

members of the Society to enable the forms which will be supplied them to be filled in, with a view to the returns being finally printed in our *Archæologia*. The Council has approved of the scheme, and it is earnestly hoped that by drawing special attention to these landmarks of Kentish History that it may be a means to their preservation. Some very interesting discoveries have been made in the county during the past twelve months illustrative of the Romano-British period, which will be recorded in our forthcoming Volume. Important researches are also being conducted at Boxley Abbey by Major Best, the owner of the property, particulars of which, when completed, will be prepared for our Transactions.

In assembling at Deal this year for the first time, the Council feel confident that the members will thoroughly enjoy their two days' sojourn in a district so full of archæological interest.

The Rev. J. A. Boodle moved: "That the Report as read be adopted." This was seconded by J. F. Wadmore, Esq., and carried unanimously.

It was moved by the Rev. A. J. Pearman, seconded by George Dowker, Esq., and carried, "That the retiring Auditors be re-elected for the ensuing year."

It was moved by E. W. Fry, Esq., seconded by T. F. Peacock, Esq., and carried, "That the six retiring Members of the Council be re-elected."

The following were elected to Membership: The Rev. J. Marling Apperly, C. W. Thompson, Esq., Miss Stokes, Alderman Cottew, and Miss A. J. Chambers.

The Business being concluded, progress was made to Deal Castle, which, by the courtesy of Lord Herschell, G.C.B., etc., was opened for the Society's inspection. W. L. Rutton, Esq., F.S.A., kindly read a Paper on the history of the fortress, after which the company perambulated the interior and the ramparts, subsequently proceeding in carriages to Betteshanger, the seat of Lord Northbourne, who had most kindly invited the members to partake of light luncheon. During the repast the noble President, on behalf of the Society, cordially thanked Lord Northbourne for his generous hospitality.

After luncheon the company divided into parties, which were conducted over the house by Lord and Lady Northbourne, Miss James, and his Lordship's Land Agent. Ample time was allowed for those who wished to pay an informal visit to Betteshanger Church, which stands within the park.

Ash Church was next visited, under the kindly guidance of the Vicar, the Rev. T. S. Woods, M.A., who read a Paper on its history. After an examination had been made of the many fine monuments the Church contains, the party returned viâ Sandwich to Deal, where

the Annual Dinner took place in St. George's Hall. The Earl Stanhope presided, and was supported by the Worshipful the Mayor, the Rev. A. J. Pearman, W. H. Burch Rosher, Esq. and Mrs. Burch Rosher, Alderman Cottew, the Rev. T. S. and Mrs. Frampton, R. Cooke, Esq., the Honorary Secretary and Mrs. George Payne, and about fifty other ladies and gentlemen.

Dinner being concluded, the noble President was obliged to leave in order to catch the train, having previously requested the Mayor to take his place at the head of the table.

The usual loyal and other toasts were proposed or responded to by the Mayor, the Rev. A. J. Pearman, Mr. Burch Rosher, Mr. G. Norman, and the Honorary Secretary.

The Evening Meeting took place at the Town Hall, Mr. Burch Rosher occupying the Chair. A valuable Paper was read by George Dowker, Esq., F.G.S., on "Deal and its Environs," and the Rev. T. S. Frampton, B.C.L., M.A., F.S.A., followed with "The Journal of a Bailiff from Sandwich to Yarmouth," which proved very interesting and amusing. Mr. Dunn kindly exhibited at the Meeting a few Anglo-Saxon antiquities which had recently been discovered in graves at Deal. Mr. Dowker alluded to these in his Paper, and the Honorary Secretary subsequently offered a few remarks upon them.

With a vote of thanks to the Chairman the Meeting terminated.

On Thursday the 28th of July the members were conveyed in carriages from Deal Railway Station to Walmer Castle, which was thrown open to the Society by the courtesy of the Marquess of Salisbury, K.G., etc., Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports. When all had passed through the portal Mr. Rutton read a Paper on its history. Small parties were afterwards conducted through the various apartments by the official guide, who described with a stentorian voice the objects of National interest it contains.

After a long and profitable time had been spent there progress was made to St. Margaret's-at-Cliffe, where luncheon was partaken of at the hotel.

After luncheon the company proceeded to the Church, where the Rev. G. M. Livett, Vicar of Wateringbury, gave an interesting address on its architectural history. While this was being listened to a thunderstorm passed over the immediate locality, which prevented the company from leaving the Church for upwards of an hour, and perhaps fortunately, as it gave Mr. Livett an opportunity of doing full justice to this gem of Kentish Churches.

The delay thus occasioned frustrated the intended visit to East Langdon Church for the purpose of seeing there the Mediaeval Embroidered Cope of the fourteenth century, which is described in *Archæologia Cantiana*, Vol. XI., pp. 10, 222.

When the rain had ceased the party returned to Walmer, where they inspected what remains of the ancient Parish Church, which has been converted into a mortuary chapel. The Vicar, the Rev. H. Venn, M.A., welcomed the members to Walmer, after which George Patrick, Esq., A.R.I.B.A., Honorary Secretary of the British Archæological Association, kindly gave a brief account of the history of the fabric, and described the alterations which were carried out according to his designs.

The day's proceedings were brought to a very pleasant termination by Mr. and Mrs. Burch Rosher inviting the company to afternoon tea at their residence, Wigmore, Walmer. The excessive rain in the early part of the afternoon prevented the garden from being used, which seriously interfered with the comfort of the host and hostess, but ample provision was made for their numerous guests in the house. Before leaving the Rev. Dr. Haslewood called for thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Burch Rosher for their bountiful hospitality and kindly courtesy, which was responded to with hearty applause by every one present. Mr. Burch Rosher having replied in the kindest terms, the company returned to Deal in time for the train, bringing satisfactorily to a close the Annual Meeting of 1898.

The laborious task of conducting the carriage arrangements on both days was kindly and most efficiently carried out by the Rev. Waterman Gardner-Waterman, M.A.

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The Council met on the 30th of September at the Bridge Chambers, Rochester, by permission of the Bridge Wardens. There were four members present, presided over by Samuel Mercer, Esq. As several members were ill, and others away from home, there was not a *quorum*, hence ordinary business only was transacted.

The following votes of thanks in connection with the Deal Meeting were accorded:—

To the Mayor and Corporation of Deal for the use of the Town Hall; to the Lord Herschell for permission to view Deal Castle; to the Marquess of Salisbury for permission to view Walmer Castle; to the Lord Northbourne for generous hospitality and kindness at Betteshanger; to W. L. Rutton, Esq., the Rev. T. S.