



Proceedings of the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, 1896.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8TH.

A visit (No. CCXXXIX.) was made to New College, where the Warden, the Rev. J. E. SEWELL, D.D., received the party, and gave an account of the collection of personal relics of William, of Wykeham, preserved in the College. The Rev. W. A. SPOONER read a full and detailed description of the buildings of the College and the changes and additions that had been made in them.¹

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11TH.

A meeting was held at 8.15 p.m., at the Ashmolean Museum, the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq., being in the chair.

Rev. A. S. STURGES, Wheatley, Oxon, was elected a member of the Society.

It was announced that the following officers for the ensuing year had been elected by the Committee:—Treasurer, Miss Swann; librarian, Hon. B. J. Stapleton; secretaries, Messrs. P. Manning and J. L. Myres. The following resolution was carried unanimously:—That this Society desires to urge upon its local representatives in the House of Commons the necessity of the Government more thoroughly carrying out the Ancient Monuments Act, and the advisability of extending its provisions to monuments of the Romano-British and early Christian periods. Miss SWANN stated that the efforts made to recover for the church of Long Combe, Oxon, the 15th century font now used as a well head in that village, had been unsuccessful.

RALPH NEVILL, Esq., F.S.A., read a paper on Parochial Records and Registers, illustrated by diagrams of alphabets of various periods.

¹ A full account will be found in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, February 22nd, 1896.

E. A. FRY, Esq., gave a short account of the objects and work of the newly-formed Parish Registers Society.²

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20TH.

A visit (No. CCXL.) was made to Lincoln College, where the Bursar, J. WILLIAMS, Esq., M.A., met the party and conducted them round the buildings, after having given a full account of their history. Thence the party went on to All Saints' Church, where they were received by the Vicar, the Rev. A. J. CARLYLE, who described the present building, and its predecessor which fell down in 1699.³

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH.

A meeting was held at 8.15 p.m., in the Ashmolean Museum, the chair being taken by the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq.

The following were elected members of the Society:—C. B. Hutchinson, A.R.I.B.A., 2, St. Michael's Chambers, Oxford; Canon H. W. Bellairs, M.A., Banbury Road, Summertown, Oxford; S. H. Scott, Oriel College; C. Cookson, M.A., Magdalen College; Prof. F. Gotch, M.A., F.R.S., Magdalen College; Mrs. Gotch, The Lawn, Banbury Road, Oxford; Miss Parker, 21, Turl Street, Oxford; G. C. Druce, Hon. M.A., 118, High Street, Oxford; the Very Rev. The Dean of Christ Church; Prof. T. Case, M.A., Magdalen College; Mrs. Case, Beam Hall, Oxford; H. Hadley, Marcon's Hall, Oxford.

Miss E. BRADLEY read a paper on Some Pories under the Augustinian Rule, illustrated by lantern slides of the chief houses of the Order in England.⁴

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27TH.

A Visit (No. CCXLI.) was made to the remains of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Oxford, founded by Henry I. Here the party was met by J. T. DODD, Esq., who read a paper on the early history of the Hospital, after which the Chapel and other buildings were inspected. Thence they went on to the Church of SS. Mary and John, Cowley, where the Vicar, the Rev. W. SCOTT, and the Architect, A. MARDON MOWBRAY, Esq., received them. On the way back to Oxford, the new Church of St. John the Evangelist,

2 Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, February 29th, 1896.

3 Ibid. March 7th, 1896.

4 Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, March 14th, 1896.

then being erected for the Cowley Fathers by Mr. Bodley, was visited, under the guidance of the Rev. Father PULLER.⁵

TUESDAY, MARCH 3RD.

A Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Museum, at 8.15 p.m., the chair being taken by FALCONER MADAN, Esq., Vice-President.

The Committee reported that they had come to an agreement with the Curators of the Ashmolean Museum and Galleries, under which the Society had been allotted a room in the basement of the Galleries, in which to place its Library, etc. In return for this concession, the Society was to throw open its Library for the use of all students using the Ashmolean Library; the Curators were to catalogue the Society's books, and to incorporate this in the catalogue of the Ashmolean Library.

The collection of Architectural Casts formerly belonging to the Society, and presented by them to the University, was to be removed from the old, and re-arranged in the new, Ashmolean Museum. The Society's collection of original Carvings and Mouldings from Oseney Abbey, etc., was, with the consent of the donors, to be deposited in the new Oxford Free Library, where it was hoped that it would form the nucleus of a small local archæological collection. A. MARDON MOWBRAY, Esq., read a paper on the Development of Gothic Window-Tracery in England.⁶

THURSDAY, MAY 7TH.

An Excursion (No. CCXLII.) was made to Northampton, where the party was met by Sir HENRY DRYDEN. Under his guidance, they visited first the richly-decorated Norman Church of St. Peter, which dates c. 1160. Thence they went on to St. Sepulchre's, one of the four round churches in England, supposed to be modelled after the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at Jerusalem. Here they were received by the Rev. J. O. SERJEANTSON, who is writing a history of the building. The party then walked to St. Giles's Church, a building mostly of the Perpendicular period, with a 13th century chancel, and slight traces of Norman work. The next place visited was St. John's Hospital, whose 14th century chapel and refectory have been fortunately saved from the destruction threatened by the Midland Railway a few years back. The party here separated, some going on to Queen Eleanor's Cross, others

5 Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, March 21st, 1896.

6 Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, March 28th, 1896.

returning to All Saints' Church, a fine building in the classical style of c. 1680, which deserves more attention than it often receives at the hands of antiquaries. The return journey to Oxford was made by the 6.1 train.

At a Bye-Meeting held during the Excursion, Miss Edith Bradley, 4, Caroline Place, Mecklenburg Square, London, was elected a Member of the Society.

SATURDAY, MAY 30TH.

An Excursion (No. CCXLIII.) to Hagbourn, Blewbury and North Moreton, Berks, took place. The party left Oxford by the 2.20 train to Didcot, whence they drove to East Hagbourn Church. Here they were met by the Vicar, the Rev. W. R. BAKER. The nave arcade and chancel arch are of the 12th century, the chancel and tower-arch of the 13th, the north aisle of the 14th, and the south aisle and tower of the 15th. From Hagbourn they drove on to Blewbury Church, a fine late Norman building with insertions of the 14th and 15th centuries. The Vicar, the Rev. E. I. GILLAM, most kindly entertained the party with afternoon tea. They then went on to Aston Tirrold Church, where there is a curious doorway, probably of Pre-Conquest date, in the north aisle. The last place visited was North Moreton Church, which is mostly of the 14th century, and noteworthy for the fine glass of that period. Here the Vicar, the Rev. W. H. YOUNG, met the party, and gave an account of the building.

Excursions (No. CCXLIV.) to Steeple Aston, The Bartons, etc., Oxon, and (No. CCXLV.) to the Valley of the Nen, Northants, were abandoned owing to want of support.

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 27TH.

A Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Museum, at 8.15 p.m., the chair being taken by the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq.

The following were elected Members of the Society:—A. H. Lavie, Christ Church; Mrs. Crow, 86, Woodstock Road, Oxford.

The Committee reported that during the Long Vacation they had sent the following memorial to the Charity Commissioners, with a view to the better preservation of the Chapel of St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Oxford:—

"To the Charity Commissioners for England and Wales.

"Whereas in the recent enquiry respecting St. Bartholemew's Hospital, held in the County Hall, Oxford, before your Assistant Commissioner, the 21st and 22nd days of May last, it would appear, so far as your memorialists can gather from the report of the proceedings which appeared in the press, that the enquiry will lead to new arrangements respecting the administration of the property of that Hospital.

"We, the undersigned President, Vice-Presidents, Secretaries and Members of the Committee of the Oxford Architectural and Historical Society, without expressing any opinion whatever on the merits of the question at issue, venture to memorialize the Commissioners that in any scheme which they may adopt, they will provide as far as possible for the preservation of the ancient Chapel. Although the actual buildings, so far as masonry and architectural details are concerned, do not date further back than the 14th and 15th century, it is associated with an institution closely connected with the City of Oxford, dating from Henry I. reign, and contains interesting features, such as the original consecration crosses, which are rare, and a rood-screen erected during the commonwealth, which is probably unique." Signed by the President, Vice-Presidents, and officers of the Society.

The Committee further reported that at a meeting held on October 3rd, they had drawn up the following petition to the Oxford City Council respecting the proposed remodelling of Carfax Tower :—

"Your petitioners have heard with much dismay that serious proposals have been submitted to the Committee of the Council of the City of Oxford, involving considerable alterations in the character of the medieval tower which is all that now remains of the ancient Church of St. Martin, at Carfax.

It must be remembered that this tower, more than any other existing building, is the representative of the early history of the municipality of the City of Oxford, just as the Castle Tower is representative of the military, and St. Frideswide of the ecclesiastical side of the early history of Oxford itself.

Without venturing to enter into details, your petitioners are most strongly of opinion that no feature which is connected with or suggests any historical association should be altered or obscured, and they earnestly desire, in dealing with this tower, that the fullest consideration should be given to the historic interest of the monument, and not so much to mere architectural effect."

The Committee were glad to be able to report that the City Council had rejected by a large majority the designs by H. T. Hare, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., for the "repair" of Carfax Tower, referred to in the above memorial.

The following resolution was put to the meeting and carried unanimously :—"That this Society has heard with satisfaction that

the threatened destruction, involved in the proposed remodelling of Carfax Tower, has for the present been averted." The resolution was moved by F. York Powell, Esq., Regius Professor of Modern History, seconded by the Rev. C. J. H. Fletcher, late Rector of Carfax Church, and supported by Alderman Underhill and C. M. Laing, Esq., members of the City Council.

C. B. HUTCHINSON, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., then read an account of his recent restoration of the tower of St. Michael's Church, Oxford, illustrated by diagrams.⁷

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 29TH.

An excursion (No. CCXLVI.) to Iffley Church took place. Here the party was met by Major IND, who gave an account of the architecture of the building, while the history of the parish was discussed by JAS. PARKER, Esq.⁸

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD.

A Meeting was held at 8.15 p.m., in the Ashmolean Museum, the chair being taken by the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq.

The following were elected Members of the Society:—C. E. Cope, Wadham College; Miss Claridge, 8, Park Terrace, Oxford; Miss L. Swann and Miss Tyndall, 141, Woodstock Road, Oxford; A. MacDonald, M.A., 50, Woodstock Road, Oxford; G. M. Evans, Merton College; Canon W. Sanday, D.D., Margaret Professor of Divinity, Christ Church; Mrs. Sanday.

P. MANNING, Esq., exhibited a number of Palæolithic implements found, some in Wolvercote brick-field, others in the Thames near North Hinksey.

J. L. MYRES, Esq., read a paper on Gothic Foliage Carving, illustrated by lantern slides, and by the newly-arranged collection of Architectural Casts, recently deposited in the Museum.⁹

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10TH.

A Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Museum, at 8.15 p.m., the chair being taken by the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq.

The following were elected Members of the Society:—J. H. Reynolds, Christ Church; C. Tristram, Magdalen College.

A letter was read from C. Clapton Rolfe, Esq., giving an account of the foundations of the Holy Well, which he had recently

Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, October 31st, 1896.

8 Ibid. November 7th, 1896.

9 Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, November 14th, 1896.

uncovered under the chapel of the Sisterhood at Holywell Manor, Oxford.

W. L. BROS, Esq., read a paper on some architectural features of Dalmatia, illustrated by lantern slides, and including the towns of Pola, Spalato, Trau, Sebenico, Arbi, Cattaro, etc.¹⁰

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH.

A Visit (No. CCXLVII.) was made to St. Mary the Virgin's Church, where Professor T. CASE met the party, and gave a full account of the Church. The visit next made, to St. Mary Hall, derived additional interest from the fact that the Hall had just previously been merged into Oriel College, after an independent existence since 1333. The Principal, Dr. CHASE, received the party, and conducted them over the buildings.¹¹

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH.

The Annual Meeting was held in the Ashmolean Museum, at 8.15 p.m., the chair being taken by the President, JAS. PARKER, Esq.

The following Officers and Committee were elected :—*President*, Jas. Parker, Esq. ; *Committee*, Messrs. A. J. Evans, Hugh Hall, H. Hurst, C. B. Hutchinson, A. M. Mowbray ; *Auditors*, Messrs. M. H. Green and C. M. Laing.

The Annual Report having been read and adopted, Miss SWANN exhibited the following articles ; an ancient flint-lock pistol, found in Beechcroft Road, Oxford ; specimens of Eynsham Diamonds ; casts of fictile ivories ; etc.

P. MANNING, Esq., read a short paper on the Grammar School at Bicester Church, Oxon, and exhibited some books from its chained library.

JAS. PARKER, Esq., gave a short account of Wareham, Dorset, and of the inscriptions there preserved in the parish church.¹²

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21ST.

A Visit (No. CCXLVIII.) was made to Christ Church, Oxford. Here Canon BRIGHT gave a most interesting account of the history first of the Cathedral fabric, and then of the College. The buildings of the latter were inspected under the guidance of J. L. MYRES, Esq.¹³

¹³ Ibid. December 12th, 1896.

¹⁰ Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, November 21st, 1896 ; see also *Builders' Journal*, April 21st, 28th, May 5th, 12th, 1897.

¹¹ Ibid. November 28th, 1896.

¹² Reported in *Jackson's Oxford Journal*, December 5th, 1896.