

## The Local Museum.

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A local Museum, in the Town Hall, arranged under the able direction of Mr. Bidgood, the Curator of the Society's Museum at Taunton, assisted by Mr. C. Tite, the Honorary Local Secretary, was a prominent and interesting feature of the meetings. The following is a catalogue of the general exhibits :—

*Exhibited by Mr. Sanford.*

Two bronze celts found in Nynhehead.

Two bronze celts, torque, and armllet, found in West Buckland.\*

Flint implements from the Mendip caves and Northamptonshire.

Five palæolithic flint implements from St. Acheul.

Stone implements from Perak and Assiniboya.

Miniature of Captain Cook.

Miniature of the Empress Catherine the Great of Russia.

Enamel miniature of Napoleon, by Adam after David, which belonged to the Empress Josephine.

Tooth-pick case with cameo of the Old Pretender, James, son of James II.

Cross-watch, with niello face, made by Field, maker of the clock used by Charles I. at the time of his execution.

Selection of letters from the correspondence of John Locke, including the celebrated letter of Locke to the Earl of Pembroke, on his expulsion from Christ Church, Oxford, 1684 ;

\* Archæological Journal, vol. xxxvii, p. 107.

letters of Locke to Edward Clarke of Chipley; letters from Lady Masham to Edward Clarke, 1696; letters from Bishop Kidder of Bath and Wells to Edward Clarke during the great famine, 1696.

Manuscript of the Anglo-Norman version of the Old Testament, translated literally from the Vulgate, in two volumes, probably written at Exeter or Crediton, about the year 1260. It is of extreme rarity. One copy was in the library formerly called "la Bibliothèque du Roi" at Paris; another, in good condition, but which only extends to the Book of Psalms, is in the British Museum; and this is the only other copy of this particular version known to Mr. Sanford. The first volume of this copy was formerly in the possession of a member of the Bampfylde family, who married the heiress of Sir Francis Warre, of Hestercombe. Some years ago, Mr. Sanford was shown some illuminated initial letters which were stated to have been cut from an old book found in the cellar at Hestercombe. Mr. Sanford desired that the letters should be taken back, and expressed a wish to see the book. Some years afterwards, Miss Warre sent to Mr. Sanford a letter, begging his acceptance of a book she had found at Hestercombe. It proved to be the first volume of this Bible. The second volume was in the possession of Mr. Thomas Wood, who died in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. He left this book with many others to his son Roger Wood, who added to the collection, and left the whole to his friend Roger Ayshford, in the reign of Charles II. At his death, all his property passed to his cousin, Mr. John Sanford, the son of Marys Ayshford and Henry Sanford. From this marriage, Mr. Sanford is directly descended. Mr. Sanford has had the books carefully repaired under the superintendence of Dr. Bond, late chief librarian of the British Museum.

Deed of foundation of Ayshford Chapel, Devon, 1378.

Hundred roll of Devon, temp. Edward I.

Queen Elizabeth's civil list, contemporary copy.

Original authority for the payment of the salaries of the Court of Queen Mary II, with the warrant, both signed by the Queen, 1694.

Chronicle of Geoffry of Monmouth. Venice, 1517.

Grafton's Chronicle, 1658.

Foxe's Book of Martyrs, first edition, 1563.

Coryat's Crudities, 1611.

Walton's Angler, 1st edition, 1653.

Evelyn's Sylva, original edition, 1664, with autograph of John Evelyn, given by him to his friend Mr. Buckland.

Paradisi in Sole Paradisus Terrestris, 1656.

Latin-English Dictionary or Vocabulary, by Henry Jacob, printed by Pynson, 1505.

Latin-English Dictionary of Sir Thomas Elyott. Printed by Berthelet, 1538.

Some books from which Shakespeare probably took much of his classical knowledge, viz.: Plutarch's Lives, translated by North, 1595; Virgil, translated by Phaer and Twynne, 1596; Caxton's History of Troy, reprint, 1607.

Small collection of old editions of Poets of the time of Queen Elizabeth and James I, viz: Warner, Albion's England, 1597; Daniel, Poems, 1609; Wither, Britain's Remembrancer, 1628; Drayton, probably the edition of 1630, Stansby and T. Methurst; Randolph, 1643 (he died in 1635); Quarles, Francis, Solomon's Recantation 1645; Shepheard's Oracles, 1646; Poems by Wil. Shakespeare, gent., printed by Cotes, 1640, with portrait; a collection of poems by various authors. This is a book of great rarity.

First book of Homilies, 1563; second do., 1582.

Bible, by Thomas Mathew, Nicholas Hyl for John Wyghte, 1551.

Johannes Angelus, Opus Astrolabii plani in tabulis: printed by Emeric de Spira, Venice, 1494.

Palmistry disclosed by Richard Saunders, 1663.

Humphry Lloyd. A medical herbal, printed by Copeland.

Translation of the first two books of Herodotus, which belonged to Henry, Prince of Wales, son of James I, his book stamp is on the cover; and there are a pair of couplets on the fly leaf, which may be in the prince's handwriting—

“What woman soe worthie but will be content  
to live in a pallace where princes frequent.”

Printed in London, 1564.

Euripides, the first edition of all the plays complete, Her-  
vagus, 1551. The binding is a good specimen of the old  
stamped pig-skin.

The following books, illustrating the Zimbabe ruins, lately  
re-discovered in South Africa, in Mashona Land, called by  
Marmol, “Manica”: Dos Barros, *L'Asia*, translation into  
Italian, 1562; Castagneda, *Historia del India Oriental*, 1577;  
Marmol Carvajal, *La descripcion general de Africa*, Malaga,  
1599; Ogilvie's Geography (Africa), printed in London, 1670;  
this is probably on the authority of Marmol Carvajal; Edrisi,\*  
French translation of an Arabic work written about 1154,  
A.D. Marmol Carvajal places Zimbabe (called by him Zim-  
baoe) “170 leagues west of Sofala,” and gives a good deal  
about the commerce between India and that place, particularly  
in gold and iron ore.

\* Edrisi, the Arab geographer, who finished his work about the year 1150  
A.D., states that in his time the Arabs brought large quantities of gold from  
Sofala, and at the same time the Byzantines were in possession of enormous  
quantities of gold. This is known from the Itinerary of Benjamin of Tudela,  
who visited Byzantium in the reign of the powerful monarch, Manuel I.  
(Comnenos), and it is probable that much of this gold came from the East Coast  
of Africa. The early Portuguese navigators called the native King of Sofala  
the “Emperor of Gold,” and it appears that they found there ancient buildings  
with inscriptions in unknown characters. The word which in the English  
Bible is rendered “Ophir,” is in the Septuagint rendered *Σουφειρι*, *Σουφιρ*  
or *Σωφικρα*—various readings.

I informed by a relative of mine who has lately returned from the Straits  
Settlements, that the Malays pointed out to some explorers in the Pahang  
country, on the east coast, a hill which they called Ophir; on this hill they  
found some old workings, which proved to be in rock containing gold. The  
account was published in the Singapore paper, about the year 1886.—W. A. S.

*By Mr. A. L. Humphreys.*

The books, portraits, etc., lent by this gentleman were all fully set forth in a neatly-printed "old-style" catalogue, entitled, "Fragments, Illustrating Local History, gathered round my room, and described by Arthur Humphreys." Only sixty copies were printed by the author, for distribution at the meeting.

The crying Murther of Mr. Trat, Curate of Old Cleaue, who was first murdered upon the highway, then was brought home, and there quartered and imboweld, being afterwards perboyled and salted up in a most strange and feare full manner. For this, Peter Smethwicke, Andrew Baker, Cyrill Austen, and Alice Walker were condemned by Lord Chiefe Baron Tanfield, and executed the 24th of July, at Stone Gallowes, neere Taunton. *Fac-simile* of the title page from a rare tract in the British Museum.

"The materials for the History of the Town of Wellington," large paper copy, extra illustrated with about 120 portraits, views, maps, etc., in two vols.; bound by Zaehnsdorf, in polished morocco.

An Historical Account of the life and actions of James, Duke of Monmouth, extra illustrated with autographs, portraits, etc. (This volume was lent to Mr. Humphreys for the occasion by Mr. E. W. Hennell).

"Pandemonium, or the Devil's Cloyster; giving a brief account of the Fall of Angels, and plain evidence concerning apparitions, spirits, and witches," by Rich. Bovett, gent., 1684.

Deed of bargain and sale, and assignment of a chapel in Wellington, called "the Methodist Chapel," situated in Bowerman's Lane, 1813.

Deed of Release from Robert Bampfield to William Cape of the Dolphin Inn, Wellington, 1729.

Sampford Ghost: a plain and authentic narrative of those extraordinary occurrences, which have lately taken place at

the house of Mr. Chave, in the village of Sampford Peverel.—By the Rev. C. Colton.

Sampford Ghost. Stubborn Facts against vague assertion, wherein the scandalous falsehoods, mean motives, and gross misrepresentations of the editor of the *Taunton Courier* are clearly exposed.—By the Rev. C. Colton.

Oil Portrait of James Lackington, the great bookseller of Finsbury Square; a native of Wellington. Born 1746; died at Budleigh Salterton, 1815.

Token of Lackington: *Ob.*, “J. Lackington, 1794.” *Rev.*, “Lackington, Allen, and Co. Halfpenny. Cheapest booksellers in the world.”

Mezzotint Portrait of Christopher Monk, 2nd Duke of Albemarle.

Another Portrait, three-quarter length.

Portrait of James Scott, Duke of Monmouth, K.G., 1649-1685: line engraving, by E. Desrochers, after Van der Werff.

Another Portrait of the Duke of Monmouth: life-size mezzotint, by A. Blooteling, after P. Lely. At the back is a reverse impression.

Engraved Portrait of Anne, Duchess of Buccleugh and Monmouth, 1651-1731, by W. Eggleton, after Sir G. Kneller.

Four Prints of scenes incidental to the Battle of Sedgemoor.

Rare Medal, commemorating the execution of Monmouth and Argyle, 1685; also rare Portrait Plaque of Monmouth. (Lent to Mr. Humphreys by Messrs Spink and Son).

Four Prints, representing a rare pack of cards, “issued to commemorate the Rebellion,” 1685.

The Gaol Delivery Roll, 1685. (*Fac-simile* of the Taunton Calendar).

Portrait of Sir John Popham, 1531-1607.

Two Volumes of Somersetshire Tracts, 1612-1707. Among the rare and more interesting ones may be mentioned three by William Sclater, “minister” of Pitminster from 4th Sept., 1604, to 21st Jan., 1627; the first of which he dedicates “To

the Worshipfull Mr. William Hill, Esquire, at Pitminster in Somerset, grace and peace."—A narrative of the Expedition to Taunton; the raising of the siege before it, etc.; dated at Chard, May 18, 1645.—The Proceedings of the Army under the command of Sir Thomas Fairfax, containing the story of the Club-men and the relief of Taunton, July, 1645.—The Grand Impostor Examined; or the Life, Tryal, and Examination of James Nayler, the Seduced and Seducing Quaker, 1656.—A Treatise of Wool, and the Manufacture of it, 1685.—The Proud Squire Reform'd: being a Great Example to Rich and Poor. An account of one Squire Howard, living near the town of Chard, in Somersetshire.

*By Mr. C. H. Fox.*—Two Hearts and one Toad, studded with nails and thorns, found in a chimney at Clatworthy; a Bronze Celt, found in Oland's Meadow, Wellington; old Pocket Inkstand; old Pocket Calendar; Fox's Journal, 1765; Acts of Elizabeth (black letter); 17th century Tokens—of Wellington, 1666; Dorchester, 1669; two Lyme Regis, 1669; Bridgwater, 1670; an old Watch Case; a Tinder Box, and another in form of a pistol; Wool Comb, Carding Implements, etc., formerly used in the local woollen manufacture; also a collection of Upper Greensand Fossils from Blackdown.

*By Mr. Gosnell.*—Bowen's Maps of Somerset and Devon.

*By Mr. Elworthy.*—Ash Tree, split, which had been actually used in the superstitious function described by Dr. Mead, in his paper in Part II; together with letter to the "Spectator" of February 5th, 1887, describing the ceremony in which this very tree had played so large a part. This letter went the round of the press at the time, and caused much attention to the subject. Collins's Miscellanies, 1762, containing a poem, "The Vicar of Bray in Somersetshire;" Camden's Britannia, small 16mo. (rare), Amsterdam, 1617; "A Treatise on the evil eye," Nuremberg, 1675; Tunncliffe's Topographical Survey, with map of Somerset in Hundreds; The Gentleman's Pocket Companion, for travelling in foreign parts, 1722. This is

surely the progenitor of Murray's and Bädeker's Hand Books.

*By Dr. F. H. Mead.*—Split Ash Sapling, referred to in his paper

*By the Overseers.*—Rate Book for Wellington, 1686 to 1728; ditto, 1789 to 1802.

*By Mr. C. S. Prideaux.*—Collections of land and fresh water and sea Shells; and Fossils and Minerals from the Mendips; also cases of Butterflies, Beetles, etc.

*By Mr. W. de C. Prideaux.*—Bronze Chisel, Key, and Spout, found in the neighbourhood of Wellington; Wellington Half-penny, "The overseers of Willington for the benefit of the Poore."

*By Mr. J. S. Haddon.*—Silver Seal of the Lodge of "Liberty and Sincerity," Wellington, 1806; Black-letter Bible, with the lodge name and Freemasons' arms stamped on cover; and on the back the arms: *Ar. a mascle gu., in chief three martlets sa.*; also a roll of "charges" of the 18th century, with the Royal arms emblazoned, and showing the Union Jack without the red cross of St. Patrick.

*By Mr. G. Knight.*—A little book entitled, "A Silver Watch Bell," 1605; dedicated to Sir John Popham.

*By Mr. R. Corner.*—"Tally stick," 1719, from the Bank of England.

*By Mrs. G. Stone.*—Two silver Beakers from Oake Church, inscribed, "J. Farthing, clericus, Gulmo. Slocombe Rectori de Oake, in com Som. D.D. 1782;" Punch Ladle, inscribed, "John Alexander, to the Mayor and Corporation of Bishop's Lydeard;" a silver Tankard, bearing the date-letter, 1693-4; a Wiveliscombe Threepenny Token, "R. North and Co." 1814; Groat of Edward III.

*By Miss Russell.*—Old Pitch Pipe used for several generations at the Independent Chapel, Wellington; also five Delft Plates, and an old Dish, probably of local ware.

*By Rev. E. and Mr. E. W. M. Oldridge de la Hey.*—Worked



Flint and Chert Implements, picked up in a field above Mr. Avis's farm house, at Bathealton.

*Glastonbury Antiquarian Society.*—A large variety of small objects, found in Lake Dwellings now being excavated near Glastonbury, and described by Mr. J. Morland. *See ante*, Part I.

*By Mr. C. F. Bailey.*—Book containing the names of subscribers, with amounts given, for building the Duke of Wellington's Monument. This has been since presented to the Museum.

*By Mr. M. Snell.*—A silver Penny, 1834 ; a Roman Coin, and an old silver Coin.

*By Rev. W. W. Pulman.*—Two Engravings, interior and exterior, and a drawing of the interior, St. John's Church, Wellington. The Vestry Book, 1750-1810, showing the Vicar's protest against sale of seats.—*See* "Notes on Wellington," p. 302.

*By Mr. W. P. Martin.*—Lithographic Print of Fore-Street, Wellington, about 1845.

*By Mr. F. Cutland.*—Shilling of William III.

*By Mr. C. Tite.*—Coloured Plate of a portion of the old Reredos of Wellington Church.

*By Mr. E. Capron.*—Packet of old Deeds relating to property in Wellington, 1603 to 1737.

*By Mr. E. Chisholm-Batten.*—Mr. William Smith's Report on the Manor of Thorn Falcon, 1802.

*By Mr. Sylvanus Fox.*—The "Bishop's" Bible, 1537.

*By Mrs. Bubear.*—Curious Folding Umbrella.

*By Mr. Chave.*—Bundle of old Deeds.

*By Mr. G. Stone.*—Old stone Hundred Weight, regularly used in Sandy Lane Malt House, up to the year 1870.

*By Mr. Engledue Prideaux.*—Hour Glass and old Oak Communion Chair from Oake Church ; old Bristol Glass Bottle ; silver Seal of sixteenth century, Dottin family ; Flint and Steel ; Carbonate of Lime Crystals from Burlescombe ; specimens of

Minerals from the Brendon hills and Cornwall; Tiles from Cleeve Abbey; Richardson's Skua, shot at West Buckland; Heron, killed at Holywell Lake; Scaup Duck, shot at Pinksmoor; pair of Hobby Hawks, shot near the Monument; and a Marten Cat killed at Dulverton.

*By the Wellington Literary and Scientific Institute.*—A collection of articles relating to the Duke of Wellington, recently presented by Mr. E. Jeboult, of Taunton.

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