



## Congress of Archæological Societies, December 1st, 1897.

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The Ninth Congress was held at Burlington House on December 1st, the Right Hon. Viscount Dillon, Pres.S.A., in the chair.

The Congress was attended by Delegates from the Society of Antiquaries (4), the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland, the Cambrian Association, the Royal Archæological Institute (3), the British Archæological Association (4), the Folklore (2), the Huguenot and the British Record Societies, and the Societies for Berks, Bristol and Gloucestershire (4), Bucks (2), Cumberland and Westmorland, Derbyshire, Essex, Hampshire (2), Kent (2), Lancashire and Cheshire (2), Leicestershire, London and Middlesex' Maidenhead and Thames Valley, Norfolk, Oxford, Oxfordshire, St. Albans, Surrey (2), Sussex (2), Thoroton (Notts), Wilts, the Woolhoop Club, (Hereford), and Yorkshire. Mr. Lionel Cust, F.S.A., Director of the National Portrait Gallery, and Mr. Scamell, Hon. Secretary of the National Photographic Record Association, also attended by invitation.

The PRESIDENT explained the reasons for postponing the congress, owing to the lamented death of Sir A. Wollaston Franks, K.C.B., and the pre-occupations of the Jubilee celebrations.

The following were elected as the Standing Committee:—The Officers of the Society of Antiquaries.—J. Romley Allen, F.S.A., E. W. Brabrook, C.B., F.S.A., Rev. J. C. Cox, LL.D., F.S.A., Rev. P. H. Ditchfield, M.A., F.S.A., Sir John Evans, K.C.B., V.P.S.A., Chancellor Ferguson, M.A., F.S.A., G. E. Fox, M.A., F.S.A., G. L. Gomme, F.S.A., Emanuel Green, F.S.A., W. H. St. John Hope, M.A., Asst. Sec. Soc. Antiq., R. A. S. Macalister, M.A., William Minet, M.A., F.S.A., Canon Rupert Morris, D.D., F.S.A., George Payne, F.S.A., The Right Hon. Earl Percy, F.S.A., J. Willis Bund, M.A., F.S.A.

The Hon. Secretary was re-elected for the ensuing year, and the thanks of the meeting returned for his services in the past.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that the Committee had authorised the completion of Mr. Gomme's Index of Papers from 1682, with a view to immediate publication, and invited the assistance of all present in promoting the subscriptions to the work.

Mr. HOPE reported that the Committee appointed some time back to prepare for a Catalogue of Effigies had not been able hitherto to take the matter up, but as it was found that Mr. W. H. Richardson, F.S.A., had prepared a preliminary list of Effigies in Parish Churches, it was thought that with the assistance of this list, steps could now be taken to form a Catalogue.

After considerable discussion it was resolved to recommend to the Committee to include in their lists effigies of all dates, all busts and portrait medallions, but not incised slabs nor brasses. It was suggested that particulars of incised slabs might be invited for a future catalogue. It was also recommended that notes of repairs to the effigies should be asked for and notes of the original position and location, so that these might be placed on record.

Mr. SHORE (Hants Field Club) brought before the meeting the desirability of asking Government to direct the Ordnance Surveyors to take more accurate particulars of earthworks, and, after discussion, in which any appeal to Government was generally depreciated, it was resolved, on the motion of Sir JOHN EVANS :—

“ That a memorandum be sent to the various local Archaeological Societies, suggesting the desirability of placing themselves in communication with the Ordnance Survey officers for their districts so as to promote the record on the surveys of the earthworks within their districts, and where possible to determine their age by excavations.”

Mr. C. HERCULES READ, the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, made a statement as to the steps that had been taken by Government in response to the request of the Society of Antiquaries for information as to the steps taken in foreign countries for the protection of Ancient and Historical Monuments.

Full information had been obtained and would shortly be published in a Blue Book. It appears that in no country in Europe is so little protection given as in England.

Mr. GOMME introduced the subject of Museum Catalogues, pointing out the importance to general Students that Collections should be catalogued on a complete and uniform system.

A copy of the excellent illustrated Catalogue of the Museum of the Wiltshire Archaeological Society at Devizes, was exhibited by Rev. E. H. GODDARD and generally approved. The importance of

the subject was recognised in the discussion that ensued, and eventually a Committee was appointed to draw up recommendations as to the best mode and form of Catalogue.

The HON. SECRETARY laid on the table a return of Parish documents prepared and printed by the County Council of Leicester, and it was agreed that a memorandum should be drawn up drawing the attention of the County Councils to the extreme importance of promoting the safe keeping of such ancient documents as come into the custody of the Parish Councils.

The HON. SECRETARY placed on the table some preliminary circulars on the subject of a National Portrait Catalogue; these it was proposed to circulate. Mr. LIONEL CUST then showed to the meeting some of the Books of Forms that he had had printed for his own use, including one that was now being up.

It was suggested that Societies might provide themselves with such Books in which to enter particulars of Portraits in their own districts, and should retain the books in their Libraries. In the event of a number of Books being required they could be obtained through the Congress at a considerable discount. It was agreed that the Hon. Secretary should endeavour to obtain from her Majesty's Stationery Office, or other printers, a large number of loose forms at a cheap rate, and the Committee were authorised to expend a sum not exceeding £20 in procuring and circulating such forms.

Mr. HOPE read a draft Report on the best mode of indexing the Transactions of Societies; this had been prepared by the Committee consisting of himself and Mr. J. H. Round and Mr. Gomme.

As it appeared that several Societies were anxiously waiting for the recommendations, it was agreed that the Report should be referred back to the Committee for final consideration, and that as soon as complete it should be issued to the Societies.

The HON. SECRETARY reported that a National Photographic Record Association had been formed under the presidency of Sir J. Benjamin Stone, M.P., who had been at the head of the original Warwickshire Survey. The Association had the support of representatives of Archæological and Scientific bodies, and of the Royal Photographic Society, the Camera Club and other important photographic societies.

Mr. SCAMELL, the Hon. Secretary, stated that Sir J. Benjamin Stone much regretted that he was unable to accept the invitation of the Congress to attend and explain the objects of the Association.

The organization was not yet complete, but it would probably follow the lines of the Congress, inasmuch as it would be supported by contributions from the various local and other societies, although it would also include individual membership.

A general opinion was expressed that such a central body would be of extreme value in promoting the formation and working of local photographic surveys, and suggestions were made as to the best mode of working.

The HON. SECRETARY was directed to communicate to the Association that—

“The Congress hears with great satisfaction of the formation of a National Photographic Record Society, and expresses its desire to assist the work in any way it can.”

A hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman and to the Society of Antiquaries for their hospitality closed the proceedings.

In the evening the Congress Dinner was held at the Holborn Restaurant, when the Rev. J. C. Cox, LL.D., took the Chair in the place of Sir John Evans, who was too unwell to attend as arranged.

RALPH NEVILL, F.S.A.,

*Hon. Secretary to the Congress.*

13, ADDISON CRESCENT,  
KENSINGTON, W.

MONUMENTAL BRASSES AT QUEEN'S COLLEGE, OXFORD.—Mr. Manning, F.S.A., has published an exhaustive and interesting paper on this subject, which has been published in the Oxford University Brass Rubbing Society's Journal. All students of Brasses will welcome this valuable paper.

SOUTHAM, JOHN, L.L.B., (D. 1441-2). — (OCTOBER, 1897).—Corrections: page 95, line 3, read Eukeston; page 96, line 25, read Lilford-on-Nye (now Nene); page 96, line 21, read Rev. A. Clarke. Add “Joh'es Southam Cl'icus et alij Dederunt decano et Capt' eccl' Cathed' Linc duo messuag' cum pertin' in suburbio Civitis Linc,” etc. [Calendarium Rotulorum Chartarum et Inquisitionum ad quod Damnum 13, Henry iv. [30, Sept., 1411-29, Sept. 1412]. A Thomas Southam was Commissioner or Vice-Chancellor of the University of Oxford in 1439. He was Principal or Moderator of the Common Law School. The appointment of Vice-Chancellor was then an annual one. Is it possible that Anthony Wood is mistaken and this should read John Southam and refer to the one above, as I cannot find any further note of a Thomas Southam at this time? —Any further information concerning the above will greatly oblige HERBERT SOUTHAM, Innellan, Shrewsbury.