

## PROCEEDINGS.

A MEETING of the Council of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society was held at Tullie House, Carlisle, on April 7th, 1937, for the purpose of transacting the usual business of the Society and to make the preliminary arrangements for the summer and autumn excursions. At this meeting the following new members of the Society were duly proposed and elected:—Dr. W. J. M. Baird, Blackpool; Capt. J. H. C. Coulston, Bolton-le-Sands; Mrs. Curwen, Cockermouth; Mrs. Scott Gunn, Hexham; Mr. E. M. L. Thomson, Penrith; Mr. J. Donald, Kirkby Stephen; Mrs. J. Donald, Kirkby Stephen; Mr. J. B. Wilkinson, Arnside; Mr. R. W. C. Reeves, Beckenham; Mrs. R. P. Montgomery, Levens; Mrs. Dorothy Dickson, Ambleside; Miss E. Bryham, Kendal.

In the afternoon a large number of members of the Society attended the ceremony of opening, at Tullie House, an Exhibition illustrating the results of research on Hadrian's Wall, and chiefly the work of the Cumberland Excavation Committee since its formation in 1894.

Mr. J. C. Studholme, Chairman of the Carlisle Public Library and Museum Committee, who presided was supported by Sir George Macdonald, the Deputy Mayor (Mr. J. R. Potts), Professor R. G. Collingwood (President of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society), Mr. F. G. Simpson and Mr. I. A. Richmond.

The Chairman, in the course of his opening remarks, alluded to the pleasant relations existing between the Carlisle Corporation and the Society. He spoke warmly of the services rendered to the cause of Archaeology by two of our past presidents, the late Chancellor Ferguson and the late Mr. W. G. Collingwood, and referred to the fact that the Honorary Curators of the Museum in Archaeology were Professor R. G. Collingwood, Mr. I. A. Richmond and Mr. F. G. Simpson, to whose work the present exhibition was in no small measure due. In calling upon Sir George Macdonald to open the Exhibition, he spoke of the pleasure it afforded to the citizens of Carlisle to welcome so distinguished an archaeologist in their midst.

Sir George Macdonald, in declaring the Exhibition open, said that he regarded his presence there as at once a privilege and a pleasure; a privilege because he welcomed as a student of Roman Britain the opportunity of paying homage to the greatest and most impressive of its monuments; a pleasure because he regarded this exhibition as a happy symbol of a reconciliation between two opposing schools of thought. These schools he defined as that of the supporters of the Hadrianic theory as to the origin of the Wall, and that of those antiquaries who, like Camden and Horsley, believed it had been built by the emperor Severus. He gave a brief summary of the dispute which began rather less than a hundred years ago when John Hodgson, the historian of Northumberland, impressed by the testimony of the inscriptions, questioned the then popular opinion that Severus was the builder of the Wall, and insisted upon the claims of the earlier emperor, Hadrian. Hodgson found an ardent disciple in Collingwood Bruce, but Cumberland took up the challenge, and in Richard Bill of Irthington, found a champion to take up the cudgels for Severus. Hadrian's supporters prevailed, but Cumberland apparently was not satisfied and when in 1894 Professor Haverfield arrived upon the scene he had no difficulty in forming the Cumberland Excavation Committee, of which he himself, and the late Mrs. Hodgson, of Newby Grange were prominent members. That Committee had no particular axe to grind, nor did they fly the colours of either emperor, but they realised that we did not know nearly enough about the wall to dogmatise, and so they set themselves to ascertain the facts by digging. Northumberland joined in the quest very early, and Sir George Macdonald paid a generous tribute to the work which had been accomplished in the last forty years. What the ultimate conclusion of their labours would prove to be he could not forecast, but he could, he thought, safely predict that whatever the result might be, it would prove to be one satisfactory to both parties and that each emperor would receive the meed of honour which was his due. He rendered testimony to the value of the work accomplished by Mr. F. G. Simpson, and referred to the magnificent results achieved by those responsible for the excavation work accomplished along the line of the Wall, work, he said, which was regarded with envy and admiration by archaeologists the wide world over. He concluded by complimenting the Carlisle Corporation upon the support they afforded to the work of the Cumberland Excavation Committee and upon their far-seeing policy in encouraging the study of the history and archaeology of their city.

The exhibition, which included an admirable collection of photographs, maps and models, arranged in chronological order and illustrating the progress of discovery along the line of the Wall, remained open for a month and was appreciated by numerous visitors.

#### SUMMER MEETING.

The summer meeting was held in the Galloway district, with Stranraer for a centre, on Thursday and Friday, July 1st and 2nd, 1937. The local arrangements were in charge of Mr. R. E. Porter, M.C., F.S.A. (Excursions Secretary), assisted by a Committee comprised of Professor R. G. Collingwood, M.A., F.S.A., F.B.A. (President of the Society) and Mr. R. C. Reid. The attractive nature of the programme was responsible for a large attendance of members and friends, and the Excursions Secretary and those responsible for traffic arrangements are to be congratulated upon the smoothness and punctuality with which their programme was carried out.

#### THURSDAY, JULY 1ST, 1937.

The party who had assembled on the previous evening at Stranraer, started the day's excursion at 9-30 a.m., when they left the Harbour Promenade and proceeded in motor coaches and private cars direct to their first halting place, Lochnaw Castle.

#### LOCHNAW CASTLE.

This ancient home of the Agnew family was described by Mr. W. T. McIntire, who prefaced his description of the buildings with a brief summary of the early history of the Agnews. The family took its name from Agneaux in the Bocage in Normandy, where their château still exists on the Vire. A Lord Herbert d'Agneaux came to England with the Conqueror and was rewarded with lands at Redenhall on the Waverney, while his descendants subsequently acquired the manors of Aignell, Redbourne and Hemel Hampstead. A member of the family, John Aignell or Agnew came to push his fortunes in Scotland in 1365, and secured from David II the appointment of Constable of Galloway. From their castle, the ruins of which still survive upon the island in the neighbouring loch, the Agnews had a struggle to exert their authority over the Kennedys, McLellans, McKies and other powerful families of the neighbourhood. Shortly after their acquisition of Lochnaw, they suffered a temporary reverse, for they were ousted from their possessions in Galloway by the redoubtable Archibald the Grim and his natural son, John

Douglas. In 1426, however, thanks to the favour of the powerful Margaret Douglas, Duchess of Tourane, whose tomb is one of the most remarkable memorials at Lincluden Abbey, Andrew Agnew was restored to his possessions in Galloway and to his castle on the island of Lochnaw.

It was this Sir Andrew Agnew who transferred the family seat from the castle upon the island to the present site above the loch. An inscription upon the tower at the S.E. corner of the castle runs:—"Dom Andreas Agnew 1426. Nomen Domini Fortissima Turris"; but this inscribed tablet is a later insertion and the tower itself is evidently work of the 16th century. It has a vaulted basement, the entry having been originally on the ground floor at the N.W. angle, communicating directly with a wheel staircase which led to the three upper storeys and the parapet walk upon the roof. The parapet is upon three sides of the tower and is supported by a continuous line of corbelling instead of separate corbels as in the practice in the cases of earlier towers. There is an interesting cuper house upon the roof with crow-stepped gables. The rooms of the upper storeys are provided with fireplaces. This early tower was doubtless provided with a barmkyn and outer defences but all traces of these have disappeared, though in the New Statistical Account of 1889 mention is made of a forework to the south.

Sir Andrew Agnew, the builder of this tower, who perished in the victory of the royal forces over the Douglasses at Arkholme, near Langholm, in 1455, was appointed first hereditary sheriff of Galloway in 1451. This office remained in the family till 1747 when hereditary jurisdictions were abolished. The only break in continuity was from 1682 to 1689, when Sir Andrew Agnew, 10th sheriff, was suspended by John Graham of Claverhouse for his alleged leniency in dealing with the Covenanters.

Mr. McIntire then described the four stages in the evolution of the present castle—the 16th century tower mentioned above; the westward extension, built in 1663 by Sir Andrew Agnew and his wife, Dame Anna Stewart, daughter of the first Earl of Galloway, the further prolongation and northern wing added in 1704; and, finally, the alteration of the whole into a modern mansion house. The speaker concluded by referring to the draining of the loch and the removal, about 1700, of most of the masonry of the old castle upon the island by Sir James Agnew, the 11th sheriff, who was of a utilitarian turn of mind, and of the restoration of the site to its original beauty by his grandson a hundred years later. He finally paid a tribute to the memory of Sir Andrew Agnew, the 8th



baronet, who died in 1892. Sir Andrew not only did much of the planting of the trees which add so much to the charm of this beautiful site but has a further claim upon our gratitude for the fascinating book he bequeathed to us—"The Hereditary Sheriffs of Galloway."

At the close of the address the president of the Society, Professor R. G. Collingwood, thanked Mr. and Mrs. O. W. Porritt for their kindness in allowing the Society to visit Lochnaw, and the party, after a short stay amid the beautiful surroundings of the castle, resumed its journey, the next halting place being the picturesquely situated

#### DUNSKEY CASTLE.

A short walk along the sea-girt headland upon which the castle stands brought us to the entrance of this ancient stronghold of the Adair family. Here Mr. R. C. Reid, to whom our Society is indebted for so many interesting descriptions of Scottish castles was the speaker. He first drew attention to two unusual features in connection with the ruins which he described as of "indeterminate date." In the first place, the building possesses no kitchen or room that can be identified as such, and, secondly, the well—so vital in the defence of such a fortress—is outside its forbidding walls. The site has probably been fortified from the earliest times, and the promontory upon which the castle stands is partly cut off from the mainland by a fosse which to some extent may have been natural. It is possible that the well was originally a spring which it was impossible to include within the castle buildings, and its defenders may have relied upon the fosse for the protection of their water supply. Nevertheless one would have expected some form of cover for the well, otherwise there would seem to have been nothing to prevent a besieger from creeping up in the night and cutting it off or poisoning its waters. Mr. Reid then described the existing remains of the stronghold which is guarded by a frontal wall stretching right across the neck of the promontory. Access to the castle is now by an embankment across the fosse, which may have replaced a previously existing drawbridge giving entrance to the gate—the only opening on the ground level on the landward side. This gate, which was secured by a sliding bar, led by a vaulted passage with a guard-room on either side, into a courtyard covering nearly the whole promontory, and terminated seawards by a tower of which only the foundations survive.

The main building is of the L plan with a northern elevation, and its entrance is at the re-entrant angle. The whole ground

floor of this building is vaulted, and there is evidence of some undateable reconstruction. Within the door is a vestibule and beyond this a flight of stairs of unusual spaciousness and modern design communicating by three flights with the first floor. Access to the storeys above was gained by a wheel staircase.

On entering, on the left is an opening leading to a long passage giving access to the cellars, and from this passage a service window opens into the vestibule indicating the former existence in the basement of a kitchen of which no traces survive, as none of the cellars now retain any signs of a fireplace. Probably the southern cellar was the original kitchen, but this room was in later times divided by two partitions erected to carry the stairs. The builders of the castle must have relied solely upon its outer defences for protection, for once through the gate, an enemy would have found the door the only serious obstacle to encounter. Beside this door is a cellar containing what was once a walled-off corner,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet square, partly sunk into the wall, which may have been used as a prison, though the Historical Monuments Commission suggest it may have been an oven.

Over the first floor, the whole length of the building is divided into two fine rooms entering the one through the other, the furthest one being 47 feet long and 10 feet 6 inches wide, the fireplace occupying an unusual position at one end. It is well lighted by three windows to landward, two to seaward and one at the far northern end. The other room, the first entered, was the hall or principal room of the castle. Further description is difficult, as the upper stories are gone and the whole edifice is in a very ruinous condition. Mr. Reid proceeded to give an account of the former owners of the castle, with a view to obtaining light upon the date of the existing buildings. Setting aside the legend of the award of the castle to a Fitzgerald from Ireland who is said to have slain a pirate named Currie who held the fortress, and afterwards erecting a tower at the place of slaughter to have called it suggestively Kilhilt, he pointed to the fact that from very early times Dunskey was owned by the family of the Adairs of Kinhilt, one of whose members, Thomas de Kithelhilt of the County of Wigtown rendered homage to Edward I in 1296. Mr. Reid gave a history of the family, compiled from documentary evidence, and stated that the first recorded reference to Dunskey Castle is dated 1496, when Uchtred McDowall of Garthland and Sir Alex. McCulloch of Myretown with a medley of neighbours besieged and burned the Place of Dunskey belonging to William Adair, who had been concerned in the murder at Wigtown of one Dunysius of Hamilton.



Entrance to Dunskey Castle.

*To face p. 276.*

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Dunskey Castle from N.

*Photos. by J. E. Spence.*

William Adair, the grandson of the above, who had married into the Kennedy family came under the sinister influence of these ruthless appropriators of the lands of the religious houses. Foiled in an attempt upon Luce Abbey by the prompt action of the Sheriff of Galloway, he was compelled to make peace with the Abbot. To this William Adair might reasonably be attributed, Mr. Reid suggested, the reconstruction of Dunskey Castle. It is likely that the frontal wall is late 15th century and survived the burning of 1496. The eastern wing may also have belonged to this earlier period, but much of the interior and most of the superstructure must have been reconstructed. Ninian Adair, the successor of the above-mentioned William, continued his policy of alliance with the Kennedys in spoliation of the abbey lands. The Kennedys had seized the abbot of Crossraguel in Ayrshire and after torturing him by roasting him over a slow fire had compelled him to sign away the abbey lands. They afterwards captured the abbot of Saulceat, John Johnston, and brought him to Dunskey, under the pretext that the abbot had sued Ninian Adair for not paying the tack duty of the tiends of Kirkmaiden. At Dunskey, the unfortunate abbot was tortured daily by being suspended, head downwards, over the sea, by a rope. From time to time he was immersed in the sea until he was all but drowned, and was threatened with a repetition of the same treatment until he consented to sign a renunciation of the property of his abbey. It speaks volumes for the constancy of the man that he endured several days of this torture before finally yielding. Ninian Adair of Kinhilt, the perpetrator of this outrage, married Elizabeth, daughter of Sir James Gordon of Lochinvar, and was dead by 1608. For an account of his descendants, Mr. Reid, referred his audience to a scarce tract by D. Murray Rose "The Adairs of Kinhilt."

Ninian Adair's son, William, purchased the Ballymena estate in Antrim, and in 1620 sold Dunskey to Sir Hew Montgomery of Newton, whose son in turn sold it to James Blair, minister of Portpatrick. His descendants, the Hunter Blairs, Baronets of Dunskey, still own the estate.

From Dunskey Castle, a delightful drive with ever-changing prospects of the Galloway hills and coast-line brought the party to Kirkmadrine, where a picnic lunch was taken, after which a visit was paid to the church where a paper was read by Professor R. G. Collingwood upon

#### KIRKMADRINE STONES.

This important contribution to the literature upon a much

discussed subject will appear in a forthcoming volume of the *Transactions* of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, and it is possible here merely to give an epitome of Professor Collingwood's paper.

Of the four groups of Christian churches which arose in the Celtic world just about the time when the Roman Empire failed any longer to hold these regions, that of Galloway was, he informed us, unquestionably the oldest; for it was actually before the Romans finally left Britain that St. Ninian settled at Whithorn about the year 400 and began to evangelise Galloway which had been outside the temporal powers of the Roman Empire. St. Ninian's arrival in Galloway marked the real foundation of the Celtic church, for the churches of Ireland, Wales and Iona did not appear until later.

At Whithorn was the tombstone of a certain Latinus and his daughter which, in style, differed but little from an ordinary Roman tombstone of the fourth century and must belong to the early days of St. Ninian's church. This tombstone of Latinus was the earliest existing monument of Celtic Christianity, and there at Kirkmadrine there were three monuments of the same general type, but later. Like the Whithorn tombstone they were rough stone pillars or narrow upright slabs bearing inscriptions of a more or less Roman style, but unlike the Whithorn stone they had a chi-ro monogram in a circle at the top and the inscription below.

Since it was impossible to obtain a satisfactory view of these stones, Professor Collingwood, had had drawings prepared to illustrate his paper. He pointed out that while the Whithorn stone, without any chi-ro monogram, was a tombstone pure and simple, those at Kirkmadrine were a combination of tombstone and christened menhir, and were thus half-way between the Whithorn stone and the crosses of the Anglian age. All these belonged to the same school of design and were thus not of a school to be traced at Whithorn.

In all three Kirkmadrine monuments there was one identical detail; the word "et" was invariably written as a monogram with the cross-line of the T joined to the middle stroke of the E. This monogram did not occur in Roman inscriptions nor in the post-Roman inscriptions of Cornwall or Wales nor in the contemporary inscriptions of France or Spain. It seemed a peculiarity of these three stones and entitled them to speak of a distinct Kirkmadrine school with a tradition of its own.

Kirkmadrine had a monastery of its own. The most important of the monuments was that of two holy and eminent sacerdots—

Viventius and Mavorius. The two persons commemorated by the second stone, Florentius and someone whose name was now lost but perhaps Paulus, were given no title. The third stone had on it no personal names, only the words, "Initium et Finis."

These three stones with a few others in the late Anglian and Scottish styles, dating from the 9th century onwards, were all the evidence remaining to show the existence at Kirkmadrine of a monastery which might have been an offshoot of Whithorn. With regard to the date to be assigned to these monuments, Professor Collingwood argued that their ascription by antiquaries of the 9th century to the 5th century was too early. His father in 1923 had placed the sacerdotis stone about the end of the 6th century and the Initium et Finis stone about a century later. He himself however, basing his conclusions upon the lettering of the inscriptions, suggested a later date.

Taking the latest monument, the Initium et Finis stone, first, he pointed out that the letters of the inscription were a mixture of Roman capitals and uncials or minuscules and that the formula was reminiscent of the 8th century manuscripts. As they had no 8th century Anglian work there, he thought they ought to draw the natural inference and place that stone in the 8th century, and perhaps not early in it.

The lettering of the sacerdotis stone, undoubtedly the earliest of the three, was very regularly and evenly cut and was in a more sophisticated style than most of the post-Roman inscriptions in Wales and much more so than the Latinus inscription at Whithorn. It suggested a new impulse from some source, to trace which he drew attention to one special peculiarity of the lettering—that of the A with V-shaped cross-bar. This peculiarity, though found as freak in Roman inscriptions as early as the days of the Republic, only became frequent in the late 4th century, and never occurred at all in inscriptions in Britain. In the post-Roman inscriptions of Wales it occurred seven times in 150 inscriptions, and these by their style, were very definitely not among the earliest. The Welsh church came into existence only in the 6th century, so none of these inscriptions could be earlier than that date, and one of these inscriptions, that which commemorated a certain Paulinus, perhaps the teacher of St. David, referred to a man who was still alive in 569. In this inscription the A's had straight bars and the V-shaped bar only occurred in Welsh inscriptions whose general style was noticeably later. He concluded that the V-shaped A did not begin, in Wales at least, until the 7th century, and rather late than early in that century.

The V-barred A was a familiar thing in Anglo-Saxon inscriptions. The earliest dated examples were the Hackness cross of the 8th century and the dedication-inscription of Benedict Biscop's church at Jarrow, dated to the year 685. The Anglo-Saxons had learned the use of the V-barred A from the continental craftsmen whom they began to import before the end of the 7th century. Not only in the use of this kind of A, but in the regularity and general style of its lettering, the sacerdotes inscription reminded him forcibly of the Jarrow inscription, and he was disposed to think it had been put up by a Celtic mason who had come under the influence, direct or indirect, of Benedict Biscop's continental workmen; that is to say it dated from the 7th century and belonged to a time when Galloway had come under Northumbrian rule through King Oswiu's victory in 655 and after Northumbria had entered into communion with Rome in 660. These three stones between them, therefore, proved that the community at Kirkmadrine, founded, he had no doubt, as early as the time of Ninian himself, lasted there for at least four hundred years of continuous life and continuous tradition of worship and workmanship, and they could carry the story on for another three centuries at least, if they took into account the other stones there. The monuments at Kirkmadrine, therefore, were hardly inferior in interest to those of Whithorn themselves, for they recalled the planting of Christianity in Britain and brought to their minds the fact that in the first age in the Christianity of Britain it was that country of Galloway which took the lead.

The next place to be visited was

#### LOGAN HOUSE.

where by the kind permission of Mr. A. K. McDouall, the party were enabled to spend an interesting and enjoyable hour in viewing the famed gardens of that old seat of the McDouall family. Professor Collingwood in proposing a vote of thanks to our host, spoke in warm terms of the pleasure he had conferred not only upon the botanists of the party but on all its members who appreciated the beauty of the surroundings of Logan House. After Mr. McDouall had replied in suitable terms, the party once more resumed its journey arriving in time for tea at Glenluce before visiting

#### GLENLUCE ABBEY.

At the ruins of this ancient religious house, which are at present being restored by H.M. Office of Works, the speaker was Mr. James Richardson, F.S.A. Scot, H.M. Inspector of Ancient Monuments.

Mr. Richardson, in describing the remains of the abbey, first reminded his audience, of the fact that Glenluce Abbey was a granddaughter of Rievaulx; for founded by Roland, Lord of Galloway, in 1190, it was colonised by Cistercian monks from Melrose, a daughter house of Rievaulx. Of that early period of the abbey's history the only work remaining was the church, which in its architectural detail showed the characteristic features of the first pointed style. The church had three entrances at its west end, but the southernmost had been closed at a very early period. Up to the present it had been impossible to trace the foundation of the narthex porch in front of these doorways. An examination of the inside masonry of these doorways showed that they had suffered much through fire at an early date. The fire was, of course, due to the fact that there was much timber in the building. Only the chapel aisles of the transepts were stone-vaulted; the rest of the building appeared to have been sealed with timber.

The cloister, situated on the south side of the church, had only one processional entrance doorway—the east processional doorway, and the cloister buildings on the east and west sides of the cloister garth, belonged for the most part to a much later period. In the eastern side, immediately to the south of the south transept, was a small sacristy, only connected with the church itself and not with the cloister. This rather unusual feature was due to the fact that the night stair between the dormitory and south transept of the church had to be arranged in such a way that it was impossible to allow for the construction of a door entering direct from the sacristy and library into the cloister walk. Beyond the sacristy was the inner parlour, the floor of which was covered with an assemblage of tiles. Further southward in this range of buildings was the chapter house, a construction of the 15th century, possessing a considerable amount of the architectural merit of Scottish work of that period and rather different in character, from what one found south of the Border. The central column of the chapter house supported some fine vaulting, some of the bosses of which depicted heraldic features—the Lion Rampant and the Crown Rampant Lion of Galloway. On a boss immediately above the abbot's seat appeared the inscription, "Requiescat in pace." Apparently the chapter house had never been designed to have a doorway and at the top of the arch were a series of small carvings which indicated that at no time was there any door there. Beyond the chapter house one would expect to



find a long room extending southwards, but only traces of buildings of a later date remained here, and there is little left to show what the original arrangements of this part of the building may have been. The floor above was the dormitory.

At the south side of the cloister-garth could still be traced the outline of the frater set in the late Cistercian manner, but this building had been altered beyond recognition. Within the area of this frater hall were to be seen the remains of a number of small chambers. One of these had a tiled floor and fireplace at its southern end. Beyond this room were two vaulted chambers, the southernmost of which he thought had at one time been used as a brew-house. Another very small chamber, just to the north of that with the tiled floor and fireplace mentioned above, was probably a guard room, and west of this apartment was a late kitchen. His department had been responsible for unveiling and uncovering the monument during the past four years and had still a considerable amount of work to do. They were puzzled about the features of the part of the buildings described above, which undoubtedly were late, and some of them of post reformation period. At the abbeys of Kilwinning and Paisley the cloister buildings had been torn down and commendators had built large mansions on their sites. He thought the same thing might have happened at Glenluce and that those into whose hands the abbey had passed after its ruination had re-constructed a dwelling-house on the site of the old frater on the south side of the cloister. On the west range there was a series of low barrel-vaulted apartments of late date, resembling very closely the range at Dundrennan Abbey. These apartments represented the line of buildings allotted to the lay brothers of the Order.

Mr. Richardson then conducted the party round the ruins, reminding them first that there were certain things not to be found in Scottish abbeys which were often met with in England. They were present once but had now disappeared. No medieval glass existed at Glenluce beyond a few fragments recovered during the course of excavation. Very little woodwork or tile work remained, all the brasses had gone, and the tile floors had disappeared save for the few fragments they now saw and a few more in the chapterhouse at Melrose. For this spoliation he blamed the Scots themselves rather than their English enemies. All the freestone, or most of it, that could be used for other buildings had been removed from the abbey. The roofs had been taken away and he rather thought that the sixteenth century roof of a house

at the south end of the glen, known as the Park, was constructed of materials taken from the monastery.

During the course of their visit to the abbey the party had the pleasure of welcoming our distinguished honorary member, Sir Herbert Maxwell of Monreith and Lady Maxwell. In proposing a vote of thanks to Mr. Richardson for his interesting description of the abbey, Professor Collingwood, spoke of Sir Herbert Maxwell's long connection with our Society, saying that he believed it was in the year of his own birth that Sir Herbert had excavated the diggings at Hardknot which began the activities of our Society on Roman sites and that the report written by him on those diggings was that Society's first contribution to Roman archaeology. After this, the last halt of the day's excursion, the party returned to Stranraer for the night.

#### GENERAL MEETING.

A well-attended general meeting of the Society, which the chair was taken by our President, Professor R. G. Collingwood, was held in the evening at the Auld King's Arms Hotel, Stranraer, the headquarters of the excursion.

In his opening remarks the chairman alluded to the loss the Society has sustained in the deaths of two of its honorary members, Mr. T. H. B. Graham, who for many years had contributed a series of brilliant articles to our *Transactions*, and Mr. W. L. Fletcher, who had for a long period acted as official photographer to the Society. A resolution of condolence with their relatives was passed and the members present at the meeting stood for a time in silence as a token of their respect.

The Editor (Mr. W. T. McIntire) reported that Volume xxxvii of the New Series of *Transactions* was nearly ready, and that Mr. F. J. Field's *Armorial for Cumberland* was also nearing completion.

For the Committee for Prehistoric Studies, Dr. J. E. Spence reported upon three settlements surveyed in Eskdale and upon several recent finds.

Reporting for the Cumberland Excavation Committee, the President announced that owing to insufficiency of staff it would not be possible to carry out the whole programme arranged by the committee; but that work was shortly to be resumed at Bewcastle. He also reported that excavations were to be commenced on July 5th at King Arthur's Round Table.

Upon the suggestion of the President a message from the Society was sent to Professor Fabricius, congratulating him upon

his achievement in completing his fifty-five volume history of the Roman Frontier in Germany.

The following new members were duly proposed and elected:— Miss Armstrong, London; Miss M. Baty, Carlisle; Mrs. Body, Middlesborough; Mr. F. R. Burnett, Seascale; Mr. Ian Caldwell, Ambleside; Miss E. A. Case, Ulverston; Miss L. Challiner, Staveley; Mr. D. M. Drew, Barrow-in-Furness; Mr. F. Edmondson, Howtown; Miss C. Fell, Ulverston; Miss M. E. Gaisford, Ulverston; Mrs. Bernard Hale, Penrith; Miss Maria Hay, Windermere; Mrs. R. J. Kershaw, Heaton; Mr. J. C. Kidd, Penrith; Miss E. J. Markham, Bootle; Lady C. Roberts, Brampton; Aberdeen University Library; Mrs. M. D. Thomson, Windermere; Mrs. While, Haverthwaite; Miss May Walker, Ulverston, Mr. E. R. Widdowson, Beetham; Mrs. Williams, Calderbridge; Miss E. M. Wilson, Windermere.

The following papers were submitted and the same directed to be published in an early volume of *Transactions*:—

“King James II’s Proposed Repeal of the Penal Laws and Test Act of 1688,” by the Rev. A. L. Browne (Art. XII).

“Notes on the Dacre Family,” by Ronald Lee.

Several interesting exhibits were placed on view by members.

FRIDAY, JULY 2ND, 1937.

Leaving the Harbour Promenade at 9-30 a.m., the party motored to Castle Kennedy, where by the kind permission of the Earl of Stair, K.T., they visited the beautiful grounds of the Castle.

#### CASTLE KENNEDY.

Here the speaker was Mr. A. S. Morton of Newton-Stewart, who before describing the castle gave an interesting history of the Kennedy family. He derived the descent of the family from Duncan, son of Gilbert, Lord of Galloway, who had murdered his half-brother Uchtred in 1174 and usurped his domains. There was a bitter rivalry between Duncan and Roland, the son of Uchtred, over the lordship of Galloway when Gilbert died in 1185, but by the intervention of higher powers it was arranged that while Roland succeeded to the lordship of Galloway, Duncan should have Carrick, for long included in Galloway. Gilbert de Carrick, a descendant from Duncan, was the keeper of Loch Doon Castle, and his descendants about the middle of the 14th century changed their name from de Carrick to Kennedy. The castle of Loch Doon still belongs to the family, and a short time ago, owing to the operations of the Galloway water scheme, this castle was

removed stone by stone from its position on an island in the loch and re-erected on land adjoining. According to McKerlie, the earliest land in the Castle Kennedy district owned by the Kennedys was Leffnol, obtained by Roland Kennedy whose son, Gilbert, was in possession in 1454. In 1482, John Lord Kennedy, son of this Gilbert, was appointed Keeper of the Manor place and Loch of Inch. His son, David, was created 1st Earl of Cassilis in 1509, and fell at Flodden Field in 1513.

Mr. Morton gave an interesting account of the deeds of his descendants, including those of Gilbert, 4th Earl, who gained an unenviable notoriety owing to the greed with which he strove to grasp the lands of the religious houses and his barbarous treatment of the abbot of Glenluce referred to in the description of Dunskey Castle. Such was the power of this man that he was known as the King of Carrick and it was probably in reference to him that the oft quoted lines were first heard:—

“ Twixt Wigtown and the toon o’ Ayr,  
Portpatrick and the Cruives o’ Cree,  
Nae man need hope for to bide there  
Unless he court a Kennedy.”

His treatment of Alan Stewart, whom he tortured to induce him to renounce the Commendatorship of Crossaguel Abbey in his favour involved him in a feud with Kennedy of Bargany under whose protection his victim had lived. Shortly afterwards, in 1576, this earl who had been a zealous supporter of Mary Queen of Scots was killed by injuries received by his horse falling while he was on a journey to Edinburgh.

His son John, the 5th earl, inherited the aggressive character of his father, and the speaker mentioned several disputes and quarrels in which he was involved. He was probably the builder of Castle Kennedy, and when he died without issue in 1615 was succeeded by John, 6th Earl, eldest son of Gilbert, Master of Cassilis, the youngest son of Gilbert, the 4th Earl. He was a man of great virtue and warmly attached to the Presbyterian cause. It was his wife, a daughter of the Earl of Haddington, upon whom certain editors of Scottish National ballads have erroneously fixed the odium of “ Johnny Faa.” His son, John, 7th Earl, who succeeded him in 1668, suffered for his staunch adherence to Presbyterian principles, and was compelled to sell Castle Kennedy to John Hamilton, 2nd Lord Bargany, who, in 1688 sold it to John Dalrymple, afterwards 1st Earl of Stair. Since that date Castle Kennedy has remained in the Stair family. The castle was

accidentally burned in 1716, and was not restored, but kept to the present day in a state of preservation.

Mr. Morton then pointed out the details of the castle, basing his description upon that of the Inventory. The site was originally an island, but is now a narrow neck of land between the Black Loch and the White Loch. The building is a good example of 17th century symmetrical planning. There is a main central block 29 feet in front and extending 37 feet backwards flanked at the east end by two towers, each 21 feet 6 inches over all. In the re-entering angles at the sides are two smaller towers rising to a great height, the one on the south containing the principal staircases. Wings have been added at a later period to the north and to the west. The main entrance was in the east wall of the central block and led into a vaulted passage running westwards the whole length of the building. On the north side of this passage was the entrance to a large vaulted apartment, possibly used as a kitchen, although there is no trace of a fireplace. The ground floor rooms of the northern towers were also vaulted and communicated with this apartment. The vaults of the passage and central building have now fallen. The main block has been four storeys in height above the vault and the towers rise considerably higher. The only architectural feature remaining is a portion of a fine dormer window in the north wall of the north tower. Symson refers to Castle Kennedy as "a stately house having garden and orchards environed with the loch."

After Professor Collingwood had, on behalf of the Society, thanked Mr. Morton for his description of the Castle and the Earl of Stair for his kind permission to visit it, the journey was renewed through the heart of Galloway to the Old Place of Mochrum.

#### THE OLD PLACE OF MOCHRUM.

Mr. R. C. Reid who described this former castle of the Dunbar family and present mansion of the Marquis of Bute, aptly referred at the opening of his address to the Old Place of Mochrum as one of the best examples known to us of the restoration of a ruin that combines all the essential characteristics and most of the details of the original with careful adaptation to modern uses of the more ruined portions. A full description of the castle is given by Mr. Reid in his article "The Old Place of Mochrum," printed in the *Transactions* of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, Third Series, Vol. xix, pp. 144-152, and it is only necessary here to give a summary of his paper.



Windows of Chapter House, Glenluce Abbey.



Old place of Mochrum.

*To face p. 286.*

*Photos. by J. E. Spence.*

This site was peculiar, he explained, in that it possesses two towers of different periods, standing side by side. When, in olden times, some modernisation was required, a tower was usually pulled down and rebuilt, or added to by the construction of an L wing or made more habitable by the insertion of new and larger windows or by the addition of an extra floor or floors. Here, however, the old tower had been merely deserted or put to some baser uses and a new tower built alongside.

He pointed out the western tower as the oldest part of the whole building and ascribed its date to about 1500. It probably stood alone without any surrounding courtyard. Its entrance was upon the ground level, a sure indication of late 15th century work, and the fact that on entering in order to reach the wheel stair one must traverse a passage in the thickness of the wall was another point in favour of dating the building from the above-mentioned period. The ground floor and hall above are both vaulted and ill-lit. The uppermost part of the tower has been rebuilt, but sufficient remained of the superstructure to enable a true restoration. Each angle has been furnished with a round turret with a cape-house at the S.E. angle, from which a corbelled parapet walk has passed round three sides of the tower. The eastern tower is evidently of later date, and while the older tower was designed principally with a view to defence, its later sister tower has been built rather with a view to comfort. Its plan is that of a long rectangle with a square tower, containing a wheel staircase, projecting on its north side. Its walls have a thickness of only 4 feet compared with one of 5 feet 6 inches in the case of the western tower. Though in the case of this tower, too, the superstructure has been restored, the crow and stepped gabling in both cases has been carefully retained, being of the form peculiar to Galloway—built of small stones, the upper surface of which is covered with a single slate. The date of this eastern tower must be about 1580.

The building connecting the towers is a modern restoration, as is the courtyard, though the restorers found enough of former buildings remaining to guide them in their design. The whole of the northern range was a shapeless ruin, but careful excavation revealed former foundations, and the restorers were thus able to follow the original plan. At the eastern end of the northern range is the kitchen, which seems after its abandonment to have been used as a byre. To the west of the kitchen and on a higher level is the dining hall, to the reconstruction of which a single decayed corbel supporting the upper floor served as a guide.

The modern corbels to the upper floor are emblazoned on the northern side with the arms of the various families connected with this site, while the southern ones bear the arms of their wives. This northern range may have been of later date than the eastern tower.

The gateway to the courtyard is a restoration, but the courtyard must always have been entered by a pend at this point.

In giving an account of the early owners of the site, Mr. Reid, commented upon the fact that the Dunbars obtained possession in 1368, and asked the question where could they have lived for more than a century, if the older tower at Mochrum dates only from 1500. He suggested that their first habitation might have been upon an island on a loch about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles away, called the Castle Loch. Upon this island are the foundations of buildings which were excavated by the Marquis of Bute in 1911.

The earliest documented notice of Mochrum was, Mr. Reid informed us, a grant of six pounds of wax yearly to light the altar of St. Ninian at Whithorn by Edward Brus, who was killed in 1318, upliftable from the lands of Mochrum. After being in the possession of the Flemings, Earls of Wigtown, Mochrum was granted, along with other lands, by David II in 1368/9 to George, 10th earl of Dunbar. For 400 years, despite the frequent failure of heirs male, the Dunbars remained in possession of Mochrum, the fact that an heiress was not allowed to marry into any other family enabling the name to be preserved. It was probably during the lifetime of John Dunbar, who was murdered in 1503 by John Gordon of Lochinvar and his sons, that the western and older tower at Mochrum was built. To a Sir John Dunbar who died in 1578 after being laird of Mochrum for 40 years, Mr. Reid ascribed the eastern and later of the two towers. His initials and coat-of-arms are still to be seen on the building. Of the first baronet, who died at Mochrum in 1718, it is said that he was a man of such colossal proportions that his coffin could not be brought downstairs or even pushed through a window; so a hole had to be broken through a wall for its removal. His son, the second baronet, sold Mochrum to Colonel William Dalrymple, of Glenmuir, husband of Penelope Crichton, Countess of Dumfries, from whom it has descended to the present Marquis of Bute.

When the Dunbars left, the buildings of Mochrum were allowed to decay, and the Earls of Dumfries were too busy building themselves noble palaces to attend to this ruined mansion, but some thirty years ago the present marquis, conceived and carried out, largely unaided by skilful experts, the restoration of this



remarkable mansion in a manner which must appeal to the tastes of all lovers of ancient buildings.

After Professor Collingwood had duly expressed the thanks of the Society to Mr. Reid for his address and to the Marquis of Bute for his kind permission to visit this truly delightful ancient building, the members of the party spent a short time in wandering about its precincts and enjoying the prospect from the battlements of its tower. They then motored on to Kirkcowan, where, thanks to the kindness of the owners of the estate, they were enabled to partake of a picnic luncheon amid the pleasant surroundings of its woodlands and lochs. The last stage of the journey was then accomplished to Torhouse where Mr. G. W. Shirley gave an interesting address upon

#### TORHOUSE STONE CIRCLE.

For further details with regard to Mr. Shirley's description of this circle the reader is referred to his article, "The Standing Stones of Torhouse and Others," in the *Transactions* of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, Third Series, volume xix, pp. 153-161.

He alluded to the description of the monument written in 1684 by the Rev. Andrew Symson, in which the writer mentions as existing near the highway between Wigton and Portpatrick, "a plaine call'd the Moor; or Standing Stones of Torhouse, in which is a monument of three large whin-stones, call'd King Galdus tomb, surrounded at about twenty foot distance, with nineteen considerable great stones (but none so great as the three first mentioned), erected in circumference. In this moor and not far from the tomb are great heaps of small head-stones, which the country-people call'd Cairnes, suppos'd by them to be the buriall places of common soldiers. As also at severall places distant from the monument, are here and there great high stones erected, which are also suppos'd to be the buriall places of his commanders and men of note. But herein I determine nothing."

John MacTaggart, he continued, in his *Gallovidian Encyclopædia* mentions a stone coffin at Cairnholly in the parish of Kirkmabrick "which tradition calls 'King Galder's'," and, referring to Symson's description comments upon the strange fact that the same king should have two tombs.

With regard to the King Galdus tradition he reminded his hearers of Mr. R. C. Reid's paper, read at Cairnholly in 1926, in which he showed that King Galdus was not a treasured tradition but a brazen legend. Mr. Shirley, however, while dismissing the myth of King Galdus, urged that the story was based upon certain

obscure popular memories, and at all events was probably correct in insisting that the monument was a tomb and not as McKerlie had suggested a place of Druidical worship. The idea, he maintained, which since John Aubrey in 1695 suggested a Druidical origin for Stonehenge, had spread over the whole country, renaming all such structures Druid's Altars, Druid Circles, Temples, Druidical Remains, was truly begotten of no little but yet not enough learning.

He gave a summary of the various types of stone circles, and showed how far up to the present modern excavation had revealed the purposes of their constructors. Some had been clearly proved to be tombs; others in which the ring is not of separated but of contiguous stones like a retaining wall seemed to suggest a hut-like form of building and may have been temples. Others, again, in which no traces of burial have been found may have been places of tribal assemblages or "folk moots" Stonehenge, he added, presents two special developments not known elsewhere, the stones are dressed and squared, but more, there is employed a device new in megalithic structures—the superincumbent trilithons are secured on the uprights by a peg-and-socket lock. These features appear to indicate late construction and some familiarity with the technique of the Greek and Roman temple building. It is not, in fact, beyond consideration, because of these features and late date, that Stonehenge may have been a temple in which Druidical rites were performed. Allusion was also made to the astronomical theory of the purpose of these stone circles.

With regard to the Torwood Stone Circle, he quoted the Ancient Monuments Commissioners who state that this is the only complete stone circle in Wigtownshire, and point out that there is within the circle an arrangement of peculiar character not observed elsewhere: the low C-shaped bank, the ends of which rest on the outer ends of the two outer of the three central stones. They also refer to three fragmentary circles, one 200 yards N.W. of this one, another 130 yards east of it, and to a standing stone 80 feet to the south, while there is another standing stone 20½ feet to the S.W.

In conclusion, the speaker suggested that this particular circle by analogy with others which have been excavated would appear to be a burial of the Bronze Age, though he realised that such a conclusion was only tentative.

After thanking the speaker on behalf of the Society, Professor Collingwood congratulated the members present upon the success

of the excursion, a success in no small measure due to the indefatigable labours of Mr. R. E. Porter, our secretary for excursions, and to the members of the Dumfriesshire and Galloway Society who had so kindly helped us in choosing an itinerary and speaking at the various halting places. The party then separated, some of its members proceeding to Newton Stewart to catch the train for the south, others returning to prolong their stay in Stranraer.

#### AUTUMN MEETING.

The autumn meeting of the Society was held in the Kendal district, with that town as headquarters, on Wednesday and Thursday, September 8th and 9th, 1937. Arrangements for the excursion were in the hands of Mr. R. E. Porter, M.C., F.S.A. (Hon. Excursions Secretary), who was assisted by a local Committee, consisting of Captain J. S. Curwen, O.B.E., Mr. W. T. McIntire, F.S.A. and Dr. E. P. Frankland, B.A., Ph.D. Mr. George Aitchison, M.B.E., kindly acted as Route Marshall. There was a very large attendance of members, and despite a few showers on the morning of the second day of the excursion, the outing proved in every respect an enjoyable one.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8th, 1937.

The party assembled at Oxenholme railway station at 10-10 a.m., and, upon the arrival of the trains bringing its members from their various homes, proceeded at once to Sedbergh, where they visited the School and listened to an address, given in the Powell Hall by the Rev. A. J. K. Martyn, M.A., upon the history of the School.

#### SEDBERGH SCHOOL.

Mr. Martyn, who for the last forty years has been associated with the life and work of Sedbergh School, first gave a summary of its early history. The founder was Dr. Roger Lupton, Fellow and Provost of Eton and Canon of Windsor. He was probably a native of Sedbergh, or perhaps Howgill; the place of his education is unknown. He died in 1540, and was buried in Lupton's Chapel, now part of the Eton College Chapel. In 1528 he founded a free school for his native place, "a school being verie necessarie for the bringing up of youth in that wyld contrie," and a chantry where masses might be offered for the founder and the founder's kin. The first mention of the school is in a deed of Aug. 12th, 1527, between the Abbot of Coverham, the Archdeacon of Richmond and the Vicar of Sedbergh in which the School House garth and Lofthouse are confirmed to Master Roger Lupton at rents of 99 pence and £3. 2s. respectively, the same

Roger Lupton having already built a school-house gratuitously. Henry Blomeyr was appointed to preside over the chantry and school and four trustees were chosen to look after its estates. The founder then endowed scholarships and fellowships, six of the former (afterwards augmented to eight) and two of the latter, all to be held at St. John's College, Cambridge, by students "owt of Setber School and no other." Thus was inaugurated the intimate connection which has ever since existed between the College and the School.

Mr. Martyn then dealt with the history of the difficulties which the school encountered in the early years of its career. Some twenty years after its foundation, the Act of Parliament of 1547 ordained that "all chantries, colleges, free chapels, hospitals, fraternities, brotherhoods and guilds" should be sequestered, and their property, though it had been left for the benefit of the poor, given to the crown. The lands of the dissolved chantry of Sedbergh were sold by the King to Sir Edward Warner, and Sylvester Leigh of Pontefract and to Leonard Bate of Lupsett, Yorkshire. Only the estate of Lofthouse was left to the school and the income derived from this small parcel of land was totally inadequate for the maintenance of a master for the school. The people of Sedbergh therefore petitioned the King for the restitution of the chantry lands, and in compliance with the representations of the famous scholar Roger Ascham and Robert Holgate, Archbishop designate of York, whose support Ascham had enlisted, Edward VI, in 1552, re-constituted the school, endowing it with the lands messuages, etc., of dissolved chantries in various parts of Yorkshire to the value of £20. 13s. 10d. annually. The school was to be managed by twelve "honest and discreet" men, selected from the inhabitants of the town or parish, and the appointment of the master was vested in St. John's College, Cambridge. In 1587, the school further benefited from the will of Henry Heblethwaite, mercer, who left £500 for the endowment of two scholarships and one fellowship at St. John's College. The school has also a second claim to Bishop Otway's Scholarship at Christ's College, Cambridge. Mr. Martyn mentioned the old master's house, the "Mansion House", to which reference is made in the Charter of Edward VI. In a lawsuit which took place in the 17th century between the governors and an unsatisfactory master, Richard Jackson, this "decaying mansion house" is called Lofthouse. It is now represented by Lofthouse Farm.

Among the famous pupils at Sedbergh in the 17th century were John and Peter Barwick, names gratefully remembered in

Westmorland. Mr. Martyn referred also to Sir Daniel Fleming's correspondence with his sons while pupils at Sedbergh.

He gave an interesting account of some of the most remarkable of the headmasters of the school, including that remarkable trio, Posthumus Wharton, Samuel Saunders and Wynne Bulman. A tribute was also paid to the memory of that great schoolmaster, the late Dr. Henry George Hart. In 1874, the school was re-organised according to a scheme propounded by the Endowed Schools Commissioners, and the management of the school and the appointment of the headmaster vested in a body of fifteen governors. The old schoolhouse which had been rebuilt in 1716 was used until 1879 for teaching, and has now been converted into a school library.

After Mr. Martyn had been accorded a very hearty vote of thanks upon the motion of Professor Collingwood, the members of the party spent a short time in inspecting the library and the modern school buildings before proceeding to

#### SEDBERGH CHURCH.

This ancient building was described by Dr. E. P. Frankland, B.A., Ph.D. The church of St. Andrew is, in its present state, a building chiefly of the Perpendicular style of architecture, but it still retains a few features of the original Norman church of the first half of the 12th century. There is no mention of a church at Sedbergh in Domesday Book, and perhaps at the time of that record the inhabitants of Sedbergh used Kirkby Lonsdale as their parish church, though probably there was a chapel in the district to serve their spiritual needs. At what time the church was made parochial is unknown, but possibly this event took place in the time of Roger de Mowbray, who in the early 12th century held the barony of Burton which included Sedbergh. The church afterwards became contributory to the abbeys of Jervaulx and Cocker-sand, while a mediety was granted by Ralph fitz Alan to the canons of St. Agatha's Abbey, Richmond. The canons afterwards transferred their mediety of the church to Geoffrey le Scrope, who having acquired the other mediety from Edward III, conveyed it to the abbey of Coverham in consideration of the ravages suffered by its lands owing to the hostile inroads of the Scots. Sedbergh remained in the hands of the monks of Coverham and was served by them until the dissolution of their house by Henry VIII, when the advowson was given by the king to Trinity College, Cambridge. Dr. Frankland then proceeded to point out the chief architectural features of the church. The exterior, as already noted, shows signs of considerable re-building during the Perpendicular and

Tudor periods besides alterations at the restoration of 1885-86. There still remain, however, the circular arches and cylindrical piers of the arcades, which are carried through from end to end of the building. There are further traces of Norman work above the tower-arch, on the side towards the nave. There is no chancel arch. It is to be noticed that the second pier from the West in the North arcade is a double respond, and it would appear that the building has been prolonged two bays to the west, and perhaps a south aisle added not long after its original erection. There are now eight arches in the N. arcade—two strangely distorted—but only six in the S. arcade. The last arch to the east in either arcade is pointed. All the windows are Perpendicular or Tudor, and those in the clerestory have wooden frames. The western tower is also Perpendicular, built in two stages, the upper of which slightly overhangs.

Among the monuments in the church is one on the south wall of the nave to John Dawson, the son of a 'statesman of Garsdale, who, though largely self-educated, coached at Sedbergh at least eight senior wranglers. He died in 1820. In the vestry are fragments of Perpendicular wood-work and a portion of the old yew tree, under which George Fox preached in Sedbergh churchyard, as recorded in his Diary under the year 1652. At the west end of the church are still to be seen a few of the old 17th century pews. Three of the bells in the tower, though re-cast, are still inscribed as in pre-reformation times. The font, of polished granite, is ancient but difficult to date.

After the President had thanked the vicar of Sedbergh on behalf of the Society for his kind permission to visit this interesting church, the members of the party separated for lunch and at 1-20 p.m. resumed their journey down the Lune valley to

#### MIDDLETON HALL.

At this ancient mansion of the de Middleton family, last visited by our Society in September, 1924, the speaker was Mr. W. T. McIntire, who before describing the existing buildings of the hall gave a brief summary of the history of the Middleton family. The origin of this local family is obscure, and it seems impossible to ascertain with certainty which of the various families bearing the name were the original possessors of the manor of Middleton. There is a mention of a William son of Ketel de Middleton and Juliana, his wife, between 1180 and 1200. The manor was granted by Richard de Preston in 1279 to Henry de Kennet and his wife, but it is uncertain if these holders of the manor had any connection with the Thomas de Middleton who was

certainly lord of the manor in Edward III's reign. For ten generations his descendants remained in possession of Middleton intermarrying with the Musgraves of Harcla Castle, the Bellinghams of Burnesheved, the Lowthers of Lowther, the Lancasters of Sockbridge, the Tunstalls of Thurland Castle and other notable local families. The Middletons suffered severely in the Civil War, John Middleton, the lord of the manor in the early part of the reign of Charles I having three of his four sons slain fighting in the Royal cause. In the second generation after this period, the line of the Middletons ended in two heiresses, Bridget and Mary Middleton, who sold the property to a Benjamin Middleton, who does not appear to have been related to them by blood. The estate subsequently passed to the Askews of Cumberland with whom it continued until the early part of last century.

In describing the hall, Mr. McIntire, said that this building was a fine and almost perfect example of a manor house of the mid-fifteenth century, fortified by high embattled walls surrounding its front and back courtyards. Perhaps the original builder of the hall was Thomas de Middleton, between the years 1327 and 1377, but of his fourteenth century pele-tower nothing remains except two Carnarvon-arched doorways, now re-erected at the upper end of the hall, and leading, one into the withdrawing room, built upon the site of the ancient tower, and the other to a small lobby and staircase.

About 1450, this old pele-tower was superseded by the present block of buildings, consisting of a hall to the south-east and kitchen buildings to the north-west. These two parts of the house are divided by a passage leading from the front to the back court-yards and occupying the position of the former screens. Though the kitchen was pulled down in 1850, the three pointed doorways leading from the kitchen, buttery and cellar respectively into the screens are still to be seen. The higher position of the sills of the windows at the south-east end of the hall shows the original position of the dais, from which the Caernarvon-arched door already mentioned led to the withdrawing room.

About the year 1542 the hall was transformed, probably by John Middleton, into a Tudor mansion and Perpendicular windows were inserted. In the small lights of the upper part of the window to the left of the dais are four pieces of painted glass one of which has the letters  $\begin{smallmatrix} M \\ A \end{smallmatrix} R$ , and the other the sacred monogram I.H.S. inclosed in a circle. The withdrawing room contains some interesting Elizabethan panelling and its mantelpiece—evidently

not in its original place and apparently taken from the head of a bed—shows some bold carved work. Over the door of this room which is used as a chapel, is the inscription "VENTURUM EXHORESCO DIEM," "I dread the coming day," the omission of the second "r" in the word exhorresco being evidently a mistake. The corresponding room above has a chimneypiece carved with the arms of Middleton, a saltier engrailed, and with the three combs of Tunstall of Thurland Castle, these arms referring to the marriage of George Middleton with a daughter of Tunstall of Thurland. Early in the 17th century the roof of the building was raised and the upper part of the walls rebuilt. Over the entrance is the date 1607.

An interesting feature of the hall is the survival of the barmkyn or court-yard. This is defended by a curtain wall  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in thickness, with a rampart wall on the top. The crenellated parapet is supported on unhewn corbels. The segmental archway of the gatehouse, 12 feet in width survives and there are remains of part of the wall of the tower above with two trefoil-headed windows and a fireplace. For fuller descriptions of this hall see Taylor, *Halls*, 232-238; *Transactions*, N.S. xii, 107-112 and Curwen, *Castles*, 385-386.

Leaving Middleton, after the President had thanked the tenant of Middleton Hall for his kind permission to visit the building, the party halted for a few minutes at a spot a little to the south of Middleton church, where on a piece of rising ground not far from the road stands

#### THE MIDDLETON MILESTONE.

In describing this milestone, found by Mr. William Moore in 1836, and re-erected by him not far from the spot where it was discovered, Professor R. G. Collingwood referred us to the account of the monument given by him on the occasion of the visit of the Society to the Lune valley in September, 1924. This account will be found in *Transactions*, N.S. xxv, 367-8. Professor Collingwood, on the occasion of this the Society's second visit to the milestone, drew its special attention to the nature of its inscription which recorded merely the mileage, presumably from Carlisle, and omitted all mention of the name and titles of any Roman emperor. This omission, he pointed out, seemed to favour the conclusion that the road leading up the Lune valley had been constructed or kept in repair by some local authority, perhaps the municipality of Carlisle. They had therefore in this milestone what might well be a valuable piece of evidence of the existence of independent



organisation and government in the time of the Roman occupation of Britain.

#### KIRKBY LONSDALE BRIDGE.

The next halting place was the famous "Devil's Bridge," at Kirkby Lonsdale. Dr. J. E. Spence, who was here the speaker, prefaced his account of the bridge with a few general remarks upon the methods by which bridges were provided and maintained in medieval times. The maintenance of roads and bridges were, from early times, an obligation on the landowner, and the "*Trinoda Necessitas*" to which references are found in Saxon charters of the 10th century was a collective appellation for the three great obligations on landowners of those days of maintaining bridges and fortresses and rendering military service. It is probable, therefore, that many of the early bridges were built by landowners, and as in the later middle ages a large proportion of the land in this country was in the hands of the church, it is natural that there should be numerous entries relating to bridges in church and monastic records. There are many instances of the granting of indulgences to those who contributed work or money to the construction or repairs of bridges. There is no evidence of the existence in England of orders of bridge friars similar to those who on the Continent devoted their energies to bridgebuilding, but hermits in some instances installed themselves on bridges and collected toll from wayfarers. Relics of the association of the religious with bridges still exist in the form of chantry chapels on bridges, the best example of such a building in the North of England being at Wakefield.

Another method of raising funds for the maintenance of bridges was the imposition of a tax known as pontage, and the only fact known relative to the early history of Kirkby Lonsdale bridge is a grant of pontage in 1365 for the repair of the bridge. It may thus be presumed that a bridge existed here before 1365, but of this structure nothing remains. The present bridge was erected in the 15th and 16th centuries, and consists of two segmental arches, with ribs underneath, of about 55 feet span and one of 17 feet span. The parapets are of the 17th century, and have two slight breaks in level. On the piers, refuges for foot passengers have been constructed, and in one of these is a short shaft with a moulded head on which was formerly a sundial with the inscription—"Fear God and honour the King, 1673." Though this fine old bridge has recently been superseded by one capable of accommodating modern traffic, it is being carefully preserved and is now scheduled as an historical monument. An account of

Kirkby Lonsdale bridge will be found in *Transactions*, N.S. xxv, 365-366.

#### KIRKBY LONSDALE CHURCH.

The last halt of the day's excursion was made at Kirkby Lonsdale, where Dr. J. E. Spence described the church of St. Mary, the mother church of a formerly very extensive parish, covering most of the upper part of the Lune valley. Dr. Spence first dealt with the history of the manor and parish of Kirkby Lonsdale which were given to the abbey of St. Mary of York by Ivo de Tailbois, the gift being subsequently confirmed by Roger fitz Reinfred. There appears to have been a succession of hereditary parsons until 1240, when the abbey endowed a perpetual vicarage with one fifth of the tithes of the parish. At the dissolution of the abbey the revenues were retained by Henry VIII, but Mary transferred the church and its revenues to Trinity College, Cambridge and since that time many of the vicars have been fellows or scholars of that college.

The manor was purchased after the dissolution by the Carus family, one of whose daughters married Edward Middleton, whose arms impaling Carus can be seen on the tomb in the north-east corner of the church.

The most ancient part of the existing building is the western portion of the north arcade, consisting of three bays, the sole remnant of a rebuilding of the church on an elaborate scale about 1100. The diamond pattern on the columns and the intermediate compound pier in this part of the building is reminiscent of Durham. This church was probably destroyed soon afterward by fire, and the corresponding bays on the south side were probably erected in the last quarter of the 12th century in a less ambitious style. It was at this period that the tower with its interesting west door was built. The church was extended eastwards early in the 13th century in the architectural style of that period. There is no chancel arch, a feature which is common in the Craven district of Yorkshire. That the altar was not originally placed against the east wall but one bay to the west is shown by the position of the piscina in the easternmost column of the south arcade. Space would thus be provided for an ambulatory behind the altar. The east window consists of a fine group of three lancets with a vesica above. The aisles were originally very narrow, their original width being shown by the change of the masonry of the east wall. They were widened in the 14th century, when the reticulated windows were inserted. The

original 13th century priest's door and the west door were re-set in the south wall at this date.

In 1486 the Middleton chantry chapel was built in the north-east corner of the church as a separate building entered from the churchyard. In its centre stood a tomb with an effigy dating from the early part of the 16th century. On its base are the arms of Middleton and those of allied families. The outer aisle was added in the 16th century, its subsequent prolongation led to the partial destruction of the Middleton tomb.

Since the reformation the church has suffered from several ill-advised restorations, the tower, for instance, being rebuilt from its first storey in 1704, at which date the original Norman font was sold for 6d. Other acts of desecration were the stripping of the roof timbers in 1806, the removal of many of the old oak pews, and that of the choir screen, a fragment of the tracery of which is preserved at the east end of the south aisle. Fortunately a thorough and careful restoration in 1866, at the cost of the Earl of Bective, repaired much of the damage done by previous injudicious alterations.

Among the many objects of interest mentioned by Dr. Spence were two 17th century chairs in the chancel, the pulpit—a modern re-construction but still retaining panels from the old three-decker pulpit and an inscription with the date 1619, and the poor box, still containing a 17th century panel and two re-constructed chests. Dr. Spence also referred to the curious history of the church porch, now re-constructed, but formerly containing a tablet with an inscription recording that the porch was built by Baynes of Hegholm Hall and afterwards sold to Christopher Wood and repaired by him as its owner. The date of this inscription is probably 1606 (see article by the Rev. R. Percival Brown in *Transactions*, N.S. xxv, 321).

After an interval for tea in Kirkby Lonsdale, the party returned to Kendal, where in the evening the Annual General Meeting of the Society was held in the Carnegie Library, Stricklandgate.

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

At the Annual General Meeting of the Society, the chair was taken by the President, Professor R. G. Collingwood, who before dealing with the business before the meeting referred to the loss which the Society had sustained by the death of Dr. Norman Maclaren, a member of the Council since 1932. A message of condolence was directed to be sent to Dr. Maclaren's relatives, and the members present stood in silence for an interval as a token of their respect.

The Editor of *Transactions*, Mr. W. T. McIntire, reported that volume xxxvii of *Transactions* was nearing completion, and that Mr. Field's *Armorial for Cumberland* was now binding and would shortly be in the hands of subscribers.

Mr. F. G. Simpson, for the Cumberland Excavation Committee, reported on the work recently carried out by that committee at Birdoswald, and stated that the accounts for the period ending Dec. 31st, 1936, were now ready for audit.

Dr. J. E. Spence, Hon. Secretary of the Committee for Pre-historic Studies reported upon the work of excavation recently carried out at King Arthur's Round Table.

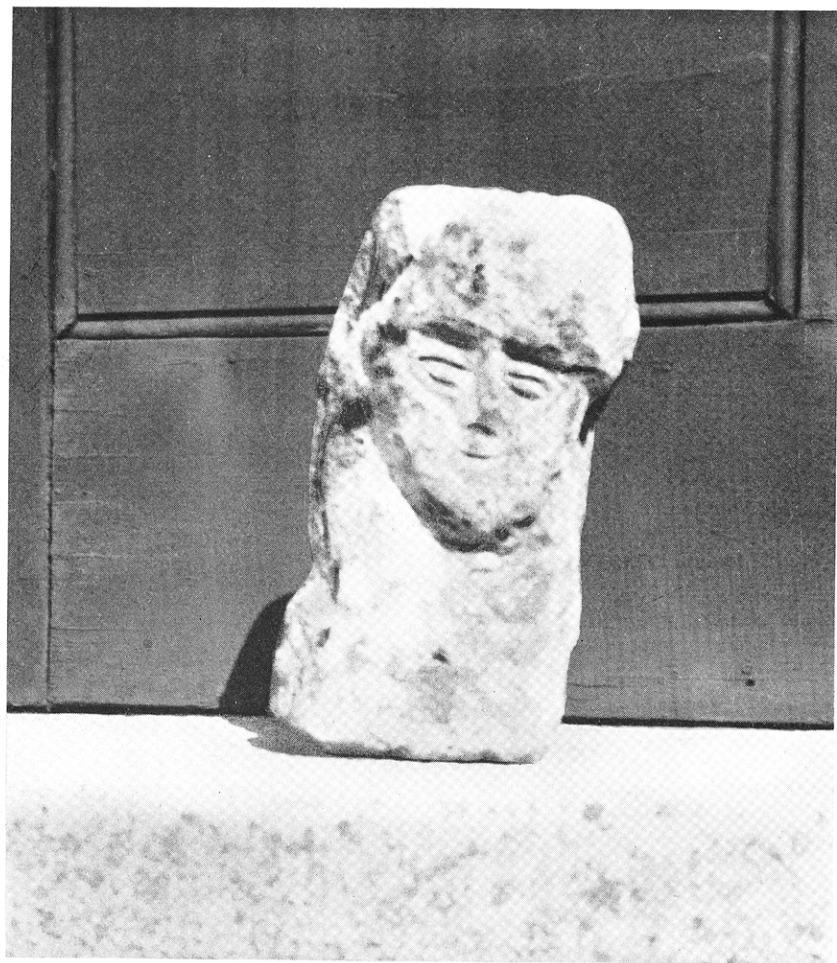
The President announced that the Society's accounts for the year ending June 30th, 1937, had been audited and that the balance sheets would appear in the forthcoming volume of *Transactions*.

It was resolved upon the Council's recommendation that the names of Mr. H. S. Cowper and Mr. R. C. Reid should be added to the list of Honorary members of the Society in recognition of their distinguished services.

The President and other officers of the Society were re-elected for the ensuing year with the addition of the names of Mr. R. E. Porter to the list of vice-presidents and of the Hon. Marjorie Crosse to that of members of the Council. The President announced that the Society had been asked by Sir Frederick Kenyon, President of the Society of Antiquaries of London, to do what it could for the Avebury appeal for funds, a copy of which would be sent to members with the forthcoming volume of *Transactions*. Donations would be received and acknowledged by the General Secretary, and the fund would remain open until Dec. 31st, 1937.

The following new members of the Society were duly proposed and elected:—Dr. G. A. Auden, Threlkeld; Miss H. Bateman, Heversham; Mr. F. W. Boon, Kendal; Mrs. Ellwood, Lancaster; Mr. F. Dakin, Carlisle; Miss C. Gelderd, Kendal; Miss E. M. Gelderd, Windermere; Mr. W. M. Harris, Kendal; Dr. W. E. Henderson, Windermere; Major and Mrs. L. S. Hoggarth, Lyth; Miss Mary Johnson, Millom; Miss F. A. Mawdsley, Beetham; Mrs. N. Newbiggin, Ambleside; Mrs. Paget Tomlinson, Kirkby Lonsdale; Mrs. Shepherd, Casterton; Mrs. J. Sewell, Scotby; Mr. C. J. R. Tipper, Endmoor; Miss H. Thomson, Carlisle; Miss E. A. Watson, Millom; Mrs. Woodburne, Ulverston.

The following papers were presented and the same directed to be published in an early volume of *Transactions*:—"Report on



Sculptured Stone Head from Conyngcr Hurst.

*To face p. 301.*

the Excavations at King Arthur's Round Table," by Professor R. G. Collingwood (Art. I); "The Hill Fort on Carrick Fell," by Professor R. G. Collingwood (Art. II); "Some Old Kendal Customs," by Dr. E. Wilson (Art. XI); "Huchown of the Awle Ryale and Cumberland," by E. Casson (Art. IV); "Remains near Mawbray," by H. Duff (Art. IX); "The Diary of Dr. Robert Graham," by W. T. McIntire.

Among the interesting objects submitted for the inspection of members present at the meeting were photographs of books and manuscripts in the library at Appleby School, sent by Mr. L. Budden who is preparing a catalogue of the books bequeathed to the school by the famous antiquary and scholar Reginald Bainbrigg. It is hoped to publish these photographs with Mr. Budden's notes in the next volume of *Transactions*.

Miss M. E. Gaisford exhibited the photograph of which a reproduction appears on the opposite page. It represents a roughly sculptured stone head, found in an old farmyard near Conyngcr Hurst, about threequarters of a mile from Pennington Church in 1926. Sculptured stones, presumably from one or other of the churches which successively occupied the site of Pennington Church, have been found in the neighbourhood. The late Rev. T. N. Postlethwaite in a letter written to Mrs. Gaisford, shortly after the discovery of the stone, expressed the opinion that it must have come from the pre-1826 church at Penntington and added—"I am making a suggestion as to how it came to Conyngcr Hurst. The people generally disliked an interference with their old churches. Sometimes they were strong enough to oppose the parson who often was the moving centre in alterations. In this case . . . Mr. Barton seems to have taken a free hand. He must have destroyed a very interesting old building, which is a thousand pities. All that people could do was to preserve and take home fragments of a loved building. One presumes that Mr. Yarker rescued this head."

It was suggested by some of the members at the meeting that this head, judging from the crudeness of the sculpture, might have been unfinished or thrown aside as imperfect by the sculptor.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 9TH, 1937.

The second day of the excursion was devoted entirely to the town of Kendal and its historical monuments. The members of the party assembled at 10 a.m. on the summit of the Mound where Mr. W. T. McIntire described this motte castle of the early lords of Kendal.

## THE MOUND, OR CASTLE HOW.

After dealing briefly with the theories of early county historians with regard to the origin and purpose of this remarkable fortress, the speaker stated that comparison with similar mounds in our district showed that it was one of the early mottes which were raised in so many parts of England during the century succeeding the Norman Conquest. It had been made by cutting trenches across the spur of the hillside, and throwing up the loose earth from the excavations to form a central mound of the height of fifty feet. The trench protected the north and south sides of the motte, but there was no fosse to the east and west, where the scarp of the natural hill afforded sufficient protection. The top of the mound was flat and about 60 feet in diameter. This flat top of the motte would be surrounded by a palisade, forming an outer protection to the tower, probably of timber, which stood within. Access to the summit was probably gained by some form of gangway or drawbridge. In the Bayeux tapestry six of these mottes are represented, some provided with such gangways. Probably the hillside around the mound was palisaded to form a kind of outer ward to the castle, inside which might be built the timber-built hall of the lord and the smaller buildings and workshops attached to the fortress.

In speaking of the probable early occupiers of the motte, Mr. McIntire mentioned the first known lords of Kendal after the Conquest, Eldred, Ketel and Orme. It was Orme, who died about 1106, who removed from Kendal to Workington and possibly the motte fell into disuse about his time. It is not impossible that it was besieged and partly destroyed during the troublous period between 1135 and 1157, when David I of Scotland was in occupation of Carlisle and part of our district. The term Battle Place applied to part of the hillside below may possibly be a reminiscence of such a siege, though it is more probably derived from battail, "cattle." The obelisk erected upon the mound was set up in 1788 to commemorate the glorious revolution of 1688, an event, by the way, in which the Kendal levies did not particularly distinguish themselves. It used to be known by the name of "Bill Holme's Bodkin," after that of its builder. It provided an opportunity for Mrs. Radcliffe during her visit to the Lakes in 1794, to give vent to a rhapsody upon freedom. A fuller description of Castle How by the late Mr. W. G. Collingwood will be found in *Transactions* N.S. viii, 97-102. See also Curwen, *Castles*, 31.

## COLLIN FIELD.

From the Mound the party was conveyed by motor coaches to Collin Field where that interesting mansion house of the 16th and 17th centuries was described by Mr. W. T. McIntire. The house occupies three sides of a pebble-paved quadrangle, the fourth side being enclosed by a strong wall and gate, which when shut, secured the inhabitants from attack. The property was part of the jointure of Queen Catherine Parr, and there was evidently a house and park existing there in the 16th century, some of the Tudor windows still remaining. The house, however, was considerably altered in the 17th century, and shows over the porch over its entrance door the inscription "Nunc mea mox huius sed postea nescio cuius," with the initials I G M and the date 1663. In 1668 it was purchased by Mr. George Sedgwick, son of Jeffrey Sedgwick and Ann Briggs of Helsington. Mr. Sedgwick who was secretary to that great lady Anne, Countess of Pembroke, gives the following quaint account of its purchase:—"Within a while God directed me to Collin Field, a small estate held under Queen Katherine as part of her jointure, convenient for the church and market; freed from all assizes and sessions; where by God's blessing I enjoy a quiet and retired life to my contentment; having often, times the society of several of my worthy friends and neighbours from the town of Kendal, having lived here about 14 years at the writing hereof, 1682." The Lady Anne, who contributed £200 towards the price of the house, frequently made a resting place of it during the course of her rapid journeys between Skipton and her northern castles, and a relic of her presence is the great "Anne of Pembroke" lock, with its massive key, which still serves to fasten the entrance door.

Remains of panelling and plaster-work in some of the rooms of the house evidently date from the time of George Sedgwick's occupation, and some of these ornaments show his initials. After Sedgwick's death, in 1685, Collin Field became the residence of the Chambre family, it was subsequently purchased from George Sedgwick, nephew of Anne of Pembroke's secretary, by John Yeates of Kirkland, and remained for many years in the possession of the Yeates family. It seems a pity that this interesting old house should have been allowed to fall into a state of semi-dilapidation. Accounts of Collin Field will be found in Cornelius Nicholson, *Annals of Kendal*, 113-116; Curwen, *Kirkbie-Kendall*, 191-193 and *Transactions*, O.S. X, 188.



## KENDAL CASTLE.

A heavy shower of rain which somewhat curtailed the visit to Collin Field was fortunately of short duration, and the members of the party were able to climb the steep and exposed ascent to Kendal Castle without undue discomfort. Here Mr. W. T. McIntire was again the speaker, and continuing the history, commenced on the Castle How, of the lordship of Kendal, ascribed the foundation of this later castle to Gilbert fitz Roger fitz Reinfred, who through his marriage with Helwise daughter of William de Lancaster II secured the lordship of Kendal and in 1189 obtained from King Richard I rights which entitle him to the claim of being considered the first baron of Kendal. Mr. McIntire then related the story of the subsequent owners of the castle, including the families of Brus, Roos and Parr, and attributed the ruin of the fortress to its confiscation, owing to the part which William Parr, Marquis of Northampton, played in the abortive attempt to set Lady Jane Grey upon the throne of England. He then described the subsequent fortunes of the castle until its purchase by the Kendal Corporation.

The castle occupies the summit of a steep terminal moraine, rising about 170 feet above the level of the river Kent. It is defended by a deep ditch, and its outer ward is fortified by a rampart with a broad ditch round the north and west sides. This outer ward measures 110 by 96 feet. The castle itself is in the form of a rough circle of some 250 feet diameter. It is surrounded by a strong curtain wall in which are five towers, that to the S.E. being circular, and that to the N. square in section. Two of the other towers are semi-circular. The entrance was from the south, and was defended by a strong gatehouse. There was no massive keep, this form of defence having been abandoned towards the close of the 12th century, in favour of the protection afforded by the curtain wall with its projecting square towers or round towers called "Juliets."

The remains of the hall are immediately to the left of the entrance and the site of the kitchen may be traced beyond. To the right of the entrance are the remains of another large block of buildings, probably the residential part of the castle. A detailed description of the castle by the late Mr. J. F. Curwen will be found in *Transactions*, N.S. viii, 84-94.

During our visit to the castle we had the pleasure of a visit from our new honorary member, Mr. H. S. Cowper, who addressed a few words to the party, congratulating the Society upon the success of its work.

## THE CASTLE DAIRY.

Having descended from the castle to rejoin their conveyances the party next visited the old house, known as the "Castle Dairy," in Wildman Street. Mr. McIntire in describing this ancient building drew attention to the fact that though on the front of the house there is an escutcheon bearing the date 1564 and the initials A.G., the architectural style is in the main that of the 14th century. The house seems to have been altered by Anthony Garnett who owned the house in the 16th century. Mr. McIntire mentioned the fact that the name of Garnett occurs as bailiff of the castle estate a few years before 1564, and suggested that the house was at one time the residence of the bailiffs. To Anthony Garnett perhaps is due the adornment of the house with the remarkable carved wooden panelling to be seen in the bedroom upstairs, with its fine bedstead, bearing the date 1562. He pointed out the fine carving of the bosses of the ceiling of this room and the representations of the arms of Parr, Fitzhugh, Roos, Deincourt and Strickland carved upon these bosses. Anthony Garnett seems to have delighted in inscribing useful maxims upon his house. On the stonework of one of the windows is inscribed "Qui vadit plane—vadit sane. A.G." and on the quarrels of glass in one of the windows is a scroll with the inscription "Omnia Vanitas," while on another are the words "Viendra le jour" and a skull. A fine doorway of carved oak, found during some work of restoration which was carried out by the Kendal Corporation a few years ago was also shown. In several other parts of the house are to be found sixteenth century dates inscribed in the woodwork or painted on the glass. There is a reference in Nicolson and Burn to a certain chapel which stood at the east end of Stramongate bridge, and although the authors wrongly call it All Hallows' Chapel, it is possible that the allusion is to the panelled room in the Castle Dairy.

Mr. McIntire also mentioned the curious discovery in an old oak chest in this house of a MS. Genealogy of the Saxon kings and a set of beechen roundels, or playing counters, each inscribed with a quaint motto or rhyme. For a more detailed description of this interesting house see *Transactions* N.S. xvi, 101ff, and Cornelius Nicholson, *Annals of Kendal*, 98-102. After an interval for lunch the party re-assembled at

## KENDAL PARISH CHURCH.

Here Mr. N. F. Wilson, one of the churchwardens, gave an interesting address upon the history and chief architectural features of this important ecclesiastical building, the largest, he

informed us in the Diocese and the fifth widest in England. After quoting the description "much restored" from the Survey of the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, Mr. Wilson defended these restorations, referring to the fact that in documents of the 15th century there is evidence of the neglected state into which the church had been allowed to fall. He mentioned, also, the crushing report upon its condition in 1848—a report which led to the great restoration of 1850-52 and the lesser one of 1868-70. These restorations left the church much as we see it now except for the new Lady Chapel and vestries.

He then alluded to one or two customs in connection with the church, among which is the playing of a voluntary between the Psalms and the first lesson,—a practice which appears to date from the reign of Queen Elizabeth. There are twelve churchwardens of whom the senior warden is called the "Church Husband"; formerly there were thirty wardens appointed from the outlying districts embraced by the ancient parish of Kendal. In describing the architectural features of the building, Mr. Wilson referred the members of the party to the paper read to the Society in 1907 by the late Mr. J. F. Curwen and to the later account in the Inventory of Westmorland monuments issued by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments. The earliest part of the present building is of the 13th century; the four pillars of the nave nearest the chancel, and also the N. and S. arcades of the chancel, except for the modern piers, are of this period. Of 15th century work the principal feature is the tower, whilst the two piers between the chancel and the nave are also probably of this date. The late 15th and 16th centuries saw the addition of the four side aisles and the Strickland, Parr, Bellingham and Chambre chapels. This period marks the completion of the building, save for the porch and work at the east end of more recent date.

A description of the chapels above mentioned followed, and the speaker described the removal of the tomb of Sir William Parr, the grandfather of Queen Catherine Parr, from its position under the S. wall of the Parr chapel to its present place in the south of the choir. This change was necessitated by the construction of a Lady Chapel and vestries between the years 1927 and 1934.

The Parr chapel had previously been used as a vestry, and the alteration was an improvement both from the point of view of convenience and that of restoring the beauty and dignity of the building. An interesting account followed of the colours displayed

in the church. They are a unique set, being complete from the raising of the 55th Regiment in 1755 to its amalgamation with the Border Regiment in 1881.

In describing the furniture of the church, Mr. Wilson referred to the font which he ascribed to the 15th century. The rather ornate cover was added in 1898 to the memory of Archdeacon Cooper, vicar of Kendal for 38 years. There is a tradition that this font used to be filled from a natural spring, the course of which had since been diverted by building operations. There is little old woodwork in the church. The old Communion table placed near the S.W. door is of the early 16th century, and there are two 15th century bench ends in the outer S. aisle, and carving of the same period on the old desk in the outer N. aisle. Of the brasses, now placed in the Bellingham chapel, those of Alan Bellingham (1577) and William Guy (1683) are worthy of note. The most remarkable brass in the church is that to Vicar Ranulph Tirer, on the floor of the sanctuary, dated 1627. Of this brass the Vicar had been good enough to have a rubbing made for the inspection of the Society. Among the monuments those to George Romney, who died at Kendal in 1802, and Judge Sir John Wilson (1793), whose portrait by Romney is in Kendal Town Hall, are worthy of note. Mr. Wilson also drew special attention to the tablet designed by Flaxman to the memory of Zachary Hubbersty in the Bellingham chapel.

Mention was also made of some fragments of the older building now in the churchyard at the east end of the church. These fragments, given by one of the churchwardens to the Unitarian Minister at the time of the restoration of the church, were restored a few years ago. Among them, is the fragment of a cross from a pre-Norman church.

After the President had fittingly expressed the thanks of the Society to the Vicar of Kendal, the Rev. J. R. L. Nicholls, for his kind permission to visit the church the party proceeded to Abbot Hall. This building, which occupies the site of the house in which probably the abbots of St. Mary's Abbey of York formerly lodged on the occasions of their visits to Kendal, was erected in 1759 by Colonel George Wilson of Dallam Tower, John Carr, Lord Mayor of York, being the architect. After being in turn the residence of the Chambres and other prominent local families, it was finally purchased by the Kendal Corporation and its grounds made into a public park.

## THE EARLY TRADE OF KENDAL.

At this, the last place visited during the course of the excursion, Mr. W. T. McIntire gave a brief account of the early trade of Kendal. After alluding to the evidence supplied by early documents as to the state of trade in Kendal and mentioning the grant of a market to Gilbert fitz Roger fitz Reinfred by Richard I in 1189, the speaker proceeded to trace the rise of the cloth-making industry in Kendal in the 14th century. He quoted the article by our member, Sir Samuel Scott in *Transactions* N.S. xxii, 85-89, to show that the tradition which ascribed the introduction of this industry into Kendal to John Kemp and his Flemish weavers had but little evidence to support it. He mentioned early enactments to show that Kendal cloth in these early days was made of wool of a poor quality and quoted allusions made to this cloth by Lydgate, Barclay, Sir Thomas More, Shakespeare, Deloney and Coryat to prove that the reputation of "Kendal cottons" gradually improved during the 15th and 16th centuries. He mentioned the prominent position occupied by the Kendal cloth merchants at the famous Stourbridge fair, and briefly discussed the supposed method by which the famous "Kendal Green" was obtained. He gave an account of what was known of the origin of the Kendal guilds and mentioned the causes which led to their decay, adding a short description of the best-known of their trade-tokens. He also described some of the ancient buildings formerly associated with the trades of Kendal—the New Biggin, which till the beginning of the 19th century, stood in Highgate, the Shambles, the successive buildings used as Town Halls.

An account of the palmy days of the pack-horse traffic followed and a description of the old hand-loom industry carried on by the inhabitants of the neighbouring villages who brought the product of their labour to Kendal market. Mention also was made of the hand-knitting industry for which Kendal was famous in the 18th century, of the water mills of the district and of the associations of Kendal with its little port of Milnthorpe. Conditions were changed in Kendal, first by the advent of the stage-coach in the later years of the 18th century, secondly by the construction of the Lancaster and Kendal canal and lastly by the coming of the railway. The American Civil War was also a contributory factor to the passing away of the old order of things. The sales of cheap "cottons" to the American slave-states ceased and by the time the war was over, other towns had adopted new methods of manufacture with which Kendal was not in a position to compete. Lastly, Mr. McIntire dealt with some of the modern developments of Kendal trade.

At the conclusion of the meeting the President congratulated the members before they separated upon the success of the outing and a vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. R. E. Porter, the Excursions Secretary, and to all who were responsible for the arrangements.