

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

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EIGHTIETH SESSION, 1859-60.  
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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1859.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., in the Chair.

The meeting was the first held in the New Rooms of the Society, Royal Institution, the arrangement of which is now so near completion that the opening of the Museum to the public may be confidently expected in a very short time.

The Office-bearers of the Society for the Session were elected as follows:—

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President.

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUESS OF BREADALBANE, K.T.

Vice-Presidents.

THE HON. LORD NEAVES.

PROFESSOR J. Y. SIMPSON.

DAVID LAING, Esq.

Major WILLIAM E. HAY, H.E.I.C.S.
 GEORGE C. ARBUTHNOT, of Mavisbank, Esq., Edinburgh.
 JAMES HAY CHALMERS, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen.

The Society has lost by death the following Members since the last anniversary meeting:—

<i>Members deceased.</i>	<i>Admitted.</i>
The Rev. THOMAS BUCHANAN, D.D., Minister of Methven, .	1858
JOHN YOUNG CAW, Esq., Fountain Villa, Manchester. .	1851
The Rev. JOHN CLARK, A.M., Minister of the Old Church, Edinburgh,	1849
JOHN DINNING, Esq., of Mavisbush, Lasswade,	1817
ROBERT FRAZER, Esq., Curator of the Society's Museum, .	1828
WILLIAM HENRY LIZARS, Esq., Engraver,	1819
JOHN MACKINLAY, Esq., formerly Collector of the Customs, and a "Corresponding Member" in the year 1830,	1856
The Hon. Sir JOHN ARCHIBALD MURRAY, Bart., of Henderland (Lord MURRAY), one of the Senators of the College of Justice,	1850
Sir JAMES RAMSAY of Bamff, Bart.,	1850
The Rev. JONATHAN SUTCLIFFE, Ashton-under-Lyne,	1841

COSMO INNES, Esq., the retiring Vice-President, made some remarks upon The EARLY GEOGRAPHY OF SCOTLAND, to which his attention had been specially called in preparing a forthcoming work for the press. Mr Innes had been engaged in an attempt to construct a map of Scotland of the tenth century, and described the difficulties which he had experienced, owing to the paucity of reliable materials, the great mystery in which the duration and extent of the Pictish kingdom was wrapped, the doubtful character of contemporary records, and the opinionative and prejudiced assumptions of the more modern chroniclers.

In concluding his address, Mr Innes said he must congratulate the Society, on this their annual meeting on St Andrew's Day, on the improved state of their affairs; on this convenient and comfortable place of meeting which they had obtained; on the spacious halls in which they now displayed their collection of antiquities; on the favourable and wise view which Government had announced on the matter of "Treasure-Trove;" and on their arrangements with the Treasury, which

threw open their income for the proper purposes of the Society. All these were matters of hearty congratulation, but he should rather consider them as motives and incentives to fresh exertions. The field of our national antiquities was a very wide one, and many departments of it were still uncultivated. He would not wish it to be thought that here, or in any worthy pursuit whatever, those interested did their part by a mere expression of good wishes, and he was quite sure that every member of the Society could, in some way or other, further its objects, and so, in his view, benefit the country. Those members desirous of making themselves useful, either by personal labour, by influence, or by adding to the museum, by excavating or examining old monuments, by comparison or drawings of ancient architecture—in short, in any way—and who doubted as to the proper manner of making their efforts available, let them take the advice of the Council. It was for such a purpose, indeed, among others that the Council was appointed.

After votes of thanks to Mr Innes and Mr Abbott, the meeting adjourned.

FRIDAY, 23d December 1859.

A Special Meeting and Conversazione of the Society was held, at eight o'clock, P.M., in the Hall of the Royal Society, the use of which was kindly granted by the Council.

THE HON. LORD NEAVES, Vice-President, in the Chair.

His Lordship, before proceeding to deliver the Opening Address, thanked the large audience of ladies and gentlemen, in name of the Society, for the honour of their presence at this the opening of their New Rooms, and expressed a hope that they might have the pleasure of again meeting on many future occasions.

Lord NEAVES then delivered the following Opening Address:—