



The Society of Antiquaries

OF

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1917.

In spite of another year of adverse external circumstances, the 'wondrous charm' of antiquity has still prevailed to preserve our society's activity in the promotion of its objects practically undiminished.

Sixteen new members have been elected, in comparison with eleven last year and nine in 1915. Losses from all causes leave the total number on our roll 356, the same as twelve months ago. The toll exacted by death, which amounted in the previous year to thirteen, has been six in that just concluded, namely, Sir Charles S. Milburn, bt. (elected 1909), Mr. Thomas Bowden (elected 1883), Mr. T. Hesketh Hodgson (elected 1898), Mr. W. Turnbull (elected 1900), Mr. E. C. Champness (elected 1906), and Dr. C. Clark Burman (elected 1891). Dr. Burman's death took place at Alnwick, where he had been a medical practitioner for many years, on 26th December, 1917, at the age of 63. He was an earnest bibliophile, especially of locally printed works, and was ever ready to impart information to the society respecting them and his other collections. He had a private press, on which, years ago, he printed part of the Alnwick church registers.

Our monthly meetings have been held during the year at five o'clock in the afternoon. After a trial made in November, 1916, this hour was adopted as a change from seven o'clock in the evening on account of the nocturnal darkness of the city and district during several months of the year, and the expediency of meeting, as before, at a uniform time both in summer and winter. To judge from the excellent attendances, the innovation has proved acceptable to the members generally. Papers and notes read at the meetings have upheld the society's criterion of value and variety. Most of them have been printed in our transactions, or are intended so to be. The authors include five vice-presidents: Dr. Greenwell, Dr. Gee, Dr. Dendy, Dr. Haverfield, and Mr. J. Crawford Hodgson; also Dr. Baumgartner, Dr. Wight Duff, the Rev. D. S. Boutflower, and Messrs. J. M. Baily, C. E. Baldwin, W. Parker Brewis, C. H. Hunter Blair, W. Brown, J. W. Fawcett, W. R. Heatley, A. M. Oliver, J. Oxberry, and G. R. B. Spain. The objects exhibited at the meetings have been more than usually interesting. Among the most noteworthy were:—1. The large collection of aquatints of local subjects, exhibited by Col. Spain at the February meeting, and afterwards in the library at the Black-gate. 2. The portraits of Samuel Pepys, the diarist, and of members of his family, belonging to Dr. Baumgartner, who kindly brought them to the May meeting for the inspection of his fellow members. 3. The selections, 50 pieces in all, shown at the July, September, and November meetings, by Mr. J. A. Irving, from his collection of silver plate of Newcastle manufacture of eighteenth-century date, which recalled to the memories of many the exhibition of Newcastle plate organized by the society in 1897. There are many collectors in our ranks who might well follow the examples to which reference has been made, and allow some of their treasures to be seen occasionally at our meetings. Such displays are particularly

welcome at a time when the incidental illustrations of the studies afforded by outdoor meetings are interrupted.

At the beginning of the year our member, Mr. Thomas Reed, presented to the society 100*l* as an endowment, 'in appreciation,' to use his own apposite words, 'of the many pleasures and advantages derived from 23 years' membership.' Mr. Reed was sincerely thanked for his gift, and it was invested, according to the generous donor's request, in the National War Loan.

During the year the society's gallery of portraits has been enriched by the addition of those of three former patrons; given by our president, the duke of Northumberland, and of two former vice-presidents, presented by relatives. In this connexion it is pleasant to observe that among our vice-presidents at the present time are two, the grandsons respectively of the first two secretaries of the society, thus linking the distant past and to-day by ties of direct heredity. In the current volume of *Proceedings* is being printed a continuation from the previous volume of the inedited correspondence of John Bell, of Gateshead, the originator of our society, throwing many interesting sidelights upon its early days. The late Dr. Burman, of Alnwick, kindly granted the editor the use of these letters.

The past year witnessed the publication of vol. xiv of the third series of *Archaeologia Aeliana*, containing pages xxxii+342, and 15 plates; practically equal in size to the volume immediately preceding it. The editor in the exercise of his discretion, and from motives of economy in paper and printing, has somewhat curtailed the *Proceedings*, of which the first half of vol. viii of the third series has been issued, extending over 108 pages and seven plates.

The recent appointment of one of our vice-presidents, Dr. Gee, to the deanery of Gloucester, calls forth our congratulations both to him and to that cathedral establishment. Although we feel deeply his removal from Durham, it is hoped this will neither

sever his connexion with our society, nor terminate his valuable communications to it upon the history of the north.

There has been recently published *The Life and Letters of Thomas Hodgkin*, one of our former secretaries and vice-presidents. The volume contains a bibliography of his literary work reprinted from *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 3 ser., vol. ix, p. 81.

Our member, Mr. Gerald Stoney, F.R.S., has been appointed to the chair of engineering in Manchester University, and takes with him our hearty good wishes on entering into a new sphere of work, whilst we regret his loss to Tyneside, with which he has so long been associated.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1917.

The number of members on the roll on the 31st December, 1917, was 356, six of whom are life members. During the year nine members resigned, six were lost by death, and one was removed from the roll by order of the council under Statute III. In the same period sixteen new members were elected.

The income for the year has been 556*l.* 10*s.* 1*d.*, which, with the balance of 46*l.* 15*s.* 2*d.* brought forward from 1916, gives a total of 603*l.* 5*s.* 3*d.* The expenditure has been 514*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* (against 532*l.* 14*s.* 4*d.* last year), leaving a balance in hand of 89*l.* 1*s.* 9*d.* This is apart from the donation of £100 received from Mr. T. Reed. The council had pleasure in complying with Mr. Reed's request that the donation should be invested in the new 5 per cent. War Stock 1929-47. This has been done and in addition we withdrew 23*l.* 10*s.* from our capital account and in this way were enabled to purchase 130*l.* of the new War Stock. Our previous holding of 4½ per cent. War Stock amounting to 268*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* has been converted into the new 5 per cent. War Stock 1929-47, and it now stands at 282*l.* 14*s.* 11*d.* A statement of our investment account is attached herewith.

TREASURER'S BALANCE SHEET FOR 1917.

xiii

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS ACCOUNT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1917.

		Receipts.		Payments.	
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	
Balance from 31st Dec., 1916 .. .. .	.. .. .	46	15	2	
Members' subscriptions	354 18 0				
Arrears of subscriptions	15 15 0				
		370	13	0	
Receipts at Castle .. .. .	.. .. .	128	1	2	
Receipts at Black-gate .. .. .	.. .. .	39	6	8	
Books sold : Guides to castle .. .. .	.. .. .	8	3	6	
Other publications .. .. .	.. .. .	10	5	9	
Donation from Mr. Thomas Reed .. .. .	.. .. .	100	0	0	
Castle expenses .. .. .	.. .. .				93 12 11
Black-gate expenses .. .. .	.. .. .				73 4 6
Books bought and library expenses .. .. .	.. .. .				32 11 11
Printing :—					
<i>Archaeologia Aeliana</i>	151 5 0				
<i>Proceedings</i>	59 17 0				
					211 2 0
Illustrations .. .. .	.. .. .				8 12 9
Museum expenses .. .. .	.. .. .				1 1 0
Editor for clerical assistance .. .. .	.. .. .				40 0 0
Sundry expenses, stationery, etc. .. .. .	.. .. .				53 18 5
Transferred to investment account .. .. .	.. .. .				100 0 0
Balance 31st December, 1917 :—					
Cash at bank	63 9 8				
Cash in hand	25 12 1				
					89 1 9
		£703	5	3	£703 5 3

INVESTMENTS, 31st December, 1917.

412l. 14s. 11d. 5 per cent. War Loan Stock 1929-1947 .. .. .	.. .. .	392	2	3
Cash at Post Office Savings Bank .. .. .	.. .. .	21	18	1
		£414	0	4

TREASURER'S BALANCE SHEET FOR 1917.

INVESTMENT ACCOUNT, 5 PER CENT. WAR STOCK, 1929-1947.

To 268*l.* 12*s.* 3*d.* 4½ per cent. Stock converted into 282*l.* 4*s.* 11*d.*

5 per cent. Stock	268	12	3
100 <i>l.</i> Stock purchased 13th March, 1917	95	0	0
30 <i>l.</i> Stock per Post Office at 95	28	10	0
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412 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i> 5 per cent. Stock	£392	2	3
	<hr/>		

DIVIDEND AND INTEREST ACCOUNT, 1917.

1917.

June 1st. By half year's dividend on 268 <i>l.</i> 12 <i>s.</i> 3 <i>d.</i>	6	12	3
,, dividend on 100 <i>l.</i>	1	8	9
,, dividend on 30 <i>l.</i>	0	8	6
Dec. 1st. By half year's dividend on 412 <i>l.</i> 14 <i>s.</i> 11 <i>d.</i>	10	6	4
,, Savings bank interest	0	4	3
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	£19	0	1
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SUMMARY.

Funds at 31st December, 1916	295	0	3
Mr. T. Reed's donation	100	0	0
Dividends and interest received	19	0	1
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	£414	0	4
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Examined with vouchers and found correct,

JAS. ARNOTT SISSON, F.C.A., *Hon Auditor.*

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 29th January, 1918.

LIBRARY ACCOUNT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES—		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	
Parish Register Society		1	1	0				
National Trust Society		1	1	0				
Congress of Archaeological Societies ..		1	0	0				
Harleian Society		1	1	0				
Surtees Society		1	1	0				
Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society		0	10	6				
		<hr/>				5	14	6
BOOKS BOUGHT AND BOOKBINDING—								
Mawson, Swan & Morgan, Ltd., for books ..		1	7	6				
R. D. Steedman, Associated Architectural Reports, etc., 1872-90		0	15	0				
T. & G. Allan, <i>Notes and Queries</i>		0	12	0				
St. Catherine Press, <i>Complete Peerage</i> , vol. IV		1	2	3				
Spink & Thackray, two cases for binding ..		0	2	9				
J. Maclehose & Son, <i>Scottish Historical Review</i> , parts 53-6		0	11	0				
M. S. Dodds, binding old newspapers ..		7	15	0				
The Wilson Bindery, bookbinding		6	1	6				
Mawson, Swan & Morgan, Ltd., bookbinding		6	12	11				
		<hr/>				24	19	11
Fire Insurance Premium on 'Brooks Collection'		0	10	0				
A. and B. Insurance Premium		0	7	6				
Librarian, petty disbursements		1	0	0				
		<hr/>				1	17	6
						<hr/>		
					£32	11	11	
					<hr/>			

EXPENDITURE ON CASTLE—		£	s.	d.
Warden, salary ..	66	5	0	
„ war-bonus ..	13	5	0	
Insurance stamps ..	0	13	6	
	<hr/>			
<i>Carried forward</i> ..	£80	3	6	

EXPENDITURE ON BLACKGATE—		£	s.	d.
Attendant's wages ..	26	10	0	
Insurance stamps ..	0	18	0	
Rent, Newc. corp'n ..	1	0	0	
	<hr/>			
<i>Carried forward</i> ..	£28	8	0	

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i> ..	80	3	6	<i>Brought forward</i> ..	28	8	0
Rent, Newc. corp'n ..	0	2	6	Rent, N.E.R. Co. ..	3	0	0
Water rate	0	6	0	Inhabited house duty	1	7	6
Gas account	0	12	2	Water rate	1	0	0
Electric current ..	2	2	3	Gas account	2	18	3
Repairs.	4	16	6	Electric current ..	1	19	7
Coals	4	0	0	Coals	11	0	0
Fire insurance premium	0	15	0	Way leave for electric			
Air and bombardment				cable	0	2	6
insurance premium ..	0	15	0	Window Cleaning Co.	1	9	0
				New wash-basin ..	4	7	0
				Repairs	5	6	6
				Brushes, etc. .. .	2	3	11
				Fire insurance premium	5	10	9
				Air and bombardment			
				Insurance premium	4	11	6
	£93	12	11		£73	4	6

SUNDRIES—

	£	s.	d.
Titus Wilson & Son, printing, stationery and postage ..	12	18	0
A. Dickson, Ltd., for printing, stationery and postage	4	5	6
A. Reid & Co., Ltd., for stationery and general printing	9	13	8
Geo. Hughes, for framing portraits	2	14	0
Robson & Son, Ltd., for cleaning tapestry	0	6	0
Allen & Unwin, for use of a block	0	2	6
Indexing <i>Proceedings</i> , VII	3	3	0
Indexing <i>Archaeologia Aeliana</i> , XIV	3	3	0
Postage and carriage on books	11	8	11
Cheque book	0	5	0
Treasurer's out-of-pocket expenses, clerical assistance,			
postage, etc.	3	12	6
R. Blair (secretary), for petty disbursements	2	6	4
	£53	18	5

The work of the library has gone on regularly in spite of many adverse conditions. The binding and cataloguing have been kept up, various new books have been purchased, and the exchanges from other societies have come regularly, though perhaps more slowly, than in the days of peace; for list of these see p. xxviii. It is very satisfactory to be able to record a decided increase in the use of the library by members. Not only have a greater number of volumes been issued than in any previous year, but it has been much more used for reference purposes, the result probably of the ease with which books can now be found by the new card catalogue and shelf arrangement. It is, perhaps, interesting to note that in the year 1909, the last year in which the books were at the old library in the keep, sixty volumes were lent, whilst during this year nearly two hundred have been in circulation. Gifts of books, etc., have been received from Mrs. Reeve, Rev. E. J. Taylor, Captain Fullarton James, and Messrs. J. W. Fawcett, J. Oxberry, H. Soden Bird, Thomas May, Edward Wooler, and Maberly Phillips. The society will be pleased to receive presents of manuscripts, or of books not already in the library, of local or archaeological interest.

Mr. W. Parker Brewis, F.S.A., one of the curators, reported that many objects had been presented to the museum during the year, all of which are duly recorded in the *Proceedings*; and that the Roman fibula from *Aesica* had for safety been deposited at the society's bankers.