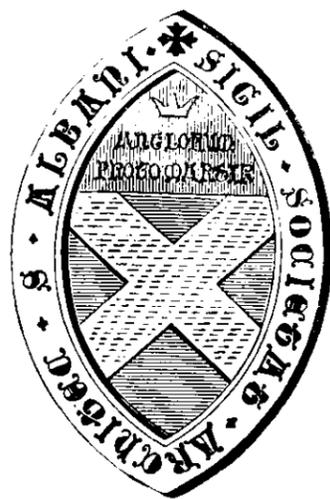


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St. Albans Architectural
AND
Archaeological Society.

TRANSACTIONS
1884.



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S. ALBANS

Architectural and Archæological
SOCIETY.

PROCEEDINGS.

JANUARY 30TH, 1884.

A Conversational Meeting was held in the Council Chamber, S. Albans, from 4.30 to 6.30 p.m.; Dr. Griffith in the chair. The following were elected Members of the Society:—

MR. S. MONCKTON WHITE, Elmsleigh, S. Albans.
REV. H. T. LANE, Herbert Cottage, S. Albans.
REV. H. ATHILL, Ayot S. Lawrence.
REV. A. F. BELLMAN, Elstree.
REV. JOHN KENNEDY, Aldenham.
LEWIS EVANS, ESQ., Nash Mills, Hemel Hempstead.
S. F. CLARKSON, ESQ., Bricket Road, S. Albans.

Several curiosities were exhibited, amongst them a piece of carving from the central portal of the old West doorway of the Abbey; a capital from the Cloister Court; a silver ring; a copy of Chauncey's Herts, lent by Mr. Brabant; a circular draughtsman of the Eleventh Century, carved out of Walrus ivory, and a "scratch-back," both lent by Mr. R. Lloyd; the Corporation plate, which was described by Dr. Griffith, and some of the Corporation charters.

Mr. W. F. Andrews gave a very interesting lecture on Hertfordshire monumental inscriptions and tokens; the last-named were coined between 1648 and 1673.

The Rev. H. Fowler gave an account of the Cistercian Monastery at Maulbronn, in Würtemberg, and exhibited drawings and plans of the Church and Conventual buildings, lent by Charles Fowler, Esq., Architect.

GEO. U. ROBINS, Chairman.

MAY 27TH, 1884.

An excursion was conducted to the neighbourhood of Royston, in the N.W. of the county, under the guidance of the Rev. Canon Davys. The weather proved most favourable. Members and friends started at an early hour from S. Albans and Wheathampstead, meeting at Royston, 9.13 a.m.

A brief visit was first made to the building known as "King James' house," in Kneesworth Street. The party then assembled in the "Cave," under the guidance of the Rev. Dr. Griffith, who gave an account of its discovery, and the opinions entertained by Antiquaries on the subject. The sculptures, pointed out by the custodian, were afterwards inspected with much interest. At the Parish Church, where the party were received by the Rev. H. W. Goodhart, on behalf of the Vicar, the Rev. H. Fowler read a paper on the history of the edifice in connection with the ancient Priory, and pointed out its chief architectural features and the alterations they had undergone, Mr. C. E. Keyser assisting.

The party then proceeded in conveyances to Therfield, which was reached about 11.30 a.m. Here the Rector, the Rev. J. G. Hale, at the request of Dr. Griffith, read the paper he had kindly prepared on the ancient Church and Manor, illustrating the subject by maps and photographs. The fine old registers and parish books were also displayed. Dr. Griffith, in moving a vote of thanks, hoped that Mr. Hale would consent to his valuable compilation being printed. After a rapid visit to the Church, and partaking of some refreshment in the Rectory, the antiquities of which were obligingly shown by the host, the party was driven through Barkway to Anstey ad Castrum, a distance of six miles, where they were joined by Mr. C. F. Adams and the Rev. F. L. Fisher, from Barkway. Mr. Bates, of Anstey Hall, conducted the visitors over the beautiful site of the precincts of the Castle. On the moated mound a picnic lunch was partaken of, during which Dr. Griffith read some interesting archæological notes on Royston and Little Horstead. The Annual Meeting of the Society was then held, Mr. G. U. Robins in the chair. The officers of the Society were re-elected. Robert Luke Howard, Esq., Mackery End, Wheathamp-

stead, proposed by the Rev. Dr. Griffith, and seconded by the Rev. Canon Davys, was elected a member of the Society. It was resolved that the Conversational Meetings be held in the winter months ensuing, at times to be fixed by the Committee. The Rev. Canon Davys expressed the deep regret of all present at the serious illness of his co-secretary, Mr. Ridgway Lloyd, which prevented him from taking his usual part in the proceedings of the day. It was unanimously agreed that an expression of concern and sympathy be conveyed to him and to Mrs. Ridgway Lloyd. Canon Davys described the remains of the fortifications, giving a short account of the Castle, and then conducted the party to the beautiful cruciform Church, where he read a paper on its history and architecture, afterwards pointing out in detail its remarkable structural features, its well preserved mediæval stalls, hagioscopes, and monuments. The Rector, the Rev. J. J. Sale, exhibited the old registers, an altar cloth and *tally sticks*; he also described a vessel found in the wall of the chancel, the contents of which had been analysed, and pronounced to be human blood.

On account of the lateness of the hour, the design of visiting Little Hornead was abandoned with regret, and the party returned to Royston. On the way a short inspection was made of the fine Perpendicular Church at Barkway, under the guidance of the Vicar: the Manor-house was also visited. Royston was left at 4.49, as had been arranged, and an expedition, which had proved of considerable interest, was brought to a close.

JOHN EVANS, Chairman.

Note.—The papers referred to in the minutes of the Excursion Meeting are given below, in the order in which they were read.
