

The Local Museum.

The Local Museum was unusually large and well arranged, containing a very great variety of objects of general and local interest, among which were :

A collection of birds and animals from the neighbourhood ; Greensand fossils from Blackdown, some of great rarity ; a molar of *Elephas primigenius*, and some hatchets, both of the bronze and later flint periods, found in the parish of Nynhead ; two curious very old keys in bronze, found at the same place ; some Roman coins found at Nynhead ; stained glass from Ayshford Chapel, Nynhead Church, and other places in the neighbourhood ; the foundation deed of Ayshford Chapel ; some mesozoic fossils from the Greenough river, West Australia, which have since formed the subject of an important paper by Mr. C. Moore, read before the British Association.—MR. WM. A. SANFORD.

Remains of rhinoceros, cave lion, hyena, elk, deer, wolf, bear, ox, &c., with flint knives and spear-heads, and fragments of calcined bone from the hyena cave at Wookey Hole.—MR. H. CATT and MR. W. B. DAWKINS.

A large and beautiful collection of Oolite fossils.—MR. C. MOORE.

A varied collection of Mexican, Persian, and Spanish antiquities, &c.—MR. E. B. TYLOR.

A large and curious collection of antiquities, of various character.—MR. CLARKE, of Tremlett House.

Upper Oolite and Greensand fossils.—MR. S. FOX.

A small and very ordinary looking sword was exhibited by MISS MARY BRIDGE, of Old Court, Wellington, with which the following legend has been handed down in the family. "After the defeat of the Duke of Monmouth at Sedgemoor by the Royal troops, one of the King's officers quartered himself on the Bridge family at Weston Zoyland, whose estate lay contiguous to the field of battle, and on entering the parlour where the ladies of the house were assembled, made use of very ungentlemanly language and ultimately attempted to insult Mrs. Bridge, upon which her daughter Mary, a girl between eleven and twelve years of age, drew the officer's sword from its scabbard and stabbed him to the heart. She was taken and tried for her life by court-martial before Colonel Kirke, and honourably acquitted. The Colonel ordered the sword to be given to her, and requested that it should be handed down through the Maries of her family, and through them it has descended to its present owner.

A number of old black-letter books and some curious manuscripts of the thirteenth, fourteenth, and fifteenth centuries were exhibited by various persons.
