



1894.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

Submitted at the Annual General Meeting, May 21st, 1894.

THE Council has pleasure in submitting its Report of the working of the Society during the past year. Six Sessional Meetings have been held since the last Annual Report, at which the attendance of members was uniformly good. The following papers were read:—

October 16th, 1893.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
Subject—"Chester Rows": A discussion opened by Mr. John Hewitt, followed by Dr. T. N. Brushfield, Canon Morris, Mr. A. Baker, and Mr. E. W. Cox.

November 20th, 1893.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
Subject—"The 'Glovers' Stone," Chester, by the late Mr. G. W. Shrubsole, F.G.S. Read by the Rev. Canon Morris.

December 19th, 1893.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
Subject—"Early Christian Monuments in Cheshire and Lancashire," by J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A., Scot. Read by the Rev. Canon Morris.

January 15th, 1894.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
Subject—"On the Military Architecture of the 13th Century, as illustrated by recent discoveries at Dyserth Castle, Flintshire," by Mr. E. W. Cox.

February 12th, 1894.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
Subject—A further discussion on the "Chester Rows" was opened by Dr. T. N. Brushfield, followed by Rev. Canon Morris, Mr. E. W. Cox, Mr. Henry Taylor, Mr. E. Hodgkinson, and Mr. John Hewitt.

March 12th, 1894.—Chairman: The Ven. Archdeacon Barber.
 Subject—"Some examples of the Architecture of the Renaissance of Spain," by Mr. Heber Rimmer. Illustrated by Lantern Slides, Drawings, and Sketches made by the Lecturer during a recent tour.

The thanks of the Council are due to Mr. J. D. Siddall for illustrating several of the papers read before the Society with the Lantern; and to Mr. R. Newstead for taking Casts of various objects of interest lent to the Society temporarily for exhibition.

The Council begs to remind the Sub-Committees and Local Secretaries appointed under Rule 5, that the Officers of the Society are always anxious to hear of archaeological discoveries, and ready to render any assistance which may be in their power.

The First Part of Volume V. was distributed amongst the members in November last, and a few spare copies may be purchased at 7/6 each.

The old Excavation Account has been reduced during the year to £14 8s., and the Council invites further subscriptions to clear off this balance.

The Council would direct the attention of the members to the Reports presented by the Hon. Librarian and Hon. Curator, and desires to put on record the warm thanks of the Society to the donors of the various objects of interest presented during the year.

The membership of the Society is 258, including seven honorary, three life, and 248 ordinary members. (The membership for the previous year was 260, including nine honorary, three life, and 248 ordinary members.)

The Honorary Treasurer's Statement of Accounts shows a balance of £14 18s. 2d. to the credit of the Society.

A suggestion was made in the First Part of the new Volume that a fund should be formed for the purpose of illustrating more fully the objects of antiquarian interest described in the Journal. It was pointed out that this could not be done satisfactorily with the present small subscription of half-a-guinea, nor could the Journal be issued except at unduly long intervals, or kept up to the standard of similar publications.

The Council regrets that the appeal made for a special subscription of 5s. to this Illustration Fund has been responded to by only one-fourth of the whole number of subscribers—£15 only out of a possible £60 being received. This condition of affairs appears hardly satisfactory, and while heartily thanking those members who have shown themselves so ready to promote the interests of the Society in this direction, the Council considers that the burden, such as it is, should be borne equally by the whole body. The members will observe from a reference to the Balance Sheets which have been published, that more than one-half of the present income (*i.e.*, 5s. 6d. out of every half-guinea) is devoted to the payment for the housing of the valuable Museum of Antiquities which is entrusted to the care of the Society. The balance left for all other purposes is about £60 or £70. As each Volume of the New Series has cost between £90 or £100, the members will readily understand that such Volumes cannot be issued even once a year with the present subscription. The Council, therefore, consider that it is absolutely necessary to raise the subscription; and after this year (1894), the annual subscription will be one guinea for those members who wish to receive the Journal, which it is proposed to issue twice a year. Those members who desire to continue their subscription at the old rate of half-a-guinea, will have the privilege of attending the Sessional Meetings, joining in the Excursions and visiting the Museum; but will not henceforward be entitled to copies of the Journal.

The Council have held eight meetings during the year.

The following gentlemen have been appointed for the year the representatives of the Society upon the Grosvenor Museum Management Committee, *viz.*:—The Venerable Archdeacon Barber, Rev. Canon Morris, Messrs. T. S. Gleadowe, E. Hodgkinson, A. Lamont, and Henry Taylor.

In November last the Council appointed Mr. Edward Hodgkinson, Honorary Librarian of the Society, in succession to Mr. John Hewitt who was elected a member of the Council in place of Mr. Hodgkinson.

In May, 1893, Mr. Henry Finchett-Maddock presented to the Society the Old Shipgate, which, on being taken down in 1828 for certain structural alterations, was removed by the late

Mr. Finchett-Maddock to his garden in Abbey Square. The Council heartily thanked Mr. Finchett-Maddock for his kindness, and asked him to allow it to remain in its present position until proper arrangements could be made for its removal, when it is hoped that it may be possible to replace this interesting relic in the position which it had occupied for certainly six hundred years.

The Council is glad to announce that the Hon. Curator has almost completed the labelling of the Roman stones in the Museum. The hearty thanks of the Society are due to Mr. Gleadowe for the work he has done.

The Council have to regret the death of the following members during the year, viz :—Mr. G. W. Shrubsole, for many years Honorary Curator of the Society; Mr. T. R. P. Royle, a member of the Council when the Society was first formed; and Mr. Alfred Rimmer, Miss Holt (Honorary Member of the Society), Mr. J. Rowe Dutton, Rev. Canon Hillyard, and Miss Humberston.

The following officers have been elected by the Council for the ensuing year, viz. :—

<i>Hon. Editorial Secretary</i>	-	Rev. Canon Morris, D.D.
„ <i>Treasurer</i>	-	Mr. John Dodds
„ <i>Curator</i>	-	Mr. T. S. Gleadowe
„ <i>Librarian</i>	-	Mr. E. Hodgkinson
<i>General Secretary</i>	-	Mr. T. J. Powell

Under Rule IV. the following Members of the Council retire at the Annual Meeting of the Society:—Mr. E. J. Baillie, Alderman C. Brown, Rev. H. Grantham, Mr. Alexander Lamont, Mr. Martin Stewart, Mr. E. W. Cox.

THE HON. CURATOR'S REPORT.

THE following are the additions to the Society's Collection during the year 1893-4:—

1. Autograph of John Pearson, Bishop of Chester, dated 1677: Presented by Mr. Edward Walford.
2. Three Tiles from the floor of a Church near Warrington: His Honour Judge Wynne Ffoulkes.

3. Oil-painting of S. John's Church, Chester, by *Gilliard* : Mr. Thomas Ellis, formerly of Chester.
4. Fragment of Stamped Legionary Tile from Pemberton's Parlour : The City Surveyor.
5. Spindle-whorl from the Well-House Farm, near Saltney : Mr. J. Roberts.
6. Photograph of Deerhurst Church and Odda's Chapel : Mr. George Prichard.
7. Fragment of Tessellated Pavement from Watergate Street, and Spindle-whorl and Bronze Trappings from Grosvenor Road : Mr. T. S. Gleadowe.
8. Cast of Wooden Hand from the original, now in the Liverpool Museum : Mr. R. Newstead.
9. Series of Casts (seven) of Samian Pottery found on the site of Segontium, at Carnarvon : Mr. R. Newstead.
10. A series of thirty-five Casts of the Seals of the Counties of Chester and Flint, from the collection in the Town Hall, Flint : Mr. R. Newstead.

I hope in the course of a few days to complete the labelling of the Roman inscribed stones. The work ought to have been done by a more cunning hand ; but that meant great expense. I have set out the lettering (I am afraid not very skilfully), and given a translation of the inscription. In some cases I have also added an expansion of the lettering. I can only hope that what I have done may tend to make this valuable collection more interesting and attractive to the general body of visitors.

I have spent some time over the Roman coins, but all I have done so far is to arrange them in chronological order. I hope before long to be able to show them off to greater advantage. I would draw attention to the approaching completion of our new room, and press upon the Society the necessity for at once starting what may be called a Furnishing Fund. At least two or three new cases, similar to that presented by Mr. Bullin, are required for our pottery and smaller antiquities ; and our fine collection of stones cannot be transferred and set up properly without heavy expense.

T. S. GLEADOWE,
Hon. Curator.

THE HON. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

DURING the short time I have been in charge of the Society's Books, I have to report that in addition to the Journals of kindred Societies received in exchange, the following Works have been added to the Library :—

Vol. III. Abbey Square Sketch Book : Presented by Mr. John Douglas.

Vol. I. Chester Archæological Society's Journal (Old Series) : Presented by Miss Peacock.

Cotman's Etchings : Presented by Miss Peacock.

Two Parts Anastatic Drawing Society's Publications : Presented by Miss Peacock.

Thompson's History of the Royal Society : By Miss Peacock.

Audran's Proportions of the Human Body : By Miss Peacock.

Bloxham's Principles of Gothic Architecture : By Miss Peacock.

Notes on the Surname of French Francas, &c. : Presented by the Author, A. D. Wells French, Esq, of Massachusetts.

The following Pamphlets have also been presented by their respective Authors :—

Church of All Saints, East Budleigh (two parts) : By T. N. Brushfield, M.D.

Richard Izacke and his Antiquities of Exeter : By T. N. Brushfield, M.D.

Presidential Address, Devonshire Association for Advancement of Science, Literature, and Art ; By T. N. Brushfield, M.D.

The Heron and Heronries of Cheshire and North Wales : By Mr. Robert Newstead, F.E.S.

The Council has also purchased Wright's "*Court Hand restored.*"

It may be hoped that when we are in our new room, greater facilities for reference and reading may lessen the need of withdrawing books from the Library. Otherwise I fear, from the regrettable fact that they are often kept out an unreasonable time, the Society will have to make restrictions, or even place a prohibition on their leaving the Museum.

EDWARD HODKINSON,
Hon. Librarian.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS.

THE General Annual Meeting of the Society was held at the Grosvenor Museum, on Wednesday, May 3rd, 1893, His Honour Judge Sir Horatio Lloyd in the Chair. Amongst those present were Messrs. H. Taylor, F.S.A., E. Hodgkinson, A. Lamont, J. Wiseman, W. E. Brown, G. Frater, E. W. Cox, J. Edwards, W. Parker, the Editorial Secretary, and General Secretary.

The Minutes of the last General Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Annual Reports of the Council, the Curator, and the Librarian, and the Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts were duly read and adopted.

The following were, on the motion of Mr. W. Parker, seconded by Mr. Wiseman, elected Members of the Council: Dr. J. Elliott, Mr. E. Hodgkinson, Rev. S. Cooper Scott, Dr. Stolterfoth, Mr. H. Taylor, and Mr. J. P. Earwaker.

Mr. A. Lamont proposed, seconded by Mr. E. W. Cox, that Messrs. J. H. A. Hall and W. E. Brown be re-elected Auditors of the Society for the ensuing year.

Hearty votes of thanks were passed on the proposition of Mr. W. Parker, seconded by Mr. J. Edwards, to the Patron, President, Vice-Presidents, Council, and the Honorary Officers, for their able services.

A warm vote of thanks was proposed by Sir Horatio Lloyd, and Seconded by Canon Morris, to Mr. H. Finchett-Maddock for his kind offer of the Ship-Gate, for which the Council is anxious to find a suitable home.

In moving the adoption of the Report, the Chairman referred to the work done by the Town Council in restoring Pemberton's Parlour, and rejoiced that as far as his observation went the Town Council was doing a great deal more than he at first expected they would be inclined to do. The work seemed to be progressing slowly, but surely, and very solidly indeed. He was glad also to find from the proceedings in Committee of the House of Commons that although some of the Chester Walls and Towers might be threatened by the hands of modern barbarians, in the future we should have something to look forward to by way of reparation. They had now a very substantial company behind them, and clauses, he believed, were

agreed upon and would be inserted in the new Act of Parliament, obliging the company to pay the expenses of any damage that might be done to the City Walls and buildings, provided they could be shown to be responsible for it. None of them doubted that the fall of Pemberton's Parlour was due to a great extent to the vibration caused by the railway traffic. There would not be much difficulty in the future if the Railway Company damaged the Walls and Towers in bringing them to account for that. With respect to the interesting find of a Roman Tile in Pemberton's Parlour, he had no doubt that the Corporation, through its Surveyor, would say that the Museum was the proper receptacle for such articles, and that it was far better to have all interesting documents and remains of that description in one place where they might be seen by Cestrians and visitors.

Canon Morris, in moving a vote of thanks to the donors of books and objects of antiquarian interest, remarked that gifts of that kind were not as numerous as might have been expected in a City like Chester. There must be many objects of the deepest interest lost to view and forgotten in private houses. He suggested that some enterprising citizen might be induced to subscribe for complete transcripts of the valuable Randle Holmes' Manuscripts in the British Museum, to be deposited at the Chester Museum for the benefit of the Citizens.

At a Meeting of the Council, held September 25th, 1893, a Resolution was passed, on the proposition of the Mayor (Alderman Charles Brown), seconded by Rev. S. Cooper Scott, "That the Members of the Council place on record their sense of the valuable services rendered to the Society by the late Mr. G. W. Shrubsole, and beg to express their sincere sympathy with his family."

In acknowledging the receipt of this message of condolence, Mr. George Shrubsole intimated in his letter that his late father desired some Roman beads and Saxon coins which he had in his possession to be presented to the Society. These he had not as yet been able to find, but would hand them over when found.

At a Meeting of the Council held October 16th, 1893, it was resolved that a Catalogue be made of the Society's Prints.

A Meeting of the Members of the Society was held the same evening. Present: in the Chair—Archdeacon Barber, The Mayor (Alderman Charles Brown), Revds. S. Cooper Scott, H. Grantham, Dr. Brushfield, Dr. Stolterfoth, Dr. Elliott, Dr. Lawrence, Dr. King, Messrs. John Hewitt, A. Baker (Kensington), F. Potts, T. M. Lockwood, H. Taylor, A. Lamont, W. Hodges, R. Wilkinson, J. G. Holmes, E. Hodgkinson, E. Minshull, F. F. Brown, the Editorial Secretary, and the General Secretary, and many others. Mr. Hewitt read his paper on the "Rows of Chester," and was followed by Canon Morris, Dr. Brushfield, and Mr. A. Baker. Mr. Cox also added a few remarks.

At the Council Meeting of November 20th, 1893, Mr. Edward Hodgkinson was appointed Hon. Librarian of the Society. It was resolved that, in accordance with a suggestion made in the last number of the Journal, an Illustration Fund be started to relieve the General Account of the Society, and that authors of papers inserted in the Society's Journal be presented each with twenty reprints of their paper, five only of which to contain the illustrations (if any) unless the extra cost of illustrating be borne by the authors themselves.

The Second Meeting of the Session was held November 20th, 1893, under the Chairmanship of Ven. Archdeacon Barber. A paper by the late Mr. G. W. Shrubsole, on the "Gloverstone," Chester, was read by the Editorial Secretary; and as an illustration, an old Wooden Hand, formerly the property of Chester, now in the possession of the Liverpool Free Public Museum, was exhibited. Alderman Charles Brown in opening the discussion said:—Canon Morris has alluded to the glove which used to be hung up at St. Peter's Church fourteen days before the time of the fairs. The fairs were twice annually—on the 5th of July, and on the 10th of October. I perfectly well remember this identical glove being hung out by a rod extending from the battlements on the south side of St. Peter's Church. I remember seeing it; the rod was about four feet from the battlements. I am told this glove was found in a Museum at Liverpool—how it got there I cannot possibly tell. I believe it to be the identical glove, and I hope that some effort will be made to restore it to its old home—Chester.

This other glove I never saw before—I believe it belongs to the Society—but the one I have referred to before is the identical glove; and the glove manufacture, as you are aware, was quite up to a recent time the trade of Chester. Perhaps many of you remember Mr. Foulkes; he was the last representative of the trade. There was also a family named Garston, glovers; their place was in Pepper Street. Canon Morris also alluded to the skimmers, and to the number of skins brought into Chester. The Skinners' Lane extends from the old Bridge Gate parallel with the river, where the Walls are now extended. That was done about fifty or sixty years ago. The Walls were thrown out to give room for the County Prison, but I can well remember the houses in the Skinners' Lane—hence the name. The skin trade was an important trade in Chester for a long period. Tophams, the skimmers, quite recently resided in the city, and carried on a very large trade. After the glove trade left Chester, it was carried on in the City of York to a very considerable extent. I remember a worthy old manufacturer saying that the very best lamb skins he ever got were from Chester. The water was peculiarly suitable for the process of lamb skins, which were made into gloves.

Mr. Henry Taylor, referring to a quotation made by Mr. Shrubsole from his article on old Chester Deeds, read the extract. The date is 1345, and the description of the property is—

“Two Messuages adjoining in Watergate Street, next the Gloverstones, in the Township of Chester, with the shops and cellars below, with their appurtenances, between the Parish Church of St. Peter's on one side, and the land belonging to Robert de Macclesfield on the other.”

It is perfectly clear that whatever these Gloverstones were, they were situated close by the Watergate side of St. Peter's Church. In that extract some shops were referred to—1502 I think was the date. There were some glovers' shops on that same site, and Mr. Alderman Brown has just referred to the fact that the glove was hung from St. Peter's Church on fair days.

Alderman Brown: Fourteen days before the fair, and continued until the fair had ceased. The fair extended fifteen days.

Mr. Taylor: Well, what I want to get at is that the glove was hung out at the time the great fair was held. It is just

possible, I venture to think, that those stones may have been the centre of meeting—being in the centre of the town, and being as it were the exchange of the glovers. It was where they met for the transaction of their business; and being in the centre of the town, and the glove being the badge of their trade, it might have been that that was the symbol of it—being the place of meeting or the exchange of the leading trade of the city. I venture to throw out that suggestion. It is very singular that if the Gloverstones were at the castle, that in 1345 they should have been mentioned as being in the centre of the city. There is another point upon which I should like to know something. What is the present boundary of the township of Gloverstone? It is evident from Mr. Shrubsole's paper that it is a "progressing" township, and I ask partly perhaps for a personal reason. In Broxton Hundred we have had to make a return of this township of Gloverstone, and it has always been filled in as nil. There is one house which is taxable, and I should like to find out what that house is. I should like to find out what the boundary of the township is. Mr. Shrubsole, in his paper, has said that the cessation of the personal rule of the Earls brought into existence the Mayor and Corporation of Chester. I do not think that was so, because it was just about that time that the Mayors were brought into existence, not only here, but in every other part of the Kingdom; and Chester was one of the earliest corporations. It was not due so much to the cessation of the rule of the Earl, as to the wish of the people to have a properly constituted municipal life.

With regard to the Chester tan gloves it does seem a most unfortunate thing that this trade has gone from this old city. It was within recent years that the last of the tanners, the last of the glove-makers, ceased to exist; and it was within a few years ago that the good old Chester squire insisted on buying his gloves in Regent Street—"Chester tan gloves"—and that shop was known to sell those gloves. Unfortunately "Chester tan gloves" cannot now be purchased in Regent Street. With regard to the delivery of prisoners at the Gloverstone, that was the nearest point of contact between the County and the Castle. They were delivered at the nearest point of contact between the county and the city.

Alderman Charles Brown : I should just like to make a remark about the stone itself. It has been described as a huge boulder stone. There was one of those huge boulder stones at the end of Frodsham Street—an immense one—which was removed to the Water Tower Road.

Mr. Cox (continuing the discussion) said : It was my privilege to assist and consult with the late Mr. Shrubsole during the preparation of this paper as to the limit and site of Glover Stone ; and from an entirely different direction I think I may be able to throw some light on its origin, and upon its situation, and upon its area. I disagree with Mr. Shrubsole in the idea that it was an indefinite area. On the contrary, I think it was an extremely definite one. The fact that it was occupied by numerous traders and so on, is due not to its indefiniteness, but on this ground they were met by constables of the various castles, who freed people to follow their occupations within the precincts of the castles. We have a similar thing in the history of Liverpool Castle, where, in the reign of Henry VIII., within the castle precincts, a cattle market was granted for the use of the town at a nominal rate ; and afterwards, the castle and the castle precincts were gradually occupied, and eventually, after the time of Cromwell, even the castle area itself was occupied by trading people, who were regarded as a low class, and were a thorn in the side of the burgesses of Liverpool ; and precisely the same difficulties arose when these men were dispossessed of their holdings. There could be no doubt that the occupancy of a Royal Castle could not give to these men any true title ; and yet they disputed the title of the Crown, and for three years a lawsuit was carried on. In the end some of them were ejected, although some of them were compensated for the removal. As regards the probable origin of Gloverstone ; in the mediæval towns each of the trades had its own district, but in the Roman towns offensive trades were not allowed to be carried on. Now tanners were allowed in the mediæval towns, but in the Roman towns they had to occupy places outside the city ; and in all probability the glovers or skimmers, who were following this offensive trade at Chester, were allocated outside of the city during the Roman occupation. I put this forward as a suggestion because, so far as I know, there is no evidence in support of it. On this site was founded the castle, probably at

a more recent date than its occupation by the glovers, because on the old maps the Glovers' Stones surround the castle; and although they surround the castle, the glovers' houses and occupation do not coincide with the definite area of Gloverstone. That I think was due to military causes, and for this reason:—I had the good fortune to find the copy of a map made at the time the Government acquired the freehold of the Gloverstone, which doubtless at one time was their own; one portion of which, on the east and towards the north is called the Gloverstone; another portion of which, towards the west, is called the Crown rent; and another portion of land is called the Crown rentage. Now these spaces of land, I got the measurements of them, and I have got a tracing of the map for the purpose of ascertaining whereabouts and in what relation they stood with the castle. I had already obtained plans of the castle from plans made in the reign of Queen Elizabeth, which were fortunately made to scale. I laid down these plans within the area of the Gloverstone, taking as the base point the Gloverstone which is said to have been fifty yards from the gate of the castle. That gives the point of commencement. I began by laying down the gate, and to my surprise, the plan of the castle fits exactly to the area of the Glovers' Stone and the Crown rents, and the boundary is as nearly as possible fifty yards throughout from the walls of the castle. I consider, therefore, that this originally was a free space round the castle, which was intended to be kept for the defence of the castle, clear from all buildings, to prevent the enemy approaching too near to its walls. The constable of the castle afterwards permitted trading on it, and the erection of houses and booths on it for a consideration; and so in the same manner as at Liverpool, the occupants obtained some manner of title which eventually became a freehold. The fact that the officials of the city had to lay down their staves exactly on this boundary, seems to me to mark very strongly that this was a military boundary, and you may still have the precincts very definitely marked out. I should be very glad to give a copy of the map for the use of this paper.

Canon Morris remarked that he quite agreed with what Mr. Cox had said about the offensive trades. That was his own opinion as to why the glovers carried on their business outside the city walls.

At the conclusion of the discussion, the Chairman said he was sure they would all allow him to thank Canon Morris for the great care and pains he had taken in going through the paper which had been so carefully prepared by their late friend. He (the chairman) had been asked if he could find any reference to Gloverstone in the Deeds relating to the site of S. Bridget's Church. He consulted the documents so far as he could find them, but he could find no allusion to it. His own impression was that the Hundred of Gloverstone did not extend so far. A certain portion, as they were aware, of the Hundred of Gloverstone, was added—he would not say within recent years—to the Churchyard of St. Mary's-on-the-Hill. So far as the site and area of Gloverstone were concerned he could not say anything. He did wish that the ground at the Castle gateway was not on Sunday the resort of boys playing pitch and toss, because they were out of the jurisdiction of the city police. It had been his duty to make complaints, and when he took his complaints to one quarter, he had been referred to another. He thought their police arrangements were a little awkward, and he wished they could get some improvement.

The Third Meeting of the Session was held December 19th, 1893, Ven. Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, when a paper by Mr. Romilly Allen, F.S.A., Scot., on "The Early Christian Monuments of Lancashire and Cheshire," was read by Canon Morris.

At a Meeting of the Council on January 15th, 1894, a letter was read from the Town Clerk of Birkenhead, forwarding a copy of an old and authentic Map of the Township of Birkenhead in 1824, when nearly the whole of the Birkenhead of those days belonged to the late Mr. Francis Richard Price, of Bryn-y-Pys, the Lord of the Manor.

The Fourth Meeting of the Session was held on January 15th, 1894, the Chair being taken by Ven. Archdeacon Barber. Mr. Cox read a valuable paper "On the Military Architecture of the thirteenth century, as illustrated by recent discoveries at Dyserth Castle, Flintshire." The castle had recently been excavated by the proprietor, Mr. Leonard Hughes, who had made some interesting sketches of the work done. The paper was further illustrated by some diagrams drawn by the reader

of the paper. Some discussion followed in which Rev. Canon Morris and Mr. Henry Taylor took part, dealing with the points of history suggested by Mr. Cox's remarks.

The Fifth Meeting of the Session was held February 12th, 1894, when the Ven. Archdeacon Barber took the Chair, in the unavoidable absence of His Grace the Duke of Westminster. Dr. Brushfield opened the further discussion upon the "Chester Rows," and was followed by Canon Morris, Mr. E. W. Cox, Mr. Henry Taylor, Mr. E. Hodgkinson, and Mr. Hewitt. Canon Morris read communications from Signor Lanciani of Rome, and Mr. Haverfield—

2, Via Goito,
Sept. 11th, 1893.

Rev. Sir,

Although I have never seen Chester (hope to see it next year, *Deo volente*) I know enough about the Rows to answer your question in the negative. What the lamented Mr. Parker—a visionary on many occasions—showed in 1868 to His Grace the Duke of Westminster, was, and is, a simple balcony supported by stone supports.

Such balconies are very common in buildings of the Roman period. The best instances are to be found in the gardens of Sallust, in the Palatine, at Ostia, in the house of the Vestals.

In private houses beams were used in lieu of stone corbels (like at Pompeii.)

These balconies or *maeniana* were built to give access to apartments for the outside, but have nothing to do with shops or rows. The passage from Parker's which you quote in your letter is a 'vision' of his own make. You may consult on this subject Becker's *Gallus* [chapter "The Roman House-Shops"]; and also the rules issued after the great fire of Nero, related by Zaestry.

Believe me, Rev. Sir, respectfully yours,

RODOLFO LANCIANI.

Christ Church,

Oxford, 29th October, 1893.

Dear Dr. Morris,

I will see what can be found about the photographs—probably there will be one in Parker's Collection in the Bodleian. I do not, however, believe there is the least justification for Parker's assertion that the arrangements at the Forum Trajanum were followed at Chester. It is not even correct to compare the existing "Rows" with the Forum Trajanum Shops, for the latter are in three storeys scarped against the side of the Quirinal (not all round, I think), and owe their three storeys to the presence of the hill. There is a short description of the structure in Middleton's *Rome*, vol. ii., p. 33.

F. HAVERFIELD.

At the Council Meeting of March 12th, 1894, Ven. Archdeacon Barber, Rev. Canon Morris, Messrs. T. S. Gleadowe, E. Hodgkinson, A. Lamont, and Henry Taylor, were re-elected as representatives of the Society upon the Museum Management Committee.

The Hon. Librarian reported that Hemingway's *History of Chester* had been found and restored to the Library.

The Sixth Meeting of the Session was held March 12th, 1894, Ven. Archdeacon Barber in the Chair.

Mr. Heber Rimmer (Soane Medallist Royal Institute of British Architects, 1892) read his paper on "Some examples of the Architecture of the Renaissance of Spain." The Lecture was of great interest and well illustrated by Lantern Slides, a large number of which were made by Mr. F. T. Farrimond from drawings and sketches made by the Lecturer during a recent tour. The following report from the *Cheshire Observer* contains an admirable synopsis of the Lecture :—

The lecturer drew attention to the historical circumstances of Spain as a nation, pointing out how peculiarly suitable they were for the development of a "Renaissance," *i.e.*, a rebirth, a revival, of the classic arts. Spain at the present time was the dominant power in Europe, and the richest, and this naturally attracted the handicraftsmen, builders and architects of other countries, who flocked here in great numbers, leaving unmistakable traces of their nationality in their workmanship. Under these circumstances the lecturer thought that Spain of the 15th and 16th century had a far greater influence on this Renaissance architecture than is generally admitted; indeed, it was in no small way responsible for its introduction, development, and popularity. The first period of this Spanish Renaissance, called by them *El Plateresque*, was introduced into other countries, particularly France, was worked up by certain local schools of architecture, given a French name and handed down to posterity as an original French style. A peculiar feature of Avila and its district was locally interesting. This was a type of deep door-head or lintel, on which were elaborately cut the arms (if the family possessed any, and nearly all Spanish families do), and the initials of the builder and its date, the whole generally hooded with some quaint Gothic or Renaissance tracery or curved lines. It was pointed

out that these were very similar to door-heads in the North of Lancashire and Cumberland, which were probably suggested by the Spanish examples, which average in date half a century earlier than the Northern dale district. The rows or arcaded streets of Santiago were illustrated and described, and the lecturer thought they might have suggested the original erection of our Chester Rows; the Santiago example being nearly exactly similar to the Newgate Street end of Eastgate Row, and to Northgate Street Row, west. The lecture at this point was illustrated by lantern slides of photographs of the *Chateau de Blois*. The lecturer added that a new field for architectural exploration was introduced by slides and drawings of the Balearic Isles in the Mediterranean, more particularly Palma, Majorca. The entrance court for, or patis principle of architecture for this island was illustrated and described; also the fine Gothic Cathedral of Palma, one of the loftiest buildings of its date in the South; the nave (interior dimension from floor to vaulting rib) is 156 feet, or 12 feet higher than the tower of our own Cathedral. Some patios from Toledo, Salamanca, Seville, Granada, and Valladolid were also illustrated. One, a sunny picture from Toledo, was interesting as being for some time the home of Cervantes, but is now a very dilapidated inn.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED:

October 16th, 1893.—Mr. Henry R. Bowers, Mr. W. Vernon, Mr. George Shrubsole, Mr. W. W. Tasker, Mr. W. Henderson, Mrs. Okell.

November 20th, 1893.—F. P. Weaver, M.D., Hampstead, London; Mr. H. Finchett-Maddock, Chester.

December 19th, 1893.—Mr. F. Maddocks, 12, White Friars; Rev. J. T. Davies, Head-Master, King's School; Mrs. Kenyon, Flookersbrook.

February 12th, 1894.—Mr. Lewis Williams, Swinfen Villa, Hoole.

The Chester and North Wales Archaeological and Historic Society.

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