

The Society of Antiquaries

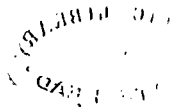
OF
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1918.

The society's 106th 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 *Archæologia Aeliana*.

Beside these we have lost the following colleagues, whose membership dated from the years annexed to each name:—John



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. Thornburn (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

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 Aeliiana*, 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

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

that any vacancies occurring 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.* 0*s.* 11*d.* which, with the balance brought forward from 1917, gives a total of 959*l.* 2*s.* 8*d.*

The expenditure has been 435*l.* 11*s.* 4*d.* (against 514*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* 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.* 15*s.* in War Saving Certificates, thus leaving a balance in hand of 122*l.* 16*s.* 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. 123*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* (against 18*l.* 9*s.* 3*d.* 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 86*l.* 16*s.* more than the previous year), which clearly indicate a growing interest on

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 5*l.* 6*s.* 6*d.* per annum. Appended to the Balance Sheet are full details of expenditure. During the year 400*l.* 15*s.* has been added to the Investment Fund which now amounts to 792*l.* 17*s.* 3*d.*

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

	<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Payments.</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 31st Dec., 1917 ..	..	..	..	89	1	9
Members' Subscriptions ..	355	19	0			
Arrears	19	19	0			
	<hr/>			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	1			
Waste paper	16	2	6			
	<hr/>			123	9	1
Castle expenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	97 11 8
Blackgate expenses .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	52 1 9
Printing :—						
<i>Archaeologia Aeliana</i> (on a/c) ..	100	0	0			
<i>Proceedings</i>	43	13	6			
	<hr/>					143 13 6
Illustrations .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	16 6 10
Books bought, and library expenses ..	..	..	..	..	..	29 0 11
Sundry expenses, general printing, stationery, etc. ..	..	..	..	..	..	56 16 8
Editor for clerical assistance .. .. .	..	..	..	..	..	40 0 0
Mr. R. Blair, donation for plates .. .. .	..	..	..	1	4	1
Mr. Thomas Reed, 2nd donation to Endowment Fund .. .. .	..	..	..	100	0	0
	<hr/>			959	2	8
<i>Carried forward</i> .. .. .	..	..	..	435	11	4

TREASURER'S BALANCE SHEET FOR 1918.

XV

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
<i>Brought forward</i>	959	2	8	435	11	4			
The same invested in National War Bonds				100	0	0			
Additional sum invested in National War Bonds				200	0	0			
Invested in War Saving Certificates				100	15	0			
Balance 31st Dec., 1918 :—									
Cash in Bank	105	17	6						
Cash in hand	16	18	10						
							122	16	4
				£959	2	8	£959	2	8

INVESTMENTS ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1917.

412l. 14s. 11d. 5 per cent War Stock	392	2	3			
Added during 1918 :—						
130l. War Saving Certificates	100	15	0			
300l. 5 per cent National War Bonds, 1918	300	0	0			
				£792	17	3

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK.

Balance 31st December, 1917	21	18	1			
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.

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			
Yorkshire Archaeological Society (Record Series)	.. .. .	1	1	0			
Museum Association	.. .. .	1	1	0			
Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society	.. .. .	0	10	6			
		<hr/>				7	16	6
BOOKS BOUGHT AND BOOKBINDING—								
Yorksh. Arch ^l Soc. (Record Series), 24 vols.		6	6	0				
Mawson, Swan & Morgan, Ltd., for book-binding	.. .. .	11	9	6			
T. & G. Allan, <i>Notes and Queries</i>	.. .. .	0	6	0			
Year Book of Scientific Societies, 1917	.. .. .	0	7	11			
" " 1918	.. .. .	0	7	6			
Harold Hill, for books	.. .. .	0	10	0			
		<hr/>				19	6	11
Fire Insurance premium on 'Brooks Collection'		0	10	0				
Aircraft and Bombardment premium do.		0	7	6				
Librarian, petty disbursements	.. .. .	1	0	0			
		<hr/>				1	17	6
		<hr/>				£29	0	11
		<hr/>						

EXPENDITURE ON CASTLE—

	£	s.	d.
Warden, salary	66	5	0
" war-bonus	13	0	0
" gratuity	5	0	0
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<i>Carried forward</i>	84	5	0

EXPENDITURE ON BLACKGATE—

	£	s.	d.
Attendant's wages	26	10	0
Insurance stamps	0	13	0
Rent, Newcastle corpn.	1	0	0
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<i>Carried forward</i>	28	3	0

