

varying from ours, but who were identical with us in all the essentials of national character.

29th July, 1861.

The REV. ROBERT BURNABY in the chair.

MR. JAMES THOMPSON having communicated the information that Mr. John Gough Nichols had collected and arranged the ancient letters in the possession of Mr. Perry-Herrick, the following motion was adopted:—

“That, in the opinion of this Society, the extracts from the letters of the members of the Herrick family, used at the late *soirée*, indicated that the letters possessed great local interest and value, and therefore the publication of the whole series would be viewed with pleasure by this Society.”

It was reported that arrangements were completed for holding a General Meeting at Lutterworth on the 18th and 19th of September next.

MR. JAMES THOMPSON further made some observations relative to the value of the past transactions of the Society, and advocated their publication.

The following articles, antiquities, &c., were exhibited:—

By MR. ORDISH, a chromo-lithograph of Ecclesiastical and Domestic Furniture, designed by the late Mr. Pugin, and shown at the exhibition of 1851. Mr. Ordish presented the picture to the Society.

By MR. HUNT, an ancient coin, found near the church at Humberstone. On examination it proved to be a Nuremberg jetton, issued by Damian Krauwinckel, and probably of the fifteenth century. These jettons or tokens are found abundantly all over the country. They were coined by the eminent merchants of Nuremberg, when that great city was the emporium of European commerce, and when they had dealings with merchants in all parts of the world. A great variety of articles were made there, and hence the couplet:

“Nuremberg's hand  
Goes through every land.”

The frequency of the finding of these tokens in England is in some measure accounted for by their having formerly been commonly used as counters.

By MR. THOMPSON, a manuscript book, containing the rent-roll of Philip Sherard, Esq., of Teigh, in the county of Rutland, of which he gave the following account:—

A very curious manuscript book has been lent to me for exhibition to this Society. It is a "Survey of all the lands and hereditaments of Philip Sherard, son and heir of Francis Sherard, Esq., lying and being within the town and fields of Teigh, in the county of Rutland" drawn up by William Wallis, surveyor of Stamford in the year 1597. The Philip Sherard, Esq., here mentioned, was the ancestor of the late Earl of Harborough, among whose muniments the volume was discovered.

Not only is there in it a minute mention of every portion of the Teigh estate; but there are besides small maps exhibiting detached parts, which are examples of the water colouring, the ornamental caligraphy, and the surveyor's drawing of two hundred and sixty-four years bygone. At the end of the book is a list of the tenants, with the amount of the occupation of each, whether in meadow or pasture land. The names of the tenants are Richard Barrow, Richard Dinge, Nicholas Coale, John Squire, Thomas Taylor, Thomas Whittle, Michael Gray, William Fowler, William Roe (rector), William Ecoppe, William Aswell, William Pullen, Widow Hitchcock, Widow Conyborowe, Thomas Ecoppe, Widow Roe, John Briggs, John Yates, Robert Rudkin, Edward Cowper, William Pyne, Richard Greene, Richard Wade, William Berye, William Wensley, Widow Pickwell, John Dalbye, and William Smythe. The total acreage was 1,118 acres, 17 perches.

I need scarcely say that documents like that before us have an antiquarian value which should ensure their preservation by their owners. To the topographer and genealogist they are eminently serviceable in throwing light on village history. The names of the tenants are probably represented to-day in Teigh by the descendants of their former possessors; though I should say I am here speaking in entire ignorance of the locality. Should it prove to be so, it will add another proof to the many I have met with of families (not those merely of the nobility and gentry, but of the yeomanry and farmers) residing on the same spot, and pursuing the same avocations, for successive centuries—showing how, without the influence of a caste system (like that of Oriental nations), the inhabitants of this country, owing to their practical character, innate tendencies, and stability of purpose, maintain the distinction of classes and of occupations.

By the REV. J. H. HILL, a series of photographs of windows designed by Messrs. Lavers and Baraud and Messrs. Heaton and Buckler of London; also, a portion of a bayonet, corroded by age, and an ancient spur, found near Glooston. The bayonet is said to have been invented in the latter half of the seventeenth century, and to have received its name from Bayonne, in the south of France. The relic exhibited appeared to have been fastened upon a piece of wood, portions of decayed fibres still adhering to the socket. The spur was of the kind which is seen figured on

the sculptured effigies of the early part of the fifteenth century, and was used by horsemen about the time when the Wars of the Roses were being carried on in this country.

By MR. T. NEVINSON, a coin of the reign of Queen Anne. It was about the size of a farthing. On the obverse was the head of the queen; on the reverse, the date 1711, with the usual abbreviated legend—REG. MAG. BR. FR. HIB. &c. The coin is of copper, but has been washed over with gold. The impression of the Society was that the coin had been gilded over for the purposes of deception. (*Vide* Humphreys' *Manual* upon the coins of Queen Anne.)

MR. WM. JACKSON (architect) read the following Paper upon

#### THE ARCHITECTURAL HISTORY OF S. MARGARET'S CHURCH, LEICESTER.

THE remarks which I am about to read upon the Architectural History of S. Margaret's Church, if I may use so dignified a title, were first suggested to me during the progress of collecting some examples of Gothic mouldings, which are here particularly good and characteristic, and to which I shall have occasion hereafter to refer. In the course of this collateral study, I was struck by the singular and gradual progression, in point of date, in these mouldings, from the east end of the church, down the south side of the nave and south aisle, and thence to the north side; and being thus led to seek for information from our usual local authorities, I learnt only that no satisfactory account was to be found, and that no materials were believed to be in existence, from which an authentic history could be written. These remarks are offered, therefore, as an attempt to work out the problem, which, under such circumstances, the peculiar and fragmentary examples now remaining in the church proposed to my mind.

The early history of S. Margaret's, like that of many other churches, carries the mind back to the most remote period in the annals of our country. It is not of that time, however, I have now to speak, except as it is naturally suggested by an attempt to explain several peculiarities in the structure as it now stands. Nothing, indeed, remains of that early period except the dim record of a cathedral which stood here in the seventh century. Leland records that in his time a portion of the Bishop's palace yet stood by the church—"the fairest parish church of Leicester;" though I should think it more probable that what Leland saw were the remains of the vicarage, of the endowment of which Nichols gives a copy, dated 1276,—and that these remains were finally dispersed in 1568, when Mr. John Lounde, the vicar, repaired the house, and with the consent of his loving parishioners "dyd extyrpe