

the dead were consumed by fire, and over their ashes were raised standing stones (*Bautastenar*). But after Frey was buried under the cairn at (Gamla) Upsala, many chiefs raised cairns as commonly as stones to the memory of their relations. The age of cairns began properly in Denmark after Dan Mikillate had raised for himself a burial cairn, and ordered that he should be buried in it at his death with his royal ornaments and armour, his horse and saddle furniture and other valuable goods; and many of his descendants followed his example. But the burning of the dead continued long after that time to be the custom of the Swedes and Northmen.' It may well be that cremation was the commonest burial rite in Norway and Sweden down to the introduction of Christianity; and the rule applies only to the western half of Denmark, where barrows were raised over the unburnt dead from the ninth century. Perhaps the change was due to news of the elaborate burial arranged for himself at Aix-la-Chapelle by Charlemagne in 814. But Snorre's classification is vitiated by the fact that cremation and barrow-burial are not mutually exclusive, and there are other objections. Nothing is said about the ship-burials of Norway; but standing-stones are known to be very scarce in that country, comparatively numerous in Denmark, and nowhere so common as in Uppland, the richest centre in the Viking period. The change of rite was no doubt due to an altered conception of life beyond the grave, and it is curious that a converse change took place in north-west Europe about 1000 B.C., when the Bronze Age population began to burn their dead after many centuries of inhumation. The paper is a long one, and will prove a useful commentary on the elaborate funerals described in the Sagas. Another contribution of interest consists of notes by Adolf Noreen on the ancient tribal names of northern Europe; and an early form of the Swedish name is said to have the same meaning as Sinn Fein.

Obituary Notices

Robert Munro, LL.D.—By the death of Dr. Robert Munro, which took place at his residence, Elmbank, Largs, on 18th July 1920, a notable figure in archaeology has passed away. He was born in Ross-shire on 21st July 1835, and was thus in his eighty-fifth year. His early education was obtained at Tain Royal Academy, whence he proceeded to the University of Edinburgh and took his M.A. degree. To qualify for his intended profession he entered the School of Medicine there and had the benefit of instruction in anatomy from Professor, afterwards Principal, Turner, with whom in later years he formed a close friendship. After taking his medical degree he settled down in a practice in Kilmarnock, and for a space of about twenty years led the life of a busy and successful country practitioner. When in 1877 the Ayrshire and Galloway Archaeological Society was formed Dr. Munro became one of the original members, and having previously had his attention arrested when on the Continent by the display of

relics from the Swiss lake dwellings, responded readily to an invitation to help in the excavation of Crannogs in Ayrshire undertaken by that Society under the leadership of Mr. Cochran Patrick. His zeal grew with the widening of the field of exploration, and in time Munro became the leader of the enterprise and in 1882 published the results of his researches in the volume entitled *Scottish Lake Dwellings*.

A few years later his resources were such as to free him from his arduous professional labours, and with his interest steadily fixed on the aspect of the subject which had primarily attracted him, he retired from his practice and devoted himself henceforth entirely to archaeology. To make himself conversant with continental analogies he indulged his taste for travel, and in 1888, on the invitation of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, he delivered a course of Rhind Lectures, taking as his subject *The Lake Dwellings of Europe*. These lectures, illustrated by the skilful draughtsmanship of his wife, were published in book form in 1890, and appeared in a French edition in 1908. The merit of the volume was quickly recognized and gave to its author a wide reputation. As a result of frequent visits to the Continent, invariably with some archaeological quest as his object, various papers dealing with prehistoric remains abroad were contributed by him to the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, of which Society he was one of the honorary secretaries from 1886 to 1899. The account of a visit to the shores of the Adriatic was published in book form in 1895 under the title of *Rambles and Studies in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Dalmatia*. Two years later he published a volume entitled *Prehistoric Problems*, which showed the drift of his mind from the researches on lake dwellings to the scientific study of primitive man, induced by his early training in anatomy. This was followed in 1899 by *Prehistoric Scotland and its place in European Civilization*, being a general introduction to a series of county histories of Scotland. Other works which he produced were *Archaeology and False Antiquities* (1905), *Palaeolithic Man and Terramara Settlements* (1912), and *Prehistoric Britain* (1914), and numerous contributions to learned societies.

He took a keen interest in the Anthropological section of the British Association, of which section he was president in 1893, and in 1903 he delivered an address at the meeting of the Association at Southport. In 1894 he was appointed Chairman of the Committee charged with the conduct of the excavations on the site of the Glastonbury lake dwellings, and on the completion of that work continued his chairmanship when the Committee undertook the excavation at Meare. His absorbing interest in archaeology induced him to endow an annual course of lectures in Edinburgh University on Anthropology and Prehistoric Archaeology, and in 1910, at the age of seventy-five, he himself delivered the first course. With continuing vigour, in the following year he delivered the Dalrymple Lectures in Archaeology in the University of Glasgow, the matter of both courses being embodied in his *Palaeolithic Man and Terramara Settlements*. Both the Universities of Edinburgh and Glasgow conferred upon him the honorary degree of LL.D.

A man of tall stature, with an erect carriage and a powerful frame,

he was conspicuous by his somewhat rugged features, his bushy eyebrows, and dark piercing eyes. He was a sturdy antagonist in argument and was loath to leave a controversy even though the point at issue had ceased to arouse interest. His friends will long remember how he loved to draw from its hiding and worry afresh the subject of certain structures excavated on the Clyde which produced contentious relics. In his home in Edinburgh, assisted by his wife, he was never happier than in the entertainment of any noted savant visiting the city, and in the gathering of his friends, old and young, to meet him. Though never a Fellow of our Society, he acted as one of the local secretaries for Scotland from 1901-13.

As an archaeologist Munro was eminently sane and reliable, and his methods, due no doubt to his professional training, thoroughly scientific. To his other qualities may be added an absorbing enthusiasm and a sense of good fellowship by which he will be kindly thought on by those who enjoyed the privilege of his friendship.

A. O. C.

George Payne, F.S.A.—Kentish archaeology has suffered a severe loss in the death of Mr. George Payne, which occurred on 29th September. His first notable archaeological work was the excavation in 1872 of the Roman remains at Milton-next-Sittingbourne. Many other discoveries of both Roman and Saxon remains followed at other sites in the neighbourhood and the results were published in his *Collectanea Cantiana*, while the objects discovered have found a permanent home in the British and Maidstone Museums. Another important excavation carried out by him was that of the Roman villa at Dartford. His great work, however, was the foundation of the Eastgate-House Museum at Rochester, into which he threw himself with characteristic energy, and this museum will be a lasting memorial of his enthusiasm and knowledge. He was elected a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries in 1880.

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