of Sherborne, in 709. St. Aldhelm, who was trained in the Abbey of Malmesbury, was the great apostle of the neighbourhood in a time when heathenism was rampant. He was in the habit of planting his cross in different parts, and around the cross was built a little wooden church, which was eventually replaced by a St. Aldhelm was buried at Malmesbury, and nobler structure. Saxon crosses marked each seven miles of the distance his body was taken. In the vicarage garden was St. Aldhelm's Well.

Mr. F. Bligh Bond, in the course of some observations upon the architecture of the Church, remarked that, considering the very extensive rebuilding the work had undergone, the result might be deemed satisfactory. The nave was practically all modern, and the fine south porch was all new work, copied from the old—the old stones now being built into the vicarage garden wall. The inner door-head on the n. side was a Norman one reversed and altered in shape. The wall-

footings and angle-buttresses at the w. end were ancient and early. The massive arches under the tower dating from about 1240, had been rebuilt in a conservative manner. The very fine transept roofs were restoration work, carried out by Halliday of Wells, about 50 or 60 years ago, but so well done that they appeared original. They were of the best local type of XV Century work.

The Rev. E. H. Bates commented upon the unusual sight of an octagonal tower in that county, and said such towers appeared to be confined to about a dozen churches in Somerset in a well defined belt through the county.

The Rev. J. DARBYSHIRE, the Vicar, also gave some interesting details concerning two brasses in the Church, several tombs in the churchyard, the bells, and the churchwardens' accounts.

In spite of the rain a large proportion of the party visited St. Aldhelm's Well, which was approached by the vicarage gardens.

The Tithe Barn, now in the occupation of Mr. Hodges, was then examined under the guidance of Dr. Allen and others. It was remarked that it was larger than those at Pilton and Glastonbury; but unlike them, it was very plain: the form and proportions were nevertheless very pleasing. With the four large porches the ground plan was that of a double cross. The style was that of the latter part of the XIV Century. Dr. Allen pointed out that a good part of the roof was original and characterized by the free use of curved timbers, such as occurred also in the Shambles at Shepton Mallet.

#### Doulting Quarries.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood, F.G.S., said that it was almost unnecessary to tell the members of the Society that they were now standing on the well-known building stone of the district, once largely used in the masonry of our Glastonbury Abbey

and Wells Cathedral. It may not however be known to all that these beds occurred much lower in the geological formation than the celebrated Bath Freestone; the latter belonged to the Great Oolite series, the former to the Inferior Oolite. The workable beds were some 30 or 40 feet in thickness, of a brownish colour, with calcite veins running through them, and slightly oolitic. More durable than the Bath stone owing to its siliceous character, it was considered almost unfossiliferous and until quite recently its exact position in the series remained undefined. The Secretary of the Cotteswold N. H. F. Club, (Mr. Richardson), who had been investigating the Oolitic beds of the district, considered that these Doulting beds were equivalent to the *clypeus grit*, so called from a helmet-shaped echinoderm characteristic of certain Inferior Oolite beds in the Cotteswold area.

Mr. Winwood concluded with an allusion to their well known citizen, Mr. John Phillis, who had done much for the geology of the neighbourhood and enriched the Shepton Mallet Museum with the result of his researches. During a visit that morning to the latter, he had in vain looked for the rare brachiopod, Rhynconella Morieri, found by that geologist in the Inferior Oolite close at hand and deposited in one of the cases. Much as the absence of such a rare fossil was to be regretted he was relieved somewhat to find from the statement of one of the members present that it was thought worthy of a place in the cases of the Nat. Hist. Museum, South Kensington. He would venture to suggest that there was a wide scope for the energies of the local youth of the neighbourhood to still further add to their local specimens. authorities of a local museum should be careful that the specimens be representative of the locality and not of every other part of the world.

Mr. J. H. STAPLE, manager of the quarries, gave some details of the working of the stone, and invited the members to inspect the tools used for cutting the stone and the machinery employed to economize labour.

#### Mest Cranmore Church.

Before the Church was entered, Dr. F. J. Allen described the tower. He said:

This is in many respects an imitation of the Shepton tower, but built much later, and on a much smaller scale; it is in fact the smallest of the first-class towers, except that of Ruishton, near Taunton. The resemblance to the Shepton tower is most evident in the triple windows of the top stage, and the boldly projecting buttresses which have the same complex structure. The buttresses at Shepton were made to bear the stress of a spire, but here at Cranmore there is no evidence of a spire being intended,—no squinches under the roof as in some early towers, e.g., Banwell. The signs of late date at Cranmore are the panelled tower-arch inside, the four-centred west doorway, and the flattened window arches and compressed tracery in the top windows. We may regard it as contemporary with Bruton tower, which it resembles in these particulars.

The Rev. F. W. WEAVER, referring to a figure on the tower, stated that it was almost certainly that of the patron saint, St. Bartholomew, who was flayed alive. There were indications on the legs of the skin being stript off.

The Rev. H. H. Winwood pointed out an inscribed sundial, with place for the gnomon, on the lower part of the tower, the divisions being continued all round—a very unusual completeness.

The Rev. E. H. Bates drew attention to the monuments of the Strode family, and particularly to a small brass on the south wall of the nave. This bore the arms of Strode impaling Court, and an inscription: "James Strode son of John Strode of Stoycke lane was borne the 18 of July in the yeare 1613. Amy Strode, daughter of Edward Courte, and now wife of James Strode was borne the 29 of September, 1617." James Strode died in 1698, and his will is given in Brown, III, 108. He desired to be buried under the Communion Table of

West Cranmore Church; and a monument to be erected, "I being the first Strode that lived and inhabited there, and that will be buried there." He also referred to an agreement made by him and his son on the purchase of the manor. Cranmore was given by Elphege in 956 to Glastonbury Abbey, who held West Cranmore until 1219, when it was surrendered to the Bishop of the Diocese as part of the price of freedom from episcopal control. At the dissolution of the monastery in 1539 it came to the Duke of Somerset, who lost all in 1552. In 1627 the Strode family became possessed of the manor, though James Strode was the first to be settled at South-hill. His descendants remained there until 1896 when it became the property of Mr. Spencer. Thus the history of the parish can be traced for nearly one thousand years, and three owners had held it for 850 years.

The ancient bier, with its quaintly-lettered inscription, was put out for the inspection of the party. Mr. Weaver stated that it bore a curious inscription to a Mr. Richard Dole, all the D's being reversed.

## Leigh-on-Wendip Church.

Leaving West Cranmore, the carriages proceeded to Leighon-Mendip, passing en route through East Cranmore and Downhead, both chapelries of Doulting. Luncheon was excellently served in a marquee near the village inn; its success was largely due to the careful arrangements made by the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill. Afterwards, the members proceeded to the Church, where

Mr. F. Bligh Bond was the first speaker. He pointed out the variety of date evinced by the different character in the masonry of the Church—which was largely XV Century. The chancel walls had an external facing of ashlar—the architectural detail being of the "Wellow" type—an early variety of Perpendicular work antedating the full development

of the style. The s. window had the flattened curve (unlike the true Tudor arch), characterising the late Decorated or earliest Perpendicular. It was like an acutely pointed triangle with curving shoulders, and would date from about 1380. the aisles was a variety of rubble work—raised about four feet in later times, co-eval with the building of the clerestory. The aisle roofs sloped at a considerable angle, traces of this being visible internally. The clerestory parapet shewed a double series of quatrefoils, like the tower, and was possibly of like date. The nave floor was sloped, and that of the chancel also. The rood-loft doorway had been opened up since 1886. The position of the old loft was clear, and it crossed the Church at a considerable height. The existence of a second opening in the N. wall of the nave, over the arcade, was suspected. The "angel" corbels built into the N. and s. walls of the chancel just over the line of the altar rail indicated the position of a sanctuary screen, or beam for the lenten veil. The chancel roof was fine; that of the nave a plainer and later copy. The eastern bay shewed some enrichment. This was often done to form a "canopy of honour" over the great rood. There was a piscina and aumbry in the s. chantry, co-eval with the chancel.

The Rev. J. E. W. Honnywill, the Vicar, followed with a general description of the Church, of which the following is a summary:

"In 1898 during the restoration of the N. wall of the nave the ancient rood-loft doorway and steps were brought to light. The steps were found to have been dislodged from their original position and placed perpendicularly without mortar as a block to the entrance. In the same year the old N. doorway of the nave was revealed. It was originally used by the occupants of a large house owned by the Horner family, and situated about 30 yards w. of the tower. Not a vestige of this mansion remains at the present time. It is supposed to have been the abode of Margery Horner buried at Leigh 1576, of Mary Horner buried in 1598, and Leonard Horner interred

1607. In 1899 the s. wall of the nave was pointed and restored, when all the windows on this side were found to have been insertions of the early Perpendicular period in a wall of much earlier date, as evidenced by the red marl in the original wall which, mixed with some other ingredient, did duty as mortar. The font, a fair specimen of early Norman work, has a cover supposed to be of Jacobean date. The oak pews with their strong kneeling boards and Perpendicular designs on the bench-ends are much admired. An offer was made some years ago by an American to purchase them for £5,000."

The Rev. H. H. Winwood observed that there were indications of an altar veil or candle beam similar to those in the church at Orchardleigh not far distant. Attention was called to an old tie-beam with nothing to correspond, and this the Vicar stated was a comparatively recent addition put in during the Church restoration.

With regard to the inscription on the great bell, it was stated that the same inscription was found at Shepton Mallet and at many other places.

The Rev. F. W. Weaver observed that with regard to the parochial and ecclesiastical history of Leigh-on-Mendip there was not much to be said. The parish was included in the large manor of Mells and belonged to the Abbey of Glastonbury (see Bishop Hobhouse's map in the *Proceedings*, vol. xxxv), while the Church was a "capella" depending on the mother Church of Mells.

Before leaving the Church attention was called to the beautiful glass in the west window which was of about the middle of the XV Century and apparently in its original position.

The members having assembled in the churchyard Dr. F. J. Allen made the following remarks:—

"Mr. Honnywill tells us that this is supposed to be one of the 'dree' towers built by the architect of 'Dun-dree.' This legend is attached to most of the more florid towers of

Somerset, but I can assure him that there is no foundation for the story in the present instance. Dundry tower is of the Bristol or N. Somerset type, and entirely unrelated to this of Leigh, which is of the Mendip type, probably built under the auspices of the schools of masons attached to Wells and Glastonbury. This tower is a development from the Bruton design, which again was developed from Shepton Mallet. The distinctive feature of Leigh, and of the very similar tower of Mells, is that the triple windows of the top stage are repeated, blind or slightly pierced, in the next stage. The windows are shallow with poor mouldings; but the general composition of the tower is good, and the ornate treatment of the buttresses, the twenty pinnacles, and the parapet, is remarkably beautiful. Mr. Bates tells me that a certain John Sammell, senr., by his will dated 1446 (Som. Rec. Soc., XIX, 345) left £3 to 'building of the tower of Mells church.' Now Mells tower, like this of Leigh, is of distinctly late character, belonging to about the end of the XV Century, or later at all events than Bruton, which from documentary evidence seems to have been built about 1460: we must therefore suppose either that this bequest referred to a former tower at Mells, or more probably that a tower was wanted and that money was being collected for it."

On the Society's former visit to Leigh in 1884, scores of women were observed at the doors of their houses with large aprons having front pockets containing their ball of wool or worsted, while their fingers busily plied the knitting-needles. Scarcely a trace of the hand-knit stocking industry now remains, knitting-machines having superseded the knitting-needles.

## Woon's Will Duarry.

On leaving Leigh the party drove viâ Stoke Lane to Moon's Hill Quarry, where the geological features were described by the Rev. H. H. Winwood, F.G.S. He said:—

The fine Andesitic quarry in which they were standing and

supplied such a great quantity of road-metal, had not any existence some forty years ago. The discovery of the presence of igneous rocks in the Mendips was due to the geological acuteness of his late friend Chas. Moore, whose cousin he was glad to see amongst them that day. Whilst exploring the hills for materials for his classical paper "On the Secondary Rocks of the Mendip Hills," he was informed that there were certain peculiar minerals in existence there, and one day about the year 1866, on removing the turf from a green boss, he came across what he called a "green coloured basalt;" this, probably a dyke, he thought extended throughout the axis of the hills E. and w. of Stoke Lane, which he considered to be the centre. How accurate his forecast was, subsequent excavations and the researches of Prof. Reynolds had verified. Notwithstanding his advocacy of having an excavation made, and his advice to the Bath Town Council to utilize the material for their roads, it was only in comparatively recent times that you saw this material used by them for that purpose.

Mr. Winwood having thus alluded to the first beginning of the quarry, explained that in the Palæozoic period there was a great disturbance in the crust of the earth, causing mighty upheavals, crushings and fissures, through which the molten lava escaped, and that they saw before them in its cooled state.

There were many secrets yet to be revealed in these old hills, and the recent discoveries of Prof. Reynolds at Sunnyhill quarry and elsewhere had shown that Silurian fossils existed in the tuff intercalated between the more solid trap-beds, thus indicating that the Old Red which formed the axis and through which the lava had burst was after all not the oldest beds of that range.

That discovery was one of the most important of the geological discoveries of the time ever made in the district. Silurian remains had since been found in situ, so there could be no doubt about it. The discovery had carried back the age of the Mendips enormously, for from the time of the orig-

inal intrusion of volcanic matter into the Silurian deposits, sufficient time must have elapsed for it to become consolidated before the second intrusion through the Old Red. They could scarcely understand the lapse of time that had taken place between one outburst and another—the first outflow of the lava, its consolidation and subsequent breaking up, and the fragments being rolled into pebbles; then another outburst of ash and lava, which caught up these pebbles. Such was a short description of the Andesitic rocks before them.

In thanking Mr. Winwood, Mr. Somerville said that every one, including the men at work in the quarry (of whom large numbers gathered round to listen to the discourse), would feel great interest in it. Mr. Winwood made everything so clear, unlike some who delighted to talk in geological terms.

#### Waesbury Camp.

Soon after leaving Moon's Hill Quarry, and when the party were driving westwards along the ridge of Mendip, a heavy storm of rain had to be encountered. Barrows of the Bronze Age were passed on Beacon Hill, but they were observed by very few on account of the downpour. The rain abated somewhat on approaching the gateway leading to Maesbury Camp, and about one-half of the party ventured across a couple of fields to gain the eastern entrance to the camp.

Mr. H. St. George Gray proceeded to make some remarks on the Camp, but the weather, always threatening, cut his description very short, and the rain increasing in quantity, the inspection of the Camp was abandoned.

Mr. Gray has since amplified his notes, which now take the form of a paper in Part II.

At Croscombe the sun shone. Here tea was partaken of at the Inn, formerly the old Guest House, after which the Church was visited, the party being met there by the Rev. J. Allott, the Rector.

## Croscombe Church.

The President gave an interesting address, of which the following is a summary:—

Croscombe, as part of the great Lordship of Pilton, was given by Ina, King of the West Saxons, to Glastonbury Abbey in the year 705 A.D., but in Domesday both Croscombe and Shepton Mallet appear as separate parishes.

The present Church is an extensive XV Century restoration of a more ancient church built probably towards the end of the XIII Century, which however, early in the XIV Century, had fallen into disrepair, for we find that in 1318 one Thomas de Chelway declined to accept the Rectory because, amongst other grounds of objection, "the chancel glebe and buildings were in ruinous disorder." The long period of war, the Black Death and the consequent depression in trade during a great part of the XIV Century brought poverty and distress to the town and probably the Church remained in ruinous disorder. With the XV Century came a great revival of trade and the townsfolk and their Lord of the Manor, Sir Wm. Palton, combined to restore the Parish Church and to leave to succeeding generations one of the most beautiful and interesting specimens of Perpendicular architecture in the county. Viewed from outside, with the exception of the porch, the whole Church might be thought to belong to that period. This is due to the fact that the ancient walls were "ashlared" with the local stone, a liassic conglomerate, now known as "Bastard Free Stone," but when the same stone was used for Wells Cathedral in the XII Century it was called "Chilcote stone" from the quarry at "Chilcote" near Wells, and after its use in the restoration of Croscombe Church we find it referred to in a Wells will as the "Croscombe stone." It is a stone of great durability, retaining the sharp edge in the carving for centuries, being impervious to weather, and it can, unlike the ordinary "Free stone," be laid against the bed.

The restoration was carried on probably between 1400 and 1440, so far as the main work is concerned, and to that period should be assigned the tower, clerestory, roof, nave, part of the chancel and most of the windows. At a later period, 1506-13, were added the chapel, now used as a vestry and organ chamber, the E. end of the chancel and the two-storeyed building at the s.w. corner of the s. aisle, which with its strongly barred windows was used as a treasure house and where the Church Guilds used to meet.

To this period too must be ascribed the handsome panelled parapet so closely resembling that of St. Cuthbert's Church, Wells, and to a still later period the roofs of the chancel and aisles. Inside the Church and in the porch are seen traces of the older Church of which a considerable portion was left.

The most noticeable features of the interior however are the carved roof and benches of the XV Century and the later Jacobean work in the pulpit, screen, and pews. On two of the bosses in the nave roof there are figures of a man and woman kneeling, and round these figures rolls of cloth, no doubt intended to denote the part the clothiers took in the restoration, amongst whom were the Bisses, Mayows, and Denshylls, all family names in the history of Croscombe.

On other bosses are the arms of the Paltons and Botieaux, a family with whom the Paltons married and who were no doubt benefactors. On the beautiful Laudian screen and pulpit are the date 1616 and the arms of Hugh Fortescue, the then Lord of the Manor, and Bishop Lake the Bishop of the Diocese. The chancel roof bears the date 1664 and three escutcheons. 1, Fortescue. 2, Fortescue and Granville. 3, Fortescue and Northcote.

The poppy-head carving of the XV Century benches with their massive arm-rests for kneeling are a noticeable figure, and on one bench-end are two figures of a priest; this must formerly have been in the chancel.

The two ancient monuments fixed to the E. wall of the

chancel are a relic of the more ancient church, but nothing is known of their history.

There are two interesting brasses dated 1606 and 1625 to the memory of the Bisse family which show the style of dress worn at that period and how it changed in the course of 20 years.

The only old glass is in the E. window of the s. aisle, which was a chapel dedicated to the memory of the Palton family.

There is a peal of six bells of a very fine tone.

Curfew is still rung.

The history of the seven Church Guilds is to be found in Vol. v of the Somerset Record Society.

They were: The Young Men, The Maidens, The Webbers, The Tuckers (or fullers), The Hogglers (field labourers and miners), The Archers, and The Wives.

Besides this there was the Guild of St. Anne founded in memory of Sir Wm. Palton who left to the Guild lands in East Horrington, Wells, Durcot (near Camerton), and Lake in Wilts, to maintain four chaplains, two of whom were to minister at the free chapel of East Horrington and two in the Palton chapel in Croscombe Church, to pray for the souls of Sir William Palton, Richard and Ann Denshyll and for the brethren and sisters of the said chapel.

The Guild had the appointment of the chaplain, and the rector and wardens of Croscombe the nomination of the trustees of the Guild's property. The Guild also maintained some alms-houses and paid for the ringing of the curfew bell.

The Church having got into a bad state of repair, its external restoration was taken in hand in 1889-90. A new roof covering the old roof was placed over the nave; all lead work was renewed. The top 14 feet of the spire was taken down and rebuilt and other important repairs effected. The whole work was carried out in a thoroughly conservative spirit at a cost of about £1,200.

Mr. F. Bligh Bond, F.R.I.B.A., said that this was a church replete with architectural glories. The s. doorway, with the

substance of the aisle wall adjoining might fairly be ascribed to the beginning of the XIV Century. One of the corbels possessed a curious character and seemed of Early English date. This wall had been cased externally in the XV Century and late windows inserted. The chancel arch was a remarkable structure, peculiar in the total absence of any abutment, and in the fact of its springing from the haunch of the nave arches. The screen had been moved eastward of its original position, and a good deal pulled about. It had been raised in height. It furnished one of the noblest examples of early XVII Century screenwork, and was a tribute to the revival of zeal in churchmanship after the close of Elizabeth's reign. The Arms of Bishop Lake and of the donors (the Fortescues) were pointed out by Mr. Weaver, upon the carved panels of the screen.

#### Conversazione and Local Exhibition.

In the evening the local Natural History Society entertained the parent Society to a Conversazione, which was well attended by both institutions. Amongst the members of the local society present were Mr. C. R. Wainwright, the president; Mr. John Higgins, and the Rev. R. L. Jones, vice-presidents; Mr. C. E. Burnell, hon. secretary; Mr. W. F. Barnes, hon. curator; the Rev. G. F. Saxby, Mr. H. B. Mole, Mr. W. Aldridge, and a representative gathering of ladies.

Mr. C. R. Wainwright cordially welcomed the guests of the evening. He felt very much regret that the weather that day had been so unpropitious for their excursion into their beautiful Mendip country which presented so many features of interest to the archæologist and geologist. He reminded the Society that the present was their third visit to Shepton Mallet, the previous years having been 1865 and 1884. He was quite aware that every town in the county wished to have a visit from the Society, but he hoped that their visits to Shepton Mallet would not be at such great intervals as heretofore.

The company then proceeded to examine the exhibits in the permanent museum and the loan collection arranged in the council chamber. Refreshments having been served in the ante-room by the ladies of the local committee, the members of both societies reassembled in the large room to listen to Mr. Walter Raymond, the Somerset novelist, whose capital recitations from Barnes's Dorset poems gave the greatest delight.

Mr. A. F. Somerville, on behalf of the County Society, thanked Mr. Wainwright and the Members of the Local Natural History Society for their reception that evening, and also Mr. Raymond for his great kindness in coming from London to interest and amuse them by his truly delightful recitations. He also wished to cordially thank Mr. Burnell and Mr. Barnes for all the trouble they had been to, and especially in connection with the very attractive loan exhibition of local objects of art and antiquity; and the ladies for the manner in which they had served them with refreshments.

Among the loan exhibits connected with Somerset were :-

A series of photographs of Shepton Mallet Church, and of church towers in Somerset, by Dr. F. J. Allen and the Rev. R. L. Jones.

Silver bodkin found at Charlton; silver spoon made at Wells, and another found at Darshill; Roman fibulæ and coins found at Charlton. Lent by Miss F. A. Berryman.

Roman remains found at Charlton. Lent by Mr. C. E. Burnell.

Roman remains found at Charlton; and local fossils. Lent by Mr. A. W. Halsted.

Cope used since the Reformation as an altar cover, silver chalices 1686 and 1776, and prayer-books 1604 and 1662; all belonging to Pilton Church. Lent by the Rev. Preb. C. W. Bennett.

Bronze crucifix of the XIII Century found at Shepton Mallet in 1882. Lent by the Somersetshire Archæological Society.

Two drinking-vessels, and a flint knife-dagger of the Early Bronze Age, found at Wick Barrow, near Stogursey. Exhibited by Messrs. H. St. G. Gray, C. W. Whistler, and A. F. Major.

Collection of Somerset club-brasses, and pewter. Lent by Mr. R. N. Tanner.

Collection of Somerset club-brasses. Lent by Mr. E. H. Caley.

Part of a polished flint celt (figured in Part II, p. 78), and two flint flakes found near Maesbury Camp. Lent by Mr. A. F. Somerville.

Perforated stone adze-hammer found near Maesbury Camp (figured in Part II, p. 79). Lent by Mr. A. Bulleid, F.S.A.

Paper relating to the market tolls, and photographs of houses in the old market-place, Shepton. Lent by Mr. T. Allen (Charlton).

Collection of wild flowers. Lent by Mrs. W. Barnes.

Pencil drawing of the s. aisle of the choir of Wells Cathedral. Lent by Mr. J. Higgins.

Plan of Shepton Mallet, 1811. Lent by the Rev. R. L. Jones.

Finely preserved bronze sword found near Midsomer Norton (figured in the *Proceedings*, vol. xxii, pt. i, p. 70). Lent by the Rev. Ethelbert Horne.

Lock from Shepton Mallet prison. Lent by Mr. G. Butler. Roman remains from Chesterblade. Lent by Mr. Joseph Allen (Evercreech).

Water-colour drawings by Mr. C. T. Parrott. Lent by Mr. C. T. Parrott, Mr. G. H. Mitchell, and Mr. H. V. Rogers.

"View from Paradise Quarry, Old Wells Road"; "Old Houses at Longbridge, Shepton Mallet"; "Old Inn at Croscombe"; oil-painting, "Backsword play in the Market Place." Lent by Mrs. James Allen.

Drawing of the Market Cross, 1841. Lent by Mr. W. Barnes.