

Proceedings at the Meetings of the Society.

FIRST GENERAL MEETING,

Held in Crosby Hall, on Friday, December 14, 1855,

The Rev. THOMAS HUGO, M.A. F.S.A. M.R.S.L. &c. in the Chair.

The particulars of this Meeting, taken from Mr. Knight's short-hand report, will be found at pages 3—22.

SECOND GENERAL MEETING,

Held in Crosby Hall, on Monday, January 28, 1856,

The Right Hon. the LORD LONDESBOROUGH, K.C.H. F.R.S.
F.S.A. &c. President of the Society, in the Chair.

The noble Chairman, on opening the proceedings, congratulated the Society on the very large number of Members who had assembled at the invitation of the Council—a proof, as his Lordship hoped, that a lively interest was felt in its well-being, and an earnest of its power and influence for good. Although still suffering from indisposition, he could not refrain from being present on this occasion, or from assisting to the utmost of his ability an Institution with the desire for the establishment of which he most heartily concurred, and for the continued advancement of which he was as warmly solicitous. The Society, his Lordship added, was now fairly introduced to the world. Many noble and learned men had consented to become its supporters, and he hailed the present appearances as an indubitable augury of future success.

The Rev. Thomas Hugo, M.A. F.S.A. &c. then read the first paper of the evening, an "Introductory Address" on the objects of the Society and the field of its operations; given at page 23.

C. Roach Smith, Esq. F.S.A. contributed the next paper, "On some late Discoveries in Roman London," for which see page 31.

The Rev. Thomas Hugo followed with "A Memoir of Crosby Place," given at page 35.

Thomas Lott, Esq. F.S.A. read "Notices of St. Helen's, Bishopsgate," at page 57.

The Rev. Charles Boutell, M.A. concluded with "A Notice of the Monumental Brasses to Alianore de Bohun, Duchess of Gloucester, in Westminster Abbey, and to Joice, Lady Tiptoft, in Enfield Church, Middlesex," given at page 67.

The Hon. Secretary, Mr. G. B. Webb, read a letter from Sir Charles Barry, in reply to a representation made to him by the Council relative to some ancient statues found in the crypt of St. Stephen's Chapel, Westminster, which had been subjected to wanton injury; in preventing which for the future the Council requested that Sir Charles Barry's authority might be exerted. The letter conveyed an assurance, most courteously worded, that this request should be complied with.

After a vote of thanks to the noble Chairman, proposed by the Rev. Thomas Hugo, and seconded by Mr. Deputy Lott, the Members retired to the Council Chamber adjoining the Hall to partake of refreshments and to inspect the Society's temporary Museum.

Objects and Works of Art exhibited.

By the PRESIDENT. A bronze figure of an Archer, of the Roman period, discovered in an excavation in Queen Street, Cheapside, in July, 1842. It was secured in the first place by Mr. William Chaffers, F.S.A. and was purchased from him by Lord Londesborough. A description and figure of this beautiful object of Roman art, are given in the *Archæologia*, vol. xxx. pp. 543, 544, plate xxii. And an admirable engraving has been made by Mr. F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. which may be found in Lord Londesborough's *Miscellanea Graphica*, No. 8.

By W. PETTIT GRIFFITH, Esq. F.S.A. A stone-boss, sculptured with foliage, discovered in 1855 on the site of Christ's Hospital, Newgate Street.

A carved stone window-head, found in the vicinity of St. John's Gate, Clerkenwell. It belonged to the Priory Buildings, and is interesting on account of its containing the arms of the Priory in the spandril of its arch.

Part of an ornamental ceiling found in Berkeley Court, Clerkenwell, on the site of the residence of Sir Maurice Berkeley, standard-bearer to Henry VIII., Edward VI. and Queen Elizabeth.

By the Rev. THOMAS HUGO, M.A. F.S.A. A celt, formed of green stone, remarkable for its large dimensions, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inc. by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inc. It was taken from the bed of the river near Battersea Bridge, in September, 1854.

A black flint celt, 6 inc. by $2\frac{1}{2}$, possessing an edge of remarkable excellence in smoothness and sharpness. It was taken from the river near Teddington, in May, 1854.

A black flint celt, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inc. by $2\frac{3}{8}$ inc., found near Blackfriars Bridge, in February, 1855.

A large bronze celt, of the simple wedge form, found also in the Thames in 1854, length $7\frac{1}{2}$ inc. breadth of cutting-edge 4 inc. The greater portion of its surface is covered by a fretty ornament, formed by small indents, which may have been impressed on the bronze by means of a blunt chisel. See *Journal of Brit. Archæol. Assoc.* vol. ix. p. 166, pl. 12, figs. 8, 9.

A bronze fibula, of the Roman period, discovered in an excavation in

Ratcliffe Highway, October 27, 1852. It is figured at page 22. One of nearly similar shape was discovered some years since at Odiham, in Hampshire, and is figured in the *Journal of the Institute*, vol. ii. p. 46. Another still more closely resembling the present was exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries, in May, 1850, and is described and figured in the *Proceedings*, vol. ii. pp. 84—86. A third, preserved in the Boulogne Museum, is given by Mr. C. R. Smith, *Collect. Antiq.* vol. i. pl. 3; and a fourth is mentioned in the *Recueil of Caylus*, tome 1^{er}. p. 256. The present specimen, which is at least as beautiful as either of those referred to, was exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries, May 26, 1853, and is noticed in the *Proceedings*, vol. iii. p. 15.

The central portion of an Ivory Triptych, of the fourteenth century, discovered in Haydon Square, Minories, on the supposed site of the convent of Nuns Minories, September 12, 1853. It represents, in an upper compartment, the Crucifixion, with the Virgin and St. John, and, in a lower, the Virgin crowned with the Infant Saviour. Traces of red and blue colour are still visible in several parts. An engraving of this interesting relic of mediæval art is given at p. 56.

A Russo-Greek Triptych, found in 1853, in the churchyard of Christ's Church, Spitalfields, having probably been interred with the corpse of some foreigner, a member of the Greek Church.

By CHARLES REED, Esq. F.S.A. A *Couvre-feu*, or Curfew, of copper, embossed and ornamented with a vine-leaf pattern running round the outer edge. The parts are riveted together, and the dimensions are 10 inc. in width, 16 inc. in height, and 9 inc. in depth. The curfew was formerly an utensil in very frequent use. The ashes being raked together at the back of the hearth, this covering was placed over them, so that, the air being almost wholly excluded, the fire was speedily extinguished and no smoke escaped to the apartment. Bacon speaks of the "fire cover," and Johnson calls it "a fire plate." The specimen exhibited was formerly the property of the antiquary Francis Grose. On his death it passed into the possession of Horace Walpole, and bears a label in his hand-writing. It is engraved in Hone's "*Every Day Book*," vol. i. p. 243. Also three Roman lamps, found in London.

By J. W. BROWN, Esq. Fragments of Roman horse-furniture, and a Roman ring, discovered in Queen Street, Cheapside, 1853.

By the Rev. CHARLES BOUTELL, M.A. A rubbing of the brass to Joice, Lady Tiptoft, in Enfield Church, Middlesex.

By T. L. PEAKE, Esq. A rubbing of the Shepherd brass in Kingsbury Church, Middlesex.

By EDWARD GRIFFITH, Esq. F.R.S. The Antwerp View of London, by Hollar—a magnificent impression, formerly the property of the late Mr. Newman, the City Solicitor. That gentleman had it lithographed, and gave a number of copies to his friends. These are accordingly by no means uncommon, but copies of the original etching are of very rare occurrence.

Another View of London by Hollar, representing the City previous to the Great Fire, and annexed to it is a representation of part of the town in ruins.

A picture of London by the Dutch artist Greffier. When collated with the view by Hollar, it is obvious that neither is copied from the other. There is sufficient difference, though both were taken from the same or closely adjoining spots, from which to infer originality, and perhaps accuracy in both. They were taken, not, as it appears, from the tower of St. Saviour's, Southwark, but from some considerable elevation near it.

By the SURREY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. A bronze dagger and a flint celt found at Teddington, for an account and figure of the former of which see page 140: also a collection of fictile works discovered in London, from the Museum of the Society.

THIRD GENERAL MEETING,

Held in the French Gallery, 121, Pall Mall, on Tuesday, February 26, 1856,

A. J. BERESFORD HOPE, Esq. F.S.A. in the Chair.

The Chairman commenced his address by stating that the present Meeting was one of peculiar interest, inasmuch as the Society was now visiting the City of Westminster for the first time. The two previous Meetings had been held within the limits of the City of London, and Westminster had not until now enjoyed the benefit of the Society's presence. It was, however, eminently worthy of that honour, as some of the noblest relics of our ancient Metropolis were to be found within its pale. The Chairman next adverted to the need which existed of an Institution like the present. London had contributed many objects of interest to the archaeological student; but it needed a concentrated association, such as this Society, to develop its resources, and rescue from oblivion the fast decaying remains of its former greatness. This was the Society's object and intention; and, in order to carry out the same to the fullest extent, it proposed to institute a careful supervision of existing relics, and to encourage the preservation of antiquities which might be discovered in the progress of works, whether excavations for sewers, or the removal of soil for the foundations of buildings. It would also prevent, as far as was practicable, any injuries with which monuments and ancient remains might be ruthlessly threatened. To show the need of such an Institution, it was only necessary to observe that had it existed three years ago the crypt of Gerrard's Hall would no doubt have met with a very different fate. It had been sent to the Crystal Palace, and eventually was broken up to mend the roads at Sydenham. The Chairman thought that by concentrating their efforts on their own district they would be doing much good to the general cause of antiquarian research and archaeological science. And when they considered the antiquity of the Metropolis, and its long and interesting history, they must, he was con-

vinced, feel the importance of the study in which they were engaged, and of the object which had called them together.

The Rev. Thomas Hugo, M.A. F.S.A. read the first paper, on "The Primæval History of London and Middlesex." He observed:—

"That 'the child is father of the man,' is a statement received by the majority of us, I presume, as an almost sacred truth. To nations, therefore, like ourselves, with a long and glorious history, and valued institutions which are the growth of centuries, no matter can well be more interesting than the infancy and childhood of that body politic which has risen to a manhood of so surpassing and noble a stature. If the beginning ennobles the end, the end may surely be said to reflect a halo round the beginning.

"I am desirous, accordingly, of calling the attention of the Society to a subject about which very little has been written, but whose interest and importance are nevertheless indisputable. I allude to the state of the metropolis and the metropolitan county prior to and during the times of the Roman invasions—the primæval history, in a word, of that comparatively small area which in succeeding times, has been the scene of such mighty operations, and has played so important a part in every act of the world's eventful drama. The topic is confessedly obscure, but is only on that account the more full of interest, and deserving of the more profound attention. I hope to be able to throw just one or two additional rays of light into the gloom, and in this manner to enable the future investigator to begin his researches from one step at least in advance of the point from which he might otherwise have commenced his journey."

The paper proceeded to comment on the accounts of the Greek and Roman historians, philosophers and geographers, Herodotus, Aristotle, and Polybius, the only authorities who mention our island that lived prior to Cæsar's first invasion, Cæsar himself, Diodorus Siculus, Strabo, Pomponius Mela, and Tacitus.

It then continued:—

"Cæsar arrived in Britain, Aug. 26, B.C. 55, and after some losses returned to Gaul about the 20th of September in the same year. He made a second expedition in May, 54 B.C., and, though meeting with considerable obstruction, proceeded as far as the Thames against the Britons under the command of Cassivellaun. And here it is that for the first time the tribes which occupied this portion of the island figure prominently upon the scene. As the Roman commander led his army along the bank of the stream, with a view of attacking the forces of Cassivellaun, he found that the only ford, and that a difficult one, was rendered still more dangerous by being staked in all directions, both on the banks and in the bed of the river. Nothing, however, could withstand the practised skill and determination of the legionaries. Cassivellaun betook himself to the neighbouring woods and fastnesses, and there awaited a brighter day. Parties, however, were continually issuing forth, and kept the Romans in constant alarm; and it was therefore, no doubt, to Cæsar's considerable satisfaction, that

the Trinobantes, the men of Essex, and of the neighbouring parts of Middlesex, sent parties to treat with him. Imanuentius had ruled the district, and his son Mandubratius had visited Cæsar in Gaul. Cassivellaun, like a true Briton, had no notion of these dubious patriots, and the youth had escaped by flight the death which the father had incurred. On Cassivellaun's defeat, Cæsar was requested to place Mandubratius on the throne. The request was complied with, though the sovereignty under such circumstances was little else than a mockery. At this apparent clemency several of the neighbouring tribes entered into league with the Roman, and the gallant Cassivellaun was left alone to repel, as best he could, the march of the invader.

“The tribes whose adherence was last received carried their baseness so far as to reveal the situation of Cassivellaun's town. The Britons, says Cæsar, call by the name of town, ‘oppidum,’ a place in the densest part of the woods, which they strengthen with a ditch and rampart, to protect themselves against an enemy's attack. Such as this was the oppidum of Cassivellaun; fortified both by wood and marsh, and enclosing a great multitude of men and cattle. The soldiers of Rome were again victorious; and the British chief, foiled in an attack which he had devised against the castra navalia, and hurt most of all by the desertion of his countrymen, sent to Cæsar to treat for peace. And Cæsar, wisely considering that such an enemy was neither to be slighted nor goaded into further resistance, acceded, stipulating that Mandubratius and the Trinobantes should remain unmolested.

“Hitherto we have heard nothing of London, unless the cursorily-mentioned ‘civitas’ of the Trinobantes can be so interpreted. Supposing this, however, to mean London, as it assuredly may, the stronghold of the British chieftain and the special scene of the contest must be sought for elsewhere. The former could not have been the friendly ‘Trinobantum civitas,’ whatever that was, or, among other reasons, Cæsar would not have needed its situation to be revealed to him. Nor, surely, was it the spot afterwards called Verulamium, near St. Alban's, though generally so considered, inasmuch as that place was far too remote from the admitted locality of Cæsar's described operations, which were most assuredly confined to the neighbourhood of the Thames. I shall be pardoned for reminding you, inasmuch as the fact appears usually to be forgotten, that the name of the oppidum of the heroic Briton is nowhere stated by any of the original authorities, and that it is only in comparatively modern times that Verulamium has been suggested as his capital. This suggestion, though proposed by very able advocates, appears to me to be entirely erroneous, and in the total absence of ancient testimony to admit most fairly of dispute. It has been assumed, I am aware, by one modern author after another from Camden downwards; but the agreement of two or three centuries is only what we meet with on other occasions where error is palpably manifest, and must therefore by no means be regarded as an indubitable evidence of truth. For the reasons

already advanced, then, especially the general silence of antiquity, and the remoteness of the place from the acknowledged scene of action, I consider Verulamium entirely destitute of any real claim to be so associated. Indeed, without going so far as to place the site of primæval London on the south bank of the Thames, a notion to my mind wholly without foundation, I nevertheless regard with the greatest suspicion each modern theory (for an ancient one does not exist) which would localise any of the events of Cæsar's campaign in places north of the immediate vicinity of the river. The oppidum of Cassivellaun is, therefore, in my opinion, to be sought for more to the south, instead of the north, than either Verulamium or the London of any age; and I would hazard what appears to me a far more probable conjecture, that a large collection of hut circles on Wimbledon Common, distinctly visible a short time ago, and I doubt not at present also, was the fortified fastness to which the Romans pursued him. The banks of the Thames from above Hampton Court to Battersea Bridge were indubitably the grand scene of the protracted warfare between the Roman legionaries and the heroic Britons. It was at Coway Stakes above Sunbury that, according to tradition, which there is no reason either to suspect or reject, the Roman commander crossed the Thames, where he found the bed of the river bristling with stakes and its further bank lined with his rude but courageous enemies, and from whence he proceeded towards the site of London. And, as I shall presently show in confirmation of this view, the discovery of both British and Roman weapons all along the space just defined is a positive proof, or very little less, of the correctness of the conjecture.

“Cæsar returned from Britain the same year, B.C. 54. . . . We must now pass over a long interval of nearly a century, concerning the history of which little or nothing is known. In A.D. 43 Aulus Plautius was sent by Claudius into Britain, and overcame Caractacus. . . . In A.D. 61 Suetonius attempted the reduction of Anglesea. Taking advantage of his absence, Boadicea, queen of the Iceni, attacked the Roman stations and put 70,000 to death. The British queen is described by Xiphilinus, evidently from tradition, as of gigantic stature, most terrible of aspect, most savage of countenance and harsh of voice, with a profusion of yellow hair which fell down to her hips, and wearing a large golden collar: she was attired in a party-coloured floating vest drawn close about her bosom, and over this she wore a thick mantle connected by a clasp; a figure which, how rude soever, was not less right royal in the eyes of those whom she incited to revenge.

“On this occasion the Iceni were joined by the Trinobantes. Suetonius marched to London and engaged the Britons, of whom it is said that 80,000 were put to the sword. During the whole of this period southern Britain was the scene of continual warfare between the native tribes and their foreign invaders, and it required the care and science of the ablest generals of Rome to make good their occupation, and to subdue the indomitable spirit of these sons of liberty.

“It is when relating the return of Suetonius from Mona to revenge the insurrection of Boadicea, that the name of London is first found in ancient literature. Tacitus says, ‘Suetonius Londinium perrexit, cognomento quidem coloniae non insigne, sed copia negociatorum et commeatuum maxime celebre.’ It was not dignified indeed with the title of a colony, but was much celebrated for resort of traders and strangers. By this time, then, at least, it had risen to importance. He was obliged to leave it to the vengeance of the enemy, and all whom the weakness of sex or age obliged, or the sweetness of the place, ‘loci dulcedo,’ induced, to remain were indiscriminately put to the sword. This was followed shortly afterwards by the campaigns of Agricola, A.D. 78—84. It is needless to pursue the history further, as Britain from this time became Roman, and the era ends to which I desired to give attention.

“It will be seen that I have taken the more authentic narratives of Cæsar and Tacitus, as to the state of this portion of our country, than the fictions of Geoffrey of Monmouth and others of his school. According to them London was founded by Brute, the son of Silvius, son of Ascanius, son of Æneas. Brute, they say, having killed his mother in his infancy and his father by accident in hunting, fled his country, and after a succession of wanderings arrived at our island, then inhabited by giants of enormous stature, whom he defeated, with their herculean chieftain Gogmagog, about 1108 years B.C. The city was called, they add, Nova Troja, Dinas Belin, and Caer Ludd. I may add by the way that Camden supposes that the name was derived either from *lhwn*, groves, and *dyn*, a town, meaning the town in the wood, or from *lhong*, ships, with the termination as before. And Selden sees its name in *Llan Dian*, the city of Diana, a temple of whom is said to have existed in times of remote antiquity on the site of St. Paul’s, as a shrine of Apollo did on that of Westminster Abbey.

“Camden’s first derivation is to my mind the best, ‘the city in the grove.’ For let us imagine the scene of our Society’s labours at the period which I am attempting to make more familiar to you. Through one umbrageous wood, with occasional clearings for such *oppida* as Cæsar and Tacitus have described for us,—a group of huts both for men and cattle, at some almost inaccessible spot, surrounded with a rude pallisade and ditch,—flowed, as

Labitur, et labetur in omne volubilis ævum,

a noble river, which at some points the woods almost touched, while at others immense marshes extended far into the country, through which the stream slowly progressed. Such, I believe, was Middlesex, till the legions of Claudius, and not Julius, who gained no permanent advantage against the inhabitants, conquered it, and, if not actually founded, at least gave an entirely different character to, a city whose name shall never be forgotten, but is a household word in realms that Cæsar never knew.

“I will not detain you longer than to say a few words about those objects of primæval antiquity which modern excavations have brought to light

within this interesting region. And you will not fail to observe how the conjecture which I have ventured to make as to the site of the stronghold of Cassivellaun and of the scene of the contest is borne out by these discoveries.

“Mr. Holmes exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries in 1725 two urns found at Sunbury said to be Celtic. At Hedgerly, near Uxbridge, according to Aubrey, is a British camp. Roman camps are at Greenford, near Coway Stakes, &c. At Wimbledon, as I have already said, is a large collection of hut circles, but as they are beyond our limit, I will say no more about them. The late Lord Winchelsea had some celts found on Hounslow Heath.

“Then Dr. Roots and myself have a very fine collection of British weapons taken at various places from the bed of the Thames, exactly in the area of what I suppose to have been the course of Cæsar’s advance. Mixed with these have been found Roman swords, where the river no doubt was pertinaciously contested, and every inch hotly fought for. I have several specimens of these British arms in the room, of the very first excellence. One, a beautiful celt of grey flint, was taken out of the Thames immediately in front of Hampton Court Palace. A second, possessing the finest edge that I ever observed in a stone weapon, came from the neighbourhood of Teddington, and a third, incrustated with the deposit of the river, from near Battersea Bridge. A fourth was found at the junction of the river Fleet with the Thames, and carries us back to the thought of the time when the former stream was a brawling brook descending rapidly from the eastern heights of what is now called Hampstead Hill, and entering into the Thames by a large opening which was crowded with canoes and rafts. A very interesting discovery also was made at the opening of the well-known barrow at Teddington on the 30th of June, 1854. The interment dated from the earliest period of our history. In the centre of the site of the funeral pile was a heap of calcined bones, upon which lay the bronze blade of a dagger, whereof the illustration given herewith is an exact copy.* Scattered on the floor of the grave were several fragments of flint. ‘The bronze dagger,’ says my friend Mr. Akerman, who communicated an account of the excavation to the Society of Antiquaries, ‘would seem to indicate that the individual whose obsequies had been celebrated by the rite of cremation was a person of some rank and consideration among the primæval inhabitants of this district, since it is very evident, from the presence of flint implements in the mound, that the use of metal was not common among them.’† A similar remark may be applied to the beautiful armillæ which I have also the pleasure of exhibiting. And I would remark in addition, that, though

* The copper-plate printer has endeavoured, so far as his ink will permit, to imitate the colour of the original. Since the engraving was made, the weapon has suffered considerably from incautious handling, and the present is the only representation which exhibits the object of its actual size and precisely as when first discovered.

† Archæologia, xxxvi. p. 176.



Teddington, Middlesex. 1854.

Tho: Hugo, del. & sc. 1856.

found upon the site of London (the exact spots were Bucklersbury and Cannon Street, both close to the river, and within an arrow's flight of it at the time of which I have been speaking), they do not in any way prove a settled occupation of the localities in which they were discovered.

"From such a beginning as this, have London and Middlesex progressed through the Roman ages which succeeded, the Saxon occupation, the Norman aggression, and those centuries of pomp and pride, ecclesiastical, military, and civil, which have given us the glorious city and the charming county of the present day. British London and Middlesex, and the London and Middlesex of Queen Victoria,—what a marvellous, complete, and affecting contrast! Be it never forgotten, however, that one element in the after-greatness is the determined, resolute, and indomitable perseverance and love of liberty which distinguished the humble original. You will not take it amiss if I conclude with the hope and prayer that the genuine characteristics of the race may never die out, and that Englishmen may never be ashamed of those ages of small beginnings which have directly resulted in all that we now enjoy and value—a state, which, though still admitting of considerable amelioration, if reverently and judiciously applied, we have nevertheless so much reason to be thankful for, to rejoice in, and to respect."

Henry Mogford, Esq., F.S.A., then read his paper, "Recollections of Westminster," which will be found at p. 113.

The Rev. Charles Boutell, M.A., followed with an address on "The Royal and other Tombs and Monuments in Westminster Abbey." He observed that in anticipation of the Meeting he had again very minutely inspected the Tombs in the Abbey Church of Westminster, and with the greatest mortification had witnessed their dilapidated and neglected condition. The dust had become so indurated on many of them that it was difficult to examine them at all. Others of special interest were fast crumbling away, and, unless some steps were speedily taken for their preservation, they would in no long time disappear altogether. He proceeded to describe Mr. Scott's process for saturating the ancient stonework with a peculiar liquid which had the effect of preventing further decay, and hoped that this process would be applied to these invaluable monuments of mediæval art, so precious both in themselves and for their historical associations.* He concluded by describing the Shrine of the Confessor, and the Monuments of Queen Eleanor, Edward III., John of Eltham, and others. Further details are at present unnecessary, as it is intended that a series of papers in illustration of the Monuments in Westminster Abbey shall appear in the Society's Transactions.

George Gilbert Scott, Esq., A.R.A., then addressed the Society on "the Chapter-House of Westminster Abbey." He said it was well known that this building was the present receptacle for some of the most ancient and

* This saturating process has been very extensively applied to the early sculpture and other work in the Abbey, under the direction of Mr. Scott, and with the most satisfactory results.—Ed.

valuable records connected with the history of the country, but he regretted to add that it was, architecturally speaking, in a most dilapidated and deplorable condition. The Chapter-House, as they were aware, was the old, ruinous, half-mouldering building to the left of the entrance at Poet's Corner; and the majority of the persons who pass into the abbey little suppose that it either was or that it contained any object of interest. In point of fact, however, it was a building of extraordinary beauty. It was erected in the reign of King Henry III., about the year 1250, at the same period as large portions of the abbey, and was spoken of at the time as "the incomparable Chapter-House of Westminster." The edifice was used as the place of assembly by the Parliaments of England, until the time of Edward VI., who gave the chapel of St. Stephen for that purpose, and from that period it was devoted to the conservation of the national records. In the year 1714 it was "repaired," as it was called; but Sir Christopher Wren, the Surveyor-General of the time, refused, to his honour be it said, to sanction the so-called "repairs," and they were consequently placed in other hands. The result was that the superb building was made the wreck which it now appears. The roof was taken off, the vaulting was entirely destroyed, the beautiful windows were blocked up and small round-headed ones placed in their room, the original entrance of a most glorious character was closed, a miserable door inserted in its stead, and the whole place was in fact mutilated in every possible manner. It was a work, therefore, of extreme difficulty to get at the original building, considerable portions, however, of which still existed beneath the wretched additions to which he had alluded; and it was only after great exertions that he had been enabled to make the drawing which was suspended in the meeting-room. Mr. Scott referred to a very splendid drawing and plan of the original structure, which attracted, as they deserved, the admiration of every one present. He proceeded to state that in some parts he had to clamber through piles of rubbish ten feet thick, his only means of obtaining light being from a lanthorn; and he had ascertained, to his extreme regret, that in a great many instances portions of the beautiful original work had been used to block up those parts of the building which had undergone the "repairs" previously mentioned. Among the interesting discoveries which were made were several wall-paintings, representing saints and other figures. In another part of the building he had found a long passage which seemed to spring under his footsteps. Upon examination it was found that the floor was nothing but a quantity of parchment consisting of writs, charters, and other records, which had been trodden down into one solid mass. The whole of these had been at his instance removed to the library and were now in proper custody. Mr. Scott concluded by expressing a hope that, after the contemplated removal of the records to their new place of deposit in Fetter Lane, the glorious Chapter-House of Westminster might be restored, for which there were sufficient data, to the appearance which it originally presented when completed by its royal founder.

Sydney Smirke, Esq., F.S.A., A.R.A., read the last paper, "Remarks on some London Relics," given already at p. 119.

After which the cordial thanks of the Meeting were voted to the Chairman.

Objects and Works of Art exhibited.

By SYDNEY SMIRKE, Esq. A.R.A. F.S.A. Several relics from well-known buildings in London and elsewhere, described by Mr. Smirke in his paper at p. 119.

By the Rev. THOMAS HUGO, F.S.A. A black flint celt, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inc. by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inc., found in the Thames opposite Kingston in May, 1855.

A celt of the finest grey flint, 6 inc. by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inc. found in July, 1854, in the bed of the Thames, immediately in front of Hampton Court Palace.

Another, very similar, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inc. by 2 inc. taken from the Thames at Twickenham, in the spring of 1855.

Several Celtic bronze armillæ, rudely engraved in cross lines, found in Bucklersbury and Cannon Street, City, in November, 1853.

Two Merovingian gold coins found in the Thames, March, 1855, of one of which the following is a representation:—



Merovingian gold Coin, in the possession
of the Rev. Thomas Hugo.

A Saxon fibula of lead, found with the former. Saxon fibulæ of this description are of the highest degree of rarity, and are nearly new to archæological science. The writer is aware of only four examples: the one exhibited, (*figured at p. 123.*) a second formerly in the collection of Mr. C. Roach Smith and now in the British Museum, a third in the possession of Mr. William Chaffers, and a fourth in the Museum at York.

By HENRY MOGFORD, Esq. F.S.A. A panel from the roof of the Painted Chamber of Westminster, bought by the exhibitor in one of the cellars below the Palace. A number of similar fragments were piled up here during the repairs, and the workmen sold them to visitors for a trifle, in order to buy liquor.

Exchequer Tallies, found among the records which had been stowed away in sacks, pell-mell, in Carlton Ride.

Fragments of stained glass, obtained by boys some years since by scaling the exterior of Henry VII.'s Chapel by means of the water-pipe! Such doings are now among the things that were; though it is still to be devoutly

wished that far less indifference towards our national monuments were conspicuous in bodies to whom their conservation is committed. The example set by the present Chapter of Westminster is a good one, and deserves the best thanks of antiquaries in general.

Mr. Mogford has kindly presented these interesting remains to the Society's Museum.

By EDWARD RICHARDSON, Esq. Norman fragments from the West Porch of the Temple Church, obtained during the great restorations in 1842.

Part of the wall, or roof, illuminations on chalk, discovered inverted in the arched recesses of the Round of the same Church, and obtained at the same time.

Drawing of stone coffin in ditto.

By W. BARTLETT, Esq. Stone cannon-balls, from the Tower ditch.

By J. H. LE KEUX, Esq. A helmet and gauntlets, from the Church of West Drayton, Middlesex.

Drawings of the Norman Porch of Harlington Church, Middlesex, and of Gerrard's Hall Crypt.

By G. G. SCOTT, Esq. A.R.A. Water-colour drawings of the Chapter-house, Westminster, as it is supposed to have existed on its completion by K. Henry III.

By E. GRIFFITH, Esq. F.R.S. A fine series of engravings of Old St. Paul's, by Hollar.

By G. B. WEBB, Esq. Drawings by Coney, of the Exterior and Interior of St. Paul's Cathedral.

By T. J. LAING, Esq. Photograph of the New Palace of Westminster, from the Thames.

By ALFRED HEALES, Esq. A complete set of rubbings from the brasses in Westminster Abbey: also 10 other rubbings from Isleworth, Hillingdon, Brentford, Hackney, and St. Olave's Church, Hart Street.

By J. WHITLEY BROWN, Esq. Three rubbings from brasses at All Hallows Barking, Tower Street; two from St. Andrew Undershaft; and two from Tottenham.

By Mr. H. CROW. Embroidery in bead-work of the Seventeenth Century.

The COUNCIL presented the following statement of CONTRIBUTIONS towards the formation of the proposed LIBRARY and MUSEUM of the Society:—

From C. H. Elt, Esq. Member:

Maitland's History of London, continued by Dr. Entick. Best Edition.
2 vols. folio. 1772.

From B. H. Cowper, Esq. Member:

A History of Millwall. By the Donor. 8vo. 1853.
Fragment of a Roman Patera discovered at Bow in 1856.

From Captain Oakes, Member:

Portion of a Roman tessellated pavement discovered in making the northern approaches to London Bridge in 1830.

From Joshua W. Butterworth, Esq. F.S.A. Member:

Facsimile lithographs from original designs preserved at Fishmongers' Hall, representing a pageant performed by the Fishmongers' Company on Lord Mayor's Day, 1616, to celebrate the mayoralty of Alderman John Lemon, member of that Company. 12 plates. oblong folio.

From J. Y. Akerman, Esq. Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries:

Copies of two letters of General Lambert, dated from Kensington.

From the Honorary Secretary:

Three engravings illustrative of London at the close of the Sixteenth Century.

From Henry Mogford, Esq. F.S.A. Member:

Water-colour drawing of the Old Houses of Parliament.
Three pen-and-ink sketches of the Star Chamber and Speaker's Court, Westminster.

From the Suffolk Institute of Archæology:

Five Parts of the Proceedings of the Institute.

From Thomas J. Laing, Esq. Member:

Photograph of the Houses of Parliament.

From W. W. King, Esq. Member:

Rubbings of two Middlesex Brasses.

From Marmaduke R. Langdale, Esq. Member:

Impression in wax from the Great Seal of the Commonwealth, from the matrix in his possession.

From the Rev. R. Burgh Byam, Member:

Rubbing of a brass at Isleworth.

From the Surrey Archæological Society :

Transactions of the Society, Vol. I. Part I. 8vo. 1856.

From Thomas Brewer, Esq. Member :

Memoirs of the Life and Times of John Carpenter, Town Clerk of London in the reigns of Henry V. and VI. By the Donor. 8vo. Plates. London. 1856.

From Joseph Mayer, Esq. F.S.A. Member :

A Catalogue of the Fejervary Ivories in his Museum. Pamphlet. 8vo. Liverpool. 1856.

History of the Art of Pottery in Liverpool. 8vo. 1856.

From R. Whitbourn, Jun. Esq. F.S.A. :

Drawing of a Penny of Henry I., struck at Sunbury, Middlesex, of a mintage hitherto unknown. *Figured at p. 118.*

From the Rev. Thomas Hugo, M.A. F.S.A. Member :

Architectural Notes of the Churches and other Medieval Buildings of Suffolk. 8vo. Plates. Lond. 1855.

From Henry Ely, Esq.:

A Brick from the Roman Wall of London.

From J. Whitley Brown, Esq. Member :

A Roman ring found in Queen Street, Cheapside.

A Saxon Cross of stone found on the site of Christchurch, Newgate Street.

From J. Prince Pollard, Esq. Member :

Portions of a leaden Pipe with iron joint, supposed to be Roman, found in Old Broad Street, Oct. 1854.

Rubbing of a Brass in Ashford Church, Middlesex.

From Edwin Mackie Gibbs, Esq. Member :

Five engraved Views of Old London.

From the Rev. Charles Boutell, M.A. Member :

Rubbing of brass of Joyce Lady Tiptoft, in Enfield Church.

From Mr. C. J. Boutell :

Rubbings of Brasses in Harrow Church.

From T. L. Peak, Esq. Member :

Rubbing of a Brass in Northolt Church, Middlesex.

A LIST of all Papers, Documents, Notices, and Miscellaneous Communications having reference to the Archæology of London and Middlesex, which are contained in the Archæologia, Vetusta Monumenta, and Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries, and the Journals of the Archæological Institute and Archæological Association, has been prepared by the Council of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, and may be consulted for reference by Members, at No. 6, Southampton Street, Covent Garden. It is intended to publish this List in Part II. of the Society's Transactions.

The Council desire to invite the attention of the Members and Friends of the Society to the

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