

## EXCURSIONS AND PROCEEDINGS.

---

JULY 7th AND 8th, 1881.

IN accordance with the resolution of the Council, the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the Society was held at Kendal. The place of assembly was the King's Arms Hotel, and soon after half-past one, the members and their friends, to the number of seventy or upwards, were comfortably accommodated in carriages, and on their road to Sizergh Castle. On their arrival the party alighted, and in the absence of Mr. Strickland, the owner, who was unfortunately unable to attend, they were courteously received by the Rev. James Gibson, of Kendal, who conducted them by the main entrance into the large hall, and thence through the various apartments in the Castle, pointing out in each room the different objects of interest. On entering the hall the first thing to attract attention was a very fine piece of tapestry work supposed to have been brought from France two centuries ago, and representing the history of Antony and Cleopatra. It extends round three sides of the apartment, in one end of which is a winding staircase to the upper stories of the building. The great tower in the south-east angle is sixty feet in height, and remains entire; it dates from the time of Henry VII., and contains a few of the original windows; the roof has recently been renewed, and is in substantial repair. In this part of the building is the state bedroom, still called Queen Katharine's room; it is panelled with richly carved black oak, and hung round with tapestry of great beauty; over the chimney-piece are the arms of Queen Elizabeth, carved in bold relief, with the date 1569. The visitors were afterwards conducted through the banquetting room, the inlaid room, and the library; the kitchen and cellars also received a hurried inspection, and were well worth the visit. The fine collection of old pictures and family portraits, which embellished every part of the house, attracted the attention of the visitors, but in the absence of a catalogue much of their interest was lost, and a hope was expressed that ere long the Society might be able to pay another visit to this venerable mansion, and that some of the members might prepare a descriptive and historical account of  
the

the place, and of the family whose residence it has for so many centuries been. After ample time had been allowed for a thorough inspection, the visit was brought to a close, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to the owner for throwing open his interesting residence; and to the Rev. James Gibson for his kind attention in conducting the visitors over it.

Nether Levens was the next place on the programme, which after a short drive was soon reached, but by some misunderstanding a portion of the party was driven direct to Levens Hall, and so missed seeing the quaint and interesting old residence, now used as a farmhouse. This old hall belongs to Mr. Wilson, of Dallam Tower, and was anciently their family seat; it is picturesquely situated close to the river Kent, which is here a tidal river, and affords a valuable fishery to the occupants of the manor farm. Most of the rooms are small, but the pointed doorways, the mullioned windows, and the massive thickness of the walls, surmounted as they are by capacious ivy-clad chimneys, give a venerable character to the place, and arrest the attention of the visitor. Extensive ruins of what would seem to have been a second wing are standing near the main building, and on the lawn in front of the house lies, in an apparently neglected condition, a monumental stone inscribed with a bishop's crozier, but of which no account could be had. Access was allowed to every part of the house, which the visitors freely availed themselves of, but there being no guide to explain or describe the different apartments, and no paper to be read, the stay was of short duration; the place and its surroundings, however, seemed to possess so much interest, and so little information could be gathered, that a hope was expressed that some member would collect material for a paper, and that the Society would take an early opportunity of revisiting the ancient mansion. After a vote of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Harrison, the occupiers, for so kindly allowing the members the privilege of an inspection, the carriages were again resumed, and in a few minutes the party reached Levens Hall. Here, in the absence of General Upton, the Society was welcomed by the steward, Mr. Milne, and facilities were given for inspecting every part of the building. Whilst the party were re-assembling in the great hall, tea was handed round, and in an adjoining room was an ample supply of "Morocco," which every one had an opportunity of tasting. In the absence of the Rev. Canon Weston, who had been expected to read a paper, Mr. Ferguson, who joined the party here, gave a brief description of the Hall, and read a short account of its history and owners from the earliest times down to the present; after which the coats of arms that were emblazoned on the ceiling and walls of the spacious hall were separately described by Mr. Jackson.

Jackson. A magnificent specimen of tapestry, which served as a screen to separate the private chapel from the hall, was greatly admired, the brilliancy and freshness of the colours being remarkable. An hour had been allowed by the programme for a visit to the celebrated gardens, but the afternoon was so wet that very few of the party availed themselves of the opportunity. Before leaving, the hearty thanks of the visitors were given to General and Mrs. Upton for their hospitality and courtesy; and to Mr. Milne for the attention he had shown them. After having stayed two hours, carriages were once more called into requisition, and the party proceeded through the park on their way back to Kendal. It had been intended to visit Hincaster, where some vestiges of Roman occupation were to have been pointed out by Mr. G. F. Braithwaite, returning thence through Sedgwick and Natland, and inspecting by the way some artificial mounds at Raines, but, the afternoon still continuing very wet, the route was altered, and the carriages proceeded direct homeward. On the route a general halt was made at Force Bridge to allow the party to view the waterfall, which was rushing down with great force over the broken rocky bed of the river Kent. An opportunity was here taken to read a short paper by Mr. W. H. Wakefield, who expressed his regret that he could not be at the meeting, but sent an extract from Professor Sedgwick's "Memorials of Dent," bearing on the origin of the name Sedgwick; he also mentioned that he had permission to examine the mounds at Raines, but somehow it had never been done. Soon after the arrival at Kendal, the members dined together in the large Assembly Room at the King's Arms Hotel, the Mayor of the borough being present in his official capacity as guest of the Society. After dinner was over, the Secretary mentioned that he had received a letter from the Rev. Canon Simpson, regretting that on account of illness he was unable to be present. Mr. Alderman Braithwaite was thereupon called to the chair, and the business of the Annual Meeting was at once commenced by the Secretary reading over the minutes of the last meeting, which were subsequently confirmed.

The following new members were proposed and elected, viz. :—Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., 80, Eccleston Square, London; Mr. Thomas Iredale, Workington; Mr. William Lloyd Birkbeck, 2, Stone Buildings, Lincolns Inn Fields; Mr. Jonathan Otley Atkinson, Kendal; Mr. James Doherty, C.E., 29, Sir John Rogmers Quay, Dublin; Mr. John Jameson, C.E., Maryport; Mr. William Deighton, share-broker, Workington; Mr. Author Frederick Borrodaile, A.M.I.C.E., Saltburn; Mr. Richard Henry Beardsley, Grange-over-Sands; Mrs. Hewertson, Meathop Hall, Grange-over-Sands; Mrs. T. Wilson, Castle

Castle Lodge, Kendal; Mrs. Charles Wilkinson, Bank House, Kendal; Mrs. Collin, Croxteth House, Lower Harrogate; Major Thompson, Milton Hall, Brampton; Mr. C. Stephenson, Fourgables, Brampton; Dr. Wotherspoon, Brampton; Mr. Highfield, Blencogo, Carlisle.

Mr. Ferguson gave notice that he should propose at a future meeting the increase of the ladies' subscription to 10/6, the same sum as that paid by gentlemen members; the increase only to affect ladies subsequently elected.

The appointment of officers was moved by Dr. Taylor, and the list with a few alterations remains as before; the Earl of Lonsdale being president, the Lord Bishop of Carlisle heading the list of vice-presidents, to which is now added the name of the Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P. Mr. Frank Wilson was elected as auditor with Dr. Page, in place of the late Mr. I. W. Wilson.

The Chairman expressed his pleasure at seeing so large a gathering, and his regret at the unavoidable absence of Dr. Simpson, whose presence always infused a great deal of spirit into the meetings of the Society: they were all sensible of the loss sustained through his absence that day. Although the weather was not what they would have liked, yet, he believed, they had enjoyed a pleasant and interesting excursion, and they would agree with him that they were much indebted to the kindness of the gentlemen who had allowed them to visit Sizergh Castle and Levens Hall. The Society were to have gone to Hincaster, which was a very interesting place; and, as its name denoted, had been a Roman station. In a field near that place had been found a number of flints, which were not natural productions of this part of the country; they must have been imported there, and there was some evidence that the site referred to was that of an ancient British camp. The subject might become one for investigation on a future occasion. In the programme it was said that a paper would be read by him (Mr. Braithwaite) on "Kendal Charities." Originally Mr. Moser had intended to submit something on that subject, but being too fully occupied to do so, he had asked Mr. Braithwaite to take his place; but when he came to look into the matter he did not at once see his way to treat it from an archæological point of view, and he preferred, therefore, to hold the subject back until he could so deal with it as to bring it appropriately under the cognizance of the Society.

Mr. Ferguson, F.S.A., proceeded to describe a "Torque of late Celtic type," found in Carlisle. This Torque (which was produced for inspection) had been exhibited before the Society of Antiquaries of London; an account of it is given in Art. XXI of this volume, p. 196.

Dr. Taylor read a valuable paper on a "Cup-marked stone found near Stainton, Penrith," which is printed in this volume, p. 110.

A

A "witching stone" was exhibited by the Chairman, and Mr. Ferguson added some remarks on a stone axe which he found hung up in a stable, the notion being that it would keep the horses from getting the night-mare. The superstition was as old as the Romans, but it was curious to find it surviving to this day in Cumberland and Westmorland.

Mr. Rushforth read some extracts from churchwardens' accounts of Kendal Parish Church.

During the evening several objects of interest were exhibited, amongst which may be enumerated a quern, the upper and nether stones of which were quite perfect, found near Asby Grange, and lent by Mr. William Wakefield of Birklands.

The regalia and plate belonging to the Kendal Corporation, consisting of two silver maces, a sword in black velvet scabbard, and silver mounted; two seals, three silver tankards, and a snuffbox.

Two small silver chalices and pattens from Kendal Parish Church. A flint arrow-head, exhibited by Mr. James Atkinson.

Stone celt found near Low Levens, exhibited by Mr. John Harrison. Drawings of the ancient chapel of St. Anne, Grassgarth, by Mr. C. Wilkinson.

Plaster casts of letters on local church bells, by Mr. Godfrey.

Votes of thanks to the Chairman and others closed the proceedings.

After most of the party had separated, a paper, by Mr. John Fell, of Danesgill, was produced by Mr. Fletcher Rigge, of Wood Broughton, who exhibited some remains found in excavating ruined foundations in a meadow at the Park Farm, near Dalton-in-Furness. The paper is printed at p. 77.

Nine o'clock had been fixed by the programme for the commencement of the second day's excursion, and though the weather was anything but inviting, over fifty members were punctually in readiness, and, amidst a slight drizzling rain, started on their way to Skelsmergh Hall, a distance of three miles from Kendal. On their arrival they were received by the Rev. G. E. P. Reade, the Vicar of Skelsmergh, who read a brief account of the Hall and its owners, and said that the first mention of the place was in the 13th century, when one of the Barons of Kendal granted the manor to Robert de Leyborne, and that after continuing in that family for 400 years, and passing through various vicissitudes, it came to be forfeited to the Crown in 1715, on account of John de Leybourne having espoused the cause of the unfortunate Earl of Derwentwater. The Hall and demesne were afterwards sold to Mr. Crowle, and from him have descended to the present owner, Mr. Edward Hugh Wilson, of Dallam Tower. A  
chapel

chapel dedicated to St. John the Baptist, and a burial place at one time existed here, and so late as 1680, when Machel visited the place, part of the choir walls with its seats were still standing, and a stream from St. John's Well ran through the chapel from east to west. No trace of the chapel or its foundations now remains, and it would appear that soon after changing owners and coming into the hands of Mr. Crowle extensive repairs and alterations were made.

The only portion of the ancient hall now standing is that which to this day retains the traditionary name of the tower, together with a small portion of the present house adjacent to it. The other parts have been demolished, and the materials employed to adapt the structure to the requirements of a farm-house, the old stone mullions being re-used. Some of the old oak wainscoting also remains, having been used to form partition walls for the bedrooms. During some alterations a few years ago, a lintel bearing the date 1629 was found built into an inner chimney, and pieces of wrought stone have from time to time been dug up in the garden. A stone hammer was unearthed by the plough some time since in a field on the estate.

The party then visited the Hall, which Mrs. Morton, the tenant, had kindly thrown open. After a vote of thanks to Mrs. Morton, and to the Rev. G. E. P. Reade for his paper, the company were reminded by the sound of the bugle that it was time to depart, and taking their seats in the carriages were soon on their way to the half-ruin and half-residence of Burneside Hall, once the seat of the ancient family of Burneshead, and subsequently for two centuries in the hands of the Bellinghams. Here Mr. Jackson F.S.A., read a paper that had been prepared by Canon Weston, describing the building and giving an historical account of its owners, and afterwards the visitors were allowed full liberty to inspect both interior and exterior. The paper is printed at p. 94.

After this fine old hall had been carefully examined, the carriages were again brought into use. The route was over Burneside Bridge, and past the newly restored Church of St. Oswald, by way of Cowan Head and on through Staveley, where the tower of old St. James' Church, in the middle of a neglected burial ground, attracted attention for a passing moment; leaving Staveley, and proceeding on by way of Ings, the carriages were soon at their halting place at High House, Hugill, said to have been at one time the residence of Richard Braithwaite, the author of *Drunken Barnaby's Journal*, and now the property of Mr. J. J. Addison, Kendal. The house is a good specimen of the old-fashioned yeoman's residence; it stands snugly sheltered amongst a clump of fine old trees, and is built in a most substantial

substantial style, surmounted by a capacious round chimney, similar to those of the old Troutbeck houses not far distant. Some of the walls are nine feet thick, and the beams, staircase, and floors are all of dark polished oak. The parlour has originally been lighted by a three-light stone-mullioned window of ample dimensions; the stone mullions have, however, long been removed, and a modern window is now inserted. In this is preserved some excellent pieces of old stained glass, which form the subject of a paper by Mr. J. Holme Nicholson, printed at p. 106. Outside, on the lawn at the front of the house, Mr. Charles Wilkinson read a paper on the supposed Chapel of St. Anne, Grassgarth, which the party intended to have visited, but as the road lay across the fields, the long damp grass rendered the path unfit to pass over. Before leaving, Mr. Ferguson on behalf of the Society thanked Mr. Addison for the kind reception they had received, both on that day and on previous occasions when members of the Society had visited High House; and a move was made on foot to the ancient British settlement which was the object of so long a drive, and of which an account is in this volume.

On the return to Kendal, Hollin Hall was visited, and also St. Catherine's Church, Crook. This was the last place on the programme. The church stands alone on an open hill side, and is approached by paths across two or three fields. The churchyard is enclosed by a stone wall, in which is one of the so-called "styles," or narrow apertures, common in the Lake counties. The edifice consists of a nave and tower, there being no structural chancel. There are now two doors in the south wall, and traces remain of a western door in the tower. The space which would have been the tower porch is now used for storing coal and other things. At one period a portion of the church at the west end was partitioned off, and in the chamber thus formed, the village school was conducted, but it need hardly be said that a convenient modern schoolhouse now exists in the village. This partitioned-off part of the church is now the only vestry; but it is to be regretted that greater effort is not made to keep it decently clean and orderly. In the body of the church are traces of a rood-screen, or as some think, of a small chapel. There is an open-timbered roof of a very rude description, the beams and other woodwork being only roughly hewn and covered over with whitewash. The benches are of oak, very narrow, and have only a back rail let into the wall at one end, and supported on uprights at the other. The clerk's pew, the reading desk, and the pulpit (surmounted by a sounding board) is a typical "three-decker." Inside one of the two south doors is an ancient "stoop" or basin for  
"holy

“holy water.” On the plaster of the walls have been painted a number of texts of Scripture and the “king’s arms”; and the artist who did this work records, in similar style, that “The king’s arms (George III.) and sentences were lettered anew by John Bateman, gent., *formerly a native of this place, 1794.*” The first entry in the parish book is dated 1673, and refers to the appointment of parish officers; another entry refers to the price paid for the use of horses “requisitioned” for the carriage of baggage for troops on the march. In consequence of the hilly nature of the locality the Government allowance of twopence per mile was made up by the township to sixpence. Within the present register is the entry—“The registry book belonging to Crook Chapel, bought at the expence of the chapelry, by Robert Birkett, then chapel-warden, A.D. 1778.” An inspection of the building showed that its supposed pre-Reformation character was not well founded. Mr. C. J. Ferguson F.S.A. gave it as his opinion that the earliest of the remains would not carry the building back beyond the year 1620; parts of the pulpit and reading-desk pointed to about the same date; the pulpit itself indicating a still later restoration. The oldest traces were found in the woodwork of the rood-screen (or chapel, as it may have been) and the “stoop” for holy water; but little trace was visible of a much earlier date than that mentioned. It was possible that what now existed was built on a much earlier foundation, as the church at Crook is mentioned in the will of Christofer Philipson, dated 1560. A closer inspection may yield distinct traces of that older foundation.

From Crook the party returned direct to Kendal, which was reached about five o’clock, and the meeting came to an end.

#### AUGUST 30TH AND 31ST, 1881.

A two days’ excursion of members of the Society was held in West Cumberland on Tuesday and Wednesday, August 30th and 31st. The party met at Egremont on Tuesday afternoon. The route was by way of Calder Abbey, Gosforth, Seascale Hall, &c., back again to Egremont. At the head of Yeorion Brow, a halt of a minute or two was made, and Mr. Jackson pointed out a field on the right-hand side as having been the site of Caernarvon Castle, described as “the original seat of and still a possession of the family of Le Fleming.” Nothing in the way of ruins, however, are to be seen. At Calder Abbey the party alighted, while the carriages drove back to Calder-bridge, and a short paper descriptive of the Abbey was read by the Rev. Canon Knowles, and copies of a plan distributed. The ruins were then inspected, and Mr. Jackson and Canon Knowles made some  
 remarks

remarks upon three mutilated effigies which lie against one of the walls; while Mr. Ferguson F.S.A., directed attention to what is styled a cresset stone—a square block of red sandstone, having 16 circular holes. These stones, several of which have been recently found, had long puzzled antiquaries; and the Rev. T. Lees of Wreay (a member of this Society) has the credit of discovering their use.\* It was the business of the cook in the monastery, it appears, to keep these holes filled with tallow or fat, into which a rush was set; and thus fitted up, the cresset stone was used to illuminate the dormitory. A telegram from the Rev. Canon Simpson, was read; and in it the rev. gentleman expressed his regret that he was unable to attend, and a hope that the party would enjoy fine weather.† A walk along the romantic path by the Calder brought the party to St. Bridget's, Calderbridge, the attraction there being a curious stone slab, which has been already described in these Transactions,‡ which is either a portable altar, or the seal of an altar. The slab, on which five crosses are sculptured, was found at Calder Abbey, and the vicar of St. Bridget's, the Rev. A. G. Loftie, has had it secured in a frame in a corner of the chancel. The carriages were again put in requisition, and the party drove on to Gosforth Church. Here the famous cross in the churchyard was inspected, and remarks as to its age and the probable meaning of the well-nigh undecipherable figures carved upon it were made by Mr. Jackson, Mr. Ferguson, Canon Knowles, the Rev. W. S. Calverley, and Dr. Parker, of Gosforth. Canon Knowles thought the cross was of twelfth century work, while Dr. Parker considered it much earlier, and narrated what local tradition said on the subject. This was to the effect that the cross had been erected by Danes who settled at Gosforth, and were converted to Christianity. Mr. Calverley thought that some of the figures on the stone indicated the binding to a rock with chains of Loki, the Scandinavian Beelzebub; and Canon Knowles agreed with Mr. Calverley that the carving was of a half secular and half religious character. The party next visited the church, and the Rev. Mr. Wordsworth, the rector, exhibited the old communion plate, some of it of pewter, and a black-letter copy of the Book of Homilies, folio, 1633. After some little delay, the carriages started again for Seascale Hall, the members gathering in a field adjoining the hall. Mr. Jack-

\* Transactions, vol. iii, p. 194.

† Since the Society's visit, Dr. Parker, of Gosforth, and the Rev. A. G. Loftie have been engaged removing the soil to the depth of some feet from the west doorways and pillars, and have been rewarded by many interesting discoveries, which will well repay a visit. They have also superintended the repair of the Chapter House roof, which was in a dangerous state.

‡ Transactions, vol. iii, p. 190.

son pointed out that the field was surrounded on three sides by water, and was altogether exceedingly well adapted for a fortification; and as it must have been close to the Roman way to the various camps along the coast, he thought it not unlikely that it might have been the site of a camp. To test this supposition, Mr. Joseph Robinson, of Maryport, a member of the Council, had visited the field an hour or two before the party reached it, and with the permission of Mr. Walker, he had made a series of excavations on a small scale in various parts of the field; but his labours had met with no reward, no stonework being discovered. Mr. E. T. Tyson, Maryport, here read his paper on "The Senhouses, Stewards of Holme." According to the programme, the old church of St. Bridget should next have been visited, for the inspection of its two famous crosses. Mr. Jackson and a limited party found their way there; but the driver of the third conveyance missed his road in Beckermet, and taking the wrong turn, ran the occupants back to Egremont, the rest of the carriages obediently following in his wake. The drivers had each received orders from Mr. Jackson to follow his lead, and to keep the same order in the line of conveyances; this departure from the instructions caused some little annoyance, as several of the members were anxious to see the crosses. The following note has been kindly supplied by the Rev. A. G. Loftie, the vicar:—

In anticipation of the visit of the Archæological Society to my old church and churchyard of St. Bridget, I had the well-known crosses carefully opened up, the sods, soil, and stones being removed so as to shew their bases to their foundations, ten curious cresset-like holes  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad and  $3\frac{1}{4}$  deep could be traced upon the top of the socket-stone of the south cross, and also hollow marks repeated at each corner, were observed, though some of them were nearly obliterated. These marks have not been alluded to in any other description of the crosses that I have seen. Also, within the chancel of the interesting old church I had lifted up for inspection a large stone pavement flag within the Communion rails. Some time since I had observed the traces of *four* of the five crosses to be found upon the top of an altar, so supposing that the stone might have formed part of the pre-Reformation Altar, I removed the other flags, &c., and, as I expected, found that a moulding ran along one side of the two ends, though some of it had been cut away to fit it into its place in the floor. I have no doubt my conjecture was correct.

I have since placed this slab of stone (which measures 5 feet  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches by  $34\frac{1}{2}$  inches, and is 4 inches thick) upon the Chancel pavement underneath the Holy Table, to which it forms a suitable platform.

A capital dinner, served up towards eight o'clock by the host of the Globe, Mr. W. J. Blythe, put everybody in good humour.

After dinner, Mr. Ferguson F.S.A. took the chair, and the hon. secretary (Mr. Wilson) having read the minutes of a previous meeting, they were confirmed; and on the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Jackson,

Jackson, a resolution was carried to advance the annual subscriptions of ladies who should afterwards join the Society, from 5/- to 10/6. The following new members were admitted:—Mr. J. S. Hellon, Whitehaven; Rev. C. Whitaker, Kendal; Rev. H. Bell, Muncaster; Dr. Calderwood, Egremont; Mr. T. L. Banks, Whitehaven; Mrs. Moore, Whitehall; Mr. C. J. Valentine, Workington; Mr. J. R. Musgrave, Richmond Hill, Whitehaven; Mr. J. H. Donald, Hutton House, Penrith; Mr. T. Howson, Whitehaven; Mr. J. Hayton, Cockermouth; Rev. H. S. Callender, Brathay, Ambleside; Mr. H. Railton, Snittlegarth; Rev. J. Greenwood, Uldale; Mr. H. Moore, Ulcoats, Egremont; Mr. P. Davidson, Maryport; Mr. J. M'Gowan, Whitehaven; Mr. J. Postlethwaite, Fair View, Eskett; Rev. T. S. Taylor-Taswell, St. Bees; and Rev. W. S. Wilkinson, Whitehaven. Mr. J. Smith and Mr. J. Towerson, Egremont, were subsequently admitted members at Ravenglass.

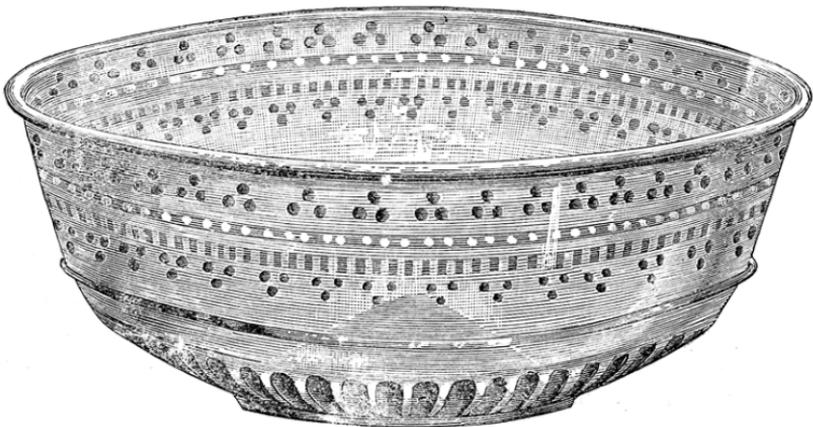
The Rev. W. S. Calverley read a paper entitled, "Illustrations of Teutonic Mythology from early Christian Monuments in Brigham and Dearham Parishes." The paper was illustrated by diagrams. Mr. Jackson followed with a paper, "The Mesne Manor of Thornflat, and its owner, 1656-9," and papers on the "Church Plate of the Deanery of Wigton" by Miss Goodwin; "of Gosforth" by Mr. Ferguson; and "of Maryport" by the Rev. H. Whitehead concluded the day's work.

On the second day, after breakfast, Mr. Ferguson laid before the Society some drawings of stones, &c., at Millom Church, and read a paper by Mr. G. T. Clark, F.S.A., on "The Mediæval Defences of the English Border." Mr. T. L. Banks read a paper on "Egremont Church," which as well as the Castle was visited. Accounts of the Castle by Canon Knowles and Mr. Jackson appear in this volume.

The party then went by rail to the Roman remains known as Walls Castle, near Ravenglass, where by the kindness of the owner, Mr. Aaron Brown, of Liverpool and Walls, excavations had been made, which are recorded in this volume. The party next walked to the hotel at Ravenglass, where lunch was served, and afterwards proceeded to Muncaster Castle, which his Lordship had invited them to visit. They were shown over the principal apartments, including the room traditionally said to have been used by the unfortunate Lancastrian King Henry VI., when in hiding at the Castle. The well-known painting of Tom Skelton, the Fool of Muncaster (who is said to have flourished during the Civil Wars), was on view; and Mr. Ross exhibited the famous "Luck of Muncaster." It is carefully preserved in wool in a box, and the greatest care was shown in handling and exhibiting it. His Lordship had invited  
the

the members to luncheon, but the invitation was, in consequence of an imperative and salutary rule, declined. Tea was, however, served to the party in the library. The grounds were thrown open, and the magnificent prospects of fell and dale, wood and water, were much enjoyed by the party, most of whom were visiting Muncaster for the first time. At Ravensglass Station the fast train passing about six o'clock was stopped to take up the party. Ere it arrived, a cordial vote of thanks was passed to the local committee who had arranged the excursion (Mr. Jackson, Canon Knowles, and Mr. Ferguson), and these gentlemen severally acknowledged the compliment.

We are indebted to Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, F.S.A., for the loan of the illustrations here given, and we have also ventured to take from a paper by him in the *Art Journal* of December, 1879, the following account:—



THE "LUCK OF MUNCASTER."

"This remarkably curious, and I believe unique, glass bowl is five inches and five-eighths in diameter at the top, and two and a quarter inches in height. It is formed of glass of a greenish hue, with simple ornamentation in gold and enamel. The two upper rows of dots, forming, as it were, a series of trefoils, as shown in the engraving, are of a pale dull lilac-coloured enamel on the glass itself; the next band is a row of white enamel spots upon a gold ground, with a delicate gold line above and below; next a band composed of small gold squares; and the next the same as the first, but reversed, while the lower part is roughly ornamented on the glass itself, and has almost a bronzed appearance.

The

The tradition is that Henry VI., after either the battle of Hexham or of Towton was found wandering on Muncaster Fell, a fugitive, by some shepherds, who conducted him to Muncaster Castle, where he was concealed for some days. On leaving, the monarch is said



KING HENRY VI. PRESENTING THE "LUCK OF MUNCASTER."

to have given this precious relic into the hands of Sir John Pennington, saying to him, "Your family shall prosper so long as they preserve this glass unbroken." By the kindness of Mr. Jewitt we are enabled to give a sketch of a small painting on panel, still preserved in Muncaster Castle, which represents Henry VI. in regal costume holding the "Luck" in his left hand.