

MONDAY, 13th January 1913.

PROFESSOR T. H. BRYCE, M.D., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

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

Corresponding Member.

JOHN FRASER, of H.M. Customs, 68 Restalrig Road, Leith.

Fellows.

Lieut.-Col. The Hon. FITZWILLIAM ELLIOT, 16 Royal Terrace.

Sir WILLIAM S. M'CORMICK, LL.D., Secretary to the Carnegie Trust,
13 Douglas Crescent.

CHARLES MACPHATER, 96 Langside Avenue, Glasgow.

JOHN GORDON THOMSON, S.S.C., 54 Castle Street.

PROFESSOR E. T. WHITTAKER, M.A., Hon. Sc.D., F.R.S.

THOMAS E. YOUNG, W.S., Auchterarder.

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

(1) By W. HORNSBY, B.A., and R. STANTON.

Piece of Woollen Cloth, 16 inches in length by 6 inches in width, found in the bottom of the well in the Roman Camp at Huntcliff, near Saltburn, Yorkshire.

In the early part of last year remains of a small Roman fort were discovered on the edge of Hunt Cliff, near Saltburn-by-the-Sea, in Yorkshire. The larger part of it had disappeared through coast erosion, but the whole of the west wall and small adjoining portions of the north and south walls, with the corner towers, were still traceable. Excavations carried out by Messrs Hornsby and Stanton showed that the fortification belonged to the last stage in the Roman occupation

of Britain, having been occupied perhaps from A.D. 370 to 393. It was one of a series of forts erected to watch the east coast against the Saxon pirates. The most interesting results were yielded by the well, which measured 5 feet 6 inches in diameter and 14 feet in depth. Besides debris of late pottery and a number of fourth-century Roman coins, it contained beneath these as many as fourteen human skeletons of individuals varying in age from one year to sixty-five, mostly short in stature, with dolichocephalic skulls; while at the bottom were several pieces of cloth, one of which has, through the kindness of Messrs Hornsby and Stanton, been presented to the Museum.

The following technical description of the cloth is contributed by Professor T. Woodburn, of the Dundee Technical College:—

The pattern is made from hard-twisted woollen yarn of about $6\frac{1}{2}$ skeins, Yorkshire count. There are 36 threads per inch, and 19 or 20 picks per inch of the same yarn, and the pattern is technically known as a herring-bone stripe, *i.e.* the twill or effect moves in a diagonal direction to right and to left alternately. Each stripe is about $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch wide, and contains 22 threads. The warp and weft threads are perfectly defined so far as the weave is concerned, and they are interlaced in the 2 up, 2 down twill, right and left, to form a substantial fabric. The yarns, however, are somewhat irregular in thickness, although, owing to the compact nature of the texture, this irregularity is not noticeable.

The original colour of the fabric was probably black, but through age and exposure the colour has changed considerably: one surface appears of a dark brownish colour, whereas the other surface, although similar in small areas, is on the whole much lighter in colour, and varies from part to part from the dark brown shade to a comparatively light brown shade.

The cloth is well woven, but from a modern point of view it is somewhat unbalanced. Thus, while there are 36 threads per inch

in the warp, there are only 20 picks per inch of the same count of yarn. Now, although such proportions are very favourable to rapid production—a desirable condition—they should not be allowed detrimentally to affect the strength of the fabric. It is quite possible that the weaver who made it had no theoretical knowledge of the proper number of threads and picks to insert, beyond what he had derived from actual practice. We are therefore safe in assuming that, having arranged for his warp to contain a certain number of threads per inch (36 in this case), he found it impossible to introduce the same number in the way of the weft, but that in beating up the weft very hard he naturally succeeded in making a substantial piece of cloth.

The cloth is perfectly free from reed-marks, and almost as free from pinholes. This opacity is probably due to the fabric having been exposed to damp, which would have a tendency to cause the fibres to felt, and so obliterate such defects. A similar and equally heavy fabric, which has been woven in the Dundee Technical College to imitate the one under notice, shows these pinholes quite distinctly.

(2) By KEITH R. MURRAY, B.A., F.S.A. Scot.

Twenty-three rudely chipped Implements of Flint, from the neighbourhood of Luxor, Egypt.

(3) By MRS MARY R. MATHIE, Clifton House, Crieff.

Leaden Figure $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height (feet wanting), found at Forthar, Fife.

(4) By CHARLES S. ROMANES, F.S.A. Scot.

Pair of Nutcrackers of iron, $5\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length, from Roxburghshire.

(5) By ALEXR. O. CURLE, *Secretary*.

Earthenware Jug, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, with loop-handle, yellowish-green glaze, and four thumb indentations round the bottom, which is 5 inches in diameter. Its locality is unknown.

(6) By HIS HIGHNESS THE PRINCE OF MONACO.

Les Grottes de Grimaldi. Vol. ii., part 2, par Cartailhac. Fol. 1912.

Les Cavernes de Font de Baume. Fol. 1912.

Les Cavernes de la Région Cantabrique (Espagne). 2 vols. 4to. 1912.

(7) By the Hon. JOHN ABERCROMBY, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

A Study of the Bronze Age Pottery of Great Britain and Ireland and its associated Grave-goods. 2 vols. 4to. 1912.

(8) By ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Palæolithic Man, and Terramara Settlements in Europe. Being the Munro Lectures in Anthropology in connection with the University of Edinburgh. 8vo. 1912.

(9) By the DEPUTY CLERK REGISTER, H.M. General Register House.

The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, 1306-1424. New edition, 1912. Edited by J. Maitland Thomson, LL.D.

(10) By P. M. C. KERMODE, F.S.A. Scot.

The Manx Archæological Survey. Third Report, 1912.

The following Communications were read :—