

THE

North Staffordshire Field Club.

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

TRANSACTIONS

1902-1903.

VOL. XXXVII.

STAFFORD :

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EXCURSIONS AND EVENING MEETINGS, 1903-1904.

EXCURSIONS.

- 1—Thursday, April 23rd ... STAFFORD CASTLE, BILLINGTON CAMP,
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- 2—Saturday, May 16th ... BRADBOURNE AND LONGCLIFFE
Leader—Mr. PARKE.
- 3—Wednesday, June 3rd—Joint Excursion with the Geologists'
Association ... LEEK AND WATERHOUSES RAILWAY
Leader—Dr. HIND.
- 4—Wednesday, July 8th, to Wednesday, July 15th ... CRICCIETH
Leader—The PRESIDENT.
- 5—Saturday, August 22nd ... HAMPS. AND MANIFORD VALLEY
Leader—Sir THOMAS WARDLE. RAILWAY
- 6—Saturday, September 19th ... PENKRIDGE, PILLATON, AND
Leader—Rev. F. J. WROTTESELEY. [TEDDLESLEY
- 7—Saturday, October 17th ... LICHFIELD
Leader—Mr. SCRIVENER.

EVENING MEETINGS.

- 1—Wednesday, November 18th... ... STOKE
Local Secretary—Mr. BECKETT.
- 2—Tuesday, January 26th HANLEY
Local Secretary—Mr. RIDGE.
- 3—Wednesday, February 24th... ... STONE
Local Secretary—Mr. BOSTOCK.
- 4—Thursday, March 17th STOKE
Local Secretary—Mr. BECKETT.

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CORRECTED TO MARCH 19TH, 1903.

TOTAL NUMBER, 461.

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British Museum (Natural History).
Buchan Field Club.
Burnley Literary and Scientific Club.
Burton-on-Trent Natural History and Archæological Society.
Caradoc and Severn Valley Field Club.
Cardiff Naturalists' Society.
Chester Society of Natural Science, Literature, and Art.
Dudley and Midland Geological and Scientific Society.
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Glasgow, The Natural History Society of.
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Northumberland, Durham, and Newcastle-on-Tyne Natural History Society.
Nottingham Naturalists' Society.
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Royal Meteorological Society.
Southport Society of Natural Science.
Warwickshire Naturalists' and Archæologists' Field Club.
Worcester Diocesan Architectural and Archæological Society.
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Elljott Society of Sciences and Arts, Charleston, S.C., U.S.A.
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Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club, Canada.
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Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.
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U.S. Department of Agriculture, Division of Ornithology and Mammalogy, Washington, D.C.
Kongl. Vitterhets Historie och Antiquitets, Akademien, Stockholm, Sweden.

Copies of Transactions are also sent to the British Museum (Library), to the Free Libraries of Burslem, Hanley, Leek, Longton, Newcastle, Stoke-on-Trent, and Birmingham, and to the William Salt Library, Stafford.

REPORT.

*Read at the Thirty-eighth Annual Meeting, held at Stoke,
March 19th, 1903.*

In presenting their Annual Report, it is gratifying to your Council to be able to congratulate the Club on its position and progress.

Last year's report as to the liability of the Club for money laid out on the repairs at Croxden Abbey was weighted with a doubt as to whether assistance would come by a grant from the County Council, and many weeks were passed under anxieties consequent on this doubt; but to those who wait there comes relief. So it has been in this particular, for, though a strong contingent on the County Council vehemently opposed the concession of any grant, on grounds which had to be reckoned with, Sir Reginald Hardy, the chairman of the committee dealing with the application, finally carried his motion in favour of a grant, being staunchly supported by Mr. Morton Philips, Mr. W. S. Brough, and others. This grant, which amounted to the handsome sum of one hundred guineas, enabled the Club to meet all the claims on the Croxden Abbey repairs fund. Thanks were duly given to the County Council, and particularly to Sir Reginald Hardy, for the pains he had taken to acquaint himself with the real merits of the case by visiting the ruins on several occasions, and in fact mastering the principles which should guide a County Council in the exercise of its power under the Acts which govern its authority.

The Council recommends that Sir Reginald Hardy be elected an Honorary Member of the Club.

The Excursions have been made as arranged, with the exception of the one in September which was put back a week and the localities visited were varied from the one first selected. The places, dates, leaders, and number of members attending were as follows:—

I.—Salcombe and Dartmouth, Wednesday, April 30th, to Wednesday, May 7th. Leader: The President, Mr. A. T. Daniel. 15.

II.—Norbury, Didon Woods, and Stanton, on Saturday, May 31st. Leader: Mr. T. S. Wilkins. 47.

III.—Alsop, Dovecote, and Ilam, on Saturday, June 21st. Leader: Mr. Lynam. 62.

IV.—Leek, on Monday, July 21st. Leader: The Rev. T. Barns. 44.

V.—Bridgnorth, on Thursday, August 21st. Leader: The Rev. F. J. Wrottesley. 36.

VI.—Tatenhill, Rangemore, and Watton-on-Trent, on Saturday, September 27th. Leader: Mr. Scrivener. 36.

VII.—Leek and Cauldon Low Light Railway, on Saturday, October 7th. Leader: The Rev. C. F. L. Barnwell. 46.

The average attendance, 41, was lower than usual.

It was with reluctance that it was found absolutely necessary to change the dates of two of the three Evening Meetings, localities and dates of which were:—

I.—Tunstall, on Saturday, November 20th. Local Secretary: Mr. D. Sherwin. 50.

II.—Stoke, on Thursday, January 29th. Local Secretary: Mr. Frank Adams. 50.

III.—Uttoxeter, on Thursday, Feb. 26th. Local Secretary: Mr. Wilkins. 40.

The attendances, averaging 47, have been considerably fewer than those at the Evening Meetings of recent years.

ANNUAL ADDRESS

By A. T. DANIEL, M.A., PRESIDENT.

STAFFORDSHIRE DOMESDAY BOOK.

Among the otherwise pleasant duties of the President of the Club is the somewhat invidious one of inflicting upon his fellow members an address of something like an hour's duration upon some subject of his choice—a subject, by the way, that can rarely, from the many-sided nature of the purview of such a Club as ours, interest more than a fraction of his audience. Far be it from me to depreciate this custom of the Club—the product of the wisdom of its fathers—it is good for the President, and it may possibly be good, though unpleasant, to the audience. But I am sorry for you this evening. I am sorry especially for the ladies. The men will soon get up and walk to the other end of the room and examine the specimens set out on yonder table, and regale themselves with Club or other gossip, nay, if the medium be too great, they will seek in other parts of the house such relaxation or possibly such refreshment as will allow them to take a re-invigorated part in the social duties of the evening. But the ladies, on the other hand, with that devotion to duty and decorum which characterises their sex and their nation, will fixedly and to the bitter end continue to occupy their chairs—and very uncomfortable ones they are, I know to my cost—with a laudable determination to listen to the end, however dry and tedious I may be. Yes, ladies, I am sorry for you, and I am sorry for myself. The address that I am delivering to-night is the third that I have prepared and the least interesting of the three, but I choose it because it is more suitable perhaps to a Field Club. I have really no claim to the position of President of a Field Club, and I am only here as a kind of least undesirable residuum

effected by some process of continued exclusion. On scientific education I might have said something, but Dr. Hind, in perhaps the most stirring address the Club has listened to, has forestalled me, and though I should not follow on his lines, it would hardly do for two such antagonistic pronouncements as his address and mine would be to be delivered *ex cathedra* without discussion. I could perhaps have given something more worth your attention in the Physical Geography of the County, but there again in one of the very best addresses the Club has had the privilege of listening to, Dr. McAlldowie has said almost all that I should have to say infinitely better than I could say it.

As a historical student, I have then chosen that side of our Club's intellectual activity which has most kinship with my own favourite study, and I intend to-night to offer some remarks on the Staffordshire Domesday Book—on the Domesday Book in general and on the Staffordshire Survey in particular. I shall not enter upon the many difficult and more abstruse questions as to the meaning of certain entries in the Survey—indeed, I am not qualified to do so—but I shall address myself to the probably large proportion of my audience, who have never seen the Domesday Book, and whose ideas of it are confined to the more or less hazy recollections of school history lessons.

No better introduction to this Survey can be found than the almost pathetic account of the patriotic old chronicler of Peterboro' Abbey:—"After this had the King much thought and very deep speech with his witan about this land how it was settled and with what men. Sent he then men over all England into each shire and let them go (find) how many hundred hides were in the shire and what of land and cattle the King himself had in the land and what rights he ought to have for twelve months from the shire. Also he let them write how much land his archbishops had and his country bishops and his abbots and his earls and tho' I tell it at too great length what and how much each man, that was a landholder, had in England in land and in cattle and how many fees it was worth. So very closely did

REPORTS OF SECTIONS.

A.—ZOOLOGY.—CHAIRMAN—MR. MASEFIELD.

In our Report for 1901* it was stated that one of our members, Mr. L. E. Adams, was then engaged in studying the life history of the Mole. His investigations, carried on in the neighbourhood of Stafford, and extending over four years, have now borne fruit in the form of a most valuable paper entitled "A Contribution to our Knowledge of the Mole (*Talpa europæa*)," communicated to the Manchester Philosophical Society in November last. In this paper Mr. Adams first reviews the treatises of Le Court, Geoffrey St. Hilaire, and other writers on the Mole, who apparently copied the same statements one after another without any attempt to verify them. He then gives us the result of his examination of about 300 Mole heaps or "fortresses," as they are called, illustrated by numerous diagrams selected from 100 sketches which he made showing the galleries, shafts, cavities, and bolt-runs of the home of this mammal. These plans show no two of these fortresses to be alike in their construction, and not one of them tallies with the time-honoured and symmetrical figure of St. Hilaire, copied by every succeeding writer on the subject. The nest of the Mole Mr. Adams has always found to be made in a ball, and composed of grass or dead oak or beech leaves, without any apparent opening, the parent pushing her way in and out of the nest between the grass or leaves. As to the breeding of the Mole, Mr. Adams comes to the conclusion that it has only one litter of young in the year, born between the latter part of January and the end of April, although occasional instances have been met with of young Moles in August and even September. The average number of young is three to four, and a new fact stated by Mr. Adams is that the Mole has eight

* *Trans. North Staffs. Field Club*, vol. xxxv., p. 44.

mammæ and not six, as stated by Blasius and others. As to the sight of the Mole, Mr. Adams considers the Mole practically blind, or at all events not able to see further than the end of its nose, the eyes being, as is well known, extremely small. Amongst the enemies of the Mole are included the weasel, fox, heron, and owls, and probably hedgehogs, rooks, the larger hawks, and the adder. Many new and interesting particulars are given by Mr. Adams as to the habits of the Mole, its sexual characteristics and folklore, and he even tells us that to test the value of this animal as an article of food, he had two young Moles boiled, which proved excellent eating, much like rabbit. Altogether the paper is an extremely valuable one, adding much to our knowledge of the life-history of one of our most common wild animals.

I have during the past year examined a considerable number of specimens of the Long-tailed Field Mouse (*Mus sylvaticus*), with a view to ascertain if the so-called new British species (*Mus flavicollis*) occurs in our county. The skin of one, which most nearly approaches this new species, or variety as I think it can only be considered, I produce to-night, showing the yellow band across the breast (which is the distinguishing mark of this variety or species) nearly complete. I have also met with many intermediate markings, showing apparently that one species runs into the other.

The Chartley herd of White Cattle I am sorry to report is slowly dwindling away, having become reduced from 53 in 1898 to only 13 head, through a tuberculous disease. In-breeding appears to be responsible for the weakly and depreciated condition of this once fine herd, and it seems a pity that fresh blood has not been introduced from, say, the old Welsh breed of cattle, which so strongly resemble the Chartley animals in many points.

On 16th January last, after six days of hard frost and while the ground was just covered with snow, I came across a Squirrel running along the high road and then ascending trees—another instance that this animal does not hibernate in the strict sense of the word. A rather unusual place for a Weasel was observed by

SOME NOTES ON HEREDITY AND EVOLUTION.

BY H. C. REEVE, B.A.

Read February 26th, 1903.

In any discussion concerning this question of heredity we are hampered at the outset by a lack of exact definitions, and, indeed, from the very nature of the case, as will be seen, it is impossible to have one. Still, though no exact definition can be given, it may be possible to accept some statement as a working definition. Probably no one will deny that heredity is the transmission of characters from parents to offspring, and such a definition commits us to nothing.

This statement being accepted as axiomatic, a bitter controversy has taken place for many years as to what properties of the parent can be transmitted by the parent to the offspring. Now I suppose that no one will dispute the assertion that, if it can be proved that the properties of a parent can be transmitted to the offspring, the present condition of life is the result of evolution. But if this transmission of properties cannot be proved, what then? Does the doctrine of evolution fall to the ground, or can it be explained by some other hypothesis? Before, however, we attempt to discuss this question, let us consider the doctrine of transmissibility of characters. Evolutionists may be roughly divided into two classes--(a) the Lamarckian, (b) the Darwinian. It is, of course, quite impossible in a few words to state the position taken up by each class, but it may be stated, broadly, that Lamarckians assert that evolution has progressed by the modifications of organs through use and disuse and the transmission to the offspring of such modifications, while

Darwinians assert that evolution is due to individual variations and the elimination of the unfit. It will be at once seen that the Lamarckian theory implies the transmission of acquired characters, while the Darwinian theory may or may not do so. It is certain that the great Darwin himself admitted the Lamarckian factor to some extent, but the great bulk of his followers refuse to admit it. It might be profitable to discuss to some extent this question of the transmissibility of acquired characters. It would almost seem, at first sight, as if the Lamarckian and Darwinian theories create a distinction without a difference, for, if it be considered that the original primæval ancestors of all living organisms were of the *amœba* type, it is self-evident that all the characters now possessed by living organisms must have been acquired. It is evident, therefore, that the difference between Lamarckians and Darwinians must lie in some other direction. The difference seems to be this: Lamarckians assert that acquired characters as such can be transmitted, while Darwinians assert that characters can only be transmitted when they have become genetic. It would be a long and tedious process to sift the evidence in favour of either theory, even if I had any great knowledge of this body of evidence, but a few arguments may be brought forward. It seems evident that, if modifications in an organ by use or disuse can be transmitted, mutilations, if carried out in both parents, will also be transmitted. This is a simple position, and ought to be easily verifiable by experiment. No one seems to assert that the loss of a part of the body by accident can be transmitted, though it seems to me that this should follow, from the Lamarckian theory. However, to pass that by, it seems difficult to conduct experiments which are not vitiated by the introduction of other factors which are unconcerned with heredity. For instance, it was found that the cutting of a certain nerve in a guinea-pig induced epilepsy, and that the offspring showed epilepsy, though not invariably. The fact that it does not invariably occur seems to overthrow the Lamarckian theory, and in addition it has been asserted that epilepsy is due to a micro-organism, and that the

G.—ARCHÆOLOGY.—CHAIRMAN—MR. LYNAM.

HOLY CROSS, ILAM.

BY THE REV. H. G. HOPKINS, M.A.

Read June 21st, 1902.

The church of Holy Cross, Ilam, was restored, or rebuilt, at the expense of the late Mr. Watts Russell, then owner of Ilam Hall, in the year 1874. The late Sir Gilbert Scott was the architect. It was one of his earlier efforts. The same benevolent owner also remodelled the village and rebuilt the Hall. The Chantry monument in the adjoining Mausoleum represents the father-in-law of this gentleman giving his blessing to his daughter, the first wife of Mr. Watts Russell; and it was to the memory of this good lady that the fountain and cross in the village were erected in 1840. The present village of Ilam, it may be mentioned here, stands on a different site from what old Ilam occupied; the Vicarage used to be where you see the grass plot enclosed with chains; the road formerly came from Blore over Bertram's Bridge in the Hall grounds. It may be added that Chantry designed the present Vicarage about the year 1824, when the Hall was rebuilt. The school, which has always enjoyed a certain local celebrity, was endowed by Mr. Watts Russell, and the master's house was built out of the profits of the endowment.

Coming back to the Church of Holy Cross, the enquiring mind naturally turns to the name of Bertram, the local saint of

this valley. All that can be known about Bertram may be found in Bishop Browne's pamphlet upon Ilam and its antiquities, and it is just possible that in the remarkable font in this church we may possess a record in stone of the saint's career. On the front panel of that font you observe a rough figure of a man drawing away a woman who with real, or feigned, reluctance, is following in his steps. This may represent the incident with which Bertram commenced his connection with this valley, viz., his elopement with an Irish princess. Two other panels rudely depict a monster in the first one, to the south, with a human head in its jaws, in the other with a head also lying on the ground. Here we may have our artist's delineation of the sad catastrophe which followed Bertram's arrival, viz., the devouring by a wolf in the adjoining woods of his wife and new-born child. In consequence of this disaster Bertram left the world and adopted a saintly life, the change or conversion being illustrated by the two next figures of a man with his hands tied and bound, and of a man with his hands loosed and his arms free. The secret of this deliverance from sin and the world's snares is shown in the group of the last panel. Here we have a lamb, with a cross resting on its off fore-foot, and at the head of the cross a bird, presumably the dove hovering, symbol of the Holy Ghost. I may state, however, that the Rev. George Granville, the late vicar of Ilam, rather favours an entirely allegorical interpretation of these figures. As regards the date of this remarkable font, it may range back from Norman times to a very remote period, a clue being possible in the similarity of its base with that of one in Durham Cathedral. Our saint died on the 9th of September, year unknown, was buried here, and the day of his death seems to have given its name to the church, erected perhaps to his honour, September 9th being Holy Cross day. We may now come to the site of Bertram's tomb, in the chapel bearing his name. We no doubt possess the original tomb cover, placed there in the ninth century. To the shrine built over it Dr. Plot gives a date 1386, and on this shrine, judging from the lead insets, there must have been once a canopy

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS.

EXCURSIONS.

I.—EXETER, DARTMOUTH, AND SALCOMBE.

Wednesday, April 30th, to Wednesday, May 7th.

LEADER—THE PRESIDENT.

The objective of this year's "Long Excursion" was the part of South Devonshire known locally as the "South Hams." This district, bounded by the Dart on the West and the Avon on the East, consists of a rugged plateau rising to the North to the bare uplands of Dartmoor, and projecting into the channel in the four bold headlands of Start Point, Prawle Point, Bolt Head, and Bolt Tail. This wild tableland lying between Start Bay and Bigbury Bay, cut into in various directions by tidal rivers which are rather fiord-like arms of the sea, with strange and unexpected ramifications, forms a little world of its own. Till comparatively recently its villages were probably farther removed from a railway than any in England; it has a climate and geological character of its own.

The excursion was taken at a rather unusual time of the year, it began on April 30th. This fact and the anticipation of coronation festivities and attendant expenses were probably the cause of the smallness of the party that started on that date from Stoke to Exeter. The leader had not thought it right to pass the capital of the West without seeing something of its cathedral, and Canon Edmonds had promised to be the cicerone of the party. Un-

fortunately on arriving at the cathedral the first disappointment awaited the members. The Canon had been called away, and his place was taken by the Sub-Dean, who, with all his desire to interest the "party from the North," was not an archæologist.

The night was spent at Exeter, and the next morning train was taken to Totnes, where, after a passing glimpse at the Church, the members took the steamer down the Dart. The scenery of this most famous of Devonshire rivers, with its associations with Raleigh and other Elizabethan heroes, is too well known to need description. The party saw it under auspicious circumstances, and on arriving at Dartmouth Town the boat was specially chartered to take them down to the actual embouchement of the river, so that they may see the twin castles of Dartmouth and Kingswear on either side of the mouth, and the groove worn in the rock by the massive chain that once, after the manner of so many mediæval harbours, especially in Italy, formed an efficient protection and bar to the river port.

Although Dartmouth Church, in its external outline and general architectural features is by no means typical of South Devonshire, yet in one important and characteristic feature, *i.e.*, in its wood-carving, it presents a series hardly surpassed in any church in the county. Not only is the rood screen one of the finest of its kind, and the stone pulpit elaborately carved—carved too in the style of one accustomed to a wooden material—but the front of the gallery, although in a style not usually admired by church-lovers, is a most beautiful example of Jacobean work. The mention of a Jacobean gallery only gives a faint notion of the odd ground plan and generally old-world and unrestored character of the church. Some quaint old houses in the Butterwalk and elsewhere were also visited and examined.

The next day a brake was taken from Dartmouth, and the party drove up and down the usual Devonshire hills to Stapton Sands. A bar of sand and shingle lying between two freshwater lakes and the open sea here forms the main road. The bar is some 20 yards wide, but neither the sea nor the force of the

EVENING MEETINGS.

I.—TUNSTALL.

Thursday, November 20th.

The first evening meeting of the season in connection with this Club was held at the Victoria Institute, the President (Mr. A. T. Daniel) occupying the chair. Several nominations and elections were made.

Mr. H. Foster Newey read a paper on "The Origin, Development, and Decline of British Castles." It was illustrated by a numerous selection of lantern slides showing all the more noted examples of castles still extant in the British Isles. In the course of his remarks, Mr. Newey gave interesting particulars with regard to the formation of castles and what effect the innovations of later centuries had upon them. He discussed the variations introduced by the different ages, and gave the reasons for the changes, also noting how very strong the fortifications of the castles were.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Newey, on the motion of the President, who made some interesting remarks about the paper, only regretting that it was not more of a local character.

Afterwards, Mr. Newey showed some entomological slides, and gave a short elementary address on this subject.

Among objects of interest exhibited in the room were a fine collection of entomological specimens and original drawings by Mr. Newey, and some coins by Mr. W. H. Earl. Mr. J. R. B. Masfield exhibited specimens of Staffordshire *Hymenoptera*, including four species taken near Cheadle in September, which

had not previously been found in the county. They are *Crabro palmipes*, *C. cephalotes*, *Pompilus pectinipes*, and *Salix pusillus*. He also showed a wood leopard moth (*Zeuzera pyrina*), a very rare Staffordshire moth, taken at Cheadle in August. The arrangements for the meeting, which were well carried out, were in the hands of Mr. D. Sherwin, the local secretary.

II.—STOKE-ON-TRENT.

Thursday, January 29th, 1903.

The second evening meeting of this Club was held at the North Stafford Hotel, Stoke, the chair being occupied by Dr. Wheelton Hind, in the absence of Mr. A. T. Daniel, the President, who was unable to be present until the latter part of the meeting.

The Chairman, at the outset, expressed regret at the death of Col. Strick, who, he said, was one of the original members of that society. He was a busy man, and had not the necessary time to give papers, but he was known to be an authority on geology and mining, as well as being a prominent Volunteer officer. He moved that a vote of condolence be sent to Mrs. Strick.

The Rev. T. W. Daltry seconded this, and said that Col. Strick had lived in his parish—Madeley—for some years, and he wished to say how much they regretted his death—a regret that would be equally shared by the people in the Potteries. After referring to his connection with the 1st Shropshire and Staffordshire Artillery Volunteers, Mr. Daltry spoke of an occasion in the early history of the Club, when, by the kindness of Col. Strick, the members went down the Deep Pit at Hanley and were entertained there.

Mr. J. Ward remarked that the late colonel was one of the original members who met at the Old Infirmary to originate the Club.

Mr. C. Lynam also spoke in appreciation of Col. Strick, and the resolution of condolence was carried unanimously.

A paper, entitled "Wisby in Gothland," was read by Mr. J. H. Beckett, A.F.I.B.A., of Stoke, who gave an interesting account of a visit to that place, with lantern illustrations, of photographs and sketches by himself, and one—the North Gate—by Dr. S. King Alcock, of Eurslem.

Mr. S. Unwin, who had also visited Wisby, called attention to a church there with two storeys—the church of the Holy Ghost.

Mr. Lynam said that when the Club visited Ireland they discovered a church which went, in parts, to three and four storeys. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Beckett.

Mr. J. Barnes, F.C.S., Manchester, gave an interesting explanation of the history, microscopical characters, and structure of the potato, with profuse lantern illustrations. In the course of an interesting address, he spoke of the introduction to the British Isles of the potato in 1565 by Sir John Hawkins. The potato plant, in contradistinction to plants fertilized by insects and by other means, was self-fertilized, and a curious thing to note was that if cross-fertilized none of its seed would produce the same kind of plant, in fact, some would ripen six or seven weeks before the other. He showed that on the plant many flowers were missing, and pointed out that the mode of reproducing itself by means of the flowers being liable to failure, the plant had adopted a second method, that of producing tubers—the potatoes. If the potato plant was uncultivated, tubers would show above the ground, and these became green, being, in fact, poisonous. This was for the purpose of protection from animals when in its wild state. Mr. Barnes also exhibited an interesting series of pictures showing the gradual development of the tubers,

BRIEF NOTES ON THE ILLUSTRATIONS BY THE SKETCHING SECTION.

Plate I. shews reproductions of sketches made by Mrs. Lynard and Mrs. Sheldon. Mill Farm is a fair type of the farm house prevalent in the seventeenth century in the northern part of this county, and of course bears a date on the door head of the entrance. The walls are of brinded bricks, relieved by the stone dressings of the windows, doorway, quoins, and copings. The roofs are covered with brinded tiles, and the chimney stacks are in keeping with the building. Though there is nothing imposing in the architectural character of the house, it is effective from its simple homeliness of treatment and the absence of all attempt at display. It stands by the side of the road eastward out of Cheadle, from which Groden Abbey may be approached.

The view of part of the ruins of Tutbury Castle is looking east from the great bailey, and shews the most prominent features of what is to be seen in that direction. Tutbury Castle is a very important place in the past history of this county. Its great fosse is said to have been dug and its ramparts formed before the Norman Conquest, and the Priory Church is known to have been erected by Lord Ferrers before the year A.D. 1100. The sketch truthfully records a sample of the general magnificence of this great stronghold.

Plate II. One of these two drawings is by Mrs. Wells Bladen and the other by Mr. J. H. Beckett. The Tower of Horton Church, near Leek, as here given, expresses with much faithfulness the general effect of the breadth and bristling picturesqueness of this noble Tower. Situate on the summit of a high hill it stands up as a beacon to much of the surrounding country, and in itself is built most substantially with coarse gritstone of immense dimensions. At its base lies the ancient altar stone, with its five crosses still distinctly visible. Near the apex of the

east gable of the chancel is a sunk panel carved with what is known as the representation of the five wounds. The view of the Church at Stowe is charming in itself and also in its delineation. It exhibits a subject which every ecclesiologist will be glad to make himself acquainted with, and thereby to add much to his store of knowledge of constructive detail and general design.

Plate III. Here Mrs. Wooldridge and Mr. A. Piercy artistically represent two subjects of as great interest as could well be chosen. The Churchyard Cross at Cheddleton is, for the most part, ancient and is one of very few which have survived the risks of centuries. It is situated in a churchyard from which a most extensive and characteristic view of this part of the county is obtained. The Tower of the Church bears a date, and it has had the advantage of being dealt with in the way of restoration by able designers and judicious controllers.

The Tower of Swinnerton Church has attracted many artists, and Mr. Piercy has given us a very good pen-and-ink sketch representing the general proportions and architectural characteristics of this part of the building. Within the Tower the western Norman doorway is a feature of remarkable interest from its fine proportions and clearness of representation of the various enrichments which prevailed in Norman times. To the north of the chancel is a private Chapel of the Fitzherbert family, and within this is a very large seated figure, carved in stone, of Christ, said to have been brought from Lichfield Cathedral after the vandalism there, in the seventeenth century.

C. LYNAM.



TOTBURY

Mrs. Sheldon, del.



CHEADLE

Mrs. Lyman, del.



A. R. P. Piercy, del.

SWYNNERTON.



Mrs. Wooldridge, del.

CHEDDLETON.