of a softwood construction itself. Neither of these two conditions is met by the Anglo-Saxon lyre, which is known to have had a hardwood frame, and is now believed to have been strung with gut.

The form of the four Whitby pegs clearly indicates their suitability for both lyres and harps, as Fry states, but in view of their unstratified nature, comparative material would now tend to suggest that they are more likely to date from the 13th century or later. If this should prove to be true, they would then probably be associated with the large English harp, during the decline of the lyre in this country, while at the same time the possibility of a connexion with the lute and fiddle families cannot be ruled out. Unfortunately, an example of direct association between such pegs and actual instrumental remains has yet to be excavated.

GRAEME LAWSON

NOTES

3 Miss Bruce-Mitford has noted in correspondence that the Whitby pegs may have been found apart from one another, and that they probably represent musicians' rejects (not manufacturers' rejects as implied by Fry in note 34, p. 139).
5 Hereford City Museum, Wallingstones A.I.81. For further details of finds from Oxford, see B. Durham, 'Bone instrument pegs in B. Durham, Archaeological investigations in St Aldates, Oxford' Osnum, xli (1977), 185-186. For details of finds from Winchester and elsewhere, see R. G. Lawson, 'Stringed musical instrument remains' in Winchester Studies, vii (forthcoming), and op. cit. in note 4 above.
6 The Bergh Apton 22 and Morningthorpe 97 remains (Norfolk), appear in R. G. Lawson 'The lyre from grave 22' in B. Green and A. R. F. Roger, The Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Bergh Apton, Norfolk (East Anglian Archaeol., vii (1978)), 87-97. The others are referred to in R. L. S. and M. Bruce-Mitford, 'The Sutton Hoo lyre, Beowulf, and the origins of the frame harp', Antiquity, xliv (1970). I include in this category the Boa i Halle (Gotland) and Concevreux (Alsace) instruments, which were buried in one piece even if they did not survive as such.
7 These four sets were excavated along with the Sutton Hoo, Köln and two Oberflacht (Württemberg) instruments, although only the Sutton Hoo pegs survive today. The Köln pegs in fact disintegrated on exposure to the air; see F. Fremersdorf, 'Zwei Wichtige Frankengräber aus Köln', I.P.E.K. (1943), 196-7.
8 Poplar or willow; see R. L. S. and M. Bruce-Mitford, op. cit. in note 6 above.
9 Nor in all probability are they met by the later Saxon harp, as far as can be seen at present.
10 This is evident from the softness of the Sutton Hoo pegs, and also, perhaps, from the predominantly red colouration of strings (wine-soaked?) in contemporary European manuscript illustrations. It is also interesting to note the correlation between the first appearance of metal strings and bone pegs after circa A.D. 1100.

THE BRISTOL CONFERENCE, 1978

The 21st Annual Conference of the Society was held in Bristol from 14 to 17 April 1978. The theme was 'The Development of Medieval Bristol'. On the first evening, after a sherry party given by the University of Bristol, Frances Neale lectured on 'The topography of medieval Bristol: the documentary evidence'. On 15 April the following lectures were given: M. Ponsford on 'The development of medieval Bristol: the archaeological evidence', A. Vince on 'Medieval pottery from the Lower Severn Valley', D. Twohig on 'Medieval Cork', Carolyn Heighway on 'Medieval Gloucester', and K. Barton on 'Ham Green pottery'. In the evening members were entertained by the Deputy Mayor at a Civic Reception held in St Nicholas Church Museum. On 16 April members were guided round medieval Bristol before departing on an excursion to Croscombe Manor and Cheddar. On 17 April an excursion took place to Westbury College, Olveston Court and medieval Gloucester (Blackfriars and St Oswald's Priory). The Society must record its considerable gratitude to David Dawson, of the City of Bristol Museum and Art Gallery, who acted as local secretary.

JAMES GRAHAM-CAMPBELL