Proceedings

Of the

Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

Hundred and Seventh Session, 1886–7.

Anniversary Meeting, 30th November 1886.

Dr Arthur Mitchell, C.B., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:

James Anderson, Westside, Brechin.
Alexander J. S. Brook, 5 Lauriston Park.
Rev. Thomas Burns, Lady Glenorchy's Church.
James A. Cameron, M.D., Firhall, Nairn.
John Cowan, W.S., 7 Greenhill Gardens.
William Dickson, 38 York Place.
William Stewart Irvine, M.D., Pitlochry.
W. Ivison Macadam, Lecturer on Chemistry, Surgeon's Hall.
John James Mowbray of Naemoor, Dollar.
Rev. Andrew Meldrum, Minister of Logierait.
John Murray, Ph.D., of the Challenger Expedition.
W. J. Small, M.A., Solicitor, Dundee.
W. J. Turnbull, 26 Grange Road.
The Office-Bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

**Patron.**

**HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.**

**President.**

**THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN, K.T., LL.D.**

**Vice-Presidents.**

Sir **WILLIAM FERETE DOUGLAS, LL.D., P.R.S.A.**  
Professor **NORMAN MACPHERSON, LL.D., Sheriff of Dumfries, &c.**  
Right Hon. the **EARL OF STAIR, K.T., LL.D.**

**Councillors.**

Sir **J. NOEL-PATON, Kt., LL.D., R.S.A.,**  
Francis **ABBOTT,**  
Robert **HERDMAN, R.S.A.**  
Professor **DUNS, D.D.**

**Representing the Board of Trustees.**

Arthur **MITCHELL, C.B., M.D., LL.D.**  
David **CHRISTISON, M.D.**  
Sir H. E. **MAXWELL, Bart., M.P.**  
Professor **D. MASSON, LL.D.**  
Thomas **GRAVES LAW.**

**Secretaries.**

John **RITCHIE FINDLAY.**  
R. W. **COCHRAN-PATRICK, LL.D.**  
Joseph **ANDERSON, LL.D., Assistant Secretary.**  
William **FORBES,**  
Thomas **DICKSON, LL.D., Register House,**

**Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence.**

**Treasurer.**

Gilbert **GOUDIE, 39 Northumberland Street.**

**Curators of the Museum.**

Robert **CARFRAE.**  
John J. **REID, R.A.**

**Curator of Coins.**

George **SIM.**

**Librarian.**

John Taylor Brown.
The following list of the names of Honorary Members and Fellows who have died since the date of the last Annual Meeting was read by the Secretary:—

**HONORARY MEMBER.**

Sir SAMUEL FERGUSON, Q.C., LL.D., President of the Royal Irish Academy, 1874

**FELLOWS.**

EDWARD BURNS, 3 London Street, 1874
JAMES T. GIBSON-CRAIG, 1826
THOMAS CHAPMAN, Jr., 1 Dundas Street, 1877
DAVID DICKSON, Osborne Bank, 1862
ALEXANDER FAIRWEATHER, Brechin, 1874
JAMES FERGUSSON, D.C.L., 20 Langham Place, 1873
WILLIAM GRAHAM, M.A., LL.D., 11 Eildon Street, 1851
JOHN GRIGOR, M.D., Nairn, 1863
JOHN JEFFREY, of Balsusney, 1877
WILLIAM KERR, Solicitor, Dundee, 1878
DAVID LANG, LL.B., Advocate, 1882
ALEXANDER LEITH, of Freefield, Glenkindie, 1873
DUNCAN MACLAREN, of Newington House, 1864
Rev. THOMAS MACLAUCHLAN, M.A., LL.D., 1856
GRAEME REID MERCER, of Gorthy, 1853
GEORGE MILLER, C.A., Acre Valley, 1883
Rev. JOHN MONTEITH, Glencairn, 1885
Rev. JAMES PETER, Old Deer, 1874
Rev. W. B. ROBERTSON, D.D., of Irvine, 1880
JAMES A. SIDERY, M.D., 20 Heriot Row, 1878
JOHN SMALL, M.A., LL.D., Librarian to the University, 1873
JAMES MELISS STUART, of Eriska, 1885
Rev. JOHN TULLOCH, D.D., LL.D., St Andrews, 1882

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society has sustained in the death of these members.

Sir SAMUEL FERGUSON, Q.C., LL.D., President of the Royal Irish Academy, well known for his numerous contributions to science and literature during the past forty years, was elected an Honorary Fellow of this Society in 1874, and was appointed to the Rhind Lectureship in 1884, when he delivered a series of Six Lectures on the Ogham
Inscriptions of Ireland, Wales, and Scotland. The Lectures have since been published.

Edward Burns, an accomplished Numismatist, who had long devoted himself to the study of the Scottish coinage, was, at the time of his death, engaged in the preparation of an extensive work on this subject, entitled, *The Coinage of Scotland, Illustrated from the Cabinet of the late Mr Thomas Coats of Ferguslie, and other Collections*. The work has since been issued under the supervision of Mr George Sim, the Society's Curator of Coins. Mr Burns contributed papers to the Society's *Proceedings* on subjects connected with the coinage, and was of great service in connection with the examination of the Montraive Hoard, to which he devoted much time, and on the results of which he has founded largely in his published work.

James T. Gibson-Craig was the oldest Fellow of the Society, having completed his sixtieth year of membership. He took an active interest in the affairs of the Society, and, in conjunction with his friend Mr David Laing, was instrumental in bringing the Society safely through the most critical periods of its existence. He was for many years a member of the Council, and was made Vice-President in 1860. From 1870 to 1880 he was one of the representatives of the Board of Trustees on the Council of the Society. He had formed an extensive general collection of art and antiquities, from which he gave many donations to the Museum; and his library was one of the largest and most important private collections of books and manuscripts in Scotland.

James Fergusson, D.C.L., the well-known author of *The History of Architecture, Tree and Serpent Worship, Ancient Stone Monuments of all Countries*, &c., became a Fellow in 1873. He took a great interest in the subject of structural antiquities, and wrote a pamphlet on *The Brochs of Scotland*, as a supplemental chapter to his *History of Architecture*, subsequently contributing a paper to the *Proceedings* in continuation of the same subject.
ANNIVERSARY MEETING.

Rev. Thomas Maclauchlan, M.A., LL.D., minister of St Columba's Free Church, Edinburgh, and author of several contributions to the Proceedings on Celtic manuscripts and other antiquities, was a member of the Council from 1875 to 1878, and Vice-President from 1879 to 1882. In 1857 he issued a volume of *Celtic Gleanings*, the substance of Four Lectures delivered to students on the History and Literature of the Gael. He subsequently transcribed and edited the *Book of the Dean of Lismore*, a collection of Gaelic poetry issued in 1862, with a valuable introduction by W. F. Skene, LL.D. In 1865 he published his *Early Scottish Church*,—a sketch of the ecclesiastical history of Scotland from the first to the twelfth century.

Rev. James Peter, Minister of Old Deer, took a keen interest in the antiquities of his district, and was author of a pamphlet on the peat deposits of Aberdeenshire, containing much valuable information with reference to the antiquities found in bogs and morasses. He contributed to the last volume of the *Proceedings* an excellent article on "The Stone Circles of Old Deer," illustrated from plans and drawings prepared by himself.

John Small, M.A., LL.D., Librarian of the University of Edinburgh for nearly forty years, became a Fellow of the Society in 1873, and contributed occasional papers to its *Proceedings*, chiefly of historical interest, among the most valuable of which were an "Account of the Original Protest of the Bohemian Nobles against the Burning of John Huss"; a series of "Notes on Scottish Alchemists"; and a notice of a document narrating the incidents of "Queen Mary's Visit to Jedburgh in 1566."

Rev. John Tulloch, D.D., LL.D., Principal of St Mary's College, St Andrews, and author of many well-known works in theological and ecclesiastical literature, although but a short time connected with the Society, took much interest in its objects and its prosperity. He contributed a paper on some "Old Silver Plate, the property of St Mary's College, St Andrews," which was printed in the *Proceedings*, with illustrations.
The Treasurer submitted the Audited Accounts, with a general Abstract of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Fellows.

The Secretary read the Annual Report of the Society to the Board of Trustees, approved by the Council, and ordered to be transmitted to the Lords of H.M. Treasury, as follows:

**Annual Report of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, to the Honourable the Board of Trustees for Manufactures in Scotland, for the year ending 30th September 1886:**

The Museum during the past year has been open as formerly, except during the month of November, when it was closed as usual for cleaning and rearrangement.

The following table shows the number of visitors for each month during the year, distinguishing between day visitors and visitors on the Saturday evenings, viz.:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MONTHS</th>
<th>DAY VISITORS</th>
<th>SATURDAY EVENINGS</th>
<th>TOTAL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>4,285</td>
<td>452</td>
<td>4,737</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>4,449</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>4,741</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>11,122</td>
<td>334</td>
<td>11,456</td>
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<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>2,803</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>3,045</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>3,154</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>3,450</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>3,386</td>
<td>349</td>
<td>4,135</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>5,548</td>
<td>432</td>
<td>5,980</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>8,343</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>8,696</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>16,565</td>
<td>961</td>
<td>17,526</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>23,679</td>
<td>1,069</td>
<td>24,748</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>14,139</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>14,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>97,913</strong></td>
<td><strong>5,280</strong></td>
<td><strong>103,193</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Previous Year</strong></td>
<td><strong>79,716</strong></td>
<td><strong>4,282</strong></td>
<td><strong>83,998</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Increase</strong></td>
<td><strong>18,197</strong></td>
<td><strong>998</strong></td>
<td><strong>19,195</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

During the year there have been presented to the Museum 98 articles of antiquity, and the donations to the Library amount to 73 volumes of books and pamphlets.
PURCHASES FOR THE MUSEUM.

During the year 2746 articles of antiquity have also been added to the Museum, and 16 volumes of books to the Library, by purchase.

J. R. FINDLAY, Secretary.

MONDAY, 13th December 1886.

PROFESSOR NORMAN MACPHERSON, LL.D., Sheriff of Dumfries and Galloway, Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:—

J. Grant Ferguson, jun., of Baledmund.
Donald Mitchell, C.E., Pitlochry.
James Crabb Watt, 21 Heriot Row.

The following articles, acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library, during the recess from 8th June to 30th November 1885, were exhibited to the meeting:—

1. A collection of Flint Implements from Denmark, illustrating the different varieties and finer forms of chipped implements,—14 specimens.

2. Polished Axe of greenstone, 7 inches in length by 3\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in breadth and 2\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in greatest thickness, surrounded by a well-made groove for a withe handle, probably from Canada.

3. Stone Axe of granite, 4\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length by 2\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches across the cutting face, oval in the cross section, broken at the butt, the upper part roughened and only the cutting faces ground smooth.

Two small Clay Vases and a Bivalve Shell, found in an Indian grave in Kentucky. One of the vases is wide-mouthed, 2\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches across the opening and 2\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in height, with nine loops round the exterior margin of the brim; the other is narrow-mouthed, 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches across the
opening and 3 1/2 inches high, the mouth having three small perforations on one side and two on the other.

4. An old Basket-Hilted Sword, Scottish; and a Boatswain's Whistle in silver.

5. Two Cinerary Urns from Mid Torrs, Glenluce. [See the subsequent communication by Rev. George Wilson.]

6. Three-Footed Pot of brass, 7 1/4 inches diameter across the mouth and 7 3/4 inches in height, found in a moss near Lochgelly, parish of Auchterderran, Fifeshire.

Small Quaich of Horn, with side handles, the bottom covered with ornamental patterns.

7. Polished Celt of basalt, 3 3/4 inches in length by 2 inches across the cutting face, from Aberdeenshire.

Large Snuff Horn, made of a horn of the white cattle of Cadzow, mounted with lead, the end shaped like a thistle head.

8. Polished Stone Axe of jade-like stone, 6 inches in length by 3 1/2 inches in breadth, probably from New Guinea.

Small rudely-formed Axe of greenstone, 3 3/4 inches in length by 3 1/2 inches in breadth, with polished cutting edge, probably from Australia.

9. Two Pendants of jade, one shaped like a small whetstone, 2 1/2 inches in length, the other like a small axe-head, 1 1/2 inches in length, each attached by a string to a slender curved tooth, or polished section of a tooth, about 3 1/2 inches in length, from New Zealand.

10. Flanged Celt of bronze, 4 3/4 inches in length by 1 3/4 inches across the cutting face, the butt slightly broken, from Dufftown, Banffshire.

Two Arrow-Heads of flint from Banffshire, and two from Aberdeenshire.

Two Iron Crusies, with lids, from Dufftown, Banffshire.

11. Sporran Clasp of brass, 5 1/2 inches in width, ornamented along the margin with a border of slightly engraved zigzags interlacing with each other.

Highland Brooch of brass, without pin, 2 3/8 inches diameter, marked on one side with the initials A G and the date 1764.

Highland Brooch of brass, 1 5/8 inches in diameter, with pin, and remains of engraved floriated ornament on one side, and on the other the initials R M'B, with the motto FEAR GOD IN HEART, and the date 1769.
12. Two Luckenbooth Brooches of silver, in the shape of a crowned heart, one having the word LOVE engraved on the back.

13. Polished Celt of basalt, 5\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length by 2\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches across the cutting face, flattened on one side, rounded on the other, said to have been found at Auchterhouse, Forfarshire.

14. Polished Celt of greenstone, 6\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length by 2\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches across the cutting face, oval in the cross section and tapering to an obtusely-pointed butt, found at Yetholm, Roxburghshire.

15. Sword with slightly curved cross-guard, the blade 34\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in length, double edged, tapering and with a distinct mid-rib, the grip 3\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches in length, the pommel rounded, found near Stirling Bridge.

16. Axe-Hammer of felstone, 5 inches in length by 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in breadth across the cutting faces, which are alike at both ends, and at right angles to the direction of the shaft hole. The perforation for the shaft is 8 inches in diameter and drilled straight through, a little above the middle of the length of the implement. It is said to have been found at Inveresk, Mid-Lothian.

17. Flat Celt of bronze, 6\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length by 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches across the cutting face, found on the Culbin Sands.

18. Ale Cap of pewter, with side handle, inscribed A. A. Dunfermline and L. H. and R. WELLWOOD.

Triangular Flint Arrow-Head, said to have been found at the Windy Goul, on Arthur's Seat.

19. Seven War Clubs and Paddles, some carved, from the South Pacific.

20. Bronze Sword 26\(\frac{1}{4}\) inches in length, found with another (subsequently presented by Captain William Stewart) at Rigg, Isle of Skye.

21. Small Powder Flask of steel, and a Priming Horn for a wheel-lock musket.

22. Mere of jade, 11\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length by 3 inches in greatest breadth, from New Zealand.

23. Seven Stone Implements from New Zealand, viz.:

Polished Adze of greenstone, 17 inches in length, 4\(\frac{3}{8}\) inches in breadth across the cutting face, the butt tenon-shaped for insertion in the handle.
Finely-made Adze of greenstone, 6\(\frac{5}{8}\) inches in length, 2 inches in breadth across the cutting edge, tenon-shaped at the butt for insertion in the handle.

Rudely-made Adze of greenstone, 9\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in length, 3 inches across the cutting face, the butt end shaped for insertion in the handle.

Adze of greenstone, of peculiar shape, 5\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in length, 4\(\frac{5}{8}\) inches across the cutting face, the butt tenon-shaped for insertion in the handle.

Axe of jadeite, 4\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length, 1\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in breadth across the cutting face, rudely finished.

Axe of indurated sandstone, 6\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in length, 3\(\frac{3}{8}\) inches across the cutting face, finished by chipping.

Axe of indurated sandstone, 4\(\frac{5}{8}\) inches in length by 2 inches across the cutting face, rudely chipped.

24. Two Brass-Barrelled Pistols with folding spring bayonets attached.

25. Two Highland Pistols of steel, inlaid with silver.

26. Eleven collections of Flint Implements from Culbin Sands, about 750 specimens.

27. Four collections of Flint Implements from Glenluce, about 300 specimens.

28. Four Photographs of the Ruthwell Cross, 4to size.

29. Folio Bible, illustrated, published in Dundee, 1761. The first plate is dedicated by the publisher “To the Right Honourable Patrick Yeaman, Lord Provost, and to the Honourable Magistrates, with the remanent members of the Town Council of Dundee.”


PURCHASES FOR THE LIBRARY.

The History of Berwick-upon-Tweed, including a short account of the villages of Tweedmouth and Spittal, &c. By John Fuller, M.D. Edinburgh, 1799. 8vo.

Reports of Claims preferred to the House of Lords in the cases of the Cassilis, Sutherland, Spynie, and Glencairn Peerages, 1770–1797. With Appendices of Illustrative Documents. By James Maidment. Edinburgh, (Reprint) 1882. 8vo.

Minute Book kept by the War Committee of the Covenanters in the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright, in the years 1640 and 1641. Kirkcudbright, 1855. 8vo.


Inventory of Original Documents in the Archives of George Heriot’s Hospital. Edinburgh, 1857. 8vo.


The Bass Rock: its Civil and Ecclesiastical History, &c. Edinburgh, 1847. 8vo.


The Abbey of Paisley, from its foundation till its dissolution, with
notes of the subsequent History of the Church, &c. By J. Cameron Lees, D.D. Paisley, 1878. 4to.


Barddas; with Translations and Notes by the Rev. J. Williams ab Ithel, M.A. Welsh Manuscript Society. Llandovery, 1862. 2 vols. 8vo.


A Treatise on Ancient Armour and Weapons, illustrated by Plates taken from the Original Armour in the Tower of London and other


The following Communications were read:—