

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

FOR THE YEAR 1872.

THE Twenty-fourth Annual Meeting of the Society was held in the Great Hall of TAUNTON CASTLE, on Tuesday, the 10th September, EDWARD A. FREEMAN, Esq., as President, took the Chair.

On the motion of the Rev. THE PROVOST OF ETON, seconded by R. KING MEADE KING, Esq., William Ayshford Sanford, Esq., was unanimously elected President for the year.

Mr. FREEMAN said he felt great pleasure in giving up the Chair to a man than whom there could be nobody in any way better fitted to fill it. Mr. Sanford bore a name honoured by Somersetshire, and he had shown himself worthy of it.

The Vice-Presidents, the Treasurers, and the Honorary General Secretaries were then re-elected. The following gentlemen were elected on the Committee:—Messrs. Walter Meade King, Thomas Meyler, J. F. Norman, W. P. Pinchard, C. J. Turner, Rev. J. W. Ward. The Local Secretaries, with the addition of Mr. W. Blencoe Sparks, for Crewkerne, were re-elected.

On the motion of Mr. W. ARTHUR JONES, seconded by the PRESIDENT, Mr. William Bidgood was re-elected Curator of the Museum.

Mr. WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A., Hon. Sec., on behalf of the Council, presented the following Annual Report:—

R E P O R T .

“The Council on this 24th Anniversary of the establishment of the Society have the pleasure to present the following Report:—

In accordance with a resolution passed at the last Annual Meeting of the Society, the Council have appointed a Sub-committee (consisting of the Reverend Canon Meade, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. Batten, Mr. Serel, and the Secretary, Mr. Jones), to take steps, if possible, to obtain an Index and Calendar of the Records of Wells Cathedral for publication.

The Committee desire to express their great obligations to the Dean and Chapter for the courtesy with which this proposal has been received, and to Mr. Bernard, the Chapter Clerk, for the facilities afforded them in the examination of the Records. It is accordingly arranged, with the consent of the Dean and Chapter, that the Indexes to the three principal Record-books of the Chapter should be copied, together with the Cotemporaneous Marginal Abstracts, and that the same be published in the Proceedings of the Society.

The Council likewise appointed a Committee, consisting of the same gentlemen, to co-operate with the promoters of a legislative measure for the protection and preservation of Historical Monuments. A list of the more interesting objects in the county, which would fall under that denomination has been prepared, and Mr. Dickinson with the Secretary, Mr. Jones, had an interview with Sir John Lubbock, with the view of furthering this object.

The proposed Bill for the Preservation of Historical Monuments will probably be introduced during the next Session of Parliament, but as even if it does become law its application will necessarily be very limited, the Council venture to urge upon all the Members of this Society and others the importance and duty of their exercising all the influence they have with the owners and occupiers of property, on which Monuments of interest stand, to secure them from injury and decay.

During the past year considerable progress has been made to collect in the Museum a complete series of Somersetshire birds. It is to be hoped that Members of the Society and their friends will aid this object by the presentation of any rare birds they may possess, and by sending any that may be killed in their neighbourhood as early as possible to Mr. Bidgood, the Curator.

An enlargement of the Museum has been made during the past year in order to obtain space for the suitable arrangement of the varied collection of objects of antiquarian interest and natural history now belonging to the Society. This has been done at a comparatively small cost, and through the courtesy of the proprietors of the Taunton and Somerset Institution, without any addition to the rent.

The Council regret that the Volume of Proceedings

for the year is not yet ready for distribution. The letter-press is finished, but the illustrations for the Volume have not yet been delivered. The Glossary of the Somersetshire Dialect is partly printed, and is making steady progress."

On the motion of COL. PINNEY, seconded by the Rev. CANON MEADE, the report was received and adopted.

The following Financial Statement was presented by Mr. H. J. BADCOCK:—

FINANCIAL REPORT.

The Treasurers in Account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. *Dr.* *Cr.*

1871.		1871-2.	
August.			
	£ s d		£ s d
By Balance of former Account	47 19 10	To Expenses attending Annual Meeting, Advertising, &c.	19 4 1
„ Subscriptions	179 0 0	„ New Cases, Repairs, &c. ...	57 18 8
„ Entrance Fees	10 10 0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c. ...	4 13 11
„ Excursion Tickets	12 0 0	„ Coal, Gas, &c.	9 17 4
„ Papworth's Armorial (part subscription refunded)...	1 1 0	„ Mr. May, balance of account for printing Vol. XVI. ...	7 19 6
„ Balance from Warre Memorial Fund	3 15 3	„ Ditto, on account of Vol. XVII.	40 0 0
„ Museum Admission Fees...	18 15 11	„ Illustrations, Photographs, &c.	22 3 0
		„ Curator's Salary (1 year, to August 3, 1872)	37 10 0
		„ Rent (1 year, to Midsummer 1872	30 0 0
		„ Insurance	7 6
		„ Phelps' History of Somerset	1 2 6
		„ Subscription to Harleian Society, 4 years, at £1 1s. and 10s. 6d. entrance ...	4 14 6
		„ Ditto, to Palæontographical Society, for 1872	1 1 0
		„ Ditto, to Ray Society, 1872	1 1 0
		„ Postage of Volume of Proceedings	3 10 9
		„ Postage, Carriage, &c. ...	5 19 7½
		„ Sundries	2 11 11½
		„ Balance	23 6 8
	<u>£ 273 2 0</u>		<u>£ 273 2 0</u>
Balance	23 6 8		

H. H. J. & D. BADCOCK, *Treasurers.*

Sept. 9, 1872. I have audited this Account and compared the amounts with the vouchers and find the Account correct—the balance in the Treasurers' hands being £23 6s. 8d.

W. P. PINCHARD.

This report was adopted.