

The Eighteenth Annual Meeting.

THE Eighteenth Annual Meeting was held at ILMINSTER, on Tuesday, August 21st, 1866. In the absence of the President R. H. PAGET, Esq., M.P., of Cranmore, the chair was taken by F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., on whose nomination R. T. COMBE, Esq., of Earnshill, was unanimously chosen as President of the Society for the current year. Mr. Combe opened the proceedings by referring to the various objects of antiquarian interest to be found in the district, and afterwards called upon the Secretary, the Rev. WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A., to read the

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

“The Council have the pleasure to Report that the Society now in its eighteenth year, continues to secure the zealous support which its members have hitherto accorded to it. Conscious as they are that very much still remains to be done in order to accomplish the higher aim which the Society contemplates, the Council are not without hope that every year progress is being made, and the foundation is being laid for more extended and permanent usefulness.

“The visits paid by your Society to various districts in the County have, they believe, been the means of directing attention to many objects of antiquarian and historical in-

terest which would otherwise have remained unnoticed, and, through neglect, would have been allowed to fall into decay. Many of the beautiful churches, which the munificence, skill, and piety of our forefathers reared, have been preserved from unmeaning "restorations," and the knowledge of, and taste for, archæological investigation and natural science have been more generally diffused.

"In the Department of Natural History, the Museum of the Society has come to occupy a most honourable and prominent position. By the scientific labours of two of the Members, and the artistic skill of your Curator, the collection of the Mendip Cave Bones, now in your possession, has served to illustrate in the fullest manner, one of the most interesting periods of the primæval history of the earth. The monograph by Mr. W. Boyd Dawkins, and Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford on the Pleistocene Mammalia, which is in course of publication by the Palæontographical Society, is for the most part illustrated from specimens in your Museum. By the courtesy of the Council of the above Society, arrangements are being made to supply the Members with first-class lithographs of all the principal specimens of cave bones in the Museum. As, however, the number of copies at our disposal is limited, the only plan open to the Council is to distribute them to Members in rotation in the order of application. It will be necessary to charge 5s. for each set thus supplied, to meet the expenses incurred in printing and postage.

"The Council are sorry to report that in consequence of his continued indisposition, the Rev. F. Warre, one of the oldest and most valued officers of the Society, has found it necessary to tender his resignation as one of your general Secretaries. While they deeply regret the cause which

thus deprives the Society of his varied antiquarian knowledge and skill, they would express their sincere hope that he may again be able to resume his wonted place and influence amongst us, and they desire to place on record their deep sense of the great service rendered by him to this Society and to the science of archæology.

“The attention of your Council has been directed to the importance of securing a permanent record of the peculiarities of dialect which prevail in different parts of the County of Somerset. A scheme will shortly be submitted by which this object will be effected in such a manner as to be at the same time a service to the philologist and the historian. The Council have the pleasure to acknowledge the courtesy with which Mr. Henry Norris has placed his valuable manuscript glossary of Somersetshire words at their disposal. To complete the work they earnestly solicit the prompt and cordial support of other gentlemen in various districts.

“Among the valuable donations received during the past year, and which are duly recorded in the volume of proceedings now in the press, the Members will not fail to notice the series of rare and costly antiquarian works presented by the Rev. F. Warre. These, and other works on archæology and natural science, may always be consulted at the Museum, and on application may also be taken out by Members for special purposes.

“In conclusion, the Council would urge upon Members the importance of their exerting themselves to increase the number of subscribers, in order to improve the funds of the Society and to extend the sphere of its power and influence.”

The Treasurer, R. G. BADCOCK, Esq., presented the following Financial Statement:—

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

1865.	£ s. d.	1865-6.	£ s. d.
To Balance of former account	18 10 4	By expenses at Annual Meeting	
„ Subscriptions	145 10 6	at Shepton Mallet	11 3 1
„ Entrance Fees	9 10 0	„ Advertising	1 17 6
„ Illustration Fund	1 1 6	„ Stationery, Printing, &c. ...	6 17 1
„ Beard Collection	1 0 0	„ Coal, Gas, &c.	8 11 7
		„ Curator's Salary, to August	
		3rd, 1866	35 0 0
		„ Postage, Carriage, &c. ...	5 0 4
		„ Sundries	18 4
		„ May, balance of account for	
		printing Vol. XII.	34 4 3
		„ Werthelmer and Co. printing	
		illustrations	1 5 0
		„ May on account of printing	
		Vol. XIII	20 0 0
		„ Rent to Midsummer, 1866,	
		(1½ years)... ..	39 15 0
		„ Insurance	15 0
		„ Repairs, &c.	12 9
		„ Excavations at High Ham,	
		Drayton, Pitney, &c., in	
		1861	4 5 3
		„ Balance	5 7 2
			£ 175 12 4
	<u>£ 175 12 4</u>		<u>£ 175 12 4</u>

August 20th, 1866.

H. R. G. H. J. & D. BADCOCK,
Treasurers.

Audited and found correct,
WM. P. PINCHARD.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Report now read be adopted. F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., in seconding the proposal, expressed the deep regret felt by all the members of the Society on the retirement of the Rev. F. Warre; it was impossible to over estimate the value of the services rendered by him to the Society. Having referred to the interest which attached to the dialects of different parts of the county, and the importance of publishing a good glossary of Somersetshire words, Mr. Dickinson urged upon the Members of the Society to aid the undertaking to the utmost of their power. He then called attention to the account of the Abbey of Glastonbury, lately published by Professor Willis, as a most valuable contribution to the history of the county.

The Reports were accordingly adopted.

On the motion of WM. AYSHFORD SANFORD, Esq., seconded by CHARLES NOEL WELMAN, Esq., the Vice-Presidents were re-elected with the addition of R. H. Paget, Esq., M.P., and the Rev. F. Warre.

On the motion of F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., seconded by E. A. FREEMAN, Esq., it was unanimously resolved :—
 “That this Society accepts with great regret the resignation of the Rev. F. Warre, as one of the General Secretaries; and that the best thanks of the members be presented to him for his long, able, and most valuable services to this Society.”

J. H. Parker, Esq., cordially supported the proposition and bore testimony to the great value of the sound information which Mr. Warre had always given them on the Earth-works which abounded in the county. The knowledge which he had derived from Mr. Warre had been of the greatest service to him in working out the history of the Architectural details of Windsor Castle, and also in his investigations of the Remains of the Ancient Rome.

Messrs. Badcock were re-elected as Treasurers.

On the motion of R. G. BADCOCK, Esq., seconded by F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., the Rev. Fred. Brown of Nailsea, was unanimously elected as one of the General Secretaries. The Rev. Wm. Arthur Jones, and W. F. Elliot Esq., were re-elected.

The Local Secretaries were re-elected, and the following Members of the General Committee :—

Dr. Metford, Dr. Kelly, Dr. Pring, Mr. Alford, Mr. J. F. Norman, Mr. Perkins.

On the motion of E. A. FREEMAN, Esq., seconded by R. N. GRENVILLE, Esq., M.P., it was resolved :—“That the next Annual Meeting be held in the City of Bristol.”