

PROCEEDINGS.

SUMMER MEETING.

THE first meeting and excursions of the season were held in the Cockermouth and Penrith districts on Thursday and Friday, July 5th and 6th, 1923; committee for local arrangements:—Col. Francis Haswell, C.I.E., M.D., Dr. W. D. Anderson, O.B.E., Mr. T. D. Shepherd, Mr. J. F. Curwen, F.S.A., Mr. D. Scott, Mr. Legh Tolson, F.S.A. and Mr. Edward Wilson, Hon. Secretary. Attendance tickets were taken by Mr. W. G. Collingwood, president; Sir Samuel H. Scott, Bart., and Lady Scott, Windermere; Dr. J. R. Ford, Yealand Conyers; Dr. Anderson, Keswick; Mr. F. Hudleston and Miss Hudleston, Hutton John; Mrs. and Miss Hodgson, Newby Grange; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Martindale, Wetheral; Lady Dorothy Henley, Askerton Castle; Mr. R. G. Collingwood, Stapleton's Chantry, North Moreton; Canon and Mrs Monnington and party, Penrith; Mr. H. S. Cowper, Hawkshead; Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Curwen and Captain Curwen, Heversham; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Fletcher, Workington; Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Lawson, Brampton; Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Fox, St. Bees; Miss Gilchrist, Miss Dawson, and Miss Helen Gilchrist, Lancaster; Mr. A. Wilson, Thornthwaite Grange; Mr. and Mrs. J. Sewell, Stanwix; Mr. and Mrs. H. R. Hulbert, Rydal Mount; Mr. T. I. Barnes, Castlerigg; Mrs. Calverley, Holmrook; Mr., Mrs and Miss Johnstone, Eden Lacy; Mr. and Mrs. D. Scott, Penrith; Mr. F. Nicholson, Windermere; Mr. E. Cardwell, Lancaster; Mr. H. Valentine, Workington; Mr. R. Richmond, Kendal; Rev. E. U. and Mrs. Savage, Raughton Head; Miss Gibson, Barbon; Mr. and Mrs. T. B. Nelson, Langwathby; Miss N. Saunders, Wetheral; Mrs. Farmer, Weymouth; Mr. T. Cann Hughes, Lancaster; Miss Kirkland, Lancaster; Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Rawsley, Loughrigg Holme; Mr. A. M. Beaty and Miss Beaty, Carlisle; Mr. C. W. Robinson, Carlisle; Mr. A. Smith, Hoff Bank; Mrs. Walker and Miss Dixon, Whitehaven; Mrs. Hodgson, Workington; Mr. C. R. and Miss Graham, Bolton-le-Sands; Miss Heald, Lancaster; Mr. and Mrs. T. D. Shepherd Penrith; Mr. W. Gill, Stainton; Mr. and Mrs. L. Tolson, Barton House; Mrs. and Miss Thomson, Penrith;

Mr. L. Thompson, Windermere; Mr. and Mrs. J. Noble, Penrith; Miss Favell, Milnthorpe; Miss Smith, Beetham; Mrs. Horrocks, Salkeld Hall; Mr. W. T. McIntire, Milnthorpe; Miss A. H. Makant and Mrs. and Miss Aitken and party, Windermere; Mr. A. H. Cooper, Ambleside; Miss Parker, Wetheral; Mr. C. S. Jackson, Yanwath; Mrs. E. A. Heelis and Miss Ormerod, Appleby; Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Graham, Wetheral; Mrs. Graham, Carlisle; Mr. W. T. Adam, Carlisle; Mr. and Mrs. Lazonby, Braithwaite; Mr. and Miss Lazonby, Florida, U.S.A.; Miss M. E. Creighton, Carlisle; Miss Todd and Dr. Todd, Urmston; Mr. F. W. Wright, Etterby; Mr. G. Dickinson, Red How; Mrs. Bewley, Rosley; Miss M. T. Sharpe, Kendal; Mrs. Cartner, Rosley; Mrs. and Mr. Gillies, Keswick; Mr. W. N. Ling, Wetheral; Mr. F. Grainger, Abbey Town; Miss Halton, Carlisle; Mrs. Johnson, Bowness; Dr. and Miss M. Hopwood, Carlisle; Mr. C. W. Ruston-Harrison, Stanwix; Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Beckton, Abbey Town; Mr. T. W. Helme, Lancaster; Miss Todd, Carlisle; Mrs. and Miss Birkett, Keswick; Mrs. Gordon, Whitehaven; Mrs. Abercrombie and Mr. R. C. Reid; Mr. W. Dodson, Brampton; Miss Donald, Stanwix; Mr. C. C. Hodgson and Miss Hodgson, Stanwix; Mr. and Mrs. H. Lester, Penrith; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson, Mr. E. Geoffrey Wilson, and Miss Margaret Wilson, Kendal; Mr. T. Sarginson, Penrith; Canon Nurse and party, Bowness; Mrs. Barnfather and party, Stagstones.

THURSDAY, JULY 5TH, 1923.

The greater part of the excursionists met at Penrith Station and left by road for Peel Wyke, Bassenthwaite, where Mr. R. G. Collingwood described the British fort on Castle How (Art. viii). At Hewthwaite Hall, Mr. J. H. Martindale repeated the account of the building and its former owners which he gave us in 1910 (these *Trans.* N.S. xi, 163); the thanks of the Society for permission to view the Hall were given to Mrs. Sibson by the president. Mr. J. F. Curwen described Cockermouth Castle, for which see his paper in these *Trans.* N.S. xi, 129; the thanks of the Society were given by the president to Mr. Banks, agent to Lord Leconfield. An hour was then allowed for luncheon at Cockermouth.

At Bridekirk church, the Rev. Canon Sutton met the party and kindly described the fabric's more recent history, exhibiting the ancient chalice and the early registers. Photographs by Mr. W. L. Fletcher of the celebrated font were handed round and Mr. W. G. Collingwood gave a short account of various attempts

to read this runic inscription, of which he said the translation by



D. H. Haigh and George Stephens of Copenhagen—"Richard, he me wrought, and to this beauty carefully me brought"—had not been superseded as yet, although it was not quite satisfactory. He hoped that Professor Baldwin Brown would have something to say about it in the *Corpus of British Runes* upon which he had been occupied. Mr. Collingwood exhibited an attempt at a restoration of the pre-Norman cross-fragment and remarked that the spine-and-boss applied on the face of the crosshead classed it with a series beginning late in the ninth century and running through the tenth. In fact, this monument, like the similar crosses of the Giant's

Grave at Penrith, must be of the middle or later half of the tenth century; and it indicated that the late Anglian carver was working for a Celtic-Norse patron, who had founded the church, importing the dedication to St. Bridget, as at Heysham the dedication to St. Patrick had been imported by a Norse settler rather late in the tenth century (N.S. xxiii, 288). The ruins of the old church and a number of graveslabs, and the stone thought to be a Roman altar from Papcastle, were also inspected.

At Isel Hall the party was kindly received by Sir Wilfrid Lawson bart., who entertained them to tea in the dining-room of the Hall, after a description of the site and its history by Mr. J. F. Curwen (for which see his paper in N.S. xi, 122). Thanks were returned to Sir Wilfrid Lawson by the president in the name of the Society.

A short but hot walk—for the weather throughout was very bright and fine—took most of the members to Isel church, where there was little time to spare for investigation. In the absence of the Rev. J. Henry, vicar of Isel, Mr. W. G. Collingwood pointed out some of the chief features of this little Norman fabric, partly rebuilt and restored in 1878 by our late member, Mr. Charles J. Ferguson. At that time two pre-Norman gravestones were found in the ancient walls, and earlier still another fragment was found, it is said, in the old bridge demolished about the middle of last

century. A fourth fragment of this kind forms a quoin in the N.E. gable. These are all parts of late tenth or early eleventh century gravestones. The so-called "broad arrow" on one was explained by the speaker as merely a feature in the debased leaf-scroll of the pattern, not a pagan symbol; and he attributed the *swastika* on the stone on the window-sill to the Norse, who had learnt it from the Greek church, as they learnt their word *papi* for "priest", by contact with Eastern Christians. They used the *swastika* also on Christian gravestones at Aspatia, Dearham and Craignarget in Galloway, of dates somewhere round about the year 1000. The three dials, built into one of the windows on the S. side of the church, and a fourth on the E. jamb of the main doorway, inside the porch, are not necessarily pre-Norman, for they are fairly common in churches of the twelfth century and later. Here it seems that successive priests were dissatisfied with their predecessors' dials and scratched new figures for their own use.

Thence the long drive brought the party to Penrith nearly an hour late and gave little time for the Council meeting. Arrangements for the Autumn excursion were, however, made and Messrs. R. G. Collingwood and T. H. B. Graham were appointed delegates to the Congress of Archaeological Societies.

The Annual Meeting was held in the evening, at the George Hotel, Penrith, Mr. W. G. Collingwood, president, in the chair. Chancellor Campbell and Mr. T. H. B. Graham were added to the list of vice-presidents, and Mr. Francis Grainger of Southerfield and Mr. Legh Tolson, F.S.A. of Barton House, Pooley Bridge, were elected to fill vacancies on the Council. Fourteen new members were elected:—Mr. Arthur L. Dixon, Carlisle; Mr. John O. Dyson, Sheffield; Mr. H. B. Holliday, Newcastle; Rev. Stephen Liberty, Helsington; Miss Sibyl Mounsey-Heysham, Castletown; Miss Parker, Wetheral; His Honour Judge H. Gawan Taylor, Heads Nook; Miss Mitchell, Penrith; Mrs. Myers, Penrith; Mrs. Walton, Penrith; Mr. John Lancaster, Penrith; Mr. E. Geoffrey Wilson, Kendal; Mrs. Bruce Rigg, Windermere; Mr. Charles Arnison, Penrith.

Another election was made at Hutton John on the following day:—Mrs Appleby, Dalston.

Mr. W. G. Collingwood read a paper on "The end of the Maiden Way" (Art. xi). Miss Dawson of Aldcliffe Hall, Lancaster, exhibited a Roman plate of which Mr. R. G. Collingwood said that it was a specimen of a kind of stamped ware, found at Bath, but otherwise very uncommon.

Lieut.-Commander Jackson exhibited a Roman coin, the

small brass of a first-century Emperor, probably Vespasian, which as it bore a Greek inscription, must have been struck in a Greek-speaking part of the Empire; also a Brougham voting medal and a violin made at Yanwath by Thomas Dennison, born 1695, died 1775.

A paper on "Roman Carlisle" (Art. x), by Dr. Ronald C. Shaw was summarized by Mr. R. G. Collingwood, who also described "the Cardewlees Altar" (Art. ix).

"An early village site at Lanthwaite Green," by Messrs. J. R. Mason and H. Valentine (Art. xii) was read by Mr. Valentine and commented upon by Mr. R. G. Collingwood who supplemented his address at Peel Wyke with further remarks on the close of the Roman period in Cumberland (for which see his paper in the *Journal of Roman Studies* xii, 74-98).

The president read, in the absence of the author, Captain Edmond L. Warre, an account of the architectural history of Askerton Castle (Art. xiv) and sketched the contents of the Rev. R. Percival Brown's pedigree (Art. xiii) of Bainbrig of Hawkin in Middleton, Westmorland.

FRIDAY, JULY 6TH, 1923.

Cars were taken at half-past nine for Blencowe Hall, where Mr. D. Scott, acknowledging obligations to the county histories and to Dr. M. W. Taylor's and Mr. Curwen's well-known volumes, spoke as follows:—

"Blencowe Hall is in Greystoke parish, but Nicolson and Burn in 1777 stated that the original home of the Blencowe family was on the other side of the river Petteril, in the parish of Dacre, and it was added that the family still had a demesne in Great Blencowe, 'where the ruins of an old tower are to be seen.' Mr. Curwen dated the north tower, with its walls $4\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, from the last quarter of the fifteenth century. A century and a quarter later the central block was rebuilt by Henry Blencowe (the name being variously rendered as Blinco, Blenco, Blencow and Blencowe), who following the custom of the time, placed his arms, now obliterated, with an inscription over the front door. The words, as might easily be read, were on each side of the shield 'Qvorsvm. 1590. Vivere mori, Mori vitæ. Henricus Blencow.' The late Rev. Thomas Lees, Vicar of Wreay, and one of the founders of the society, pointed out many years ago that the Latin inscription at Blencowe Hall had a much wider interest. Anthony Blencowe married Winifred Dudley of Yanwath, so that the Blencowes became related to Lord Guildford Dudley, husband of Lady Jane Grey. On the night before her execution Lady Jane wrote at the

end of a New Testament, which she sent to Lady Katherine Grey, her sister: 'Live still to die, that you by death may purchase eternal life.' Mr. Lees suggested that the inscription at Blencowe was an echo of words which would doubtless then be well known to the members of the family, having been written only some 35 years previously. About 1620 the south tower and wing were added by Sir Henry Blencowe. In the summer of 1648, General Lambert, during his stay at Penrith, was busy in the district, and there was evidence to suggest that Blencowe Hall was damaged during one or other of the excursions of Major Cholmley, who was known to have attacked the neighbouring Greystoke Castle. That the Hall was a place of importance when the Blencowes were at the height of their influence in the county could not be doubted, and in numerous places glimpses were obtained of the people who visited it. A notable one was the rare old gossip Sir Daniel Fleming, who in his account book tells of the sums he disbursed at various houses which he visited. One was:

July 25 1680.—Given at Blencow to Mrs. Fenwick, midwife at ye christening of William Fenwick's my gossip's eldest son, who was borne July 21, 1680—02s. 06d.

—an interesting reminder of some of the customs and words common 2½ centuries ago. Reference to the Greystoke registers showed the quaint entry under date July 25th, 1680:—

Christened—William son of Mr. Robert Phennick of Bywell in the County of Northumberland, Esquire, now liueing at Blencow Hall, in this Parrish.

After the Blencowe family declined and finally died out—at least so far as their name-place was concerned—the house was allowed gradually to deteriorate, a large part going to ruin, as was unfortunately only to be plainly seen in the shells of both towers. Finally it was reduced to the status of a farm house, and has for 120 years been the property of the Howards of Greystoke, having been sold in 1802 by Henry Prescot Blencowe to the Duke of Norfolk."

Mrs. Todd was thanked by the president for allowing the visitors to wander about the house and garden.

Johnby Hall, though it was described by Dr. Taylor in our Extra Volume of "Manorial Halls," appears to have been neglected by the Society on its excursions until this occasion, and Mr. D. Scott's short description from the *Penrith Observer's* report of this visit may be quoted:—

"The feature first attracting the attention of the visitor is the carved panel, with the inscription, over the entrance. On the

shield at the top are the arms of Musgrave, Tilliol, Martindale and Stapleton, and it is surrounded by a roundel with the motto in raised Roman letters: 'O God give me visdom to knove the,' the date below being 1583, with on each side the names 'William Musgrave and Isabel Martendal.' Then in eight lines are quaintly phrased and spelled words indicating connections with the Musgrave, Tilliol, Martindale and Dacre families, and ending with the couplet:

To God I prave [pray]
Be with vs alvaie.

This is one of the numerous remaining inscribed stones over old houses in the two counties. Among the architectural features of the house is the fine old kitchen, 24 ft. by 20 ft., from one angle of which runs a narrow newel staircase leading to the Lord's chamber. The house possesses interest to antiquaries from the fact that it is very typical of the architecture of the period and has been interfered with to a remarkably small extent when compared with other old houses, and shows how strength was desired to be secured by retaining some of the features of the pele tower type. In other parts of the outer walls are several stones, dated 1637, 1675, and 1687, and bearing the initials of members of the Musgrave, Williams, and Halton families. Among the unusual features is a double squint window at the main door, which Mrs. Popham had recently had opened out, as part of the many improvements which she has made."

Fragments of glass vessels were exhibited with inscriptions "T. Gibbons, 1714" and "Dorothy Halton, 1707," with which Mr. Curwen compared glass at Sizergh. Thomas Gibbons was rector of Greystoke from 1692.

As to the owners of the house, Colonel Haswell in his address remarked with reference to Nicholas, fourth son of Thomas of Edenhall, that Dr. Taylor said he fell on the scaffold in 1458, but he thought that was incorrect. Nicholas died a natural death, though young, and was buried in 1458 at Kirkby Stephen. Nicholas married Margaret Colvill, whose mother was co-heir to the extensive Tilliol estates, and he supposed William Musgrave, the builder of Johnby, wished that to be known when he showed her name in the carved work. He died in 1506 and was buried at Aspatria. His son married Elizabeth Dacre, who according to the Rev. T. Lees, was an illegitimate daughter of Lord Dacre, and sister to John Dacre, the last Provost of Greystoke, and first of the new rectors. Thomas Musgrave may thus have seen his future wife in near proximity to his own home. As to the inscription, Dr.

Haswell observed that he wished it had been a general rule for people to make such records, as it would have facilitated later researches, and probably have prevented mistakes. Mary, daughter of Leonard Musgrave by his second marriage, who was the ultimate heiress in a family of eight, or William Wyvill, of Constable Burton, Yorkshire, whom she married, bought the manor and Hall. They were not long there, as William Wyvill's son Christopher sold the estate to William Williams, the steward of the Howards. One of his daughters, Dorothy, married Edward Hasell of Dalemmain. In 1783 the manor and Hall were sold to the Duke of Norfolk, and the estate still remains in the Howard family.

In conclusion, Colonel Haswell offered the thanks of the Society to Mrs. Leyborne-Popham for her permission to go over the house. Among those present was Mrs. Popham's sister, the Countess of Carnarvon.

Greystoke Castle, which like Johnby Hall had not previously been visited by the Society on excursion, was described by Lady Mabel Howard (Art. xv), who, with her brother-in-law, Sir Esme Howard, then Ambassador at Madrid and now at Washington, and Lady Isabella Howard, personally showed the visitors all over the castle, with its interesting pictures and relics, and gave them refreshments, very welcome on this exceptionally hot day. The president expressed the thanks of the party for the kind reception and hospitality.

Hutton John was reached at half-past one and the visitors sat in the garden round the main door while Mr. Hudleston read his description (Art. xvi). Afterwards our host, with Mrs. and Miss Hudleston, conducted us through the house and pointed out its treasures. Thanks were returned by the president for the kindness received on this interesting visit.

Walking through the park we arrived at Dacre Church, of which Mr. W. G. Collingwood gave a brief description, referring chiefly to its earlier history, for it is pretty certain that this was the site of the monastery mentioned by Bede "by the river of Dacore" early in the eighth century. The cross-fragment bearing a lion, the symbol of St. Mark, must be dated less than a century after Bede's period; and the other cross-fragments, with the hart and hound, is of the middle or later half of the tenth century—later than the treaty of Dacre in July 926 when Æthelstan met the kings of Cumbria and Scotland here, probably at the abbey. But this monument shows a continuance of the church beyond the coming of the Norse settlers, after which there is a

blank in its history until the twelfth century, when it was re-built as pieces of moulding seen in the walls, and perhaps the round arch into the tower, may indicate. The chancel and priest's door are E.E.; the round piers of the nave about 1250 and the octagonal piers show re-construction about 1400. Three clerestory windows on each side of the nave are late Perpendicular. The tower was rebuilt in 1817 and in 1874 the whole church was restored. There is a square piscina-niche under the five-light window; a graveslab of about 1200 forms the step into the N. vestry, and on the N. side of the chancel is an effigy of a knight in 13th century armour, perhaps one of the Dacres. The communion table and rails are of the time of Charles II.

The Rev. H. Frankland, vicar, showed the registers (printed by our Parish Register Section), the plate, and the chained black-letter Bible of 1617, long lost to the church, but replaced there in 1911. The president thanked Mr. Frankland for his permission to visit, and kind co-operation.

In the churchyard the grass was too long for close inspection of all the four Bears of Dacre, but one could be examined. Bishop Nicolson noticed them in 1704, and they remained a puzzle until Chancellor Ferguson explained them in 1890 (these *Trans.*, O.S. xi, 323) as pinnacle-figures either from the old church-tower or from the castle. He likewise made out the story told by the series:—No. 1 (on the N.W.) asleep; No. 2 (S.W.) waked by a cat; No. 3 (S.E.) catching the cat, and No. 4 (N.E.) having eaten it, is happy. But it still remains to identify the story in folklore and to attribute these much weathered but evidently clever works of sculpture to their period, and perhaps to the carver who executed them.

The full programme and busy day left too little time for Dacre Castle, described by Mr. J. F. Curwen (see his *Castles and Towers*, p. 196). Thanks were accorded to Mr. T. Nanson, the occupier, for his kind leave to inspect the various parts, although it was not considered safe to climb the tower; and Penrith was reached at about half-past four, after a tour of great interest, very well attended and favoured with brilliant weather throughout.

AUTUMN MEETING.

The second excursion of the year was held in the Millom and Barrow districts on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 4th and 5th, 1923; Committee for local arrangements:—Messrs. W. G. Collingwood, H. S. Cowper, J. F. Curwen, Paul V. Kelly and

Edward Wilson, Hon. Secretary. Attendance tickets were taken by Miss Mary C. Fair and Miss E. P. E. Hill; Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Fletcher and Miss Stordy; Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Martindale; Miss Favell and Miss Smith; Rev. Canon Reade; Dr. and Mrs. Eldon Pratt; Rev. W. S. Sykes; Mrs. Burrow and Miss Forster; Mr. W. G. Collingwood; Mr. C. Collison; Dr. and Mrs. Hopwood and Miss Hopwood; Mr. and Miss Hudleston; Dr. and Mrs. E. Parker Haythornthwaite and Dr. R. H. Quine; Mr. and Mrs. John F. Curwen; Mr. Paul V. Kelly and Mr. James Plant; Mr. Bruce Thompson; Miss A. H. Makant; Mrs. C. R. and Miss F. M. Graham; The Misses A. G. and J. H. Gilchrist; Mr. P. H. Fox; Mrs. Marion and Miss Betty Johnson; Miss J. A. Parker; Mr. E. L. Nanson and Rev. and Mrs. R. M. Clarkson; Rev. W. S. Sherwen; Mr. J. Coward and Rev. J. Stuart Rimmer; Mr. J. P. Smith and Mrs. Gorham; Messrs. Gilchrist, H. L. Bridger and Dr. R. F. Rutherford; Messrs. Charles S. Jackson and Frank Fisher; Dr. S. B. and Miss Cook; Mr. W. T. McIntire; Mr. J. and Miss B. M. Tyson and Miss T. H. Harwood; Rev. E. P. and Mr. H. P. Pestle; Mr. M. Stables; Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilson and Mr. E. Geoffrey and Miss Margaret Wilson; Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Collingwood.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH, 1923.

From Green Road station cars were taken to Broadgate where Mr. Lewthwaite of Broadgate kindly offered refreshments to the visitors in passing, and at one o'clock those who had ventured on the walk up to the Swinside circle were met by Mr. W. G. Collingwood. The description of the site need not be repeated from these *Transactions*, N.S. ii, Art. iv.

At half-past two a large party assembled at Millom Castle, where Mr. H. S. Cowper read a paper on the building and the Hudleston family (Art. xvii). Thanks were returned by him and by the president to Mrs. and Mr. Watson for their kind assistance and for leave to inspect the castle.

At Holy Trinity Church, adjoining the castle, the visitors were received by the Rev. Canon Irving of Hawkshead, in the absence of his son, the vicar of Millom, and a paper on the church was read by the Rev. W. S. Sykes (Art. xviii). A large rough stone celt, found locally, was exhibited by Mr. Coade. Thanks were returned by the president for the welcome received and the communications made.

From Millom station train was taken by many of the members to Furness Abbey, which they had time to see, without special

description, before dinner at the Victoria Park Hotel, Barrow-in-Furness.

At the Council meeting held before dinner the position of the Society and its possessions, in relation to Tullie House, was discussed, and it was decided to ask the Committee for Tullie House whether it would meet with their approval if the Society elected the Director of Tullie House as Hon. Curator to the Society, and the Librarian at Tullie House, Hon. Librarian to the Society.

The General Meeting was held in the evening, the president in the chair. Mention was made, with expression of sincere regret, of the recent death of a vice-president, Mr. E. T. Tyson, and of the treasurer, Major Argles. To fill the place of treasurer, Mr. J. P. Smith proposed and Dr. Hopwood seconded, and it was carried unanimously that Mr. John F. Curwen, F.S.A., be elected treasurer to the Society.

The following new members were elected:—Mr. J. H. Vince, M.A., A. C., Esphall, Ulpha; Rev. R. M. Clarkson, Cleator; Dr. S. B. Cook, Askam-in-Furness; Mr. E. B. Croasdell, Whitehaven; Mr. Frank Fisher, Barrow; Mr. F. C. Geary, St. Bees; the Hon. F. R. Henley, Askerton Castle.

The Rev. W. S. Sykes then exhibited the pitchpipe formerly used in Lowther church, and spoke on the ancient allotments of Kirksanton (Art. xix.)

Mr. James Alston, of Barrow-in-Furness, exhibited a collection of antiquities, old books etc., of much local interest.

Mr. P. V. Kelly read a paper on the late W. B. Kendall's researches into the history of the manor of Muchland, Furness, with additions on the village of Newbarns (Art. xxii).

Mr. R. G. Collingwood spoke on "the last years of Roman Cumberland" (Art. xx), and Mr. W. G. Collingwood on "King Eveling of Ravenglass" (Art. xxi).

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5TH, 1923.

The weather on the Tuesday had been very fine until the evening, but Wednesday opened with wind and showers, growing fairer as the day went on. The first halt of the cars was at Gleaston Castle, described by Mr. M. Stables of Newbarns House, Barrow, as follows:—

Gleaston Castle is an interesting example of a residential stronghold of mediæval times erected by a county magnate, to protect his property from the Scottish raiders of that period. It consisted of a series of four towers connected by curtain walls

enclosing an irregular oblong courtyard of about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an acre in extent.

The residential tower is in a ruinous condition and its internal arrangements are more or less a matter of conjecture. It stands upon the highest point at the north-west angle and measures 92 ft. by 53 feet. The architecture of this tower is somewhat more elaborate than that of the two southern towers and its higher and drier situation marks it as the residence of the Lord of the Manor. The smaller towers at the south-east and south-west angles appear to have been purely defensive and would be occupied by retainers.

The prison was situated in the basement floor of the south-west tower and a stone staircase on the left of the entrance door led to the guard-room immediately over, from which a rectangular well, now partially filled up, appears to have descended to the floor below.

Two floors above the guard-room were approached by a rough stone staircase which was continued up to the parapet; the main entrance door to this tower has been torn down but access to the upper levels is still possible; on each floor were fireplaces and small, deeply splayed windows.

The south-east tower is the smallest of the four and is only two storeys high. It has fireplaces at each storey with wide tapering flues on each floor and small deeply-splayed windows. This tower is entered through a pointed red-sandstone doorway in a fairly good state of preservation. A rough straight flight of unhewn steps communicates with the first floor and a spiral staircase is continued up to the parapet. Over this staircase once rose a watch-tower, a remnant of which still remains. The summit of this was reached by a spiral stair from the parapet level; a few steps still remain in position. The walls of these two towers are practically intact and are about 10 ft. thick at the base, being reduced at the various floor levels. They are built of roughly-squared limestone, quarried practically on the site, set in excellent mortar composed of local lime and shore or river gravel. Sandstone dressings are sparingly used owing to the difficulty of transport from Hawcoat or Furness Abbey (the nearest quarries), but the work has clearly been done by skilled hands, probably drawn from the Abbey where skilled stonemasons were, at that date, always employed.

The tower at the north-east angle was larger than those described; but except for a portion which now forms the fence on the road side, only foundations now remain.

The curtain walls connecting the towers were 30 ft. high, $9\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick and approached from the courtyard by flights of stone steps, now removed; the stones of the outer and inner faces were set in mortar but the internal filling is set in clay. A gateway 5 ft. wide in the curtain, near the southern angle of the north-west tower, was evidently for the purpose of driving in the cattle and sheep from the outlying land when raiders were about.

It is not clear where the main entrance to the Castle was situated but judging by the contour of the land it was probably in the east curtain wall between the south-east and north-east towers.

Previous to the building of this Castle the Lords of the Manor appear to have lived at the Moated Grange near Aldingham, a more central site being subsequently found desirable. At the period of its erection the Castle was, as a defence against Scottish raiders, a place of considerable strength, gunpowder being then practically unknown. There is no evidence that Robert Bruce visited Gleaston when he raided West Cumberland and North Lancashire in 1322, and it may be that owing to its secluded position it escaped his attentions, or the long detour through Low Furness, laden with spoil, may have damped the ardour of his followers. Whatever the reason, they crossed direct to Cartmel, and Furness saw no more of them.

Piel Castle was rebuilt and greatly strengthened at that time; Camden gives 1327 as the date and a recent Survey under the auspices of the Ancient Monuments Act confirms that date.

Gleaston Castle would doubtless be strengthened and completed about that time. It is probable that the towers at the south end of the courtyard were built towards the end of the 13th century and the residential tower about the date of Bruce's raid. It ceased to be occupied as a manorial residence about the year 1450.

A detailed description of the Castle in an able article by Mr. H. S. Cowper will be found in the *Transactions* of the Society O.S. xiii, pp. 37-49. The best published plan is that by the late W. B. Kendall in the *Transactions of the Barrow Naturalists' Field Club* for 1902-3.

In discussion, Mr. J. F. Curwen restated the views given in his *Castles and Towers* (p. 142), that the clay-hearted curtain wall on the eastern side dated from about 1250, but that this curtain was mostly rebuilt after the great raid of 1316 and strengthened with towers at the angles. The N.W. or residential tower is of 1340, and it ceased to be a manorial dwelling in 1458, after which the castle speedily fell into decay.

Thanks for our reception and these communications were offered by the president.

At Aldingham Motte, Mr. P. V. Kelly was speaker and guide (Art. xxiii), and at Aldingham church the Rev. Canon Bate, in the absence of the Bishop of Barrow, gave an account of the fabric. Mr. Curwen put in a word of warning against antedating as "Norman" the round arches so often seen in our churches of late twelfth century foundation; and the president, in returning thanks to Canon Bate for his address and kind welcome, said that the work on church-dedications of the diocese, on which he had been occupied with Mr. T. H. B. Graham, seemed to indicate that there was very insufficient ground for attributing any dedication to St. Cuthbert to the time of the pilgrimage of his relics (about A.D. 876), unless it was supported by monumental remains of that period.

One interesting grave in Aldingham churchyard was visited—that of Thomas Fell, born 1693, son of the tenant of Gleaston Castle and farm, and curate of Dendron for 52 years. He was a famous schoolmaster in his time; one of his pupils was Romney the artist, as we are informed by the Rev. F. W. Ragg, who claims descent from Thomas Fell. The brass on his grave is still legible with its statement that he "departed this life the 27th day of October 1767 in the 75th year of his age," and Latin verses better than many we read in our country churchyards:—

Gratus erat socius constans imitator honesti,
Sedulus et pastor sollicitusque fuit.
Ipse pius summi dum tradens numina Regis
Exemplarque suis et documenta dedit.
Justitiam servans vitae mortive paratus
Supremam laetans condidit ille diem.
Discito tu rectam Juvenis sic ducere vitam,
Discito tuque Senex atque memento mori.

By this time the weather had brightened and made possible the visit to Urswick Stone Walls, described by Mr. John Dobson, whose paper on the exploration of the site is printed in these *Transactions*, N.S. vii, 72. At Urswick church the Rev. T. N. Postlethwaite, vicar of Urswick, spoke on the growth of the present fabric (Art. xxiv) and Mr. W. G. Collingwood on the early history and monuments (Art. xxv), concluding about half-past three, in time for members from a distance to catch their trains at Barrow.

Since the meeting, the Rev. T. N. Postlethwaite has kindly sent

a photograph of an oil-painting of Aldingham church, before the alterations by Dr. Stonard in 1845, showing the old porch. This photograph will be deposited in the Society's Cabinet at Tullie House.

SPRING MEETING.

At a council meeting held at Tullie House, Carlisle, on Thursday, April 24th, 1924, among other business it was reported that steps had been taken during the past winter for the preservation of remains at Hardknot fort, Swinside Circle, Anthorn Cross and St. Helen's chapel, near Dalton-in-Furness. On the other hand it had been found that the supposed tumulus at Middleton in the Lune valley had proved on removal to contain nothing of antiquarian interest, and that the three "British Settlements" between Allonby and West Newton had at last disappeared under the plough.

It was resolved that the new issue of the late Dr. C. A. Parker's book on "The Gosforth District," edited by Mr. W. G. Collingwood, should be included in the Society's Extra Series; and that an Index to these *Transactions* N.S. xiii to xxiv inclusive should be prepared by Mr. W. G. Collingwood and issued as a separate volume.

The scheme for local correspondents under H.M. Inspector of Monuments was reported as now in working order and the more important sites already scheduled for preservation.

A general meeting was held at Tullie House on the same day at 2.0 p.m., the president in the chair. Mention was made of the loss sustained by the Society in the death of Dr. Hastings Rashdall, Dean of Carlisle.

In pursuance of a proposal made at the previous meeting, Mr. Linnæus E. Hope, F.L.S., Director, and Mr. T. Gray, Librarian of Tullie House, were nominated by the president and council and unanimously elected Honorary Curator and Honorary Librarian respectively to the Society, with seats on the Council.

The following new members were elected:—Rev. W. M. Aste, St. Aidan's Vicarage, Carlisle; Rev. R. Percival Brown, Kirkby Lonsdale; Mrs. Compton, Cartmel; Mrs. Clarke, Ulpha; Mrs. W. L. Fletcher, Workington; Mr. A. Hutchinson, Pembroke College, Cambridge; Mrs. J. Rooke Johnstone, Armathwaite; Mr. Hubert Lawrence, Calthwaite Hall; Mr. J. B. Pearson, Carlisle; Dalton-in-Furness Public Library, *per* Mr. J. Tyson; Mr. Comar Wilson, Maidenhead; Miss Mabel M. Barker, Silloth; Rev. L. G. Bark, Penrith.

Colonel Haswell, C.I.E., M.D., exhibited a bronze socketed and looped celt found in the scree at the edge of Mosedale village under Carcock fell and now in the possession of Mr. Banks, Bowscale; also a bronze spearhead found on the east side of the Caldew, south of the bridge between Linewath and Normancrag, now in possession of Mr. Jos. Oldman, Linewath (see these *Transactions*, N.S. xv, 191).

Mr. R. G. Collingwood described a Roman altar from Birdoswald rediscovered at North Munstead, Surrey (*The Antiquaries Journal*, iv, 157; April 1924), and an inscribed stone recently found by Mr. J. B. Bailey at Maryport, reading s]PVRCIO VIXXIT ANNOS LX[. He gave an account of digging on the previous days at Maryport in which the supposed ramparts of an annexe or early camp proved to be non-Roman; but on the other hand a building of considerable importance, outside the fort and to the N.W. of it, had been discovered by him. He showed plans of two turrets on the Wall at Willowford explored by Dr. R. C. Shaw and communicated a paper on the subject. He also exhibited pottery of the Trajanic period found by Miss M. C. Fair at the Roman "tilery," Muncaster, which seems by this find to have been also a factory of potters' wares.

The president exhibited, and handed to the Hon. Curator for deposit in the Society's cabinet, a series of fine photographs by Miss Fair of Hardknot fort.

Mr. L. E. Hope read the following notes:—

In October of 1923 Mrs. Rowland Gulland of Falkland, Fife, who was leaving that place, notified to the Carlisle Museum Committee her willingness to present to them a Roman inscribed stone in her possession, which it was believed was found near the Roman Wall. Mr. R. I. Steele, Solicitor, Carlisle communicated Mrs. Gulland's wish to the Committee, who gratefully accepted the offer. On arrival the stone proved to be the milestone dedicated to Diocletian (L.S. 450, C.I.L. 1190) found at Old Wall, Irthington, and formerly placed in the garden wall of Mr. Rowland's house in George Street, Carlisle, who had taken it with him on his removal to Falkland. The inscription, in the nominative, is as follows:—IMP DIOCLETIANUS P F AVG SIMPER SENI. (SIMPER is a mis-spelling of SEMPER).

In April, 1924 a block of old property, in the centre of the south side of St. Cuthbert's Lane, was demolished for additions to the shop of Messrs. Robinson Bros. On the east side of the area, about 33 feet from St. Cuthbert's Lane and about 96 feet from the English Street end, was found a well, apparently of mediæval date,

circular in form and three feet six inches across; it is 40 feet deep and contained 27 feet of water in which was the lower end of a pump-tree. The masonry of the well is rough and undressed stone of small dimensions. On the south side of the site, at a depth of about four feet, were found four stones which proved to be the parts of two fluted columns of a semi-Doric type, each six feet three inches long nine inches in diameter at the base and eight inches at the top; the flutings number eleven, so that neither dimensions nor pattern are classical.

Near the find-place of the columns and at approximately the same depth were found several fragments of Roman pottery, Gaulish red-glazed ware, both ornamented and plain, a base of a cup, form 27 Drag., with potter's mark REGINI M (Reginus) and of a dish, form 31 Drag., potter's mark COCVRI F (Cocurus) together with a fragment of a bowl, form 37 Drag., with a figure of Cupid (No. 265 Déch.), used by Albucius, Banuus and other potters of the early second century and a fragment of another bowl of the same form with a large leaf and scroll used by Reginus. Five Roman coins were found close to the columns; one is a silvered denarius of Caracalla (A.D. 195-217), two are the small brass of Constantinus Magnus, *Urbs Roma* type (A.D. 306-337), one of Constans I (A.D. 333-350), and the other is uncertain.

Mr. J. F. Curwen, F.S.A., exhibited plans showing the development of Heversham church and he summarized the history of the fabric, on which he communicated a paper.

Mr. W. G. Collingwood spoke on the ancient crosses at Wabertwaite church, and read notes from a paper on the church-dedications in the diocese of Carlisle, by Mr. T. H. B. Graham and himself.

The Rev. C. J. Gordon, M.A., read a paper on "Place and Field names at Great Salkeld."

The president regretted that time did not allow the reading of papers on "Border Tenure," and "the Mediæval Diocese of Carlisle," by Mr. T. H. B. Graham; "The Patricksons of Ennerdale," by Colonel Ralph Littledale, and "The Hodgsons of Bascodyke," by Mr. James Hodgson, which with the papers submitted in this occasion will appear in our next volume. He also communicated the following notes:—

FISHGARTH ETC. AT ST. BEES.

Mr. F. W. Smith has recently found several features of antiquarian interest at St. Bees.

About a mile nearly due south of the Priory Church, and on the

shore between high and low water mark, the channel of the Pow beck runs parallel to the coastline through two ancient structures. The higher, on the east, is a pair of straight walls at right angles, with an opening where they meet, pointing seawards; and a little to the east another wall, but much shorter, runs at right angles to the longer of the two first mentioned, but not quite meeting it. A little lower down the shore to the west is a curved wall with five breaks, the concave side of the curve covering the main angle of the first group. The former structure appears to have been in use as a fishgarth in modern times and is known to the older inhabitants, who say that there were oyster-beds on the reefs adjacent. But they have no memory of the building of this fishgarth, and it is suggested that it is ancient. Mr. P. H. Fox says that the remains were pointed out to him by his father when he was a boy as the place where the monks used to catch fish; and this appears to be a long-standing tradition.

The Cartulary of St. Bees does not contain any mention of a fishgarth, although the Priory had the right of fishing. William f. Ranulf granted tithes of the fisheries of Coupland not long after 1120 (Canon Wilson, *St. Bees Register*, 29, 30) and Alice de Rumeli, late in the 12th century, granted to the monks exclusive rights of fishing in the port of Withofhavene (Whitehaven) and elsewhere on the coast and in the rivers (*ibid.* 41)—a right confirmed by Richard de Lucy early in the 13th century (*ibid.* 57). Alan f. Waldeve, about the middle of the 12th century, gave the monks the right of fishing off Scad beck (near Maryport Cemetery) from their own boat, or whatever boat they used for the purpose, without payment (*ibid.* 80). But there is no mention of a fishgarth at St. Bees, though at Wetheral there were salmon-traps in the Eden mentioned in a charter of Ranulph Meschines before 1620 (Prescott, *Wetherhal*, 7, where the footnote gives interesting details). A deed of about 1175 (*ibid.* 84) shows that the fishing was then done both with the hook and with the net, as well as with these traps; another of about 1208 gives leave for the monks to get stone and sticks to repair the dam of their fishgarth (*ibid.* 93), and William de Corby is very explicit in promising, about 1175, that when he or his heirs make the milldam at Warwick they will not make it "de solis vel plankys vel grossis lignis nec de alijs nisi tantum de palis et jugis," so as not to stop the fish from going up the river to his very dear brothers' the monks' traps (*ibid.* 111, see also 383, 400-1).

This fishgarth, however, was in a river; but off the shore near Dubmill, to the north of St. Bees, Mr. Harold Duff has noticed

enclosing walls somewhat similar to those of Mr. F. W. Smith, and perhaps further study will throw light on them. The St. Bees fishgarth cannot have been a salt-pan, such as are found near Maryport carved out in the rock of the shore.

Coming down to the shore from the road between St. Bees and Coulderton is a track locally known as a Roman road—a deeply hollowed way, ten feet wide. About $\frac{3}{4}$ mile south there is another and similar old track, now grassgrown, connecting the Coulderton road with the way to Keld Head.

On this last, between the two cross-tracks, is an ancient piece of masonry locally known as a Corpse rest, which may be the site of the St. Bees boundary cross, thought by Dr. Parker to have been destroyed by the railway (N.S. ix, 106).

In the Priory field, between the church and the railway station, Mr. F. W. Smith with J. Feenan, as foreman, located the old stewpond of the monks. They found timber drain-tracks leading to an area which when opened up was filled with clay gravel and marl, underneath which was a bed of brushwood and fire-charred sticks. The pond mud was offensive with fish-refuse, but rapidly evaporated; no objects of interest were seen in it.

At 4-0 p.m. the Deanery was visited under the guidance of Mr. J. H. Martindale, F.S.A. (see these *Trans.*, N.S. vii, 185-204). Thanks were returned by the president to Mrs. Rashdall for her kind permission to view the house.
