

of the great sullen monoliths of Easter Island, of pre-dynastic Egypt, of early Etruria, of the Eskimos; and here, with the authority which springs from years of purposeful study and grinding hard work, its most important manifestation is given a proper significance.

CHARLES THOMAS

ROBERT KERR

(1889-1967)

Robert Kerr, Honorary Research Fellow at the School of Scottish Studies, who died on 4th December 1967, will be remembered at the School with particular gratitude and affection.

In 1933, while Keeper of the Royal Scottish Museum's Department of Art and Ethnology, Kerr helped to found the Scottish Anthropological and Folklore Society and, as its Honorary Secretary for two decades, sustained it by his enthusiasm and energy.

Retiring from official duties in 1954, he offered his services as an indexer in an entirely voluntary capacity to the School of Scottish Studies, then recently-established in his old university. (Kerr had graduated with first-class honours in Classics, and for many years commanded the Infantry Unit of the University O.T.C.)

There followed many busy and happy years. Unfailing each morning at nine o'clock he was at his desk in the School's library; while his afternoons were regularly spent working, as Honorary Curator, on the coin collections in the National Museum of Antiquities. Thus he continued a full day's work right up to his last illness. No one sought his help in vain, and he was respected and loved by all of us who had the good fortune to work with him. Above all else the development of the School's Central Card-Index, for which he accepted responsibility as co-ordinator and one of the principal contributors, testifies to his competence and zeal.

Another side of his character has been aptly described by a former colleague: 'A man of kindly and modest demeanour, he could exercise a penetrating wit, free from malice, whenever the occasion called for it, usually supported by an appropriate quotation from the classics.'

In paying tribute to the memory of this generous man, it is fitting to remember his wife and two sons who survive him.

B. R. S. MEGAW