

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND

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HUNDRED AND SIXTIETH SESSION, 1939-1940

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The holding of meetings of the Society having been rendered impossible by the War, this Report has been drawn up in order to provide the Fellows with information on those aspects of the Society's affairs that are normally dealt with at the Anniversary Meeting.

*Members of Council.*—As stated in the circular letter sent to the Fellows on 23rd October 1939, the existing Council will remain in office until an opportunity for a fresh election presents itself. The List is 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.

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.

VOL. LXXIV.

*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.*

The following were admitted as Fellows throughout the year: David Anderson; Miss Elizabeth H. M. Allan, M.A.; John Buyers, M.A.; Ivan B. M. Chalmers, M.A., LL.B.; William C. Clark; James M. Fairlie, S.Inst.C.E., G.I.Struct.E., A.M.Inst.W.; James Flett; Rev. John Greenlaw, T.D.; Rev. K. S. G. Greenlaw, M.A., C.F.; Thomas Grierson, J.P.; J. Stanley Holmes; Mrs E. N. Kershaw, J.P.; Andrew McKerral, C.I.E., M.A., B.Sc.; Dr W. Menzies Menzies; Major Frank S. Perridge; Leslie G. Pine, B.A.(Lond.); Stewart Sim; Ian Armour Smith; Miss Olive M. Squair; Lord David Stuart; Edwin D. Sturrock; Henry Terrell; John White.

*Honorary Fellow* : O. G. S. Crawford.

The following Fellows have died during the year: James Buchan; Alexander Grahame Buchanan, M.B., Ch.B.; Peter Burgess; Sheriff John Macmaster Campbell; John D. Comrie, M.A., B.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P.E.; Rev. Robert Coupar, B.D., D.D.; Major James Walls Cursiter; Edward Dwelly, F.S.G.; Sir Wallace Fairweather, D.L., J.P.; A. R. Galloway, O.B.E., M.A., M.B., C.M.; Brigadier-General Sir Robert Gilmour, Bart., C.B., C.V.O., D.S.O., of Craigmillar; James D. Gilruth, M.A., M.D., F.R.C.P.Ed.; James Grieve; John Gunn, M.A., D.Sc., F.R.S.G.S.; John M. Howden, C.A.; Harry R. G. Inglis; Arthur Kay, J.P., H.R.S.A.; Harry Lumsden, M.A., LL.B., LL.D., J.P.; Rev. William MacGillivray; John Mackay, S.S.C.; James McKelvie; Rev. John Macleod, C.B.E., Hon. C.F.; Rev. Alexander McPherson, B.D., Ph.D.; James McPherson; Robert Clark Morrison; Captain H. W. Murray; J. M. Murray; The Very Rev. Professor William P. Paterson, D.D., LL.D.; David Thomas Samson, D.L.; Robert Lyons Scott; Courtenay John Shiells, C.A.; W. N. Simpson; John Sinclair; John James Spencer; John H. Stevenson, M.B.E., K.C., Marchmont Herald; Charles Edward Whitelaw, F.R.I.A.S.

<i>Fellowship.</i> —The total number of Fellows on the roll at 30th November 1938 was . . . . .	1018
At 30th November 1939 the number was . . . . .	986
being a decrease of . . . . .	32

The number of Fellows added to the roll during the year was 53, while 37 died, 32 resigned, and 14 allowed their membership to lapse. It is impossible to regard the effect of the War on the Society's membership without disquiet, and Fellows are again urged both to continue their own support of the Society and to do their utmost to obtain recruits.

*Proceedings.*—Volume LXXIII of the *Proceedings* contained 18 papers, of which 9 dealt with prehistoric and 9 with historical times. Fellows will have noted that some changes in the established *format* have been adopted in this volume, which is the first of the Seventh Series. These changes, the prime object of which was to reduce the crushing financial burden of our publications, were decided upon after mature consideration by the Council and in the light of a report on the technical aspect of the question prepared by a special committee presided over by Professor V. G. Childe. It is thought that the introduction of Notes at the end of the volume is a most useful innovation, as it will enable Fellows and others to put on record short descriptions of finds or observations that are unsuitable for presentation in the form of a paper.

*The Museum.*—The number of relics added to the Museum during the year amounted to 1154 by donation and 152 by purchase. As the Fellows have already been informed, the Museum was closed by order of the Board of Trustees on 1st September.

A start was made, prior to the outbreak of hostilities, in rearranging the collections, and it was planned to enhance their appeal by a new display of the more significant specimens combined with a more extensive use of maps, photographs, and models. It is hoped to continue this work as far as space permits after the end of the war.

The collections have been considerably augmented through the presentation by the Ancient Monuments Department of the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works of finds from various periods which had been recovered during their excavations of sites belonging to the Crown. A large number of relics found on guardianship sites have also been donated by the proprietors, through the Commissioners of His Majesty's Works.

Objects belonging to the prehistoric period are, as usual, the most numerous. Mr Walter G. Grant, F.S.A.Scot., has again presented a number of very important relics. These come from the excavation of a Stone Age Settlement at the Braes of Rinyo, Rousay, Orkney, and from

the neolithic cairn at Taiverso Tuick, Trumland, in the same island, where a new and intact chamber was recently discovered.

Additions to the Bronze Age collections are both numerous and important. They include a beaker from West Pinkerton, Dunbar, presented by His Grace The Duke of Roxburghe; a cinerary urn and another urn of unusual form from Outerston Hill, near Temple, Midlothian, presented by the Trustees of the Arniston Estate; a halberd blade, two socketed axes and a palstave, presented by Mr Alexander Keiller, F.S.A.Scot., and a bronze spear-head, presented by Major W. H. Doig, C.E., F.S.A.Scot. The greater portion of a jet necklace, found in a stone cist near Achheargary Burn, Strathnaver, Sutherland, was presented by Mr W. Midwood.

Welcome additions to our Roman collections are an altar from Mumrills, given by Mr C. W. Forbes of Callendar, and the iron sword of an Auxiliary soldier from the Agricola fort at Fendoch, given by Captain J. Drummond Moray.

Relics from the excavation of Iron Age Dwellings on the Calf of Eday, Orkney, have come from the late Major Harry H. Hebden, M.C., and Sir Edwyn Alexander Sinclair, G.C.B., C.V.O., LL.D., has presented, through Mr Alexander O. Curle, C.V.O., LL.D., F.S.A.Scot., the numerous and important objects found during the excavation of a Viking settlement at Freswick Links in Caithness.

We are again indebted to the liberality of the National Art-Collections Fund which has presented, through the "London Scot Bequest," a set of eighteen carved oak panels, known as "The Montrose Panels." These are Scottish in character, and belong to the late Gothic period. They are the best examples of such carving left in the country and are probably the remains of the dais panelling of the hall of a hospital founded in 1516 by Patrick Panter, Bishop of Ross and Abbot of Cambuskenneth. Among other objects belonging to the historic period, mention may be made of a silver-mounted charm-stone of rock crystal presented by Mr William and Mr Manby Gibson; a half-hour glass and two wine glasses which belonged to Sir Walter Scott, presented by Dr W. G. Aitchison Robertson, F.S.A.Scot.; a gold mourning-ring made in memory of Simon, Lord Lovat, who was executed in 1747, presented by Mr Thomas Yule, F.S.A.Scot., and an early sixteenth-century oak door from Mary of Guise's house in the Lawnmarket, presented by Mr Richard J. Simpson, F.S.A.Scot.

The most important and historically interesting purchase made during the year was "The Mary Queen of Scots Pendant," acquired with the aid of His Grace The Duke of Hamilton and of the National Art-Collections Fund. The Society are particularly indebted to His Grace, but for whose generous action this relic might easily have been lost to Scotland. It is a fine example of the work of a sixteenth-century French goldsmith and

was probably made for Mary Queen of Scots. Other notable purchases were a collection from two early Bronze Age kitchen middens at North Berwick and a primitive barbed harpoon-head of deer antler from Shewalton Moor.

The collection of Communion Tokens has been rearranged by Mr Robert Kerr, Curator of Coins, and there have been recently added to the collection nearly four hundred new specimens, selected by Mr John Lockie, one of our Fellows, from a bequest by the late Mrs McConnachie, Cottesbrook, Lauder, to the Royal Scottish Museum.

Two silver armlets and two finger-rings of silver, found in a peat moss in the parish of Barvas, Stornoway, Lewis, and a massive double-linked silver chain of the early Christian period, from Traprain Law, the seventh of a rare and peculiarly Scottish type, were obtained through the King's and Lord Treasurer's Remembrancer.

It is to be hoped that the inflow of acquisitions will be steadily maintained. Although they cannot be exhibited until happier times return, they will in the interval be scientifically classified and preserved from deterioration.

*Excavations.*—Grants for excavation were made to several members and the year's operations were completed before the outbreak of war. Extremely interesting structural remains were uncovered on some of the sites, and it is hoped that the excavators' reports will appear in the usual way in the present and subsequent volumes of the *Proceedings*.

*The Library.*—Additions to the Library amounted to 160 volumes, 138 having been acquired by donation and 22 by purchase. Over and above this total, a large number of publications of learned societies and institutions, British and foreign, have been received by way of exchange or subscription. The usual grant from His Majesty's Treasury has permitted the binding of 149 books.

*The Gunning Fellowship.*—The Gunning Fellowship for 1939 was awarded to Mr A. J. H. Edwards to enable him to visit museums in Denmark.

*The Chalmers-Jervise Prize.*—The district selected for the Chalmers-Jervise Essay was Perthshire, but no prize was awarded.