

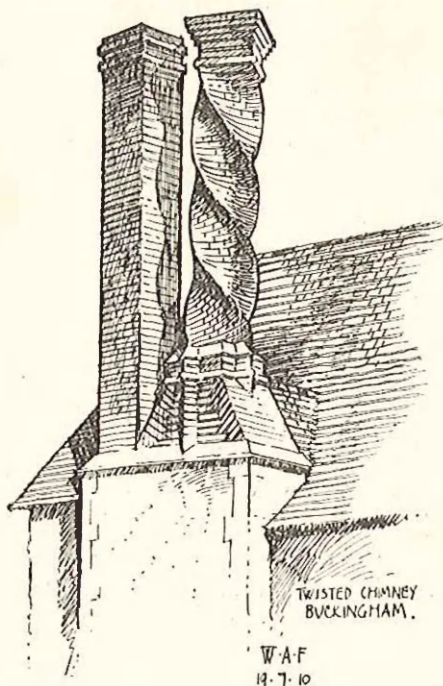
The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archaeological Society

FOR THE YEAR 1910.

THE ANNUAL EXCURSION,

JULY 19TH,

The excursion this year was unusually well attended, probably owing to the opportunity it offered of visiting Stowe, the most stately seat and park in this county. The appointment was at Buckingham railway station, at 11.15. A short walk led to the old churchyard, the site of the ancient parish church. Mr. J. T. Harrison, who has lately brought out a very useful account of this town (of which a notice will be found in this issue) read a short paper, and explained that this lower portion of a cross by which he stood was formerly, not the churchyard, but the market-cross which after various vicissitudes had found a resting place. We passed by the twisted brick chimney of the manor house (illustrated) to the present parish church. Here a paper* was read by the Rev. P. P. Goldingham, based upon the History by Browne



Willis, published in 1755. Mr Harrison's book, referred to, gives a view of the ancient church before its spire fell, and also views of the present building, dating from 1777 and which, though with some pretence outside to the Gothic style, was before Sir G. Scott's alterations frankly Palladian inside, or somewhat after the style of one of Sir Chr. Wren's galleried churches. A fine pendant brass chandelier was the gift of Browne Willis. Some objects of interest were exhibited at the west end of the church.

Castle House was next visited, its dining parlour with open roof and Jacobean chimney-piece much admired, and a short paper read by Mr. Herbert Bull*.

Thence to the Chapel of St. John, late the Royal Latin School, described and illustrated in our last issue of RECORDS.

After luncheon at the "Swan and Castle" Hotel we drove to Maids' Moreton, where time was only too short for an adequate inspection of the beautiful church of St. Edmund, King and Martyr (said to be the only church so dedicated in this diocese). The "Maids," of the family of Peovre, did not erect this church (c. 1450) at so much per sitting; there is no evidence of economy in the fabric, but only of a desire to build as beautiful a church as possible regardless of its cost. It is without aisles, and consists of nave, chancel, sacristy (with a beautiful groined roof) of which one cannot help regretting the enlargement, west tower with unusual and beautiful belfry windows, and north porch with ceiling groined in stone. The wall painting at back of Sedilia appeared to me to represent the Institution of the Eucharist. Verbal descriptions of architecture, if read at all, are always unsatisfying without illustrations. Let us hope that some day this beautiful specimen of 15th century architecture may figure adequately in the pages of Bucks RECORDS.

Thence we drove to Stowe Park, the palatial home of the Temples and Grenvilles, which by the courtesy of the Baroness Kinloss was thrown open for the inspection of the Society. Passing through the hall (by W. Kent) and the imposing elliptical, domed, saloon (by Valdré) the members and their friends assembled on the steps of the south portico, where the Hon. Chandos Morgan-Grenville, after welcoming the Society on behalf of Lady Kinloss, re-read to us the interesting paper which his grandfather, the late Duke, read to this Society on the occasion of the visit in 1884 (RECORDS V, 349). The visitors were then conducted through all the State apartments and were greatly interested not only in the noble dimensions of the library and state dining-room, but also in the choice fittings, rare marble chimney-pieces, &c. The dining-room has four large panels of tapestry, the ceiling of the state dining room is coved above the cornice and decorated in *grisaille* and with *chiaroscuro* medallions. The ceiling of the drawing-room is decorated with reliefs, and the statuary marble chimney-piece contains antique alabaster and porphyry panels. The next room has Pompeian decorations and three painted panels in the ceiling; a beautiful old pendant crystal chandelier. In this room was displayed a sumptuous elephant trapping of crimson velvet with much gold embroidery, presented to the Duke when Governor of Madras.

* Printed in the BUCKS HERALD, July 23, 1910.

The music-room is charmingly decorated. The chimney-piece has gilt bronze reliefs upon *rosso antico* panels. A very fine inlaid Flemish cabinet and other choice furniture were much admired. The party also visited the chapel which is in the older part of the mansion and is perhaps, with its cedar panelling and elaborate Grinling Gibbons carvings, the most interesting room of all. Proceeding downstairs the collections in the "Armoury" were inspected and the visitors proceeded to take a very hurried view of the famous "Gardens" and church. The latter has been frequently altered, and is not specially interesting to the hurried visitor. There is a monument to Martha, Lady Penyston, wife of Sir Thomas Penyston, Bart., date 1619.

Time only permitted a view of the garden buildings near the church: the well-proportioned monument known as Capt. Grenville's Pillar, the rather grotesque Temple of British Worthies, by Kent, and the beautiful circular Temple of Ancient Virtue by the same architect. Of the latter, the Temple of Venus, Queen Caroline's Monument and the Palladian Bridge views, by Messrs. Walford, of Buckingham, are here given. The return was made through the Corinthian Arch and the great avenue, two miles long, to Buckingham.

An article descriptive of Stowe in the first half of the 18th century, and giving further particulars of the ornamental buildings in the grounds, with a plan, is included in this issue.

W. N.

THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The Annual General Meeting of the Society was held at the Museum, Aylesbury, on the 10th November, Mr. Coningsby R. Disraeli in the chair. The Hon. Secretary submitted his report. Miss Paterson lectured on ancient Egypt on 10th March, and Mr. W. H. Marsh, B.Sc., lectured on a Photographic Survey of the County in the Museum. On the 3rd November the rooms of the Museum were lent to a committee of ladies for a lace exhibition. By the liberality of a few of our members great progress has been made, during the year, in providing metal and glass cases for the large room; Mr. Liberty having given £100, Mr. Berry £100, and Lady Smyth a further £40. Mr. Walter Hazell has also given a show case; and Miss Alice Rothschild special cases for a collection of spurs to be lent by Mr. Julian James.

The Hon. Treasurer presented the audited statement of accounts for the year ended 31 Dec., 1909, showing a total expenditure of £375:4:8. There was a bank overdraft of £74:18:3, and unpaid accounts amounting to about £60. The receipts for the year to date amount to £439:4:6. In addition to subscriptions and the special donations mentioned above the treasurer received: Sums under £1, £3:5; Mr. Lionel de Rothschild, £10:10; Mr. W. Niven, £5; Mr. C. W. Atkinson, £2:2; Messrs. Schweppe, £2:2; Mrs. A. E. Franklin, £1:1; Mr. H. E. Luxmore, £1; but feared there would be a debit balance at the end of this year of about £70. In con-

sidering these accounts it should be remembered that one of our Vice-Presidents has generously paid the curator's salary for the past three years.

The Editor telegraphed regretting his absence at Bournemouth, reporting that this year's issue of RECORDS was well-advanced, and asking for news items for "Bucks Churches."

The Reports were accepted, 17 new members were elected. Dr. Berry, reporting on behalf of the Earth-works Sub-Committee, stated that the list of earthworks in the county was not yet complete, and asked for plans, photographs and other information. Mr. Cocks, chairman of this committee, said he had written to the Secretary to the Royal Commission on Earthworks, offering to co-operate with them. but they had done their preliminary work.

The Chairman suggested the formation of an advisory committee, which might, with the co-operation of the Bishop of the Diocese, be competent to give advice, within this archdeaconry, on the repair or other necessary work on the fabrics of the churches. Mr. Forsyth and Mr. Liberty supported the proposal, and it was agreed that it should be an instruction to the general Committee to consider the matter.

[A full report of this meeting will be found in the BUCKS HERALD, Nov. 12, 1910.]

ACQUISITIONS TO MUSEUM.

[Owing to the number of these, the List has had to be compressed as much as possible; and only a selection of some of the more interesting can be here noted.]

DECEMBER, 1909.

LEG IRONS, formerly in use in Aylesbury County Gaol (Anon.).

MSS. CONCERNING PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS, in 1713, 1768, etc. (Sir H. A. Fletcher).

MS. PETITION TO HOUSE OF COMMONS, etc. (Col. Goodall).

FOUR FRAGMENTS from site of Semi-Underground Hut, Walton Road, Aylesbury (Records, IX., 282), (Mr. F. De Fraine).

JANUARY TO NOVEMBER, 1910.

OLD COPPER JUG, with wicker-covered handle, etc. (Mr. A. F. Watts).

FRAGMENTS MEDIEVAL, &c. POTTERY, Swanbourne (Rev. M. W. Myres).

TWELVE DEEDS relating to Bucks, dated 1599 to 1714 (Mrs. H. Crouch).

HISTORY AND TOPOGRAPHY OF BUCKS, Sheahan, 1862 (Mr. A. L. Liberty).

DOOMSDAY TABLES FOR BUCKS, &c. (the Authors, the Hon. F. H. Baring and the Rev. F. W. Rogg).

FOUR KEYS, A PENCIL DRAWING, 4 ENGRAVINGS (Mr. A. E. Holloway).

THREE STRAW-SPLITTERS, Bishopstone (Lady Smyth).

BOWL AND THREE BOTTLES OF GLASS, Roman, 1st century A.D.; Famagusta, Cyprus, 1883 (Admiral Pigott).

BRASS STRAW SPLITTER (Mr. J. T. Roberts).

MEMOIRS OF THE VERNEY FAMILY (the late Sir E. Verney, Bart.).

QUALITY BOOK OF PARCHMENT, and THREE RATE BOOKS, of Ellesborough, &c. (Mr. T. C. Gurney).

SWING-FRAMES ON PEDESTAL STAND, containing facsimiles of early printed books in British Museum (Mr. J. Berry, F.R.C.S.).

SMALL BRASS ROMAN COINS, two each Victorinus (A.D. 265-7), and Claudius Gothicus (A.D. 268-270), from Whaddon Chase (Mr. C. Lowndes).

THREE PARCHMENT DEEDS (1563, 1700, 1770), FOSSILS (near Aylesbury), and SMALL ROMAN GLASS BOTTLE, Aylesbury (Mr. G. Young).

TWO ROMAN BRONZE COINS (Constantine and Maximianus I.), Stone (Lady Smyth).

TWO PARCHMENT DEEDS (1443, 1520), SUNDRY MID BUCKS ELECTION ADDRESSES (1818 to 1839); CERTIFICATE OF TAKING OATH OF ALLEGIANCE, Princes Risborough, 1723; NOTES (£10, £5, £1) OF VALE OF AYLESBURY BANK, &c. (Mr. W. Foat).

SMOCK FROCK from Mentmore (Mr. W. Bradbrook, M.R.C.S.).

SMALL JUG, from Acropolis of Corinth (Miss Watson).

TOASTING FORK ON LEGS for standing on open hearth (Mr. D. Crouch).

BRASS STRAW-SPLITTER (Lady Smyth).

TEN SHEETS OF OLD MS. (copy of letter from a quaker to G. Spur, watchmaker, of Aylesbury); SHILLING, Charles I., DO., James I., and COPPERS of Geo. III., found in garden of Friarage, Aylesbury; also SILVER PENNY, Edw. I.; FOURPENNY and THREEPENNY, Chas. II.; HALF-CROWN, William and Mary (poor condition); SHILLING, Anne; MEDAL to commemorate Battle of St. Vincent, 1797 (Mrs. Cooper).

VARIOUS OLD BOOKS, chiefly 18th century (Mr. Joseph Holloway).

TWO TOKENS, Bucks, Nos. 11 and 43 of Williamson's Edit. of Boyne; SMALL BRASS ROMAN COIN (? Valens), dug up at Aylesbury (Mr. T. Young).

MS. THE LEGEND OF THE SWAN, by the late Mr. E. J. Payne. WATER-COLOUR SKETCH of Roman remains found at Berton, 1855; FOUR PENCIL DRAWINGS (Bucks); MS. HISTORICAL MEMORANDA OF BIERTON; VARIOUS OLD BOOKS, &c., &c. (Mr. J. L. Lowndes).

FOURTEEN BUCKS ENGRAVINGS (Mr. A. E. Taplin).

PINCHBECK WATCH (ploughed up at Long Marston) (Mr. C. W. Crouch).

LEISURE-HOUR NOTES ON HISTORICAL BUCKINGHAM (the author, Mr. J. T. Harrison).

TWO IRON ARROW-HEADS, surface, Manor Farm, Prince's Risborough (Mr. J. East).

TWO BUCKS ENGRAVINGS, &c. (Mr. H. P. Bartlett).

HARPOON-HEAD used in whaling by donor (Mr. A. H. Keenan).

WORTHIES OF BUCKS, the late R. Gibbs (Mr. J. T. Harrison).

SKIN OF *Nesanas maycri*, a nearly extinct pigeon from Mauritius (Miss J. G. Horwood).

ACCOUNT OF CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WING (the author, Rev. F. H. Tatham), two copies.

CANDLESTICK WITH ATTACHMENT FOR HEATING ALE, used by donor's grandfather; ANVIL used in needle manufacture at Long Crendon; TWO BUCKS LEASES (1615, Marsworth; 1769, Dinton); SUNDRY PAPERS relating to Bucks, 1795-1804 (Mr. S. C. Gurney).

SET OF SWING FRAMES for drawings (Lady Smyth).

LEASES AND OTHER DEEDS (chiefly 17th century, only one of Bucks); SHERIFF'S ACCOUNTS, Bucks, 1774-1820; &c. (Mr. W. Crouch).

TWO GOLD COINS—HALF SWORD AND SCEPTRE PIECE OF JAS. VI., Scotland; and HALF UNIT OF CHAS I. (Tower Mint), both found at Long Crendon (Purchased).

MS. TRANSCRIPT OF EPITAPHS ON TOMB-STONES, Whitechurch (Mr. G. W. Wilson).

THE RAKE'S PROGRESS, 7 prints by Hogarth, framed (Mrs. Gardiner Hamilton).

FRAGMENTS POTTERY (? date) from Sandpit, Stone (Dr. J. C. Baker).

MS. NOTES ON WENDOVER FOLK-LORE (Miss E. M. Hamilton).

BRASS STRAW-SPLITTER (Mrs. Smith).

ROUND BULLET, and IVORY FORK-HANDLE, 17th century, dug up in St. Mary's School Garden, Aylesbury.

ROMAN BRONZE-BUCKLE, AND KEY, &c.; Potters' Field, Winchmore Hill, Amersham (Dr. A. Morley Davies).

Specimens of several species of the commoner mammals, birds, and invertebrates, wanted for the Museum collection, have been given during the year; and the following specimens which are worth individual notice. I regret not having most of the dates:—

Two Common Crossbills (*Taxia curvirostra*), ♂ ♀, near Dinton (? during the first quarter of 1910), (Mr. J. Smith), were connected with the enormous irruption of this species into the British Isles, and the whole western edge of Europe from the Faroe Isles to Spain, beginning early in 1909.

Shag (*Phalacrocorax graculus*), shot when sitting on the Church tower at Oving, Dec. 24, 1909. An extremely common bird in suitable localities on the coast, but this is the first specimen to be recorded as obtained in Bucks. Dr. Hartert, in his account of the birds of the county, in the Vic. Co. Hist. Bucks I., does not include it in the List, but under the head of cormorant mentions that a specimen of *Phalacrocorax* was seen flying over the Thames near Marlow by myself, in a fog too dense to allow of discriminating between the two species.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (*Larus fuscus*) ♂. Bletchley (Mr. G. Bradbrook); one of the commonest sea-birds, and gulls are frequently seen in the county, but even when shot no identification of the species has hitherto been recorded, so that this is the first authenticated example of this species in the county. Dr. Hartert records (*tom. cit.*) that this gull is "an irregular visitor to the Tring reservoirs, therefore doubtless occasionally occurring in Buckinghamshire."

Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*) ♀. Marsworth (Hon. W. Rothschild), breeds regularly in one or more of the reservoirs, where the birds are protected, but it is not often met with elsewhere in this county.

Red-throated Diver (*Colymbus septentrionalis*) killed near Aylesbury railway station (Dr. Eagles). Clark Kennedy mentions several occurrences of this species in the county, but no recent instance was known to Dr. Hartert.

Among eggs, every ornithologist must regret the acquisition of a clutch of two of the Stone Curlew (*Edidionemus scolopus*), near Saunderton. This bird is rapidly becoming extinct in the county, and the bird and its eggs are duly scheduled, and the procuring is a legal offence, which no excuse can condone. A (single) egg of the Tufted Duck (*Fuligula cristata*), Halton (Mr. L. W. Crouch), was no doubt from a fairly numerous clutch, and it breeds there according to Dr. Hartert in some numbers; so there is no such objection as in the above case.

The Common Shrew (*Sorex araneus*), one of the most numerous mammals we have, varies a good deal in colour (and in length of tail), but a cream-coloured specimen, from Dinton (Col. Goodall), is a rarity.

In the resident Curator's Report on the present contents of the Museum, printed with the List of Members for 1910, are a few inaccuracies, the more important of which should be corrected. For instance: In the paragraph concerning the Hedsor Pile Dwellings, they are stated to "show that the bed of the river Thames has deviated for a considerable distance since the days when the pile dwelling was built over its waters." There is nothing whatever to indicate that the course of the Thames has deviated even a single yard since the first formation of the pile village, which was not "built over its waters." It is the anonymous tributary stream, known as the Wycombe river (and said to have been named the Wye by the cadets of the Royal Military College at Great Marlow when map-making) which had the brushwood island "built over its waters," that has since changed its course, and instead of flowing into the Thames here at Hedsor wharf, now does so at Bourne End. A reference to the account published in the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2nd ser., XVI (1895), and in *The Records*, VII. (1897), would have prevented the publication of this error, and of the less important one that the village was discovered "while excavating for building purposes."

In the paragraph headed Flint Implements, it should have been mentioned that with the exception of ten implements presented by Mr. S. Darby in 1909, the whole of the "fully typical series of implements" of the paleolithic period are the result of the energy of a single collector, our late much respected member Mr. James Rutland; the residue of whose collection was purchased by subscription, and added to the Museum in 1909, and which contained nearly a thousand additional specimens belonging to this remote period.

To the curiously selected List of Names prominent as Donors, etc., in the same pamphlet, one name (out of at least half-a-dozen others) should at any rate be added—that of the late Rev. Chas. Lowndes, Rector of Hartwell, who did—as I feel sure no one will attempt to question—more for the Society than any other individual has done before or since.

The Society's Museum has now been established in more commodious quarters for 3 years 9 months, and within the last few weeks a beginning has at last been made with the badly-needed introduction of some of the permanent show-cases.

A. H. C.