

ACQUISITIONS, 1931

Amongst recent additions to the Society's collections may be mentioned:—

<i>Object</i>	<i>From</i>	<i>Donor</i>
Stone axe	Padbury	Mr. A. E. Holloway
Silver table-spoon, dated 1681	Coleshill	Mrs. Storey
Glass lace-bobbin ...	Newport Pagnell ...	Mr. A. Bullard
Bronze cross, 14th century	Aylesbury	Col. G. Crouch
Tokens—G. Goad ...	Horton	Mr. F. E. Baker
T. Burcombe } J. Guy } E. Slocombe }	Colnbrook	Purchased
Manor Rolls, 1716 ...	Drayton Beauchamp	Hereford Public Library
Deeds ... ..	...	Cambridge Anti- quarian Socy.
Deeds ... ..	...	Beds. County Council

ANNUAL EXCURSION—1931

The annual excursion of this Society took place on June 26th in particularly pleasant weather. Members and their friends were encouraged to attend by a very attractive programme and over 120 badges were issued. Major Disraeli, the chairman, was accompanied, amongst others, by Lieut.-Col. Bernard, Col. and Mrs. Stanley Barry, the Rev. R. Bale, Sir Thomas Barlow, Dr. Louisa Garrett-Anderson, Major Timmis, Capt. and Mrs. Stewart-Liberty, Mrs. Ross Todd, Lady Stopford and Miss Gregory.

The first place visited was Aynho Hall, just over the Northants border, and the home of the Cartwright family since the beginning of the 17th century. The present house was rebuilt after the Civil War and finished about 1662; additions and alterations in the 18th century did nothing to spoil its character as one of the most stately of houses. The Society had the privilege of hearing some of its contents described by Mr. Cartwright himself, and he led the party through the long line of reception rooms, pointing out the more remarkable pictures by Murillo, Poussin, Giorgione, Canaletto, Claude, Rembrandt, Hondercoeter and Vandervelde. The French furniture and carpets of the times of Louis XV. and XVI. (some had actually belonged to Marie Antoinette) were typical; many pieces bore the names of famous makers. Oriental porcelain, Italian glass and majolica also stand out amongst many things of beauty; one of the most decorative objects was a red velvet hanging or carpet, one of four made for the last Doge of Venice. This superb piece hangs on a wall of the old Orangery and is a most sumptuous piece of work. The great English portrait painters were well represented in the family portraits, one of which, by Hogarth, represents the daughter of General Desaguliers, whose marriage to a Cartwright in the 18th century brought many of the noble pictures to this house. It was with great reluctance that the Society left this home of so many objects of beauty, but the programme made a move necessary, and the church

of the neighbouring parish of Croughton was next visited. From a structural view this little church was interesting with its north arcade of the 17th century and its later south arcade; its fine 14th century roofs, the screen, and the number of 15th century bench-ends which remain in the original state is remarkable.

The great interest of the church, however, is the astonishing series of mural paintings which covered the walls of the two aisles; they are arranged in three tiers and are ascribed by Dr. James to a date between 1280 and 1300. Canon Willis Price, rector of the parish, gave a most interesting description of the paintings, the clearness of which varies a good deal with the atmospheric conditions. The south wall of the south aisle tells the story of the life of the Virgin from the rejection of Joachim's offering to the flight into Egypt. On the north wall of the north aisle the scenes are from the life of Christ; at the west end is a very fine representation of the Last Supper, and scenes follow along the wall to the Crucifixion and Entombment. The great rarity and importance of these very early paintings cannot be exaggerated, and they gave great pleasure to members of the Society, most of whom saw them for the first time.

Leaving Croughton, the Society then went to Brackley, where lunch was served and Dr. L. E. Parkhurst, of that borough, most kindly conducted members afterwards to the remains of the Hospital of St. John and St. James, a 12th century foundation now represented by the chapel and some buildings of Magdalen College School. Dr. Parkhurst drew attention to whatever of interest remained, particularly to an old stone altar slab, which had long been degraded to use as a hearthstone in a cottage. Another interesting fragment was a well preserved buttery hatch, a 15th century relic of the service of food to the inmates of the Hospital. Unfortunately, insufficient remains to make sure the plan of the building, founded and endowed by Robert le Bossu, Earl of Leicester, C. 1150. Dr. Parkhurst had most thoughtfully printed some valuable notes about Brackley, copies of which were distributed to members.

From Brackley the Society then moved to Chetwode Church, where the splendour of the famous 13th century windows, with some of the original glass, was fully explained by Mr. William Bradbrooke, who also had much of interest to say about the Royal Arms (of William III.) which hung on the north wall of the church. Chetwode Church is too well known to need description here, but it is 65 years since the Society visited it officially, and many members saw it for the first time.

The final place of call was Shalstone Manor House, where the Society was made heartily welcome and most hospitably entertained by Admiral and Mrs. Purefoy. A short account of the way in which this manor had descended from William de Aëte (1284) to Admiral Purefoy, a member of the Society, was given, and it was shown that his was the fifteenth generation from the first Purefoy (William), who married Marian Aëte, C. 1450. This descent was collateral, but the fact remained that the estate had never changed hands by sale during those 647 years. Members then entered the house for tea and to admire the fine pieces of Georgian furniture and the family portraits. Afterwards they wandered in the very beautiful garden and with real reluctance tore themselves away about 6 p.m.

PRICES of "RECORDS OF BUCKS"

Obtainable from The Curator, Bucks County
Museum, Aylesbury

Vol.	Out of Print.	Odd Parts.	Complete Volume.
I.	2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8.	1, 5 ... 4/- each	None to offer
II.	1 ...	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 ... 4/- „	None to offer
III.	3, 4 ...	1, 2, 5, 6, 7, 8 ... 4/- „	Not sold separately
IV.	... ..	1 to 8 ... 4/- „	£1 1 0
V.	5 ...	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8 .. 4/- „	Not sold separately
VI.	2 ...	1, 3, 4, 5 ... 4/- „	Not sold separately
VII.	... ..	1 to 6 ... 3/- „	15 0
VIII.	... ..	1 to 6 ... 3/- „	15 0
IX.	... ..	1 to 6 ... 3/- „	15 0
X.	... ..	1 to 7 ... 3/- „	15 0
XI.	2 ...	1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 ... 4/- „	£1 1 0
XII.	... ..	1, 2, 3, 4 ... 4/- „	

A Set from Vol. III. to Vol. XI. complete £8 5s.

Index to Vols. I. to X. £1 : 1 : 0.

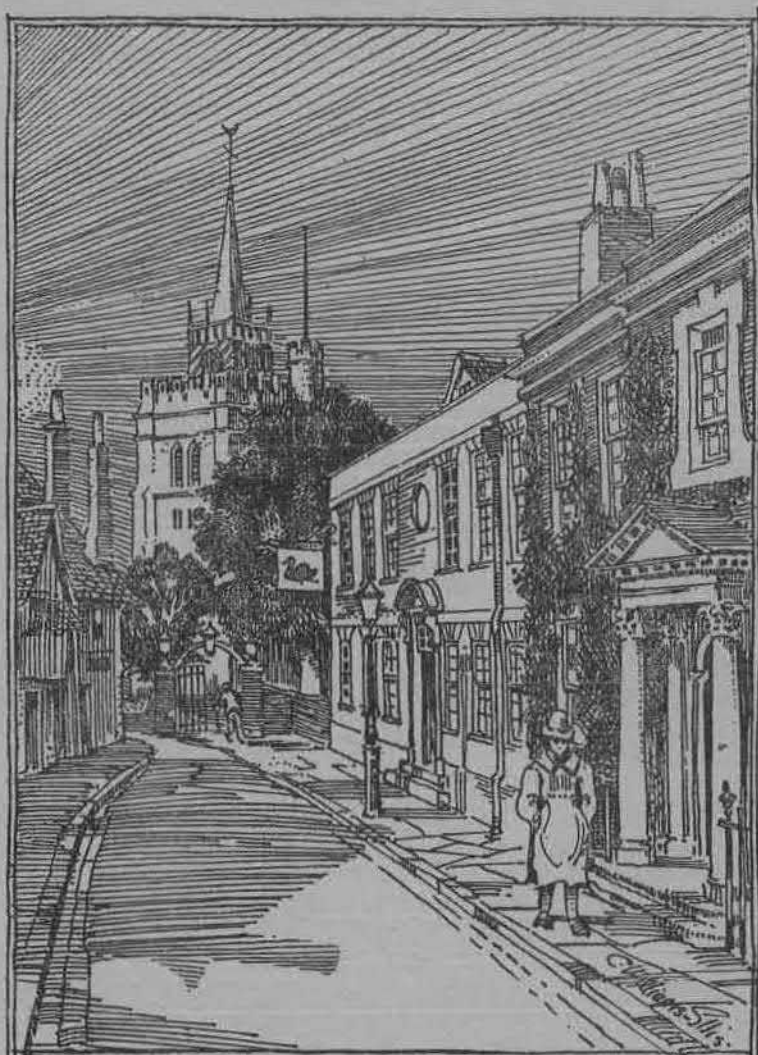
Pipe Rolls, 15/- net. Sheriff's Rolls, 21/- net.

25 per cent. reduction to Members of the Society.

In all cases Postage extra.

PARISH REGISTERS.

Most of the Registers which have been printed can be obtained of the
Curator. Prices on application.



BUCKS' ARCHITECTURAL &
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.