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TRANSACTIONS OF THE
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society,

AT THE SUMMER MEETING, HELD AT STRATFORD-UPON-AVON,

*On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, the 8th, 9th, 10th
and 11th of August, 1887.*

THE Twelfth Annual Summer Meeting of the Society was held at Stratford-upon-Avon as above stated, the arrangements for which had been carefully and effectively made by a Local Committee consisting of the following gentlemen: SIR ARTHUR HODGSON, K.C.M.G. (Mayor of Stratford), *Chairman*; REV. F. H. ANNESLEY, REV. G. ARBUTHNOT, REV. A. BEALE, REV. G. HESKETH BIGGS, REV. CANON BOURNE, REV. P. H. BRODIE, J. F. BURKE, ESQ., LORD WILLIAM COMPTON, REV. CHARLES EVANS, EDGAR FLOWER, ESQ., REV. C. D. FRANCIS, W. G. FRETTON, ESQ., R. LATIMER GREENE, ESQ., S. G. HAMILTON, ESQ., REV. J. C. E. HORNBY, REV. A. C. JACKSON, J. COVES JONES, ESQ., REV. R. DE C. LAFFAN, THOMAS LLOYD, ESQ., REV. W. W. PERRY, A. G. PICKERING, ESQ., REV. FRANK SMITH, SAMUEL TIMMINS, ESQ., R. F. JAMES, ESQ., F. TOWNSEND, ESQ., M.P., of whom MR. EDGAR FLOWER acted as *Local Secretary* and MR. A. C. PICKERING as *Local Treasurer*.

Accommodation in the Town Hall was courteously granted to the Society for a Reception Room, Meetings, and other business purposes.

MONDAY, 8TH AUGUST.

A Preliminary Meeting of the Council was held in the morning at 11.45 for the General Business of the Society. In the absence of the President, Sir John Maclean was requested to take the chair, several new members were elected, and the Council adopted the draft circular relative to the exploration of the Roman Villa at Tockington Park. At noon the members of the Society and their friends were formally received in the large Hall by the MAYOR and other Members of the Local Committee. Amongst those present were the following: LORD SHERBORNE, *President Elect*, SIR HENRY BARKLY, K.C.B., K.C.M.G., &c. *President*; SIR BROOK KAY, Bart., SIR JOHN MACLEAN, The REVDS. E. F. BROOM WITTS, T. W. ALLEN, D. ROYCE, W. BAZELEY, *Hon. Sec.*, S. E. BARTLEET, T. EMERIS, MAJOR-GENERAL VIZARD, COLONEL G. H. A. FORBES, R.A., SURGEON-GENERAL COOK, LIEUT.-COL. BRAMBLE; MESSRS. E. HARTLAND, *Hon. Treasurer*, ROBERT TAYLOR, W. LEIGH, J. BAKER, E. A. D'ARGENT, P. D. PRANKERD, A. E. HUDD, A. LE BLANC, H. S. SWAYNE, A. H. PAUL, CHRISTOPHER BOWLEY, G. B. WITTS, R. F. TOMES, &c., &c., and many ladies.

SIR ARTHUR HODGSON took the chair, and, as Mayor of the Borough, offered the Society a cordial welcome to Stratford, and on the part of the inhabitants he thanked them for the honour they had conferred upon the borough by making this very interesting visit. He felt, not for the first time in his life, in a delicate and difficult position. He was Mayor, and, perhaps, on that score he had a right to occupy the chair; but the gentleman who had done all the work during his absence on the Continent was Mr. Edgar Flower—and if any success attended that meeting—and he was sure it would be a successful meeting—their thanks were due to Mr. Flower. He was present, therefore he should be very careful what he said about him. Mr. Flower was one of those gentlemen who chose to “do good by stealth, and blushed to find it fame.” Like his munificent brother, Councillor Flower, one of the members of this time-honoured Corporation, he had conferred lasting benefit on this borough. He should not say this in the presence of Mr. Flower were it not that he felt it might be said hereafter that, in occupying the chair for a moment, and giving the Society a cordial greeting to this borough, he had taken upon himself a position which would be more properly occupied by Mr. Flower. “*Hos ego versiculos feci tulit alter honores.*” All he could say was that they were delighted to see the Society at Stratford, and he trusted that the members would be rewarded for their visit by many pleasant reminiscences. They knew what Stratford was famous for, and what it was not famous for. With these few remarks he should vacate the chair, and ask the President of the Society to be good enough to take it.

SIR HENRY BARKLY said he rose, on behalf of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, to express their warmest acknowledgments to his worship the Mayor, Mr. Edgar Flower, and other members of the Local Committee for the cordial welcome which they had given to the Society on their visit to this ancient, and, as Sir Arthur had called it, time-honoured borough. And they were especially indebted to the Corporation for having given them the use of the Town Hall for the meetings of the Society. As the birth-place of the greatest dramatist that any age or country had produced, Stratford-on-Avon had long been looked upon as a sort of heritage of the civilised world at large, and especially of the English-speaking portion of it. Its inhabitants for generations past had always distinguished themselves by being foremost in everything that tended to cherish and venerate the memory of their great fellow-townsmen, and they knew that even at the present day, its leading citizens vied with each other in munificence in promoting any object with which the name of Shakespeare was associated. Stratfordians could, therefore, easily understand the feelings which induced others to visit the Poet's grave, and did not require any explanation of the reasons why the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society, when it desired to explore some of the antiquities of the north-east corner of the latter country—which, he believed, ran within a mile or two of this borough—chose Stratford as the centre for their annual meeting. Gloucestershire, indeed, had sometimes laid claim, and especially Dursley, to close connection with Shakespeare. But so little was known of the early history of the Poet, and there was so much scope for imagination, that, perhaps, he had better not enter upon that subject. He should be approaching a matter in which, no doubt, they would find a better pilot in Stratford-on-Avon. He

would, therefore, proceed at once to the business immediately before them by calling on the Hon. Secretary to read the Report.

The Rev. W. BAZELEY read the following

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1886-7.

THE Council, in presenting its Twelfth Report, congratulates the Society on the success which has attended the meetings of the members during the past year.

There are at the present time on the Society's list 402 annual, 79 life, and 2 honorary members, making a total of 483 as against 495 at the corresponding period of 1886. During the past year 25 have been elected, of whom one is a life member, and 37 vacancies have occurred, 10 through death and 27 through other causes.

On the 21st of April (the close of the Society's financial year) the balance at the Society's bankers was £284 4s. 4d., as against £157 4s. 6d. on the 21st April, 1886. To this balance must be added a funded capital of £432 3s. 8d. representing the composition fees of the life members, and a debt of £84 7s. 10d. due from the Berkeley MSS. fund to the general fund of the Society. The Council has raised the price of copies of *The Lives of the Berkeleys* and *The History of the Hundred of Berkeley* from £3 to £4 4s., and continues to restrict the sale to members of the Society. When the surplus copies of the Berkeley MSS. are disposed of a considerable profit will accrue to the Society from the printing of these valuable works.

The first part of the eleventh volume of the Society's Transactions is in the hands of the members, and the second part will be issued at an early date.

During the past year the Rev. T. P. Wadley's *Notes on the Bristol Book of Wills* have been completed, and the first part of *An Analysis of the Domesday Survey of Gloucestershire*, by the Rev. Charles S. Taylor, Vicar of S. Thomas the Martyr, Bristol, has been printed and issued to the members. The second part is in the press, and will be issued with Vol. XII. Part I. These works will form valuable additions to the library of the Gloucestershire Historian.

The Council is pleased to inform the members that it has been invited by Lord Sherborne to print in two volumes, similar to *The Chronicles and Memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the middle ages*, published under the direction of the Master of the Rolls, the Cartulary of Winchcombe Abbey.

This Cartulary, which has been in the possession of Lord Sherborne's family for several centuries, was mislaid for many years; and, it was feared, was irrecoverably lost. It was, however, discovered about ten years ago, and has been carefully transcribed by the Rev. D. Royce, Vicar of Nether Swell. Lord Sherborne, and Mrs. Dent, of Sudeley Castle, have each offered to guarantee £25, if needed, towards the expenses of printing, receiving an equivalent number of copies; and the Rev. D. Royce has not only placed the transcript, which he has made with great labour, at the disposal of the Society, but has most generously offered to edit the Cartulary, free of all cost.

Such an opportunity as this rarely occurs, and it will now rest with the members individually to decide whether or not the work shall be proceeded with under the auspices of the Society. A small sub-committee of Council consisting of Sir John Maclean, the Rev. D. Royce, Mr. E. Hartland, and the Rev. W. Bazeley, has been appointed to draw up and issue to the members a prospectus of the work with an invitation to subscribe for it. If the replies are sufficiently encouraging the Council will print the work.

The Council has learned with very deep regret that the roof of Fairford Church is in a dangerous state of disrepair, and that the stained glass windows require re-leading to preserve them from destruction. Any lasting injury to these invaluable examples of mediæval art would be nothing less than a disaster; and the Council trusts that a very general response will be made to the circular which has been issued by the Vicar of Fairford and the other members of the Restoration Committee.

It was unanimously agreed at the annual meeting of this Society, held at Dursley last year, that a County Historical and Archæological Library should be formed at Gloucester in connection with this Society, and deposited in the Gloucester Museum. In the autumn, therefore, the Council directed the General Secretary to issue a circular to the members, inviting contributions of books and money, and proposing to issue at an early date a list of donors and donations, and also a catalogue of the books, with rules and suggestions for their use by the members. The list of donors and donations, which is attached to the first part of Vol. XI. of the Society's Transactions, is a satisfactory proof that the scheme meets with the approval of the members. A further list will appear with the second part of Vol. XI., and the Council only awaits replies from those members who have not yet responded to the circular to issue the Catalogue and Rules.

It is usual to record in the Council Report the donations of books during the past year. The list is fortunately too long to be included within the limits of a Report.

The Council has authorized the General Secretary, who has undertaken for the present to act as Librarian, to expend £10 annually, in addition to donations of money, in the purchase and binding of books; and some valuable and interesting works have thus been purchased since the foundation of the Library. The Council has in addition secured for the Society at a public sale two very important manuscripts, compiled by Archdeacon Furney at the commencement of the 18th century. These MSS. contain abstracts of deeds and other documents which were found by him in the Bishop's Registry and in the Muniment Room of the Corporation of the City of Gloucester.

The Village Cross of Ashelworth, to which attention was called by the visit of this Society in 1885, has been carefully restored; and it is hoped that other Gloucestershire Crosses, in a state of more or less delapidation, will be treated in the same satisfactory manner.

The Council thought fit to issue an appeal to the members to assist in the preservation of the Saxon Chapel at Deerhurst, which the Society visited and examined last year. Some response has been made; but it is feared that the greater part of the expense has been borne by the Vicar of Deerhurst, the Rev. G. Butterworth. The Council considers that the thanks of

the Society are due to that gentleman and to Mr. T. Collins for their zeal in rescuing from oblivion so precious a relic of bygone times.

The Council refers with much satisfaction to the success of the meetings of the Society at Dursley and Cirencester, the details of which will appear in the Transactions. The thanks of the Society are due to the Local Committees, and especially to the Local Secretaries, Col. Forbes, R.A., and Mr. E. C. Sewell, for the admirable way in which the arrangements were made and carried out. A small balance accrued to the Society from the former, and a still smaller one from the latter, of these meetings.

More than eleven years have now elapsed since the formation of the Society, and during this time upwards of twenty-five meetings have been held in Gloucestershire or on its frontiers. Gloucestershire is not inferior to any other county in the possession of objects of historical and archaeological interest. The lower vale of the Severn is especially rich in ancient towns and in abbeys of Saxon and Norman origin. The Cotswold hills are everywhere dotted with camps and barrows which have done service for the successive races which have defended or conquered our land. Where the hills melt into the plain, in almost every combe, have been found traces of Roman villas and other proofs of Roman civilization. During these eleven years of the Society's existence all our large towns and their neighbourhood have been visited, many of them, it must be confessed, far too hurriedly and imperfectly. In the future it may be necessary to select small country towns, village churches and manor houses of no great note lying in sequestered nooks and corners of the county as was done last year; or to re-visit with greater care and leisure such centres of archaeological interest as Gloucester, Bristol, Cheltenham, Stroud, Tewkesbury, Cirencester and Fairford. It must be remembered that whilst a certain degree of permanency belongs to the places and objects of interest, those who visit them pass away. For the sake of new members it will be necessary as time goes on to pass over the same ground as some of us have trodden with those that have gone. The Council would take this opportunity of impressing on the younger and rising members that not only the future success of this Society is in their hands, but that after a while they must occupy the positions which the course of time, alas, too rapidly, lays open to them.

During the last year we have been deprived of a few of our members by death, and it is to be deplored that, owing to a serious illness, our President of Council, Sir Wm. Guise, will, we fear, be unable any longer to cheer us at our General Meetings with his presence, or guide us in our researches.

The time has come when vigorous exertions should be made to encourage archaeological research in every locality. We have the machinery—Vice-Presidents, Members of Council, and Local Secretaries, representing eighteen various districts—but it wants setting in motion. It was the intention of the founders of this Society that in every one of those districts the members should form a local Society for studying the history of the immediate neighbourhood and developing archaeological remains; and so preparing for the visits of the General Society, and providing matter for the Society's Transactions. This has been only very partially carried out. The Council would suggest that in every district the Local Secretary should summon at least one meeting of the resident members annually and make a

report to the General Secretary of any resolutions passed, of persons who wish to join the Society, of matters of archaeological interest, and of papers on local history that might be forthcoming at the General Meetings. Many very important papers have appeared in the Society's Transactions, but much more remains to be written.

The Council ventures to point out, as a proof of this, that in relation to Gloucester five MS. Registers of S. Peter's Abbey, the Corporation Muni- cements and the Registers of Llanthony Priory, are still sealed books to the general public, and that the history of the three Gloucester Hospitals of S. Bartholomew, S. Margaret and S. Mary Magdalene and of the Priors of S. Oswald, Llanthony, the Grey Friars, and the White Friars—to say nothing of several ancient guilds—are still unwritten.

The Council nominates for re-election the President of Council, the Vice-Presidents, the General Secretary, the Treasurer, and the Secretaries, local and sectional, with the exception of Mr. E. C. Sewell, the Rev. F. S. Forster and Prof. Middleton, who have resigned the Local Secretaryships of Cirencester, Chipping Campden and Cheltenham. The Council desires to nominate Mr. R. F. Tomes as Local Secretary for Chipping Campden and Mr. G. B. Witts for Cheltenham. The members resident in and near Stroud and Cirencester will be asked to recommend two gentlemen to act as Local Secretaries for those districts. There are also vacancies at Berkeley and Winchcombe. The following members of Council retire by rotation, but are eligible for re-election :—Messrs. J. Reynolds, A. le Blanc, Robert Lang, Herbert New, the Rev. D. Royce, Prebendary Searth and Col. Lawson Lowe. There are also two vacancies for East Gloucestershire and a vacancy for Tewkesbury.

The Council has held seven meetings during the past year—two at Bristol, three at Gloucester and two at Stratford-on-Avon, and desires to express its acknowledgement to the Mayor and Town Clerk of Gloucester and to the Mayor of Stratford for the use of the Tolzey at the former place, and of the Town Hall at the latter.

Mr. ALLARD proposed that the Report of Council for the year 1886-7 be adopted, which was seconded by Mr. J. Williams, who, after remarking upon the great work which that Society had accomplished in the 11 years of its existence, said there was a great deal yet to do, and he hoped that their work would be as fruitful in the future as in the past. Before closing his remarks he would wish to remind the members how much their meetings had been stimulated and brightened by the genial presence of the President of the Council, Sir William Guise, and he would ask them to join with him in requesting the Secretary to convey to Sir William their sincere hope that his recovery might be soon and permanent.

Mr. SWAYNE then proposed, and Mr. Day seconded, the following gentlemen as members of the Council :—Mr. J. Reynolds, Mr. A. le Blanc, Mr. Herbert New, Rev. D. Royce, Rev. Prebendary Searth, Mr. W. C. Heane, Mr. J. D. Robertson, and Mr. H. D. Prankerd.

Sir JOHN MACLEAN said he had been requested to propose a resolution which he had much pleasure in doing, and he had no doubt it was one in which the members would most cordially concur. It was :—“That the

thanks of the Society be given to Sir Henry Barkly for the very able and courteous manner in which he has presided over the Society during the past year, and for the very great assistance which he has rendered to the members in their historical researches." He could safely say that no one knew so well as he did the value of the services Sir Henry Barkly, both before and since his election to the Presidency, had rendered to the Society.

Mr. A. LE BLANC, in seconding, said all present must have seen the great ability and unflinching courtesy with which they were presided over last year, and it was due to Sir Henry Barkly that they should accord him their warmest thanks.

Sir JOHN then put the resolution to the meeting and it was unanimously adopted.

Sir HENRY BARKLY having briefly acknowledged the vote of thanks, referred to the Report of the Council, observing that it was unnecessary that he should criticise it as it explained fully what the Society had done in the last year. There was, however, he said, one important subject which had arisen too late to be embodied in the report. He referred to the proposal for the exploration, and, as far as possible, the preservation, of the newly-discovered Roman Villa at Tockington Park, which he considered to be a very important work, devolving upon the Society as lying immediately within the range of those objects for the carrying out of which the Society was formed; and he expressed a hope that the members would cordially co-operate in its performance. He also adverted to the project for printing the Cartulary of Winchcombe, speaking, from his own knowledge, of the great value of records of this class in the elucidation of local history. In conclusion, Sir Henry introduced the new President,

LORD SHERBORNE,

who thereupon took the chair, and delivered his

INAUGURAL ADDRESS,

which will be printed *in extenso* in this volume.

Sir HENRY BARKLY proposed that a vote of thanks be given to the President, Lord Sherborne, for the interesting address he had given to the Society, and adverted to the care he had displayed in the endeavour to recover and preserve all he possibly could of the wreck of the contents of the muniment room at Sherborne, which, from his lordship's description, were of great importance to the local history of the county.

Mr. CHRISTOPHER BOWLEY, in seconding the vote of thanks, said it was always an advantage when they got large landowners like Lord Sherborne to take an interest in archæology, because they would do so much in preserving objects of interest on their estates. He believed it was not generally known that on Lord Sherborne's estate there was a buried Roman villa, a small portion of which had been opened up, and he hoped proper steps would be taken to explore and preserve it.

Lord SHERBORNE suitably acknowledged the vote, and made a few remarks respecting the Roman villa.

After partaking of some light refreshment in the Town Hall, which had been provided by the hospitable care of Mr. Edgar Flower, the party proceeded to the parish church, where, in the absence of the vicar, they were

received by the priest-chaplain (the Rev. F. Smith), who gave a brief sketch of the history of the church, and pointed out the various features of interest.

The church is cruciform, and dedicated to the Holy Trinity. It consists of an unusually long chancel, probably lengthened when rebuilt by Thomas Balshall, Dean of the Church, then Collegiate, cir. 1480, central tower, with short transepts, nave, north and south aisles, and a chapel at the east end of each, not structural, north porch, and south door without porch. The chapel in the north aisle was dedicated to the Blessed Virgin, and was sustained and used by the Gild of the Holy Cross and St. John Baptist, but when Sir Hugh Clopton rebuilt for the Gild the chapel adjoining the Hospital, the fraternity ceded to him the chapel in the church, and he converted it into a family chapel. The south aisle, with its chapel, which is dedicated to St. Thomas of Canterbury, was rebuilt by John de Stratford, Archbishop of Canterbury, cir. 1338-1348. The north transept is now used as an organ chamber and the south as a vestry.

On the north wall of the chancel, or choir, is a monument commemorating William Shakespeare. In a recess, above the tablet containing the inscription, is a half length figure of the renowned dramatist, his hands resting upon a cushion resembling, and perhaps representing, a woolpack, and above is the shield of arms granted to John Shakespeare, his father, in 1596. At the time of the restoration of the church the bust was painted stone colour, but when the Archæological Institute visited the church in 1864 it was found to be painted in bright colours, as it now appears, and the late Bishop of Winchester (Wilberforce), and the late Mr. Beresford-Hope and others took exception to the figure having been coloured, and the then Vicar, the Rev. G. J. Granville, stated that on the removal of the stone colour, with which it had been covered, distinct traces of the original colours appeared; and that, by his direction, the colours had been carefully restored.

In the Clopton Chapel are some fine monuments. In the midst of it, upon an altar tomb, lie the effigies of William Clopton, Esq., who died in 1592, and his wife, Anne, daughter of Sir George Griffith, Knt., who died in 1596. On the south side of the tomb are three shields of arms. In the centre panel, within a ribbon with the motto *PATITVR VINCIT QVI*, (*sic*) is a shield bearing: *Paly of four, or and az, a lion ramp. counter-changed, for CLORTON, impaling: Gu. on a fess dancettée ar. between 6 lioncels ramp. or, 3 martlets sa. for GRIFFITH.* On each side are the same arms sole. On the north side of the tomb are sculptured figures of the 7 children, the issue of this marriage, 3 of whom died in infancy, William, the only son, died unmarried, and of the 2 surviving daughters and coheirs, Joyce the elder is represented with her arms, as above blazoned, impaled with those of Sir George Carew, her husband; and Anne with her arms impaled with the same, as those of her distant kinsman, William Clopton, of Sledwick, whom she married. Here is abundant evidence that this coat was borne by William Clopton as those of his family, but there is some difficulty in reconciling this fact with the arms impaled by Lord Totnes as those of his wife Joyce Clopton on the monument which we shall presently describe. The former were doubtless the arms of COCKFIELD, for, in the Heralds' Visitation of Warwickshire in 1619,¹ we find the pedigree of COCKFIELD *alias* CLOPTON, on the top of which

¹ Harl. Soc. Pub., Vol. XII. pp. 108, 109, 110.

three descents of Clopton are shewn with the arms : *per pale, or and gu. a cross pattée fichée counterchanged*, tricked in the margin ; and it is stated that James de Clopton, with his two sons John and Henry, sold the Manor of Clopton (in Essex) to Sir Walter Cockfield in 4th Edw. I. Then follow three descents from Sir Walter designated de COCKFIELD, the last being described as "John Cockfield *alias* Clopton, Ric. 2," which said John is shewn to have had three sons : Thomas of Stratford his heir, Hugh, Mayor of London, and John, described as merchant of the Staple, London. For this family is tricked in the margin the arms blazoned above as used by William Clopton, who was fifth in lineal descent from John Cockfield, *alias* Clopton, just mentioned. There is no alliance whatever shewn between Cockfield and Clopton.

The pedigree printed by Dugdale¹ differs materially from that which is cited above. He derives the personal name of Clopton from the Manor of Clopton, co. Warwick, and states that a certain James de Clopton was Lord of that manor at an early date, and that he was the son of John, the son of Robert de Clopton, t. Hen. III. (citing Cart. de Clopton), and further that Walter, grandson of the said James, being owner of Cockfield, in Essex, where he then had his residence, resumed the name of Cockfield, and that Walter, grandson and heir, was succeeded by his son John, who was succeeded by another John, who resumed the name of Clopton, which last John was the father of Thomas, and Hugh, Mayor of London, 1491-2, but John, the third son, mentioned in the Visitation pedigree, is not named. There was a Sir Robert de Clopton who in 1238 for twelve marks and four shillings annual rent, sold a meadow in Hamptone, near Alvestone, to the Prior of Worcester. From the time of Henry VII. the pedigrees agree. In support of this pedigree Dugdale gives seven references to the Clopton Cartulary, but this authority is not accessible to enable us to verify the references, and with all due deference to the high authority of Dugdale, we are constrained to say that it is by no means satisfactory, unless the amended pedigree should be found recorded in the Heralds' College at a later date than 1619. It is well known that Dugdale's great work, the Baronage, important and valuable as it is, contains a great number of errors, and we cannot, therefore, be surprised that the Antiquities of Warwickshire, written when he was a young man, and some years before he was connected with the Heralds' College, should not be faultless. He was not appointed a Pursuivant until 1638, after the death of both Lord and Lady Totnes.

The changes of name, mentioned by Dugdale, would not affect the arms, for arms do not pertain to *names*, but are heritable in the descendants of the grantee, and the Cockfields, of Stratford, though styled *de Clopton* from their residence at Clopton, continued to the end of the 15th century to bear the arms of Cockfield as their paternal coat. On the arch over the cenotaph in Stratford Church, attributed to Sir Hugh Clopton, is a shield quarterly, COCKFIELD and CLOPTON. This would seem to indicate that, at some earlier period, a Cockfield had married an heiress of Clopton, and by her was ancestor of the Cloptons, of Stratford.

The sumptuous monument of Sir George Carew, Earl of Totnes, and of his wife Joyce Clopton, is placed against the east wall of the chapel. It is

¹ Hist. of Warr. p. 685.

a very dignified structure, erected by the Countess after the death of her husband, which occurred in 1629. She died in 1636. On an altar tomb, forming the plinth of the erection, the front of which is sculptured with guns, powder-barrels, shot, and other symbols of his office as Master of the Ordnance, lie the effigies of the Earl and Countess, very well sculptured and in excellent condition. He is represented in armour with an Earl's robes over it, and both wear coronets. This elaborate monument has been well engraved by Dugdale, and it is only with respect to the armorial insignia on it that we allude to it here.

On the summit of the erection is the Earl's achievement of arms containing 16 quarterings, surmounted by an Earl's coronet, over which is the barred helmet supporting the crest, *a lion statant guardant*. *Supporters, two antelopes*. The quarterings are—

1. CAREW.—Or three lions passant in pale sa. armed and langued gu.
2. FITZ STEPHEN.—Per pale ar. and erm. a saltier counterchanged.
3. COURCY.—Ar. three eagles displayed gu.
4. TUIT.—Quarterly ar. and gu.
5. DIGON.—Ar. three adders enwrapped vert.
6. MOHUN of Ottery.—Gu. out of a Maunche erm. a hand pp^r holding a fleur-de-lis.
7. BREWER.—Gu. two bendlets wavy or.
8. ARCHDEKNE.—Ar. three chevronels sa.
9. HACCOMBE.—Ar. three bendlets sa.
10. FOLKERY.—Cheequy ar. and sa. a fess vair, ar. and gu.
11. CARMINOW.—Az. a bend or, and a label of three points az.
12. DINHAM.—Gu. four fusils in fess erm.
13. COURTENAY of Haccombe, Or three torteaux, a label of three points az.
14. ARCHES.—Gu. three arches 2 and 1 ar. capitals or, that in base double.
15. HUDDERSFIELD.—Ar. a fess betw. three boars statant sa.
16. COURTENAY of Powderham.—1st and 4th, Or three torteaux, and a label of three points az.; 2nd and 3rd, Or a lion ramp. (Redvers).

The chief points requiring notice are the impalements to which we have before adverted. On a panel above the inscription are three shields: 1st, Carew, *impaling per pale or and gu. a cross pattée fitchée counter-changed*, and two others bearing the same charges sole. On each side of the inscription are two shields, those on the dexter being: 1, Carew, *impaling gu. on a bend three trefoils slipped vert.* for Harvey, of Thirltry, co. Beds., the Earl's mother; and 2nd, Carew, *impaling Huddersfield*, as above, for his grandmother. These shields would seem to be misplaced. On the shields on the sinister side of the inscription the dexter sides are occupied by the arms assumed for Clopton as above, and the sinister side blank.

It is in all its circumstances a most curious and interesting question, the proper investigation of which would, however, occupy more time and space than we can now devote to it, especially as it is not immediately a question of Gloucestershire history or antiquities, but we hope at a future time to have an opportunity of studying the case more fully.

GILD OF HOLY CROSS.

On leaving the church the party proceeded to the Grammar School, formerly the Gild at the Holy Cross, to which the chapel is dedicated. The

Gild was of unknown antiquity, for having been founded without the Royal licence there is no record, but evidence exists that it was at a very early date, though it was not until 4th Henry IV. (1403), that Letters Patent were obtained for its foundation, and authorising the brethren and sistren of the fraternity, every year, to elect eight aldermen from among themselves, who should elect a master and two proctors to govern the lands and revenues of the gild. For this indulgence the members of the gild bound themselves to provide two priests to celebrate divine service daily for the good estate of the King and Queen and other benefactors during their lives, and for their souls after their deaths. It will be noticed that this gild, like all others, was entirely a lay association, consisting of pious and earnest churchmen and churchwomen who devoted their time and their substance to religious and charitable work, and such services as they were incompetent themselves to perform they were to engage clergymen to perform in their behalf.

In 1296 the brethren and sistren of the fraternity petitioned the Bishop of the diocese for permission to found a hospital and a chapel for the use of the said gild, which was granted, and the chapel was dedicated to the Holy Trinity. In the hospital, previous to the dissolution of the gild, the fraternity maintained ten poor persons, and it appears that besides the four gild priests there was another clerk who was schoolmaster; and further, as was essential in all gilds, there was an annual feast for the brethren and sistren, at which the tenants, bailifs and farmers of the land were present.

Mention is made of a chapel in the town dedicated to the Holy Trinity, which was served by one of the gild priests. It was, apparently, independent of the collegiate church except that it paid the usual parochial dues and the clergy attended the service there in their surplices once a year. The chapel, as before stated, was rebuilt by Hugh Clopton, who was Lord Mayor of London 7th Henry VII. (1491-2), and died five years later. He also, it is said, built a fair house of brick and timber on the north side of the said chapel, in which he lived in his later days. Whether or no this chapel was identical with the gild chapel is not very clear. Hugh Clopton was also the builder of the fine bridge which spans the Avon at Stratford.

The Gild of the Holy Cross, like all other chantries, gilds, hospitals, &c., was dissolved, and all its lands and revenues seized to the King's use. In 1545 its revenues were valued at £50 ls. 11½d. per annum, and Stratford was fortunate in having the whole, with the exception of Hugh Clopton's house, before mentioned, which had been alienated, restored in 1553, when the town was incorporated, for the maintenance of the school and almshouses, which still exist.

The party was received at the Grammar School by the Head Master, the Rev. R. S. de C. Laffan, who delivered an interesting address, in the Great Hall, sometime used as the Town Hall, on the History of the Institution, and afterwards in the principal class room, above stairs, he continued his remarks, pointing out the exact spot assigned by tradition as that in which Shakespeare sat when attending this school! He also called attention to some ancient mural paintings which had been discovered about a year and a half previously by the removal of a ceiling, and which he thought were emblematical of the union of the houses of York and Lancaster.

Mr. Laffan then conducted the visitors to the Chapel of the Gild, and exhibited a large collection of drawings of a remarkable series of mural

paintings which had adorned the walls of the chapel, representing the "Passage to the Cross," which he described. These were disclosed some years ago by the removal of the white-wash, and the drawings made, but afterwards, unfortunately, they were again covered with white-wash.

The next place visited was "New Place," erected by public subscription in commemoration of Shakespeare, to which we shall again advert further on, and the Old House, supposed to be Shakespeare's birth-place, but we believe there is no reliable evidence of this fact.

ANNUAL DINNER.

The Annual Dinner of the Society took place in the evening, at which there was a large attendance of members and visitors, and many ladies. The President, Lord Sherborne, occupied the chair.

At the conclusion of the dinner, the Chairman briefly proposed the "Queen," remarking that as this was the Jubilee year of Her Majesty's reign he doubted not the toast would be drunk with more than ordinary zeal and loyalty.

The toast having been cordially accepted, the Chairman proposed the usual toast of "Prosperity to the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society," coupling therewith the name of Sir Henry Barkly, the retiring President, which was cordially received.

Sir HENRY BARKLY, in responding, said it was very gratifying to him to have his name coupled with the toast, "Success to the Bristol & Gloucestershire Archæological Society," and he could assure them no one desired that success more sincerely and more heartily than he did. At the same time he thought it must be very evident to all of them that that success was more connected with the President who had just entered on the duties of the office than it could be with the retiring President, whose functions had just ceased, and that it would be more fitting that the toast should have been connected with the name of Lord Sherborne. From what they had seen that day of the interest Lord Sherborne took in archæological pursuits, as he had shewn in the inspection of the antiquities of Stratford, they must entertain a strong feeling that the Society could not have a better President, and, in conclusion, therefore, he proposed the health of Lord Sherborne, the President of the Society.

Lord SHERBORNE, in a few words, returned thanks, and the company then adjourned. About nine o'clock there was an

EVENING MEETING

for the reading and discussion of papers, Lord Sherborne presiding, at which there was a large attendance.

Mrs. BAGNALL-OAKELEY read a paper on some *Stone Vessels* resembling fonts, but much smaller, and destitute of drains, of which she exhibited a number of carefully-prepared drawings. Mrs. Oakeley detailed the places where they had been discovered—chiefly Wales and England. She offered some observations upon them, which she said she made with the view of eliciting the opinions of others as to their use, and suggested whether they might not be connected with the sacrament of Baptism.

Sir JOHN MACLEAN remarked that the objects in question could not be fonts. In the first place they were too small, and that in the early

church, fonts were invariably furnished with drains, and he could not see in what manner these vessels could be used in baptism unless in connection with the use of chrism. To form any definite opinion on the subject would require a more familiar knowledge of the details of the ritual of the ancient church than he possessed. The subject dropped without further discussion.

A paper had been announced by Mr. R. F. Tomes, respecting which the Rev. W. BAZELEY said the author had left it in his hands, but, inasmuch as the writer could do better justice to his own paper than a stranger, he would suggest that Mr. Tomes be asked to read it at Quinton, to which neighbourhood (with Mickleton and Clifford) it relates. This was agreed to.

Mr. EDGAR FLOWER then read some *Notes on the Town of Stratford*, and on some eminent men which it had produced. He quoted an extract from Camden's *Britannia* describing the town, in which that learned antiquary remarked it was "a pretty handsome market town, that owes its ornaments and beauty chiefly to two of its natives" (*Britannia*, ed. 1722, p. 606.) Mr. Flower observed that it seems strange to us now that Stratford should ever be known to fame as being the birth-place of illustrious persons, and neither of them Shakespeare.

The persons referred to by Camden, writing in Shakespeare's lifetime, were John de Stratford and Sir Hugh Clopton. The former, Mr. Flower stated, was the eldest son of Robert and Isabel Stratford, who, in 1269, built the Chapel of the Holy Cross for the fraternity of the gild, together with a hospital, the gild having also an altar, or chapel, at the eastern end of the north aisle of the parish church. At a later date, in the reign of Henry VII., Sir Hugh Clopton, at his own expense, as stated above, rebuilt the Chapel of the Holy Cross as we now see it.

Ralph de Stratford, younger brother of Robert de Stratford, rose to be Bishop of London, and of his two sons John and Robert, the youngest became Bishop of Chichester, and John, the most illustrious of the family, who was Rector of Stratford in 1319, was made Bishop of Winchester in 1323, and was advanced to the Archbishopric of Canterbury in 1333 by Pope John XXII. against the consent of King Edward II., who did his best to brow-beat him out of the country, but eventually the King became reconciled to him, and three times appointed him Lord High Chancellor, and Lord High Treasurer. As such he rendered great services to the State, making no fewer than thirty-two journeys across the channel. He was a sturdy defender of the Constitution, and occasionally boldly stood out against the King. He it was who greatly embellished the parish church of Stratford, rebuilding the south aisle, and erected a chapel to St. Thomas Becket at its east end. He died in May, 1348, and was buried at Canterbury Cathedral, where a magnificent alabaster tomb supporting his effigy still remains.

Mr. ROBERT TAYLOR followed with a description of an *Ancient Astrolabe*, which he exhibited. His observations thereon will be found printed in this volume, pp. 6-25 and 170-171.

Mr. GEORGE B. WITTS read an interesting paper *On Meon Hill Camp*, which, he said, contained an area of twenty-six acres, and the fortifications were still tolerably complete. Some years ago, in 1824, 394 sword-like blades

of iron (like the one exhibited) were found, carefully arranged, as if packed together in a chest. An opinion had been expressed that they were imperfect swords, fabricated from native iron, and prepared for the final strokes of the war smith. He observed that it was very remarkable that all these swords were lost, none being in the local museums. Mr. Witts went on to argue that Meon formed a link in the most important chain of camps in this country, extending from the Bristol Channel to the Wash, between the coasts of Lincolnshire and Norfolk, running parallel to the valleys of the Severn and the Wye on the western side of the Kingdom, and the Welland and Nen on the eastern, defending the boundary of the great Roman province of England, established 1307 years ago.

During the evening the ancient Corporation Charters were displayed on the walls of the Council Chamber, and both prior to and after the meeting they were inspected with a considerable amount of interest.

TUESDAY, 9th AUGUST.

This morning an excursion was made to Warwick, the county town, famous for its antiquities. The party numbering altogether 92, among whom were Lord Sherborne (*the President*), Sir Henry Barkly, Sir Arthur Hodgson (*Mayor of Stratford*) Sir John Maclean, Mr. Edgar Flower (*Local Secretary*) and Rev. W. Bazeley (*General Secretary*), proceeded mostly by road, *via* Charlecote, and others by railway, assembling at the Museum at Warwick, where they were received by Mr. M. H. Lakin (*the President*) and other members of the Warwickshire Natural History & Architectural Society, and by that veteran and accomplished antiquary Mr. Matthew Holbech Bloxam,¹ who may be regarded as one of the chief instruments in the revival of Gothic Architecture in this country, and now the President of the Warwickshire Field Club,² accompanied by the Rev. Charles Evans, Rev. P. B. Brodie and several members from Warwick and Coventry. After having inspected what is called the Black Book of Warwick, which contains accounts of events of interest which occurred in the town (to which the book belongs) from the time of Queen Elizabeth downwards, and the fine geological collection and the other interesting and valuable contents in the museum, the Societies made their way to the ancient historic castle, which, with the kind permission of the Earl of Warwick, they were allowed to visit. Arriving at the castle, the party was received in the Great Hall by Major Fosbery, Lord Warwick's agent, who, in the name of his lordship, bade the Societies welcome, adding that the rule of charging one shilling each person for admission would not, on this occasion, be insisted upon.

Mr. BAZELEY, on behalf of the Society, thanked Lord Warwick for this considerate remission.

Having inspected the castle, its choice gallery of pictures, and various objects of interest, and also the famous Warwick Vase, the two Societies

¹ He died at Rugby on 24th April, 1888, in the 84th year of his age. *His principles of Gothic Architecture* was published nearly sixty years ago and has passed through eleven editions. His other works are: *A Glimpse at the Monumental Architecture and Sculpture of Great Britain from the Earliest Period of the Eighteenth Century*; *Seputchral Effigies and Monuments in Bottesford Church, Boston Church, and Worcester Cathedral, 1862-70*; and *Some of the Rectories and Rectors of Rugby, 1876*. Mr. Bloxham was elected Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1863.

adjourned to the Woolpack Hotel, where about 150 ladies and gentlemen assembled to lunch, at which Lord Sherborne presided. After the repast, the Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the members of the sister Society of Warwick, who had so kindly met the Gloucestershire members and accompanied them in their inspection of the antiquities, &c., of Warwick, coupling therewith the name of Mr. Thomas Lloyd, of the Priory. That gentleman having briefly returned thanks, the party proceeded to visit the

CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND THE FAMOUS BEAUCHAMP CHAPEL.

There was a church here probably before the Conquest, for it is mentioned in Domesday, but it was rebuilt in 1123 by Roger de Newburgh, the second Earl of Warwick, who converted it into a College of Secular Canons of the Order of St. Augustin, and incorporated into it 8 other churches with their endowments. The piers and vaulting of the crypt, portions of his work, still remain. Thomas Beauchamp, the tenth Earl, commenced the rebuilding of the choir in his lifetime, and by his will dated in 1369, directed his executors to complete it, and to cause his body to be buried therein. Thomas Beauchamp, his second son and successor, the eleventh Earl, rebuilt the whole church from the ground, but this building, with the exception of the eastern portion, was destroyed by the great fire which consumed a large part of the town in 1694. Several of the ancient monuments perished.

The Chapel of Our Lady, on the south side of the choir, known as the famous "Beauchamp Chapel," was begun by the executors to, and in accordance with, the will of Richard Beauchamp, twelfth Earl of Warwick, created Earl of Aumale 1417, dated in 1442-3, and was completed in 1463-4, a period of 21 years, at a cost of £2,481, an enormous sum in those days, but this included the cost of the magnificent tomb and gilt effigy thereon, now remaining *in situ* in the midst of the chapel where the Earl was buried. It is considered the finest in England, except, perhaps, that of Henry VII. in Westminster Abbey. The whole series of monuments is excessively fine and are well known. Some portion of the original glazing of this chapel yet remains, but, unfortunately, a large part is lost, and some that is left is much damaged and misplaced, especially in the east window.

The party next proceeded, under the guidance of Mr. Lloyd, to the

LEYCESTER HOSPITAL.

This was anciently the united Gild of the Holy Trinity and St. George, and its revenues at the time of its dissolution amounted to £32 10s. 5d. Its subsequent history is deserving of a few words of notice, because of the interest in it of two parishes in Gloucestershire. Having been dissolved on 23rd July, 4th Edward VI. (1550)¹ it was granted to Sir Nicholas Strange and his heirs, of whom it was subsequently acquired by Robert Dudley, Earl of Leycester, who therein, in the 28th Elizabeth (1586) founded a hospital for twelve men, besides the master, impotent persons, not having more than £5 a year of their own, and such as had either been, or should be, maimed, in the wars, especially under the conduct of the said Earl or his heirs; or such as had been servants or tenants, to him or his heirs, and born in the counties of Warwick or Gloucester, or having their

¹ Rot. Pat. 4th Edw. IV. p. 6.

dwelling there for five years before ; and in case there happen to be none such hurt in the wars, then to other poor persons of Kenilworth, Warwick, Stratford-upon-Avon, in the County of Warwick, or of Wotton-under-Edge, or Erlingham, in the County of Gloucester, recommended by the minister and churchwardens.¹

Of Gloucestershire men there are four now actually in the hospital, two from Wotton, named Owen and Orchard, and two from Arlingham, named Andrews and Wellavize, two of these have been recently admitted ; all in the hospital are old soldiers except the last named. Each man receives £70 a year (it used to be £80, but it has been reduced in consequence of the diminution of rents and tithes) a sitting-room and bed-room, and also a public kitchen, with kitchen-firing and cook. Married couples are allowed, but no children.

The hospital is situated close to the western gate of the town, and on the north side of it. It consists of a most picturesque group of half-timbered and gabled buildings, forming three sides of a small quadrangle, the fourth, or north, side being open to the hospital garden, in which each inmate is allotted a slip of ground. The houses are decorated with shields bearing the arms and cognizance of Dudley, and the arms of some of the connections of that house. Over the town gateway is the chapel of St. James, which was formerly connected with the Gyld of St. George, and the canons of St. Mary's took the gyld services. It is now used as the chapel of the hospital, and seems to be in good substantial repair. In 1864, when the Archæological Institute visited Warwick, "The Great Hall," where in 1617 James I. was sumptuously entertained by Sir Fulk Grevel, was used as a brew-house, and incumbered with coals, &c.; an unseemly appropriation, which justly called forth a remonstrance from the Bishop of Oxford (Wilberforce) and Mr. Beresford Hope."²

On leaving the hospital, Mr. Lloyd kindly received the two Societies at his interesting old residence, "The Priory," at afternoon tea, and thence the members of the Gloucestershire Society returned to Stratford.

In the evening the Members of the Council of the Shakespeare Memorial Building received the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society at a Converzatione in the Picture Gallery of the Institution, where Mr. T. Hawley, the Librarian, pointed out the chief objects of interest, and delivered an address on Shakespeare, for which, in the name of the Society, he was thanked by the President, and a very pleasant evening was spent.

WEDNESDAY, 10TH AUGUST.

A carriage excursion was made this morning to visit the battle-field of Edgell, the scene of the indecisive battle of 1642, being the first engagement in the civil war ; and Compton Wynyates, under the guidance of Mr. Edgar Flower. Arriving at "The Rising Sun," the party was received by Mr. Godson, who exhibited many objects of interest consisting of arms and other relics collected from the site of the battle. The summit of the hill afforded a fine view of the scene of the action, and the Rev. Wm. Bazeley gave a brief account of what took place.

From this place the party proceeded to

¹ Dugdale, Vol. I., p. 453.

² Archæol. Journal, Vol. XXI. p. 362.

COMPTON WYNYATES,

one of the seats of the Marquis of Northampton, now occupied by his son, Lord William Compton. It is a fine picturesque mansion, built in 1520. Here lunch had been prepared in the Great Hall, at which Lord Sherborne presided, at the conclusion of which Mr. Edgar Flower read a letter from Lord William Compton, who was unavoidably absent from home, stating, on behalf of the Marquis, his father, how pleased he was at the Society visiting Compton, and expressing his regret that he could not be there to entertain them.

The Rev. C. D. FRANCIS, Rector of Tysoc, read a paper on the history of the Manor, which had formed parcel of the possessions of the Compton family for several centuries. The present house was built by Sir William Compton in 1520. Upon the conclusion of the paper there was a discussion in which the Steward, Mr. Bazeley and Mr. Francis took part.

The church was also visited. It does not appear to have been subjected to the process of "restoration," and is still filled with large square pews. Dugdale informs us that the fabric (of the ancient church) "was totally reduced to rubbish, having been demolisht in *an.* 1646, when Compton house was garrison'd by the Parliament forces; the Monuments therein of the before specified *Sr Will. Compton* and his Lady, with that of *Henry Lord Compton*, his grandson, which were very beautiful and stately, being then utterly razed and knoeckt to pieces."¹

After a visit to the Vicarage, at the kind invitation of Mrs. Francis, for afternoon tea, the party returned to Stratford, making on the way an impromptu visit to the Church of Oxhill, on the invitation of the Rev. V. H. Macy, the Rector.

THURSDAY, 11th AUGUST.

At 9.30 this morning the members attended at the Town Hall to hold the concluding meeting of the Society. The President, Lord Sherborne, occupied the chair, and the following resolutions were adopted.

1. That the thanks of the Society be given to Sir Arthur Hodgson, K.C.M.G., the Chairman; to Mr. Edgar Flower, the Hon. Sec.; to Mr. R. Latimer Greene; to Mr. C. Lowndes and to the other members of the Local Committee for the very efficient manner in which they had drawn up the programme, and carried out the arrangements of the Meeting.
2. That the thanks of the Society be given to the Rev. G. Arbutnot, Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon; the Vicar of St. Mary's, Warwick; the Rev. C. D. Francis, Rector of Tysoc; the Rev. V. H. Macy, Rector of Oxhill; the Rev. F. H. Annesley, Rector of Clifford Chambers; the Rev. A. C. Jackson, Curate in Charge of Quinton; and the Rev. W. Perry, Rector of Mickleton, for the permission which they have so readily granted to the Society to visit the churches of those parishes.
3. That the thanks of the Society be given to the Earl of Warwick; the Governors and Members of Council of the Shakespeare Memorial

¹ Dugdale's Hist. of Warr., p. 550.

Buildings at Stratford; the Master of the Lyecester Hospital at Warwick; Mr. Thomas Lloyd; The Marquis of Northampton; and Lord William Compton; for their very generous and courteous reception of the Society at Warwick Castle, the Shakespeare Memorial Buildings, the Lyecester Hospital, the Priory, and Compton Wynyates.

4. That the thanks of the Society be given to Mr. Edgar Flower, the Rev. R. de C. and Mrs. Laffan, Mr. Thomas Lloyd and Mrs. Lloyd, the Governors and Members of the Council of the Shakespeare Memorial, the Rev. C. D. and Mrs. Francis, the Rev. A. C. and Mrs. Jackson, and the Rev. W. V. and Mrs. Perry for their hospitality at the Town Hall, the Grammar School, the Priory, Warwick, the Shakespeare Memorial, Tysoe Rectory, Quinton Rectory and Mickleton Rectory.
5. That the thanks of the Society be given to the Rev. Frank Smith, Rev. R. de C. Laffan, Mrs. Bagnall-Oakeley, Mr. Edgar Flower, Mr. R. Taylor, Mr. G. B. Witts, the Members of the Warwickshire Natural History and Archæological Society, Major Fosberry, Mr. Godson, the Rev. C. D. Francis, the Rev. F. H. Annesley, the Rev. A. C. Jackson, Mr. R. F. Tomes, the Rev. W. V. Perry, and Mr. J. G. Hamilton, for the papers they have contributed, or the guidance they have given to objects of interest, during the meeting.
6. That a copy of the Berkeley MSS., and a perfect set of the Society's Transactions be presented to the Shakespeare Memorial Library as a small acknowledgment of the courtesy and hospitality shown to the Society and to the members individually during the present Meeting by the inhabitants of Stratford-on-Avon and neighbourhood.

The Rev. W. BAZELEY suggested that the next Annual Summer Meeting at Gloucester an opportunity should be afforded to the citizens of Gloucester generally, to attend one of the Evening Meetings of the Society.

Mr. BRUTON proposed a resolution to this effect, which led to considerable discussion, and was eventually adopted in the following terms:—

That this meeting approves of the suggestion, that at the next Annual Summer Meeting opportunities be afforded to the citizens of Gloucester, generally, to attend one of the Evening Meetings of the Society, and that this suggestion be submitted to the Council for its consideration.

On the conclusion of the Meeting, the last excursion of the Society was made from Stratford to visit the neighbouring parishes in Gloucestershire, which was the primary object of the Society in appointing the meeting to be held at Stratford. The first place visited was

CLIFFORD CHAMBERS.

where the party was received by the Rector, the Rev. F. H. Annesley, who courteously acted as guide to the Parish Church, Rectory, and Manor House.

The Church, which is dedicated to St. Helen, consists of chancel, nave, and western tower. There is a south porch, with a fine Norman door, and a Norman north door, now walled up.

The building was originally of Early Norman period. The existence of some "long and short work" in the interior coigns of the tower may, perhaps, be an indication of a still earlier date. The fabric has been much

altered by way of "restoration." The chancel has been considerably lengthened, and a large arch opened through the north wall to form an organ-chamber, removing a narrow low-window with a transom to the west wall of the said chamber. In the angle of the east end of the north wall of the nave are portions of a wide Norman arch. The eastern respond, and about a third of the archivolt, which is chamfered, and also the lower portion of the western respond, remain. It would appear that, originally, there was a transept or chapel here. Beyond this arch, but not connected with it, is a semi-detached shaft 6ins. in diameter with a base, and a capital containing a cable-moulding, at the angle of the respond of another arch probably of the Transition period.

THE RECTORY,

a picturesque half timbered structure, apparently of the latter end of the 15th-century. On the chimney-breast, in one of the rooms are sculptured a series of squares filled with quartrefoils enclosing plain shields. From the Rectory the visitors proceeded to

THE MANOR HOUSE.

which is now occupied by the Rector, who is also the owner of the estate portraits of the Annesley family, and their connections. Among them is and patron of the advowson. The house contains a large gallery of family a fine portrait of Sir Robert Cotton, the antiquary, founder of the Cottonian library now in the British Museum, of which Mr. Annesley, as lineal representative of Sir R. Cotton, is now hereditary Trustee.

Mr. Annesley kindly exhibited some old deeds and other manuscripts, and, at the request of Sir John Maclean, he produced also the church plate, when lo! among more modern articles there was a pre-Reformation chalice with its paten. Sir John congratulated Mr. Annesley upon being the possessor of so great a rarity, and requested to be favoured with the loan of the articles for the purpose of getting them engraved for the Transactions of the Society, to which he kindly and readily assented, provided the churchwardens offered no objection. The parish registers, which commence in 1538, were also exhibited. The earliest volume was found to be in a tattered condition, and some portions of it loose. Sir John Maclean offered to get it rebound, which has since been done. The next place visited was

QUINTON,

where the company was received at the church, which is of Norman date, by the resident clergyman, the Rev. A. C. Jackson, who acted as guide in the building. It consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisle, with a chapel at the east end of each. In the south aisle is a recumbent effigy of a Knight, said to be one of the Cloptons, but there are no arms or any direct means of identification. It rests upon a tomb, and is, apparently, *in situ*. In the chapel, eastwards, upon an altar tomb, is a fine brass of a lady. It is noted by Haines, under *Quinton*, as commemorating Joan, the relict of Sir William Clopton, vovess, circa 1430,¹ and is described more fully by Mr. Cecil Davis in his Gloucestershire Brasses, No. XI. There is upon it a shield of arms: *ar, two bars gu. fretty or.* for Clopton, but these arms are different from either of the shields of the Cloptons

¹ Manual of Monumental Brasses, Part II., p. 70.

of Clopton, co. Warwick, as displayed in the Church of Stratford-upon-Avon (see ante p. 207). The deceased lady was doubtless the relict of Sir William Clopton who died seized, as stated by Fosbroke, of the Manor of Rodbrooke, (now Radbrook) with appurtenances in Upper and Lower Quinton, cir. 1419-20.¹ Sir Wm. Clopton died seized also of Clopton-on-the-Hill, in the adjoining parish of Mickleton, free warren in which, Fosbroke states, had been granted by charter to Richard Clopton as early as 56th Henry III. 1271-2. Sir Wm. left issue an only daughter and heir, who married John Burgh and left issue three daughters, upon the failure of issue male of whom he directed that the manor should revert to the heirs male of Clopton: Thomas Clopton, of Clopton, being father of — Clopton, of Clopton, and Thomas, of Snyderfield,² and cites the descendant of the last-mentioned Thomas as recorded in the Heralds' Visitation of Gloucestershire in 1582-3, but no arms are tricked on this pedigree.³ The pedigree of Clopton, of Clopton, co. Warw., given by Dugdalc, does not shew the connection of Thomas, of Snyderfield, with that family, and, as before noted, the Clopton pedigree is in a very unsatisfactory condition.

Having inspected this very interesting church, the party adjourned to the vicarage, where, through the kind and bountiful hospitality of Mr. Jackson, a handsome lunch had been provided.

The next place visited was the Roman camp at Meon Hill, under the guidance of Mr. G. B. Witts, and thence the members proceeded to

MICKLETON.

where they were received by S. G. Hamilton, Esq., the Lord of the Manor, and the Vicar, the Rev. W. V. Perry. The church was at once inspected under the guidance of the Vicar. It is a very interesting building of the Norman transition period, and consists of chancel, nave, north and south aisles, south porch and western tower. The aisle is of three bays, and is remarkable in that the pillars appear to be of a later type than the round arches which they support. In the wall on the north side of the western bay of the nave may be seen the remains of a lofty arch of long and short work, indicating a pre-Norman date. The church is of much interest and contains a great deal of heraldry, chiefly connected with the families of Fisher and Graves, the latter being now represented here by Mr. Hamilton, who has inherited the estate through marriage. Having inspected the church the party partook of afternoon tea in the garden of the vicarage, kindly prepared by Mrs. Perry, and with a very hasty visit to the Manor House the Meeting concluded. Unfortunately, the time allowed for this day's excursion was wholly insufficient to do justice to the three very interesting churches in this remote corner of Gloucestershire, and it is to be hoped that the district will ere long be more carefully explored.

The Meeting being concluded, some of the party returned to Stratford, and the others drove to Honeyburn station to proceed southwards by train.

1 Hist. of Glouc., Vol. II., p. 318.

2 Hist. of Glouc., Vol. II., pp. 385-388.

3 Heralds' Visitation of Glouc, Harl. Society, p. 225

BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Dr

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE, 1886-7.

Cr

1886.		£	s.	d.
April 22—To	Miscellaneous Printing	-	-	3 17 0
"	Printing Transactions	-	-	161 7 7
"	Purchase of Books, & Binding for Library	10	17	2
"	Petty Disbursements	-	-	27 17 5
"	Balance of Deerhurst Meeting	-	-	1 6 6
	Balance	-	369	2 2
				£574 8 1

1886.		£	s.	d.
April 22—By	Balance, as per Bank Book	-	-	280 16 4
1887.				
April 22—	Annual Subscriptions, 1880-81	-	-	0 10 6
Do.	do. 1881-82	-	-	1 1 0
Do.	do. 1882-83	-	-	2 2 0
Do.	do. 1883-84	-	-	2 12 6
Do.	do. 1884-85	-	-	7 17 6
Do.	do. 1885-86	-	-	67 14 6
Do.	do. 1886-87	-	-	145 19 0
Do.	do. 1887-88	-	-	5 5 0
Entrance Fees	-	-	-	11 11 0
Life Subscriptions	-	-	-	5 15 6
Dividends, Consols	-	-	-	5 15 6
Donations	-	-	-	8 2 0
Sale of Transactions	-	-	-	21 16 6
Balance of Dursley Meeting	-	-	-	0 14 1
				£574 8 1

BERKELEY MANUSCRIPTS.

		£	s.	d.
To	Balance brought forward	-	-	123 11 10
	Bills paid	-	-	0 8 0

		£	s.	d.
By	Balance	-	-	84 7 10
Subscriptions	Vol. I.	-	-	12 4 0
Do.	Vol. II.	-	-	12 4 0
Do.	Vol. III.	-	-	15 4 0

£123 19 10

Certified—W. C. LUCY } AUDITORS.
W. P. PRICE }

£123 19 10

Balance of General Account brought down	-	-	369	2	2
Less Balance of Berkeley MSS.	-	-	84	7	10

Balance, as per Bank Book - - - - £284 14 4