Anniversary Meeting, 30th November 1914.

The Hon. John Abercromby, LL.D., President,
in the Chair.

W. K. Dickson, LL.D., and Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Office-Bearers.

The Ballot having been concluded, the Scrutineers found and declared the List of the Council for the ensuing year to be as follows:—

President.
The Hon. John Abercromby, LL.D.

Vice-Presidents.
W. T. Oldrieve, F.R.I.B.A.
George Neilson, LL.D.
William Moir Bryce.
A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected Fellows:—

Captain HARRY ARMITAGE, late 15th Hussars, The Grange, North Berwick.
Rev. DONALD MACCALLUM, Minister of Lochs, Manse of Lochs, Lewis.
W. J. EDMONSTON-SCOTT, M.A., 37 North Castle Street.

The Secretary read the following list of Members deceased since the last Annual Meeting:—

**Corresponding Member.**
Rev. J. M. JOASS, LL.D., The Manse, Golspie  
Elected. 1866
### ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

#### Fellows.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Allan, Redtower, Helensburgh</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>His Grace the Duke of Argyll, K.G., K.T., LL.D., Rosneath, Dumbartonshire</td>
<td>1901</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. James Campbell, D.D., Seacraig, Newport, Fife</td>
<td>1865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walter J. Douglas Campbell of Innis Chonain, Loch Awe</td>
<td>1883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Frederick Cornish Frost, F.S.A., 5 Regent Street, Teignmouth</td>
<td>1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Gordon, W.S., 8 East Castle Road</td>
<td>1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir John Macpherson Grant, Bart., Ballindalloch Castle, Banffshire</td>
<td>1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R. C. Haldane of Lochend, Ollaberry, Lerwick</td>
<td>1904</td>
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<tr>
<td>David Henry, Estherville, Hepburn Gardens, St Andrews</td>
<td>1886</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rev. James King, St Mary's Vicarage, Berwick-on-Tweed</td>
<td>1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir Archibald Campbell Lawrie, LL.D., The Moss, Killearn, Stirlingshire</td>
<td>1914</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sir John Murray, K.C.B., LL.D., D.C.L., Challenger Lodge, Wardie</td>
<td>1887</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Pirrie, 9 Buckingham Terrace, Glasgow</td>
<td>1885</td>
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<tr>
<td>William Robson, S.S.C., 12 Albert Terrace</td>
<td>1880</td>
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<tr>
<td>Oliphant Smeaton, 37 Mansionhouse Road</td>
<td>1904</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eric Stair-Kerr, 20 Napier Road</td>
<td>1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., 28 Grosvenor Square, London, and Invercoe, Argyllshire</td>
<td>1903</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Right Hon. The Earl of Wemyss and March, LL.D., Gosford, Longniddry</td>
<td>1872</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John White, J.P., Seabank House, Leven, Fife</td>
<td>1911</td>
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</table>

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the death of these members.

Mr R. Scott-Moncrieff, Secretary, read the following Report by the Council on the affairs of the Society for the year ending 30th November 1914, which, on the motion of Sheriff Scott-Moncrieff, was duly approved:—

As the Society is aware, it has been customary for the Secretaries to prepare an Annual Report which was read to the Fellows at the Annual Meeting on St Andrew’s Day. This report was in no sense an official report by the Council, and the motion which followed it was not a motion of approval but merely one of thanks to the Secretaries. For some years the Secretaries have felt that this was an unsatisfactory arrangement, both from their own point of view and from that of the Society, and on their initiative the Council has resolved that for the future the Annual Report shall be issued in its name, signed by the President on its behalf,
and formally approved of by the Society at the Annual Meeting. With this explanation the Council begs to submit its First Annual Report:

Membership.—The total number of Fellows on the roll at 30th November 1913 was 730. At 30th November 1914 was 735, being an increase of 5.

There were 39 new members added to the roll during the year, while 20 members died, 9 resigned, and 5 allowed their membership to lapse.

The Ballot list for the Annual Meeting will forcibly bring before the Society the disastrous effect which the war and the closing of their Library and of the Museum have had on the number of those desirous of joining the Society. They trust that the Fellows will lose no opportunity of bringing the advantages of the Society before their friends and of obtaining as many recruits as possible during the coming year.

Proceedings.—An advance copy of the Proceedings for the past year is on the table, from which it will be seen that the number of papers read at the meetings of the Society was 26, being the same as the number read in the preceding year. The proportion of papers dealing with prehistoric subjects is rather larger than usual, viz. 17 as against only 9 dealing with historic matters. Among the prehistoric papers are two by the Director: one describing the excavation of a mote-hill at Hawick; and the other the excavation of a vitrified fort near Dalbeattie, known as the Mote of Mark. The finding of a coin of Henry II. of England in the former and the recovery of many fragments of clay moulds for Celtic ornaments, as well as a considerable quantity of glass from the latter, make the excavation of these two places of peculiar interest to antiquaries as giving an indication of the dates of their occupancy. In the same connection reference may be made to Mr Henderson Bishop's paper on an Oronsay shell-mound and to Mr James Curle's paper on the development and chronology of the Oval Brooch of the Viking time. Mr James Edward Cree and Mr J. Hewat Craw both record the excavation of Bronze Age cairns showing unusual structural features, and Mr J. G. A. Baird reports the discovery of pottery of the Bronze Age beaker-type in hut-circles in Ayrshire in circumstances which point to the vessels having been used for domestic and not for sepulchral purposes. Among the historical papers by far the most important is Mr Oldrieve's on King David II.'s Tower in Edinburgh Castle. The work of excavation and research which resulted in the discovery of the buried ruins of this
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

ancient building, all trace of which had for long been lost sight of, was undertaken under the personal supervision of Mr Oldrieve, and the thanks of the Society and of all Scotsmen are due to him for the successful accomplishment of an arduous and delicate piece of work.

The volume of *Proceedings* under discussion completes a series, and the Council have now arranged that the same shall be indexed. They are also of opinion that the opportunity of commencing a new series should be taken advantage of to effect improvements in the appearance of the annual volumes and in the quality of the illustrations. A Committee has been appointed to go into details.

The Museum.—There is no need for the Council to state that the most important event in the history of the Society which has occurred during the year is the closing of their Library and of the Museum under their charge. For some little time the Government have had under their consideration the advisability of fire-proofing and reflooring the whole building, and in March of this year the Council received intimation that the work was to be proceeded with shortly and that it was proposed to begin with the side occupied by the Museum and the Society's Library. The Museum was accordingly at once closed and arrangements made for the transference of the collection and Library from the one side of the building to the other. As may be imagined, this was an operation of no small magnitude, and it speaks volumes for the administrative ability of the Director and for the energy of his staff that the whole collection and Library were packed and transferred to the rooms of the National Portrait Gallery within five weeks, and that without, so far as is known, a single article being broken or lost. The work of reflooring the east side of the building will shortly be begun, and is expected to occupy about a year. At its conclusion it will be necessary to retransfer and rearrange the collection, a matter which will probably take another year. Through the courtesy of the Royal Society, it has been arranged that the meetings of the Society of Antiquaries will be held in the rooms of the Royal Society during the winter.

Among the specimens added to the National Collection during the past year attention may be directed to the following as being of most importance:—three Viking oval brooches of brass, one of a style not hitherto represented in the Museum, formed of a single embossed plate, and the other two of a less uncommon design constructed with two convex plates, the upper one of which is pierced: the three were found at two different sites in Orkney, in each case associated with beads of amber, while with the pair of brooches was recovered also an armlet of jet or lignite; a fine circular Celtic brooch of brass engraved with medallions of interlaced
work between panels of zoomorphic and foliaceous design, dated 1712, and found near Fettercairn; a mould of sandstone for casting flat bronze axes and bars from Aberdeenshire, and a remarkable collection of thirty-two roughly dressed leaf-shaped objects of flint found together some years ago in one deposit in the parish of Old Deer, Aberdeenshire, and described by Dr Anderson in our Proceedings.

Excavations.—The only excavation conducted by the Society during the past year was that on Traprain Law, near East Linton, in the County of Haddington. The Law, which in former times bore also the name of Dunpender, rises prominently from the undulating terrain that swells upwards from the East Lothian plain to the Lammermuirs. So prominent an object is it in the landscape that its occupation in early times might have been accepted as a foregone conclusion; nevertheless one looks in vain through our Proceedings for any account of the unusually interesting defences which lie along its flanks and around its summit.

The proprietor, The Right Hon. A. J. Balfour, having given his consent to excavation, and having kindly agreed to all relics found being presented to the National Museum, a small committee was appointed in the spring to make arrangements and proceed with the work of exploration. The Abercromby Fund not being exhausted, our Excavation Fund showed a balance sufficient to meet all demands on it for one season at least, and work was accordingly commenced early in May and continued till the end of August.

So as to ensure intelligent supervision, four members of the Society undertook to give almost constant attendance of varying periods of duration. For the same reason the staff employed consisted only of two men and a lad, but in these three we were singularly fortunate, as the results amply demonstrate.

Below the top spit practically every spadeful of soil was passed through a half-inch riddle, and, if the extent of the area explored was on that account somewhat restricted, the finds recovered afforded ample compensation. The enceinte of the fort is so large that it will take a number of years to explore it with anything like thoroughness, and, if we can place reliance on surface indications, there is a wealth of relics awaiting us. Already the famous Newstead excavations alone take precedence of Traprain in the quantity and quality of the returns from a single site in Scotland. Of iron objects we have inter alia spear heads, a flanged or winged axe of La Tène type, a fine axe hammer, a dagger, and an interesting pair of pincers; of bronze, no less than five terret rings, ten fibulae (of which four are enamelled), an enamelled clasp, four fine
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

pins, and numerous pieces of harness mountings; the glass includes many portions of glass armlets, a few beads, and a small ball inlaid with spots of white and reddish-brown enamel. There are many whorls, of baked clay and of stone, fragments of clay moulds, a number of interesting stone-moulds, a stone lamp, many sherds of pottery, and three Roman coins. Among the sherds Roman wares are conspicuous, contrasting markedly with the coarse hand-made products of the native potter, and, while it is too early yet to draw conclusions from these data alone as to the period of occupation of this interesting site, we may emphasise the point that the general facies of the Roman pottery appears to be Antonine.

Library.—The additions to the Library have been 56 books and pamphlets by donation and 41 by purchase, and the binding of 143 volumes has been overtaken.

Rhind Lectureship.—The Rhind Lectures were delivered by Dr W. K. Dickson, his subject being “The Development of Writing and Printing in Western Europe.” This year the lecturer is Mr F. C. Beles, who has chosen for his subject “The Archaeology of the Pre-Reformation Church in Scotland, with its Liturgical and Ceremonial Arrangements.”

The Gunning Fellowship.—This year this Fellowship, the original object of which was to enable the staff of the Museum to travel and acquaint themselves with the contents of other Museums, was awarded to the Director, Mr A. O. Curle. Unfortunately the outbreak of the War, and the consequent reduction in the staff, made it impossible for him to be absent for any length of time from the Museum, and he has therefore been unable to take advantage of its benefits.

The Chalmers Jervise Bequest.—This year the prize under this bequest fell to be awarded to the best paper on some prehistoric subject relating to Aberdeenshire, but, in spite of due advertisement, no essays have been received.

A communication was received in July from the Royal Historical Society asking the Council to nominate two members to serve on a Committee for arranging a celebration in honour of the Seven Hundredth Anniversary of Magna Carta. The Council appointed the President of the Society and Mr Moir Bryce to represent them. They also appointed the President to represent the Society on a Committee of the British
Association being formed to report on the distribution of Bronze Age implements.

The Council feel that although the War hardly lies within the scope of the Proceedings of the Society, they cannot close their Report without reference to one phase of it—namely, the destruction that has been wrought by the German forces on the ancient buildings and works of art at Louvain, Malines, and Rheims, and other Belgian and French Cities. In connection with this matter the Council forwarded, in the name of the Society, to the American Ambassador the following letter:

To His Excellency,
The Ambassador of the United States of America, London.

QUEEN STREET,
EDINBURGH, 21th October 1914.

You Excelency,—The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, of which I am the President, is desirous of associating itself with the Society of Antiquaries of London and with the other learned and artistic Societies of Great Britain, in protesting against the deliberate and irremediable destruction wrought by the German troops on the ancient and beautiful buildings and works of art at Louvain, Malines, Rheims, and other Belgian and French cities. Such destruction seems to it to have been unnecessary from a military point of view, and to have exceeded the ordinary license of warlike operations. It is clear that unless some external pressure is brought to bear on the German Government, no monuments, however sacred or historic, can be regarded as safe in the areas affected by the German invasions.

Under these circumstances we venture to hope that your Government, as representing the greatest neutral power, will exert its influence with the German Government to put a stop to acts of destruction which we feel would be hardly justifiable under any circumstances, and which we believe must be abhorrent to many of the German people themselves.

I have the honour to remain,
Your obedient servant,
(Sgd.) JOHN ABERCROMBY,
President.

They also sent, in the name of the Society, a letter of sympathy to the President of the Société nationale des Antiquaires de France, of which the following is a copy:
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Au Secrétariat de la Société nationale des Antiquaires de France.

7th November 1914.

Monsieur le Président,—Je suis chargé par la Société des Antiquaires d'Écosse, dont je suis le Président, de vous envoyer l'expression de sa profonde sympathie avec la protestation faite par la Société nationale des Antiquaires de France contre les actes de vandalisme délibérés et répétés commis par l'armée allemande contre les monuments et les souvenirs du passé, et surtout contre l'injure irréparable infligée à l'histoire de France et à l'art européen par le bombardement de la Cathédrale de Reims.

J'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-inclus, la copie d'une lettre à ce sujet qui fut adressée par notre Société à l'Ambassadeur des États-unis.

J'ai l'honneur, Monsieur, d'être, etc.,

(Sgd.) John Abercromby,
Président.

Signed on behalf of the Council,

JOHN ABERCROMBY.

Mr Notman, Treasurer, made the annual statement of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Members; and, on the motion of the Chairman, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr Notman for his gratuitous services as Treasurer.
The Hon. JOHN ABERCROMBY, LL.D., President, in the Chair.

The following Donations were announced:—

(1) By The Right Hon. Sir HERBERT E. MAXWELL, Bart., LL.D.,
    D.C.L., F.S.A. Scot.

A collection of objects from Wigtownshire, chiefly prehistoric:—
Perforated Axe-hammer from Drumfad.
Polished Stone Axe from Kirkmabreck.
Axe of Silurian sandstone from Moormains.
Hammer-stone of sandstone from Barlauchlan.

Perforated Hammer-head of ox-horn (fig. 1), 4 inches in length,
found in a moss at Glenruther.
Oval Hammer-stone of sandstone from The Airlour.
Pebble of quartz, abraded at one end, from Blairbuy.
Loom Weight from High Creoch, Girthon.
Two small Boxes in the form of books, one dated 1759.
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(2) By the Rev. DONALD MACCALLUM, Minister of Lochs, Lewis, through J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, Secretary.

Two Tokens of the Parish of Lochs, Lewis.

(3) By J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, Secretary.

Two small fragments of Samian ware from a kitchen-midden near Berie, Lewis.

Perforated Disc of sandstone, imperfect, from a kitchen-midden near Northton, South Harris.

A collection of Relics from a ruined earthhouse at Udal, North Uist.

An oval Plate of Cetacean bone, with perforations round the edge; a four-sided, pointed Implement of Cetacean bone; a Bone Pin; an object of Bone resembling an imperfect whistle; pieces of coarse Pottery; the head and part of the stem of a small iron shouldered Pin with a ring head, from kitchen-middens in Berneray, Harris.

A number of pieces of coarse Pottery; two Bone Pins; a Bone Peg; a small Pivot of bone; five Scrapers of flint; and several indeterminate objects of Bone, from kitchen-middens in South Uist.

A large triangular block of Cetacean bone with two deep circular depressions on the upper surface, from a kitchen-midden in North Uist.

Fragments of the side and lip of a vessel of hand-made Pottery, from Dun Borenich, Uig, Lewis.

(4) By NEIL ROBERTSON, Brubster, Shebster, Caithness.

A bronze flat Axe showing incipient flanges, found while cutting a drain at Brubster, Shebster, Parish of Reay, Caithness.

(5) By MURDO MORRISON, Bragar, Lewis, through J. GRAHAM CALLANDER, Secretary.

Collection of objects found in a kitchen-midden at Bragar, Island of Lewis, consisting of:

A Deerhorn Pick; a portion of a Red Deer's Horn, sawn and perforated; Handle of deerhorn; an oblong object of Bone resembling a playing die; fragment of a Ring of bone; Disc of whalebone; Whorl of whalebone; Whorl of pottery; Disc of micaceous schist; Hammer-stone of quartzite; twenty-four fragments of coarse, hand-made Pottery.
(6) By R. A. Curle of Overwells.

Roman Onyx Intaglio from Overwells, Jedburgh, described in vol. xlvi. of the Proceedings, p. 476.

Books for the Library:

(1) By His Majesty's Government.


Calendar of the State Papers relating to Scotland and Mary, Queen of Scots, 1547–1603. Edinburgh, 1914. 8vo.


(2) By J. Horne Stevenson, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Heraldry in Scotland. 2 vols. Glasgow, 1914. 4to.

(3) By Professor A. H. Sayce, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Date of Stonehenge. 1914. Pamphlet. 4to.

(4) By the Council of the Scottish History Society.


(5) By the Rev. James Primrose, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Mediaeval Glasgow. Glasgow, 1913. 8vo.

(6) By John E. Shearer, the Author.

The Site of the Battle of Bannockburn. Stirling, 1914. 8vo.
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(7) By T. J. Westropp, the Author.
Kilkee (Co. Clare) and its Neighbourhood. Part IV. Dunbeg to Kilkee. Part II. King Brian, the Hero of Clontarf. Dublin, 1914. 8vo.
The Promontory Forts and Early Remains of the Coasts of County Mayo. Part IV.

(8) By D. MacRitchie, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
Les Kayaks dans le nord de l'Europe.
Les pygmées chez les anciens Égyptiens et les Hébreux.
Constructions cyclopéennes en Écosse.
Three pamphlets. 1914.

(9) By the County Council of the County of Fife.
Ancient Monuments and Historical Buildings in the County of Fife. Cupar. 4to.

(10) By the Trustees of the British Museum.

(11) By James MacDonald, F.S.A. Scot.
The History of the Province of Cat. By the late Rev. Angus Mackay, M.A. Wick, 1914. 4to.

(12) By David Thurstan Smith, Hon. Secretary, Hunter Archaeological Society.

(13) By Professor F. Haverfield, the Author.

(14) By John A. Inglis, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

(15) By James Mackenzie, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
Life and Complete Works of Michael Bruce. Edinburgh, 1914. 8vo.

(16) By W. J. Knowles, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
Purchases, etc., acquired by the Purchase Committee during the
Recess, 11th May to 30th November:—

Four Edinburgh Trade Tokens.
A Viking oval Brooch of brass; two Beads of amber and a Bead of
blue glass, all found together on the Island of Sanday, Orkney.
A collection of Flint Objects, an Urn with a narrow groove immedi-
ately below the lip, and a Silver Penny of Mary, Queen, of Scots, from
Glenluce Sands.
A collection of Flint Objects from the farm of Fairnington, parish
and county of Roxburgh.
A circular Highland Brooch of brass, 5\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in diameter, pin
awanting, ornamented with circles of interlaced foliaceous and geo-
metric design, and bearing on the reverse the letters “E R” and date
“1712,” found at Bogmuir, near Fettercairn.
Mould of sandstone for flat bronze axes and bars, from the parish

Fig. 2. Highland Brooch of Brass (\(\frac{3}{4}\)).
of New Deer, Aberdeenshire; also a collection of thirty-two roughly dressed, leaf-shaped Implements of flint and chert, found together in one deposit at Bulwark, parish of Old Deer.

Axe of polished greenstone, found in a rock cave at Torroble, Lairg, Sutherland.

Collection of Relics from an underground chamber on Links of Minn, Burra, Shetland, consisting of an adze-shaped Implement of micaceous schist, and five pieces of coarse hand-made Pottery.

A pair of oval Viking Brooches of brass, a Jet Armlet, and an Amber Bead, found near the Broch of Laminess, south end of the Island of Sanday, Orkney.

Acquired through the King's Remembrancer:

Fragments of an Urn of the beaker type found in a cist on the farm of Colliston Mill, Arbroath.

During ploughing operations in the spring of this year on the farm of Colliston Mill near Arbroath, a short cist was discovered and duly reported in the press. Within the cist lay a skeleton, said to have been
in good preservation when discovered, but which crumbled away on being exposed; also, adjacent to the head, an urn, a segment and section of which are here illustrated (fig. 3). The vessel, which is of the beaker type, is 6½ inches in height. Fragments of less than one half of it only reached the Museum, but enough to admit of a partial reconstruction sufficiently large to show the form, and scheme of ornamentation.

Food-vessel Urn, 4'7 inches in height, with a groove round the shoulder interrupted by five imperforated flat stops, found with an incinerated interment in a short cist at Flawcraig farm, Kinnaird, Perthshire.

The urn, which is shown in the accompanying illustration, was found while a track was being dug for a waterpipe on the east side of the farm.

Books for the Library:—


The History of the Province of Cat, by the late Rev. Angus Mackay. Wick, 1914. 4to.


The following Communications were read:—