



## Proceedings of Societies.

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BERKS ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The first meeting of the Winter Session was held at the Abbey Gate on Wednesday, November 14th, when a lecture, with musical illustrations, was given by Mr. A. F. Ferguson on "The Songs of the People, especially Sea Songs." The lecturer gave a very interesting description of the origin of the Folk-music, and a special character of the English Folk-songs. He told of the old singing men, the rise and fall of the minstrel, the love of the people for dancing, the old country dances, the rise of the ballad, and interspersed his lecture with many songs of the people which were rendered in a very charming manner. Mr. Ferguson was heartily thanked for his lecture, and also Miss Ravenscroft who so kindly accompanied the songs. Mrs. Falcon Stewart very kindly entertained the Members of the Society to tea at the close of the lecture. Several other lectures are promised during the Winter Session.

On January 30th a lecture will be given by the Rev. P. H. Ditchfield on the "Names of Places in Berkshire," and on February 13th Mr. G. A. Kempthorne will lecture on "Some notes on the Devil's Highway in Berkshire," illustrated by magic lantern views.

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## Proceedings of the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, 1900.

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*LENT TERM, 1900.*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH.

A Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Museum\* at 8.15 p.m., the President (Mr. F. Madan) in the Chair, at which the following

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\* By kind permission of the Keeper of the Museum, all the evening meetings of the year were held in the Lecture Room of the Museum.

election to Membership was made :—Miss Vincent, Blackhall Road. The paper of the evening was by Mr. Edwin Cannan, M.A., of Balliol College, on the Road Systems in the neighbourhood of Oxford, illustrated by a large map, and Messrs. Jolliffe, Clayton, Pinel, Mardon Mowbray, Green, and Bell took part in the discussion which followed.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH.

Visit No. cclxxvi. was made to Balliol College, where Mr. J. L. Strachan-Davidson, Fellow of the College, met the Members in the Hall at 2.15 p.m., and introduced Mr. H. W. C. Davis, Fellow of All Souls, who gave a clear and concise account of the College, and conducted the party over the Chapel and Library. At half-past three a move was made to the Divinity School, where, in the absence of Mr. Rashdall, the President made some remarks on the history of the room. The Convocation House was also visited, and the old transparent sundial in one of the West windows was noticed.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

An Evening Meeting was held at 8.15, Mr. R. L. Poole, V.P., in the Chair, when the following Members were elected :—Miss Money, 12, Marston Street ; S. S. Hodson, Esq., St. John's College ; Mrs. M. E. Hitchings, 37, Holywell Street ; the Right Rev. the Master of Pembroke College (Bishop Mitchinson). Mr. R. K. W. Owen, a former Secretary of the Society, then gave a lecture on the Bayeux Tapestry, with notes on contemporary customs, illustrated by many excellent lantern slides.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 21ST.

Visit No. cclxxvii. The party assembled in St. Michael's Church at 2.15 p.m., where the Vicar (the Rev. W. Mansel Merry) gave an account of the building, supplemented in architectural details by Mr. F. à C. Bergne. The Rev. A. R. Pinel then led the way to Jesus College, in the Hall of which the Principal (Professor Rhys) received the Members, who were addressed by Mr. E. G. Hardy and subsequently taken over the Chapel, Library and Common Room.

TUESDAY, MARCH 6TH.

A Meeting was held at 8.15 p.m., the President in the Chair, at which the following were elected Members :—E. Walls, Esq., C.C.C. ; Miss S. E. Galpin, 95, Iffley Road ; A. H. Collins, Esq., B.N.C. ; E. A. Boyle, Esq., C.C.C. Mr. C. H. Blakiston, Secretary, read a paper on Some Architecture in East Devon with special reference to a crypt recently discovered at Sidbury, and to St. Mary Ottery

Church ; the paper was illustrated by forty-eight lantern slides, from photographs taken by the lecturer and his friends. Messrs. James Parker and B. J. Stapleton joined in the discussion which followed.

SATURDAY, MARCH 10TH.

An Excursion (No. cclxxviii.) was made to the neighbourhood of Didcot, by the train leaving Oxford at 2.23 p.m. The party drove from Didcot to East Hagbourne (Rev. W. R. Baker), Upton (Rev. J. H. Moore), and Blewbury (Rev. E. J. Gillam), and were met by the abovementioned Vicars and Rector. The trains back left Didcot at 5.36 and 6.35 p.m.

*SUMMER TERM, 1900.*

THURSDAY, MAY 17TH.

The cclxxix<sup>th</sup> Excursion was to some Churches near Lechlade. The train took the party at 12.25 p.m. to that place, and brakes and cycles conveyed Members to Little Faringdon (Rev. W. F. Adams), Langford (Rev. C. G. Wodhouse), Broadwell (where the Rev. H. Meeres kindly provided tea) and Brize Norton. By arrangement with the G.W.R. a train took the party from Bampton Station at 5.15, Oxford being reached at 6.2.

TUESDAY, MAY 22ND.

At an Evening Meeting on this date (held at 8.15 p.m.) the following were elected to Membership:—Miss Julia Shepherd, 9, Park Crescent ; R. M. Jerrard, Esq., 34, Leckford Road ; H. C. Webb, Esq., Jesus College ; G. J. F. Tomlinson, Esq., Univ. College ; R. W. Livingstone, Esq., New College ; Hon. A. Erskine, New College ; Mrs. Bradshaw, 111, Banbury Road ; R. J. Whitwell, Esq., 70, Banbury Road ; and H. T. Cullis, Esq., New College. The President (Mr. F. Madan) then read a paper on "Some Eighteenth Century Unrealised Designs for Oxford Buildings," illustrated by some lantern slides from photographs, chiefly of manuscript designs for Magdalen and Brasenose Colleges, but including also two plans for the partial reconstruction of the centre of Oxford. Mr. Manning (who exhibited some supplemental designs) and Mr. C. F. Bell made some remarks on the paper.

TUESDAY, MAY 29TH.

Excursion No. cclxxx. The three fine Churches of King's Sutton, Adderbury and Bloxham were visited, the outward train

starting from Oxford at 12.15 p.m. The Rev. H. J. Gepp received the party at Adderbury, and the Rev. F. G. A. Phillip at Bloxham, Oxford was reached at 6.45.

THURSDAY, JUNE 14TH.

The Summer Excursion (No. cclxxxi.) was to Bristol and Clifton, and the party left Oxford at 9.25, reaching their destination punctually at 11.57. The route was first to St. Mary Redcliffe Church, where the Rev. W. Bazeley, the energetic Secretary of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, took the Members round and gave a short address on the history of this remarkable building, perhaps the finest Parish Church in England. The next move was over Bristol Bridge to St. Peter's Hospital, a beautiful relic of mediæval Bristol. Then, after lunch at the Grand Hotel in Broad Street, the party walked by the foot of the Christmas Steps, looking up at the Chapel of the Three Kings of Cologne, and by St. Stephen's Church to the Cathedral, where Mr. Bazeley again showed himself a most efficient guide. After crossing College Green to the curious Mayor's Chapel, the steep ascent of Park Street was faced until at last Brandon Hill was reached, notable for its new Cabot Tower and its extensive view over the "City of Churches." While here a light rain began, which hurried the party to tea in the Promenade, after which some of the Members returned into Bristol on foot under Mr. C. H. Blakiston's guidance, to see some more architectural antiquities, while the rest indulged in a more extensive excursion. They drove to Clifton Down, then over the Suspension Bridge, round by the head of Nightingale Valley, then back over the Bridge and by Clifton College and the Zoological Gardens to Durdham Down. From this furthest point the party drove down to the level of the Avon beneath the Bridge and on to Cumberland Basin and through the city to the station. The re-united party started on their return journey at 7.25, and after an hour for dinner at Swindon, reached Oxford at 10.38.

*MICHAELMAS TERM, 1900.*

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27TH.

The cclxxxii<sup>nd</sup> Excursion was made, in connection with the University Brass-Rubbing Society, to Dorchester, starting at 2 p.m. in a brake. In the absence of the Vicar through illness, the Vicar's wife, Mrs. Poyntz, kindly undertook to guide the party over the interesting Abbey Church of St. Peter and St. Paul, once the

Cathedral of an immense diocese. The close inspection of this edifice, within and without, occupied the short afternoon, and after a hasty tea the return drive was commenced at 5 o'clock, and Oxford reached at about half-past six.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD.

Visit No. cclxxxiii. was to St. Mary Magdalene Church at 2 p.m., where the Vicar (the Rev. H. E. Clayton, Rural Dean) gave a historical account of the Church, and exhibited some curious old views of the edifice. At Trinity College, to which the party next proceeded, the Rev. H. E. D. Blakiston described the College and led the way from the Hall to the Common Room, Library and Chapel, and finally, under Mrs. Pelham's guidance to the President's Garden, the Lime Walk and the new buildings.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6TH.

An Evening Meeting was held on this day under the presidency of Mr. James Parker, V.P., at 8.15, when Mr. W. L. Bros gave a very interesting lecture on Buddhist, Jain, and Hindu Architecture, illustrated by many lantern slides from photographs taken by himself during a recent tour in India. The lecturer expressed some hope that on a future occasion he would supplement the present paper by one on the Mogul Architecture of Akbar and his dynasty. Later in the Term we heard with deep regret that Mr. Bros died within a fortnight after his lecture.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH.

The cclxxxiv<sup>th</sup> Visit was to Brasenose College at 2.15 p.m. The Principal (C. B. Heberden, Esq.) received the party in the Hall, and gave an account of the College, and of the College worthies whose pictures were on the walls. The Members then proceeded to the Library and Chapel. At half-past three Holywell, or St. Cross, Church was reached, and the Rev. F. H. Leigh, the Vicar, described the Church. An adjournment was then made to the adjoining Manor House Chapel, where Mr. B. H. Rolfe read an account of the old Holy Well, as lately re-discovered and restored by his father. The well itself was visited under the guidance of Mr. Rolfe and Dr. Dixey.

A By-Meeting was held at Brasenose College, at which some candidates for Membership were proposed.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19TH.

At the invitation of the Oxford University Brass-Rubbing Society (which, it may be noticed, became on Jan. 1st, 1901, the "Oxford

University Antiquarian Society") a Joint Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Lecture Room, at which Viscount Dillon, President of the O.U.B.-R.S., read a paper on English Armour in the time of Chaucer.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27TH.

The Annual Meeting was held at 8.15 p.m., the President in the Chair. The following elections were made :—(1) To Membership of the Society : Miss H. P. Ogle, Plas Newydd, Rose Hill, Iffley ; William Loat, Esq., and Miss M. E. M. L. Loat, Cumnor Place, Oxford ; Rev. A. E. Negus, St. John's Road, Oxford ; Rev. W. M. Birch, The Vicarage, Bampton Aston ; W. D. Tyrwhitt-Drake, Esq., New College ; Miss E. C. Marsh, 71, Iffley Road ; C. R. Betton, Esq., Non-Collegiate ; E. M. Girling, Esq., Worc. College ; E. W. Allfrey, Esq., 2, St. Michael's Chambers, Oxford ; (2) to be Members of the Committee : Miss Swann, F.S.A. Scot. ; P. Manning, Esq., F.S.A. ; and R. A. Raven, Esq. (*vice* Messrs. Hurst, Howarth and Hutchinson) ; (3) to be Auditor : M. H. Green, Esq., Trinity College (the other auditorship was left vacant for the time) ; (4) as President : F. Madan, Esq., F.S.A., until December 31st and *pro forma* until another President was elected, Mr. Madan being desirous of laying down the office at the end of the year. The name of O. J. R. Howarth, Esq., was mentioned as a probable successor in the office, and he was proposed as a Vice-President at the Meeting.

The Annual Report of the Secretaries was then read ; after which the Rev. H. E. Clayton made a suggestion, which met with general approval, that Oxford should be sub-divided into Districts, and each should have an archæological guide printed for the guidance of residents interested in the history of their own parish.

Mr. James Parker then gave an account of the recent discoveries in St. Michael's Church, namely some 14th century ventilating shafts in a so-called crypt under the western chantry, and the colouring on some brasses recently cleaned.

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THE RECORDS OF THE PARISH OF FARNHAM ROYAL, BUCKS.—Mr. Carr-Gomm has written a volume on the history of the above Parish, which will be welcomed by many of our readers. The book will contain many fac-similes of old documents, Extracts from Church Registers, a History of the Church and Living, List of Rectors, Monuments, and an account of the old Eton Montem. Subscribers' names may be sent the Author, the Chase, Farnham Royal, and the subscription price is 7s. 6d.