

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

14 OCTOBER, 1902, TO 18 MAY, 1903,

WITH

Communications

MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

No. XLIV.

BEING No. 4 OF THE TENTH VOLUME.

(FOURTH VOLUME OF THE NEW SERIES.)

Cambridge:

DEIGHTON, BELL & CO.; MACMILLAN & BOWES.

LONDON: G. BELL AND SONS.

1904

Price Seven Shillings and Sixpence.

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Monday, May 11, 1903.

Mr GRAY, President, in the Chair.

The Officers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year.

President: ALFRED CORT HADDON, Sc.D., F.R.S., Christ's College.

Vice-President: JOHN WILLIS CLARK, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity College, Registrar.

Ordinary Members of Council: CECIL BENDALL, M.A., Gonville and Caius College, Professor of Sanskrit. The Rev. DAVID HERBERT SOMERSET CRANAGE, M.A., F.S.A., King's College. JAMES WHITBREAD LEE GLAISHER, Sc.D., F.R.S., Trinity College. ARTHUR GRAY, M.A., Jesus College. JOHN VENN, Sc.D., F.R.S., F.S.A., Gonville and Caius College.

Treasurer: ROBERT BOWES.

Secretary: THOMAS DINHAM ATKINSON.

Auditors: Alderman GEORGE KETT.
JAMES BENNET PEACE, M.A., Emmanuel College.

The Annual Report was read (p. 440) and the Treasurer's Statement received (p. 443).

The President delivered his farewell address:

Custom has prescribed that the President of your Society should deliver an Address when he quits the office which you have committed to his keeping. In recent years the practice has been in abeyance. It would be regrettable if it were forgotten, and for that reason, if for no better, I ask your indulgence in the few remarks which I wish to make.

What I have to say relates to the domestic concerns of our Society—a brief retrospect of past performance, a few words about its present aims and the position which it has taken in recent years in the advancement of archaeological science in the University and in the neighbouring district.

The Society was founded in 1840. The first meeting of the Council on Feb. 29 in that year was attended, among others, by the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Tatham, Master of St John's, who was our first President, by the Rev. H. W. Cookson, afterwards Master of Peterhouse, the Rev. Professor Corrie, afterwards Master of Jesus, Sir Henry Dryden, and the Rev. J. Lodge, University Librarian. The Secretary was Mr J. O. Halliwell, better known afterwards as Halliwell-Phillips, the Shakespearian scholar, who was then an undergraduate of Jesus College, and to whose suggestion the Society owes its origin. The subscription was ten shillings per term, and membership was not restricted to the University, though until 1893 none but members of the University could hold office or serve on the Council.

The Society was prolific in publication in its earliest years. Besides ten numbers of Reports and Communications it produced eighteen Publications in the Quarto and Octavo Series between 1840 and 1853. This energy was not sustained in the years which followed, for between 1853 and 1859 the Society issued no Publications, and only nine numbers, forming one volume, of Reports. Between 1860 and 1870 the Publications were seven. Since then the activity of the Society, measured by its literary output, has been greatly quickened. In the years from 1890 its separate Publications have been fifteen, besides occasional and extra issues; and fifteen numbers of the Proceedings have been brought out. And an increased and increasing vitality has been shown in other directions—in the Excursions, first organized in 1881, when Professor Bendall, whose accession to the Council of the Society we welcome to-day, was Excursion Secretary; in the excavations recently begun under the direction of Professor Hughes, and attended already with valuable and unexpected results; in the Exhibitions organized in connection with the Society, notably that of Old Plate in 1895 and that of the Murray Collection of Irish Antiquities in 1900. And the Society may claim to have bestowed benefits on the public and the University by the devotion of large sums to such purposes as the preservation of the relics of Barnwell Priory, and to the support of the Museum

of Archaeology, to the Accessions Fund of which it has given sums amounting in the aggregate during the last ten years to not less than £537.

The Society has achieved much in recent years, but much more remains to achieve. It has occupied many new fields, but the horizon still recedes before its advance. I mention only a few of the tasks which lie immediately before us, and those only in the arena of Local Archaeology. Our excavations have only made a beginning; the mystery of the Cambridgeshire dykes remains unsolved; at this moment a Roman villa at Burwell, of a large and evidently well-preserved area, invites our exploration; and the site of the Priory of Swaffham may be turned over as soon as the crops are off the ground. Of records contained in the muniment rooms of Cambridge and Ely many of the most interesting and historically important have as yet found no editor. I need only specify the great series of Account Rolls of the Obedientiaries of the monastic Church of Ely, the Accounts of the Treasurers of the Town of Cambridge, the latter half of the *Liber Eliensis* and the University Wills at present exiled to Peterborough.

If the Society is to undertake even a portion of the large scheme of work which I have outlined with any prospect of completing it within a reasonably near future it will require some considerable increase of income. It is a fact to be regretted that the increase in the numbers of the Society has not kept pace with the recent widening of its field of operations. The ordinary members were 197 in 1880 and had increased only to 246 last year. As the parting words which I address to you from the President's chair I should like to impress on every member of the Society the desirability of attracting to it as many recruits as he or she can. To one class in particular I should like to see the doors of the Society more hospitably open than they have been hitherto. I mean the undergraduates of the University. Antiquarian interests no longer appeal only to the class immortalized in Mr Oldbuck of Monkbarne. Classical archaeology has a recognized place in the studies of the University. That British archaeology has not yet won such recognition is some reproach to Cambridge and its Historical School. By the more general admission of undergraduates to our meetings, excursions, and especially to our diggings our Society will do an important service in spreading an educated interest in antiquities in local societies throughout the kingdom.

In conclusion I must heartily congratulate the Society on the choice which it has made for President in the coming year, and must add the wish, in which I am sure that you all share, that he may find the duties of President compatible with what I take to be not less his duty—that of instructing, interesting, and entertaining us with the admirable exhibitions and communications which from the storehouse of his knowledge he has always been so ready to give us at recent meetings.

Professor HUGHES and Baron VON HÜGEL spoke upon the proposed New Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology.

ON TWO WHEEL-DESKS: THE ONE IN THE CHURCH OF S. NICHOLAS, GREAT YARMOUTH; THE OTHER IN THE BIBLIOTHEQUE DE L'ARSENAL, PARIS.

BY J. W. CLARK, M.A.

IN the accounts for fitting up the library of the King of France in 1367 and 1368, when it was removed from the Île de la Cité to the Louvre, the carpenters are paid, among other things, for "having taken to pieces all the cases (*bancs*) and two wheels (*roes*) which were in the King's library in the palace, and transported them to the Louvre, with the desks (*lettrins*) to the aforesaid wheels, each made smaller by a foot all round¹."

I shewed in *The Care of Books* that these "wheels" were revolving desks, which could be raised or depressed by means of a central screw; and I illustrated the passage quoted above by a miniature executed in Flanders for King Henry the Seventh, and now in the British Museum, representing two gentlemen in a library, studying at such a desk². The principle, once adopted, became exceedingly popular, and desks of a similar character, but of different forms and ornament, are among the commonest pieces of library-furniture depicted in miniatures.

¹ *The Care of Books*, ed. ii, p. 294.

² *Ibid.* p. 295.

CONTENTS

OF PROCEEDINGS, No. XLIV.

VOL. X. (NEW SERIES, VOL. IV.) No. 4.

	PAGE
Naga Hill Tribes, N.W. India. By W. H. FURNESS, M.D.	293
Exeter Cathedral Library, 1412—1413. By J. W. CLARK	294
" " Two pieces of furniture. By J. W. CLARK	307
University Wills at Peterborough. By C. J. B. GASKOIN	314
Place-names of Huntingdonshire. By Rev. Prof. W. W. SKEAT	317
Pigmy Flint Implements. By Rev. R. A. GATTY	361
Pre-Reformation Paten. By Rev. W. O'F. HUGHES and J. E. FOSTER	361
Wooden Knife-handle (Saec. xiv). By Rev. A. C. YORRE	362
Bone Crucifix. By Rev. A. C. YORRE	363
Metal Exhibits. By W. B. REDFERN	363
Charter relating to Anglesey Abbey. By J. E. FOSTER	365
Sibyl Fresco at Cortina d' Ampezzo. By F. M. CORNFORD	369
Bronze Object from Guilden Morden. By H. G. FORDHAM	373, 404
Christian Paintings at the Great Oasis. By C. S. MYERS, M.D.	374
Origin of the Socket in N. Europe. By Prof. W. RIDGEWAY	375
Hospital of St John, Duxford (Whittlesford Bridge). By C. E. SAYLE	375
Mortuary Roll of the Abbess of Lillechurch. By C. E. SAYLE	383
Annual General Meeting	410
Two Wheel-Desks. By J. W. CLARK	413
W. Cole's description of the University Library (Rotheram's East Room). By J. W. CLARK	419
Apostle Spoons. By H. D. CATLING	426
Objects found at Barrington. By Rev. J. W. E. CONYBEARE	434
Annual Report	440
New Members elected, 1902—1903	444
Additions to the Library	445
War-Ditches near Cherryhinton. By Prof. T. McK. HUGHES	452
Dissolution of Thornton Curtis. By E. H. MINNS	482
Roman Objects from Hauxton Mill. By Col. H. HURRELL	496
Errata	497
List of Officers and Council, 1903—1904	498