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The
 Kent Archaeological Society.

ABSTRACT OF PROCEEDINGS, 1865, 1866, AND 1867.

THE FIRST Meeting of the Council for the year 1865 was held at Chillington House on the 23rd of March.

The Honorary Secretary reported an offer from the Rev. E. M. Sladen of £10 to the Library Fund, to be applied to the purchase of 'Papworth's Ordinary of Arms,' which was cordially accepted; and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Sladen for his kind donation.

It was agreed that Tunbridge should be the place for the Annual General Meeting.

A vase of white Roman ware, discovered at Richborough many years ago, was exhibited, and the Secretary was requested to purchase it for the Society.

Four new members were elected.

THE NEXT Meeting of the Council was held at the noble President's house, in Grosvenor Square, on the 8th of June.

On the motion of the Earl Stanhope, it was agreed that, under the special circumstances of the year (a general election being closely pending), the General Meeting should be limited to one day, and no steps be taken to form a Local Museum.

The Rev. Lambert B. Larking produced a statement of two separate private accounts with the Society's Printer, which he had entered into with great liberality for the benefit of the

Society, and which he was now anxious to transfer to the Society. The accounts stood as follows:—

1.

<i>Dr.</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	£ s. d.
Cost of Printing Royal Quarto Copies of Five Volumes of 'Archæologia Cantiana' . . .	152 7 0	Received already from Subscribers	84 3 8
Balance obtainable	55 16 8	Still owing from Subscriptions for Volumes sold	40 0 0
		Eight Complete Sets of Five Volumes of 'Archæologia Cantiana,' in Royal Quarto, remaining in Stock, value	84 0 0
	£208 3 8		£208 3 8

2.

<i>Dr.</i>	£ s. d.	<i>Cr.</i>	
Cost of Printing separate Copies of Sir Roger Twysden's Journal, 'Pedes Finium and Inquisitiones'	£23 17 0	Stock printed, not yet sold, but far exceeding in value the cost price.	

It was unanimously resolved to relieve Mr. Larking from these accounts, and to take upon the Society their responsibility, it being understood that the Printer was content to be paid for the printing of the works as they sold; and a vote of thanks was passed to Mr. Larking for his liberality and public spirit in having undertaken their responsibility hitherto.

Thanks were also voted to A. Daniel-Tyssen, Esq., for the present of his work on 'The Church Bells of Sussex,' and to the Earl Stanhope for having presented his copy of volume iii. of 'Archæologia Cantiana,' to H. I. M. the Emperor of the French; and it was resolved to present another copy of that volume to Lord Stanhope from the Society.

Six new members were elected.

THE GENERAL Meeting for this year was held at Hever and Tunbridge, on Friday, the 28th of July.

It was attended by,—the Marquess Camden, President, and the Ladies Pratt; the Earl and Countess Stanhope; the Earl Amherst;

the Viscountess Falmouth; Lord de L'Isle and Dudley; Sir Walter James, Bart.; Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., and Mr. Stirling; J. Rogers, Esq., High Sheriff; G. Leveson-Gower, Esq., M.P.; J. G. Talbot, Esq., and the Hon. Mrs. Talbot; E. Hussey, Esq.; Mrs. and Miss Brockman; C. Powell, Esq.; Major Luard; L'Abbé Haignere; H. Unwin, Esq., and Mrs. Unwin; the Rev. J. Saint; the Rev. Dr. Welldon and Mrs. Welldon; J. Lewin, Esq.; the Rev. J. C. B. Riddell; Major and Mrs. Scoones; C. Fisher, Esq.; J. Fremlyn Streatfeild, Esq.; the Rev. W. W. Batty; the Rev. R. P. Coates and Mrs. Coates; T. Godfrey Faussett, Esq., Hon. Sec., and about four hundred others.

The preliminary business meeting was held in the Old Hall at Hever Castle, kindly placed at the disposal of the Society by the tenant, and the President took the chair at the long old oak table at half-past eleven. The Honorary Secretary then produced the Report, which was as follows:—

In presenting to the Society a Report of its proceedings and condition during the eighth year of its existence, the Council has the gratification of feeling sure that it cannot but be regarded as most satisfactory.

Our Society has been increased during the year by sixty-five new members, some of whom are eminent in Archæology, and we now number in all little less than 1000 members.

The balance at our Bankers is £458. Os. 4*d.*,—a sum quite sufficient for our sixth volume and our other immediate expenses at our present rate of expenditure. But it is grievous to know that, except for unpaid arrears, our funds, and with them our practical usefulness, would be nearly doubled; and we cannot help hoping that something may yet induce many of our members to show a little of that zeal for Archæology which prompted them to join our ranks by the payment of their subscriptions.

We held a most successful meeting last year at Sandwich, where we were, as always, very kindly and hospitably received. We may hope that our meeting there has already been not without advantage to the cause of church restoration, and in other ways, in that very interesting old town itself.

In accordance with the unanimous wish of the members then assembled, the Council soon afterwards made arrangements for a year's use of a sufficient area in the interior of Richborough Castle, to enable us to excavate further where we were then excavating, around the subterranean remains in the centre. The work has been pursued with much energy by a valued member, who kindly undertook to superintend it for us; and we are arriving very near to

demonstration that this mysterious building has in reality *no* entrance, and must be a solid mass throughout. If we gain no other than this negative result, we shall at least have cut away from the subject a vast amount of useless speculation; but the discovery of other remains of buildings on the platform with which the mass of masonry is surmounted, in addition to the well-known cruciform foundation always visible on its centre, promises, we may hope, a stronger clue to the long-disputed mystery of its nature and object.

Our operations in the Saxon cemetery at Sarr were brought to a close by Mr. Brent last October, and the discoveries made up to the close continued to be most interesting and valuable. Their description will be continued in the forthcoming volume.

The subject of permanent and separate rooms for our Museum and Library has also continued to occupy the attention of the Council. A very suitable offer was made to us from Maidstone, but was found not so immediately available as we had hoped; and it is feared that a room kindly placed at our disposal by the authorities of the Canterbury Museum is not of sufficient size for our rapidly-increasing collection. It is to be hoped that we may shortly be able to achieve this most desirable object.

By means of a subscription raised among our London members by the zeal of our District Secretary, the Society was fortunately able to secure some good specimens of Charters and other MSS. from the Surrenden Collection lately dispersed, and among them the original 'Inventory of Juliana de Leybourne,' printed in our first volume. These will form a valuable addition to our collections.

The sixth volume of 'Archæologia Cantiana' is now in the press, and will shortly be in the hands of all members who are not in arrear with their subscriptions.

The late elections, and the uncertainty of their date, made it necessary that this present meeting should consist of one day only. It is hoped, however, that the great interest which attaches to Hever and Tunbridge Castles may render the gathering a very agreeable one, and worthy of its predecessors.

In conclusion, may we not hope that eight years of ever-increasing prosperity and utility form a guarantee for still further increase in the future, and that all good men of Kent will join in promoting the welfare of a Society which may, we believe, claim to be not unworthy of the cause which it embraces, and of the County which fosters it?

The six retiring members of the Council were re-elected, as were also the Auditors; and twenty-three new members of the Society were elected.

A vote of thanks to the noble Chairman was proposed by the Earl Stanhope, and carried by acclamation.

The Society then assembled in the courtyard of the castle, to hear an interesting lecture from the Rev. W. W. Battye, Rector of Hever, on the history of the building,—a perfect and almost unaltered specimen of a country gentleman's house in early Tudor times. Mr. Battye then conducted them through the rooms and galleries, and afterwards to the church, where he briefly described its points of interest.

The members and their friends were then conveyed by carriage (some who had neglected to obtain carriage tickets being unfortunately left behind) to Chiddingstone, where the Chiding stone—a curious natural mass of rock, traditionally put of old to superstitious uses,—the church, and the fine specimens of timber houses in the village, formed attractions. Mr. *Streatfeild*, of Chiddingstone, though absent from home, had furnished refreshing hospitality to the Society in the park.

At Tunbridge Castle, the next point reached, Mr. Fleming welcomed the Society with a learned lecture on the History and Architecture of the Castle of the Clares, round which he afterwards conducted them. The lecture has since been published for the author.

Dinner was at five o'clock, in the large schoolroom of the Tunbridge Grammar School, kindly lent by the trustees, and the usual toasts succeeded it, necessarily shortened, as most members were compelled to leave at seven o'clock.

THE LAST Council of this year was held at the Guildhall, Canterbury, on the 14th of December.

The President explained to the meeting the omission of the usual Autumn Council, caused by the lamented death of Mr. E. Pretty, the Society's Assistant Secretary, and the delay of the Trustees of the Charles Museum at Maidstone to elect a new Curator in his room.

The choice of the Trustees having now fallen, at the request of members of this Society, on Mr. W. J. Lightfoot, of the British Museum, it was unanimously resolved as follows:—

That Mr. W. J. Lightfoot be elected the Society's Assistant Secretary, at a salary of £25 per annum, subject to the termination of the engagement at six months' notice.

A resolution of the Town Council of Canterbury was submitted to the meeting by Mr. Brent, making for the second

time a liberal offer of a room for the Society's collections in the Canterbury Museum. It was, however, resolved—

That this Council thanks the Museum Committee for their second kind offer, which, pending arrangements for separate rooms at Chillington House, they feel unable to entertain.

It was resolved that Ashford should be the place of General Meeting for the year 1866.

The Rev. Canon Robertson exhibited a mediæval pen of bronze, and other relics, discovered in St. Andrew's Chapel, formerly used as a depository for records, in Canterbury Cathedral; and the Rev. R. Drake some Roman pottery, found at Chislet by the Rev. R. Johnson, and presented by him to the Society.

Thanks were voted to Mr. Johnson accordingly; also to H. D. Streatfeild, Esq., the Master and Corporation of the Skinners' Company, and the Rev. Dr. Welldon, for their hospitality to the Society on the day of the last General Meeting; to J. P. Fleming, Esq., for his reception of the Society at Tunbridge Castle, and his paper thereon; to the Rev. W. W. Battye, for conducting the Society over Hever Castle and Church; to Mr. Hook, for admitting the Society to Hever Castle; to Major Luard, H. Unwin, Esq., and the Local Committee, on the same occasion, for their services; and to G. Dowker, Esq., for his excavations at Richborough on behalf of the Society.

The Honorary Secretary was requested to write to the Mayor and Corporation of Canterbury to appeal against the proposed desecration of the West Gate of that city.

Two new members were elected.

A SPECIAL Council was held on the 22nd of January, 1866, at the chambers of the Honorary Secretary, 49, Pall Mall, convened by him in consequence of a letter which he had received from the Dean of Westminster; at which the following Resolution was passed, to be forwarded to the Dean, at his request, for presentation to the Chancellor of the Exchequer:—

That this Society joins most cordially with the Society of Antiquaries, in their desire to impress upon Her Majesty's Government, and upon both Houses of Parliament, the expediency of restoring the beautiful Chapter House of Westminster, formerly used as the

House of Commons, and so much injured during its later use as the Public Record Office. And this Society awaits with hope the Report of the Deputation, which will shortly wait on the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the purpose of bringing the subject to the notice of Her Majesty's Government.

THE FIRST Ordinary Council for the year 1866 was held on the 27th day of April at the noble President's house in Grosvenor Square, adjourned to this time and place in consequence of insufficient attendance at a meeting summoned at Maidstone on a former day.

The Honorary Secretary reported that his appeal to the Mayor and Corporation of Canterbury against the desecration of the West Gate had failed of effect, and that their intention was being carried out.

The Rev. R. P. Coates was elected Honorary Local Secretary for the Dartford District, *vice* J. Hayward, Esq., resigned; and the Rev. T. A. Carr to the same office for the Cranbrook District, *vice* Sir W. Smith-Marriott and the Rev. J. L. Allan, both deceased.

The Very Rev. the Dean of Chichester was elected an Honorary Member.

Thanks were voted to Mr. Hayward for his services as Local Secretary; to Lieutenant Hogg, R.E., for his present of a Roman earthen vessel found at Gillingham; and to J. R. Daniel-Tyssen, Esq., for his present of some documents from a collection at Canterbury lately dispersed.

Four new members were elected.

THE NEXT Council was held at the same place on the 7th of June.

It was resolved that the General Meeting at Ashford should be held on Thursday and Friday, the 2nd and 3rd of August.

That the Honorary Secretary should be empowered to purchase from Mr. Ready, at a price not exceeding £8, his collection of sulphur impressions of Kentish seals.

The Honorary Secretary reported particulars of Saxon graves discovered in Bifrons Park, and that the Marquess Conyngham had kindly given him leave to make further search on the same spot.

Thanks were voted to his Lordship accordingly.

Notice of an addition to the Society's Rule 3, to be proposed at the General Meeting, was given in accordance with Rule 6.

Six new members were elected.

THE GENERAL Meeting for the year 1866 was held at Ashford on Thursday and Friday, the 2nd and 3rd of August.

It was attended by,—The Marquess Camden, K.G., President, and the Ladies Pratt; Sir Norton Knatchbull, Bart., Lady and Miss Knatchbull; Sir Walter Stirling, Bart.; G. W. Norman, Esq., Mrs. and Miss Norman; the Rev. J. Hughes-Hallett, Mrs. and Miss Hughes-Hallett; Major Luard; R. E. Thomson, Esq.; W. Tyssen-Amhurst, Esq.; J. R. Daniel-Tyssen, Esq.; J. Frenlyn Streatfeild, Esq.; the Rev. J. B. Riddell; the Rev. the Vicar of Ashford; the Rev. Canon Stone; James Crosby, Esq.; the Rev. R. C. Jenkins and Mrs. Jenkins; the Rev. A. J. Pearman and Mrs. Pearman; James Burra, Esq., and the Misses Burra; the Rev. F. Tuke; the Rev. W. Field; the Rev. R. P. Coates; the Rev. E. H. Lee; Dr. Beke; R. Furley, Esq., and Mrs. Furley; the Rev. W. W. Battye; T. Godfrey Faussett, Esq., Honorary Secretary, and upwards of three hundred others.

The Preliminary Meeting for dispatch of business was held at twelve o'clock in the new Corn Exchange, at which the following Report was read:—

The Council of this Society is glad to be able to congratulate its members upon another year of usefulness and of prosperity.

Our numbers steadily increase. We have elected 35 new members in the past year, some of whom are not unknown to the Antiquarian world. Among them the Dean of Chichester, the historian of the Archbishops of Canterbury, has honoured us by becoming an Honorary Member. Some more new members are now waiting to be elected.

Our numbers have, however, we regret to say, been diminished by the loss of some valued members. We may mention the names of Sir William Smith Marriott, a Local Secretary, and constant friend to the Society; of Sir John Lubbock; of Mr. Allan, another Local Secretary; and of Mr. Pretty, our Assistant Secretary.

Our balance in hand is £569. 8s. 9d.; our arrears, considerably more than half that sum. The former will at once be considerably diminished by the expenses of our sixth volume, lately issued. We fear from experience that there is less chance of much diminution to the latter. It is hoped, however, in the course of the present

year, to make a renewed effort towards remedying the serious deficiency.

We have completed our researches at Richborough under the same kind superintendence as at the commencement. Without any startling discoveries, much that is interesting, and useful in clearing away old prejudices, has come to light, and our Roman collection has been not a little enriched. The details will be told by our explorer himself in our next volume.

A Saxon cemetery, previously unknown, has recently come to light in Bifrons Park, near Canterbury, and Lord Conyngham, renewing his former kindness to the Society at Sarr, has given us leave to excavate it. It is hoped to begin to do so later in the Autumn, when our digging will be of less injury to the turf of the Park.

We have been fortunate in securing the services of Mr. Lightfoot, lately of the British Museum, as our new Assistant Secretary, who has already shown himself a most active and efficient officer.

It is hoped that in the course of the ensuing year our arrangements may be completed with the Trustees of the Charles Museum, at Maidstone, for our possession of separate rooms in Chillington House. A more satisfactory situation for our fast-growing collection could not be found, and we feel sure that the Society will cordially endorse the proceedings of the Council in effecting so desirable an addition to our comfort and usefulness.

Our sixth volume, lately in the hands of our members, was much delayed by an unprecedented series of misfortunes. It is hoped, however, that it has not degenerated from its predecessors. We hear on all sides the most gratifying opinions as to the excellence of our volumes, an excellence mainly attributable to one whom we regard as the founder of our Society, and whose absence to-day we must all regret.

Part of our seventh volume is already in type. From the many kind promises of papers which we have received (among which may be mentioned one from Professor Willis, on the Monastic Buildings of Canterbury Cathedral), we cannot but hope for a volume of more than usual interest and value.

In conclusion, we wish to urge upon our members the great importance of giving immediate information of any discovery bearing upon the History and Antiquities of our County, and of all uniting to do our best towards continuing the prosperity of our flourishing and useful Society.

The following addition to the Society's Rule 3 was proposed and carried unanimously :—

“But the Council shall have power, at the instance of the President, to hold their meetings at other places within the County if it shall seem advisable.”

Five retiring Members of the Council were re-elected, the Rev. A. J. Pearman being elected in the room of J. B. Shepard, Esq., who had been of late unable to attend. The Auditors of the preceding year were re-elected; and eleven new members of the Society were elected.

Ashford Church was then visited, under the guidance of the Rev. A. J. Pearman, who read an interesting lecture on its history; and a short excursion was made to Godinton, where J. Burra, Esq., conducted the Society over the house, and apologized for the absence of Major Toke. The carriages returned by Great Chart Church and Court Lodge, and the moated manor house of Singleton.

Dinner was in the old Corn Exchange, in the High Street, at half-past four o'clock, the noble President taking the chair. The evening meeting was held in the new Corn Exchange, under the Presidency of Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., where the Rev. A. J. Pearman read a paper of much research on the history of Ashford, followed by a few words on Kentish tenures from Mr. R. Furley and the Chairman; and Mr. Thurston read some interesting notes on the Pilgrims' Way through Kent.

On Friday, August 3, an excursion was made by way of Boughton Aluph, where the Rev. the Vicar received the Society at the church, to that of Godmersham, which, with the manor house adjoining, were seen under the guidance of the Rev. Walter Field, the Vicar. Chilham Castle was next visited, and the Rev. R. C. Jenkins delivered the following interesting lecture on its history:—

In our observations upon Chilham Castle we may profitably divide the subject into—1, Roman Chilham; 2, Saxon Chilham; 3, Chilham under the Norman and Plantagenet Kings; and 4, Chilham in the Tudor and Elizabethan period.

An early tradition, to which Camden may be said to have given fixity, has assigned to Chilham a very important place in the second expedition of Cæsar to Britain. He mentions this as the current belief of the inhabitants of that day, suggesting even that the first syllable of the name itself, *Jul* or *Chil*, pointed to the name of Julius, and that the great mound called Julliberies Grave contained the name of Laberius, his tribune. I cannot but accept the tradition to

which Camden adverts as having—from its early and settled character, at a time when theories were not in fashion, and when local influences were not disturbed and broken up—a remarkable weight. But we may venture to reject the derivation, for at this point documentary evidence presents itself.

The first document in which Chilham is mentioned is undoubtedly the charter of King Wihdraed in 699, which Kemble (on what grounds it does not appear) places among the doubtful charters of his great series. There can, however, be little doubt that however it may have suffered in the hands of copyists, the names contained in it are genuine, and that the "*locus qui appellatur Cilling*," at which it was issued, is Chilham. This is established beyond a doubt by the only other Saxon charter in which the place is named, that of Cænulf of Mercia, dated November 25th, 814,—a charter of undoubted authenticity, which describes the adjacent localities so clearly as to make identification easy. The king here grants to Archbishop Wulfred a ploughland in the province of Kent, "in a place and region which is called Westan-widde, to wit, a certain land called 'Cynincges (king's) cua loud,' with its adjacent boundaries, viz. on the east grafon-eah, on the west the shore which is called in our proper tongue 'mearcfleot' and seleberting-lond, and on the south the ancient street which adjoins the port which is called Cilling." To this gift are added the woods in the Blean appertaining to the land in question, together with the marshes, fords, etc., which belonged to it. The district here marked out is obviously that which lies between the present parish of Grave-ney, the marshes of Oare, which lie to the west of it, and the road leading to Chilham on the south. There can be no doubt that the Stour at the latter place was then so far navigable as to confer on Chilham the title of a port, while the name of the land itself, the King's Quay, would be naturally derived to it by the quay which it possessed on its northern boundary, which (as being the river Thames itself) it was unnecessary here to mention. It is noticeable that one of the most ancient of the manors in Chilham contains in it the earliest form of the name, viz. Shillingheld, while the ancient village of Gilling (also of Roman settlement) in Yorkshire, and the village of Gillingham, near Chatham, present the same with equal clearness.

The derivation of the word, like that of all the most ancient Roman settlements in Kent, and generally in Britain and France, is to be looked for in a Celtic source. And here a singular illustration presents itself in the wood-crowned hill which is immediately opposite to Chilham, whose name, Penypot, is simply, and with scarcely any perceptible change, the pen-y-pwth of the Britons, *i. e.* the head of the mound or hill. The first syllable of Chilham is similarly the Cil of the Celtic languages, which is so frequent in Ireland, Scotland,

and even in England, and the original meaning of which appears to have been a recess or retreat—a name peculiarly applicable to an early fastness like this. Whether this is the same word as *cyl*, an enclosure, and has its cognate form in the Anglo-Saxon *celd* (a hiding-place), and in the Latin *cella* and our modern *cell*, we need not stop to inquire. There is, however, good reason for believing that the name of Chilham was merely Anglicized by the Saxon conquerors of Kent, and that its root is to be sought, not in some Saxon personal name, as has been generally accepted, but in the remotest sources of our history and language. I am tempted here also to offer the conjecture that the name Julliber, or Jullibery, is much more probably a corruption of Selebert, whose possessions seem to have been of great extent in this district, than to have any claim to a Roman original. We have here Selebert's lond, and Great Chart is anciently called Selebert's Chart.¹ From all this it may not be improbable that Julliber's Grave is rather a mound for defence, thrown up by an early Saxon possessor of Chilham, than a jumble of two Roman names.

From names and derivations which form as it were the grammar of archæology, and, like other grammar, the most tedious of all its subjects, I pass on to consider the history which illustrates our preliminary work, and which I may venture to hope will be less irksome to all of us.

I. What then was the position and what were the fortunes of Chilham during the Roman period? Here we are led back to that preliminary question which underlies every inquiry of the kind relating to Kent, Where was the landing-place of Cæsar in his second British expedition, and what was the base of those operations of which we read in his fifth book? This is truly a Cretan labyrinth, which I can only venture to enter just so far as may enable us to see the probable place which Chilham filled in that campaign.

In this question we are fortunate to have engaged the attention of the Emperor of the French, who, in his second volume of the 'Vie de César,' has with great learning and judgment arbitrated between the different ports which claim the questionable honour of his landing. We cannot wonder that the Sussex claims have been at once set aside, nor that Deal has been restored to its ancient place in this controversy; at least if we read the learned notes of Mr. Long, in his edition of the Commentaries, and the excellent paper of Dr. Cardwell, who has supplied one or two facts which complete Mr. Long's argument, and render it (as it appears to me) unassailable. But after the Emperor has landed his hero, it seems to me that he has placed his advanced

Not to mention also Sibbertston (or Selebertston), one of the subordinate manors of Chilham itself, and the hundred of Selbrittenen, or Seleberts-den.

camp and the scene of the battle in a locality which he could never have assigned to them had he seen it otherwise than in a map. Taking the twelve miles of advance described by Cæsar too literally, or relying too much on a figure which was liable to endless mistakes from the carelessness of copyists, he has made this the known quantity in his equation, and arrived at his result from this one assumption, without considering how fatally it dislocates every other feature of the narrative. The twelve miles would bring him to the village of Kingston, on the Little Stour, and here therefore (as here there is at least a nominal river) he fixes the scene of the celebrated encounter with the Britons, with the history of which we are acquainted. But let any one placing himself at this point, take up the narrative of Cæsar, and the insuperable difficulties of this conclusion will at once appear; for the *flumen* towards which the Britons advance (*ex loco superiore*) will be found (at least in August, when this expedition took place) to be as dry as any one of the surrounding hills. In fact, what the Emperor has mistaken for a regular river is simply what we call a nailbourne—a spring coming and going with the returns of autumn and summer. Nor could it even then have been anything else. The possibility of its offering the slightest obstacle to an invader is absolutely out of the question. At its fullest season a Lilliputian army might have forded it, while in August it would have been passed over by the Roman soldiery *sicco pede*, without the slightest recognition of its claim to be a *flumen*, or even a rivulet.

Without dwelling further on a question which the mere aspect of the place must settle in a moment, we will ask, What may we conclude to have been the scene of this first meeting of our ancestors with the power and the civilization of Rome? Let us remember that the journey was during the night, when the ground would be rapidly passed over, and the actual distance would be less apparent. Let us bear also in mind that the space traversed is only described as “*millia passuum circiter duodecim*,” and that even then the position of the enemy was merely discerned afar off; and let us keep in view the fact that they were discovered as occupying a considerable elevation of ground behind a river sufficiently large to form a serious obstacle to a contending army. Let us but place ourselves in the presence of these plain facts, and the claim of Chilham (even if the plea of a possible error of the transcribers be surrendered) must, it appears to me, be paramount; for at this point we bring the writer to a place in which every feature of nature corroborates his history, and the puzzle becomes fitted in every one of its parts. For here we have really a *flumen*. Here we have wooded heights corresponding exactly with his narrative. Here we have banks which might have formed an obstacle to an army advancing from the eastward,

and here moreover we have ancient mounds and earthworks which give silent testimony to the fact that Chilham was a military position of the highest importance even during the British period; while the traditions and even the instincts of our earliest antiquaries lead us on to the same inevitable conclusion. I am aware that other points of the Great Stour have been pointed out as satisfying the terms of this narrative, and my learned friend Mr. Long has mentioned Grove Ferry as one. But he had not seen Chilham. But however different may be our views with regard to the battle and its scene, there is no room for doubting that Chilham asserted its rank as a place of defence immediately after the occupation of the country by the Romans; for there is scarcely a break in its pedigree as a fortress from that day until the more fortunate one in which the civil residence superseded the mediæval fastness. The size and form of the tumuli which are here so frequent would lead to the belief that they are British, and though (as Hasted tells us) the great mound called Julliberies Grave yielded no archæological fruits when it was explored by a former Earl of Winchilsea, much is said to have been revealed by the excavations made by Sir Dudley Digges for the foundations of his house in 1616. Unhappily, the traces of Roman work which were then disclosed have not been satisfactorily described, yet enough seems to have been then discovered to show that the ancient tower which at present remains was but a portion of a much larger building, and that the stately walls which we now see are grafted on a very early stock.

“When (as Hasted tells us) Sir Dudley Digges (about the year 1610) pulled down the old mansion of Chilham, and dug the foundations deeper for the present house, the basis of a much more ancient building was discovered, and many culinary vessels of the Romans were found at a considerable depth.” This “*Roma sotteranea*” of Chilham—if we may so call it—we are now of course unable to explore; but there are features in the ground-plan and foundations of the ruined keep adjacent which indicate that Roman origin, the proofs of which were unfortunately re-entombed by Sir Dudley Digges without record. The feature to which I allude is the polygonal form of the tower or keep, which separates it at once from the broad and square character of the Norman keep, and from that circular form which (though also Roman) is common to buildings of the third and later periods. Vitruvius’s direction in regard to towers is here very important: “*Turres rotundæ aut polygonæ sunt faciendæ*” (lib. i. c. v.); and I venture to suggest that a polygonal foundation, whose history mounts up to so early a date as this, presents a very good claim to actual Roman origin.

Unfortunately the ancient castle of Chilham has been cased, and

in some parts recased, with coatings of faced flint or rubble-work; and so complete is the disguise, that very few portions of the earlier work are exposed. The octagonal portion of the Roman Pharos at Dover is in like manner faced with regular stonework, which conceals the lower masonry. There is here, however, a very ancient portion of the foundation which, though not Roman, presents features of a very peculiar antiquity, and which closely adjoins the present mansion. A course of squared pieces of chalk is here interposed between irregular wide-jointed masonry, the whole having been originally covered with a mortar of a yellow colour, more ancient to all appearance than that which is employed in the other portions of the building. This deserves attention, and it is further to be observed that many of the stones appear, by the concrete attaching to them, to have been taken from Roman work, and that one or two fragments of Roman brick may be here detected.

But what was the probable object of the building during this first period? That it was not merely a villa is proved by the defensive works with which it is surrounded, as well as by the commanding position it occupies. That it was not merely a work of defence appears to me to be indicated by the plan of its foundations, as far as we are able to trace them. The assumption that it was one of the *castra stativa* of the Romans is hardly compatible with its extent. It would remain, then, that it was one of those foundations known better to the distant colonies of Rome than to Italy itself, and known rather in the later than in the earlier history of the Empire, in which the objects of residence and defence were united,—a union which we find developed in the sixth century in a very remarkable manner, and which doubtless had earlier types in Germany and in more distant Britain. Vitruvius, who wrote in the time of Augustus, separates military and civil, defensive and residential buildings so completely, and at all points, that we should be led to fix the date of their union at that later period when the necessities of the Empire required the residence of a governor or principal man to be itself a kind of fortress. A remarkable instance of this kind is that *castellum*, which Nicetius built on the high ground rising over the Moselle, in which a magnificent *aula* was enclosed in the same fortifications with a defensive keep or tower, strongly reminding us of the plan which presents itself here. It is from this union that the castellated residences of the mediæval period sprang, and a remarkable instance of its highest development at an early period is that of Wissehrad, the citadel of Prague, which was founded in 683, and included within its walls a palace, a church, and a fortress. I am led to think that Chilham, in like manner, was erected as a fortified residence, and that it was this which adapted it to its occupancy in the Saxon period by

the Kentish kings, possibly to supply the residential sacrifices they had made to the Church at Canterbury, Reculver, and elsewhere. We find it first mentioned in this character in the charter of Wiht-ræd, already referred to.

II. The history of Chilham as an *aula regia* in the Saxon period is involved in almost as deep obscurity as its history as a Roman *castellum*. And here we must not trust ourselves without great caution to Hasted, who, out of the few and slender threads of Saxon mention of Chilham, has woven a positive fabric of history. After assuming, first, that King Wiht-ræd (whose only known connection with the place is derived from his having dated a charter from it) "made it a place of much greater strength and defence" than in the previous age, then that the absence of any mention of the place till the Danish invasions is only to be attributed to the fact that the history of Kent itself is involved, at this period, in the same obscurity,—he narrates the destruction of the castle by the Danes and its desolation until the Conquest, though the site and domain seem in the time of the Confessor to have been possessed by one Syred, whose name appears in Domesday. Hasted's loose words, that "the Danes, in one of their incursions,—probably in either the year 838 or 851, in both which they took and plundered Canterbury,—sacked and demolished this castle," show that the story is based rather upon conjecture than evidence. It is much more probable that the castle or station had then long since failed, and that Chilham was better known as a river-port for small craft than as a stronghold, from the fact that it is called, as late as 814, the "portus de Cilling,"—not the *villa*, or *cortis*, or anything to designate a mere royal or patrician residence. It may be noted here that the tradition of the port survives in the name of one of the ancient members of the manor, Esture or Estower, situated upon the river. I find mention of it as a small town in the Saxon period, in connection with the lives of the saints of that prolific age, and as the scene of one of the miracles recounted by Goscelinus, in his 'Lives of the Abbots of St. Augustine.'

III. And now the clouds of its earlier history break away, and the grand procession of royal, noble, and gentle possessors who have succeeded to this fair inheritance opens to the view.

At the survey of Domesday, Chilham is described as held by Fulbert of the great Odo, Bishop of Bayeux, at whose attainder it passed to the Crown. It is difficult to determine generally the extent of the tenant-right of these Norman feudatories, and in this case the difficulty is increased by the fact that the buildings and reparations of the castle of Chilham were carried on, not by the tenant, but by the feudal landlord. For in the 17 Henry II. (as appears by the Pipe Rolls), £100 was spent upon the castle by the royal writ, and in

the following year (1172) a further outlay of £152. 8s. was made; in the next year £72. 8s. 9d. was expended upon it; and in the same year we find that it was garrisoned, probably on account of the quarrel which arose in that year between Henry and his son. In the twenty-first year of the same reign £7 was expended on the works; and in the 4th Richard I. it was repaired at a cost of £20. 7s., and a further sum of a hundred shillings was laid out upon it four years after. In the 1st John, the gate, bridges, and other of its defences were repaired, and soon after, in the year 1202, it passed entirely from the possession of the Crown into that of Fulbert de Dover, who rendered £78 into the Exchequer for its possession.

Of the family of Fulbert de Dover little is known beyond the fact that, like most of the great Norman feudatories, they were munificent benefactors of the Church. Hugo de Dover, the son of Fulbert (who is also called De Chilham), granted the church of Chilham to the alien priory of St. Bertin, which donation was confirmed by his great-nephew Robert de Dover in 1180, with whom, according to that common fatality in Norman Houses, the direct male descent failed in only three generations,—the inheritance falling to his daughter Rohesia, during whose lifetime, in the year 1209, a gleam of royalty again fell on the Castle of Chilham.

The terrors of excommunication, in addition to the interdict, were impending over King John. The three months given him by the Pope for repentance had closed upon him, and one reprieve after another had been granted in the vain hope of a settlement, until the octave of St. Michael was fixed as the limit of the Papal forbearance. Stephen Langton, the Archbishop, who was working the terrible instruments of spiritual torture from the other side of the Channel, “was invited to meet the King at Dover, letters of safe-conduct being sent to him both by the King and the barons. With the Bishops of London and Ely, he crossed to Dover on the 2nd of October. The King came to Chilham Castle, and sent the Justiciary and the Bishop of Winchester with certain articles which they were to demand of the Archbishop. They were such as he could not agree to, and he recrossed the sea.”¹

If the præceptory of Swingfield, in which John surrendered his crown to the Legate, must ever be a scene of humiliating reflection for those who feel that the honour of England is involved in that of her Crown, the castle of Chilham must ever be associated with the better traditions of our unceasing, though then unsuccessful struggle against the only power which has ever trampled on the liberties of England. We may imagine the arrival of the King among his barons; his entertainment by the heiress of the great Norman to

¹ ‘Life of Stephen Langton,’ p. 50.

whom the very key of the kingdom had been entrusted; his bold resolution not to proceed to Dover, lest he should seem to give way at such a juncture as this; the stern patience in which he awaited the return of his commissioners; the proud thoughts which filled his mind, and which live in the lines of one who alone could worthily retrace them,—

“What earthly names to interrogatories
 Can task the free breath of a sacred king?
 Thou canst not, Cardinal, devise a name
 So slight, unworthy, and ridiculous,
 To charge me to an answer, as the Pope.
 Tell him this tale; and from the mouth of England
 Add thus much more,—that no Italian priest
 Shall tithe or toll in our dominions.”

And now our scene changes. The Norman succession passes away. The daughter of this great heiress carries the barony of Chilham into a distant and almost foreign race. The family of Athol, of the earlier line, and the claimants to the Scottish throne, the Balliols, take up the inheritance in right of their alliance to the last descendant of Fulbert de Dover. Alexander de Balliol holds it for life as the second husband of Isabella de Dover; while the Earl of Athol, as the son of Isabella, succeeds him in the possession of it.

And here opens the first act of what we may call the Tragedy of Chilham. The Earl of Athol, of whose connection with Kentish history our only memorials are the tombs at Ashford and Canterbury, had taken part with Bruce in the endeavour to rescue his country from the English, into whose hands he fell after the successes of Edward at Cantire. Leland, in his extracts from an early chronicle, writes: “When they had taken the Fortress they found not Bruce, but there they took his wife the Daughter of the Counte of Hulster and Neil his brother. And anon after was the Counte of Athelis taken that fled from the aforesaid Fortres; who because he was Cosyn to the King of England and Sunne to Maude of Dover his Aunte was sent to London and there was hanged upon a Pair of Gallows 30 foote hyer than other,”—a terrible penalty of greatness, reminding us of the old precedent of Haman. Walter de Hemingburgh asserts that the Queen and the nobility made earnest suit in behalf of this unfortunate Earl on the ground of his relationship to the King, but in vain. He was ordered to London and to be hung higher than the rest,—“*ceteris excelsior suspendi.*”

Thus again Chilham reverted to the Crown, until, in the reign of the second Edward, it was granted to a family whose strange vicissitudes were remarkable even in that day of sudden and surprising change. The family of Badlesmere, whose earlier history was as brilliant as its close was disastrous, had grown up under the shadow

of the older House of Crévecœur, and from being at first the mere feudal tenants of the manor from which they took their name had—through success in arms and in law, as well as through great alliances—become in the opening of this reign one of the most powerful and illustrious in England. Bartholomew de Badlesmere—grandson of Guncelin de Badlesmere, who fought under Richard I. in Palestine, and son of another Bartholomew by the heiress of the Fitzbernards—had succeeded to or acquired so vast an estate as to be known as “the rich Lord Badlesmere of Ledes.” Few places in East Kent have not been in some way connected with this remarkable personage, and Chilham figures most prominently in his eventful history.

The opening of his career was, like that of Wolsey, a succession of royal favours and sumptuous entertainments of royalty. Lambarde tells us (though he mentions not his authority) that he magnificently feasted, in his castle of Chilham, the Queen and many of the nobility, whom he presented with the most liberal gifts and rewards. He was aspiring in this manner to the Earldom of Kent, but it is probable that the very profusion of his entertainment rather excited the jealousy of the Court than conciliated its favour. However this may be, it is certain that a sudden change came over his mind, the best explanation of which lies in the disappointment of a proud man failing in his ambition. Feeling that he had no further hopes from the King, or perhaps lured by the offers of the party of the Earl of Lancaster, in an evil hour he renounced his allegiance. He had, however, so well dissembled his treason to the very last, that he was even associated with the Mortimers and other of the King’s party in a mission to the Barons at Sherburn to treat of an accommodation. He took advantage of the opportunity to pass over to the enemy’s camp. In consequence of this and of the fact that the wife of Badlesmere had denied lodging in the castle of Leeds to his Queen, Isabella, the King laid siege to the place. Badlesmere, who was at Witney, in Oxfordshire, sent a force to defend his castle and to forbid entrance to the Queen, and endeavoured to prevail on the Barons to advance upon Leeds Castle to support his cause. They, however, having only proceeded as far as Kingston, refused to go further. Badlesmere fell back with them, and Leeds surrendered to the King. Badlesmere’s wife and child were sent to the Tower of London, and the King sent on two commissioners to demand access to the castle of Chilham. Henry de Valoyns, who held it as constable, at once delivered it into the King’s hands, with everything belonging to Badlesmere which it contained; and justiciaries were forthwith sent into Kent to inquire into the treason of the Badlesmeres and to discover their accomplices.

The King had for some time been aware of the infidelity of his

steward, and formed a determination to destroy him. In the words of an old chronicler preserved by Leland, "*Rex molitur confusionem Bartholomæi de Badelesmere.*" It would seem that he had grasped at the Earldom of Kent from the significant words of the same chronicler, who alleges that the elevation of the King's brother, Edmund of Wodestoke, to that earldom, was in order to check the ascendancy of the high-reaching Badlesmere. The almost royal pageant he had enacted at Leeds and Chilham was enough to awaken the suspicions of royalty in that day of universal unfaithfulness. Prohibited by the King to enter Kent, he passed over from Tilbury, attended with a vast retinue, to Higham, in Kent, where he was received by his followers and accompanied, in a kind of triumphal procession to Leeds Castle; from thence he passed on with them to Chilham, attended by seventeen soldiers—probably representing the number of his feudal contingent for the defence of Dover Castle—"lineâ armaturâ sub supertunicis coopertis." From Chilham the procession—swelled, we may suppose, in its numbers as it advanced—marched upon the city of Canterbury. Those among them who bore arms, with uncovered swords,—all of them with tokens of any but a peaceful purpose,—made their way to the shrine of St. Thomas. Never, probably, was there greater astonishment and confusion; never deeper or better dissembled indignation among the magnates of the Cathedral or of the city than was produced by this strange and motley pilgrimage, which was doubtless intended by the revolted baron as the solemn consecration of his rebellion, for it was at once succeeded by the attack upon the castles of Leeds and Chilham, which our narrative has already anticipated.

But now the end of the faithless steward was near at hand. The Earl of Lancaster—fearing, perhaps, a possible rival in the new convert rather than a faithful partisan, or disgusted at the very excess of treason which such a change involved—not only declined his services, but refused his aid to the Barons as long as Badlesmere remained in their ranks. Forsaken on all sides and hunted by the King's party from place to place, the wretched man appears to have sought a refuge with his nephew, the Bishop of Lincoln, at his manor of Stow, in which last hiding-place he was taken prisoner and hurried to Canterbury, where he was hanged on a gallows near the Blean, and his head cut off and placed upon a pike on the Burgate.

And now follow the usual vicissitudes of the old baronial families—the son restored in blood to perpetuate a name which is destined to expire in himself; the sisters, as coheiresses, dividing the inheritance between their husbands—none of them able to re-enact the history of so great a past. And yet every one of the four noblemen who shared in this division filled a conspicuous place in the records

of their day. For the eldest of the sisters of the last Badlesmere was the wife of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford; the second was married to the Lord Ros, the ancestor of the Earls and Dukes of Rutland; the third to William Bohun, Earl of Northampton; and the fourth to Sir John Tibetot, or Tiptoft. Lord Ros succeeded to Chilham, but his successor being an adherent of the House of Lancaster, was attainted, and the estate again fell to the Crown.

IV. Thus it remained, affected only by occasional grants for life, until the time of Henry VIII., who granted it to Sir Thomas Cheney, Treasurer of his Household and Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports, to hold *in capite*. And now we arrive at Chilham in its decadence, and have to deplore the caprice which removed to a distant place the very stones which adorned this stately residence; and in order to complete a dwelling in the uninviting Isle of Shepey, dismantled an edifice which Leland describes, even in 1550, to have been not only commodious for use and beautiful for pleasure, but strong also for defence and resistance.

Sir Thomas Cheney, the perpetrator of this act of vandalism, belonged to an ancient and distinguished family, which—by its alliance with the knightly family of Shurland, in the Isle of Shepey—was led to fix its principal seat at the manor of Shurland, in Eastchurch. Coming into possession of Chilham Castle, he seems to have regarded it only as a useful quarry of stone to enable him to rebuild his ancestral seat at Shurland. His son Henry, created Lord Cheney by Queen Elizabeth, appears to have launched into such a sea of extravagance, that his property, both at Chilham and Shurland, was speedily alienated, the former being conveyed to the Kempes of Olantigh, while the latter was exchanged with the Crown. It is this Lord Cheney whose somewhat singular entertainment at Rochester is mentioned in a paper, extracted from the corporation records of that city, in the second volume of our 'Archæologia.' Two shillings (it appears) were disbursed by its hospitable Mayor, Richard Harlowe, in 1578, "for wine and apples given to my Lord of Huntingdon and my Lord Cheney."

In the hands of its new possessors, the great Kentish family of Kempe (which to its ancient knightly honours added the dignity of the Roman purple in the person of Cardinal Kempe), Chilham was not destined to remain long; for the son of Sir Thomas Kempe dying without male heirs, his representation passed to his four daughters, and to Mary, the wife of Sir Dudley Digges, was assigned the manor of Chilham.

Those who have visited the church of Chilham will not easily forget the ostentatious memorial which disfigures its aisle, and in which the successful lawyer has travestied in honour of his wife the simple

pillar which Jacob raised for Rachel. Yet Sir Dudley Digges, though we may well regret that he recklessly destroyed any early foundations, deserves admiration for what he actually did to restore the castle of Chilham. Its resemblance, as he restored it and as we now see it, to the house built by Lord Campden at Kensington but a few years before is so striking, as almost to lead to the supposition that the one *façade* suggested the other.

Mr. Foss, in his graphic sketch of Sir Dudley's life, as one of the "legal celebrities of Kent," informs us that "he was born at Digges' Court, near Barham, and after an active life,—in which he successively figured as a Member of Parliament, a voyager in quest of the North-west Passage, a Gentleman of the Privy Chamber, an ambassador to Russia, and a prisoner in the Fleet and in the Tower,—at last, in 1636, obtained the office of Master of the Rolls, although he was entirely ignorant of law,—one of the many instances of the corruption of the times."¹

From about 1616 to 1724, a longer period than most of its predecessors, the family of Digges resided at Chilham, when it passed to those of Colebrooke, Heron, and Wildman, and became finally vested in the present honoured proprietor.

The Society were hospitably entertained at Chilham Castle by Mr. and Mrs. Hardy, and, after visiting the church, returned by way of Tremworth, the old seat of the Valvignes and Kemp families, and Wye College, to which members were kindly admitted by the Rev. Dr. Noad, the Principal. The rain stopped a projected visit to two tumuli on Wye Down, in which, however, upon an excavation just made, nothing had been found.

A good museum of local antiquities was exhibited during the two days in the new Corn Exchange.

ON THE 6th of August, three days only after his presence at the head of the Society, in his wonted health and activity, and, as will never be forgotten, with even more than his wonted courtesy, kindness, and energy for its welfare, died the Marquess Camden, its first President, to the inexpressible grief of all its members.

THE THIRD Council was held on Thursday, September 27th, at the Guildhall, Canterbury.

It was proposed by Mr. Knatchbull-Hugessen, and seconded by the Rev. Canon Robertson, and carried unanimously,—

¹ Arch. Cant., Vol. V. p. 30.

That the Council cannot hold their first meeting after the death of their President, the Most Noble the Marquess Camden, without recording their deep and sincere affliction at the loss which they have sustained. One of the earliest suggesters of this Society, and its President from its first foundation, he not only contributed in a most important degree to its progress and success by his zealous and constant attention to its interests, but endeared himself to those over whom he presided by his invariable kindness and courtesy. The Council cannot but remember with gratitude that the very last public act of his Lordship's life was in the service of the Society.

And that a copy of the above expression of the feelings of the Council be transmitted to the present Marquess, with their respectful condolence with him and the other members of the family.

It was also resolved,—

That the Honorary Secretary be requested to communicate to the Earl Amherst the wish of the Council to nominate his Lordship to the Society for election to the office of President, and to request his Lordship to honour the Society by consenting to be put in nomination.

And that, should such consent be obtained, a Special General Meeting of the Society be called in London on the earliest convenient opportunity, at which the Council will so nominate his Lordship.

Thanks were voted to the Rev. A. J. Pearman, the Rev. R. C. Jenkins, T. Thurston, Esq., and W. Durrant Cooper, Esq., for papers contributed to the Ashford General Meeting; to the Local Committee for their arrangements on the same occasion, and to T. Thurston, Esq., for his especial exertions to secure its success; to Major Toke, for admitting the Society to Godinton, and to J. Burra, Esq., for conducting them through the house; to the Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich, the Rev. James Billington, the Rev. Walter Field, and the Rev. J. P. Alcock, for welcoming the Society at their churches of Great Chart, Boughton Aluph, Godmersham, and Ashford respectively; to Charles Hardy, Esq., and Mrs. Hardy, for their hospitality at Chilham Castle; to the Rev. Dr. Noad, for welcoming the Society at Wye College; to J. S. W. Earle-Drax, Esq., for his courtesy at the same meeting; to the Marquess Conyngham, for kindly presenting to the Society the Saxon relics lately found at Bifrons, and for permission to make fresh researches there; to the Rev. Lambert B. Larking, for his handsome present

of British gold coins found at Ryarsh ; to the Rev. J. C. Riddell, Major Luard, the Rev. F. J. Hazlewood, J. H. Parker, Esq., W. Durrant Cooper, Esq., W. Scott Ellis, Esq., Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Harrison, for kind presents to the Museum and Library.

Five new members were elected.

A SPECIAL General Meeting of the Society was held on Tuesday, November 20, at the Freemasons' Tavern, in pursuance of the resolution of the last Council meeting, at which

The Honorary Secretary reported that he had communicated to the Earl Amherst the request of the Council, that he should permit himself to be put in nomination for the Presidency, and his Lordship's kind reply, accepting the nomination, was read to the meeting ; upon which

The Earl Amherst was elected President of the Society by acclamation.

A series of photographs of Kent worthies, from portraits exhibited in the National Portrait Gallery this year, purchased for the Society by the Honorary Secretary in pursuance of a resolution of the Council, was exhibited ; as well as the collection of sulphur casts from Kent seals, lately purchased from Mr. Ready, of the British Museum.

The LAST Meeting of the Council for this year was held at Chillington House, on Thursday, the 13th of December, the Earl Amherst taking the chair for the first time as President.

The Rev. A. J. Pearman was appointed Local Secretary for the Sheerness District, in the room of the Rev. G. Bryant.

The Honorary Secretary reported a considerable decrease in the amount of arrears due to the Society, effected by means of a circular addressed to members whose subscriptions had been owing.

Some fragments of iron weapons, etc., found with skeletons in a stone quarry near Vinter's Park, were exhibited.

The President suggested for consideration that it might be advantageous that the Society should elect a special President for each Annual Meeting from among the residents in the immediate neighbourhood of the meeting. No resolution was taken on the subject.

One new member was elected.

THE FIRST Council for the year 1867 was held at the Guildhall, Canterbury, on Thursday, the 21st of March.

The Honorary Secretary reported a communication from the Trustees of the Charles Museum at Maidstone, stating that the rooms at Chillington House, long promised to the Society, would now be ready for them in a few months.

And it was resolved,—

That the Council recommends to the General Meeting of the Society, that when the time shall arrive for furnishing their own separate rooms, the expenses of doing so may best be defrayed by selling out from their investments in the Funds the estimated amount.

It was resolved that the General Meeting should take place this year at Dartford; and that Sir P. H. Dyke, Bart., the Rev. R. P. Coates, J. Hayward, Esq., Mr. Dunkin, and the Honorary Secretary, be requested to form a Committee, to arrange its details, with power to add to their number.

C. Powell, Esq., was elected Honorary Local Secretary for the Tunbridge Wells District, in the room of the Rev. D. Winham, to whom thanks were voted on his retirement.

Ten new members were elected.

THE NEXT Council was at the house of the noble President, 43, Grosvenor Square, on Tuesday the 18th of June.

On the motion of the Earl of Stanhope, it was resolved that Wednesday and Thursday, the 24th and 25th of July, should be the days for the General Meeting at Dartford.

Twenty new members were elected.

THE GENERAL Meeting for the year 1867 was commenced at Dartford on Thursday, the 25th of July, (being unavoidably held one day later than originally determined).

It was attended by,—The Earl Amherst, President; Sir Walter Stirling, Bart.; G. Warde Norman, Esq., Mrs. and Miss Norman; the Venerable Archdeacon Grant; C. Powell, Esq.; Dr. Farre; J. Fergusson, Esq.; R. C. Hussey, Esq.; J. Fremlyn Streatfeild, Esq.; J. H. Parker, Esq.; M. H. Bloxam, Esq.; J. Burt, Esq.; the Rev. R. Drake; the Rev. Arthur Eden; H. Forde, Esq., Mrs. and Miss Forde; the Rev. R. P. Coates and Mrs. Coates; the Rev. J. P. Alcock and Mrs. Alcock; the Rev. Thomas Hugo; F. C. J. Spurrell, Esq.; the Rev. B. Poste and Mrs. Poste; the Rev. F. E. Tuke; the Rev. A. J. Pearman and Mrs. Pearman; the Rev. E. H. Lee; T.

Godfrey Faussett, Esq., Honorary Secretary, and upwards of a hundred and fifty others.

The Business Meeting was held in the County Court, when the Report for the year was read, as follows:—

The Council of the Kent Archæological Society have the gratification of presenting to its members their Tenth Annual Report of Proceedings and events.

First in time, and foremost in all our minds, is the great loss which turned to sudden grief the success of our last meeting—the death of him to whom so greatly we owed that success, as well as our brilliant and useful career from the first foundation of the Society. With its welfare always before him, our late President was ever ready to devote to it all the energy of his mind, and all the kindness of his heart; prompt to suggest for its good, and to work out the suggestions of others; never sparing thought, trouble, or fatigue, which could turn to its advantage. His sudden removal from our head we have scarcely yet recovered, and through the years in which we hope to flourish and to labour on, we cannot fail to look back and attribute a large share of the good which this Society may have achieved, and of the name and fame which it may have acquired, to the active co-operation and the thoughtful and judicious kindness, which it enjoyed during the first anxious years of its existence from the President of its earliest choice.

The Earl Amherst most kindly yielded to the general wish of the Society that he should honour us by becoming Lord Camden's successor, and it is with feelings of great gratification that the Society welcomes him here to-day.

We are grieved to have to record further the loss of James Espinasse, Esq., and James Crosby, Esq., two of the most valued members of our body.

In the general affairs of our Society we are happy to record nothing but advancing prosperity.

Our numbers continue steadily to increase. At our last Annual Meeting we elected twenty-nine members, and at the various Councils held since, thirty-five, making sixty-four members elected in the year.

As to our funds. We have a balance of £461. 12s. 2d. at our bankers; a well-timed application having succeeded in calling in some of our outstanding arrears, which still, however, remain formidable. Our investments in the Funds amount to £450, the result of payments for Life Compositions.

A proposal for utilizing some of this latter fund will be submitted to you to-day, it being considered by the Council the proper fund to be

drawn upon for fitting up the Society's separate rooms, now ready for them at Chillington House. This most desirable and long-wished for arrangement has at length been made, and we shall henceforth be able to exhibit our Collections, and dispose our Library, in a manner suitable to their importance and the convenience of our members.

Another Saxon cemetery has lately been discovered in the parish of Horton-Kirby, near Dartford. Our Local Secretary, the Rev. R. P. Coates, has been kindly excavating for us some of the graves, and their produce is exhibited to-day. It is hoped to proceed with some more of these graves.

Our seventh volume is in the press, and will be issued, we hope, before the end of the year. We believe we may say with confidence that it will prove the most valuable of our series, and if it be later than we could wish, it will, we trust, be remembered that excellence and speed are not often compatible.

A Committee has been formed of noblemen and gentlemen of the County, principally members of our Society, and presided over by our own noble President, to consider the publication of a new History of Kent, embodying the now dormant collections, most valuable as they are, of the late Rev. Thomas Streatfeild, and of the Rev. Lambert Larking. The Council feel sure that the cordial help not only of the Society itself, but of all individual members of it, will be forthcoming in every possible way towards bringing about this most desirable object. It is in case of an undertaking like this, of real and immense historical importance to our County, that the machinery of our Society may be made most useful, as in collecting information, literary help, and subscribers to the work.

In conclusion, we will only beg our members to join in continuing this Society, as heretofore for ten years, in the first rank of similar Institutions.

The following resolution, of which notice had been duly given, was put from the chair and carried unanimously:—

That the expense of furnishing the Society's new rooms at Chillington House be defrayed by selling out a sum not exceeding £150 from their investments in the Funds; and that C. Wykeham Martin, Esq., A. Randall, Esq., and the Honorary Secretary be requested to form a Committee for these purposes.

Of the six retiring members of the Council three were re-elected, and J. Wingfield Larking, Esq., C. Powell, Esq., J. Fremlyn Streatfeild, Esq., and F. C. J. Spurrell, Esq., were elected in the room of G. M. Arnold, Esq., E. F. Astley, Esq., and G. Wickham, Esq., and of James Crosby, Esq., deceased.

In the room also of the last-named gentleman, G. T. Tomlin, Esq., was elected Auditor; J. J. Howard, Esq., being re-elected.

Sixteen new members were elected.

The meeting then proceeded to view the remains of the Priory of Dartford, where the Rev. R. P. Coates kindly read some remarks illustrative of its history. Dartford Church was next inspected, and its details were explained by Mr. J. H. Parker. Carriages were then ready to convey the party to Stone Church, where the Society was received by the Rev. F. H. Murray, the Vicar, who kindly pointed out its great beauties, and gave the history of its restoration by Mr. Street.

Dinner was in a tent at the Bull Hotel, at half-past three, P.M., at which Sir Walter Stirling, Bart., took the chair, in the absence of the noble President, whom an important division pending in the House of Lords summoned back to London. After dinner the usual loyal, local, and antiquarian toasts were given and well received.

The evening meeting was held at the Bull Hotel, in the room known as the New Assembly Room. Here was exhibited the temporary Museum, and two lectures were read:—(1) An interesting paper by F. C. J. Spurrell, Esq., on the Early Caves cut deep into the Chalk in this Neighbourhood, and so plentiful in the Country lying between the Darent and the Cray; and (2) a valuable paper by the Rev. R. P. Coates on an Account of the Taxation of Dartford, *temp.* Edward III., giving much interesting information as to the trade, possessions, habits, and names of the inhabitants at that date.

The temporary Museum was small, but contained some choice specimens. A fine collection of flint implements was exhibited by F. Spurrell, Esq., and the Celtic period was further illustrated by the Society's golden Armillæ found in the Medway, and by the British gold coins from Ryarsh, lately presented by the Rev. Lambert Larking. Roman history was exemplified by a beautiful bronze scale-dish, exhibited and also presented to the Society by Mr. F. H. Hards; by a bronze Fibula, the property of the Society, and by some pottery discovered at Dartford. The Rev. G. Rashleigh's beautiful Saxon necklace of pearls and gold, an unique ornament of the period, with the gold rings and armlets discovered with it, was well supported by the Society's late discoveries in the Saxon cemetery at

Horton-Kirby, consisting of iron and bronze implements and ornaments, and by a Saxon drinking-glass, discovered at Faversham, and exhibited by C. H. Hoare, Esq. Mr. Spurrell also exhibited tracings of the early mural paintings of East Wickham Church; and Mr. Monkton an interesting series of English silver coins. The earliest register of Dartford parish was also shown by kind permission of the Vicar; and with it many volumes of MSS. and records, the property of Mr. A. Dunkin.

On Friday, the 26th July, the members present and their friends assembled at the Bull Hotel, for an excursion to several objects of interest in the neighbourhood, and prosecuted their excursion in spite of very unfavourable weather.

Darenth Church, with its interesting Norman chancel, was first visited, the occasion being fortunate, as the church was just cleared for restoration. The Rev. R. P. Coates, the Vicar, described the church and gave its history, to which valuable remarks were added by M. H. Bloxam, Esq., and J. H. Parker, Esq., who both accompanied the party throughout the day, and added to the interest and value of the excursion.

The remains of the Commandery of the Knights of St. John, or Hospitalers, at Sutton-at-Hone, were next visited, consisting of the chapel, now used as a scullery. The Rev. Thomas Hugo, Chaplain of the Order, gave the party a learned history of the Knights, their habits, mode of life, etc., and of their Commanderies in England, their objects and usual arrangement.

Horton-Kirby Church was next inspected, where the chancel, two transepts, and tower space are of beautiful Early English work. The Rev. H. D. Rashleigh, son of the Vicar, received the members with much kindness.

The next halt was at Franks, a fine specimen of an Elizabethan Manor-house, kindly thrown open to the Society by R. Bradford, Esq.; whence the party proceeded to the Church of Eynesford, and was received by the Rev. R. N. Cornwall, the Vicar. The heavy rain prevented the inspection of Eynesford Castle, a visit to the remains of which had formed part of the day's programme. The excursion ended with Lullingstone Castle, the gate-house, hall, and gallery of which were seen by permission of Sir P. H. Dyke, Bart., with the church and the fine monuments which it contains.

THE LAST Council for this year was held at Chillington House, on Thursday, the 31st of October.

It was agreed that the General Meeting for 1868 should be held at Canterbury, and the kind offer of the Rev. Professor Willis to conduct the Society over the Monastic remains of Christ Church was cordially accepted.

Thanks were voted to the Rev. R. P. Coates, for his kind exertions at the late General Meeting, and particularly for his two papers, and his reception of the Society at Darenth Church; to R. Bradford, Esq., and Sir P. H. Dyke, for admitting the Society to Franks and Lullingstone Castle; to Flaxman Spurrell, Esq., and the Rev. T. Hugo, for their learned lectures at the same meeting; to J. H. Parker, and M. H. Bloxam, Esqs., for several valued communications on the same occasion; to the Revs. F. H. Murray, G. Rashleigh, and R. N. Cornwall, for their kind receptions at Stone, Horton-Kirby, and Eynesford Churches; to Mr. F. H. Hards, and the Local Committee, for their exertions to ensure the success of the Meeting; to the Contributors to the local Museum; and to the Chairman and Directors of the S. E. and L. C. & D. Railways for their courtesy and accommodation.

Also to John Evans, Esq., F.S.A., for his kind present of his collection of Kentish "Tradesmen's Tokens;" to John Betts, Esq., for his present of Roman pottery; and to Mr. F. H. Hards, for a Roman scale-dish, found at Dartford.

Ten new members were elected.