

The Society of Antiquaries

OF

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

REPORT OF COUNCIL FOR 1921.

The Council is pleased to announce that the Society has regained, and more than regained, the high-water mark of membership that it had reached in the fateful year 1914.

During 1921 forty-three members were elected. Among them are several who had been members in past years and the Council heartily welcomes their return, regarding it indicative of restored interest in antiquarian studies and renewed appreciation of the Society's efforts to promote them.

We regret to record the loss by death of five members:—George Adie (elected 1885), Rosalind, countess of Carlisle (1911), Thomas Edward Hodgkin (1895), James Thomson Nisbet (1903), and Sir Henry Asgill Ogle, bart. (1897). The last-named gave us the banner of Bertram of Bothal which hangs, with others, in the great hall of the keep. He wrote a paper on his family name for *Archaeologia Aeliana*, 2 ser., vol. xxiii, and about the same time sent occasional notes for the *Proceedings*.

After deducting losses by resignation the total number on the roll at the end of 1921 is 394 being the highest membership yet attained by the Society. Among the resignations was that of Mr. William Morley Egglestone who died soon afterwards in his 84th year. He was a Weardale man and took a keen interest in that locality. Several contributions from him are printed in *Proceedings*, 3 ser., IV to VIII inclusive.

It is a pleasure to report a donation of one hundred guineas from the Consett Iron Company, Ltd., in acknowledgment of information obtained from some of the contents of our library and assistance rendered by our librarian. This donation has enabled the Council to put in hand the work of preparing a comprehensive index of the Society's transactions in continuation of that published a quarter of a century ago. This index will simplify reference to the mass of information contained in *Archaeologia Aeliana* and the *Proceedings* which, up to the end of 1920, together numbered sixty-six volumes, every volume with a separate index.

Another donation, of five guineas, was presented by the British Medical Association which held its annual meeting in Newcastle during 1921, and took this way of showing its thanks for help rendered to it by our Society and particularly by our members Messrs. Parker Brewis and F. G. Simpson.

Mr. Ralph Sheriton Holmes, who died in January, 1921 (a member of the Society from 1891 until 1911), bequeathed to us the books relating to antiquity which had belonged to his father the late Mr. Sheriton Holmes, who was a member for twenty-three years (1877-1900), our treasurer (1890-1899), and a vice-president (1899-1900). The books number about one hundred and have been grouped together in our library according to the testator's expressed wish. A book-plate has been inserted in each volume naming its former owners and the bequest.

Mr. Thomas Reed has again increased our obligations to him, by presenting us with the books of the Newcastle Skinners' and Glovers' Companies which had come into the market for sale and might therefore have been lost to the public had he not come to the rescue. Mr. Hamilton Thompson has examined the books and prepared a report thereon which will appear in vol. XVIII of *Archaeologia Aeliana*. Mr. Reed has also given two more pictures for our library—a modern water-colour drawing of

Whitby and a fine aquatint of the north side of Durham cathedral (1820).

About ten years ago the Society was invited by the Board of Works to co-operate with it in compiling an inventory of Ancient Monuments in the county of Northumberland, and committees were appointed to deal with the Prehistoric, Roman and Medieval sections of the subject. Some progress had been made when the war intervened and stopped it. Instalments were, however, forthcoming in the shape of a report by Messrs. Parker Brewis and D. D. Dixon upon 'Pre-Roman remains in Upper Coquetdale,' and another by Mr. F. G. Simpson and the late Mr. P. Newbold upon 'Roman Monuments in Northumberland.' In 1915, these were printed in *Proceedings*, 3 ser. VII, pp. 37-52. The Board of Works has now re-opened the subject and it is proposed to carry on the work by local correspondents under the general directorship of Mr. W. H. Knowles.

During 1921 three Bronze Age burials were discovered locally, one near Hexham and the other about two miles west of Haydon Bridge. A knife and some pottery found in the latter have been lent, permanently, to our museum by the Hon. F. Bowes-Lyon, upon whose land they were found.

Our museum collections are constantly being enriched by the kindness of members and friends and entail upon the curators increasing care and attention. Few outside the Council, and not all within it, are cognisant of the difficulties the curators have to contend with. Our warmest gratitude is due to them for honorary services ungrudgingly given, at great sacrifice of much more than leisure time; especially as the funds available are quite inadequate to enable them to provide many things obviously desirable. Hostile critics do not realize this. The proposed municipal museum is still in the future, but ought to materialize before long and bring with it, for us, some relief. Until then our curators can only con-

tinue to do their best under the present discouraging conditions of want of space, light, money and adequate supervision of visitors.

The usual ten indoor meetings were held in the keep during the past year. The attendance at these meetings was always good and sometimes crowded.

Three outdoor meetings took place, rather late in the season, but in most propitious weather on each occasion. The first in order occupied an entire day, 6th September, when General Wade's road was traversed from Newcastle as far as Chollerford and the journey retraced by a more northerly route through Chollerton, Ryal and Stamfordham. Halts were made to see the various Roman and medieval objects of interest within easy access from the road. The architectural features of the churches were explained by Mr. Hamilton Thompson.

The second and third meetings were held on Saturday afternoons. On the 1st October, the excursion was to Tynemouth and Seaton Delaval. At the former place the party was guided over the priory ruins and castle by Mr. W. H. Knowles, the author of a valuable monograph thereon published in the *Archaeological Journal*, vol. LXVII (1910). At Seaton Delaval, the stately eighteenth century hall and the humble little Norman chapel were described by Messrs. J. Oswald and S. S. Carr.

On the 29th October, the third meeting took place in our own city, when the churches of St. Andrew and St. John supplied the texts for instructive addresses by Mr. Hamilton Thompson; and the long stretch of the town wall between St. Andrew's church and the Herber tower was examined under the guidance of Mr. W. H. Knowles, whilst at the Blackfriars the party had the advantage of hearing on the spot his description of that monastery as it once was, supplementing his paper thereon printed in last year's volume (XVII) of *Archaeologia Aeliana*. At the commencement of the afternoon's proceedings there was a short organ recital of

Old English music given by Mr. Harold Oswald, the organist of St. Andrew's. This was a new incident at an outdoor meeting and the example thus set may well be followed on future occasions when circumstances permit.

The records of the Society's outdoor meetings afford an interesting chapter in its history. They began with the historic Roman Wall 'pilgrimage' in 1849, but none followed until 1855, in and after which year, for ten consecutive years, one was held annually. Save one in 1878 and another in 1880, such meetings ceased until 1883 when, under the energetic régime of our indefatigable senior secretary they were revived and became of frequent occurrence, culminating in the latter respect in 1887, when no fewer than twelve days were devoted to them. Until 1914 these gatherings formed a distinctive feature of each year's doings. The attendances thereat in 1920 and 1921 manifest a desire for their continuation and development.

The following literary work of local interest by members has been published elsewhere than in our Transactions. Mr. Robert Blair has revised another edition (the eighth) of Dr. Bruce's *Hand-book of the Roman Wall*. This is the fifth edition he has edited. Mr. John Oxberry wrote an article entitled 'Newcastle-upon-Tyne: an Historic City,' for the guide-book issued in connexion with the 89th annual meeting (in 1921) of the British Medical Association. Mr. F. W. Dendy has edited for the Surtees Society 'Visitations of the North,' part II, being its 133rd volume. The Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle has published a volume, from Mr. Dendy's pen, putting into permanent form the three lectures he delivered before it upon subjects connected with Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1909, 1917 and 1921, and reprinting 'A Descriptive and Historical Account of Northumberland,' written in 1906 for a directory of that date. The volume forms a companion to 'Northumbria,' a series of lectures printed by the same



Society in 1898. Mr. J. Crawford Hodgson has edited the 'Percy Bailiff's Rolls' of the fifteenth century, forming the 134th volume of the Surtees Society's publications.

Mr. Parker Brewis's *Guide to the Castle* has enjoyed a circulation of several thousand copies, a fact of which he may justly feel proud. There had been previous guides written, but he was the first to treat the subject in two portions, first published in 1912 and 1914 respectively. Fresh editions of part I 'The Keep' became necessary in 1916, 1920 and 1921; and of part II 'The Blackgate' in 1920. The last named being now exhausted a new one is in the press. The previous guides referred to were:—by Sheriton Holmes and R. Oliver Heslop (1899); by C. J. Bates (1901, second edition 1904); by R. O. Heslop (1906) which, it is said, ran into six impressions, the last dated 1908. Earlier than these was a brief guide by Dr. Bruce published in 1888.* Dr. Bruce had written one in 1847 but this was not published by the Society, which did not acquire the tenancy of the keep until the following year. Supplemental to the guide-books it is intended to commence the issue of illustrations, on post-cards, of the keep and Blackgate and some of the chief objects in the museums, following in this way the example set by many of our national and provincial museums, a method found to secure an educative effect in a simple way. With this object, too, we had this year six electrotype *facsimiles* made of the gold-plated *fibula* found at *Aesica* which were all sold. Two went to America. It will be recollected that six similar reproductions of this object were made and disposed of ten years ago.

The tenth volume of the third series of *Proceedings* is in progress and its parts have been punctually issued month by month. Like several of its predecessors, during the later years of war and since,

* There was another by J. R. Boyle published in 1885.

vol. XVIII of *Archaeologia Aeliana* has failed to appear at the proper date, but is now almost ready for issue to members.

Mr. H. M. Wood, one of our auditors for the last twenty-two years, has expressed his wish to retire from the office. The thanks of the Society are hereby accorded to him for his long and careful services in that capacity.

THE TREASURER'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1921.

The number of members on the roll on the 31st December, 1921, was 394, six of whom are life members. During the year thirteen members resigned, and five were lost by death. In the same period forty-three new members were elected.

The income for the year through the ordinary channels has been 830*l.* 8*s.* 6*d.* In addition to this we received the three handsome donations (amounting to 115*l.* 5*s.*) referred to in the report of the Council. The expenditure was 930*l.* 11*s.* 8*d.* which shows a considerable increase upon the previous year, mainly arising from more money having been spent upon illustrations, and we withdrew 100*l.* from the Post Office Savings Bank account to enable us to deal with the situation. A gratifying feature of the year's accounts is, that we received 21*l.* more for members' subscriptions than we did in 1920. The amount received for the sale of our publications was also very satisfactory. It is to be noted that a balance still remains unpaid for the cost of *Archaeologia Aeliana*, vol. XVIII, as only 140*l.* has been paid to date on account of same. The Council decided to put 100*l.* on a deposit account with Lloyds Bank, Ltd., to meet any exceptional expenditure upon which they may desire to embark at some future time.

The investments remain the same as they were twelve months ago. The dividends received during the year have been paid into the Post Office Savings Bank account. A schedule of investments is appended herewith, together with full details of the whole of the expenditure.

xvi INVESTMENTS AND DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1921.

	<i>Receipts.</i>			<i>Payments.</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	973	1	6	930	11	8
Composition for Life Membership paid into Post Office Savings Bank .. ..	..	..	..	12	12	0
Deposit account at Lloyds .. ..	..	..	..	185	0	0
Balance 31st December, 1921, cash in hands of Treasurer	7	0	3			
Cash at bank	22	17	7			
				29	17	10
Transferred from Deposit account at Lloyds..	85	0	0			
Transferred from Post Office Savings bank..	100	0	0			
	<u>£1158</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>£1158</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>6</u>

Examined with vouchers and found correct,

J. ARNOTT SISSON.

Chartered Accountant.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, 25 January, 1922.

SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AT COST ON 31ST DECEMBER, 1922.

	£	s.	d.
£412 14s. 11d. War Stock 1929-47	392	2	3
£130 War Savings Certificates	100	15	0
£100 5 per cent. National War Bonds 1928	100	0	0
£500 4 per cent. Funding Loan 1960-1990	400	0	0
	<u>£992</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>3</u>

POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK, 31ST DECEMBER, 1921.

Balance as at 1st January, 1921	71	6	11
Dividends received from investments during 1921	39	12	8
Interest received from Post Office	2	1	4
Composition for life membership	12	12	0
	<u>125</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>
Transferred to current account	100	0	0
	<u>£25</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>11</u>

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1921.

xvii

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT AT LLOYDS BANK, LTD.

	£	s.	d.
Balance December 31st, 1921	100	0	0
Interest received		4	6
			7
	<u>£104</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1921.

LIBRARY ACCOUNT.

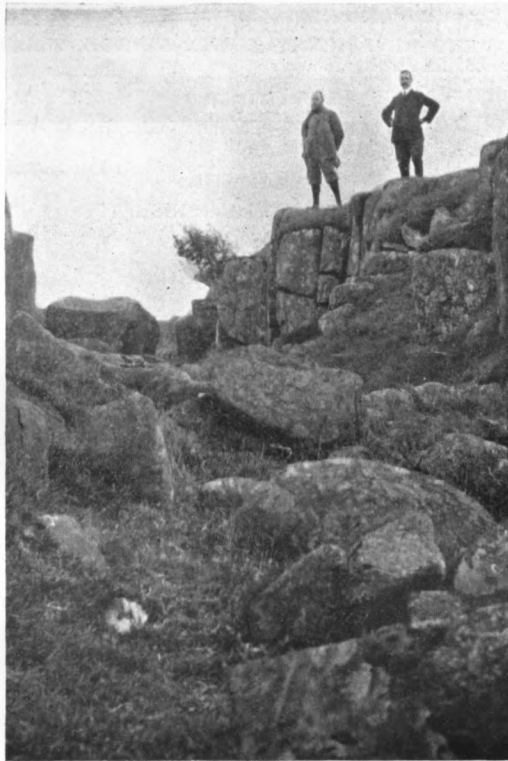
SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SOCIETIES—	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Parish Register Society	1	1	0			
National Trust Society	1	1	0			
Surtees Society	1	1	0			
Harleian Society	1	1	0			
Archaeological Congress.. .. .	1	0	0			
Durham & Northd. Parish Register Society ..	10	6				
					5	14
						6
BOOKS BOUGHT AND BINDING—						
Patrick & Page, <i>Introduction to study of 'Terra Sigillata'</i>	2	2	0			
Do., <i>Testa de Nevill</i> , pt. I, 1198-1242	1	1	0			
Do., <i>Historical Commission Ser. Essex</i> (35s.) and <i>Berwickshire</i> (7s. 6d.)	2	2	6			
Brown's <i>Early Arts of England</i>	1	10	0			
C. Griffin & Co., Ltd., <i>Year Book of Scientific Societies</i>		12	6			
St. Catherine's Press, <i>Complete Peerage</i> , vol. v. ..	1	3	3			
MacLehose & Co., <i>Scottish Historical Review</i> ..	1	9	9			
Warburton's <i>Roman Wall</i>		11	0			
T. & G. Allan, <i>Notes & Queries</i>	1	8	6			
Mr. Bushby, books of the Glovers' & Skinners' Companies		5	0			
Munroe & Co., for bookbinding	10	5	9			
					27	6
						3
Bookcase for the Holmes bequest of books ..	8	10	6			
R. Robinson & Co., for stationery	1	2	0			
Hire of vacuum cleaner		7	6			
For postage		10	0			
Fire Insurance premium, Brooks Collection ..		10	0			
					<u>11</u>	<u>0</u>
					<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
					<u>£44</u>	<u>0</u>
						<u>9</u>

EXPENDITURE ON CASTLE—			EXPENDITURE ON BLACKGATE—					
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.			
Attendant's wages	104	0	0	Attendant's wages	52	0	0	
do. gratuity	5	0	0	Substitute during holi-				
Substitute during holi-				day	1	0	0	
day	2	0	0	Rent, Newcastle Corpn.	1	0	0	
Suit for attendant	7	7	0	Rent, N.E. Railway Co.	3	0	0	
Electric current	4	19	9	House duty & Income tax	1	8	6	
Water rate		6	0	Coals	10	5	6	
Rent, Newcastle Cor-				Water rate	1	0	0	
poration		2	6	Repairs to roof	12	9	6	
Load of coke & porter-				Other repairs	2	14	10	
age	1	12	6	Electric current	5	6	6	
Padlock and repairing				Gas	1	17	6	
locks		11	4	Window cleaning	1	2	6	
4 Electric lamps		12	0	Brushes and other sundries	12			
Cloth for lamp		3	4	Health insurance stamps	1	1	8	
Brushes		15	7	Unemployment		15	10	
Sundries		13	10	Fire insurance premium	5	10	9	
Health insurance stamps	1	1	8					
Unemployment		18	8					
Fire insurance premium		15	0					
	<u>£130</u>		<u>19</u>		<u>£101</u>		<u>5</u>	<u>2</u>
MISCELLANEOUS EXPENDITURE—								
				£	s.	d.		
Titus Wilson & Son, general printing and stationery				29	15	7		
Andrew Reid & Co., Ltd., .. do. do. do.				8	8	7		
R. Robinson & Co., Ltd., small cash book					3	9		
Postage, for vol. XVII <i>Arch. Aeliana</i> , <i>Proceedings</i> , and general correspondence				40	11	4		
Carriage on books				2	14	3		
Indexing <i>Arch. Aeliana</i> , XVII, and <i>Proceedings</i> , IX				6	6	0		
Mrs. Willans, preparing general index to 5 vols. <i>Arch. Ael.</i>				5	5	0		
Elkington & Co., for six electrotypes of <i>Aesica fibula</i>				9	0	0		
C. H. H. Blair, contribution toward plates of seals				10	0	0		
				<u>112</u>		<u>4</u>	<u>6</u>	
Carried forward								

DETAILS OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1921.

xix

	£	s.	d.
Brought forward	112	4	6
J. B. Smith, creeing-trough		10	0
Cheque book		10	0
Way-leave for electric cable		2	6
Treasurer, for clerical assistance, postages, etc.	4	18	6
Editor, for petty disbursements	7	17	0
	<u>£126</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>



DITCH OF ROMAN WALL, LIMBSTONE BANK.