

St. Albans Architectural

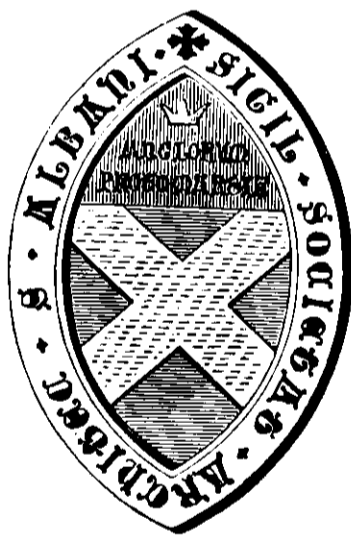
AND

Archæological Society.

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TRANSACTIONS

1887.



St. Albans:

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1888.



# St. Albans Architectural Society.

Founded 1845.

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THE LORD BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS.

## President.

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THE REV. H. FOWLER, M.A.

## Auditor.

G. N. MARTEN, ESQ.



S. ALBANS

Architectural and Archæological  
SOCIETY.

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PROCEEDINGS.

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Annual Meeting, held at the Town Hall, St. Albans,

APRIL 22ND, 1887.

Present—The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, in the chair; the Rev. Canon Davys, and the Rev. H. Fowler, Hon. Secretaries; the Rev. J. Griffith, LL.D., Mr. G. N. Marten, the Rev. E. R. Gardiner, and other members and friends.

The minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The Audited Balance Sheet was read by the Chairman, and accepted.

The following were duly elected Ordinary Members—The Rev. E. R. Gardiner, vicar of Radwell; the Rev. K. F. Gibbs, vicar of Aldenham; J. G. E. Sibbald, Esq., and Miss J. Brown. As Hon. Members, Messrs. G. and H. Boff, proposed by Mr. G. N. Marten.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. G. Mowat, the officers of the Society were re-elected.

The Rev. E. R. Gardiner delivered an instructive lecture on Church Plate in the Deaneries of Baldock and Hitchin. This was illustrated by numerous specimens, including the plate from the Abbey, and S. Peter's Church, S. Albans. On the motion of the Chairman, a cordial vote of thanks was accorded to him. In seconding this, the Rev. Canon Davys proposed that the paper should be printed in the Transactions of the Society.

Mr. G. N. Marten presented, on behalf of Messrs. G. and H. Boff, the portions of the oak beam which contained the English gold coins, 221 in number (Angels and Half-Angels), discovered at Park Street, Feb. 9th, 1886, and described by Dr. Evans, F.S.A., in the Numismatic Chronicle. Mr. Marten proposed a vote of thanks to the donors, which was unanimously accorded.

The Rev. Dr. Griffith handed over a box of antiquities discovered by Messrs. Flindon Petrie and F. L. Griffith, and presented by the Egypt Exploration Society. A vote of thanks was given to the donors, on the motion of Dr. Griffith, who expressed the hope that his son (now in Egypt) would be able to explain the antiquities at a future opportunity.

The Rev. H. Fowler read some notes on ancient stained glass existing in the North Aisle of S. Peter's Church, St. Albans. The Rev. Canon Davys hoped that this church would be the subject of a paper at a future meeting. He also announced an excursion, to be undertaken early in July, to visit the Churches of Redbourn and Flamstead, and other objects of interest in the neighbourhood.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chairman.

GEO. U. ROBINS,  
Chairman.

#### EXCURSION MEETING, AUGUST 5TH, 1887.

An excursion to Redbourn, Flamstead, and Beechwood, arranged by the Committee, was successfully conducted by the Hon. Secretaries on Friday, Aug. 5th.

Members and friends from S. Albans and Wheathampstead met at Redbourn-bury at 10.30 a.m. Here notes were read by the Rev. H. Fowler on the early associations of the site, and of the parish generally. The central portions of the house, containing some features of a fifteenth century hall, were then inspected, with the assistance of Mr. E. Arnold, the occupier.

At 11.15 the party reassembled by kind permission of Miss Grimstead in the garden of her house, called "The Priory"; where a paper on the Benedictine Cell of Redbourn was read by Mr. Fowler, who made allusion to some evidences of the site by means of a diagram.

At noon the Church was visited, under the guidance

of the Rev. Canon Davys, who read a paper on its history and architecture, and exhibited his water-colour sketch of the structure. The arcades, chancel, side chapel, clear-story, Norman tower, and other features were afterwards pointed out by the Canon in a perambulation of the church. A monumental brass was described by Mr. Fowler.

By permission of the Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Pope, a General Meeting was held in the Vestry; G. Upton Robins, Esq., in the chair.

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed. The following were elected ordinary Members of the Society: The Rev. J. Robbins, D.D., Vicar of Hemel Hempstead; the Rev. Canon Maclean, S. Albans; Mrs. White, Cumberland House, Redbourn; Mr. Thomas Kent, jun., S. Albans.

The excursionists, numbering about fifty, were then hospitably entertained by Mrs. White, at Cumberland House. After a hearty vote of thanks to their hostess, the party drove to Foster's Farm, where the ancient earthworks, known as Arbury Camp, were viewed, under the guidance of Dr. Griffith, who read a paper, and proposed a future exploration of the site by excavations.

After a beautiful drive over the Flamstead hills, the Church of S. Leonard was reached about three o'clock. Here Mr. S. F. Clarkson read a paper on the architectural history of the structure, giving an exhaustive account of the monuments, and pointing out the architectural features in detail. In the ancient vestry, the Vicar, the Rev. Valentine T. A. Browne, exhibited the old registers. After commenting on the exterior of the church, Mr. Clarkson gave some notes on the Saunders' Almshouses.

On reaching Beechwood, notes were read by Mr. Clarkson (in front of the mansion) on the history of the site and manor. The house was then viewed, under the direction of Mr. Robinson, and its interesting contents examined. Some choice books were exhibited in the library by the Rev. W. T. T. Drake.

The site of the Nunnery of S. Giles having been pointed out, the beautiful gardens visited, and the thanks of the party accorded, the excursionists returned about seven o'clock.

The expedition, which was favoured by the weather, proved to be one of the most interesting and agreeable which the Society has undertaken.

WALTER J. LAWRENCE,  
Chairman.

October 21st, 1887.

**General Meeting, held at the Town Hall, S. Albans,**

AT 7 O'CLOCK P.M., OCT. 21st, 1887.

Present: The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrence, in the chair; the Rev. H. Fowler, Hon. Sec.; Rev. Dr. Griffith, Mr. F. L. Griffith, Mr. G. Mowat, Mr. F. Silvester, and other members and friends. The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed.

The following gifts were announced:—From Mr. H. Wilton Hall, his MS. History of Essendon; from Ben. Scott, Esq., Chamberlain of London, photo-lithographs of a portion of S. Margaret's Nunnery, formerly existing at Great Gaddesden; from Dr. Griffith, Vol. iii. of Notes and Queries, in sequence to the volume presented by the late Secretary, Mr. Ridgway R. Lloyd. The thanks of the Society were voted to the donors.

On the motion of Mr. F. Silvester, Miss E. A. Ormerod, F.R. Met. S., was elected an Honorary Member by acclamation. Mr. H. Wilton Hall was also elected an Hon. Member. The following were elected Ordinary Members:—Mrs. Hopkinson, S. Peter's Street, S. Albans; the Rev. Valentine T. A. Browne, Vicar of Flamstead; the Rev. R. O. Rose, Vicar of Markyate.

Mr. Frank L. Griffith then read a paper on Egyptian exploration and discovery during the present century, giving an outline of the operations of the Egypt Exploration Fund. He also exhibited and described some antiquities disinterred by him at Defenneh and other localities in the Delta of the Nile. On the motion of the Chairman, a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. F. L. Griffith; also to the Egypt Exploration Fund, for the present of antiquities.

Dr. Griffith succeeding to the chair, the meeting became conversational. Mr. Fowler made allusion to a lecture on the "Subterranean Structures of Egypt," given by the late Professor Donaldson in 1846.

Dr. Griffith exhibited a large circular dish (22 inches in diameter) of Delft ware, made at Lambeth, dated



1569, having the letters J.G.M. on the face, and the maker's mark, P.M., on the back; and in the centre a sloop in full sail; round the rim a rope pattern. The exhibitor stated that in 1586 Queen Elizabeth granted a licence to John Van Ham to make pottery at Sandwich, in Kent. The works were afterwards transferred to Lambeth, in the neighbourhood of Dolton's present factories. The oldest known specimen is dated 1632.

The Chairman shewed also a five-pound gold-piece of James II., dated 1688; also a medal struck in honour of the capture of Tournay by Prince Eugene and the Duke of Marlborough, inscribed ANNA D.G. MAG: BRIT. FRA. ET HIB: REG:; on the obverse, the City of Tournay in the background; in front, Minerva with ægis—inscription, Tornaco expugnato, MDCCIX.

The meeting terminated with a hearty vote of thanks to the Chairman.

2nd August, 1888.

GEO. U. ROBINS,  
Chairman.

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