



ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS.

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1928.

THE Council begs to submit its Annual Report and Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1928.

Eleven Sessional Meetings in addition to the Annual Excursion were held as follows :—

31st January—Annual Conversazione—Rev. Canon Thomas, M.A., F.S.A., on “ The Elements of Heraldry ” (illustrated). Collection of exhibits and archaeological finds, including finds from the Deanery Field.

14th February—Annual General Meeting.

21st February—W. Cullimore, Esq., M.A., LL.B.—
“ The Manorial System,” (lantern slides).

27th March—Donald Atkinson, Esq., M.A.—
“ The Roman Forum at Wroxeter ” (lantern slides).

17th April—Rev. G. P. Crawford, M.A.,—
“ The Booth Diary ” (lantern slides).

24th April—Hugh T. Dutton, Esq., M.A.—
“ The Scottish Invasion of Cheshire, 1745 ” (lantern slides).

22nd May.—The Most Rev. the Lord Archbishop of Wales—
“ Druidism ”—The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Stamford, in the chair.

21st July.—Annual Summer Excursion jointly with the Flintshire Historical Society, to Emral Hall, at the invitation of Mrs. Summers, who very kindly entertained the party to tea, and to Plas Teg, near Hope, and Broughton Hall, Worthenbury. Visits were also made to the churches of Bangor-on-Dee, Worthenbury and Overton-on-Dee.

16th October—John Brownbill, Esq.—

“ The Troutbeck Family ” (illustrated).

6th November—Professor J. P. Droop, M.A.—

“ Sparta, an object lesson in excavation ” (lantern slides).

27th November—Rev. Canon R. A. Thomas, M.A., F.S.A.—

“ An Archæological Holiday in the Orkneys ” (lantern slides).

11th December—Professor Robt. Newstead, F.R.S.—

“ The Excavations in the Deanery Field, Chester, 1928 ” (lantern slides and collection of finds).

Mr. H. T. Dutton, M.A., Mr. C. H. Minshull, and Mr. Frank Simpson, F.S.A., were re-elected to serve on the Chester Library Committee.

The Council desire to once more record their grateful appreciation of the public spirit of those who have presented MSS. Deeds and objects of interest to the Society's Collections and in particular to refer to the very generous gift of the Directors of the Chester United Gas Co. of two large exhibition cases. The Council are also indebted to those members who contributed towards the cost of acquiring the case which now houses the complete collection of finds from Messrs. Brown & Co.'s extensions, and to the Hon. Curator for the care and attention bestowed in displaying them. The extensive collections from the Deanery Field excavations will shortly be on view in the other cases.

The Hon. Treasurer's Statement of Accounts annexed shews a deficit of £69 14s. 9d.

During the year under review Vol. XXVII, part 2, of the Society's *Journal for 1927*, and Vol. XXVIII, part 1, for 1928, have been issued. The former contains “ Records of Archæological Finds ” at Chester, by Professor Newstead, and a “ Schedule of the Roman Remains of Chester, by Mr. P. H. Lawson; the latter “ The Diary of George Booth, of Chester, and Katherine Howard, his daughter, of Boughton, near Chester, 1707-1764,” and “ The Family of Proby, in Chester and Ireland,” by Rev. G. P. Crawford;

“ A Few Cheshire Worthies,” by Mr. Frank Simpson, and “ Druidism ” by the Lord Archbishop of Wales.

Reprints have been issued of the Schedule of the Roman Remains of Chester, and The Booth Diary, the latter a subscription edition in cloth.

The revision of prices referred to in the last Report, has been justified by an increased demand for back numbers of the *Journal*, and reprints, and a profit has accrued from these sales. Attention is drawn to an error in the prices of the Catalogue of Roman Coins and Potters' Marks. These should be 1s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. respectively.

Part 2 of Vol. XXVIII of the *Journal* for 1929, will contain among other contributions, Mr. Brownbill's paper on the Troutbeck Family, and the Reports of Professor Newstead on the Deanery Field excavations, 1928; the discovery of a further section of the Roman Wall and of an Edwardian Drum Tower in rear of the Frodsham Street Parking Ground.

The Reports (if any) of the Hon. Curator, Hon. Librarian and Hon. Secretary will be submitted to the Annual Meeting.

Under Rule 4 the following members of the Council retire, and are eligible for re-election, Messrs. W. Cullimore, M.A., LL.B., H. T. Dutton, M.A., C. H. Minshull, and W. J. Williams, M.A.

The Hon. Auditors, Messrs. Alfred Ayrton and Walter Conway, F.C.A., also retire and are eligible for re-election.

The Council are pleased to report that Lord Howard de Walden has consented to become a Patron of the Society.

The year has been notable for local archæological discoveries. In the spring the labours of Professors Newstead and Droop, in the Deanery Field, under the auspices of the Local Excavations Committee, were productive of a considerable advance in our knowledge of Roman Deva, and in the summer a further section of the Roman Wall, together with the foundations of an Edwardian Drum Tower were brought to light at the rear of the Frodsham Street Parking Ground.

At a meeting of the Chester Improvement Committee held 9th January, 1928, it was "Resolved: That the City Surveyor be instructed that whenever excavations are made likely to be of Archæological interest, to notify Professor R. Newstead thereof, and give him every facility to inspect the same."

The best thanks of the Council have been conveyed to the Chairman and members of the Chester Improvement Committee for the facilities afforded for a thorough investigation, and the action of the City Council in preserving and protecting these remains will be highly appreciated by the citizens and the community at large. It is also a source of gratification to know that provisions for the Control of Design and preservation of amenity have been made in the Corporation Bill now before Parliament.

It is with great regret that the resignation of Mr. W. E. Brown from the office of Hon. Treasurer is reported, especially as it is due to serious illness. The meticulous care with which he has husbanded the resources of the Society over a period of ten years is well known to the Council, and it is largely due to his efforts that the financial position of the Society has been maintained during recent years.

The Council regret to report the death of four members during the year: Major Robert Barbour, Mr. Fred Davies, Alderman D. L. Hewitt, and Mr. G. P. Miln, and the resignation of Mr. Henry Byford.

The number on the Roll at 1st Jan., 1929 was 222, including four life, seven honorary and two *ex-officio* members, as compared with 206 in the preceding year, an increase of sixteen members. Twenty-two new members were elected and four deaths and one resignation occurred. With the subscription at its pre-war amount of 10/6 it is impossible to issue as large a *Journal* as the Council would wish, without a much larger membership.

The Council again appeal to members to influence their friends to join the Society.

THE CHESTER AND NORTH WALES ARCHITECTURAL, ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND HISTORIC SOCIETY.

Statement of Receipts and Payments for the period 1st January to 31st December, 1928.

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
To Subscriptions—Arrears		9	19	6	By Fire Insurance		
" " —For 1928			91	7	0	One Year's Rent to 31st December, 1928	0
" One Life Member			101	6	6	Subscriptions to Kindred Societies	40
" Dividend on London, Midland and Scottish Railway Consolidated 4% Guaranteed Stock, £297			5	5	0	Donation to Deanery Field Excavations	6
" Interest on East Indian Railway 4½% Debenture Stock, 1935-55. £100			9	10	0	Printing, Stationery, and Postages	5
" Chester Corporation part of Admission Fees to Grosvenor Museum for year ended 25th March, 1928			3	12	0	Show Case Fittings and Plate Stands	93
" Chester Corporation for Lectures (<i>see Contra</i>)			16	7	3	Mr. A. Newstead for Lectures to Elementary School Children (<i>see Contra</i>)	12
" Sale of Books and Journals			25	0	0	Advertising and Expenses Lectures	25
" Miscellaneous Receipts			45	15	2	Miscellaneous Expenses	1
			0	1	6	Balance in hand	4
			£203	17	5	There being a liability of £84 4s. 9d. to the Printers.	11
			189	7	5		189
			14	10	0		7
			0	1	6		5
			£203	17	5		£203

We have examined the above Statement of Receipts and Payments with the Vouchers, and have found it to be a correct record.

W. E. BROWN, ALFRED AYRTON, } Hon. Auditors.
 Hon. Treasurer. WALTER CONWAY, }
 Audited 1st March, 1929.