

MONDAY, 11th April 1910.

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

The Secretary read the ANNUAL REPORT to the Board of Trustees by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, with reference to the National Museum of Antiquities under their charge, for the year ending 31st March 1910, as follows:—

During the year the Museum has been open to the public free, except that it was closed for repainting by H.M. Board of Works from 15th February to 25th March, at which time the ground-floor was re-opened, while the work continued in progress on the floor above.

The number of objects of antiquity added to the Museum during the year has been 137 by donation and 29 by purchase. The number of volumes of books and pamphlets added to the Library has been 169 by donation and 31 by purchase, and the binding of 134 volumes has been proceeded with.

A considerable number of objects, some of which are of great importance and interest, have been added during the year to the collection from the Roman Station at Newstead, Melrose, which the Society has been excavating for the last five years under the superintendence of Mr James Curle, F.S.A. Scot., Melrose, who has also undertaken the description and illustration of the excavations and their results in a work to be published shortly. The whole number of the objects thus obtained by the Society's operations now amounts to nearly 2300, many of which are rare, and some unique; and the Council desire to express their great obligations to the proprietors, Mr T. J. S. Roberts of Drygrange, F.S.A. Scot., and Mr Wm. Younger of Ravenswood, for their courtesy in granting permission to excavate the site, and for their generosity in freely giving over this large and representative collection to be permanently preserved as national property in the National Museum of Antiquities.

ALEX. O. CURLE, *Secretary.*

R. SCOTT MONCRIEFF, *Secretary.*

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

A. LESLIE ARMSTRONG, 12 Dragon Avenue, Harrogate.

JAMES CHRISTISON, Librarian, Public Library, Montrose.

ANDREW HUNTER, 48 Garscube Terrace, Murrayfield.

ARTHUR W. RUSSELL, M.A., W.S., 18 Learmonth Gardens.

HENRY GUTCHARDE TODD, Architect, 3 Adelaide Villas, New Barnet, Herts.

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

(1) By Rev. W. BURNETT, Restalrig.

Seventeenth-Century Tobacco Pipe found at Restalrig.

(2) By GEORGE HERKES, Duddingston.

Two Seventeenth-Century Tobacco Pipes, one with maker's mark, found in digging at the Insurance and Banking Golf Club House, Duddingston.

(3) By JAMES LYLE, F.S.A. Scot.

Leather Case containing an adjustable horse-shoe, with eight nails, carried as a provision against loss of a horse-shoe in the hunting field.

(4) By G. J. EWAN WATSON, F.S.A. Scot.

Hemispherical Cup of Iron, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter, with footstand and side-handle, ploughed up near Corstorphine.

Leith Token, JOHN WHITE, 1796.

(5) By THOMAS SHEPPARD, F.S.A. Scot.

Hull Museum Publications, Nos. 59-67, and No. 40, Third Edition.

(6) By Mrs J. STEVENSON.

A Restoration of the Mausoleum at Halicarnassus. By J. J. STEVENSON, F.S.A.

(7) By T. J. WESTROPP, the Author.

Ring Forts in the Barony of Moyarta, Co. Clare ; A Study of the Fort of Dun Aengusa in Inishmore, Aran Isles, Galway.

(8) By CHARLES B. BOOG WATSON, F.S.A. Scot., through Dr George Macdonald.

Traditions and Genealogies of some Members of the Families of Boog, Heron, Leishman, Ross, Watson. Published for private circulation only. Oblong folio. 1909.

Autograph of Robert Burns, being a receipt to Wm. Creech, in the following terms :—

EDINBURGH *February 27th 1789.*

Received from Mr Creech Eighteen Pounds Five Shillings Sterling payment of Fifty Three copies of my Poems, given to Sir John Whitfoord's Subscribers and calculate twice in the Acct, and also of twenty more being the half of Forty Copies said to be given in presents.

ROBT. BURNS.

Mr Boog Watson supplies the following particulars of the transmission of this interesting document in a letter to Dr Macdonald accompanying the donation :—

“ William Creech was, as we know, Burns's Edinburgh publisher, and must have taken this receipt from the poet in a receipt-book kept for such entries, as shown by that on the back from a map-mounter and the stamp upon the corner of the slip. The book containing it came into the possession of my grandfather, the Rev. Charles Watson—later D.D.—of Burntisland, who was cousin to Creech and heir under his will. Creech died in January 1815. .

“ My grandfather, in going over the papers of Creech, must have found this signature and cut it out; he pasted it into a scrap-book (which I have) among other autographs, franks, etc. Dr Watson died in August 1866. His widow survived him till 1887, when the book came into the possession of her daughter, the late Mrs Macgillivray, wife of the Rev. Alexander G. Macgillivray of Roseburn Free Church, who

died in 1889—she died in September 1909. Three or four years ago Mrs Macgillivray changed her house and disposed of a lot of books, papers, etc. She gave me this scrap-book, whose valuable content was unknown to her. On looking through the book I found the Burns autograph and informed her of it, whereupon she confirmed the gift, and it has been in my possession ever since. About eighteen months ago I took it out of the book in order to exhibit it at a lecture on William Creech and then found the writing on the other side, till then concealed. I got it mounted in the double-glassed frame, and kept it in my writing-room, till, fearing it might somehow be lost, I made the offer of it to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for preservation in the National Museum of Antiquities.”

(9) By DAVID MACRITCHIE, F.S.A. Scot.

Celtic Civilisation (1907); *Gypsy Nobles* (1907); *The Privileges of Gypsies* (1908); *An Arctic Voyager of 1653* (1909); *Druids and Mound Dwellers* (1910).

(10) By DAVID MURRAY, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Legal Practice in Ayr and the West of Scotland in the 15th and 16th Centuries. 8vo. 1910.

The following Communications were read :—