

## NOTES AND QUERIES

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### DEMOLITION OF AN OGHAM CAVE IN CO. CORK.

Every one interested in archaeology who may have followed the controversy carried on in the "Cork Examiner," "Irish Times" and other Journals during November and December last, must have felt pleased—in a sense—at seeing so much interest taken by Irishmen in antiquarian remains; and pained to some extent at the circumstances that gave rise to the correspondence. In a fine Rath at Cnoc-Sean-Mhaighe (known as Knock-shan-a-wee) in the Co. Cork there was a souterrain, on the roofing stones of which Ogham inscriptions were found. Sir Bertram Windle invited Professor Macalister to the place to read the inscriptions, and had the stones removed to University College, Cork, leaving the cave a ruin. The local branch of the Gaelic league protested against the removal, and this let loose quite a little flood of correspondence, revealing unfortunately some traces of a personal element which could very well have been eliminated, leaving the main question of the destruction of the cave, to rest on its merits before the public.

Professor Macalister was doubtless called in as an authority on Ogham inscriptions, and had he visited the place alone, as a scientist, would doubtless have been quite satisfied to see the stones restored to the cave, after he had studied them; but, from having taken on to himself the defence of Sir Bertram Windle's action, the correspondence was mainly directed to him, and he has had to bear certainly more than his share, of public censure for the demolition of the cave.

The result of Sir Bertram Windle's action in this case has been to bring forcibly before the public the shameful neglect of our ancient monuments by the State. No antiquary, however eminent he may be, should have the power to dismantle caves, and remove oghams, as has been done at Cnoc-Sean-Mhaighe; such remains are the property of the nation, and ought to be protected by law. Scientists should have access to them in some regular way, which would provide against unnecessary injury to the monument. Every encouragement should be given to scientific research—Irish archaeology demands it—but it is necessary to make sure that science is at all times seasoned with sentiment.

P. J. L.



# NORTH MUNSTER ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

BALANCE SHEET FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1913.

RECEIPTS.				EXPENDITURE.			
		£	s. d.			£	s. d.
Balance from last Account	...	11	16 6	Paid Guy & Co. Ltd.	... ..	47	15 3
Subscriptions received	...	33	12 6	Postages	... ..	3	4 10
Balance due to Treasurer	...	5	11 1				
		£51	0 1			£51	0 1

W. R. TWIGG, Hon. Treasurer.

## PROCEEDINGS.

The Annual General Meeting was held at 2.30 p.m. on Friday, 14th November, 1913, in the Board Room of the Limerick Savings Bank.

The chair was taken by Revd. Precentor Adderley, M.A.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read by the Hon. Secretary and signed. The Hon. Treasurer then presented his report for the current year, and exhibited a financial statement to date, which was adopted.

The officers of the Society were unanimously re-elected for 1913-14

The Hon. Secretary read letters of apology and regret from several members.

Several new members were proposed and elected.

Correspondence requiring the Meeting's consideration was gone into, and the Hon. Secretary was directed to forward the necessary replies.



## LIST OF MEMBERS.

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