

Berks
Archaeological and Architectural Society.

SESSION, 1879-80.

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MR. E. J. SHREWSBURY.

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*Those marked * are Life Members.*

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Hewett, T. E.	Tetbury House, Reading.
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Milsom, W. G.	King's Road, Reading.
Morris, J.	Friar Street, Reading.
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Lady Members.

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Miss C. E. Bennett	Caversham.
Miss Katherine E. Bennett	Caversham Vicarage.
Mrs. H. B. Blandy	Cliffords, Reading.
Mrs. F. J. Blandy	Bath Road, Reading.
Miss Bulley	Portland Place, Reading.
Miss E. Bulley	Portland Place, Reading.
Miss Button	Clyde House, Reading.
Mrs. Caswall	Binfield, Berks.
Miss Caswall	Binfield, Berks.
Mrs. L. Cooper	Caversham Hill, Reading.
Miss M. O. Cooper	Denmark House, Reading.
*Lady Emma Purey-Cust	Aylesbury.
Mrs. F. J. Ferguson	Eldon Square, Reading.
Miss France	Southampton Street, Reading.
Mrs. George	Queen's Hotel, Reading.
Miss L. Goodridge	Somerset Cottage, Maidenhead.
Mrs. Hart	Castle Crescent, Reading.
Miss Hawker	Highfield, Reading.
Miss M. F. Hawker	Highfield, Reading.
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Miss Holland	Hill House, Bray.
Mrs. C. R. Honey	Victoria Square, Reading.

Mrs. Lyddon	The Forbury, Reading.
Mrs. McDowell	South Street, Reading.
Mrs. J. Morris	Maitland Villa, Reading.
Mrs. J. T. Morris	5, Southern Hill, Reading.
Mrs. W. L. Nash	39, London Road, Reading.
Mrs. G. Palmer	The Acacias, Reading.
Miss E. Palmer	The Acacias, Reading.
Mrs. Paramore	Maidenhead.
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Mrs. E. J. Shrewsbury	Maidenhead.
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Miss M. Spokes	Coburg Villa, Reading.
Mrs. J. E. Sydenham	Minster Street, Reading.
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Berkshire

Archaeological & Architectural Society.

ANNUAL REPORT OF COMMITTEE, 1878—9.

THE Committee beg to report the following progress of the Society during the past (sixth) year :—

There have been eight Committee Meetings held, a Soirée, and two Excursions.

The Soirée on the 6th February, 1879, was a great success, and well attended.

The first Excursion, July 30th, 1879, to Hatfield and St. Alban's Abbey, was also very successful.

The second Excursion, Sept. 3rd, 1879, to Hagbourne, Cholsey, North Moreton, and Wittenham, was full of interest, but financially was not so successful.

The Committee are much indebted for the great success of the Soirée and Excursions to the following gentlemen, who so ably co-operated with them :—Mr. Thos. Hughes, Q.C., M.P.; Mr. Jas. Parker, M.A., F.G.S.; The Worshipful the Mayor of Reading; the late Capt. T. H. Breedon; Mr. M. J. Sutton; Mr. W. L. Nash; Mr. Geo. Palmer, M.P.; Mr. F. A. Bulley; The Most Noble The Marquis of Salisbury, K.G.; The Rev. W. D. Lawrence, M.A., St. Alban's; Mr. John Chapple, St. Alban's; The Rev. W. H. Young, M.A., South Moreton; The Rev. W. P. Circuit, M.A., Cholsey; Mr. Henry Stapylton, Barnett, Herts.

The President and Officers of the previous year were re-elected at the Annual General Meeting, and continued in office during the past year.

The number of members is now 143, consisting of 13 life members, 90 ordinary members, and 40 lady members ; this shows an increase of 16 new members during the past year.

The funds of the Society are in a satisfactory state ; all liabilities have been paid, and there is a balance in hand of £10 12s. 9d.

The Committee having considered the question of publication, raised at the last Annual Meeting, recommended that in lieu of the proposition of publishing a volume of transactions, an epitome of the work done by the Society during the past year be appended to the Annual Report.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT, Nov. 27, 1879.

In pursuance of a Resolution passed at the last General Meeting (1878), that the Annual Report shall contain "a List of all Books, Documents, and Papers in the Library of the Society for the information of the members," I have had much pleasure in preparing a catalogue, as requested.

During the past year, the following books, &c., have been added to the Library, viz.: "Churches in connection with Reading Abbey," 1 vol. 4to; "Lives of Leland, Hearne, and Antony à Wood," 2 vols. 8vo; "Tour round Reading;" "Berkshire Mansions;" "Berks Directory (1801—49)," 3 vols.; "Domesday Book (Berks);" "Doran's History of Reading;" "Battles of Newbury;" "Laud's Benefactions," published by Ashmolean Society; "Guide Book and Photograph Album of St. Alban's Abbey." Most of these are valuable works of reference, illustrative of county history, and national archæology.

The following Regulations have been drawn up for the management of the Library, and are herewith submitted for the approval of the Society :—

- 1.—The Library of the Society is kept (*pro tempore*) in St. Lawrence Church Institute.
- 2.—The Library is accessible to members on Monday in every week (except August), between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.; but books can be obtained at any time by written application to the Librarian.
- 3.—The books are arranged according to subject—Thus: Div. A contains Works on Heraldry, Archæology, and Art; Div. B is devoted to Architecture; Div. C, to History and Topography of Berks; Div. D, to History and Topography of other counties; Div. E, Biography and Miscellaneous; Div. F, Engravings, Brasses, and Photographs.
- 4.—The date of issue and return of each book, with the name and address of the borrower, is to be registered in a book kept for that purpose. No book to be retained longer than three weeks.
- 5.—Books marked **R** are intended for reference solely, and must not be taken out of the Library. No drawings, photos, &c., can be removed from the Library without special permission.
- 6.—An annual survey of the books, and other property belonging to the Society, will be made by two members of the Committee three weeks before the General Meeting in each year.

It is very desirable that a Book Stamp, consisting of some Device or armorial bearing, should be adopted by the Society for marking books and papers. Two or three suitable Devices have been suggested, and authority might be given to the Committee to select one of them.

As many useful books are sometimes lost to the Society through the want of any fixed grant to the Library, the Librarian would suggest that at the close of every year, if the funds of the Society should admit, a grant of not less than £5 should be made for the purchase of books bearing on archæological subjects.

No volume of Transactions has yet been published by the Society. A Sub-Committee was appointed last year to draw up such a volume,

but having found upon enquiry that the editorial expenses would involve an outlay of £10, even though the publishers undertook all the risk of sale, it was not thought prudent to proceed in the matter without further instructions.

The Librarian cannot conclude without expressing a hope that, upon the opening of the new Free Library and Museum, the Society may see fit to make arrangements with the town authorities to hand over to their keeping the present collection of books and pamphlets, so that they may be preserved as the nucleus of a valuable section bearing upon the history and antiquities of the county, and may be available for reference to the town generally.

J. M. GUILDING,

Librarian.

