

LORD CRAWFORD'S BOOKS. 15.12

A paper on the "Bibliotheca Lindisiana" was read by Mr. C. W. SUTTON (Manchester), in the absence of Dr. W. E. A. Axon. The publication of the catalogue of the library of the Earl of Crawford should not be allowed to pass unnoticed by the association. The founder of the library died in 1598, but the library had been added to by successive earls ever since. The introductory remarks in the catalogue, written by the present Earl, were a valuable historical record of the acquisition of the books. Included in that catalogue is the collection of books and manuscripts made on the art of writing from ancient Egypt to the present day. This collection the present Earl parted with to Mrs. Rylands, and it is now at the John Rylands Library, Manchester.

Mr. Alderman PLUMMER (Manchester) read a paper on "The Place of the Public Library in Civic Life," and said he thought it desirable that the association should turn their thoughts to the larger question of what they were living for and what they were attempting to do, being careful not to overlook the real importance of the trust committed to their charge. The whole scope and end of their work may be summed up in three words, "Recreation, Education, and Inspiration," and their endeavour should naturally be to attain to the highest possible level of excellence.