

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE

Naturalists' Field Club

AND

ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

1882.

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MR. T. S. WILKINS.

MR. L. H. JAHN.

MR. W. B. WOOLLEY.

## EXCURSIONS AND EVENING MEETINGS, 1882-3.

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EXCURSIONS :—	LEADER :—
1—Wednesday, April 19, <i>Hardwick</i> ... ..	Rev. T. W. Daltry.
2—Tuesday, May 23, <i>Wetton</i> ... ..	Mr. W. S. Brough.
3—Friday, June 23, <i>Newstead Abbey</i> ... ..	Mr. Leech.
4—Thursday, July 20, <i>Charnwood Forest, and Mount S. Bernard Monastery...</i> }	Mr. Spanton.
5—Wednesday, August 9 )	
Thursday, " 10 )	
Friday, " 11 ) <i>English Lakes</i>	Mr. Leech.
Saturday, " 12 )	
6—Saturday, Sept. 23, <i>Lilleshall</i> ... ..	Mr. Kirkby.
7—Friday, Oct. 20, <i>Coppenhall, Bradley, Church Eaton &amp; Haughton Churches</i> }	Mr. Lyman.

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EVENING MEETINGS :—	LOCAL SECRETARY :—
1—Thursday, Nov. 23, <i>Stone</i> ... ..	Mr. Woolley.
2—Thursday, January 18, <i>Newcastle</i> ... ..	Mr. Hurley.
3—Thursday, February 22, <i>Leek</i> .....	Mr. Brough.
4—Thursday, March 29, <i>Stoke,—Annual Meeting</i> ... ..	Mr. Kirkby.



# REPORT

*Read at the Seventeenth Annual Meeting, held at Stoke-on-Trent,  
on Thursday, March 22nd, 1882.*

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Once again it falls to the lot of the Committee to present to the North Staffordshire Naturalists' Field Club and Archæological Society assembled at the Seventeenth Annual Meeting a report of the proceedings of the past twelve months; and it is satisfactory to them that they are in a position to give a good account of the Club and its work—a satisfaction which they feel sure will be shared by every member whether present here to-night or unavoidably absent.

The public proceedings of the Club, as exhibited specially in the Excursions and Evening Meetings, appear to have lost nothing of their interest through lapse of years, and they have in most instances been fairly and in some very well attended: but after all, these form but a small proportion of the actual work done by a Scientific Society such as this; for it is the private work of individual members that forms the basis of the success of Natural History as of other Societies, and which is brought out and elaborated in the papers and addresses, without which the public meetings of the Club would be of little value.

The usual number of Excursions were made in the summer months according to the programme settled at the last Annual Meeting and sent out to members on the card. It was, however, necessary to make a change in the date of the last excursion, in order to suit the convenience of the Leader—the original day which was Thursday, October 20th, being altered to Friday, Oct. 28th; this was the only instance in which the card was departed from, and as the substituted day was very fine and pleasant, and much more genial than the earlier one, nothing but good resulted from the alteration. The Excursions then were seven in number, and they were happily in every case favoured with fine weather; these were they:—

## SECTIONAL REPORTS.—No. I : GEOLOGY.

NO REPORT SENT IN.

## SECTIONAL REPORTS.—No. II : ARCHÆOLOGY.

NO REPORT SENT IN.

## SECTIONAL REPORTS.—No. III : ENTOMOLOGY.

Last year I was compelled to report that no additions had been made to our list of North Staffordshire Lepidoptera. This year I am fortunate in being able to add two more species to the list, thus bringing up the number of additional species to no less than 43 since the publication of the Volume of Transactions issued under the able Editorship of our Vice-President Mr. Cherry in 1875 ; in the list which appeared at the end of the "Transactions" 379 species were enumerated as having been taken in the district, so that we have now, including the discoveries of the seven years that have elapsed since that date, 422 species tabulated as having been taken in North Staffordshire. This is so far satisfactory ; but it is still scarcely half the number of species that are found in the British Islands, and it can hardly be doubted that with more workers a considerable addition might yet be made to the list. It must be remembered that of these 43 discoveries of the last seven years very nearly all are due to the industry of a single member of your Club. I heartily wish the district could be properly worked, so that our list might be more complete.

The two additions of 1881 are both members of the extensive and most interesting order of Geometræ, are belonging to the large Genus *Eupithecia*, and the other being a *Tephrosia* : their names are

1. *Tephrosia Punctulata*.
2. *Eupithecia Sobrinata*.

The former was taken on Cannock Chase by the Rev. C. F. Thornewill, the Vicar of Burton-upon-Trent, who has of late years come to the front as an able and industrious collector. It is a moth that appears early, May and the beginning of June being the time for the appearance of the Imago. Mr. Thornewill tells

## VII.—BRERETON AND SANDBACH.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28TH, 1881.

*(From the Staffordshire Advertiser.)*

This was the last excursion of the year.

More than a score numbers met at Stoke Station and went by special carriage to Alsager, where a large open vehicle awaited them, and thence they drove through Lawton to Brereton Hall. Mrs. Howard very kindly permitted an inspection both of the interior and exterior of the mansion, and also of its grounds. The principal apartments in the inside of antiquarian interest are the drawing and dining rooms, but there are quaint features of architectural detail throughout the house. Outside, the western façade is the great attraction, and in front of it the Leader (Mr. C. Lynam) read Dr. Ormerod's description of the hall, which gives pretty faithfully the existing state of things. In the gardens the barberry and medlar were in full fruit. From the hall the church was visited, when the Vicar very kindly joined the party, and told his story of the church and its belongings, and here the Leader read extracts from Dr. Ormerod's history. Dr. Ormerod described the church as being "uniformly" built, but the Leader expressed it as his opinion that the walls of the two aisles bore evident marks of being of somewhat earlier date than the remainder of the building. He also remarked that no part of the church appeared to be earlier than the reign of Queen Elizabeth, and referred to several churches in the county of Stafford built in that reign having the same characteristics of style and detail. It was also pointed out as curious that no vestige of the more ancient church should now exist. In the churchyard is the base of an ancient cross, which perhaps is as old as anything now to be seen in or about the church. From the church the party went to the Vicarage to view some photographs of stained glass formerly in the chancel and to hear letters read in reference to the glass; and the Rector mentioned it had been a matter of recent history that one of the ancient Breretons had been concerned in the murder of St. Thomas à Becket. After thanking the Vicar for his kind attentions, and partaking of a light luncheon at a good example of a half-timbered inn, and calling at an old house occupied by Miss Venables, where some good old pottery is preserved, the excursionists drove on to Sandbach, where they visited the church under the guidance of Mr. J. Stringer, of Sandbach, and the "Old Hall," another half-timbered building; and, finally, the ancient crosses in the Market-place. Here the Leader read Dr. Ormerod's account of these remarkable monuments, which were examined minutely as the words of the historian were uttered by the reader. Afterwards tea was partaken of at the Swan Hotel, and large-sized drawings of all sides of the crosses were shown by the Leader; also photographs of the cross in Ioana and drawings of that at Ruthwell. From Sandbach to Alsager the carriage was again called into requisition, and Stoke was reached about seven o'clock in the evening. The day had been fine throughout; the subjects of attraction were excellent, and those present had a lively interest in them; and thus ended the last

## EVENING MEETINGS.

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### I.—STAFFORD MEETING.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH, 1881.

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The first evening meeting of the season was held at Stafford in the Borough Hall, in conjunction with and by the invitation of the Stafford Institute and Field Club. About a hundred ladies and gentlemen assembled, of whom fifty or sixty were members of the invited society. Mr. T. J. Mazzinghi, M.A., presided, and in the course of the evening the following papers were read:—"The Moon as seen through the Telescope" by the Rev. E. Allen, M.A.; "A List of Plants found around Stafford," by Mr. R. Garner, F.L.S. (read by the Rev. T. W. Daltry, M.A., F.L.S.); and "Observations on the Influence of Light on the Development of Frog's Spawn," by Dr. M'Aldowie. Between the reading of the second and third papers refreshments were served. After Dr. M'Aldowie had read his paper, Mr. A. Leech gave some account of the finding of human and other remains on the site of the Monastery of Black Friars at Newcastle.

### I.—THE MOON AS SEEN THROUGH THE TELESCOPE.

The Rev. E. Allen, M.A., Vicar of Castlechurch, said that few people were aware how much could be seen with small means, or what a peculiarly interesting object for observation the moon was, as she seldom, if ever, presented exactly the same appearance twice. The first impression received on viewing her through a telescope was that of a distinct globe of dazzling and marble-like whiteness, a clear idea of the moon's rotundity being obtained by the fact that from a spot called the Metropolitan Crater (why so named he could not tell) there radiated streaks and cracks filled up with some material of the brightest and most refulgent character. Even with instruments of a low power, the "man with his bundle of sticks" became an impossibility, the image had gone never to be recalled, and in its place they had something more like a "monkey in knickerbockers waving a tambourine," rather a large monkey, by the way, as she was eight or twelve thousand miles long. The moon, besides being such a vast storehouse of objects for the observer, offered great facilities for accurate

## ANNUAL MEETING.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT, WEDNESDAY, MARCH, 22ND, 1882.

The Seventeenth Annual Meeting was held in the New Hall of the Station Hotel at Stoke.

W. CHALLINOR, Esq., of Leek, the President, being absent from England, the chair was taken by the ex-President, E. EARL, Esq.

The attendance of members was very large, nearly a hundred being present at one period or other of the meeting.

Dr. McAlldowie and Mr. R. McAlldowie exhibited a collection of precious stones, as well as large collections of flints of Palæolithic or early stone age, and the Neolithic or later stone age, and also some birds' eggs. Mr. R. Garner lent two microscopes. Mr. A. Leech showed a "History of Herne's Oak," bound in wood taken from the oak itself, and beautifully polished. Mr. Lynam exhibited a Bible and Prayer-book (uniform and bound in one volume) of the date 1603, and said to be very scarce. Other interesting objects were also shown on the occasion.

Five new members were elected, and fifteen ladies and gentlemen were nominated for election at the next General Meeting.

The Report of the Committee was read by the Secretary, and having been adopted was ordered to be printed.

Mr. W. D. SPANTON, the treasurer, in making his financial statement, said for the first time in the history of the club there was an adverse balance, and although they were in a sound financial position so far as the future was concerned, still at the present they were in debt. The amount of the income in the past year had been from subscriptions, £49 10s. ; £1 9s. 4d. balance from the previous year ; donations from Mr. Challinor and the Rev. T. W. Daltry, £2 ; and the expenditure had been £56 16s. 9d. ; so that there was an adverse balance of £3 17s. 5d. The club owed about £23, but there were outstanding subscriptions amounting to between £60 and £70, a considerable portion of which sum was recoverable. The report was received, and the general subject of the arrears of subscriptions was referred to the Finance Committee.



## SPECIAL EVENING MEETING.

STOKE-UPON-TRENT, TUESDAY, MAY 2ND, 1882.

A special meeting of the members of this society was held at the Railway Hotel, Stoke-upon-Trent, Mr. W. D. Spanton, the President for the year, occupying the chair. At the annual meeting in March Mr. W. Challinor, the retiring President, was absent in Italy, and the principal object of the present meeting was to enable him to deliver his retiring address. Various interesting objects were exhibited on the tables, including numerous fine photographs, lent by Mr. Challinor; Australian weapons and plants, by Mr. Sidney Smith; a grass snake, by Dr. McIlldowie; a collection of fossils, by Mr. Barke; and amongst the books shown was a "Missale," by the President, dated 1501, and in excellent preservation.

Six new members having been elected and six more nominated, the President opened the meeting by stating its special object, and said that as it was impossible for a Presidential address to be given by one who was not the President, he would abdicate the chair in favour of the late President.

Mr. CHALLINOR then took the chair, and delivered the following address, for which a hearty vote of thanks was accorded :—

I believe it is customary for the retiring President to give an address. I ought to have done this at the last annual meeting, but was unfortunately obliged to be absent on important business in London, and afterwards I went to Florence, and, consequently, I could not be present at the annual meeting. I have to express my thanks to the committee and the members for the postponement, and for allowing me the opportunity of addressing them on the present occasion, and also to Mr. Spanton, the new President, for his courtesy. I do not propose to deal this evening with any specialty, even if I were able, such as geology, chemistry, &c. I propose to make a few general observations on some miscellaneous subjects, which I thought might be useful, and some of which, or the illustrations, have struck my own mind.

The topics that I propose to bring before you will have mostly reference to the subject of "Waste and its Prevention." I have noticed in various

## RAINFALL IN 1882.

The Club is indebted to Mr. J. Beaumont Piercy for permission to insert the following details as to the rainfall in 1882 in three different stations in the district, which have already appeared in the *Staffordshire Advertiser* :—

### LEIGH, NEAR UTTOXETER.

Height of Gauge above Sea Level, 407·85 Feet.

Month.	Total Depth.		Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which '01 or more fell.
	Inches.	Depth.	Depth.	Date.	
January .....	2·79	·73	·73	29	13
February .....	3·03	1·03	1·03	28	15
March .....	2·34	·78	·78	25	12
April .....	4·20	1·10	1·10	29	18
May .....	2·39	·53	·53	25	13
June .....	5·65	·75	·75	3	20
July .....	4·24	·70	·70	11	26
August .....	2·98	·69	·69	22	16
September .....	2·22	·40	·40	30	13
October .....	5·42	1·24	1·24	24	24
November .....	5·51	·60	·60	23	24
December .....	6·22	·93	·93	25	24
	47·09				218

### THE MERR PUMPING STATION, NEAR LONGTON.

Height of Gauge above Sea Level, 617·76 feet.

Month.	Total Depth.		Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which '01 or more fell.
	Inches.	Depth.	Depth.	Date.	
January .....	2·36	·56	·56	28	12
February .....	2·76	·85	·85	28	16
March .....	2·09	·60	·60	25	13
April .....	4·63	·94	·94	29	19
May .....	2·57	·49	·49	25	15
June .....	7·38	1·38	1·38	30	20
July .....	4·17	·60	·60	6	25
August .....	3·41	·60	·60	22	19
September .....	2·15	·38	·38	3	14
October .....	5·37	1·30	1·30	24	24
November .....	5·32	·54	·54	7	24
December .....	5·44	·88	·88	25	23
	47·34				224

### WALL GRANGE PUMPING STATION, NEAR LEEK.

Height of Gauge above Sea Level, 457·5 feet.

Month.	Total Depth.		Greatest Fall in 24 hours.		No. of days on which '01 or more fell.
	Inches.	Depth.	Depth.	Date.	
January .....	2·70	·69	·69	23	13
February .....	2·93	·80	·80	28	16
March .....	2·48	·65	·65	25	13
April .....	4·24	1·25	1·25	29	15
May .....	2·13	·55	·55	25	15
June .....	6·81	·88	·88	9	21
July .....	6·18	1·15	1·15	25	26
August .....	4·20	·66	·66	22	19
September .....	2·03	·28	·28	3 & 26	14
October .....	5·14	1·08	1·08	24	26
November .....	2·77	·80	·80	3	25
December .....	6·36	·70	·70	4	21
	51·97				224

## LIST OF MEMBERS CORRECTED TO MARCH, 1883

TOTAL NUMBER, 374.

## HONORARY MEMBERS.

- Dr. Medin, Right Rev. the Bishop of, D.D., F.L.S., Otago, N.Z.  
 Davis, J. E., 4, Whitehall, London.  
 Broad, Rev. J. S., M.A., Pentney Vicarage, Swaffham, Norfolk.

## ORDINARY MEMBERS.

- Acton, John, Hillside Villa, Stoke  
 Adams, Captain Rd., Congleton  
 Adams, Frank, Stoke  
 Adams, J., Longton  
 Adams, Joseph, Rathbone-street,  
 Tunstall  
 Adams, H., Dilhorne  
 Adams, Miss, Stoke Villa, Stoke  
 Ager, William, Uttoxeter  
 Alcock, John, M.R.C.S., Burslem  
 Annan, Miss, N. Staffs. Infirmary  
 Arlidge, J. T., M.D., Lond., The  
 High Grove, Stoke, *Vice-Pre*  
 Armitage, Rev. G., B.A., Silverdale  
 Vicarage  
 Armstrong, Jas. T., F.C.S., Newcastle  
 Armstrong, Mrs.  
 Ash, Frederic, Stoke Villa, Stoke  
 Ashwell, John B., Newcastle  
 Ashworth, Miss, Kingsland, New-  
 castle  
 Astbury, Edward, Uttoxeter  
 Astbury, Mrs.  
 Badnall, Rev. James, B.A., Endon  
 Badnall, Mrs.  
 Bagnall, Wm., Glebe-street, Stoke  
 Baildon, Mrs., 12, Park Terrace,  
 Southport  
 Baildon, W. P., 59, Burton Crescent,  
 London, W.C.  
 Bakewell, A. E., Great Fenton  
 Bakewell, Geo., Greenfields, Great  
 Fenton  
 Barke, F., 8, Wellesley-st., Shelton  
 Barke, Mrs.  
 Barker, Wm., Mere House, Alsager  
 Barton, Miss Ellen, The Willows,  
 Macclesfield  
 Bateman, James, M.A., F.R.S.,  
 F.R.H.S., and F.L.S., 9, Hyde  
 Park Gate South, London, W.  
 Bayliss, Rev. W. W., M.A., Stone  
 Bayliss, Mrs.  
 Beach, F., National Provincial Bank,  
 Stone  
 Beckett, J. H., Forsbrook  
 Bickley, Thos., Broad street, Hanley  
 Bilton, Ernest, Regent-st., Stoke  
 Birks, Arthur, Ivy Cottage, Great  
 Fenton  
 Birks, John, Cobridge  
 Blackshaw, T., Burslem  
 Blackshaw, Miss  
 Black, Wm., 17, Newcastle Road,  
 Hanley  
 Blades, Josiah B., Leek  
 Blaikie, John, F.G.S., F.L.S., New-  
 castle  
 Boddington, Ench, Basford  
 Boothman, Rev. F. D., M.A., Shelton  
 Rectory  
 Bostock, Edwin, Stone  
 Bostock, Edwin D., the Radfords,  
 Stone  
 Boucher, Rev. A. W., M.A., Shed-  
 dleton  
 Boulton, W., Burslem  
 Brade, Thomas H., Victoria Road  
 Newcastle  
 Bradford, George, Hanley  
 Bradford, G. W., Hanley  
 Bradshaw, John, 14, Wellington  
 Place, Hanley  
 Bramwell, Rev. John, Branstone  
 Vicarage, Burton-on-Trent  
 Brander, James, Bagnall, Stoke  
 Briggs, Miss, 10, Stoke Villas, Stoke  
 Broady, J., Glebe-street, Stoke  
 Bromley, Miss, Cocknage Road,  
 Dresden  
 Brough, William S., Leek, *Vice-  
 President*  
 Brown, Rev. G. B., M.A., Aston,  
 Stone  
 Brunt, E., F.G.S., Havelock Place,  
 Hanley, *Vice-President* and  
*Librarian*

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