

Second Quarterly Meeting held at Bridgwater, April 10th, 1850.

*The Right Honorable the Earl of Cavan, Vice President,
in the Chair.*

Morning Meeting.

THE CHAIRMAN having opened the meeting with a suitable address, Mr. W. STRADLING read a paper on the Turf-Moors lying between Glastonbury and the Bristol Channel. The same is given *verbatim* in the second part.

The REV. F. WARRE read a paper on the distinction between Anglo-Saxon and Norman Architecture. The argument being, that where in early Norman Churches, details are found very different from those common in that or any later style, they may be reasonably referred to the Saxon period. The Rev. gentleman expressed his belief that relics of Saxon work so intermixed with Norman, are by no means so rare as has of late years been generally supposed. He further argued—from the close connexion with Rome of the Anglo-Saxon Church during so many centuries, the frequent visits both of princes and priests to the eternal city, and the descriptions of Saxon authors and illuminations in Saxon Missals,—that it was highly probable that the style of Saxon buildings was a variety of Romanesque, probably a rude imitation of Lombardic, with some intermixture of Byzantine details, bearing no greater resemblance to the Norman than was necessarily the consequence of their common origin from the classical Roman.

Mr. JOHN BROWNE exhibited a specimen of British gold ring-money, dug out of the brick-clay at *Hamp*, close to

Bridgwater, six or seven feet below the surface. Some very ancient pottery was found near the spot, several feet deeper in the same deposit.

Mr. BAKER, by the kind permission of Colonel Tynte, presented the Museum of the Society with ten very rare prints illustrative of Old Bridgwater. The drawings were made by the late Mr. John Chubb, of that place, and were engraved at the expense of Colonel Tynte, for his own use. With his permission, the Committee are enabled to enrich this volume with the very interesting views of the High Cross and Old Bridge in the second part. Mr. Baker has furnished a short notice of each, which will also be found there.

The company then visited the old Parish Church of St. Mary, then undergoing restoration, and afterwards the lately built beautiful Church of St. John the Baptist.

Evening Meeting.

Mr. BAKER read a highly interesting paper on the Geology of the county, which will be found in the second part.

Mr. C. MOORE, of Ilminster, addressed the meeting on the Lias Formation, which he has kindly promised to embody in a paper to be read at a future meeting of the society.
