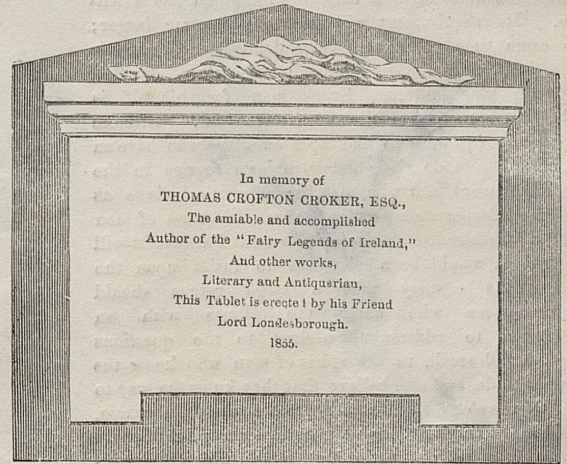


CROKER, THOMAS CROFTON, whose name is identified with the fairy legends and traditions of the Celtic race, was the son of Major Croker, of the 38th regiment of foot, and was born at the house of his maternal grandfather, in Cork, 1798. He was a descendant of an old Devonshire family, some of whom had settled in the south of Ireland in the times of Elizabeth and Cromwell; and, notwithstanding his high connections, was educated for a mercantile life. He passed much time in the south of Ireland in the period 1812 to 1815, collecting the legends and songs of the peasantry; at the same time employing occasionally his talent for sketching; yet his first work, 'Researches in the South of Ireland,' did not appear till 1824. In the spring of the following year, he became renowned by the publication of his 'Fairy Legends,' to which he was indebted for the acquaintance of Sir Walter Scott, who met him with several other celebrities of the day at a breakfast party, at Mr. Lockhart's, in Pall Mall. The occasion is interesting, as it forms the subject of a notice in Sir Walter Scott's journal, who characterizes Mr. Croker as 'the author of the Irish Fairy Tales, little as a dwarf, keen-eyed as a hawk, and of easy, prepossessing manners, something like Tom Moore.' Other interesting particulars concerning this interview will be found in the 'Gentleman's Magazine,' vol. xlii., p. 452. It may be added, that the best published likeness of him is said to be in Maclise's 'Snap Apple Night.' It would exceed our limits to specify all the legendary and other amusing or learned works we owe to the subject of our notice; but we may briefly mention his contributions to the annuals, 'Daniel O'Rourke,' and 'Legends of the Lakes,' in which he was aided by the MSS. of Mr. Lynch. In 1832, he essayed his hand as a novelist, but was more himself in 1839, as editor of 'The Popular Songs of Ireland.' This year also he took part in the formation of the Camden Society, and, in 1840, was still more active in founding the Percy Society, both of which were benefited by his antiquarian knowledge and literary talents as editor. Died at his house in Brompton, after a short illness, August 8, 1854. [E.R.]

Mr. Thomas Crofton Croker, whose death took place, on the 8th inst., in the neighbourhood of London, and of the age of fifty-seven, was principally known as the author of a volume of 'Researches in the South of Ireland,' (1824, Lond. 4to.) and a collection of Irish fairy tales, which was reprinted in Murray's Family Library. Walter Scott hits off his personal appearance in a few words in his Diary:—"Little as a dwarf, keen-eyed as a hawk, and of easy prepossessing manners—something like Tom Moore." Mr. Croker was a native of the south of Ireland. Through the influence of his namesake, Mr. J. W. Croker, he obtained an appointment in the Admiralty, from which he retired some few years ago after a long period of service. He was a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, and one of the managers of the Archeological Association, the Camden, Percy, and other similar Societies. He contributed papers and volumes to the publications of all these Societies. For the Camden Society he edited a volume entitled 'Excidium Macariæ: Narratives illustrative of Contests in Ireland, in 1641 and 1693,' (1841, 4to.,) and for the Percy Society two volumes of the Songs of Ireland and a collection of Irish Keens, with several others. But Mr. Croker was not fortunate either in his connexion with these Societies, or with his literary brethren. He had formed a considerable collection of Irish antiquities, which was enriched, through his influence at the Admiralty, with a variety of articles of a cognate character derived from many distant regions. Aug. 1854

#### THE LATE THOMAS CROFTON CROKER, F.S.A.

The little and interesting old church of Kirby Wharf, near Tadcaster, in Yorkshire, stands at the corner of Grimston Park, and is the place of family worship of Lord Lonsborough. His Lordship has recently erected in it a tablet, honourable alike to his kindly feeling and good taste,



MONUMENT TO THE LATE THOMAS CROFTON CROKER, F.S.A.

to the memory of the late Mr. Crofton Croker, to whom he had long been much attached, and who was one of the little circle of literary and antiquarian friends whom Lord Lonsborough delighted to assemble at his house in the north. This monument, which is placed on the wall exactly opposite his Lordship's pew, is chaste and simple in design, its only ornament being a palm branch.

Paid



Richard Sainthill

Nelson Place

P. Cofton Fisher

Cork.

28<sup>th</sup> July.

My dear Richard.

I saw your book <sup>presentation copy to the Queen</sup> - a very odd thing  
that it should be so - the first I accidentally  
took up in the library of Windsor Castle on the 1<sup>st</sup> July. -

SIC



171.35.R.4

most truly yours

J. Cofton Fisher

---

Put the letter for De la Cour into  
the post please.

The King was chosen in person  
today in person, and a very  
unsatisfactory one it has been to  
all parties. — If I can get a copy  
of his speech I will inclose it to  
you

Paid



S. Dyer Knott Esq

The Castle

T. Crofton Coker

Exeter.

N<sup>o</sup> A.58456 London 16<sup>th</sup> July <sup>23</sup> 1853

The Union Bank of London.

REGENT STREET BRANCH, ARGYLL PLACE.

Pay Mr Sampson or Bearer

Five Pounds, six Shillings and Sixpence

5: 6: 6

Thos Croker

UNION BANK OF LONDON  
Printed by Baynton & Brown, 35, 40, & 41, Old Broad St, London.

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*R. H. Simpson*



4 Hyde Park Gate, South.  
Kensington Gore  
London.

4<sup>th</sup> November 1846.

Sir,

I have much pleasure in  
complying with your request, and  
inclose a statement shewing the  
nature, advantages and object of the  
British Archaeological Association.

I have the honor, to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient  
humble servant

T. Crofton Croker

S. Dyer Knott Esq  
The Castle. Exeter.

Admiralty.

6<sup>th</sup> October 1828.

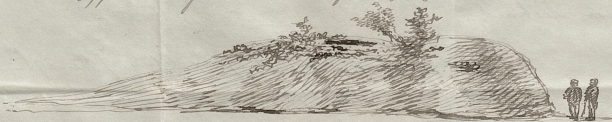
My dear Richard,

On Saturday I received your letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> - which gave me much pleasure as really I was beginning to forget the character of your hand writing. - Of Mr Pulman I have seen nothing lately but I suppose he is like all the world at this season out of town: Indeed I am but just returned from rather a Cockney field's rurality myself, at Bromley, altho' for the name-sake of the thing I did contrive to get on to Tunbridge Wells for a week. - Your brother John and I came down one day on the same Coach - he was going to see a family of the name of Palmer (I think) who are friends of the Nicholsons. -

During ~~to~~ my stay at Bromley in exploring the Neighbouring Antiquities at Keston or Caesar's Camp, a tumulus looked so tempting that I could not help ~~examining~~ <sup>examining</sup> it, and accordingly commenced ~~my~~ excavating. I expected to have come upon an Urn or two filled with burnt bones but judge my surprise at laying open some buildings evidently of Roman origin. - An account correctly enough given of my proceedings appeared in the Literary Gazette of Saturday week, drawn up I presume by Mr Jordan the Editor from the accounts given <sup>to</sup> him by two or three Antiquarian friends whom I invited from town to be present at the digging match. - With these came your friend Mr Nicholls of the Gentleman's Magazine, and I observe in this Month's Number he has also noticed what I have done. - The Antiquarian Society are about to take measures for following up the discovery and indeed have already written to Sir Charles Farnaby (the proprietor)

requesting permission. The underneath sketches however will give you a better idea of the Subject than all that has been written or I could write.

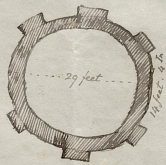
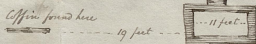
Appearance of the Tumulus before digging.



Appearance after excavating.



Ground plan.



Stone Coffin - no Inscription.

So much for Antiquities.

A few days since I had a letter from ~~London~~ enclosing some verses for the Christmas Box - The Christmas Box however was all printed, and I hope in a few days to send you a copy. I enclose you a proof of the title and Contents.

By the bye I have made much progress with the legends of the Lakes, but wait at present for a communication from Lynch which was to pass through your hands and which I should be glad to have as soon as possible. The Volume, for I rather think, the work will extend to three - Certainly it will be in two, one to be dedicated

to Miss Edgeworth. I got Lynch thirty guineas for the Manuscript with which he supplied me; - but I fear he will do little good in the Publishing way. I mean if he expects to derive any thing like an annuity from his pen. - With a mind, poetical enough to be turned to account he is so extremely ignorant both of books and Men that he never can be a successful writer; Another fault which prevents improvement in knowledge arises from the want of it - that is self-satisfaction with what he executes, and this Lynch certainly possesses in the most superlative degree. - I am sorry for this, as it prevents my being of the service to him which I otherwise might be.

Mr. Gales pencil I have put in some requisition for a few illustrations to the legends of the Lakes. He is the very reverse of Lynch and I think is so much improved by mingling in London Society and at the same time so unchanged in general Character that you would be much pleased with him. - Mr. Gales was a young Man, who you could push forward, and as far as was in my power I left no nerve untried to aid him but he is now beyond my strength. - You of course have heard of the Princess Sophia having sat to him, and from the Number of orders which he receives, he has or will immediately raise his prices. - This drawing too I think much improved, and if he continues to advance in the same scale he has hitherto done, you may well be proud of your prototype.

Leckmere I fancy has received your letter, as I heard him the other day saying that he had recently got two or three letters from you. - He is a very fine intelligent young Man, and I feel much pleased that my introduction of him to you has proved appreciable. - He is most grateful for your kindness and attention to him. - By the by, many thanks also for your civility to the

Fullantons, who are a most amiable and excellent family. —

My paper warns me to conclude. — Will you have the kindness  
therefore to put the letter for Cove into the Post office, and dis-  
-pose of the other inclosures in the way most convenient to yourself  
as to their reaching their destinations. — ever most truly yours

J. C. C.

Richard Saintfield Esq<sup>r</sup>

June 1854

6 Oct. / I have just had a letter from degnach saying  
that he had forwarded the Manuscript which I required  
to your care. — A fortnight longer will be full time for me  
to have it. —  
I return a letter of  
yours for degnach which  
arrived after he had left  
London. —

Miss Crofton Croker

1798-1854

Antigua - author of notes

# BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION,

ESTABLISHED IN 1843,

FOR THE

ENCOURAGEMENT AND PROSECUTION OF RESEARCHES INTO THE ARTS AND MONUMENTS  
OF THE EARLY AND MIDDLE AGES, PARTICULARLY IN ENGLAND.

THE Association consists of a President, six Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Secretaries, Council, Associates, and Corresponding Members.

Associates and Correspondents are elected by the Council upon the recommendation of one or more Members. From the former, a Life Subscription of Ten Guineas, or a subscription of One Guinea *per annum* (due on election) is required. The payment of this subscription entitles the Associates to receive the Quarterly Journal, with the privilege of personal admission and the introduction of a visitor to the ordinary Public Meetings which are held once a fortnight at No. 32, Sackville Street, Piccadilly; also, to vote at the election of Officers, Council, &c.

The Journal of the Association is composed of original papers; the proceedings of the Association; reviews of antiquarian works, &c.; and is copiously illustrated with engravings and wood-cuts. Its quarterly delivery is restricted to Associates.

As the Journal is the chief medium of communication between the Council and the body of Members, it has been published on the most liberal scale; and, in order to ensure its extensive circulation, the Annual Subscription has been fixed as low as possible. A glance at the contents of the Journal will prove that the Annual Subscription of a Guinea, which ensures the possession of such a volume, is in reality almost a nominal subscription to the furtherance of the objects of the Association, especially when it is considered that the cost of publication alone nearly equals the annual payment for membership.

As there are necessarily considerable current expenses, exclusive of those involved in the production of the Journal, the Council trusts the Members will use their best efforts to increase the resources of the Association, by recommending Associates, &c.; so as to ensure for it a still more extended sphere of usefulness.

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The means by which the Association propose to effect this object are:—

1. By holding communication with Correspondents throughout the Kingdom, and with provincial Antiquarian Societies; as well as by direct intercourse with the *Comité des Arts et Monuments* of the Ministry of Public Instruction in France, and with other similar Associations on the Continent instituted for the advancement of Antiquarian Science.
2. By holding frequent and regular Meetings for the consideration and discussion of communications received from correspondents and any other persons.
3. By promoting careful observation and preservation of Antiquities discovered in the progress of Public Works, such as railways, sewers, foundations of buildings, &c.
4. By encouraging individuals or associations in making researches and excavations, and affording them suggestions and co-operation.
5. By opposing and preventing, as far as may be practicable, all injuries with which Ancient National Monuments of every description may from time to time be threatened.
6. By using every endeavour to spread abroad a correct taste for Archæology, and a just appreciation of Monuments of Ancient Art, so as ultimately to secure a general interest in their preservation.
7. By collecting accurate drawings, plans, and descriptions of Ancient National Monuments, and by means of correspondents preserving authentic memorials of all Antiquities which may from time to time be brought to light.
8. By establishing a *Journal* devoted exclusively to the objects of the Association, as a means of spreading antiquarian information and maintaining a constant communication with all persons interested in such pursuits.
9. By taking every occasion which may present itself to solicit the attention of the Government to the Conservation of our National Monuments, and to the other objects of the Association.

The Volume of the Proceedings of the Winchester Congress, richly illustrated with cuts (of which a limited number was printed), is sold at 30s., by H. G. BORN, York Street, Covent Garden. Members, however, can receive it of the Secretaries at 20s.

A corresponding Volume of the Proceedings of the Congress recently held at Gloucester will be issued as early as possible, at the same price to subscribing Members.