

British Archaeological Association.

32, SACKVILLE STREET,
PICCADILLY, W.
June 21st, 1886.

At the Council Meeting of the British Archaeological Association, held on June 2nd, a communication from Lieutenant-General Pitt Rivers, F.R.S., Inspector of Ancient Monuments in Great Britain, was discussed, relating to the advantages afforded by the Ancient Monuments Act for the permanent preservation of any ancient work which may be scheduled.

The Council considered that these advantages are not generally known, and for the purpose of drawing your attention to them, we beg to send you overleaf an extract of the clauses bearing on the subject. No surrender of ownership takes place, but the present proprietor pledges himself and his successors not to damage or destroy.

By this wise provision, the Act ensures the preservation for all time; the repairs, if needed, being effected by the Government.

We shall be much obliged if you will make known these advantages of the Act as much as possible; and if you can induce the owner of any monument to place it under the care of the State in the way indicated, the last of the undersigned will be happy to be put in communication with the owner. He will gladly render all preliminary information for its accomplishment free of charge.

All the monuments at present scheduled are of the class known as Prehistoric, and consist of tumuli, stone circles,

²
camps, and earthworks. For the present at least, any others to be added to the existing schedule must be of similar class.

We take this opportunity of calling your attention to the date for holding the Congress at Darlington, under the presidency of the Lord Bishop of Durham. It will begin on July 22nd, and last the whole of the week, and a portion of the following one.

We shall be glad if you will favour the Council with a paper on some local subject. This need be no longer than can be read in twenty minutes, but it can be enlarged to some extent for the *Journal*, should it be accepted for printing.

The Meeting promises to be one of unusual interest.

We are,

Yours faithfully,

W. DE GRAY BIRCH, { *Hon.*
E. P. LOFTUS BROCK, } *Secs.*

Please address any reply to MR. E. P. LOFTUS BROCK,
36, Great Russell Street, W.C.

THE ANCIENT MONUMENTS PROTECTION ACT, 1882.

Extract, Paragraph 2.

"The owner of any ancient monument to which this Act applies may, by deed under his hand, constitute the Commissioners of Works in this Act mentioned the guardians of such monument.

"Where the Commissioners of Works have been constituted guardians of a monument they shall thenceforth, until they shall receive notice in writing to the contrary from any succeeding owner not bound by such deed as aforesaid, maintain such monument; and shall, for the purpose of such maintenance, at all reasonable times, by themselves and their workmen, have access to such monument for the purpose of inspecting it, and of bringing such materials and doing such acts and things as may be required for the maintenance thereof.

"The owner of an ancient monument of which the Commissioners of Works are guardians shall, save as in this Act expressly provided, have the same estate, right, title, and interest in and to such monument in all respects as if the Commissioners had not been constituted guardians thereof.

"The expressions 'maintain' and 'maintenance' include the fencing, repairing, cleansing, covering in, or doing any other act or thing which may be required for the purpose of repairing any monument or protecting the same from decay or injury. The cost of maintenance shall, subject to the approval of Her Majesty's Treasury, be defrayed from moneys to be provided by Parliament."

Extract, Paragraph 10.

"Her Majesty may, from time to time, by Order in Council, declare that any monument of a like character to the monuments described in the Schedule hereto shall be deemed to be an ancient monument to which this Act applies, and thereupon this Act shall apply to such monument in the same manner in all respects as if it had been described in the Schedule hereto."

With regard to your enquiry as to Monuments to be scheduled, there are two that I would specially refer to, since the present time is so remarkably favourable for their acquisition.

1 The Roman Pavements at Bignor. These are slowly deteriorating. The freeholder, a farmer of small means, does his best to preserve them, but the buildings erected long ago for their safety are inadequate to resist damp & frost, & the income now derived is not encouraging for their improvement. I understand that he would sell for a moderate sum, & the purchase money would secure to the nation the whole of these valuable works.

2 Richton Castle. The owner of the freehold, part of a small farm, is suffering from the agricultural depression, & would be willing to sell. This opportunity has just arisen & it has only been reported to me within the last 48 hours.

I shall be happy to obtain definite particulars as to either or both of these if you consider that

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36. Great Russell Street W.C.
May 31st, 1886

Sir
I have read with much interest your note containing copy of Ancient Monument Act. I think the various Antiquarian Societies ought to be able to render material help towards making the provisions of the act better known & particularly as regards the placing of ancient monuments by their owners, under the benefits of clause 2 for preservation.

I will have the gratification of bringing your note before our next Council meeting, and will then suggest that its purport be communicated to our various Local Members of Council. The organization of our Societies may be no better than that of others, but it will be a matter of much interest to me should it prove of service in this respect.

their purchase would be likely to be considered.

Our meeting will be at 4.30 on Wednesday. & if you can favour me with my suggestions I shall be happy to hear from you. or I could call on you if more convenient or desirable.

I could do so abt 3 on Wednesday. but I shall be absent all tomorrow.

I am. Yours Faithfully

E. Loftus Buxk

Assy Secretary.

Lient. General

A. Pitt-Rivers

Inspector of Ancient Monuments.

4. Grosvenor Gardens S.W.

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that it was considered, from your
official position, it would be better
~~not to do so.~~ but to report it to
you after the event.

Should anything occur to you or
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Leckhrough Castle is to be sold by auction at Canterbury
on July 3rd. It will go very cheaply. it is expected.

Mr. Pitt Rivers
British Archaeological Association.

DARLINGTON AND BISHOP AUCKLAND CONGRESS.

President—THE BISHOP OF DURHAM.

From Monday, July 26th, to Monday, August 2nd, and Extra Days
to follow.

June 22nd 1886.
36. Great Russell Street
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Dear General

I beg to enclose a copy of a circular
which has been sent to the Local
members of council of this Assoc.
relative to the Ancient Monuments
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forth some response from certain owners.

A notice of similar effect will
also appear in our Journal.

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I shall be glad to know your thoughts
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I called to speak, however, of another
matter. A lady, the owner of an ancient
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likely to be willing to place it under the
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Since it is of a different nature to
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