INTRODUCTION:

CONTAINING

An Historical Account of the Origin and Establishment of the Society of Antiquaries.

THE History and Antiquities of Nations and Societies have been objects of inquiry to curious persons in all ages, either to separate falsehood from truth, and tradition from evidence, to establish what had probability for its basis, or to explode what rested only on the vanity of the inventors and propagators. The first traces of every history were rude and imperfect: better methods of preserving facts succeeded. The unchiseled stone or rudest hieroglyphic accompanied the songs of the bards, to perpetuate the achievements of a whole nation, or a few individuals; till the use of letters, and the complicated transactions, claims, and interests of men, taught them to multiply memorials, and to draw them up with more skill and accuracy.
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The arrangement and proper use of facts is History:—not a mere narrative taken up at random and embellished with poetic diction, but a regular and elaborate inquiry into every ancient record and proof, that can elucidate or establish them. For want of these, how large a proportion of history, from the Creation of the world to the present age, remains yet to be sifted by the sagacity of modern Criticism! To this neglect is owing, that we have no more certainty about the first ages of Rome than of Mexico; and if the same darkness overspreads the early periods of our own history, it is from the same cause. The only security against this and the accidents of time and barbarism is, to record present transactions, or gather the more ancient ones from the general wreck. The most indistinct collection has this merit, that it supplies materials to those who have sagacity or leisure to extract from the common mass whatever may answer useful purposes. Here begins the province of the ANTIQUARY, who will never be deemed an unserviceable member of the community, whilst curiosity or the love of truth subsists; and least of all, in an age wherein every part of science is advancing to perfection, and in a nation not afraid of penetrating into the remotest periods of their origin, or of deducing from it any thing that may reflect dishonour on them, or affect either their civil or religious rights. Our neighbours, the French, have instituted the like inquiry [a]: but they are indebted to us for the idea of a Society, whose peculiar object was to trace the Antiquities of their country through every branch, to preserve the memory of all who had deserved well of it by their noble actions, prudent counsels,

[a] The Academie des Inscriptions et des Belles lettres, instituted in the middle of the last century to record the progress of Louis XIVth's ambition, when these subjects ceased, extended its plan in 1718 to inquiries after the Antiquities of France and other kingdoms in general; and, agreeably to its name, connected Philology with Antiquity.—There was a college of Antiquaries at Upsal in the middle of the last century.
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useful inventions, or extensive knowledge. Perhaps the very name of ANTIQUARY [b] was used first in England, if it be true that Henry the VIIIth conferred it in an especial manner on Leland, who eminently deserved it. Be this as it may, there was a Society of Antiquaries so early as the reign of Elizabeth.

Its foundation may be fixed to the 14th year of her reign (1572) [c] and the honour of it is entirely due to that munificent patron of letters and learned men, Archbishop Parker. The members met near 20 years at the house of Sir Robert Cotton; and in 1589 resolved to apply to the Queen, for a charter of incorporation, and for some public building, where they might assemble and have a library [d]. The laudable views of this institution will best appear from the heads of a petition intended to be exhibited to her Majesty, for incorporating “An Academy for the study of Antiquity and History,” under a President, two Librarians, and a number of Fellows, with a body of statutes: the library to be called “The Library of Queen Elizabeth,” and to be well furnished with scarce books, original charters, muniments, and other MSS.: the Members to take the oath of supremacy, and another to preserve the library: the Archbishop and the great officers of state for the time being

[b] In the sense here given to it. The word Antiquarius appears from Isidore (Orig. vi. 14.) to be synonymous with transcribers of old MSS. “qui tantummodo vetera scribunt.” The old Glossaries render it ἄρχαγγελός, and sometimes simply καλλιμπρατρίας: and the Domus Antiquariorum in monasteries seems to have been the apartment appointed to such purposes. Vit. Abb. S. Albani, p. 41. where the author celebrates Radulph de Gubiun, 17th Abbot, and an Englishman, t. Steph. for his care of this apartment and library. See more instances of this original sense in Du Cange, Gloss. in voce. Juvenal indeed, sat. vi. 1. 453, calls a female pedant, Antiquaria. Whether Leland had the title of Antiquarius by any royal investiture or not, he takes it at the end of his Newe-year’s gift to King Henry.

[c] “About 42 years since, divers gentlemen in London, studious in Antiquities, framed themselves into a College or Society of Antiquaries.” Preface to Spelman’s Discourse on Law terms, written 1614.

[d] Life of Mr. Carew, prefixed to his Cornwall, 1723, p. 12.
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to visit the Society every five years [e]; the place of meeting to be
in the Savoy, or the dissolved Priory of St. John of Jerusalem, or
elsewhere.

The reasons urged in support of this petition, as recited in a MS.
in the Cotton library [f], were "First, That there are many monu-
ments worthy of observation, whereof the originals are extant
in the hands of some private gentlemen; and also divers other
excellent MSS. whereof there is no record: which by this means
shall have public and safe custody, for use when occasion shall
serve. Secondly, The care which her Majesty's progenitors
have had for the preservation of such antient monuments: King
Edward I. having searched the libraries of all monasteries for de-
claration of his title to Scotland, caused to be made and com-
mittted divers copies of the records, and much concerning that
realm, unto divers Abbies; which for the most part are now pe-
rished, or become scarce, and privily retained on the dissolution
of religious houses. The like was done in the time of Henry
VIII. when the Pope's authority was abolished: especial care
being taken to search for ancient books and antiquities to manifest
his usurpation. Several treaties and proclamations were pub-
ilished by authority, for satisfaction of the world in divers public
matters, which after some time are dispersed, and become very
rare, for want of a public preservation thereof. Thirdly, This
Society will not interfere with the Universities, as tending to the
preservation of History and Antiquities, whereof the Universities,
long buried in the arts, take no regard. Fourthly, The more
civilized nations, as Germany, Italy, and France, take great
care to encourage this kind of learning, by public lectures, libra-
ries, and academies." Lastly, It was proposed, that to these ob-
jects might be added the study of modern languages, and the
history and interests of the neighbour nations, to qualify persons
for public characters and offices.

[e] This is appointed by the present charter.
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This petition and these reasons were signed by Sir Robert Cotton, Sir John Dodderidge, and Sir James Lee. Whether it was presented, and what was the success, does not appear. The author of Mr. Carew's Life says [g], their hopes were frustrated by the Queen's death. There was indeed a tradition among the revivers of the Society in the present century, that some grant had been obtained, which by its discontinuance was forfeited. Mr. Holmes often mentioned it; and had it been among the records in his custody, he would certainly have brought it to light. These learned persons thus associated were probably countenanced by her Majesty, and continued to meet till her death; and, under the auspices of the Archbishops, their Presidents, flourished and increased exceedingly. We are authorized by a MS. concerning the Duchy of Lancaster, written in 1590, by Serjeant Fleetwood, Recorder of London, and one of the Members of the Society, to affirm, that the Archbishops Parker and Whitgift stood in this relation to it [b].

Being then become more respectable for the number of its Members, their meetings were held at the apartments of Sir William Dethicke, Garter king at arms, in the Herald's office, established in the preceding reign about 17 years before (1555) [i]. Sir Henry Spelman says, the day of meeting was Friday, and that minutes of their proceedings were duly registered. But the papers in the Cotton li-

[g] In the dedication to Sir Thomas Heneage, he gives this reason for dedicating it to him.—"The rather for that I have known you in manner from your infancy, and now, to be a mere Antiquarian, the skill whereof at this day is become very great, so that of that science there is a great Society sprung up, the President and Patron of which Society, is the most Hon. and Rev. Pastor John (Whitgift) by the grace of God now Archbishop of Canterbury, successor unto M. Parker, D. D. late his predecessor, who was the first founder of the same Society." Append. to Masters's Hist. of Benet Coll. N° xxix. p. 51.

[b] Smith, vit. Cottonis.
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brary [k], which must supply the place of the original register book mentioned by Sir Henry, prove that no certain day was fixed for their meetings. It seems more probable, that, as these papers were the result of deliberations previously proposed, the meetings were regulated by the time each member required to prepare his memoir, and by the law terms [l]. More than one person wrote, or (as appears from the summons to Mr. Stowe [m]) spoke, on each subject; —the only method of investigating truth by various discussions. It appears from each summons, that none but Members were admitted to the meetings; and that the questions proposed were referred to the consideration of such Members as were thought best qualified. The annexed list exhibits such as were Members of the Society for the 30 years it subsisted, taken from the Cotton MS. before mentioned, from another MS. in the Ashmolean Museum, marked 7088:763, and from the MS. collections of Mr. Francis Tate, who was for some time their Secretary, in the possession of Thomas Aftle, Esq;

In the first are the discourses penned by several of them, and probably read, or given in, at their meetings. In the last are common-place notes or excerpts from all the several authors who have treated on the subject, or the records illustrating them [n]. It is not to be expected that this list should be perfect; but as far as it goes it may be esteemed authentic. The short memoirs of each, as far as concerns their relation to the Society, may not be unacceptable to the world.

[k] Faust. E. v.
[m] Printed by Hearne, ubi sup. p. xxxix.
[n] These heads are ranged under the years 1591 to 1595 inclusive, 1598 to 1601, and prove their meetings to have been not confined to the same day of the week.

AGARDE,
INTRODUCTION.

AGARDE, ARTHUR [o].
ANDREWS, LANCELOT [p].
BEALE, ROBERT [q].
BOWCHIER, HENRY, [r].
BOWYER [s].

[o] A Derbyshire gentleman, bred to the law, Deputy Chamberlain of the Exchequer 45 years, during which he imbibed his Antiquarian knowledge from Sir R. Cotton, to whom he left 20 of his leiger books and MSS. with a Latin treatise of the abbreviations in Domesday, now in the Cotton library. Vit. IX. Eleven more, with a table of records, treaties, &c. he left to the Exchequer. Five of his dissertations, on thires, measures of land, heralds, inns of court, and names of England, are printed by Hearne, p. 29, 70, 100, 105, 157. The heads of four others are in the Cotton MS. He died August 22, 1615, and was buried in the clorysters at Westminister Abbey, where part of his epitaph remains. Camden (Ann. Jac. I. 1615) calls him Antiquarius insignis. Ath. Ox. I. 1520. Antiquities of Westminister Abbey, 1722. His explanation of obsolete words in Domesday is printed in the appendix to Gale’s Registrum de Richmond. His opinion concerning Parliaments, with those of other persons, in 1658, 12°.

[p] Elected a member of this Society in 1604; being then Dean of Westminister, afterwards Bishop of Chichester, Ely, and Winchester. “The most eminent divine of our nation in his time.” He was employed in the new translation of the Bible, just begun. See his letter to Mr. Hartwell, and Ath. Ox. Fasti, I. 122. He died September 22, 1626.


[r] Or Burchyer. Mentioned in Tate’s MS. and by Dr. Smith, appears to have been one of the Fellows so early as 33 Eliz. and is probably the same learned Knight, many of whose letters are printed among Abp. Usher’s.


BROUGHTON,
INTRODUCTION.

BROUGHTON, RICHARD [t].

CAMDEN, WILLIAM [u].

CAREW, RICHARD [w].

CLIFFE, [x].

COMPTON, Lord WILLIAM [y].

COPE, WALTER [z].

COTTON, ROBERT [a].

DAVIES, JOHN [b].

[t] In Tate's MS. he is filled of the Inner Temple, and named in another page Hugh. His opinion of sterling money, signed by himself, is in the Cotton MS. Hearne takes him for the author of the Ecclesi. Hist. of England, printed at Douay in 1633, fol. Monasticon Brit. 1650, 8°, &c. born and buried at Great Stukely, Huntingdonshire, and filed in his epitaph, *Antiquariorum sui saeculi exquisitus.* He died 18 January 1634, Fasti Ox. I. 233.—One Richard Broughton, Esq; Justice of North Wales, is said, in p. 18. of Sir John Wynne's History of the Gwedir family, written about the end of James I. or Charles I. to be the chief Antiquary of England.

[u] Too well known to be further mentioned here, except as author of a paper of Heralds, printed by Hearne, p. 85, and others in the Cotton MS. on the names of Britain, coats of arms, castles, epitaphs, and mottoes.

[w] The Cornish Antiquary, whose memoir on the Measures of Land in Cornwall is in the Cotton MS. He died November 6, 1620.

[x] Or Clifte. Barely mentioned as a Member in the Cotton MS. and by Hearne, p. 112, as is the next but one.


[z] A Knight, Stowe's worshipful friend: (Survey of London, 1603, p. 445), His name is written in the margin of the Cotton MS. by another hand.

[a] Hearne has printed three of his Discourses, p. 167, 178, 182, on towns, measures of land, and mottoes; not in the Cotton MS. where are two more on castles and towns. He died May 6, 1631. See his *Life* by Doctor Smith.

[b] Sir John, the Poet and Lawyer, Attorney-general of Ireland, died in 1606. Ath. Ox. I. 506. The Cotton MS. has a paper of his, on epitaphs, dated 1600.

DETHICKE,
INTRODUCTION.

DETHICKE, Sir WILLIAM [c].
DODDERIDGE, JOHN [d].
DOYLEY [e].
ERDESWICKE, SAMSON [f].
FLEETWOOD, WILLIAM [g].
HAKEWILL WILLIAM [h].

[c] Succeeded his father Sir Gilbert as Garter King at Arms, 21 April, 1586; and in October, 1605, surrendered that office in favour of Sir William Segar. The Society of Antiquaries usually met at his apartments in the Heralds Office. He survived the surrender of his office about eight years; and dying 1612, aged 70, was buried in St. Paul’s Cathedral. Life of him, MS. in the hands of Sir Jof. Ayloffe, Bart. Dugdale’s History of St. Paul’s; Stow’s London, p. 371. Camden styles him, “Omnium quae ad honorem et nobilitatis rationem spectant studium,” Brit. p. 298.

[d] A native of Devonshire, educated at Exeter Coll. Ox. Serjeant to prince Henry, Solicitor General and King’s Serjeant, knighted by James 1607, one of the Judges of the King’s-bench. Hearne printed his paper “on the Measure of Land, p. 66. and a consideration of the office and duties of Herauldes in England, drawn out of sundrye observations,” p. 269. He wrote likewise a discourse concerning the earldom of Cheshire, the history of the duchy of Cornwall, and of the ancient and modern estate of the principality of Wales, printed in 1630, 4to, and 1714, 8vo. Opinion concerning Parliament, published with those of others by his nephew, John Doderidge, 1658, 8o. He died September 13, 1638.

[e] This Matter Doctor Doyley, as he is styled in the Cotton MS. was probably the Physician of Magdalen College, Oxford, who took his degree at Basil in 1592; practised in London, and died 1603. He printed a Spanish Dictionary and Grammar, 1591. Quere, If the same with Archbishop Parker’s Steward, Thomas Doyley? Ath. Ox. I. 320. Tate’s MS. calls him Doctor of Laws.


[h] Of Lincoln’s Inn, Esq; Solicitor to the Queen, brother to Dr. George Hakewill, and a near relation and executor to Sir T. Bodley: “out of his grave and long conversation with Antiquity, he extracted several curious observations concerning the liberty of the subject, and the manner of holding Parliaments.”

Vol. I. b HARTWELL,
INTRODUCTION.

HARTWELL, ABRAHAM [i].
HENAGE, MICHAEL [k].
HOLLAND, JOSEPH [l].
LAMBERT, WILLIAM [m].
LAKE, THOMAS [n].

s says Wood, Ath. Ox. II. 112. Prince's Worthies. He was Regifter to the Society, and his Discourse on our Laws is printed by Hearne, p. 1.

[i] His family and profession appear from the following epigram, among Newton's Encomia illustrium virorum.

“Ad Abrahamum Hartwello D. A, Durovernensis amanuensem.
“Nuper Apollonia floribat fama cohortis
“Hartwello; notum nomen Abramus erat.
“Ociet it, nobis fatis ereptus iniquis:
“Tu suffictus eis, vive, Abraham, diu.”

His paper on Epitaphs in the Cotton MS. begins, “Because I am in tyme the last that was admitted into this Society, and in habilitie the leaft” — and ranks in 1600.

[k] Tate's MS. Keeper of the Tower Records. See Petition to King James. His Remarks on Sterling money are in the Cotton MS.

[l] Of the Inner Temple, Tate's MS. A native of Devon, and an excellent Antiquary. His opinion about Parliaments was printed with others in 1658. Several of his MS. collections, relating to his own and the neighbouring counties of Cornwall and Somerset, are in the Heralds Office, Ath. Ox. I. 521. Five papers by him, on Law Terms, Cities, Heralds, Inns of Court, and the names of Britain, are printed by Hearne, p. 52. 62. 97. 127. 154. Four or five more are in the Cotton MS.

[m] Or Lambarde; Tate's MS. Author of the Perambulation of Kent, which had three editions, 1576, 1596, 1640; and a fourth undated. He was son of an Alderman and Sheriff of London, eminently versed in the Armenian language, and admitted of Lincoln's Inn, where he made a considerable progress in the law. Tanner has enumerated several traits of his, on this and other subjects. His principal work is the collection of Saxon laws, first made by Laurence Noel, Dean of Lichfield; who, going abroad, left them to him to translate and publish, which he did under the title of Ἀρχαϊωνομια, &c. Lond. 1568, 4º; revised by Wheeloc, Cant. 1644. His posthumous Alphabetical Description of England, printed 1730, 4º, has a good head of him by Vertue. His account of a Maundy celebrated at Greenwich, 1572, is printed in p. 7. of this volume. He died 1601, aged 75.

[n] Amanuensis to Sir Francis Walsingham, French and Latin Reader to Queen Elizabeth, Clerk of the Signet, knighted by James I. and made one of his principal Secretaries of State. Ath. Ox. I. 250. Fafti 145. His paper on Sterling money was printed by Hearne, p. 15.

LEY,
INTRODUCTION.

LEY, JAMES [q].
LEIGH, FRANCIS [p].
OLDESWORTH, MICHAEL [q].
PATTEN, WILLIAM [r].
SAVEL [r].


[q] Fellow of Magdalen College, Oxford; Secretary to Philip Earl of Pembroke, and many times Member for Sarum. Faft. Ox. I. 196. Hearne printed a paper of his, on the names of Britain, p. 162, and re-printed a letter of Degory Wheare's to him, Appendix, No III.

[r] The same, undoubtedly, who wrote a Diary of the Duke of Somerset's Expedition into Scotland, where he was present, and styles himself William Patten, of London; printed by R. Grafton, 1548, 12°; and a Kalender of Scripture Names, 1575, 4°. As the first is dated from the Parsonage of St. Mary Hill, Bishop Tanner (Bibl. Brit. p. 581)supposes he was Rector there; but he is not in Newcourt. Thynne, in the Catalogue of English Historians in the last edition of Hollinshead, says he was living in 1586. His name is spelt Paton, in Hearne's Lift, Preface, p. x.

[q] Of the Middle Temple, mentioned by Hearne, p. cxii. Quere, if the person commonly called Long Harry Savile, Kinsman to Sir Henry Savile; eminent in Heraldry and Antiquities, and an intimate friend of Camden; charged with forging the passages favouring the University of Oxford, in Ather and Inglus, having communicated the best MSS. of the former to Camden. He died April 29, 1617. Ath. Ox. I. 419. It does not appear by Wood, that either of these Henry's were of the Temple. Or this might be Thomas Savile, younger brother of Sir Henry Savile, born at Over Bradley in Yorkshire, and Fellow of Merton College, Oxon, and the writer of fifteen letters to Camden, on his Britannia, published in his Epistles, London, 1691, 4°. He died 12 January, 1592, and was buried at Merton College, Oxford. See Tanner's Bibl. Brit. p. 654.

STOWE,
INTRODUCTION.

STOWE, JOHN [t].
SPILMAN, [u].
STRANGEMAN, [w].
TALBOT, THOMAS [x].
TATE, FRANCIS [y].
THYNNE, FRANCIS [z].

[t] We have nothing of this indefatigable collector, relative to the present subject, except some short notes in his own hand, about Parishes, in answer to a question proposed at one of the meetings, 1598, printed by Hearne, p. xxxix.
[u] Stands in Tate's MS. only M'. without a Christian name; but, from the Petition following, appears to have been Sir Henry.
[w] Probably James, whose " name ought to be ever in esteem for his judicious " collections, greatly useful in the History of Essex." Salmon, Hist. of Essex, p. 146. A MS. of his writing, chiefly relating to Monasteries, is in the Cotton Library. Morant's Essex, I. 280.
[x] A Lancashire gentleman; Clerk of the Tower Records, commonly called Limping Tom, assisted Camden in his account of the Earls of each county; and Abington, in the early Bishops of Worcester. The latter calls him, "an excellent Antiquary." A volume of his collections is in the Cotton Library. Vesp. d. xvii.; also, "Escaetorum Inquisitiones de tempore R. Edwardi IV." now in the Heralds Office. He was alive in 1580. Ath. Ox. I. 108. His paper on Shires is printed by Hearne, p. 43. See Preface to Philpot's Catalogue of Lord Chancellors, and Camden's Discourse on Law Courts.
[y] A Northamptonshire gentleman, some time Secretary to the Society, and one of the Welsh Judges, t. J. I. multijugae eruditionis et vetustatis peritissimus, says Selden, Preface to Hengham. A great Lawyer, as well as Antiquary, and of exquisite skill in the Saxon Tongue, Hearne's Preface, p. cxxi. where see the subjects beforesmentioned, on which he supposes he designed to treat for the use of the Society; and his Explanation of Abbreviations in Domeday Book. His opinion about Parliaments was printed with those of others in 1658. His Discourse on Knights made by Abbots, by Hearne, p. 138. and some Queries and Answers about the Ancient Britons, p. 209. He died November 15, 1616. Ath. Ox. I. 409. Camd. An. J. I. 1616.
[z] Or Boteville; son and heir of William Thynne, Esq; Master of the Household to King Henry the VIIIth; educated at Tunbridge school, under the celebrated Historian, Mr. Procter, mentioned by Hollingshed, in his History, p. 1591; from whence he went to Oxford, and soon after removed to Lincoln's Inn. Camden calls him an excellent Antiquary, Brit. in Pref. p. clxix. and in WHITELOCK,
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WHITELOCK, JAMES [a].
WISEMAN [b].
WESTON, ROBERT [c].

No distinction of Officers can be inferred from the list of Members; unless we suppose that Charles Lailand, who summoned them 41 Elizabeth [d], might have been their Secretary, or Register, as

Cambridgeshire and Yorkshire. On the 22d of April, 1602, he was created Lancaster Herald, being then 57 years of age. In 1651, he published certain histories concerning Ambassadors and their functions, dedicated to his good Lord William Lord Cobham, though printed long after his death; and was the continuator of Hollinghed's Chronicle, in which four of his Discourses, on the Earl of Leicester, the Archbishops of Canterbury and the Lords Cobham, and the Catalogue of the Wardens of the Cinque Ports, were suppressed. Hearne's Contents of the Curious Discourses. Several of his Collections are preferred in the Cotton Library, Julius, c. viii. Vitellius, e. v. Cleopatra, c. iii. Faustina, d. viii. He likewise wrote the History of Dover Castle and the Cinque Ports, the Genealogical History of Cobham, Discourses of Arms, concerning the Bath and Batchelor Knights, the History and Lives of the Lord Treasurers, mentioned in a manuscript life of him, now in the collection of Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Bart. besides which, he left large Heraldic collections to the Heralds Office, and Ashmol. Mus. 835, 836. He assisted Speght in his edition of Chaucer with his own notes and those of his father, who published the first edition of that poet, after Caxton, in 1542; as himself intended a subsequent one with a comment. See Speght's Preface, and Ath. Ox. i. 375, compared with p. 61, where Wood blunders strangely about William Thynne. He died in 1608, and not 1611 as mentioned by Wood. Some verses by him on Speght's edition are prefixed to it.


[b] Of this gentleman we find no particulars, except that his family, very considerable in Essex, had inter-married with that of Strangeman. Query, if he was Thomas (Son of John), who died 1585, and whose mother Joan married Strange- man? Morant, ii. 559. Salmon, 156.

[c] Of the Middle Temple. Tate's MS.

[d] Hearne, p. xlvi.
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Mr. Hakewill was in 15 -- [e], and Mr. Tate about the same time. Tate and Boucher were *Moderators*, when eleven others were present, 33 Elizabeth [f]. When Mr. Carew, the Cornish Antiquary, was admitted in 1589, he made an Oration in praise of the Study of Antiquities, &c. [g]. The Discourses above referred to were preserved by Mr. Camden, and have the autographs of their authors. Most of them have been printed by Mr. Hearne, in "A Collection of Curious Discourses written by eminent Antiquaries upon several heads in our English Antiquities," Ox. 1720, 8°, from a MS. of the learned Doctor Thomas Smith, probably a transcript of the more compleat collection in the Cotton Library, which contains other heads and loose minutes, with the authors names. They are inquiries about the Introduction of Christianity into Britain, the Antiquity and Origin of the Laws of England, Law Terms and Inns of Court, Single Combat, Cities and Castles, Measures of Land, Names of the Island, Division of Shires and Parishes, Heraldry, Coats of Arms and Mottoes, Knights made by Abbots, Military Fees, Funeral Ceremonies, Epitaphs and Monuments, Titles of Honour, Offices of Constable, Marshal, and Steward, Forests, and Sterling Money. To which may be added from Mr. Tate's MS. Seals, Tenures, Serjeants, Orders, Counties Palatine, Courts, Manors, and Sanctuaries.

The Society subsisted till James I, alarmed for the arcana of his Government, and, as some think [h], for the established Church, thought fit to dissolve it. Sir Henry Spelman [i] afferts, that it had been discontinued twenty years, from 1594 to 1614: but Camden's offer in 1600 [k], to refer his controvery

[e] Spelman, Loc. cit.
[f] Cotton, MS.
[g] See his life, prefixed to the second edition of his Cornwall, p. 12.
[h] Hearne, p. xxxvi.
[i] Loc. cit.
[k] The first mention of this Society in print.

with
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with Brook to the Collegium Antiquariorum, qui fatis temporibus conveniunt, et de rebus Antiquarioris conferunt, proves it to have been then actually subsisting; and many of the original papers are dated after this year. The latest date being 1604, makes it probable that James put an end to it as soon as he could. It is plain from a letter of Dean Andrews [/], on his admittance, that they admitted Members to the end of 1604.

WHATEVER were the King's motives for dissolving this Society, upon application to him for a Charter, it ceased to subsist publicly, for fear of being prosecuted as a treasonable cabal [m]. About 1617, some proposal was made to the Marquis of Buckingham for its revival. An anonymous MS. formerly in Mr. Oldys's, now in Mr. Weft's possession, intitled, "A Motion for erecting an " Academy Royal, or Colledge of King James, written in 1617," mentions the Society of Antiquaries as absolutely vanished; and

[/] "To the right worshipful my very good friend, Mr. Hartwell, at his " Houfe at Lambeth. 

"SIR,"

"I have received the inclofed (as it was sayd) by direction from you: but the " partie I know not: it was not your hand: it had no mention of my name; 

"and I talkt with Mr. Clarentieux, and he would not certify me that I was " made of your number, and yet he was at your last meeting, when such things " (as he sayd) used to be agreed on before any came in, whereby I thought it " likely the partie might be mistaken that brought your note. But if I may have " notice from yourfelf or Mr. Clarentieux, that you have vouchfased me the favor, " then you fhall perceve well that I will not fail in obedience, though unles it " be that I dare not promise, because I cannot perform ought ells, for I learn every " day more and more gladly. But that this afternoon is our Tranflation * time, " and moft of our company are negligent, I would have seen you; but no " Tranflation fhall hinder me, if once I may understand I fhall committ no error " in coming. And fo, commending me to you in myn ambition, and every way " befyde, I take my leave, this laft of November, 1604, your verie allured poor " friend,"

"L. ANDREWES." 

[m] Life of Carew. Spelman, ubi supra.

* The new Translation of the Bible, in which he was concerned, begun that year by the King's command.
I N T R O D U C T I O N.

defires the Marquis, to whom it is addreffed, to present to the King the petition thereto annexed, and to promote the design with his recommendation and powerful interest. In the body of the Petition, § 5. is the following account, offered as a reason for erecting and establishing the new projected Royal College. "There was also a time, most excellent King, when, as well under Queen Elizabeth, as under your Majeftie, certain choice Gentlemen, Fathers of Families, or otherwife free Maifters, Men of profe, were knit together, fiatis temporibus, by the love of only one part of these Studies," upon contribution among themselves, which company consisted of an Elective President, of Clariffimi, of other Antiquaries, and a Secretary [*]. "But this their Meeting, whose profession reached only to the matter of our Antiquities, without pretending to other the higher points, deserved to have had an incorporative connexion, by way of Authoritie Royal. But as it had not, fo being confequently deprived of the benefit of suffecy and substitution, a few of the friends and perrons dying, whose names nevertheless do live with honour; the late Earls of Shrewsbury [o] and Northampton [p], Sir Gilbert Dethick [q] Knight, Lambert, Esq; Valence, Esq; Erdefwick, Esq; Heneage, Esq; Keeper of the Tower Records, Francis

[n] The words where the inverted commas are omitted are taken from another copy of the fame MS.
[2] Probably Edward Talbot, third fon of George; who, on the death of his brother Gilbert, on the eighth of May, 1616, succeeded to the titles of Earl of Shrewsbury, &c. He, being a younger fon, might probably have studied the Law at one of the Temples, and been more likely to have associated himself with the then Antiquary Students. See Dugdale’s Bar. I. 334, and Edmundfon’s Baronagium Genealogicum, vol. II. p. 84.
[q] An Officer of arms when a young man, being appointed Hammes Pursuivant, 28 H. VIII. and gradually rofe, through the offices of Rouge Croix and Richmond Herald, till he was appointed Garter by Pat. 29 April, 1 E. VI. He was esteemed a learned Antiquary. We do not find that he wrote any books ex-

Thynne,
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"Thynne, Esq.; Lancaster Herald, Sir Henry Fanshaw [r], and
—— Benefield, Esq.; Mr. Talbot, Mr. T. Holland, and Mr.
Stowe, &c. the thing itself is absolutely vanished: succession per-
forming, that in civil bodies, which generation does in natural.
This has not happened without the just grief of all those worthie
patriots, who know your realms afford living persons fit to keep
up and celebrate that Round Table; some of whose names I have
seen quoted, and heard often-times cited as authoritative. The
Lord William Howard [s], the Lord Carew [t], profound Judge
Doderich [Doderidge], Sir Thomas Brudenel [u], Sir William

cept a Treatise on the Jufts of some Spaniards, which he published on the 25th of
November, 1564. He died on the third of October, 1584, aged 84 years; not
48 years, as by mistake is mentioned in the inscription on his son William's monu-
ment, whereon the figures are transposed. He lies buried in the church of St.
Bennet, Paul's Wharf, London. Lives of the Heralds, a Manuscript in the pos-
session of Sir Joseph Ayloffe, Bart.

[r] Quere, of Ware Park, Hertfordshire, Knight, Remembrancer of the Ex-
chequer, died in the reign of James I. Chauncey's Hertf. 208. His tenth son,
Richard, translated Camoens's Lusiad. Faft. Ox. II.

[s] Third son of Thomas Duke of Norfolk, who was beheaded by Queen
Elizabeth, ancestor to the Earl of Carlisle, and the associate of Sir R. Cotton and
Camden, in their Antiquarian pursuits. He died in 1640. His second daughter
married Sir Thomas Cotton, eldest son and heir of Sir Robert Cotton, Bart.

[t] George Lord Carew, of Clopton, who, being "more delighted in martial
affairs than in the solitary delights of a study, left Oxford for Ireland," and
was created by King Charles I. Earl of Totnes. A lover of Antiquities, and a
great patron of learning. The history of the wars in Ireland, especially in the pro-
vince of Munster whereof he was President, was wrote by himself, and published
by Sir Thomas Stafford, under the title of Pacata Hibernia, 1633. fol. His
head by Voerft is prefixed to it. Four volumes of his collections relating to Ireland
are in the Bodleian Library, and others in the Library of the Earl of Ferrers at
Stanton Harold in Leicestershire. He died in 1629.

[u] Probably the first Earl of Cardigan, so created 13 C. I. having been
created a Baronet by J. I. 1611, and knigh'ed 1612. A person generally
learned, who made large extracts from the Tower Records, during his confine-
ment in the civil wars; now in the Library at Deene, Northamptonshire. He
died 1st April, 1664. Dugd. Bar. II. 455.

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Sedley,
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"Sedley [w], Baronets; Sir James Leigh [Ley], Knight, Attorney for your Wards, Sir John Davies, Knight, your Majesty's Attorney for Ireland, whose reports of Law-cases have a great fame, incomparable Camden, and the other two Kings of Arms, Sir William Segar [x] and Sir Richard St. George [y], Knights; Sir Henry James, Knight, Sir Foulke Grevile, Knight, [z] Chancellor of your Majesty's Exchequer, Sir George Buc [a], Master of the Revels, Sir Henry Spilman, Mr. John Hayward [b],

[w] Quere, eldest son of Lady Elizabeth Sedley, to whom the second edition of Weldon's Court of James I. 1651, is dedicated. Ath. Ox. I. 729; and founder of the Natural Philosophy Lecture at Oxford. Fad. L 189.

[x] Sir William Segar was appointed Garter in January 1606; ten years after which, he was imprisoned by James I. for having, by the treacherous contrivance of his and Mr. Camden's great, though unprovoked, enemy, Ralph Brook, York Herald, hastily set his hand to a grant of the arms of Arragon, with a canton of Brabant, to Gregory Brandon, who afterwards appeared to be the common hangman. The said Brook, York Herald, was also imprisoned for his knavery and treachery; but Sir William was, upon the fourth of January following, honourably discharged, upon the Officers of Arms exhibiting to the King a testimonial of his honesty, integrity, and good carriage. He published Honor Civil and Military, 1602; and from his MSS. have lately been published five splendid vols. in folio, continued to the present time by Joseph Edmondson, Esq; Mowbray Herald extraordinary, containing the Genealogies of the English Peers engraved on copper plates, under the title of Baronagium Genealogicum. Sir William died in December 1633, and was buried at Richmond in Surry. MS. Lives of the Heralds, ut supra.

[y] Sir Richard St. George, second son of Francis St. George, in the county of Cambridge; who, having served the offices of Berwick Pursuivant, Windsor, and Norroy, was appointed Clarenceux. He was father of Sir Thomas and Sir Henry St. George, both Garters; and of Richard, Ulster King at Arms, and deemed an able and inquisitive officer. He died on the 17th of May, 1635, and was buried in the chancel of St. Andrew's church, Holborn. MS. Lives of the Heralds, ut supra.

[z] "Servant to Queen Elizabeth, Counsellor to King James, and friend to Sir Philip Sidney." Epitaph. He died 1620. Dugd. Baronage, II. 445, and Warwickshire.


[b] "A faire and learned historian," MS.—Historiographer at Chelsea College; knighted 1619, author of the Lives of the three Norman Kings, of Henry IV, Doctor
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"Doctor of Laws, Henry Ferrars, of Badley, Esq; [c] Mr. Tate,
Mr. Whitelock, Mr. Broke [d], York Herald, Mr. Selden, Mr.
Bolton [e], Sir Edward Coke, Knight, Privy Counsellor [f],
Brerewood, of Gresham College [g], Sir Roger Owen, judge,
Sir Edward Philips, Master of the Rolls, and many others."

To the deceased Members the MS. adds Sir Philip Sidney, Fitz-
Alan [h], last Earl of Arundel of that name, friend and cherisher of
Humphry Lluyd; Thomas Earl of Dorset [i], William Lord

and Edward VI. Elizabeth's lawyers labouring to find treason in that of Henry
VI. he suffered a long imprisonment.

[c] Of Badley-Clinton, "for his eminent knowledge in Antiquities, gave a fair
"luftre to his ancient and noble family, whereof he was no small ornament;
"and his memory is yet of high esteem in these parts." Dugd. Warw. 711. He
died in 1611. His collections were of great use to Dugdale, and are among his
papers in Ashmole's Museum, and a volume of Pedigrees in the Heralds Office.

[d] Author of the Errors in Camden's Britannia, a List of the Nobility, &c.
He died October 15, 1625; and was buried at Reculver, in Kent. MS. Lives of
the Heralds, ut supra.

[e] Probably Edmund, author of Nero Cæsar, History of Henry II. in Speed,
and other pieces.

[f] One of the most eminent lawyers this kingdom has produced, Chief Justice
of the King's Bench 1615, disgraced 1616, and died 1634.

[g] First professor of Astronomy at Gresham College, where he died November
4, 1613. He wrote, De ponderibus veterum nummorum, printed 1614, 4to.

Enquiries touching the diversity of languages and religion, 1614, 4to. and other

[critical tracts

[h] Henry, Knight of the Garter, Privy Counsellor to Henry VIII. and his
three successors, Governor of Calais, Lord Chamberlain, Earl Marshal, Lord
High Steward at the coronation of Queen Elizabeth; died 25 February 1579,
buried at Arundel. Dugdale's Baronage, I. 325.

[i] "Excellently bred in all learning;" author of some Tragedies, and of
Sackville's Induction (which is only part of what he intended for the Mirror of
Magistrates); Lord Treasurer 15 May, 1599; Chancellor of Oxford, 1604.
He shewed great concern for preserving our public Records, and died suddenly
at Council, April 19, 1608. Edmondson's Baronagium Genealogicum, vol. I.
p. 71.

Burghley,
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Burghley [k], the Herberts, Earls of Pembroke [l], the learned Lord Lumley [m], Sir Henry Billingfley [n], Sir William [o] son of Sir Gilbert Dethick, Bartholomew Clark [p] and — Cofens [q], Doctors of Law, and Deans of the Arches, Sir Daniel Donn, Master of the Requests; Sir Walter Cope and Raleigh, Mr. Benedict Barnham [r], Alderman of London; Doctor Cowel [s], Master of Trinity Hall, Cambridge, Mr. Glover, [t] Somerset: and to

[k] Lord Treasurer, patron of Camden, and a skilful Genealogist. Life of him, published by Collins, p. 27. He died 1598.


[m] John, who married the eldest daughter of the Earl of Arundel above-mentioned, and died 1609. He collected all the monuments of his ancestors, and placed them in the church of Cheltenham Street, near Lumley Castle. Camd. Brit. II. 950. The MSS. of these two Peers, and of Henry Lluyd, who married Lord Lumley's sister, were added by James I. to the Royal Library.


[o] Succeeded his father as Garter, died 1612, aged 70; and was buried in St. Paul's Cathedral. Stowe's London, p. 371.

[p] Of King's College, Cambridge, 1554; Dean of the Arches, patronized by Thomas Earl of Dorset, and author of an Answer to Saunders the Jesuit, printed in 1573, 4to. and a defence of the power of the Court of Arches, among Bishope Tanner's MSS. He likewise translated Caffiglioni's Courtier into Latin. He was living in 1593. Fafti Ox. I. 109. Tanner's Bibl. Brit. 185.

[q] An eminent Civilian, Dean of the Arches, and author of several books, of which see Tanner, ib. p. 201.


[s] Author of the "Interpreter of Law Words," 1607, fol. to which his life is prefixed, and which has gone through several editions with considerable improvements. He died October 11, 1611. Prince's Worthies, p. 194.

[t] Somerset, esteemed a most skilful Herald and Antiquary; Camden, in his Apology, calls him "virum maximum et nonquam fatis laudatum Heraldum." See also Dr. Smith's Life of Camden. Mills, p. 28. Camd. Brit. English edition, p. 13. 147. and 634. He was looked upon as the great oracle in Genealogical Antho...
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thofe living at the time, Sir Peter Manwood, Knight of the Bath, and Sir Henry Savile, Knight, Provost of Eton. They proposed to meet at Westminster and Windsor, to have one general Chapter in a Year, and four quarterly Dinners.

Mr. Oldys ascribes this MS. to one Basset, from the following expression in the prefatory address to the Marquis: “But I can otherwise prove your Lordship’s special title to my love and service, both out of the monuments of that family (sprung from the noble Bassets) whereof I am a member, to which your house’s interest extends itself.” But at the end of the tract is this note, or entry, which seems irreconcilable with this opinion:

Mr. F. 15 March, 1617. The subject is more laudable than likely to be successful from you. Your addresses are to long, I fear, to be perused by him;” which must be meant to the author from some person who had the perusal of it, and has largely obliterated, interlined, and added to it throughout. May we be allowed to suppose the author Mr. F. was Henry Ferrars, the learned Antiquary, mentioned with honour and gratitude by Camden in his account of Coventry? His residence was at Badlesley Clinton, Warwickshire, not far from Goadby, in Leicestershire, where the Marquis was eduquities. He wrote two tracts, one De Nobilitate Politica et Civili, and the other intitled, A catalogue of Honour; both of which were after his death published by his nephew, Mr. Milles; the former in 1608, and the other in 1610. He likewise lived to finish his Alphabet of Arms, and several other curious pieces, which still remain in manuscript. He died 10 April, 1588.

[u] Son of Sir Roger Manwood, Chief Baron of the Exchequer, eminently learned, and a patron of literary men; mentioned with great respect by Camden, in Kent, where his seat was, at Hackington. Brit. p. 239. Ed. 1607.

[w] In a note wrote by Mr. Oldys in the aforementioned copy of this MS, formerly in the hands of Mr. Vertue, he had first ascribed it to Sir George Buck; but afterwards, without determining the author, he supposes it a transcript of Mr. West’s, made 1619, between St. George’s day, (then April 23, Camden’s Annals, Jac. I.) and the time of Dr. Hayward’s being knighted. Which, according to Wood, was some time the same year. This copy, now in the Archives of the Society, is addressed to the King himself.
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cated. This supposition will be strengthened by the first sentence of his address to him: "High and most honourable Marquis; It was the happiness of my growing years to behold in your Lord-
ship's person (then very young), at Goadby, that seed, which is since shot up, as the whole world sees, into a most eminent, brave, and spacious tree, &c. " The date of the Petition is plainly ascertained to be between New-year's Day 1617, when G. Villars was created Marquis of Buckingham, and the 25th of March following, when the year 1618 commenced, or the 15th of that month, when the above entry was made.

From this time to the beginning of the present century, the Society of Antiquaries remained as it were in abeyance. The only mention of it occurs in Mr. Ashmole's Diary, where we have a memorandum that "July 2, 1659, was the Antiquaries feast." But the defect was amply compensated, by the many eminent men who pursued these studies with unremitting ardour and unparalleled success, through all the impediments and horrors of civil war, which seemed to threaten a return of worse than monkish ignorance, by the sweeping havoc made of our Monuments, and the gross confusion into which our Records were in those times thrown. Among the Worthies whom the study of our national Antiquities places in the most distinguished light, were Roger Dodsworth, Sir William Dugdale, William Somner, Sir Henry Spelman, John Selden, Archbishop Usher, Elias Ashmole, Anthony Wood, and Abraham Wheeloc. To the labours of these men, in whom extensive knowledge was united with indefatigable application, we owe the preservation of that treasure of Records contained in our Monastic repositories, the maintenance of the rights of our national church, the history of one of our famous Universities, the enlargement of our topographical acquaintance with our own country, the memorials of our nobility, and of the earliest order of honour among us, and the revival of that language most interesting to us as Englishmen.

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To these illustrious names, let us add others to whom we have great obligations in the same way. John Aubrey, who first brought us acquainted with the earliest monuments on the face of the country, the remains of Druidism, and of Roman, Saxon, and Danish fortifications; John Weever, the first collector of monumental Inscriptions, illustrated with many remarkable facts, and preserving the memorials of many persons who would otherwise have been lost in oblivion; Dr. Meric Casaubon, Thomas Marsham, Richard James, William Lisle, Franciscus Junius, and Sir John Spelman (son of Sir Henry), who made so many discoveries in the Saxon and other Northern languages; and Dr. Hickes, the greatest restorer of that kind of literature among us; Bishop Fell, and Sir Henry Savile, who, following the example of Sir Roger Twyford in the preceding age, promoted the publication of so many of our early historians; Dr. William Watts, who gave the world a correct edition of the best of them, Matthew Paris; Henry Wharton, so experienced in our ecclesiastical Historians; Thomas James, that "living library," and first keeper of Sir Thomas Bodley's, who took an account of that and of all other libraries at Oxford; Sir Symonds D'Ewes, who made large collections of state papers and records, now in the Harleian library; Augustine Vincent and Randal Holmes, those laborious collectors in the heraldic department, the former of whom had planned a Baronage; Thomas Fuller, who first devised a History of our Worthies in Church and State; Thomas Earl of Arundel, to whom this nation is indebted for the first collection of Ancient Marbles, and Dr. Prideaux, who published them to the world with a critical illustration; Dr. Plot, who first attended to the Natural History of Counties among us. Bishop Stillingfleet, who has so ably elucidated the history of our early Church; Bishop Kennet, Bishop Nicolson, and Bishop Tanner [x], who have conferred so great obligations on the Antiquary.

[x] This excellent Antiquary, the only one of the persons here enumerated that was a Member of the Society of Antiquaries, was born 1674, chosen quarian.
quarian republic; Dr. Thomas Smith, whose immense collections were of so much use to Mr. Hearne in his many publications; Brian Twyne, the first Oxford Antiquarian; and William Fulman, no less laborious in the same pursuit; Mr. Thomas Baker, whom death only prevented from digesting his immense invaluable collections for the sister University; Edward Lluyd, Dr. John Davis, Dr. Powell, Robert Vaughan, and Sir Edward Stradling, to whom their native Wales [y] has great obligation; as has Scotland to Sir Robert Sibbald [z] and Sir George Mackenzie.

Fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, 1697; Chancellor of Norwich, 1701; Prebendary of Ely, 1713; Archdeacon of Norwich, 1722; Canon of Christ Church, 1723; Bishop of Saint Asaph, 1731; died 1735; having published before he was twenty-two years old, Notitia Monaestica, 1695, 8vo, republished in folio, 1751, with great additions, (which he began to collect in 1715,) by his brother Dr. John Tanner, Precentor of St. Asaph, and Rector of Hadley, Suffolk. His Bibliotheca Britannico-Hibernica, which employed him forty years, was published by Dr. D. Wilkins, 1748, folio. He left large collections for the County of Wilts, and large notes on Richard Hegge's Legend of St. Cuthbert, 1663. His immense and valuable collections are now in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. His portrait was engraved at the expence of the Society.

[z] The works of this learned Antiquary, who justly boasts that he first broke the ice in writing the Antiquities of his country, are now grown scarce, and are, Introductio ad historiam rerum a Romanis gestarum, in Britannia Boreali, Edinb. 1706, f. Historical Enquiries concerning Roman Monuments, &c. in Scotland, Ed. 1707, f. Miscellanea eruditorum Antiquitatis quae ad Borealem Britanniae partem spectant, with an Appendix about the friths Botodria and Tay, Ed. 1710. f. Commentarius in Agricolæ expeditiones, Ed. 1711, f. Portus, Colonie, et Castella Romana ad Botodriam et Taum, Ed. 1711, f. The Introductio, Miscellanea and Commentarius, with their appendages, and the Vindiciae, are printed, Ed. 1711, f. under the common title of Tractatus varii. Auditarium Mufaei Balfouriani, Ed. 1697, 8°. Scotia illustrata, five Prodomus Historiae Naturalis, Ed. 1684, f. Nuncio Scoti-Britannius, 1683, f. Vindiciae Scotiae illustratae, 1710, f. Phalainologia nova, 1692, 4°. besides several pieces on Natural History in the Philosophical Trans-
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SOME of these great men had scarce retired from the world, when the Antiquarian Society began to revive under the auspices of their worthy imitators; some of them their cotemporaries. A number of gentlemen eminent for their affection to, and advances in, this science, had weekly meetings, at the Bear Tavern in the Strand, so early as the year 1707. Mr. Talman, Mr. Bagford, and Mr. Wanley, met there Nov. 5. that year, and agreed to do so every Friday, at fix in the evening, and sit till ten at far-theft. The subject of their conversation was to be, the History and Antiquities of Great Britain, preceding the reign of James I., but without excluding any other remarkable Antiquities that might be offered to them. To these were soon joined, Mr. Peter Le Neve, Norroy, Mr. Holmes, keeper of the Tower Records, Mr. Maddox, the learned Exchequer Antiquary [z], Mr. Batteley [a] the Kentifh Antiquary, Mr. Elftob [b] the Saxonift, Mr. Stebbing, Somerfet

actions History of the Sheriffdoms of Fife and Kinrofs, 1710, f. and of those of Linlithgow and Stirling, 1710, f. A Description of the Isles of Shetland. But of these, with his additions to Camden, and his MSS. collections, see Anecdotes of British Topography in Scotland, particularly p. 620, 621, 625, 655.

[z] Historiographer Royal, who published Formulare Anglicanum, 1702, f. Firma Burgi, 1726, f. Baronia Anglicana, 1741, f. and the History of the Exchequer, 1711, f. reprinted 1769, 2 vol. 4°., and left 40 Volumes of Collections for a History of the Feudal Law, now in the Harleian Library, to which they were presented by his widow.

[a] Probably Dr. John Batteley, native of St. Edmunds Bury, Fellow of Trinity College, Cambridge, Chaplain to Archbishop Sanftroft, Rector of Adifham, near Canterbury, Archdeacon of Canterbury; died October 10, 1718, aged 61. His Antiquitates Rutupinae were published 1711, 8°., and again with his Antiquitates S. Edmundi Burgi, by his Nephew, Oliver, Ox. 1745, 4°.

[b] Mr. Elftob, son of Ralph Elftob, Merchant at Newcastle, was born in 1673, educated at Eton, admitted at Catherine Hall, Cambridge; but the air of that county not agreeing with him, he removed to Queen's College, Oxford, and was afterwards chosen Fellow of University College, where he was joint Tutor with Dr. Clavering, afterwards Bishop of Peterborough. He was Rector of the united parishes of St. Swithin, and St. Mary Bothaw, London, 1702, where he

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Herald [c], Mr. Hare, Richmond Herald, Mr. Sanderfon, Clerk of
died, 1714. He translated into Latin the Saxon Homily of Lupus, dated 1701, with
notes for Dr. Hickes; and into English Sir J. Cheke’s Latin translation of Plutarch
De superflitione, printed at the end of Strype’s life of Cheke, out of the MS. of
which Ob. Walker, when Master of University College, had cut several leaves
containing Cheke’s remarks against popery. He was author of an Essay on the
great affinity and mutual agreement of the two professions of Law and Divinity,
London, ——, 8°, with a preface by Dr. Hickes; and of two sermons on public
occasions, 1704. He published Afcham’s Latin Letters, Oxford, 1703, 8°; com-
piled an Essay on the Latin Tongue, its history and use, in which he was a very
great proficient; collected for a History of Newcastle; also the various proper
names formerly used in the North; but what is become of these MSS. is not known.
His most considerable design was an edition of the Saxon Laws, with great addi-
tions, and a new Latin Version by Somner, notes of various learned men,
and a prefatory history of the origin and progress of the English Laws to the Con-
quero, and to Magna Charta. He intended also a translation with notes, of Alfred’s
paraphrastic version of Orosius, of which his transcript with collations is in Mr.
Pegge’s hands, and another by Mr. George Ballard, with the latter’s large preface
on the use of Anglo-Saxon literature, was left by the late Bishop of Carlisle to
the Antiquarian Society’s library. A specimen of Mr. Elstob’s design was actu-
ally printed at Oxford, MDCIO. His learned sister Elizabeth was born in 1683:
Her mother, to whom she owed the first rudiments of her extraordinary education,
dying when she was but eight years old, her guardians discouraged her progress in
literature, as improper for a person of her sex; and after her brother’s death she
met with so little patronage, and so many disappointments, that she retired to
Evesham; where, having with difficulty subsisted some time by a small school,
she was at last countenanced by Mr. George Ballard, and the wife of the Reverend
Mr. Capon, who kept a boarding school at Stanton, in Gloucestershire: and raised
for her, among her friends, an annuity of 21l. which the late Queen Caroline
was pleased to continue to her own death: after which this lady, mistress of
eight languages besides her own, was taken into the family of the Duchess dowager
of Portland, as governess to her children, 1739, in which she died, May 30,
1756, and was buried at St. Margaret’s Westminster, having published a translation
of Madame Scudery’s Essay on Glory; and a Saxon Grammar, in 1715, 4°. The
Homily on St. Gregory’s day, published by her brother, in the Saxon language, 1709,
8°, has her English translation besides his Latin one. She assisted him in an edition
of Gregory’s Pastoral, intended probably to have included both the original and
the Saxon version, and had transcribed all the Hymns from an ancient MS. in
Salisbury Cathedral. She had undertaken, by the encouragement of Dr. Hickes, a
Saxon Homiliarium, with an English translation, notes, and various readings; and
the Rolls, Mr. A. D. Bourchier [d], and others, who removed next year to the Young Devil Tavern, in Fleet-street, where they held their meetings until February 1707-8. Mr. Le Neve was president, and they debated on the several subjects that came before them with a free communication of their respective lights,

five or more of the Homilies were actually printed off at Oxford in folio. Memoirs of Mr. Elstob and his sister, communicated to the Society by the Reverend Mr. Pegge, 1768. Two of her letters to the Earl of Oxford, dated 1713 and 1713-14, and one of her brother’s, are among the Harleian MSS. No. 7254. The Saxon types, which were used in printing St. Gregory’s Homily, having been burnt in the fire which consumed Mr. Bowyer’s house and all his printing materials, Lord Chief Justice Parker was so munificently indulgent as to be at the expense of cutting a new Saxon type for Mrs. Elstob’s Saxon Grammar, the punches and matrices of which Mr. Bowyer’s son presented, by the hands of Edward Rowe Mores, Esq; to the University of Oxford, with the following letter:

"To Edward Rowe Mores, Esq; at Low-Layton.

"Sir,

"I make bold to transmit to Oxford, through your hands, the Saxon punches and matrices, which you was pleased to intimate would not be unacceptable to that learned body. It would be a great satisfaction to me, if I could by this means perpetuate the munificence of the noble Donor, to whom I am originally indebted for them, the late Lord Chief Justice Parker, afterwards Earl of Mac-cessfield, who, among the numerous benefactors which my father met with, after his house was burnt in 1712-13, was so good as to procure those types to be cut, to enable him to print Mrs. Elstob’s Saxon Grammar. England had not then the advantage of such an artifit in letter-cutting as has since arifen : and it is to be lamented that the execution of these is not equal to the intention of the Donor; I now add, of the place in which they are to be reposed. However, I esteem it a peculiar happiness, that, as my father received them from a great patron of learning, his son configns them to the greatest seminary of it, and is,

Sir,

Dec. 4, 1753.

"Your most obliged friend,
"and humble servant,

"W. Bowyer."

[c] Samuel Stebbing published, in 1707, a new edition of Sandford’s Genealogical History of the Kings and Queens of England, continued to that time, with other improvements.

[d] Quære, if not Dr. Richard Bowcher, Archdeacon of Lewes, from 1693 to 1702, who assisted Le Neve in his Faft of that church.
worthy the pursuits they were engaged in. They met afterwards at the Fountain Tavern, in Fleet-street, over against Chancery Lane; at which time, Brown Willis, Esq; Mr. Edward Alexander, Dr. Brook, Mr. John Chicheley, Roger and Samuel Gale, Esquires, Mr. Mickleton, Mr. Pavey, Mr. Warkhouse, Mr. Maurice Johnson, with his brother, Dr. Stukeley, Mr. Rymer, Mr. Anstis, Mr. Lawton, and others, associated themselves with them. In a Harleian MS. No. 7055, whence some of the above particulars are taken, we have the following sketch of what such a body might propose to do for the illustration of our National Antiquities.

[e] Who published the Feadera in 18 volumes folio; continued after his death by Mr. Sanderson.

[f] Native of St. Neots in Cornwall, born September 28, 1669, admitted at Exeter College, Oxford, 1685, and three years after at the Middle Temple; represented the borough of St. Germans, 1702, 1703, 1704, in parliament, where he distinguished himself against the bill for occasional conformity, for which he got ranked in the list of the Tackers, printed about that time. He was appointed Deputy general to the Auditors of the Imprestit, 1703, which office he never executed; one of the principal Commissioners of Prizes, 2 Ann. Garter King of Arms 13 Ann. in which place he died 1734, and was succeeded by his son, of both his names, who died 1754. Mr. Anstis the father published, in 1724, "The Black Book of the Order of the Garter, with a Specimen of the Lives of the Knights," folio; and in 1725, "Observations introductory to an historical Effay on the Knighthood of the Bath," 4°. intended as an Introduction to the History of that Order, for which this Society had begun to collect materials. His Apologia, a discourse on Seals in England, with beautiful draughts, almost fit for publication; of which Mr. Drake read an abstract to the Society, in 1735-6, and two folio volumes of Drawings of Sepulchral Monuments, Stone Circles, Crosses, and Castles in the three kingdoms, were purchased, with many other curious papers, at the sale of Mr. Anstis's Library of MSS. by Thomas Astle, Esq; F. A. S. to whom we are obliged for the former half of this note, from some Latin memoranda of Mr. Anstis's life in his own hand. Besides these, he left in MS. two large folio volumes on the Office, &c. of Garter King at Arms, and of Heralds in general; memoirs of the Talbot, Carew, Granville, and Courtney families; the Antiquities of Cornwall and of Culliton: and large collections relative to All-Souls College, Oxford, by whom they were bought.
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A Compleat History of Great Britain and Ireland, with their most celebrated Antiquities; also Maps and Charts, and a Chorographical Description of the Counties.

Volumes of several Old English Historians, not yet printed.

An Historical Account of the Coin, and of the several Mints, with Draughts.

A Compleat Treatise of the Price of Provisions, in Chronological Order, through the Counties.

To print Domesday, and the Red Book of the Exchequer.

An Historical Account of Castles, especially the most ancient and famous, with their Privileges, Officers, &c.

Ditto of Cities, Boroughs, and Companies; Counties Palatine, Honours, and Manors.

The KING.


An Account of the Revenues, Demesne Lands, and Palaces, with the remarkable things done in them.

Of the King's Household; with the several Officers, their Antiquity, Jurisdiction, Rights, Privileges, Salaries, Habits, &c.

Some Volumes of Journals of the King's Council, or scarce Proclamations, Instructions to Ministers, Negotiations, and other State Papers.

Expences of the King's Household, Wardrobe, and Jewel House; Accounts and Lists of the Jewels, and Furniture, with Prices.

Wars, and ancient Military Discipline: Method of raising and maintaining Armies.

Great Officers of the Kingdom.

The CHURCH.

A Monasticon, enlarged to 30 or 40 Volumes.

History of the Greater Abbies, and of the Dissolution.
INTRODUCTION.

Lift of Saints, and their Festivals, and of all Dignitaries in Cathedrals: also of Monastical Officers, Rectors and Vicars of greater Parishes.

Accounts of the several Books used in the Latin Church, like Allatius's of the Greek ones.

History of the Knights Templars.

The PEOPLE.

 Remarkable Customs and Ceremonies, in Lands, Tenures, at Court, in the Field and Fleet.

Habits of all States and Degrees, with Names and Draughts, Weapons, Instruments and Utensils, with ditto.

Lift of Nobility, Officers of State, High Sheriffs, Mayors, &c.

Parliament Rolls and other Records, the more scarce.

Chivalry and Heraldry.

Manufactures and Handicrafts.

GOOD BOOKS WANTED.

A Treatise on Seals, with Draughts.


Domesday, and the Red Book of the Exchequer.

A Glossary, including Somner, Spelman, Cowel, &c. and new Words from Charters, and other MSS.

A Compleat Anglo-Saxon Bible.

Another Bible of Wickliffe's Time, with a comparative Account of later Editors and Translations.

A Dictionary for fixing the English Language, as the French and Italian.

A Book wherein the several Offices, Fashions, Habits, Utensils, &c. introduced into England, might be noted in Chronological Order.

A Body of Saxon Laws and Homilies: a Cento Saxonicus, and a Britannia Saxonica, desired by Dr. Hickes.

Of the Use of Musick, Interludes, Masques, and Plays in England.

Collections
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Collections of Letters and Hands, with Explanations of Abbreviations.

"Such a Society" (says the author of this plan, who was probably Mr. Wanley) "will bring to light, and preserve, all old Monumental Inscriptions, &c. Architecture, Sculpture, Painting, Engraving, Music, will come under their consideration; and, the ancient methods being restored, many things may be used afresh. They will explain obscurities, not only in our own, but in Greek and Roman authors. A correspondence might be maintained through England and abroad, and fit persons sent to travel over England and abroad, to inspect Books and MSS. to draw ancient Fortifications, Castles, Churches, Houses, Tombs, Inscriptions, Epitaphs, Painted Glass, &c. and, if need be, to buy up the most curious for the Society. This Establishment, their Library and Repository, would be an ease and satisfaction to the Officers of State, and to Foreigners, that attend their Meeting; a seminary and school, for learning the ancient constitution, laws, and customs, of this Kingdom; and to promote Trade, Manufactures, &c." Mr. Wanley seems to have laid this plan before the Earl of Oxford (whose house he thought the most proper for the meeting, on account of his library), in order for his procuring the incorporation from the Queen, and her warrant to all keepers of the Records and Libraries, to suffer Mr. Wanley to peruse, and transcribe, what he thought fit, gratis.

After these meetings had continued about ten years, as the number of gentlemen who composed them increased, it was resolved to form themselves into a Society, to meet every Wednesday evening: each member to pay ten shillings and six pence on his admission, and one shilling on the first Wednesday in every month [g].

[g] Since the incorporation of the Society, the admission fee is fixed at five guineas, and the annual payment at one; or ten guineas over and above the admission fee, in lieu of annual contribution, for ever.
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towards defraying the expence of engraving and publishing such
curious monuments, or dissertations, as, after having been twice
proposed at a general meeting, should be approved by the ma-
jury present. A President, Secretary, Director, and Treasurer,
to be elected by the majority, on the third Wednesday in Ja-

The President to have a double vote in all debates on an
equality, and to nominate one or more Vice Presidents. The
Secretary to read the papers offered, and to transcribe them into
a book; and to register all Orders, Minutes, Admissions, Dona-
tions, &c. The Director to superintend all the Drawings, Prints,
and Publications, and deliver to the members their share in such
works; and to receive, and give in, the votes on a ballot. The
Treasurer to receive Subscriptions, Admission Fees, and Contribu-
tions, and to pay the necessary disbursements: his accounts to be
audited and registered annually. Every new Member to be bal-
loted for the night after he is proposed; and nine Members to be
present at every act of the Society. Every Member who is a
year in arrears, on notice, and failure of payment within six
months after, to be expunged from the list. Correspondents, in
remote parts of the kingdom, were to address their letters to Mr.
Gosling, Bookseller, in Fleet-street, one of the Members. Every
Member to have one, or more, of the yearly publications, amount-
ing to the value of his yearly subscription, at prime cost; the reft
to be sold for the benefit of the Society. And whatever drawings or
prints may be useful to the works of any other person, he might,
by consent of the majority, have the use of them, or any number
of impressions, at an agreed price, or acknowledgement, or on
paying half the cost of drawing, or engraving, for as many copies

[b] The election of Officers is now fixed to St. George's day, April 23.
[i] Now six nights, except Noblemen.
[k] Now two years, and two months notice.
as amount to the prime cost: the plate remaining to the Society [7].

The Society had met during the Michaelmas Term, 1717-18; but their first Election of Officers was in January, 1717-18, when Peter Le Neve, Esq. was chosen President, Dr. Stukeley Secretary, Mr. Samuel Gale Treasurer, and Mr. John Talman Director. The Founders of this Society, as entered in Dr. Stukeley's copy of their Minute Book, July 1717, were,

Peter Le Neve [m],
William Stukeley [n],
John Talman [o].

[7] Dr. Stukeley's MS. in the Archives of the Society.

[m] Norroy, one of the most eminent preservers of our Antiquities in this century. Dr. Smith (Synop. Bibl. Cotton, p. 42) mentions a copious and accurate History of Norfolk, preparing for the press by him. He died 1730, and was succeeded as President by the Earl of Hertford, afterwards Duke of Somerset; who dying in 1749, the Duke of Richmond was elected; and, on his death, in the following year, Martin Folkes, Esq. succeeded. The Society, on the demise of this learned Antiquary 1754, elected Hugh Lord Willoughby of Parham, and on his death, 1765, the late Dr. Lyttelton, Bishop of Carlisle, whose zeal for these studies will render his memory ever dear to all Antiquaries, and especially to this Society, to whom he was a considerable benefactor. He was succeeded 1768, by the Reverend Dr. Miles, Dean of Exeter.

[n] This indefatigable searcher after British Antiquities in the earliest periods, died 1765, aged 78; having published the first volume of Itinerarium Curiosum; 1724, fol. and elaborate descriptions of Stonehenge and Abury, 1723 and 1740, fol. An Account of Richard of Cirencester, with his Map of Roman Britain and the Itinerary thereof, 1757, 4°. Palæographia Britannica, 3 Nos. 1743, 1746, and 1752. Palæographia Sacra, 3 Nos. 1736, 1752, 1760; and some lesser tracts. History of Carausius, 1757-9, 4°. His library, and other curiosities, were sold by auction at Essex-house, 1766. He was succeeded as Secretary by Mr. Alexander Gordon; and he, in 1741, by Mr. Joseph Ames; to whom was associated, in 1754, the Reverend Mr. William Norris; now, by the death of Mr. Ames, sole Secretary.

[o] A Yorkshire gentleman, an elegant delineator of Architecture and Monuments, died 1726; succeeded in this office of Director to the Society, by Sir Charles Frederick, Dr. Birch, Dr. Ward, Dr. Taylor, and the present Master of the Temple, Dr. Gregory Sharpe. A considerable number of his drawings are in the possession of the Society. Mr. West has another collection of them.
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EDWARD ALEXANDER [p].
ROGER GALE [q].
SAMUEL GALE [r].
HENRY HARE [s].

[p] Admitted Proctor in Doctors Commons 1695; some years Registrar to the Commisary of London Diocese, died October 27, 1751, aged 80. See Morant's Essex, under Ongar, I. 129.

[q] Son of that eminent critic and antiquary Dr. Thomas Gale, Dean of York; Commissioner of Excise, Treasurer of the Royal Society, and one of the Vice-presidents of this; published the Registrum Honoris de Richmond, 1722, fol. and his father's Comment on Antoninus's Itinerary, 1709, 4°. His discourse on the four Roman Ways in Britain is printed in the 6th volume of Leland's Itinerary, and Remarks on a Roman Inscription found at Lancaster, in the Philosophical Transactions, No. 357. He died 1744; and his collection was sold by auction.

[r] Brother to Roger; Commissioner of the Customs; published the Antiquities of Winchester Cathedral, 1715, 8°, and died 1754: having been Treasurer to this Society 21 years; in which office he was succeeded by Mr. Compton; and he, 1762, by Mr. Colebrooke, the present Treasurer.

[s] Late Earl of Coleraine; descended, by the younger branch, from Sir Nicholas Hare, Baronet, Master of the Rolls, and Privy Councillor to King Henry VIII. (the elder branch being seated at Stow Hall, in Norfolk) was born at Blechingley, in Surrey, May 10, 1693; educated at Enfield, under Dr. Uvedale. After the death of his grandfather, Hugh Earl of Coleraine, 1708, by which he succeeded to the title, he was admitted at Corpus Christi College, Oxford; the President of which, Dr. Turner, married one of his sisters; and Dr. Basil Kennet, who succeeded to the Presidency, 1712, inscribed an epistolary poem on his predecessor's death to his Lordship. He was a great proficient in the learned languages, particularly the Greek; and eminently versed in History, both Civil and Ecclesiastical; had made the tour of Italy three times; the second time with Dr. Conyers Middleton, about 1723, in which he made a noble collection of Prints and Drawings of all the Antiquities, Buildings, and Pictures in Italy; given after his decease to Corpus Christi College. The esteem in which he was held by the Literati procured him admittance into the Litteraria Republica di Arcadia; and the particular intimacy of the Marquis Scipio Maffei; who afterwards visited him at his ancient manor and seat at Tot enham, in Middlesex. His Lordship died at Bath, August 10, 1749; and was buried in the family vault at Tottenham, built, with the vestry, by his grandfather. His very valuable collection of Prints and Drawings, relative to English Antiquities, was procured after

JOHN
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JOHN HARE [x].

GEORGE HOLMES [u].

JAMES MICKLETON [x].

WILLIAM BECKET [y].

JOHN CHICHELEY.

— WROTTESLEY.

— PAVEY.

HUMPHREY WANLEY [z].

ROBERT SANDERSON [a].

his death for this Society, by Mr. Henry Baker, to whom we are obliged for this account of his Lordship.

[x] Richmond Herald; died 1720.

[u] Many years Clerk to Mr. Petit in the Tower; after whose death he was appointed, by Lord Halifax (then President of a Committee of the House of Lords), to methodize and digest the Tower Records, at a yearly salary of twelve hundred pounds, continued to his death, in 1748, in the 87th year of his age.

[x] Of Grays Inn, Esq; inherited many valuable collections relative to the city of Durham, made by his grandfather, who held a public office there. Quere, if the epitaph in the Minster yard there, printed by Le Neve (Mon. Ang. III. 138) on Christopher Mickleton, of Mickleton, in Yorkshire, and Student of Clifford's Inn, who died 1669, belongs to this collector. Davis's Rites of Durham, 1671, are dedicated to James Mickleton, who came to an untimely end, about 1719; a Letter from Mr. Sare to H. Wanley, Harl. MS. 3782, where, it is said, Mr. Spearman, Under-sheriff, and Deputy-registrar in Chancery at Durham, would endeavour to purchase his collections.


[z] An eminent adept in the Saxon Antiquities, and the science of distinguishing the different sorts of writing, of which last he intended to publish specimens. He drew up a Supplement to Hyde's Catalogue of the Bodleian MSS. which Mr. Hearne published. He travelled over England, at the desire of Dr. Hickes, in quest of Saxon MSS. of which he gave the account in the Doctor's Thesaurus; and intended an edition of the Bible in Saxon. He was Librarian to Lord Oxford until his death, 1726. In the Society's room is an original picture of him by Mr. Thomas Hill, 1711.

[a] Usher of the Court of Chancery, Clerk of the Rolls; assisted Mr. Rymer in publishing the Foedera, which he continued after Mr. Rymer's death, beginning with the 16th volume; and died Dec. 25, 1741.
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WILLIAM NICHOLAS [b].
MAURICE JOHNSON [c].
SAMUEL KNIGHT [d].
GEORGE VERTUE [e].
BROWN WILLIS [f].
ROBERT STEPHENS [g].
JOHN HARWOOD, [b].

[b] Store-keeper in the Tower, died at Shaftesbury, Dec. 27, 1749, aged 81; the last of the family of Sir Edward Nicholas, who was Secretary of State to Charles I. and II.

[c] Native of Spalding in Lincolnshire, and Steward of that manor, where he founded an Antiquarian Society as a Cell to this of London, to which he from time to time communicated their minutes. Dr. Stukeley (Itin. Cur. p. 22.) insinuates, that a particular account of Spalding was expected from this eminent Antiquary, who died Feb. 1, 1755.

[d] LL.D. Archdeacon of Berks, Prebendary of Ely, Rector of Blunttham in Huntingdonshire; published Lives of Erasmus and Dean Collet, 1724, 1726, 8vo. and died 1748.

[e] Distinguished by his warm pursuit of our Antiquities, and accurate delineation of every curious Monument that came within his notice. He died July 24, 1756; and a considerable part of his collections, notes, and drawings, are now in the hands of the Hon. Horace Walpole. The Engravings published by the Society during a course of 50 years were executed by him.

[f] Esq; LL.D. of Whaddon-hall, Bucks, grandson of the famous physician, Dr. Thomas Willis. He was admitted at Christ Church, Oxford, 1699; represented the town of Buckingham, 1705; and died 1760, aged 78; leaving to the University of Oxford his valuable cabinet of English Coins, and some MSS. He published Notitia Parliamentaria, 3 vol. 8vo. 1715, 1716, 1730. History of the Mitred Abbeys, 2 vol. 8vo, 1718, 1719. Surveys of the Welsh Cathedrals, 4 vol. 8vo, 1715—1721. and of many of those in England; with a Parochial Anglicanum, 1727, 2 vol. 4to. A new edition of Eton's Thesaurus, 1754, 4to. and the History and Antiquities of the Town and Hundred of Buckingham, 1755, 4to.

[g] Succeeded Mr. Madox as Historiographer Royal; died 1732; published Lives of North, &c.

[h] LL.D. Of Queen's Coll. Camb. F. R. S. Commissary to the Dean and Chapter of St. Paul's; admitted Advocate in the Commons, Oct. 24, 1689; died about 1740.

Their
Their Minutes begin February 5, 1747, with a resolution to engrave the three first Prints in the present list [i]. To this resolution successfully pursued we owe the preservation of many valuable Monuments in our own country. For the encouragement of other like publications, it was the practice, when six of the Members subscribed to any work, to include a seventh copy for the Society's library. Every Member, or whoever was admitted to be present, brought from time to time whatever they had of their own, or their friends, that was curious or uncommon; as Coins, Medals, Seals, Intaglios, Cameos, MSS. Deeds, Records, Rolls, Genealogies, Extracts and Memoranda, Pictures, Drawings, or Printed Books; on which, as they were handed round the table, each gave his opinion. Accounts, and frequently Drawings, of these exhibitions, were entered in the Minutes; and where-as it was the practice at first only just to minute down the reading of such Dissertations as were offered by the Members on particular subjects; Abstracts of each have lately been taken, or the Dissertations themselves deposited in the Archives of the Society.

In 1724, when the Earl of Hertford was President, they determined to collect accounts of all the ancient Coins relative to Great Britain and its dominions. The British class or series was undertaken by Dr. Stukeley, who had engraved fifteen plates before he died; the Roman by Mr. Roger Gale and Mr. Aynsworth [k]; the Saxon by Mr. Wanley; the Danish by Mr. S. Gale; and the English by the Earl of Hertford, Mr. Le Neve, Mr. William Nicholas, and the Rev. Mr. Creyke [l]. Martin Folkes, Esq; a Member of this Society, intending a compleat account of the latter class in Gold and Silver, prevailed with them, in 1731, to lay

[i] St. James's Font, Ulfs's Horn, and Rich. II.
[k] Author of the Latin Dictionary, of the Monumenta Vetustatis Kempiana, 1720, 8vo. de Clypeo Camilli antiquo Dissertatio, 1734, 4to. Isius, five, ex veteris monumenti Isiaci descriptione, Isidis deubrum referatum, 1729, 4to.
[l] Chaplain and Executor to Heneage Earl of Winchelsea.
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aside their design, after they had engraved some of Bishop Sharpe’s and other tables of our Gold and Silver Coins[m]. Upon the death of Mr. Folkes, 1754, the Society purchased his plates and copy of his executors, and compleated his design, by republishing his tables and plates, with explanations, at their own expence, in 1763, in quarto. Another design was to collect all papers, &c. relative to the Order of the Bath, to compile a History of it, as Mr. Ashmole had done of that of the Garter. Nor should we, in justice to the Society, omit that other most laudable plan for illustrating the Topography of Great Britain, by the useful queries, circulated by them over the kingdom; answers to which were to be addressed to their Secretary. Notwithstanding this most useful scheme failed, every one must be convinced of the great advantages to be derived from it.

The number of Members was at first limited to One Hundred; and no Honorary ones allowed of. Their first Meetings were held at a Tavern; and having treated without success for a piece of ground in White Fryars, to build on, they removed, 1724, to apartments in Gray’s Inn, and afterwards in the Temple. On the death of the Earl of Winchelsea, Dr. Stukeley’s removal to Grantham, and the absence of Mr. Le Neve, Mr. Gale, and other eminent Members, the Society seemed for a time to decline. Several attempts were made to unite it to the Royal Society [n], notwithstanding the obvious difference in their pursuits; the one being limited by their Institution and Charter to the Improvement of Natural Knowledge, the other to the Study of History and Antiquities. In 1728 this Society renewed their meetings at the Mitre Tavern in Fleet-street, having so far complied with the desire of those gentlemen who were also Members of the other Society, as to fix them to Thursday evening, after the Royal Society had broke up. From that time we may date the flourishing state of the Society of Antiquaries, who finally removed in 1753 from the Tavern to their House in Chancery-lane.

[m] Vertue’s MS. in the Archives of the Society.  
[n] Vertue’s MS. ubi supra.
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In 1750, it was unanimously resolved to petition the King for a Charter of Incorporation, on the plan formed in the beginning of the last century, with improvements. This, by the generous concurrence of the late Earl of Hardwicke, then Lord Chancellor, and their then President Martin Folkes, Esq; was obtained the year following; his Majesty being pleased to declare himself "Founder and Patron" of this Society so incorporated by the name of "President, Council, Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of London," empowered to have a body of statutes, and a common seal; [a] and to hold in perpetuity lands, &c. to the yearly value of 1000l. The Council to consist of twenty-one persons (including the President), and to be elected yearly with the other Officers. The first Council named in this Charter, which bears date Nov. 2, 1751, pursuant to the powers therein given to them, re-elected as Members the other persons not particularly specified.

From their first settlement in their present House, they had formed a design of communicating their discoveries to the public. They are now enabled to present them with the following curious pieces and dissertations, composed or communicated by their learned Members, many of them deceased; to whose merit this publication will be a tribute that supersedes the most flattering panegyric.

[a] This seal is Arg. a cross of St. George, G. charged in the centre with a royal crown of England, Or. Crest, an antique lamp, Or, burning. Motto, NON EXTINGVETVR.