

REPORT  
OF  
**The Society of Antiquaries**  
OF  
NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.  

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ANNUAL MEETING, MDCCCCH.

Our Society commemorates its eighty-ninth anniversary to-day; and, as it enters its ninetieth year, your Council congratulate the members on the unabated interest shown in its varied pursuits whilst they look forward to a career of extended usefulness, which shall not only sustain the achievements of the past but shall add yet more to the reputation happily enjoyed by the Society.

Of the 354 members standing enrolled at our last anniversary there have passed away two prominent men, whose loss to the Society is to be deplored. Of these Professor Emil Hübner, LL.D., was elected an honorary member in 1883, and his great experience and erudition in Roman epigraphy constituted him a unique authority. In the pages of our publications it will be seen how often his opinion has been appealed to in cases of doubtful reading, how cheerfully he has responded to our call upon his services, and with what lucidity the knowledge gained in the editorship of the British and Spanish volumes of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* has enabled him to solve the problems set before him. More familiar to us is the personality of Major General Sir William Crossman, K.C.M.G., F.S.A., who throughout the past fourteen years closely associated himself with our society, of which during the past five years he was one of the vice-presidents. His professional knowledge as a military engineer was sought in endeavouring to solve the perplexing problems of the Roman lines of defence in our district. In these he became keenly and actively interested. The historic ruins on Holy Island

occupied his attention as soon as he settled there. It was at his instigation that the Commissioners of Woods and Forests. were induced to take active measures for their preservation; whilst the excavation and survey of the monastic remains in the island were carried out by his own direction. As a member of the County History Committee he was assiduous in furthering the progress of that undertaking, a task in which his special knowledge enabled him to aid most effectively.

Nine monthly meetings have been held in the Castle during the year 1901, at which papers were read and objects of interest exhibited. Four country meetings were also held, and a summer of almost unexampled fineness added its attraction to the excursions. In June our colleague, Mr. D. D. Dixon, conducted a large gathering from Rothbury to Hepple, Whitefield and Holystone, pointing out camps and strongholds by the way. In July Ogle and Capheaton were visited; after which, in a long circuit, the members proceeded successively to Kirkharle, Little Harle, East Shaffoe, Harnham and Whalton. A third excursion was made in September when the day's programme included Mainsforth, Bishop Middleham, Sedgefield, Grindon, Redmarshall, Bishopton and Great Stainton. A fourth and last excursion on the afternoon of October 5th to Stanington and Blagdon was made under less propitious conditions of weather. Your council record their obligation for hospitality received on these occasions.

The new series of the *Archaeologia Aeliana* has now reached its twenty-third volume. The contributors include F. W. Dendy, V.P., F. Haverfield, F.S.A., Horatio A. Adamson, V.P., Sir Henry A. Ogle, bart., Richard Welford, V.P., the Rev. D. S. Boutflower, and the Rev. J. F. Hodgson, who respectively furnished:—An Obituary of our late Vice-President Dr. Embleton; Notes on the Excavation at Chiesters in 1900; An Outline of the History of Tynemouth Priory; A Note on the Ogle Family; On Local Muniments; The Boutflowers of Apperley; and A Treatise on Low Side Windows; etc. The new volume is freely illustrated. One hundred and twenty-eight pages of the tenth volume of the *Proceedings* have also been issued, as well as the index to the ninth volume, which covers fifty-three pages. Adding to these the volume of the *Archaeologia* above referred to, we have a total of five

hundred and twenty-six printed pages issued to the members for the year, as well as the large number of accompanying plates and illustrations in the text. In this connexion your council express their recognition of the manner in which the laborious duties of editorship have been continuously discharged by Mr. Blair. The task, involving unremitting attention, has never been allowed to flag, and it is but due to his assiduity that opportunity should be taken of expressing the society's appreciation.

A new edition of the Guide to the Castle and Black Gate Museum has been prepared for the press by our vice-president, Mr. C. J. Bates, and issued for sale to visitors. As might have been anticipated, the work has been rewritten with all the care and skill of one so well qualified for the task, and the Society is under obligation to Mr. Bates for his valuable services.

Anticipation was expressed in our last report of the visit of the British Archæological Association under the presidency of Dr. Hodgkin, one of our vice-presidents. This event took place in July, when meetings and excursions were conducted from the 18th to the 24th of that month, a period memorable for the fervent heat of the weather. With a programme embracing the chief places and objects of archæological interest in the district the visitors found abundant occupation.

Our society has specially identified itself with efforts made for the preservation of the ancient music of the English Border. As early as the year 1855 the topic had been dealt with in a resolution, and thenceforth until the issue of the collection of Northumberland pipe music, published by our society in 1882, its importance has been dwelt on in our proceedings and in our reports. The Northumberland Small Pipes Society was formed to carry on the work thus initiated, and the council recommend members to co-operate in this praiseworthy endeavour to perpetuate the traditions and music of our ancestors.

The approaching completion of a sixth volume by the Northumberland County History Committee indicates the steady progress of their work, and our colleague, Mr. J. Crawford Hodgson, is to be congratulated upon the success which has attended his unremitting and onerous task as honorary editor. When it is understood that some three thousand pages are included in the six volumes, and that

these cover but a section of the area to be dealt with, and that the whole of the material is drawn from original sources, the magnitude of of the task undertaken by the committee may be to some extent realized.

Nor is this the sole undertaking which absorbs much of the energy of the members of our society, for our colleague Mr. F. W. Dendy has followed his volumes on the Merchant Adventurers of Newcastle by a kindred work dealing with the Hostmen's Company, whilst our colleague Mr. Richard Welford is about to enter upon a work dealing with the Royalist Composition Papers. Although these volumes will form part of the series of Surtees Society publications, they are none the less to be reckoned as emanations from our own society, and to their respective authors our members will most cordially extend their congratulations.

The historical value of the hitherto inedited local and national muniments has been exemplified by the contributions of Mr. Welford, Mr. Dendy, the Rev. C. E. Adamson, the Rev. Canon Bailly, and of other members, to our last year's transactions. Accumulations of these 'Materials for History' are of invaluable service and are much to be desired. The work of indexing our National Public Records renders accessible in its progress a continually increasing amount of unwrought material relating to our locality, which ought to be dealt with in the course of our operations as early as practicable. Your council suggest that papers containing collated extracts for Northumberland and Durham from the appendices to the Reports of the Deputy Keeper of the Public Records, from the Reports of the Historical MSS. Commission, and from the Calendars of State Papers would form useful work for individual members to undertake and for the society to publish. Material such as this is necessary in order to give completeness to the volumes of the New County History yet to be published.

The official custody of valuable documents has occupied the attention of the Northumberland County Council during the past year, and your council have been associated with the committee appointed by them to deal with the question. It is hoped that the recommendations of that committee may lead to the establishment of a public muniment room for the storage and safe keeping of deeds and charters on conditions making them accessible to students.

The gift by which the Brumell Charters have been placed in our custody, whilst it indicates the confidence reposed in our members, is, we trust, an earnest of other similar collections yet to follow.

In another direction the custody and preservation of antiquities is to be noted with satisfaction. The discovery of a large number of Anglian sculptured stones has been made during the repairs to the ruined church at Sockburn, in addition to those which had previously been brought to light in the same place. Sir Edward Blackett has most thoughtfully placed this valuable collection within the private chapel of the Conyers family, which he has restored under the direction of Mr. W. H. Knowles, F.S.A. Their permanent preservation is thereby assured. (For view of church in 1826, see p. xxx.)

The scope afforded for the individual service of members and for helpful association in every branch of archæological investigation constantly extends, and it is in the light of the possibilities which lie before us that your council regard the position and anticipate the future of the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries.

The following is the

TREASURER'S REPORT, WITH BALANCE SHEET, FOR THE YEAR  
ENDING DECEMBER 31ST, 1901.

The number of members now on the roll is 343, viz :—338 ordinary and 5 life members. During the year 13 members have resigned, 15 have died, and 5 have been struck off, in all 33, while 22 new members have been elected.

The total revenue for the year has been £544 0s. 3d., and the expenditure £466 17s. 3d., leaving a balance in favour of £77 3s. 1d. While congratulating members upon having such a large sum in hand, it is only right to point out that had the account for printing part 57 of the *Archæologia Aeliana*, now ready for issue to members, been paid, as it would have been in the ordinary course of things, the amount would have been reduced by about £40.

It will be noticed that there is a slight difference between the amount of the balance brought forward from last year, as given in the present balance sheet, and that shown in last year's statement. It is owing to the fact that a cheque for 10s. 6d. was not deducted from the bank balance, as it ought to have been, when the accounts for the year 1900 were made up.

The expenditure on the Castle has been £29 11s. 9d. less than last year, while that on the Black Gate also shows a decrease of £5 17s. 3d.

It is satisfactory to note that there has been an increase of £4 5s. 3d. in the receipts at the Castle.

A detailed statement of expenditure is appended to the balance sheet.

R. S. NISBET, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH THE SOCIETY OF  
ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR ENDING  
31ST DECEMBER, 1901.

					Receipts.	Expenditure.
					£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Balance 1st January, 1901	...	...	...	...	37 2 11	
Members' Subscriptions	...	...	...	...	349 13 0	
Books sold at Castle	...	...	...	...	12 5 9	
Books bought	...	...	...	...		40 1 8
Castle	...	...	...	...	119 17 3	75 12 3
Black Gate	...	...	...	...	25 1 4	36 1 9
PRINTING :—						
<i>Archæologia Acliana</i>	...	...	...	...		72 17 0
<i>Proceedings</i>	...	...	...	...		56 18 0
Illustrations	...	...	...	...		53 8 7
Museum	...	...	...	...		4 19 8
Sundries	...	...	...	...		86 18 3
Secretary, for Clerical Assistance	...	...	...	...		40 0 0
Balance in Bank	...	...	...	£74 11 9		
Do. Treasurer's hands	...	...	...	2 11 4		
					£544 0 3	£544 0 3
Investments.						£ s. d.
2½ per cent. Consols as at 31st December, 1901	...	...	...	...		42 18 5
In Post Office Savings Bank on 31st December, 1900	...	...	...	£37 18 8		
Add interest this year	...	...	...	2 2 5		40 1 1
						£82 19 6

Examined with Vouchers and found correct,

JOHN M. WINTER & SONS,

Chartered Accountants.

29th January, 1902.

## Details of Expenditure.

CASTLE—	£	s.	d.	BLACK GATE—	£	s.	d.
Salaries ... ..	65	0	0	Salaries ... ..	20	16	0
Insurance ... ..	0	7	6	Insurance ... ..	2	15	0
Rent ... ..	0	2	6	Rent ... ..	1	0	0
Income Tax ... ..	2	5	9	Income Tax ... ..	1	17	6
Water Rate ... ..	0	6	0	Water Rate ... ..	1	0	0
Gas ... ..	0	7	0	Gas ... ..	2	13	1
Sundries: firewood, var- nish, brushes, &c. ...	1	1	5	Repairs & Whitewashing	6	0	2
Repairs ... ..	4	18	1				
Coal ... ..	0	19	0				
Removing Stone Coffin ...	0	5	0				
	£75	12	3		£36	1	9

## BOOKS BOUGHT, ETC.—

Subscriptions to Societies—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Parish Register Society for 1901 and 1902 ...	2	2	0			
Harleian Society ... ..	1	1	0			
Surtees Society ... ..	1	1	0			
Durham and Northumberland Parish Register Society (1900-01) ... ..	1	1	0			
				5	5	0
<i>Antiquary and Notes and Queries</i> ... ..				0	18	6
<i>Oxford Dictionary</i> (2 parts) ... ..				1	5	2
Calendar of State Papers— <i>France</i> , vol. 1 ... ..				0	15	0
"    " <i>Domestic</i> , 1691-2 ... ..				0	15	0
"    " <i>Edward IV.</i> ... ..				0	15	0
Essex Archaeological Society's <i>General Index</i> ... ..				0	7	6
<i>Reliquary and Illustrated Archaeologist</i> ... ..				0	10	0
<i>Feudal Aids</i> ... ..				0	15	0
<i>Stones of Islay</i> ... ..				1	11	6
Round's <i>Family History</i> ... ..				0	12	6
Creeny's <i>Monumental Brasses and Incised Slabs</i> ... ..				2	14	0
St. John Hope's <i>Windsor Stall Plates</i> , parts 1 to 6 ... ..				3	17	0
<i>English Dialect Dictionary</i> , 2 years' subscription ... ..				2	2	0
Asher & Co. for Transactions of Imperial German Archaeo- logical Institute ... ..				3	14	6
Gotch's <i>Architecture</i> ... ..				1	1	0
Scott's <i>Church Architecture</i> ... ..				0	12	6
Rev. E. A. Downman, for drawings of Plans of Earthworks ...				0	16	3
<i>Year Book of Learned Societies</i> ... ..				0	7	6
Otto Petters for <i>Obergermanisch-Raetische Limes</i> ... ..				0	14	6
J. C. Wilson for bookbinding ... ..				2	18	0
F. Sanderson, for binding 14 vols. of the 'Brooks Collection'				7	14	0
				£40	1	8

SUNDRIES—				£	s.	d.
Geo. Nicholson, for general printing	...	...	...	27	6	0
A. Reid & Co., Ltd., for sundries	...	...	...	20	8	4
Postage, carriage of parcels, and cab hire	...	...	...	7	16	5
W. W. Woodman, payment for <i>Aesica</i> camp	...	...	...	1	1	0
R. Simpson, printing	...	...	...	1	14	6
Northumberland Excavation Fund	...	...	...	6	0	0
Fire insurance premium on the 'Brooks Collection'	...	...	...	1	16	6
Cheque book	...	...	...	0	5	0
Refunding 2 years' subscription overpaid	...	...	...	2	2	0
Subscription to National Trust Society	...	...	...	1	1	0
Secretary's out of pocket expenses	...	...	...	12	9	6
Treasurer's do. do.	...	...	...	1	15	0
Index to <i>Archaeologia Aeliana</i> , vol. xxiii.	...	...	...	3	3	0
				<u>£86 18 3</u>		

The following is the

#### CURATORS' REPORT.

The Museum has received acquisitions during the year 1901 from sixteen donors, a number contrasting satisfactorily with the accessions received in the previous year.

Details of the presentations are appended and the list may be thus summarised. Stone implements are represented by two objects from Denmark, and bronze by a dagger from the river Blyth. There are some small objects in pottery of Greek and Roman fabrication and a specimen of a Roman bonding tile. Two casts of the Darlington sundials are referable to Anglian times and a stone corbel is attributed to the fourteenth century, whilst some altar cloth embroidery belongs to late sixteenth or early seventeenth century workmanship. The carved stone shield from a fireplace lintel bears the date 1596, and a curiously wrought locker or 'treasure chest' may belong to the same or to a later century. A small collection of encaustic tiles exhibits design of a Moresque character, dated 1609. The most ponderous item is of uncertain date and origin: it is a stone coffin having its outside rough hewn as it left the quarry, and, although unfinished and apparently unused for interment, it has been utilised as a water trough up to a recent period. A double-ended cheese press, with levers and weights complete, is a relic of a bygone northern industry. Four old English ale bottles are the last of the contents of



an ancient cellar. The alms-box of the imprisoned debtors, with its appeal to the charity of the passer-by, and the tablet from Lambert's Leap may be classed with subjects which have become old and serve to connect the past with the present. The name of Grace Darling is connected with a collection of her personal relics. Lastly we have a product of our own times: it is a painted glass panel with an early portrait of Queen Victoria.

#### DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM.

1901.

Jan. 30. From Mr. SOPWITH :—The Debtors' Alms-box from Newgate Prison, Newcastle. It is of strong rough construction, measuring  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, 7 inches wide, and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, with a slot for coins in the lid, on which is painted the appeal, 'Please remember the poor debtors' (*Proceedings*, vol. x. p. 2).

" " From the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Co., per their Chairman, Mr. L. W. ADAMSON, LL.D. :—

(i.) A stone corbel 10 inches deep, 8 inches wide, having a projection of 7 inches from the wall, carved with a crowned head, and probably of early fourteenth century date. It was found in an excavation in front of the Royal Arcade, Pilgrim Street (*Proceedings*, x. p. 3, plate 1, fig. 1). See p. xxi.

(ii.) An oak spade 32 inches long, with a blade measuring 8 inches long by  $6\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, blade and shaft being formed of a single piece of wood. Found in Neville Street. This and the foregoing were discovered in making excavations for new water mains (*ibid*).

From Miss HOYLE, 29, Leazes Terrace, Newcastle :—An iron-bound box. The lid is plated with decorated iron straps, between which is laid sheet-iron, cut out in scroll-work patterns. The ends and sides are covered with plain interlaced flat bands. There is a heavy wrought iron handle on the front which is hinged upon an ornamented plate carrying eye loops, and the lid is secured by a drop staple covering the keyhole. The lid is hinged at about three quarters of its depth and again hinged at the back edge of the box, so that when the first part of the lid is lifted an outer compartment is disclosed; a second and back division of the box is only reached by lifting both pairs of hinges, as the box tapers rapidly from front to back either to fit a window splay or, as has been suggested, the tapering quarter of a ship (*Proceedings*, vol. x. p. 5, plate 1a).

- From Mrs. J. H. LITTLE, 28, Leazes Park Road, Newcastle :—Four old ale bottles, of eighteenth century date, found on the west side of Gallowgate, in the rear of houses near Corporation Road. One bottle measures 9 inches high by 4 inches at the base; the rest  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches high by 5 inches diameter at bases. One of the bottles still contains some of the ale with which all were filled at the time of their discovery (*Proc.*, x. p. 3, and Plate 1, fig. 2).
- From Mr. STEPHEN COULSON, Leschow, Carlton in Cleveland :—A cheese press, long used in farm practice, with tubs, levers, chains, weights of stone, etc., complete (*Proc.*, x. p. 3.)
- Mar. 27. From the Mayor and Corporation of Newcastle, per Mr. W. G. LAWS, City Engineer :—Stone from the parapet wall of the Old Sandycroft Bridge, inscribed 'Lambert's Leap, 1759.' The circumstance commemorated is thus recorded by Brand : 'Sept. 29th, 1759, mention occurs of Mr. Cuthbert Lambert, son of a physician of Newcastle, who had a most narrow and providential escape in surviving a fall of thirty-six feet perpendicular, his mare having taken fright with him and leapt over the eastern battlement of the bridge at Sandycroft-Stone : "Lambert's Leap" is cut upon the coping stone of the battlement.' *Newcastle Courant*, quoted by Brand, *History of Newcastle*, vol. ii. p. 538n (*Proceedings*, x. p. 32).
- From Mr. ALEXANDER PRINGLE, Cramer Dykes :—A carved fragment taken from the centre of a fireplace lintel. The original stone measured about 10 feet long by 25 inches broad. The middle portion now presented bears a shield terminating in a floriated base. In the centre is sculptured a goat's head between the letters R and S. Above it is the date 1596 and in the base is the head of a halberd. The lintel was found in removing an old house at the north angle of the street at the junction of High Bridge and the Bigg Market (*Proc.*, x. pp. 12 and 32)
- From the Directors of the North Eastern Railway Co., per Mr. GEORGE IRVING :—A glass panel from the inner door of house No. 11 Pleasant Row, Shieldfield, Newcastle. The panel is of stained glass, dated 1860. An oval centre contains a portrait of Queen Victoria. The door was removed during the demolition of the street by the Railway Co. The house from which it was taken was occupied by William Armstrong, father of the late Lord Armstrong, who was born here (*Proc.* x. p. 32).
- April 24. From the late Dr. TROTTER of Blyth :—An ancient British bronze dagger  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, with rivet holes at the handled end, where its greatest width is 2 inches. It was dredged from the bed of the river Blyth (*Proc.* x. pp. 36, 37).

June 5. From Mrs. R. SWARLEY THORPE :—

(i.) Spanish glazed tiles from a ruined monastery at Augustinia, Seville. The designs are of a Moresque character, and one tile bears the date 1609.

(ii.) Greek and Roman pottery collected by the late Mr. Swarley Thorpe, viz. : two lamps, two small vases with black pattern on reddish ground, a dish with handle, a vase with handle and smaller handles on either side ; tesserae and fragments.

From Mrs. MANDEL CREIGHTON, widow of the late Bishop of London :—Portion of an altar table cover in tapestry embroidered, from Embleton Church, Northumberland. The portion in its present condition has been made up by sewing together strips of the embroidery which formed a border to the centre, and it now measures 5 feet 6 inches long by 25 inches wide. Conjecturally it is late sixteenth or early seventeenth century work (*Proc.*, x. pp. 42, 43).

July 31. From Mr. R. COLTMAN CLEPHAN, F.S.A. :—Leaf-shaped and chisel-faced flint implements from Denmark (*Proc.*, x. p. 74).

Sept. 25. From Dr. FREDERIC PAGE :—A Roman bonding tile, measuring  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches ; from bonding course in the flint walls of the Camp at Caistor (*Proc.*, x. p. 118).

From Messrs. J. and W. LOWRY :—A massive stone coffin, found on the site of the Close Gate Glass Works, in excavating the foundations for the new Electric Power House. The coffin, which had been left unfinished, had been utilized for a cooling trough by glassmakers in later times (*Proc.*, x. pp. 118 and 119).

Oct. 30. From the Rev. J. LANE HOPKIN and Mr. DANIEL HOPKIN, Executors of the late Mr. D. Hopkin Atkinson :—Waterproof cloak and silk scarf worn by Grace Darling ; some of her hair ; portraits of her father and of her mother ; a book containing some of her letters ; letters containing references to her ; her father's log kept at the Longstone lighthouse ; photograph of tomb in Bamburgh Churchyard (*Proc.*, vol. x. p. 134).

Nov. 27. From J. P. PRITCHETT, Darlington :—Casts of the upper and under surfaces of a stone which had been built in as a sill in the aumbry in the north transept of Darlington church. On each face the lines of sundials are traced, in which the gnomon is placed vertically in the centre of concentric circles with radial lines dividing them into eight parts (*Proc.*, x. p. 144 ; see reproduction from a photograph, by Mr. P. Brewis, on p. 68).