ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

November 30th, 1908.

P. W. P. CARLYON-BRITTON, Esq., D.L., F.S.A.,
President, in the Chair.

The Secretary read the Report of the Council for the fifth year since the Inauguration of the Society, as follows:—

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

The Council has the honour to present to the Members its Fifth Annual Report.

On November 30th, 1907, the Society consisted of 19 Royal, 20 Honorary, and 493 Ordinary Members, the total being 532.

Early in February the Society learnt with profound sorrow and horror of the appalling crime which had deprived Portugal of her most gracious and benevolent sovereign, King Carlos, a Royal Member of the Society, and it became the painful duty of your President to convey to Her Majesty Queen Amelia and to His Majesty King Manoel, through the proper channels, the sincere and most respectful condolences of the Society. These communications were both graciously and gratefully acknowledged.

With deep regret the Council also records the decease of the six following Members:—

William Bemrose, Esq., F.S.A.
Harold Clifton, Esq.
Sir Ralph D. M. Littler, Kt., C.B., K.C.
Joshua Brooking Rowe, Esq., F.S.A.
Henry Singleton Threlfall, Esq.
Miss Mary Catherine Wilson.
The Council regrets to announce the resignation of seventeen Members, viz.:

Mons. Stanilas Emile Bally.
Herbert T. Bloor, Esq., C.A.
Albert Eugster, Esq.
Harcourt Yates Hare, Esq., M.A., LL.B.
Edward Bosworth Harris, Esq.
Emil Julius Kafka, Esq., B.A.
James Kirkaldy, Esq.
Thomas Leighton, Esq.
Arthur Marshall, Esq., A.R.I.B.A.
Archibald Samuel Montgomrey, Esq.
William Thomas Paulin, Esq.
James Thomas Tavener Reed, Esq., L.R.C.P.
Sir Owen Roberts, Kt., M.A., D.C.L., F.S.A.
John Roskill, Esq., K.C., M.A.
Henry H. Schloesser, Esq.
Leonard Tubbs, Esq., M.A.
Thomas Robert Way, Esq.,

and eight other Members will, at the Anniversary Meeting, be removed under the provisions of Chapter IV, Section 3, of the Rules.

There has been no change as regards the Honorary Members, the maximum number of twenty having been already elected.

The following twenty-five Ordinary Members have been elected during the year:

Francis William Brothers, Esq.
Merton Russell Cotes, Esq., F.R.G.S.
Robert Hugh Davis, Esq.
Arthur John Doyle, Esq.
Mons. Felix Feuardent.
Proceedings of the Society.

Henry Olson Granberg, Esq.
William Earl Hidden, Esq.
Albert Fairchild Holden, Esq., B.A.
James Henry Horsley, Esq.
Frank T. Kieffer, Esq.
Gordon Joseph Lane, Esq., B.A., M.D.
Iltyd Bond Nicholl, Esq., F.S.A.
Major Sir Harry North, Kt.
Alfred William Oke, Esq., B.A., LL.M., F.G.S.
Clement Pain, Esq.
William Pavyer, Esq.
Lieut.-Colonel Robert William Shipway, V.D.
Elliott Smith, Esq.
South Australia, the Public Library of.
William Munro Tapp, Esq., B.A., LL.D., F.S.A.
James Ten Eyck, Esq.
John Murray Walpole, Esq.
John Francis Warwick, Esq.

Summary.

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<td>487</td>
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Anniversary Meeting.

Again the Society tenders its thanks to Messrs. Upton and Britton for having continued to place the suite of rooms at 43, Bedford Square, at its service.

Mr. Carlyon-Britton has now completed his fifth consecutive year as President of the Society, and under Chapter VII, Section 5, of the Rules, the Council are prohibited from again nominating him for the ensuing year. When Members are reminded that it was due to the energy and personality of Mr. Carlyon-Britton, assisted by the cooperation of his then two colleagues, that this large Society owes its existence, and that throughout the last five years his exceptional knowledge and tact in his office of the Presidency have extended and popularised it far in advance of any similar movement in modern times, it will be readily understood how grateful the Council is for his past service, and how trustful it is that those services will be continued in the future with equal success and prosperity to the Society.

The Council records its acknowledgment of the services of the Editors of the Journal, Mr. Carlyon-Britton, Mr. Lawrence and Mr. Andrew. At the request of Mr. Andrew, whose health did not then permit his continuing the duties of routine Editor, Mr. Carlyon-Britton kindly undertook the main part of the work connected with the production of vol. iv, which is now being distributed to the Members of the Society, and which it is hoped will merit in a substantial degree the appreciation accorded to its predecessors.

While congratulating the Treasurer, Mr. R. H. Wood, upon his fifth Report, which affords evidence of his continued careful management of the Society’s finances, genuine regret is felt at his decision not to continue in office, a regret, however, that is tempered by a feeling of confidence in the abilities of the gentleman recommended for election as his successor.

It is also felt that the other changes amongst the officers of the Society will not militate against its interests, and that those newly appointed, or transferred to different duties, will successfully endeavour to emulate and surpass in good results the efforts of their predecessors.

The Society is happy in the retention of the services of Lieut.-Colonel Morrieson as its Librarian. His department has continued to
increase in usefulness, and it is the pleasant duty of the Council to tender to him its thanks for having placed at its disposal two well made and glazed oak bookcases.

Its thanks are also heartily bestowed on Fleet-Surgeon Weightman, R.N., one of the prospective Secretaries, for his gift of a lantern and screen for the illustration of those papers which lend themselves to pictorial treatment.

The Royal Autograph Album made and presented to the Society by Mr. T. A. Carlyon, has now received the autograph signatures of all the Royal Members, including that of the late King of Portugal, the book having been returned to London on the day following his melancholy and ever to be deplored assassination.

The papers read to the Society during this session have maintained its reputation, and the exhibitions of coins, medals, and other objects of antiquity have been both numerous and interesting.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the presentations made to the Library and collections of the Society, and offers its thanks both to the donors and to the exhibitors.

In order that the number of its Members may be continued at full strength, the Council asks for the active assistance and co-operation of individual Members in the introduction of suitable candidates for election to membership, in order that the good numismatic work of the Society may become even more widely extended than has hitherto been the case, and that the quality and quantity of its contributions to numismatic science may be adequately maintained.

The Report was received with applause by the Members present. It was moved by Mr. Caldecott, seconded by Miss Farquhar, and resolved, that the same be received and adopted.

Ballot for the Election of Officers and Council for 1909.

The President declared the Ballot open from 8.15 p.m. to 8.45, and with the approval of the meeting nominated Mr. W. Carlyon-Britton and Mr. L. J. Acton Pile as Scrutators. The votes having
been examined by the Scrutators they reported to the Chairman, who announced that the large number of Members who had voted were, with one or two exceptions, in favour of the election of the Officers and Members of the Council as set out in the balloting list.

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL.

SESSION 1909.

President,
W. J. ANDREW, ESQ., F.S.A.

Vice-President,
G. R. ASKWITH, ESQ., M.A., K.C.
The RIGHT HON. THE EARL EGERTON OF TATTON, M.A.
BERNARD ROTH, ESQ., F.S.A., J.P.

Director,

Hon. Treasurer,
W. H. FOX, ESQ., F.S.A.

Hon. Librarian,
LIEUT-COLONEL H. W. MORRIESON, R.A

Secretaries,
BERNARD ROTH, ESQ., F.S.A., J.P.
FLEET-SURGEON A. E. WEIGHTMAN, R.N.

Council,
ALFRED ANSCOMBE, ESQ., F.R.Hist.S.
P. J. D. BALDWIN, ESQ.
THOMAS BEARMAN, ESQ.
S. BOUSFIELD, ESQ., M.A., M.B.
LIONEL L. FLETCHER, ESQ.
SHIRLEY FOX, ESQ., R.B.A.
The Treasurer read the Balance Sheet for the past financial year and distributed copies of the same to Members present, and also read the Auditors’ certificate at the foot of the same, certifying that the accounts had been audited and found correct.

It was moved by the President, seconded by Mr. Fitch, and resolved that the Treasurer’s accounts be adopted.

Chapter IV, Section 3, of the Rules.

The President read the names of Members who had failed to pay their subscriptions for 1907, and made an entry of their amoval against their names in the Register of the Society, in accordance with Chapter IV, Section 3, of the Rules.

Papers.

The President read a paper on “The Gold Mancus of Offa, King of Mercia,” a celebrated coin which he acquired by purchase in 1907. This coin is held to be a remarkably good copy of a Mussulman dinar made by a workman whose ignorance of Arabic is indicated by the significant fact that the words OFFA REX were inserted in the field of the reverse in an inverted position in relation to the Cufic inscription. The Anglo-Saxon style of the letters of this addition to the original design, and the use of pellets on the coin, unquestionably point to England as the country of its origin. The coin is dated in the year 157 of the Hejira = A.D. 774, and the last Offa who ruled in Anglian
Britain was the king who was reigning over Mercia in that very year. Mr. Carlyon-Britton explained that King Offa's imitation of the dinar is to be assigned not to that year, however, but to A.D. 786, in which an important synod of the English Church was held at Cealchynchth, whereat King Offa promised the legates of Pope Adrian I. that he would send 365 mancuses to Rome every year as alms for the poor, and for the supply of candles for the Church. In proof of this the letter of Pope Leo III., who died in 816, to King Coenwulf, who succeeded Offa's son in 796, was adduced, and the phrase, "quod et fecit" therein was relied upon also as proving that King Offa kept his promise, and sent the 365 pieces. Attention was given by the lecturer to the economic questions connected with the term "mancus," and he decided that, though the mancus was essentially money of account in Anglo-Saxon times, and was not an Anglo-Saxon coin of circulation, it was nevertheless known as an actual piece of money in this country, and also in other western states which had no gold coinage of their own. This, it was demonstrated, came about through trade with gold-coining Mohammedan countries; and the interesting fact that the Anglo-Saxon word mancus was a loan-word borrowed from Arabic, in which mankoush means "coined," i.e., "struck to serve as money," was again recognized and adduced. The value of Mr. Carlyon-Britton's elucidation of his subject was enhanced by translations of Arabic inscriptions on coins of early dates, and by a map showing the gold-coining countries of the eighth century, which were made and drawn by Lord Grantley.

Herr Haakon Schetelig, the Curator of the Bergen Museum, contributed, through Dr. Auden, an interesting paper on a coin of Offa recently disinterred from a grave-mound of the Viking age near Voss, Norway.

Both the above papers will be found in the pages of this volume.

Towards the close of the proceedings the Rev. Dr. Cox, F.S.A. moved that the thanks of the Society be presented to Mr. Carlyon-Britton on his retiring from office after filling the chair for five years the limit prescribed by the rules of the Society. Dr. Cox, in referring