PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

HUNDRED AND EIGHTH SESSION, 1887–8.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1887.

PROFESSOR DUNS, D.D., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:—

The Right Hon. Viscount Melville.
Peter Burgess, Banker, Glen Urquhart.
George Smith Duncan, Accountant, Blairgowrie.
David Dunlop, Solicitor, Ayr.
John Foster, M.A., Rector of the Academy, Beith.
James Foulis, M.D., 34 Heriot Row.
John C. Reid, Banker, Dundee.
John Parry Scotland, C.E., Calcutta.
William Yeats of Auquharney, Aberdeen.

VOL. XXII.
The Office-Bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

**Patron.**

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.**

**President.**

**THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF LOGHIAN, K.T., LL.D.**

**Vice-Presidents.**

Professor Norman Macpherson, LL.D., Sheriff of Dumfries, &c.
Right Hon. the Earl of Stair, K.T., LL.D.
Robert Herdman, R.S.A.

**Councillors.**

Sir J. Noel-Paton, Kt., LL.D., R.S.A., Representing the Board of Trustees.
Sir H. E. Maxwell, Bart., M.P.
Professor D. Masson, LL.D.
Thomas Graves Law.
Sir W. Fettes Douglas, LL.D., P.R.S.A.
Prof. Sir W. Turner, M.B., LL.D.

John Ritchie Findlay.
R. W. Cochran-Patrick, LL.D.
Joseph Anderson, LL.D., Assistant Secretary.
William Forbes, Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence.
Thomas Dickson, LL.D., Register House.

Treasurer.

Gilbert Goudie, 39 Northumberland Street.

**Curators of the Museum.**

Robert Carfrae.
John J. Reid, B.A.

**Curator of Coins.**

Adam B. Richardson.

**Librarian.**

John Taylor Brown.
The following list of the names of Honorary Members and Fellows deceased, since the date of the last Annual Meeting, was read by the Secretary:

**Honorary Members.**

- M. Francisque Michel, Elected 1869
- A. J. Beresford Hope, D.C.L., LL.D., M.P., Elected 1864

**Fellows.**

- David Balfour of Balfour and Trenaby, Elected 1838
- Rev. David Berry, late of Airdrie, Elected 1879
- Dr William Brown, Dublin Street, Elected 1865
- P. F. Connal Rowan of Meiklewood, Stirling, Elected 1885
- Sir Walter Elliot, K.C.S.I., of Wolfelee, Elected 1862
- Alexander Gibson, Advocate, Elected 1876
- Robert Gray, Bank of Scotland, Elected 1877
- Andrew Kerr, Architect, Findhorn Place, Elected 1848
- Rev. Edward King, B.A., Werrington, Launceston, Elected 1874
- George Sim, Curator of Coins, Lauriston Lane, Elected 1860
- Thomas Stevenson, C.E., Heriot Row, Elected 1855
- Dr William Traill, St Andrews, Elected 1885
- Edward Wishart, Burntisland, Elected 1863

David Balfour of Balfour and Trenaby, Orkney, a Fellow of the Society for half a century, has always taken a deep interest in its objects, especially in connection with the Antiquities of Orkney. Everything of interest that was found on his estates was at once sent to the Museum; and when the Kirkwall Museum was dispersed by public sale in 1862, he purchased the Archaeological portion, and presented it to the Museum of the Society. When the great Chambered Tumulus of Maeshowe had been explored by Mr Farrer, with the sanction and encouragement of the proprietor, Mr Balfour, he roofed it over and placed a door upon it for its preservation, and appointed a neighbouring crofter as its custodian, so that the public might have access to it when desired. He edited and presented to the Maitland and Abbotsford Clubs a volume of documents illustrative of the Oppressions of Orkney and Shetland in the sixteenth century, which he afterwards published separately, under the title of *Odal Rights and...*
Feudal Wrongs. He also issued a collection of Orcadian Songs and Ballads, with the music.

Rev. David Berry, F. C. minister, Airdrie, retired from the ministry in 1886, and died in London. In 1880 he published a translation from the Danish of Professor Schiern's *Life of Bothwell*.

Dr William Brown was a regular attender of the afternoon meetings, and at one time took much interest in the subject of the Stone Circles of Kincardineshire and Aberdeenshire, of which he obtained a series of ground plans, which he communicated to the Society.

Sir Walter Elliot of Wolfelee had long taken an active interest in the affairs and objects of the Society, contributing papers, and making donations to the Museum. In 1875 he was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, and was a member of the Council till 1881. Even after he was stricken with blindness he took pleasure in attending the meetings when he had opportunity.

Alexander Gibson, Advocate, Secretary to the Educational Commission, was a diligent student of Old Northern Literature and Antiquities; and although he never contributed papers, he was a frequent attender of evening meetings of the Society.

Robert Gray, better known as a Naturalist than in connection with Archaeology, took much interest in the Society, and was a frequent attender of the meetings.

Andrew Kerr, an old and valued member, contributed several papers of lasting interest in connection with the Antiquities of Edinburgh and its neighbourhood. He also wrote the descriptive notices for Drummond's *Old Edinburgh*, published by Messrs Waterston & Sons.

Rev. Edward King, B.A., Vicar of Werrington, South Devonshire, from his connection with an old Aberdeenshire family, took much interest in the Society's *Proceedings*, and possessed an extensive knowledge of Scottish genealogy and heraldry.
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

George Sim, the Society's Curator of Coins since 1860, not only did much good service in that capacity, but frequently contributed papers to the *Proceedings*, in which are detailed many important results of his examination of the hoards of coins discovered from time to time in different parts of Scotland, and submitted to his investigation by the Exchequer. For some time previous to his death he had been engaged in completing the printing of an important work on *The Coinage of Scotland*, from materials left, partly in proof and partly in manuscript, by the late Mr Edward Burns, F.S.A. Scot. The work has since been published by Messrs A. and C. Black, for the late Mr Thomas Coats of Fergalie, Paisley.

Thomas Stevenson, C.E., at one time a frequent attender of the Society's meetings, occasionally contributed donations of objects to the Museum as opportunity occurred for obtaining them in his visits to the remotest districts of the North and West coasts.

Dr William Traill of Woodwick, Orkney, long an active Corresponding Member of the Society, and a Fellow since 1885, was a special benefactor to the Museum. In 1868 he presented a collection of prehistoric relics, over 100 in number, from Skaill, Orkney, and contributed a paper on "Prehistoric Dwellings." In 1870 and 1871 he excavated the Broch of Burrian, on his own property, in the island of North Ronaldsay, and in 1872 he communicated an account of it to the Society, which was published in the *Archaeologia Scotica*. The interesting collection of objects obtained during the excavation he gave to the Museum, the Society paying from the Rhind Bequest the actual cost of the excavations. In 1884 he excavated two other mounds in North Ronaldsay, of which an account with plans was printed in the *Proceedings*, and the objects found were similarly acquired for the Museum.

The Treasurer submitted the Audited Accounts, with a general Abstract of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Fellows.
The Secretary read the Annual Report of the Society to the Board of Trustees, approved by the Council, and ordered to be transmitted to the Lords of H.M. Treasury, as follows:—

**ANNUAL REPORT of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, to the Honourable the Board of Trustees for Manufactures in Scotland, for the year ending 30th September 1887:**

During the year the Museum has been open as formerly, except during the month of November, when it was closed as usual for cleaning and rearrangement.

The following table shows the number of visitors for each month during the year, distinguishing between day visitors and visitors on the Saturday evenings, viz.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTHS</th>
<th>DAY VISITORS</th>
<th>SATURDAY EVENINGS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>11,647</td>
<td>416</td>
<td>12,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>3,446</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>3,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>6,764</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>6,994</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>2,468</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>2,708</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>2,592</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>2,808</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>3,186</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>3,408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>4,368</td>
<td>222</td>
<td>4,590</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>4,263</td>
<td>288</td>
<td>4,551</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>8,847</td>
<td>421</td>
<td>9,268</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>9,507</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>9,876</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>6,777</td>
<td>438</td>
<td>7,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>63,865</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,396</strong></td>
<td><strong>67,261</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Previous Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>97,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,280</strong></td>
<td><strong>103,193</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Decrease</strong></td>
<td><strong>34,048</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,884</strong></td>
<td><strong>35,932</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the year there have been presented to the Museum 156 articles of antiquity, and the Donations to the Library amount to 97 volumes of books and pamphlets.

During the year 2089 articles of antiquity have also been added to the Museum, and 64 volumes of books to the Library, by purchase.

J. R. FINDLAY, Secretary.
PURCHASES FOR THE MUSEUM.

MONDAY, 12th December 1887.

ROBERT HERDMAN, R.S.A., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:

Rev. W. MASON INGLIS, M.A., Minister of Auchterhouse.
R. N. H. NEWTON, Esq. of Castlandhill.

The following articles, acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library, during the recess from 13th June to 30th November 1887, were exhibited:

1. Lion-shaped Ewer of brass, 10 inches high and 10 inches in length, from Nuremberg. It is No. 5 of the series of Lion-shaped Ewers described in the Proceedings, vol. i., New Series, p. 56. The woodcut there given is here reproduced.

2. Iron Axe in its handle, with ornaments of Copper Rings, from West Coast of Africa.

Fig. 1. Lion Ewer of Brass from Nuremberg (10 inches in height).
3. Axe-Head of iron, found in Berwickshire.

4. Collection of Stone Implements, chiefly hammer stones, and one finely polished Celt of serpentine, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, oval in the cross section, and having both ends alike, found in Sanday.

5. Polished Celt of claystone, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, oval in the cross section, and very light, found on Convil Hill, near Dufftown, Banffshire.

6. Octagonal Brooch of brass, found in Dunnaholla, North Uist.

7. Medal in Silver of George IV.'s Visit to Edinburgh 1822, bust of the King with wreath of Thistles; reverse, View of Holyrood.

8. Embroidered oval Box, and Knife with handle of rock crystal.

9. Old Purse of Leather, from New Machar; Carved Powder Horn; small Luckenbooth Brooch, set with stones; three pairs of old Spectacles, found under the floor of Chapelshade Church, Dundee.

10. Stone Axe of Ceremony, from Mangaia; Mere-Mere, from New Zealand; Obsidian Arrow-Heads, Flakes, and Cores, from Mexico; Collection of Mexican Pottery, Whorls, &c.; Four Scottish Snuff Boxes; Stone Celt, from Roxburghshire; Collection of Savage Weapons, Clubs, Spears, &c., from South Sea Islands.

11. Three Bone Pins, from North Uist.

12. Sun-Dial of marble, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, from Assynt, Sutherlandshire.

13. Small Whetstone of quartzite, found in digging a grave at Coupar-Angus. This implement, which is of prehistoric type, belongs to a series of small whetstones which seem to be mostly of the Bronze Age, and are usually perforated at one end for suspension, as in the case of the one here shown from Lismore, Argyllshire (fig. 2); the
Coupar-Angus one is broken at the butt end, and now measures only 2\frac{1}{4} inches in length.

14. Axe of claystone, 3\frac{1}{2} by 2\frac{3}{4} inches, broken Axe, and Whorl, from West Kilbride, Ayrshire.

15. Polished Celt of flint, 5\frac{3}{4} inches in length by 2\frac{1}{4} inches in length by 2\frac{3}{8} across the cutting face, with sharp edges, both ends alike, and nowhere exceeding half an inch in thickness, from Biggar; Spear-Head of bronze, 4\frac{1}{8} inches in length, with loops, from Strathaven; Mere-Mere, from New Zealand; and a polished Stone Adze, from the South Pacific.


17. Large Luckenbooth Brooch (fig. 3), 3\frac{1}{2} by 2\frac{1}{4} inches, engraved, and set with stones.


19. Two Collections of Flint Implements, from Glenluce.

20. Twelve Collections of Flint Implements, from Culbin Sands—about 750 specimens.


24. Marmora Felsinea a Carolo Cæsare Mulvasia, Bononie, 1690, folio; and Inscriptiones Reginæ Dissertationibus illustratæ, Neapoli, 1770, 4to.

The following Communications were read:—