

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

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SEVENTY-SIXTH SESSION, 1855-56.  
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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, *St Andrew's Day*, 30th November 1855.

THE REV. WILLIAM L. ALEXANDER, D.D., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

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

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President.

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUESS OF BREADALBANE.

Vice-Presidents.

REV. WILLIAM LINDSAY ALEXANDER, D.D.

ARCHIBALD T. BOYLE, Esq.

THE HON. LORD MURRAY.

Councillors.

THOMAS A. WISE, M.D.

GEORGE SETON, Esq.

REV. WILLIAM STEVENSON, D.D.

RICHARD HUIE, M.D.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY OF

PROFESSOR JAMES Y. SIMPSON, M.D.
 JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A.
 ROBERT CHAMBERS, Esq.
 COSMO INNES, Esq.
 JOSEPH ROBERTSON, Esq.

Secretaries.

JOHN STUART, Esq.
 JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D.
 DAVID LAING, Esq. } *for Foreign Correspondence.*
 J. M. MITCHELL, Esq. }

Treasurer.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTONE, Esq.

Curators of the Museum.

ROBERT FRAZER, Esq.
 BARRON GRAHAME, Esq.

Librarian.

ALEXANDER CHRISTIE, Esq., A.R.S.A.

Assistant Librarian.

MR WILLIAM T. M'CULLOCH.

Auditors.

JOHN WHITEFOORD MACKENZIE, Esq.
 WILLIAM FORBES SKENE, Esq.

On the recommendation of the Council, Colonel SIR HENRY C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., was unanimously elected an Honorary Member of the Society, in the room of the KING OF SAXONY, deceased.

The following Gentlemen were then balloted for, and elected Fellows of the Society :—

THOMAS STEVENSON, Esq., Civil Engineer.
 WILLIAM EUING, Esq., Glasgow.
 THOMAS JOHNSTON, Esq., Glasgow.

Mr STUART, Secretary, read a Report on the progress of the Society during the past year, and stated that, in pursuance of

the resolution of the Council, at its last meeting, he addressed to the Conveners of all the Counties in Scotland the following communication :—

GENERAL REGISTER HOUSE,
EDINBURGH, 6th September 1855.

SIR,—As Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, I have been directed by that body to bring under the notice of the County of the following statement, which you will greatly oblige me by reading at its ensuing Michaelmas Meeting.

The Society having had its attention recently directed to the fact, that many of the primitive monuments of our national history, partly from the progress of agricultural improvements, and in part from neglect and spoliation, were in the course of being removed, was of opinion, that it would be of great consequence to have all such historical monuments laid down on the Ordnance Survey of Scotland in the course of preparation. With this view, the Society presented an application to Government, through its president, the Marquess of Breadalbane, and received through him the following gratifying answer—

WAR DEPARTMENT, 19th June 1855.

MY LORD,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your Lordship's letter of the 8th instant, requesting, on behalf of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, that all remains, such as Barrows, Pillars, Circles, and Ecclesiastical and other Ruins, may be noted on the Ordnance Survey of Scotland now in progress.

I beg that your Lordship will intimate to the Society, that I have much pleasure in complying with their wishes in this matter, so far as may be practicable, and that instructions will be immediately given to the Engineer Department in accordance with your Lordship's request; but I must rely upon the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland endeavouring, on their part, to assist the Surveyors with local information through the co-operation of the resident gentry, ministers, schoolmasters, and others. I have the honour to be, &c.

PANMURE.

The Right Honourable
THE MARQUESS OF BREADALBANE.

The Society of Antiquaries will not fail to do everything in their power to aid the Government Engineers in this matter, but they feel that the most valuable aid is to be expected from the country gentlemen in the various districts where the monuments are situated. They therefore earnestly beg the favour

of their cordial co-operation in a matter which the Society considers to be one of national interest and importance.

It is a cause of great regret, that while in various Continental countries officers have been appointed by the governments to preserve all the monuments of their early history and civilization, the case is so different in our own country, where, besides the uncounteracted operation of natural causes, the archæologist has to lament the progressive and active destruction of many remains, from which much valuable light might have been thrown on the early condition of our forefathers.

The Society feel persuaded, however, that if every proprietor would impress upon his tenants his wish for the preservation of the archæological remains on his estate, whether cairns, circles of stones, mounds, sculptured pillars, hill forts, Picts' houses, ancient churches, abbeys, and castles, or similar objects, much might be done to arrest the extirpation of such remains, and secure their preservation hereafter. These, it need hardly be remarked, besides being the links connecting us with the ages to which they belong, are to be regarded as the real records of national history, and as such have the strongest claims for protection from the proprietors of the soil as their custodiers.

A resolution of your county meeting, expressive of its favourable opinion of the objects which I have now ventured to bring under notice, could not fail to farther the attainment of the desirable object in view; and I trust it may be consistent with your business arrangements to propose such a resolution for the adoption of the meeting. I have the honour to be, &c., Sir, your faithful servant,

JOHN STUART.

This circular, Mr Stuart said, had met with the warmest sympathy and promises of co-operation in the greater number of counties. From the counties of Perth, Inverness, Nairn, Peebles, and Linlithgow, excerpts from the Minutes of their respective Michaelmas Courts have been received; and the resolutions of approval by other counties also appeared in the newspapers at the time. The following extract from the Minutes of the Inverness meeting expresses the general feeling of these counties on the subject:—
 “The meeting resolve, that the object of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland is highly laudable, and ought to receive the support of every Scotsman who feels an interest in the records of his country's history; and the meeting beg to recommend to the pro-

prietors, tenants, and others in this county, the preservation of those ancient remains from further injury and spoliation ; and the Convener is requested to send a copy of the Minutes to the Secretary of the Society."

The meeting of the county of Linlithgow not only expressed its cordial approval of the Society's communication, but, with the view of still more forwarding its views, instructed their Clerk to transmit to the resident landowners, clergy, schoolmasters, and others likely to be interested, copies of the circular, with a request that they would, in like manner, give it their cordial co-operation.

It may be hoped, therefore, that the efforts of this Society in attempting thus to create a healthy appreciation of our National Antiquities will not be in vain ; and it is trusted the Members themselves will not be wanting in doing what is in their power as individuals to foster and increase this feeling.

The PRESIDENT then delivered an address, passing in review the various matters which during the previous Session had come before the Society, and the lessons they brought of hope and encouragement to go on in the same course of perseverance and effort, satisfied that the result would be the permanent progress in our country at once of the Society, and of the science of Archæology itself.

During the past year the Society had to mourn the loss, by death, of the following Members :—

	Elected
JOHN ADAMSON, Esq., Secretary of the Antiquarian Society of New-castle-upon-Tyne,	1818
BINDON BLOOD of Cranacher, Esq.,	1832
O. TYNDALL BRUCE of Falkland, Esq.,	1831
WILLIAM BURN CALLANDER of Prestonhall, Esq.,	1828
JAMES DOBIE, Esq., Beath,	1828
JAMES GILLESPIE GRAHAM of Orchil, Esq., Architect,	1817

	Elected
JOHN HAMILTON, Esq., Accountant,	1850
Right Rev. Bishop DAVID LOW, LL.D., of the Scottish Episcopal Church,	1830
ARCHIBALD LECKIE, Esq., Paisley,	1847
JOSEPH MOULE, Esq.,	1823
DAVID MORISON, Esq., late of Perth,	1828
JAMES NASMYTH, Esq.,	1846
ROBERT PITCAIRN, Esq., Writer to the Signet,	1821
Right Hon. ANDREW RUTHERFURD of Lauriston, Lord Rutherford, one of the Lords of Session,	1845
WILLIAM HENRY SCOTT, M.D.	1851

Of these gentlemen there are several who have been valuable supporters of the Society for many years. But the attention of the meeting might more especially be directed to the loss sustained by the death of a young man, a native of Edinburgh, and one of the office-bearers of the Society. He alluded to Dr William Henry Scott, who acted as Curator of Coins; and it was impossible not to lament his apparently untimely removal at the age of twenty-four. From his earliest years he had exhibited a singular attachment to the study of numismatics, along with a profound and enthusiastic study of the Oriental languages. The pages of the Society's Proceedings, as well as the "Numismatic Chronicle," and also the "Revue Archéologique," published at Paris, contain several communications on such subjects; and had his life been spared, with health to have enabled him to carry on his pursuits in philology, as illustrated by numismatics, it may be asserted with confidence that Dr Scott would have obtained very high distinction in that branch of archæological science.

The fourth volume of the *Archæologia Scotica*, it was stated, in deference to the expressed wishes of many Members, was to be forthwith completed; and there was reason to expect that the *Proceedings of the Society*—the issue of which had been of essen-

tial consequence to its prosperity—will hereafter become more attractive, as the anticipated increase of the Society's funds will enable the Council to add both to its bulk and its illustrations.

The meeting of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain, it was well known, was to be held in Edinburgh during the ensuing summer, and there could be but one feeling in our Society—to give a hearty welcome, and aid to the best of our ability our fellow-labourers from the South, when they come amongst us on this most interesting occasion.

Various Donations to the Museum and Library, received during the recess, were laid on the Table for exhibition, and will be noticed in the proceedings of future meetings. Mr Hugh Paton sent for exhibition two portraits he had recently received from France, one of which he believed to represent Prince Charles Edward when a boy.

The thanks of the Society were then voted to the Chairman, and the meeting adjourned.

December 10, 1855.

ARCHIBALD T. BOYLE, Esq., Advocate, Vice-President, in
the Chair.

On a ballot being taken, the following Gentlemen were elected
Fellows of the Society:—

SIR ROBERT KEITH ARBUTHNOT, Bart.
Lieut.-Col. RICHARD C. MOODY, Royal Engineers.
JOHN PENDER, Esq., of Bredbury Hall.
JAMES BOYD THOMSON, Esq., Glasgow.
EDMUND WATERTON, Esq., F.S.A., Walton Hall, Yorkshire.

The Donations to the Museum and Library laid on the table, included—

Portions of a large coarse Clay Urn, found near Meigle. By H. J. FITCHIE, Esq., Deanfield, Meigle.

Bone Comb, found in a "Pict's House" at Kettleburn. By A. HENRY RHIND, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

"The Black Book of Taymouth," with other Papers, from the Breadalbane Charter Room, printed at his Lordship's expense, Edinburgh 1855, 4to. By the MARQUESS of BREADALBANE, President of the Society.

The Archæological Journal, Nos. 45, 46, 47, for 1855. By the ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, LONDON.

The following Communications were then read:—