

PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST MEETING: SEASCALE.

ON Wednesday the 11th and Thursday the 12th of June, 1902, the Society met in the Gosforth district, the committee for local arrangements being Mr. J. S. Ainsworth, Dr. Parker, the Rev. Rees Keene, and the Hon. Secretaries. Among the members and friends present were the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness and Mrs. Ware; Judge Steavenson, with Mrs. and the Misses Steavenson; Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Hodgson, with Dr. Munro of Edinburgh; Canon Bower; Dr. Barnes; Dr. Haswell; the Rev. J. Whiteside; Colonel Sewell; Mr. W. I. R. Crowder; Mr. and Mrs. Carrick; Mr. and Mrs. Alan Curwen; Mr. Stephen Marshall and the Misses Marshall; Mr. R. E. Leach; Dr. Newman, of Tullie House; Mr. Gaythorpe; Mr. J. H. Martindale; Mr. W. G. Groves; Mr. Little, Chapel Riddings; Mr. A. B. Clarke; Mr. Wilson Butler; Miss Noble; Miss Collingwood and Miss Metcalfe-Gibson; the Rev. Canon Hudson, of Thornton, Lincolnshire; the Rev. E. E. Stock; the Rev. W. H. Wilkinson; the Rev. W. S. Sykes; the Rev. W. R. Hopper; the Rev. C. F. Husband; Miss Gough; Miss Quirk; Mr. W. N. Thompson and Miss Thompson, of St. Bees; Mr. W. H. Watson, of Gosforth; the Rev. R. H. Snape; Mr. Patrickson, of Seales; Mr. Wrigley, of Seascale; Mr. James Tyson, of Gosforth; Mr. M. E. Yeates; Mrs. Todd, of Harraby; Miss Thompson, of Workington; Mr. and Miss Metcalf, Whitehaven; Mr. Marshall; Ald. McAleer, Workington; Mrs. Hight; Miss Thompson, Parkend, Workington; Mrs. R. H. Hodgson; Mr. J. Greenop; the Rev. Rees Keene and Mrs. Keene; Dr., Mrs., and Miss Parker, of Gosforth; Mr. Titus Wilson; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Curwen; and the Editor.

Leaving Sellafield Station at half-past twelve on the Wednesday, the party drove to St. Bridget's Church, Beckermet, where the Editor briefly described the ancient monuments in the churchyard (see Calverley's *Early Sculptured Crosses*, pp. 26-33), followed by Dr. Parker, who called attention to the cup-markings on the base of the inscribed cross, and gave particulars about the ancient altar slab and bells. He said that the chancel arch was apparently thirteenth century. The south porch and door, south door to chancel, and two windows with round-headed lights were done away with before 1840. A cross head was said to be built into the east wall, and

covered with roughcast. The stone altar slab, which was found in the floor and placed in its present position by the Rev. A. G. Loftie, bore five incised crosses. A credence table in new St. Bridget's, Calderbridge, formed by a stone brought from the abbey, bore five similar crosses, and was thought to have been a portable altar. The bells of old St. Bridget's, were pre-Reformation, not later than 1450—a pair, from the same foundry. The north bell bore MARIA and the south JHESS, in Lombardic capitals—each having in addition a slip of geometrical ornament and three letters close together not yet deciphered. Each bell bore near the rim the founder's mark, a large Lombardic capital T upside down.

The party called for luncheon at the White Mare, Beckermet; and, on the invitation of Mr. J. D. Thompson, inspected his collection at Barwickstead. Among the relics shown were a large stone hammer from Ulpha, a small pierced stone (probably a sinker for fishing nets), a small celt of hard stone, and a great stone axe (of slate, with brown veins) found at the Boggles, near the mouth of the Ehen. Mr. William Little mentioned that he had a stone axe, resembling this last, found in building his house at Chapel Ridding, Windermere. A cast of the axe, with the haft of beech wood attached, found in Gibb Tarn in 1871 (now in the British Museum), was also shown, together with a valuable and interesting museum of antiquities and curiosities of various dates and origins, among which were several querns from Caernarvon Castle.

After returning thanks to Mr. Thompson for his entertainment, the party crossed the road and were met by the Rev. W. Gabbott at St. John's Church. The Editor pointed out the ancient sculptured stones in which the site is rich (see Calverley's book already quoted, pp. 34-38), and Dr. Parker described the fonts, grave-slabs, pitch-pipes, and other antiquities of the church. The thirteenth century door, one of the finest in Cumbria, is said to have come from the chapel at Caernarvon Castle, though it is more reasonable to suppose that it is part of the fine Early English church which must have existed here. The great slab outside must have covered the grave of a Le Fleming of Caernarvon Castle. The pre-Reformation font can hardly be later than 1500. It is at present in Mr. Isaac Selkirk's yard, is of red sandstone, plain, massive, octagonal, 29ins. high exclusive of the base (which is missing), and 33in. broad, the diameter of the deep bowl being 20in. Staple marks, central drain, and groove for lead lining. The chalice has a slight lip, a band of foliage ornament, and inscription:—

+ THIS + BELONGETH + TO + THE + PARISH + OF + ST JOHN +

Date about 1680.

The coaches were next stopped in view of the site of Caernarvon Castle, and Dr. Parker gave an account of the place (Art. XII.).

At Calder Abbey Mr. Rymer cordially received the visitors, and Dr. Parker led them round the ruins. He remarked that the late Mr. Thomas Rymer's energetic efforts to preserve and fully reveal the beauty of this venerable ruin will be appreciated by all who have visited Calder Abbey, and even more by those who visit it long years hence. The wall tops have long since been cleared of the trees, which were disrupting them, and have been filled with cement. Loose stones have been fixed, holes filled up, and feeble parts propped. Sir John le Fleming's effigy has been fixed upon a plain tomb built over the stone coffin believed to contain his bones, and on the other side of the chancel, or presbytery, similar tombs carry the effigies of de Leybourne, Sir Richard le Fleming, and an unknown knight. In placing de Leybourne's tomb a loose fragment of the effigy was found. The shield bears a label, and may refer to Sir Roger de Leybourne, born about 1250, who married Idonea de Veteripoint, one of the heiresses of the barony of Westmorland, and died 1282-3, leaving no issue, being, I think, killed in the Welsh wars, like his brother-in-law Roger de Clifford, who married the other heiress. Both were under 40, so that Leybourne's father might have been living. If not the tomb of Roger, it may be that of Robert de Leybourne of Elliscales, in the parish of Dalton, M.P. for Westmorland in 1314, who married Sarah, sister of the ill-fated Sir Andrew de Harcla. He died before 1328, at which date his widow held lands in Gosforth. The figure of the unknown knight appears to be made up of parts of two distinct effigies. The old question concerning the uncertain fret on the broken shield of the effigy attributed to Sir John le Fleming gave rise to considerable discussion. Dr. Parker went on to say:—In 1901, Mr. Rymer cleared the chancel, tower, and first bay of the nave of the earth and debris which filled them, which has disclosed the bases of the tower piers, and added greatly to the dignity of the arches. The foundations are reached at a depth varying from 18ins. to 2ft., below which the ground is full of large irregular blocks of freestone. All traces of the east wall of the chancel, altar, and altar steps have disappeared—no doubt, because these stones were so easy to remove. At the first bay of the nave the lower course of a screen has been disclosed, extending across the nave, with a doorway in the centre, which formerly led from the choir of the lay brethren to the monks' choir, and would be used for processional purposes. On the south side, it is a screen only; on the north, a solid structure, probably the pulpitum, from the top of which the Epistle and Gospel were sung at festivals. The tower piers vary in level, but

the arches do not appear to be distorted by sinking. Buck's view (1760) shows the south half of the screen standing, with two stone figures in niches. It also shows the south wall of the church *in situ* with narrow single windows, vaulting corbels, and a handsome central doorway into the cloister. On the arcade of the north aisle, believed to be the work of Thomas de Multon, the ornamentation of the capital of the third pillar from the west, is identical with that on the hoodmould of the windows of the great hall of Egremont Castle, also attributed to him. The north wall of the north transept, which has been terribly robbed, has been partly restored with old blocks of stone by Mr. Rymer. The top of the west wall of the south transept has evidently been rebuilt after Bruce's raid, and the row of corbels marks merely the full height of the abbey when restored on a reduced scale. In the south-west corner of the space above the vaulted roof of the chapel in the south transept is a built-up opening like a doorway, and on the other side of the wall, almost directly opposite to this, is a small triangular chamfered hole on a level which comes between the groined roof of the chapter-house and the floor of the room above it. This curious feature was much discussed, but no solution found. The excavations outside the chapter-house showed a double offset to the wall, and the bases of two large buttresses. Inside the chapter-house Mr. Rymer removed the modern broken flags which covered the coffin of an abbot. The skeleton, which was entire, was carefully inspected, not disturbed, and a new chamfered stone cover placed over it. No object of metal or wood could be seen. This grave has been ascribed to Robert de Wilughby, abbot about 1350; but his grave-slab, which is in existence, does not show the signs of wear which we should expect to see on a stone which had for 200 years formed the centre of the floor of the daily-used chapter-house. The remains of a modern shed built of old stones was removed, and the threshold of the chapter-house door found amongst them and replaced. Various architectural fragments have been found, and in the centre of the chancel the workmen unearthed the missing end of the Leybourne effigy, showing that the legs had been crossed and the feet rested on a double lion, which perhaps referred to the family arms, six lions rampant. Also :—

- Various well-carved fragments of limbs in chain mail, some of which seem to belong to the figure of the unknown knight.
Part of a grave cover with Lombardic lettering.
Small head of a monk with cowl and tonsure.
Two hands holding an open book from a figure of the same size as the last.
Body of a figure of similar size in a monk's gown.
A right hand grasping a staff, life size.
Small head of a sheep (?), apparently enrichment of carving of a canopy.

Fragment of a fluted piscina or stoup.

About 18 rough sandstone roofing flags three-quarters of an inch thick, each with one nail hole, similar to those found at Gosforth Church and at the Gosforth Holy Well, two fragments beautifully carved with ropes, and circular depressions in set of three—one of which fragments has been repaired by the insertion of a piece of stone accurately let in, evidently part of some important decoration.

A leaden spoon.

A piece of sheet lead.

The effigy of de Leybourne has been placed with its feet to the west, as in that position the arms, &c., are better seen. This has provoked free criticism, on the dictum that all(?) effigies and burials in the church were laid with their feet to the east. Three very large and aged trees formerly stood in close proximity to the tower, one of them standing within the church. The most dangerous of these—an enormous ash—was removed some years ago. The butt proved a mere shell of bark, the whole being ready to go in the next storm, when it must inevitably have fallen on the tower. Ten minutes' work with the axe sufficed to throw it safely. The excavations proved that these trees were doing much more harm than had been supposed, and it was decided to take down the beech which grew in the church. Preparations were made on the Monday with a view to throwing it in the only safe direction—the north-east. That night the great storm of November 12th arose, and the gardeners lay awake quaking for the safety of the abbey. In the morning they hurried up just in time to see the tree fall—exactly right. The earth adhering to the root was soon picked away, and out dropped a skull. Being interested in the tomb question the men at once made investigation, and found the skeleton lying just below the level of the church floor, due north and south, the feet being to the south. Beside it lay another, the feet of which were to the north. Both were adult males, of no great stature. Dr. Parker has added another abbot to Mr. Loftie's list—Adam, abbot soon after 1200, chief witness to the first charter granted by Richard de Lucy to the burgesses of Egremont.

After making the round of the abbey and grounds and inspecting the finds discovered in recent excavations, the visitors were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Rymer, to whom a hearty vote of thanks was accorded on the motion of the Chairman of Council. Leaving by the Long Walk, beside the picturesque river, the coaches were met at Calderbridge about 5.30, and the next halt was made at Ponsonby Church, where Dr. Parker again acted as cicerone.

The church, which stands in the park, was restored in 1874, the thirteenth century chancel arch being then heightened several feet,

and the piscina, which was found in the churchyard, replaced near the altar. In the chancel windows are some fragments of old stained glass brought from Dalegarth Hall showing arms of Hutton, Hutton and Briggs, and fragment of Stanley and Briggs. (Sir Richard Hutton, Kt., of Goldsborough, m. circa 1690 Agnes, dau. and co-heir of Thomas Briggs of Cawmire, Westmorland. Her sister Ann married Edward Stanley.) There is also a brass in memory of a former lady of the abbey, inscribed in black letters:—

Here lyeth the bodye of Frances Patryckson daugh-
-ter to Sir Thomas Whyet Knight one of the most
honorable pryve Councell to Kinge henerye the VIII
Some tyme wyfe of Thomas lige of Calder & at the
day of her death wyfe of William patryckson gentleman.

God gave this wyfe a mynde to praye in grones and pangs of deth
& to heaven elevating hands and eyes smylinglye to yeld breth
And thus at age lvi to grave she toke her waye
God grante that she & we may mete in joye at the last daye

She dyed the xvi of Julii in the yere of our Lord 1578.

Also a monument to Thomas Curwen of Sellapark, 1653, with quaint figures symbolising Labour and Rest. It is surrounded by carved stone, with nailhead ornament of much older date. The arms are Curwen, quartering Brun, impaling Sanderson. In the chancel are two small grave-slabs, and on the outside of the south wall, which shows fragments of all ages, a third. These were described in the last volume of the *Transactions*. The chalice is Newcastle make, 1670-1684.

It was noticed that the valuable old glass was not protected by wire netting on the outside, as is usual in such cases. The churchyard cross on the south-side of the church—a plain shaft, oblong in section, and standing on a massive base—seems to have been cut down, and the upper end chamfered to hold a sundial, which has disappeared.

On leaving Ponsonby Church a pleasant drive brought the party to the Scawfell Hotel, Seascale. The weather had been cold and threatening in the morning, but had cleared up for a fine afternoon. It was only late in the evening that rain fell.

Before dinner a Council Meeting was held, at which the date of the next meeting was fixed and a local committee appointed to carry out the arrangements at Penrith and Keswick. Mr. T. H. Hodgson was deputed to co-operate with the Rev. J. Wharton of South Stainmore in opening cairns at Stainmore. Mr. Hodgson reported that, owing to the kindness of Mr. R. D. Marshall in defraying the expenses of labour in the excavation of Lord's Island, Derwentwater,

the grant of the Society for that purpose had been left untouched; and he proposed that the grant be applied to the digging of the site known as Derwentwater Castle on Castlerigg, which was carried unanimously.

After dinner, at which the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness took the chair, the Annual Meeting of the Society was held. All the officers of the Society were re-appointed, with the exception of Mr. Joseph Swainson, who retired from the Council. His place was filled, on the motion of the Chairman of Council, by Dr. Charles Arundel Parker, F.S.A., Scot., of Park Nook, Gosforth, author of *The Ancient Crosses at Gosforth, Cumberland*, and many papers in these *Transactions*, to whom also the thanks of the Society were due for his great share in the arrangements and guidance on this occasion. The following new members were then elected:—Mr. T. H. Rymer, Calder Abbey; the Rev. J. Clare Hudson, hon. Canon of Lincoln; Mrs. Metcalfe-Gibson, Ravenstonedale; Mr. J. D. Thompson, Beckermet; Mr. William Greenwood, barrister-at-law, Isleworth, Middlesex; Mr. Alan D. Curwen, Workington Hall; Dr. T. G. Matthews, Whitehaven; Mr. Joseph Birch, Gosforth; Mr. J. R. Atkinson, Beckermet; and Mr. Joseph Satterthwaite, Calderbridge.

In laying on the table his third instalment of "Bishop Nicolson's Diaries" (Art. I.), the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness said a few words in contravention of commonly received notions about social, and especially clerical, life in Cumberland two centuries ago: pointing out that the diaries bear witness to the well-being and general good behaviour of the people in Queen Anne's time, the enjoyment of the comforts of life, and security in travelling, far more than Macaulay and other authors have led their readers to imagine.

Dr. Barnes read his paper on "The Bishop's Licence" (Art. II.), and Mr. Gaythorpe gave an account, with illustrations, of the Runic tympanum lately found at Pennington in Furness (Art. XXIV).

Dr. Parker then showed a series of knitting sticks and celts, a mould for bullets (Art. XIII.), and recent finds of Roman pottery from Ravenglass, on which he said:—"I have the pleasure to exhibit several fragments of pottery found in and since 1899 at the camp at Ravenglass, by Mr. F. Reynolds of that place. They include many bits of rough ware of various sorts, mostly found where the south ditch of the camp debouches on the river Esk. Amongst these are two or three dark pieces marked with a fretty pattern, possibly Upchurch. One fragment appears to have formed the lip of a large mortarium. There are also some two dozen fragments of the red ware commonly called Samian, found in the north ditch on the west of the line. This would adjoin the terrace which Chancellor

Ferguson suggested was reserved for the officers of the garrison. Four—perhaps five—scraps belong to the same bowl, which has been about $4\frac{1}{2}$ ins. high by 9 in diameter. It has a slight bead round the lip, and about $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. below that a frieze of festoon and tassel ornament, below which is a delicate twisted cord or cable moulding. The same moulding divides the decorated band below into panels, each vertical dividing line having a little horizontal crosspiece at top and bottom, and a third set obliquely in the centre. The panels contain embossed human figures and hunting scenes alternately, so far as can be made out. The human figure, which occurs three times, is that of a man walking briskly, the legs bare, but with some sort of dress crossing the body from the left shoulder and passing under the right arm, with which he carries some large object slung over the right shoulder. A round object is apparently under the left arm. The hunting scene is very fragmentary. In one panel is the potter's mark, set vertically on a slip, which may be AVSTRI OF or AVSTRI OPVS. This name is not in the list given by Chancellor Ferguson in the *Transactions*, vol. xii., as occurring in Cumberland; but AVSTRI OF is found in Mr. Wright's list as occurring in England. He also gives AVSTRI M. and AVSTVS F. If AVSTRI OF (from the workshop of Auster), it is interesting as affording direct proof of importation, as the implements for stamping both the festoon and tassel ornament and this particular label have been found at potteries discovered at Lezoux in Auvergne. The most noted pottery for the manufacture of this ware was at Aretium in Italy, the modern Arezzo; also at Sarrentum, Asia; Pollentia, Italy; Saguntum, Spain; and Pergamus, Asia Minor. Four fragments belong to a second bowl, 3ins. high and $8\frac{1}{2}$ in diameter. Small bead, festoon, and tassel, cable divisions to which flowers are attached. Figures:—

- 1.—Nude male resembling one of a series of caryatides.
- 2.—Draped figure of a man.
- 3.—A tripod (?).
- 4.—Female figure seated.

These have been repeated round the vessel. Another fragment shows a man offering something upon an altar, and a woman leaning on a pillar. Another has two birds very neatly executed in the panels formed by a large festoon frieze. Others have parts of spirited hunting scenes or intricate floral designs."

Mr. W. H. Watson exhibited a celt, a quern, and photographs of the famous Gibb Tarn finds, and read a paper on pre-historic implements in the neighbourhood (Art. VI.), and the Editor showed photographs of a curious sculptured stone at Tullie House (Art. XXV.).

At this point, the programme still being long and the hour late, the Editor laid on the table abstracts of papers by Mr. F. Grainger (Art. XI.) and Mr. H. Penfold (Art. VII.), and after some discussion proposed, in order to avoid the recurrent congestion of business at these after-dinner sittings, that "the Society direct the Council to arrange a meeting for the reading of papers." The Chairman of Council seconded, and the resolution, on being put by the President, was carried *nem. con.*

Mr. J. F. Curwen then read "Some Notes on the Hermitage at Conishead Priory" (Art. IV.), and the Rev. J. Whiteside summarised his papers on "Paines made at Shap" (Art. IX.) and on "Chancellor Burn and the Quakers" (Art. X.), with which the day's proceedings concluded.

Next morning the rain of overnight had increased to a downpour, making an early start impossible. Carriages were ordered for eleven o'clock on faith in the saying "Rain before seven, fine at eleven," and the interval was spent in a description by the Editor of the Gosforth Cross, aided by a series of fine photographs of Gosforth and the neighbourhood by Miss A. E. Brickhill of Manchester. Mr. J. F. Curwen then read the paper by Mr. H. Penfold on "Early Brampton Presbyterians," which had been omitted at the evening meeting for want of time. In discussion, the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness said that the character of Bishop Nicolson, who had been mentioned in the paper, was not generally understood. He was an overbearing man in many ways, but not harsh in matters of religion; the laws against dissenters were made by the nation in the House of Commons and directed against Jacobitism and other disturbing influences, which were a real danger at the time; in warning his clergy against all such influences he was only doing his duty, and not acting as a persecutor of men whose worth he recognised.

At eleven o'clock the rain ceased, and a start was made for Gosforth. The old Hall was first visited, and described by Mr. J. F. Curwen and Dr. Parker (Art. XIV.).

After the meeting, the Rev. Rees Keene wrote:—"I noticed to-day that many people at Gosforth Hall wanted to know what the 'oak thing' in the kitchen was. The thing was always a puzzle to me until (last May) I went to Conway and visited Plas Mawr, now the Royal Cambrian Academy of Art. In the 'small kitchen' there two stout black oak beams cross the ceiling, from which is suspended an old-fashioned *bread safe*. In some old, out-of-the-way farmhouses these old safes are still in use. Such things, of much more modern make, of course are common for bacon, especially perhaps in Monmouthshire."

At the church, after a few introductory words by the rector (the

Rev. Rees Keene), the Editor spoke upon the ancient hogbacks (Calverley's *Early Sculptured Crosses*, pp. 172-177). Mr. John Watson, clerk to the church and builder at the restoration, has kindly communicated the following account of the discovery of these famous pre-Norman monuments:—"The restoration of Gosforth Church was begun in June, 1896, the pulling down of the north wall of the nave being anything but an easy task. At first it was arranged that the chancel, chancel arch, and south wall of the nave should remain as they were—hence blasting operations were considered out of the question. Large sledge hammers, picks, and wedges were brought into use with very little effect, one man remarking that he 'cudn't mak' saut till his poddish wid this way o' deuhan.' Being somewhat impressed with the man's remarks—and the further question, 'Would it pay to proceed thus?'—I consented to try blasting, which soon proved far more effective than picks, wedges, &c. The first shot turned over a solid piece 15ft. square, weighing over 40 tons. It was under this wall, at the north-west corner of the nave, that we found the first hogback—that is, the one on the south with the battle scene on its south side. At its first appearance little notice was taken of it, and being in two pieces it was thought to be of no value, except as a foundation stone. However, we put it on one side, and at Dr. Parker's next visit I drew his attention to it. He quickly reckoned it up, and said—'Why, John, this is a hogback; a very rare stone, and very valuable in an archæological sense.' I can hardly describe how delighted he was to find it was one of these rare stones—a 'hogback,' as he called it. At first I thought he was talking Latin; but after cleaning and close examination the battle scene became visible, and other outlines of its design, purpose, and plan. I thought I had become an archæologist all at once. Dr. Parker requested me to keep a sharp look-out for any stones of an interesting character, and not many days passed ere we were pleased to find the ornamental grave-slabs now fixed in the south porch. The large one was used as a lintel over the doorway at the west end of the nave, one side of the stone having been cut away to make it fit the wall. The slab next to it, with the sword and cross, was over the door leading into the west gallery; and the third plain slab under the nave floor. As the work proceeded several pieces of tracery, arch stones, fragments of Early English windows and small grave-slabs, a piscina, &c., were found and put aside. The rebuilding had now so far advanced that it was time to settle where the hogback was to be placed. The committee consulted their architect Mr. Ferguson, and it was decided to place it where it now stands, but set north and south, not east and west. All the stones for the pedestal being ready, the work of preparation

for fixing them was started on the morning of August 13th, 1897. The piece of old transept wall, built in 1858, at the east end of the new north aisle being only very moderate, I ordered it to be taken down so as to make a more substantial job. I was passing the spot when the men were clearing away the rubbish, and noticed a stone, with sloping faces, projecting from underneath the north-east corner of the ancient nave, which corner had become since the alterations a pillar, from which four arches sprang. This, I saw, was the cause of the transept wall being bad—a sloping foundation. I asked my man in charge to brush the rubbish off the stone so that I might examine it, and was not a little surprised to find it was another hogback. Turning to my man, I said—

‘This is another hogback! ’

‘What’ll ye du wid it?’ said he.

‘Oh! it’ll hev to cum oot.’

‘Ah wadn’t tooch it,’ was his reply; ‘knock t’ end off an’ hap it up, an’ niver say a ward aboot it.’

‘Ah cannut du that, hooiver,’ I replied.

‘It’ll let t’ buildin’ doon to tak’ it oot,’ said another.

‘Ah wadn’t hev any responsibility, onyhow,’ chimed in a third.

I now despatched a messenger to Parknock, and in the meantime I had all cleared away which was not supporting other work. In a short time Dr. Parker arrived looking incredulous, but as soon as he saw it he changed his tune, and pronounced it a fine specimen.

‘Can you get it out?’ said he.

‘Yes,’

‘Well, it has got to come out.’

Naturally there was a good deal of risk, but with careful working and good shoring I was certain it could be done. The work of shoring and propping the chancel arch and arch of the north aisle was started, but you may imagine the uphill work when the men fancied every moment they were about to bring the building down upon their heads. A large pit was sunk at the end of the hogback to about two feet below its lowest part; then undermining was begun, and blocks and ropes were fixed to the end of the stone. By this time the news had spread through the village, and several of the Building Committee turned up and lent a helping hand, some having been summoned by telegram. At this stage some of the workmen became quite nervous, so I at once relieved them by stepping into the pit; and, after a bit more excavation, I was able to secure the end with a chain, and with a ‘heigh, ho!’ and a pull out came, to everybody’s disappointment, only half of the stone. Nothing daunted more excavating was done, which set free the other half. By 7.30 on the same day the hole was filled up with

concrete and large stones, and all made secure without the least thread or trace of a shrinkage. I feel I must offer an apology; it appears as if I was short of a trumpeter, and had to proclaim myself. Had it not been for our rector Mr. Keene, I should never have thought of committing to paper the particulars of the finding of these remarkable stones. Gosforth folk prize them highly, and think that with the standing cross in the churchyard, and the cross fragments, grave-slabs, and other relics of the past both outside and inside the building, they may well feel proud of their parish church."

Dr. Parker then described the Chinese bell (see these *Transactions*, n.s., ii., p. 99), the plate, alms-dishes and alms-pillar, old oak, Denton monument, &c. The old chalice is of three different dates, the hexagonal foot bearing INRI, a crucifixion, and the figures 1690; the plain bell bowl the arms of Charles Lutwidge of Holmrook (then patron), and the date 1784; the stem with flange, knop, and cherubs being from 1615-45. The *Cumberland Pacquet* for 1783 has the following advertisement:—"Wheras the Church of Gosforth was broken open some time between Monday the 7th and Sunday the 13th of this month, and a silver cup of a very ancient fashion, and of a pint measure or thereabouts, and also a tablecloth, a note of hand for £40, payable to the Rector and Churchwardens, and several other parochial papers were taken therefrom. Any person who can discover the offender shall upon conviction receive five pounds reward." Either part of the stolen cup was recovered, or Mr. Lutwidge had a bowl made and mounted on an older stem and foot. The cup "of a very ancient fashion" may have been the "chales of silvr" mentioned in the inventory of Edward VI. The pewter basin is dated 1675. The oak panel—on which is carved a shield bearing "IAS, 1640," and a rose, the Senhouse badge—is said to have been part of the Senhouse Hall pew, and refers to John and Anna Senhouse, then of the manor of Seascale.

Mr. John Watson, clerk, exhibited an old pitch-pipe, and the rector showed some old Bibles and the Book of Homilies dated 1633.

With regard to the grave-slab bearing the inscription "HIC JA(cet J)OH(ann)ES FIDUS R(ector hujus ecclesiae?),," figured by Dr. Parker in these *Transactions* (n.s., ii., p. 94), the Rev. Rees Keene adds:—"The faithful rector—may he always have worthy and similar successors!—seems from the charters of the Duchy of Lancaster to have been patron of the living of Drigg 1233-1246, or thereabouts. Dr. Parker tells me he has noted a 'John, rector of Goseford, 1261-1271,' and that this is found in the St. Bees chartulary. I think mine is the true and rightful owner of the memorial stone."

Owing to the late start it was impossible to visit the Holy Well, chapel, and Danish camp. The former is described in these *Transactions*, n.s., pp. 77-83.) Carriages were taken about one o'clock for Irton Hall, where Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brocklebank most hospitably entertained the party. The ancient parts of the Hall were described by Dr. Parker, but this subject and that of the Danish camp must be postponed to a subsequent volume of these *Transactions*.

In view of the Society's visit, trenches had been cut in an ancient earthwork in the park. The site was inspected with great interest, but the short time available was not enough for any decided opinion to be formed as to the age and purpose of the embankment, and a full description must be deferred.

On leaving Irton Hall a hearty vote of thanks was given, on the motion of the President, to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brocklebank; and as the time was running short, it was decided by those in command to omit the visit to Irton Church and Cross. Many of the party accordingly left the carriages, including the President and most of the local members. The remainder, however, stopped for a few minutes at the church, only to find it closed. Seascale was reached as rain began to come on again, and the company dispersed after a meeting which, in spite of unsettled weather, was one of the best attended and most interesting of recent years.

SECOND MEETING : PENRITH AND KESWICK.

The second meeting of the season was held on Thursday and Friday, August 28th and 29th, 1902, the committee for local arrangements being Mr. T. H. Hodgson, F.S.A., Dr. Haswell, Mr. George Watson, and the Secretaries. Among those present during the whole or part of the time were the Bishop of Barrow-in-Furness, president, and Mrs. Ware; the Right Hon. J. W. Lowther, M.P., and Mr. Christopher Lowther, Hutton John; Sir Edmund T. Bewley, Dublin; Colonel and Mrs. Sewell, Brandlingill; Mr. R. D. Marshall and party, Keswick; the Rev. J. Wilson, Dalston; Mr. J. E. Morris, Bedford; Canon Rawnsley; Canon Hudson, Horncastle; Mr. and Mrs. F. M. H. Parker, Fremington; Miss Marston, Windermere; Mr. J. R. Ford, Leeds; Mr. S. J. Chadwick, F.S.A., Dewsbury (secretary of the Yorkshire Archaeological Society); Mr. and Mrs. Swainson, Kendal; Mr. J. Robinson, Kendal; Rev. W. R. and Mrs. Hopper, Kirkbride; Mrs. Wood, Cockermouth; Mr. W. O. Roper, Yealand Conyers; Miss Armitt, Ambleside; the Rev. W. H. Bartholomew, Ambleside; Miss Gough, Wigton; the Rev. A. F. Still Hill, Dufton; Mr. E. Jackson, Cockermouth; Mr. W. L.

Fletcher, Workington; the Misses Ullock, Windermere; Mrs. Highett, Workington; Mr., Mrs., and Miss Hodgson, Newby Grange; Mr. and Miss Fothergill, Brownber; Mr. and Mrs. A. Fothergill, Kendal; the Rev. T. Ellwood, Torver; the Rev. Canon Lowther Clarke, Huddersfield (since Bishop of Melbourne); the Rev. R. W. Metcalfe and Mr. J. Carver, Ravenstonedale; Miss Noble and party (4), Beckfoot; Mr. T. Lester and party (3), Penrith; Mr. and Mrs. Collingwood, Miss Holt, Coniston; Miss C. Richardson, Grasmere; Mr. T. Wilson and the Misses Wilson, Kendal; Mr. T. S. Ritson, Maryport; Mr. J. F. Curwen, Kendal; Mr. W. D. Burnyeat, Whitehaven; Mr. A. B. Clark, Aspatria; Mr. G. Watson, Dr. and Mrs. Haswell, Canon and Mrs. Monnington, Penrith; Mr. J. B. and Mr. H. Penfold, Brampton; Mr. W. I. R. Crowder, Mr. F. C. Robinson, Miss Beevor, Carlisle; Canon Thornley, Kirkoswald; Mr. A. C. Whitehead and the Rev. A. Coles, Appleby; Miss Yeates, Penrith; Mr. R. E. Leach, Yealand Conyers; the Rev. J. Whiteside, Helsington; Mrs. Gillbanks, Clifton; the Rev. A. J. and Miss Heelis, Brougham Rectory; and others.

Thursday morning was bright and fine, and on the arrival of the last contingents by the train from the south reaching Penrith shortly after eleven, the party mustered in the ruined castle, where Dr. Haswell read a paper as follows :—

PENRITH CASTLE.

The royal manor of Penrith was granted to Ralph Neville, first Earl of Westmorland, towards the end of the fourteenth century, and it is probable that this castle was commenced by him; at any rate, in 1399 Bishop Strickland obtained a licence to crenellate a tower at Penrith, which is generally supposed to have been what was called the ‘bishop’s tower’ in the castle. It was certainly in existence in 1460, when, after the battle of Wakefield Richard Neville was captured and beheaded, the ‘castle and manor’ were granted by Henry VI. to John Clifford. But in those troublous times people in high positions seldom held anything long—not even their own heads—and the battle of Towton intervening and Clifford being killed, Edward IV. granted the manor to the Earl of Warwick. Ten years saw his power broken and the castle and manor handed over to Richard, Duke of Gloucester, who resided here and dated deeds, which are still extant, from his castle of Penrith. Most of you will remember the glass in the parish church which contains the portraits of his parents—Richard, Duke of York, and Cicely Neville, the rose of Raby. He is said to have made considerable addition to the castle, consisting of a tower, a porter’s lodge, and some other buildings. After his defeat at Bosworth Field the manor

does not appear to have been granted out, and in 1572 a commission was issued by Queen Elizabeth. Walker, in his *History of Penrith*, says:—‘On the 25th June, 1572, a commission was issued by Queen Elizabeth appointing Henry, Lord Scrope, warden of the West Marches; Edward Braddall, receiver of the Queen’s possessions in the county of Cumberland; and others, to survey the manor of *Peareth* with the castle and members of the same, the forest of Inglewood,’ &c., &c. The report of the survey, as far as applies to Penrith, is interesting. In connexion with the castle there were two towers, one called the red tower and the other the white, or bishop’s tower. This latter tower is supposed to have been built by Bishop Strickland. There was a bakehouse or brewhouse, and one great chamber adjoining the last-mentioned tower in good repair, except some faults in the leads, which might be amended with a very little cost. In this tower there was a ‘view or shewe’ of a castle, or place of refuge for all the tenants of the lordship to go into for defence of their goods and chattels if need required, ‘and as they had been accustomed on the invasion of the enemy of Scotland.’ Certain stones had fallen down, but with a small cost a good wall might be made from the bakehouse to the corner of the wall next the white tower, ‘which would put the whole in a guardable state, sufficient for the protection of the tenants.’ The outermost gatehouse of the castle was in utter ruin. The timber on three stables within the castle was rotted, and ready to fall down. The chapel, the great hall, the kitchens, and all other offices were in utter ruin and decay, and not repairable. The gates of the castle were in ruin. The windows of the prison, and other iron staunches of windows, bands of doors, &c., were worth £1 10s. for old iron. Richard Dudley, late steward of Penrith, had taken from the castle, by warrant of Anthony Barwise, 30 cartloads of stones, to build a prison in Penrith. Thomas Carleton, of Penrith, had six loads; Cuthbert, bailiff of Penrith, three score of hewn stones; and several other persons had removed different quantities in the first year of King Edward VI. Therefore, one hundred years of neglect had done its work. I do not know if it was repaired after the commission, but it is probable it was in some sort, and remained a residence for sundry people until the time of the civil wars of Charles, when General Lambert demolished it and sold the lead and timber for the uses of the Commonwealth, since when it has been gradually falling into decay. The general plan, you will see, is four square, enclosing a central court, with a moat about 15ft. from the outside walls. This must have been dry, as there seems to have been no means of filling it with water. The gateway from the town was clearly in the north wall, where the approach can still

be seen; also, there seems to have been another gateway in the south wall. Of the two towers mentioned one is at the north-west corner, and I think the other, the bishop's tower, was most probably at the north-east corner. The hall would be between these two, and parts of the windows still remain, the tracing having fallen out within living memory. The position of the chapel, bakehouse, &c., has been quite lost.

After passing round the castle the party walked to the Two Lions Hotel—formerly Gerard Lowther's house—which Mr. George Watson described (see these *Transactions*, n.s., i., art. v.); and then went on to St. Andrew's Church, where the Editor gave an account of the Giant's Grave and Giant's Thumb (see Art. XXV. and Calverley's *Early Sculptured Crosses*, pp. 240-252). After seeing the interior of the church and the churchyard, in which was exhibited an ancient stoup recently found by the clerk, Mr. Dan. Chester, luncheon was taken at the George Hotel.

About two o'clock the six carriages started conveying the party to Brougham Castle, where the Rev. A. J. Heelis gave some account of the ruins, which deserve a fuller investigation and description than they have hitherto received in our *Transactions*. It is much to be hoped that the intentions expressed at our visit may be carried out at no distant date. Meanwhile we reproduce (Art. XIX.) the capital photograph taken on this occasion by Mr. J. E. Morris.

After a short halt at the Countess's Pillar, carriages were left at Whinfell for the walk across the fields to Ninekirks, where the Rev. A. J. Heelis read a paper on the church and the pillar (Art. XXII.); and the walk was then continued to Hornby Hall, which was invaded and examined upstairs and down by kind permission of Mr. Todd. Dr. Haswell, whose paper on the heraldry of the carvings in the porch has been printed in these *Transactions* (xiv., Art. vii.), read the following account of the

BIRKBECK FAMILY.

The estate of Hornby was granted in 1553 by Henry, Earl of Cumberland, to Edward Birkbeck in exchange for some land near Appleby. This is the first reference to the place or family that I know in local history. It continued in the Birkbeck line until about 1695, when Caterick Birkbeck sold the estate to Thomas Dalston of Penrith, a barrister belonging to the Acornbank family; and in 1828 it passed by purchase to its present owner, the Earl of Lonsdale. The house is fully described in Dr. Taylor's book. Very little is known of the Birkbeck family—a privately-printed pedigree begins with "Thomas Birkbeck, Esq., Governor of Carlisle, arms granted

1515," but no Governor of Carlisle of that name is given in Nicolson and Burn. His son was the Edward Birkbeck mentioned above, who probably built and beautified the house. The arms as given by Dugdale are Arg. a fess chequy Or and Sable between 3 lion's heads, erased Gules—from the glass at Hornby and the oak shields the fess is componé, and the animals, certainly not lions, probably boars or bears. The pedigree, as far as concerns Hornby, is given below.

THOMAS BIRKBECK, Esq. =—————			
Governor of Carlisle,			
Arms granted 1515.			
EDWARD BIRKBECK	=JOAN, dau. and co-heir of Hornby, of Ambrose Lancaster, ob. 1609. of Brampton, co. Cumb.	6 sons, 3 daughters.	
EDWARD	=BRIDGET, dau. of John ob. 1634 Calvert of Cockerham, co. Lanc., ob. 1657, Jan. 7, at Brougham.	2 sons, 4 daughters.	
HENRY	=ELLEN, dau. of Ob. 1691 Geo. Poole, of Wakebridge, co. Derby, buried at Brougham, 8 Feb., 1691.	RICHARD, buried at Brougham, 2 Ap., 1696.	EDWARD, buried at Brougham, 31 Dec., 1688. 2 sons, 2 daughters.
THOMAS	=MARGARET, daughter of John ob. 1676 Caterick of North Carlton, co. Ebor. Buried at Brougham, 15 August, 1685.		GERVASE.
CATERICK BIRKBECK,	born at Stanwick, co. Ebor., 17 Ap., 1668. Sold Hornby Hall to Thomas Dalston, circa. 1695.	3 sons, 1 daughter.	

The carriages had been brought round from Whinfell, and the next halt was at Brougham School for tea, after which they drove by way of Fremington, Clifton Dykes, and Wetheriggs to Clifton Moor. At the top of the hill the Rev. A. J. Heelis pointed out the scene of the last battle on English soil—the skirmish in 1745 (see these *Transactions*, x., art. x.). In the reading room Mrs. Gillbanks had kindly arranged her collection—formed by her father, the late Mr. James Mawson—of various antiquities, which were examined with great interest. These included:—*British*—Flint arrow heads, leaf shaped and barbed; flint scrapers, spindle whorls, rubbers, a small urn or food vessel and four celts, all from Skirwith Moor; an urn from Newton, and a large round flattish stone with a large

perforation, described as a quoit, from Threlkeld Pasture; also eleven celts, eight stone hammers, &c. *Roman*—Fibulæ, bone discs, bone pins, needles and ornaments; bronze pins and needles, rings, beads, keys, châtelaine, and specimens of Samian and glass, &c., all from Kirkby Thore; also a bronze pan from Drumburgh; a large quern from Easton; an altar, head, beads, &c., from Kirkbride; a small urn, two lamps, a hand, the top of an amphora, sandals, and gold rings from Carlisle; a large bronze fibula from Penrith; and seven bronze spearheads. *Miscellaneous*—Sword and cannon ball from Clifton Moor; two greybeards from Carlisle; two pewter “cock-fighting cups” from Morland and Greystoke; taper stands and rush-holders, &c. A vote of thanks was proposed by the President to Mrs. Gillbanks for her kindness in exhibiting this valuable collection, and carried by acclamation. The afternoon was not long enough for visits to the many other sites of interest in the neighbourhood, and the George Hotel was reached soon after seven.

Nearly seventy members and friends sat down to dinner, the President in the chair; and the evening meeting was unusually well attended. At a Council Meeting held after dinner the chief business of general interest was an application by Dr. Haswell for a small grant and the support of the Society in aid of proposed explorations in Penrith Castle, to which the Council agreed with much satisfaction.

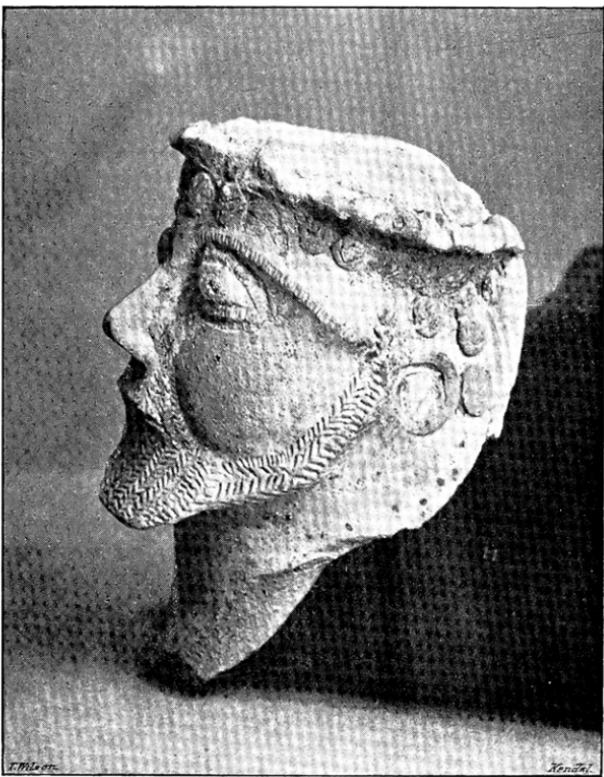
The first business of the General Meeting was the election of new members, as follows:—Mrs. Simpson, The Wray, Grasmere; Rev. W. H. Bartholomew, The Hollins, Ambleside; Mr. Thomas Browne, Jun., 1 Lowther Street, Whitehaven; Mr. C. J. Myers, Dunning Well, Millom; Public Library, Whitehaven; Miss A. D. Muncaster, Whitehaven; Miss K. Marston, College Road, Windermere; Mr. W. J. Dalzell Burnyeat, Whitehaven; Mr. William Long, Cleabarrow, Windermere; Mr. and Mrs. James Morton, Grey Fell, Penrith; Mr. Richard Rigg, M.P., Windermere; Canon and Mrs. Monnington, Penrith.

Sir Edmund T. Bewley read papers by the Rev. James Wilson and himself on “Bewley Castle” (Art. XV.). The Editor, on behalf of Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A., exhibited Mr. Brunskill’s Roman fibulæ, &c., from Brough (Art. III.). Mr. J. E. Morris read his paper on “Cumberland and Westmorland Levies in the time of Edward I. and Edward II.” (Art. XIX.). Notes on “Towtop Kirk” (Art. XVI.) by Miss Noble was read by the Editor, who also laid on the table Mr. Greenwood’s paper on “The Redmans of Levens” (Art. XVIII.). Canon Thornley showed and described photographs of the ancient incised markings on Long Meg; this article, as well as

the Rev. J. Whiteside's "Orton Church," and the Editor's report on Lord's Island (of which Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Hodgson's plans were shown) will be printed in a future number of these *Transactions*. Dr. Haswell read his "Notes on the Friary at Penrith" (Art. XXI.), and papers by the Rev. J. Brunskill and Mr. George Watson were laid on the table (Arts. XXII. and XXIII.). Canon Bower sent for exhibition the photographs here reproduced—one representing a Roman head, found by Mr. Glaister, Castle Street, Carlisle, and presented to Tullie House. It is of cream-coloured pottery, and seems to have been one handle of a vase or pitcher. The other is a leaden plate found in pulling down a building in Castle Street, Carlisle; it had been painted, but was cleaned by the finder, and it is now in Tullie House, presented by Mr. Glaister. It is identified by Mr. Robert Blair, F.S.A., as the badge of the Newcastle Fire Office, dating from the end of the eighteenth century. Mr. Lester, of Penrith, also exhibited a bronze arrow head and a bronze celt, both found in digging in Fell Lane, Penrith.

Thursday had been fine and warm, notwithstanding heavy clouds on the horizon. Friday opened dull, and on arriving at Threlkeld by the 9-30 train from Penrith the clouds were still low on Saddleback and the Wanthwaite Fells, but there was no rain. Mr. T. H. Hodgson, F.S.A., led the party up to the hut-circles, which he described as in the article by Mr. C. W. Dymond, F.S.A., and himself in these *Transactions* (n.s., ii., art. iii.). The Rev. J. O. Crosse, rector of Threlkeld, added an interesting bit of information—that about two years earlier one of the quarrymen named Scaife, who had been accustomed to digging in the churchyard, had dug through a tumulus a little to the east of the hut-circles and had found grave-earth in it.

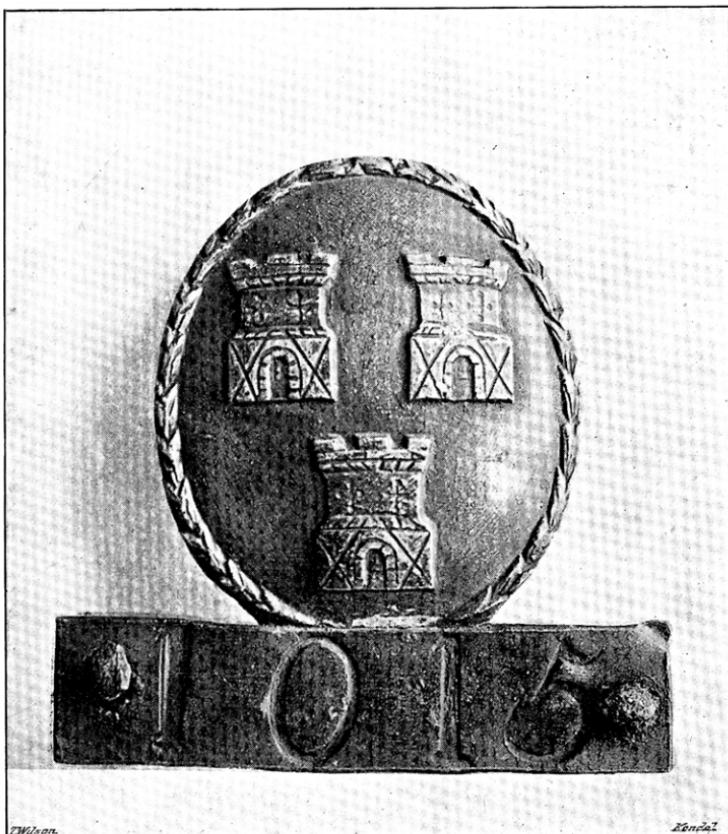
Carriages were taken at Threlkeld Station shortly after eleven, and during the drive past the great Keswick circle to Stable Hills the clouds entirely cleared away, leaving the most perfect summer weather. Mr. R. D. Marshall kindly had boats in readiness, and the party was soon ferried over to Lord's Island, where the Editor gave an account of the Radcliffe family and their house as recently unearthed. There is no need here to anticipate the paper which will appear in the next volume of these *Transactions*, but two incidents of the afternoon may be noted—one, the production of the fourteenth century silver pennies found long since near the Lady's Rake, perhaps the origin of the legend of treasure lost there by the Lady Derwentwater, who was said to have escaped up Walla Crag from the island. The coins were lent on this occasion by Mr. Edwin Jackson of Cockermouth, and shown later in the afternoon at the Museum. The other incident was the finding by the Rev. A. F.



ROMAN HEAD FROM CASTLE STREET, CARLISLE.

Photo. by Mr. F. W. Tassell.

TO FACE P. 408.



LEADEN BADGE OF THE NEWCASTLE FIRE-OFFICE

(18th Century) found in Castle Street, Carlisle.

Photo. by Mr. F. W. Tassell.

TO FACE P. 409.

Still Hill of the "push" of an ancient wine bottle, iridescent with age, on the spot where the party were standing. This relic was afterwards given by Mr. Still Hill to the Keswick Museum. The President proposed, and the Chairman of Council seconded, that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. R. D. Marshall for his permission to excavate the site and for his generosity in defraying the cost of the labour, and that at the next election of officers Mr. Marshall be nominated a vice-president of the Society, which was carried with acclamation.

Luncheon was taken at the Keswick Hotel. At three o'clock, in the Keswick Museum, Canon Rawnsley exhibited and described the recently found Portinscale stone celts and crucifix-mould (see Art. XIII. and Canon Rawnsley's lately published work, *A Rambler's Notebook at the English Lakes*, pp. 240-251). The Editor showed relics of Lord's Island, the Walla Crag coins, and a stone celt found by Olive and Richard B. Graham, children of Mr. J. W. Graham, M.A., principal of Dalton Hall, Manchester, in the summer of 1902. It was lying at the foot of a large boulder in the beck which runs on the north-west side of Meadow Brow, Grasmere. The celt is of greenstone, a trifle less than 4ins. long, 2ins. broad at the broadest part, and 1in. thick, partly polished.

A vote of thanks was proposed by the President to Canon Rawnsley for his most interesting exhibit and address, which concluded the proceedings of a very enjoyable, instructive, and well-attended meeting.
