

PROCEEDINGS.

SUMMER MEETING.

THE first excursion of the season was held in the Isle of Man, in conjunction with the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society, on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, July 14th, 15th and 16th, 1931, days which will always remain a pleasant recollection of the sixty or so of our members who made the expedition, not only for the sake of their crowded archaeological interest, but for that of the kindness and hospitality of our Manx hosts.

The complicated task of organising the three whole-day excursions from Douglas as a centre was efficiently accomplished by a joint committee, consisting of Messrs. G. J. H. Neely, President, and A. J. Davidson, A.R.I.B.A., Hon. Secretary of the Isle of Man Society and J. F. Curwen, F.S.A., Chairman of the Council, and R. E. Porter, M.C., Hon. Excursions Secretary, acting on behalf of the Cumberland and Westmorland Society.

Their passage favoured by perfect weather conditions, our party crossed by the morning boats from Heysham and Fleetwood, on Monday, July 13th, and arriving punctually at Douglas in the early afternoon, took up their quarters in the Castle Mona, Fort Anne and other hotels. Shortly afterwards they attended a civic reception, given by the Mayor (Mr. Councillor W. J. Cockill) and Corporation of Douglas. Tea was served amid the pleasant surroundings of the Villa Marina, and a few well chosen words of welcome were addressed to the visitors by the Mayor and by Mr. G. J. H. Neely, president of the Isle of Man Society, suitable replies being made on behalf of our Society by Mr. J. F. Curwen and Sir Matthew Fell. The Archdeacon of Man (the Ven. John Kewley, M.A.), also spoke expressing the thanks of the Isle of Man guests, and the Mayor in his reply made a graceful allusion to the close commercial relations which formerly existed between Whitehaven and other places in Cumberland and the Isle of Man. The remainder of the afternoon and evening was spent in visiting Douglas and some of the many pleasant spots in its immediate vicinity.

TUESDAY, JULY 14TH, 1931.

Accompanied by many visitors from the local Antiquarian Society, our party, now about ninety strong, set out from the Castle Mona Hotel at 9 a.m. for an excursion in the south of the island, under the leadership of Mr. J. Ronald Bruce, M.Sc., A.I.C., a past president of the I.O.M. Society. On this opening day—as indeed throughout our whole sojourn in the island—we had the good fortune to enjoy the best of weather conditions, and were enabled to enjoy to the full both the long and interesting series of visits provided for us to sites of archaeological interest and the beautiful and varied scenery of Man.

KIRK BRADDAN.

A short run in the motor coaches past the picturesque scenery around the Nunnery, brought the party to the famous church of Kirk Braddan, well known to visitors to the island who swell the vast congregations at its Sunday services held in the open air. Here we were welcomed by the vicar, the Rev. Canon Rushworth, who briefly described the church.

The existing fabric of Kirk Braddan old Church dates from 1773, when it replaced a church of the 12th century which had fallen into ruin. There are several documentary allusions to this older building. In 1291, for instance, Mark, the bishop of the island, to whom there are references in the register of Furness Abbey, held a synod here and enacted thirty-four canons of which the text is still extant. The presence, moreover, of several fragments of crosses of a pre-Scandinavian type, would indicate that the site was used still earlier as a place of worship. The name Braddan appears to be a corruption of that of St. Brandon or Brandinus, and perhaps the dedication of the church is to a St. Brandon, an abbot and confessor, who died a recluse in the Isle of Arran in 1066. There is a Brandinus, too, set down in the catalogue of Manx bishops in 1025. Attention was directed to certain portions of an earlier church built into the present structure, notably the tower with its quaint crown-turret, in which two bells still hang. Of literary interest is the grave in the south-west corner of the churchyard of the Rev. Robert Brown, a former vicar of Braddan and father of the Rev. T. E. Brown, the distinguished Manx poet. The curious pulpit and the church plate were also shown.

Mr. Bruce then gave a brief description of the interesting series of crosses, which with the reverent care characteristic of the authority responsible for the preservation of objects of antiquity

in the Isle of Man, has been gathered together from the churchyard and safely housed within the shelter of the Church.

The crosses include several of the Celtic or pre-Scandinavian type. One, a fragment carved upon a piece of greenstone, which formerly stood in the churchyard is of the early "incised and linear type"; another is of a later date cut in relief within a circle, but undecorated. Later still is another with geometric design and the spaces between the arms pierced, rescued from the humble duty of serving as the dividing stone of a stile into the churchyard. Yet another shows a more elaborate design of ornament and bears upon its upper panel a rough representation of a man between two lions on their haunches, supposed to depict Daniel in the lions' den.

Among the Scandinavian crosses, some of which have perhaps as late a date as the 12th or early 13th centuries, are some with inscriptions in the Runic character. Thus, for instance, the "Thorstein" Cross bears the inscription:—

* ÞURSTAIN: RAISTI: KRUS: ÞANO: IFT: UFANK: SUN:
KRINAIS, or Thorstein erected this cross (to the memory) of Ofeig,
son of Crina.
and the "Odd" or "Ottar" cross:—

UTR: RISTI: KRUS: ÞONO: AFT: FRO[KA: FAÞUR: SIN: IN:
ÞU . . .], or Odd raised this cross to the memory of his father,
Frakki, but Thor . . ."

There is also a cross raised by one Thorlief to his son Fiaec.

After a vote of thanks had been accorded to the vicar upon the motion of Mr. J. F. Curwen, the party proceeded to a field close to the church, where Mr. Bruce pointed out to them the remains of an early "camp" once extensive, but much damaged by the haulage of timber during the Great War. The earthwork of its ramparts is reinforced with scribed stones.

BALLAKELLY.

After leaving Kirk Braddan a run of twenty minutes brought us to the site of the long barrow of Ballakelly in Santon parish, where Mr. Bruce was again the speaker.

The barrow was probably of the Neolithic age, and its remains consist of a double circle or rather ellipse of large stones of the local granite set on edge. A sufficient number of these stones is still left to show the original plan of this burial place, in the centre of which is a well-formed cist, built with three great granite boulders, having flat faces looking inwards, and measuring 5 feet

by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet. To this sepulchral chamber a covered tunnel seems formerly to have led. One of the upright stones of the inner ellipse is ornamented in one corner by rows of small cup hollows of the type seen on some of our Cumbrian cup-and-ring-marked stones. An account of these markings is to be found in the *Transactions* of the Manx Society, vol. xv, p. 98.

ST. MICHAEL'S ISLAND.

Leaving Ballakelly, not without noticing the way in which the burial place had been protected from damage by the construction of an iron fence around it, we descended by a road which afforded beautiful views of the coast towards Castletown and the south, and crossing the long causeway which leads past the old fort from the mainland, reached St. Michael's Island. Here after lunch at the Golf House Hotel, we went to see St. Michael's Church, under the guidance of Mr. Bruce.

This chapel, which dates from the early 13th century is roofless, and according to Chaloner, who wrote between 1652-1660, was a ruin even in his days. Like the earlier keeills of the Isle of Man, it is rectangular in plan, without apparent divisions, measuring about 30 feet by 14 feet inside. Its walls, built of stones of irregular sizes, are three feet thick, and at the west end it has a single bell turret. The east window is a single small lancet with arched head; the remaining west and south windows had square heads, the two southern ones measuring only 12 inches wide on the outside, though they splay inwards to a width of nearly three feet. The west window has been considerably enlarged. The door, which shows traces of having once possessed sandstone jambs, is to the south, and had a semi-circular head. Like the doors of some of our own border churches, it has bar-holes in the thickness of the wall, a fact from which one might perhaps infer, that the church, like those above mentioned, might have been used occasionally as a place of defence. The foundation of the stone altar may be seen beneath the east window, with a slightly raised platform at its north end. Traces of wall foundations are said to have been found, crossing the building from north to south at places about 7 feet and 16 feet from the east end. There are remains of stone benches against the north and south walls between these points. The side walls which are only ten feet high have been rough cast. All traces of mouldings and similar adornments have disappeared. The site of the graveyard is still distinctly traceable.

Before leaving St. Michael's Island, we visited the Derby Fort,

at the far end of the islet. This large circular embattled fort, the stone walls of which have a thickness of eight feet, was constructed for the defence of the bay about the year 1644, during the troublous times when the Earl of Derby was maintaining the cause of the Stuarts against the Parliamentary forces. It is supposed to have been built by the ill-fated seventh earl, and over the doorway is a date which has been read as 1650, though it is now illegible. A turret has been raised upon the wall to the east to serve as a lighthouse for the herring fleet.

CASTLE RUSHEN.

A short journey from St. Michael's Island past King William's College and Hango Hill, with its sinister memories of the fate of William Christian, brought us to Castletown and Castle Rushen. The speaker at this ancient stronghold, so intimately associated with some of the most stirring events in the history of Man, was to have been Mr. R. B. Moore, H.M. Attorney-General and Vice-President of the I.O.M. Society. Unfortunately he was prevented by his duties from being present, but thanks to the kindness of our hosts, we were enabled to obtain a clear impression of the many points of interest connected with the fortress.

The building may be said to represent four main periods of construction:—Firstly, the old square tower, probably built about the middle of the thirteenth century, which though partly destroyed by Robert Bruce in 1313, served to form the nucleus of the succeeding fortress; secondly, the fourteenth century castle, which incorporated this tower and was probably built by Sir William de Montacute about 1344; thirdly, the further fortification of this fourteenth century castle for protection against cannon, said to have been effected for Cardinal Wolsey early in the 16th century; lastly, the "domestication" of the castle by the erection of the Derby House in the main ward and other alterations.

Advantage has been taken of the position of the castle on a mass of boulder clay, connected by a narrow neck with the main land, to isolate it from the shore by cutting through this neck, which made access to the gatehouse only possible by crossing a plank bridge easily moved or destroyed. This gatehouse contains a large guard room and kitchen, with a tidal corn-mill below its floor. By the gatehouse admission is gained to the octagonal main ward of the second period, which contained numerous temporary buildings for stabling, workshops and other necessary establishments for the maintenance of the garrison. Amongst other

buildings discovered in this ward was a mint, with crucible, discs of copper and a mass of slag. Here, also is Derby House, built for a residence by the seventh earl of Derby. The curtain wall of the ward which overlooked what was at the time of its building a ravine of considerable depth, had towers at its salient angles, and its moat was filled with water at high tides in its widest part. A causeway led from the gate house to the inner ward, which was entered over a draw-bridge, commanded by loops from the guard-rooms on either side of the inner gate, and entry could be gained only by traversing a narrow arched passage, which would be closed by a double portcullis. Beyond this passage is a small open courtyard surrounded by various chambers, in front of the original tower which appears to have been some 46 feet square inside. The level of the courtyard has been raised owing to the accumulation of debris and gravel added in the 14th century, so that the present ground floor of the tower is at the level of the first floor of the old Norse tower. In the 14th century, too, were added the great double entrance tower and towers about 20 feet square against the middle of each of the other walls. These towers were built solid below, containing chambers only on the upper floors. The present open air staircase perhaps occupies the position of the original main staircase, which led to a landing with three doors, leading respectively to the kitchen, buttery and great hall. There was a curious re-duplication of these domestic arrangements upon the second floor, perhaps because of the dual functions of the castle as a military base and as a seat of government, so that while the lieutenant kept court in the lower hall, the earl as king of Man could have his establishment above. The north side of the tower is occupied altogether by defensive arrangements, and on the top floor was the garrison chapel.* After examining the interesting collection of antiquities in the castle, inspecting the arms of the various kings and lords of Man displayed upon its walls and noting the admirable state of preservation in which the building is maintained, the party proceeded by Port Mary and up the steep hill to

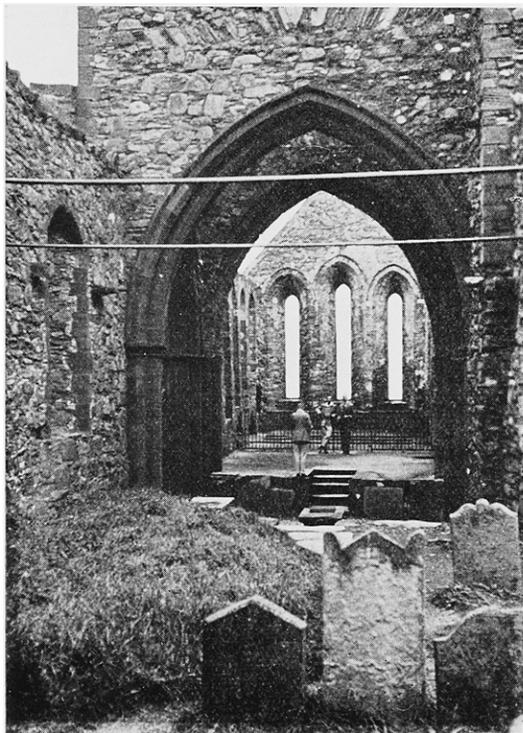
CREGNEISH.

From this isolated and high-perched little village a delightful walk of a mile over the Mull hill, with fine views down towards the Calf of Man, upon our left, and upon the bay of Port Erin, on the

* For a further description and plan of the Castle see an article by the late Mr. Armitage Ridley in the *Proceedings of the Isle of Man Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, New Series, Vol. I, No. 7, pp. 342-349.

right, brought us to the remarkable late megalithic burial place known as Mull Circle.

Mr. Bruce gave a highly interesting description of this strange communal place of sepulture. For a detailed description and plan of the Mull Circle, see Kermode and Herdman's *Manks Antiquities*, pp. 40-53. It consists of a group of six symmetrically arranged sets of cists, each set being composed of two cists placed tangentially to the circle and one radial cist projecting outwards at right angles to the other two. These groups are arranged in a rough circle, three to the east and three to the west, leaving considerable gaps for entrances to the circle at the north and south. The south entrance measures about 16 feet across and that to the north 17 feet. The diameter of the circle from north to south is 50 feet and from east to west 56 feet. Outside the external circumference of the cists a circular mound of loose stones and earth is packed, sloping some three to four yards beyond the above-mentioned measurements, and it would appear that the whole formed a "disc-shaped barrow," when complete. There is an indication of the former presence of a cist in the centre of the circle, but it has evidently been previously disturbed and cannot be now distinguished. The sets of cists are roughly similar in size, the tangential pairs being closed at their ends each by a single stone some 3 feet wide set on edge, while their sides are each composed of two stones set in similar fashion, the average length of each cist being about 8 feet. The radial cists between them are all open at their outer ends and in some cases still retain rough stone steps leading from the ground outside down to the floor. The radial cists have entrances formed by two upright stones with an opening between these from 18 to 24 inches wide leading into the spaces where the three cists meet. All the stones of which these cists are built are of the grey slate of which the hill is formed. The top coverings of these cists, which doubtless once existed, have been removed, a fact which would account for the large amount of broken fragments of earthenware found in them, as the fall of rubbish thus caused would probably break the urns and other vessels within the tombs. All the burials were by cremation, and the remains of at least twenty-six distinct urns have been distinguished. An interesting fact mentioned by Mr. Bruce was that among the flint implements, knives and pottery found in the cists were invariably a few white pebbles from the beach. The purpose of these pebbles was unknown, but perhaps it was their use in connection with burials which gave rise to the superstition among fishermen that white stones are



ST. GERMAIN'S CATHEDRAL, PEEL
Photos. by Dr. Spence



MULL HILL CIRCLE

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unlucky. In this connection it is interesting to note that Mr. P. M. C. Kermode in his account of the excavation of the tumulus at Knoc y Doonee in Andreas, describes how the Norse constructors of the stone covering of the ship-burial added broken white stones to the heap, seemingly with the idea of following this ancient practice (see *Proceedings of I.O.M. Natural History and Antiquarian Society*, New Series, vol. iii, No. 3, pp. 241-246).

With regard to the people who made use of this communal burial place, Mr. Bruce, reminded his hearers of the existence of the sites of hut villages upon the hill, and showed the vestiges of a path leading from one of these sites to the south entrance of the circle. At the conclusion of his description of the Mull Circle, Mr. Bruce, much to the regret of the party, was compelled to leave us and return to Port Erin, but before departing was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks proposed by Mr. J. F. Curwen and seconded by Mr. S. le Fleming.

RUSHEN ABBEY.

Regaining our vehicles we proceeded to our last halting-place of the day's excursion, Rushen Abbey, a spot of special interest to many members of our party, not merely on account of the important place the abbey filled in the ecclesiastical history of the island, but also for the sake of its long connection with Furness Abbey. Here the party was received by Mr. W. C. Cubbon, who gave an interesting account of the work of excavating the abbey, a task to which he has devoted so many years' labour. His explanations were rendered all the more clear and intelligible by the assistance of a large scale plan he had prepared of the building and its precincts.

Previous to the excavations commenced in 1913-14, Mr. Cubbon explained, there had been many misconceptions with regard to the nature of the surviving relics of the abbey, and thanks were due to Dr. Cochrane, president of the Royal Antiquarian Society of Ireland for pointing out that the buildings still standing were mainly, if not entirely, outside the abbey precincts. Owing to the Great War, the work commenced at the above-named date had been interrupted, but it had since been continued, and it was now possible to reconstruct the plan of the abbey. This in the main followed the general lines laid down for the builders of religious houses of the Cistercian Order. The buildings consisted of a church with transepts and, to the south of this, the cloister garth, with sacristy, chapter house and fraternity on its eastern side; the kitchens at right angles to these, on the south

and the lay brethren's quarters, parallel to the chapter house and fraternity on the west. The foundations of the chapter house and fraternity were now exposed, and the east cloister wall could now clearly be traced. The water supply was shown to be by means of a cement-lined channel, 9 ins. by 9 ins., covered completely by a 6 ins. coating of clay; the drainage is a triangular channel 9 ins. by 9 ins., but not cement-lined or clay-covered. Outside the cloister garth were the abbot's house, guest house, dovecote and mill, this last placed in a situation where the stream might easily be dammed.

In considering the comparative plainness of the portions of the buildings remaining, it had to be remembered that by the rules of the Cistercian Order excessive ornamentation was sternly forbidden. A relaxation was afterwards made with regard to the construction of towers. It would be noted that the tower of Rushen Abbey showed traces of having been increased in height at two distinct periods, and it should be remembered that on Ascension Day, 1316, the abbey was raided by Richard de Mandeville and other outlaws from Ireland, and, no doubt, partially destroyed. The tower was probably needed for defensive purposes. Mr. Cubbon drew attention to the remains of the transept with its fragmentary arcade of the 12th or early 13th century. In this connection it is interesting to remember that it has been suggested that the series of arches forming the wall-arcade at Castletown Grammar School came from Rushen Abbey, but see upon this subject an article by Mr. J. Ronald Bruce in the I.O.M. Society's *Transactions*, New Series, vol. iii, No. 3, pp. 195-6.

Mr. Cubbon gave a brief but interesting epitome of the history of the abbey. Previous to the year 1098 the ground had already been granted for religious purposes, but in 1134-5, it was definitely granted by King Olaf I to the then Savignian abbey of Furness. It was "colonised" by monks from that abbey in that year, at the same time as Calder Abbey. In 1144, like its parent house of Furness, Rushen submitted to the rule of the Cistercian Order. It is interesting to trace the growth of its influence under the kings of Man of the Norse dynasty, and its decline with the downfall of that house after the battle of Largs, and the periods of Scottish and English supremacy. It was finally dissolved in 1537. For an interesting account of the history of the Cistercian Order in Mann, see Mr. Cubbon's article in I.O.M. *Transactions*, New Series, vol. ii, No. 4, pp. 509-518.

Among the many objects of interest examined by the party

were a grave-slab with a cross of the 13th century, probably belonging to the tomb of one of the last kings of Man and showing the disappearance of the old Norse tradition in art, and a skeleton, the anatomical peculiarities of which have led to the suggestion that the remains are those of a member of the royal house of Man, perhaps those of Olaf the founder of the Abbey. Upon the motion of Sir Matthew Fell, a warm vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Cubbon for his interesting address.

Tea was taken at the abbey, and before leaving the spot, many of the party had the opportunity of inspecting Crossag bridge, a narrow two arched structure in stone, mention of which occurs in very early documents, though the statement that the present fabric is of the 13th century must be accepted only with caution. From Rushen Abbey we returned direct to Douglas, arriving at 6-30 p.m. in time for a meeting of the Council, though as we were outside our own district, there was no general meeting for the reading of papers.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 15TH, 1931.

Wednesday's excursion was through the districts of Marown, German, Peel and Michael, under the leadership of Mr. C. H. Cowley, Past President of the Isle of Man Society. Setting out from the Castle Mona Hotel at 9 a.m., after a journey of forty minutes we reached Bellakarry in Marown and made our first halt to inspect the ruins of

KEEILL VRESHEY.

Mr. Cowley gave a short description of this tiny chapel, the internal measurements of which are 16 feet by 9½ feet. He explained that this was a typical example of those keeills or chapels, so many of which are scattered in various localities throughout the island. They range in date from perhaps the 7th to the 13th centuries, and were the churches or oratories of the Celtic missionaries; with the adoption of the Roman form of worship their use gradually disappeared. The word "keeill," whether derived from the Latin cella or from a Celtic word meaning grave, is the same as the Irish Cill or Kil, and it might be added as the Cumbrian Gil in such place-names as Gilcruix and Gilgarron. These Keeills were obviously not intended for congregational purposes. Preaching would be conducted out of doors, and baptisms would be performed at a well which is often found near one of these keeills. Keeill Vreeshey, like all other keeills, is rectangular in form and without internal divisions.

Traces of the foundations of an altar are to be noted at the east end. The walls are of rough construction and built of weathered slabs picked from the surrounding land. There seem to be three stages in the construction of the walls of these keeills. In some, presumably very early examples the intervening space between the inner and outer facings of stone is roughly filled in with earth; later on, and in the case of a larger building, clay is employed as a cement for the stones; in the third and latest style the walls are built with mortar. The roof of Keeill Vreeshey has long disappeared, but, like the coverings of other keeills, was probably of reeds, bent or ling. Traces of a pavement of rough stones are to be observed. It is impossible to trace the windows, but these were probably square headed. The door is only some 18 inches wide and could be closed by a single plank. Despite the narrowness of their doors, burials have been found in many of these little buildings. The dedication of Keeill Vreeshey was to St. Bridget.

ST. TRINIAN'S CHURCH.

From Keill Vreeshey we regained the road to Peel, and just short of Crosby, stopped to view the ruined church of St. Trinian. Here we had the good fortune to have the Rev. Canon J. Quine for a speaker, and listened to a delightful discourse upon the connection of King Olaf II with this remarkable church and the associations of the name of St. Ninian or Tringan with the Isle of Man, where his memory is preserved in the place-name Ballakillingan as well as at St. Trinian's Church.

With regard to the foundation of the church, we are told that Ailred of Rievaulx visited Man in the 12th century and endowed a church and a hospice here with a barony and lands. King Olaf II in 1215 conveyed both to the priory of Whithorn, the Candida Casa of St. Ninian. The gift of Olaf is referred to as "the lands of Bellacquiba and the church of St. Ninian of Bellacquiba in Marown parish." The existing church seems to date from the 13th century, but sculptured stones from an older building are built into its walls, and the fact that in the middle of the chancel was found a flagstone used as a grave cover, and carved with a simple form of linear-cross within an oval ring, which apparently dates from the sixth century, would lend support to the supposition that the site was used for religious purposes at a very early date.

Like the chapel on St. Michael's Island, St. Trinian's is built upon a plain rectangular plan, its internal dimensions being about 70 feet by 19 feet. Its walls, built of the local clay slate with lime

cement, are from 3 to 4 feet thick. Though the roof is gone the original walls are still standing save that on the north which was rebuilt in 1908 by the Manx Museum trustees. The only architectural division to be noticed in the church is the foundation of a cross wall at about 19 feet from the east end, making a square chancel. It is not bonded into the side walls, and may have been merely a step to support a wooden screen. The nave had two one-light windows on the north and one window and a doorway on the south. The doorway shows indications of having had a rounded arch, and there are holes for the insertion of stout wooden bars to secure the door in either side. Above the lancet west window is a turret for two bells. The altar foundations still remain, and at the south side is an interesting pavement cross. Remains of a stoup, of red sandstone, are to be seen in the wall by the south door, and a more ancient one was found among the debris on the floor. Some interesting fragments of carved granite mouldings and other ornaments are preserved in the church, some of which appear to date from as early as the 15th century.

TYNWALD HILL.

The next stage of our journey was but a short one, and descending from our vehicles at the Tynwald Hill, we were received by His Honour Deemster R. D. Farrant, who gave a full and interesting description of the church and mound, and a history of the institution of the Tynwald. He also explained the procedure at the annual ceremony of promulgating the laws and was accorded a hearty vote of thanks for his valuable paper.

Tynwald Hill itself was possibly in the first place a burial mound of peculiar sanctity, which was subsequently converted into a place of public assembly. Though its present name evidently dates from the Scandinavian occupation of Man, there can be little doubt that it was a place of assembly and inauguration before the coming of the Vikings. It resembles the "Moot-places," remains of which are still to be found not only in Iceland and Norway but in England and Scotland. At these places of assembly there was always a plain, a hillock, a court to the east of the hill and a temple, this last feature being now represented in the case of the Tynwald by the church of St. John.

The hill stands at the convergence of four roads from the four cardinal points of the compass, and in its present form consists of four circular platforms raised one upon the other. The Manx Althing is mentioned in 1229, as a place of the meeting of kings.

Indeed these meetings sometimes led to deeds of bloodshed and violence, as for instance on the occasion of the death of the usurper Reginald, whose supposed tomb is to be seen at Furness Abbey. In 1237 reference is made to the Tynwald Hill as a meeting place of "all the people of Mann," and under the regime of the Stanleys its use as a place for the promulgation of laws seems to have become firmly established.

Before reaching Peel, after quitting the Tynwald Hill, we made a detour in order to inspect, under Mr. Cowley's guidance, a "passage grave," one of those strange places of burial consisting of a long passage composed of two lines of stones set parallel to one another upon their edges and roofed with another set of flat stones, the whole passage being afterwards covered with earth.

PEEL.

Upon arriving in Peel, after lunching, we crossed over the harbour to St. Patrick's Isle to visit the ruins of Peel Castle and St. German's cathedral church. Here Canon Quine was again the speaker, who, before describing the ancient buildings and other historic monuments in which this remarkable site is so rich, gave a vivid account of its associations with the visit of the great viking, Magnus Barefoot, in 1098 and with the history of the dynasty of Godred Crovan.

The earliest traces of the occupation of St. Patrick's Island are several pre-historic earthworks, the most remarkable of which is a large square fort within the castle enclosure. Its sides measure each some 70 yards in length; it has outer and inner walls of earth, and a pyramidal mound in the centre. It has been suggested that this earthwork represents "the square fortress of the Magic Isle," referred to in the early Sagas and the Welsh Mabinogion, the place whence according to legend Cuchulain and other Ulster heroes of the "Red Branch" carried off the Princess Blathnet and that marvellous cauldron, which perhaps, in later literature, became the Holy Grail.

The oldest building in the Island is the ruined church of St. Patrick, built in the 10th century, upon the site of a still older edifice. Large masses of masonry from its west gable, which formerly had a belfry with openings for two bells, lie scattered near by. Inside can be seen some interesting examples of herring-bone masonry. The general plan of the church, like those of the keeills and St. Trinian's and St. Michael's Island seems to have been a plain rectangle. The still existing east window is square. Built into the wall of the earth fort is a little ruined



WALLING OF ARCADE, N. TRANSEPT,
RUSHEN ABBEY
Photos. by Dr. Spence



WINDOW, "THE ARMOURY," PEEL

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chapel of this church. Canon Quine suggested that the long roofless building not far from this site, showing traces of older masonry in its walls and known as the armoury, is really part of the ancient palace of the Manx kings. A few yards away from St. Patrick's Church is the "Round Tower," which, as its name implies, is circular in plan. Its battlemented top seems to be comparatively modern, but the lower portion of the tower is of uncertain date and it resembles in many ways the round towers of Ireland. The entrance is some seven feet above the ground level, and it would appear to have been used as a watch tower and place of refuge. Other towers of the castle are the Moar's Tower or Warwick Tower, where it is assumed the Earl of Warwick was imprisoned in the 14th century and Edward Christian, the Manx patriot in the 17th, and "Fenella's Tower" to which Sir Walter Scott in his *Peveiril of the Peak* has bequeathed a fictitious interest. Not far away from the Round Tower is the Castle well in a deep dungeon-like underground place.

The Castle has suffered considerably from the demolition of old buildings and the construction of new fortifications during the time of the Napoleonic scare, and to the east is a two gun battery, built in 1812 from stone taken from the old Bishop's Palace and the residence of the Captain of the Castle.

The ruins of St. German's Cathedral were next visited. The chancel, built during the time of Bishop Michael in the latter part of the 12th century, is in the Transitional-Norman style; its lower walls appear to have formed a part of a still earlier church. Though built of friable red sandstone, the walls are in a good state of preservation, but the roof is entirely gone. The saintly Bishop Wilson is responsible for the removal of its lead to furnish a roof for his new church of St. Patrick. The battlemented central tower rises on four pointed arches to a height of 80 feet. This tower and this transept of the cathedral were the work of Bishop Simon in the 13th century in the pointed style of architecture of that date. The tomb of Bishop Simon, who was the last of the eight bishops buried in the cathedral, was re-discovered in 1871, and were re-interred under a slab on the north side of the choir. The nave is of later date. A narrow passage in the chancel walls leads down into the crypt, a narrow vaulted room used for centuries as the ecclesiastical prison of the Isle of Man. It was the place of imprisonment of Eleanor Cobham, wife of Humphrey Duke of Gloucester, in the fifteenth century and it was at Peel Castle that the unfortunate lady died.

Before leaving the castle, Mr. J. F. Curwen proposed a vote of thanks to Canon Quine for his two eloquent and interesting addresses, at St. Trinian's Church and Peel Castle respectively, and the vote was carried by acclamation. The thanks of the party were accorded also to Mr. Cowley for his able guidance, and lucid descriptions of Keeill Vreeshey and the Passage Grave.

It had been intended to pay a visit to Michael church to view the crosses housed there, but as the hour was late, we had reluctantly to abandon this part of our programme, and after tea at Glen Willyn, the party returned to Douglas for the night.

THURSDAY, JULY 16TH, 1931.

Setting out once more at 9 a.m. on Thursday morning for an excursion in the northern part of the island, we first journeyed to Gretchveg, near Laxey.

GRETCHVEG.

Here, Mr. G. J. H. Neely, President of the I.O.M. Society, who was leader of the party on this third excursion, gave a most interesting description of the "passage grave," popularly but inaccurately known as King Orry's Grave.

This burial place, which seems to belong to a culture intermediate between the neolithic and bronze ages, appears to have consisted of a large cairn of stones some thirty feet in diameter, out of which arises a thin conical slab or menhir about ten feet high. From this extends in an eastward direction a line of cists, formed of two rows of flat stones, set on their edges, four feet apart. An interesting sketch of the grave, as it appeared in 1875, by Sir Henry Dryden is reproduced on page 55 of Kermode and Herdman's *Manks Antiquities*. About 40 yards eastward and on the other side of the road, were pointed out the remains of another large tumulus. Here, according to Mr. Barnwell, secretary of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, writing in 1865, were found some thirty years previously, human bones, the skeleton of a horse, an iron sword and a horseshoe, but Dr. Oswald, a local antiquary mentions only a "tooth and remains of a horse."

KIRK MAUGHOLD.

The next stage of our journey was along the beautiful coast road to the far-famed church of Kirk Maughold, where we enjoyed the privilege of listening to Mr. P. M. C. Kermode, who most kindly, though not in the best of health at the time, came to

Maughold to explain its antiquities, upon which he is so universally acknowledged an authority.

Mr. Kermodé first called our attention to the beautiful standing cross at the church gate. This is the only monument of its kind in the island, and its elaborately ornamented head seems to date from about the 15th century, if not earlier, while the light octagonal shaft appears to be older still and may possibly have belonged to a twelfth century cross, of which the head is now lost. The capital is adorned with four shields, one of them bearing the Three Legs, evidently here representing the arms of the Isle of Man. The other shields are not heraldic, but see upon this subject an article by Mr. F. Swynnerton and further notes thereupon by Mr. Kermodé in the I.O.M. Nat. Hist. and Antiq. Society *Transactions*, New Series, vol. ii, No. 3, pp. 230-243. The rood proper bears a crucifix on one face and a figure of the Virgin and Child on the other, and at one side of this face is a large oak leaf and at the other possibly a knight in armour, kneeling. There has been another stone on the top, now lost. The material of the cross is St. Bees sandstone, and it is a matter of interest to Cumbrian readers that the suggestion has been made that this was market cross erected by the abbots of Furness Abbey, who had important mining interests in this neighborhood acquired from the king of Man about the year 1240.

Mr. Kermodé then showed the party the keills in the churchyard. The site presents the characteristics of the early Christian monasteries and shows the remains of an enclosure surrounded by a "cashel" containing the remains of several small chapels with monastic dwellings. At the north end is the site of a small chapel, of perhaps the 10th century measuring 15½ feet by 9 feet within. Nearer the church, may be seen the foundations of another, while at the north-west and at the south-east have been found traces of others. Remains of ancient walling and strong earthen embankments show that the enclosure was well defended, and from the Manx Chronicle we learn that in 1148 at the time of the raid of Somerled, Lord of the Isles, Maughold was a well known sanctuary, possessing among other treasures a relic in the form of the pastoral staff of the bishop, to which miraculous powers were attributed. This relic has disappeared; it probably was of the ancient Celtic type containing the actual staff of the founder. The name of "Stafflands," applied to the adjoining lands, should be noticed, an estate which would seem to have been granted to its keepers in return for the preservation of this precious

relic. The church itself is of the true Manx type some 72 feet long by 17 feet broad. Some portions of its existing fabric appear to date from as early as the 12th century, notably the fine western porch, which is of distinctly Norman type with at ympanum and dog-tooth ornament. Stones from a still older building have been built into the walls of this church, which, as is usual in Manx churches, has no architectural division between the chancel and nave.

THE MAUGHOLD CROSSES.

Perhaps the chief attraction of a visit to Maughold is the wonderful collection of crosses, carefully preserved in the cross-house erected in the churchyard. It is to be remarked that about one-third of the crosses discovered in the Isle of Man, were found in the Maughold district. In their types these crosses range from that of the early Celtic inscribed crosses of the sixth century down to the elaborate carving of the viking age ending with the 13th century. Many of these monuments were described to the party by Mr. Kermodé, and for details in connection with them the reader must be referred to his Monumental work, *Manx Crosses*, 1907, with which for purposes of comparison with our own Cumbrian crosses should be consulted our president, Mr. W. G. Collingwood's *Northumbrian Crosses of the pre-Norman Age*, 1927. Thanks to Mr. Kermodé's vivid descriptions, we were able to follow the gradual development of these monuments from the rough-incised cross developed from the Chi Ro monogram to such fine instances of Celtic design and workmanship as the fragment found at Kirk Maughold, which has a plain border terminating at the foot of the shaft in volutes and decorated with a simple form of plait, the limbs being connected with a bordered circle. The remaining space by the side of this shaft shows the robed figure of a priest, while below the cross are stags and hounds, and below these again the hunter riding forth to the chase. The other face bears a cross of more ornamental design, its shaft being decorated by a loop twist of two cords, and the limbs of the cross having a separate design of plait-work. The space by the side shows a boar-hunt with the figure of a stag pursued by a hound. Another large slab-cross formerly assigned to Roolwer, a Scandinavian bishop recorded in the Chronicon Mannæ as having been buried at Maughold in 1060, is held by Mr. Collingwood to be a century older and to show signs of Anglian workmanship. There are several inscriptions upon the early crosses discovered at Maughold, for instance the Latin inscription upon the well-known Guriat



ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH, PEEL
(showing herring-bone masonry)



FOUNDATIONS OF KEEILL, MAUGHOLD CHURCHYARD

Photos. by Dr. Spence

FACING p. 168

cross. The " Juan's Church Stone " has inscriptions in both in Ogams and in the Runic characters of the 13th century. One of the most interesting inscriptions in a debased Roman or Early English characters is that upon a small slab bearing a hexafoil design down the sides of which beside two small incised crosses runs the formula:—

[FECI] IN $\chi\rho\tilde{i}$ HOMINE.
CRUCIS $\chi\rho\tilde{i}$ IMAGEHEM.

It will be noticed that in two cases the form H is used for N. This inscription is probably of an earlier date than the eighth century.

Of the later Scandinavian types of crosses described by Mr. Kermode, perhaps the most interesting was the Sigurd Cross, suggested by the speaker to have been a memorial to King Olaf the Red, who was slain at Ramsay in 1153. It is a somewhat late example of that wonderful series of crosses at Bride, Andreas, Jurby and elsewhere, which, like our own Gosforth crosses, relate episodes of the saga of the Völsungs. Upon the Maughold cross we see for the first time the beginning of the story which tells how Loki found Otter devouring a salmon on a rock by the waterfall and slew him with a stone. For this crime, Odin, Hoener and Loki had to pay weregild to Otter's father Hreidmar, king of the Dwarves, and in order to obtain the sum due for payment, Loki captured the dwarf Andwari and robbed him of his treasure including the magic ring, which brought with it the curse that compassed the tragedy so well known to all who have read the story of the Nibelungs. Further up on a panel is seen Sigurd, who after slaying Fafnir, the dragon, and becoming possessor of the Nibelung treasure, rides off on his steed, Grani, to pass through the ring of flames and rescue the Valkyrie, Brynhild, from her charmed sleep—a story known to us all in the nursery tale of " Sleeping Beauty."

KIRK BRIDE.

From Maughold we proceeded on our journey to Ramsay, whence, after lunch, we went on to Bride for the purpose of examining the crosses preserved at the church of that village. Unfortunately, Mr. Kermode, who was to have spoken at Kirk Bride, was too fatigued after his exhausting labours at Maughold to continue with the party, and was forced reluctantly to return to Douglas. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to him and a message of good wishes for his speedy restoration to health was sent.

By the courtesy of the vicar of Kirk Bride, we were shown the crosses, the most interesting of which to most of the party was the "Thor Cross," perhaps the richest example of sculptured representations of Norse mythology. Above the wheel of the cross on both sides is an emblem of the firmament sustained by four small figures. Beneath it, to the right upon a panel is a figure, perhaps depicting Odin, and, below this figure, what appears to be a representation of Swanhild being trodden to death beneath the feet of Jormenrek's horses. To the left, is Thor engaged in his struggle with the Midgardsworm whom he is to slay at Ragnarök, only to perish himself from his deadly venom. Below Thor's bearded image is depicted his fight with the giant, Rungir, and his delivery by his three-nights-old son, Main. On the other side of the cross is shown the adventure known as "Thor's fishing," an episode represented also upon the cross fragment at Gosforth. Thor is shown after seizing the largest of the giant Hymi's oxen and cutting off its head for a bait, fishing for Jormungand, the Midgardsworm. He is just about to haul in his prey, when Hymi, alarmed, cuts the rope with which Thor is fishing and the monster sinks back into the deep. See *Traces of Norse Mythology in the Isle of Man*, by P. M. C. Kermodé, pp. 22-27. Thor's adventure with Hymi's cauldron seems also to be represented on this side of the cross.

ANDREAS.

From Bride it was a journey of but two-and-a-half miles to Andreas, the Lombardic tower of the church of that village forming a prominent land-mark in the midst of the surrounding plain and low sandhills. Upon our arrival here, we were met by the Ven. Archdeacon Kewley, M.A., who gave an interesting account of the parish of Andréas, the living of which is in the gift of the Crown and is held in conjunction with the archdeaconry of the Isle of Man. The present church is modern, but the remains of an ancient church of a very primitive character were discovered a few years ago in a mound on the farm of Knock-y-Doonee. The suggestion of Mr. P. M. C. Kermodé that Knock-y-Doonee was the grave of the Athakan the Smith, mentioned in an inscription upon a monument at Kirk Michael, carved by the great sculptor Gaut "who made this and all (crosses) in Man," occurs in the article in the I.O.M. *Transactions* already referred to under the heading of the Mull Circle, and there is another interesting article upon this site by Mr. J. J. Kneen in I.O.M. *Transactions*, New Series, vol. iii, No. 3, pp. 246-249.

The Archdeacon gave a most interesting description of many curious customs peculiar to the parish of Andreas, and to the function exercised by the Archdeacon in the hierarchy of the Isle of Man. Among other things he pointed out to us the field, upon which was grown the wheat used for the bread employed in the celebration of the Sacrament. He afterwards spoke upon the subject of the crosses preserved in the little cross-house against the wall of the church. Here, again, we came into contact with representations of Norse mythology. One cross-fragment of particular interest depicts Odin with his spear and one of his ravens, Hugin and Munnin, flying above his shoulder. He is attacked by the wolf, Fenrir, on the day of doom prophesied by the Sybil of the Voluspa, when the old Asa gods were to perish. On the other side of the fragment is the figure of a man, belted, in right hand a cross, in his left a book. He treads upon adders and knotted worms, and in front of him is the christian symbol of the fish. The triumph of Christ over the old heathen beliefs is here apparently depicted (see Kermodé, *Traces of Norman Mythology in the Isle of Man*, pp. 29-30 and Plate X).

BALLACHURRY.

At Ballachurry, we once more left our conveyances, and taking a path through a wood and across fields arrived at the remains of the fort. These were explained to us by Captain J. F. Crellin, M.C., the owner of the land upon which the fort stands. It was constructed, he told us, probably by the unfortunate seventh earl of Derby, about the year 1644. It is a rectangular space measuring about 50 yards by 40 yards with great earthen ramparts six yards in thickness, and has bastions at the four corners. The whole fort is surrounded by a wet fosse of ample proportions. The fact that the rampart has not been breached in any part of its perimeter, and the absence of any historical record of its having been assaulted, would argue that its existence had been a peaceful one. Other forts built in the island about the same date are the Derby Fort on St. Michael's Isle, described above, and Fort Loyal, a fort of small dimensions built to command Ramsay Harbour. Cordial votes of thanks was accorded to Captain Cullin, to Mr. Neely for his kind help throughout the day and to the Ven. Archdeacon Kewley, who accompanied the party from Andreas.

A return was made, after an interval for tea, direct to Douglas, where, later in the evening, a meeting was held, by kind permission of the Museum Trustees, in the Picture Gallery of the Manx

Museum. Here the visitors were hospitably entertained, and some of the treasures of the Museum were shown by Mr. William Cubbon, F.R.S.A. The excellent arrangement of the interesting exhibits contained in this fine Museum were much admired, the series of casts of the crosses and inscribed stones of the Isle of Man, taken by Mr. T. H. Royston of Douglas for Mr. P. M. C. Kermodé, attracted special attention. For our benefit, too, the Manks Sword of State, with blade of the twelfth century, was exhibited and some of the recent important acquisitions of the Museum shown and explained.

At the meeting in the absence of Mr. J. F. Curwen, who was compelled to leave Douglas by an earlier boat the chair was taken by another vice president, Mr. S. H. le Fleming. An address upon the historical relations between the Isle of Man and our Society's district was given by Mr. W. T. McIntire. Dealing first with the earliest connections between Man and Cumberland, the speaker drew attention to a few Celtic place names, and to the common tradition of the early labours of the Irish missionaries, drawing attention to the probable identity of the prefix of such names as Gilcruix and Gilcarron with the Manx keeill. He referred also to such remarkable coincidences as that of the sacred ash tree of Aspatric or Aspatria and the similar practice of adorning the ash tree at the Manx Chibbyr Unjin. He then spoke of the probability of the close relations between or perhaps the actual identity of the bands of vikings who in the 9th and 10th centuries settled in the Isle of Man and upon the coasts of the Solway, and instanced in support of this contention several remarkable similarities in place-names, the fact that in these two districts alone the story of the Völsungs was depicted in the sculpture of the crosses, and various practices and traditions common to both districts. He then briefly related the relations between Furness Abbey and the Isle of Man, mentioning further examples of intercourse between Holm Cultram Abbey, St. Bees Priory, Conishead Priory and Calder Abbey with the Island. He showed how in the times of the Edwardian wars against Scotland and for many years afterwards the Isle of Man was used by both England and Scotland in turn as a base for annoying the enemy. Later, in the 17th century that prominent Cumbrian royalist, Sir Philip Musgrave, took an important part in the defence of the Island against the Parliamentary forces. In the 18th century smuggling from the Isle of Man to the Solway was rife, and some details of this illicit trade and the attempts to repress it were given. Finally, the

speaker alluded to the history of some of the Manx families who settled in Cumberland, among others that branch of the Christians from whom was descended the great Cumbrian reformer and agriculturist, John Christian Curwen, a keen supporter of the cause of the Isle of Man against the claims of the Duke of Athol in the early years of the 19th century. The lecturer was accorded a vote of thanks upon the motion of Mr. R. B. Moore, H.M. Attorney-General, who spoke of the pleasure it had been to the Isle of Man Society to receive the Cumberland and Westmorland Society as their guests. The chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Isle of Man Society for their hospitality and the motion was carried enthusiastically, as were votes of thanks to the Hon. Secretary of the Isle of Man Society and to Mr. R. E. Porter, our own Hon. Excursions Secretary, for their successful organisation of a most delightful excursion. Most of the visitors, after spending the following morning at various places of interest in the Island returned to Heysham or Fleetwood by the afternoon boat. A letter was subsequently sent by Mr. J. F. Curwen on behalf of our Society to His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor of the Isle of Man expressing its members keen sense of the hospitality shown to them upon their visit.

During the course of the expedition the following new members were elected:—

F. S. I. Broome, Summerhill, Greenodd, Ulverston; John Mitchinson, 18, Northstead Road, Tulse Hill Park, London, S.W.2; Miss J. C. Dickinson, Seatt Hill, Lazonby, Cumberland.

AUTUMN MEETING.

The Autumn excursion of the Society was held in the Penrith district on Thursday and Friday, September 10th and 11th, 1931. The Committee for arranging this excursion consisted of Mr. J. F. Curwen, F.S.A., Mr. Ferdinand Hudleston, Mr. W. Goodchild, M.B., Ch.B., Mr. Legh Tolson, F.S.A., Mr. R. Morton Rigg, L.R.I.B.A. and Mr. R. E. Porter, M.C., Hon. Sec. Excursions. There was a very large attendance of members and friends, over 300 taking part in the first day's proceedings. Fortunately, on both the Thursday and Friday, the weather was all that could be desired, and the long programme was carried out in its completeness without a hitch.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH, 1931.

The party left Penrith railway station in motor coaches and private cars at 10-30 a.m., immediately after the arrival of the

trains from the north and south, and proceeding *via* Dalemair made the first half of the day at

DACRE CHURCH.

Here Mr. Ferdinand Hudleston described the recent excavations in the churchyard upon the conjectural site of the religious house mentioned by Bede. Mr. Hudleston's paper forms Article X of the present volume of *Transactions*. Before leaving Dacre the party had time to visit Dacre Church and examine the fragment of the tenth century cross-shaft. This shaft which rests against the north wall of the chancel, is 38 inches high by 15 inches wide at the base, tapering to 12 inches. At the foot of the shaft are figures of Adam and Eve with the tree and serpent. Above is the not uncommon group of the hart and hound or wolf, a fact which would justify the supposition that the monument was set up to some Norse settler, for the hart and wolf occur on several crosses in the Isle of Man, at Andreas, Bride, Michael and Maughold. All of these examples being assigned by Mr. Kermodé to the tenth or eleventh centuries. Two human figures with hands joined above what looks like an altar occur also on the shaft, but the supposition that these figures represent the meeting of at Dacre of King Aethelstan, Constantine of Scotland and Owain of Cumbria, is not based upon sufficient reasons. For further discussion of this cross, see Calverley, *Crosses*, p. 113-115 and W. G. Collingwood, *Northumbrian Crosses of the pre-Norman Age*, pp. 150f.

GREYSTOKE CHURCH.

Our next visit was to Greystoke, where the Rector, the Rev. R. F. Smith gave a description of the church and its history. The church of St. Andrew, though, as can be seen from its windows in the Perpendicular Style of architecture, it was evidently to a large extent rebuilt in the 15th century, preserves traces of an older building. The piers of the nave arcades belong to the previous century, and there are vestiges of both Norman and Early English work. The chancel is separated from the nave by a late Perpendicular screen, above which may still be seen the old beam of the rood-loft, carved with the symbols of the Passion. There are eighteen choir stalls with carved misericords, sedilia and a piscina. Beneath the altar-table is an altar stone with five incised crosses. The positions of several once existing side altars are shown by the presence of their piscinae. The chief feature of the church is the collection of old glass brought together from several parts of the church, and arranged in the large five-light

Perpendicular east window. The lower part of this window contains a series of pictures from the legendary life of St. Andrew in their original positions. Among the many tombs in the church is a table-tomb of alabaster, with shields emblazoned with the Greystoke arms borne by angels; upon it are two effigies in plate armour, but these are of different sizes and dates. The larger figure has armour of the first part of the 15th century, and probably represents John, sixteenth baron Greystoke, who by his Will of April 10th, 1436, ordered his body to be buried in this church. The smaller figure, with 14th century armour and a canopy above its head, is without doubt intended to represent William the 14th baron, the founder of the college, who died in 1359. There is a brass in the chancel to this same 14th baron with the inscription "William le bone baron de Graystok plys vailliant, noble et courteyous chvialer de sa paiis en son temp." There are brass effigies of Dr. John Whelpdale, master of the college, who died 1526, of Margret Moresby, Winifred Newport and Richard Newport, all of the 16th century, also inscriptions to Thomas Eglisfelde and Walter Redman, masters of the college. In 1358, Lord William de Greystoke obtained royal and episcopal licence to change the rectory of Greystoke into a college with a master and chaplains, but his death delayed the foundation until 1382, when the Pope sanctioned the appointment of a master and six perpetual chaplains. The four pre-reformation bells of Greystoke are named after the dissolution of the college by Edward VI's commissioners in 1552. The staff of seven clergy who served the huge parish of Greystoke was reduced at the dissolution to three (see *Victoria County History of Cumberland*, vol. II, pp. 204-208). A vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. F. Hudleston, was accorded to the Rector for his interesting address.

JOHNBYP HALL.

After an interval for lunch, the party made its way to Johnby Hall (see Taylor, *Manorial Halls*, pp. 294-301), where by the kind permission of Mr. T. Brown, F.S.I., we visited both the exterior and the interior of this interesting old mansion. Mrs. Brown read a valuable paper upon Johnby Hall and its various owners (Art. XIII), and on the motion of Mr. R. E. Porter, both she and her husband were accorded a hearty vote of thanks.

HARDRIGG HALL.

Pursuing our way through a district rich in old manorial halls we soon arrived at the ruined tower of Hardrigg Hall in the

parish of Skelton, the 16th century house of the Southiac family. Here our guide was again Mr. Ferdinand Hudleston, who read a short paper upon the hall (Art. XI).

SCALES HALL.

By the kind permission of Mr. G. Hewetson, we then visited Scales Hall, the old seat of the Broughams. We were indebted once more to Mr. Hudleston for a description of this picturesque old building and a history of its various occupants (Art. XII).

HUTTON HALL.

At Hutton-in-the-Forest, our next stopping place, the party visited Hutton Hall by kind permission of Mr. W. M. Vane. In describing this ancient seat of the Hutton family, Mr. W. T. McIntire traced its gradual development from a pele tower to a modern mansion, dividing the history of its growth into five periods. The first period is represented by the 14th century pele tower of the Huttons, which now, after considerable alterations serves as an entrance hall. It is a typical example of the towers of its date, its external measurements, so far as these could be ascertained, being from north to south 38 feet and from east to west 30 feet, with walls six feet in thickness. The basement, which serves as a hall and has had a partition built across it from east to west to form a muniment room, has a stone vault. Its window has been enlarged, but the present door is probably in the place where the original entrance was built. The wall has been pierced at its south-west corner to form a passage into the house, and here there seem to remain traces of the shaft of a newel staircase leading to the upper floors. On these floors, the original walls of the tower are hard to trace, owing to alteration in the arrangement of rooms, but in some of the bedrooms they can still be distinguished. The speaker added a brief account of the Hutton family and of its tenure of the manor by the service "of keeping the forest of the Hay of our Lord the King in Plumpton," and by the further service of holding the king's stirrup, when he mounted his horse in the castle at Carlisle (for the history, of the Huttons, see Mr. T. H. B. Graham's article in *Transactions*, n.s., vol. xxx, pp. 68-88, also *Transactions*, n.s., vol. xxv, p. 295). The second stage in the hall's development took place in the 16th century, when the accommodation provided by the 14th century tower was enlarged by the addition of a hall and other buildings to the west. Portions of windows and mouldings of this period were pointed out, built into the modern walls in several places.

The third period was about 1630-40, when the hall had passed into the hands of the Fletcher family, whose ancestor, Sir Richard Fletcher of Cockermouth, grandson of the Henry Fletcher who there entertained Mary Queen of Scots, purchased the estate from Thomas Hutton. It was then that the long two storied southward extension at the east end of the house was built. A view of the hall by Knyff, engraved by Kip, shows a similar gallery to east, but this, if planned, was certainly never completed. The fourth period is that of Sir George Fletcher who was M.P. for Cumberland from 1661-1697, after the Fletchers, who suffered for their loyalty to the king in the time of the Commonwealth, had come to their own again with the restoration. It was probably Sir George who employed Inigo Jones or one of his pupils to enlarge the hall and to build the fine garden facade. Fifthly and lastly, long after the property had passed into the hands of the Vanes, Salvin was commissioned to make the final alteration and enlargement of the house to its present proportions. Before leaving Hutton, the party had time to view the interior of the house and to visit the dovecote, which from its style of architecture would appear to date from the period of Inigo Jones' work at Hutton. It is in remarkably good preservation, the potence, or revolving pole against which ladders could be reared to gain access to the nests, being still in working condition.

CASTLESTEADS (VOREDA).

Leaving Hutton Hall, we gained the main Carlisle-Penrith road and made out last halt for the day at the farm of Castlesteads, close to the remains of the Roman fort of Voreda or "Old Penrith." The fort was described by Mr. E. B. Birley, M.A., F.S.A. who alluded to the regret which all must share in the fact that for the first time for many years the Society was visiting a Roman fort unaccompanied by Mr. R. G. Collingwood, to whom he wished a speedy recovery. He mentioned the visit of Horsley to the fort in the early 18th century and his record of inscriptions still existing in his day but subsequently lost. He also referred his audience to the article upon Voreda by the late Professor F. Haverfield in *Transactions*, n.s., vol. xiii, pp. 177 ff. Voreda, he continued, was a fort belonging to a well known type, built to hold a regiment 500 strong, and probably not constructed before the early days of the second century. In theory, the main gate would face the direction whence enemies might be expected and the fort should face north, but as a matter of fact it faced south. The most imposing gate had been that to the east next the

Roman road to Carlisle, which here followed the line of the present high-road. A large number of inscriptions showed that this fort was garrisoned by the 2nd Cohort of Gauls, nominally 500 strong, of which division many of the men were mounted. There had possibly, however, been others at various times. One inscription was on an altar set up by the prefect commanding the Cohort. There was also a tombstone set up by his daughter to an officer who was apparently a quartermaster. He appeared to be described as "a senator of accounts," and the inscription might be said to throw light upon the position and function of the military senator of that time. Besides the fort itself, there was a settlement for civilian dependents. Very little was known about it, but there were considerable buildings upon the Petteril side of the fort, and traces of others had been found on the remaining sides. The road upon which the fort stood was the first century road to Carlisle. There was probably a fort at Voreda in the first century, and though it would appear to have been occupied in the second century, military activity took place on the site possibly in the 3rd and certainly in the 4th centuries. It was the only fort on the road between Brougham and Carlisle, and the reason for this did not at first appear, but the possibility of a road-junction should be carefully considered. Before returning to Penrith the members of the party expressed their thanks to Mrs. Inglis the owner and Mr. Winter, the tenant, for their kind permission to visit the fort.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Society was held at the George Hotel, Penrith, in the evening, and was well attended by members. In the absence of Mr. J. F. Curwen, chairman of the Council, the chair was taken by Mr. S. H. le Fleming, one of the vice-presidents of the Society. A statement was presented showing the following balances in the various funds of the Society: Capital Account, £6. 5s. in the bank and £250 invested; General Fund, £194; Research Fund No. 1 Account, £59. 15s. 2d.; Research Fund—Five years' special Roman Wall Account, £79. 3s. 9d.; Record Publications Fund, £51. 8s. 4d.

The officials of the Society were re-elected *en bloc*, with Sir Samuel H. Scott and Sir Matthew G. Fell added to the list of vice-presidents and Mr. R. Morton Rigg and Dr. J. E. Spence to that of members of the Council.

On the motion of the Chairman, it was resolved that messages of sympathy, expressing the regret of the meeting at their

inability to be present, be sent to the president (Mr. W. G. Collingwood), Mr. J. F. Curwen (Chairman of the Council) and Mr. R. G. Collingwood.

The following new members were duly proposed and elected:—
The Rev. G. H. J. Baily and Mrs. G. H. J. Baily, Patterdale; Mr. R. N. Birley, Windermere; Mrs. Campbell, Carlisle; Mr. R. J. Dawson, Appleby; Mr. J. Duckworth, Carlisle; Miss Haswell, Penrith; Mr. and Mrs. Glasson, Yanwath; the Rt. Hon. J. W. Hills, Carlisle; Miss Hodgson, Barrow; Mr. R. H. Hodgson, Cockermouth; Mr. C. A. Hughes, Liverpool; Miss Lamonby, Penrith; Miss A. Moss, Penrith, Mrs. R. F. Smyth, Greystoke; Mr. R. M. Towers, Cheltenham; Mr. E. P. Young, Penrith.

The meeting sanctioned the sending out with the announcement of the Spring meeting a circular with reference to the proposed printing of the Howard MS., to ascertain if a sufficient number of subscribers would be forthcoming to justify the expense.

Mr. E. B. Birley gave a short report upon the work being carried on at Chesterholm and Colonel O. North reported on the work at Watercrock (see Art. XVI).

Extracts were read from the following papers by Mr. T. H. B. Graham, M.A., F.S.A.:—"Great Orton" (Art. V), "Landed Gentry" (Art. VI) and Allerdale (Art. VII).

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11TH, 1931.

Leaving the George Hotel, Penrith, at 9-30 a.m., in bright and sunny weather, we quickly accomplished the first stage of our journey to Brougham Castle, which we visited by the kind permission of H.M. Office of Works. Sir Charles R. Peers, who was to have described the castle, was unfortunately unable to be present, but Mr. R. Morton Rigg, L.R.I.B.A., kindly stepped into the breach and gave an interesting account of the castle, in the light of recent discoveries, made since 1921, when the Society last visited the spot (see Mr. J. F. Curwen in *Transactions*, N.S. vol. xxii, Art. XV).

After paying a well-deserved compliment to Sir Charles Peers and also to Mr. Leeming, who is in charge of the work of renovation undertaken by H.M. Office of Works, Mr. Rigg proceeded to describe some of the principal discoveries made during the course of the Board's operations. Several interesting finds, he told us, had been made, particularly in the buildings to the east of the keep, which in 1921, at the time of the Society's last visit, were built up or covered with rubbish. Two wells 30 feet in depth, filled up with rubble, had now been excavated and the foundations

of the walls of the bake-house and of the inner walls of the banqueting hall exposed. Two silver spoons and a pewter plate, engraved with the crest of Anne Clifford, had been found in the moat. These had been sent to London. Pottery, both Roman and of later date had been found also in the moat with some Roman inscribed stones which would presently be shown and explained by Mr. Birley.

Mr. Rigg then described the new discoveries with regard to the keep itself. In his paper, referred to above, Mr. Curwen had stated that the ground floor or basement of the keep could be entered only by a newel stairway leading down from the first floor. It was now, however, possible after the whole of the walls which in 1921 were covered with rubbish had been exposed, to see that an entrance existed on the ground floor and another at the south-east corner, leading through a small chamber—perhaps a guard-room, the door jambs of which were now visible. There was a vaulted roof of stone over the basement, springing from the angles and centres of the side walls and supported by a pillar in the centre. The corner pilaster and cap could now be seen, and owing to the latter's nearness to the ground, it was thought that the floor of the basement was much lower than the present ground level and further excavations were contemplated. After describing the various rooms of the keep, the speaker referred to recent discoveries with regard to other buildings. The foundations of a building projecting eastwards from the keep were now exposed to view, but what that building had been it was difficult to state. Very extensive apartments had stood there, for the dimensions of the space between the foundations were 54 feet long by 22 feet 6 inches wide. The large beam holes in the walls of the keep indicated that a floor or roof had stood over this building, which was of an earlier date than the outer gate-house, for its narrow slit window was built up by the latter's wall. The entrance would be through a door in the side wall. There might have been an earlier gate-house at the end of the banqueting hall, for he had found in the outside wall three narrow slit windows which were typical of a gatehouse construction, the entrance would therefore be immediately opposite the main door and flight of stairs to the keep.

After pointing out the remains of the chapel, kitchens and courtyard, Mr. Rigg referred to the discovery of a doorway in the curtain wall on the south, immediately opposite one of the wall crossings of the moat. Its face had been walled up, but it was proposed to open it up during the progress of the work. The two

wells, to the discovery of which he had previously referred, were 5 feet 8 inches and 3 feet 6 inches respectively in diameter, and were exceedingly well-built and in good preservation. The large one was near the south-west tower, and the other in the small yard between the east wall of the chapel and the kitchen wall. Mr. R. E. Porter voiced the warm appreciation of the party and their thanks to Mr. Morton Rigg for his interesting paper, prepared at such comparatively short notice.

BROUGHAM ROMAN FORT.

A paper of considerable importance upon the discovery at the Roman fort at Brougham was read by Mr. E. B. Birley, M.A., F.S.A.. This paper is printed in the present volume (Art. XVII).

SHAP ABBEY.

Leaving Brougham Castle we set out for Shap Abbey, and though somewhat delayed by the congestion caused by our fleet of accompanying cars in the narrow lane which leads to that secluded ruin, reached our destination not much behind our scheduled time. Here, Mr. W. T. McIntire, who was the speaker, gave an account of the foundation of this house of Premonstratensian canons at the end of the 12th century, by Thomas, son of Gospatric, ancestor of the Curwen family. He related the few facts which are known of its history, and briefly described its chief architectural features, basing his remarks upon the article by the late Canon G. F. Weston and the late St. John Hope in *Transactions*, vol. x, pp. 286ff. A vote of thanks was accorded to the tenant, Mr. W. H. Scott, for his kind permission to visit the Abbey. The hope was expressed that this interesting old building might be preserved from further decay.

CROSBY RAVENSWORTH CHURCH.

Crosby Ravensworth Church, which was next visited, was to have been described by Mr. J. F. Curwen. Unfortunately, owing to illness, he was unable to take part in the expedition, and his place was taken by Mr. W. T. McIntire, who gave an account of this beautiful and interesting church, based upon an article by the Rev. C. J. Gordon in *Transactions*, n.s., vol. viii, pp. 206-233. After an interval for lunch the party proceeded to

MAULDS MEABURN HALL,

where Mr. R. Morton Rigg described this old house of the Vernons and Lowthers (Art. XIV).

After the thanks of the party had been duly offered to Mrs.

Park for kindly allowing us to examine and enter the hall we continued our route through the picturesque Lyvennet valley to

NEWBY HALL.

Here Mr. R. Morton Rigg was again the speaker and described this old hall of the Nevinsons with its many interesting Jacobean features (see Mr. Rigg's previous article in *Transactions*, n.s., vol. xii, pp. 121-125). Thanks were accorded to Mr. R. Ewin for his kind permission to visit the hall.

MORLAND CHURCH.

The excursion concluded with a visit to Morland Church, which was described to us by the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Hartley.

The church of St. Laurence, he told us, showed vestiges of pre-Norman architecture. Its unbuttressed western tower has pre-Norman mid-wall shaft bell-chamber windows. The parapet has a Norman corbel-table, and is surmounted by a low octagonal lead-covered spire. The masonry of the lower part of the tower, on the north side, is very rude and wide-jointed and is apparently of a date still older than the belfry windows. There are some curious holes in some of the stones at the base of the tower, the purpose of which has never been explained. The church is cruciform, and the choir and transepts were apparently designed towards the middle of the 13th century, the transepts showing some good Early English work. The lancet windows of the south transept have dog-tooth mouldings. A chancel chapel still exists to the east of the north transept, and a walled-up arch points to the former presence of a similar chapel to the south transept. The chancel has been altered after a debased Tudor style. There is a remarkable small west doorway of pre-Norman type opening from the nave into the tower. The south arcade of the nave has four circular piers evidently of the end of the 13th or the beginning of the 14th centuries, while the north arcade with two circular and one octagonal pier has a western respond of late Norman type. The Vicar also pointed out the palimpsest brass of John Blythe (see description by the late Canon Bower in *Transactions*,) o.s., vol iii, p. 149), the mural paintings (*ibid.*, n.s., vol. xv, p. 19 and the beautiful foliated sepulchral slab of the mid-thirteenth century (*ibid.*, n.s. vol. ix, p. 2).

Mr. S. H. le Fleming thanked Canon Hartley on behalf of the party, who then returned to Penrith in time to catch the evening trains north and south.