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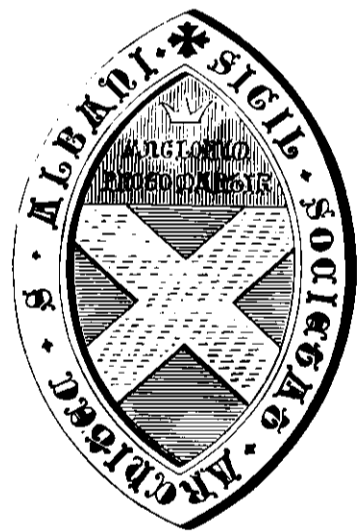
St. Albans Architectural

AND

Archæological Society.

TRANSACTIONS

1890 & 1891.



St. Albans:

PRINTED BY GIBBS AND BAMFORTH, MARKET PLACE.

1892.

St. Albans Architectural Society,

FOUNDED 1843.

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ADDENDA.

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 stead.
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PROCEEDINGS.

Excursion, June 16th, 1890.

An Archæological Excursion, as arranged, was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Griffith to the east of the county.

The party, including the Hon. Secretaries, arrived at Hertford by train at 10.21 a.m. Carriages were taken and the excursionists driven to Much Hadham by way of Gallows Lane, S. Margarets, Stanstead, Hunsdon, and Widford. A halt was made at the farm-house called "The Moat," which was viewed. At the site of Hadham Cross, Dr. Griffith pointed out that the alleged tradition of Queen Eleanor's corpse having rested there was an error, the body having been conveyed from S. Albans to Waltham, and Hadham being far from this route. At Hadham Church (S. Andrew's) the Rector, the Rev. Stanley Leathes, D.D., received the party. A paper was read by Mr. Kinneir Tarte on the architecture of the Church, the features of which were pointed out in a perambulation. The wall-paintings were illustrated by drawings kindly lent by Miss Wigram, and by notes sent by the Rev. Canon Wigram. Dr. Griffith gave some account of the Parish Registers, remarking on Sir Charles Cæsar, a distinguished inhabitant of Hadham. Some old documents were exhibited. After viewing the porch and tower, the party partook of a picnic lunch on the lawn of the ancient Palace of the Bishops of London, now the residence of Mrs. Berry. The mansion was then inspected, the hostess reading some extracts relating to its history. After tendering their thanks to Mrs. Berry, the party proceeded to Standon Church (S. Mary's), where they were met by the Rev. H. R. Wetherall, Vicar*, and Mr. C. Giles-Puller. The Church was inspected, the Vicar reading the Report made by the Architect, Mr. Godwin, at the time of the Restoration (1865). The Architectural features, monuments, and brasses were described. Mr. Giles-Puller gave the history of some of the trophies attached to Sir Ralph Sadleir's monument. The exterior, with the south-eastern tower, was viewed, also the Hos-

* Since deceased.

pital of the Knights of S. John abutting on the Churchyard. At Standon Lordship, Mr. Wetherall read an extract from the book entitled:—"The troubles of our Catholic forefathers," relating to the life of Walter, Lord Aston, who inherited the manor by marriage with the Sadleir family. The excursionists then visited Youngsbury, the residence of Mr. C. Giles-Puller, who showed the excavation made in a Roman *tumulus* under the direction of Dr. J. Evans, June, 1889. The Sepulchral vessels discovered were exhibited and explained in the hall of Youngsbury House, where the company were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Giles-Puller. The contemplated visit to the tower of Thundridge Church was omitted from lack of time. The party returned to Hertford, leaving by the 6.40 p.m. train for their destinations. Their cordial thanks were given to the Rev. Dr. Griffith for his exertions in arranging the successful and enjoyable expedition.

July 29th, 1890.

JOHN GRIFFITH.

Excursion, August 7th, 1890.

On Thursday, August 7th, an excursion was conducted by the Rev. Canon Davys to Great Berkhamstead and Hemel Hempstead. The party, numbering about twenty, included the Secretaries, Mr. and Mrs. Upton Robins, Mr. and Mrs. Clarkson, the Rev. Kenneth Gibbs, Mr. Trevor and Miss Davys, Mr. W. F. Andrews, and others. On arriving at Berkhamstead by train at 11.13 a.m., the Church of S. Peter, one of the finest in the county, was visited under the guidance of the Rev. Canon Davys, who read a paper on its history and architecture. The features of the structure, with its interesting Chapels, oak screens, and remains of ancient stained glass, were pointed out and explained by the Canon, who referred to the admirable history of Berkhamstead written by the Rev. J. W. Cobb. Some notes on the Brasses were given by Mr. W. F. Andrews. The Rev. K. Gibbs described an Elizabethan helmet.* The Rev. W. G. Elnor kindly assisted at the inspection in the absence of the Rector, the Rev. A. Johnson. On leaving the Church the exterior of Dean Incent's Tudor building, forming a portion of the Grammar School, was viewed.

* That of Sir Adolphus Cary, Kt., younger son of Sir Edward Cary, of Aldenham, and brother to Henry, first Viscount Falkland.

Some of the party afterwards visited "Cowper's Well," which in the poet's time was included in the Rectory garden.

Some ancient half-timber houses were viewed in the High Street. Later on the party assembled in the Castle grounds, and inspected the ruined walls and the moats of the ancient fortress. Here a picnic lunch was partaken of. Afterwards a paper on the history of the Castle was read by the Rev. H. Fowler, who exhibited a plan of the works. At 3 o'clock the excursionists proceeded by train to Hemel Hempstead, where the grand Norman Church was inspected under the guidance of the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Robbins, who made some instructive remarks on the successive restorations. Notes on the architecture and history of the Church were read by Mr. F. Trevor Davys. The fine western door-way, the foreign font, the vaulted Chapel in the N. transept, the chancel with its elaborate modern reredos and Mosaics, the Brass of Robert Albyn and other features were pointed out. The belfry was visited, the timber spire was left for future examination, its interior being inaccessible. The ruined remains of a door-way with chamber above, of Renaissance character, were viewed at the s.-w. corner of the Church-yard. By the kind invitation of Dr. and Mrs. Robbins tea was partaken of at the Vicarage, where the ancient charters of the town were exhibited. The party returned by train to their destinations after having spent an instructive and agreeable day.

Dec. 4th, 1890.

WALTER J. LAWRENCE.

Annual Meeting held at the Town Hall, S. Albans,
July 29th, 1890.

Present :—The Rev. J. Griffith, L.L.D., in the Chair; the Rev. Canon Davys, and the Rev. H. Fowler, Hon. Secretaries; Mr. F. Silvester, Mr. Morton M. Glover, and Mr. Salisbury.

The minutes of the last Meeting (Oct. 30th, 1889,) were confirmed.

The Officers of the Society were re-elected.

The retiring members of the Committee (the Rev. Dr. Griffith and Mr. G. Upton Robins,) were re-elected. Three new members elected on the Committee, viz. :—Mr. S. Flint Clarkson, Mr. F. Trevor Davys, and Mr. F. W. Kinncir Tarte, were reported and accepted.

The Hon. Secretaries were requested to apply to the Bishop of S. Albans to become a Patron of the Society.

It was resolved to give notice at the next meeting, that the Secretaries will propose the Rule:—"That Ordinary members shall become Life members after paying subscriptions for twelve years."

The following were elected Ordinary members:—

Percy Manning, Esq., North End, Watford; Proposed by Mr. F. Silvester, Seconded by the Rev. H. Fowler.

Frederick H. Norman, Esq., Moor Place, Hadham; Proposed by Rev. Dr. Griffith, Seconded by Rev. Canon Davys.

The Rev. F. Fox Lambert, Cheshunt Vicarage; Proposed by Rev. Dr. Griffith, Seconded by Rev. Canon Davys.

Dec. 4th, 1890.

WALTER J. LAWRENCE.

Meeting held in the Council Chamber, S. Albans,
Thursday, Dec. 4th, 1890, 8 o'clock p.m.

Present:—The Ven. Archdeacon Lawrance, in the chair; the Hon. Secretaries; Mr. S. Flint Clarkson, Mr. F. Trevor Davys, Mr. F. W. Kinneir Tarte, Mr. Morton M. Glover, and about thirty other members and friends.

The Minutes of the last Meeting and of the Excursion (Aug. 7th,) were read by the Local Secretary, and confirmed by the Meeting.

The Chairman announced that at the next Meeting it will be proposed by the Secretaries:—"That Ordinary Members shall become Life Members after paying 12 Annual Subscriptions of 10s. 6d.

The following were elected Ordinary Members—

Mrs. Pollard, Hertford,—proposed by the Rev. Dr. Griffith. Rev. Alfred E. Northey, Rickmansworth,—proposed by the Rev. K. F. Gibbs.

The Chairman announced that a letter had been received from Dr. Griffith, expressing his regret, that on account of illness he was unable to be present and speak on the subjects which he proposed to illustrate. The Egyptian Antiquities had been sent, and were placed on the table, labelled.

Mr. Andrew Oliver, A.R.I.B.A., then delivered his paper on "English Brasses of the 13th, 14th, and 15th Centuries," illustrating by numerous beautifully-executed rubbings. The Chairman inviting remarks, the Rev. H. Fowler remarked on some of the Brasses of S. Albans Abbey.

Mr. Morton M. Glover read a paper on Caister Castle, Norfolk (built by Sir John Fastolf, c. 1446), illustrating by measured drawings and plans which he had made.

A cordial vote of thanks was given to the readers of papers, on the motion of the Rev. Canon Davys, seconded by Mr. F. W. Kinneir Tarte.

Mr. Fowler offered some remarks on the history of Sir John Fastolf and his Castle.

Mr. S. Flint Clarkson made some remarks on Brasses, eliciting from Mr. A. Oliver further information in reference to the superior design and execution of the earlier examples.

Mr. Oliver acknowledged the vote of thanks, as also did Mr. Morton Glover.

The Meeting then became conversational.

The antiquities presented by the "Egypt Exploration Fund" through the Rev. Dr. Griffith and Mr. Frank L. Griffith, were examined with interest.

Some specimens of early stone implements from Denmark and Norway were exhibited by Mr. A. E. Gibbs.

Some photolithographs of Brasses were presented to the Society by Mr. Andrew Oliver.

GEO. U. ROBINS, Chairman.

Meeting held in the Library-room, Town Hall, S. Albans,
at 4 p.m., June 4th, 1891.

Present:—G. Upton Robins, Esq., in the chair; the two Honorary Secretaries; Mr. Toulmin, Hon. Treasurer; Mr. S. Flint Clarkson, and Mr. G. Mowat.

The minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The audited balance sheet of 1890 was presented and adopted.

The Hon. Local Secretary announced that the "Transactions of 1889" had been printed (250 copies), and forwarded to the Subscribers, also to Secretaries of other Archæological Societies; acknowledgments had been received.

The Rev. E. Liddell, M.A., Honorary Canon of Durham, (proposed by the Rev. H. Fowler, and seconded by the Rev. Canon Davys), was elected an Ordinary Member of the Society.

The two retiring Members of the Committee were re-elected on the motion of the Chairman.

The Presidents, Secretaries, and other Officers of the Society were re-elected.

The subject of the proposed alteration of the rule relating to subscriptions was considered. Finally it was resolved,

“That no member be considered a life member unless and until he has paid a sum of £5 5s. in one sum to the funds of the Society.”

Proposed by the Rev. Canon Davys, and seconded by Mr. Clarkson.

The programme of the Excursion proposed for the 6th of August next was announced by the Rev. Canon Davys, and approved.

A letter received from the Rev. Dr. Griffith, expressing his continued interest in the work of the Society, was read. The following resolution, proposed by Mr. Toulmin, and seconded by Mr. Fowler, was then passed,

“While expressing our great regret at losing the services of Dr. Griffith on the Committee, we unanimously resolve, with his permission, to place his name amongst the Honorary Members of the Society.”

GEORGE U. ROBINS, Chairman.

Excursion, August 6th, 1891.

An Archæological Excursion was conducted by the Secretaries on Thursday, August 6th.

Members and friends, numbering 28, arrived by train at Hitchin, 8.40 a.m., where carriages were taken. S. Ippolyts was reached at 9.20 a.m. The Rev. Canon Davys read a paper on the architectural history of the Church and its remarkable legend. An inspection of the building was then made. The Vicar, the Rev. E. T. Carey, pointed out the grotesque sculptures and other details, and explained the work of the reinstatement of the arcades and aisle walls recently effected. The ancient timber porch was photographed by a member*

* Mr. W. R. L. Lowe.

present. At Tilmore Green a halt was made at some old houses. At Redcotes Green some of the party viewed the habitation of James Lucas, the "Hertfordshire Hermit," who died here in 1874. On reaching the parish church of Stevenage (S. Nicholas), the Rector, the Rev. W. Jowitt, pointed out some interesting monuments erected in the beautiful churchyard. In the Church Mr. S. Flint Clarkson gave a detailed account of the structure, pointing out the alterations it had undergone from the early Norman to the late Perpendicular period; also explaining the construction of the timber spire, and noting the woodwork of the screens, the font, and other details. The Rector remarked on the works of restoration undertaken by his predecessor, the Rev. Canon Blomfield, and noted some interesting historical facts relating to the benefice. The Rectory was then visited, where, after refreshments had been partaken of, the Rev. H. Fowler read a paper on the "Six Hills of Stevenage," illustrating by diagrams of other ancient artificial mounds presenting certain analogies.

The Rector proposed that a fund should be raised for conducting a scientific exploration.

The "Hills" were then visited.

Aston Bury was reached soon after one o'clock. Here a picnic lunch was partaken of in a spacious gallery (bare of fittings) in the upper story of the mansion.

A paper on the history and architecture of this seat of the Botiler family was read by Mr. F. Trevor Davys, who afterwards pointed out the oak-staircases, window features, and other details of this Tudor edifice. The party proceeded to Watton-at Stone. In the Church (of S. Andrew and S. Mary) Mr. Andrew Oliver pointed out the remarkable Brasses, illustrating by means of admirable rubbings. The restored structure was hastily viewed. A drive through a beautifully-wooded country brought the excursionists to Queenhoo Hall, once possessed by a branch of the Botiler family. The remnant of this Elizabethan mansion, now a farm-house, was examined externally, admission to the interior not being obtainable. Tewin Churchyard was then visited. The tomb of Lady Ann Grimston (ob. 1710) was pointed out by the Rev. Canon Davys, who read a refutation of the popular legend to which the remarkable growth of the ash-trees, disintegrating the monument, had given

rise. Welwyn Station was reached before 5.30, and the conveyances dismissed. The party from S. Albans arrived at their destination, 6.40 p.m. The long day's excursion was greatly appreciated.

G. U. ROBINS, Chairman.

Meeting held at the Town Hall, S. Albans, Dec. 10th, 1891,
3 o'clock, p.m.

Present:—G. Upton Robins, Esq., in the chair; the Rev. Canon Davys, and the Rev. H. Fowler, Hon. Secretaries; Mr. F. Trevor Davys, and the Rev. Canon Liddell.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were confirmed.

The following were elected Ordinary Members:—W. J. Hardy, Esq., Milton Cottage, S. Albans; S. C. Griffith, Esq., M.D., Ivy House, S. Albans; Proposed by Mr. W. R. L. Lowe and the Rev. H. Fowler, and seconded by the Rev. Canon Davys.

Books and Pamphlets received since the last Meeting were announced by the Local Secretary, who stated that the Committee were taking steps to print the "Transactions" of 1890 and 1891 in one pamphlet.

The List of Subscriptions in arrear was presented. The Local Secretary was requested to apply for these.

It was resolved that an Evening Meeting be held in February next, if found practicable.

The offer of the Rev. Canon Liddell to read a paper on the Church of S. Paul, Jarrow was thankfully accepted.
