

# PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

## SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

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HUNDRED AND FIFTY-NINTH SESSION, 1938-1939

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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1938.

PROFESSOR THOMAS H. BRYCE, M.A., M.D., LL.D., F.R.S.,  
Vice-President, in the Chair.

An apology for absence was intimated from Sir George Macdonald.

William K. Dickson, LL.D., and Thomas Yule, W.S., 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., F.B.A.

*Vice-Presidents.*

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

The Hon. LORD ST VIGEANS, LL.D.

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

*Councillors.*

Rev. WILLIAM BURNETT, B.D.  
W. G. C. HANNA, O.B.E., C.A.  
W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, D.Litt.  
Sheriff C. H. BROWN, K.C.  
WILLIAM ANGUS.

WILLIAM K. DICKSON, LL.D.  
THOMAS YULE, W.S.  
DAVID BAIRD SMITH, C.B.E., LL.D.  
Professor D. TALBOT RICE, M.A.,  
B.Sc.

*Secretaries.*

DOUGLAS P. MACLAGAN, W.S. | ANGUS GRAHAM, M.A.

*For Foreign Correspondence.*

Professor V. GORDON CHILDE, D.Litt., | Professor W. M. CALDER, M.A., LL.D.,  
D.Sc. | 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.*

MARRYAT R. DOBIE, B.A.(Oxon.).

*Councillors ex-officio.*

The Hon. Sir HEW H. DALRYMPLE, K.C.V.O., } *Representing the Board of*  
KENNETH SANDERSON, W.S., } *Trustees.*  
JOHN A. INGLIS, K.C. *Representing the Treasury.*

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows: James Carson, M.B.E., F.E.I.S.; Major Alan Gomme Duncan, M.C.; Andrew B. Flett, M.B., Ch.B.; J. Muir Haddow; G. P. Henderson, M.A., B.A.(Oxon.); Cuthbert King, I.C.S.; John R. Lockie; John Drewett Lyford-Pike, M.A.; Charles Thorpe McInnes; James Mathew; George A. G. Mitchell, M.B., Ch.M.; Stuart Piggott; Francis John Robertson, J.P.; Miss Agnes Aitken Yates, B.Sc.

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

*Honorary Fellow* : Monsieur le Professeur René Cagnat.

*Fellows* : The Most Hon. The Marquess of Ailsa; Richard Ainsworth; Lieut.-Colonel William Anstruther-Gray; John Asher; Rev. William Bernard Atherton, B.A.; J. Malcolm Bulloch, M.A., LL.D.; Rev. Thomas Burns, C.B.E., D.D., T.D., F.R.S.E.; J. Graham Callander, LL.D., Director of the National Museum of Antiquities of Scotland; John M. Corrie, Archæologist to the Royal Commission on Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland; Robert Cross; Alexander S. Cumming, M.D.; Rev. Ewen Fraser; William Robert Gourlay, C.S.I., C.I.E., Knight of Grace of the Order of St John of Jerusalem; Francis Greig; Rev. Canon Thomas Hannan, M.A.; John A. Holms; Sir Reginald F. Johnston, K.C.M.G., C.B.E., M.A.(Oxon.), LL.D.(Hongkong), Sir William C. Johnston, LL.D., W.S.; Robert M. Kater; Alexander Burgess Kennedy; Miss Dorothy Mary Liddell; Hugh MacCorquodale; Captain Elliot M. S. McKirdy, M.A.(Oxon.); William Strachan Malloch; J. A. S. Miller, M.V.O., W.S.; P. Keith Murray, W.S.; James S. Nicoll; Arthur F. Balfour Paul, F.R.I.B.A.; Alexander L.

Dick Peddie, W.S.; The Right Rev. Edward S. Reid, M.A., D.D., Bishop of St Andrews; Robert Burns Robertson, M.V.O.; Thomas Smellie, Architect; John Smith; James Steuart, O.B.E., W.S.; T. Walker-Love, M.B.; Alexander Whitelaw.

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

The Secretary read the following Report by the Council on the affairs of the Society:—

The Council beg to submit to the Fellows of the Society their Report for the year ending 30th November 1938.

*Fellowship.*—The total number of Fellows on the roll at  
 30th November 1937 was . . . . . 1025  
 At 30th November 1938 the number was . . . . . 1018

being a decrease of . . . . . 7

The number of new Fellows added to the roll during the year was 53, while 36 died, 13 resigned, and 11 allowed their membership to lapse.

It is with very great regret that we have to record the loss which the Society has sustained through the death of Mr J. Graham Callander, LL.D., Director of the Museum since 1919. An appreciation of his work and services to Archæology was made at the meeting in April last. Two former Members of Council, Colonel Anstruther-Gray and Mr Robert Cross, will also be missed. Colonel Anstruther-Gray was first elected to the Council in 1921, and became a Vice-President in 1923; he was re-elected to the Council in 1926, again became a Vice-President in 1927, and in 1931 began his last term of office as a Councillor. Mr Robert Cross served on the Council from 1924–1927. We have further to record the death of an Honorary Fellow, Professor René Cagnat, Secrétaire Perpétuel de l'Académie des Inscriptions et Belles Lettres, who gave to our Library copies of several of his works, including *Revue des Publications Epigraphiques à l'Antiquité Romaine*, Paris, 1889; *Cours d'Epigraphie Latine*, Paris, 1898; *L'Armée Romaine d'Afrique et l'Occupation Militaire de l'Afrique sous les Empéreur*s, Paris, 1892.

*Proceedings.*—An advance copy of *The Proceedings* lies upon the table. Twenty papers were read during the session, of which 11 dealt with pre-historic subjects and 9 with historic subjects. The Society is indebted to Mr Walter G. Grant for having most generously provided the coloured plates which illustrate the paper "The Armorial de Berry."

*The Museum.*—The number of objects received during the year was 1640 by donation and 206 by purchase.

Her Majesty Queen Mary has again shown her interest in the Museum by the presentation of a bronze medal commemorating the visit made by George IV. to Edinburgh in 1822.

The larger proportion of relics acquired belong to the prehistoric period, over 700 objects, found chiefly on the Clova estate, Aberdeenshire, having been presented by Captain Hugh P. Lumsden. A number of objects from Orkney have been given by Mr Walter G. Grant, F.S.A.Scot., the most important being a neck-ring, an armlet, a flat pointed band and a pin, all of silver. These relics formed part of the magnificent silver hoard of Scandinavian origin, found at Skaill in 1858.

A number of important relics, obtained from the excavation of Stone Circles in Ayrshire, were presented by Mrs Isabella M. Christie and Mr Andrew Hamilton. A socketed iron axe, found during the excavation of Rahoy Fort, Morvern, Argyll, was given by Mrs Newton of Rahoy. Major Harry H. Hebden, M.C., has again given a collection of Neolithic Pottery from cairns at the Calf of Eday, Orkney.

Among chance finds presented to the Museum were a Beaker Urn, gifted by the Board of Agriculture for Scotland, and a Food-vessel Urn, found at Bonnyrigg, which was presented by the Town Council of Bonnyrigg and Lasswade.

Our Token Collection has been enriched by a gift of 619 Communion tokens by Mrs F. Weston, from a large collection formed by her father, the late Mr R. McVitie, Edinburgh, and by a bequest of 75 specimens by the Rev. Thomas Burns, C.B.E., D.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Important gifts to the Museum have been made by the National Art-Collections Fund, there having been presented through "the London Scot Bequest" a section of oak wall-panelling of sixteenth-century date which, until recently, formed part of the furnishings of the Castle of Killochan, near Girvan, Ayrshire, and an early sixteenth-century Scottish claymore which is probably the oldest surviving example of its kind. This is not the first occasion on which the National Museum has been helped by the Art-Collections Fund, a recent instance being the granting of a most generous donation which enabled it to acquire the Monymusk Reliquary. It cannot be too widely known that the Fund is maintained by voluntary subscription and bequests, and is used to assist in the acquisition of important antiquities and works of art for the National Collections.

*Director of the Museum.*—The post of Director of the Museum has been filled by the appointment of Mr A. J. H. Edwards. Mr Edwards, who has been Assistant Keeper since 1912, has a thorough knowledge of the contents of the Museum, and has contributed a number of papers of interest and importance to *The Proceedings* of the Society.

*Keeper.*—Mr Robert B. K. Stevenson, M.A., has been nominated to fill

the post which became vacant through the promotion of Mr Edwards. The Lords of the Treasury have agreed that the holder of this post shall in future be styled "Keeper," instead of "Assistant Keeper."

*Excavations.*—The excavation of the Viking site at Freswick Bay, Caithness, has now been completed by Dr A. O. Curle. Mr Ian A. Richmond has finished his excavation of the Roman Fort at Fendoch, Perthshire, and Mr C. S. T. Calder his exploration of an early domestic site on the Calf of Eday, Orkney. Accounts of these excavations will be given to the Society during the coming session.

Grants have also been given to Dr W. Douglas Simpson for excavations at Esslemont Castle and Kildrummy Castle. The results obtained will form the subjects of future communications.

A Report of further excavations carried out at Birrens during the years 1936–37 has been communicated to the Society by Mr Eric Birley and has appeared in *The Proceedings*, Volume LXXII.

*The Library.*—The additions to the Library amounted to 149 volumes, of which 112 were acquired by donation and 37 by purchase. In addition, a large number of publications of learned Societies, etc., have been received by way of exchange and subscription; 149 books have been bound with the aid of the Grant made by H.M. Treasury for this purpose.

*The Rhind Lectureship.*—The Rhind Lectures for 1938 have been postponed until after the New Year, as Dr C. F. A. Schaeffer is still carrying on the excavations at Ras Shamra, about which he is to lecture. They will be delivered between 24th April and 5th May 1939. The dates for delivery of Professor Haakon Shetelig's course for 1939, on "The Early Art of Scandinavia," have not yet been fixed. Dr W. C. Dickinson has agreed to give the lectures for 1940, which are to deal with legal history.

*The Gunning Fellowship.*—The Gunning Fellowship for 1938 was granted to Mr A. J. H. Edwards.

*The Chalmers-Jervise Prize.*—The district chosen for the Chalmers-Jervise Prize Essay for 1938 was Wigtownshire. No essay has been received.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF ANTIQUITIES OF SCOTLAND,  
QUEEN STREET, EDINBURGH.

The Report was adopted on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by the Hon. Lord St Vigeans, LL.D.

MONDAY, 12th December 1938.

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

A Ballot having been taken, the following were elected Fellows: James Alasdair Clark; John Manuel Cook, B.A.; William Croft Dickinson, M.A., Ph.D., D.Lit.; John Gladstone, M.A.; Miss Phœbe A. M. Keef; Rev. Nigel J. H. MacCulloch; William Henry Morrison; Kenneth A. Steer, M.A., Ph.D.; James Ronald Teggin, M.A.

Donations to the Museum and Library, as per lists at end of volume, were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors.

Purchases for the Museum and Library, as per lists at end of volume, were announced.

The following Communications were read:—