

THE LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

THE 70th ANNUAL REPORT

Your Committee in presenting their Report for the year 1924 can congratulate the Society on its continued activity and the fact that its finances are now in a thoroughly sound condition.

We have to record with much regret the loss by death of several valued members:—George M. Henton, Esq., Walter J. New, Esq. (our honorary local secretary for the Melton district), G. H. Barrowcliffe, Esq., Alfred Corah, Esq., J.P., B. H. C. Fox, Esq., J.P., J. T. Spalding, Esq., J.P., and W. H. Winterton, Esq., J.P.

Ten members have resigned from the Society, and nineteen new members have been elected during the year:—

- In January:—
- Capt. A. B. Pick, 15 Mellor Road, Leicester.
 - Dr. A. T. Coleman, Ashwell, Knighton Drive, Leicester.
 - Mr. G. W. Sparrow, 99 Princess Road, Leicester.
- In March:—
- Mrs. T. Eric Toller, 52 Knighton Drive, Leicester.
- In April:—
- Mr. Bernard Ellis, Church Leys, Rearsby, Leicester, (re-elected).
 - Mr. H. Stanley Pochin, Croft House, Croft, Leicester.
 - Mr. C. R. Miles, Friar Lane, Leicester.
 - Mr. Bryan H. Reynolds, Brown Street, Leicester.
 - Mr. C. Geoffrey Barradale, Summerhill, Morland Avenue, Leicester.

xii. LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

- In June :— Miss Christine Urquhart, 3 West Street,
Leicester.
Mr. A. W. Death, Junr., 14 Millstone Lane,
Leicester.
Rev. H. V. Hibbert, Enderby Vicarage,
Leicester.
The Hon. Mrs. Tennant, St. Anne's Manor,
Sutton, Loughborough.
- In September :— Mr. George Keith Thomson, The Grammar
School, Quorn, Loughborough.
- In October :— Mr. C. J. B. Woolley, Springfield Road,
Leicester.
Mr. N. F. Spence, Croft, near Leicester.
Mr. F. Fosbrooke, Charnwood House,
Victoria Road, Leicester.
Mrs. F. Fosbrooke, Charnwood House,
Victoria Road, Leicester.
Miss Ethel M. Windley, St. James's Road,
Leicester.

The total number of members on the register at the end of
the year was 319.

The late Col. G. C. Bellairs, V.D., J.P.

A mural tablet to the memory of Col. Bellairs, one of the
founders of the Society, erected in the chancel of St. Mary's
Church, Leicester, was unveiled by Major W. J. Freer, V.D.,
D.L., F.S.A., on 28 January, 1924, in the presence of several
members of the Society and other friends. The tablet is com-
posed of alabaster and Swithland slate, and was executed by Mr.
J. H. Morcom of Leicester, at a cost of £54, which was defrayed
by the subscriptions of 63 members of the Society and other
friends. It bears the following inscription :—

GEORGE CLARKE BELLAIRS, V.D., J.P.

LATE COLONEL LEICESTERSHIRE VOLUNTEERS
AND A CHURCHWARDEN OF THIS PARISH.
FOR 67 YEARS A MEMBER OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY, DURING MOST OF WHICH
HE WAS HONORARY SECRETARY.
DIED 12TH, JANU, 1922, AGED 95 YEARS.
THIS RECORD IS INSCRIBED BY HIS
ANTIQUARIAN AND MILITARY FRIENDS.

The late George Moore Henton

Mr. G. M. Henton, who joined the Society in 1901, and was for many years a much esteemed member of its Committee, died suddenly at his home, Victoria Road, Leicester, on Easter Monday, 21st April, 1924. After his death, it was found that he had bequeathed a legacy of £500 to be employed, at the Committee's discretion, for the purposes of the Society. Of this sum £400 has been allocated to the Research Endowment Fund, and £100 to the General Purposes Fund. We believe that this handsome bequest, which materially increases our potential efficiency, is the first testamentary gift of money to its permanent funds received by the Society since its foundation.

Though not a specialist in any particular branch of archæology, the late Mr. Henton had the true antiquary's feeling for the past, and found many opportunities of making himself useful, especially in the matter of reporting to the Society upon historic Leicestershire monuments that were suffering from neglect, or threatened with injudicious treatment or destruction. By profession a painter in water colour, he did a good deal of work in his native county, and as he was a capable and conscientious draughtsman, a large proportion of his drawings—apart from their purely artistic qualities—are valuable as faithful records of old Leicestershire streets and buildings, which in many cases have either disappeared or are fast losing their reminiscent character. Mr. Henton was also a skilful and industrious photographer, and he left behind him a large and valuable col-

xiv. LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

lection of plates which testify to his artistic perception and his familiarity with nearly every medieval church and other relic of antiquity in the county. With his accustomed generosity, he allowed many of his photographs to be reproduced in the Society's publications, which have frequently been rendered more interesting and informative by these excellent illustrations. Mr. Henton's courteous geniality made him a most agreeable man to be associated with, and his unfailing loyalty and goodness of heart secured for him the abiding affection of many friends.

Papers, Lectures, etc., given in 1924

- On January 28th. A lecture by Mr. F. W. Buckler, M.A., F.R.Hist.S., M.R.A.S., lecturer in history at the Leicester University College, on "The nature of Eastern Kingship, with some parallels found in Western History."
- On May 26th. A lecture by Mr. F. W. Bennett, custodian of the Ann Hathaway Cottage, Shottery, on "Old Markets and Street Names."
- On July 28th. A lecture by Mr. Paul Dare, on "Researches in Keltic Leicestershire."
- On September 29th. A lantern lecture by Mr. H. E. Forrest, F.L.S., of Shrewsbury, on "Old Houses of Shrewsbury."
- On November 24th. A lantern lecture by Mr. G. F. Hinchliff, A.R.C.A. (Lond.), on "Methods of Medieval Wall Painting in Churches."

During the year Volume XIII, part I, of the Society's Transactions has been issued to members. This part contains a very carefully compiled history of the Corpus Christi Guild of Leicester from its inception up to the time when the hall of the Guild was acquired as a Town Hall for Leicester, with chapters

on the Borough constitution of Leicester and on Guilds in general, illustrated with a series of plates explaining the details of the existing buildings, by Messrs. T. H. Fosbrooke, F.S.A., and S. H. Skillington, with notes on the stained glass, now in the Mayor's Parlour, by Mr. A. B. McDonald, A.R.C.A. (Lond). Articles on George Fox and his associations with Leicestershire, by Miss Gertrude Ellis, on the manor and advowson of Medbourne, 1086-1550, by Mr. George Farnham, F.S.A., and Mr. A. Hamilton Thompson, D.Litt., F.S.A., and on the church of St. Michael, Hallaton, with notes on the descent of the manor, by Mr. Albert Herbert, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. George Farnham, F.S.A., complete this interesting part. The Society desires to express its thanks to the respective contributors.

There has also been issued to members the concluding part of Volume XXXVI of the Associated Architectural Societies' *Reports and Papers*. Owing to the imperative needs of the Society's Library, which have been postponed for longer than was desirable, the improvements to be effected in the new room, the high cost of printing and the largely increased volume of Transactions, the Committee decided to discontinue printing in the *Reports and Papers* of the Associated Societies. An arrangement, however, has been made by which any member of our Society, who wishes to continue a supporter of the valuable publications issued by the Associated Societies, can do so on payment of a yearly subscription of five shillings, which will entitle such member to the volumes issued. The advantage to the Society will be that in future the cost of printing Transactions can be regulated according to the state of the Society's income in each year, without having to provide yearly a sum of £60 or more for *Reports and Papers*, independently of whether they contain any matter relating to Leicestershire or not. Members wishing to subscribe to these *Reports and Papers* should send 5s. per annum to Major W. J. Freer, F.S.A., The Stony Gate, Leicester.

The following works by members of our Society have been published during the year :—

Leicester Memoirs, by C. J. Billson, M.A.

A History of Ayleston, by M. P. Dare.

Genealogy of the Brampton family of Shropshire, Northants., Leicester, etc., by Henry Hartopp. (Privately printed).

At the request of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee of the Leicester City Council, Mr. Hartopp is preparing from the ancient Borough records a transcript of the Rolls of the Freemen and Apprentices from 1196 to the present time, of which the Corporation hope to publish one volume in 1925 for subscribers.

Excursions

The Committee received with regret the resignation by the Rev. Canon S. T. Winckley, M.A., R.D., of the office of Excursion Secretary, a position which he had filled for many years to the complete satisfaction of all the members who took part in the excursions under his genial guidance. We are, however, pleased to be able to report that Mr. Walter Brand, A.R.I.B.A., and Mr. Ralph W. Bedingfield, A.R.I.B.A., kindly consented to fill the vacancy, and have already proved their ability by organising the two very successful excursions taken by the Society during the past year. The first excursion took place on Monday, July 7th, when about 60 members and friends journeyed to Lincoln, where they were met by the Rev. Canon C. W. Foster, F.S.A., of Timberland, and the Rev. Alfred Hunt, of Welton by Lincoln, who acted as guides in conducting the party over the following places of interest:—Ruddock Court called (mistakenly) White Friars, the churches of St. Peter at Gowts, St. Mary le Wigford and St. Benedict, the High Bridge, and the Stonebow. After luncheon at the Saracen's Head Hotel, the party proceeded to the west front of the Cathedral, where they were met by the Dean of Lincoln, who conducted them over the noble edifice, pointing out the main features of interest.

The second excursion was made on the afternoon of Thursday, September 25th, when about 100 members and their friends visited Belvoir Castle, where they were most courteously welcomed by the Duke (Patron) and the Duchess of Rutland and the Marquis

of Granby, F.S.A., President of the Society, who spared themselves no pains to entertain their numerous guests by showing many of the artistic and other treasures which the Castle contains.

Discoveries

Mr. Paul Dare reported that a small aperture, about seven inches square, was found in the course of cleaning the plaster from the west wall of All Saints' church, Leicester, in February, 1924. As Mr. Dare is contributing an article on this subject to the current part of the Associated Societies' *Reports and Papers*, it is needless for us to go further into the matter here. Mr. Dare also exhibited, at the September meeting of the Society, several pieces of Roman pottery discovered in Halford Street and Hotel Street, Leicester, and at the November meeting he drew attention to the finding at Barwell of what may turn out to be the remains of a Roman villa.

Restoration Work in 1924

The important restoration which was commenced two years ago by Mr. T. H. Fosbrooke at the Old Town Hall, Leicester, owing to the discovery of further defective parts, has been continued throughout the past year. It is hoped that the work will be completed during 1925.

Leicester's Education Week, June, 1924

The Society, with the assistance of several members, exhibited a number of prints and objects of local interest at the Junior Training Hall in the space allotted to them by the City Education Committee.

Advisory Art Committee

An Advisory Art Committee, which the City Council may consult upon matters involving æsthetic, historical or archæological considerations, was appointed at Leicester in the autumn

xviii. LEICESTERSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

of 1924. This Committee, formed on the model of a similar institution at Birmingham, held its first meeting in November, when its members unanimously elected Mr. George Farnham, F.S.A., the representative of our Society, to the office of Chairman.

**County Organisation for Scheduling Ancient
Monuments**

During the year 1924, your Society, through its correspondent, has submitted the following objects of archæological interest to the Commissioner of Works, which have accordingly been scheduled under the Ancient Monuments Act of 1913. :—

The Butter Cross in Swithland Park.
Hallaton Castle.
Groby Castle and Castle Hill.
Old Town Hall, Leicester.
Aylestone Bridge.
The Ruins, Bradgate Park.
Leicester Castle Mound.
The Great Hall, Leicester Castle.
The Dungeon, Leicester Castle.
The Turret Gateway, Leicester.
The Magazine Gateway, The Newarke, Leicester.
The Roman Pavement, Black Friars' Street, Leicester.
Belgrave Bridge, near Leicester.
The Raw Dykes, Aylestone, Leicester.
Anstey Pack Horse Bridge.
Burrough-on-the-Hill Camp.
Ratby Camp.

Making with Ashby-de-la-Zouch Castle, Ulverscroft Priory, Kirby Muxloe Castle, and the Jewry Wall, Leicester—which had been scheduled in 1921—twenty-one items in the county of Leicester which have been placed under the protection of the Ancient Monuments Board up to date.

Ecclesiastical Records

By a mutual arrangement, and with the sanction and approval of the ecclesiastical authorities, an important exchange of ancient records took place in 1924, between the registrars of the Lincoln Diocese and the Leicester Archdeaconry. The transcripts of Leicestershire Parish Registers for certain years (1604 to 1618) have been transferred from Lincoln to the Leicester Registry, and certain Visitation Books, etc., rightly belonging to Lincoln Diocese, have been handed over to the Lincoln Registry. Our Assistant Secretary, Mr. H. Hartopp, and the Rev. Canon C. W. Foster, F.S.A., took active steps to effect this useful exchange.

Lists of Vicars of St. Nicholas', Leicester, and of St. Peter's, Belgrave, revised by Mr. H. Hartopp, have been placed in the respective churches during the past year.

The Library

Several books have been added to the Library during the year, including a copy of the *History of Leicester* by Mr. S. H. Skillington, which he kindly presented for the use of members; a copy of Mr. Hugh Goodacre's *Bronze Coinage of the late Roman Empire*, presented by the author; and a copy of the scarce book, *The Epitaphs in the Graveyard and Chapel of the Great Meeting, Leicester*, privately printed by the late Thomas Fielding Johnson, Esq., and presented to the Library by Mr. R. H. Stephenson, another of our members. Two new book-cases have been added, and further improvements to the Library are to be carried out.

THE LEICESTERSHIRE
Receipts and Payments Account for

		RECEIPTS.					
1923.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31.	To Balance	56	11	7			
	Less Voted to Library Fund at Annual Meeting	50	0	0			
					6	11	7
	„ Subscriptions for 1924 :						
	1 @ £1 10s.	1	10	0			
	8 @ £1 1s.	8	8	0			
	317 @ £1	317	0	0			
					326	18	0
	„ 1 Subscription for 1923				1	0	0
	„ 4 Donations of 10/- each				2	0	0
	„ Proceeds of Sale of Old Copies of Transactions				10	5	7
	„ Over-reserved in 1923 for payment for Reports and Papers for 1922				4	7	6
	„ Interest on £101 5s. 4d. Leicester Corporation 3% Stock, less tax				2	7	0
	„ Interest allowed by Bank				1	9	3
	„ Part Legacy of £500, bequeathed to the Society by the late Mr. G. M. Henton				100	0	0

N.B.—There is in the Treasurer's hands
a sum of £2, being surplus from
Excursions, 1924.

I have examined the within written accounts with the books and
vouchers of the Society and find them to be in accordance
therewith.

23rd January, 1925.

EDMUND BLAND, A.C.A.,
Honorary Auditor.

G. E. NEWILL,
Hon. Treasurer.

£454 18 11

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY
the 12 Months ended 31st December 1924

xxi.

		PAYMENTS.					
1924.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Dec. 31.	By SUBSCRIPTIONS :						
	Archæological Congress ...	1	0	0			
	British Numismatic Society	1	1	0			
	Canterbury and York Society	1	1	0			
	Lincoln Record Society 1923/4	1	1	0			
	ditto 1924/5	1	1	0			
	English Place-name Society	0	15	0			
	British Record Society, 1922, 1923 & 1924 ...	3	13	6			
					9	12	6
	„ COST OF TRANSACTIONS :						
	Printing, &c. ...	191	0	0			
	Distribution ...	10	15	0			
					201	15	0
	„ General Printing ...				11	7	6
	„ LECTURES AT BI-MONTHLY MEETINGS :						
	Travelling Expenses ...	3	2	0			
	Lantern ...	1	10	0			
					4	12	0
	„ Salary of Assistant Secretary				20	0	0
	„ RENT :						
	Old Town Hall ...	10	0	0			
	Church House ...	2	5	0			
					12	5	0
	„ SUNDRIES :						
	Caretaker, Old Town Hall, Gratuity ...	0	12	6			
	Postages ...	2	7	0			
	Travelling Expenses (Assist. Sec.) ...	1	10	0			
	Fire Insurance ...	0	8	3			
	Contribution to Lincoln Cathedral Repair Fund £10 0 0	10	0	0			
	Less Surpluses from excursions, per secretaries	8	5	0			
					1	15	0
	Congress of Archæological Societies, 325 Copies Report of Earthworks Committee, 1923 ...	2	8	9			
	Leicester Borough Records ...	2	2	0			
	Contribution towards Publi- cation of Wills & Adminis- trations at Leicester ...	6	16	6			
					18	0	0
	„ Investment in £100 City of Leicester 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ % Loan ...				99	0	6
	„ Balance being Cash in Bank				78	6	5
					£454	18	11

THE LEICESTERSHIRE

Funds

GENERAL

	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
To Balance :						
Invested in Leicester Corporation 3% Stock (Market Value £75)	101	5	4			
Invested in £100 City of Leicester 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ % Loan, 1945/1955 ...	99	0	6			
,, Cash in Bank ...	0	19	6			
				201	5	4
				<u>£201</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

ENDOWMENT

To Balance :						
Invested in £155 5% War Stock 1929/1947 ...	160	3	5			
Invested in £400 City of Leicester 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ % Loan, 1945/1955 ...	395	1	0			
,, Cash in Bank ...	14	16	1			
				570	0	6
				<u>£570</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>6</u>

LIBRARY

To Leicester Cabinet Co. :						
Cost of one book case				22	10	0
,, Balance being Cash at Bank				27	19	11
				<u>£50</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>11</u>

G. E. NEWILL,
Hon. Treasurer.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY

31st December, 1924

RESERVE FUND

	£	s.	d.
By Balance at 1st January, 1924	101	5	4
Part Legacy of £500, bequeathed by the late Mr. G. H. Henton	100	0	0

 £201 5 4

By Balance	201	5	4
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FUND

By Subscriptions as per list already published	151	2	6
„ Excursion Surplus, per Rev. Canon S. T. Winckley	2	0	0
„ Dividends on Investments	13	5	0
„ Interest allowed by Bank	2	0	2
„ Part Legacy of £500, bequeathed to the Society by the late Mr. G. M. Henton, and Interest thereon	401	12	10

 £570 0 6

By Balance	570	0	6
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FUND

By Transfer from General Account	50	0	0
„ Interest allowed by Bank	0	9	11

 £50 9 11

By Balance	27	19	11
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