

EXCURSIONS AND PROCEEDINGS.

TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY, JULY 12TH AND 13TH, 1898.

The first meeting of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society for this year was held on Tuesday and Wednesday, the Scotch Border being visited. Fine weather favoured both days, and as there was a good deal of driving, the excursion proved specially enjoyable and interesting. The starting point was practically Lochmaben railway station, which was reached on Tuesday by the train leaving Carlisle at noon. The company included the following:—His Honour Judge Steavenson and Mrs. Steavenson, Gelt Hall; Colonel and Mrs. Irwin and family, Lynehew; Mr. E. T. Tyson, Wood Hall; Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Collingwood, Coniston; Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Graham, Beanlands Park; Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson, Newby Grange; the Rev. G. E. P. and Mrs. Reade, Milnthorpe; the Rev. H. and Mrs. Lonsdale, Upperby; Mr. and Mrs. Stacy, Beckfoot; Mr. John Lamb, Lancaster; the Misses Ullock, Windermere; the Misses Noble, Beckfoot; Miss Lowry, Beckfoot; Mr. Robert Blair, F.S.A., South Shields; the Rev. J. Brunskill, Ormside; Mrs. Holme and Miss Barrow, Mardale; Rev. F. L. H. Millard, Carlisle; Mr. John Rogers, Barrow-in-Furness; Mrs. Warden and Mr. C. G. Warden, Bračkengill, Sedbergh; Rev. R. S. G. Green and Miss Green, Croglin; Mr. G. Watson, Penrith; Mr. and Mrs. T. Wilson, Aynam Lodge, Kendal; Rev. R. W. Hopper, Kirkbride; Mr. and Mrs. Curwen, Horncop Hall, Kendal; Rev. J. Clarke and Mrs. Clarke, Selside Vicarage.

Coaches met the train at Lochmaben Station, and the party drove to the Castle, where the Rev. John H. Thomson, of The Manse, Hightae, gave an interesting description of the historic building, and an account of the families who had resided there, and of the steps taken to preserve it. A long and enjoyable drive to Ecclefechan then followed, Hoddam Castle being passed on the road. The interesting features of the town were inspected, and Carlyle's house and tomb were visited. After lunch the party resumed their seats on the coaches, and drove to Birrens in Annandale. Dr. Macdonald, F.S.A. (Scot.), late Rector of the High School of Edinburgh, gave an account

account of the Roman camp there. Langholm was reached about half-past eight. An excellent dinner was served at the Buck Hotel, and Mr. and Mrs. Grant gave their numerous guests the most generous attention. Mr. T. H. Hodgson, in the absence, through indisposition, of the President, Chancellor Ferguson, acted as Chairman.

The following new members were elected:—The Rev. F. R. C. Hutton, M.A., Witherslack, Grange; Mr. Arthur E. Cropper, Longfield Park, West Derby, Liverpool; Mr. John Lamb, Penrith; Mr. A. N. Bowman, Portland Square, Carlisle; Mr. Archibald Sparke, Tullie House, Carlisle; the Rev. R. V. Nanson, Matterdale Vicarage, Dockray, Penrith; the Rev. W. P. Morris, Greystoke, Penrith; the Rev. C. F. Husband, Kirkby Ireleth; Mr. Wilson Butler, Broughton-in-Furness; the Rev. F. E. Dewick, Southey Hill, Keswick; Mr. Cecil George Warden, Brackensgill, Sedbergh.

THE FURNESS ABBEY EXCAVATIONS.

The Chairman read the following letter which Chancellor Ferguson had received from Mr. St. John Hope, under whose superintendence the excavations at Furness had been carried out:—

DEAR CHANCELLOR,—In view of your meeting on the 12th Inst., you may perhaps like to have a few notes by way of report on the works carried out at Furness Abbey at Easter.

It will be remembered that there once stood just to the east of the 14th century hall a large octagonal kitchen. This was apparently taken down long before the suppression, and its site covered up and put to other uses. Part of the foundations of the walls and buttresses have been laid open for some time, and further portions were uncovered by me last year. These excavations promised fairly good results, so I decided to spend the few days I could spare at Easter to clearing the whole site. This we did with some degree of success, for we were able to lay open nearly the whole plan, and from various discoveries made to gather some idea of its date and arrangements. It seems to have been of the 13th century, and to have had fire places with projecting stone hoods. It also had a groined roof springing from a central column. I am inclined to think it was the *abbot's* kitchen, but have not yet been able to trace its connection with the abbot's house. This has yet to be made out, as has the extent and use of a building south of the kitchen built immediately over the beck. Upon these a few more pounds might well be spent. There are also several lesser matters upon which information is wanted, *e.g.*, the extent of the chapter house, if it were ever built, &c., &c. These will almost complete all that we can now ever hope to make out, for I am afraid the digging up of the garden of the hotel to trace the buildings (guest houses and the like) known to lie under it is out of the question. You may like further to know that I have now completed the greater part of a new ground plan of the Abbey showing all our discoveries. This I hope to lay shortly before the Society with an exhaustive paper on the architectural history and

and arrangements of the Abbey, and an explanation of the probable uses of its several parts. I ought to mention the very kind help and assistance I have at all times received from Mr. Whitworth, the engineer to the Furness Railway Company, and to refer to several important repairs carried out by him at my suggestion for the security of falling portions of the ruins. Few places are so well cared for in this respect.

Believe me, yours faithfully,

W. H. ST. JOHN HOPE.

The Chairman also said that the President had written as follows:—

Mr. Hope's report is a very satisfactory one, and we should strive to finish the job while we are about it; for that more money is required. The financial position is this: in 1895 or 1896 the Society started a subscription for the purpose of the exploration of Furness Abbey and gave £50; the amount raised was £191 14s. The work commenced in 1895, and was continued in 1896, 1897, and 1898. The sum of £144 10s. 5d. has been expended in labour, and about £60 in other expenses, including Mr. Hope's railway fares and hotel expenses, gratuities to persons who rendered services; the consequence is there is now a deficiency, but I trust the Society will at this meeting vote some more. Mr. Wilson can say what it can afford, and perhaps some of the members may be inclined to assist. I shall be glad to give a couple of guineas.

It was agreed that the Society contribute such sum not exceeding £50 to the excavations at Furness Abbey as the President, Treasurer, and Secretary shall determine.

The following circular has since been drawn up.

REPORT ON THE EXCAVATIONS AT FURNESS ABBEY.

Although an enormous accumulation of rubbish and vegetation was removed some years ago from the ruins of Furness Abbey, it was obvious that much useful work could yet be done by excavation for the more complete elucidation of the remains. In September, 1895, the ruins were carefully surveyed by Chancellor Ferguson and Mr. W. H. St. John Hope, and it was decided that the Cumberland and Westmorland Archaeological Society should be asked, if the necessary permission could be obtained from Mr. Victor Cavendish, M.P., to undertake the completion of the excavations under Mr. Hope's direction. Some days later, on September 23rd, a meeting of the Society was held at Furness Abbey, when Mr. Hope explained the various arrangements and uses of the buildings, and indicated the advantages and probable results of further excavations, Mr. Cavendish having most generously accorded full permission for the work. A subscription list was accordingly opened, to which the Society made a grant from its own funds of £50, and other contributions increased the amount to £191 14s.

In September, 1896, operations were commenced upon the detached block of buildings to the south-east of the church, usually known as the "hospital," but which is more probably the abbot's house. This had been partly cleared in the former excavations, but the removal of over 400 cartloads of earth has revealed much that was hitherto hidden and unknown. The principal remains, those of a
beautiful

beautiful 13th century hall, were already partly uncovered, but recent excavations have disclosed a remarkable enlargement of the upper story in the 14th century, and an additional series of chambers, etc. to the north of the main hall. Besides a number of minor works, a beginning was also made on the uncovering of a large octagonal kitchen to the south-west of the abbot's house to which it probably belonged.

In September, 1897, excavations were resumed on the site of the buildings south and west of the cloister, as to the extent and history of which much doubt prevailed. The buildings themselves had unfortunately been almost entirely destroyed, and in the case of the southern block only the foundations remained. The whole of these were uncovered and carefully planned and their probable arrangements ascertained.

The remains were also brought to light of a large hall in the south-west corner of the site, probably the infirmary of the *conversi* or working-brothers, whose lodgings were in this quarter, and a partial clearance was made of certain buried chambers to the west of the monk's infirmary. The great gatehouse and other parts of the abbey were also diverted of the vegetable growth which obscured their architectural and other features. In Easter week of the present year Mr. Hope was able to devote a few days to further excavations, and succeeded in opening out the greater part of the octagonal kitchen near the abbot's house. From a number of interesting remains found in it, its date has now been ascertained to agree with that of the abbot's house, but its connexion with that building has yet to be traced. A vaulted structure south of it and certain chambers at the south end of the abbot's house also need further elucidation, and there are several minor points in and around these buildings that have yet to be cleared up. It has also not yet been satisfactorily ascertained where the church originally ended eastwards, or whether the chapter house occupies the site of an older one of different dimensions. For all these interesting works further funds are still needed, and the Society has made a second grant of £50 from its own funds, which after paying all accounts, leaves £26 for further work.

Mr. Hope has promised to contribute to the Society's *Transactions* a paper on the "Architectural History of the Abbey," embodying the results of the excavations, and illustrated by an entirely new set of plans prepared by him for the purpose.

RICHARD S. FERGUSON, *President*.

August 20th, 1898.

SUBSCRIPTION LIST.

	£	s.	d.
Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society (<i>second donation</i>)	50	0	0
The President	2	2	0
W. G. Collingwood, M.A.	1	1	0
H. S. Cowper, F.S.A.	1	1	0
Col. Sewell	1	1	0
Anonymous	3	4	0
Thomas Iredale	1	1	0
Mrs. Wm. Jackson	3	3	0
The Directors, Furness Railway	10	10	0
A. Helder, M.P.	1	1	0
E. T. Tyson	1	1	0

The

The following papers were submitted to the society, but owing to the lateness of the hour were mostly taken as read. Several of them will appear in the *Transactions*.

- Effigies in the Diocese of Carlisle. The Rev. CANON BOWER.
 Local Tokens. The PRESIDENT.
 A letter by Jane Strickland. E. BELLASIS, Lancaster Herald.
 Danish Sword, Umbo of Shield, etc. found in Ormside Churchyard. Rev. J. BRUNSKILL and The PRESIDENT.
 Cup found in Ormside Churchyard. Rev. W. S. CALVERLEY, F.S.A.
 Tumulus at Kirkoswald. Rev. CANON THORNLEY.
 Recent Finds. The PRESIDENT and Rev. W. S. CALVERLEY, F.S.A.
 Some Pre-historic Implements. H. GAYTHORPE.
 Threlkeld Knot. C. W. DYMOND, F.S.A.
 Lost Churches in the Diocese of Carlisle. W. G. COLLINGWOOD, M.A., and J. ROGER.
 Notes on Local Heraldry. T. BATY, B.C.L.
 A Carving from Pennington Church. H. S. COWPER, F.S.A.
 A Misappropriated Bishop. GEORGE WATSON.

The weather was beautifully fine on the second morning, and a start was made at 9-20 for a drive to Hermitage, Newcastleton, Canobie, and back to Langholm; it continued fine all day, enabling the visitors to enjoy a circular tour which combined rare mountain and pastoral scenery with monumental relics of the lawless past, in which the Elliots and Armstrongs, and many a noted chieftain, not excepting "the Bold Buccleuch," bid defiance to peace and order, acting on the principle embodied in verse by Wordsworth—

"That they should take who have the power,
 And they should keep who can."

At Hermitage Castle, the Society was met by Mr. John Elliot, of Newcastleton, and Mr. Watson, of Hawick. Mr. Elliot gave a brief account of the grim old fortress, long dismantled and unoccupied, and recounted some of the traditions connected with the place. It was supposed to have been built in the twelfth or thirteenth centuries by a Lord Soulis; and it occupied for many years the position on the Scotch side of the Border that Naworth did on the English Border—it was the residence of the Warden of the Marches. Queen Mary came to see Bothwell here, after he was wounded by Johnny Elliott, of the Park. She came from Jedburgh on a white pony, and a portion of the route is known to this day as the Queen's Mire. "I am John Elliot, of Copshawholme," observed Mr. Elliot, "but I don't know whether I'm a descendant of that Elliot." The Castle

Castle afterwards fell into the hands of Scott of Buccleuch, who rescued Kinmont Willie from Carlisle Castle; and it is now the property of the Duke of Buccleuch. Mr. T. H. Hodgson observed that Lord Soulis was regarded as a magician, and was boiled in lead on the Ninestanerigg. It was believed that the Castle had sunk some feet into the ground under weight of the sins of its possessors. Mr. R. G. Graham asked where the Cout of Keldar was pushed into the water. Mr. Elliot pointed to the Hermitage Water, and read from Sir Walter Scott's "Minstrelsy of the Borders" an account of the tragic incident. The Cout was treacherously attacked while feasting with Lord Soulis and in retreating across the water he fell and his pursuers held him under the water with their lances till he was drowned. His grave is pointed out at the western corner of the old burial ground. From Newcastleton the visitors walked in the direction of Mangerton Tower, the old residence of the Armstrongs. They only saw the Tower from a distance, however, time being pressing. Mr. Elliot, their guide, pointed out an old cross in a field near, erected to the memory of an Armstrong, who was assassinated at a feast at Hermitage Castle. The drive to Canobie in the cool of the day was not the least enjoyable part of the excursion, and many here caught the train to Carlisle. Others drove on to Langholm and completed the full tour.

WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY, AUGUST 24TH AND 25TH, 1898.

The second meeting for the year 1898, was held on Wednesday and Thursday, August 24th and 25th: Wetheral, Warwick, and Corby being visited on the former day, and Homesteads on the Roman Wall on the latter.

Amongst those who joined in the excursions on one or both days were the President (Chancellor Ferguson, Carlisle); Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson, Newby Grange; Mr. W. G. Collingwood, M.A.; Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A.; Mr. Wheatley, Carlisle, and party; Mr. Edward Bellasis, Lancaster Herald, the College of Arms; Mr. E. T. Tyson, Woodhall; Mrs. Hartley, Morcambe; Mr. Thomas Carey, Maryport; Miss M. Creighton, Carlisle; Mr. and Miss Nicholson, Clifton; Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A., Coniston; Mr. T. S. Ritson, Maryport; Mr. Allison, M.P., Scaleby; Mr. D. Harrison, Dunthwaite; Mr. F. H. M. Parker, Fremington; Dr. James Little, Maryport; Canon Bower, Mrs. Bower, and the Misses Bower, Carlisle; the Rev. W. Blake, Mrs. Blake, and the Misses Blake,
Wetheral

Wetheral; Colonel Sewell, Brandlingill; Mr. J. H. Martindale, Moor Yeat; Mr. and Mrs. Bevor, Carlisle; Mr. W. G. M. Townley, Grange-over-Sands; Miss and Miss M. E. Noble, Beckfoot; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cartmell, Maryport; Mr. W. Little, Chapel Ridding; the Rev. J. Brunskill, Ormside; Mr. W. F. Lamsonby, London; Mr. W. L. Fletcher, Stoneleigh; Mr. J. Greenop, Workington; Miss H. M. Donald, Stanwix; Mr. J. P. Watson, Castlecarrock; Mr. T. Wilson (honorary secretary) and Miss and Miss Lucy R. Wilson, Kendal; the Rev. F. L. H. Millard and Mrs. Millard, Carlisle; Mr. George Watson, Penrith; Mr. Crowder, jun., Carlisle; the Rev. W. R. Hopper, Kirkbride; Mr. and Mrs. Gillbanks, Lowther; the Rev. W. Lowthian, Troutbeck; the Rev. Joseph Hudson, Crosby House; Miss Macmichael, Cambridge; Miss Wilkinson, Naples; Mr. John Robinson, C.E.; Mr. and Mrs. Graham, Beanlands Park; Mr. Rogers, Barrow-in-Furness; the Rev. James Wilson, Dalston; &c.

WARWICK CHURCH.

The members and their friends mustered at the Great Central Hotel, Carlisle, at half-past one on Wednesday, and drove thence to Warwick Church, of which the Rector of Wetheral, the Rev. W. Blake, gave a short account. Mr. C. J. Ferguson then followed with an instructive paper. He said:—

The interesting church of Warwick is remarkable for more characteristics than one. It is remarkable in England to find a church of so completely developed a type of primitive plan finished with an apse or circular east end in the Italian manner. It is remarkable to find a church of its simple plan laid out on so large a scale. It is remarkable to find a country church with a western arch of Norman type of such great age on so large a scale and completely encased in stone. It is remarkable to find a country church with a battered or sloping plinth after the manner of a castle. As regards its plan, it is generally accepted that the plans of our churches came to us from two sources—from the early Celtic church in Ireland, where they built in stone and wood, and naturally adopted rectangular forms, and—from the influence of the great Roman civilization, where they built in concrete a monolithic form of construction, which took the form of semi-circular vaults, domes, and semi-domes, so that in ancient Rome after the time of the republic, wherever a place of honour was to be formed beyond the main lines of the building it took the form of a semi-circular projection roofed with a semi-dome or half saucer of concrete. Many of the primitive buildings of the Celtic Church still remain in Ireland and Scotland,—1st, a rectangular building of one chamber only; 2nd, a similar chamber with the addition of a sanctuary to it; 3rd, a similar chamber, with the addition of an enclosed space between the nave and the sanctuary for a choir. The Celtic manner of building eventually prevailed in England. After the close of the missionary period which followed the mission of St. Augustine, no churches were built

built on the Italian plan, but the Italian influence still showed itself in the occasional use of the apse—the wider sanctuary—the wider arch. At the earlier churches of St. Pancras, Canterbury, St. Martin's, Canterbury, and others, the apses have no chancel between them and the nave, neither had the greater apse of the Monastic Church of Carlisle. As regards the scale on which Warwick is laid out and its magnificent western arch, I have here a couple of dozen plans of ancient churches of the diocese, small churches like Over Denton, Cliburn, and Crosby, and great churches like Brough in Westmorland, Arthuret, and Hawkshead. Only one of these, that of Hawkshead, exceeds this church in the width of its nave. Warwick Church is 21 ft. 6 ins. wide; the Monastic Church of Carlisle is 22 ft. 6 ins. wide; Hawkshead is 23 ft.; whi'st the smaller ones—Newton Arlosh is 12 ft. wide; Wastdale is 13 ft. 6 ins. wide; Over Denton is 15 ft. wide. We all know the process of development,—how first the chancel was lengthened; then a north and south aisle, clerestory, a lengthening of the nave, a western tower, and so forth, but none of these things happened to Warwick Church. It was laid out on what you may call the largest scale of the primitive churches of the district, but after the twelfth century it made no increase. I take it, therefore, that Warwick was an important place in the twelfth century and earlier, and was outrivalled later on. We find at Warwick a chancel arch of 9 ft. in width and 4 ft. thick at the less important position at the west end. Its existence can, I think, only be accounted for by the supposition that it was intended to convert the church at Warwick into a great church, with a great tower and aisles and arcades along its sides—a project that was never accomplished, but that later on they found it necessary to curtail the scheme, and to rebuild the nave with no further additions to it. Not only so, but that they found it necessary to make those walls defensible with few and narrow windows, with a battered base and with parapets on the top of them. The church is dedicated to St. Leonard, the patron saint of prisoners and slaves. The only other churches dedicated to this saint in the diocese are the churches of Cleator and Crosby Ravensworth, the latter rather doubtful. The introduction of the cultus of this distinctly Gaulish saint must, in the opinion of the late Canon Venables, be ascribed to Norman influence.

At the close of the paper the Rev. W. Blake remarked amid laughter that he was sorry to say he was only curate of Warwick; and Chancellor Ferguson added amid renewed laughter that that looked as if the Prior of Carlisle had absorbed everything there was to be got out of it.

On going outside Mr. C. J. Ferguson pointed out that on the face of the buttress on the south side of the church is found the rebus of Will Thornton, some time Prior of Wetheral, and afterwards, in 1530, elected Abbot of St. Mary's, York.

WETHERAL CHURCH.

The party then drove to Wetheral Church, of which the Rector, the Rev. W. Blake, gave some account. Mr. C. J. Ferguson also read the following paper:—

Wetheral

Wetheral Church is thoroughly English. In no other country than England, as far as I know, is a building like this to be found, not even in the sister Kingdom of Scotland, for after the fourteenth century the practical side of the English character developed a method of building in stone peculiarly fitted for stone construction, which, from the mechanical arrangement of its piers, has been called perpendicular. In this no other nation followed us; and although I do not propose to claim for Wetheral that it is an example of that particular phase of Gothic, it goes a step further, and at a time when other nations had, with the revival of learning, adopted a renaissance of classical architecture, England still stood to its guns, and created that charmingly domestic style of building, a further development of Gothic architecture, which we call Tudor, the last phase of Gothic, the time that gave us Hampton Court, that gave us Yanwath Hall, and that under the influence of Thomas Lord Dacre converted Naworth Castle from a fortress into a domestic hall. Here then we find it as a church; and although at first sight we might imagine that, with the exception of certain modern additions, Wetheral Church has been built anew under the influence of Abbot Thornton, this is not the case, for if we examine carefully its plan we find that its walls are of different thicknesses, which imply differences in date, and if we compare it with other plans of the ancient churches of the Diocese, which I again exhibit here, we find that Wetheral has another English characteristic. It attained its present size and completeness by a process of growth and development. It began probably as a church of two chambers only, much like to Upper Denton Church, and the first addition to it would be the lengthening of the chancel, when it became like Kirkbampton Church in plan; it then had a north aisle added to it, when it became like the great church of Brough under Stainmore; it then had a south aisle added to it, when it became like Irthington in plan. I take it that then it had attained to very much of its present plan without the modern additions since made to it, that from its great width and the absence of a clerestory it was dark and gloomy, and much repaired and patched up, and that under the influence of Abbot Thornton, whose name we find writ in full on the south door of the chancel, the chancel was rebuilt, a clerestory was added, new windows were inserted in the aisle walls, and the aisle walls were refaced. Later on a poor little tower was built at the west end—poorer than any of the towers of the ancient churches of which I have a record.

The Rev. Canon Bower gave a description of the Salkeld effigies in Wetheral Church, which will be printed in these *Transactions* in Canon Bower's paper on "Effigies in the Diocese of Carlisle."

The party, after inspecting the beautiful Howard monument, the finest production of Nollekin's chisel, went to Wetheral Priory, where the old gatehouse was examined.

WETHERAL CAVES.

The party then visited Wetheral Caves, which were thus described by Mr. T. H. Hodgson:—

Little is known of the construction or early history of these caves. They are not mentioned in the register of Wetheral, and it is hardly to be expected that they

they would be. They are, however, as you see, excavated by the hand of man, being hewn out of the rock, and are clearly not natural caves. A letter from Mr. Milbourne, of Armathwaite Castle, then Recorder of Carlisle, which is printed in *Archæologia*, Vol. I., and in Hutchinson's *Cumberland*, Vol. I., pp. 160-162, was read before the Society of Antiquaries in London on 17th April, 1755, in which he says that "Mr. Camden says that 'here' (*i.e.*, near Wetheral) 'you see a sort of houses dug out of a rock, that seem to have been designated for an absconding place.'" To which his annotator and editor, Dr. Gibson, Bishop of London, adds, "If not for some hermit to lodge in, being near the monastery." Is is clear, however, that Camden had not seen the cells, and was misinformed about them, as he writes of them as consisting of two rooms, one within the other, whereas there are as you see three rooms, each having an independent entrance from the gallery in front. Mr. Milbourne says that they are generally called St. Constantine's Cells (Wetheral Priory being, according to Denton, dedicated to St. Constantine) or, by the country people, Wetheral Safe-guard, which he thinks confirmatory of Camden's opinion. Dr. Prescott, in his edition of the Register of Wetheral, also thinks that their position "points to their occupation as a place of concealment and safety." When Milbourne wrote they were, he says, "difficult of access, the only way to come at them being by a steep descent of several yards along a narrow and difficult path." They are approached by a gallery formed by a wall built before the cells, which Mr. St. John Hope, the Assistant Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries, considers to be probably of the 14th century. There were three windows and a chimney in it; probably the space between it and the rock was covered by a roof, which would render the cells a tolerably comfortable dwelling. It is likely that these cells may be as old as the time of the Romans, who probably quarried the rock here, and that they have subsequently been improved by the monks. There are marks of bolts, which show that the cells had doors. A little to the south of the caves, about twelve feet above the river, there is a Latin inscription which reads (*Lapidarium Septentrionale*, No. 468, as

MAXIMVS SCRISIT
and
LE XX VV COND
CASOSIVS

which he interprets in part as *Legio Vicesima Valens Victrix*, but he gives the rest up. The *Corpus Inscriptionum* suggests *CONDRAVSIVS*. The inscription is followed by a rude figure of a buck or stag. In July, 1868, the "*Carlisle Journal*" published an interesting collection of the names and dates inscribed on the rock which had been made by a gentleman (Mr. Wake, late of Cocker-mouth, now of Derby) then residing at Wetheral. This we reproduce.

"We give them in their original orthography, and in chronological order, viz:—" T. Monke, 1573; Oliuer Skelton, 1600; W. Byer, 1603; O. S., 1606; Patrick Rv...el, 1606; Laine Sibson, 1608; Titus Salkeld, 1606; Oliver Skelton, 1609 (these two latter names are placed together)en...aset, 1611; 1616, Henry Foxcroft; P. E., 1616; Robert Briskoe, 1617; G. S., 1618; R. R. 1619 John Salkeld (about 1620); J. T., S. E., 1631; R. M., 1635; Adam Sanderson, 1636; 1639 Alexander Maxwell; R. W., T. W., 1639; T. Hilton, 1642; H. G., 1651; R. R., 1653; John Dixon, 1660; W. Dixon, 1660; W. Dixon, June 6th

6th, 1660; I. N., 1661; Thomas Helme, 1680; John Railton, 1670; Roger Carlton (about 1680); G. D., 1680; Abraham Dobinson, 1680; John Knight [16]83; 1683, John Hvnter; I. P., 1684; Alexander Hodgson, [16]86; E. A., 1690, George Porter, 1692; R. Bell, 1692; T. G., 1694; Josiah Gill, May 24th, 1696; James Tomison, March 14th, 1701; Israel Dobinson, March 14th, 1701 (these later two are together) William Graham, March XXV. 1702; Thomas Sanderson, 1706; G. R., 1711; Thomas Wallas, 1712; Thomas Morrison, 1716; Joseph Monkhouse, 1722; John Simpson, 1724; John Huntington, 1724; T. L., 1728; R. B., 1742; J. L., 1749; Joseph Harding, 1756; T. Fisher, 1765; R. S., '74; W. M., 1786."

From the "Carlisle Journal," 17th July, 1868.

CORBY CASTLE.

Corby Castle was next visited, many of the party crossing by the ferry. They were received and welcomed by Judge Hills and Mrs. Hills, who kindly entertained them at tea. The party was also joined by Mr. and Mrs. Canning Howard and their daughters. After tea a number of the party visited the old pigeon house, which was fully described by the President in a paper published in the *Transactions* of the Society several years since.* The portion of the paper referring to the Corby pigeon house was read by Mr. Cowper.

The party then drove back to the Central Hotel, Carlisle, where they dined together.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

After dinner the annual meeting of the society was held. The President occupied the chair. The first business was the election of officials. Mr. T. H. Hodgson proposed the re-election of Chancellor Ferguson as President. They all knew so well what his services had been for so many years, that it was unnecessary to speak of them. (Applause). The motion was at once agreed to; and the President returned thanks for the honour conferred upon him.—The Vice-Presidents and members of the Council were re-elected en bloc. The death of Mr. Simpson had caused a vacancy in the office of auditor, and Mr. R. H. Greenwood, Kendal, was elected in his place; Mr. J. G. Gandy, Heaves, the other auditor, being re-elected. Mr. Wilson was re-elected secretary for the thirty-first time. The President stated that it was now proposed to give him an assistant secretary; and he moved that the assistant be Mr. J. F. Curwen, Horncop Hall, Kendal. This was agreed to. Mr. Crewdson was re-elected treasurer. The list of officials now stands as follows:—

* Vol. IX. pp. 412, 431.

Patrons—The Right Hon. The Lord Muncaster, F.S.A., Lord Lieutenant of Cumberland. The Right Hon. The Lord Hothfield, Lord Lieutenant of Westmorland.

President and Editor—The Worshipful Chancellor Ferguson, M.A., LL.M., F.S.A.

Vice-Presidents—The Right Rev. the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness; The Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Carlisle; The Very Rev. the Dean of Carlisle; The Earl of Carlisle; James Cropper, Esq.; H. F. Curwen, Esq.; John Fell, Esq., Flan How; C. J. Ferguson, Esq., F.S.A.; Hon. W. Lowther; Ven. Archdeacon Prescott, D.D.; W. O. Roper, Esq. F.S.A.; H. P. Senhouse, Esq.

Elected Members of Council—Rev. Canon Bower, M.A., Carlisle; H. Barnes, Esq., M.D., Carlisle; H. S. Cowper, Esq., F.S.A., Hawkshead; J. F. Haswell, M.D., Penrith; T. H. Hodgson, Esq., Newby Grange; E. T. Tyson, Esq., Maryport; George Watson, Esq., Penrith; Rev. James Wilson, M.A., Dalston; Colonel Sewell, Brandlingill; W. G. Collingwood, Esq., M.A., Coniston; Joseph Swainson, Esq., Stonecross.

Auditors—James G. Gandy, Esq., Heaves. R. H. Greenwood, Esq., Bankfield.

Treasurer—W. D. Crewdson, Esq., Helm Lodge, Kendal.

Secretaries—T. Wilson, Esq., Aynam Lodge, Kendal; J. F. Curwen, Esq., Horncop Hall, Kendal.

The following were elected new members:—Miss Margaret Nicholson, Milburn, Penrith; Dr. T. H. Jones, Carlisle; Captain Dickinson, Whitehaven; Mr. C. B. Newton, Carlisle; and Mr. T. G. Garstang, Workington.—The statement of receipts and expenditure for the year ending the 30th of June was submitted. It showed that the receipts had been £200, and the expenditure £267. The balance brought forward at the commencement of the year was £238, and at the end of the year there was in hand £171. The President remarked that they had been a little extravagant. He referred to the munificent generosity of Archdeacon Prescott in the bringing out the chartulary of Wetheral at his own expense, declining any assistance from the society. It was hoped to follow up that publication by printing other chartularies and £50 had been subscribed to a chartulary publication account. The accounts were adopted, subject to audit.—This closed the business of the annual meeting.

PRESENTATION TO THE HONORARY SECRETARY.

At the conclusion of the business of the annual meeting, Mr. Wilson, the honorary secretary, was presented with a valuable and elegant silver salver as a slight recognition of his services to the society

society. In making the presentation the President said it now devolved upon him to perform a very pleasant duty, that was to present their Secretary, Mr. Wilson, with a slight memento of their gratitude to him for the long and valuable services he had rendered to them during thirty-one years. In 1866 some antiquaries met in an hotel at Penrith, and founded the society. He could not recollect all who were present; Canon Greenwood, Mr. Ferguson, of Morton, his brother (Mr. Charles Ferguson), and himself, he thought, represented all who were now to the fore.* Of the original members there still survive eight, including Mr. Addison, of Maryport; the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness, Mr. Charles Lloyd Braithwaite, Mr. Cropper, and three Fergusons. From an early period in the history of the society Mr. Wilson discharged some of the secretary's duties, and in 1871 he was appointed to that office, declining any salary. Since that time he had always been re-elected; and he had attended all the meetings and excursions of the society without missing a single one, which was a record. (Applause). It was almost superfluous in a meeting like that to dilate upon the services that Mr. Wilson had rendered the society. The arrangement of their meetings required tact and ability and a knowledge of the country people, and the places they were going to. These qualifications Mr. Wilson had shown conspicuously that he possessed. He never lost his temper, he was always good humoured; he was never in a fuss, and was always as cool as possible. He had always been a careful and wise guardian of their funds. He had always advocated a liberal and judicious expenditure upon illustrations, and the results had proved that he was right. Now, Mr. Wilson, I ask you to accept this silver tray. It dates from the reign of William the Fourth. I hope that you will accept it and will hand it down to your family. The salver bears the following inscription:—"Presented to Titus Wilson, Esq., J.P., Mayor of Kendal, 1887-8, by his friends of the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archæological Society, in grateful recognition of his long services as honorary secretary and collector during the last thirty-one years, Carlisle, 1898." I hope (continued the President) you may live long in enjoyment of the many pleasant memories this tray must recall to your mind. I wish you many happy years, and I trust that for many years to come you and I may be able to act together. (Much applause). Mr. Wilson, on rising to return thanks for the gift, was greeted with renewed applause. He first of all had to congratulate the members upon the

* Mr. Robert Ferguson of Morton has died, greatly lamented, since the General Meeting.

fact

fact that their President had recovered from his illness, and that he was again at their head to-day. He hoped that Chancellor Ferguson would be long spared to remain amongst them. (Applause). Mr. Wilson proceeded to refer to the work which had been accomplished by the society, and concluded by assuring the subscribers that the very handsome piece of plate which had been presented to him would be treasured by him as long as he lived, and he hoped that for many generations afterwards it would be treasured by his children and their descendants as a reminder of how the Antiquarian Society had treated one of their ancestors. (Applause).

EXCURSION TO BORCOVICUS.

Considerable interest was centred in the second day's proceedings, the programme for which had been arranged to include a visit to Borcovicus (Housesteads), on the invitation of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle, to meet the members of that Society and of the Durham and Northumberland Archæological Society, for the purpose of inspecting the excavations which have been made during the past two months, under the superintendence of Mr. R. C. Bosanquet of Rock, by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle. About fifty members of the Cumberland and Westmorland Society left the Citadel Station by the half-past nine train for Greenhead, where waggonettes from the Victoria Mews were in waiting to convey them about seven miles over the hilly road to the site of the famous Roman camp. Borcovicus is in a better state of preservation than any of the other military stations that were built to defend the line of the great Wall of Hadrian. It covers an area of about five acres, and has all its walls standing to a considerable height. The station is in the form of a parallelogram, with the corners rounded, and has a fortified entrance situated in each wall. There are numerous remains of foundations of buildings both inside the station and on the ground lying to the south, while chiselled stones and broken columns lie scattered about. Borcovicus was garrisoned by the First Cohort of the Tungrians. The modern name of the station is "Housesteads," and it lies about thirty miles west of Newcastle-on-Tyne, near the main road to Carlisle.

It was at this interesting spot that the members of the societies named met about noon on one of the finest days of the summer. The sun was shining brilliantly, a gentle breeze tempered the heat of its rays, and the atmosphere was clear enough to permit of an extensive view in all directions. Chancellor Ferguson was at the head of the Cumberland Society, while Dr. Hodgkin, the President
of

of the Newcastle Society, was also present, as was also Dr. Greenwell, the President of the Durham and Northumberland Society. After the party had partaken of luncheon, the excavations were carefully inspected, and subsequently the party met in the prætorium, where Dr. Hodgkin described the camp. He said that at one time there were a great many statues at that place, and the museums in Newcastle, and no doubt Carlisle as well, * had been enriched by the things found lying ready to hand about 100 years ago. Unfortunately the excavators of that period did not go to work scientifically. The present excavators aimed at doing so. The work had been superintended by Mr. Bosanquet, who had had much experience in excavating in the Greek island of Melos for the British School of Archæology at Athens. It so happened, however, that the camp was the site of the richest pasture on the whole farm, and naturally the tenant did not want to see all the best pasture taken from him.

Mr. R. C. Bosanquet next described the excavations. He said with regard to the so-called amphitheatre to the north-east, they had run a trench through it which showed that originally it was a freestone quarry. It had been used, however, as it contained a fair amount of Roman pottery. There was the usual milecastle, a third of a mile to the west of the camp, and there was the old cave which was opened at the beginning of the century and robbed of its altars. They had now obtained a plan of it and had secured some antiquities which the original explorers missed, viz., three figures and two altars. They had also attempted to pump out the largest Roman well in the valley, and by cutting a trench had discovered parts of Roman oak piles and Roman oak floorings. In the camp itself most of the streets ran east and west. The prætorium corresponded closely with the forum at Chester. The official building, the headquarters—the orderly room, as they might call it—was always in the middle of these camps. They had found a sculptured door head with a design representing two birds and two snakes, which had not yet been properly interpreted. They had also come upon a granary, at one side of which an oven had apparently been constructed at some time or other. There also appeared to be another granary and a block of buildings composed of small rooms. In some other camps an underground strong room had been found, but at Borcovicus there had apparently been no attempt to construct one. The columns in the prætorium found here were unique on the Roman Wall. No two bases were exactly alike. Among the antiquities they had found in

* No, Carlisle has not.—THE EDITOR.

the *prætorium* were a silver brooch, a bracelet, and some coins, which helped them to date parts of the building. In one corner of the building they had found the whole floor of the north-western room strewn with arrow-heads. They had already counted over 1,100, and probably there would be about 1,200. Most of them had a small portion of wood adhering to them, and they were of various sizes. An astonishing quantity of nails were found with the arrow-heads, and it seemed as if during some siege an arrow smith had been engaged converting scrap iron into arrow-heads. Two small inscriptions had been found, one having two names at right angles, while the other, a small altar not more than eight inches high, had an inscription which had still to be deciphered.

After Mr. Bosanquet had described the excavations the antiquaries dispersed, some driving to Fourstones for the east, others walking to Bardon Mill to catch trains, and the rest driving back to Greenhead in time for the train due in Carlisle at 5-19 p.m. The whole of the arrangements for both days were admirably carried out, and the brilliant weather which prevailed made the meeting completely successful.