

THE ANNUAL MEETING, 1864.

Abridged from "The Bucks Advertiser and Aylesbury News" of Sept. 3rd, 1864.

The Annual Excursion and Meeting was held on Tuesday the 30th of August, the field of investigation being the district including WADDESdon, QUAINTON, DENHAM COURT, and DODDERSHALL. The Members and their friends assembled first at WADDESdon, where they were received by the Rev. R. B. BURGES, the Rector, and conducted over the Church, which has lately undergone a thorough restoration. From WADDESdon the visitors proceeded to QUAINTON CHURCH, which seems to stand in need of a similar process of restoration to that which has been carried out at WADDESdon, and thence went forward to DENHAM COURT, an old Mansion, built about the time of Henry VIII, now the property of the Duke of Leeds. From DENHAM the Members of the Society proceeded to DODDERSHALL HOUSE, where they were most hospitably made welcome and entertained at luncheon in the Library by Mr. GRENVILLE PIGOTT, the owner of the Mansion. Luncheon being finished, the Members assembled in the Hall, when the Chair was taken by Mr. PIGOTT and the business of the Meeting was commenced.

After the re-election of the Officers of the Society, Mr. PIGOTT was, on the motion of Mr. ROSE, added to the List of Vice-Presidents, and the names of the Rev. C. ERLE and Mr. DAUNCEY to the Committee.

The following Gentlemen having been previously proposed in the Committee were elected Members:—

Lord Clermont, Ravensdale Park, Newry; B. J. Holloway, Esq., Thame; Mr. A. Turner, Wycombe; Mr. J. Clements, Tring; Rev. W. Foxley Norris, Buckingham; Rev. R. B. Burges, Waddesdon.

The Report and Statement of Accounts were then read, and the following presentations to the Library announced—

The "*Speculum*," or 2nd Volume of the *Aedes Hartwellianæ*, by J. LEE, Esq., LL.D.

History of Northamptonshire, by Admiral SMYTH.

Researches at Long Wittenham, Berkshire, by J. Y. AKERMAN, Esq.

Twelve Numbers for 1863 of the *Gentleman's Magazine*, by Messrs. PARKER, Oxford.

On the motion of Archdeacon BICKERSTETH, seconded by the Rev. A. ISHAM, the Report was received.

The Rev. C. LOWNDES, Hon. Sec., then read a Paper, by the Rev. W. H. KELKE, on "*Antient Stone Crosses with special reference to those in the County of Buckingham*." As this Paper, it is hoped, will appear in a future number of THE RECORDS, it is unnecessary to say more than that it gives an exhaustive catalogue of the stone crosses yet remaining in the County, and was admirably illustrated by drawings made by Mr. E. J. PAYNE, of High Wycombe.

Archdeacon BICKERSTETH then moved a vote of thanks to Mr. KELKE, and observed that some striking illustrations of the subject might be found in Lady Eastlake's recent work on "*The Life of Our Lord Illustrated by Christian Art*." A conversation followed in which the Rev. A. ISHAM, Mr. J. K. FOWLER, the Rev. I. RICHARDSON, Mr. CLARKE, the Rev. W. F. NORRIS, Mr. C. FOWLER took part, and elicited further information, the Rev. J. H. SNELL observing that "there were about 100 way-side Crosses in the county of Cornwall, for the most part Greek Crosses."

Then followed a paper, read by Rev. W. F. NORRIS, and contributed by the Rev. H. ROUNDELL, on "*The Civil Wars in the neighbourhood of Waddesdon, Quainton and Doddershall*;" and after this the Rev. C. LOWNDES read the concluding Paper, "*On Doddershall*," founded almost exclusively on information furnished by Mr. PIGOTT. The paper entered into a full account of the ancestors of the family of Pigott, who settled in Yorkshire after the Conquest, and during the Wars of the Roses espoused the side of the Duke of York. About 1460, one of the family married the heiress of Whaddon in Bucks, and became hereditary Keeper of the Chase. The Doddershall estates were purchased about 1503 by Thomas Pigott, Esq. of Whaddon, and on failure of his descendants passed to a branch of the family settled at Chetwyn in Shropshire. Other interesting particulars were adduced, and an illuminated pedigree of the Pigott family, drawn out in the reign of Queen Elizabeth by Sir E. Phillips, was exhibited by Mr. Lowndes.

Archdeacon BICKERSTETH moved and Dr. LEE seconded a vote of thanks to Mr. PIGOTT for his hospitable reception of the Members of the Society. In the course of his remarks the Archdeacon said "To an Archæological Society it must be interesting "to be received by the representative of a family which had held that mansion for "above 300 years. They all felt the truth of the sentiment—

Stemmata quid faciunt?

Quid prodest Pontice longo

Sanguine censeri?

"But when they saw this long pedigree worthily maintained by genuine English hospitality, thorough kindness of disposition, gentlemanliness, and all the qualities which "Englishmen value, they could not but feel that the possession of real moral worth is "the best guarantee for the transmission of hereditary estates. He trusted Mr. Pigott "might long be spared as one to whom they might look up, and whom they "admired as worthy every way of the name he bore."

Mr. PIGOTT then expressed in hearty terms the gratification he felt in receiving the Members of the Archæological Society at his house on the occasion of the Annual Meeting, and the business being now concluded the company dispersed, many of them lingering to view the curious objects by which they were surrounded—the quaint carving of the old Hall, easily distinguishable from the original work—the pictures on the staircase, indeed all parts of the building afforded matters of interest. And among others an inscription at the entrance of the cellar, hospitable and wise alike—

Welcome my friend, drinke with A noble heart

But yet before thou drinke too much, departe

For though good drinke will make A coward stout

Yet when too much is in the witt is out. 1610.