The Proceedings of the Bucks Architectural and Archaelogical Society

FOR THE YEAR 1907.

ANNUAL EXCURSION.

This was favoured with very fine weather, and about fifty members and their friends took part in it. The arrangements were made by Mr. E. L. Reynolds, and were carried out without a hitch.

THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, HIGH WYCOMBE.

The party assembled in the Parish Church, High Wycombe, where the Vicar, the Rev. E. D. Shaw, explained the chief points of interest, and gave a sketch in brief of its architectural history, which has been so admirably elucidated by Mr. St. John Hope, the highest authority perhaps we have in the art of tracing the history of a mediaval building from its own evidence. The Vicar quoted his valuable paper, which was printed in the first issue of the present volume of the RECORDS, 1904, illustrated with seven plates and a coloured plan showing clearly the gradual growth through the centuries to the spacious and handsome building we now see. One of the greatest services rendered to this Society by the late Mr. John Parker was the discovery by him at the Record Office in London of the highly interesting "indenture made the xxvi day "of Janyver the xxiii yere of the reign of King Henry vij betwene "Thomas Pymme Gentilman Richd. Byrch Nicholas Devon Geo. "Petyfer John Brasebryg & Thos. Baven Wardens & Rulers of "the New Worke be longyng to the Chyrche of Wycombe on the "oon ptie And William Chapman of Chersey in the County of "Surr Fremason" to take "down to the Grownde all the "quyer & the body of the Chyrche," showing that the older towerstood at the crossing of nave and transept, and with other interesting references to the fabric. The word *genlased* is used for *cusped*; and, in view of the modern craze for destroying old rough cast "to show the stonework" which was not intended to be seen, it may be noted that the contractor, Wm. Chapman, of Chertsey, was required to "Rough Cast all his seid Newe Wallys & to parget "them on the in syde." Reference is made to the "iij rode lofts" —which modern vandalism has destroyed. But as this indenture is printed in full in Mr. Hope's paper we forbear further quotation, only noting that of the names of the "Wardens & Rulers" who were parties to this contract in 1508 at least three of them, namely, Pym. Birch, and Pettifier, still survive in Wycombe. Mr. Shaw called Further details of Mr. Shaw's description of the church and notes upon the numerous monuments and modern memorials will be found in the report of the Society's excursion printed in the *Bucks Herald* of July 13, 1907; and fuller particulars of the parish, its church, and people have been published in pamphlet form by Mr. R. S. Downs, 1904.

HOSPICE OF S. JOHN BAPTIST.

The ruins of a fine late-Norman hall and 13th century chapel of a small community, who were probably Austin Friars, was next visited. These stand in front of the re-erected Grammar School and in close proximity to the main road. Special attention has recently been directed to these remains owing to the unfortunate collapse of one of the arches of the western arcade on the 22nd November, 1906, and to the praiseworthy energy of the Governors of the School and the Headmaster in raising a fund and proceeding to re-erect the fallen masonry and further protect what remained standing.

The remains now above ground consist of three bays of the hall to which the date 1175 has been attributed, and a later chapel which stood at right angles with it, lying nearly east and west. The hall was some 60 feet in length, and was divided by arcades of four semi-circular arches, the central portion having a width of 16 feet and the aisles 6 feet 6 in. The design has the dignity and robustness, and the masonry the excellence, which characterised Norman work. The arches are unmoulded and without splay or chamfer, and below them are carved capitals of the utmost refinement. The columns were alternately round and octagonal, 2 feet in diameter. A recess in the north wall of the hall has the appearance of a bread-oven. Of the chapel a part of the north wall and two Early-English windows remain. By the diversion of the roadway from its more ancient line the monastic buildings were cut into, including a portion of the hall and the south wall of the chapel; the older road to Windsor and London is said to have been on the other side of the Wye.*

on the other side of the Wye." The works of repair and protection recently carried out were advised and directed by the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, one of its members, Mr. Weir, giving his services without fee. We offer our congratulations to the Governors upon the course taken and the success of the work. When the S.P.A.B. surveyed the ruins before the arch fell they made a report upon them, printed in their Annual Report, June, 1906. In it we read, *inter alia*, "it is interesting to note that the ancient whitewash "has in places completely preserved the surface of the stone, and "many stones show the tooling marks as perfect as when first cut." This year's Report states what has actually been done: "The ivy "has been carefully removed and the accumulated rubbish carted "away. The remains of the north-most bay of the west arcade, "which collapsed last November, have been carefully sorted over "and most of the arch stones recovered. It will be quite possible "The two bays on the east side have been successfully repaired." The piers have been underpinned and the wall above strengthened. "The top of the wall has been protected with concrete, projecting "beyond the faces of the wall and covered with hand-made tiles in "order to protect the arches and piers, which are built of clunch. "The old coat of limewash, with which the clunch was protected, "had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without "had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without "had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without "had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without "had perished in places. This has been carefully removed without "had perished in places. The caps of the piers, which are

*J. J. W. An account of the Norman Remains, &c., printed in the School Magazine, December, 1906.

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"finely carved, are fairly well preserved..... The bay on the "west, in falling, pulled over the remaining bay considerably, and "this is now held up with shores on both sides. Its north-west "pier is in a very shattered condition, and is held in position by "a brick buttress on the west side. Before reconstructing the "northern bay it will be necessary to get the existing one into an "upper position and then to repair and undernin it on a good "upright position, and then to repair and underpin it on a good "foundation."

Let us hope that the protection given to the carved capitals may prove sufficient, but it should be remembered that they were never intended for exposure to the weather, still less to the atmosphere of a large and growing town, and that it is only within recent

of a large and growing town, and that it is only within recent years that there has been no roof to cover them. The best account of these ruins, with illustrations, that has yet appeared was read to the Society of Antiquaries by the late Mr. Parker, F.S.A., of Wycombe, in March, 1882, with plan, sections, and details by Mr. G. C. Richardson.* At that time a survey was not so easy as it has since become, for both hall and chapel were encumbered with the Grammar School buildings. He gives the authority of later editions of Dugdale's Monasticon for including this among the hospitals of the order of St. Augustine, "for the "relief of poor & impotent persons, occupying the same place in "the Middle Ages, though regarded as an institution of greater "dignity, that the union workhouse now fills." The inmates were a master, who was a clerk in holy orders, and said daily prayer, and poor brethren and sisters who were appointed by the burgesses. The names of twenty-one Masters are preserved, beginning with The names of twenty-one Masters are preserved, beginning with Robert, A.D. 1265. On the Dissolution the land and buildings seem to have passed—illegally—into private hands, but in 1562 the mayor to have passed—illegally—into private hands, but in 1562 the mayor and burgesses asserted their ancient privileges and conveyed the property to the Queen for the purpose of converting it into a royal grammar school. Some twenty years ago the present school build-ings were erected, and a scheme for the "restoration" of the Norman hall having happily been abandoned, the older buildings, which seem to have dated from the 17th century, were cleared away and the tops of the ancient walls protected with tiles. The work now carried out or in contemplation will carry still further the conservation of these remains, so that we need perhaps not regret the fall of the arch which has led to it. The party then proceeded by train to

BEACONSFIELD.

There is something pleasant and spacious in the aspect of this old market town—for such it was formerly—and to its market no doubt we owe the noble width of its main street. Among the more characteristic houses may be mentioned the long and low-fronted 17th century house or houses, for it is now two, adjoining the post-The century house of houses, for it is now two, adjoining the post-office, with five projecting bays and a *porte-cochere* near the centre; the handsome red brick early Georgian rectory house, with its timber-built stabling of an earlier time; also more than one quaint old shop front which are now becoming scarce. Here the programme began with lunch at the White Hart, Mr. A. Liberty taking the chair. The usual practice of holding the annual meeting at the close of lunch was abandoned, as the Society has been able to secure more specious premises of its own for such

has been able to secure more spacious premises of its own for such purposes by the purchase of a portion of the old Aylesbury Grammar School buildings. After a few words from the Chairman in allusion to this, and a statement in brief by Mr. A. H. Cocks as to the position of the Society with regard to the new Museum, which will be given in detail by him elsewhere, a move was made to the church.

* Archæologia, Vol. XLVIII., p. 285.

CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS.

The chance visitor to Beaconsfield Church might be pardoned if he asked if it were entirely modern, and the more skilled in English architecture will have to look about before finally fixing on perhaps the tower-arch as a specimen of mediæval architecture. It is a handsome church, in excellent hands, and shows that much care and expense have been lavished on it, but it is not a church for the student of ancient architecture. It was described by Sir Stephen Glynne* in 1849: "In the chancel are some E.E. features, and in "the north aisle some D. windows. . . . There is also some wood "screen work." By far the finest work in the church is the Bulstrode monument, of the 15th century, now recessed in the north wall of chancel, but which would seem to have been formerly in the south chapel. † This is an altar tomb with canopy, in Purbeck marble, which has been robbed of its brasses. The matrices indicate that on the dexter side was a man praying, a label issuing from his mouth, and four sons. On the sinister his wife and three daughters, a label also from her mouth. Below them, on another plate, the inscription. Above the figures was what may have been the B.V. with the Infant or the crucified Saviour. Four detached shields. Under the matting of the central passage is an interesting brass to John Warren, of White's Farm, which may be commended to the industrious rubber of Bucks brasses. It is in five plates, and the figures are well engraved in the costume of 1609. He was presumably a farmer, or perhaps a yeoman, and brasses to his class with engraved figures are unusul. The figures are shown standing, their hands joined in prayer. In Lipscomb's History (1847, Vol. III) is a view of the church from the north-east, which shows a high-pitched roof to the chancel covered in tile, and a flatter one to the nave covered in lead. Also three plain pointed windows to the clerestory, so that the present elaborate two-light windows to the clerestory, so that the present elaborate two-light windows to the clerestory, so th

THE OLD RECTORY,

Stated to have been a sub-priory to the Abbey of Burnham, was much restored by the munificence of Lord Burnham and dedicated to parochial purposes in January, 1902. Richard Capel, rector of Burnham, who died in 1500, bequeathed £40 for the erection of a rectory-house upon the site of the ancient nunnery to be built of timber (probably offered free), and made "a fayre large house." The execution of this trust was begun by his successor, William Baron, afterwards Bishop of London, and completed by Richard Lawson, who followed, in 1525, † and they certainly did make "a "fayre large house" (which continued to be the rectory until the

† Bucks Herald, July 13, 1907.

^{*} Ecclesiast. and Archit. Topog. of England, 1849 (R. Archæolog. Inst.).

⁺ The Topographer, 1791, Vol. IV., p. 67, where we also read: "Shields contain the arms of Bulstrode quartering a chevron, 3 squirrels, & impaling vert, on a bend 3 hands within a bordure ermine."

late rector moved to the present more convenient house). It is a timber building forming three sides of a square, of two storeys and an attic. A circular stair leads to some handsome rooms on the first floor, the timbers of which show traces of arabesque decoration. They have wide chimney-pieces of the usual Tudor type in fine freestone. Rush matting appropriately covers the floor, and some old furniture has been added.

HALL BARN.

By the kind permission of Lord Burnham the party next visited this old seat and its beautiful grounds. A house was built here by the poet Waller, but a rebuilding seems to have taken place by one of his successors in the 18th century, and this in its turn was altered, and the south front rebuilt, by Sir Gore Ouseley after he had purchased the property from Henry Edmund Waller in 1832. The mansion is symmetrical in form, a centre part of three storeys with single-storey wings, and is built of brick with stone dressings. The grounds were much admired *--the great yew hedge, the "canal," as the lake was called, with a temple at either end, the Grove, with its secluded avenues.

Grove, with its secluded avenues. Colen Campbell designed a "new building fronting a great canal" here, and published the design. \dagger He says of it: "The great room "is 30ft. in front, 30ft. high, 45ft. in depth, coved $\frac{1}{4}$." Niches were provided on each side of the fireplace, one for Homer, the other for Virgil. The circles over them were for the bustos of Milton and Addison, and Mr. Waller was to be over the chinney-piece. "It "was begun and covered in Anno 1724." Unfortunately "la grande "salle," as it was called, was burnt down about 60 years ago, and only the portico, fronting the lake on the house side, was rebuilt as it may now be seen, adorned with some beautiful old Dutch tiles. \ddagger

JORDANS

Was next visited, and Mr. R. S. Downs gave the visitors a brief outline of the origin and history of the meeting-house and burialground. A book recently published, entitled "Penn's Country," by E. S. Roscoe, 1907, may be recommended here as giving amongst other chapters a sympathetic account of this secluded spot and the sectaries who frequented it. Though perhaps not imparting anything not previously known or in print, this book is written in a pleasant style, and is largely a reprint of articles which appeared about 1890 in the *St. James's Gazette*. Amongst its illustrations are: Portraits of Wm. Penn, Baron Grenville (of Dropmore), Edmund Burke, John Hampden, Frances Cromwell. A brass to Wm. Penn of Penn (1638) and his wife; Graveyard at Jordans; Milton's Cottage; Butlers Court (Gregories), etc. This writer and Mr. Downs give 1687-8 as the date of the erection of the meeting-house, and the evidence of the building itself corroborates this.

CHALFONT ST. GILES.

Milton's Cottage came next on the programme. It is too wellknown to members to need much mention here. It is strange that though the poet lived here not more than nine months—to escape the plague of 1665 in London—this is the only home which survives, so far as is known. It was here that he made the final corrections

* Illustrated in "Country Life," No. 92.

+ "Vitruvius Britan: " Vol. III., Lond: 1725, Pl. 49, 50. ‡ I am indebted to the Hon. Lady Edith M. Hulse for some of this information. to "Paradise Lost."* It is generally supposed that the cottage remains just as it was in the poet's day, but the old wood-cut view, from the "Gentleman's Magazine," 1802, which, if funds admit of it, I hope to reproduce, shows that the two-storied porch which it formerly had has been removed.

CHURCH OF ST. GILES.

This was the last and not the least interesting item on the programme. The chief approach is through an archway surrounded by dwellings under which the old lych gate, very like that at Little Marlow, remains. The church is of several dates, from the Norman time (of which little remains) to the 14th and 15th centuries. The Rector, Mr. Whittingstall, pointed out some of the principal points of interest. The Norman tower was altered in the 14th century. The south door, through the modern porch, is a good specimen of Dec. work. There is a recess for an Easter sepulchre. The church was "restored" in 1862-3 under Mr. Street; and, considering how much destruction was being wrought at that time, it seems to have passed through the ordeal with less injury than one would have expected. During this process remains of wall-painting were uncovered over the chancel-arch—presumably a "doom"—and in the south aisle. There are six bells and a sanctus bell, which is now used for the clock said to have been made in 1710,† The former importance of this little town and neighbourhood is indicated by the number of memorial brasses which remain, and the far greater number which have been stolen. Amongst those which are too well fixed for removal may be named that of a priest, c. 1470; brasses to the Gardiner family and Thos. Fletewode, 1570, his two wives and 18 children, and a palimpsest, the obverse 1523, reverse 1521, which seems to have been carried off and brought back.

W. N.

THE ANNUAL MEETING

Was held at Aylesbury in what was formerly the Grammar School building, recently purchased by our Society (the buildings being vacated by the School) on the 23rd September, the Ven. Archdeacon of Buckingham, V.P., in the chair.

The minutes of the last annual meeting were read.

The President and Vice-Presidents were elected, or re-elected :-

President :

The Earl of Rosebery, K.G., F.S.A., etc.

Vice-Presidents :

The Right Honble. Lord Boston The Right Honble. Lord Burnham The Right Honble. Lord Cottesloe Sir J. Evans, K.C.B., F.R.S., F.S.A. The Ven. Archdeacon of Buckingham Lieut.-Colonel L. E. Goodall Mr. Coningsby Disraeli Mr. L. de Rothschild Mr. A. L. Liberty Mr. A. H. Cocks, F.S.A. Mr. J. Rutland Lady Smyth Mr. J. Elliman

The Hon. W. F. D. Smith, M.P.

* "Penn's Country," p. 26.

† Kelly, P.O.D., Bucks, 1907.

Mr. A. H. Cocks, F.S.A., was re-elected Hon. Secretary, and also Curator of the Museum.

The election of Mr. W. Niven, F.S.A., as Editorial Secretary by the Committee was confirmed.

Dr. J. C. Baker was appointed Assistant Curator.

Mr. C. G. Watkins was appointed Hon. Treasurer.

Colonel Horwood and Mr. W. Crouch (vice Mr. Watkins) were appointed Auditors.

The following were elected, or re-elected, on the Committee :--

The Rev. E. D. Shaw	Mr. J. T. Harrison
The Rev. C. O. Phipps	Dr. W. Bradbrook
Colonel Horwood	Dr. J. C. Baker
Mr. G. Weller	Mr. E. L. Reynolds
Mr. E. S. Harris	Mr. R. H. Russell

Mr. F. Skull, Mr. F. G. Gurney, and Mr. E. Wilkins were appointed to fill vacancies.

Mr. Niven, who was unable to attend, alddressed to the Chairman a brief report, in which he assured the members that he felt that, on the archæological side especially, he should make a poor successor to the late Mr. Parker, begged their indulgence, and appealed to Buckinghamshire antiquaries for some good papers; reminding them that the first number of the RECORDS appeared in 1854, and urging that we should do our utmost to at least maintain, if not improve on, the quality of the annual issue. Mr. A. H. Cocks, mainstay as he has shown himself of our Society, would occupy a larger space in this year's issue than usual, or than he himself desired, owing partly, as he has explained, to his wish to add as little as possible to the last issue (1906) of matter which had not passed through the late Mr. Parker's hands; and to the fact that his contributions were rather in connection with his secretarial duties than independent papers of his own, and had already been, from a variety of causes, a good deal delayed. Indicating other features of the forthcoming issue, the Editor asked for contributions to an annual news column headed "Bucks Churches," of which the purpose is more fully described elsewhere.

THE SECRETARY'S REPORT.

Mr. A. H. Cocks, Hon. Secretary, submitted his report. He hopes shortly, on the removal of the Society and its Museum to the more roomy and appropriate premises which have been lately acquired, to give a brief history of both from the first inception of the Society in the vestry of Aylesbury Church, Nov. 16, 1847. In reply to Mr. S. Harris, Mr. Cocks said that the total amount received in response to the appeal he had sent out in aid of the purchase, repair, and fitting up of the new premises was £1,156 1s. 0d. The cost of the portion of the school buildings purchased was £870; circulars and advertisements, £34 4s.; paid to the Trustees of the new Church House, who competed against us, for 400 square feet of ground and a party wall, £125 2s.; a total of £1,029 6s. They had contracted for a heating apparatus and the very necessary re-decoration. Mr. Wilkins' account for the conveyance came to about £40, so that an additional £400 was still required. Some of the chief supporters of the Society had given liberally, but the response had not been so general as might have been expected from a county with so many wealthy residents, and a county, moreover, which up to the present is certainly behind the average of English counties in regard to a well-equipped County Museum. The Museum, in its greatly improved aspect, would certainly be a great boon to Ayleebury, but of the ninety-five subscribers only ten lived in that town. Mr. Liberty suggested that they should borrow the remainder of the money required and fit up the building as soon as possible. They might then have a formal opening, and make a fresh appeal for subscriptions.

FINANCES.

Mr. Watkins, to whom the Society is indebted for having recently undertaken the treasurership as an honorary appointment, reported a balance in hand of £23 13s. 9d. There were 16 unpaid subscriptions, the total estimated balance being £31 13s. 9d. During the past few years the RECORDS had cost about £48, and if as much were spent this year there would be a deficit of about £25. It seemed to him there should be some definite understanding between the Committee and the Editor as to the amount to be expended each year. Mr. Harrison took the same view. Mr. Liberty said they should make the RECORDS as good as possible. It was resolved that the Committee should consult with the Editor with a view to limiting the expenditure to a certain sum each year.

It was agreed that the Committee should appoint a local committee for carrying out certain repairs to the Museum and define its duties.

THE RULES.

Slight alterations were passed; the composition for life-membership being fixed at £7 10s., and the annual meeting to be held not later than the 31st March in each year.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following new members were elected .--Mr. R. L. Booker, F.S.A., Eton College; Mrs. Williams and Miss Rogers, Cookham; Mrs. Tighe, Loosley Row, Princes Risborough; Mrs. H. F. Brookfield, High Wycombe.

The Editor expresses his indebtedness to the report published in the Bucks Herald, Sept. 28, 1907.

Donations to the Bucks Museum, 1907.

FEBRUARY.

Stuffed Hooded Crow (Corvus) Dr. J. C. Baker.

MARCH.

Stuffed Common Partridge) (Perdix cinerea) pale var. ...) Tonman Mosley, Esq.

APRIL AND MAY.

MS. Note and Scrap Books re-1 lating to the History of Bucks, by the late Henry Gough, Esq., and the late W. P. Storer, Esq.

Mrs. Henry Gough and Alfred Gough, Esq., Sandcroft, Redhill, Surrey.

JUNE.

 "Depths of the Sea" (Wyville Thomson)	Rev. Canon Blagden.
Facsimile of Register of Burial of John Hampden	E. S. Roscoe, Esq.
	Colonel Goodall.

RECORDS OF BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

JULY.

JULI.
Shilling of Edward VI. From a cutting on the new rail- way, Beaconsfield
"Fenny Stratford and District Directory, 1907"
SEPTEMBER.
Stuffed Stone Curlew (<i>Œdicne- mus scolopax</i>), immature, probably female. Bred on borders of Hambleden and Turville parishes, captured with wing broken against telephone wires, 20 July, 1907. Said by Dr. Hartert (Vic. Hist. of Bucks, I. 148), to be quite extinct in the county
Overseers' Account Book of Hanslope (both ends miss- ing), extant from January, 1795, to March, 1813 District Map of Stantonbury, for E. & W. Junction Rail- way (now L. & N.W.R.), 1866 Mud Mask, of Ptolemaic period, from near the Pyramids, Egypt
from near the Pyramids. The Gate House,
Egypt Aylesbury.
November.
The objects found in the semi- underground hut in Walton Road, Aylesbury (see p. 282)
Lace-makers' Lamp-stool and Pillow-stand (Newport Pag- nell)
"The Aylesbury Directory and Official Handbook for the County of Bucks"
Various other contributions are announced, but as consequent on the transition state from old to new

various other contributions are announced, but as consequent on the transition state from old to new premises they have not been yet received, their acknowledgment must be deferred.

Bucks Architectural and Archæological Society.

SUMMARY of RECEIPTS and PAYMENTS for the Year ending 31st December, 1906.

RECEIPTS.

То		5	17	5
	Arrears of Subscriptions	1	- 0	- (
	Subscriptions for 1906	61	12	- 1
	Subscriptions naid in advance	12	10	(
	Life Members' Subscriptions	ß	10	(
	Sale of RECORDS	4	9	2
"	Profit from Loan Exhibition	Š	11	11

-		£	8.	d.
Вy	Copies of Archæological Index		5	
,,	Rent	6		
	Caretaker	4	9	6
,,	Printing RECORDS (balance of 1904 and on account of 1905)	63	10	9
"	Subscription to Congress of Archæological Societies	1	0	0
	Insurance	0	10	0
,,	Incidental Expenses	1	5	10
,,	Purchase of Roman Urn	0	15	0
,,	Repairs and Work done		8	9
"	Treasurer's Salary and Commission	9	1	7
,,	Postages	-	ō	11
,, ,,	Balance at Bank	4	4	3
				_

EVPENDITURE

£95 11

£ 8. d.

£95 11 7

Audited and compared with Vouchers and Pass Book, and found correct.

(Signed) THOS. HORWOOD, C. G. WATKINS,

AUDITORS.

10th May, 1907.