

PROCEEDINGS.

SUMMER MEETING.

THE first excursion of the season was held in the Alston district on Wednesday and Thursday, July 10th and 11th, 1929.

The local arrangements were in charge of a committee composed of Mr. J. H. Martindale, F.S.A., Mr. W. T. McIntire, F.S.A.Scot., Dr. W. Goodchild and Mr. R. E. Porter, Hon Excursions Secretary.

A large number of members, including the president of the Society, Mr. W. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., took part in the excursion, which, despite occasional showers, proved an interesting and enjoyable two days' outing.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10th.

Leaving the Court Square, Carlisle, immediately after the arrival of the morning trains, the party proceeded, in motor coaches and private cars, by way of Crosby-on-Eden, Brampton and Greenhead to

BLENKINSOPP CASTLE.

Here they were welcomed by Captain E. R. Joicey, M.C., who read a paper upon the history of the castle. The original house, built in 1339 by Bryan de Blenkinsopp, was a square pele tower of the usual type with a vaulted basement and two storeys above. Further protection against border raiders was provided by a strong curtain wall, about four yards distant from the main building.

In 1542, this tower had already fallen into decay and it was afterwards deserted for Bellister, a few rooms in the upper storeys being occupied by labourers. In the early years of the 19th century the ruined castle was restored and incorporated with the present building by Colonel Coulson, who inherited its property, and from whom it was subsequently purchased by Captain Joicey's father. Allusion was made to the traditions of the castle and to the well-known legend of "The White Lady of Blenkinsopp."

After the party had inspected the exterior of the castle, Mr. R. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., described a Roman tombstone built into its wall. This stone, he said, found in 1880, must have



FEATHERSTONE CASTLE.
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Photo. by H. R. Hulbert, 1929.

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belonged to the Roman fort of Carvoran, upon the hill opposite. One or two other Roman inscribed stones had been found in the buildings, and all of these probably came from the cemetery of the fort. Unfortunately, he could not say where this cemetery was, as the cemeteries of none of the forts along the Wall had been found and explored, a fact much to be regretted, as they would probably yield many interesting objects. This tombstone was not badly weathered, and belonged to the best period of the Wall work—the early and middle second century.

Upon the motion of the president a vote of thanks was heartily accorded to Captain Joicey, and the party went on to Haltwhistle for lunch, afterwards resuming their journey, up the valley of the South Tyne, to visit, by the kind permission of Mrs. Hope-Wallace,

FEATHERSTONE CASTLE.

Mr. John Gibson, F.S.A., Hexham, who described the castle to the visitors, said, judging by its architectural features, it represented four distinct periods of building, reconstruction or extension. The first was of the late twelfth or early thirteenth century, the second of early fourteenth century, the third of early seventeenth century, and the fourth of early nineteenth century. The earliest architectural feature was a pointed doorway leading to the courtyard. The date of this was not later than the year 1200, and it was undoubtedly a portion of the original structure of the first building period. Evidence in support of this could be seen by an examination of the thirteenth-century buttress, which enclosed the North-West angle of the north wing. This buttress was in three stages with broad chamfered set-offs. It was of the same character and date as the buttress of Haltwhistle church, which, like it, exhibited distinct characteristics of Scottish craftsmanship not to be found elsewhere in England during the early English period. The positions of the buttress on the north-west angle and of the doorway on the east wall of the north range proved that this area formed the main portion of the first castle. The first owner of the manor of Featherstonehaugh, a nephew of Adam de Tindale, Baron of Langley, who was residing there prior to 1212. The manor was then a member of this important barony, which at that time was under Scottish rule. Cumberland and part of Northumberland were ceded by King Stephen to David, King of Scotland, but afterwards reverted to English rule in the time of Henry II. The manor was sold by Parliament to the Earl of Carlisle, from whom Matthew Featherstonehaugh, Mayor of Newcastle, acquired the castle and estate in 1711.

Mr. Gibson then described the subsequent changes in the ownership of the castle down to the present day.

After the president had proposed votes of thanks to Mrs. Hope-Wallace and Mr. Gibson, and these had been unanimously accorded, the party spent a short time over the inspection of the castle, and viewing its beautiful surroundings. They then proceeded on their way towards Alston, halting at Castle Nook Farm to visit the Roman fort of

WHITLEY CASTLE.

Professor Bosanquet, M.A., F.S.A., who described the fort, said it was remarkable among Roman forts because it had a striking example of multiple ditches. It was the one intermediate fort guarding that important link of road which formed a short cut from the main York to Carlisle road up to the region of the wall. This was a large fort, over four acres, and if they reckoned in the space occupied by the ditches it covered nine acres, an exceptionally large defensive area. The most striking feature of the fort was the ditches. They did not know the ancient name of this fort; all that they knew was that it was garrisoned by Second Nervii. The site was one that deserved excavation, and he hoped many of them would have the good fortune to see it excavated. He expressed gratification that the visitors included Dr. Stade from Germany, who on behalf of Dr. Fabricius, was studying Roman remains in the North of England, and was assisting in the excavations at Birdoswald.

Mr. R. G. Collingwood appealed for financial help for the excavations at Birdoswald, which were being conducted by the Cumberland and Westmorland and Newcastle Antiquarian Societies in order to study the history, construction, occupation and final abandonment of Hadrian's Wall. He was hopeful that if this work could be continued for five years they would solve the riddle of the Wall.

The party then performed the final stage of their day's journey to Alston, where they passed the night, and where the Annual General Meeting was held.

After tea members were guided through the more interesting parts of Alston by the Rev. Norman A. Walton, vicar. The church was first visited. The present building is a beautiful church in French Gothic style, with a handsome tower and spire, built in 1869. It is the successor of two if not three churches on the same site. When the first church was built is not known. All that can be gathered is that, in 1154, King Henry II presented

his clerk, Galfrid, to the benefice of Alston. A list of Rectors and Vicars was shown, which includes forty-three names, and is a very full record. The registers date from 1699. Two of the oldest were shown to the members, one belonging to Alston and the other Garrigill. A curious feature in the Garrigill register is that it contains a distinct Register of Nonconformists covering the period 1704-1728.

Some entries are in Latin and one in Greek. Here is a specimen of the Latin entries:—

“ Elizabetha Reverendi Vicarij de Alsta: Nicholai Walton filia Sacro Xtianom Ritu aspersa fuit Decimo Octobris Millesimo Septingentesimo Sexto.”

(Elizabeth, the daughter of the Reverend Nicholas Walton, Vicar of Alston, was baptised (by sprinkling), according to the sacred rite of the Christian Church (Christians) on the 10th of October, 1706).

The vicar said he believed the district had been populated by the Vikings. Several words of Viking origin were still used in Alston Moor. The name “ gill ” is old Norse. The old Norse definite article is still used. Great interest was shown in the old clock formerly belonging to the last Earl of Derwentwater. It was made in 1714 and although not used is still in good going order. The church bell also came from Dilston Castle. The Vetriponte stone, and the cobbler's stone with its famous epitaph were next shown. Afterwards the prison, barrel-vaulted, dating probably 1600-1650; the Butts; the Lord's Mill; the Market Cross, erected by Sir Wm. Stephenson, born at Crosslands, Alston, Lord Mayor of London, 1764; the irregular buildings in the High Butts were of particular interest. The site of Smeaton's level was pointed out—a subterranean canal $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles in length where boats were used until the quarry Co. ruined the entrance some 20 years or so ago. Rain began to fall and cut short the tour.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

The chair was taken by the president, and there was a very satisfactory attendance of members.

On the recommendation of the Council the Officers of the Society were re-appointed, a vacancy in the list of vice-presidents being filled by the unanimous election of Mr. R. G. Collingwood.

The following new members were duly proposed and elected:— E. A. Ball, School House, St. Bees; Miss Barrow, Tewgarth, Lancaster; Lady Chance, Lancrigg, Grasmere; Miss Cropper, Halhead Green, Kendal; Major H. S. Greg, Woodcroft, Haver-

thwaite, Ulverston; Thomas Hay, Glenridding, Penrith; F. J. Hayes, High Wray, Ambleside; R. H. Herford, 31 Thornton Road, Stanwix, Carlisle; Capt. M. S. Nigel Kennedy, Stone Cross, Ulverston; K. W. Meiklejohn, B.A.Camb., The Foundation, St. Bees.

A message of condolence was sent to Mr. Daniel Scott of Penrith, whose continued illness had prevented his attendance at Council or general meetings.

Mr. L. E. Hope retired from the office of Hon. Curator, as he was leaving the district. His resignation was accepted with regret, and the President spoke in warm terms of appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Hope to the Society during his period of office. It was agreed to leave the office vacant for the time being.

DISCOVERIES AT DACRE.

The President reported that some recent discoveries at Dacre, near Penrith, had aroused fresh interest in the question of an Anglo-Saxon monastery there. In the history of the Venerable Bede there was a mention of a monastery at a place called Dacore. The question had often been asked what place this was. Historians had generally said it could not be Dacre, near Penrith, because there was no Anglo-Saxon monastery there. Hitherto there had not been known any evidence of there being such a monastery, but the discovery of an ancient drain suggested evidence for the first time that this might be the famous Dacore mentioned in Bede. This was the most intriguing discovery they had made for a long time past, and representatives of the society had been appointed to carry out excavations.

ALSTON MINES.

The Rev. Norman A. Walton then read an interesting paper upon "Alston and the Mines," giving an account of the various periods of prosperity and adversity through which the local industry had passed. He raised the question, whether these mines had been worked by the Romans, suggesting that, despite the contrary opinion expressed by Mr. Wallace, the supposition was not altogether improbable. The numerous Roman roads and forts in the district would bring the Romans into constant proximity to these rich lead deposits and it would seem not improbable that they discovered them and used them for their requirements.

In an interesting discussion which ensued it was pointed out that in the absence of any definite evidence such as the remains of Roman workings, the matter can be nothing more than a mere surmise.

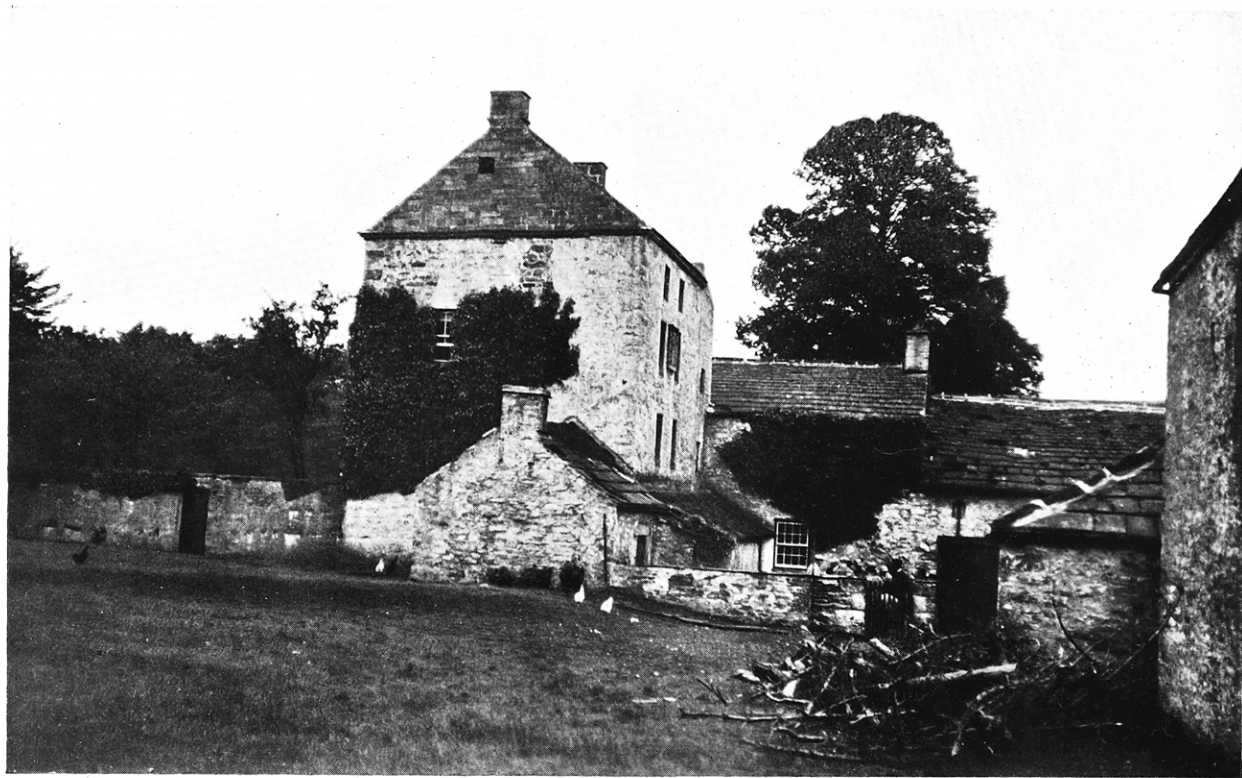


Photo. by W. L. Fletcher, 1929.

RANDAL HOLME
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A sword found in the roof of a house in Front street, Alston, some 30 years ago, was shown. It bears no ordinance issue stamp and appears to be blacksmith's work.

The following papers, also, were submitted:—"Some deeds relating to Cumberland, Westmorland and the Furness District," by Col. W. H. Chippindall (Art. VII); "A Silver Seal Ring," by Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A. (Art. VIII).

THURSDAY, JULY 11TH.

Leaving Alston at 9-30 a.m., the party first motored down the valley of the South Tyne to

RANDALHOLME.

This fine old border pele-tower, defending the peninsula of land between the South Tyne and the Ayle Burn was described by Mr. W. T. McIntire, who based his account of the house and its successive owners upon the notes in these *Transactions*, N.S., xv, pp. 175-180. Returning to Alston and proceeding along the Hartside road, the party halted three-and-a-half miles out of Alston at a point just above the river Blackburn where the Maiden Way crosses the fells.

THE MAIDEN WAY.

Here Mr. R. G. Collingwood gave a description of this important Roman road, between Kirkby Thore and Carvoran on the Roman Wall (Art. XI), pointing out the course of the road, which was clearly visible on the neighbouring hill side, and supplementing his explanation with a few remarks upon Roman roads in general.

HARTSIDE CROSS.

The next halt was at the summit of Hartside, nearly 2,000 feet above the sea level where the mist lay low upon the fells. Here Mr. R. E. Porter described the recent discovery by Dr. Goodchild and himself of a part of the Hartside Cross (Art. XIII), and exhibited the silver penny of Alexander III of Scotland found at the same time beneath the stone. Dr. Goodchild stated that several coins of the same reign had been found in other parts of Cumberland, several being included in the famous Beaumont hoard.

The president congratulated Mr. Porter and Dr. Goodchild upon their important discovery. The stone was evidently a cross to mark the boundary of Alston, and the coin of Alexander III dated it some year before 1286, when that king died. An adjoining pile of stones covered with grass was suggested as

having been the base of the cross, and the hope was expressed that at some time the pile might be unturfed and the stones examined.

MELMERBY.

As the party descended Hartside into the Eden valley, the mist cleared away and they were enabled to enjoy the magnificent view over the fertile lands below them to the hills and sea beyond.

Arrived at Melmerby the party first visited Melmerby Church, which was described by the Rector, the Rev. John Garnett, who was largely instrumental in carrying the recent restoration scheme through.

The Rector said that it was impossible to say at what date the church was originally built. The oldest portions of the existing fabric seem to date from the close of the 13th century. Preliminary steps were taken, in 1342, by Sir Robert Parvyng, chancellor to Edward III to convert this parish church into a college for eight priests, but the project collapsed with the death of Sir Robert in the following year.

The south side of the nave and continuous chancel has decorated windows of the 14th century. The arcade of the north aisle, called by Bishop Nicolson, in 1704, "Threlkeld's Quire or Isle," was removed in 1849, and a gallery now runs along that side of the church. Under the south window of the chancel is a piscina niche. Within the altar rails is a fine sepulchral slab with the arms of Threlkeld.

MELMERBY HALL.

Melmerby Hall, which was visited by the kind permission of the Trustees of the late Mr. Hall-Houghton, was described by Mr. W. T. McIntire, who quoted evidence to prove the existence of a pele tower on the site in the 14th century. A vaulted cellar beneath the present staircase of the house may be of this date, and if so, marks the position of the old tower. The building underwent extensive alterations, when it was enlarged in the 16th century, among the relics of that period being the remains of a fine Tudor fire-place and a stone staircase. Subsequent additions and alterations make the original plan of the Tudor house rather difficult to disentangle.

The manor of Melmerby was parcel of the barony of Adam, son of Swain. In the reign of Henry III, Odard, lord of Wigton was seized of Melmerby, whose great-granddaughter, Margaret, dying without issue, granted Melmerby to Sir Robert Parvyng, the king's sergeant-at-law, in gratitude for the part which that eminent

lawyer had taken in helping her to establish her legitimacy in the face of an attack made upon her rights by her relatives. His sister's son, Adam, son of John Peacock succeeded and assumed the name of Parvyng, and upon his death in 1380, Henry de Threlkeld became possessed of the manor, and it continued in the hands of his direct descendants until the middle of the 17th century. The coat of arms above the door is that of Threlkeld, and was probably set up by Lancelot Threlkeld, the last of the direct line.

By marriage, the property passed to Thomas Pattinson of Breeks in Westmorland. The initials, "T. P.," on the spout upon the facade of the eastern wing of the house, are probably those of his grandson, Thomas Pattinson.

OUSBY CHURCH.

After an interval for luncheon, the party proceeded to Ousby Church, where they were received by the Rector, the Rev. A. MacLeod Murray.

Mr. J. H. Martindale, who described the church said they were gathered together on a very ancient medieval site. The derivation of the name had been variously accounted for, the most probable being from a personal name Ulf of Danish origin, and therefore pre-Conquest. The original spelling had varied during the ages from Ulvesby, Ulnesby, (a clerical error rather than a variant) and now Ousby. The original church was no doubt of the usual small type—nave and chancel.

The old fabric of the church was mainly Early English of the second quarter of the 13th century. Mr. Martindale drew attention to a small priest's door south of the chancel, and, in the chancel itself, to a piscina and three sedilia with trefoiled heads.

Before leaving, the party had the opportunity of examining the wooden effigy of a man in chain mail of the 13th century, now placed within the altar rails, but formerly occupying a recess on the south side of the nave.

CREWGARTH.

The last stopping place was Crewgarth, an ancient ramparted site on the road leading from Langwathby to Ousby.

The site was described by the President (Art. XIV), who described Crewgarth as a site of particular interest as being one of the few remaining places where were still to be seen the remains of a medieval moated manor house, which probably existed in the twelfth century.

He concluded by saying that they had had a most successful

meeting, and he thought they ought to thank the local committee for arranging the excursion.

Mr. J. H. Martindale, in returning thanks on behalf of the local committee, paid a fitting tribute to the work of Mr. Porter, the excursion secretary, in organising the arrangements. The members, he added, were delighted to have their revered president with them once more.

AUTUMN MEETING.

The Autumn excursion of the Society was held in the Ulverston and Kendal districts on Wednesday and Thursday, September 11th and 12th, 1929. The committee for local arrangements consisted of Mr. J. F. Curwen, F.S.A., Mr. W. T. McIntire, F.S.A.(Scot.), Mr. Paul V. Kelly, the Rev. R. Percival Brown, M.A. and Major R. E. Porter, M.C., Hon. Excursions Secretary.

Weather conditions were favourable, and there was a large attendance of members on both the two days of the excursion.

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH.

Starting at 11-30 a.m. from Ulverston Railway Station, the party proceeded, in motor coaches and cars, direct to

CONISHEAD PRIORY.

The recent excavations of the Priory church were visited by the kind permission of the Durham Miners' Welfare Committee, and, in the absence of Dr. Wishart, a paper describing the new discoveries was read by Mr. Paul V. Kelly (Art. XVII).

Mr. Kelly afterwards conducted the party to view the section of the ancient road at Conishead Bank. The road, which is now quite overgrown with trees and vegetation, had, the lecturer stated, continued in use until the time of the dissolution of the monasteries of Furness and Conishead (Art. XVII, Part II).

Upon the motion of Mr. J. F. Curwen, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Durham Miners' Welfare Committee for its kind permission to view the excavations. A message of sympathy was also sent to the President, with wishes for his speedy recovery from his illness.

After lunch, the next spot to be visited was

PENNINGTON CHURCH.

Here the Vicar, the Rev. Canon G. Kenworthy described the church, which, he said, occupied the site of an earlier building, granted in Henry I's reign to Conishead Priory by Gamel de Pennington. In 1153 by mandate of William Warrenne, son of

King Stephen, the church was restored to Furness Abbey. The original dedication appears to have been to St. Leonard, and the church is mentioned as of St. Leonard in a document of 1478. Subsequently the dedication was changed to that of St. Michael. The vicar directed the attention of his visitors to the tympanum of the church door with its Runic inscription. This was fully described by the late Mr. Harper Gaythorpe in these *Transactions*, N.S. iii, pp. 373-379.

SWARTHMOOR HALL.

The next halting place was Swarthmoor Hall, where the visitors were welcomed by Miss Abraham who described the building and the restorations which it had undergone.

Miss Abraham described the Hall's connection with George Fox, the pioneer of the Quaker movement, who came there in 1652. She dealt, also with the life of Judge Fell and the marriage of George Fox with his widow, Margaret Fell.

A vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. J. F. Curwen, was accorded to Miss Abraham, and the party then walked over to

SWARTHMOOR FRIENDS' MEETING-HOUSE.

This was described by Mr. Paul V. Kelly, who said that the work of building the meeting-house was commenced at the expense of George Fox himself in 1688, and it was opened for worship in 1690. Not far from the stove, which was placed in the centre of the meeting-house, is the old folio black-letter Bible, with lock and chain, by which it was formerly attached to the preacher's desk. This Bible was printed in 1541, and is known as the "Treacle" Bible.

After leaving the meeting-house, the party motored back to Ulverston Station and thence went on to Kendal, where the night was spent. After dinner a General Meeting was held.

GENERAL MEETING.

In the absence of the president the chair was taken by Mr. J. F. Curwen as senior vice-president.

The following new members of the Society were duly proposed and elected:—Mrs. Brooks Broadhurst, Houghton House, Carlisle; Mrs. Chadwick, Clifton Dykes, Penrith; Lionel Cresswell, Crackenthorpe Hall, Appleby; Miss H. J. Gilchrist, Walnut Bank, Lancaster; J. Colin MacIver, Galing, Orton; Mrs. J. Colin MacIver, Galing, Orton; Miss R. E. Sugden, Bridekirk Vicarage, nr. Cockermouth; Miss Terry, M.A., M.Litt.(Durham), Town Bank, Ulverston.

The following papers were read or submitted: "The Art of the English Plasterer as exemplified in Cumberland and Westmorland," by John F. Curwen, F.S.A. (Art. XV); "A System of numerical references to the parts of Hadrian's Wall and the structures along its line," by R. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A. (Art. X); "The Southern end of High Street," "A Clay Statuette from Bootle-in-Cumberland," "Another Forged Rock Inscription," "The so-called Roman Bridge at Lanercost," by Mr. R. G. Collingwood, F.S.A. (Art. XI); "The Hall in Kirkby Lonsdale," by Col. W. H. Chippindall (Art. XII); "Explorations in Ravenstonedale, Part II," by Edward Frankland, B.A., Ph.D., B.Sc.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12TH.

Leaving the Commercial Hotel, Kendal, at 9-30 a.m., the party motored along the Natland road, and leaving their conveyances, walked to the site of the Roman Fort of

WATERCROOK.

Here Mr. R. G. Collingwood described the site, and stated what was known of this important Roman station (Art. IX).

Regaining their cars, the party then continued their route by Kirkby Lonsdale to Burrow Hall, where, by kind permission of Mrs. Fenwick, who welcomed the party, the site of the Roman Fort of Overburrow was visited.

THE ROMAN FORT AT OVERBURROW.

Mr. R. G. Collingwood gave a description of the site. After summarising what has been said by the older writers, notably Camden and Rauthmell (*Antiquitates Bremetonacenses*), and commenting on the paucity of their information, he proceeded to give the results of his own recent study of the ground. The south end of the fort had evidently been destroyed by the Leck beck eroding the steep bank on whose summit it had stood. The gentle slope in front of the house was artificial, he thought; it had been made when the builders of the house shaved off the top of the hill to obtain a level site, and tipped their rubbish over the edge in order to make an undulating slope leading down to the beck in the picturesque taste of the 18th century. When they shaved the top off the hill they must have cut the Roman fort clean away, no doubt using the stones, but throwing everything else down the slope. In these circumstances it was not easy to find traces of the Roman fort on the surface; but he thought it was possible to see its east ditch in the park in front of the terrace towards the



ROMAN CAPITAL AT OVERBURROW.

Photo. by R.G.C.

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east end of the house. There is a fragment of ditch here 35 feet wide and 10 feet deep, cut off to south by the eroded bank and filled up to north by the terrace; but in line with it, 55 yards to the north, a slack in the ground can be seen running through the plantations for another 105 yards. It then seems to curve westward, so as to mark the north-east corner of the fort, which is therefore quite close to the farm-buildings on the road. The north side cannot be traced; the laying-out of the park has evidently disturbed it; but this corner gives a clue to its whereabouts. The west side of the fort is probably marked by the ha-ha which terminates the garden in that direction. The ha-ha would naturally be made on the line of the Roman ditch; and the wall which flanks the path crossing the line of the ha-ha at its south end has sagged in such a way as to show that it was built on insecure foundations, which would be the case if the path had been laid in the Roman ditch. Further, a slight mound shows in the lawn running parallel to the ha-ha; this might be the Roman rampart. On the strength of these evidences he inferred that the fort was about 500 feet long by about 300 feet wide, that is to say, it was about three and a half acres in extent. The most remarkable relic of the fort now in existence was the fine capital standing in the garden, of which a photograph is here reproduced. Mr. Collingwood concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to Mrs. Fenwick for welcoming the Society to her house.

The next halting-place was

TUNSTALL CHURCH.

This was described by the Rev. R. Percival Brown, M.A. The present church is believed to be the second or third erection on the same site. The last re-building is ascribed to Sir Thomas Tunstall, who flourished in the reign of Henry IV and V. A damaged stone statue, on the south side of the altar rails is supposed to be the recumbent effigy of Brian Tunstall, who was slain at Flodden Field, but the helmet and armour of the figure point to the time of Richard II or Henry IV and make it probable that it is a representation of Sir Thomas Tunstall, the founder of Thurland Castle (see *Transactions*, N.S., v, 280).

Mr. Percival Brown drew attention to a stone with a Roman inscription, built into the framework of the window on the north side of the aisle (see *Transactions*, N.S., xii, 431-432).

THURLAND CASTLE.

was next visited by kind permission of the Rev. R. Lees.

A description of the castle was read by Brig.-General B. N. North, C.B.

Referring to the various families who owned the Castle, the speaker said it remained in the Tunstall family from 1202 until 1600. In 1698 it was sold to John Barrett, who turned it into a farmhouse, and it remained as such until 1780. It was sold by Mrs. Evelyn, granddaughter of John Borrett, in 1772, to Robert Welch, of Lancaster, for £7,000, who, in 1780, disposed of the Castle to Miles North for £14,000. Many alterations and improvements were effected by the first owner of the North family and afterwards by his son, Richard Toulmin North. In 1876 Thurland was almost completely destroyed by fire, but in 1885 was restored by his father. In the same year, Thurland was sold to the late Col. Lees. Reference was also made to the long and obstinate defence of the castle against the attacks of the Parliamentary forces in 1643. (See *Transactions*, N.S., v, 280-282.

BLEAZE HALL.

The excursion concluded with a visit to Bleaze Hall, Hutton, which was described by Mr. J. F. Curwen. He said that originally the house consisted of two wings, one at the north and one at the south ends, with a central square block between. The southern wing had now disappeared. At once their attention was called to the striking beauty of the two Elizabethan windows. The chief glory of the house was "The Lady's Chamber" over the hall, which was wainscotted with panelling. The mantel to the fireplace had the date 1644 engraved upon it, but unfortunately all the oakwork had been sold and taken away. A curious relic of the days of superstition still remained hanging by a chain from a rafter in the attic, known as the "Dobbie" or flaying, which was supposed to be a charm against the freaks of the Dobbie from disturbing the premises or flaying the livestock.

Mention was also made of the connection of the Bateman family with Bleaze Hall, and of the palmy days of pack-horse travel. At the end of his remarks, he proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. J. Bentham, for his kind permission to view the Hall, and afterwards read a reply from the president, thanking them for their message of sympathy of the previous day, and expressing the hope that the excursion would prove an enjoyable one.

The party then returned to Kendal in time to catch the early evening trains to their respective homes.

SPRING MEETING.

The Spring Meeting of the Society was held at the Crown and Mitre Hotel, Carlisle, on Wednesday, April 23rd, 1930.

The chair was taken by Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A., and there was a large assemblage of members present. Before the commencement of business, the chairman referred to the death of the late Mr. Daniel Scott, who had been a valued member of the Council since 1916, and a member of the Society since 1908. The meeting desired that a message of sympathy should be sent to his family.

The following new members were duly proposed and elected:—
Rev. Wm. Geo. Astrop, All Saints' Parsonage, Gretna, Carlisle;
Rev. A. V. Atkinson, M.A., St. Luke's Vicarage, Tranmere, Birkenhead; Harold B. Birley, Moorland, Didsbury, Manchester;
Mrs. J. Katherine Brown, High Moss, Portinscale; Miss Dorothy Carr, Greystead, Carlisle; Philip Corder, M.A., 4 Bootham Terrace, York; Dr. R. Craven, 9 Portland Square, Carlisle; Hon. Marjorie Cross, Ash House, Broughton-in-Furness; *The Cumberland News*, English Street, Carlisle; Capt. J. S. Curwen, Beck House, Windermere; Miss Alice M. Dobson, High Biggins, Windermere; Arthur H. Greg, The Snab, Hornby, Lancaster; John N. Hadwen, Seat How, Thornthwaite, nr. Keswick; Anthony Claude Handby, Lanercost, Brampton, Cumberland; Rev. John Hodgkin, The Rectory, Whittington in Lonsdale; C. Roy Hudleston, Little Mead, Chapel Green Lane, Redland, Bristol; E. Moreland, Chancery Chambers, 55 Brown Street, Manchester; William Potter, Kengrith, Sedbergh; Chas. W. Railton, Cherry Tree House, Alderley Edge, Cheshire; Mrs. Sadler, The Knoll, Coniscliffe Road, Darlington; Kenneth Spence, Sawrey House, *via* Ambleside; H. M. Thomas, Brackenrigg, Keswick; F. G. Webster, Town Clerk's Office, Carlisle.

It was reported that the volume of *Transactions* for the current year was nearly completed.

It was resolved that the following resolution should be sent to the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition in regard to the proposed quarrying in the neighbourhood of Hadrian's Wall:—

"The Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society, which for many years has taken a prominent part in the exploration and preservation of Hadrian's Wall, view with the gravest concern the proposal to start extensive quarrying operations in the immediate neighbourhood of its best

preserved and most interesting part. Even if, as their promoters assure us, these operations stop short of the Wall itself they cannot fail to destroy parts of the Vallum and Military Way, which are integral elements in the great Roman frontier works. Moreover, highly though we value the assurance that the Wall itself will be spared, we cannot think it desirable that so important a monument should depend for its existence on the personal and not unalterable wishes of the persons who possess or lease the mineral rights of the land on which it stands. The Society therefore would urge the Government to stay, by any action possible, any developments so detrimental to this unique site, which depends for its educational and historical value not on the Wall alone, but on the whole complex of works in their topographical setting."

The Chairman announced that particulars of the Pilgrimage to the Roman Wall, which was to form the Summer excursion, would shortly be issued to members.

RECENT DISCOVERY OF ROMAN OBJECTS AT CARLISLE.

Mr. R. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., gave a report upon the Roman relics found recently in the King's Meadow, Carlisle, and exhibited the relics, which included several brooches, nine coins and a soldier's identity disc. Mr. Collingwood said that early this year a sewer was being laid at the foot of Stanwix Bank, at a point not far distant from Eden Bridge, when the workmen came upon a bed of black material at a depth of 15 to 16 feet below the surface of the existing meadow. This would make it well below the water level of the river Eden. Now, a big river like the Eden always brought down large quantities of material in time of flood, and in the course of time the banks of the river must have silted up. It was also known that the course of the river had changed. There was, therefore, nothing very surprising about a bed of material being found so low beneath the present surface.

That morning the Town Clerk of Carlisle and others very kindly took him to the place, where he met the men who made the discovery of the relics. The men explained to him the nature of the blackish, brownish material, about a foot thick, which petered out in either direction, and he was told that where the material seemed to be thickest it contained a great quantity of Roman things, which he now had in the room for exhibition. These relics had been preserved through the care and honesty of the workmen, to whom great credit was due, for there had been knowledge of similar hoards having been absorbed in some way

or other and never seen again. In the present case, however, they had the whole thing complete.

These objects looked remarkably like those found similarly at Brough-under-Stainmore, and it was conceivable that at one time Stanwix Bank was not so steep as now and that there were Roman buildings on the bank which, when the river changed its course, subsided, the buildings falling into the bed of the river. And so they now had possession of these relics. As to the brooches, they were as good as new, and this was, he believed, the first occasion on which a chained pair of trumpet brooches had ever been found in its original state. Evidently among the dwellings which had formerly existed on Stanwix Bank there had been a brass founder's shop. The coins were of the periods of Domitian, Trajan and Hadrian, but the conclusion one came to was that this deposit belonged to the reign of Hadrian. The site where the relics were found was coeval with Hadrian's Wall.

The city authorities, said Mr. Collingwood in conclusion, were now in consultation as to whether it was worth while trenching further in the King's Meadow to see if more of these beautiful things could be found. Anyway the city's collection in Tullie House would be greatly enriched by this fine "clutch" of Roman bronzes of the second century A.D.

The following papers were submitted:—"Gleanings from Rydal Muniments," by Mr. W. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A.; "Alston," by Mr. T. H. B. Graham, F.S.A.; "The two Kirkandrews," by Mr. T. H. B. Graham, F.S.A.; "Some notes on Drigg and Carleton," by Miss Mary C. Fair; "Early Flemings of Furness," by Col. W. H. Chippindall; "A Peel Pedigree," by Mr. Hugh Machell.
