

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

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HUNDRED AND TWENTY-EIGHTH SESSION, 1907-1908.

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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1907.

DAVID CHRISTISON, M.D., LL.D., Vice-President,  
in the Chair.

Sheriff Crawford and Mr James Robert Reid were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Office-Bearers and Councillors.

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 RIGHT HON. SIR HERBERT E. MAXWELL, BART., LL.D.

*Vice-Presidents.*

DAVID CHRISTISON, M.D., LL.D.

The Right Rev. JOHN DOWDEN, D.D., LL.D.

SIR ARTHUR MITCHELL, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D.

*Councillors.*

Sir JOHN STIRLING	} <i>Representing</i>	J. GRAHAM CALLANDER.
MAXWELL, Bart.,		CHARLES EDWARD WHITELOW.
LL.D.,	} <i>the Board</i>	LUDOVIC M'LELLAN MANN.
JOHN R. FINDLAY,		WILLIAM GARSON, W.S.
Sir KENNETH J. MACKENZIE, Bart.,	} <i>of Trustees.</i>	The Hon. LORD GUTHRIE.
<i>Representing the Treasury.</i>		The Hon. HEW H. DALRYMPLE.
THOMAS ROSS.		Sir JAMES BALFOUR PAUL.
J. D. G. DALRYMPLE.		

*Secretaries.*

WILLIAM K. DICKSON. | ALEXANDER O. CURLE, W.S.

*For Foreign Correspondence.*

The Rev. Professor A. H. SAYCE, M.A., | J. MAITLAND THOMSON, LL.D.  
LL.D., D.D. |

*Treasurer.*

JOHN NOTMAN, F.F.A., 28 St Andrew Square.

*Curators of the Museum.*

Rev. JOHN DUNS, D.D. | ALEXANDER J. S. BROOK.

*Curator of Coins.*

GEORGE MACDONALD, M.A., LL.D.

*Librarian.*

JAMES CURLE, Jun.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected  
Fellows :—

Rev. ROBERT LITTLEJOHN BARR, Manse of Kinellar, Aberdeen.  
JOSHUA W. BROOKE, Architect and Civil Engineer, Rosslyn, Marlborough,  
Wilts.  
Mrs MARY DALZIEL BRUCE, of Sumburgh, Shetland.

DOUGLAS CRICHTON, 61 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London.  
 JOHN C. GUY, Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of the Lothians and Peebles,  
 7 Darnaway Street.  
 H. W. HODGES, 89 Hyndland Road, Kelvinside, Glasgow.  
 JOSEPH MACKENZIE LEIGHTON, Librarian, Public Library, Greenock.  
 DAVID LENNOX, M.D., F.R.A.S., Tayside House, 162 Nethergate, Dundee.  
 Chancellor J. W. LOWBER, Ph.D., etc., Austin, Texas, U.S.A.  
 ALFRED WILLIAM OKE, B.A., F.L.S., 32 Denmark Villas, Hove, Sussex.  
 JOHN M'KIRDY ORR, 32 Dockhead Street, Saltcoats.  
 HERBERT S. PULLAR, Dunbarnie Cottage, Bridge of Earn.  
 Rev. JAMES ROBB, M.A., B.D., 7 Alvanley Terrace.  
 DAVID D. SANDEMAN, Cairniebank House, Arbroath.  
 THOMAS G. SCOTT, 186 Ferry Road.  
 THOMAS SHEPPARD, F.G.S., Curator, Municipal Museum, Hull.  
 WILLIAM JAMES WOOD, 266 George Street, Glasgow.

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the deaths of the following Members, deceased since last Annual Meeting :—

*Lady Associate.*

The BARONESS BURDETT COUTTS, . . . . .	Elected 1873
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*Honorary Members.*

J. ROMILLY ALLEN, 28 Great Ormond Street, London, . . . . .	1900
Sir FRANCIS TRESS BARRY, Bart., St Leonard's Hill, Windsor, and Keiss Castle, Caithness, . . . . .	1897

*Fellows.*

WILLIAM ANDERSON, Arnsbrae, Bearsden, Dumbartonshire, . . . . .	1894
GEORGE WAUGH BRUCE, Solicitor, Leven, Fife, . . . . .	1892
JOHN BRUCE, J.P., D.L., of Sumburgh, Shetland, . . . . .	1898
ALEXANDER BUCHAN, LL.D., 2 Dean Terrace, . . . . .	1896
J. A. CHATWIN, Architect, Wellington House, Edgbaston, Birmingham,	1889
ADAM J. CORRIE, 5 Neville Park, Tunbridge Wells, . . . . .	1895
HUGH DAVIDSON, Procurator-Fiscal, Braedale, Lanark, . . . . .	1872
The Rev. JAMES DODDS, D.D., Corstorphine, . . . . .	1887
JOHN HOPE FINLAY, W.S., Keeper of the General Register of Sasines, . .	1880

ALEXANDER HOWE, W.S., 17 Moray Place, . . . . .	1861
Col. Sir CHARLES HUGHES HUNTER, Plas Cöch, Llanfair, Anglesea, . . . . .	1872
JAMES AULDO JAMESON, W.S., 14 Buckingham Terrace, . . . . .	1871
ROBERT KERR, 17 Cornwall Street, . . . . .	1905
FRANCIS LYNN, Livingstone Terrace, Galashiels, . . . . .	1893
DAVID MACBRAYNE, Auchintiel, Helensburgh, . . . . .	1893
JOHN REDDOCH MACLUCKIE, Braeside, Falkirk, . . . . .	1889
DAVID MASSON, LL.D., Historiographer for Scotland, . . . . .	1886
WILLIAM MAXWELL, of Donavoured, Pitlochry, . . . . .	1887
WILLIAM PAXTON, 62 Fountainhall Road, . . . . .	1874
The Rev. ROBERT RAINY, D.D., Principal of the New College, Edinburgh, . . . . .	1865
CHARLES RAMPINI, LL.D., Burnside, Paignton, S. Devon, . . . . .	1873
W. W. ROBERTSON, Architect, Wardie Bank, . . . . .	1879
ROBERT SHIELLS, Banker, Neenah, Wisconsin, U.S.A., . . . . .	1897
Mrs LUCY M. SMITH, 6 Darnaway Street, . . . . .	1901
CHARLES J. SPENCE, South Preston Lodge, North Shields, . . . . .	1890
The Rev. R. HERBERT STORY, D.D., LL.D., Principal of the University, Glasgow, . . . . .	1882

Mr W. K. Dickson, Secretary, read the following Report by the Secretaries on the progress and work of the Society during the past year :—

*Membership.*—At the commencement of the Session the number of Fellows on the roll of the Society was 699. During the year that has just passed we have had an addition of 40 new members, and one member previously lapsed has been reinstated, but that gain is almost counter-balanced by the losses from death, resignation, and lapse of membership. Of our Fellows 26 have died, 8 have resigned, and 3 have allowed their membership to lapse. We thus begin the new session with a membership of 703, an increase of 4. Considering that at no time in its long history has the Society been doing better work than at present, it is to be regretted that there has not been a more substantial increase in the membership, and we would urge on Fellows the desirability of doing what lies in their power to advance the interests of the Society in this respect.

*Proceedings.*—The forty-first volume of the *Proceedings*, an advance copy of which lies upon the table, contains 21 papers. Of these 11 deal with prehistoric and protohistoric subjects, while, of the remaining 19, one dealing with terra-cotta lamps may be classed as academic, one calls attention to the remains of a prehistoric fortress, another calendars the charters, etc., in the custody of the Society, covering the period from the fourteenth to the eighteenth century, while the rest relate to post-reformation times. Of the papers themselves, Mr Abercromby's study of the relative chronology of some cinerary urn types of Great Britain and Ireland is in continuation of the important research to which Mr Abercromby is devoting himself, some of the results of which we have already received. A valuable addition to the paper are the 200 illustrations of urns, for the whole expense of which the Society is indebted to Mr Abercromby's generosity. Mr Matthew Livingstone's Calendar of the Charters in possession of the Society relating to lands and benefices in Scotland calls for special notice. Mr Livingstone has given us a full précis of 154 documents, and from his wide knowledge has indicated points of interest which would have escaped the ordinary observer. Considerable as the labour must have been in framing such a Calendar, he has added to it by preparing a copious index. Since the Historical MSS. Commissioners have deemed it unnecessary to take note of our Scottish Charters of date subsequent to the thirteenth century (notwithstanding the protest of this Society and other learned bodies), the value of such a paper as this is greatly increased. Not only is it a model of how such work should be done, but it may be helpful in inducing Fellows and others who own such documents to deposit them with the Society, where they may become accessible to the student.

Mr Brook's paper on Church Tokens is a valuable addition to the volume, and full of information on the subject. Under the Gunning Fellowship Mr F. R. Coles has continued his survey of the Stone Circles in Scotland, and his report in this volume deals with those in the shires of Banff and Moray. Mr Alan Reid continues his records of monuments in the Lothian kirkyards. Dr Munro has dealt with a subject of great

archæological interest in a classification and consideration of the spherical stone balls peculiar to Scotland, while from Dr Anderson we have a description of certain objects found in Viking graves in Oronsay and Colonsay, the relics from the latter having been exhibited for some years in the Royal Scottish Museum in Chambers Street.

Though the greater number of papers deal with prehistoric matters, there is variety enough in the volume to show that papers on suitable subjects illustrative of the history as well as the archæology of Scotland are welcome. The objects of antiquarian interest still remaining unexamined or unrecorded throughout the country are innumerable, and there is no lack of opportunity for those anxious to study. Though excavation on a large scale is not within the means of many, there is much exploration that can be done at trifling cost, very valuable, if scientifically undertaken, as the perusal of the *Proceedings* will show. The shell heaps on our shores, the camps among the hills, the cairns, the mediæval castles, and a host of other objects, are awaiting exploration; while to the archivist there are masses of charters and other records, more or less accessible, well worthy of investigation. For example, there are in Scotland, in the aggregate, a considerable number of mediæval illuminated MSS. The miniatures and other decorations of these MSS. are often not only objects of great beauty but valuable records of the art, manners, and costume of the Middle Ages. Many of them are still unrecorded. Good photographs of these, accompanied by short descriptions, would be of great value.

*The Rhind Lectureship.*—Mr James Curle has been appointed Lecturer for the current year, taking as his subject the Roman station at Newstead, in the exploration of which he has been so singularly successful, and it is hoped that the lectures will be delivered in March.

*Excavations.*—The exploration of the Roman station at Newstead, begun in February 1905, has been continued throughout the year with most gratifying results. The collection of objects recovered exceeds in

value and importance those from any similar site in Britain, and considerable light has been thrown on the history of the Roman occupation of Scotland. The fact of four occupations of the site has been fully established. To accommodate the large increase to the collection in the Museum from this source two new cases will shortly be erected by H.M. Board of Works in the lower gallery.

Mr John Notman, Treasurer, submitted a Report on the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and distributed among the Fellows.

The Secretary read the following Report to the Board of Trustees :—

ANNUAL REPORT to the Board of Trustees by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, with reference to the National Museum of Antiquaries under their charge, for the year ending 30th November 1907 :—

During the past year the Museum has been open to the public as formerly.

The number of objects added to the Museum during the year has been 330 by donation and 68 by purchase, and the number of volumes added to the Library has been 142 by donation and 37 by purchase.

Among the donations to the Museum may be mentioned the collection of objects found in the course of the excavation of the Broch of Jarlshof, Shetland, presented by the late John Bruce, Esq., of Sumburgh, F.S.A. Scot. ; a collection of Antiquities from Coll and Tiree, 103 in number, consisting of objects chiefly of stone, bronze and pottery, figured and described in his book on Coll and Tiree, and presented by Mr Erskine Beveridge, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot. ; and two oblong Bronze Brooches of very rare form, a penannular Brooch and other personal ornaments from a ship-burial of the Viking time in Oronsay, and a penannular Bronze Brooch, ring-headed Pin, and Belt-mounting found in

Colonsay, presented by the Right Hon. Lord Strathcona and Mount-Royal, K.C.M.G., F.S.A. Scot.

The very large increase in recent years of that section of the Museum which is illustrative of the Roman occupation of Scotland, due to the donations from time to time of the collections obtained from the excavations undertaken by the Society at the Roman Stations of Birrens, Ardoch, Lyne, Camelon, Inchtuthil, Castlecary, and Rough Castle, has completely occupied the whole of the exhibition space available in the existing cases. At present the excavation of Newstead, near Melrose, the largest and most prolific Roman military station hitherto investigated in Scotland, is in progress, and has already yielded a much larger and much more valuable collection than any of the others, including a considerable number of objects of exceptional interest and importance which have not previously been found in Britain. To provide for the exhibition to the public of this extensive collection two new cases are being supplied by H.M. Board of Works.

W. K. DICKSON, }  
A. O. CURLE, } *Secretaries.*



MONDAY, 9th December 1907.

THE RIGHT REV. JOHN DOWDEN, D.D., LL.D., Vice-  
President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following were duly elected  
Fellows:—

BENJAMIN WILLIAM JOHN KENT, Tatefield Hall, Beckwithshaw,  
Harrogate.

BRAMLEY BENJAMIN KENT, Tatefield Hall, Beckwithshaw, Harrogate.

ALEXANDER MOFFATT, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of  
Stirlingshire.

JAMES WATT, W.S., F.F.A., 24 Rothesay Terrace.

The following purchases acquired by the Purchase Committee during  
the recess, 13th May to 30th November 1907, were exhibited:—

Polished Stone Axe, from Timpandean, Roxburghshire.

Polished Stone Axe, from Wester Ulston, Roxburghshire.

Perforated and Polished Stone Hammer, from Heatherbank, Westray,  
Orkney.

Collection of Flint Implements, from Laidlaw Hill, West Linton.

Carved Powder Horn, dated 1731, from Clashmore, Glenlivet.

Perforated and Polished Stone Hammer, from Pitcairngreen,  
Perthshire.

Flat, Oval, Polished Knife, of Porphyritic Stone, from Shetland.

Flint Arrow-head, Knife, four Scrapers, and a Pistol-flint, from Town  
o' Rule, Roxburghshire.

The Book of Stobo Church. By Dr Clement Gunn, Peebles.

Birch's History of Scottish Seals. 2 vols. 4to.

Anderson's Communion Tokens of the Established Churches in the  
Northern Counties of Scotland. 4to. 1906.

Guide to English Pottery and Porcelain.

Guide to the Medieval Room of the British Museum.

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

(1) By the Right Hon. Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart., *President*.

Scalacronica: The Reigns of Edward I., Edward II., and Edward III., as recorded by Sir Thomas Gray, and now translated by the Right Hon. Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart. 4to. 1907.

(2) By the Rev. Professor A. H. SAYCE, D.D., LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The Archæology of the Cuneiform Inscriptions; being the Rhind Lectures for 1906. 8vo. 1907.

(3) By the KEEPER OF THE RECORDS OF SCOTLAND.

Accounts of the Lord High Treasurer of Scotland. Vol. VII., 1538–1541. Edited by Sir James Balfour Paul, F.S.A. Scot., Lord Lyon King-at-Arms. 8vo. 1907.

(4) By JOHN A. HENDERSON, the Author.

Aberdeenshire Epitaphs and Inscriptions, with Historical, Biographical, Genealogical, and Antiquarian Notes. 4to. 1907. Vol. I.

(5) By the CLAN LINDSAY SOCIETY.

Publications of the Clan Lindsay Society. No. 4. 1907. 8vo.

There was also exhibited:—

By HERBERT S. PULLAR, F.S.A. Scot., Dunbarnie Cottage, Bridge of Earn.

Highland Claymore, with slightly reversed quillons, found under two feet of peat in, a moss in Perthshire. This fine sword (fig. 1) has a total length of 3 feet  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches; the length of the handle, measured on the tang (which is all that remains), is  $8\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the breadth of

the blade at insertion in the guard is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches, tapering regularly to a thin and slightly rounded point  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch in breadth. A few inches of the point end are unfortunately separated from the blade; and the few fragments that were saved of the wood which seemed to have formed the mounting of the grip are shown in the illustration beside the tang. At about a third of the length of the blade from the handle is the mark (fig. 2), inlaid in yellow metal, but so much hidden in the oxidation as to be made out only by careful scrutiny.

Mr Guy Francis Laking, M.V.O., F.S.A., keeper of the King's Armoury, and author of the sumptuous volume entitled *The Armoury of Windsor Castle*, published by the King's command in 1904, writing to Mr Fenton, from whom he had received a photograph of the sword, says:—"I am very greatly interested in the photograph of the Highland *Claidheamh-mor*. Indeed, I consider it one of the most interesting Scottish weapons I have ever seen. The coarseness of its make, together with certain technical peculiarities, lead me to believe it to be one of the most primitive of its particular type

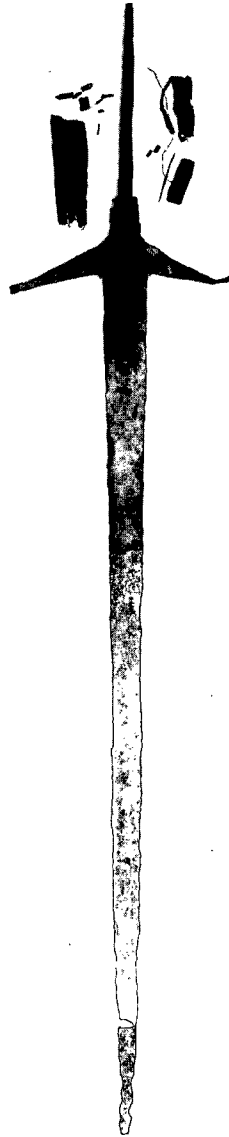


Fig. 1. Claymore. (½.)

of weapon. I think it would be quite safe to assign it to a date probably within the first quarter of the fifteenth century, or possibly of the last years of the preceding century.

“It will be noticed that the customary pierced trefoil ends of the quillons seen on the Highland two-handed swords of the latter part of the fifteenth century have not yet, in this specimen, made their appearance. Also, by the photograph, it is interesting to note that the projecting lug from the centre of the quillon lying upon the face of the blade is roughly forged in a separate piece, and not, as in the later specimens, carefully drawn out of the quillons themselves.

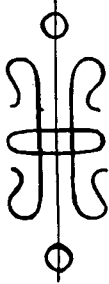


Fig. 2. Mark inlaid on the sword blade. (♯.)

“Of course it is much to be regretted that the pommel is missing. With the careful search that you say is being made, possibly it may be found. Doubtless it was a small iron or even bronze pommel of wheel form, but very deep in section.

“Of course there exist a few (very few) single-handed Scottish weapons anterior to this in date, but they are of a somewhat different type, and appear to be derived from the Scandinavian sword of the eleventh or twelfth century.

“I believe the sword of which you send me a photograph is unique. It indeed forms a valuable link in the series of Highland weapons that we are acquainted with. I wish it were possible to see more clearly the inlaid design in the centre of the blade. GUY FRANCIS LAKING.”

Replying to a later communication from Mr Pullar, Mr Laking adds :—  
“The mark, of which you send me a drawing (fig. 2), I think means little beyond being an early form of decoration for the blade.”