

The Society of Antiquaries

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NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1918.

The society's ro6th annual meeting finds us relieved from the severe stress of national anxiety which prevailed on the last four anniversaries, and looking forward hopefully to an early and permanent peace, when we shall once again be able to avail ourselves, free from perturbation, of the entire range of privileges afforded to its members by the society's organization.

It is gratifying to place on record that the last year of the war brought to our ranks twenty-two new members; a larger number than had been elected within a similar term since hostilities commenced. At its close our numerical strength was but slightly diminished compared with the preceding two years, although during its progress our losses by death had been more than usually numerous. Ere the year was a month old, on the 27th January, our venerable vice-president, Dr. William Greenwell, was gathered to his fathers, at the ripe age of nearly 98. On the 14th May our patron and president, the seventh duke of Northumberland, was suddenly removed from amongst us. Of these prominent members appreciative obituaries will appear in the forthcoming volume of *Archaeologia Aeliana*.

Beside these we have lost the following colleagues, whose membership dated from the years annexed to each name :---John 3 SER., VOL. XVI.

THE COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR 1918.

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Bosworth Bowes (1892); James Cooke (1905); William Crossling (1906); Oswald V. Davis (1918); Thomas Watson Lovibond (1905); Rev. F. MacCormick (1907); J. R. Perrett (1906); Sir George Hare Philipson (1879); William Bruce Reid (1883); Edward Sisterson (1901); George Smith (1898); H. W. Thorburn (1902); and Mrs. Thompson (1899); also John Walton Robinson, junior (1907), who fell in the war on 28th March, aged 37. Another member, Mr. J. C. Leask, is reported missing in the war as from March, 1918. One of the few honorary members of the society, Professor E. C. Clark, of Cambridge (elected 1886), died in 1917, but no intimation of his death was received until early in 1918. In the *Proceedings* for March last there was included a brief notice of the professor's career.

Turning to brighter topics we received in September from our member Mr. Thomas Reed the gift of 100*l*. towards our endowment account. This followed a donation of an equal sum in January, 1917, from the same gentleman, and deserves and has received our grateful acknowledgement. Like the previous benefaction it has been invested in National War funds.

The society has been the recipient, during the past year, of a large number of engraved copper plates, given by the executors of the late Thomas and George Allan. They comprise (*inter alia*) most of the plates illustrating respectively Richardson's Memorials of Old Newcastle (re-published by Messrs. Allan in 1897), Mackenzie's Newcastle, Mackenzie and Ross's County of Durham, and Hair's Coalmines in Northumberland and Durham; besides ninety of the vignette views of north country churches, castles and mansions published by Davison, of Alnwick, well nigh a century ago, depicting the state of these edifices at that time and presenting in many cases features vastly different from their aspects to-day. The society already possessed the copper plates of Bucks' views of Northumberland and Durham, of Richardson's

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St. Nicholas's steeple, and Bourne's map of Newcastle, in addition to sundry others, so that our collection is now extensive. When the cost of printing and paper becomes reasonable it is hoped that impressions from many of the plates will be made available for members and others who value graphic records of the past condition of local subjects.

The society has also received from Dr. T. M. Allison a large collection of flails; the donor, it will be recollected contributed an article on the subject of these implements to *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 3 ser., vol. IV.

The prevalent excessive cost of printing has prohibited the publication of new editions of the *Descriptive Guides to the Castle* and Blackgate (needed in consequence of the demand for them by the increased number of visitors to these places), which the author, Mr. Parker Brewis, had revised ready for the press. It is hoped the re-issue of these guides may not long be deferred. Mr. Brewis, who has rendered such faithful services as one of the curators since 1906, has this year added to our obligations to him by preparing an elaborate catalogue of the pre-historic bronze implements in the Blackgate museum, with illustrations by our member, Mrs. Willans. To this lady our thanks are tendered for these and also for her continued assistance in connexion with the library.

Mr. Parker Brewis's good offices in the cause of archaeology have not been confined to our own society, for he has acquired by purchase and presented to the Newcastle Public Reference Library a large number of original deeds and other documents from the collection of the late Dr. Greenwell, dating in many cases from the fourteenth century.

Our neighbour, Sir Arthur Middleton, bt., has recently published Sir Gilbert de Middleton, a life of the author's ancestor, with particular reference to his part in the rebellion in the North of

THE COUNCIL'S REPORT FOR 1918.

England in 1317 and the episode which led to the termination of his career. The book constitutes a valuable and interesting contribution to local history.

The disordered state of the printing trade, due to shortage of men and materials, arising out of war conditions, has rendered it impossible to publish volume xv of *Archaeologia Aeliana* within the year in which it was due. It is, however, in an advanced state of preparation and will soon be in the hands of members, and it is hoped the succeeding volume will appear in its proper course during 1919. The *Proceedings* have been punctually issued; the last number completes vol. VIII of the third series, with the exception of the index and preliminary pages.

The ordinary indoor meetings have taken place monthly, with the customary intermissions at Midsummer and Christmas-tide. The exhibition of interesting articles and documents thereat has added largely to the attraction of these gatherings, and many of the objects, by the generosity of the exhibitors, have been added to our museum and library.

In order to reduce the accumulation of the stock in hand of our publications it was decided for a limited time during the year to offer a portion of the surplus to members at reduced prices and many took advantage of this opportunity to add to their libraries.

The duke of Northumberland has consented to be nominated for the offices of patron and president, thus preserving the continuity of the house of Percy's association with our society. This has never been interrupted since our foundation in 1813. The present duke will be the sixth of his line to fill the position of patron and the second of his family to occupy the presidential chair to which his father was elected twenty years ago.

The vice-presidents, according to statute IV of the society, are 'not to exceed twelve in number.' The council recommends

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that any vacancies occuring in the present list of eleven shall not be filled up until fewer than six remain, and that the number afterwards should not exceed six.

TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1918.

The number of members on the roll on the 31st December, 1918, was 354, six of whom are life members. During the year six members resigned, sixteen were lost by death, and two were removed from the roll by order of the council under statute III. In the same period twenty-two new members were elected.

Including Mr. T. Reed's donation of 100*l*. the income for the year has been 870*l*. os. 11*d*. which, with the balance brought forward from 1917, gives a total of 959*l*. 2s. 8*d*.

The expenditure has been 435*l*. 11s. 4*d*. (against 514*l*. 3s. 6d. for the previous year). Mr. T. Reed's donation was duly invested in National War Bonds (1928), and in addition the Council authorized the investing of a further sum of 200*l*. in the same security, as well as 100*l*. 15s. in War Saving Certificates, thus leaving a balance in hand of 122*l*. 16s. 4*d*. on the year's accounts. It is to be noted in this connexion, that only 100*l*. has been paid on account of printing *Archaeologia Aeliana*. Owing to war conditions it was found impossible to issue last year's volume within the proper period, so that we must consider the larger part of the balance in hand as earmarked for the purpose of paying the portion of the account for printing *Archaeologia Aeliana* that remains unpaid.

The increased amount received from the sale of books, etc., viz. 123l. 9s. 3d. (against 18l. 9s. 3d. for the previous year) is alluded to, and explained in the report of the council. Another gratifying feature is the increased receipts, both at the Castle and Blackgate (especially the former, being 86l. 16s. more than the previous year), which clearly indicate a growing interest on xiv TREASURER'S BALANCE SHEET FOR 1918.

the part of the general public. For the first time for many years the receipts at the Blackgate exceed the expenses. The insurance against Aircraft and Bombardment has now been discontinued, which means a saving of 5l. 6s. 6d. per annum. Appended to the Balance Sheet are full details of expenditure. During the year 400l. 15s. has been added to the Investment Fund which now amounts to 792l. 17s. 3d.

RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1918.

					Receipts.			Payments.			
		£	s.	d.	£	S	d.	£	s.	d.	
Balance from 31st Dec., 1917					89	I	9				
Members' Subscriptions	••	355	19	0							
Arrears	••	19	19	ο							
				.	375	18	0				
Receipts at Castle	••	• •		••	214	17	2				
Receipts at Blackgate	••	• •		••	54	12	7				
Books, etc. sold : Guides	••	20	14	6							
Other'publications	••	86	12	I							
Waste paper	••	16	2	6							
					123	9	I			0	
Castle expenses	••	• •		••	• • •		••		II	8	
Blackgate expenses	••	••		••	••		••	52	I	9	
Printing :—					-						
Archaeologia Aeliana (on a	/c)	. 100	0	0							
Proceedings	••	43	13	6						~	
								143		6	
Illustrations	••	• •		• •	••		••	16	-	10	
Books bought, and library exp				• •	••		••	29		II	
Sundry expenses, general prin-	ting, s	stati	onei	r y , et	tc		••		16		
Duitor for exercise assistent	••	••		• •	••		••	40	0	0	
Mr. R. Blair, donation for plat					I	4	I				
Mr. Thomas Reed, 2nd dona	tion	to∙I	Endo	ow-							
ment Fund	••	• •		••	100	0	0				
Carried forward	••	••		••	959	2	8	435	11	4	

TREASURER'S BALANCE SHEET FOR 1918.

	War] 105 17	Bonds 7 6	£ 959 	s. 2	d. 8 	£ 435 100 200 100	0 07	d. 4 0 0
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			£959	2	8	£959	2	.8
Investments on 31	IST DE	семн	BER. I	JI 7.				
412l. 14s. 11d. 5 per cent War Stock Added du		•••	••		••	392	2	3
1301. War Saving Certificates	0	-				100	15	0
3001. 5 per cent National War Bonds			••		••	300	o	0
•						£792	17	3
Post Office Savi	NGS B	ÀNK.						
Balance 31st December, 1917	••					21	18	I
Dividends on 5 per cent War Stock	during	1918				20	12	2
Interest on Account	•••	••	••		••	0	13	3
						£43	3	6

Examined with Vouchers and found correct,

HERBERT M. WOOD, Chartered Accountant.

Sunderland, 25th January, 1919.

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1918.

LIBRARY ACCOUNT.

SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES— \oint s. d. \oint s. d. f s. d.Parish Register SocietyII0National Trust SocietyII0Congress of Archaeological SocietiesII0Harlein SocietyII0Surtees SocietyII0Surtees SocietyII0Yorkshire Archaeological Society (Record Series)II0Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society0Io6Books BOUGHT AND BOOKBINDING— Yorksh. Arch ¹ Soc (Record Series), 24 vols.660Mawson, Swan & Morgan, Ltd., for book- bindingII96T. & G. Allan, Notes and Queries0Io07I196III196Harold Hill, for books0Io0Aircraft and Bombardment premium do.0761176Librarian, petty disbursementsI001176I001176I001176I001176 <t< th=""><th>LIBRART ACCOUNT.</th><th></th><th>-</th></t<>	LIBRART ACCOUNT.		-			
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DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1918.

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Insurance stamps o 13 o Rent N.E.R. Co	3	0	0
Rent, Newcastle corpor ^{n} o 2 6 Inhabited house duty .	I	7	6
Water rate o 6 o Water rate	I	0	0
Gas account 0 14 10 Gas account	I	6	6
Electric current 2 12 4 Electric current	, 1	8	II
Window cleaning o 7 o Coals	7	16	0
Coals I I3 0 Way-leave for Electric			
Suit for warden 6 3 0 cable	0	2	6
Fire insurance premium o 15 o Crossling & Co., broom	0	5	6
Repairs	2	I	I
Fire insurance premium	5	10	9
•			
£97 II 8	£52	I	9
Sundries—	f.	s.	d.
Titus Wilson & Son, General printing	18	7	I
,, ,, Stationery, etc	4	12	0
A. Reid & Co., Ltd., stationery and general printing	9	3	8
Postage and carriage on books	12	14	8
Cheque book	0	5	0
Geo. Hughes for framing photograph	0	4	0
R. Blair (secretary) for petty disbursements	4	4	·I
Treasurer's out-of-pocket expenses, clerical assistance	'	•	
postage, etc	3	18	6
Indexing of Proceedings, vol. VIII	3	3	0
Advertising in Newcastle Daily Chronicle	0	4	8
•	£56	16	8
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