

TENTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

BURTON-ON-TRENT

Natural History and Archaeological
SOCIETY,

YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1885.

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

1886.

OFFICERS OF THE SOCIETY,

1886.



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„ J. G. WELLS

ALL OFFICES EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE.

Collector:

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



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1886.

The TENTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held in the Society's Room, at the Institute, Union Street, on Tuesday, March 23rd, 1886.

The President—Mr. J. T. Harris—took the Chair, with a fair attendance of the chief supporters of the Society.

The Officers of the Society, and Committee for the current year, were unanimously elected: the Reports of the Committee, Excursion and Sectional Secretaries, and the Balance Sheet were read and adopted. Some changes in the Rules, proposed by the Committee, were discussed and finally adopted.

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE.

In presenting their Tenth Annual Report, your Committee have pleasure in stating that the change they recommended last year has been satisfactorily carried out, and has given very considerable satisfaction to the majority of members, but a misunderstanding regarding our rules has caused some correspondence between us and the Committee of the Institute, and we have decided to recommend you to seek accommodation elsewhere.

There has been a decided improvement in the amount of interest shown by our members, though it is still far from encouraging, either to those who have the arrangements to make, or to gentlemen who have prepared Papers for the evening meetings.

There have been Four General Meetings, with an average attendance of fourteen; this is better than the past three years, but still we feel uncertain whether we shall be justified in again inducing members or others to prepare Papers for these so-called General Meetings unless a larger number of our members show a desire to take advantage of them, and a proposition to this effect will be put forward this evening for your consideration.

LIST OF PAPERS.

November 6th.—“Insects injurious to our Turnip and Grain Crops,” by the President—J. T. Harris, Esq. (20 present.)

December 11th.—“The Old English Alphabet and Language,” by T. Knowles, Esq., M.A. (6 present.)

January 26th.—“Cryptogamic Botany,” by F. T. Mott, Esq., F.R.G.S., &c., of Leicester. (18 present.)

February 3rd.—“The Bayeux Tapestry,” by A. J. Lyle, Esq. (12 present.)

The Section have certainly been fairly active so far as meetings go, though we regret that, on two or three occasions, the attendance as been so small that members who had kindly prepared Papers, and brought specimens for examination, had their trouble to no purpose, and had to postpone reading these Papers. On your behalf, we take this opportunity of apologizing to those gentlemen.

One new Section has been formed—THE MICROSCOPICAL, and three of the most successful meetings of the season have been held.

In connection with this Section, we would draw your attention to the fortnightly meetings it was thought advisable to hold for the examination of specimens, more especially, a series ordered from Mr. Bolton, of Birmingham, by the Leader, and presented to the members. These meetings were not attended by members, and have consequently been discontinued, but we must refer you to details to the reports of the Sectional Secretaries.

The ENTOMOLOGICAL SECTION again ranks foremost in the number of its meetings, though we are sorry to note the number of its members does not increase. The work it has had in hand is now almost complete and we trust to be able to recommend the publication of transactions containing this and other work done by our members during the present year.

The GEOLOGICAL SECTION, we regret to note, lives chiefly by the energy of its Leader, but it is a surprise to us that more of our members are not attracted by this most interesting science.

The BOTANICAL SECTION has been much better supported than last year, and the interesting Papers read have been fairly attended. We are glad to be able to inform you that the Section has commenced a list of the Flora of the district, following the excellent example of the Entomological Section, and taking the same boundaries to the field of observation.

EXCURSIONS.

REPORT FOR 1885.

During the Summer of 1885, three Excursions were made by the Society


Saturday, June 27th...	{ Charnwood Forest and Monastery }	Mr. T. Knowles.
„ July 25th...	Monsal Dale and Ashford	Mr. F. E. Lott.
„ August 29th	{ Welbeck Abbey and Cresswell Crags }	Mr. T. C. Martin.

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 Hon. Secretary.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME OF EXCURSIONS
FOR 1886.

Saturday, May 15th.—	LEICESTER.....	Revd. C. F. Thornewill.
„ June.....	Gracedieu.....	Mr. T. Knowles.
„ July		Mr. T. C. Martin.
„ August	North Derbyshire	Mr. F. E. Lott.
„ September		The President.

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

 It is intended to organize Sectional Excursions for Saturday Afternoons during the Summer.

T. C. MARTIN,

HON. SEC.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

This Section has held 4 meetings during the past season. At the first meeting, Dr. Perks exhibited a piece of Roman Lead Piping, which he found at Wall, the old Roman Station Etocetum, and fully explained the mode of manufacture among the Romans. Unfortunately, the audience consisted of three persons only. At the 2nd meeting, Dr. Perks was to have read a Paper on "Some of the British sources of Roman Lead" but as only three persons came to hear the Paper, the reading of it was postponed *sine die*.

At the 3rd meeting, Mr. T. Knowles exhibited a set of Photographs of the ruins of Bealac, and gave a short sketch of the history of that place. The audience this time consisted of 4 persons.

At the 4th Meeting, Mr. Knowles gave (by request) the address on the "Old English Alphabet and Language," which he had previously given at a General Meeting. The attendance was very satisfactory this time, and the address was listened to with interest.

The Secretary takes this opportunity of appealing to members to assist him in trying to make the meetings of this Section more successful. Those who are willing to read short Papers, or give short Addresses, would greatly oblige by communicating with him at once.

T. KNOWLES,

SEC. ARCHÆOLOGICAL SECTION.

 BOTANICAL SECTION.

Four Monthly Meetings of this Section have been held this session, and lines laid down in harmony with the other sections for working up the flora of the neighbourhood, and the preparation of a list during the coming Summer.

In claiming a most successful session, both as regards attendance and general interest, I may mention that at the November Meeting, Mr. J. T. Harris gave the members a valuable account of botanical researches in the Channel Islands, whilst in December I had the privilege of reading a short Paper upon "Metamorphosis in Plants," to a good audience; and at the January meeting, the Rev. C. F. Thornevill, continuing the subject, gave the members a Paper upon "Some observations on variations in British Ferns," which proved attractive and interesting.

RULES.

1.—That this Society be called the "BURTON-ON-TRENT NATURAL HISTORY AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY," having for its object the promotion and encouragement of the practical study of Natural History, Archæology, and General Science.

2.—That the Officers of the Society consist of a President, two or more Vice Presidents, Treasurer, two Secretaries, and a Committee of not less than six Members—three to form a quorum; the above officers to retire annually, but to be eligible for re-election.

3.—That a General Meeting be held not later than the month of March in each year for the purpose of electing Officers for the ensuing year, and transacting any other business which may be brought before it.

4.—That Candidates may be proposed and seconded at any Committee Meeting; if accepted, their names with proposer and seconder to be posted for one month in the rooms used for General Meetings by the Society.

5.—That the Society commences its year with January *vs.* That an annual subscription of five shillings be paid by each member *in advance*, and that all members whose subscriptions are six months in arrear be considered to have forfeited their privileges as members of the Society; that all members who have not given notice to one of the Treasurers or Secretaries of their intention to retire before the Annual General Meeting in March, shall be held responsible for the current year's subscription.

6.—That the Committee may recommend as Honorary Members any persons distinguished for scientific attainments, or who may have in any special manner advanced the interests of the Society.

CALENDAR OF NATURE, 1885.



Observers:—

The Revd. C. F. Thornehill, M.A., & Messrs. T. Gibbs, F. W. Andrews, & J. G. Wells.

Jan. 19.—Lesser Celandine, l. (Bretby)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 29.—Thrush and Lark singing	...	...	...	T. G.
Feb. 4.—Hazel fl. (Bretby)	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 7.—Snowdrop fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 11.—H. leucophaea taken	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 12.—Wren singing (Wetmoor Road)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 14.—H. progemmaria and H. rupicapra taken	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 14.—P. pilosaria seen	...	...	...	C. F. T.
„ 15.—Lark singing (Derby Road)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 19.—Mezereon fl.	...	...	...	C. F. T.
„ 21.—Cole Tit singing (Stapenhill)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 21.—Lesser celandine and Dog's Mercury fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 26.—Hedge Sparrow singing (Wetmoor Road)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 28.—Coltsfoot fl. (Derby Road)	...	...	...	J. G. W.
„ 28.—Lesser celandine fl. (Derby Road)	...	...	...	J. G. W.
Mar. 2.—Blackbird				
Thrush	}	singing (Wetmoor)	...	F. W. A.
Wren				
Hedge Sparrow				
Redbreast				
Lark				
Yellow Hammer				
Starling				
„ 5.—Pied Wagtail seen	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 7.—A. ascularia taken (Repton Shrubs)	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 8.—Chaffinch singing (Horninglow Street)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 9.—Hawthorn lf.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 14.—Coltsfoot fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 14.—Violet fl. (Rolleston)	...	...	...	F. W. A.
„ 15.—Barren Strawberry and Primrose, fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 16.—Sallow fl. (Burton Churchyard)	...	...	...	C. F. T.
„ 17.—S. illunaria em. from pupa	...	...	...	C. F. T.
„ 21.—Alder, Wych Elm fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 21.—T. Gothica taken	...	...	...	C. F. T.
„ 28.—Moschatel fl.	...	...	...	T. G.
„ 31.—S. satellitia (hibernated) taken	...	...	...	T. G.

MUSEUM.

LIST OF DIAGRAMS.

Presented by			
Committee.....	Chart of Characteristic British Fossils	...	1
Mr. F. E. Lott ...	Tables of Minerals	...	4
"	"	Common Elements	1
"	"	Composition of Coal	2
Mr. Cox	Plan of Dale Abbey	...	1
Committee.....	"	Stapenhill Explorations	2
Mr. Lott.....	Diagrams of Coal Plants	...	3
Mr. P. H. Mason	"	Medusæ	16
Mr. J. Heron	"	Classification of Skulls	1
"	"	Saxon Ornaments and Weapons	2
"	"	Saxon and British Pottery	2
Committee.—Photograph of Saxon Female Skeleton, with Urn and Ornaments as discovered at Stapenhill. Copies of this Photograph may be obtained of the Librarian. Price 3/- each.			
Mr. C. Perks.....	Plan of Earthwork at Stapenhill	...	1
	.....Drawings of Ancient Stone Remains	...	2
Dr. G. H. Morris...	Drawings relating to Alchemy	...	3
Mr. W. C. Owen ...	Diagrams of Bees, &c.	...	2
Mr. F. Lott	Photograph of Skeleton from Bone Cave, Mentone	...	1
Mr. W. S. Gresley...	Geological Maps	...	4
"	Sections of Mines	...	3
"	Engraving of Volcanoes	...	5
"	"	Inundations	2
"	"	Aztec Remains	4
"	"	Saxon Ornaments	3
"	"	Bayeux Tapestry (coloured)	2
"	"	Volcanic Deposits, &c.	7
"	"	Entomological Objects (coloured)	2
"	"	Archæological Objects	4
Mr. C. G. Matthews...	Case of Photographs and Handbook of the Remains of a Roman Villa, found at Morton, Isle of Wight	...	8

LIST OF SPECIMENS.

SECTION I.—ANTHROPOLOGY AND ARCHÆOLOGY.

Maté or Paraguayan Tea from Buenos Ayres	...	...	Mr. W. B. Tripp.
Maté Pot and Bombilla	...	...	"
Piece of Mummy Cloth	...	...	Mr. Diamond.
Coins, One Shilling piece, Elizabeth	...	...	Mr. C. D. Heaton.
" One Shilling piece, Charles I	...	...	Mr. J. Newman.
Twenty Fragments of Window Tracery	}	Found in Priory Garden	
Nineteen Fragments of Ancient Pottery		whilst digging Founda-	
*Ninety-two Tiles and Fragments of Tiles		tion for New Market	
Two Carved Stone Corbels (Heads)			Hall.

	Presented by
Coin—Silver, struck in Morshedabad in reign of Mahomed Akbar ii	} Mrs. Molyneux, from the Collection of the late Mr. W. Molyneux.
Coin—Penny of Edward iii, Minted at London. Manor Croft Tutbury.	
Key found near Viaduct, Leicester " Branch " Midland Railway	} Mr. F. Lott.
Siamese Coins—Copper Currency (4)	
Old Glass Bottle dug up in the Hay on Messrs. Allsopp and Sons Premises	} Mr. C. Martin.
Three handled Earthenware Jar dug up in the Hay on Messrs. Allsopp and Sons Premises	
24. Copper Tokens (Staffordshire and Warwickshire)	Mr. Charles Wilson.

*Drawings of some of these Tiles have been carefully executed by Mr. J. Buckley, of London, showing their complete design, and may be seen by applying to the Librarian.

SECTION II.—GEOLOGY.

Collections of Rocks and Minerals to illustrate the Geology of the Trent Valley	Mr. W. Molyneux.
Collection of Rocks, Minerals, and Fossils	Mr. W. S. Gresley.
Portion of a Backbone of a Mountain	Mr. W. E. Poyser.
Samples of Marl from a Bore-hole at Messrs. Thomas Robinson and Co's.	Mr. F. Lott.

SECTION III.—BOTANY.

Collections of Wild Flowers to illustrate the Botany of Burton-on-Trent District	Mr. F. Upton.
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SECTION IV.—ZOOLOGY.

DIVISION A.—ENTOMOLOGY.

Locality.	Presented by
Hymenoptera, 2 cases, Burton-on-Trent	Mr. E. Brown.
Coleoptera, 5 " "	"
Lepidoptera, 4 " "	"
Neuroptera 1 " "	"
Small collection of Insects, Buenos Ayres	Mr. W. E. Poyser.
Orthoptera, Coleoptera, Lepidoptera, Diptera	"

DIVISION B.—ORNITHOLOGY.

Heron	Mr. T. C. Martin.
Case of Ducks, &c.	Mr. E. Poyser.

DIVISION C.—QUADRUPEDS.

Otter	Mr. W. M. Pegge.
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DIVISION D.—REPTILES.

Python	Mr. E. Poyser.
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