

A short statement of the finances of the Institute was made by the Hon. Secretary, but not submitted to the Meeting.

A resolution of the Council nominating Saml. Tymms, Esq., F.S.A., for some years Hon. Secretary of the Society, for election as an Honorary Member, was unanimously confirmed.

The President proposed, that the Council be empowered to add Vice-Patrons to the roll of the Institute, and that the aforesaid title be added to Rule III. (Carried unanimously.)

The Secretary then read a letter received from a Society of Naturalists, at Clare, asking the terms whereby they could participate in the advantages offered by the Institute.

After some discussion it was resolved:—

“That it is desirable, that the Suffolk Institute should affiliate small local Societies in the County, and that the Secretary be requested to frame a rider to Rule VI, to meet the same; the affiliated Society to pay a subscription of £1 1s. per annum, and to be entitled to admission to the Museum and Meetings, and to one copy of the Proceedings and Journal.

Richd. Almack, Esq., suggested that the Council should be empowered to appoint Local Committees in certain districts, to be presided over by one of the Secretaries, for the discussion of specified subjects within the province of the Institute; and instanced a case in which such a Committee, composed of persons who made that portion of Archæology their study, might undertake to collect materials for a record of the many Portraits of Suffolk worthies that were scattered throughout the district, the identity of which was becoming yearly more difficult.

The Rev. Dr. Bennett made some remarks approving of Mr. Almack's suggestion, but it was considered by the Meeting that the formation of such Local Committees was undesirable, the Council could at any time appoint certain of their number for the purpose of carrying out the formation of a register of authentic Portraits of Suffolk worthies, of the importance of which there could be no question.

The Archæological portion of the Meeting was then proceeded with.

The Rev. H. B. Blake exhibited two very remarkable objects that had been preserved in the parish chest of Hessett, viz., a Burse and a pyx cloth, and read a description of them from the “Ecclesiologist” of April last, of which the following is an abstract:—

The Burse or Corporas case is of stout linen or canvas, twofold thick, 8.3-16th inches square, and opens like a bag on one side; at the corner of the closed end are tassels of two shades of silk, fixed into small gimp balls, which retain their colours (green and crimson). On the one side is painted within an ogee quatrefoil the Head of our Blessed Lord, drawn in full face, in bold outline of red, with the early typical countenance of oval form and divided beard. The hair is a bright chesnut or red, and the aureole is gilt, with the cross traced upon it in red. The colour of the robe is hardly distinguishable; it glistens as if it might have been powdered or even covered with silver. The collar or orphrey is of gold, with a square morse.

The quatrefoil border is in breadth rather more than half an inch, and of a green colour, shaded, and a delicate pattern in gold is visible in parts of it. The colour of the ground within the quatrefoil is much faded, and is now a dirty reddish brown.

Without the quatrefoil, and next to the green ribbon with which the edges of the Burse are bound, is the common red and white spiral border, half-an-inch in width; and the corners, or spandrils, are filled in with the Evangelistic symbols on what has been a gold ground, each bearing a label with the name—St. Matthew and St. Luke being to the left of the Saviour, St. John and St. Mark to the right. These are traced out in black.

On the reverse of the Burse is the Agnus Dei, on what has been a gold ground. The Lamb, which is outlined in black, is walking on a garden ground of green, with scarlet flowers, and is enclosed in a geometrical figure composed of a square set diagonally on a quatrefoil, each cusp of which terminates in a trefoil. This border is in breadth rather more than half-an-inch, and is painted a pale blue, shaded off into paler tints, on which is traced in gold a pattern of small circles and triangular dots. Around the edge next

to the ribbon binding is a spiral border, of red and white, similar to that on the other side; and between it and the quatrefoil are traced delicate filagree markings in black upon a green ground.

The other object was a Veil of Guipure lace two feet five and a-half inches square, having round it a fringe of rose and yellow silk one inch in width, the colours alternating in spaces of one and a-half inches. At one corner a gilt ball is still appended with a tassel of silk; the other balls exist, but have become detached. In the centre of the veil is a round hole rather more than an inch in diameter, bound with a silk ribbon and designed for the admission of the cord or chain, by which, in Roman Catholic times, the Pyx or vessel that contained the Sacrament was suspended over the Altar, and which the "Corpus Christi cloth" covered.

At a recent meeting of the Society of Antiquaries both objects were exhibited, when the Burse was considered to be of early fifteenth century work, the Director stating that it was the only painted one of English work that he had seen. The veil was pronounced to be of a later date, and probably of the reign of Mary 1st.

Mr. Blake also exhibited a drawing of a mural painting recently discovered in Hasset church, representing a male figure surrounded by implements of various forms.

Mr. John Darkin exhibited a cast from some wood carving upon one of the spandrils of Mildenhall Church, and a portion of tessellated pavement from Cheapside, London.

The Rev. Chas. Roe exhibited an ancient model of a match-lock pistol in brass, and an iron pointed and barbed instrument found upon the site of the battle of Newbury.

Three implements of flint, viz., a spear head, a saw, and a portion of a dentated disc, very rudely worked, but resembling somewhat those remarkable objects from a cavern near the bay of Honduras, South America, formerly in possession of Mr. Brackstone, but now in the Blackmore Museum, and figured at page 97, vol. 9, of the *Archæological Journal*. No history was forthcoming of the stone objects exhibited by Mr. Roe, except that they were purchased with a lot of fossils, &c., at the sale of Mr. R. Blake's effects, of Rougham, and some hesitation was expressed as to their genuineness.

It having been intimated that Rev. Canon Greenwell was to examine one of the tumuli at Seven Hills, Ampton, and had invited the Institute to be present. It was resolved—"That the Meeting stand adjourned to Thursday, the 28th, when it would re-assemble at the above-named place."

SEVEN HILLS, AMPTON, MAY 28TH, 1868.

A goodly party of Members and friends assembled around the old tumuli to witness the progress of the examination by Canon Greenwell (detailed on another page), and about four o'clock the party seated themselves in a ring on the grass under the shade of the trees, to listen to a discourse from the learned explorer.

The following report collated and revised from the local prints, though not so accurate as could be wished, will furnish an outline of the Canon's lecture, and the large amount of information communicated.

CANON GREENWELL'S DISCOURSE ON ANCIENT BRITISH TUMULI.

The Rev. Canon Greenwell began by regretting, that he had not been more fortunate in finding something to show the company, as whatever appealed to the eye made a stronger impression than anything told to the ears, and therefore he regretted that he had little to show them of the barrow, except a large hole and a mound of overturned sand. They had, however, found five burnt bodies, one of which was enclosed in an urn of a manufacture and fabric such as was generally called early British, that is of a time previous to the occupation of this country by the Romans. He found no implements of any kind whatever, neither bronze, nor flint, nor bone—objects which were usually found with interments of a like kind. He could not tell them much of the barrows in this neighbourhood, because this was the first he had opened, and the records of previous researches were so very scanty that little could be gathered from them; but it appeared that the persons who had examined them had come to the conclusion that