

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

HUNDRED AND THIRTIETH SESSION, 1909-1910.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1909.

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

Sir James Balfour Paul, LL.D., and Mr James J. Macle hose were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Office-bearers.

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., D.C.L.

Vice-Presidents.

THOMAS ROSS.
WILLIAM GARSON, W.S.
PROFESSOR THOMAS H. BRYCE, M.D.

Councillors.

Sir JOHN STIRLING MAXWELL, Bart., LL.D.,	} <i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>	Sir JAMES BALFOUR PAUL, LL.D.
JOHN R. FINDLAY,		GEORGE NEILSON, LL.D.
Sir KENNETH J. MACKENZIE, Bart., <i>Representing the Treasury.</i>		WILLIAM G. SCOTT-MONCRIEFF.
The Hon. LORD GUTHRIE.		JAMES EDWARD CREE.
The Hon. HEW H. DALRYMPLE.		The Right Rev. JOHN DOWDEN, D.D., LL.D.
		W. T. OLDRIEVE, F.R.I.B.A.
		D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D.

Secretaries.

ALEXANDER O. CURLE, W.S. | ROBERT SCOTT-MONCRIEFF, W.S.

For Foreign Correspondence.

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

Treasurer.

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

Curators of the Museum.

JAMES CURLE, W.S. | J. GRAHAM CALLANDER.

Curator of Coins.

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

Librarian.

W. K. DICKSON.

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

JAMES ALLAN, Redtower, Helensburgh.

JOHN DAVIES, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., Capt. (retired) R.A.M.C., 14 Leven
Terrace.

GEORGE HENRY EDINGTON, M.D., 20 Woodside Place, Glasgow.

JAMES NOBLE GRAHAM of Carfin and Stonebyres, Carluke.

JAMES GUILD, B.A. (Lond.), L.C.P., 36 Hillend Road, Arbroath.
 ALEXANDER ALLAN FOOTE, Architect, 133 High Holborn, London.
 JOHN A. HOLMS, Stockbroker, Sandyford, Paisley.
 The Rev. JOHN LINDSAY, M.A., LL.D., St Peter's Vicarage, Limehouse,
 London.
 PETER MACINTYRE, New Town, Inveraray.
 ROBERT CRAWFURD MACLEOD, 19 Scotland Street.
 ARTHUR F. BALFOUR PAUL, Architect, 16 Rutland Square.
 ALPHONSO STODART REID, 16 Hawthorn Avenue, Monton, Manchester.

The Secretary read the following list of Members deceased since the last Annual Meeting:—

Honorary Fellows.

	Elected
HENRY CHARLES LEA, LL.D., Walnut Street, Philadelphia,	1892
WHITLEY STOKES, LL.D., C.S.I., Cornwall Gardens, London,	1892

Corresponding Member.

WILLIAM GEORGE THOMAS WATT, of Breckness, Skail House, Orkney, 1888

Fellows.

FRANCIS ABERDEIN, Garvocklea, Laurencekirk,	1853
JAMES ANDERSON, Carronvale, Wardie Road,	1889
WILLIAM BAIN, 42 Moray Place,	1889
THOMAS BELL, of Belmont, Hazelwood, Broughty Ferry,	1889
JAMES BRAND, C.E., 10 Marchmont Terrace, Glasgow,	1891
A. W. GRAY BUCHANAN, of Parkhill, Polmont,	1894
Rev. P. LORIMER BURR, D.D., Minister of Lundie and Fowlis,	1889
JAMES CALDWELL, County Clerk of Renfrewshire, Craiglea Place, Paisley,	1880
THOMAS MACKNIGHT CRAWFURD, of Cartsburn,	1861
DANIEL JOHN CUNNINGHAM, M.D., D.Sc., D.C.L., LL.D., Professor of Anatomy in the University of Edinburgh, and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine,	1904
ANDREW ORR DEAS, M.A., LL.B., Advocate, 7 Forres Street,	1903
Rev. JOHN DUNS, D.D., Hilderley, North Berwick,	1875
JOHN ELLIOT, of Binks, J.P., Yarborough Villa, Southsea.	1880
ALEXANDER FRASER, 17 Eildon Street,	1862

JOHN FULLERTON, 1 Garthland Place, Paisley,	1896
Sir ALEXANDER MUIR MACKENZIE, Bart., of Delvine,	1899
THOMAS M'KIE, LL.D., Advocate, 30 Moray Place,	1876
Col. JOHN NEIL MACLEOD, V.D., of Glen Saddell and Kintarbert,	1893
Sir ARTHUR MITCHELL, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D., H.R.S.A., Vice-President, 34 Drummond Place,	1867
WILLIAM SHERRER PORTEOUS, 3 Priestfield Road,	1905
JAMES ROBERT REID, C.I.E., 11 Magdala Crescent,	1898
ADAM BLACK RICHARDSON, 10 Magdala Place,	1880
GEORGE SMITH, S.S.C., 21 St Andrew Square,	1893
The Right Hon. LORD TWEEDMOUTH, Hutton Castle, Berwickshire,	1901
GEORGE SETON VEITCH, J.P., Friarshall, Paisley,	1862

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the deaths of these members, and specially in the deaths of Sir Arthur Mitchell, K.C.B., *Vice-President*, Rev. John Duns, D.D., *Curator of the Museum*, and Adam Black Richardson, a former *Curator of Coins*.

Before passing to the general business of the Society, in accordance with the desire of the Council to communicate to the Fellows the terms of a minute adopted by them giving expression to the loss the Society has sustained through the death of Sir Arthur Mitchell, the Secretary read the Minute as follows:—

“At a meeting of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, held in their Council Room at the Museum, Queen Street, Edinburgh, on 25th October 1909, the Right Rev. John Dowden, D.D., LL.D., Vice-President, in the chair.

“Before proceeding to the ordinary business of this meeting the Council desire to record their deep sense of the great loss which they and the Society have sustained in the death of Sir Arthur Mitchell, K.C.B., who had been for forty-eight years a member of the Society, and for forty-one years a member of the Council, having held, at different times, with the greatest ability and acceptance, the offices of Secretary for twelve years, Foreign Secretary for eight years, Vice-President for three terms of three years each, Repre-

sentative of the Board of Trustees for nine years, and Rhind Lecturer for three years—a record probably unexampled in the history of the Society. His lectures in 1876–78, which inaugurated the Lectureship in Archæology instituted by the late Mr A. H. Rhind in connection with the Society, were exceedingly popular, and after publication attracted much attention by the novelty of their treatment of the subject of ‘The Past in the Present,’ and the striking originality of the views expressed in discussing the question, ‘What is Civilisation?’ His frequent contributions to the *Proceedings* of the Society were distinguished by their scientific character and grace of literary style, among the last being the address delivered, by request of the Council, in 1901, on the occasion of the jubilee anniversary of the first annual issue of the Society’s *Proceedings*, entitled ‘The Pre-History of the Scottish Area—Fifty Years’ work of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.’ He was also a liberal donor to the Museum of objects of special interest, made all the more valuable to science by his descriptions of their history and relations. Keenly sensible that they will greatly miss his genial presence, his wide scientific and historic knowledge, and his business aptitude and sound judgment, which were of such eminent service in all their deliberations, the Council desire respectfully to offer to his son and the surviving relatives their sincere sympathies with them in their bereavement.

“The Secretary was instructed to forward a copy of this Minute to Mr Sydney Mitchell.”

The chief characteristics of Sir Arthur Mitchell’s work for the Society were originality and thoroughness. He rarely touched a subject which he did not present in new aspects and unexpected relations. Among his most notable contributions to the Society’s *Proceedings* were the following: “On Various Superstitions in the North-West Highlands and Islands of Scotland, especially in relation to Lunacy” (1861), in which

he gave startling details of superstitious customs which he had found still practised, or not yet out of remembrance, in relation to the cure of epilepsy and other diseases, and published for the first time extracts from the local ecclesiastical records dealing with the sacrifice of bulls and other animals for these and similar superstitious purposes. "Notices of some Remarkable Discoveries of Rude Stone Implements near Underground Houses in Shetland," which were of types previously unknown to Scottish archæology, and have the special interest that they are peculiar to the area of the northern and western islands, were communicated in 1867 and 1869, along with a large and fully representative set of the new specimens for the Museum. Not less important, and perhaps more generally interesting, was his discovery (as told in the *Proceedings*, vol. ix. p. 568) of the inscribed monuments at Kirkmadrine, Wigtownshire, then doing duty as gate-posts to an old burying-ground, which he recognised at a glance as having no counterparts anywhere else in the country, and as being among the earliest, if not the very earliest, Christian monuments in Scotland—subsequently described by Mr Haddon as probably of the fifth century, and memorials of priests connected with St Ninian himself. In his "Vacation Notes in Cromar, Burghead and Strathspey" (1874), which are full of original observation of antiquities in these districts, he described and traced the origin of the peculiar custom of "the Burning of the Clavie" at Burghead on New Year's Eve, illustrating it by many extracts from local ecclesiastical records showing the wide prevalence of the superstitious ceremony of carrying fire round such objects as were desired to be rendered fruitful and prosperous for the coming year, whether cornfields, or fishing-boats, or other things which were desired to yield increase. His last contribution, "A List of Travels and Tours relating to Scotland" (1901), with supplementary list (1905), containing more than a thousand entries, was a work of great labour and research, and will be an invaluable source of reference for the social and industrial conditions, or the manners and customs, prevailing in different parts of Scotland, as set forth by these writers from time to time.

The Secretary read the following Report on the progress and work of the Society during the past year :—

Membership.—The total number of Members on the roll at 30th November 1908 was 709. During the past year 48 new Fellows have been elected ; 27 have died, 6 have resigned, and 7 have allowed their Membership to lapse, leaving us with an increase to our Members of 8. This is satisfactory, but to maintain the vitality of the Society it is necessary to be constantly recruiting to our ranks those interested in Scottish History and Archæology, and it is hoped that Fellows will lose no opportunity of inducing such to join the Society.

Proceedings.—Along with an increase in our Membership it is gratifying to note an increase also in the number of papers communicated during the past session. An advance copy of Vol. XLIII. of our *Proceedings* is now upon the table. It contains 29 papers, as against 23 in the previous volume. Further, these 29 papers treat of a large variety of subjects, and though as formerly prehistory claims the larger number, viz. 15, the remainder deal with matters of historical, literary, and antiquarian interest.

Professor Bryce furnishes a further description of cairns in Arran, Dr Anderson has given a paper on the group of perforated stone hammers of which the Welsh example, fortunately in the National Museum, is the finest known, and Dr Hay Fleming has written an account of the sculptured cross-shafts recovered from St Andrews Cathedral by Mr Oldrieve of H.M. Office of Works. Mr Fothergill, in a paper on Scottish Samplers, deals with a fresh subject. Mr Coles, by means of the Gunning Fellowship, continues his most valuable survey of Scottish Stone Circles, in this volume dealing with those of Perthshire.

A paper of historical interest is that of Mr Douglas Crichton, giving the official accounts of the murder of the Admirable Crichton, and proving the existence of a contemporary bearing the same name, reference to

whom, subsequent to the date of the murder, had led to considerable confusion.

The Rhind Lectureship.—The Rhind Lecturer for the past year was Dr David Murray, who treated of “The Occupation and Use of the Land in Scotland in Early Times.” In the coming year Professor Baldwin Brown will lecture on “The Art of the Period of the Teutonic Migrations.”

Excavations.—During the past session the work on the Roman forts at Newstead has been practically concluded, though it is hoped a small area still unexplored may yet be examined and yield some further relics. Since the last report a marching camp of 49 acres in extent, presumed to be that of Agricola, was located to the east of the main camp, and a burial with two urns, one of the few examples of a Roman grave found in Scotland, was unearthed in its ditch. In the ditch of an annex also to the east were found two altars, one of which bore an inscription much effaced, stating that it was dedicated by Gaius Arrius Domitianus, whose name appears on three of the altars which have been found here.

Excavation on some of the prehistoric forts of Lanarkshire is being privately undertaken by Mr Bishop, a Fellow of the Society, and a communication giving the result of his exploration is looked forward to with interest.

The Museum.—During the year the Museum has been open to the public free, the charge for admission formerly existing on two days a week having been abolished in November last. The number of objects of antiquity added to the Museum during the year has been 156 by donation and 38 by purchase. The number of volumes added to the Library has been 191 by donation and 39 by purchase, and the binding of 137 volumes has been proceeded with.

The Treasurer submitted a statement of the Society's Funds for the past year, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Fellows.

MONDAY, 13th December 1909.

MR THOMAS ROSS, Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

JOHN BARTHOLOMEW of Glenorchard, Advocate, 56 India Street.

PERCY BATE, Secretary, Royal Glasgow Institute of the Fine Arts, 270 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow.

WILLIAM CHRISTIE of Lochdochart, Braemar House, Whitehouse Terrace.

ROBERT HENDERSON, M.Inst.C.E., 66 Haymarket Terrace.

DOUGLAS GORDON HUNTER, 7 Marchmont Street.

J. R. N. MACPHAIL, Advocate, 55 Great King Street.

The following purchases acquired by the Purchase Committee during the recess, 10th May to 30th November, were exhibited :—

A perforated Stone Adze, 5 inches in length by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth and $1\frac{3}{8}$ in greatest thickness, the haft-hole worked from both sides, found in digging a foundation at Carlingnore Point, Queensferry.

Enamelled Bead of opaque vitreous paste, $\frac{1}{8}$ of an inch in diameter and $\frac{9}{16}$ inch in thickness, having three large spirals in white, with two small spirals between each two of the larger, round the outer circumference, ploughed up at Gilmerton.

Wooden Bowl cut out of the solid, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter by 5 inches in depth, the sides about $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches in thickness, found in digging peats at Airds, South Dell, parish of Ness, Lewis.

Bronze flanged Axe, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by $2\frac{3}{16}$ inches across the cutting face, with expanding flanges, from Stobhall, parish of Cargill, Perthshire.

A "Witches' Collar" or Jougs, formerly belonging to the parish of Ladybank in Fife, formed of a band of iron, 6 inches in diameter and $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches in depth, having the upper and lower edges cut out into triangular points, with a slot for adjustment to different sizes and a riveted eyelet through which a penannular ring passes and fastens it.

The use of the collar is alluded to in a seventeenth-century letter addressed to the session-clerk of the time, in which the correspondent enquires, among other matters, whether they have again had occasion to use their collar among their sorcerous people.

Socketed Axe of Bronze, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the cutting face, loop broken off, found in the Douglas Burn, and a portion of another, consisting of the cutting edge up to the end of the socket, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, found in Dryhope Burn, Yarrow, Selkirkshire.

Sampler in frame, $17\frac{1}{2}$ by 12 inches, dated 1829, and signed JANET KININMONT.

Spindle-whorl of brownish sandstone, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter by $\frac{7}{16}$ inch in thickness, unornamented, from Balerno.

The following books for the Library :—

Trenholm's Story of Iona ; Thomson's Records of the Hammermen of Dunfermline ; Horne's County of Caithness ; Mowat's Bibliography of Caithness ; Mattheson's Place-names of Elginshire ; Peet's Stone and Bronze Ages in Italy ; Lart's Jacobite Extracts from the Registers of St Germain-en-Laye ; Terry's Catalogue of the Publications of Scottish Historical Societies and Clubs, with Subject Index ; Holder's Alt-Keltische Sprachschatz, 2 vols. ; Besson's L'Art Barbare ; Fairbairn's Book of Crests in Great Britain and Ireland, 2 vols. ; Frew's Parish of Urr ; Macalister's Memorial Slabs of Clonmacnoise ; and Johnstone's History of the Johnstones.

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

- (1) By HUGH M'MASTER, through Sir HERBERT MAXWELL, Bart.,
President.

Arrow-head of Reddish Flint, with Barbs and Stem ; Triangular Knife of Reddish Flint ; and Borer of Flint, from the farm of Blairbuy, Glasserton, Wigtownshire.

(2) By Rev. J. B. MACKENZIE, F.S.A. Scot.

Three Communion Tokens of Kenmore, 1741, 1760, and 1790.

(3) By Professor THOMAS H. BRYCE, M.D., *Vice-President*.

Leaf-shaped Arrow-head of Pitchstone, from Arran.

(4) By W. MOIR BRYCE, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Scottish Greyfriars. 2 vols. Imp. 8vo. 1909.

(5) By JOHN C. GIBSON, the Author.

The Lands and Lairds of Larbert and Dunipace Parishes. 4to. 1908.

(6) By PETER MACINTYRE, F.A.S. Scot., the Author.

Inveraray, its Scenery and Associations. 8vo; illustrated. Odd
Incidents of Olden Times, or Ancient Records of Inveraray. With
Illustrations; 8vo. The Barons of Phantilands, or the MacCorquodales
and their Story. 8vo.

(7) By ERSKINE BEVERIDGE, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

A History of the Family of Cairnes or Cairns and its Connections.
By H. C. Lawlor. 4to. 1906.

(8) By JOHN FRASER, H.M. Customs, Leith.

Ye Towne of Wick in ye Olden Times. By John Horne. 12mo,
1905. The Edinburgh Magazine, Vol. 4. 1780.

(9) By JOHN WALKER, F.S.A. Scot.

Introduction to the Collections for a History of the Shires of
Aberdeen and Banff. By George Grub. Spalding Club. 4to. 1869.

(10) By DOUGLAS CRICHTON, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Admirable Crichton—the Real Character. 8vo. 1909.

(11) By the ROYAL COMMISSION ON THE ANCIENT AND HISTORICAL
MONUMENTS OF SCOTLAND.

First Report, and Inventory of Monuments and Constructions in the
County of Berwick. 8vo. 1909.

The following Communications were read :—