

R E P O R T  
OF  
**The Society of Antiquaries**  
OF  
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

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M.DCCC.LXXXVII.

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THE chief event in the history of our Society during the year just ended has been the expedition (usually termed the "pilgrimage") to the Roman Wall. The last days of June and the first days of July had been fixed long previously for this excursion, which pilgrims from all parts of England, from Holland, and from Germany, had announced their intention of joining. Almost at the last moment we learned that the Ministers of the Crown, with that neglect for the interests of Archaeology which too often mark the proceedings of Statesmen, had fixed upon this very week for the central portion of a general Parliamentary election—one of the most important and exciting that has taken place in modern times. However, it was decided that on this occasion Archaeology should not give way to politics. The pilgrimage was made, according to arrangement, by about sixty of our members and their friends, and was highly successful, notwithstanding the enforced absence of some who would otherwise have taken part in it. The fact that our venerable Vice-President, Dr. Bruce, the originator of the pilgrimage of 1849, should have been able to undertake and most efficiently to discharge the duties of guide to the pilgrims of 1886 is one which speaks favourably for the influence of archaeological pursuits on the preservation of the bodily and mental faculties, and at the same time calls for grateful acknowledgment from Dr. Bruce's many friends to the Author of all good for having so long preserved a life which is

dear to them. Owing to the success of the pilgrimage, the idea has been thrown out by some of our members that a prolonged excursion to some place or district of importance might be undertaken every year.

Other societies besides our own have this year turned their attention to Hadrian's great Bulwark. In the month of August, at the close of the annual Congress of the British Archæological Association, which was held at Darlington, a large and important body of its members repaired to Chesters and Housesteads, and were much gratified with the splendid remains of the Wall in the vicinity of these Roman Stations. The members of the Geologists' Association also visited Housesteads and the Wall in the same month.

There have been six country meetings during the year, which have contributed largely to promote friendly fellowship among the members of the Society, and to advance their knowledge of the archæology of the North of England.

The first excursion took place on the 28th of May. The places visited were Hollinside and Whickham. The ancient manor house at Hollinside and the church at Whickham were the chief points of attraction. The weather on this occasion was unfavourable.

The second excursion was the Roman Wall pilgrimage, which has been described at length in the *Proceedings*. The tea at Naworth Castle, so kindly supplied by our member, Mr. George Howard, was most welcome to the thirsty pilgrims.

The third excursion took place on the 6th August. The members of our Society, in conjunction with the members of the Durham and Northumberland Architectural and Archæological Society, met at Coldingham. The weather was fine, the scenery grand, and the whole excursion most enjoyable.

Rothbury was the central meeting place for the Society on its fourth excursion, which was held on the 3rd September. There was a large gathering. Whitton Tower, the residence of the Rector of Rothbury, was first examined, and then the Church. The members afterwards proceeded to Thropton, Cartington Castle, and Cragside where they were cordially welcomed by Sir William and Lady Armstrong. An examination of Brinkburn Priory finished the labours of the day.

The fifth excursion took place on September 30th, when the Castle of Raby and the Church at Staindrop were examined.

The last excursion was held on 14th October. Assembling at Darlington, the members proceeded to Haughton-le-Skerne; here they were hospitably entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Orde of Haughton Hall. They afterwards visited Heighington Church, Walworth Castle, being kindly received there by Mrs. Cassel, Thornton Hall, and Croft.

The thanks of the Society are heartily offered to Sir William and Lady Armstrong, Mr. George Howard, Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Orde, and Mr. and Mrs. Cassel, for the hospitality extended to us on these occasions.

The papers read at the Monthly Meetings of our Society have been numerous and important, and have ranged over a great variety of subjects, extending from the period of the Pharaohs down to the close of the Middle Ages.

We regret that we have to record the loss by death of our lamented Vice-President, Sir Charles E. Trevelyan,<sup>1</sup> and of two of our oldest members, Mr. Martin Dunn (a member of the Council of the Society) and Mr. Thomas Arkle. By resignation and removal we have lost 13 members, and have elected 28 ordinary and 4 honorary members. Our membership now stands at 272.

We venture to remind our members that if they have any objects of local antiquarian interest which they are willing to give to the Society, or even lend until the close of the Jubilee Exhibition, there is now abundance of room in the Black Gate Museum for their reception and adequate display.

<sup>1</sup> For obituary notice by Dr. Bruce, see p. 150-4.

**Dr.**                      **WILLIAM DODD, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT**

1887.		£	s.	d.			
January,	To Balance in hand	...	...	...	351	3	1
	„ Subscriptions	...	...	...	243	12	0
	„ Collections at Castle	...	...	...	86	16	0
	„ Do.            Black Gate	...	...	...	25	16	0
	„ Books sold	...	...	...	28	19	8
	„ Interest	...	...	...	13	10	0
	„ Cash of R. O. Heslop	...	...	...	0	13	6

*Examined with the Books and found correct,*

JOHN PHILIPSON.  
SHERITON HOLMES.

*January 26th, 1887.*

£750 10 3

WITH THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

Cr.

1887.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
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	T. Waters, Binding	3	4	0					
,, BLACK GATE—									
	Attendant	23	4	0	25	1	9		
	Rent	1	0	0					
	Land Tax	1	9	0					
	Insurance	3	0	0					
	J. Ventress, fixing Bayeux Tapestry, &c.	11	7	3					
	H. Watson	6	4	4					
	Coals	0	13	0					
	Water	1	10	0					
	Gas	1	18	1					
	J. Gibson, 1 year				50	5	8		
	G. H. Moor				65	0	0		
	H. Watson				3	1	8		
	Hardy, for Frames				0	16	6		
	Income Tax				3	11	6		
	Rent of Castle				0	16	8		
	Insurance				0	2	6		
	Coals and Firewood				0	7	6		
	Gas				3	10	6		
	J. Rutherford, Reporter				0	5	3		
	C. George do.				4	10	0		
	Subscription to Harleian Society				2	2	0		
	Do. Surtees Society				1	1	0		
	Snowball, for Cloth				1	1	0		
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	Advertising				2	0	0		
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