

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

HUNDRED AND FIFTY-SEVENTH SESSION, 1936-1937

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1936.

SIR GEORGE MACDONALD, K.C.B., President,
in the Chair.

Angus Graham and W. J. Gibson were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for 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.

Sir GEORGE MACDONALD, K.C.B., LL.D., D.Litt., Litt.D., F.B.A.

Vice-Presidents.

Sheriff C. H. BROWN, K.C.

THOMAS YULE, W.S.

Professor T. H. BRYCE, M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.

2 PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 30, 1936.

Councillors.

The Hon. Sir HEW H. DALRYMPLE, K.C.V.O. KENNETH SANDERSON, W.S.	}	<i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>	Colonel CHARLES L. SPENCER, C.B.E., D.S.O. Brigadier-General E. CRAIG-BROWN, D.S.O. Sir FRANCIS J. GRANT, K.C.V.O., LL.D., Lord Lyon King of Arms. Rev. WILLIAM BURNETT, B.D. W. G. C. HANNA, O.B.E., C.A. W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, D.Litt.
Brigadier-General Sir ROBERT GIL- MOUR, Bart., C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O. IAN C. HANNAH, M.P., F.S.A. The Hon. LORD ST VIGEANS, LL.D.	}		

Secretaries.

DOUGLAS P. MACLAGAN, W.S. | W. MACKAY MACKENZIE, D.Litt.

For Foreign Correspondence.

Professor V. GORDON CHILDE, D.Litt. | Professor W. M. CALDER, M.A., LL.D.,
F.B.A.

Treasurer.

J. BOLAM JOHNSON, C.A.

Curators of the Museum.

JAMES CURLE, LL.D., W.S. | JAMES S. RICHARDSON.

Curator of Coins.

ROBERT KERR, M.A.

Librarian.

ALEXANDER O. CURLE, C.V.O., LL.D.

Ex Officio.

JOHN A. INGLIS, K.C. *Representing the Treasury.*

On the recommendation of the Council, PETER MOAR, Commission Agent, Lerwick, Shetland, and DAVID TAIT, H.M. Geological Survey, 19 Grange Terrace, Edinburgh, 9, were elected Corresponding Members.

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

WILLIAM ARCHIBALD BALLANTINE, P.A.S.I., Chartered Surveyor, 2 Balmoral Place, Stirling.
JAMES BARNETSON, J.P., Georgemas, Halkirk, Caithness.
J. McLINTOCK BOWIE, F.R.I.B.A., Crofthill, Dumfries.

- JAMES HUTCHISON BRYCE, Searcher of Records, 22 West Mayfield, Edinburgh, 9.
- JAMES EWEN CABLE, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H., 53 East High Street, Forfar.
- WILLIAM F. CUTHBERTSON, Librarian, The Public Library, Hawick. Leaburn, Hawick.
- WILLIAM T. DAVIDSON, 36 Woodstock Road, Aberdeen.
- JAMES COUTTS DUFFUS, Claverhouse Mansion, near Dundee, Angus.
- DONALD GILLIES, Culduie, Applecross, Ross-shire.—c/o Radford, 5 St Cuthbert's Villas, Haybridge, Wells, Somerset.
- WILLIAM ROBERT HALL, J.P., Bank Manager, The Shieling, Cramond Brig.
- GEORGE FREDERICK HOY, Secretary, The St Andrew Society, 104 Findhorn Place, Edinburgh, 9.
- J. NOEL JOHNSTON, Hon. Secretary, Montrose Natural History and Antiquarian Society, 1 Panmure Place, Montrose.
- Miss BARBARA LAIDLER, Orchard End, Roseacre Lane, Bearsted, Kent.
- Mrs AGNES MCLAREN LOCKHART, 16 Broompark Drive, Dennistoun, Glasgow, E. 1.
- DAVID MURRAY LYON, M.D., Druim, Colinton.
- WILLIAM KIRK LYON, W.S., 21 Lynedoch Place, Edinburgh, 3.
- Rev. DONALD MACCUISH, M.A., The Manse, Isle of Iona, Argyll.
- D. R. MACFARLANE, Observatory Boys' High School, Mowbray, Cape, South Africa.
- ROBERT C. NESBITT, of Nisbet House, Duns.—26 Tregunter Road, London, S.W. 10.
- DONALD LOUIS NICHOLAS, M.A., Pine Lodge, Stanley Avenue, Higher Bebington, Cheshire.
- W. DAWSON SCOTT, County Road Surveyor, Kirkwall, Orkney.
- VICTOR ALEXANDER SIMPSON, Structural Engineer, 66 Albion Road, Edinburgh, 7.
- Rev. WILLIAM DALE STEWART, B.Litt.(Oxon), Lecturer in Economics, Hawkstone House, Stafford.
- Professor A. E. VAN GIFFEN, Biologisch-Archaeologisch Instituut, Rijks-Universiteit, Portstr 6, Groningen, Holland.
- Rev. WILLIAM ANGUS WALLACE, The Manse of Guthrie, by Forfar.

The President read the list of Fellows deceased since the last Annual Meeting:—

	Elected.
Miss ALICE BLANCHE BALFOUR, Whittingehame, Haddington	1923
R. B. JARDINE BINNIE, Old Place, Hampton Court	1919
ADAM CAIRNS, 21 Monreith Road, Newlands, Glasgow	1929
JOHN MACLEOD CAMPBELL, The Captain of Saddell Castle, Glen Saddell, by Carradale, Argyll	1933
HENRY COATES, Rydal, Wheatridge Lane, Torquay. (Life Member)	1916
RICHMOND INGLIS COCHRANE, 26 Abercromby Place, Edinburgh	1923
Rev. JOHN L. DINWIDDIE, M.A., D.D., The Manse, Ruthwell, Dumfries	1936
JOHN DOUGLAS, 6 St Mary's Grove, Barnes Common, London. (Life Member).	1911

4 PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 30, 1936.

RICHARD VERNON FAVELL, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., Penberth, St Buryan, S.O., Cornwall	Elected. 1922
WALTER E. GAWTHORPE, 18 Dornton Road, South Croydon	1911
JOHN GIBSON, F.S.A., F.G.S., Hallgarth House, Hexham, Northum- berland	1920
THOMAS S. G. HALCROW, of Uitenhage, South Africa	1933
HUGH HANNAH, Solicitor, 6 St Bernard's Crescent, Edinburgh.	1922
WILLIAM HARVEY, J.P., Nethercrag, 71 Blackness Avenue, Dundee.	1905
CHARLES R. A. HOWDEN, Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of Inverness, Elgin, and Nairn, Sheriff Court, Elgin	1889
ANDREW HUNTER, 48 Garscube Terrace, Edinburgh	1910
WALTER HUME KERR, M.A., B.Sc., F.R.S.E., Glenfriars, Jedburgh, Roxburghshire	1927
ERNEST H. LAMB, M.A.(Hons.), Rector of Lanark Grammar School, The Rectory, Lanark	1920
DONALD A. MACKENZIE, 19 Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh	1918
MURDO TOLME MACKENZIE, M.B., Scolpaig, Lochmaddy, North Uist	1910
HUGH DUFF MACWILLIAM, 65 Lissenden Mansions, London	1931
HAMILTON CLELLAND MARR, C.B., C.M., M.D., H.M. Commissioner of Control, Lieut.-Col. R.A.M.C., 10 Succoth Avenue, Murrayfield, Edinburgh	1921
Rev. WILLIAM MOORE, M.A., 63 Old Dumbarton Road, Glasgow	1933
Major-General Sir WALTER OGILVIE, K.B.E., C.B., C.M.G., 3 Spylaw Road, Edinburgh, 10	1932
JOSEPH PATRICK, M.A., C.A., Macdonallie, Lochwinnoch	1919
ALEXANDER POLSON, 6 East Caiystane Road, Edinburgh	1925
Sir ROBERT SANGSTER RAIT, K.B.E., D.L., LL.D., Principal of Glasgow University, 13 The University, Glasgow.	1906
WILLIAM SCOTT, late Curator, Barnbougle Castle, 16 Alderbank Place, Edinburgh	1933
Miss ANNIE STEEL, L.L.A., The Croft, Annan	1935
GLEN A. TAYLOR, M.I.Mech.E., F.S.A., 63 Lewis Road, Neath, Glamorganshire	1927
Rev. W. MAGEE TUKE, Kilmore, Bridge of Allan	1934
JOHN WARRACK, LL.D., 13 Rothesay Terrace, Edinburgh. (Life Member).	1917
J. R. M. WEDDERBURN, M.A., W.S., 3 Glencairn Crescent, Edinburgh	1879

The Meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the death of these Members.

The President, Sir George Macdonald, K.C.B., delivered the following Anniversary Address:—

Once again, and much more quickly than some of us would have wished, the rolling months have brought round the Festival of our Patron Saint, and it falls to me as your President to pass in brief review the

work and the happenings of the session that has just closed. You have already paid a silent tribute to the memory of those whom death has removed from our Fellowship, and you will not have failed to note that the list included the names of two of those whom but a short year ago you re-elected to the Council. Deeply as we regret such inevitable losses, it is our duty as members of a corporate body to keep our eye steadily on the future, and to see to it that the gaps in our ranks are not allowed to remain unfilled. In this respect 1935-36 has been fairly satisfactory. Although the returns are not yet complete, I understand that our total strength remains about the same, with perhaps a very trifling downward inclination—1037 as against 1047.

To be stationary, however, is not enough. We must endeavour to advance. You will have observed that the flight of time is having the same effect upon our *Proceedings* as it sometimes has upon individuals. Each successive issue tends to be bulkier than its immediate predecessor. The cost of production has increased, so that the strain on our financial resources is growing steadily. Hitherto we have managed to keep our heads above water, but it would be idle to pretend that our Treasurer has not sometimes had his anxious moments. We ought to strive for such an accession to our numbers as would give him an easy mind. Indeed, I should like to see our regular income reach a figure which would open up the possibility of doing more in the way of subsidising publication than we have been able to do hitherto. What I am thinking of is occasional monographs, too lengthy and too elaborate for inclusion in our ordinary volume. The Society has already one or two successful ventures of the kind to its credit. Nor has anything within my own recollection done more to enhance its reputation abroad than the fact that it stood sponsor for *A Roman Frontier Post*.

This is one of the many lessons that we might with advantage learn from our colleagues in London and on the other side of the North Sea. It was impressed upon me afresh last summer when I was reading the splendid account of Verulamium by Dr and Mrs Wheeler, and again the other day when I was looking through a large, well-printed, and well-illustrated quarto which has just been presented to the Library by our distinguished Honorary Fellow, Professor Fabricius. It contains an account of all that is known regarding the bath-buildings at what was once the great Roman Spa of Badenweiler. I knew, of course, that in addition to their annual *Bericht* the Römisch-Germanische Kommission were issuing a series of such special studies, some prehistoric and others Roman. I was, however, hardly prepared to find that this was the twelfth that had appeared since 1928. That is a fine achievement,

dwarfing into insignificance the slim Index which represents our own modest *πάρεργον* for the corresponding period. At the same time I should be sorry to disparage the Index. Slim as it is, I am sure that any of you who have had occasion to use it will agree that it is, as I predicted, serviceable.

Moreover, if our *πάρεργα* make but an indifferent showing in such a context, our staple this year need shrink from comparison with none. The new volume of the *Proceedings*, an advance copy of which is now upon the table, is well up to the usual standard, and the Editor has succeeded in catering for a great variety of tastes. Prehistorians will find much to interest them in papers dealing with microliths from Banchory, with Mr Calder's acute identification of the well-known "Dwarfie Stane" as the first authentic example of a British rock-cut tomb, with the excavation of yet another Rousay cairn by Dr Callander and Mr Walter Grant, with "Bronze Age" burials in various parts of the country, notably the cemetery at Loanhead of Daviot, and with that strange old world of Shetland of which we have lately been vouchsafed a glimpse through the labours of Mr A. O. Curle. Later, in terms of development, though not necessarily in point of time, are the zoomorphic penannular brooches, of which we have heard something through Mr Kilbride-Jones.

From the obscurity of this twilight the reader can pass to the dim dawn of history with the Manor Water Stone and the Liddesdale Stone, two notable additions to the earliest Christian monuments of Scotland. If he is philologically inclined, he will find matter for reflection in the fresh suggestions advanced by Professor Macalister for the interpretation of the inscriptions on one or two of the more or less contemporary stones that have long been familiar. He can then travel by way of the cross-fragments in Old Luce Church to the Cathedral burial-ground at St Andrews, which can boast of what is undoubtedly one of the most remarkable collections of churchyard memorials in our islands, now for the first time adequately deciphered and described. The mention of a cathedral suggests ecclesiastical architecture, and for students of that fascinating subject there is Mr Hannah's discussion of screens and lofts in Scottish churches and Mr Hunter's note upon Falkirk.

Harking back to what were presumably Pagan days, I would refer to Mr Curle's final report on his discovery of a Viking settlement at Jarlshof, a discovery which has attracted much attention in Scandinavia and which has also paved the way (if rumour can be trusted) for similar discoveries in the sister group of islands. It was my privilege to be on the spot for some weeks while the exploration of these Norse houses

ET Leeds

Plants Publication
1936

Actuality

Clevedon Press

no
—
out

was in progress. I was there, in fact, when their true character first began to be suspected. To me the enigma presented by their ruined foundations appeared to be as nearly insoluble as anything of the kind could very well be. The bringing together of the pieces of the jig-saw puzzle, and the evolving of a satisfactory and consistent account of the vicissitudes which the settlement had undergone, may fairly be described as a triumph that could only have been accomplished by a rare combination of patience and archæological insight. It emphasises once again the immense importance of securing skilled and constant supervision when any undertaking of the sort is afoot. Had a less acute or a less conscientious observer been in charge, it is virtually certain that the remains would have been ruthlessly shovelled aside as meaningless rubbish. From the Norsemen to the Normans is an easy and natural transition, but we shall have to wait a little for Dr Douglas Simpson's complete report upon the Doune of Invernochty.

Among the other papers there are three which I would group together as constituting a response—I am afraid I cannot flatter myself by thinking it more than fortuitous—to the appeal I made last year for younger contributors. The first of these is by a civil servant, who in the far-off Federated Malay States keeps in touch with the homeland by studying Scottish numismatics. The other two are by leading members of the small band of experts who for some years past have been doing such admirable work on the Roman frontier between Tyne and Solway. Mr Richmond, to be sure, is not exactly a newcomer. If I remember aright he read us a paper while he was still an undergraduate at Oxford. Now he has begun to make raids into Caledonia, and his description of the first one of these in which he has used the spade is a striking vindication of the acumen of the little coterie of military officers who pursued the study of Roman Scotland with such keenness in the eighteenth century—Melville and Roy and Shand. Mr Birley in a most scholarly communication has shown good grounds for believing that Cocceius Firmus, the Roman centurion who dedicated the famous set of altars buried at Auchendavy, hailed from the Danube valley, and that he is to be identified with a man of that name who has the distinction of having supplied the *Digest* with a leading case.

I wish I could have stopped at that point. But what I can only regard as a strange aberration on Mr Birley's part compels me to go further. Quite unnecessarily, as I think, he has revived a fiction that may get a new lease of life unless a protest is promptly made. Following Sibbald and Sandy Gordon, he has incorporated the Kingdom of Fife in the Roman Empire. I may find it desirable to deal with the theory

more fully in the course of the winter or spring. Meanwhile, however, I will content myself with a warning to any Scottish archæologists who may feel tempted to pay heed to Mr Birley's implicit appeal that they should take spade and pick and make search for Roman salt-mines in Fife. I would say to them what the old Aberdeen professor said a hundred years ago to a Duke of Richmond who insisted on his workmen digging for coal in a spot that was geologically impossible: "Ye'll niver find fat ye're seekin', though ye howk till ye hear the deil hoastin'."

Thus far I have been speaking of our own publications, strictly so called. I feel, however, that we can claim something more than an outside interest in a highly important contribution which has just been made to the literature of what an American scholar once called "the lost centuries of English history." The Rhind Lectures, delivered last November by Mr E. T. Leeds, Keeper of the Ashmolean Museum, were published the other week by the Oxford Press in a comely volume. Mr Leeds is one of the most distinguished of the scholars who are bringing the searchlight of archæology to bear upon the dark period of the Saxon invasions. He has been the champion of views that in some respects run counter to received opinion, and here he gives some of his reasons for the faith that is in him. It would be presumptuous for one who has no expert knowledge of the subject to do more than congratulate him on the promptitude he has shown in making the Lectures available for students at home and abroad. But, incidentally, I can assure him that we all appreciate warmly the tribute which the Introduction pays to the work of the late Professor Baldwin Brown, for half a century one of the most active and most highly esteemed of our Fellows. Within the past few weeks we have been indebted to the same foundation for the privilege of hearing one of the best-known of Continental prehistorians deal with a subject which he has made peculiarly his own. I have reason to know that negotiations for the early issue of Professor Bosch Gimpera's course as an independent book are already in train. Let us hope that all will go smoothly. We were looking forward to having Lord St Vigeans as our next Rhind Lecturer, but to his own and our great disappointment his medical advisers have put the project out of bounds. We can only acquiesce, and at the same time unite in wishing him a speedy and complete restoration to health. Lovers of Old Edinburgh will be pleased to know that we have induced Dr Malcolm to take up the succession.

I turn now to another side of our activities. In 1935-36 various enterprises of a comparatively limited, but nevertheless useful, nature have been carried through by the help of grants from our excavation

fund. Taken in chronological order, the first that calls for mention is my own examination of two of the chief buildings in the Roman fort at Croy Hill. Though it had perforce to be conducted in weather of almost Arctic severity, it produced unexpectedly informative results, which I hope to have the pleasure of summarising for your benefit at the first of our ordinary meetings. Two or three months later, under conditions almost as rigorous, Mr Richmond spent a most useful fortnight reconnoitring the Roman fort which he and Mr James MacIntyre had rediscovered during the previous autumn near Glenalmond. As I have indicated, he managed to put his report into shape in time for it to appear in the current volume. You will see, when you turn to it, that even the few days' digging which he did has thrown new light on the Agricolan occupation. It is his intention to follow up the trail at the earliest opportunity, and I for one will watch his progress with confident anticipation. In summer Mr Calder revisited Orkney and opened three chambered cairns and an Iron Age structure, apparently a potter's workshop, all on Eday or the Calf of Eday. Probably it will not be long before he gives us an account of his experiences. Finally, Mr A. O. Curle, who had been at Oslo attending the Archæological Congress there, along with Professor Childe and Mr Edwards on behalf of our Society, and also as a delegate of the British Government, had no sooner returned than he hurried off to Caithness to excavate a mound that was thought to date from the days of the Norsemen. Exactly what he found in it I am unfortunately unable to tell you. We must wait and hear.

Two other excavations have been organised locally during the year. The first of these was under the auspices of the Dumfriesshire Society, who were fortunate in persuading Mr Birley to supervise the reopening of the site at Birrens. More than forty years have elapsed since Mr Barbour excavated it first, producing the most complete plan of an interior that had yet been worked out in Britain. In the interval great advances have been made in our knowledge of how to attack a problem of the kind, and it was most satisfactory that one so thoroughly equipped as Mr Birley should be on the spot to direct operations. The brief newspaper summary of what he found must have whetted your appetite for fuller details. The main thing it suggested to myself was the desirability of continuing the investigation. Further north, in Aberdeenshire, Dr Douglas Simpson was able to raise funds to meet the cost of cutting exploratory trenches at Normandykes on the Dee. For a long time—nearly a century and a half, if I mistake not—it has been suspected that the entrenchments there were of Roman workmanship. Mr Richmond

and Mr MacIntyre, whose assistance Dr Simpson had invoked, have confirmed the diagnosis, so that Normandykes may now be quite confidently added to the roll of marching-camps that survive to bear witness to the campaigning activities of the invaders in North-Eastern Scotland.

Like our own, the ventures at Birrens and in Aberdeenshire may be classed as co-operative. As usual, however, we have to make grateful acknowledgment of time and money ungrudgingly devoted to the service of archæology by individual Fellows. Mr Walter Grant has once more been busy in Rousay, an island the wealth of whose prehistoric remains seems well-nigh inexhaustible. Again, Mr Wallace Thorneycroft and Professor Childe have excavated a vitrified fort in Argyll, and have, I understand, been rewarded by the recovery of evidence which will go some way towards fixing the chronological place of this particular class of structure. Nor is that the only site which has benefited from the attentions of the Abercromby Professor. I am sure that we may look for at least one interesting communication from him this winter, for we know from his reports on Carminnow and Finavon, to mention only the two most recent examples, how ready he is to share with others any new knowledge he has won. *O si sic omnes!*

There remain the mysterious happenings in the northern isles, to which, greatly daring, I was bold enough to refer, albeit with bated breath, twelve months ago. As to these, I can only tell you that the fog still hangs thick over Orkney, and that it now threatens to extend to Shetland. Hitherto Scottish antiquaries, not to say Scottish taxpayers, have displayed the most exemplary patience in waiting for information. But that cannot endure for ever. I think I ought to warn my good friend, Mr Bushe Fox, that unless the mist lifts soon they may arrange a joint march to London and demand full satisfaction. The procession would naturally be headed by Lyon King, and it would be appropriate that he should bear aloft the blue and white flag of St Andrew, whom we to-day commemorate. Mr Bushe Fox may tell the marchers that the root-cause of the trouble is the inadequacy of his staff. In that event they would be entitled to reply that, if his staff is inadequate, there is all the more reason why he should remember what is said to have been Prince Bismarck's favourite among French proverbs: *Qui trop embrasse, mal étreint.*

At the same time it would be unfair not to admit that we have received one very substantial crumb of comfort. There is now in the Museum a solid and striking proof of the potential importance of what is going on behind the veil. Through the good offices of Mr Richardson we have been able to purchase a singularly fine symbol-stone, discovered

by the Ancient Monuments Department at the Brough of Birsay. That is, indeed, the most notable of the year's accessions. Other important additions have been made through generous donations. Some of these represent the fruits of excavations, like the noble array of "Neolithic" and other pottery unearthed at Cletraval Cairn, North Uist, by Mr Lindsay Scott, and presented to us by the Trustees of Sir Arthur Campbell Orde, or like the relics from Rousay, which we owe to the liberality of Mr Walter Grant. Others have been chance finds, like the cinerary urn from Kirkoswald, gifted by the Marquess of Ailsa, or the grave furniture from Craignish, which was handed over to us by Colonel Gascoigne. Then there is the Liddesdale Stone, which we owe to the kindness of the Buccleuch Estates Company. The Manor Water Stone is safely housed in the Chambers Institute at Peebles, but Mr Grieve, its discoverer, has had an admirable cast made for the National Museum at his own expense. Two antiquities that have long been well known have also passed into our keeping—a fine cross-shaft from Eilean Mor, presented to us by Colonel Neill, and a remarkable bronze cauldron, dug up many years ago in Flanders Moss, Stirlingshire, which we have received from Captain Erskine. These are some of the leading items on the list. There are still two which I should like to mention, not merely on their own account, but because each of them possesses an interest which is sentimental in the best sense of the term. Six old Scottish-carved panels of oak have come from the Misses Ross as a memorial of their father's long connection with the Society, while two grandnieces of Mr George Petrie, who did such signal service for the archæology of Orkney seventy or eighty years ago, have added to the magnificent silver hoard of Scandinavian ornaments from Skaill three articles which had come to light after the transference of the rest to the Museum had been completed.

This brief review of the year's acquisitions has necessarily omitted much, but I trust I have said enough to convince you that the inflow of exhibits is being steadily maintained. The national character of the collection is becoming more and more widely recognised, and its value is being correspondingly enhanced. I doubt whether any other country in Europe, unless it be Denmark, can pride itself on the possession of a richer and more representative assemblage of objects so admirably adapted to throw light upon its past, particularly that far distant past of which such fragmentary remains are the only surviving record. For students it is indispensable that these should be gathered in a single centre, for only thus can close comparison be possible. The advantage from the point of view of the general public is equally great, though different in kind. There is a guarantee that the vestiges of Scotland's

history and of her prehistory will be scientifically classified and preserved for all time from deterioration. There ought also to be a guarantee that they will be adequately displayed, so that their significance may make an immediate appeal to even the casual visitor. Unfortunately in this last respect the reality falls a long way short of the ideal.

I have spoken of this before, and I make no apology for emphasising what I previously said. The Museum is sadly handicapped for lack of space. The Royal Commission, which made an inspection of it six or seven years ago, were deeply impressed by the value and interest of its contents. But they were no less deeply impressed by the urgency of the need for more and better accommodation, and they pointed out that the provision of a new Museum might be of real assistance in the solution of other difficulties of an analogous but quite distinct character. They added that, in the circumstances of the time, it was hopeless to expect the Exchequer to supply the necessary funds. To-day the burden that rests on the Exchequer is heavier than it was then. More than ever is it incumbent upon us to look to private sources for aid. That may appear visionary. But this is the age of princely benefactions. Only a week ago we heard of a single gift of two millions being bestowed on the University of Oxford, and nearer home only a few weeks have elapsed since announcement was made of the foundation of an anonymous Endowment Trust of £250,000 for Scotland. Is there no one who will emulate the enlightened liberality of Sir Alexander Grant? He has decided that Scotland shall have a National Library worthy of the name. Is there no one who will accept this splendid challenge in the sphere of munificence, and see to it that Scotland's national antiquities are furnished with a home such as their altogether exceptional character so eminently deserves?

On the motion of Dr James Curle it was resolved that the Address should be printed in the *Proceedings*.