

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

HUNDREDTH SESSION, 1879-80.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, *1st December* 1879.

JOHN R. FINDLAY, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having taken place, the following Gentlemen recommended by the Council were elected HONORARY FELLOWS of the Society:—

Rev. WILLIAM GREENWELL, M.A., Durham.
AUGUSTUS WOLLASTON FRANKS, M.A., British Museum.

And the following gentlemen were duly elected FELLOWS:—

JAMES CALDWELL, Esq., Craigielea Place, Paisley.
THOMAS S. CLOUSTON, M.D., Morningside Place.
Rev. WILLIAM BRUCE, B.D., Cantab., Dunimarle, Culross.
Major-General J. G. ROCHE FORLONG, 11 Douglas Crescent.
FRANCIS JONES, Esq., 78 Lauriston Road.
PATRICK COMYN MACGREGOR, Esq. of Brediland, Paisley.
J. W. SMALL, Esq., Architect, 56 George Street.
J. A. STEWART, Esq., 6 Constitution Terrace, Dundee.
FREDERICK J. TURNER, Esq., Mansfield, Notts.

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

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President.

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

Vice-Presidents.

JOHN R. FINDLAY.

Professor JOHN DUNS, D.D.

Rev. THOMAS MACLAUCHLAN, LL.D.

Councillors.

JAMES T. GIBSON-CRAIG, } *Representing the Board of Trustees.*
FRANCIS ABBOTT,

Professor Sir C. WYVILLE THOMSON, LL.D., Kt.

Sir WALTER ELLIOT, K.C.S.I.

W. F. SKENE, LL.D., D.C.L.

Professor ÆNEAS J. G. MACKAY, LL.B.

Professor NORMAN MACPHERSON, LL.D.

Captain F. W. L. THOMAS, R.N.

R. W. COCHRAN-PATRICK, B.A., LL.D.

Secretaries.

ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., LL.D.

JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D.

JOSEPH ANDERSON, *Assistant Secretary.*

Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence.

WILLIAM FORBES.

THOMAS DICKSON, H.M. General Register House.

Treasurer.

DAVID DOUGLAS, 9 Castle Street.

Curators of the Museum.

ROBERT CARFRAE.

WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, R.S.A.

Curator of Coins.

GEORGE SIM.

Librarian.

JOHN TAYLOR BROWN.

Auditors.

ROBERT HUTCHISON.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON.

Publisher.

DAVID DOUGLAS, 9 Castle Street.

The following list of the names of Fellows deceased was read by the Secretary :—

<i>Honorary Fellow.</i>	Elected
JAMES FARRER of Ingleborough, Lancashire,	1855

Fellows.

WILLIAM BRUCE, M.D., R.N., Dunimarle,	1861
JAMES CASSIE, R.S.A.,	1872
JOHN CHALMERS, Castle Bank, Merchiston,	1869
MICHAEL H. CRICHTON, Princes Street,	1861
ANDREW GILLMAN, Westminster,	1861
Right Hon. LORD GORDON of Drumearn,	1860
Sir JAMES MATHESON, Bart.,	1858
ADAM MOSSMAN,	1856
JOHN RODGER, S.S.C.,	1871
DAVID SEMPLE, Paisley,	1873
JAMES STARKE,	1858
Sir WALTER TREVELYAN, Bart.,	1862
ROBERT YOUNG, Elgin,	1866

JAMES FARRER became a Fellow of the Society in 1855, and was elected an Honorary Fellow in 1861, in recognition of the service rendered to archaeology by the excavation of the great chambered mound of Maeshow in Orkney, of which he afterwards printed an account with lithographic illustrations of the plan and sections of the mounds, and with copies and translations of the Runic Inscriptions discovered on its walls—(“ Notice of Runic Inscriptions discovered during recent Excavations in the Orkneys, made by James Farrer, M.P.” Printed for private circulation, 1862, 4to). Previous to this Mr Farrer had conducted several successful excavations among the brochs and tumuli of the Orkneys. Notices of these are given in the early volumes of the “ Proceedings.” Mr Farrer was also a liberal donor to the Museum, having from the first made it his practice to send all the products of his excavations to the Society, for our National Collection in Edinburgh.

Sir JAMES MATHESON took a general interest in the objects which the Society has in view, and entered warmly into the proposal to remove the peat from the site of the great Stone Circle at Callernish. He communicated an account of this examination of the monument, which was printed in the “ Proceedings ” of the Society (vol. iii. p. 110).

Sir WALTER CALVERLEY TREVELYAN, Bart., was at one time a frequent contributor of donations to the Society’s Library, chiefly in the department of Old Northern Literature, for which his visit to the Scandinavian kingdoms gave him a liking. He was also an occasional donor to the Museum.

JOHN F. RODGER, S.S.C., a member of the firm of MacLachlan & Rodger, became a Fellow of the Society in 1871. He took an active interest in its affairs and its prosperity, and was for some time one of the Auditors of the Society’s accounts.

DAVID SEMPLE, Writer, Paisley, became a Fellow of the Society in 1873. In 1864 he found the Poll-Tax rolls of Renfrewshire for the year 1695 in the charter chest of the Burgh of Paisley, and prepared them for publication. They were printed from time to time in the columns of

the *Glasgow Herald*, and six slips of each section were given to Mr Semple. These he pasted into volumes, adding a written alphabetical index of all the names in each parish. One of these six copies he presented to the Society's Library. In 1872 he published a volume entitled "Saint Mirin's; Historical Account of Old Houses, Old Families, and Olden Times in Paisley," and in 1876 a volume entitled "The Tree of Crocston," giving an account of the famous "Crocston Yew."

JAMES STARKE, Advocate, Troqueer Holm, Dumfries, became a Fellow of the Society in 1858. He had previously, however, when resident in Edinburgh in 1834, communicated a paper to the Society, entitled "Some Observations on the Justiciary Court of Scotland, with a continued series of the Justiciars and Justices-General." He went to Ceylon as Queen's Advocate in 1839, and shortly after his return renewed his connection with the Society by becoming a Fellow. He took an active part in the establishment of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Antiquarian Society, to which he contributed a number of papers on subjects of local and historical interest.

ROBERT YOUNG, Writer in Elgin, became a Fellow of the Society in 1866. In 1872 he published a volume entitled, "The Parish of Spynie; an Account of its Civil and Ecclesiastical State from the earliest recorded period to the present time," and subsequently in 1879 a larger volume entitled, "The Burgh of Elgin and Parish of Spynie," in which the charter and family history of the locality was more fully dealt with.

The Secretary then read to the meeting the Annual Report of the Society to the Board of Trustees, approved by the Council, and ordered to be transmitted to the Lords of H.M. Treasury, as follows:—

"ANNUAL REPORT of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland to the Honourable the Board of Trustees for Manufactures for Scotland, for the year ending 30th September 1879.

"During the past year the Museum has been open continuously, except during the month of November, when it was closed as usual for cleaning and re-arrangement.

“The number of visitors for the year is shown in the following table, distinguishing between day visitors and visitors on the Saturday evenings for each month :—

MONTHS.	DAY VISITORS.	SATURDAY EVENINGS.	TOTAL.
October	5,370	680	6,050
December.....	4,798	770	5,568
January.....	19,393	510	19,903
February	3,535	654	4,189
March.....	3,745	680	4,425
April	4,327	534	4,861
May.....	6,631	837	7,468
June.....	9,102	676	9,778
July.....	16,197	899	17,096
August.....	14,209	1,112	15,321
September.....	11,149	790	11,939
Total.....	98,456	8,142	106,598
Previous Year...	100,770	9,589	110,359
Decrease.....	2,314	1,447	3,761

“During the year 257 articles of antiquity have been presented to the Museum, and the donations to the Library amount to 135 volumes of books and pamphlets. There have also been added to the Library 163 volumes, purchased by order of the Council from the fund bequeathed by the late Mr John Mudie of Pitumies for that purpose.

“The valuable collection of original drawings of Old Edinburgh by the late James Drummond, R.S.A., has been presented by Messrs Waterston, Sons, and Stewart.

“An extensive and valuable collection of paintings bequeathed by the late David Laing, LL.D., as the nucleus of a National Gallery of Scottish Historical Portraits, along with a collection of antique gems, a vellum copy of Lyndsay’s Heraldry and the Bannatyne Club Presentation Plate have been received from Mr Laing’s Trustees, and added to the general collection.”

MONDAY, 8th December 1878.

PROFESSOR DUNS, D.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

JOHN FORBES WHYTE, Esq., Aberdeen.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

By the trustees of the late David Laing, LL.D.

1. A collection of portraits chiefly in oil colours, designed by Mr Laing to be the nucleus of a National Gallery of Scottish Portraits :—

Full length portrait of Adam Smith, author of the "Wealth of Nations"; half lengths of Rev. Dr Henry of Greyfriars, author of "A History of Great Britain"; of Sir Hans Sloane; of Sir Patrick Hume, Earl of Marchmont; of William Purves, by Sir P. Lely; of Field-Marshal Wade; of John Runciman, Artist, by himself; of Alexander Runciman and John Brown disputing, by John Runciman; of James Tassie; of Sir W. Chambers, Architect; of Professor John Playfair; of the Hon. A. Murray, by Allan Ramsay; of Allan Ramsay, by himself; of David Anderson, Architect, Aberdeen; of Andrew Geddes, Artist; of Professor Mackay, Professor of Civil Law, Edinburgh; of Rev. Gilbert Burnett, D.D., Bishop of Salisbury; of the Rev. Dr Thomas Drummond; of Sir David Murray; of Rev. Robert White. Also a miniature head of Sir Walter Scott in infancy, painted in water colour on ivory, as described and figured in the Scott Centenary Exhibition Catalogue, and five portraits, two of which are supposed to be likenesses of Lord Darnley and King James VI. when a boy, the others uncertain.

2. A collection of engraved gems 39 in number, as described in the following notice, by Mr Henry Laing, author of the two volumes of Scottish seals, to whom the collection was submitted for description :—

The collection of engraved Gems bequeathed by Dr D. Laing to the Society, though not very extensive, or containing any that can be placed in the highest class of such engravings, is yet very interesting as containing some examples of the earliest as well as of the more advanced state of that beautiful art, and may well be appreciated as fairly representative of the art which attained such excellence in the best periods of Greece and Rome, and which still remains unsurpassed.

The whole number of this collection is thirty-nine, of which four are Cameos and the remainder are Intaglios, mostly small, the stones of good quality, and many mounted in gold for Rings, as more particularly described in the accompanying list.

CAMEOS.

1. Agate—Head of the young Augustus, profile, unmounted.
2. Do. Head of Archimedes (?), profile, unmounted.
3. Do. Young Hercules, profile, mounted in gold for a Brooch.
4. Sardonyx—Figure of a young Fawn sitting with a double flute before him, mounted in gold for a Ring.

INTAGLIOS.

5. Carnelian—A mere fragment of a Scarabeus.
6. Obsidian—Head of a Fawn, profile, an excellent engraving, unmounted.
7. Sard—A figure of a Man sitting holding a Mask and a Thyrsus, early and good work.
8. Carnelian—Scarabeus (Sacred Beetle), an Armed Warrior, early work unmounted.
9. Obsidian—Head of Ariadne, profile, modern engraving, unmounted.
10. Solid Carnelian Ring—Head of Roman Emperor.
11. Obsidian—A Scarabeus, some symbolic figure apparently, very rude work, mounted in gold.
12. Carnelian—A Scarabeus, figure of a Warrior, rude work, mounted in gold for a Ring, as are all the following excepting two.

13. Carnelian—A Chimera or some unknown animal, like the preceding, very rude.
14. Onyx—A Lion walking with a ram's head in its mouth, good engraving.
15. Onyx—Hercules overcome by Love, very good work, but unfortunately rather damaged.
16. Chrysoprase—A Goat-Herd milking a Goat.
17. Carnelian—Amphitrite riding on a Sea Bull.
18. Do. Venus sitting before a Mirror attiring her hair.
19. Do. Head of an Eagle, good engraving, mounted in gold as a Seal.
20. Onyx—Figure of a Warrior with Spear and Helmet.
21. Sard—Cybele riding on a Lion.
22. Onyx—Figure of a Hunter with Spears and a Dog, very good engraving.
23. Sard—A Wild Boar and Dog, very good work.
24. Do. Figure of Adonis.
25. Carnelian—Figure of an aged Man, in a conical-shaped cap, sitting beside a Sphinx, holding in his left hand a Spear and a branch of Laurel, probably some symbolic figure.
26. Sard—Achilles drawing the Arrow from his heel.
27. Onyx—The Muse Terpsichore.
28. Carnelian—A Female offering Sacrifice.
29. Obsidian—A Man examining a Helmet.
30. Emerald—Winged figure of Victory.
31. Amethyst—Mercury with Caduceus and Purse.
32. Rock crystal—Head of Seneca, profile, good work.
33. Sard—Head of the Emperor Nero.
34. Carnelian—Head of the Emperor Nerva.
35. Sard—Head of Jupiter-Stater, profile, crowned with the corn measure.
36. Sard—Bust of a Bacchante, front face, an excellent engraving.
37. Amethyst—Head of a Bacchante in profile.
38. Sard—Head of one of the Roman Emperors.
39. Obsidian—A Fragment of a front face Head of Medusa.

3. Four volumes of the publications of the Bannatyne Club that were wanting in the set belonging to the Society's Library, viz.: "The Catalogue of the Abbotsford Library," 4to, 1838; "Liber de Calchou," 2 vols. 4to, 1846; "Liber de Dryburgh," 4to, 1848.

4. Copy on vellum of the facsimile of an ancient heraldic manuscript, emblazoned by Sir David Lindsay of the Mount, Lyon King of Arms, engraved by W. H. Lizars, and edited by David Laing, folio, published at Edinburgh by W. & D. Laing, 1822.

5. The Bannatyne Club Silver Plate presented to Mr Laing as Secretary of the Club. This testimonial, which consists of a statuette of Sir Walter Scott by Slater, is represented among the illustrations to the Catalogue of the Scott Centenary Exhibition, 4to, Edinburgh 1871, and the following note appended to it by Mr Laing himself sufficiently explains its history:—

“ At the termination of the Bannatyne Club in 1860, of which Sir Walter Scott was the founder in February 1823, the members, without my knowledge or desire, subscribed for a testimonial to be presented to me, having acted as Hon. Secretary during the whole time of its existence. The form that this testimonial might assume was left to myself; and I could not but desire, in grateful and pleasing recollections, to have the chief portion associated with the founder. A composition designed and modelled by Mr Peter Slater was adopted, consisting of a handsome Silver Vase, and of three emblematical figures of History, Poetry, and Music, surmounted with a statuette of Sir Walter Scott as founder of the Club. In a volume of *Adversaria*, which I subsequently presented to the members from the surplus fund, a lithograph print of these figures were given.”

The following communciations were read:—