

On the 12th May, 1887, the Council met at Bury, at 12.30, when Mr. Beckford Bevan occupied the chair, and six members attended.

The General Annual Meeting was held at 2 p.m. on the same day. Mr. E. M. Dewing took the chair. Eight new members were elected.

The Rev. E. White, hon. sec., then read the Annual Report. A vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. J. C. Ford for making a new catalogue of the Library.

Considerable discussion took place upon the new rules, which had been printed and circulated among the members. All the rules were, however, ultimately accepted with but slight emendation, and are found printed herewith.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, when the Lord Henniker was unanimously appointed President of the Institute. After the vice-presidents and Council had been appointed for the ensuing year, the Chairman remarked he was sure all the members of the Society would feel that they were sustaining a great loss by the Rev. E. White's resignation of the office of hon. sec. During the time he had held the office Mr. White had been most active in his endeavours to promote its interests, and there could be no doubt that he had worked it up very considerably.

A cordial vote of thanks was then passed to the Rev. C. H. Evelyn White for his valuable services.

On the motion of the Rev. C. R. Manning, seconded by Mr. Bacon, the Rev. Francis Haslewood, F.S.A., was elected the honorary secretary, and on the motion of Mr. H. C. Casley, seconded by Mr. Lacy Scott, Mr. E. M. Dewing was elected co-secretary.

The Rev. C. H. E. White, F.S.A., was then elected an honorary member of the Institute. The late secretary said in response it had been a great pleasure to him to do what he had done, and that there was no honor he valued more than that which the meeting had so kindly and unanimously accorded to him, and he trusted that under the new officers the Institute would go on and prosper.

GENERAL MEETING.—DENSTON, WICKHAMBROOK,

BANSFIELD HALL, DENHAM, LITTLE SAXHAM, JULY 14th, 1887.

An unusually large party joined this excursion on Thursday, July 14th. The Ipswich contingent left by the 10.15 train, and were met at the railway station, Bury S. Edmund's, by those arriving from the western side of the county. Carriages then conveyed the excursionists through the pretty village of Horringer, and onward past Chedburg church, till they arrived at the fine Collegiate church of Denston. Here all alighted to explore the building, full of numerous objects of interest to archæologists, not only in regard to the architecture, but also various

special features as chancel screens, ancient glass, monuments, and brasses. The vicar, the Rev. Leonard Klamborowski, welcomed the visitors to his church.

Upon the architecture of the edifice, and its special points of interest, a paper was read by the Rev. Francis Haslewood, one of the honorary secretaries. This will be found at length hereafter.

After a thorough examination of the fabric, all repaired to the Plumbers Arms Inn, where, in a marquee pitched in a meadow in the rear of the premises, a cold collation was provided. The chair was taken by Mr. E. M. Dewing, the senior honorary secretary. After dinner a letter from Lord Henniker, the President of the Institute, was read, expressing his regret that his attendance at Windsor Castle upon the Crown Prince of Germany, prevented him from accompanying the members on the excursion. Fifteen new members were elected. At three o'clock the party walked to the church of Wickhambrook, only a few hundred yards distant.

WICKHAMBROOK CHURCH.

The vicar, the Rev. A. McKechnie, met the excursionists as they entered his church by the vestry, the approach to which is through the centre light of the east window. From the pulpit, which stands at the north east of the nave, the Rev. F. Haslewood read a brief paper. Wickhambrook church is dedicated to All Saints, and consists of a chancel, nave, north and south aisles with a north porch, and tower at the west end. The principal features in the chancel are decorated, but portions are earlier. Traces of Early English may be observed in the northern arches of the nave, a piscina in the eastern bay of the north aisle, and the doorway. The piers on the south side, and both aisles, are plain early decorated, with perpendicular insertions. The tower and its arch are decorated. In the south aisle stands a plain massive font of somewhat singular construction, and of early English character. The angles of the bowl project, being probably left in their rough state for subsequent carving. The nave roof, though high-pitched, is somewhat debased. There is a brass on the south wall of the chancel to Thomas Burrugh and his two wives bearing date 1597; he married first Elizabeth Bvrwell, and secondly Bridgett Higham; there is also an inscription, without date, to George Somerset. Of later date will be noted the altar tomb effigy of Thos. Higham, 1630, who was actively engaged in the Irish Rebellion. The Parish Register dates from 1559. The church was renovated about 30 years ago, and also partially restored more recently. The brass lectern is the gift of Messrs. Borton, the sons of a former vicar, 1829 to 1853. Edna Lyall, in one of her recent novels, "The Golden Days," describes this church, and also Bansfield Hall.

The parish comprises the hamlet of Clopton, which is mentioned in Domesday, though Wickhambrook itself is not named.

A hundred years ago a Roman fibula, and several coins were ploughed up in a field called "Four Acre Honeycomb," in this parish, about a mile from the fortifications at Lidgate, which was undoubtedly a Roman station. The Fibula was about the size of an ordinary brooch, with an amethyst in a gold setting. An engraving of the same with an inscription may be found in the *Gentleman's Magazine* (1787, p. 702).

Among the men of note connected with Wickhambrook, was Samuel Cradock, B.D., and Fellow of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, elder brother of Dr. Zachary Cradock, preacher at Gray's Inn, and provost of Eton College. Samuel was an eminent Nonconformist divine. He was rector of North Cadbury, in Somersetshire, which, upon the passing of the Act of Uniformity in 1662, he resigned, retired to this place, and preached in the neighbourhood during the 26 years he resided here. Samuel Cradock appears to have kept a private academy, and became minister of a congregation of Dissenters some years before his decease at Bishop's Stortford, where he died in 1706, at the ripe age of 86. He and his widow lie buried in the chancel of Wickhambrook, where there is a tablet upon the north wall. Cradock was a learned man, and author of several works, as an "Apostolical History," "A Harmony of the Four Evangelists," and "The History of the Old and New Testament." (Granger's Biographical Dictionary, III., 309.) Among other worthies may be mentioned Anthony Sparrow, Bishop of Exeter from 1667 to 1676, when he was translated to Norwich, of which See he remained Bishop till his death in 1685. This said Anthony, son of Samuel Sparrow, was baptized May 7, 1612, not at Depden, as is generally supposed, but at Wickhambrook.

The carriages, which had been waiting outside the church, now conveyed the excursionists to Bansfield Hall, about two miles distant.

This old manor house is surrounded by a moat, filled with water, and approached by a bridge in front. The mansion must have anciently appeared even more imposing than at present, because the upper storey, having become dilapidated, was removed about a century ago. There was much in the house and grounds to interest the archæologists, who were kindly welcomed and entertained by the proprietor, N. Warner Bromley, Esq. The visitors admired the lofty oak-panelled, and stone-paved great hall, with its minstrel gallery. Here were displayed some curious pictures, vestments and plate, and of the valuable objects exhibited by Mr. Bromley, not the least was a very fine specimen of a loving cup in silver-gilt, dated 1618, and bearing a shield with arms of an ancestor.

Whilst the members were assembled in the great hall, Mr. H. Prigg read an account of Badmundesfield hall and manor.

After our host and hostess had been thanked for their hospitality by Mr. Dewing, in the name of the Society, and Mr. Bromley had expressed his satisfaction that the visit to his old house had given pleasure to the party; the signal to advance was sounded, and the vehicles were once more set in motion.