

NINTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BURTON-ON-TRENT

Natural History and Archaeological

SOCIETY

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1884.

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BURTON-ON-TRENT:  
JOHN C. PERFECT, MACHINE PRINTER, STATION STREET.

1885.

# OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY,

1885.

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ALL OFFICERS EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

## Collector:

CHARLES ROBERTS, MESSRS. T. ROBINSON & Co., UNION STREET.

## ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1885.

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The Ninth Annual General Meeting was held in the Society's Rooms, Horninglow Street, on Tuesday, March 17th, 1885.

The President being absent, the Revd. C. F. Thornewill, as Vice President, took the Chair with the room well filled; members showing a marked interest in the official working of the Society.

The Officers of the Society for the current year were unanimously elected: the Reports of the Committee, Sub-committee and Sections, and the Balance Sheet were read and adopted. Several important changes in the Rules were proposed and, after considerable discussion, were almost unanimously adopted.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee, in drawing up the report of the proceedings of the Society for the Ninth Session, have decided to recommend a most important change in the constitution of the Society, and they trust that, as the alteration appears to them to be the most suitable way to increase the activity of the Society and the interest of Members, and for other reasons to be a thoroughly desirable change, this meeting will support the resolutions to be brought forward embodying the proposal.

In following out the recommendations as to evening meetings, proposed at the last Annual Meeting, we are pleased to note that certain members of the Society have been doing most useful work, and that the coming summer will in all probability see the members of the different Sections more actively employed than has hitherto been the case. As will be seen by the Secretaries' Reports on Sectional work, the Entomological Section have been most active, and although the number of its members is not large, they have been most regular in their attendance at the evening meetings.

The GEOLOGICAL SECTION, which has a very fair number of members, had two well attended meetings early in the Session, and from the number of points of interest in the district, mentioned by Messrs. C. O'Sullivan and Horace T. Brown as deserving special attention from Members of this Section, we look forward to active field work during the Summer.

Mr. Brown's second Paper was on the Rhætic Beds: the following is a brief abstract:—

The Rhætic Beds are true passage beds between the New Red Marl and the overlying Lias, and link the two formations together without any stratigraphical or palæontological break. After referring to the recognition of these beds in England by the late Dr. Wright, of Cheltenham, and Mr. Moore, and their correlation with certain Alpine strata, the author proceeded to describe some detached portions or outliers of the Rhætic Beds, which occur in Needwood Forest. These were shown to consist of a thick mass of light green marls overlaid by black shales, resembling somewhat in appearance coal measure shale. A complete section of the Rhætic Bed showing the junction with the overlying and underlying formations at Wigston, near Leicester, was then described and the points of resemblance to the Needwood section were dwelt upon. The author concluded with some remarks upon the physical conditions under which the Rhætic Beds were deposited, and to the undue change which must have attended the deposition of certain beds in the Wigston district.

During the Summer of 1864, the only Excursion of much interest to members of this section was the one to Cresswell Crags, where the Dolomite Beds and Bone Caves gave ample occupation to the one or two Geologists present. The Dolomite question, as explained by Mr. Henry Louis to the members of this Society in his most interesting Paper some years back, is one of great practical interest, and as being still but partly solved, some of the members of our section are at work upon it, fortunately a repetition of the Excursion to Cresswell is promised, and we hope a good party will avail themselves of this opportunity.

During the Darley Dale Excursion some of the members found interesting sections of the recent deposits of moorland upon the rough gritstone of East Moor.

Three other evenings set apart for members of this section were not utilized, the Secretary and one Member, in each case, being alone, so that it is evident that unless meetings are called for some special object, members do not care to meet in the Society's Room for conversation and discussion, even though they may expect to meet only those interested in the special subject with which they are interested, as was hoped by the Committee when arranging for the past year.

FRANK LOTT,

HON. SEC.

## REPORT OF THE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

Nothing worthy of record has been transacted at the meetings of the Archaeological Section of the Society. A few members offered to assist in arranging and deciphering the old papers in the possession of the Churchwardens of the Parish Church, but difficulties arose respecting the safe custody of the documents and the project had to be abandoned for the season. The only paper promised was not read in consequence of the smallness of attendance.

A. J. LYLE,

HON. SEC. OF THE ARCH. SECTION.

## REPORT OF THE ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION.

This Section, though small, consisting of less than a dozen members, has been very active during the past winter, as will be seen from the fact that the members have held eight meetings during the last four months, the attendance averaging about six.

The Section is engaged on the preparation of a new list of the Lepidoptera of the district, in which will be incorporated the notes on the subject by the late Mr. Edwin Brown, contained in the late Sir Oswald Mosley's Natural History of Tutbury, and also the list compiled by the late Dr. W. Garneys, in connection with the Repton School.

Considerable progress has already been made with the work, and it is hoped that the Micro-Lepidoptera will be completed before the commencement of the summer season.

As very few members of the Section have worked at the Micro-Lepidoptera, Mr. J. T. Harris has kindly undertaken with the assistance of Dr. P. B. Mason, F.L.S., to compile a list of the insects included in that division.

The Nomenclature and Classification adopted will be that of Mr. South's new "Entomologist List of British Lepidoptera."

The list when completed promises to show a record which will well bear comparison with some of our best Entomological Localities.

During last summer the members of the Section did some good work among the Lepidoptera of the district. Only one capture, however, deserves special mention, and that is *SCOPARIA (EUDOREA) CONSPICUALIS*.



## EXCURSIONS.

## REPORT FOR 1884.

During the Summer of 1884 five Excursions were made by the Society.

- Saturday, May 17th.... Repton—Mr. Robert Thornewill.  
 „ June 21st .....Astor Hall—Mr. H. T. Ford.  
 „ August 13th { Welbeck Abbey and Cresswell Crags } Mr. T. C. Martin.  
 „ August 23rd ... Darley Dale & Beeley—Mr. Frank E. Lott.  
 „ October 18th { Tisbury, in conjunction with North } Mr. A. Staffordshire Naturalists' Field Club } Scrivener.

Detailed accounts of these Excursions have been entered in the book provided for this purpose, and may be seen by members on application to the Librarian.

## PROGRAMME OF EXCURSIONS FOR 1885.

- Saturday, May.....Leicester .....Revd. C. F. Thornewill.  
 „ June.....Charnwood Forest & Monastery...Mr. T. Knowles.  
 „ July .....Monsal Dale and Ashford .....Mr. F. E. Lott.  
 „ August...Welbeck Abbey & Cresswell Crags...Mr. T. C. Martin.  
 „ Sept. ...Tamworth .....Mr. Clarkson.

Notice will be sent to members of each of the above when detailed arrangements are made.

T. C. MARTIN,

HON. SEC.



# CALENDAR OF NATURE, 1884.

Jan.	1.—Thrush singing	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	6.—Hazel, fl. (Bretby Park)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	6.—Honeysuckle, fl. (Repton Shrubs)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	8.—Bat seen (Burton)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	9.—Wallflower, fl.	...	...	...	F.W.A.
"	12.—Blackbird singing (Bretby Park)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	14.—Pyrus japonica, fl.	...	...	...	F.W.A.
"	17.—Daphne mezereum, fl.	...	...	...	F.W.A.
"	19.—Aconite, fl.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	19.—Lark singing	...	...	...	T.G.
"	25.—Snowdrop, fl. in garden	...	...	...	T.G.
"	26.—Very cold wind, rain, hail, thunder and lightning	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	26.—Wren singing (Derby Street)	...	...	...	F.W.A.
"	26.—Dog's Mercury, fl. (Hooon's Wood)	...	...	...	T.G.
Feb.	9.—Lesser Celandine, fl. (Bretby), Crocus, fl. in garden	...	...	...	T.G.
"	9.—H. leucophaearia taken, (Repton Shrubs)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	10.—Coltsfoot, fl.	...	...	...	F.W.A.
"	14.—H. rupicaprarria seen (Winshill)	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	17.—Hawthorn, lf. (Bretby)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	20.—P. pilosaria taken	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	25.—Alder, fl.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	26.—Sallow, fl.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	29.—Primrose, fl.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
Mar.	2.—Wood Pigeon cooing (Bretby)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	2.—Barren Strawberry, fl. (Bretby)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	7.—Daisy, fl. (Shenton, Leicestershire)	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	9.—Wood Anemone, fl. (Bretby)	...	...	...	T.G.
"	15.—Lesser spotted Woodpecker seen in Repton Shrubs	...	...	...	T.G.
"	15.—Vanessa urticae seen	...	...	...	T.G.
"	16.—T. instabilis seen	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	22.—Damson, fl. (Tutbury)	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	22.—Moschatel, fl. (Brizlincote)	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	22.—H. oleracea emerged from pupa	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	23.—House Martins seen	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	23.—Horse Chestnut, lf.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	24.—B. parthenias taken (Swynnerton, near Stafford)	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	24.—Marsh Marigold, fl.	...	...	...	C.F.T.
"	27.—Blackthorn, fl. (Tatenhill)...	...	...	...	C.F.T.
April	1.—Thrushes nest with five young (Bretby)	...	...	...	F.E.L.
"	3.—T. stabilis, instabilis, gothica, populeti, and S. satellitia taken } at Sallows	...	...	...	T.G.
"	4.—Red Campion and Wild Hyacinth, fl. (Bretby)	...	...	...	T.G.





Staffordshire County Studies  
Sample

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JOHN C. PERFECT, PRINTER, BULLTON-ON-TRENT.