

The President then said they should proceed, after having gone through that part of the proceedings which might not have been very interesting to some, to that which he trusted would be very gratifying to all. In this neighbourhood there were not many remains of antiquity that would be interesting to archæologists; but there were objects which were certainly of deep interest to the residents. The churches in this county are very beautiful. The reason why they had attained to such beauty in design, he would leave others to determine, and would simply state the fact. He congratulated the people of this county upon possessing churches such as would bear comparison with any in the kingdom. The Church of this town is a very fine one, and it always struck him that its proportions were very beautiful indeed. It had been restored by his late lamented friend Mr. Proctor Thomas, and he believed that those conversant with the

style of architecture would say that its old character had been well preserved. There used to be a dreadful gallery at one end of it, which covered the belfry arch, but that has been removed, and the fine arch is now exposed to view. There was formerly a beautiful screen in the church which has been taken away; and that is an instance of the value of such a society as this, for, had there been an Archæological Society existing in those days, that screen would probably have been preserved. It is to societies such as this that we are indebted for the preservation of ancient remains. There is in this church a very curious monument to Chief Justice Popham, who lies buried there. A more remarkable man did not live in his day (in the time of Elizabeth). The Manor of Wellington formerly belonged to him, and he (the chairman) always considered it had been given to him by the Crown, but he had learned through the medium of this Society that such was not the case. The house in which he lived was destroyed during the civil wars. It stood upon the site of the present residence of his friend Dr. Bridge and it is said that Lady Jane Grey once resided in it. They would visit it, as there are portions yet remaining that might be interesting, and which his excellent friend had invited them to inspect. There are but few old mansions in this neighbourhood; but there was one they would have the pleasure of visiting, having been kindly invited by Mr. Rayer, the proprietor of Holcombe Court. It is of ancient date, although not so old as he took it to be. But this afforded an instance of the advantages of a society of this description, a gentleman who would do them the favour of reading a paper on it, would enlighten them as to the real date of that ancient building, and there is not a greater authority on such matters in the

United Kingdom. Thus, a connection with this Society brought them early to see that they were always in the habit of taking impressions into the mind without investigation, and assists them to learn that which they had not learned in their early days. There is also in this neighbourhood, some very remarkable lime works which are very curious. There is a great mass of slate and limestone raised up there, and the wonderful manner in which the strata are tossed about shows the marvellous and wonderful powers of nature. This will be matter for the gentlemen who take an interest in them, and in the geological history of the county.

The Rev. THOMAS HUGO, M.A., then read a paper on "Canyngton Priory", which is printed in the second part of the present volume.

J. H. PARKER, Esq., continued his "Gleanings from Antiquities at Wells," part of which is printed in this volume.

The Rev. F. WARRE read for the writer, R. K. M. King, Esq., a paper on "Entries in the Parish Records of West Monkton;" and the Rev. J. R. GREEN read a paper on "St. Dunstan," both of which are printed in the present volume.