

PROCEEDINGS.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 1915.

BY reason of the war the usual Summer Meeting of the Society was abandoned this year, and the Annual General Meeting was reduced to a single afternoon's excursion to view the explorations of 1914-15 at the Ambleside Roman fort, on Friday, September 3rd, 1915. The committee for local arrangements consisted of Mr. W. G. Collingwood, Mr. J. F. Curwen, Sir S. H. Scott, Mr. Gordon G. Wordsworth and Mr. Edward Wilson. There were about 150 members and friends present, and the day was brilliantly fine. The first part of the meeting was held in the barn on the Borrans field, by permission of Mr. Asplin, the tenant. The chair was taken at half-past two by Dr. Barnes, and the minutes being read, Mr. W. G. Collingwood as chairman of Council announced the resignation of Mr. T. H. Hodgson of the presidency, on account of the continued ill-health which for some time past had made him increasingly unable to take active part in the affairs of the Society: in Mr. Hodgson's place the Council had approved the nomination of Professor Haverfield, the vice-president of longest standing, and a member of the Society since 1890, who had done more than anyone to promote the interests and extend the reputation of the Society by his work on the Roman antiquities of the district. It was then proposed by the Chairman of Council, seconded by Canon Rawnslley and carried unanimously, that Professor Haverfield be elected President.

Professor Haverfield then took the chair, and proposed the election of Mr. T. H. Hodgson as Honorary Member in consideration of the valuable services he had rendered to the Society, not only as President but for many years previously, during which the work of Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson on the Roman Wall had been of great service and importance. The election of Mr. T. H. Hodgson as Honorary Member was carried unanimously.

The Vice-Presidents, Council and other officers of the Society were then re-elected, with the exception of Mr. Charles Forster, whose change of residence to Lincolnshire made him less able to

assist the committee for Parish Registers. His place on that committee was taken by Sir Samuel Haslam Scott, Bart. The number of Vice-Presidents was filled up to twelve by the election of Mr. W. G. Collingwood, a member of Council since 1896.

The following new members were elected :—

Colonel W. H. Chippindall, Kirkby Lonsdale ; The Rev. W. A. Davies, Ponsonby Vicarage ; Mr. Oliver Kirke, Ellerslie, Gosforth ; Mr. Samuel L. Burns Lindow, Greenlands, Holmrook ; Mr. A. Pattinson, Hylands, Kendal ; Dr. R. W. Shaw, Indian Medical Superintendent, Manitowaning, Great Manitoulin Island, Ontario ; Mr. Cotterel Scholefield, Newbiggin Hall, Carlisle ; The Rev. Samuel Taylor, M.A., The Rectory, Flookburgh ; Mr. Herbert W. Walker, Lingmell, Seascale ; The Rev. Thomas Westgarth, Stainmore Vicarage ; Mr. Oswald Hedley and Mrs. Hedley, Briery close, Ambleside.

A brief report on the position of the Research Fund (Ambleside Roman fort) was made by Mr. R. G. Collingwood, who said that the money in hand would be expended by the end of the season. The President added, in defence of exploration in war-time, that the £50 spent and the four men employed this year could not have been turned to the public service, and that work of this kind once begun could not be discontinued without great waste.

Mr. J. F. Curwen gave an account of the " Castle Dairy " at Kendal (Art. VII) and Canon Rawnsley followed with an appeal for help towards raising the £150 which had to be found by the following day to complete the sum necessary for the purchase.*

Canon Rawnsley then read his paper on " Consecration Crosses at Crosthwaite Church " (Art. XVI), and the Editor read abstracts of articles by Chancellor Prescott on " The Grammar School of Carlisle " (Art. I), by the Rev. Dr. Wilson on " The original name of Hayes Castle " (Art. II), by Mr. Joseph Skelton on " The Osmotherleys of Cumberland " (Art. IX), and by Colonel Chippindall on " The Family de Richmond " (Art. VI). The Editor also exhibited a sketch from a Roman coin found near Furness Abbey (see *Addenda*) and showed a sample of the curious concretion of charcoal and lime found in a tumulus on the south-west bank of the Bela where the railway crosses the river, between Kirkby Stephen and Stainmoor, and described the tumulus so far as it had been explored, promising a further report by the Rev. T. Westgarth. The Editor further exhibited ancient deeds sent by Mr. N. N. Thompson (printed in *Addenda*).

* We can add with satisfaction that the amount was subscribed through the generosity of an anonymous benefactor.

At the close of the meeting Canon Rawnsley, on behalf of the National Trust, presented a case of six spoons on the model of the silver spoon found at Ambleside (these *Transactions*, N.S., xv, 58) to Mr. R. G. Collingwood, who had superintended the explorations on the Borrans field since the property was placed in the hands of the Trust in 1913.

Mr. R. G. Collingwood then described the more recent explorations (Art. IV) and the proceedings were brought to an end at five o'clock.

SPRING MEETING, 1916.

On Thursday, April 27th, 1916, at 2-30 p.m., the Spring Meeting was held at Tullie House, Carlisle, Mr. E. T. Tyson, vice-president, in the chair. The following new members were elected:—Dr. James Orr, Barrow; Mr. E. L. Hartley, London; Mr. R. T. Heape, Rochdale; the Rev. J. E. Jump, Staveley; Mrs. Leyland Roe, Windermere; Mrs. E. L. Johnson, Bowness-on-Windermere; the Rev. W. P. Morris, Patterdale; Mr. J. R. Harrison, Scalesceugh; the Rev. J. R. Croft, Workington; Mr. Henry Lonsdale, Carlisle; Mr. Charles Edmonds, Moor Row; The Newcastle Literary and Philosophical Society; Brasenose College Library Oxford; Miss Edith Wilson, Windermere; Mrs. C. E. Pierpoint, Carlisle; and Mr. E. W. Lightfoot, Carlisle.

Mr. L. E. Hope, F.L.S., read notes by Professor Haverfield upon the Roman remains lately found at Scalesceugh (Art. XVIII), and exhibited pottery found at the site, of which he gave the following account:—

“During the excavations for buildings at Scalesceugh in 1915-16 numerous fragments of pottery and tiles were discovered. Some were found near the milestone of the reign of Gordianus, described in this volume by Professor Haverfield, but the great majority were found while cutting a drain from the lodge to the river Caldew, about 200 yards further south. Here the potsherds were found at a depth averaging 2 feet and lay in forced earth on a subsoil of red clay. A considerable amount of charcoal and evidences of fire were noticed at certain points and the remains appear to spread over an area of perhaps one hundred square yards.

Nearly all the examples obtained were of a similar coarse red clay, there being only six pieces of different colour or texture in the total number of 66 fragments or parts of vessels and tiles.

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From the fragments of red tiles I was able to piece together the whole of one roofing tile (tegula) measuring 20 inches by 13 inches. All the roofing tiles are of the same coarse and rather soft red ware. Two inscribed floor tiles were found, one near the milestone naming the 6th legion—LEG V[I]—and broken off just beyond the V; the second was found in the lodge drain and is inscribed . . . XXV—the first half of the tile being broken off and missing; this is no doubt a tile naming the 20th legion, the curious part being the placing of one V above the other. The whole inscription would read—*Legio vicesima valeria victrix*.

One complete 'nozzle' tile or water pipe was found, also many fragments of the same type.

The pottery consisted of various forms of vessels mostly of normal types of the coarse Romano-British wares but several are unusual forms and therefore interesting. The occurrence of these aberrant forms together with the fact of the nearly uniform colour and texture of the potsherds, the presence of burnt matter in the trench and the clay subsoil leads to the supposition that here was the site of a local pottery, where the tiles and vessels found were manufactured.

The circumstance that a tilery for the manufacture of tiles for agricultural drains lately existed within one hundred yards of the site of the main finds of pottery also lends colour to the suggestion.

The most interesting example of the pottery found is a large shallow circular dish with double handles at each side. It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high and $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the bulge. It looks like a potter's waster, the rim being malformed.

Another dish is ovoid in form, somewhat resembling a modern pie dish, the rim, however, is a well known Romano-British type, altogether a very extraordinary vessel. It measures 17 inches in length and 14 inches across the rim.

The finds have been very kindly given to the Carlisle Museum by Mr. J. R. Harrison, owner of the estate, who promises that at some future date further investigations shall be made, after which I trust fuller particulars and descriptions of the site and vessels may be published."

Mr. W. G. Collingwood described three more Roman coins recently found near Furness Abbey (see *Addenda*) and read his paper (Art. XII): also two papers by Mr. H. S. Cowper, F.S.A. (Art. XIV and *Addenda*) and one by the Rev. J. Lowther Bouch (Art. XIII). He gave a short summary of the Rev. F. W. Ragg's "Early Lowther and de Louthers" (Art. VIII) and of Henry fitz Ketel's grant to St. John of Jerusalem (*Addenda*).

Mr. H. Garencières Pearson read his notes on two fourteenth-century documents (Art. X), and Mr. John F. Curwen, F.S.A. gave a short account of the Lancaster and Kendal Canal.

The members then visited the fragment of the City Wall, which had lately been exposed by the Corporation, in demolishing some old buildings. The block is about 55 feet long and is a portion of the north wall. The thickness is 6 feet, and the remains average some 5 feet high above ground. The facing stones remain on both of the sides. Mr. Linnæus Hope gave some remarks on the wall and Mr. H. C. Marks exhibited some shells (*Helix aspersa*) a number of which were discovered in the heart of the wall. The fragment is interesting as giving the line of the City Wall between the Castle and the Scotch gate.

The party then walked round the outside of the Castle seeing the old Postern and Richard III tower which have been repaired by H.M. Office of Works.

After crossing on to the West Walls, a fine old leaden spout, in the rear of a house in Abbey Street was pointed out by Mr. J. H. Martindale and then the party passed through the City Police Station to see the Sally Port in the City Wall, nearly opposite the Tithe Barn. The thickness of the wall is again clearly shown here. The party then broke up, but some members visited the Tithe Barn on their way back into the City.