

## 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. E. 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. Ragg).  
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, 1709, 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 BERTON; 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 mayeri*, 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 (*Loxia 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 (*Edicnemus scolopax*), 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 palaeolithic 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.