

From the *Transactions* of the  
Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society

**Proceedings at the Annual Summer Meeting, Malvern, June, 1920**

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Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire  
Archæological Society.

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PROCEEDINGS

AT THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING,

AT MALVERN,

*On Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 22nd, 23rd  
and 24th, June, 1920.*

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THE Annual Meeting of the Society was held in the Lecture Hall of the Public Library, Great Malvern, on the 22nd June, 1920, Mr. W. D. Perrins (Chairman of the Library Committee) and Dr. A. W. Jacob (Chairman the Urban District Council) welcomed the Society in graceful and cordial terms.

Mr. John E. Pritchard, F.S.A., the President, acknowledged on behalf of the Society the welcome, and then took the chair. The report of the Council of the Society was read by the General Secretary (Mr. Roland Austin), as follows :—

REPORT OF COUNCIL, 1919-20.

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I. *Membership.* In presenting their Report for the past year the Council are glad to record continued increase in the membership of the Society. At the Annual Meeting in 1919 the Hon. Secretary reported that 93 members had been elected during the

previous year—the actual increase, after allowing for deaths and resignations, being 75. Including the names of candidates to-day there have been 93 added to the membership since July of last year. Such an increase in numbers speaks well for the continued usefulness and activity of the Society, and shows that interest in the history and antiquities of the county is maintained.

While the number of new members has been so much above the average, the Society has to deplore the loss by death of thirteen members, and nine have resigned. Among the former were Mr. HENRY DERHAM and LORD SHERBORNE, both original members of the Society, and LIEUT.-COL. LINLEY BLATHWAYT, Mr. WILLIAM MARGETSON, Rev. T. M. MIDDLEMORE-WHITHARD, and Mr. CECIL H. SPENCER PERCEVAL had been members for over thirty years; whilst Mr. C. F. R. ALLEN, Mr. P. J. DE CARTERET, Dr. R. M. COLE, Mr. J. H. HEWITT, Rev. P. H. KEMPTHORNE, LORD MORETON, and Mr. FRANK RAWLINS had all been interested in our work.

Then finally we have to record the loss of one who honoured the Society by accepting honorary membership, and contributed so much to the success and interest of the meeting at Cirencester last Autumn. The death of PROFESSOR HAVERFIELD occurred soon after that meeting, and it is difficult to see how the place which he occupied in regard to the history of Roman Britain can be filled.

The actual membership of the Society to-day is 611. This compares with 465 in 1918 and 540 in 1919.

2. *Finance.* The Council are able to report most satisfactorily of the Finances of the Society, and it is a gratification to feel that for the present their affairs can be managed without increasing the subscription, though the very great advance in the cost of printing the *Transactions* has become a serious matter.

With a balance of £176 13s. 5d. carried forward on the 1st of January, the ordinary income of the Society included annual subscriptions £252, life subscriptions £36 15s., entrance fees £56 3s. 6d., dividends £32 10s., and other items which brought the total to £576 1s. 6d. The expenditure included £290 6s. 9d. for the completion of the General Index and in addition to this an extra part of the *Transactions* was issued at a cost of £124 11s. 1d. The total cost of the Index, including the fee for compiling, was £418 6s. 9d., part of which was met from income in 1918. Expenditure on the Libraries of the Society came to £28 10s. 9d., and miscellaneous expenses such as printing, binding,

and postages to £31 6s. 6d., the total being £474 15s. 1d., leaving a balance of £101 6s. 5d. The accounts show a surplus of £692 16s. 5d., and for the third year in succession the amount for subscriptions in arrear is entered as *nil*.

3. *Transactions*. The part containing the reports of proceedings at the Bristol and Cirencester meetings was sent out last week and should be in members' hands. This completes volume xli. Members are indebted to Mr. Charles E. Keyser for his generosity in meeting the whole cost of the very numerous plates illustrating his paper on "Some of the Cotswold churches," and to Mr. J. E. Pritchard for contributing the plate of "Red Lodge." The Council wish also to thank Dr. Hartland for the time and care which he devotes to editing the *Transactions*.

4. *Library*. The Council have voted £30 for the purchase of books for the Society's Libraries, and part of this has been spent in completing the valuable publications of the Selden Society and of the British Record Society.

5. *General Meetings*. For the first time since 1914 the Council arranged for Summer and Autumn Meetings of the Society, and both were well attended. The proceedings were of more than ordinary interest, as will have been seen from the record in the *Transactions*.

6. *Winter Meetings*. The Bristol local committee arranged for the resumption of the Evening Meetings, which had been in abeyance for the period of the War. The papers read were:—

November 17th, 1919. "Some 12th and 13th century French Churches," by J. E. Barton, M.A.

December 15th. "The Tortworth Chestnut," by Miss Ida M. Roper, F.L.S.

"St. Peter's Cross and St. Edith's Well, Bristol," by Chas. E. Boucher.

January 26th, 1920. "Bristol Archaeological Notes, 1913-1919," by the President.

February 16th. "Ancient Encaustic Tiles," by Mrs. A. H. Hore.

March 15th. "Some Miscellaneous Bristol Deeds," by Lewis J. U. Way, F.S.A.

For various reasons it was not possible to arrange the usual meetings at Gloucester.

7. *Excavation Fund*. The Council have considered a proposal for establishing an Excavation Fund, submitted by the President, Mr. J. E. Pritchard, who has already by personal influence and

effort obtained a considerable number of contributions, amounting to over £85. A Committee, consisting of Mr. Pritchard, Sir Francis Hyett, Canon Bazeley, Dr. Hartland, Mr. W. St. Clair Baddeley, Mr. L. Barnard, Mr. G. H. Oatley, Mr. A. E. W. Paine, Mr. Charles Wells, and the General Secretary has been formed, and it is proposed to use the Fund for definite work in systematic excavation, which will be carried out under competent advice and oversight.

8. *Council and Officers.* The Council desire to recommend for election and re-election the following Members of Council and Officers: President, The Right Hon. Earl Beauchamp, K.G.; Chairman of Council, John E. Pritchard, F.S.A.; Vice-Chairman of Council, E. Sidney Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A.; Vice-Presidents, Sir James Bruton, M. P., W. St. Clair Baddeley, Canon Bartleet, F.S.A., Canon Bazeley, Christopher Bowly, H. W. Bruton, G. M. Currie, E. S. Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A., The Dean of Gloucester, F.S.A., A. E. Hudd, F.S.A., Sir Francis A. Hyett, Lieut.-Col. Russell J. Kerr, Sir C. W. C. Oman, M.P., F.S.A., John E. Pritchard, F.S.A., Rev. C. S. Taylor, F.S.A.

*Members of Council*:—Cecil Powell, F. W. Waller, E. C. Sewell, Rev. W. B. Atherton, A. E. Hurry, H. Jenner-Fust, W. Croke, D.Sc., C.I.E., F. B. de Sausmarez; Bristol, H. H. Oatley, F.R.I.B.A.

*Hon. Editor*, E. Sidney Hartland, LL.D., F.S.A.; *Treasurer*, F. Hannam-Clark; *Secretary for Bristol*, Wilfrid Leighton; *General Secretary and Librarian*, Roland Austin.

*Local Secretaries*: Cheltenham, Lt.-Col. J. C. Duke; Cirencester E. C. Sewell; Fairford, Canon R. C. S. Jones; Lydney, F. S. Hockaday; Newent, E. Conder, F.S.A.; Northern, E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A.; Stroud, R. H. Penley; Tewkesbury, F. W. Godfrey; Berkeley, Rev. W. F. D. Curtoys; Wotton-under-Edge, Vincent R. Perkins.

9. *Chipping Campden Town Trust.* Under the Scheme of the Charity Commission, sealed 2nd August, 1889, for administering the Chipping Campden Town Trust (set up for the application of the property of the Corporation of "The High Steward, Deputy Steward, Treasurer, Senior Bailiff, Junior Bailiff, and Capital and Inferior Burgesses of Chipping Campden,"—dissolved, (see *Transactions*, xv., 3, by the Municipal Corporations Act, 1883) the term of appointment of Earl Gainsborough as a Representative Trustee appointed by the Society has expired, and the Council recommend that he be re-appointed for a further term of five years.

The Report was adopted.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31ST DECEMBER, 1919.

RECEIPTS.				PAYMENTS.			
1919.		£	s. d.	1919.		£	s. d.
January 1st—BALANCE	... ..			By COST OF <i>Transactions</i> —			
December 31st.		176	13 5	General Index—			
To ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS—				Arrowsmith	... ..	265	10 0
1916 (1)	... ..	0	10 6	Postage	... ..	10	16 9
1917 (1)	... ..	0	10 6	Indexing...	... ..	14	0 0
1918 (2)	... ..	1	1 0	-----		290	6 9
1919 (469)	... ..	246	15 0	Volume xli, Part 1.			
1920 (6)	... ..	3	3 0	Arrowsmith	... ..	119	12 0
		-----	252 0 0	Postage	... ..	4	19 1
„ LIFE SUBSCRIPTIONS (5)	... ..		36 15 0	-----		124	11 1
„ ENTRANCE FEES (107)	... ..		56 3 6	„ EXPENSES OF LIBRARIES—			
„ DONATIONS—				Bristol—			
Merchant Venturer's Company	2 2 0			Rent	... ..	4	0 0
F. Were, Esq....	0 10 6			Insurance	... ..	0	5 0
		-----	2 12 6	-----		4	5 0
„ DIVIDENDS	... ..		32 10 0	Gloucester—			
„ SALE OF <i>Publications</i>	... ..		5 3 9	Selden Society's			
„ INTEREST ON DEPOSIT ACCOUNT	... ..		3 0 4	<i>Publications</i>	9 9 0		
„ SURPLUS FROM MEETINGS	... ..		11 3 0	“Genealogist”...	1 0 0		
				Pipe Roll Society	1 1 0		
				Harleian	1 1 0		
				Cantilupe	0 10 6		
				Selden	1 1 0		
				-----			
Forward	... ..	£576	1 6	Forward	... ..	14	2 6
						4	5 0
						414	17 10
							5

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

## STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS (continued).

5

RECEIPTS.				
			£	s. d.
Forward	...	...	576	1 6

£576 1 6

PAYMENTS.				
	£	s. d.	£	s. d.
Forward	14	2 6	4	5 0
Gloucester—			414	17 10
British Record Soc.	1	1 0		
Insurance	...	0 14 3		
Rent	...	8 8 0		
			<u>24</u>	<u>5 9</u>
				28 10 9
„ MISCELLANEOUS				
EXPENSES—				
Casing Index	2	11 0		
Printing, Osborne.	9	5 6		
„ Arrowsmith	7	3 0		
„ Norman,				
Sawyer	1	5 9		
Postages	...	8 1 6		
Travelling Expenses	1	9 9		
Hall-keeper, &c....	0	15 6		
Stationery	...	0 4 6		
Cheque Book	...	0 10 0		
				<u>31 6 6</u>
				474 15 1
„ BALANCE	...	...	101	6 5
			<u>£576</u>	<u>1 6</u>

TRANSACTIONS FOR THE YEAR 1920.

BALANCE-SHEET, 31ST DECEMBER, 1919.

LIABILITIES.		ASSETS.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR 1920 IN ADVANCE ... ..	3 3 0	INVESTMENTS—	
LIABILITY IN RESPECT OF 82 LIFE AND 4 HONORARY MEMBERS } not estimated		£650 5 per cent. War Loan at 9½ ...	591 10 0
SURPLUS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1919 ... ..	689 13 5	LIBRARIES at Bristol and Gloucester, and stock of publications } not estimated	
	<u>£692 16 5</u>	SUBSCRIPTIONS DUE—Nil.	
		CASH AT BANK ... ..	101 6 5
			<u>£692 16 5</u>

I have examined the Balance Sheet and the above Statement, and compared the Vouchers and Books, and find the same correct.

(Signed)

J. J. SIMPSON.

10th January, 1920

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The retiring President, Mr. PRITCHARD, proposed the election of Earl Beauchamp as President. He said it was a great honour and a great pleasure to propose the election of Earl Beauchamp as president for the ensuing year. His lordship held more offices under the Crown than any other man. He was a very busy man, and a great debt was therefore owing to him by the society for his kind acceptance of the office. They appreciated his kindness in becoming president. They would give him the heartiest possible welcome and the fullest support, and they hoped he would enjoy the work and be of great help to the society as well.

The resolution was carried unanimously. Mr. Pritchard then transferred to his lordship the silver badge of office, which had been passed from president to president for many years past, and extended him the hand of friendship and fellowship. (Applause.)

Earl BEAUCHAMP took the chair, amid applause, and thanked the society for the compliment they had paid him. He must confess that he was somewhat of a pluralist as Mr. Pritchard had warned them ; but it was a special pleasure to him to take the presidency of the society, which was in Bristol and Gloucestershire doing so much good work to preserve ancient buildings and he hoped, also, a good deal in the way of preserving ancient records. The records and deeds of the Cinque Ports, with which he was more intimately acquainted, were certainly of transcendent interest, and he was very glad to say that they were still being looked after. He hoped and believed that in the various municipalities of Gloucestershire the same course was being taken. They contained a storehouse of interest and information which certainly could not be neglected by any historian. It seemed to him particularly suitable that the society should meet in that library, because he did not think there was any archaeological society which published transactions so interesting

or so well edited and looked after as the Bristol and Gloucestershire Society. He did not think it was easy to conceive of any public library in any town of the size of Malvern that did so much good work as the Malvern Public Library. It had a very energetic and far sighted committee which, under Mr. W. D. Perrins, had collected in the course of the year a number of very interesting exhibits very often connected with the past history of Malvern, but in any case always of real interest, and while on one side it did its best to cater for the literary taste of Malvern, it never neglected the ancient history of the town and was always trying to stir up the interest of the inhabitants in that history. (Applause). This task was particularly well carried out by the librarian, and so it was appropriate that a society that was doing particularly good work should meet in a library that was also distinguished among similar institutions in the work that it did. (Applause.)

In conclusion, he thanked Mr. Pritchard for his work in the past year, and expressed the pleasure of the society that he would, however, continue to guide the activities of the Council by acting as chairman. (Applause.)

The PRESIDENT moved the election *en bloc* for the ensuing year of the Council and Officers, as recommended by the Council. This was seconded by Mr. C. J. TINSON, and carried unanimously.

In a few brief but hearty words, Dr. HARTLAND moved a vote of thanks to Mr. F. A. Hyett, speaking of the great services he had rendered to the Society for a number of years. The vote was cordially and unanimously adopted.

Mr. ROLAND AUSTIN (General Secretary) moved and the DEAN OF GLOUCESTER seconded a vote of thanks to the Public Library Committee which was carried unanimously.

The meeting then adjourned to the Priory Church, where the members were received by the Vicar of Malvern (the Rev. A. Linzee Giles). Mr. G. McNeil Rushforth, F.S.A., also met them and explained the chief points of interest in the history of the building, afterwards conducting the members of the Society round the eastern part of the church. The following is a brief summary of his remarks:—The Benedictine Priory was founded in 1085 by Aldwin under the auspices of Bishop Wulstan of Worcester; and the arcades of his nave, part of the south aisle, and the base of his (central) tower, still remain. The rest of the church was reconstructed in the 15th century, the earliest feature being, apparently, the west window which is almost a copy of the east window of the quire in Exeter Cathedral (1388). Later, when the clerestory was rebuilt, its outer lights were blocked up, probably to strengthen the angles of the west front. About the middle of the century the new church was approaching completion, as the dates 1453 and 1456 on some of the tiles show; and it must have been finished in 1460, when Bishop Carpenter consecrated seven altars. Its chief decorative feature was the painted glass, with which, by 1501, all the windows were filled. In 1541, after the Dissolution, the building was purchased from the Crown by the parishioners for their parish church. As the cost of its maintenance was beyond the means of a small village, such as Malvern then was, it is not surprising that by the end of the eighteenth century it was in a very bad state. In particular, the glass had suffered from neglect; but, fortunately, the contents of the windows had been noted by Thomas Habington early in the 17th century,<sup>1</sup> and more fully by Dr. W. Thomas early in the 18th.<sup>2</sup> In the course of the 19th century a series of restorations put the church in a state of complete

<sup>1</sup> *A Survey of Worcestershire* (Worc. Historical Soc.), li., 176-189.

<sup>2</sup> *Antiqu. Prioratus Majoris Malverne* (London, 1725), pp. 1-43.

repair ; but it is much to be regretted that, in the earlier operations, much of the ancient glass was moved from its original positions to be used as filling for gaps in the more important windows, without regard to the subjects. The result, especially in the great east windows, is a loss of coherence and intelligibility of design. Some obvious replacements were effected when the whole of the ancient glass in the church was re-leaded between 1910 and 1918. The best preserved windows are those of the north clerestory of the quire, one of which portrays the foundation of the Priory under Aldwin, and also the story of St. Werstan, the earliest settler in Malvern. Next to these comes the glass from the nave clerestory, the remains of the Old Testament series from the south side being now in the south quire aisle (St. Anne's Chapel), while the series of full-length saints and angels from the north side is to be found in the south quire clerestory, the transept, and the west window. The latest window appears to be the large one in the transept, given by Henry VII. in 1501-2, perhaps to emphasize the fact that, by the execution of Edward, titular Earl of Warwick in 1499, he had become undisputed lord of the manor of Malvern. It is notable for the loyal and other portraits at the bottom of the lights, of which only those of Prince Arthur and Sir Reginald Bray are intact ; but, during the recent re-leading, the figures of the king and Sir Thomas Lovell were reconstructed out of the scattered fragments. After the glass the most remarkable objects in the church are the encaustic tiles (mostly 15th century), which were used here, not only for the floor, but also as mural decoration on the screen walls enclosing the sanctuary. They display the arms of the principal benefactors : others have interesting designs and inscriptions.<sup>1</sup> There was a considerable production of

<sup>1</sup> J. Nott, *Malvern Priory Church*, pp. 71 ff, where A. Way's article in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, 1844, is reprinted.

Malvern tiles, which, as is well known, are to be found in Gloucester and Bristol Cathedrals and many other churches. Malvern is not rich in sepulchral monuments. On the north side of the sanctuary is an effigy in chain-mail with surcoat (first quarter of the 13th century), armed with a "martel" or pick and a target. A comparison with the brass of Bishop Wyville in Salisbury Cathedral suggests that it may represent a champion.<sup>1</sup> Opposite to this, on the south side, is the handsome alabaster tomb with effigies of John Knutsford (d. 1596), who bought the site of the Priory after the Dissolution, and his wife. Close by is the kneeling figure of their eldest daughter Ann (Savage), who erected the monument. Below this, and opening into St. Anne's Chapel, is a small chantry chapel, now the receptacle of various architectural fragments, and also of the inscribed grave-stones of Prior Walcher (d. 1125) and Prior William de Wykewane (13th century), which may have come from the site of the chapter-house outside.

In the evening, in the Public Library, Mr. RUSHFORTH delivered to the members a Lecture on the History of Malvern and the neighbouring estates, discussing the legends of the foundation of the priories of Great and Little Malvern, and relating the story of the manors and the families connected with them (see p. 41).

EARL BEAUCHAMP (President) took the chair, and in proposing a vote of thanks to the lecturer said that they were proud of the fact that they had so distinguished an archaeologist at Malvern. If there were any rivalry between the Archaeological Societies of Worcestershire and Gloucestershire over archaeologists of repute, Mr. Rushforth would be a great asset. The success of the visit largely depended upon the goodwill and kindness of Mr. Rushforth. He had given them a lecture that

<sup>1</sup> F. J. Baigent in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2nd Ser., viii. (1879-81), p. 370.

afternoon on the Priory Church such as he (the speaker) thought nobody else could have given. (Applause.)

SIR FRANCIS A. HYETT seconded, and Mr. Rushforth suitably replied.

*Wednesday, the 23rd June.*

The Society drove to the foot of the Herefordshire Beacon and climbed up to the British Camp, where the geology of the Malvern Range was described by Mr. A. BENNETT.

A further walk led to a cave, outside which Mr. Harris read a paper by Mr. P. H. L'ESTRANGE, which the author was unfortunately prevented by an accident from giving, on the ancient sun-worship and the astronomical marks alleged to be connected therewith.

From the Camp, the party descended to Little Malvern Priory, where Mr. Rushforth explained the principal features. The church is said to have been built in 1171, to which period the eastern respond of the north aisle of the nave, almost the only surviving fragment, will belong. The eastern part of the cruciform church seems to have been rebuilt in the 14th century; and in 1482, Bishop Alcock, in an attempt to rehabilitate the then decayed Benedictine house, rebuilt the tower, quire aisles and east end, filling the east window with painted glass, which included kneeling figures of Edward IV. with his family, and of himself. Remains of the Queen, Prince Edward, and the four Princesses survive, as well as part of the figure of St. Ecgwin (showing the chain and fetter-lock<sup>1</sup>) in one of the upper lights. As there was no separate parish church, the right of the parishioners to use part of the building for their services was respected at the Dissolution; and the Crown, which retained possession of the priory for some time, paid a parochial chaplain. Originally, no doubt, they used the nave,

<sup>1</sup> See William of Malmesbury, *Gesta Pontificum* (Roll Series), iv., 160.

but this part of the church does not seem to have been repaired by Bishop Alcock, and in the time of Habington it was "absolutely ruined."<sup>1</sup> It is not, therefore, surprising that the part ultimately retained was the quire with the tower, still in good condition from the effects of Alcock's restoration. The transepts and quire chapels were abandoned as unnecessary for so small a congregation, and a quasi-chancel was made by bringing the wooden screen and rood beam from the nave and placing them in front of the easternmost bay. When the arch opening into the north chapel was filled up, the east window of the chapel with its 15th century glass was removed and inserted in the new wall. Part of a Coronation of the Virgin still survives in the tracery. These changes were probably made when Henry Russell purchased the Priory from the Crown in 1554, and before the accession of Elizabeth. Almost the only other objects of interest in the church are the monks' stalls (the misericords have disappeared), now within the chancel screen, whither they were, no doubt, brought from beneath the tower.

The party then inspected the exterior of the church from the site of the cloister, and thence proceeded to the front of Little Malvern Court where they were received by Captain and Mrs. Berington. The building consists of the Prior's house with additions ranging from the 16th to the 19th century. In the drawing-room and library some interesting relics belonging to the house were exhibited, notably a travelling chest, marked with the initials K.R. under a crown, and containing a silk quilt of Spanish work, which according to family tradition belonged to Katharine of Aragon. If so, it may have been a gift from her daughter Mary, to Henry Russell. It may be added that this place, and a picture in the dining room, suggested to Mr. Shorthouse (only suggested,

<sup>1</sup> *Survey of Worcestershire*, ii., 190.

as the scene is not laid here) the opening part of "John Inglesant."

In the afternoon the party motored to Madresfield Court, where the members were most graciously received by the Earl and Countess Beauchamp. Amongst those present were:—Lady Lettice Lygon, Lady Sybil Lygon, Hon. Richard Lygon, Mr. John E. Pritchard (retiring president), Mr. H. W. Bruton, Dr. E. Sidney Hartland, (editor), the Dean of Gloucester, Sir Francis Hyett, Mr. R. Austin (general secretary), Mr. G. McNeil Rushforth, Mr. G. S. Blakeway, Mr. L. J. U. Way, Mr. J. W. Barnett, Mr. F. B. de Sausmarez, Mr. F. Hannam-Clark (treasurer).

After the reception the company proceeded to the Great Hall, where LORD BEAUCHAMP delivered his presidential address—a most interesting history of the Court and of his ancestors. It will be found at page 23.

Afterwards the members of the Society were shown various rooms—the library, where some most interesting old books and ancient records and deeds were on view; the Blue Room, which contained some excellent enamels; the drawing-room, saloon, and dining room, where some of the valuable silver, etc., was seen. After tea in the Courtyard, the members visited various parts of the grounds, which were in splendid condition. Many of the members were highly interested in the well-known Maze.

Mr. J. E. PRITCHARD, the retiring president, on behalf of the members present, returned thanks to Earl and Countess Beauchamp for the kind invitation given to the Society to visit the beautiful Court and grounds. The Earl and Countess had done far more for them than they had dared to expect. They all appreciated very much the trouble his lordship must have gone to in arranging for their view the rare old silver, deeds, and books. It was on very rare occasions that some of the

silver, which they had been shown, was allowed out, so they owed many thanks to both Earl and Countess Beauchamp. There were very few of the old country residences such as Madresfield Court opened for the benefit of that or other societies. Earl Beauchamp had set an excellent example, and he hoped that others would follow it, as it would be a great advantage to the county. They had learnt much through this visit.

Earl Beauchamp, in reply, thanked the Society for their kind wishes and said that it had been a pleasure to him to do what he could for them. He was only too pleased to show them the articles of interest that he had, and it gave him all the greater pleasure to show to those who understood and appreciated them.

*Thursday, 24th June.*

On Thursday, in weather still fine, the members motored to Ledbury, where at the parish church of St. Michael they were received by Canon Bannister, the Master of the Hospital of St. Katharine, and Mr. Spencer H. Bickham, who conducted them over the church. Two papers were read there, one by CANON BANNISTER on the history and organisation of the church, and the other by Mr. BICKHAM on its architecture. They will be found on pp. 59 and 63.

The party then proceeded to the Hospital, where CANON BANNISTER addressed them. He said that the hospital was intended to combine the functions of a place where pilgrims and wayfarers might receive entertainment, of a place for housing the distressed and needy or, as in the modern sense of hospital, the sick, and of a home for the poor and aged, where each resident had rooms and there was a common hall and chapel; and it was served by "brothers and sisters," who "received and sustained" the sick and needy, themselves leading a quasi-monastic life, several of the brethren as well as

the master being always in holy orders. It was dedicated, not as might be supposed to the local St. Katharine (Audley), commemorated in Wordsworth's sonnet, for it was founded in 1232, nearly a hundred years before the days of St. Katharine of Ledbury, but—to St. Katharine of Alexandria. He rapidly traced the history of the hospital from its foundation to modern times. Fuller particulars are given in a paper by Canon Bannister in the *Transactions* of the Woolhope Naturalists' Field Club, 1918, p. 62, to which readers may be referred. The address was listened to with the greatest interest.

After inspecting the Hospital, brief visits were paid to the old Grammar School and the Market House, and the party adjourned to the Feathers Hotel for lunch. After lunch they drove to Much Marcle, where they visited the parish church of St. Bartholomew. They were received by the vicar (the Rev. C. L. Money-Kyrle). Miss IDA M. ROPER described the remarkable effigies in the church. She said:—

The group of four monuments in this church is full of interest, because it can be seen from the many details shown on the costumes that the persons commemorated were important in their life-time, and were considered by their friends to be deserving of a lasting memorial. The effigies fall into two divisions; three of them belong to the reign of Edward III.—the time of Cressy and Poitiers—when the nobility of England held a very commanding position for their fighting powers; and the fourth effigy is of the period of Charles I., when men needed to be wise and active amongst their fellows in order to try to save their rights. Fortunately care has been taken of the monuments during the centuries, so we can get a better idea of the people as they lived than happens with many of the effigies in our country churches.

The earliest effigy is placed in the window-sill in the south aisle, and is of interest because it is of wood, carved

from a solid block of oak, and such effigies have become scarce, there being only one other in Herefordshire, and but two examples in our own county. It is believed to commemorate Sir Hugh Helyon, who had joined a crusade, and was knighted by Edward II. It is interesting, however, to see that he is not shown as a knight in armour, but as a civilian, and crosslegged. Examples are common of knights with their legs crossed, as that position gives an idea of repose in spite of the stiff armour, but for a civilian to be represented crosslegged is very unusual, and only two other examples are known—one in Yorkshire and the other in Leicestershire. Some authorities suggest it has reference to gifts of money for others to make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land.

This wooden effigy would have been carved about 1350, when those of the rank of gentry wore such a costume; and as the garments are shown quite plain without the decoration of fur or jewels it may be assumed that the material represented was plain woollen cloth. It follows that Sir Hugh must have been considered a poor man, because by the sumptuary laws of that period only such material was allowed a country gentleman whose income ranged about 200 marks yearly, or £130 of modern money.

The next monument in order of time stands against the north wall of the chancel, and commemorates Blanche, the wife of Baron de Grandison, and daughter of Roger Mortimer. She died about 1360, and an effigy of her husband two years earlier can be seen in Hereford Cathedral. The figure of the lady is elaborate in its details, and shows well the distinctive headdress of the period with the jewelled fillet to confine the hair, the gorget at the throat, and the long coverchief, a necessary adjunct at this period when ladies did not appear in public without some covering on the head. We also see in this effigy the early form of the cote-hardie, a sort of sleeveless "jumper," which continued in use for over a century in

all kinds of gorgeous materials, and was an imitation of the jupon, the garment worn by the knight to cover up their steel breastplate. The mantle is very long, and falls over the side of the tomb in the same manner as the figure at Ledbury. The canopy is a fine example of Decorated Gothic, and is further adorned with shields charged with the arms of Grandison and Mortimer.

Next we have in the north-east chapel a grand table-tomb of about 1370, with the effigies of Hugh, Lord Audley, and his wife Isolda, who long predeceased him. As far as freestone will permit both figures are shown in elaborate costume, the man as a knight in plate armour including the unusual addition of a plate gorget worn over the chain mail as an extra protection at the throat. The head rests on a tilting helm, a defence for the whole head which was worn over the bascinet at tournaments. The lady's costume clearly shows that she was a grand dame, and here again is an unusual addition of two small figures of young knights in scale armour, as guardian angels at her head, and her two small hounds, to use Chaucer's phrase, lie at her feet wearing their collar and bells.

In the same chapel is a marble monument of the time of Charles I., to the memory of Sir John Kyrle, Bart., died 1628, and his wife Sybil, born of the Scudamore family. The figures are elaborately dressed in such garments as they would have worn on State occasions. The baronet has large puff breeches heavily trimmed with bullion; and a delicate lace-edged scarf over the right shoulder to support the sword has replaced the heavy jewelled belt of fighting times. This scarf is powdered with one of the charges of his coat of arms, the fleur-de-lys of the Kyrle family, and his feet rest on the crest, a hedgehog on a mount.

The lady has equally elaborate details including many rings and a rope of pearls in four rows, and her feet rest

against a bear's paw, the crest of her family of Scudamore. As a whole the two figures give a good idea of the grand costumes worn when commerce had introduced freely the splendid materials from the Continent.

The members then drove on to Kempley, to visit the old parish church of St. Mary, recently reinstated for service. They were received by the vicar (the Rev. A. E. Smith-Carington); and the church was described by Mr. RUSHFORTH. He said it was built, probably, by Hugh de Laci (d. 1121), the owner of the place, and the early twelfth-century structure has remained intact, save for the insertion of a few later windows, and the addition of a tower at the west end towards the end of the 13th century. Soon after the church was built its barrel-vaulted chancel was decorated with paintings, discovered by the late Professor Middleton in 1871, and providing a rare example of English twelfth-century pictorial art. They represent the Court of Heaven with Christ in Majesty attended by angels, the Virgin and St. Peter. On the side walls the Apostles are seated under arcades. At the altar end are contemporary figures—presumably members of the De Laci family and local bishops.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Rushforth pointed out the importance of these paintings as belonging to the last stage of the great tradition descending from classical times and represented, *e.g.*, by the mosaics of the Roman and other churches. The nave was also completely decorated with paintings, but the remains are very fragmentary, and belong to later dates than those in the chancel. Among them is an outline of the design known as "The Wheel of Life," which has been identified from the better preserved example (13th century) in Leominster Church, which again, can be interpreted by the perfect picture in the

<sup>1</sup> For this and other facts about the church see Mr. St. Clair Baddeley's article on "The History of Kempley Manor and Church" in *Transactions*, xxxvi., 130-51.

Arundel Psalter (early 14th cent. in the British Museum).<sup>1</sup>

The members were greatly interested in these paintings, and in the careful and reverent manner in which the restoration and repair of the venerable building, so long practically derelict, had been carried out. When at last they tore themselves away it was with the greatest reluctance, even for the refreshment of tea. They drove to Dymock where tea was served at the Beauchamp Arms, and with votes of thanks more than usually fervent to the General Secretary and all who had taken part in the arrangements, a meeting of much enjoyment as well as instruction came to an end. The party drove back to Gloucester, *en route* for their various destinations.

<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries*, 2nd Series, vol. xxvi. (1913-14), pp. 47-60.