

PROCEEDINGS

I. AUTUMN MEETING, 1948.

THE autumn meeting was held on 1 and 2 September 1948, with headquarters at Penrith; local arrangements were made by a committee composed of Mr F. Gerald Simpson (President), Mr C. Roy Hudleston, the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch, Dr J. E. Spence, F.S.A., and the Editor. On the first day the weather was ideal, with bright sun and splendid views, but the heavens opened on the second morning, and on that day there were only occasional periods without heavy and continuous rain; there was little difference, however, in the attendance of members and friends that day, and the meeting as a whole was a very successful one. The district visited on this occasion has been carefully studied by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments, to whose amply illustrated volume on Westmorland, issued in 1936, there will be frequent occasion to refer.

Wednesday, 1 September.

The party assembled at Penrith railway station at 10.15 a.m., and drove at first to BROUGHAM. Here the Editor described the Roman fort, basing his remarks on his paper in CW2 xxxii 124 f. (cf. also *RCHM Westmorland* 54 and plan at 55), and drawing particular attention to the inscribed stones, previously preserved at Brougham Hall, which have recently been transferred to the entrance passage of the castle: some of the names upon them—*Annamoris*, *Baculo* and *Vidaris*—seem best explained as evidence for a non-Celtic and perhaps pre-Celtic element in the population of Roman Brougham. Next Dr W. Douglas Simpson gave an account of the history and development of Brougham Castle, for which reference may be made to his paper in CW2 xlii 170 f. and to *RCHM Westmorland* 57-62 and plates 85-89 and acted as guide to the most interesting features of the structure; members noted with satisfaction how excellently it has been treated by the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works, and the hope was expressed that the Department might be able to undertake the care of many more monuments in our area. The weather was ideal for photography, and one of our members, the Rev. J. E. Bamber, was able to secure the unusual view of the castle reproduced as fig. 1.



Photo by the Rev. J. E. Bamber.

Brougham Castle.

facing page 180.

From Brougham the party continued along the Brough road, passing the COUNTESS PILLAR (*RCHM Westmorland* 62 and plate 64), of which Dr Douglas Simpson gave a brief account, to KIRKBY THORE. There the Editor described the Roman site (*RCHM Westmorland* 62 and plate 64). He pointed out that the Society had always had a warm place in its heart for Kirkby Thore and its Roman associations, and in its early days had paid frequent visits there, but its interest had never led to active research; the only recorded excavations there had been those by Machell in 1687, though chance finds, some of them of very great interest, had been made from time to time in later years, particularly in 1845 (when a large group of metal objects was unearthed) and in 1860 (when a cutting for the Eden Valley railway produced a series of cavalry tombstones from an out-lying cemetery, by the side of the main Roman road towards Stainmore and York). Inscriptions and sculptures showed that the Roman garrison had been a cavalry regiment, though its name was not yet known, and the Roman name of the place was shown by an African inscription, taken in conjunction with the Notitia and the Ravenna List, to have been *Bravoniacum* (cf. CW2 xxxiv 116). A cavalry fort might be expected to occupy about 5 acres, but the area which had produced evidence for Roman occupation was as much as 36 acres; the Roman site, then, was about half the size of Roman Carlisle and as large as Corstopitum, and he had no doubt that, like Corstopitum, in its later years at least Bravoniacum had developed into something like a town. The fort site, surface indications of which are faint and difficult to interpret, seems to occupy only the eastern angle of the little plateau, overlooking Town Head and the Trout Beck; it was there that Machell discovered structures which may perhaps have been parts of a granary, and the field-name Burwens, like Borrans at Ambleside, no doubt indicates that the most striking ruins were on that part of the site. But numerous chance finds had been made as far west as the main road at Town End, and between Street Cottages and Street House there was still to be seen a fine stretch of rampart, with rounded angle just short of the junction of Piper Lane with the main road, which seemed easiest to interpret as part of the defences of a roughly square fortified area, only one corner of which had been in military occupation, the remainder representing a small town which had grown out of the *vicus* attached to the fort. The greater part of its area was still free from modern buildings, and it was greatly to be hoped that an opportunity might arise

for a planned series of excavations to be undertaken there in due course; there was every prospect that they would throw useful light on the history of the Roman occupation of our district and, if it should prove possible to excavate the whole site, over a long period of years, it might well rival Corstopitum itself as a show-place. The Editor added a few words about the temporary camp at CRACKENTHORPE (*RCHM Westmorland* 70-72 and plate 93), past which the party was to drive on its way to Appleby, pointing out that it was large enough to hold a whole legion on active service, and that it is best explained as the base-camp for a legion employed in the construction of the main trunk road, immediately after the successful conclusion of the initial campaigns which brought this district under Roman control.

From Kirkby Thore a move was made to APPLEBY, to an examination of which the whole afternoon was to be devoted. After lunch the party assembled in the courtyard of the CASTLE, where Dr Douglas Simpson delivered an address (see Art. IX, pp. 118-133 above, and *RCHM Westmorland* 7-12 and plates 56 and 66-68); he drew particular attention to the beautiful renaissance residence, in fact a shell cleverly built into the front of a fourteenth-century building. From the Castle the party moved in two groups to examine ST. ANNE'S HOSPITAL and the MOOT HALL. At the Hospital Mr C. Roy Hudleston acted as guide (see *RCHM Westmorland* 12 and plate 72), telling of its foundation by Lady Anne Clifford in 1650, to provide homes for thirteen old women of the town, and reading the careful rules which she laid down for their conduct. At the Moot Hall the Mayor, Mr H. C. Knight, welcomed the Society and described the structure, also exhibiting the town's charters and regalia (see *RCHM Westmorland* 12 and 69). Finally the Society visited ST. LAWRENCE'S CHURCH (*RCHM Westmorland* 4-6 and plates 38, 60, 62-65), where we were welcomed by the vicar, the Rev. C. J. Gudgeon, and the history and principal features of the building were described by the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch. Mr Bouch referred to the Society's previous visits, in 1885, 1908 and 1932 (CW₁ viii 396 and CW₂ ix 322 and xxxii 292), and to the account of the interesting tombs printed in CW₁ viii 174. He pointed out that although St. Lawrence's is now the parish church of Appleby, there is evidence that it was not the first place of Christian worship there; when Ranulph Meschin, the Norman lord of Appleby, gave the rectories of the Appleby churches to the abbey of St. Mary at York, the church of St.

Michael is put first, and this order is kept in all the charters relating to these churches. St. Michael's church, Bongate as it is generally called, lies at the south end of the town, on the other side of the Eden; built into its fabric is a re-used "hog-back," which seems good evidence for the existence of a pre-Conquest church on the site; and in some litigation between the burghers of Appleby and the Cliffords it is clearly stated that the Viponts, ancestors of the Cliffords, did not have seisin of the borough of Appleby but that King John had given them "Old Appleby where the bondmen dwell." Thus the old, pre-Norman town and its older parish church were at Bongate on the other side of the river, and presumably it was Ranulph Meschin, the founder of the castle, who founded New Appleby, subsequently the borough of Appleby, with its parish church; Old Appleby remained as the place where his Saxon bond-servants lived, and was outside the borough. No trace can now be seen of Meschin's early Norman church, but when the Society visited Appleby in 1885 the vicar mentioned remains of that church "lately laid bare"; its north aisle had been 4 ft. 6 in. narrower than the present one, and its walls had been 16 ft. 6 in. high. That church was perhaps damaged in the Scots' attack of 1174, and rebuilt shortly thereafter; the lower part of the tower, now the oldest visible part of the structure, was certainly erected at the close of the twelfth century. Most of the present church was built late in the thirteenth or early in the fourteenth century—it is not clear whether that was because the Norman structure had become unsafe, or because it had become too small for the town, the population of which, it is estimated, had grown to between five and ten thousand. But in the great raid of December 1388 the town was totally destroyed, and it never recovered its earlier size and prosperity. It is not known how much damage the church sustained in that disaster, but it was much modified in the fifteenth century, the upper part of its tower being rebuilt, a clerestory added and the east end of the south chapel lengthened. Next, in 1655, Lady Anne Clifford took it in hand; to quote her own words, "while I lay at Appleby Castle did I cause a great part of Appleby church to be taken down, it being very ruinous and in danger of falling of itself; so I caused a vault to be made in the north-east corner of the church for myself to be buried in, if it please God. And the repairing of the said church cost me some £600 or £700, being finished the year following." The later history of the structure is unimportant; the church was restored in 1861-2, and the present

vestry was added in 1904-5. The monuments and organ are noteworthy, in particular the tombs of Margaret, widow of George Clifford, third earl of Cumberland, ob. 1616 (erected by Lady Anne in 1617), and of Lady Anne herself; the organ was formerly in Carlisle cathedral, possibly incorporating an instrument mentioned in 1571, and its case is probably of early seventeenth-century date.

From Appleby the Society returned to Penrith, where there was a meeting of Council at 6 p.m., and at 8-15 p.m. the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held in the Town Hall. In the absence, through ill-health, of the President, Mr F. Gerald Simpson, the chair was taken in the first instance by Lt. Col. O. H. North, Past-President, and it was resolved to send Mr Simpson the Society's best wishes for a speedy recovery. The Editor reported that *Transactions* vol. xlvii was now in the hands of members and that all the copy for vol. xlviii would be in the printers' hands by the end of the month. For the Parish Register Committee, the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch reported that arrangements were going forward for the printing of the Kendal Registers. The Treasurer, who was unable to be present, had authorised the Editor to say that he was well satisfied with the present state of the Society's affairs, foreseeable commitments for the current year being well within its means; the accounts for the year ending 30 June 1948 had been audited, and the balance-sheets would appear in *Transactions* in due course. Two modifications in the Society's Rules, of which notice had been duly given, were agreed to, namely in Rule VI the addition of Past Presidents *ex officio* as officers of the Society, and in Rule VII the insertion of the clause: "The Council may elect one of its members as Chairman." The Society then proceeded to the election of officers for the ensuing year. Miss K. S. Hodgson was unanimously elected President, and Lt. Col. North, in asking her to take the chair for the remainder of the meeting, expressed the Society's satisfaction that she had consented to accept the office which her father had held with such distinction, and for which her own experience both in field-work and in research generally so admirably fitted her. Mr Thomas Gray, Mr R. Morton Rigg, Mr T. D. Shepherd, the Rev. M. P. Charlesworth and Mr Harold Duff were added to the list of Vice-Presidents, and Mr C. G. Bulman, Mr John Charlton, Mr C. B. Martindale, Mr J. Melville and Mr W. W. Taylor were elected to vacant places in the list of members of Council, while all other officers and members of Council were re-elected *en bloc*;

Mr R. N. Birley and Mr W. E. S. Patrickson were re-elected as Honorary Auditors. On the recommendation of Council, Miss Mary C. Fair was elected an Honorary Member of the Society, in recognition of her eminence in antiquarian studies and of her services rendered to the Society, under Rule VIII. The Society also resolved, on the recommendation of Council, to increase the General Secretary's honorarium to £50, in view of the very great increase in the work entailed by that office, and on the motion of the Editor Miss Ainsley was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for her unwearied services to the Society as General Secretary for the past twenty-one years. The Editor also announced that an endeavour was being made to interest schools in the Society's work; Council proposed to invite senior pupils from schools in the districts concerned to join, from time to time, in the Society's excursions, and it was hoped to supply some schools with sets of the new series of *Transactions*, as far as stocks would allow. On the recommendation of Council, 22 new members were elected. Two papers were communicated, and several interesting exhibits were placed on the table; there-after the meeting terminated.

Thursday, 2 September

It was raining steadily when the party joined the buses in Sandgate, Penrith, at 9.15 a.m., and there was a regular downpour to contend with during the walk through the fields from the main road, where the buses were left, to the first place to be visited, ST. NINIAN'S CHURCH (*RCHM Westmorland* 54-56 and plates 10, 82); here the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch, rector of Clifton and Brougham, described the building, which was completely reconstructed by Lady Anne Clifford in 1660, and he gave reason to believe that it was the successor of a pre-Norman, Dark Age church: the traditional name Ninekirks no doubt reflects an early dedication to St. Ninian, as at Brampton Old Church, and here too it may be conjectured that a sub-Roman community maintained its Christian faith in the seclusion afforded by the sheltered holme, out of sight of the Roman road, along which raiding bands might pass without suspecting its existence. Some of Mr Bouch's younger parishioners joined the party here, riding across the fields and putting their ponies in the stable in the churchyard, provided in the days when most of the worshippers at St. Ninian's came there on horseback.

From the church a shorter walk southwards brought the party,

in a brief interval between showers, to HORNBY HALL (*RCHM Westmorland* 62-63 and plates 21 and 30), where Mr C. G. Bulman was the speaker. He pointed out that this was the first and earliest of a series of three halls to be visited that day. Hornby was granted to one Edward Birkbeck by the Cliffords in 1550, and the existing house was built about that time. The building was of local red sandstone and was long, low, two-storied and had mullioned and transomed windows. In very early times the English manor house had consisted simply of a large wooden hall, which everybody shared, and the cooking was done outdoors, near by, under some kind of temporary shelter; the next development was to bring the kitchen quarters under the same roof and later, at the other end of the hall, were constructed private chambers for the lord and his family. That was the planning at Hornby: a square hall in the middle, with the kitchens at the entrance end and the lord's parlour at the other end. At the entrance, to give dignity, was a square turret or porch tower, usual at the period; it was taken up originally above the roof level, but was now rather curtailed in height. The main hall was 21 ft. square and had one of the great fireplaces of the period; it was well lit by large mullioned windows, one of which retained a Birkbeck coat of arms in stained glass. The ceiling was of plaster, and an original centre-piece with mouldings and a pendant still remained. An elaborate doorway led to the lord's apartment or small dining-room, square-headed and with a good deal of rather coarse ornament; formerly this parlour and the great chamber above the hall contained some of the finest and most magnificent Elizabethan oak panelling in the district, but it was nearly all removed some 50 years ago, and all that remained was the chimney-piece in the parlour, in three divisions, with the usual ornamentation of the period. The inner door to the porch still remained in its original form, panelled and with a four-centred head to match the opening. There were two small rooms in the entrance turret, one above the other; that on the first floor had the date in plaster A. N. 1584, and the little room above it was originally the chapel. Mr Bulman ended his address with a short account of the Birkbeck family, who built the hall and lived in it for about 150 years. The last of the family to reside there was Catterick Birkbeck, a foolish and unfortunate youth, who dissipated the family fortunes, as Machell puts it. "by gambling and other foolishness," and was obliged to sell the hall and the land in an effort to settle with his creditors.

The party then proceeded by a cross-country route to Cliburn, where most members ate their lunch in the shelter of the buses before walking to CLIBURN HALL, where Mr Bulman was again the speaker (see *RCHM Westmorland* 68 and plate 18). The core of this manor house is a mediaeval tower, probably erected by Robert de Cliburn in the reign of Richard II; it was a three-storied tower and had the usual vaulted basement, which still remains. The vault is a barrel, divided into two equal parts by a thick cross-wall; it is lighted by square openings, in one of which still remains the original iron grille of the period. In the reign of Elizabeth extensive building and alterations were done by Richard Cliburn, who decided to turn his ancestral defensive tower into a more commodious and up-to-date manor house. Accordingly extensions were built on each side of the tower, with Tudor mullioned and transomed windows, and similar windows were inserted in the walls of the tower. At that period the house presented a range of buildings enclosing three sides of a quadrangular court, with the massive tower in the centre and two-storied buildings as wings; and on the western face a small forebuilding was constructed, to act as a porch and a stair to the first floor: subsequent alterations have turned this into a farm building. On the west side also is a flight of steps leading to a modern door-way, and over the door is a square slab with a shield, flanked by the initials R. C. and an inscription, in old English characters, to the effect that the hall was built in 1567 by "Richard Clebur." The most remarkable thing about this hall is the square turret of masonry on the east side, a few yards away from the main building and connected to it by a flying bridge; it is 14 ft. square and 12 ft. high, and is in reality a well: no doubt this curious arrangement was to safeguard the water supply of the hall during times of raiding or insecurity.

From the hall we moved across the road to CLIBURN CHURCH (*RCHM Westmorland* 67-68 and plates 3, 4, 43 and 54), where Mr Lowther Bouch described the church and its setting. At Cliburn, as at Clifton and Askham, the church and hall or castle formed a group, the presumption being that the lord had built the church close to his residence, to suit his own convenience. By contrast, elsewhere (for example at Appleby and Workington) the church is at the opposite end of the village to the hall or castle; in such cases the presumption is that the church was established first, the lord's residence was constructed next, on a site selected for its natural strength, and

the houses of the villagers naturally came to be built along the connecting road. Lastly, there was a smaller group of places at which, as at Penrith, the church was in the centre of the town, just off its market square. But there were several rather unusual sitings of churches in the Society's district, the reasons for which were not always easy to discover. For example, Bromfield is in the centre of a large group of hamlets, comprising at least seven manors, but the church itself stands alone; in that case, it seemed probable that the parish was created round a pre-existing church. At Brougham, St. Ninian's church must at least since Norman times have been well away from most of its parishioners; Ousby church, too, is remote and isolated, and Kirkoswald church is right away from the village: such sites perhaps represent places where the first Christian teachers, in the Dark Ages, set up the cross and baptized the people of those parts. At Cliburn itself it was remarkable that the village had all spread eastward from the church, leaving church and hall alone at its western end; this was perhaps because the lord's demesne was on the west side, and building there was not allowed. The chancel and nave of the church are of the twelfth century, the south door of somewhat later date and the south aisle modern. Before 1848 there was a stone bench, about 18 in. high and 1 ft. wide, all round the church; that was probably all the seating provided for the congregation before the Reformation. The church was drastically restored in 1886-7, and there were few surviving features of any great interest, apart from a lancet-window in the east wall and the twelfth-century window in the north wall and, reset in the modern south wall, a twelfth-century doorway "with plain jambs, corbelled lintel with a small figure carved at each end and a round head with chevron-ornament enclosing a plain tympanum" (*RCHM Westmorland* 68). Before we left the church, the Editor described the two Roman stones found during the restoration of 1886-7 and now built into the porch. Their texts, as read by Haverfield, are given in *Ephemervis Epigraphica* vii 960 and 961; the latter is a mere fragment from an altar, showing seven lines of lettering of which the only decipherable word is *dedit* in the last line, the former is the top left-hand corner of a building-inscription, recording the restoration of a bath-house for a military unit, the name of which is not preserved, under a governor whose name is not at present recoverable, though the style of the lettering shows that the inscription belongs to the first half of the third century.

The two stones had presumably been brought to Cliburn by the mediaeval builders from either Brougham or Kirkby Thore, the nearest known Roman sites, but it did not seem possible to say from which of the two: a geologist might perhaps be able to settle the matter one day; there was no reason to think that there had been any Roman structure at Cliburn itself.

The next place to be visited was NEWBY HALL (*RCHM Westmorland* 184-185 and plate 17). Here Mr Bulman pointed out that the existing manor house was built by the Nevinsons in the seventeenth century; the hall consists of a central block and two projecting wings, but despite the endeavour to give uniformity and symmetry to the structure, the planning was exactly the same as the Society had seen earlier in the day at Hornby: the hall in the centre of the building, with the kitchens at one end and the private apartments at the other. Again, despite the classical ideas of symmetry of appearance and the Renaissance detail of the entrance door and its cornice, the old mullioned window was still retained. The hall was thus a blend of mediaeval and renaissance ideas, and the result was a very charming composition, on a small scale. The hall of the house still retained its great fireplace, and there was some very interesting panelling and woodwork in some of the rooms on the ground and first floors; over the front door was an imposing tablet, with a cornice, and on it were the armorial bearings of the Nevinsons.

Mr C. Roy Hudleston then gave an account of the Nevinson family. One of Thomas Machell's complaints against Sir William Dugdale was under the heading: "Personal. He has entered some for Severall Generations Squires who were never Gentlemen (as the Nevinsons) and entered others Gentlemen only who were most ancient Squires as the Machells of Crackenthorpe." All the same, Mr Hudleston thought there could be no doubt that the Nevinsons, though long settled at Newby, could not be classed as anything but minor gentry, though in the course of time they allied themselves with some of our oldest local families. Dugdale registered four generations at his visitation in 1665, taking us back to Stephen Nevinson, whose father, Richard Nevinson, according to Nicholson and Burn rented from the Vernon family a house at Newby-in-the-Stones, with Newby wood and Forty-penny farmhold. Richard is said to have died in 1558, but the registers of Morland do not appear to record his burial, though the early registers (they begin in 1538) contain many of the name. Richard Nevinson

of Newby was succeeded by his son Stephen, and he by his son Richard; the latter's son Edward was alive at the visitation of 1665, when he was forty and married to Susan Dalston of Acorn Bank. They were by then the parents of five sons and three daughters. Only the eldest and youngest sons concern us, and he would refer to the latter presently. The eldest son, John, twenty-one in 1665, was an important member of the family, for it was he who rebuilt the hall. His son William married a sister of Brigadier Stanwix, M.P. for Carlisle, and died in 1742; he was succeeded by his son, Stanwix Nevinson, the last of his family to live in the hall. Stanwix Nevinson was born in Carlisle in 1702 and married Elizabeth Blake of Twisel Castle in the county of Durham; tradition says that he treated her very cruelly, and that she was kept locked in a room in the hall until she died in February 1766, at the age of 58. Eight months later Stanwix Nevinson married, at St. Andrew's, Penrith, Julia Gaskarth, of Hutton Hall; he was then 64 and she 28. The marriage seems to have been happy, and when Stanwix Nevinson died six years later he left Julia the hall and the furniture in it, and if they had no children (as was the case) she was to inherit all his estates, providing that her successor took the name of Nevinson. Two years after Stanwix Nevinson's death Julia, now 36, married John Howard, who in 1783, on the death of a distant cousin, became fifteenth Earl of Suffolk. Julia died at the age of 81 in 1819, and her second husband the year after. She had three children by Lord Suffolk. The elder son, Charles Nevinson Howard, Viscount Andover, was killed in 1800 at the age of 25 by the accidental discharge of his fowling-piece, and the younger son, Thomas, succeeded as sixteenth Earl of Suffolk in 1820. Newby Hall did not remain in the Howard family, for it was eventually sold to the Lowthers, and remains theirs until this day. In leaving Newby to Julia, Stanwix Nevinson had overlooked a whole host of Nevinson relatives, descendants of Thomas Nevinson, the youngest son of Edward, his great-grandfather. This Thomas had become a clergyman and married a sister of Bishop Nicolson, in whose diaries he is frequently mentioned; and it was probably from this pair that Mr Henry Nevinson the writer, and his son Mr C. R. W. Nevinson the artist, descended. In his book "Changes and Chances," published 25 years ago, Mr Nevinson wrote of this house: "I like to think of the long-nosed, quick-blooded Nevinsons who handed on to me the torch of life, living there in secluded state, riding their shaggy

horses, cultivating the garden, being christened, married and buried in the old village church of Morland close by (the more distinguished were carried to Carlisle cathedral itself) and wondering what on earth was going to happen when Prince Charlie and his men came staggering down the high-road five miles to the west". But it should be noted that the only Nevinsons buried in Carlisle lie there for the very good reason that they lived and died in Carlisle.

The last place to be visited was CLIFTON, where the party assembled in the church (*RCHM Westmorland* 69), and the rector, the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch, read the paper printed earlier in this volume (Art. XIII, pp. 156-165, above). By now the rain had at last ceased, and the party dispersed in high spirits, after hearty votes of thanks had been accorded, on the motion of the President, to Dr Spence for the excellence of the programme which he had devised, to the owners and tenants of the places which had been visited, and to the various speakers for their addresses.

II. JOINT MEETING WITH THE PREHISTORIC SOCIETY.

The next four days, 3-6 September, were devoted to a joint meeting with the Prehistoric Society. Miss K. S. Hodgson, President, and Sir W. Lindsay Scott, President of the visiting society, were joint chairmen of the meeting, the arrangements for which were in the hands of Dr Spence. The meeting was held in the lecture theatre of the Technical College, Carlisle, by kind permission of the Principal, Mr F. Gardner, and on the evening of 3 September the Mayor of Carlisle, Councillor Miss E. Welsh, very kindly gave a reception at Tullie House for the members of both societies. The main business of the meeting was the reading and discussion of papers, but on Saturday 4 September there was an afternoon excursion to Crosby Ravensworth, to visit the Ewe Close native settlement, and on the following day an excursion to Long Meg stone circle, King Arthur's Round Table and Mayborough, and the hill fort on Peel Wyke. Most of the papers were by members of the visiting society, as follows:—"The problem of the henge monuments" by Mr R. J. C. Atkinson; "The North British Iron Age" by Professor Stuart Piggott; "Some recent discoveries in the prehistory of Roxburghshire" by Dr K. A. Steer; "Three Iron Age farms excavated in Scotland and Wales" by Professor Gerhard Bersu; "Northumbrian forts and farms" by

Mr A. H. A. Hogg; and "The excavations at Hownam Rings, Roxburghshire, 1948" by Mrs C. M. Piggott. In addition, our member Miss Clare Fell read a paper on "Trans-Pennine communications in the Bronze Age," a summary of which follows:—

Routes across the Pennines are limited by geographical factors. Only four passes into the area exist: Tyne-Eden, Tees-Eden via Stainmore, Ure-Eden and the Aire-Wenning-Lune gaps. The settlement area is also greatly affected by geographical and geological considerations. Glacial sands and gravels, overlying carboniferous limestone, link Northumberland and Yorkshire with the Eden valley by the first three routes mentioned, while the last pass gives easy access from Yorkshire to the outcrops of carboniferous limestone in Westmorland and Furness. A belt of the same formation lies to the west of the Eden, curving northward round the great hills of the Lake District and joining the Cumberland coast at Whitehaven, and it is to these areas that evidence of early settlement is mostly confined. It is difficult to picture the extent to which post-glacial forests survived at the beginning of the Bronze Age, but it is probable that the Pennines were still partly wooded and not bare as they are today. The distribution of the Early Bronze Age Beaker settlers shows a concentration in the Eden valley from Crosby Garrett in the south to Castle Carrock and Woodhead in the north; the character of the pottery more closely resembles beakers from Yorkshire than it does the Northumbrian series, while a few jet finds are also probably of Yorkshire origin. This indicates that the routes into the head of the Eden valley were used; and the presence of henge monuments in the Ure valley also suggests that the Wensleydale route was possibly of greater importance than the others at this time. The Cumberland coast was reached via the Aire gap, as indicated by finds from Dog Holes cave, Wharton, Sizergh Fell and Santon Bridge, or possibly by sea southward from Glenluce. It seems that Beaker settlers followed tracks which had already been familiar since late Neolithic times on account of the extensive trade in polished stone axes from Stake Pass, Pike o' Stickle and possibly other sites, which is known to have developed. With the introduction of Food-Vessels, two culture streams can be distinguished: firstly, settlers moving west across the Pennines from Northumberland and Yorkshire, bringing with them food-vessels of Yorkshire type and jet beads; and, secondly, Irish traders bringing bronze tools and gold ornaments, moving from

west to east. Distribution-maps show that the Yorkshire food-vessel culture was confined to the Eden valley from Crosby Garrett to Bewcastle, whereas the Irish metal trade not only followed the Tyne-Irthing gap and the Eden route to Yorkshire, but also used a coastal route south round Furness and across to Yorkshire by the Aire gap. Irish cultural influences can be seen in a small food-vessel from Roose and an Irish bowl with false relief ornament from Netherby, and also in the distribution of cup-and-ring marked stones. These latter are found in the Eden valley and on the Cumberland coast and occur on standing stones (Long Meg, Shap and Kirksanton), on stones of burial circles (Maughonby, Glassonby and Parks, Kirkoswald), on capstones of cists (Maughonby, Aspatria and Redhills, Stainton) and as casual finds (Maryport, Dean and Honeypts, Edenhall). None are recorded from natural rock outcrops, and a considerable range of designs is represented, including the eyebrows motif and spirals. In the Middle Bronze Age the Yorkshire connection was maintained. Irish bronze and gold trade continued by the old routes, and in addition the Lune-Eden link seems to have been used. Perhaps mining and metal-work had begun to be developed in the Lake District by this time: a number of grooved stone axe-hammers or wedges, usually connected with mining, are recorded, and a mould for casting looped spear-heads was found at Croplin. Encrusted urns from Aglionby and Branthwaite show that in the Late Bronze Age the Lake Counties again transmitted culture from Northumberland to the Isle of Man and Ireland, via the Tyne gap. Socketed axes of Yorkshire type from Cowan Bridge and Urswick show that the Aire route was still in use, and similar axes from Shap and Morland arrived via Stainmore or Wensleydale. Finally, the few metal types characteristic of the Early Iron Age in southern Britain seem to have reached the district by the same routes. The Roman roads built across the Pennines followed the old routes by the Tyne and Stainmore, and it may be that the Roman road from Kirkby Thore to Carvoran, too, followed a pre-existing track. To people accustomed to discomfort and to constant striving with their environment, the trans-Pennine journey cannot have presented a very grave obstacle in Bronze Age times, and in that period the Lake Counties were a thoroughfare for settlement and commerce.

Finally, the Editor contributed a paper on "Roman and native in Cumbria." His main purpose was to draw the attention of the visiting society to the detailed surveys of the prehistory of

the area in *VCH Cumberland*, *RCHM Westmorland* and our *Transactions* (in particular W. G. Collingwood's archaeological surveys of Cumberland in CW2 xxiii and of Westmorland and Lancashire North of the Sands in CW2 xxvi, and R. G. Collingwood's introduction to the prehistory of the district in CW2 xxxiii), and to suggest some problems for consideration jointly by prehistorians and Roman archaeologists. There were clear indications, provided by the Roman archaeology of the district, that it contained some unusual native elements: witness a number of personal names, attested by inscriptions from three or four sites, and the names of various native deities; the known framework of Roman military control suggested a larger and more vigorous native population than was yet attested by known native sites, and in some parts of the district there was as yet virtually no native site known, although the Roman roads and forts postulated a considerable native population. To some extent the explanation was to be sought in the concentration of the latter into the villages and towns which grew up around the Roman forts; there was reason to think that at Burrow in Lonsdale, Kirkby Thore, Maryport, Old Carlisle, Old Penrith and Papcastle, as well as at Carlisle, sizeable towns existed by the latter part of the Roman period, and it was by excavation in those towns that there was the best prospect of obtaining such contact between Roman and native cultures as might assist the further investigations of both on other sites. In some parts of the district, such as Furness, the native sites of all periods were so thick on the ground that Roman occupation of some kind must certainly be assumed, and Roman sites sought for. In other parts, the close concentration of Roman sites should serve as a challenge to the prehistorian to seek for the native settlements which as yet remain undiscovered.

III. COUNCIL MEETING, JANUARY 1949.

A meeting of Council was held in the Town Hall, Kendal, on 10 January 1949, in order to transact routine business and to make preliminary arrangements for the Centenary Pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall. For the Cumberland Excavation Committee, Mr Robert Hogg reported on the work done in 1948, and it was agreed to invite the Durham University Excavation Committee to share in the excavation of milecastle 79 in the period immediately preceding the Pilgrimage. For the Parish Register Section it was reported that the Wigton Register was now making good progress, and when that volume had been completed a

start would be made with Kendal. Dr Spence reported, for the Committee for Prehistoric Studies, that Miss Place was indexing all objects from the Society's area now preserved in the British Museum. The Editor reported that it had not been possible to hold a formal meeting of the Records and Publications Committee, but after informal conferences between most of its members it seemed clear that the material which would be most valuable to students would be local archives, and that the aim of the Committee should be to issue a series of pamphlets at short intervals, rather than bound volumes which would be more expensive to produce and which on the present income could only be issued at long intervals. A discussion followed on the question where the printing should be done; it was decided that the first pamphlet to be printed should be Mr Sharpe France's calendar of the Holker muniments, and that it should be printed by the same firm as the Parish Register series. In order to encourage the grammar and secondary schools of the area to interest themselves in its archaeology and antiquities, Council decided to offer to present to such schools, if they became subscribers, as complete sets of back volumes of the new series of *Transactions* as stocks allowed, such volumes to carry a label indicating that they are a gift from the Society. In accordance with Rule III, 23 new members were elected; and it was decided that the Spring Meeting should be held in Penrith on 2 April. With regard to the Centenary Pilgrimage, a small committee was formed, with full power to make such arrangements as might be needed on the Society's part, and permission was given for the Society's blocks to be used, as required, in illustration of the special handbook which the Editor was to prepare for issue to the Pilgrims.

IV. SPRING MEETING, 1949.

The Spring Meeting of the Society was held in Penrith Town Hall on 2 April 1949, with Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A., President, in the chair. The Editor drew attention to the great loss which the Society had suffered by the death of Colonel Francis Haswell; Mr T. D. Shepherd spoke of the value of Colonel Haswell's work for the Society and in particular for the Parish Register Section, and the Society stood in silent tribute to his memory. For the Parish Register Section the Rev. C. M. Lowther Bouch reported that the Wigton Registers were being printed, and that, with Council's consent, it had been decided to issue larger volumes every two years instead of

one small volume each year. The Editor gave details of the arrangements for the Centenary Pilgrimage, to be held from 4 to 9 July, and reported that a number of distinguished archaeologists from abroad would be attending it; and on behalf of the Cumberland Excavation Committee he reported that Mr Simpson and Dr Richmond hoped to undertake the excavation of milecastle 79 in May and June: Council had voted a token grant of £5 from the Society's general fund towards the work, but subscriptions from members would be more than welcome, and subscribers would in due course receive copies of the full report on the excavation. There were 26 new members elected; several papers were read or reported, all of which are printed in the present volume, and there were a number of interesting exhibits.

V. THE CENTENARY PILGRIMAGE.

The Centenary Pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall, arranged in conjunction with the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, began on Monday 4 July at South Shields and ended at Maryport on Saturday 9 July. The Society's representatives on the organising committee were Miss K. S. Hodgson, President; Mr F. Gerald Simpson, Past-President; the Editor; and Dr J. E. Spence, who acted as joint secretary with Mr A. Howard Hall of the Newcastle Society. Full details of the programme, and surveys of all earlier Pilgrimages of the Wall and of the advance in knowledge of it during recent years, are given in the special handbook, "The Centenary Pilgrimage of Hadrian's Wall," copies of which may be obtained from the General Secretary (price 5/-); it will therefore be unnecessary to give a detailed account here of the progress of the meeting, but a brief account of some of its most interesting features deserves to be placed on record.

Throughout the Pilgrimage the weather was fine and warm, and at no time was there any rain to interfere with the proceedings. The arrangements which Dr Spence and Mr Hall had made ran very smoothly, and a special word of praise is due for the efficiency of the mobile canteen service, through which the pilgrims were able to refresh themselves at mid-day and at tea-time. Distinguished visitors from other countries included Professor A. Alföldi, formerly of Budapest and now of Berne; Professor R. Laur-Belart of Basel; Professors U. Kahrstedt of Göttingen and F. Oelmann of Bonn, representing German archaeology; Mrs van Giffen and Dr Glasbergen of Groningen;

Colonel Jean Baradez, from Algiers, whose own researches from the air and on the ground have done so much to reveal the work of Hadrian and his successors on the southern frontier of Numidia; Dr Norling-Christensen from Copenhagen; and Dr Frova from Milan. There was also an impressive number of leading archaeologists from other parts of Great Britain, including Miss Anne Robertson, Miss M. V. Taylor, Professor R. E. M. Wheeler, Professor C. F. C. Hawkes and Dr V. E. Nash-Williams. A detachment of students from the University of Durham acted as conductors on the buses, markers in the field and attendants on the visitors. It was unfortunately necessary to limit the number of pilgrims, and all pilgrims were required to travel in the buses, as a cavalcade of private cars such as had graced the Pilgrimage of 1930 would have added too greatly to the burden of marshalling; altogether about 80 members of each Society took part in the Pilgrimage, and with students and foreign delegates the total number of pilgrims amounted to about 180.

Monday, 4 July.

At South Shields the pilgrims were able to hear from Dr Richmond the first account of the new series of excavations which the South Shields corporation has been conducting there, under his direction, and to appreciate the importance of that site as the eastern supply-base of Hadrian's Wall. From South Shields to Wallsend the party sailed up the Tyne in a steam launch, an innovation in the transportation of pilgrims to the Wall which met with universal approval. At Wallsend, where Mr F. Gerald Simpson described the excavations carried out in 1929, there was an opportunity of conveying to him the two Societies' warm congratulations on the recent award to him of the Companionship of the Order of the British Empire, for his services to archaeology; and satisfaction was expressed at the enlightened action of the Wallsend Corporation, in marking out, in the streets and pavements of the modern town, the lines of the Roman fort-wall and gateways which underlie them. At Benwell and at Denton Hall the pilgrims saw the first examples of structures exposed since the Pilgrimage of 1930 and preserved by the Ancient Monuments Department of the Ministry of Works, and at Benwell particular interest was aroused by the sight of the very steep sides of the Vallum ditch, as revealed by excavation: those who have seen it in that state can no longer have any doubts of its effectiveness as an obstacle to

unauthorised intruders. In the evening, the President of the Newcastle Society, the Rev. Thomas Romans, F.S.A., received the pilgrims and their friends in King's College (by kind permission of the Rector, Lord Eustace Percy), and there was a special display of models, plans and photographs illustrating recent research on the line of the Wall in Northumberland. The most important and impressive exhibit was the relief model by Mr William Bulmer, just completed and on view for the first time, of the line of the Wall and its eastern and western flanks, from South Shields to Cardurnock; the model had been made as the result of a generous benefaction by an anonymous member of the Newcastle Society, and will ultimately be on view in the new Roman Wall Museum which is to be housed, in due course, in the precincts of King's College. Its horizontal scale is 6 in. to the mile, and the complete model is some 36 ft. long; eliminating all post-Roman detail, and providing views such as may be obtained from an aeroplane flying at about 10,000 feet; it provides an outstandingly good overall view of the Roman frontier and of the way in which it has been layed out so as to take full advantage of the terrain.

Tuesday, 5 July.

The second day of the Pilgrimage was devoted to the stretch from Denton Hall to Chesters. The Pilgrims saw further examples of the Ancient Monuments Department's enlightened treatment of the Roman structures at Heddon on the Wall and at Planetrees (where stops were not made), and at Brunton turret (26 b) and the east abutment of the Roman bridge over North Tyne. Dr Richmond's address, standing on Brunton turret itself, remains one of the most impressive memories of the Pilgrimage; he pointed out that the Department's work there had shown that the Broad Wall was set in clay and not in lime, and he suggested that the change in plan, which substituted Narrow Wall for Broad, was due to the decision to use lime-mortar in place of clay in the building of the Wall. A short walk across the fields and the railway brought the pilgrims from Brunton turret to the bridge-abutment, where the surrounding trees gave welcome shelter from the bright sun, and here Mr Simpson spoke with all the greater impressiveness, perhaps, because he abjured all rhetoric. In 1930 the remains here had been largely overgrown, and difficult to make out; their treatment by the Ancient Monuments Department has not yet been completed, but sufficient clearing and preservation have been

effected to make them abundantly worth visiting. The afternoon was devoted to Chesters fort, bath-house and museum; Dr Richmond described the bath-house (of which the fullest account is that by Sir George Macdonald, developed out of his address to the pilgrims of 1930, in AA4 viii 219 f.) and the Editor the headquarters building, while the pilgrims broke up into small parties to inspect the other structures and the splendid collection of inscriptions, sculptures and other remains in the Clayton Memorial Museum.

Wednesday, 6 July.

The third day brought the pilgrims to Limestone Corner, past Carrawburgh fort and Coventina's temple, to Housesteads; thence along the Wall itself to Milking Gap, and from there to Chesterholm, returning along the Stanegate to Hexham and back to Newcastle; though the day was hot, rain overnight had cleared the atmosphere and the distant views were especially fine. At Housesteads the pilgrims had an opportunity of examining the museum, built by the National Trust, on the initiative of the late R. C. Bosanquet, since the Pilgrimage of 1930; its most striking exhibits are two more of Mr William Bulmer's models, a contoured model of the Roman fort, based on Bosanquet's excavations for the Newcastle Society in 1898, and, to a larger scale, a model of the west gateway, based on the detailed study of its surviving remains by Dr Richmond and Mr F. Austin Child. Inside the fort, the Durham University Excavation Committee had uncovered, and the National Trust was taking steps to treat so that it might remain on view, the remains of the original Wall turret (36 b) which Mr Simpson had found in 1945, underlying the *intervallum* road a little west of the granaries; the granaries themselves had been more completely uncovered since 1930. To east of the fort, the early fourth-century gateway through the Wall in the valley of the Knag Burn, and to west of it milecastle 37, had also been re-excavated since 1930, and the remains of the former structure had been treated in the manner of those in the custody of the Ancient Monuments Department; many of the pilgrims were heard to express the earnest hope that the whole of Housesteads fort might receive similar treatment as early as possible, but it was recognised that the National Trust has neither the financial resources nor the technical experience to undertake work of such magnitude, and that it could only be done by the Ancient Monuments Department. At Milking Gap, Mr Percy Hedley

described the interesting native settlement which lies between the Wall and Vallum, and was carefully excavated for the North of England Excavation Committee by Mr H. E. Kilbride-Jones in 1937; it seems clear that its occupation was restricted to the period of about 20 years *circa* A.D. 140-160, when Hadrian's frontier had been superseded by the Roman Wall in Scotland. At Chesterholm time did not permit of more than a brief visit to the fort, where Mr Birley's excavations in 1930 and the following years had revealed a number of interesting structures, the best of which — three of the gateways and the headquarters building — are now permanently on view to visitors, in the safe custody of the Ancient Monuments Department; the headquarters building in particular deserves attention, as perhaps the most interesting example of the type to be seen anywhere in Britain.

Thursday, 7 July.

This was perhaps the hottest day of the Pilgrimage, as was best realised by the surprisingly large contingent of pilgrims who undertook the walk from Greatchesters, along the Nine Nicks of Thirlwall to Carvoran. The day's journey took the party from Shield-on-the-Wall along the Vallum to Cawfields and the Haltwhistle Burn fort, thence to Greatchesters and Carvoran, and finally to the splendid remains of the east abutment of the Roman bridge over the Irthing. At Greatchesters Dr Richmond described the excavations of 1939, which had revealed the original milecastle 43 underlying the existing fort; and at the Willowford bridge Mr Simpson gave the first detailed account of the remarkable discoveries made in 1940, when the Ministry of Works was undertaking the preservation of the remains of the bridge, first excavated by Dr Shaw in 1923: it proved that in its original form the bridge had carried the Wall itself, on flat arches, across the river, and it was only at a later stage that it had been rebuilt to carry the military way as well as a sentry-walk; the original service road had presumably crossed the Irthing a little downstream, but its bridge had not yet been discovered. That evening the Mayor of Carlisle welcomed the pilgrims to the city, in a reception at the Creighton School, and Mr Simpson gave a lecture, illustrated by lantern slides, on the important results achieved by the Cumberland Excavation Committee in its sector of the Wall since 1930: a comparable lecture, dealing with the Northumbrian sector, had been given by Dr Richmond in Newcastle on the first evening of the Pilgrimage.

Friday, 8 July.

The fifth day's itinerary took the pilgrims first to Birdoswald, thence along the Turf Wall, to Banks turret (52 a) and Lanercost, and from there to Old Church and Stanwix. At Birdoswald fort and High House turf-wall milecastle (50) Dr Richmond described the important discoveries made since the 1930 Pilgrimage, full reports on which have appeared in our *Transactions* (CW2 xxxi 122 f., xxxii 140 f., xxxiii 246 f., xxxiv 120 f. and xxxv 220 f.); as in 1930, a fresh section of the Turf Wall at Appletree had been specially cut, in readiness for the Pilgrimage, and the lighting conditions were ideal for observing the lamination of the coursed blocks of turf and the changes in colour induced by chemical action in the compressed mass. The fort at Old Church, on the Stanegate, was only discovered and identified by excavation in 1935 (CW2 xxxvi 172 f.); and at Stanwix the precise position occupied by the fort, its exact size and, from that, its identification as the Notitia station *Petriana* were all the result of excavations in 1940. That evening the Society held a reception at Tullie House, by kind permission of the Tullie House Committee, in honour of our visitors from the Newcastle Society and elsewhere; the President received the pilgrims, for whose benefit Mr Robert Hogg and Mr John Gillam had arranged a special exhibition of pottery from the recent excavations at milecastle 79 and from other sites on the Wall in Cumberland, and there was an opportunity for the other Roman treasures of the Carlisle Museum to be examined at leisure.

Saturday, 9 July.

The last day of the Pilgrimage was devoted to the western sector of the Wall, from Carlisle to Bowness on Solway, and thence along the Cumberland coast, past the site of the fort at Beckfoot, to Maryport. The day was fine and hot, but it was too hazy for the pilgrims to get more than an inkling of the splendid views across Solway to the wild hills of the Stewartry from the coastal chain of forts; it must be added that many of the pilgrims expressed the wish that on the next Pilgrimage it might be possible to arrange for this last stage of the journey to be made by water, as on the way from South Shields to Wallsend on the first day. At Drumburgh Dr Richmond described the Cumberland Excavation Committee's recent excavations, a full report on which is to be included in a later volume of *Transactions*; it had been hoped that milecastle 79, just west of Port Carlisle, might have been left uncovered for

the pilgrims to examine, but in the event it had been necessary to fill in the excavations a week or two before, and Dr Richmond could only describe the results (likewise to be reported in a later volume of *Transactions*) by the road-side. At Bowness on Solway the President gave a brief account of the series of detached fortlets and watch-towers along the Cumberland coast and of the Cardurnock fortlet (CW2 xlvi 78 f.), which the size of the party prevented the pilgrims from visiting on that occasion. Finally, at Maryport the pilgrims examined the site of its fort, first excavated by successive generations of the Senhouse family in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the Pilgrimage terminated with votes of thanks, on the motion of leading pilgrims, to all who had taken part in its organisation and conduct and in particular to Dr Spence and Mr Howard Hall, upon whom the main burden of the business arrangements had fallen. Some members of the party then paid a brief visit to Netherhall, to examine the superb collection of altars and other finds from the site of Maryport fort and settlement, long preserved there by the Senhouse family, before returning to Carlisle, where the pilgrims dispersed to their several destinations.

The Centenary Pilgrimage was fortunate not only in its weather but also in its press. Special representatives of the *Times* and the *Newcastle Journal* took part in the whole journey; the *News Chronicle* and the *Cumberland News* devoted special articles to it at the close of the week; and Professor C. F. C. Hawkes contributed an appreciative account of the Pilgrimage itself and of the Congress of Roman Frontier Studies, which was held in Newcastle upon Tyne in the following week, to the *Archaeological News Letter* (vol. 2, no. 5, September 1949, 72 f.); there was thus an opportunity for a wider public to appreciate the great advance in knowledge of the Wall and its problems which has been effected since 1930. Looking back on that week now, it seems justifiable to stress one further point: it gave an unexampled opportunity for the discussion of many more archaeological matters than had been placed on the agenda of the Pilgrimage, and for the formation and deepening of friendships between both individuals and societies; for this Society it was one more opportunity of friendly co-operation with the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, and to many of the pilgrims it was none of the addresses and none of the Roman remains that made so lasting and so happy an impression as the sight of the two Presidents, arm in arm, discussing the splendour of the rock-cut ditch of the Wall at Limestone Corner.