

PROCEEDINGS.

I. SPRING MEETING, 1953.

THE spring meeting of the Society was held in the Town Hall, Penrith, on Saturday, 25 April 1953 at 2-15 p.m.; the President (Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A.) was in the chair, and there was a good attendance of members. Council had met earlier in the day, as required by Rule XI, to make arrangements for the Society's summer and autumn excursions, and to transact routine business.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, the President drew attention to the loss which the Society had sustained by the deaths of Canon Whiting (for an obituary notice, see p. 254 below) and of Mr Nicholas Size (cf. CW2 lii 223), and members stood in silence for a moment in tribute to their memory. He also reported, with regret, that Canon C. E. Last had resigned from the Council and from the Society, on leaving the district; the warm wishes of the Society accompanied him to his new sphere of work. Mr F. Gerald Simpson, one of the Society's Past Presidents, presented a framed photograph of the late J. P. Gibson, for inclusion in its collection at Tullie House; he recalled that Mr Gibson, long a Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, had been his partner in the excavation of Milecastle 48 (Poltross Burn), and his original guide and supporter in the active study of Hadrian's Wall and its associated works; see also the *Centenary Pilgrimage Handbook*, pp. 9-13, where there is an appreciation of the importance of J. P. Gibson's place in the series of workers on the Wall. The President reported that Council had decided to make the following grants, from the Research Fund, for excavations to be undertaken during the ensuing summer: to Lt-Col. O. H. North, F.S.A., Past President, £25 for further work at Burrow in Lonsdale; and to Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A., Past President, £10 for investigation of a site near Bewcastle. For the Editors, the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A., reported that the printing of *Transactions*, n.s. lii, had been held up by technical difficulties at the printing office, but that it was now proceeding satisfactorily, and that material for the following volume was coming forward well. As Excursion Secretary, Mr Spence announced the dates which had that morning been fixed for the summer meeting at Durham and the

autumn meeting in the Kirkby Lonsdale district; and, on behalf of the Society's honorary librarian, Mr Kenneth Smith, he reported that it had been decided to exchange publications with the Chester Archaeological Society, whose *Transactions* would be an important addition to the Society's library at Tullie House. The honorary curator, Mr Robert Hogg, reported that an extension of the museum at Tullie House was to be made in the course of the next year; this would allow the provision of a special room for the important collection of prehistoric material, and it was also proposed to move the cast of the Bewcastle Cross to the entrance hall of the museum. Reports on the activities of the three Regional Groups showed that each had had a successful winter session. 20 new members were elected. The following papers were then read or reported: "A Beaker burial on Sizergh Fell" by Clare Fell, F.S.A. (Art. I above); "A Roman fortlet near Wreay Hall" by R. L. Bellhouse (Art. IV); "The population of Broughton-in-Furness in the 18th century" by Professor G. P. Jones (Art. XII); "The development of the small house in the Eden Valley from 1650 to 1840" by R. W. Brunskill (Art. XIV); "St Bees Theological College and some Welsh connections" by Mrs Mary Ellis (Art. XV); "The Roman road from Egremont to Papcastle" by Mary C. Fair (p. 213 f. above); and "Recent Roman discoveries in Carlisle" by Robert Hogg. This concluded the business of the meeting.

II. SUMMER MEETING, 1953.

The summer meeting was held in County Durham, with headquarters in Hatfield College, Durham, on 14-17 July 1953; more than 80 members or their friends took part in the meeting. The Society had twice previously visited Durham. The first occasion was in June 1901, when one day was devoted to the cathedral, chapter library and deanery, and another to the castle and to Sherburn Hospital (cf. CW2 ii 393-399); the second visit was in September 1935, and took in Durham cathedral and castle, and a number of monuments in the county—the churches at Jarrow, Monkwearmouth, Lanchester, Escomb and Staindrop, and Raby castle (cf. CW2 xxxvi 212-225). The weather, on this occasion, was throughout all that could be wished for, and members greatly enjoyed the social advantages, and cheerfully put up with the relative austerity, of living together in a college; in 1935, the difficulty of finding sufficient hotel accommodation in Durham City had been a problem for members, and the solution adopted on this occasion was by general consent agreed to be a great success. The meeting had been organised by a committee consisting of Mr Eric Birley, F.S.A., the Hon. Marjorie

Cross, F.S.A., Dr C. W. Gibby, F.S.A. (Hon. Secretary of the Durham and Northumberland Architectural and Archaeological Society), Canon S. L. Greenslade, D.D. (President of the same Society) and Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A. (President, and Secretary for Excursions).

Tuesday, 14 July.

The main body of members and friends travelled by coach, which picked up its passengers in Carlisle, Penrith and elsewhere along the route, to Barnard Castle, where an early lunch was taken; the formal proceedings of the meeting opened, after lunch, at THE BOWES MUSEUM, where we were received by the Curator, Mr Thomas Wake, F.S.A. The museum is remarkable for the grandeur of its building, in the style of a French chateau of the 18th century, and for the magnificence of its collections. It was founded by John Bowes (1811-1885) and his wife Josephine (1830-1874), to house the extensive collection of works of art which they had formed; Mrs Bowes left all her personal property to the museum, and her husband bequeathed the sum of £125,000 to it as an endowment, and until comparatively recently the managing trustees were able to maintain the building and its collections, and the 21 acres of park in which it stands, using the interest accruing from the endowment. But the fall in the value of money, and the great increase in costs of all kinds, have combined to make its present situation precarious to a degree; the charge for admission produces nothing like enough to make revenue balance expenditure, and the trustees would be grateful for gifts or bequests of money, to augment the endowment fund. It was impossible for members to see more than a selection of the collections displayed in the museum; indeed, it would require many visits, by however diligent a student, to exhaust the interest of this unique institution. But under Mr Wake's guidance we were able to appreciate something of its importance, and to examine its principal treasures.

The plan of the building and the nature of the collections, as he pointed out to us, have made it possible in recent years to introduce a more intimate form of display than is possible in many institutions of the kind; at the same time the educational aspect of the museum has been more clearly demonstrated. Many of its rooms are now furnished according to particular periods, and illustrate the function for which the exhibits were originally designed; these rooms range from a 15th-century chapel to a 19th-century music-room, and include both English and Continental styles. Contemporary portraits and pictures

and, in some cases, costumes of the period, help to give a fairly complete representation of Society life. In addition there are rooms devoted to the display of a large collection of pictures, including several masterpieces by eminent artists of the European schools, ceramics, tapestries and other works of art. A number of recent accessions illustrate the main geological periods of England, and tools and weapons show the development of man from Lower Palaeolithic times onwards. A series of rooms, apart from the main collections, has in recent years been devoted to Teesdale — the geology of the district, its prehistory and the Roman period, its later industrial and domestic activities; and the social life and organisation of the past are demonstrated by exhibits of local minerals, equipment and tools, and their setting in a kitchen, dairy, blacksmith's and carpenter's shops.

Many members had heard of the special loan exhibition of pictures from the Bowes Museum which had been held by Agnew's in London from October to December 1952, and particular interest was aroused by some of the splendid paintings which have now returned to the museum from that exhibition; outstanding among them is the "St Peter" by El Greco, and the three Goyas were much admired. For further particulars, reference may be made to the excellent illustrated Handbook to the museum, with 12 plates, which may be obtained for 1/6d. plus postage.

Members were able to obtain tea in the museum's tea-room, and there was sufficient time, for those who wished to do so, to examine the gardens as well as to browse among the display galleries. It was a specially warm vote of thanks to Mr Wake that the President moved, and members passed by acclamation, before we rejoined the coach or our private cars to resume our journey to Durham; he had not only given us a delightfully clear account of the museum, but had also been at pains to answer a great variety of queries, and to direct members' attention to many exhibits which they might otherwise have missed.

The party left the Bowes Museum at 5 p.m., and drove to Durham, where the main body arrived shortly after 6 p.m. Arrangements for our reception had been made by the Master of Hatfield and Mrs Birley, and it was not long before the Society was comfortably installed in its unaccustomed quarters. After dinner in the hall, there was a meeting of Council in the Senior Common Room, while Dr M. F. L. Macadam, F.S.A., Reader in Egyptology, kindly opened the Oriental Museum (which is housed in one of the buildings of the college) and explained its contents to those members who were free to visit it. On the

following two evenings, Dr H. S. Bakry, a recent research pupil of Dr Macadam's, acted in the same capacity, so that all members had an opportunity, in the course of the meeting, of inspecting the remarkably fine collection, principally of Egyptian antiquities, which is displayed in the museum.

Wednesday, 15 July.

The Society left Palace Green, Durham, by coach at 9.15 a.m., the first visit of the day being to FINCHALE PRIORY, by permission of the Ministry of Works, where we had the good fortune to have Dr G. H. Christie, F.S.A., Hon. Excursions Secretary of the Durham and Northumberland Society, as our guide.

The Editors are indebted to him for the following summary of his address:—

"Finchale Priory was founded in 1196 by Henry Puiset, son of Hugh Puiset, bishop of Durham, and was attached, as a dependent cell, to the Benedictine cathedral priory of Durham. The site chosen for the new priory was already a hallowed one, for here St. Godric had come in 1115, from a spot a mile up river, nearer to Durham, which he had occupied since 1110. And here he lived a hermit's life, of great austerity, until his death at the advanced age of 105, in 1170.

"He was a friend of the saintly Ailred, abbot of Rievaulx, and of William de Ste. Barbe, bishop of Durham. Many visitors, attracted by his reputation, came to see him. Their offerings made possible the replacement of his wooden chapel by one of stone, dedicated to St. John Baptist. On his death he was buried in this chapel against the north wall, and the prior of Durham sent two of his monks, Henry and Reginald (possibly the historian 'Reginald of Durham') to occupy the site. In 1196 temporary buildings were commenced, to house the monks, under Thomas the sacrist of Durham, first prior of Finchale. The foundations of these buildings can now be seen between the river and the main ruins. They are an important feature of the site, being, possibly, the only remains of original temporary buildings to be seen on a monastic site in the country. The church and cloister buildings were begun about 1237 and were probably completed towards the end of the century. The number of monks was never large, being 15 in 1278, and in 1364 the church was reduced in size by walling up the aisles of nave and choir, the south aisle of the nave becoming the north walk of the cloister. About this time Finchale assumed its peculiar role of holiday place for the monks of Durham. The prior and four monks formed a permanent nucleus and four monks came from Durham for three weeks' relaxation from the round of duties in the mother House. So it remained until the Suppression in 1538. Despite the inevitable deterioration of the fabric, with loss of roofs and upper portions of walls and the collapse of the central tower, a considerable portion remains and is carefully preserved by the Ministry of Works. It shows, very nearly completely, the lay-out of a lesser Benedictine convent, but with some distinctive features.

"The conventional buildings are to the south of the church. Of particular interest are the 14th century refectory, with vaulted undercroft, the extensive prior's lodgings, of which the hall may have been used for the meals of the small community and so permitting the refectory to be adapted as a guest hall. In the chancel of the 13th century church may be seen the outline of St. Godric's chapel of St. John. Here was found what was almost certainly the coffin of St. Godric.

"The ground to the south of the prior's chapel is not in the possession of the Ministry and has not been excavated. There are clear indications that

further foundations await uncovering. The present farm buildings incorporate the monastic barn and have much stonework from the priory ruins."

(Bibliography: C. R. Peers in AA4 iv 193-220; *VCH Durham* iii 148-154; cf. also the chartulary of Finchale Priory, *Surtees Society* vi, 1837).

The next visit was to have been to the ancient church of Chester-le-Street, but a re-timing of the morning's programme had made it necessary to omit that item, and the Society drove from Finchale straight to LUMLEY CASTLE, where Mr Eric Birley was the speaker. In a brief introduction, he drew attention to the importance of Chester-le-Street, not merely for its interesting church, but also as the predecessor of Durham as the seat of the bishopric. Nothing was now to be seen of the Roman fort, within the ramparts of which the church stands, but Dr Kenneth Steer's investigations in the mid-thirties had demonstrated that the fort was only a part of a Roman site which covered upwards of 20 acres, and there was reason to suppose that there was some continuity, at least of sub-Roman occupation there, to explain the selection of Chester-le-Street as the headquarters of the see after its removal from Lindisfarne. To members of this Society it was of particular interest to learn that *Concangium* (which the antiquaries of the 18th century by common consent recognised as the Roman name of Watercrook, near Kendal) was almost certainly the Roman name of Chester-le-Street, its name being recognisable in the Anglian name of the place, Concaceaster, and in the name of the stream which flows past the north side of the little plateau on which fort and later church were built, the Cong Burn. On Lumley Castle, Mr Birley then read a short paper by the earl of Scarbrough, whose ancestors built the castle in the 13th century, fortified it in the 14th and improved it in the 16th and again in the 18th century; shortly after the Society's visit, a special Guide to Lumley Castle was published, copies of which may be obtained for 1/6d., plus postage, from University College, Durham — for the castle has been leased to the Durham Colleges by the earl of Scarbrough, and is now occupied as a detached wing of University College. Lumley Castle is a rectangular structure, with towers projecting at each corner, and its main fabric dates from the close of the 14th century; but it occupies the site of a manor house traditionally established by a Saxon noble, Liulph (d. 1080), an equestrian statue of whom, in painted wood, is the principal adornment of the great hall (though a family tradition claims that it is really "in memorie of King Edward III in whose time most of this Castle was built"). Licence to crenellate was granted by Bishop Skirlaw of Durham in 1389, and confirmed by Richard II in 1392, and it was at that period

that Ralph, Lord Lumley, built the castle substantially in its existing form, though with a less steeply pitched roof, with fewer and smaller windows, and without the platform in front of the main west doorway; it is thought that the architect employed was John Lewyn, master mason to the bishops of Durham, who is also credited with the building of Bolton and Sheriff Hutton castles. In the reign of Elizabeth I the castle was improved and adorned by John, Lord Lumley, who placed in the great hall the "four livelie statues all wrought in white marble of K. Henry the 8, King Edward 6, Queen Marie and Q. Elizabeth, in whose raignes his Ldp. lived"; and in 1721 Sir John Vanbrugh carried out a number of improvements for the second earl of Scarbrough, including the platform already referred to, and the main staircase, as well as improving the gardens. After Lord Scarbrough's account of the castle had been read, the Society was conducted round the building, in four groups, by members of the domestic staff, visiting the state-rooms but not (because of the high wind) venturing on to the roof, from which, on a clear day, there are excellent views to be obtained of the surrounding countryside, still mainly rural.

The Society returned to Durham for lunch in Hatfield College; unfortunately, one of the coaches was delayed by shortage of fuel, and some members had a rather late lunch, and the delay made it necessary to omit the visit to the Roman fort at Bincchester, which was to have been the first item on the programme for the afternoon. Instead, the coaches drove straight to Bishop Auckland, and we proceeded to inspect AUCKLAND CASTLE, the palace of the bishops of Durham since the days of Bishop Puiset (more commonly now referred to as Pudsey); in the absence of the Bishop, the Right Reverend Michael Ramsey, we were received by the domestic chaplain, the Rev. W. E. Davies, who kindly showed us round the castle. Puiset's work is represented by his great hall, now the chapel, divided into nave and aisles by arcades of four bays, with richly moulded arches; there is some transitional carving; originally there was no clerestory. Bishop Hatfield was responsible for the first important changes, including the existing window tracery; Bishop Cosin added wooden fittings (though four stall-ends, with Perpendicular tracery, survive from an earlier period) and the very fine roof and screen; Bishop van Mildert raised the floors of the aisles to the level of the nave, which he re-floored, restored the mullions and the tracery of the windows, and slightly altered the stall-work; and Bishop Lightfoot provided a new reredos and inserted stained glass in the windows. Apart from the

chapel, reference may be made to the block containing the "Great Chamber", the front of which was modernised by Bishop Cosin and later remodelled by Wyatt; some of its windows are of Bishop Tunstall's time. The gate-house was built by Ruthall, *circa* 1540. Under the Commonwealth, the castle was sold to Sir Arthur Haselrigg for £6,10s. 8s. 11½d., and he made various alterations to it, but it reverted to the bishops on the Restoration, and Bishop Cosin is said to have undone all Haselrigg's work, but he could not restore Bishop Bek's chapel, which the latter had demolished. Members were interested to learn that the present chapel is believed to be the largest consecrated private chapel in existence, except for the Sistine chapel in Rome.

Tea was taken in Bishop Auckland, and then a short drive brought us to ESCOMB CHURCH; here we were to have been received by the vicar, the Rev. W. Greenwood, but he was unable to be present, and the verger deputised for him. The Society visited Escomb in 1935, when the Rev. Thomas Romans, F.S.A., described it to us; for a full summary of his account, and for photographs of the church, cf. CW₂ xxxvi 221 f. and plate facing 222; the main fabric is attributable to the eighth century, and incorporates a good deal of dressed stone from the Roman fort at Binchester, little more than a mile away.

From Escomb the coaches returned to Durham where, after dinner in Hatfield College, we were privileged to hear a lecture on Durham cathedral and castle, illustrated by an exceptionally fine series of lantern-slides, by Canon S. L. Greenslade, Van Mildert Professor of Divinity in the University of Durham, and President of the Durham and Northumberland Society; the interest of the subject-matter and the beauty of the slides made the evening a memorable one, all the more so for the clarity and liveliness of Professor Greenslade's delivery, and the President voiced the sentiments of all of us, in moving a very warm vote of thanks to him for his kindness in giving us such an enthralling introduction to the monuments which we were to inspect on the following day.

Thursday, 16 July.

The Society first proceeded to DURHAM CASTLE, where it divided into two parties to make the tour of inspection. For details, reference may be made to the excellent Guide, by Mr Bertram Colgrave, F.S.A., with numerous illustrations, copies of which may be obtained from University College at 2/6 plus postage; see also the account of the Society's visit in 1935, CW₂ xxxvi 212 f.—on that occasion, the speaker was the late Professor

C. E. Whiting, for an obituary notice of whom see p. 254 below. In 1935, the castle was undergoing elaborate and very costly repairs, to prevent the threatened collapse of the great hall and adjacent parts of it, which their builders had neglected to provide with foundations; members were glad to learn that the repairs had been fully effective. Particular interest, on this occasion, was shown in the Norman chapel, which had recently been restored, after a long period of neglect, its furnishings being provided as a memorial to the R.A.F. cadets who attended courses in Durham during the recent war and who subsequently lost their lives on active service. The chapel itself consists of a nave and two aisles; the piers supporting the groined vaulting are of local stone, and are surmounted by some remarkable Early Norman capitals with grotesque figures, animals, plants and geometrical designs, now well displayed by the electric lighting installed during the restoration. The original east windows were blocked up when the castle mound, on which the keep stands, was enlarged by Bishop Hatfield; the existing windows in the north wall are of 19th-century date.

From the castle we proceeded to BISHOP COSIN'S LIBRARY, where we were received by the University Librarian, Mr David Ramage; the Editors are indebted to Mr Ramage for the following summary of his address to us:—

"Bishop John Cosin was the first bishop of Durham after the Restoration; though the return of the Dean and Chapter to their houses beside the cathedral meant the suppression of the short-lived College of Durham, which Cromwell had established in their buildings, the new bishop was not unmindful of the needs of learning in the North. He founded, and filled with his own books, the library which still stands on Palace Green. This cost £500 to build, and was a public library administered by a trust, in which the later University of Durham played an increasing part down to 1937, when the library passed entirely into the hands of the Durham Colleges. Cosin was one of the most learned of the Anglican divines, and a great collector, having his books around him when in exile and continuing to add to the collection then. As the exile continued he became so poor that he actually entered into treaty with John Evelyn, the diarist, for the sale of his library, but the Restoration removed the necessity. Many long leases granted by the first Protestant bishops of Durham fell in during Bishop Cosin's episcopate, and he used the renewal fines for good works of all sorts, including the library; it is amusing to find that he was prepared to accept books in lieu of fines! The founder hoped that his successors would add to the library (as the name he gave to it, *Bibliotheca Episcopalis*, shows), but the public has defined its true character by persistently calling it 'Bishop Cosin's Library', since only two other bishops made additions to it, and those comparatively small ones. Besides the main hall there was a small room for the librarian. In 1837 Bishop Van Mildert considerably altered the building, adding a gallery to house the library of the new university (an outside staircase gave access to this gallery); he inserted a new fireplace, and two new bookcases, of elaborate design, to hold the manuscripts displaced by its insertion. The portraits on the frieze of the bookcase are of some interest, being part of the original design, but what must once have been a handsome scheme has been spoilt in various ways. As the books became older and more valuable, it was necessary to provide grilled doors, and the uniform alignment and painting made necessary by this addition have spoilt the look

of Cosin's bookcases. The painted frieze has been removed from one side of the room, to make space for additional shelves, and it seems that two pictures have been lost in the process, but the others still hang on the gallery rail. The tracing of the originals of the portraits in the frieze, and its relationship to the similar frieze in the Bodleian Library, form interesting subjects for enquiry. It is hoped that a satisfactory restoration may be carried out in the near future; this should considerably improve the appearance of the fine room.

"The books reflect Cosin's extremely varied interests. Besides the theology, philosophy and classics that one would expect, there is a certain amount of English literature (including the First Folio of Shakespeare, which is the library's most famous book), and a certain amount of old science, geography, natural history and medicine. There are also some remarkable bindings, and two important collections of manuscripts; the first of these was mainly formed by George Davenport, rector of Houghton-le-Spring and a friend of Cosin, and contains some 90 MSS., mainly literary, of the Middle Ages; the second collection, a compilation of legal and antiquarian material by the related dynasties of Mickleton and Spearman, Durham lawyers of the 17th and early 18th centuries, was presented to the library by Bishop Barrington."

After the President had thanked Mr Ramage on our behalf for a deeply interesting address, the Society walked across Palace Green to DURHAM CATHEDRAL, where we were received by the Dean, the Very Reverend J. H. S. Wild, who showed us some of its particular beauties. For details, reference may be made to *Durham Cathedral* by W. A. Pantin (3/6, with plan and excellent photographs); special interest was shown in Bishop Hatfield's tomb, the painting of which had been restored since the Society's previous visit, to make it one of the most impressive monuments of its kind to be seen anywhere in England.

Lunch was taken in Hatfield College, and the Society then proceeded to the CHAPTER LIBRARY, where our guide was Dr J. Conway Davies, Reader in Palaeography and Diplomatic in the University of Durham, and Keeper of the Dean and Chapter muniments.

At 4.30 p.m. the members and their friends were entertained to tea in Hatfield College by the Master and Mrs Eric Birley. The period between tea and dinner was left free, so that those who wished might make independent visits to places of interest in the immediate neighbourhood; several members availed themselves of a kind offer by Mr Ramage, to examine some of the treasures of Bishop Cosin's Library, including the First Folio, a glorious binding of the Mearn type (executed for Charles II), the best MS. of Symeon of Durham, a MS. of Laurence of Durham with a portrait of the author, and an embroidered binding of *circa* 1630.

After dinner, there was a GENERAL MEETING of the Society, in the Junior Common Room of Hatfield College, at 8.15 p.m.; the President was in the chair, and there was a large attendance of members. After the minutes of the previous

meeting had been read and confirmed, the President drew attention to the desirability of reproducing, in *Transactions*, characteristic photographs of a number of past Presidents of the Society — not necessarily studio portraits, but snapshots portraying them in the field, as members of the Society would best remember them; and he appealed to members to search their albums and to send to the Editors any photographs that might seem appropriate for reproduction. (Since that meeting, Mr R. E. Porter has kindly provided the photograph of W. G. Collingwood which is reproduced facing p. 253 below; the Editors would be grateful for photographs of R. G. Collingwood and of W. T. McIntire, for reproduction in a later volume.) Miss K. S. Hodgson, Past President, reported that she had not been able to begin the planned excavation at Old Church, Brampton, as the tenant of the land had withdrawn permission to dig. In the absence of the Treasurer, the General Secretary reported on the balances in hand at the end of the Society's financial year on 30 June; for the Editors, Mr Eric Birley reported on the progress of *Transactions*, n.s. lii, the passage of which through the press had been delayed, to some extent, by the fact that the printers had been engaged on the production of a volume for him, a copy of which he was able to display to members (for a brief notice of the book, cf. p. 244 below); and, as Excursion Secretary, Mr Spence gave details of the programme which had been devised for the Society's autumn meeting in the Kirkby Lonsdale district. Three new members were elected. The following papers were then read, or reported: "A Roman glass *phalera* from Carlisle" by J. M. C. Toynbee and I. A. Richmond (Art. III above); "Some early records of Cumberland lay subsidies" by J. L. Kirby (Art. VI); and "Disorders in Lancastrian Westmorland: some early Chancery proceedings" by R. L. Storey (Art. VII). Next came a number of exhibits: Lt-Col. O. H. North, F.S.A., showed a number of photographs in illustration of a brief account of the excavations which he had recently carried out at Burrow in Lonsdale, with the assistance of a grant from the Society's Research Fund, in conjunction with Mr E. J. W. Hildyard, F.S.A.; Mr Hildyard kindly added details in amplification of Col. North's account: it is hoped to include a full report on their excavations in an early volume of *Transactions*. Mr Eric Birley, on behalf of the finders, exhibited a portion of a stone mixing-trough, found at Maryport by a pupil of Cockermouth Grammar School, and a curious fragment of pottery from Brough-under-Stainmore, found by a Sedbergh schoolboy (cf. p. 239 f. below). Mr F. G. Simpson, C.B.E., Past President, then gave a detailed account

of an excavation which he had been carrying out, with the generous support of Carlisle Corporation and of Messrs. John Laing & Son (who supplied the labour and equipment, and did the filling in at their own expense), by kind permission of the Dean and Chapter, in the grounds of Carlisle Cathedral during May and June 1953. The purpose of the excavation was to test an area which was presumably within the defences of the earliest Roman fort, and where there was a possibility of finding good stratification preserved. Three large timber beams were found, lying on the subsoil at a depth of 14 ft. from the modern surface; these appeared to be part of a Roman timber-framed building, and were in an excellent state of preservation: lying in close association with them was a fragment of Trajanic figured samian. Overlying the beams were fragments of coarse pottery, of types characteristically Hadrianic; deposits assignable to the 3rd and 4th centuries lay above these, but it was noticeable that late 4th-century pottery was altogether lacking: the reason for this was that the highest certainly Roman level had been cut away by masonry foundations on the line of the Norman nave of the present cathedral. The date and true character of those foundations remained to be established, but it seemed at least a possibility that they represented a late Roman or early post-Roman structure. After the President had thanked Mr Simpson and the other exhibitors and speakers, the meeting was adjourned, but informal discussions continued, in the Oriental Museum and in other parts of the college, until a late hour.

Friday, 17 July.

The Society set out from Hatfield College a moment or two before 9-15 a.m., and drove first to Staindrop, where the vicar, the Rev. S. Z. Edwards, met us and kindly described ST MARY'S CHURCH to us (for an outline of its history, and a brief account of the splendid monuments of the Nevills which it contains, see CW2 xxxvi 222 f.); the President expressed the Society's gratitude to Mr Edwards for his clear and informative address, and the party then proceeded to the last item on the programme of the meeting, RABY CASTLE (visited by kind permission of Lord Barnard); a summary of the history of the castle and its successive owners, based on the address given to us by Mr Romans in 1935, may be found in CW2 xxxvi 223-5. On this occasion we were shown round by members of the staff of the castle.

This concluded the business of a meeting which was by general consent regarded as a most interesting and enjoyable one, reflecting the greatest credit on the Excursion Secretary and on

the officers of the Durham and Northumberland Society and members of the teaching staff of the Durham Colleges, who had done so much to instruct and entertain us.

III. AUTUMN MEETING, 1953.

The autumn meeting was held in the Kirkby Lonsdale district, with headquarters in Kendal; arrangements were made by a committee consisting of Mr Eric Birley, F.S.A., the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A., the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A., Mr J. W. Shepherd and Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A. (President, and Excursion Secretary). The weather was reasonably good, though there had been inordinately heavy rain on the day before the meeting began, and the rivers were in full spate: at no time were the proceedings interrupted by rain, but at times the high wind made it difficult for speakers to make themselves heard.

Wednesday, 2 September.

The coaches left Kendal at 10 a.m., the first stop being at Kirkby Lonsdale where, in the absence of the vicar, the Rev. A. P. Kirkpatrick, KIRKBY LONSDALE CHURCH was described by the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch. He began by giving a brief description of its architecture, basing his remarks on the careful analysis in *RCHM Westmorland* 133-6 (with plan at p. 134, and plates 9, 12, 14, 47, 53, 54 and 118-20); then, following Mr A. Pearson's Guide to the church, he first described its appearance in the Middle Ages when, with the high altar as the centre of devotion, it was used for catholic rites. After the Reformation there came a period of neglect: in 1578 "the body of the church was in decay in roof and glass." Then came three phases, in 1619, 1704-5 and *circa* 1720, when the church was rearranged for protestant worship; the mediæval church screen was only destroyed as late as 1806, however. With the three-decker pulpit in the nave as its chief feature, and with galleries to accommodate the congregation, the new aspect of the interior represented a complete re-planning, culminating in 1832 with the removal of the pulpit to within five feet of the altar. A year later came the beginning of the Oxford Movement, which led to the Anglican Church becoming proud of its catholic heritage, and by 1866 its influence had reached Kirkby Lonsdale; the result was an extensive scheme of restoration: the pulpit returned to the nave, the chancel was surrounded with screens, and the church's appearance was changed to what we see today. The font now in use is supposed to be the mediæval one sold by the churchwardens in 1686 for 6d, which Mr Pearson

recovered from a farmhouse near Killington and restored to the church in 1940. The Society first visited the church in 1870, when Canon Ware read the important paper later printed in CW₁ i 189-203; its most recent visit had been in 1937 (CW₂ xxxviii 298 f.), when Mr Spence was the speaker. Members who had taken part in the visit to Durham earlier in the year were able to judge for themselves the resemblance in the north arcade to some of the work in Durham cathedral.

From the church, the party proceeded to the DEVIL'S BRIDGE, where the President (Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A.) was the speaker, as he had been on the occasion of the Society's visit in 1937 (cf. CW₂ xxxviii 297 f., where his account is reported at some length); there is a careful description in *RCHM Westmorland* 136, with plan and elevation at p. 137, and excellent half-tone plates (frontispiece and pl. 121). There is a record of a grant of pontage for the repair of this bridge in 1365, which suggests that the original structure had been built before that date; but the existing bridge is probably a drastic reconstruction of the late 15th or early 16th century, the parapets being mainly of the 17th century. The origin of the name, "Devil's Bridge", is unknown, but the President pointed out that the deep gorge through which the Lune runs at this point, with its dark pools of water, might readily suggest to simple persons some association with the powers of darkness. Shortly before the war, a new bridge was built, a short distance downstream, and the old bridge has been sent into honourable retirement, preserved as an ancient monument.

Members ate an alfresco lunch beside the bridge, and the party then drove along the Sedbergh road, through Casterton, to Middleton, where the ROMAN MILESTONE was described by Mr Eric Birley; his observations are printed as Art. V above. Thence a short drive, past the Swan Inn (where home-brewed ale is now no longer to be obtained, as the Editors ascertained on this day), brought us to MIDDLETON HALL, which was described for us by the President. The Society first visited it in 1883, when M. W. Taylor gave a careful account of it (CW₁ vii 96 f., and cf. his *Old Manorial Halls* = this Society's Extra Series viii, 1892, 232-8), on which later writers have largely depended; in 1911, it was described by J. F. Curwen, whose resultant article (CW₂ xii 107-12) is illustrated by excellent half-tones; and there is a full version of the late W. T. McIntire's address, on the occasion of the Society's visit in 1937, in CW₂ xxxviii 294-6; reference may also be made to *RCHM Westmorland* 170-2, with plan at p. 171, and plates 41, 74, 142 and 143. The President first gave an account of the families who lived at

the hall, and then described the structure. In the unsettled Border country, he pointed out, one expects to find the remains of a pele tower as the nucleus of a mediæval hall (as at Beetham, Burneside and elsewhere in the district); but here, as at Preston Patrick five miles to the west, there are no certain remains of a pele. The original plan was a central hall with two wings, assignable to the 14th century; such a design was more common in the less turbulent districts to the south than in the Border country, and it must be inferred that in that period the western foothills of the Pennines were relatively peaceful and remote from Scottish raiders; there are no peles south of Wharton or east of the Lancaster-Kendal road; the curtain-wall, now the most striking feature of the hall, was added in the 15th century, when various extensions were made to the two wings of the main building. Further alterations were carried out in the second quarter of the 16th century, and again in 1647. During the past century and a half, it has been occupied as a farmhouse; members who had visited it in 1937 were delighted to observe how well it has been cared for by the present tenant, Mr. Wightman. Younger members of the party were seen to take particular interest in a fine collection of ferrets in a hutch at the back of the hall.

The last visit of the day was to the BRIGFLATTS MEETING HOUSE, which was described to us by Miss Edith Wilson, of Brigflatts, as follows. Notes collected by the late John Handley, who was descended from the Baynes family of Stangerthwaite on the Lune, give us a description of what Brigflatts was like in 1652. There were then about 60 inhabitants, living in houses built of wood and clay, and with thatched roofs, and occupied in dressing flax and in spinning and weaving wool; there was a blacksmith's shop, and a village green and pond. Nowadays there are only 15 inhabitants, living in five houses. Before George Fox's arrival here in 1652, he had a vision of "a great people to be gathered." These he found in groups of people who had left the Established Church, and were meeting together in silence under the name of "Seekers"; after his first night here, at Richard Robinson's house, he met a group of them at Borrett, the home of Gervase Benson, and again, the following Sunday, a large gathering of them on Firbank Fell. They were convinced by his preaching, and Meetings were at once established at Brigflatts and at Drawell. Then followed 23 years of persecution; their members were fined and their goods distrained, because they had refused to pay tithes; fines were also imposed for refusal to take the oath of allegiance and, under the Convention Act, a fine of 5/- for attending a Meeting; for preaching and praying the penalty was £20, for a second offence

£40 and for a third offence transportation for seven years. In 1675 it was decided that a Meeting House should be built on the co-operative principle, each contributing what he had, and in the earliest minutes we read: "Paid to Mary Robinson, 2/10, for tools and implements which were spoiled and harmed in the building of our Meeting House." At first there was neither floor nor ceiling, and two Friends were appointed every year to stuff the holes in the building with moss, to keep the rain and snow out; the walls were bare, but there was a large fireplace at the west end. The first floor was laid in 1681, at a cost of £1. In 1677, George Fox paid his last visit here, and upwards of 600 Friends gathered at Brighflatts on the Sunday. In due course the walls were plastered, and by 1711 the oak loft had been put up, at a cost of £11; the forms were widened and had backs put to them; and in the space at the foot of the stairs a place was left for the sheep-dogs which accompanied their masters to Meeting. The building of the stable began in 1670, and it cost £32. 16s. 6d.; there was a mounting-block at each end—the larger one, 6 ft. x 4 ft., giving room for a pillion-rider to dismount, has now been removed. A little room built beyond it, for "need as occasion arose", was soon used for a day-school, where Christoper Winn taught for a salary of £5 per annum. A second floor was laid in 1747, at a cost of £15. 11s. 3d. By 1905 the roof was in great need of repair, and an appeal was issued, which brought in £165; with this money, it was possible to repair the roof and to provide new stairs, an inner door and another floor. In the gallery there is a piece of the yew tree under which George Fox preached in Sedbergh churchyard; it was finally blown down in 1877.

After the President had expressed the Society's thanks to Miss Wilson for her address, the coaches drove back to Kendal. There was a meeting of Council, after tea, at 5-15 p.m., and at 8 p.m. the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held in the Town Hall, with the President in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, and the accounts for the Society's year ending 30 June 1953 had been adopted subject to audit (as Mr R. N. Birley had only just returned that evening, after two months' absence in Africa, and Mr Patrickson had been obliged by ill-health to resign from the post of auditor, it had not yet been possible for the audit to be made), the Society proceeded to the election of officers for the year ensuing. On the motion of Mr Eric Birley, Mr J. E. Spence was elected President for a further term; Councillor Ritson Graham, of Carlisle, was elected a member of Council, Mr G. C. Ingall as one of the auditors, and the remaining officers and members of Council were re-elected *en bloc*. The President reported that

Council had authorised the creation of an Index Fund, with a view to paying for the general index to *Transactions*, N.S. xxvi-l, which he and Mrs Spence had undertaken to prepare, and that in the first instance a sum of £150, which had accumulated in the course of several years in the Excursions Account, was being invested, to form the nucleus of the new fund. Only two new members were elected at this meeting, and the President drew the attention of members to the need for attracting fresh recruits to the Society, in order that its work might be maintained in full vigour; in his capacity as Excursions Secretary, he outlined the proposals which Council had approved earlier in the evening, for meetings in 1954, which were to include an excursion to Brittany early in May, if sufficient members were prepared to join the party; further details would be issued in due course. For the Editors, Mr Eric Birley reported that *Transactions*, N.S. lii, was with the binders, and should be in members' hands in the near future, while it was hoped to send N.S. liii to the printers in the course of the next month. The Rev. C. M. L. Bouch reported that the next volume of Parish Registers would be issued before long, being *Wigton, part 2*, to be followed in due course by *Kendal, part 4*. Reports of the season's activities were then received from representatives of the three Regional Groups, after which Mr Bouch reported on the following papers: "Notes on Calder Abbey" by Mary C. Fair (Art. VIII above); "Sir Daniel Fleming's proposal of marriage" by C. M. L. Bouch (Art. X); and "A clay-house at Burgh-by-Sands" by Miss K. S. Hodgson, C. M. L. Bouch and C. G. Bulman (Art. XIII). There followed a most interesting and varied assortment of exhibits: by Miss Belk, a statesman's strong-box, once the property of Mr Gillbanks of Westhead, Wythburn (for a description of it, by H. S. Cowper, cf. CWI xv 271 and pl. XI); by Miss Audrey Charlton, a clay lamp and a small earthenware jar, purchased by her at Bostra in Arabia, a piece of the "rose-red" local rock from the same ancient city, and, from Cyprus, a fragment of tile with the impression of a scarab in relief upon it; by Mrs Hallam, a silver shoe-buckle, once the property of John Postlethwayt, some time High Master of St Paul's School (for whom cf. CWI x 244), on whose career she read an interesting note; by Lt-Col. O. H. North, F.S.A., photographs of the excavations which he had recently carried out at Burrow-in-Lonsdale, in association with Mr E. J. W. Hildyard, F.S.A., a full report on which will be appearing in *Transactions* in due course; and Gavin Simpson, of Sedbergh School, exhibited a considerable collection of Roman pottery found by him, including two or three pieces each from Ravenglass and Watercrook, and a larger and more varied series from outside

the Roman fort at Brough under Stainmore. Altogether it was a most enjoyable and interesting meeting, and it was with great regret that the President felt it necessary to adjourn it, owing to the lateness of the hour, shortly before 10 p.m.

Thursday, 3 September.

The coaches left Kendal at 9.15 a.m. and drove via Kirkby Lonsdale (where some members joined them) and Ingleton to Giggleswick, the first visit of the day being to GIGGLESWICK CHURCH; here we were to have been received by the vicar, the Rev. H. M. Foyl, but he was indisposed, and his place was taken at short notice by the verger, Mr. Brown. The church is dedicated to St Alkelda, only attested elsewhere (Mr Brown informed us) as the patron saint of the parish church of Middleham, where she is reputed to have been martyred; her day is 5 November. The list of incumbents, though incomplete, extends as far back as 1190, and the existing church is probably attributable to about that period, though there was undoubtedly a church on the site before the Norman Conquest. It has undergone various alterations, including a very thorough restoration in 1890 and the following years, involving the removal of late 17th-century galleries and the dissection of a three-decker pulpit, part of which is now in use as a lectern alongside the pulpit proper, fine workmanship dated 1680. Other notable woodwork includes a poor-box near the main door, dated 1684. Mr Brown also drew our attention to the brass candelabra, dated 1718 and inscribed with the names of the four churchwardens of that year; there is an interesting royal coat-of-arms, in oils on wood, hanging on the north wall of the north aisle, impressive despite its rather poor condition, dated 1716, and a striking east window of 1891, by T. W. Camm of Birmingham, who was also responsible for the west window, inserted a few years later. The registers begin in 1558; the only ancient effigy is a recumbent one of Sir Richard Tempest, with his head resting on a goat couchant. The church is noteworthy for the fine proportions of its chancel, and for the flowers and shrubs between the broad flagged paths in its churchyard.

From Giggleswick a short drive brought the party to the market-square in Settle, whence a short walk up a steep lane brought us to the MUSEUM OF THE PIG YARD CLUB, where its founder, Mr Tot Lord, was waiting to receive us. It would be difficult to do full justice to this remarkable and exciting collection, even if the Editors had much more space at their disposal. Its principal exhibits come from the neighbouring caves, notably the Victoria Cave (discovered in 1838, and first excavated by a local plumber in 1870 and the following

years) and the Attermire Cave. The objects displayed include a large assortment of animal bones, including elephant, rhinoceros, hippopotamus and hyaena; prehistoric implements in wide variety (including a number of specimens from our own district¹); an extensive collection of Roman material, particularly noteworthy for its fine brooches, and for the surviving metal-work of a chariot and for an iron lamp and its stand, from the Attermire Cave; and an assortment of post-Roman and pre-Conquest material, outstanding among which is a fragment of slate bearing a runic inscription. In an adjoining room there is a considerable collection of material illustrating the history of Settle and the surrounding district during the past three or four centuries. Altogether, the museum reflects the greatest credit on Mr Lord's enterprise and discernment; it started some thirty years ago, as he informed us, in a single glass case in a room adjoining a pig-yard elsewhere in the town—hence the name of the Club, whose presiding genius he has been from its inception. For the historian the collection of material from the caves is of the very greatest interest; it provides the basis for an estimate of the character of life among the Dales throughout the Late Celtic and Roman periods; and the archaeologist cannot but be grateful to Mr Lord for displaying everything so well, and for making his collections so readily accessible to visitors. There was warm and prolonged applause when the President expressed the Society's thanks to Mr Lord for his kindness in allowing us to visit the museum, and for his informative and entertaining address.

Lunch was taken in Settle, and the Society then proceeded, along a narrow and winding road, to visit the ancient church at HORTON IN RIBBLESDALE, where we were received by the vicar, the Rev. H. E. Elliott, who kindly described his church to us. It is a small structure, its nave and two aisles being of *circa* 1120; it contains a very interesting early Norman font, and some ancient glass, believed to represent Thomas à Becket. Mr Elliott showed us the registers, which date from 1556, and church plate of the 17th and 18th centuries. After the President had thanked Mr Elliott on our behalf, the Society set out on its homeward journey; a pleasant drive, in steadily improving weather, brought us back to the main road again at Ingleton, whence we drove past Cowan Bridge (where time did not permit us to look at the schoolhouse where the Brontë sisters once lived) to Kendal, where the meeting terminated at 4 p.m., after the customary thanks to the Excursion Secretary and to the various speakers had been expressed.

¹ Cf. CW2 xlix 213 f.