

The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archaeological Society

FOR THE YEAR 1909.

Conversazione.

A Conversazione was held at the Museum, Aylesbury, in the afternoon of Jan. 28th, when there was a good attendance of members and friends. Dr. James Berry gave a short lecture on "Some Greek Temples in Sicily"; Mr. C. E. Keyser, M.A., F.S.A., on the "Mural Paintings of Little Hampden Church"; and Mrs. Berry on "The Balkan States." A ladies' committee provided tea. The Archdeacon of Buckingham opened the proceedings, and, with regard to the Museum, in which they were assembled, pointed out how much had already been done, and also how much still remained to be done. They were sadly in need of cases in order properly to show objects which the Museum already possessed, and to induce owners to give others. About £1,000 was needed, and this should be a mere bagatelle distributed over the county.

The Annual Excursion.

The district lying between Great Missenden and Chenies was this year visited (July 13), and the weather—for this rainy summer—was very favourable. The details were well arranged by Dr. W. Bradbrook. The same locality was last visited by this Society in 1888. It is not proposed to describe the churches in so much detail as those visited last year, not only because they are better known, and not visited by this Society for the first time, but also because, being in a district which house-agents describe as "a favourite residential neighbourhood," restoration and renovation, for which ample funds have easily been raised, have diminished their interest to the ecclesiologist. "The Ecclesiastical and Architectural Topography of England—Buckinghamshire" (Parker), was published in 1849, before much had been done to these fabrics, so that the reports—by W. Caveler, Rev. A. Baker, and others—on these churches contained therein will be quoted.

GREAT MISSENDEN.

The Church of SS. Peter and Paul was described by Mr. Caveler, 60 years ago, as "a cross church with aisles and clerestory to the nave, south porch, a tower at the west end. The tower has been E.E., but has been much modernised, the windows in the upper stage are Perpendicular, the piers and arches to nave are Decorated with good moulded capitals; there are good Decorated windows in various parts of the church, especially some of two lights on the south side of the chancel. Perpendicular windows have been inserted in the transepts and other parts; the clerestory is Perpendicular." Openings to the rood-loft still remain. The chancel, of Edwardian date, has interesting features. Niches flank

the east window; there are triple sedilia and a piscina, and a low side window. The north wall of the chancel, which is not pierced, has an unusual feature in a wall arcade, of which the bases are about seven feet from the floor. In that part of the south aisle, known as the Abbey Pew, is a brass to Zacheus Metcalfe and Margaret his mother, who died in 1595, and the following year. Most of the old brasses have disappeared.* No less than £3,800 was spent on this church in 1899-1900. Lipscomb gives a south-east view of the church, woodcuts of the arms of the abbey (of which some vestiges of flint walls remain), and the seals of the abbey and abbot, and the brasses.†

The inventory of Church goods‡ taken under the commission of 16th May, 1552, and dated in July of that year, includes the following here:—

- In primis furst a chalice of silver parcell gylt
 Item a sute of westmetes of blew velfett with a cope of the same
 ,, a sute of westmentes of russett damaske with a cope of the same.
 ,, a sute of grene sylke with a cope of the same
 ,, ij blew copes of sylk
 ,, iij syngle vestmetse oone white the other gren & the other blake
 ,, in the steple v grete belles and j sans bell
 2 marks

CHESHAM.

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Chesham Leicester, was thus described by Mr. Caveler:—"A cross church with clerestory and "aisles, chancel, south porch with a room over, tower with short "modern spire in the centre. The earliest part remaining is the "chancel, which has some very good two-light Decorated windows "on the north side. But the general style of the church is Perpen- "dicular, with fine three-light windows on the south side. The "north side has been much modernised. The west has a late Per- "pendicular doorway, with a fine five-light window above it. The "east window is also Perpendicular. The porch is groined, and "retains mutilated remains of the stoup. The room over is reached "by a newel staircase." Twenty years later the church underwent "restoration" under the direction of Mr. (afterwards Sir) Gilbert Scott, R.A. Mr. John Chapple acted as clerk-of-works, and wrote a careful account of the fabric and the works then carried out. To this account—that of a practical man who superintended all that was done—we refer the reader to RECORDS IV. 24. § The Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Boulthbee, gave a short address on the history of the church, of which a report is given in the *Bucks Herald*, July 17. Of the remarkable "low side windows" Mr. Chapple wrote as follows (p. 26):—"Beneath the west lights of each of the western "windows in the north and south walls of the chancel is a small "square window with saddle-bars and double stanchions. . . . "They were closed with a shutter, and, when closed, had a bar "inserted inside, dropping into iron catches as a fastening. The

* *Bucks Herald*, July 17, 1909.

† Vol. II., 367.

‡ The Edwardian Inventories for Buckinghamshire, Alcuin Club, 1908.

§ Mr. Chapple was employed later by Sir G. Scott at St. Albans Abbey; and, later still, when the late Lord Grimthorpe was allowed a free hand over that unfortunate building, Chapple, I believe, was not only clerk-of-works, but the only architect beside his lordship.



THE BURY, CHESHAM.

From an old Drawing in possession of Wm. F. Lowndes, Esq.

“iron catches in one window remain, and, when the north window was discovered, the decayed wooden shutter also was there, but it crumbled at the touch. There is, however, some evidence of glazing, for the glass groove remains in the stonework, and the rebate for the shutter is on the inside of this.” This is valuable evidence from a practical man who had no theory of his own upon the much disputed use of these openings to support. The leper theory is now discredited, because lepers were not admitted even to the churchyards, but the open grille and shutter certainly point to the intended passage of sound—such as confession and absolution, either general or exceptional, and of small articles, such as money. The glazing does not bar this theory, because either it might have been added subsequently or fitted with a casement to open. It is much to be regretted that no photograph was taken, at the time of the alterations of the north opening and its crumbling shutter, before its final complete destruction.

Mr. Chapple's paper is illustrated with a representation of a fresco over the north doorway, of which, I believe, little now remains. The subject would seem to have been the weighing of a soul, the Blessed Virgin pleading for mercy on it. For comparison, the Editor at that time of the RECORDS, the Rev. C. Lowndes, gave a drawing also from the sarcophagus of Pharaoh, father of the Pharaoh of the Exodus, showing Osiris as judge of the dead, “having the souls of the people of nine grades of society weighed before him. One soul, as signified by the bird in the balance, is being weighed. . . . Near the gate of this Hall of Judgment Anubis, the fox-headed god, who is the protector of the dead, stands—to see that justice is done.” A memorial to Richard Woodcock on the north wall of the chancel, a former Vicar, is unusual in character. His sculptured effigy in a recess shows him as preaching, a Bible resting on a cushion in front of him, 1623. On the same wall is the tablet to Richard Bowle, 1626, of which a plate is given in this issue in illustration of Mr. Garrett Pegge's excellent transcript of “Richard Bowle's Booke,” 1606-7. The tablet was renovated by the late Mr. William Lowndes. But the visitor will look in vain for the gallery, on the south side of the church, which, the Vicar tells me, was removed in the 1869 “restoration,” with the other fittings mentioned in the “booke.” About 1869 anything that was not gothic was condemned.

Other notes on this parish and church by the Rev. C. Lowndes are printed at p. 51, Vol. III., of RECORDS; and at p. 65 will be found the Edwardian Inventory of the goods in this church which he printed from the MS. in the Public Record Office, and which it is therefore unnecessary to reprint here.

The lead covering of the “chauncelle, the church withe ij iles and the stepill,” was estimated at seven hundred-weight.

THE BURY.

From the church the party proceeded to this house, closely adjoining, kindly thrown open to them by Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Lowndes.

In 1868 the Rev. C. Lowndes contributed (Vol. III.) to the RECORDS an account of this parish—the largest in Bucks—tracing the remarkable ownership by the de Veres of three manors here from the 12th century till 1702, when Aubrey de Vere, last Earl of Oxford, dying without issue, the earldom became extinct. The house and park of Chesham Bury, which had belonged to the Skottowes, he tells us, were bought, about 1730, by Charles Lowndes, Esq. “The house was a fine old manorial residence situated at a distance of about 300 yards to the north of the church, and its site may still be traced. The date of its erection was probably about 1500. It was taken down in the early part of the present century.” Of this manor house, rather later in style than the writer supposed,

a lithograph, from an old view (dated 1770) is given in illustration of Mr. Lowndes' paper. It is called Bury Hill, and although destroyed, as above quoted, in the beginning of the 19th century, the lithographer has embellished the grounds with figures in mid-Victorian costume! It does not appear, as represented, to be 300 yards from the church. Beyond the church may be seen part of the present residence, of which, by the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Lowndes, we are able to reproduce, on a smaller scale, a view in water-colour taken apparently towards the end of the 18th century. Comparison of this view with the present house will show how much it has been added to and altered. Mrs. Lowndes tells me that the lead rain-water pipes bear the date 1712. The west wing was added in 1853. The drawing-room (lighted by the two ground-floor windows to the left) is a very handsome room, its coved ceiling, fine and bold door-cases, and chimney-piece, etc., showing that economy was not considered. The central window on the ground floor has been converted to the garden entrance. Some choice pieces of Old English furniture, especially a remarkable Chippendale book-case, were much admired.

In 1874, when three clergymen—C. Lowndes, H. Roundell, and W. H. Kelke—were the hon. secretaries, the excursion began at Wendover and finished at Chesham, the annual meeting being held in the drawing-room of The Bury.

CHENIES.

The Church of St. Michael, Chenies, or Isenhampstead Cheynes, has chancel, nave with south aisle, south porch, and western tower with six bells. The nave arcade and windows in chancel are in style Decorated, the rest mainly Perpendicular. It was "thoroughly restored" in 1861 by the Duke of Bedford of that time at a cost of £1,600. Robbed of light on its north side by the Russell Mausoleum, and on other sides by too much or too dark painted glass, the interior is ill-lighted. There are some 16th century brasses: "Sir Nicholas Smythe, late Person of Latemars, 1517; Eliz. Broughton, 1524; Anna Phelip, 1510, etc. John Broughton, whose daughter is here commemorated, had married Anne, daughter of Sir Guy Sapcote, to whom the manor of Cheynes had passed from David Phelip according to the will of Agnes Cheyne, 1494. Anne, widow of Sir John Broughton, afterwards married Sir John Russell.

But the church itself is eclipsed by the attached Russell mausoleum, which formed the most attractive item of the excursion, and was kindly opened to the Society for their inspection. This chapel contains perhaps the most superb series of monuments to one family in England, and in an unusually well-preserved condition. On the outside of the east wall is this inscription: "Anno Dni 1556: Thys chappel ys built by Anne Countysse of Bedforde, wyfe to John Erle of Bedford, according to ye last wyll of the said Erle." The paper on "The Sculptured Monuments of Buckinghamshire," prior to the 16th century," by the Rev. W. Hastings Kelke (RECORDS, Vol. III., p. 8) includes a short account and an illustration of the two mutilated effigies of a knight and a lady, not Russells, placed now side by side, the knight probably of the 14th, and the lady of the 15th centuries. Mr. R. S. Downs gave our party an account—at short notice—of the more important Russell monuments and the leading facts connected with the lives of those commemorated. The earlier and more important as works of art are those in the eastern end of the chapel. The earliest and on the whole the finest of these memorials is that of the foundress of the chapel, who died 1558, soon after the work was finished, and her husband, who had died 1554. Their effigies rest upon a large altar tomb of alabaster and marble. He is in plate armour with coronet, collar of SS., and sword; the countess by his side in ermined robes. The faces are evidently careful portraits. In 1522 the Earl, while

fighting at Morlaix, lost an eye which had been pierced by an arrow; the effigy has the eyelid drooping over the socket, as in life.

In "Portraiture in Recumbent Effigies" (Pollard, Exeter, 1899), Mr. Albert Hartshorne, F.S.A., who has made a life-long study of sculptured effigies, brings forward much evidence to show—what would hardly seem to admit of a doubt—that portraiture in such sculpture in England was more the rule than the exception. The later effigies became less conventional and more life-like than the earlier. The fine bronze effigy of Queen Eleanor (dated 1290) at Westminster is, as he says, a purely conventional figure. At the time of her death the queen had reached mature years, and had borne many children; but Torel's masterpiece shows a woman of about twenty-six. By the same sculptor the bronze effigy of Henry III., also in the Abbey Church, on the other hand, seems to have aimed at portraiture. Comparing the earlier effigies in England with those of the Continent, the same writer notes: "Effigies in Italy, for example, are almost always shown as dead men, with closed eyes, and hands crossed or placed on the breast, and often as laid out for burial; some of the royal effigies at Pontevraud being of this kind. One of the striking characteristics of the armed English effigy is that, with rare exceptions, they are shown with eyes open, as living and alert, with the hands in prayer, or drawing or sheathing their swords," etc.

Next in date and position comes the altar tomb to Francis, "with the big head," second earl, and his countess, also a fine work. He was privy councillor to Queen Elizabeth, and died 1585. But to go through all these memorials is impossible here. A hurried visit is no qualification for the task. The best account will be found in Lipscomb's County History, and the reader is also referred to Mr. Downs' account printed in the *Bucks Herald* (July 17). The memorial to the Lady Bridgett, Countess dowager, as a work of art is in my opinion unsurpassed in the quality of its sculpture by anything here. Her recumbent effigy is flanked on each side by a kneeling figure. This and the adjoining monument were moved hither from Watford. Some of the later memorials, though decadent in taste, are at least of masterly execution. A sumptuous monograph—of more than one volume—ought to be produced on these monuments adequately illustrating them as works of art, which could be better done now than ever before, and recounting what is most noteworthy in the lives of the departed. With the aid of the noble family whose ancestors are here perpetuated, the name of the sculptor of nearly every one of these memorials ought to be ascertained.

THE MANOR HOUSE.

Within a stone's throw of the church is what is left of the Tudor manor house. Leland, in his survey (temp. Hen. VIII.), wrote: "The old house of Cheynes is so translated by my Lord Russell, that bath this house in right of his wife, that little of it remainith ontranslatid, and a great deal of the house is even newly set up and made of bricks and timber." In the time of the Lysons (1806) the house had already been abandoned by the Russells, even for occasional residence, and was occupied by "the duke's principal tenant on this estate." What remains now is the south wing of the original house, which seems to have been built round a quadrangle. It may probably form the greater part of what Leland noted as having been "newly set up and made of bricks and timber;" and when it was desired to reduce in size the abandoned home, this newer part, being better preserved, was allowed to remain, while the other sides of the quad, "the old house of Cheynes," having become dilapidated, was taken down. It is said to occupy the site of a castle of the Plantagenet kings.

The series of great chimney breasts, crowned with circular and octagonal twisted chimnies, are the most striking feature of the house. The arranging these along the south side of the house with hardly a window opening between them indicates that the larger windows looked on to the quad, and that defence against intruders had not then been given up in the scheme of the great house of the period. At the top of the house we were shown a long gallery where many soldiers might have been accommodated.

AMERSHAM.

A good account of this town and its church was contributed by the Rev. W. H. Kelke, some years one of the hon. secretaries of this Society, about the year 1862 (Vol. II., 333). The paper is illustrated by a view of the exterior of the church, rather out of perspective, a reproduction of an old bird's-eye view of the older mansion of Shardeloes, a bad wood-cut of the exterior of Little Shardeloes, a reduction of a rubbing of the brass to an infant Drake, 1623, and drawings of two pierced oak "window-heads." The view of the church enables one to see to what extent its present features are modern. In the entire absence of anything in the way of string-course or cornice under the battlements—which was presumably, being decayed, chopped away to make a smooth bed for the rough-cast—the walls have a gaunt and ugly appearance. The building consists of chancel and aisle, nave with clerestory, aisles, transept, south porch, western tower, and has suffered much at the hands of its friends. A note by the Rector upon the re-opening to the church of the Raans chapel appeared in our last issue. Mr. Kelke noted: "The east window was brought from a private chapel 'belonging to the Garrard family at Lamer, Herts, about a century ago.'" Mr. G. Weller gave us some interesting recollections of the church prior to its restoration. The old three-decker pulpit used to be draped in black for 12 months after the decease of a rector or lord of the manor, and he showed two old views of the church, 1855. There are some interesting memorials of the dead.

A brass to Edmund Molyneux, Esq., and his wife, 1430 (Haines).

Mr. Kelke describes a brass in the north aisle: *Hic jacent Thomas Carbonell Armigr & Elizabeth ux' ei' obiit (Thomas) Ao d'ni MCCCCXXXIXo.* In the same aisle, the head, inscription and shields broken off, a brass supposed by Lipscomb to be to Wm. Brudenell. Another to Hen. Brudenell and wife very similar in dress to those of the Carbonells, he dying January, 1430.

Joh's de la Penne et Eliz. uxoris eius. . . . Eliz. obiit. . . . Nov. MDXXI et id'm Johes Dec MDXXXVII. Quor': &c.

Also in the south aisle a brass effigy of a child kneeling, richly attired, inscribed: *John Drake, sonne of Francis Drake of Esshere in the county of Surrey, Esq., by Katherin his wife, dyeing ye 2 of Aprill, in the 4 yere of his age, 1623, and some verse.*

The memorials in the east end of the north chancel aisle to the Drake family of Shardeloes were not on view, as they were undergoing repair.

The late Dr. F. G. Lee, of All Saints', Lambeth, transcribed the Churchwardens' Accounts, and contributed extracts from them to the RECORDS (Vol. VII., p. 43), including some interesting entries.

The Edwardian Inventory includes "viii coopes," but no items of much interest.

The visit to Little Missenden Church had to be abandoned, as time failed.

W. N.

Annual General Meeting.

This, after having been postponed, was held at the Museum, Nov. 5th, when the Archdeacon of Buckingham presided over a good attendance. The Hon. Secretary referred to the Bucks Militia plate, which had been placed in the custody of the Society, to the deeds relating to the Grammar School, and to a small collection of old books, chiefly theological, from Mentmore. By subscription amongst a few members of the Society a large portion of the Rutland collection of antiquities had been added to the Museum.

The Hon. Treasurer reported a total expenditure for the year ended Dec. 31st, 1908, of £453, largely for repair and alteration of the newly-acquired buildings, and receipt of £226, which included special donations of £104. During the present year the receipts to date are £272, including donations to the buildings fund £110, Curator's salary £40; while the expenses to date amount to £123. He thought that an assured income of £200 the least by which the Museum could be properly maintained and other current expenses defrayed.

The Hon. Editor gave a forecast of this year's issue of Records, for which he had received valuable papers, and mentioned the generosity of Mr. Keyser, of Aldermaston, in presenting all the illustrations of his paper on the Paintings at Little Hampden Church.

New Rules, to take the place of the existing ones, were submitted and discussed; they were accepted generally, details being left to the Committee. Officers were elected according to the list printed elsewhere, and new members.

Mr. A. Oliver gave a lecture on "Municipal Seals."

Additions to the Bucks Museum.

FROM OCT. 28, 1908, TO SEPT. 30, 1909.

- Sir E. VERNEY, Bart.—Wooden Butter-scales.
Mr. STRATFOLD READ—Brent Goose (*Branta bernicla*), killed at Saunderton.
BUCKS PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY—Printed transcripts of Registers of Olney, Parts II. and III.; Woughton, Part II.
Mrs. McNAIR—Skulls of two Tigers, one Boar.
Mr. S. G. PAYNE—Four Strike-a-lights; five old iron Door-catches (part of collection previously acknowledged, but not catalogued).
Mr. J. STEVENS—Old iron chain.
Lady SMYTH—Egyptian Exploration Fund Memoirs, 22 Vols. or Parts.
Miss STARBUCK—Bronze Spear-head. (History not recorded).
LINCOLN ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETY—Associated Architectural Society's Report.
Found in Museum Yard—Three 17th century Pipe Bowls.
BUCKS PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY—Printed transcript of Register of Stoke Poges.
Dr. BAKER—Ruddy Sheldrake (*Tadorna casarca*), from Wotton.
Representatives of the late Mr. W. L. SUTTON—Roman Amphora found at Aston Clinton, 1871 (see RECORDS iv. 147).
Mr. J. S. WHITE—Cannon Ball, from Bierton.
Lady SMYTH—Pair of Arab Stirrups from Tunis. Pair of antique silver Buttons, from Gozo. Pair of ditto, from Malta.
ANONYMOUS—"The Church Bells of Buckinghamshire," by A. H. Cocks. "The Archæological Journal," Parts 257-8-9.
ARCHITECTURAL AND TOPOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY—The Architectural and Topographical Record, Vol. I., Parts I. and II.

1909.

- Mr. W. BATES—Horse Shoe, ? Roman, from Stone?
(PURCHASED)—Pottery fragments and Ammonites, from Hartwell Brickfield.
Rev. C. W. PEARSON—Aylesbury 17th century Token, found at Aylesbury.
Found in Museum Yard—Roman Bronze Pin.
Subscribed for by the late General Sir H. SMYTH—"Victoria History of Buckinghamshire," Vol. II.
Sir E. VERNEY, Bart.—Photographs of three miniature Portraits of Charles I.
Mr. STEPHEN DARBY—Ten Palæolithic Implements, from ballast pit at Burnham, 1908.
PURCHASED with Proceeds of Entertainment (per Mrs. BAKER) —"British Birds," by A. G. Butler; Birds' Egg Cabinet.
Mr. T. FIELD—Fragments of Roman and Mediæval Pottery, and 17th century Clay Pipe. Found in donor's garden, Aylesbury.

- Lieut.-Colonel MOCHLER-FERRYMAN—"Oxford Light Infantry Chronicle," 10 vols.
- Rev. C. W. PEARSON—"English Coins and Tokens," by L. Jewitt and B. Head.
- Mr. W. BRADBROOK—"Quarter Sessions, Seize Quarters, etc.," by Messrs. Bradbrook, Lucas, and Rusken.
- Lady SMYTH—"Knowledge," Vols. II.-V.
- Mr. A. OLIVER—Maori War Club.
- Mr. T. FIELD—Two Alabaster Panels, carved with female figures. Found when building donor's house, Rickford's Hill, Aylesbury, 1894.
- Mr. A. OLIVER—Seven Roman Lamps (history not recorded); six small Egyptian pottery gods; two Buckles, and ten other small objects of bronze and lead (? 16th century); probably found during repairs to the Houses of Parliament, Westminster. Small Roman Bronze, Ox Skull with wreath on horns (history not recorded); Kafir Necklet.
- Mr. W. NIVEN—Ushabti Figure (fine example), purchased at Sotheby's sale of the Forman collection: small green glaze Ushabti Figure.
- Captain CHADWICK—Fragment of painted window glass, charged with Duncomb arms, found plastered in, in a disused window in a cottage at Fenny Stratford; a (broken) circular glass with curious design, found with last.
- Mr. A. J. CLEAR—"History of the Town and Manor of Winslow," by the late Mr. A. Clear, 1894; two Photographs, old cottages, Botolph Claydon, and old Baptist Meeting House, Winslow.
- Dr. BAKER—17th century Token of Gyles Childe, Aylesbury (Boyne, 2nd Edit. 10 Bucks).
- Mr. TONMAN MOSLEY—Stalagmite from cave at Waterhouses, Leek, Staff.; case containing stuffed Capercaillie (*Tetrao urogallus*), etc., from Perthshire.
- Mr. E. N. N. BARTLETT—Case containing two Perch (*Perca fluviatilis*), which weighed 2 lbs. 8 oz. and 2 lbs. 9 oz. Caught at Hartwell.
- Mr. F. H. PARROTT—Two Photographs of Brill pot, described in "Victoria History, Bucks," Vol. II. 115.
- Mr. L. W. CROUCH—Eggs of 37 species of birds.
- Messrs. J. BERRY and J. C. BAKER—"The Edwardian Inventories for Buckinghamshire," by F. C. Eeles, 1908.
- Dr. BAKER—"Works of Edmund Waller in Verse and Prose," 1729.
- Mr. J. BERRY—Bacon's Survey Map, Berks, Bucks, and Oxon.
- Mr. M. C. Millburn—Maori Fish-hooks; Maori Dresses of Flax.
- Rev. J. C. FARMBOROUGH—"Armorial Families," by A. C. Fox-Davies, 1895; Buckinghamshire Registers, Marriages, Vols. I.-IV., Phillimore and Ragg.
- (PURCHASED)—Cinerary Urn (? Period). Hartwell Brickfield.
- Mr. E. HANSLOPE COX—Roll of Newspaper Cuttings.
- Mr. A. J. CLEAR—Catalogue of Exhibition of Antiquities, Winslow, 1905.
- Mr. G. L. DE FRAINE—Eggs of seven species of birds.
- Mr. L. W. CROUCH—Eggs of Carrion Crow (*Corvus corone*), clutch of four obtained in Bucks; of Common Snipe (*Gallinago caelestis*). Clutch of two.
- Mr. G. H. THOMSON—Fossil Wood and Belemnites. ? From Leighton Buzzard.
- Dr. BAKER—Pitch-pipe. Said to have come from Little Kimble Church.
- Mr. A. E. HOLLOWAY—Six Engravings of Views in Bucks.

- Mr. STRATFOLD READ—Iron Javelin-head; iron head of cross-bow Bolt. ? Prince's Risborough.
- Mr. THOS. THURLOW—Mediæval Jug.
- ANONYMOUS—Carved Wooden Figure. Was for about the past 100 years in a shop at Chearsley.
- Mr. F. H. PARROTT—Papers relating to Aylesbury Parliamentary Elections, early 19th century; Transcripts of six deeds 14th and 15th centuries relating to Bucks.
- Mr. ALLEN, Gamekeeper, Halton Reservoir, Weston Turville—Mole (*Talpa europæa*), cream-coloured variety.
- Rev. B. J. CORDER—Bronze Cloak Hook (? Roman). ? From Radnage.
- Mr. JULIAN JAMES, Aylesbury—Mole (*Talpa europæa*), cream-coloured variety. ? Near Aylesbury.
- Mr. COPP, Gamekeeper, Wotton—Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*), from Wotton.
- Lieut.-Colonel MOCHLER-FERRYMAN—Oxfordshire Light Infantry Chronicle, 1908.
- Mr. E. STANFORD, Long Acre, London—Guide to Aylesbury.
- Mrs. H. A. P. COOPER—Lancashire Miners' Penny. Found in the Friarage Garden, Aylesbury.
- Mr. BERRY and Dr. BAKER—Mediæval Jug. From Ashendon.
- Dr. BAKER—Kingfisher (*Alcedo ispida*).
- BUCKS PARISH REGISTER SOCIETY—Printed Transcript of Parish Register of Mentmore.
- Mr. W. NIVEN—Early form of revolving Meat Jack.
- Rev. J. C. PIGOT—Phillimore's Marriage Registers of Bucks, Vol. I.-IV.
- Mr. W. CROUCH—Poll Books of Bucks, 1713, and 1784; Aylesbury, 1804, and 1831.
- Mrs. H. A. P. COOPER—Old Key. Dug up at the Friarage, Aylesbury.
- Purchased by subscription through Mr. E. L. REYNOLDS, and presented to the Society—Collection of antiquities formed by the late Mr. Jas. Rutland, of Taplow, comprising about 1,000 palæolithic flint implements, 200 to 300 neolithic ditto; ancient animal bones from the Thames, and hundreds of other specimens in great variety of material and age. Not yet catalogued.
- Lady SMYTH—Two Pennies of Henry III., and another small Silver Coin.
- Miss BAYNES—Thirty-two Parts of "The Records of Bucks;" "Bucks Miscellany," in Parts; Gibbs's "History of Aylesbury."
- Rev. T. W. MARTYN—"Home Counties Magazine," in Parts, complete 9 years, 1899-1907.
- Lieut.-Colonel TIGHE—Deeds of the 16th, 17th, and 18th centuries.
- Mr. J. BERRY—Bartholomew's Map of Bucks, $\frac{1}{4}$ in. = 1 mile.
- Mr. J. S. CHIPPINGDALE—"Journal of Balnæology and Climatology," Vol. II., Part 1. (Account of Dorton Spa.)
- Mr. W. H. PARKER—"The Magnet," Sept. 20, 1852. (Account of the death of the Duke of Wellington.)
- HERR EMIL EKHOFF (Stockholm)—"Fornvännan," 1907; ditto, 1908.
- Mr. W. CROUCH—Poll Book, Buckingham, 1841; ditto, Aylesbury, 1847; "Bucks Advertiser," Jan. 8, 1848; "Bucks Herald," Jan. 1, and Jan. 15, 1848.
- Dr. W. BRADBROOK—Six Vanity Fair Cartoons of Bucks Celebrities.

- Mr. P. C. L. THORNE—Emanuel Bowen's Map of Buckinghamshire, mounted on canvas, in original case.
- Dr. BAKER—"Country Life," July 31, 1909, with account of Langley Church.
- Mr. G. W. WILSON—"Chronicles of Whitechurch."
- Mr. F. POLLARD—Chub (*Leuciscus cephalus*), in case.
- THE AUTHOR—"History of Wendover," by Dr. L. H. West, LL.D.
- Mr. F. H. PARROTT—Trout (*Salmo fario*).
- Mr. J. C. IVATTS—Fourteen Shoes of 18th and 19th centuries.
- A few of the commonest mammals, birds (and eggs), reptiles, and insects, wanted to start the Museum collection, have been sent by Messrs. ALLEN, J. C. BAKER, J. CLARK, A. H. COCKS, W. and L. W. CROUCH, FRANKLIN, E. HOLLIS, F. HUBBARD, jun., L. W. HUNT, F. POLLARD, Lady SMYTH, C. STANLEY, G. STRINGER, L. H. WEST, and the Rev. H. WOOD.

The Curator reported to the Committee in January, that, as requested by them in October, 1908, he had re-visited the excavations which had been carried on at Ivinghoe by strangers unknown to the Society, and believed to be from some part of S. America. He was surprised to find work still in progress, although the excavators had told him previously that they had found nothing, and were about to give it up. The underground gallery seen on his original visit had been filled in. He requested them to send to the Museum copies of the photographs they had taken, but was told that unfortunately all the views had been inadvertently taken on one plate! On a subsequent visit in November, he found that the gallery had been re-opened, and left in that condition. All work had then apparently ceased, as all their "plant" had been removed. As requested in October, 1908, Mr. Cocks procured from the Hon. Sec. of the Archæological Congress a copy of the resolution passed by representatives of almost every Archæological Society in the country, deprecating the prosecution of excavations in any part of the British Islands without giving notice of the intention to the Society whose sphere of action was involved; unfortunately the Hon. Sec. failed to forward this, and consequently the knowledge of whatever archæological discoveries were made, is lost to the county.

Early in February, 1909, Mr. Thomas Field, of Rickford's Hill, Aylesbury, in making an alteration in his garden there, came upon what appears to be a portion of the foundation of the Franciscan Monastery, commonly called the House of the Grey Friars. The remains consisted of a small section of brick paving, with a gully along one side, and remnants of a stone wall, besides several large stones which had apparently formed part of a plinth to the building, but were detached, and at some little distance from the paving. The loose stones indicate a building of considerable size.

Mr. Niven visited the spot before any of the stones found *in situ* had been removed, and Mr. Cocks while all but a very few still remained in position.

During the last fifteen years, while building his house and altering his garden, Mr. Field has found a considerable number of coins, etc., but of such various ages (from Roman times downwards) as to throw no light on the history of the monastery. Two alabaster panels (mentioned under the Acquisitions to the Museum) found here, were kindly presented to the Museum by Mr. Field, as well as some fragments of Roman and mediæval pottery.

At the same meeting the Curator announced the completion to date of a Catalogue of the specimens in the Museum.

The most important addition to the Museum during the last twelve months is the Collection of antiquities formed by our old member, the late Mr. James Rutland, of Taplow. Unfortunately (partly owing, no doubt, to the continued dearth of cases in which to house specimens) this has not yet been catalogued, so that it is impossible adequately to describe its contents, but it numbers probably not much, if at all, short of 2,000 specimens. Nearly 1,000 of these are palæolithic implements (from Bucks, and the adjoining parts of Berks) which alone are worth far more than Mr. Rutland's executors, in consideration of its destination, generously accepted for the whole collection. It was presented to the Society by subscribers, through the efforts of Mr. E. L. Reynolds.

Of Zoological specimens, another adult male Hobby from Wotton, presented by Mr. Copp, gamekeeper, is worth special mention, and proves the value of a County Museum, where such specimens may be preserved, and recorded, to the general advantage. A Ruddy Sheldrake, also obtained at Wotton, is probably an escape, and very unlikely to be a really wild visitant to the county. A Brent Goose killed at Saunderton, presented by Mr. Stratford Read, is also interesting in this inland county. (See *ante*, p. 275.)

A. H. C. (from Mr. Hollis's Lists).