

It was moved by Earl Stanhope, seconded by J. F. Wadmore, Esq., and carried unanimously :—"That a special vote of thanks be accorded to Canon Scott Robertson for his past services as Honorary Editor of *Archæologia Cantiana*, and for his indefatigable exertions in promoting the welfare of the Society; and that the deep sense of the Society's regret, at his retirement from the Editorship, be recorded."

It was moved and carried :—"That the retiring members of Council and the Auditors be re-elected."

Ten candidates were elected members of the Society.

This concluded the business of the Meeting.

The company, numbering about two hundred, then proceeded to St. Mary's Church, in the town of Dover, where a paper on its architecture and history, prepared by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Puckle, was read by his Curate, the Rev. A. M. Collett.

Dover Priory was next visited, under the guidance of Dr. Astley.

On returning to the Town Hall the members were hospitably entertained, with light luncheon, by the Mayor.

In the afternoon a visit was paid to the Castle, where the General commanding the South-Eastern District (Lord William Seymour) received the company in the historic Banqueting Hall of the Keep. Colonel O'Brien, C.R.E., kindly acting as guide, led the members through the various apartments. The inclement state of the weather entirely prevented any examination of the exterior of the Keep, or other portions of the Castle.

Some time, however, was spent in the ancient church of St. Mary-in-the-Castle, which was admirably described by E. P. Loftus Brock, Esq., F.S.A. (Honorary Secretary of the British Archæological Association).

The Annual Dinner was served in the Connaught Hall, Dover, at 5.30 P.M. The Earl Stanhope presided, being supported by the Mayor and Lady Crundall, Major-General Lord William Seymour, Mr. and Mrs. Bugler, Lieut.-Colonel Hartley, Mr. Wadmore, Mr. Loftus Brock, the Honorary Secretary, and about eighty other ladies and gentlemen.

The various loyal and other toasts were proposed and responded to by the noble President, the Mayor, Lord William Seymour, Lieut.-Colonel Hartley, Rev. F. Babington Blogg, Mr. Wadmore, Mr. Bugler, Mr. G. E. Elliott, Mr. Alderman Fry, and Mr. B. Rosher.

The Evening Meeting took place in the Maison Dieu, now the Town Hall, the Earl Stanhope presiding.

Canon Puckle contributed a valuable paper on "Roman Dover," which was read in his absence by the Honorary Secretary, who followed with an address on the roads of the locality, and their relation to the discoveries which have been made around Dover.

Mr. Alderman Fry then gave an account of his recent excavations on the site of the destroyed church of St. Martin-le-Grand.

Mr. Loftus Brock read a paper on Whitfield Church, which he believes to contain Saxon work.

Votes of thanks were accorded for all these papers, on the proposition of the noble President, seconded by Lord William Seymour.

On Wednesday, July 20th, while awaiting the arrival of the morning trains, those members who were already in Dover assembled in the Antiquity Room of the Museum, when the Honorary Secretary gave a brief description of the more interesting objects in the Collection.

At 11.30 A.M., the entire company started in carriages for St. Radegund's Abbey, where, under the able leadership of the Precentor of Rochester Cathedral (the Rev. Grevile M. Livett), an hour was spent in hearing a minute description of the ruins, and examining the remaining foundations. Mr. John Sayer, of Charing, the owner of the property, was present to welcome the party.

Progress was then made to the Hall of the Co-operative Society at River, where luncheon was served. After luncheon, Temple Ewell Church was inspected under the guidance of the Vicar, the Rev. John Turnbull, M.A., some remarks being also offered by Mr. Loftus Brock.

Alkham Church was next visited, the Vicar, the Rev. J. C. W. Valpy, M.A., receiving the company. The Honorary Secretary read a paper on the church by the Rev. W. F. Hobson, M.A., whose sad death occurred a fortnight before the Meeting.

The Rev. G. M. Livett, who by the kindness of the Incumbent had been enabled to examine Alkham Church a few days previously, then drew attention to the features which marked its growth. The double respond in the arcade of the south aisle appeared to him, and to Mr. Brock, to point, not to a division of the church between the canons of St. Radegund's and the parishioners of Alkham, but merely to an eastward addition made to the original building, when the south aisle and arcade were built. Mr. Livett hopes to be able at some future date to contribute to *Archæologia Cantiana* a paper on this church.

The church of Capel-le-Ferne was the last place visited. This also was described by the Rev. G. M. Livett, who has supplied the following short account for insertion here:—

The church consists of a long, aisle-less nave, and square-ended chancel, with a western tower and a southern porch. The tower has been rebuilt quite recently. The original tower-arch and western doorway, carefully preserved, shew that the tower was an addition to the church, in the Transition-Norman Period. The porch was a later addition. The walls of the nave and chancel, up to a certain height, are those of the first stone-church, built probably before or about A.D. 1100. The uppermost three or four feet of the walls were added to support a new roof, in the fourteenth century. Only one original Norman window remains; it is in the north wall of the nave. Later windows have replaced those of the chancel and south wall of the nave. The principal feature of interest in the church is the arcade, of three arches, which supports the east wall of the nave, and serves for a chancel-screen. This was inserted in the fourteenth century, and no doubt succeeded a narrow Norman chancel-arch, in

the same position. The Norman material is chiefly Caen-stone; that of the screen-arcade and of the later windows is Kentish rag. Between the heads of the arches of the arcade there are grotesque corbel-heads, which at one time carried the brackets of a wooden rood-loft. Above the central arch, standing on the level of the rood-loft, is a round-arched opening in the wall, which at first sight might be taken for Norman work. A closer examination proves that the wall was pierced and the arch inserted when the arcade was made. This upper arch is of two orders; the outer order plain-chamfered; the inner order hollow-chamfered; both chamfers being dagger-stopped. The outer order is all of chalk, once painted. The jambs of the inner order are of Caen-stone, the squared blocks clearly shewing the diagonal axe-marks, except on the hollow chamfer. They must have come from the destroyed Norman chancel-arch. These jambs rest upon rude bases of Kentish rag. The voussours likewise are of Kentish rag, excepting the three voussours at the crown, which are of re-used Caen-stone. The purpose of this arch, in the minds of the builders, is obvious: it was meant to form a frame, so to speak, for the rood, its width and consequent round head being necessary to allow room for the figures of St. John and the Virgin, one on each side of the rood. The total height of the opening is 6 feet; the span is $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet.

A horizontal line drawn just above the head of the Norman window in the north wall of the nave would give the height of the Norman interior. Continued eastwards this line would run just under a singular triangular window at the east end of the wall, made when the wall was raised. The purpose of this window was to give light to the gospeller reading from the rood-loft. The whole of these re-arrangements were probably carried out at one and the same time. Inside the south door there is something in the wall which possibly marks the position of a stoup for holy water. In the chancel are a curious sedile and a piscina.

On the outside, the lines which mark the raising of the walls are clearly visible, all round the building. The original quoins are instructive: the lower quoin-stones are huge blocks of a purple-coloured ferruginous sandstone, while above them appear well-squared and properly-faced Caen-stone quoins. The change of material does not necessarily mean difference of date; it more probably marks the introduction of the Caen-stone into the country. The sandstone seems to have been brought over from the coast near Hastings. The flint-walling is characteristic.

On the proposition of W. H. B. Rosher, Esq., a cordial vote of thanks was given to Mr. George Payne for the admirable arrangements he had made for the instruction, pleasure, and comfort of members during the Meeting, to the Rev. G. M. Livett for his interesting descriptions, and to the Rev. Waterman Gardner-Waterman for his excellent arrangements connected with the carriages.

A charming drive to Dover, along the Folkestone road, within view of the Channel, brought the Annual Meeting of 1892 to a pleasant termination.

The Council met on September 29th, 1892, in the Society's Rooms at the Maidstone Museum. The Earl Stanhope presided, and nine members attended.

The following votes of thanks, in connection with the Dover Meeting, were unanimously passed:—

To the Mayor and Corporation of Dover, for the use of their Municipal Buildings.