

Transactions

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GEORGE THOMSON, THE FRIEND OF BURNS, AND HIS
CONNECTION WITH BANFF.

A paper on this subject was read by Mr James Grant, LL.B., solicitor, Banff, who dealt with the appointment of George Thomson's father as teacher of the English language 'according to the new or English method,' and with the appointment of George Thomson to be a burgess of the burgh. Extracts from the burgh records were submitted, dealing with the appointment, &c., of his father, but there was no official record of young Thomson's admission to the burgess roll, although Mr Grant had had submitted to him the original burgess ticket. Copies of the extracts submitted to the meeting had been sent by Mr Grant to Mr J. Cuthbert Hadden on his application for information with respect to George Thomson, and the information thus supplied was incorporated in Mr Hadden's recently published volume, 'George Thomson, the friend of Burns,' a lengthy review of which appeared in the *Journal* of 15th February last.

Mr GRANT received the hearty thanks of the meeting for his interesting paper, and a conversation took place as to the phrase—English, 'according to

the new or English method,' in the course of which Dr Milne, King - Edward, mentioned that this method was introduced about the end of the reign of Queen Elizabeth, several members present also giving examples of the pronunciation of letters of the alphabet that obtained previous to the introduction of the method.

Thereafter, the following paper was read by Dr Milne on