PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

HUNDRED AND THIRTY-SEVENTH SESSION, 1916–1917

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1916.

THE HON. JOHN ABERCROMBY, LL.D., President,
in the Chair.

Sheriff C. N. Johnston, K.C., and Mr Robert Cross 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.
William Moir Bryce.
Erskine Beveridge, LL.D.
Patrick Murray.
A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected:—

Corresponding Member.

Fellows.
William Douglas, 39 Inverleith Row.
James Garson, W.S., 4 Chester Street.
William Gillies, 23 University Gardens, Glasgow.
### ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Charles Lindsay Harbert, 49A Broughton Street.
Rev. William McMillan, Chaplain to the Forces.
Lewis P. Orr, F.P.A., Secretary to the Scottish Life Assurance Co., 14 Learmonth Gardens.
Bruce Robertson, B.A., 7 Vinicombe Street, Hillhead, Glasgow.

The following list of members deceased since the last Annual Meeting was read:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Honorary Members</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joseph Anderson, LL.D., H.R.S.A., 8 Great King Street</td>
<td>1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sir John Rhys, LL.D., Professor of Celtic, and Principal of Jesus College, Oxford</td>
<td>1897</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lady Associates</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Miss H. J. M. Russell of Ashiestiel, Galashiels</td>
<td>1895</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miss Amy Frances Yule of Tarradale, Ross-shire</td>
<td>1895</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Corresponding Member</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donald Mackenzie, Inland Revenue, Bonar Bridge</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fellows</th>
<th>Elected</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sir Stair Agnew, K.C.B., M.A., 22 Buckingham Terrace</td>
<td>1884</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vincent Connel Bruce, B.A. Oxon., of Longside and Inverquhomer, 8 Ainslie Place</td>
<td>1912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William Christie of Lochdochart, Braemar House, 3 Whitehouse Terrace</td>
<td>1909</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Dallas, 69 Bainton Road, Oxford</td>
<td>1911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Right Hon. Sir Charles Dalrymple, Bart., LL.D., Newhailes, Musselburgh</td>
<td>1893</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colonel Montague Douglas-Campbell, D.S.O., 34 Abercromby Place</td>
<td>1908</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Douglas, 9 Castle Street</td>
<td>1891</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Ferguson, M.A., LL.D., Emeritus Professor of Chemistry, Glasgow University, 13 Newton Place, Glasgow</td>
<td>1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Henry Fox, M.D., 35 Heriot Row</td>
<td>1883</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrick Neill Fraser, Rockville, Murrayfield</td>
<td>1913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Lamb, Leabrae, Inverary Terrace, Dundee</td>
<td>1899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Stephen Leslie of Balquhain, 11 Chanooray, Aberdeen</td>
<td>1907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hugh Gordon Lumsden, Clova, Lumsden, Aberdeenshire</td>
<td>1873</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Lyle, Waverley, Queen's Crescent</td>
<td>1906</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Cochrane McEwen, Trafford Bank, Inverness</td>
<td>1890</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff Thomas Mackenzie, Tain</td>
<td>1870</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rev. W. M. Metcalfe, D.D., South Manse, Paisley</td>
<td>1885</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>James Miller, Fern Public School, Brechin</td>
<td>1910</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Elected.

Richard Blunt Mitchell of Polmood, 17 Regent Terrace 1886
George Robertson, 6 Craigkennochie Terrace, Burntisland 1879
The Right Hon. Lord Rollo, Dunerub Park, Dunning 1871
Sir Alexander R. Simpson, M.D., D.Sc., L.L.D., 52 Queen Street 1871
William Stuart, Burnhouse, Stow 1907
J. B. Sutherland, S.S.C., 10 Royal Terrace 1887
Robert M. Sutherland, Solsgirth, Dollar 1890
Rev. William Taylor, M.A., Minister of Melville Parish, Balinhard, Montrose 1901
Sir William Turner, K.C.B., M.B., D.C.L., L.L.D., Principal and Vice-Chancellor of the University of Edinburgh, 6 Eton Terrace 1865
R. C. Walker, Wingate Place, Newport, Fife 1884
Frederick Bessant Williams, 3 Essex Grove, Upper Norwood, London, S.E. 1894

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

The Assistant Secretary read the following Report by the Council on the affairs of the Society for the year ending 30th November 1916, which, on the motion of the Chairman, was duly approved:

The Council have the honour to submit to the Society their Report for the year from 30th November 1915 to 30th November 1916:

Membership.—The total number of Fellows on the roll at 30th November 1915 was 708. At 30th November 1916 the number was 684, a decrease of 24.

There were 25 new members added to the roll during the year, while 31 members died, 10 resigned, and 8 allowed their membership to lapse.

Although this decrease in the number of Fellows cannot but be regarded as serious, the Council are not surprised at it, looking to the fact that there is at present no inducement in the way of Library to offer, and that the War is naturally absorbing the interests of all to the exclusion of every other subject. That under these circumstances 25 new members should have offered themselves for election is a remarkable testimony to the interest taken in antiquarian matters.

Of the 31 Fellows who have passed away during the year, two, namely Vincent C. Bruce of Longside and Inverquhomery, and Patrick
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Neill Fraser, Rockville, Murrayfield, fell in action, and the Council feel sure that the Society will join in an expression of sympathy with their relatives in their sorrow and their pride.

The Council feel that they must also make special reference to other two Fellows whose loss they have to mourn, viz. Sir William Turner, K.C.B., and David Douglas, publisher. Sir William joined the Society in 1865, and took an active interest in its affairs. He contributed many valuable papers to its Proceedings, and was for several years a member of Council. As was but natural from his profession, his interest centred largely in craniology, and he had just completed before his death a valuable work entitled A Contribution to the Craniology of the People of Scotland, both Modern and Prehistoric.

Mr David Douglas joined the Society in 1861, and for many years took a prominent part in its work, having acted as its Treasurer from 1871 to 1882.

It is with genuine sorrow and with a feeling of real personal loss that the Council have to record the death of Dr Joseph Anderson, which took place on 29th September last. In March 1913 Dr Anderson resigned the posts of Keeper to the Museum and Assistant Secretary of the Society, which he had held for the long period of 43 years; and at the first meeting of the Society occurring thereafter Lord Guthrie, as Chairman, took advantage of the occasion to pay an eloquent tribute to Dr Anderson in his several capacities as Assistant Secretary to our Society and Editor of our Proceedings, as Keeper of the National Museum of Antiquities, as a Rhind Lecturer, and as our guide, philosopher, and friend. It would be impossible to exaggerate what this Society, and Scottish archaeologists generally, owe to Dr Anderson. He was one of the first to promote the study of archaeology on scientific lines, and to introduce scientific methods into the conduct of excavation. As Lord Guthrie said, "The present generation of antiquaries, experts and amateurs alike, look to him as their master. He has taught them all their trade, and if they are able in any measure to carry on his work in the future, it will largely be due to the lofty standard of study which he has always set before them." But it is not so much on account of his writings and lectures that Dr Anderson will live in the memory of those of us who had the pleasure and honour of associating with him, but rather on account of the kindly direction which he gave to our efforts, and of his strong personality. Few of us but were indebted to him for hints on our papers before they were read, and no paper when read ever seemed to be complete without the few words that Dr Anderson was always called upon to add. Those of our Fellows who are in the habit of attending our meetings are not likely to forget the
picture of his rugged, powerful face as, on the call of the Chairman, he slowly rose from his accustomed seat to criticise or amplify some paper which had just been read. How deliberately yet how unhesitatingly he expressed himself, how admirable was his choice of words, and how much to the point were his remarks! These little speeches of his were models of concise, eloquent, and forceful diction. We know from those who attended him in his last illness that the affairs of this Society were much in his thoughts, and that its welfare was dear to his heart. On our side it is not too much to say that Dr Anderson and his reputation were dear to us, and that we will cherish the memory of the man, his worth, and his work.

Dr Anderson's funeral took place on 2nd October, and the President and other members of Council, as well as a number of the Fellows, attended to pay their last tribute of respect. A wreath sent in name of the Society was laid upon his grave.

It is a matter for congratulation to know that an excellent portrait of Dr Anderson was painted a year or so before he retired, by Mr Henry W. Kerr, R.S.A., and that this portrait may probably find its way to the walls of the National Portrait Gallery.

On his retirement in 1913 Dr Anderson retained his appointment as Editor of our Proceedings. This post accordingly only became vacant on his death, and the Council had no hesitation in appointing as his successor the present Director of the Museum, Mr A. O. Curle, who for the last two years has been assisting Dr Anderson in his labours. It is unnecessary to point out to this Society the qualifications Mr Curle possesses for the efficient discharge of a task which demands both tact and discernment.

If the Council have been fortunate enough to secure the services of Mr A. O. Curle as Editor of their Proceedings in the meantime, they regret to have to report that in the near future they are to suffer the misfortune of losing his services as Director of the National Museum under their charge, and consequently as their Assistant Secretary. Mr Curle has been appointed Director of the Royal Scottish Museum in Chambers Street; and although he has been requested for the period of the war to continue to discharge the duties of both posts, this arrangement will cease on its termination and he will be obliged to resign the Directorship of the Museum of Antiquities. The Council can only regard Mr Curle's prospective departure with mixed feelings, for while, of course, they are glad that Mr Curle should be advanced to a sphere where he may have a greater scope for his energies, and are sincere in offering him their heartiest congratulations on the honour done to him, they regret, on the other hand, to lose an official who
was so admirably suited to his post, and who had already done so much to bring the National Museum abreast of the times in matters of arrangement and in the scientific preservation of objects.

*Proceedings.*—An advance copy of the *Proceedings* for the past year is on the table, the number of papers read during the year being 19, as against 26 read in the preceding year. As, however, the papers for the past year are on the whole rather longer than those of the preceding year, the size of the volume is well up to the average. Of the 19 papers, 10 deal with prehistoric and 9 with historic subjects.

Of the prehistoric papers perhaps the most outstanding is that dealing with the excavations at Traprain Law, but all will be found of interest, treating as they do of new finds throughout the country. Of the historic papers no complaint can be made on the score of want of variety, the subjects dealt with embracing a very wide range. It is therefore confidently expected that the present volume will be found no whit less interesting than its predecessors.

In connection with the *Proceedings* it will be remembered that in the Report last year reference was made to the preparation of a new General Index, and that Miss Catherine Borland had undertaken this difficult and tedious piece of work. Owing to Miss Borland's having accepted a post in connection with war work, the work of indexing was then taken up by our Secretary, Mr Callander. Now he has turned his attention to war work, and the Council are therefore afraid that the completion of the Index will have to lie over until the end of the war.

The Council regret having to report a loss which the Society has sustained owing to the destruction by fire of the printing premises of Messrs Neill & Co. We lost the remaining unbound copies of *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, fortunately insured, and also a portion of our stock of paper and a number of the blocks for the current volume of the *Proceedings*. These unfortunately, owing to a misunderstanding, were not covered by insurance, but policies have now been taken out to cover any of our property which may from time to time be in the hands of either the printer or the bookbinder.

*The Museum.*—The Museum still remains closed, although the Council are glad to be able to report that the new fireproof floors have all been constructed, and that had times been normal the exhibits would long ere this have been retransferred to their places. As it is, the difficulty of obtaining the wood blocks necessary for the flooring is likely to delay matters for some considerable time to come. Even
when the structural alterations are completed, the procuring of the necessary new cases, the re-establishment of the staff, and the rearrangement of the collections will cause still further delay.

The total number of objects added to the National Collection during the past year has been 85, of which 83 were by donation and 2 by purchase.

Consequent on the cessation of all archaeological research owing to the war, it is not a matter of surprise that few objects of note have been added to the National Museum during the past year. It is symptomatic perhaps of the times that of the four groups of relics which are worthy of remark as having been unearthed, two of them were brought to light in military trenching. From Bantaskine, near Falkirk, thanks to the keen observation of our Fellow, Mr James S. Richardson, there were recovered from a trench several fragments of a bowl of the fine black polished ware known as Late Celtic, of which numerous examples have been discovered in the south and south-east of England and in France, but of which no specimen has hitherto been reported as having been found in Scotland. The other of note for which we are indebted to military operations is a fine coiled bronze armlet found on Wester Craiglockhart Hill, and which will be described in the Proceedings for next session. The other excavated relics have reached us through the instrumentality of the Rev. R. S. G. Anderson of New Luce. They are the valuable find—consisting of a bronze chisel, a bone pin, a bead of virtuous paste, and a cinerary urn—described by the Director in the volume of the Proceedings about to be issued, and a food-vessel urn found in a cairn at Craigbirnock, New Luce, and forming the subject of a communication for next session. A donation of an unusual character is a collection of thirty-one Stone Axes from Northern Nigeria, which bear a striking resemblance to some axes found in our own country. The last donation to which we need refer is a fine example of old Scotch silver, a Rat-tail Spoon, made in Edinburgh in the year 1701. This object was the last donation made to the National Collection by the late Mr James Lyle, who of late years took a pleasure in adding to the Library or the Museum such books or objects as he possessed of antiquarian value. Death has robbed the Society of a sympathetic friend.

Excavations.—This year, for obvious reasons, no excavation work has been undertaken by the Society.

Library.—During the past year 62 books have been presented to the Library and 16 have been purchased. In addition, a considerable
number of publications of learned societies have been received by way of exchange. The Society has not yet been able to return to its Library, and is therefore again beholden to the hospitality of the Royal Society for a room in which to hold its meetings.

Rhind Lectureship.—The Rhind Lectures for the year 1915 were delivered by Mr G. F. Hill, M.A., Keeper of Coins and Medals in the British Museum, his subject being “Medals of the Renaissance”; and we have just had the pleasure of listening to the admirable lectures of Professor W. J. Watson, LL.D., on “The Celtic Place Names of Scotland.” The Lecturer for 1917 is Mr Charles ffoulkes, Curator of the Armouries, H.M. Tower of London.

The Gunning Fellowship.—This Fellowship was awarded to Mr Callander, whose intention was to visit the various local museums and private collections throughout Scotland, thus not only obtaining a knowledge of what objects had been added to them since last a similar report was obtained, but also by personal visit to keep the parent Society in touch with local effort. Mr Callander had hardly begun his tour when, as already mentioned, he gave his services to war work.

The Chalmers-Jervise Bequest.—This year the County of Midlothian was selected as the district wherein the prehistoric subject for the Prize Essay was to be found. Though the competition was fully advertised, only one essay was lodged. As that was deemed to be of sufficient merit, the prize was awarded to the writer, Miss E. D. Dennison.

Mr John Notman, F.F.A., 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.
MONDAY, 11th December 1916.

The Hon. JOHN ABERCROMBY, LL.D., President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following was duly elected a Fellow:

The Hon. FREDERICK CHARLES MONCREIFF, Marionville, Colinton.

There was exhibited a leaden casket containing the Heart referred to in Miss Hanna’s communication, and the Secretary was instructed to convey the thanks of the meeting to the Mother Superior of St Margaret’s Convent for having allowed it to be brought for exhibition.

The following Donations were announced:


Spirally twisted Armlet of Bronze (fig. 1) extending to three complete coils, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter over all, formed from a rod of bronze, a pointed oval in section. The central coil of the spiral is treated with a segmental ornamentation on the outer surface, terminating at either end with a cross inside a panel. The rod slightly increases in thickness and assumes a circular form towards the extremities, which terminate with a moulding and a flattened spherical knob. Found on Wester Craiglockhart Hill.

Fig. 1. Armlet of Bronze from Wester Craiglockhart Hill. (‡)
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(2) By D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Medal, brass, commemorating the visit of George IV. to Scotland, Obv.: Bust, laureate, to left. GEORGIUS BRITANNIARUM REX F.D. Rev.: Thistle with leaves and two flowers. VISIT TO SCOTLAND AUGUST 1822.


Token of the Scotch Church at Malta.

(4) By JOHN W. DODS, of Middlecrosswood, Clifton Hill, North Berwick.

Highland Dirk with serrated back, 19 inches in length, with knife and fork, and sheath of skin, ornamented with fleur-de-lis in panels on the front; handles of rosewood, and mounts of iron.

Fleam, formerly used for bleeding horses or cattle, 3 3/8 inches in length, in a cover of brass inlaid with wood, contained in a black leather case.

Mallet of wood, 8 inches in length, employed to drive in the fleam.

(5) By M. C. MACLEOD, 2 Buccleuch Place.

Badge of one of the Local Companies of Fencibles in form of an eight-pointed star, in the centre a crown surrounded by a ribbon bearing the words “Local Companies.”

(6) Bequeathed by ROBERT DOBIE WILSON, 38 Upper Brook Street, London.

Pencil Drawing in front elevation of monument in the Skelmorlie Aisle, Church of Largs, entitled, “View of the Monument from the South-West.”

Wash Drawing—“Developed Plan of the Ceiling of Monument in the Skelmorlie Aisle,”—both by W. H. Ross.

(7) By Rev. R. S. G. ANDERSON, New Luce, Wigtownshire.

Irregularly fashioned and imperfect Ring of Jet, markedly concave on its outer surface, 1\(\frac{3}{16}\) inch in greatest diameter.

Segment of an object of highly polished Jet with a chord of 2\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches and a greatest breadth of 1\(\frac{1}{8}\) inch. Both objects were found in a peat moss at Kilfedder, New Luce.

Food-vessel Urn found in a cist in the remains of a cairn at Craigbirnoch, New Luce. (See subsequent communication, p. 26.)
Three small Brass Ring Brooches obtained from inhabitants of St Kilda in May 1877, two of them then in actual use.

Sherd of Pottery, probably Neolithic, 4½ inches in length, with an everted lip and well-defined neck marked with vertical flutings. Found at Roseisle, Burghead, Elginshire, not in a grave.

Books for the Library:

(1) By His Majesty's Government.

(2) Bequeathed by Mr Robert Dobie Wilson, 38 Upper Brook Street, London.
The Church and Churchyard of Kilbirnie, by William Dobie. 64 pp. MS. With relative pamphlet—The Parish Church and Churchyard of Kilbirnie. Beith, 1850.

(3) By James Wilkie, B.L., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.
S. Brendan, the Voyager, and his Mystic Quest. London, 1916. 8vo.
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(4) By the HYDERABAD ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.


(5) By Dr SOLOMON T. H. HURWITZ, 217 East 69th Street, New York City, U.S.A., the Author.


(6) By the CURATOR OF THE COLCHESTER MUSEUM OF LOCAL ANTIQUITIES.


(7) By Mrs BRUCE of Sumburgh, F.S.A.Scot.

Description of Ye Countrey of Zetland. Copied from original papers in the Advocates' Library by the late Mr Bruce of Sumburgh. Edinburgh, 1908. 4to.

(8) By T. J. WESTROPP, 115 Strand Road, Sandymount, Dublin, the Author.

Collectanea—Folk-lore and Legends from the Coasts of Counties Mayo and Galway. Pamphlet.

The Progress of Irish Archæology. Pamphlet.

(9) By T. WILSON PARRY, M.A., M.D. Cantab., F.G.S., Belmont, Crouch End Hill, London, the Author.


(10) By MONSIEUR LE DIRECTEUR, Office National des Universités et Écoles Françaises, 96 boulevard Raspail, Paris.


(11) By the DIRECTOR OF THE COLOMBO MUSEUM.


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


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


(15) By the Yorkshire Philosophical Society.

Annual Report for 1915.

(16) By Albert Nicholson, Portinscale, Hale, Altrincham, the Author.


Samuel Maddock, “of Infamous Memory.” Reprinted from Manchester City News, 14th December 1907. Leaflet.

(17) By the Hon. Secretary, Hunter Archæological Society.


(18) By Washington University, St Louis, U.S.A.


(19) By W. C. Mackenzie, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The Races of Ireland and Scotland. Paisley, 1916. 8vo.

(20) By the Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago, U.S.A

DONATIONS AND PURCHASES FOR THE LIBRARY.

(21) By the Author and the Director of the National Museum of Wales, City Hall, Cardiff.


(22) By Robert Murdoch Lawrance, Cairnchyna, 23 Ashley Road, Aberdeen, the Author.


(23) By John M'Taggart, Royal Scottish Museum.

The Roll of the Knights and Companions of the Most Sovereign and Social Order of the Cape and of C.F.D.

Purchases of Books for the Library:—

Historical MSS. Commission—


Calendar of the Stuart Papers belonging to His Majesty the King, preserved at Windsor Castle. Vol. vi.


The following Communications were read:—