

Oxford Ladies' Brass Rubbing Society.

YEAR 1902 - 1903.

President :

MISS SWANN, Walton Manor.

Committee :

President :—MISS SWANN.

Hon. Treasurer :—MRS. DRINKWATER.

Hon. Librarian :—MISS GREEN.

Hon. Secretaries :— { MISS E. MERCIER.

MRS. WHITMARSH.

MRS. G. EVANS.

50 Members.

The O.L.B.R.S. has completed its ninth year. During the past twelve months some members have resigned, but their places have been filled by the candidates waiting for admission ; so there has been no falling off in the number of members.

This year has been a sad one for the Society, owing to the death of its greatly-valued Secretary, Mrs. Mee. She has been indefatigable in the work of the Society, has given so many excellent Papers, and so often allowed meetings to take place at Holywell House, and shown so much hospitality to the members, that her loss will be most deeply felt. We have to regret also the death of another of our members, Mrs. Baldwin.

Our Treasurer from the very commencement of the Society, Mrs. Drinkwater, is leaving Oxford, and so deems it necessary to resign, her post ; it will be very difficult to replace so good a Treasurer and one who has kept our finances in such a flourishing condition.

It has only been possible to hold four meetings during this year, but the papers given at them have been valuable and well illustrated. The one given by Mr. James Parker on "Fictile Ivories," must be specially mentioned, and it was rendered even more interesting by his large collection of Fictile Ivories, which he brought exhibited and explained. The Papers given have been on :—

"Christian Symbolism," by Miss SWANN.

"Brasses in Lincolnshire, Norfolk, and Surrey," by Mrs. DOHERTY and Miss HYDE.

"Sculptured Stones in Skye," by Miss FOSTER.

"Fictile Ivories," by JAMES PARKER, Esq., F.G.S.

"Brass at Edgmond, Shropshire," by Mrs. MEE.

"Fictile Ivories and the manner of making them," by Miss SWANN.

"Some Dorsetshire Brasses," by Miss GREEN.

The annual Excursion of the Society took place on June 4th, when a large party of members and friends visited Cheltenham and Gloucester.

Reviews.

THE RELIQUARY, edited by J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A. (Bemrose and Son.) This magnificent antiquarian magazine has just completed its ninth volume, and maintains its high position among similar publications. The finely produced illustrations and the excellent print, make it an attractive journal, and the contents are enough to whet the appetite of the most eager antiquary. There is an interesting article on Purses, articles so useful to us when not empty. The author, Mr. Heneage Legge, traces their history from Roman times and tells us the story of Binham Priory, Norfolk, in the moat of which one of the finest framework of a mediæval purse was discovered. The mediæval chap-book as an educational factor; the story of the destruction of St. Mary's Church, Reculver; Saxon Finds at Lancaster; and illustrated archæological notes, complete an inviting number.

THE SCOTTISH HISTORICAL REVIEW (MacLehose and Sons, Glasgow.) We welcome the first number of this sumptuous new Quarterly, the lineal descendant of the *Scottish Antiquary* established in 1836. The long list of learned authors who have promised to contribute to the future numbers, and the excellence of the first, seem to prognosticate a long and distinguished career for this chronicle of Scottish lore and learning. Professor Walter Raleigh contributes a valuable article on the Lives of Authors, and tells of John Aubrey, Isaac Walton, Anthony Wood, and a host of others who began the study of literary biography. Mr. Andrew Lang contributes the remarkable and pathetic letter from William Stewart to the Regent written in 1569, ten days before the writer was burned to death at St. Andrews. Mr. Mathieson tells of the errors in Hill Burton's *History of Scotland*, and there is a well-earned panegyric on Mr. Romilly Allen's magnificent work on the *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*. The articles we have mentioned are only a tithe of the whole contents of the number. The Review has been successfully launched, and we wish it a long and prosperous career.