

It was moved by H. B. Mackeson, Esq., J.P., seconded by Frederick W. Porter, Esq., J.P., and carried:—

“That George Wilks, Esq., Town Clerk of Hythe, be elected a member of the Council, and that the retiring members of Council and the Auditors be re-elected.”

It was moved by G. E. Hannam, Esq., J.P., seconded by the Venerable B. F. Smith, Archdeacon of Maidstone, and carried:—

“That the amount of Composition for Life Membership shall henceforth be £6; and that in Rule 9 this sum be substituted for £5.”

It was moved by the Lord Bishop of Dover, seconded by the Rev. Canon Scott Robertson, and carried:—

“That a General Index to the Volumes of ARCHÆOLOGIA CANTIANA shall be prepared; and that this shall be issued (during the year 1890, if possible) to all members of the Society, like an ordinary volume of Archæologia Cantiana.”

Seventeen candidates were elected members of the Society.

This concluded the business of the Meeting, and the Members then proceeded to the Church of St. Leonard, Hythe, where they were received by the Rev. T. Guppy Hall, the vicar, who described the works of restoration carried out by Mr. G. E. Street, and lately by Mr. Pearson. The Vicar also kindly led the way to the vaulted “Processional Way” beneath the East end of the chancel, and commented upon the collection of bones stored therein.

A paper written by Mr. A. Randall Davis, descriptive of the architecture of Hythe Church, and printed by the kindness of Mr. G. Wilks, was placed in the hands of all members before they visited the Church.

Hired carriages, seating 132 persons, together with private carriages of members and their friends, then conveyed the assembly to LYMNE CHURCH of St. Stephen, where the Rev. H. B. Biron welcomed the Society, and the Rev. Canon Scott Robertson described the Church.*

The ARCHDEACON’S HOUSE, or “*Lymne Castle*,” now a farmhouse, was next visited.

Assembling on the hill top, south west of Lymne Castle, the company looked down upon the relics of the ruins of the Roman CASTRUM, known as “*STUDFALL CASTLE*,” of which a descriptive history was given by Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A.† The recent heavy showers rendered it undesirable to descend the grassy slope to the Ruins of the Castrum; but the Secretary had, with the assistance of Mr. George Dowker and Mr. Biron, caused coloured flags to be placed upon the sites of the Decuman and Postern Gates, which could therefore be discerned from above.

At ALDINGTON CHURCH, dedicated to St. Martin, the members were received by the rector, the Rev. G. J. Blomfield, who described his restoration of the fabric, and drew attention to the Saxon remains at the south-west corner of the nave’s south aisle, and in the north wall of the nave.

* His Paper is printed in this volume.

† This is printed on pages 41-45.

ALDINGTON MANOR farmhouse was also visited, and its ancient dining-hall was traced and shewn by the Honorary Secretary, who led the members into the upper rooms now formed in its roof.

The ANNUAL DINNER was served, in the Town Hall at Hythe, at 5 p.m. Seventy-seven sat down, and Canon Scott Robertson presided. The other speakers, for the several toasts, were Rev. T. G. Hall, Rev. F. T. Scott, Lewis Levy, Esq. (Ex-Mayor of Rochester), C. Roach Smith, Esq., H. B. Mackeson, Esq., J. F. Wadmore, Esq., and George Wilks, Esq.

The EVENING MEETING was held in the *Sessions House* at Hythe, H. B. Mackeson, Esq., J.P., presiding. Papers were read on *Hythe: its Records and Church* (by George Wilks, Esq., Town Clerk), and on *The River Limen* (by George Dowker, Esq.). The latter elicited opposing criticism from C. Roach Smith, Esq., Major George Lambert, F.S.A., and Canon Scott Robertson.

After the Meeting, several members availed themselves of Mr. F. W. Porter's invitation to visit his house, Moyle Tower, into which he has built interesting carvings from old Clothworkers' Hall (by Grinling Gibbons probably), handsome doorcases and doors from the Duke of Northumberland's old House, at Charing Cross, recently demolished, and a billiard-room, 40 feet by 20 by 25, fitted with a carved wood ceiling, mantelpiece, and paintings from an old house at Amsterdam.

On THURSDAY, August 2nd, 1888, the members left Hythe Station at 10.30 A.M. (in hired carriages seating 146 persons, and in private carriages), and proceeded to CHERITON CHURCH, where the Rev. A. Hall-Hall (rector) welcomed them, and Canon Scott Robertson described the building.*

At NEWINGTON CHURCH, the Rev. L. Buckwell (vicar) welcomed the Society, and Canon Scott Robertson acted as *cicerone*.

At LYMINGE CHURCH, the rector, the Rev. Canon R. C. Jenkins, from the western tower arch, read a paper† descriptive of the Roman Basilica which was here used as a Saxon Church, of which the foundations are preserved and are visible, under iron gratings in some places, in the churchyard. A large number of rubbings from Kentish Monumental Brasses were displayed in the north aisle of the church.

Canon Jenkins and his daughters most hospitably entertained more than 150 of the company at Luncheon in the Rectory. In the Library Canon Jenkins had arranged many objects, of interest to antiquaries, and there the Society's thanks were gratefully tendered to the Canon by Mr. C. Roach Smith.

At SALTWOOD Castle the members were received by Mrs. Deedes (widow of the late William Deedes, Esq., M.P., who restored the Gatehouse as a residence), who was accompanied by Wilfred Cripps, Esq., C.B., J.P., and his brother-in-law Count Bismarck.

* His Paper is printed in this volume.

† Canon Jenkins's Paper will be found in this volume at pages 46-54.

The History and Plan of the Castle were elucidated by Canon Scott Robertson, who pointed out the two Norman towers, and drew attention, for the first time, to the site of the Archbishop's Banqueting Hall, running east and west, with its porch, and its hearth, both on the north side, and the staircases (at the west, or dais, end) which led down to the cellar and up to the Lord's Withdrawing room, both of which run north and south (one above the other). The cellar has windows in its west and north walls.

SALTWOOD CHURCH, the last place visited, was described by Canon Scott Robertson.*

The Council met on the 27th of September 1888 at Deal Castle, by invitation from the Earl Sydney. Twelve members were present, the Earl Sydney presiding.

The Secretary reported that through the great kindness of the Corporation of Hythe and of Mr. George Wilks, the actual local expenses of the Annual Meeting in Hythe had been almost *nil*. From the proceeds of 45 Visitors' tickets sold there was a surplus of £3 in hand which had been paid in to the Bankers to the Society's credit. Seldom, if ever, has the Society been so generously assisted by the local authorities and friends, at an Annual Meeting.

Thanks were voted to Mr. George Wilks and Mr. H. B. Mackeson for their valuable assistance at that Annual Meeting. To their kindly help the Society's being saved from expense was mainly due.

Thanks were also voted to George Payne, Esq., and the Rev. W. Gardner Waterman, for superintending carriage arrangements; to Canon Jenkins for great hospitality at Lyminge Rectory, to Mrs. Deedes for admission to Saltwood Castle, and to Messrs. Davis, T. G. Hall; H. B. Biron; G. J. Blomfield; F. W. Porter; A. Hall-Hall; and L. Buckwell for help or welcome at the places visited.

Dartford was suggested as the place of Meeting for 1889.

Canon Scott Robertson was elected a Trustee (to be nominated by our Society) under the Charity Commissioners' new scheme for the management of the property of the dissolved Corporation of Fordwich.

Canon Scott Robertson, and Mr. A. A. Arnold of Rochester, were chosen as the Society's delegates to a Conference of Archæological Societies to be held at Burlington House, under the auspices of the Society of Antiquaries.

Deliberation was held respecting the compilation of the General Index.

The question of reprinting Volume I. of *Archæologia Cantiana* was discussed, and the Council declined to undertake that work.

With thanks to Lord and Lady Sydney for their kindly hospitality the meeting ended.

* His Paper will be found commencing on p. 421.

The Council met on the 29th December 1888 at the Society's Rooms in Maidstone Museum. Nine members of Council attended, and G. M. Arnold, Esq., was voted into the Chair.

Mr. George Payne attended on behalf of the Honorary Secretary with the Minute-book and necessary papers, and explained that Canon Scott Robertson was suffering from the effects of a slight stroke of paralysis, which came upon him ten days before, and that he would be confined to his bed for many weeks to come.

The Council received this intelligence with much sorrow, and requested Mr. Payne to act temporarily as Secretary, and to convey to Canon Scott Robertson the assurance of the deep sympathy of every member.

A vote of condolence with Lady Caroline Stirling, on the death of her husband Sir Walter Stirling, one of the Society's oldest and most active Vice-Presidents, was passed.

Thanks were voted to Mr. Samuel Mercer for his good offices in procuring the repair and painting of the rooms hired by the Society from the Maidstone Museum Committee.

Consideration of the compilation of the General Index was postponed on account of the illness of the Honorary Secretary.

Three gentlemen were elected members of the Society.

Mention was made of the Cruciform mass of masonry within the Roman Castrum at Richborough, and it was suggested that the Public might be invited to assist in once for all exploring it.

The Council met in London on the 21st of June 1889 at the house of the noble President. Fourteen members attended, and the Earl Sydney presided.

The Programme of the Annual Meeting, to be held at Dartford, was discussed, and finally settled.

It was resolved that this Society shall be enrolled among the Societies in Union, under the Scheme for the closer Union of all British Archæological Societies, settled at a Conference of Delegates held at Burlington House.

The Council addressed to the Dean and Chapter of Rochester a protest against Mr. Pearson's proposal to demolish the ancient western screen of the choir, and to replace it by a new screen of open ironwork. [*The Dean and Chapter rejected Mr. Pearson's scheme in this particular.*]

It was resolved that Mr. William Brigg (B.A. of Magdalen College, Cambridge) should be employed to compile the General Index to *Archæologia Cantiana*.

Canon Scott Robertson stated to the Council that as his health is now precarious, and his physical powers are still feeble, he would desire to be relieved from the duties of Honorary Secretary, although he will endeavour to continue his work as Honorary Editor.

The Council, upon his suggestion, resolved to recommend to the General Meeting that Mr. George Payne, F.S.A., F.L.S., a member

of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries, shall be requested to become Honorary Secretary of the Society, and that Canon Scott Robertson should be permanently retained upon the Council by being elected a Vice-President of the Society.

Fourteen gentlemen were elected members of the Society.

With a vote of thanks to the noble President for his kindness in receiving the Council and for his hospitality the meeting ended.

The ANNUAL MEETING was commenced, at Dartford, on Wednesday, July 31, 1889.

At the BUSINESS MEETING, held at 10 A.M. in the Hall of the Dartford Conservative Club, Colonel Edwin Hughes, M.P. for Woolwich, presided.

Canon SCOTT ROBERTSON read the Annual Report as follows:—

REPORT.

The 32nd Annual Report of the Kent Archæological Society is presented in the ancient town of Dartford, which was visited by the Society 20 years ago.

As the Society grows in years it is inevitable that the older members and familiar helpers pass away. As last year we missed the genial presence of Mr. Robert Furlley, the Historian of the Weald of Kent, so this year we mourn the loss of one of our oldest Vice-Presidents, Sir Walter Stirling.

As he was always ready with some quaint speech, or genial witticism, his absence will be generally felt, and regretted.

The Society's position is flourishing as ever; and at the present moment there is a large balance to its credit in its Bankers' books, slightly exceeding £700.

This sum would enable the 18th Volume of *Archæologia Cantiana* to be issued in the autumn of the present year, and would justify the determination to bring out a General Index to all the Volumes issued, to which the Society agreed at our last annual meeting.

The 18th Volume *will* (it is hoped) be issued this autumn, and a competent compiler, a graduate of Cambridge University, had been found for the Index. The set of Volumes was in his hands, and he was commencing the work, when his health broke down; and within the last few days notice has been received that he must return to the Society the set of books. Thus, although the money is duly prepared, the worker has again to be sought for. This unfortunate delay is much to be regretted, but immediate steps will be taken for obtaining another competent compiler.

During the year 1888 the Society's income amounted to £567 : 12 : 11; its expenditure during 1888 was only £224 : 15 : 0 in addition to £40 invested in Consols. Of this £224 : 15 : 0, the sum of £50 is the fixed annual payment for our Rooms at Maidstone Museum, and for our Curator there; £40 : 14 : 0 defrayed the remaining cost of Volume XVII.; £100 went to the printers on account of the cost of Volume XVIII., which is now in preparation.

During the past 12 months 34 members have joined the Society, and several await election at your hands to-day.

A movement for the closer union of all Archæological Societies has been adopted and fostered by the Society of Antiquaries of London, and your Council has given in the adhesion of this Society. A Congress was held at Burlington House, to which your Society sent delegates. It is hoped that good results may flow from this movement.

One thing greatly spoken of at the Congress, and held up by the Society of Antiquaries as a model to be imitated in every county, was a map of Kent marked with signs of discoveries of British, Roman, and Saxon remains, and this map was made by our active colleague Mr. George Payne, F.S.A.

During the year interesting discoveries have been made in the Cathedrals at Canterbury and at Rochester, descriptions of which may be looked for in the 18th Volume of our *Archæologia*.

The Council rejoice to know that through the active exertions of the Archdeacon of Rochester, who invoked and received our Council's aid and support, plans for the destruction of the Pulpitum, or Western Screen, of the choir of Rochester Cathedral have been frustrated, and the Screen has been preserved.

The Council being requested to relieve the Honorary Secretary of the Secretarial duties which he has discharged for the past 17 years, rejoice to be able to recommend to the Society one so able, so active, and so well known as Mr. George Payne.

G. E. HANNAM, Esq., J.P., moved, and the Rev. J. A. BOODLE (Vicar of Boughton Blean) seconded the first resolution, which was carried unanimously, "*That the Report as read be adopted.*"

It was moved by Canon SCOTT ROBERTSON, seconded by F. F. GRAUD, Esq., Town Clerk of Faversham, and carried unanimously:—" *That George Payne, Esq., F.S.A., F.L.S., be appointed Honorary Secretary (the duties of Honorary Editor being separated from that office).*"

It was moved by GEORGE PAYNE, Esq., F.S.A.; seconded by FLAXMAN C. J. SPURRELL, Esq., and carried unanimously:—" *That the Archdeacon of Maidstone (Ven. B. F. Smith), the Archdeacon of Rochester (Ven. H. Cheetham), and the Rev. Canon W. A. Scott Robertson, be elected Vice-Presidents of the Society.*"

It was moved by the Rev. C. H. BANNING (Vicar of Strood), seconded by JOHN WOOD, Esq., of Hampton House, Chatham, and carried unanimously, "*That Herbert Hordern, Esq., and Captain Chas. F. Hooper, J.P., be elected Auditors. That Cecil Brent, Esq., be elected Honorary Secretary for Bromley district. That R. W. Craddock, Esq., be elected Honorary Secretary for Dartford and Belvedere district. That the thanks of the Society be given to J. W. Ilott, Esq., and to F. C. J. Spurrell, Esq., for their long-continued services as Local Secretaries for Bromley and Dartford respectively.*"

G. E. HANNAM, Esq., J.P., moved, and the Rev. C. H. BANNING seconded an additional Resolution, "*That the Society's hearty thanks be conveyed to Canon Scott Robertson for his able services during the past 17 years, and that the Council be asked to consider what special form of acknowledgment should be offered to him.*"

Nine persons were elected members of the Society.

With thanks to Colonel Edwin Hughes, M.P., for presiding, this Business Meeting terminated.

At DARTFORD CHURCH the Members were welcomed by the Vicar, Rev. Alan H. Watts, and the building was described by Canon Scott Robertson.

CRAYFORD CHURCH was described by Major Alfred Heales, F.S.A.

At MAY PLACE in Crayford Mr. and Mrs. Edward Horner hospitably entertained the members at Luncheon. The house was described by Flaxman C. J. Spurrell, Esq., who also described BRITH CHURCH, which was the last place visited this day.

The ANNUAL DINNER was held at the Bull Hotel, Dartford,

at 5.15. The ARCHDEACON OF MAIDSTONE presided, and in addition to him, the speakers to various toasts were Colonel E. Hughes, M.P., Rev. A. H. Watts, Canon Scott Robertson, Lewis Levy, Esq., W. Cracroft Fooks, Esq., Q.C.; G. E. Hannam, Esq., J.P., and Flaxman C. J. Spurrell, Esq.

The EVENING MEETING was held in the Hall of Dartford Conservative Club, at 7.30 P.M., G. E. Hannam, Esq., J.P. presiding.

Papers were read upon *Roman and Saxon Remains, and Deneholes, discovered in Dartford District*, by Flaxman C. J. Spurrell, Esq., who illustrated his lectures with a multitude of coloured drawings and plans.

On Thursday, August 1st, 1889, the members started at 10 A.M. from Dartford railway station, and at BEXLEY CHURCH were received by the curate, the Rev. C. G. M. Shaw (Professor Fuller, the Vicar, being in Switzerland for his holiday), and the edifice and its memorial monuments and hatchments were described by Canon Scott Robertson.

At HALL PLACE, in Bexley, which was kindly opened to the Society by William Radford, Esq., the tenant, Canon Scott Robertson drew attention to the chief points of interest.

Luncheon was served as 12.45 in Bexley National Schools, by kind permission of the School Managers.

At Foot's Cray Church, the rector, the Rev. C. Birch, welcomed the members and described the edifice.

At ST. PAUL[INUS]'S CRAY CHURCH the members were welcomed by the Rev. G. L. Langdon, and the building was described by Major Alfred Heales, F.S.A., who subsequently led the assembly to his residence, "Leasons," where he and Mrs. Heales hospitably entertained the members with tea, fruit, etc. The Tyrolese Singers had been engaged to enliven the proceedings, and Major Heales also exhibited in his Library a large number of ecclesiastical ornaments and vessels (chiefly Continental) of antiquity. Thanks were cordially given to Major and Mrs. Heales for their kindly hospitality.

ST. MARY CRAY CHURCH was the last place visited. It was briefly described by Canon Scott Robertson.

The Council met, at Deal Castle, on September 28th, 1889, the Earl Sydney presiding. Eight members of Council were present.

It was unanimously resolved to ask Mr. George Payne to act as Chief Curator of the Society's collection at Maidstone Museum, and to assign to him £50 per annum for so doing. Mr. Payne agreed to attend at the Society's rooms every Thursday from 12 o'clock until 5. It was also resolved that a monthly meeting of members should be held at the Society's rooms (in Maidstone Museum) on the last Thursday in each month, at 4 p.m.

The Rev. T. S. Frampton was elected to a seat on the Council, vacated by Mr. Payne's accession to office, as Hon. Secretary.