

Proceedings
of the
Somersetshire Archæological and
Natural History Society,
During the Year 1887.

THE Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Bristol in the University Buildings, which had been kindly lent to the Society for the occasion, on Tuesday July 26th, and following days.

In the unavoidable absence of the retiring President, Mr. J. Batten, F.S.A., the Chair was taken by Mr. BOURDILLON, who briefly introduced the President of the year the Right Worshipful the Mayor of Bristol (Sir G. W. Edwards).

The Rev. J. A. BENNETT presented first the Report of the Somerset Record Society, and exhibited a copy of its first volume, "A Calendar of Bishop Drokenford's Register," edited by Bishop Hobhouse. Though he was not able to present a printed form of account, he stated that the Donation Fund amounted to £101, and the List of Subscriptions to £127 16s. 0d. The former had been drawn upon for printing circulars, and postage, etc., £8 3s. 6d.; Fees paid to the Registry at Wells, £3 8s. 6d.; total, £11 12s. 0d. The expense of printing, binding, and sending out the first volume has been £122 13s. 6d.; leaving a balance of £89 8s. 0d., and £5 2s. 6d. respectively. In the course of the meeting six

new names were added to the list of subscribers, and Rev. T. S. Holmes of Wookey, kindly promised an edition of Bishop Bubwith's Register.

The Report is printed in the beginning of Bishop Drokensford's Register.

The Annual Report

of the parent Society was then read:—

“The Council of the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society, in presenting their 39th Annual Report, are glad to be able to give a favourable account of the history of the past year.

“The number of the Members has increased from 520 to 525, although many have been removed from the list by reason of their subscriptions being too much in arrear.

“The state of your finances is sound, the General Account shewing a balance of £63 11s. 4d. in favour of the Society at the end of the year 1886; and a sum of £56 1s. 1d. had been paid off on the Castle Purchase Fund at the time of making up the yearly accounts. An additional sum of £50 has since been paid, which does not appear in the last year's account. The total sum due on the Castle Purchase Fund amounts to £513 16s. 1d. The Society will remember that of this a sum of £258 0s. 7d. was laid out in building the new roof over the geological room.

“Your Council regret to report the loss sustained by the Society by the resignation of one of the Honorary Secretaries Mr. Green; and report the acceptance of the vacant post by the Rev. James A. Bennett, Rector of South Cadbury. It will be for this Meeting to formally install him in the office of Honorary Secretary.

“The Council appeal to the General Meeting to approve of a resolution passed by them for the appointment of a larger number of gentlemen as Local Secretaries. Rules for their guidance have been discussed, but not finally agreed upon.

This subject has so often been before the General Meetings, that the Council would gladly have it put into more practicable shape; and they may say that no one enters into the necessity of it more than your new Honorary Secretary.

“The Council are glad to report that the steps taken at the last Annual Meeting at Yeovil for the preservation of the old Grammar School at Taunton have been so far successful that the sale by auction was postponed, and the building has now passed into the hands of the Corporation of Taunton to be reserved for municipal purposes, with a guarantee that the ancient features of the building shall be preserved.

“A new list of Ancient Monuments existing in the county considered worthy of preservation has been sent to the Inspector of Ancient Monuments, General Pitt-Rivers, during the year, consisting of the following subjects:—Worlebury Camp; Dolbury Camp; Maesbury Camp; Torr Steps, Exmoor; Wansdyke, in a field west of Englishcombe Church; two upright stones, remains of a Cromlech, in the parish of Beech, opposite Tracey Park; a Cromlech in the parish of Castle Coombe; and some portion of Hamdon Hill Camp.

“The Council regret that they have not been able to prepare any special report on the Church Plate existing in the diocese. No new returns have been received, and any advice from the General Meeting, as to the best mode of preserving and publishing an account of it, so far as they have obtained any, will be welcome.

“The Council regret to report the loss of a valued friend of the Society, by the death of one of the Vice-Presidents, Mr. Thomas Tutton Knyfton, of Uphill Castle, Weston-super-Mare.”

The Report having been adopted on the motion of the Rev. I. S. GALE, seconded by the Rev. GILBERT SMITH,

Mr. E. SLOPER read the financial statement summarised in the Report, and it was adopted, on the motion of Mr. BOURDILLON, seconded by Dr. NORRIS:—

Colonel BRAMBLE proposed the re-election of the Officers, with the addition of Mr. John Batten, as a Vice-President, and the following to the list of

Local Secretaries:—

Sir Edmund H. Elton, Bart.	... Clevedon.
Mr. William B. Paull	... Langport.
Rev. W. W. Herringham	... Williton and Old Cleeve.
Rev. Sydenham Hervey	... Wedmore.
Rev. T. S. Holmes	... Wookey.
Mr. William George	... Bristol.
Mr. William Daubeney	... Bath.
Colonel Bramble	... Yatton.
Rev. I. S. Gale	... Cleeve.
Rev. F. W. Weaver	... Milton Clevedon.
Rev. Dr. Hardman	... Congresbury.
Rev. William Birkbeck	... Milborne Port.
Rev. J. B. Medley	... Lullington.
Mr. E. D. T. Foxcroft	... Hinton Charterhouse.
Mr. C. W. Dare	... North Curry.
Mr. George Sweetman	... Wincanton.
Mr. H. A. Bosanquet	... Minehead and Dunster.
Rev. W. Hook	... Porlock.
Mr. J. McMurtrie	... Radstock.
Mr. Frederick Pinney	... Somerton.
Dr. Porter Smith	... Shepton Mallet.

The *Hon. Secretaries* being Messrs. O. W. Malet, C. J. Turner, and the Rev. J. A. Bennett; the *Hon. Treasurers*, Messrs. Badcock; and the following

Committee:—

Mr. H. Alford.	Mr. F. W. Newton.
Mr. E. D. Bourdillon.	Rev. C. P. Parish.
Major Foster.	Rev. J. Worthington.

The Rev. JAMES BOWNES seconded the motion, and it was agreed to.

Thirty-ninth Annual Meeting.

The selection of next year's meeting place was left to the Council of the Society.

A number of new Members were elected, the MAYOR saying he should be most happy to join the Society. Professor Earle was elected an Hon. Member of the Society.

The PRESIDENT, who was cordially received, then delivered his