

The thanks of the Meeting having been voted to the Chairman, and to the Office-Bearers, the Society adjourned till the Anniversary Meeting in November.

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## ADDITIONAL NOTE TO THE COMMUNICATION ON MELROSE ABBEY.

(Pages 166-175.)

The details given in this communication show the apparently unfinished character of Melrose Abbey towards the west; and between the westmost central pillars, being the fourth from the transept, runs the stone screen-wall or rood-screen, which terminates the western extremity of the ruined abbey. The stone rood-screen has in the centre an arched door-way, opening into the church, with a stair rising from it through the wall towards the north, by which access would be obtained to the loft above; this points out the true western termination of the choir. Beyond it we find merely the bases of three pillars, running westward along what would have been the northern range of the nave, but of a different and inferior character from the other pillars of the building. I am inclined, therefore, to conclude that no true nave, correctly so called, had ever existed, corresponding at least in its architecture to the rest of the abbey; but something of a temporary or inferior character may have partially occupied its place. In the "Notes on Melrose Abbey," the term *nave* has been used in its general application, as referring to the entire western limb of the building. The range of chapels extending still more to the west, along what would have been its southern aisle, probably foreshadowed the intention of its builders to have formed an enriched and extended nave, but which apparently never was executed.

The change of character from the ordinary horizontal arrangement of the ashlar work in the spandrils of the arches of these chapels (as referred to at page 173), although distinct enough, is not quite so uniform as there described; the horizontal arrangement again prevailing towards their western termination.

J. A. S.