

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society :
The Rev. W. H. Sandon, Vicar of Stanford-cum-Swinford ; and
the Rev. W. M. Croome, Vicar of Syston.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :

By the CHAIRMAN : A plan showing the position of the ancient Roman pavement, recently discovered near Medbourne Bridge, Leicestershire. A volume of maps by Speed.

By MR. J. HUNT, for Mr. J. Spencer ; A leaden seal or *Bulla*. On the obverse were, as usual, the heads of S. Peter and S. Paul ; on the reverse the name of Pope Innocent the Third.

By MR. J. HUNT, for Jas. Bouskell, Esq. : A bill of acquittance to John Manners, of Nether Haddon, by Francis Hastings, of Bosworth, in right of his wife, Dame Maude Vernon, 1583. Amount £215. 14s. 2d.

By MR. J. HUNT : Antique inkstand in the form of a ship.

The following letter relating to the excavations in Bath Lane, referred to by Mr. Nevinson at the last meeting, was received from Mr. E. L. Stephens, the Borough Surveyor :

“ To the President of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

“ Leicester, January 29th, 1877.

“ Sir,—In excavating for the construction of a sewer in the Bath Lane, Leicester, we came upon walls and other remains, at a great depth below the present surface of the road ; in fact, about level with what was the water line of the river previous to its being dammed up for mill purposes, and they are evidently portions of the outworks of ancient Leicester. I have had a sketch made in plan and section, showing things as we found them, which I hope will be acceptable to the Society.

“ I remain, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

“ E. L. STEPHENS,

“ Borough Surveyor.”

Votes of thanks were passed to Mr. Stephens for the excellent plan presented to the Society.

March 26th, 1877.

MR. G. H. NEVINSON in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members :

Hussey Packe, Esq., Prestwold Hall, High Sheriff of Leicestershire ; Sir Archdale Palmer, Bart., Wanlip ; Rev. Thomas B. Hill, Stonesby, Melton Mowbray ; Rev. Franklin Tonkin, Thurlaston

Rectory; Rev. Lewis Clayton, S. Margaret's, Leicester; Rev. Francis William Robinson, S. Peter's, Leicester: Rev. Herbert E. Turner, Sheepshed Rectory; Rev. R. Trousdale, Pool House, Groby; Rev. F. H. Richardson, Belgrave; and Rev. Philip Deedes, Nether Broughton Rectory.

The following articles were exhibited:

By MR. WARTNABY: A Persian painted cloth representing an elephant ridden by a royal person, &c.

By the REV. J. H. HILL, F.S.A., Cranoe: Fossil remains and pottery, found in Burrow Hill.

By MR. WEATHERHEAD: The following curiosities explained by that gentleman thus:—“(1) A good example of a powder horn (portion of stag's antler), bearing date 1566, and the initials G.B. in an oval loop. Engraved on the antler is an escutcheon—Chevron, two stars of six points, heart, horse, cinquefoil, and crescent. Surrounding this escutcheon is a floriated device, with three loops. At the bottom is engraved a motto (in French) ENCOYRES PLUS, on a scroll.—(2) A Roman quern or hand-mill, formed out of a conglomerate (cemented by a siliceous paste) known to geologists as 'pudding stone.' It was discovered at Sutton, in the Isle of Ely. It is composed of consolidated gravels. In breccias the fragments are more or less angular; in conglomerates they are rounded and water-worn, and may vary from pebbles the size of a pea to boulders half a ton weight. This conglomerate is heavy, compact, and exceedingly hard, and admirably adapted for the purpose required, viz., pounding corn. Out of the various examples of Roman querns to be found in our Museum, I only trace one small portion, found in Buttlose Lane in 1859, formed out of this conglomerate; the usual stone employed being a kind of millstone grit. Two examples of sections are herewith exhibited, as illustrative of the beautiful polish which can be produced by the skilful art of the lapidary.”

By CAPTAIN WHITBY: A photograph of the Rathhaus of Wernigerode, at the foot of the Hartz mountains, belonging exclusively to the Counts of Stolberg.

The following remarks were read by Captain Whitby:—“I was looking the other day at a number of German photographic views, and among them was the one I now exhibit, which took my fancy so much that I wrote to a friend of mine, Dr. Jacobs, an antiquary, and librarian to the Counts of Stolberg, asking him to tell me something about the place. His remarks in reply to my inquiries I will read if I may be allowed to do so:—‘With all my heart I will try to accomplish your desires, giving some intelligence about our pretty Rathhaus, a building indeed of little, but very convenient and happily invented, proportions. Its former destination and name was that of theatrum or playhouse (in the older Saxon dialect, after a document of the year 1427, Selhûs). But the word playhouse is not to be understood as a stage for plays or public

spectacles, but as a privileged centre for all sorts and kinds of public business, and meetings in earnest, or joke, or pleasure. Of course there were to be found in this building shops to lay out clothes and other merchandise. Then there was a great hall, properly called Spêlsaal, where the Counts of Wernigerode, in the middle age, judged the causes between their knights and citizens, and where, especially on Shrove Tuesday, they banqueted and danced with them. Only two years before the extinction of this old family in 1429—the year in which succeeded the Counts of Stolberg, yet flourishing now-a-days—Count Henry of Wernigerode, the last of his line, made, on April 15th, 1427, in a document on parchment, yet existing, with his seal in yellow wax, and published by me in our Archæological Journal for 1868—a present of this house, with all its appurtenances, till then belonging to him, to the town and citizens of Wernigerode, with the only restriction that he, his heirs and successors, might make use of it for dancing with his knights and burghers, and arrange there the banquet in the time fasting (carnival, Shrove Tuesday), and to pronounce sentence in it. This same house was then the only privileged centre of public amusements, the only wine and beer cellar and tavern. Already, in the above-mentioned presenting document, from the year 1427, it is provided that the Spelhus might be enlarged and restored. This restoration, or rather fundamental reconstruction, took place between 1494 and 1498, and to the beginning of the fifteenth [sixteenth ?] century. The architect of this now far-renowned edifice was a simple citizen of Wernigerode, called Thomas Hillborch, known in the history of architecture only by this masterpiece. His name is only to be found on the Rathhaus itself, and then with his family in some documents of the archives of this town, and in my charterbook of the Abbey of Alsenberg.’” Captain Whitby concluded by urging the restoration of the Guild Hall, Leicester.

May 28th, 1877.

THE REV. J. H. HILL, F.S.A., in the chair.

The following antiquities, &c., were exhibited :

By MR. W. J. FREER: A medal about 150 years old, showing on one side the head of a droll, with cap and bells, which, turned upside down, represents the head of a cardinal, with the motto “Sapientes aliquando stulti.” On the reverse, the head of a Pontiff, which, turned over, represents the evil one, circumscribed by a Latin motto.

By the REV. J. H. HILL: Prints of two altar-tombs in Exton Church; a small pen and ink drawing by the exhibitor of Richard Beauchamp, Earl of Warwick, copied from the Cotton MS.; a large pen and ink drawing, by the same, of S. Paul preaching before the Britons, after Mortimer; 2 vols. folio, being MS. of Goscote Hundred, with additions by the Rev. J. H. Hill; 1 vol. folio, being MS. of the history of Exton, Rutlandshire, with illustrations, also by the Rev. J. H. Hill.

The following letter from Mr. North relative to the late Mr. James Thompson, F.R.H.S., was read by the Chairman:—

"To the Chairman of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

"2, SOUTHGROVE, VENTNOR, I.W.,
"24th May, 1877.

"MY DEAR SIR,

"I have just received intelligence of the death of our friend and colleague, Mr. James Thompson, one of the founders of this Society, and I feel sure the members present at the bi-monthly meeting on Monday next will not like to separate without expressing their sense of the great loss we have sustained by his decease.

"Mr. Thompson began his literary career as an antiquary about the year 1846, by the publication of *A Handbook of Leicester*, and by the insertion in the local newspaper, of which his father and himself were for many years the proprietors and responsible editors, of a series of *Passages from the History of Leicester*. The preparation of these articles—an occupation in every way congenial with his taste—apparently induced him to meditate the production of that larger work, which justly earned for him the title of 'The Historian of Leicester.'

"Although Mr. Thompson was a careful and diligent student of the pages of the previous writers of local history, he was no mere copyist, and was little likely to be satisfied with the production of a work which would be a mere reflex of the labours of his predecessors. So, after being engaged for nearly a year upon *The History of Leicester*, he, in the year 1847, determined to explore a mine of information which had been hitherto only partially worked by Nichols and others; he applied to the local authorities for permission, which he readily obtained, to inspect, peruse, and transcribe portions of the mass of local documents deposited in the so-called Muniment Room attached to the Mayor's Parlour at the Guild Hall. The sad state in which those valuable documents were found, and their great historical value, have been well stated by Mr. William Kelly, in the preface to his *Notices of Leicester*, and by Mr. Thompson himself. The immediate result of this inspection was the arrangement, and probably the preservation, by the former gentleman, of a long series of the Chamberlains' Accounts, now bound up in thirty-eight volumes, and now placed in the Accountant's Office; and by the latter, of an equally important series of Hall Papers, commencing with the year 1583, and which are carefully bound into upwards of twenty volumes, and preserved in the Town Museum Library. Apart from the good service thus rendered to the student of local history, it is evident that the value of Mr. Thompson's then proposed history of the town was much enhanced by the new historical matter he obtained from this source, and from other valuable collections (including those at Beaumanor) to which he had ready access. This history was published in the year 1849, and will long be an evidence of the painstaking and conscientious manner in which its author treated all historical questions brought under his notice.

"In 1854, or early in 1855, *The Midland Counties Historical Collector* was projected, and Mr. Thompson became its editor, although his name, so far as I remember, did not appear officially in connection with it. Two handsome volumes were issued from the press containing many articles of local interest, but the slight encouragement given to the publisher did not warrant its longer life.

"On the 10th of January, 1855, the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society was formed, and from its commencement until the time of his death, Mr. Thompson was one of its most constant and untiring supporters. Differing strongly as he did from many of us upon political and religious questions, such differences were never obtruded at our meetings, where his presence was always most welcome, as adding light and interest to our proceedings. His literary contributions to our *Transactions* have added much to the solid value of the volumes already published; they embrace a wide range of archæological and historical subjects, commencing with a paper on *The Early Heraldry of Leicestershire*, and terminating with one upon *The Rolls of the Mayors of Leicester*, read at a general meeting of the Society, held in Leicester, in the year 1874.

"Shortly after the formation of this Society, Mr. Thompson published his small, but handsomely printed work, on the *Castle of Leicester*, illustrated by two fine engravings, one showing the interior of the ancient hall of the Castle before its division into the present Assize Courts, and so showing the almost, if not quite, unique Norman wooden columns supporting the roof, and the other, the interior of the dungeon under the 'Mound' or 'Keep.' These engravings were from drawings made by his friend, and ours, the late Mr. Henry Goddard, whose talents as a careful and intelligent draughtsman deserved a wider reputation.

"After some years spent in the work of his laborious profession, during which time many articles of antiquarian interest appeared in the columns of the newspaper of which he was editor, Mr. Thompson again appeared as an author, by the issue, in 1867, of his *Essays on English Municipal History*,—a work throwing much light upon the origin and progress of municipal government, and illustrated by copious extracts from original documents then for the first time brought to light. In 1871 he published his supplementary volume of *The History of Leicester*, bringing his narrative down to the close of the eighteenth century; and, more recently, he prepared for the press and published a pocket edition of his *History*, with a continuation to the present time.

"It was not only in this way that Mr. Thompson claims the respect and admiration of all lovers of antiquity and of historical investigation: it is well-known to all of us how gallantly and persistently he fought for the preservation of every local archæological and architectural relic; witness his persevering efforts to prevent the destruction of Wyggeston's Hospital, and, what I believe to be the last antiquarian article from his pen, a strong protest, which appeared a few weeks ago in the local newspapers, against the destruction of the ancient Guild Hall, under whose roof you are now assembled.

"Mr. Thompson had for some years been one of the local secretaries of the Society of Antiquaries, and, more recently, he was elected a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

"I beg, Sir, if I may be allowed to do so by letter, to propose that the following be entered on the minutes of this Society:—'That the members of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society record, with deep regret, the death of Mr. James Thompson, and wish to express their thorough appreciation of the benefits conferred upon local antiquarian and historical research by his labours, extending over many years, and their high sense of the loss sustained by this and kindred societies by his decease.'

"I am, Dear Sir,

"Your faithful servant,

"THOMAS NORTH, F.S.A."

The above resolution being put before the meeting by the Chairman, and duly seconded, was carried unanimously.

THE ANNUAL SUMMER MEETING

for the year 1877 was held at Southwell, by invitation from the Lincoln Diocesan Architectural Society, on Wednesday and Thursday, the 13th and 14th of June.

June 13th, 1877.

After Morning Prayer in the Collegiate Church,

MR. EDWIN CHRISTIAN, Architect to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, stated that the substance of the history of Southwell Church had been admirably written and published by Mr. Dimmock, from a paper read before the Archæological Society, and his book might be obtained anywhere in the town. Further investigations had only verified his conclusions, and proved that he was right concerning nearly everything he had said of the history of the Minster. He (Mr. Christian) proposed as an architect to perambulate the church with those who might wish to accompany him, and to show them piece by piece the whole history of the structure. The lecturer then unrolled a plan of what he considered was the Norman Church. He was not prepared to say this was the original church, though he imagined it was so. This was the church in the main as at present seen, though there were parts no longer existing, but the foundations of which might be seen at the eastern end. Sufficient traces remained to show that the plan produced was absolutely correct as regarded the Norman arrangement. Mr. Christian then produced a second plan, showing the additions made to the church during the thirteenth century. There had been a chapel on the south side, which was now entirely destroyed, and was only attributable by conjecture to the period mentioned. A third plan showed the church in its present condition. Mr. Christian went on to remark that before an architect started upon his work, especially when he had got to deal with old buildings, he must necessarily clear his foundations, and though history was very scanty indeed in reference to any former church which had existed here, still there was something, and he had discovered something on Saturday last which had cleared his mind of a very great puzzle. He would be able to show them a part of a church which had preceded the present building, and the remains he had discovered showed very conclusively that in the church that existed before this there was some very beautiful work done. He could not pretend to fix the exact date, but it was very early work, and for his own part he fully believed it had been executed before the Conquest. Mr. Christian proceeded to read extracts which he had culled from an ancient book in the British Museum upon the

Minster by an historian of Southwell, from a work called the *Symposium* in the Minster library, and from the *Liber Albus*, or White Book. The last mentioned work contained the letter from Thomas II., Archbishop of York, who held that see from 1107 to 1114, addressed to his parishioners, and exhorting them to do all that was possible towards the completion of the church of S. Mary at Southwell. It would therefore seem clear—though one could not tell the date to within a few years—that the church was commenced at the beginning of the twelfth century. There was reason to believe that until its completion the work was carried on continuously. How long it occupied in building it was impossible to say, though there were evidences of the lapse of time. So large a building could not, of course, have been built within a very short period. In reference to the chapel, which it is supposed to have existed at the east end of the south transept, Mr. Christian said he could only imagine it was there. It could be seen that the building, whatever it was, was a very lofty one. It had been found unadvisable in order to trace the foundations of the chapel to disturb the pavement in the south aisle, which was in excellent condition. In the north aisle part of the pavement was already up, and it was no great labour to have the rest removed, showing the original foundation at the east end of the transept on that side. According to Mr. Dimmock there was an apse at the east end of the choir, but he (Mr. Christian) had clearly ascertained that this was not so, and the choir was square-headed. Before asking the congregation to go with him round the building, Mr. Christian said he would like to say a word or two with regard to the floor. It was hard to say what was its original level, though he had no doubt the present floor had remained in *statu quo*, the pavement being very ancient. It was generally supposed that the floors of old churches had sunk below the level of the churchyards simply because the latter had risen. No doubt this was so to a certain extent, but it could not be that churchyards had risen to such an extent as he had seen in some places. In his own mind he was tolerably certain that in old times the floors of churches were laid below the level of the adjacent ground, and so he believed it had been in the church at Southwell. No doubt a great deal of mischief had been done in modern churches by lifting up the floors. There were many churches in the country the floors of which rose or fell according to the level of the ground, notably in S. David's Cathedral, which was built into a hill, and where there was a strong slope from one end of the church to the other of three feet six inches. Here, as in many other cases, the bases of the pillars showed that they had been built upon a slope to suit the level of the ground.

The company present, headed by Mr. Christian, then proceeded to make a survey of the building. The original supporting wall of

one of the pillars at the east end of the north aisle was first shown. It is built at a considerable distance below the level of the present floor. Mr. Christian stated that he experienced some little difficulty here in reconciling the levels. The wall pointed out was manifestly of finished workmanship and intended for the public view, but it was at a considerably lower depth than the level of an adjacent chapel, three feet six inches below the level of the main body of the building. After inspecting a corresponding site in the south aisle, and the blocked up entrance to the supposed chapel at the east end of the south aisle, the attention of the company was called to the south front of the south transept, more especially in regard to the irregularities of the workmanship, which, though the general effect was good, might or might not have been mistakes on the part of the workmen, for the same thing was observable in the north transept. Attention was particularly called to the doorway in the south transept as being probably of original Norman work. In reference to this and the restored Norman windows in the south side of the building, Mr. Christian said how far more beautiful from an architectural point of view was the ancient Norman work than that put in at later times. Mr. Christian pointed out the levels of the roof, which he said he longed to see restored. In the west front Mr. Christian pointed out the irregularities in the levels of the strings, and that in the north tower the arches were intersected and in the other pointed. The parapets and the pinnacles above the towers were modern; what roof then had been above the central tower he could not say, but it was probably pyramidal in form. Large windows had been put into the towers during the fourteenth century near their bases, and was the cause of their being very much weakened. The present was not to be regarded as a correct restoration. The windows were no doubt exceedingly small, because the Normans, like all sensible people, likely to have plenty of strength near the ground, and they no doubt put in small windows to avoid grievous settlements. To the north of the present west entrance there had undoubtedly been a small doorway. Essex, who had considerable architectural knowledge, and had been largely quoted, said that there had been three doors on the west side of the Minster, but with all respect for accuracy he (Mr. Christian) did not believe it, having found nothing but traces of the smaller doorway. We had heard of a small door for the kitten and a large one for the cat, and probably the smaller door was used on unimportant occasions and the larger one on State occasions. In the course of the tour round the building Mr. Christian pointed out the original window at the west end of the north aisle from which the pattern of certain of the restored windows had been taken. The north porch, though considerably damaged by alterations, remained in nearly its original state. A curious feature was that there was a chimney connected with it which pointed to the idea that there had

been a living room above. The doors were also remarkable, being of solid oak, carved and sculptured into panels, instead of being framed, which was a very common thing. At the east end the lecturer pointed out how the appearance of the building would be improved by the substitution of a roof of pyramidal form for the present flat covering.

In the afternoon of the same day an

EXCURSION

was made to Thurgarton Priory, where the Venerable Archdeacon Trollope, F.S.A., discoursed on the history of the place.

In the evening a

PUBLIC MEETING

was held in the Assembly Rooms, under the Presidency of the Right Rev. The Lord Bishop of Lincoln, who, after some opening remarks, called upon Mr. M. H. BLOXAM, F.S.A., to read his Paper

ON THE ANCIENT BRITISH TRIBE OF THE CORITANI LINDUM CIVITAS CORITANORUM.

The Paper mentioned the fact that the early history of this island, both before and after the Roman invasion, was most important, but before the first expedition of Cæsar there were but few and indistinct glimpses of Britain, though they had now learnt from that emperor the names of certain British tribes. In the fiftieth year of the Christian era Scapula entered the country of the Coritani with a Roman army. In A.D. 120 the territory of the tribe of the Coritani extended on the east to the seaboard, from the west to the Humber, on the north and on the west to the Trent, from the Humber southwards to within a short distance of Warwick, and on the south to the river Welland and down to Warwick. That would comprise the whole of Lincoln and Rutland, part of Nottinghamshire and Warwickshire, and the whole of Leicestershire. The stronghold of Lincoln appeared to have occupied the site of the present castle, and was one of the principal cities of the tribe.

A Paper prepared by THE REV. PRECENTOR VENABLES of Lincoln,

ON CHARLES THE FIRST'S SURRENDER TO THE SCOTS AT SOUTHWELL, MAY, 1646,

was next read, in the writer's absence, by Canon Harvey.

THE REV. G. A. POOLE followed with an interesting Paper

ON THE MONUMENT OF BISHOP REMIGIUS.

Votes of thanks to the writers of these Papers (all of which have been printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1877) having been proposed and seconded :

THE RIGHT REV. THE CHAIRMAN, previous to submitting the proposition to the meeting, made some observations upon the value of archæological research, and spoke in favour of perpetuating relics of important and past events. He reminded the meeting that on the Castle Hill, at Nottingham, one of the noblest sites in the country, was to be put a magnificent museum of art, raised by the liberality of the municipality of Nottingham, assisted by Parliament. Mr. Hine, the architect, had mentioned to him that day that there was an interesting chamber there into which the Princess Anne was conducted when brought to Nottingham by a trooper, who afterwards became not only an ecclesiastic, but a most dignified ecclesiastic, and was made Bishop of London. When the princess's father heard his daughter had been received in Nottingham, he said he felt it was fatal, and soon afterwards he abdicated. These remains, his lordship said, were deserving of perpetuation, and if the voice of that Society went forth it might have the effect of preserving the records of a critical period in English history. His lordship also lamented the fact of Lincolnshire having no county history from an archæological point of view, saying the history was only fragmentary. The chief interest in the county was centered in the growing of turnips and the value of the soil. There was nothing whatever about their antiquities.

The votes were then unanimously accorded.

June 14th, 1877.

A large party assembled for the

SECOND EXCURSION,

to visit churches between Southwell and Sherwood Forest, namely, those at Hockerton, Maplebeck, Kneesal, Wellow, Perlethorpe, Ollerton, and Kirklington. At all these places Archdeacon Trollope, with his usual readiness and lucidity, explained the chief points of architectural and archæological interest.

THE ANNUAL DINNER

was laid in the Assembly Rooms at Six p.m., after which the

CLOSING PUBLIC MEETING

was held in the same Rooms, when

THE REV. F. H. SUTTON read a Paper on

RENAISSANCE GLASS,

and THE REV. R. H. WHITWORTH one on

THE DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF THE CHURCH
AND TOWN OF SOUTHWELL,

both of which Papers have been printed in the volume of the Associated Societies for the year 1877.

SIR CHARLES ANDERSON, BART. proposed a vote of thanks to the lecturers, which was seconded by the REV. H. SMITH.

HIS LORDSHIP observed that all present must have been not merely gratified, but also very much instructed. The Paper by the Rev. Frederick Sutton was most interesting. That gentleman was not a professed lecturer upon the subject, but himself a no mean proficient in the art of glass painting. As a subject for discussion, it was something very new. The Rev. R. H. Whitworth's Paper, with regard to this great church, was also very interesting. They ought not, perhaps, to go away from this room supposing that in former days everything was *couleur de rose* at Southwell. His own impression was that no great institution, whether in the Church or in the State, was ever injured, except by itself and by its internal corruptions, and the Church of England might learn a very important lesson from the Church of Southwell. First of all, we must be united among ourselves, and consider what our obligations were, and endeavour to do our duty in that state of life in which it has pleased God to call us. If we examined very minutely into the history of Southwell we should no doubt find that the canons and prebendaries were men of great piety, men of a royal hospitality, and men who exercised a domineering influence over this part of the country, this being the mother church of Nottinghamshire. At the festival of the Pentecost almost every parish was represented by those who were obliged to appear at what was practically the Cathedral Church before it had allowed itself to be sapped through its vitals by internal corruption, by luxury, and by self-indulgence. He agreed with Mr. Whitworth that it was a great calamity for Southwell to be withdrawn from episcopal jurisdiction. The indulgences received from Pope

Alexander in 1171 were the beginning of these calamities, and it was afterwards withdrawn from the superintendence of the Archbishop of York, who was then its diocesan. It then existed only in relation to the see of Rome, and what was the consequence? Mr. Whitworth had given most interesting records with regard to the intrusion of Italian clergymen into the livings of Southwell, there being three in succession within sixty years. Whether they were brought from a distance or whether they ever came it was impossible to say, but he fancied many of them were non-resident. The sheep of the English flock could not be fed by people speaking a foreign language and who never saw the parishes to which they were presented. He regretted that there were many people at the present time who threw discredit on the English Reformation. When we considered the records of the enormous abuses perpetrated in England by the Bishops of Rome, we ought to thank God for our emancipation from a thralldom which ground us, as it were, to the dust, and placed an iron yoke upon this Church. In regard to the future of the Church of Southwell, his lordship expressed a hope that it would learn a great deal of wisdom from the past. What did the sixteen canons do? They divided a period of four years by such an arrangement that each of them was resident for only three months of that time, and this they called residence. Could it be wondered that an institution which adopted such a process of evasion should have excited the cupidity of the rapacious? If the prebends were only resident for three months in four years, they might as well not have been resident at all and have disappeared. And they did disappear. They signed their own death-warrant. It was an act of spiritual and ecclesiastical *felo de se*. However, *de mortuis nil nisi bonum*. If there was to be a canonry again there must be very different practices. He trusted that the grammar school now vacant and decayed might rise again. The very thing that it was being endeavoured to do at Lincoln had been attempted at Southwell, viz., the establishment of a theological college; and if the prebends and canons of Southwell had been true to their obligations, no one could tell what would have been the result. Such glorious names as those of Andrews and of Sanderson had been presented as connected with this church, and doubtless Bishop Andrews in his admirable devotions prayed daily for Southwell. We might trust he was offering up prayers now, and that the spirits of the departed were praying for the future of this church. We did not pray for them, but they prayed for and with us. We could not but feel that they had the future very dear to their hearts, and the great benefit of such gatherings as these was the association in the spirit with the holy men and women who had lived in past ages. He believed that Southwell might now become what Henry VIII. and Cranmer wished it to become, the mother church of Nottinghamshire.

Might we not also believe that the great martyred Archbishop was praying for Southwell as well as Lancelot Andrews and Robert Sanderson? Let us believe it, for it was a pious belief, and let us also offer our prayers, knowing that the hearts of thousands and tens of thousands of persons were hoping for the future of Southwell, which he trusted might realize all that was great and glorious when it became, as he trusted it would become, the cathedral church in the cathedral city of a great, prosperous, loyal, learned, and religious diocese.

His Lordship then pronounced the benediction, and the conference ended.

July 30th, 1877.

THE REV. J. H. HILL, F.S.A., in the chair.

IT WAS RESOLVED:—That the thanks of this meeting be conveyed to Archdeacon Trollope for his cordiality and courtesy to the members of this Society during their recent pleasant and instructive visit to Southwell and the neighbourhood.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society:—R. G. Wood, Esq., F.S.A., F.R.G.S., Penrhos House, Rugby; Rev. H. Fisher, Rector of Higham, Hinckley.

The following articles were exhibited:

By the REV. J. H. HILL: Drawings made by Mr. Dibbin of the Roman tessellated pavement, found at Medbourne, the first station east of Ratae at the time of the Roman occupation; also a drawing of the figures S. Michael and the Dragon, which is on the tympanum of a Norman church doorway at Hallaton.

By MR. WEATHERHEAD: Several specimens of British Samian ware found in Leicester.

MR. H. A. DIBBIN contributed the following Notes on the

MEDBOURNE TESSELLATED PAVEMENT.

THE village of Medbourne, near Market Harborough, was the site of a Roman Station probably of importance, and together with its modern name is a remnant of the ancient MEDIUMBURY, and was no doubt so called from being half way between the great camps of Camoludunum or Colonia (Colchester) and Castra Deva (Chester), being about ninety miles from either. The traces of the grand military road which connected these two places—in a nearly perfect straight line—are still remarkably distinct, and this, the *Via Devana* (*i.e.* leading to the City of the Dee), may yet be travelled on for many miles, although for the greater part long