

PROCEEDINGS.

I. SPRING MEETING, 1955.

THE spring meeting was held in the Town Hall, Kendal, on the afternoon of Saturday, 26 March, with the President, the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A., in the chair. Council had met during the morning, as required by Rule XI and to transact routine business.

After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read and confirmed, the President reported, with great regret, the deaths of Miss Mary C. Fair and Sir Arthur Keith, honorary members, and of the Rev. W. S. Sherwen, and on his motion the meeting stood in silent tribute to their memory; obituary notices will be found in CW2 liv 307 ff. The President also reported that Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A., had found himself compelled, for reasons of health, to resign his office as Secretary for Excursions, and it was unanimously agreed to thank Mr Spence for his splendid and unwearied services in that capacity since 1945, and to wish him renewed health; it was noted with satisfaction that the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A., was willing to continue in the same office, and it was agreed to invite the Regional Groups to assist her in the planning of excursions held in their districts. It was reported that Miss Fair had left a legacy to the Society, for excavation and research in South-West Cumberland, and that one or two donations already made in memory of her had been added to that bequest which, on the Treasurer's motion, was to be retained as a separate fund until such time as suitable researches might be projected, for support from it. On behalf of the Treasurer, the President appealed for more members to subscribe under the covenant scheme, forms for which could be obtained from the General Secretary, Miss Ainsley. He also announced that Council had made a grant of £20, from the Research Fund, to Mr R. L. Bellhouse, for excavation at Burrow Walls (see Art. III, above). For the Editors, Mr Eric Birley announced that 183 pages of *Transactions*, n.s. liv, were already set up and it was hoped to complete printing in the near future; work on n.s. lv was already in hand, and every endeavour would be made to issue it to members before the spring meeting, 1956. Mr Birley also announced that the Durham University Excavation Committee hoped to undertake an enlarged programme of

excavation and research on the line of Hadrian's Wall and in its neighbourhood, during the next six or seven years, and that Council had agreed that members should be invited, in due course, to subscribe to the Society's Roman Wall special account, to make possible a renewal of the co-operation between our Cumberland Excavation Committee and the D.U.E.C. which had produced such fruitful results in an earlier period. Twenty-two candidates were elected members of the Society. Mr Eric Birley reported Mr E. J. W. Hildyard's paper on "An enamelled *fibula* from Brough-under-Stainmore" (Art. V, above); the following papers were then read: "Pottery from prehistoric sites, North End, Walney Island" by F. Barnes (Art. I), and "The turnpike roads of North Lonsdale" by J. L. Hobbs (Art. XVI). Mr Barnes had brought the material from Walney Island with him, and members were interested to examine the remarkable collection of objects which he and his coadjutors had found there in the course of the last few years.

During the meeting, some members withdrew to another room to listen to the broadcast of the boat-race, the result of which was announced, by leave of the President, soon after it had been learnt; to judge by the groans which greeted the announcement, the majority of those present were supporters of Oxford.

II. SUMMER MEETING, 1955.

The summer meeting, which was held in the Appleby district on 12 and 13 July, was attended by more than a hundred members and their friends. The arrangements for it had been made by a committee composed of the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A. (President of the Society), Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A., Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., Mr T. D. Shepherd, Dr J. R. K. Thomson and the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A. (Secretary for Excursions). This meeting will long be remembered for two reasons. First, the wonderful weather, with the ground so dry that we were able to sit on the grass without rugs or raincoats, while listening to the speakers (though the second day ended with a cloud overhead and a few drops of rain). Second, it was the first occasion on which we had the privilege of hearing Mr R. W. Brunskill lecture—though members who had read his article on the development of the small house in the Eden Valley (CW2 liii 160-189) were not surprised at the high standard which he achieved in his descriptions of the three houses which he had occasion to speak at in the course of the meeting.

Tuesday, 12 July.

The coaches left Penrith station at 10-30 a.m., the first stop being at KIRKBY THORE HALL, where Mr Brunskill gave the first of his talks; it is hoped to print it, and the other two, as an Article in our next volume: meanwhile, it may be convenient to refer to the accounts printed in *RCHM Westmorland* 147 f. and in Taylor's *Manorial Halls* (Extra Series viii) 139-142. Our next visit was to BOLTON CHURCH, which Mr C. B. Martindale described to us on the basis of *RCHM Westmorland* 42 f.; he drew particular attention to the poor-box, inscribed "The poor man's box and church wardens' seat I.L., R.C. 1634" and to the 12th century panel over the north doorway, carved with two armed and mounted men with kite-shields and lances, charging at each other. The President noted that it was uncommon to find the arms of Queen Victoria displayed, as here, in the churches of our district; they are painted over the chancel arch. Lunch was then taken, either at Appleby or wherever members could find a shady place for a picnic. After lunch, we paused for a few minutes at the point where the Long Marton road crosses a section of the ROMAN ROAD from Catterick to Brougham, known locally as High Street; here the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A., read a brief account of the road, kindly supplied by Mr R. L. Bellhouse, as follows:—

"By the end of the first century, the Romans had completed their framework of military highways, embracing the difficult country of northern England and southern Scotland and linking together the numerous forts established by Cerialis or by Agricola. The portion of road to be seen here forms a cross-country link between the two trunk roads which run on either side of the Pennines, namely the road from Chester via Manchester, Ribchester, Burrow and Brougham to Carlisle and beyond, and that from York via Catterick, Binchester, Lanchester and Ebchester to Corbridge and over Cheviot into Scotland. It joins Brougham with a point on the eastern route just north of Catterick, passing by the forts at Kirkby Thore, Brough under Stainmore, Bowes and Greta Bridge; it is possible that this route was first used by the army of Cerialis, A.D. 71-74, and there is reason to think that it was constructed before the Chester-Carlisle road. As to construction, two popular fallacies are hard to dispel: that Roman roads ran in perfectly straight lines from start to finish, and that they were always made with a surface of laid stone slabs. A glance at the 1 in. Ordnance maps easily deals with the first, and I can tell you that although we are now nine miles from Brougham, the Roman road from that place has already changed direction no less than four times. The course of a projected Roman road was laid out in sections sighted on fairly prominent natural features which allowed a good view of the route. Next any forest or scrub would be cleared, and the course delineated by the digging of side ditches, partly for drainage purposes, about 30 ft. apart. Then the site of the road would be excavated and filled with local materials for the foundations: in our area the usual bottoming consists of cobbles, probably from the nearest beck, with larger cobbles along the edges to form a kerb to keep the metalling in place. On this bed was laid either natural gravel or broken stone, to form the surface, which would depend on traffic for its consolidation. A diagnostic feature of Roman roads is their distinct camber; no other roads, before or after Roman times until quite recently, were cambered. When a Roman road fell into disuse, its *agger* would be plainly visible for a

long time, and it is not surprising that such roads were often used as boundaries from the earliest times; thus, part of the bounds of Inglewood Forest was defined in a perambulation of Edward I as 'along the great metalled way to Thoresby'; and the section here forms a parish boundary. In difficult country the course of the road was often eased by ramps and cuttings, and on steep hillsides the engineers made shelves; often the course of an uncertain road may be retraced with sufficient accuracy by identifying these features, which may still be quite clear to the practised eye".

We next visited LONG MARTON CHURCH, where we were welcomed by the rector, the Rev. A. W. Neale, and Mr Martindale again spoke, referring to *R.C.H.M. Westmorland* 167 ff.; he pointed out that the church had been basically the same shape since A.D. 1100, but the chancel was originally only half its present length, and drew attention to the difference in sense of line and rhythm of the 14th century windows as contrasted with most modern work. It had been intended to conclude the afternoon with a visit to Temple Sowerby Manor (once known as Acorn Bank), but at the last moment Major-General Sir John Kennedy found that he was unable to receive us there; instead, therefore, a visit was paid to the site of the SKIRMISH AT CLIFTON, in December 1745, of which a full account by Chancellor Ferguson can be found in CW1 x 186-228. Here the President spoke on the new light thrown on the skirmish by a document recently found in the Public Record Office (Art. XIII, above). We then drove to Penrith for tea, and a meeting of Council was held, as usual.

At 8-15 p.m. there was a GENERAL MEETING of the Society in the Town Hall, Penrith; considering the excessive heat, this was surprisingly well attended. The President, who took the chair, arrived decently clad but finding how many male members were in their shirt sleeves, soon followed their example. After the minutes had been read and confirmed, members stood in silence in memory of Mr F. Gerald Simpson, Past President, and Mr Herbert Valentine, Vice-President, whose deaths were reported; obituary notices are given later in this volume. The following papers were then read: "The poverty of Cumberland and Westmorland" by Professor G. P. Jones (Art. XIV), "Further excavations in the Bewcastle district" by Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A.; and "The Ninekirks hoard" by Dr J. P. C. Kent (Art. VII). For the Editors, the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch reported on the following papers: "Farmanby and the Thompson family" by the Rev. R. D. Thompson (Art. XII); and "Thomas Sewell, founder of Radley College" by the President and Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A. (Art. XVII). Mr R. L. Bellhouse next gave a description of his recent excavations at Burrow Walls (Art. III, above), his illustrations including some very delightful coloured lantern slides shown by our member Mr Brian Blake,

who had been his chief of staff in the work. The meeting concluded with the exhibition by Mr W. Atkinson, curator of the Penrith Museum, of a Bronze Age mace-head of sandstone, various pieces of Roman pottery, and part of a bellarmine jug, all recently discovered in the Penrith district. Members then dispersed, hoping for a cool night, and all agreeing that this had been an unusually interesting meeting.

Wednesday, 13 July.

The coaches left Sandgate, Penrith, at 9-30 a.m., with the sky still blue and the sun's beams pouring down. The first stop was made at BURWENS PREHISTORIC SETTLEMENT, which was described by Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A. (Past President). She pointed out that the Westmorland settlements, of which Burwens is the finest example, are of a type common in Yorkshire, Northumberland and SE. Scotland, some of them certainly of Bronze Age date; the Westmorland examples, however, have yielded nothing but Roman material so far. Such settlements differ sharply from the hill-forts in their situation, which is quite open and without natural defences; the massive wall surrounding Burwens was probably intended to keep out wild beasts and thieves rather than for defence against enemies. It is constructed of a double row of large stones, with rubble filling the space between; within it there are several hut-circles, with slighter walls built in the same way. Outside the main enclosure are two or three others with slighter walls, probably small fields or stockyards. Any corn grown can have been only a subsistence crop. The district, Miss Hodgson pointed out, is full of prehistoric remains, including circles and cairns; such a sheltered, well-watered valley of good limestone pasture would be well suited to a pastoral people. Professor Richmond has pointed out that when the *pax Romana* had put an end to raiding and inter-tribal quarrels, the population would increase; this would account for the number of these settlements in a comparatively small area—when the parent human hive became overcrowded it would "swarm" and settle elsewhere in the neighbourhood (thus increasing the amount of tribute to be collected by the Roman tax-gatherer).

From Burwens we travelled, latterly along a beautiful but somewhat indifferent country road, to GAYTHORN HALL, where we again had the pleasure of listening to Mr Brunskill; this house is very charming and of exceptional interest, so that it is rather surprising to find that the Society had never visited it before: a description of it will be found in *RCHM Westmorland*

16, and we hope to print Mr Brunskill's study of it in our next volume. Owing in part to the country road, mentioned above, we were now rather behind our time-table, and so we deferred our visit to ASBY RECTORY till after lunch, taken either in Appleby or in such shade as members could find. The President was the speaker at the rectory; he began by pointing out that though the parsonage-house had an important place in the layout of any ancient village, no account of its development was to be found in our *Transactions*; he hoped to rectify that omission, and to include in his paper a description of the house which the Society was now visiting: meanwhile, accounts of it would be found in CW1 xii 23 f. = *Manorial Halls* 138, by M. W. Taylor, and in *RCHM Westmorland* 15. From Asby we drove to Ormside, where Mr Brunskill described ORMSIDE HALL to us; this building, too, is as yet without treatment in our *Transactions*, but cf. *RCHM Westmorland* 187 and Mr Brunskill's forthcoming study. A short walk brought us to ORMSIDE CHURCH, where Mr Martindale gave a summary of its points of interest (see *RCHM Westmorland* 185 f.); it will be recalled that it was in the churchyard here that the late 7th-century Ormside bowl (now in the Yorkshire Museum at York) and other remains of the Viking period have been found: cf. CW1 xv 377-380 for Chancellor Ferguson's account of the latter, with plate facing p. 377, *ibidem* 381-387 for W. G. Collingwood's basic study of the Ormside cup, with a splendid coloured plate facing p. 385, and Mr John Cowen's masterly survey in his catalogue of objects of the Viking period in the Tullie House Museum, CW2 xxxiv 166-187, especially 171 ff., with his brief note on the question of dating, CW2 xlvi 75.

Before members dispersed, the President expressed their thanks to Miss Cross on the very successful outcome of the first meeting for which she had been responsible as Secretary for Excursions; he also thanked Dr J. R. K. Thomson, chairman of the Penrith Group, for the help that he had given, and the speakers, owners and tenants for the part that they had played in providing such an interesting and enjoyable programme. Meanwhile the skies had been darkening, and as members made their way to their cars or to the coaches, a few drops of rain fell; this was the prelude to what most believed to be the worst thunderstorm they had ever encountered: the rain was so heavy that at times visibility was nil, but we all got home safely, though not without experiencing some trepidation.

III. AUTUMN MEETING, 1955.

The autumn meeting was held in north-west Cumberland, with headquarters at Tullie House, Carlisle, on 13 and 14 September 1955. Arrangements had been made by a committee consisting of the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A. (President), Mr R. L. Bellhouse, Mr C. G. Bulman, Miss Audrey Charlton, Mr Tom Gray, Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A., Mr Robert Hogg, Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., Mr Kenneth Smith and the Hon. Marjorie Cross, F.S.A. (Secretary for Excursions). We were favoured by ideal weather, with sunshine for much of the time, rain only when we were safely under cover, and as splendid a series of views of the Lake mountains, across Solway and eastward to the Pennines, as one could wish for. Some hundred members and friends took part, and it was encouraging to see a good proportion of young people among them.

Tuesday, 13 September.

The coaches left Station Square, Carlisle, at 10-30 a.m., our first stop being at Burgh-by-Sands, where we inspected LAMONBY FARM; here the President gave a brief address on the clay houses of Cumberland, and Mr Bulman drew our attention to the many features of interest in this fine specimen of the type: for a plan and full description, see CW2 liii 149-159. From Burgh we drove via Drumburgh to Kirkbride where, from a vantage-point in the churchyard, there was a good view north-eastwards to Drumburgh, and Mr R. L. Bellhouse described the ROMAN ROAD which he had discovered, connecting the two places (see CW2 lii 41-45); he pointed out that Roman material, including an altar and pieces of samian, had been found at Kirkbride itself, and suggested that there may have been at least a small fort there, perhaps underlying the church and churchyard. As to the further course of the road, research would be needed to establish it, but he thought it possible that it was aiming at Beckfoot, representing a secondary route constructed at the same time as that fort, when the series of mile-fortlets and towers along the Cumberland coast was found to need stiffening by the building of new forts.

The next visit was to NEWTON ARLOSH CHURCH, described to us by Mr Bulman; for earlier accounts, reference may be made to CW1 ii 50 ff., in J. A. Cory's paper on fortified churches in Cumberland, with elevation and plan; J. F. Curwen's detailed study and description, reproducing the Lysons' drawing of the church during its period of desolation, CW2 xiii 113-121; and W. T. McIntire's account in the *Proceedings* of the visit

on 2 July 1935 (CW₂ xxxvi 197 ff.), drawing attention to the part played by Canon Simpson and Miss Losh in the restoration of 1844. Mr Bulman paid a tribute to the skill of the architect employed in that work (his name does not seem to be recorded), who designed a northward extension, with the altar at its north end, in order to preserve the original south side of the tiny medieval church and its fortified tower, matching those at Burgh-by-Sands and Great Salkeld which J. A. Cory also studied in the paper to which reference has been made above.

Lunch was taken in Silloth, many members preferring to eat it *al fresco* on the front, enjoying the sunshine and the glorious views of Criffel and the Stewartry, or strolling across the green, otherwise deserted on Silloth's early-closing day. After lunch, we drove southward along the coast, past the site of Beckfoot fort, to Mawbray sandpit, where Mr Bellhouse showed us the remains of TOWER 16*b*, for full details of which see CW₂ liv 42-47; the party had only just returned to the coaches and the long line of cars when a sudden hailstorm, very fierce while it lasted, came out of a clear sky to remind us how fortunate we had been in the weather—but it was an isolated phenomenon, and the rest of the day was sunny once more.

Thence we turned northwards again, driving via the outskirts of Silloth and Abbey Town to RABY COTE, where Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., spoke on the history of the house, built as a grange in the manor of Holm by the Cistercian monks of Holm Cultram abbey; it must also have been an important observation-post in the days when the Scots could and did come up with the tide to within a stone's throw of the farm: in 1235, "The king having heard that the abbot and monks of Holm Cultram suffer great damage from malefactors in the places where their granges are, grants them leave to have their servants armed with bows and arrows to guard them and their goods." Exactly when the Chamber family first came to Raby Cote is not known; but it may be noted that Robert Chamber became abbot of Holm Cultram *circa* 1500, and his brother Thomas, who inherited Raby Cote, is said to have been the fourth of his family to live in it, so that the family must have been there since the closing years of Edward III's reign. Thomas died in 1523 and was succeeded by his son Robert, who married a Skelton of Armathwaite and died in 1554; he leased the salt pans which stretched along the coast from Angerton to the Border, and the family were still lessees of them in 1640, though in 1561 it was reported that they were for the most part utterly decayed "and the rest are like to decay". Robert Chamber made his will in 1548, and from it we see that he remained true to the

old faith, for he bequeathed his soul to Almighty God and the Virgin and all the saints in heaven. His grandson Thomas succeeded to Raby Cote in 1571, and three years later he married Anne, daughter of Sir John Musgrave, captain of Bewcastle; seven children were born of the marriage, the youngest son being christened at Holm Cultram on 16 June 1586. Four months later, tragedy came to Raby Cote; in Holm Cultram church is a stone with the following inscription: "Here lyeth Ann Musgrave being murdered with the shot of a pistol in her own house of Raby Cote by one Robert Beckworth. She was daughter of Jack Musgrave Capt. of Bewcastle Knt. She was married to Thomas Chamber of Raby Coat and had issue six sons—Robert, Thomas, John, Rowland, Arthur, Will, and a daughter Florence". Mr Hudleston had not yet been able to produce further information about this tragedy, but he hoped that it might yet be possible, one day, to do so. In 1591 Thomas Chamber married again, his second wife being Janet, widow of Fergus Graham of Nunnery.

In 1618 a dispute arose between the vicar of Holm Cultram and his parishioners, over payment of tithes. Thomas Chamber and his cousin William Chamber were involved in it, and were excommunicated by the vicar; they went to London, where the lawsuit over the tithes was heard, and their accounts of their expenses have been preserved. The journey to London cost Thomas £2, and the cousins' bill at their inn, for 34 days, came to £3. 10s. 8d., their horses being stabled and fed for £3. 13s. od.; lawyers' fees came to over £12. William Chamber bought apples for 6d., gingerbread for 2d., shoes and pants for 3/-, and had his boots soled for 1/-; vinegar and butter for his horse's legs cost him 4d. The lawsuit cost the parish more than £480, a very large sum of money in that period, which had to be raised by the Sixteen Men of Holm Cultram, the Chamber family being prominent members of that body; the tenants were not entirely successful in the litigation, and Thomas died in 1619 before the suits ended. His successor was his third son, John, then 39 years of age and a widower, his wife Anne Wybergh of Clifton having died in 1616, in 1621 he married Mary Osmotherley. For many years he was the leading man in the parish; in 1639 and again in 1650 he was appointed to supervise the repair of Holm Cultram church, and in 1640 we find him petitioning the governor of Carlisle against the calling up of every fifth man in the parish for military service. It was nearly 40 years after the accession of James I, but the Scots were still giving trouble, and John reported that they had caused great damage, had burnt two or three houses and taken away 60 head of cattle, while the

men of Holm Cultram had spent £60 for muskets and other warlike furniture, and had planted the same on the sea-coasts and kept 30 armed men on duty day and night. The governor ruled that "they shall not need to send every fifth man unless the beacons be on fire, and then all to come".

John Chamber was a busy man; he was deputy steward of the manor and collector of tithes, and he farmed the salt pans (from which he seems to have made a good deal of money); he was also a farmer and kept accounts, some of his household expenses making amusing reading. A "peer of shune" for his mother and another for his sister cost 2s. 4d., and a jerkin for his mother 7d.; a tailor who made a pair of breeches, a pair of stockings and mended another pair, was paid 4d., while Meg Sandeth received 1d. for "1 day's spreading". He seems to have been a believer in astrology, too, and was fond of writing down proverbs, Mr Hudleston quoting examples to illustrate both points. He died in 1655, and the following rhymed epitaph was cut on his tombstone:—

John Chamber till death brought him here
 Maintained still the custom clear
 The church, the wood, the parish right
 He did defend with all his might
 Kept constant holy Sabbath days
 And did frequent the Church alwaies
 Gave alms truly to the poor
 Who dayly sought them at his door
 And purchased land as much and more
 Than all his elders did before
 He had four children with two wives
 They died young — the one wife survives.
 None of his rank could better be
 For liberal hospitalitie.

He was indeed a great landowner at the time of his death. His sister had married a cousin, and it was her son William Chamber who succeeded to the family acres; not much is recorded of him except that he was foreman of the Sixteen Men. He was succeeded by his son John, but after 1683 the family does not seem to be mentioned in the registers, and in 1732 John's son Arthur surrendered the family estates. The late Francis Grainger's paper on the family (CW2 i 194-233, with pedigrees and a note by T. H. Hodgson on the armorial stones at Raby Cote) is not free from errors, and there are still many gaps in the history of the Chambers.

The last visit of the day was to KIRKBAMPTON CHURCH, where Mr Eric Birley, F.S.A., described the Roman building-inscription, recording work done by a detachment of the Sixth legion, found during the restoration of the church in 1870 and now built up, rather too low for it to be inspected conveniently,

in the south wall of the chancel; he pointed out that it had not necessarily been brought from the Wall, for in the 16th century another Roman inscription is recorded to have been brought from Old Carlisle to "Banton" (CW2 li 18), which might well mean this place. He also referred briefly to the discovery in 1843, near the earthwork known as Foldsteads, a mile from Kirkbampton, of the remarkable little altar, less than 4 in. high, dedicated to the goddess Latis; it was published by Huebner and by Bruce, who gives a good drawing of it (*Lap. Sep.* 518, cf. C.938), but was not seen thereafter until 1918, when it was dug up, inside a little wooden box, by men "excavating ground by a cottage" in Kirkbampton: see Canon Rawnsley's account, CW2 xx 151 ff. The Foldsteads site was trenched by Canon Wilson in 1901, his report being printed in CW2 ii 413-417, with plan; it seems clear that it was a medieval or even later farmstead, having nothing to do with the Roman altar, but the discovery of the latter suggests that a Roman site still awaits location thereabouts.

From Kirkbampton we returned to Carlisle for tea or, in the case of its members, a MEETING OF COUNCIL. Mr J. E. Spence, F.S.A., was in the chair, but he announced that he was obliged by reasons of health to give up that office, and Miss K. S. Hodgson, F.S.A., was elected Chairman of Council for the year next ensuing; Mr Spence was warmly thanked for his services to Council and to the Society. The business transacted at this meeting included the following matters: (a) on the recommendation of the Society's honorary auditors (Mr R. N. Birley and Mr G. C. Ingall) it was agreed to increase the honorarium of the General Secretary, Miss Ainsley, to £75 per annum, in view of the considerable amount of work involved in the duties which she has performed with such conspicuous diligence; (b) Professor Richmond, Mr Hogg and Mr Eric Birley were appointed to represent the Society on a joint committee with representatives of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne, to consider plans for further excavations in the Wall region, in co-operation with the Durham University Excavation Committee; (c) it was decided to exchange publications with the Landesmuseum in Stuttgart, which issues the *Fundberichte aus Schwaben*, particularly valuable for its well-illustrated reports on prehistoric, Roman and Dark Age discoveries; (d) an *ad hoc* committee (Mr Kenneth Smith, convenor, Mr Ritson Graham, Mr Hogg, the Editors and Miss K. S. Hodgson) recommended that the Society might best support the celebrations of Carlisle's octocentenary as a chartered city by arranging a joint meeting with the Royal Archæological Institute in July 1958,

and by sponsoring a new history of Carlisle by a team of specialists, for publication in the spring of that year: these recommendations were accepted, and the Committee was instructed to remain in being in order to carry them out; (e) Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., was appointed chairman, and the Rev. F. B. Swift secretary, of the Parish Register Section, and they were authorised to make arrangements for the publication of the Morland registers concurrently with those of Kendal, part IV.

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING was held in the lecture-theatre at Tullie House at 8-15 p.m., the President (the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch, F.S.A.) being in the chair, with a good attendance of members. The President reported, with great regret, the deaths of the Society's senior member, Mr Wilson Butler (elected July 1898), and of Mr J. H. Vince (1923), memoirs of whom will be found later in this volume; also the death of Professor Gustav Behrens, Mainz, whom many of our members had met in 1930, when he attended the Pilgrimage as the official representative of the German *Limeskommission*. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been confirmed, the Society proceeded to the election of officers and Council for the year 1955-56. On the nomination of Council, reported by Mr Eric Birley, the Rev. C. M. L. Bouch was elected to serve a further term as President, and the remaining officers and members of Council were re-elected *en bloc*, with the addition of Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., to the list of Vice-Presidents and of Mr R. L. Bellhouse to that of members of Council. On Council's recommendation, Dr W. Douglas Simpson, F.S.A., was elected an honorary member of the Society under Rule VIII, in recognition of his eminence in antiquarian studies and his particular services to the Society, notably his learned papers on the castles at Brougham, Brough-under-Stainmore and Appleby (CW2 xlii 170-179, xlvi 223-283 and xlix 118-133) and on Yanwath Hall (CW2 xliv 55-67). The Treasurer's report for the Society's year 1954-55 and the audited accounts were communicated by Miss Ainsley, and laid on the table for inspection after the meeting, and eight candidates for membership were duly elected. For the Editors, Mr Eric Birley reported that the issue of *Transactions*, n.s. liv, had already begun, a copy of the volume being on the table; it was hoped that n.s. lv would be completed in time for it to reach members before the spring meeting, most of its Articles being already in galley-proofs. The following papers were then reported: "A preliminary report on a Microlithic site at Drigg, Cumberland" by D. Nickson and J. H. Macdonald (Art. II, above); "A Roman inscription from Watercrock" by

Eric Birley (Art. IV); "Marmaduke Lumley, bishop of Carlisle, 1430-1450" by R. L. Storey (Art. VIII); "Robert Smith and the *Observations on the Picts Wall, 1708-9*" by the late R. C. Bosanquet and Eric Birley (Art. X); and "George Henderson, blacksmith of Crosby Garrett, and his account-book, 1838-1861" by J. Breay (Art. XVIII). Next, Mr C. G. Bulman gave a paper on the Gudybour and Salkeld screens in Carlisle cathedral, exhibiting a series of splendid photographs in illustration of it; his paper, it is hoped, will be printed in the next volume of *Transactions*. The remainder of the meeting was devoted to exhibits, as follows: (a) by Mr Kenneth Smith, honorary librarian, photostat copies of a document recently acquired by the British Museum (which had been able to out-bid Tullie House for it); see his note on the subject, p. 326 f., above; (b) also by Mr Smith, six out of the seven volumes into which Chancellor Ferguson ultimately bound the original two volumes of Hutchinson's *History of Cumberland*, once the property of Jonathan Boucher (1738-1804), on whose contributions to that work Mr Eric Birley spoke briefly (see also below, p. 347 f.): there is a great deal of extra matter, printed or in MS., included in the volumes, which must clearly be referred to by anyone wishing to study the history of the county, and the Society was glad to know that they would be available for consultation in the Jackson Library; (c) by Mr Robert Hogg, honorary curator, the little altar to the goddess Latis, to which Mr Eric Birley had referred at Kirkhampton.

Wednesday, 14 September.

Our first visit was to the garden of Tullie House where, at 9-30 a.m., Mr Robert Hogg showed us his RECENT EXCAVATIONS, revealing a great depth of medieval and Roman stratification, the chief feature of interest being the foundation of a Roman structure of monumental type, the function and original aspect of which, Mr Hogg pointed out, remained to be established; but he gave reason to suppose that it had been the *cella* or central shrine of a Romano-Celtic temple, with a water-tank reminiscent (though on a far smaller scale) of the "well" in Coventina's temple at Carrawburgh, and with a high superstructure originally supported by massive columns at each corner. Mr Eric Birley expressed approval of Mr Hogg's interpretation of the remains, and congratulated him on the skill with which he had conducted the excavation—and the civic authorities of Carlisle on their public spirit in financing it; he hoped that it might be possible to arrange for the structure

to be preserved as a permanent open-air exhibit, perhaps as the central feature of a sunken garden, in time for the octocentenary celebrations of Carlisle's first charter, which were to take place in 1958.

Next we drove to ROSE CASTLE, where our Patron, the Bishop of Carlisle, and Mrs Bloomer were waiting to receive us. Here the President gave a brief account of a manuscript by Bishop Lyttleton, describing the castle as it was before the drastic restoration of the 18th century, on which it is hoped to print an Article in the next volume of *Transactions*; Mr C. B. Martindale then gave an account of the recent alterations, completed since the Society's previous visit (in 1948, cf. CW2 xlvi 199 f.). It had been necessary to make three major tunnels through Bishop Kytte's tower of 1522, in the west range of buildings, and to open up the south frontage in order to make its rooms adequately lighted and useable, a good many awkward and inconvenient structures of the early 19th century being demolished in the process. There was general agreement that the recent work had added greatly to the attractiveness of the castle, besides providing proper accommodation for the bishop and his family; and members gladly availed themselves of the bishop's invitation to inspect the interior of the castle, or to enjoy the warm sunshine in the delightful garden, where croquet can be played, with the hills beyond Caldbeck as a backcloth.

From Rose we drove to HAWKSDALE HALL, which we visited by kind permission of Mrs Chance. It is surprising to find that the Society had never visited this delightful late 17th century mansion, which was described to us by Mr Martindale. Documentary evidence was lacking, but from its design and detail he was inclined to date its erection *circa* 1700. It is a pleasantly proportioned house of three storeys, the frontage having a width of five windows, their dressings chamfered, with small pulvinated friezes and moulded cornices; the stone quoins have V joints, and there is a bold moulded cornice. The original sash windows with heavy glazing bars remain, the sash-cases being near the outer face of the walls; the second floor has sliding casements. The front entrance is covered by a 19th century glazed porch, but its boldly moulded stone architrave and cornice can still be seen. The interior is notable for being quite unspoilt, and Mr Martindale drew special attention to the niches and fireplace in the dining-room, and the heavy moulded panelling to the bedroom partitions; the staircase has some original handrails, newels and balusters, but seems to have been rebuilt and extended westwards in the late 19th century. The 18th century gate-piers at the entrance to the drive are of

simplicity and merit, and in the garden behind the house there is a fine cedar tree, comparable in majesty and in its position to that at Levens Hall.

Mr C. Roy Hudleston, F.S.A., then gave an account of the Nicolson family, long owners and occupants of the hall. The first of them to live there was John Nicolson, Bishop Nicolson's brother, man of business and close friend; it is hoped to print Mr Hudleston's paper at length, in an early volume of *Transactions*, so that it would be inappropriate to attempt a summary of it here: but it may be noted that John Nicolson and his wife Mary were in residence at Hawksdale Hall (then known as Hawksdale Low House) as early as 1694, and that his son Joseph, whose *History of Westmorland and Cumberland* was written in collaboration with Dr Richard Burn, lived here until his death in 1777.

A cross-country drive brought us past Rosley and Wigton to Maryport, where most members ate picnic lunches, enjoying the bracing air and the splendid views of the Stewartry and of the Isle of Man, until it was time for Mr Eric Birley to describe the ROMAN FORT. For details, he referred to R. G. Collingwood's paper of 1935 (CW2 xxxvi 85-99) and Mr L. P. Wenham's study of the garrisoning of the fort and the significance of its series of buried altars (CW2 xxxix 19-30); he hoped that it would be possible to print, in an early volume of *Transactions*, the substance of Mr Michael Jarrett's recent study of the site, as a result of which it was now clear that it had been occupied by the Romans as early as the time of Agricola, as was shown by examples of undoubtedly Flavian pottery, and by a re-examination of the significance of the altar dedicated by M. Censorius Cornelianus (now added to the Tullie House collection), whose previous service as a centurion in *leg. X Fretensis* is most probably to be assigned to the Jewish war which ended with the capture of Jerusalem by Titus. The existing fort presumably dates from the time of Hadrian, when the original garrison, *coh. I Hispanorum*, was doubled in strength, and consequently needed a larger fort to house it; but Mr Jarrett had suggested, most acutely, that the fort's continued occupation by cohorts only 500 strong, from the time of Pius onwards, must mean that part of its accommodation was put to other uses, and that, like South Shields at the mouth of the Tyne, it had been furnished with an extra series of granaries, to make it an important staging-point for supplies to the forts in Scotland, after the re-occupation of northern territories by Lollius Urbicus. The later garrison of the site was uncertain, but Mr Jarrett had recently found evidence (for which see now CW2 liv 268-270)

to show that there were Christians there before the end of the Roman period. Mr Birley hoped that the day would not be far distant when the Society would be in a position to do some trial excavations on the site, to test the hypothesis which Mr Jarrett had advanced, and to secure an outline of the fort's history and structural sequences; meanwhile, he hoped that Maryport might once more provide the Society with such able and successful excavators and watchdogs as Joseph Robinson, whose digging in 1880 had been of very high quality and had given the Society a lead in that branch of research, or as J. B. Bailey, who for many decades had made sure that no local discoveries went unrecorded. It was a great pleasure to welcome, as guests there and later at Netherhall, a party of boys from the new Netherhall school, led by our member Mr Harry Horsman and one of his colleagues; it was to be hoped that in later years some of them would be ready to join in the study of the history and archæology of the district. Mr Birley also paid a tribute to the enlightened interest which the Senhouse family had shown in the Roman site and the surrounding district, in the course of their four centuries and more at Netherhall—a longer period already than that of the Roman occupation—, pointing out that most of the discoveries made up till Robinson's day had been made by successive lords of Netherhall.

From the site of the fort a short drive brought us to NETHERHALL, where our member Mr Roger Senhouse welcomed us, and kindly threw the house open to us for the examination of some of its treasures, including the important collection of prehistoric and Roman antiquities in the billiard-room, as well as the unmatched series of inscribed and sculptured stones, mainly displayed in the portico at the front of the house; for details, reference may be made to J. B. Bailey's catalogue in an earlier volume of *Transactions* (CW2 xv 135-172, supplemented by Haverfield's notes, xvi 284 ff.): on this occasion, Mr Eric Birley spoke briefly about one or two of the stones, but time was short, and it was not possible to devote as much attention to the collections as many of us could have wished.

The last item on the programme was BROMFIELD CHURCH. Here the President gave a brief account of the Bouch family and its connections with the parish, and Mr Eric Birley spoke of Jonathan Boucher, born at Blencogo; a memorial tablet to him and his family is on the north wall of the chancel (its text is given in full in the President's Article on Boucher, CW2 xxvii 117-151). Boucher contributed to Hutchinson's *History of Cumberland* not only the accounts of the three parishes of Bromfield, Caldbeck and Sebergham, but also most of the biographies

of Cumberland worthies which adorn that work; in addition, he proved on investigation to be our principal authority for such matters as barring-out, the state and methods of education in Cumberland in the 18th century, and much else besides; his own copy of Hutchinson, which the Society had been able to examine on the previous evening, had been sidelined by him to show the extent of his personal contributions to it, and he had also added in manuscript full particulars of how he came to contribute the biographical notices. Council had instructed Mr Birley to prepare a pamphlet, for issue in the Society's Tract Series, containing the MS. account and Boucher's biographical and other contributions, with a foreword and such annotation as might seem necessary, and he hoped that he would be able to have it ready for the press in the course of 1956; it should prove a useful work of reference—and an entertaining one too—besides helping to demonstrate the high quality of Boucher as a scholar and a loyal Cumbrian.

After Mr Birley had concluded his brief address, the President expressed the Society's thanks to all those—owners, tenants and speakers—who had contributed to making the two days of the meeting so enjoyable, and he added a special word of thanks to the Secretary for Excursions, who had seen to it that we had perfect weather, as well as a well-balanced and interesting programme for the meeting.