



The Berks, Bucks & Oxon Archæological Journal.

Proceedings of Societies.

BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting was held on April 27th, when there was a good muster of members. The Secretary read the Annual Report, which we publish in this number of the Journal. The High Sheriff of Berks, C. E. Keyser, Esq., F.S.A., was elected President of the Society, and the other officers were re-appointed, W. M. Childs, Esq., being added to the Committee, and J. O. Taylor, Esq., to the list of Vice-Presidents. Mr. Keyser delivered his inaugural address, which was listened to with much interest, and which we hope to publish in a future number.

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NEWBURY FIELD CLUB.—The 28th Annual Meeting of this Club was held on June 3rd, which was well attended. The President, W. G. Mount, Esq., M.P., occupied the chair, and was supported by C. E. Keyser, Esq., the Rev. J. B. Burne, H. H. Shrine, O. Slocock, Dr. Cox, F.S.A., the Secretary, G. J. Watts, Esq., and other gentlemen. The President delivered his annual address, referring to the two successful excursions undertaken by the Club during the past year, viz., to Bradford-on-Avon, and to Silchester, Aldermaston, &c. Mr. Mount was again elected President, and Mr. Keyser's name added to the list of Vice-Presidents. Mr. Watts was duly thanked for his valuable services as Secretary, and re-elected to that office. The Rev. P. H. Ditchfield was elected an honorary member of the Club, and plans made for future excursions.

READING LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC SOCIETY.—The eighteenth Annual Meeting of this Society was held on April 26th. The energetic Honorary Secretary, Mr. Theodore H. White, read the following report of the year's satisfactory work :—"It was a source of gratification to the Committee, in presenting their Annual Report, that they were once more able to congratulate the Society on a very useful and successful session. Thirteen papers, of great and varied interest, had been read before the Society at the ordinary meetings. One of these was given in French. The attendance at these meetings had been fairly good. In the summer of 1897 excursions were made to the following places :—On May 26th, to Stratfieldsaye ; on July 7th, to Newbury and Donnington Castle ; and on September 29th, in conjunction with the Berks Archæological Society, to Silchester. On August 5th, 1897, the Society visited the British Dairy Institute, Reading, where a demonstration was given by Mr. Miles Benson and Mr. P. H. Foulkes, B.Sc. On February 9th, 1898, Mr. O. A. Shrubsole, F.G.S., gave a demonstration at the Reading Museum. The financial position of the Society was satisfactory. Thirty new members had joined the Society during the year. The total number of members was now about 300. The thanks of the Society were due to Messrs. Sutton and Sons for the use of the Abbey Hall. The Committee had to record, with profound regret, the death of the Rev. J. Jackson Goadby, President of the Society, within a few weeks of the completion of his second year's Presidency. Mr. Goadby had for many years past been one of the most active and useful members of the Society, and his death created a void in its ranks which it would be difficult to fill. The Committee had instructed the Hon. Sec. to write a letter to Mrs. Goadby expressing their sympathy with her and her family in their recent loss."

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NEWBURY LITERARY AND SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTION.—The Annual Meeting was held during the past month, under the presidency of the Mayor. The report showed that a large number of lectures and entertainments were given during the past season, and the Institution supports a library and museum, which are of great local advantage. Messrs. Hanington and Blacket are the Secretaries, Councillor Hall Treasurer, Mr. Ranshaw Librarian, and Mr. W. E. Lewendon Curator. We wish the Institution a very prosperous and successful season,