

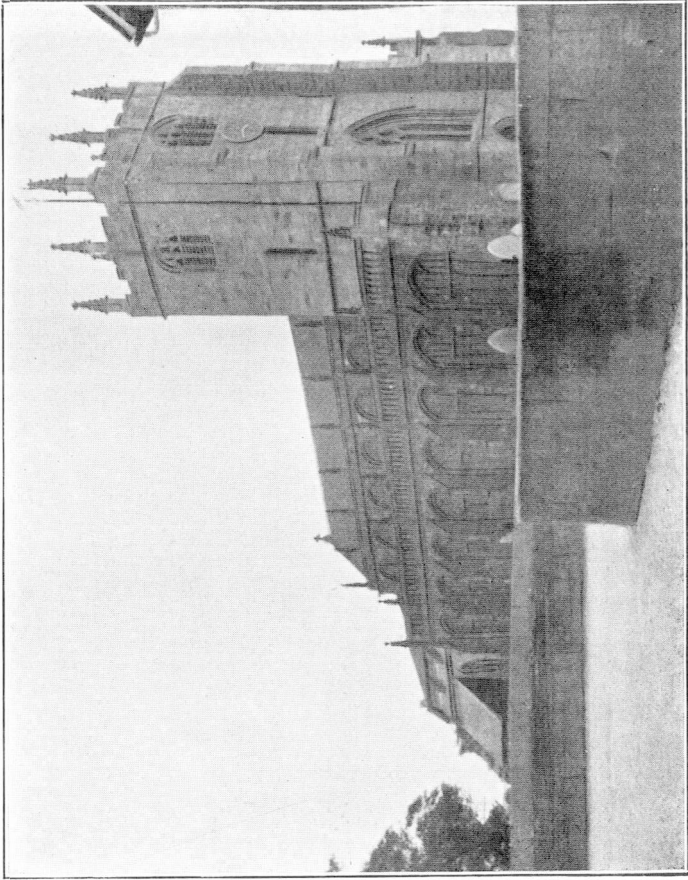


ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1902-1903

EXCURSION TO LUDLOW

It was natural, after the interesting Paper on "Ludlow and the Masque of Comus" (which will be found in the last number of the Journal), that the Society should wish to visit that town; and so it was arranged that the Summer Excursion in 1902 should be to Ludlow, and it, accordingly, took place on July 28th.

On reaching the town they were met by an enthusiastic local antiquary, Mr. T. J. Salwey, under whose guidance they first visited the "Crown Hotel" (to inspect the old oak panelling taken from the round Church in Ludlow Castle), and the fine old Jacobean Hotel "The Feathers." At the latter hostelry the party lunched, and were joined by the Rev. Prebendary Clayton, Rector of Ludlow. After luncheon a visit was paid to the magnificent Collegiate Church of St. Lawrence, where the lofty lantern tower; the unique south-west porch; the old glass in the north chapel; the varied architecture; and the beautiful series of carved misereres (of which illustrations appeared in our last number), excited much admiration; while Dr. Palmer, the organist, gave a selection of music on the large four-manual organ, erected by Messrs. Gray & Davison. The different features of the Church (almost cathedral-like in its dignified proportions) were pointed out and explained by Canon Clayton, who was a most excellent guide. Our last



Bunbury Church

Dr. Sturtevant, Photo.

number contains a fuller description of the Church, so that we need not repeat what was then said.

After thoroughly inspecting all that was to be seen in this beautiful Church, the party proceeded to the Museum, where the Curator, Mr. Charles Fatey, gave an interesting account of some geological changes in Scotland, illustrated by an ingenious model which he himself had constructed. Many fine charters belonging to the Ludlow Corporation are in the Museum, and these, and other municipal documents, were kindly shown by the Town Clerk, Mr. J. H. Williams.

A mediæval residence of much antiquity and interest was then inspected; and afterwards the party went to the Castle, where, amid the ruins, and under the shadow of the Norman Church and the "Comus" Hall, Mr. Salwey gave a most interesting lecture on the history and associations of this grand mediæval structure. The remains of the round Church were the object of special attention. It was left to the imagination of the visitors, with the recollection of the above-mentioned Paper in their minds, to picture to themselves the scene that would be presented in that grand old hall, when the "Masque of Comus" was first performed therein.

By the kind invitation of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Marston, whose house is situated within the Castle grounds, tea was partaken of at their residence, and much appreciated.

Other objects of interest visited were Ludford Bridge and the fine old-timbered house there; the Town Walls; the Barnaby House (a hospice for pilgrims to St. Winefred's Well); and the "Reader's" house, near the Church.

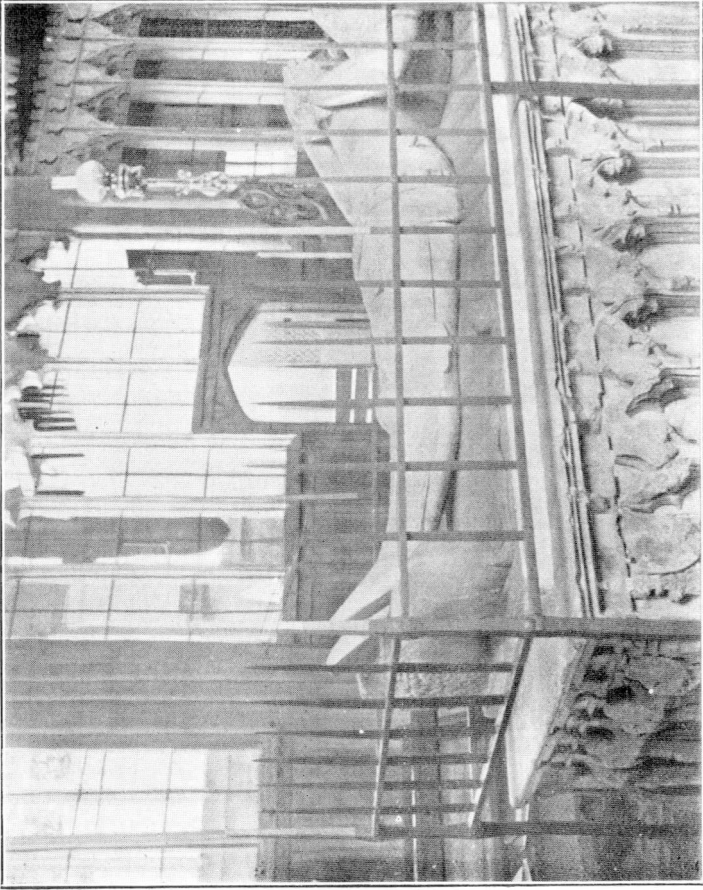
A return to Chester, in the evening, closed a very instructive and delightful day.

J. C. B.

It will be remembered that Canon Clayton, in describing the beautiful old glass in the east window of St. John's Chapel, pointed to some which was modern, and very inferior, which had been placed side by side with it in the same Chapel. The following further information will, therefore, be interesting: A few months after the visit, the Archdeacon of Chester wrote to the Rector, to ask if there was any foundation for the statement that the old glass had been preserved from destruction, in Puritan times, by having been buried by the Churchwardens. He received the following reply: "I never heard, before you mentioned it, that any of the glass was buried to preserve it from destruction, and I do not think it was so. I well remember Bishop Atlay telling me that Archbishop Benson recognized two of the windows, which were put in when the Church was restored in 1860, under Scott's direction, as being the bad modern glass, which had been sold out of Winchester College Chapel. Scott ought never to have allowed them to be put up here; but he cared not to look after details. It is a thing about which I am very indignant. They were intended, I believe, as a memorial by the donor; and he ought to have taken care that they were of the best kind, instead of what they are—manifestly inferior to the other glass."

VISIT TO CHURCH OF S. MARY-ON-THE-HILL

On Wednesday, October 1st, 1902, a visit was paid by the members of the Society to the Church of S. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester, when the Rector (the Venerable the Archdeacon of Chester) explained various features of the Church, and gave a short history of the edifice. The beautiful roof of the Nave, recently restored at great cost, was not described, as it was hoped that a second visit might be arranged, so that it and the old glass and monuments might be more closely examined.



Isunbury Church: Altar-tomb of Sir Hugh Calveley

Dr. Stotter's photo.

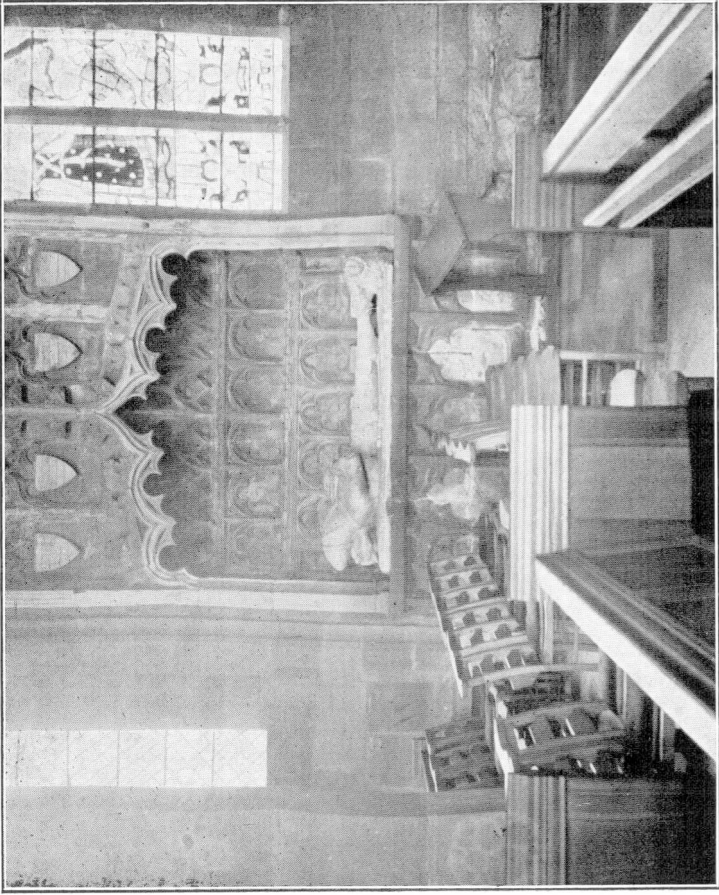
EXCURSION TO BUNBURY, ACTON, AND
DORFOLD HALL

The Summer Excursion took place on Thursday, July 23rd, 1903, and proved most successful. It had been determined not to go far afield, but to visit places of interest near at hand.

Twenty-one members left the General Station at 2-20 p.m. for Beeston Castle Station, where a couple of Brakes were in waiting, and conveyed them to Bunbury Church, which is dedicated to S. Boniface. The appearance of the west end, externally, is somewhat unusual, as the tower is included in the Church, and not distinct from it, as is more frequently the case. Entering by the west door, the visitor is at once struck by the graceful and elegant character of the arcading which separates the Nave from the Aisles. This is in the Perpendicular style, whilst the Tower and Chancel are older, and date from the 14th Century. Mr. C. H. Minshull acted as guide, and pointed out the various architectural features of the building. The Tower, as has been said, is included in the Church, and is supported on three handsome arches, with deeply cut mouldings of the best Decorated period. The pillars on either side of the Nave are singularly light and slender, and are almost devoid of capitals. The Chancel arch dies away into the wall, and is, also, without capitals. The Chancel is, at present, on the same level as the Nave; but, originally, it was lower. In the centre of it is the fine altar-tomb of Sir Hugh Calveley. It is of alabaster, and was formerly richly coloured and gilt. The raising of the Chancel floor has, perhaps, interfered with its original appearance, as the lower moulding is probably now hidden. The warrior has his hands clasped in prayer; his feet resting on a lion; and his head supported by a calf's head (the Calveley crest). The interesting features of the armour were carefully pointed out by Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A. The following is the description of the Knight from Fuller: "Tradition

makes him a man of teeth and hands, who would feed as much as two and fight as much as ten men ; his quick and strong appetite could digest anything but an injury." He was, in fact, a "Soldier of fortune." Another monument (in the north-east angle of the Sanctuary) is that of Sir George Beeston, who, when 89 years of age, took an active part in the defeat of the Spanish Armada, and died at the age of 102. In the Chancel is preserved the chain originally attached to the "Chained Bible"; and there is also a chained copy of "Burkitt's Notes on the New Testament," presented by a Dean of Chester.

On the south side of the Chancel is the Ridley or Egerton Chapel, separated from it by three arches, which are filled with a light Gothic stone-screen. In the centre one is a most interesting oak door, with interlaced work of a somewhat unusual kind. Along the cornice of the screen is the inscription: "This Chapel was made at the cost and charge of Sir Rauffe Egerton, Knight, in the yere of oure Lord God A.D. mccccxxvii." The tomb of the founder originally stood in the centre of the Chapel, but this has disappeared. On the wall is a modern brass, let into the same matrix on the slab from which the old one had been taken. The effect of the screen is somewhat marred by the projection of the organ over the western bay. The Chapel, which was fast becoming ruinous, was restored in 1894, largely at the cost of Mr. Ralph Brocklebank, of Haughton Hall. Two other Chapels formerly existed in the Church; the Spurstow Chapel at the end of the south Aisle, and the Davenport Chapel in the north Aisle. At the east end of the former some faint traces of mural painting, the legend of S. Christopher, were observed. At the west end of the south Aisle are preserved some ancient tombstones, with floriated crosses and other carvings. The old oak door into the south Porch was carefully noted. After inspecting the exterior of the edifice, and admiring, specially, the south elevation (where a figure of S. Boniface in the niche above the Porch, presented by Mr. John Douglas,



Acton Church: Monument of Sir William Mainwaring of Haddley and Peover

Dr. Statterfoth, Photo.

was pointed out), the party resumed their places in the Brakes, and drove to Acton.

Here they were hospitably entertained at tea at the Vicarage, by the Rev. Herbert and Mrs. Moore, before visiting the Church. Some of the party inspected the remains of the moat in the garden, supposed to have been made as a protection against the incursions of the Welsh.

The Church is a very fine one, with several distinct features. The Tower, as at Bunbury, is included in the Church, and, with the central arcade, dates from the end of the 12th Century, about 1180. But traces of a much older Church, of Saxon times, are to be seen in some interesting carved stones preserved in the South Aisle; the remains of a column; and in the Font. The latter was restored to the Church from the garden of Dorfold, by Mr. Henry Tollemache, M.P.

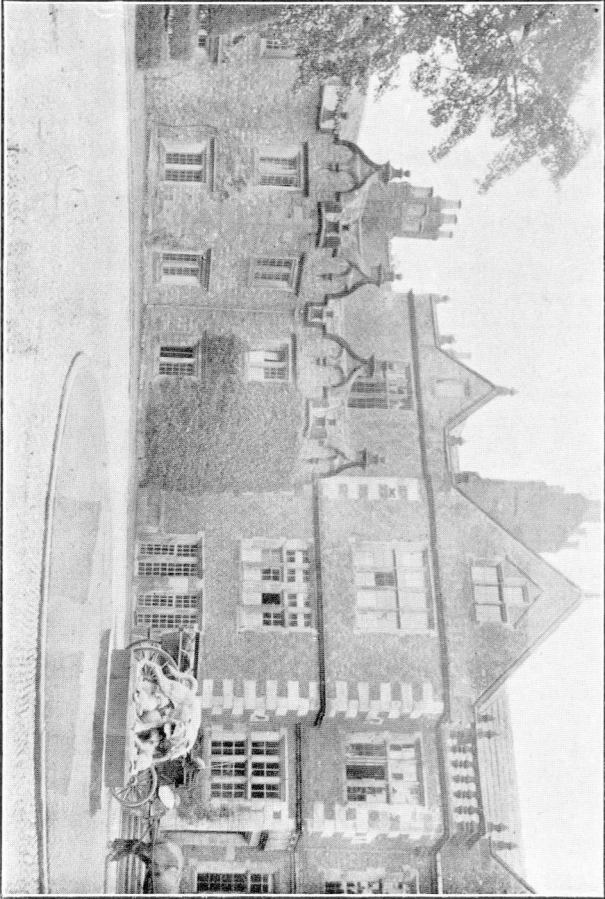
On entering the Church the appearance of the west end is remarkably fine, the supporting arches of the Tower being massive, and the three lancets over the door exceedingly beautiful. One other characteristic of the Church is remarkable. The interior walls, both of the Chancel and the Aisles, are enriched with decorative arcading. The original Aisles were removed, and the present ones built, at the beginning of the 15th Century, when a Chantry was established as a memorial to William Mainwaring, of Badelye, who died in 1398, and whose beautiful tomb, with alabaster effigy, is seen in what was S. Mary's Chapel, in the North Aisle. Fragments of a lancet window and a round doorway of the original Aisle were found at the recent restoration (under Messrs. H. J. Austin & Paley, of Lancaster) in 1897, and have been re-erected for preservation in the heating chamber. To the same period is also to be ascribed the earlier part of the Chancel, as evidenced by the Priest's Seat and Piscina. During the Civil Wars the Church suffered severely, being occupied as an advanced post by the Castle of Nantwich. A little later an exten-

sive restoration was effected by the Wilbrahams, who then lived at Dorfold, whose arms appear on the outside of the Chancel, and who must have erected the beautiful Jacobean woodwork, which has recently been all cleaned and re-made, and is most worthy of admiration. In 1757, "one of the greatest storms in the memory of man blew down about thirteen feet of the upper part of the Tower," and did much injury to the fabric. To the repairs made at that period (for which we may say "a Brief" was issued) were due the lath and hideous plaster ceilings, and the debased Clerestory windows, with which the Church was for so long disfigured.

Under Messrs. H. J. Austin & Paley, at the cost of Mr. T. Sutton Timmis, Lord Tollemache, and Mr. H. J. Tollemache, M.P., the Church has been most carefully and judiciously restored. Fine oak roofs take the place of the former mean ceilings; new Clerestories have been erected; oak seats have been substituted for the square pews; an organ chamber has been built; and many gifts have been made to the Church, which is now in a perfect condition. In the South Aisle are the Woodhey Chapel at the east end (where a fine monument of the Wilbrahams is still to be seen) and the Dorfold Chapel at the west. Bishop Gastrell, in his *Notitia Cestriensis*, speaks also of a "Wilbraham Chappell in the Clerestory." Can this have been entered by the door above the Tower arch, which now gives light into the belfry?

After a rapid inspection of the exterior, and hearty thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Moore, the party drove to Dorfold Hall, the residence of Mr. H. J. Tollemache, M.P., where they were received by the Rev. Algernon and Mrs. Tollemache. The approach is by an avenue leading into a courtyard, on two sides of which are ranges of lower buildings containing the offices, and on the other the mansion itself, a three-storey building of brick, with stone

¹ At Chatham Parish Church the collection for this purpose amounted to 6s. 7d., and was made on May 20th 1759, whilst the repairs were estimated at £1,160.



Dr. Scattergood, photo.

Dorset Hall

facings, surmounted by several gables. It dates from 1616, having been built by Mr. Ralph Wilbraham, on the site of the old mansion of the Bromleys. The large chimneys and bay windows give a distinct character to the house. The entrance hall is reached by a flight of steps, and is a handsome apartment, with ceiling and beams richly ornamented, and a fine fireplace. On the right is the staircase, which has a balustrade fixed to the wall on either side, and leads to the drawing room, which is on the first floor. This room was much admired; it is surrounded with oak panelling, whilst the carved ceiling is elaborately decorated with devices and pendants. The fireplace here, with chimneypiece and sides, excited the admiration of all. In fact, the room is as perfect a specimen as could well be found of domestic architecture of the early 17th Century. Other rooms were visited, including King James' bedroom, with oak-panelling of various dates and designs. In one a secret closet was shown, capacious enough to hold two or three people.

The time was all too short to see thoroughly all that might have been seen, and to examine a large folio book with pedigrees and coats-of-arms, which seemed to recall the work of Randle Holme; but enough was seen to make all anxious to pay another visit to this interesting house.

Before leaving for Crewe (which was reached a little before 8 p.m., after a pleasant drive through Nantwich and Wistaston), a walk was taken through the gardens, which still retain their characteristics, with their old gateways, and ornamental gates. The view across the park from the front of the house, with a sheet of water (at one time much larger) in the foreground, and the Church Tower in the distance, was most picturesque. Warm thanks were accorded to Mr. and Mrs. Tollemache for their kindness; and all were of opinion that seldom, if ever, has a more enjoyable excursion been arranged for the members of the Society.

E. B.

VISIT TO CHESTER CASTLE

Through the courtesy of Colonel Ommaney and Major Fountain the Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historic Society paid an interesting visit, on Wednesday afternoon, October 14th, 1903, to Chester Castle.

Despite the inclemency of the weather, there was a numerous gathering of members under the leadership of the Ven. Archdeacon Barber and Mr. R. Newstead (Curator of the Grosvenor Museum). The party were met by Major Stretton and others Officers of the Depôt, and were first conducted through the Officers' Quarters, where their attention was principally devoted to the interesting collection of old armour which came from the old Castle armoury. Some of the armour belongs to the 16th Century, and this, and a number of ancient weapons and curios, were inspected with great interest. The party were afterwards conducted through the old portion of the Castle by Sergt.-Major White and Sergt.-Major Gregg.

Considering that the Castle is of Norman origin, and that for centuries before the Norman Conquest the spot upon which it stands was doubtless a notable Saxon fortification, the few historic evidences of the buildings which are still preserved were naturally the chief centre of attraction to the archæologists. Cæsar's Tower, therefore, received special attention, but the visitors entered this structure with some trepidation on discovering that it was converted into an ammunition magazine, containing fifty barrels of dynamite, a vast store of cartridges, and other explosives. In this tower is the old Chapel, a small gloomy apartment, which is also stored with explosives; a notice at the entrance giving the injunction not to smoke or strike matches, or even to enter with nailed boots. The vaulted ceiling of this Chapel is still in preservation, but little else remains to indicate its former sacred purpose. An interesting historic association of the Chapel is the fact that

King James II. there once received the Sacrament. A visit was afterwards paid to the flag-tower, the base of which is believed to be the oldest portion of the Castle. Some of the Norman stonework is there still to be seen, though all Saxon traces have been lost. From the flag tower a splendid bird's-eye view of the City was obtained, but the mist, unfortunately, concealed the picturesque panorama of the Welsh hills. The members had also the privilege of inspecting the modern portions of the buildings, including the stores, Non-Commissioned Officers' Quarters, cook-house, gymnasium, and recreation rooms. In the stores they were shewn arms and complete equipment for a thousand reservists, in case of mobilization; and it was pointed out that the completeness of the arrangements was such that, in an emergency, the men could be equipped and ready for service within a few hours on assembly. It was explained, however, that the rifles (numbering 1,040), being of the Lee-Metford pattern, and therefore obsolete in the regular army, were practically useless, and would shortly be called in. While inspecting this department, the visitors were entertained by the Sergeant-Major with an exposition of the mechanism of the rifle, and the portable cooking apparatus of the soldiers.

With reference to this visit to the Castle, it may be well to call the attention of the members to the Paper of Dr. Brushfield (read in July 1863), on "The Roman Remains of Chester," which will be found in Part VIII. of the Old Series of the Journal. On page 44, after mentioning the old Shipgate and the old Eastgate as examples of Roman arches, he adds, "Lastly, there is that most interesting one at Chester Castle, where it occupies a most singular position, as it assists in supporting one of the angles of that Norman structure, the Julian Tower. The span of the arch is eight feet; it is six feet deep; and formed of one ring of stones." Dr. Brushfield gives a drawing of this arch, taken by himself at that time, which will be found facing page 42.

In the full and interesting monograph on Chester Castle, by the late Mr. E. W. Cox, which will be found in Vol. V. of the New Series of our Journal, a full description is given of the Castle, and the various stages of its history. On page 270 is the following passage: "Adjoining it (*i.e.*, the kitchen) was the larder, which stood nearer to the (Julian) tower, and to the screens of the hall, as usual. The arch against the side of Cæsar's Tower (*supposed to be Roman*) is really part of this building, apparently a postern adjoining the great fireplace, leading on to the rampart of the wall of the court in the ditch."

Canon Morris, in his book (*Chester in the Plantagenet and Tudor Reigns*), gives this account of the "Julian" Tower: "Immediately east of the gateway was the so-called Julian Tower, which contained three apartments, a crypt on the floor level, supporting a fine stone-vaulted chapel, and above that a third vaulted chamber. The chapel had some figures painted on the walls, an outline of which is given in Hanshall's *Cheshire* (see page 259). Pennant gives the dimensions as 19 feet 4 inches by sixteen six; the height also sixteen six. The roof is vaulted, but the couples, which are rounded slender and elegant, run down the walls, and rest on the cornuted capitals of five short but beautiful round pillars, in the same style with those in the Chapter House of the Cathedral; probably the work of the same architect."

Canon Morris' book (pages 96 and 97) contains plates of the Chapel and of the outer Castle Gate, taken down in 1790; and Mr. Cox, in his Paper, gives a full description of Cæsar's Tower. He also says, "The interior of the Chapel has been covered with frescoes, painted on a thin coat of fine hard plaster; . . . some indistinct figures can, with difficulty, be discerned under the thin coat of white-wash that now covers it."

COUNCIL MEETINGS.

At a Meeting of the Council, on September 17th, 1902, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, the opening Meeting of the Session was fixed for October 21st, and it was decided to ask the Rev. Canon Morris if he would then read his promised Paper. Other Papers were suggested for the Session. The Hon. Curator read a letter from the National Trust for places of Historic Interest, with reference to Basingwerke Abbey. It was decided to sanction the expenditure of £12 on illustrating the new volume of the Journal, which it was hoped to issue in January. The balance of the fund collected for Mrs. Thompson Watkin was ordered to be paid to her. A gift of a medal of William and Mary, by Mr. Nicholson, of Oswestry, was reported; and four new members were elected.

At a Meeting of the Council, held on October 21st, 1902, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, five new members were elected. It was

Resolved :—“That no manuscript, or other similar document, be allowed to leave the Society’s Library; but should anyone require to see any of the papers or manuscripts belonging to the Society, every facility would be given for such inspection at any time, during reasonable hours, at the Museum.”

Gifts were reported of (1) A photograph of Eliseg’s Pillar, Llangollen, by Dr. Stolterfoth; and (2) A copy of the Pedigree of Sir Thomas Browne, by Mr. Fergusson Irvine.

At a Meeting of the Council, on December 22nd, 1902, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, it was

Resolved :—“That inasmuch as the Subscriptions are now due on the 1st of January in each year, but that the usual Session does not commence until the 1st of October following, extending to March in the succeeding year, at which

date the annual Accounts are made up, the date at which the Subscriptions to the Society become due be altered from the 1st of January to the 1st of April in each year, and that Rule 12 be altered accordingly."

It was decided to order 300 copies of the forthcoming Journal to be printed. Arrangements were made for a Paper for the January Meeting; and also for one on "St. Werburgh and her Shrine," to be read on St. Werburgh's Day, February 3rd, 1903.

In accordance with the above resolution, the following Circular was prepared and issued to the members of the Society:—

"CHESTER AND NORTH WALES ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND HISTORIC SOCIETY.

In consequence of the inconvenience and difficulty occasioned by the Subscriptions to the Society becoming due and payable on the 1st day of January in each year, and the usual Session of the Society not commencing until the 1st October following, the Council beg to give notice that, acting under Rule 6, the date when Subscriptions will become due has been altered to the 1st day of April in each year, thus permitting the first half of the Society's year to be set aside for Summer Excursions, and the latter half for Winter Evening Meetings at the Museum. The Subscriptions will, therefore, be collected in the Summer."

At a Meeting of the Council, held on January 20th, 1903, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, the following letter from the Museum Management Committee was read:—

"At a Meeting of the Management Committee, held January 5th, the question of the debit balance (about £400) was considered, the Bank having intimated that arrangements must be made now for the repayment of their debt, and it was

Resolved :—‘ That the overdraft of say £400 be referred to the contributing Societies with a view to their undertaking responsibility *pro rata* for the same.’

I shall be pleased to know if you will be responsible for your portion, which works out as follows :—

	Contribution.	Proportion of Debt.
Schools	£480	£312 3 10
Archæological Society	60	39 0 6
Natural Science Society	75	48 15 8
	<u>£615</u>	<u>£400 0 0</u>

Yours faithfully,
 J. DODD.”

It was decided to call a Special Meeting of the Council to consider this letter.

One new member was elected. A resolution was passed expressing the hope that Mr. Edward Hodkinson, the Hon. Curator, would soon be restored to health.

At a Meeting of the Council, held on January 20th, 1903, Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A., in the Chair, one new member was elected, and two resignations reported. An old document, signed “Nelson and Bronte,” was presented by Mr. W. D. Haswell, who was thanked for his gift. The arrangements for the March Meeting were left in the hands of the Secretary.

At a Special Meeting of the Council, held on March 11th, 1903, His Honour Sir Horatio Lloyd in the Chair, the letter from the Museum Management Committee, asking the Society to be responsible for £39 os. 6d. towards liquidating the debit balance of the Committee, was considered. The Council considered that the Society was not in any way responsible for the overdraft; and that it should receive more accommodation at the Museum for its property, and specially for its books. After full discussion, it was

Resolved :—“ That the Secretary be instructed to reply to the Museum Management Committee that, without admitting any liability, the Society would be prepared to pay the proportion of the overdraft (*viz.*, £39 os. 6d.) for which a requisition has been made upon them, upon condition that the Room (No. 2) on the right-hand of the entrance be given up to their use (jointly, if desired, with the Natural Science Society) as a Library and Reading Room, or for other like purposes.”

A further resolution was passed, authorizing the sale of an amount of L. & N.W. Railway Stock sufficient to provide for this; for the cost of the new Journal; for the furnishing of Library, &c.

At a Meeting of the Council, held on Tuesday, March 24th, 1903, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, three new members were elected; and the Secretary reported that Volume IX. of the Transactions of the Society (New Series) had been published, and issued to the members. A special vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Newstead for indexing the volume, and for providing such excellent illustrations.

At a Meeting of the Council, held on May 4th, 1903, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair, the following members were elected upon the Museum Management Committee for the ensuing year, *viz.* :—The Venerable Archdeacon Barber, Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Mr. W. W. Tasker, Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A., Mr. E. Hodgkinson, and Dr. J. C. Bridge.

The following letter was read from the Museum Management Committee, with reference to the resolution passed at the Special Meeting of the Council, and the application for the Room (No. 2) as a Library :—

“ 7th April, 1903.

Dear Sir,

I read your letter of 14th ultimo at a Meeting of the Management Committee, held yesterday, and I was in-

structed to send to you a copy of the following resolutions passed at the Meeting, viz. :—

1. *Resolved* :—‘That the request of the Archæological Society and Natural Science Society, for the use of Room No. 2 as a Library, be granted, subject to the general division of the room and plan of shelving being submitted to and approved by the Management Committee.’

2. *Resolved* :—‘That the contributing Societies be called upon to pay the proportion of the debt for which they have undertaken responsibility.’

I shall be pleased to hear from you in due course.

Yours faithfully,

J. DODD.”

A Letter from Mr. Edward Powell, asking why his Paper on “Ralph Higden” had not appeared in the Journal, was read; and the matter was referred to the Editorial Secretary, with whom the selection of Papers for publication in the Journal must rest.

The Hon. Curator, Mr. E. Hodkinson, stated that, in consequence of continued ill-health, he was compelled to resign his post. The Chairman, on behalf of the Society and the Council, expressed the warm thanks of the Society to Mr. Hodkinson for his past services, and regret that he felt compelled to resign the Hon. Curatorship, and also for the step. He suggested that Mr. Hodkinson should become Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Newstead Hon. Curator. Mr. Hodkinson, having kindly consented, was unanimously elected Hon. Secretary, and Mr. Newstead Hon. Curator. Four new members were elected at this Meeting.

Minutes of the General Annual Meeting of the members of the Society, held at the Grosvenor Museum, on Tuesday, June 2nd, 1903 :—

Present: Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair; Dr. H. Stolterfoth, Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Mr. Gleadowe, Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A., Mr. R. Newstead, Mr. W. W.

Tasker, Rev. H. Grantham, Mr. C. H. Minshull, Mr. Barlow, and Mr. Walter Conway (Secretary).

The Secretary read the notice convening the Meeting.

The Minutes of the last Annual General Meeting of the members, held on May 13th, 1902, were read, affirmed, and signed by the Chairman.

The Annual Report of the Council, together with the Hon. Curator and Librarian's Report and the Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts, were read, and it was Proposed by the Chairman, Seconded by Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A., and

Resolved :—"That the Report of the Council, together with the Hon. Curator and Librarian's Report and the Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts, be received, approved, and adopted."

It was Proposed by Dr. Stolterfoth, Seconded by Mr. W. W. Tasker, and

Resolved :—"That Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Dr. J. C. Bridge, Mr. F. W. Longbottom, Mr. C. H. Minshull, Mr. R. Newstead, and Mr. W. E. Brown, be re-elected members of the Council."

It was Proposed by Mr. C. H. Minshull, Seconded by Mr. R. Newstead, and

Resolved :—"That Mr. G. W. Haswell be re-elected Hon. Auditor for the ensuing year."

It was Proposed by Rev. H. Grantham, Seconded by Mr. R. Newstead, and

Resolved :—"That a vote of thanks be presented to the donors of books and objects of antiquarian interest during the past year."

It was Proposed by Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Seconded by Mr. H. Gleadowe, and

Resolved :—“That a vote of thanks be presented to the President, Vice-Presidents, and Officers of the Society, for conducting the affairs of the Society during the past year, and also to the Chairman for presiding.”

The following were elected members : Mr. H. Bell, J.P., West Kirby ; Rev. C. A. Griffin, and Mrs. Stolterfoth.

An extra Meeting of the Council was held on June 2nd, 1903, the Venerable Archdeacon Barber in the Chair. A Sub-Committee was formed to make arrangements for the Summer Excursion (an account of which will be found on page 123).

The Secretary reported that the Natural Science Society was making arrangements to invite the members of the British Association (which was holding its Annual Meeting at Southport, in September) to visit Chester, and the co-operation of the Archæological Society was invited in conducting the visitors round the City. The Council willingly accepted the invitation, and appointed the following to join the Committee which the Natural Science Society was forming : The Venerable Archdeacon Barber, Dr. J. C. Bridge, Mr. E. Hodgkinson, and Mr. R. Newstead.

The thanks of the Council were accorded to the Rev. H. Grantham for a donation of £1 is. towards the deficiency noted in the Annual Accounts.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL

THE COUNCIL beg to submit to the Members their Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1903.

During the Session six Meetings have been held and the following Papers read :—

21st October, 1902.—Rev. Canon Morris, D.D., F.S.A.

“Gleanings from the Muniment Room of the Town Hall of the City of Chester. (Stuart Period).”

18th November, 1902.—Mr. Wm. Fergusson Irvine.

“Chester in the 12th and 13th Centuries.”

22nd December, 1902.—Mr. Robert Newstead, A.L.S., &c.

“St. Kilda: Some facts about its history and its people.”

20th January, 1903.—Ven. Archdeacon Barber, M.A.

“The Ancient Glass in the Church of St. Mary-on-the-Hill, Chester.”

24th February, 1903.—Rev. F. Sanders, M.A., F.S.A.

“Bishop Lloyd.”

24th March, 1903.—Mr. Henry Taylor, F.S.A.

An exhibition and description of Ten early Chester Deeds, 1270-1490, relating to Property in Eastgate Street, Foregate Street, and Watergate Street.

24th March, 1903.—Mr. R. Newstead, A.L.S., &c.

An exhibition and description of the various objects added to the Society's Museum during the years 1901-2.

Two Papers were also read at the Annual Meeting, as under:—

13th May, 1902.—Ven. Archdeacon Barber, M.A.

“Ralph Higden: The discovery of his Tomb in Chester Cathedral, with some interesting particulars and correspondence connected therewith.”

13th May, 1902.—Dr. Stolterfoth, M.A., J.P.

Lantern Exhibition of a series of the City Charters dating from A.D. 1171 to A.D. 1689;

And one read on February 3rd, 1903, as mentioned below.

Two visits have been paid to the Cathedral during the Session. The first took place on the 21st July, 1902, to the Cathedral Tower; and the second on February 3rd, 1903 (St. Werburgh's Day), when the Ven. Archdeacon Barber read a Paper on “St. Werburgh and her Shrine.”

The Summer Excursion took place on the 28th July, 1902, to Ludlow, when the Castle, Church, and Museum, were visited, and a most enjoyable day was spent.

In consequence of the inconvenience occasioned by the Subscriptions becoming due on the 1st day of January in each year, and the usual Session of the Society not commencing

until the 1st October following, it has been decided to alter the date upon which Subscriptions shall become due from the 1st day of January to the 1st day of April in each year, thus permitting the first half of the Society's year to be set aside for Summer Excursions, and the latter half for Winter Evening Meetings at the Museum. The Subscriptions will, therefore, be collected in the Summer.

During the year Volume IX. (New Series) of the Society's Journal was issued to the Members, and the thanks of the Society are especially due to the Rev. F. Sanders (the Hon. Editorial Secretary), and also to Mr. R. Newstead for indexing it and providing most of the illustrations. The Volume was of especial interest to the Members and to citizens of Chester generally, containing, as it did, the Papers with illustrations of the various visits to the Cathedral.

The Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts is submitted shewing a deficit of £7 16s. 5d. for this year.

It is the endeavour of the Council to issue every year a Volume of the Society's Transactions, but to do this more Members are required. Eighteen new Members were elected during the year, and it is hoped now that the Subscription is reduced to 10/6 per annum, that Members will induce their friends to join during the current year.

A request having been made to this Council by the Museum Management Committee to undertake, with the other contributing Societies, a proportion of an overdraft on the Bank incurred by that Committee (the proportion amounting to £39 os. 6d.), the Council decided to pay the same upon the condition that Room No. 2 in the Museum should be given up to their use; or, if desired, to be used jointly by this Society and the Natural Science Society, as a Library and Reading Room, or for other like purposes. This condition has been agreed to by the Museum Management Committee, and the room will, in due course, be fitted up as a Library, wherein the Books and Papers of the Society may be kept and inspected by Members at any time. The fitting-up of the room will involve the Society in some expense.

We regret to announce that Mr. Edward Hodkinson, who for many years has acted as Honorary Curator and Librarian

of the Society, has resigned his office in consequence of ill-health. Mr. Hodkinson has not, however, severed his connection with the Society, having undertaken the duties of Honorary Secretary. Mr. Robert Newstead has been elected Honorary Curator and Librarian in place of Mr. Hodkinson.

The following gentlemen have been elected to represent the Society upon the Grosvenor Museum Management Committee, viz. :—Ven. Archdeacon Barber, Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Mr. Henry Taylor, Mr. Edward Hodkinson, Dr. J. C. Bridge, and Mr. W. W. Tasker.

Under Rule 4 the following Members of the Council retire, but are eligible for re-election, viz. :—Mr. T. S. Gleadowe, Mr. F. W. Longbottom, Mr. C. H. Minshull, Dr. J. C. Bridge, Mr. R. Newstead, and Mr. W. E. Brown.

THE HON. CURATOR AND LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

I have the pleasure to report the following additions to our Collection of Antiquities and Library :—

	<i>Presented by</i>
<i>Silver Penny, Edward I. (first issue), struck at Chester; and token of Richard Mynshall of Chester</i> - - - - -	Mr. F. W. Longbottom.
<i>Impression of Roman Gold Coin, found in Handbridge, Chester</i>	Mr. A. Seymour Jones.
<i>Medal of William and Mary, found at Little Meols, Cheshire</i>	Mr. A. C. Nicholson.
<i>Spindle Whorl from Bidston Marsh, Cheshire</i> - - - -	Mr. Arthur Hughson.
<i>Autograph of Lord Nelson ("Nelson & Bronte") dated September 14th, 1805</i> - -	Mr. W. D. Haswell.

The Library is enriched each year by valuable volumes of Transactions received in exchange for ours from the following Societies :—

- The Society of Antiquaries, England;
- The Society of Antiquaries, Scotland;
- The Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland;

The Smithsonian Institution, United States of America ;
The Cambrian Archæological Association ;
The combined Architectural Societies of Lincoln,
Northampton, and Worcestershire ;
The Powis Land Club ;
The Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire ;
The Surrey Archæological Society ;
The Essex Archæological Society ;
The Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History
Society ;
The Cambridge Antiquarian Society ;
The Lancashire and Cheshire Antiquarian Society ;
The Sussex Archæological Society ;
The Shropshire Archæological and Natural History
Society ;
The Yorkshire Archæological Society ;
The Warwickshire Naturalists' and Archæologists'
Field Club ;
The Hull Municipal Museum ;
The Barrow-in-Furness Naturalists' and Literary and
Scientific Association ;
The National Museum, Stockholm, Sweden ;
Verein Von Alterthumsfreunden im Rheinlande, Bonn,
Germany.

The Society also continues to subscribe to the *Antiquary*,
the *Index Library*, the *Record Society of Lancashire and
Cheshire*, and the *Cheshire Sheaf*.

I venture to repeat the concluding paragraph of my Report
of 1899—"With the wealth of Books this building contains,
belonging to ourselves and our friends of the Natural Science
Society, surely it is not too much to hope that a Room, properly
equipped as a Library, may before long become a prominent
feature of the Grosvenor Museum." That this hope is shortly
to be realized, the Society has now good reason to congratulate
itself upon.

EDWARD HODKINSON,

Hon. Curator and Librarian.

MAY, 1903.

THE CHESTER AND NORTH WALES ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SOCIETY.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31st March, 1903.

RECEIPTS.

	£	s.	d.
To Subscriptions	119	13	0
„ Dividend on London & North-Western Railway Stock	20	5	5
„ Rev. H. Grantham—to defray expenses of labelling Stones	1	1	0
„ Sale of Journals and Catalogues	5	19	0
	146	18	5
Balance—Deficiency	57	8	3

£204 6 8

PAYMENTS.

	£	s.	d.
By Balance—Deficiency brought forward from last Account	49	11	10
„ Museum Management Committee	60	0	0
„ Labelling Stones in Museum	1	1	0
„ Purchase of Pottery, Old Coins, &c.	0	13	6
„ Subscription to British Record Society	1	1	0
„ Printing, Postages, and Stationery	10	14	3
„ Cost of Printing and Publishing Vol. VIII. of Journal	57	18	7
„ Advertising	1	18	6
„ Secretary's Salary	15	15	0
„ Cost of illustrating Lectures	2	8	1
„ Bank Interest and Commission	0	8	4
„ Miscellaneous Expenses	2	16	7

£204 6 8

MAY 20th, 1903—Examined with the Vouchers and found correct,
GEO. W. HASWELL,
HON. AUDITOR.