From Colonsay to Whithorn: the work of a 19th-century antiquary, William Galloway

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ABSTRACT
William B M Galloway (1832-97) is one of the less well-known Fellows of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland in the second half of the 19th century whose achievements deserve recognition. He was an architect with a distinct archaeological bent, and he was particularly interested in early ecclesiastical buildings and sculpture. He appears to have worked freelance after an initial training in Patrick Wilson’s architectural practice, and he is best known for his work at Whithorn Priory. He collaborated with Sir Henry Dryden over the latter’s surveys of St Magnus Cathedral and Iona Abbey, and more than a hundred letters are preserved in the Orkney Archive. These illuminate many of his diverse archaeological activities, including Viking-age burials in Colonsay, as well as his approach to architectural conservation and his interest in photography. He was very active in the Society in the 1870s but appears to have fallen out with Joseph Anderson, the Keeper of the Museum, in the early 1880s.

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The Galloway Hoard brings together the richest collection of rare and unique Viking-age objects ever found in Britain or Ireland. Buried at the beginning of the 10th century in Dumfries and Galloway, the Galloway Hoard lay undisturbed for a thousand years before being unearthed by a metal detectorist in September 2014. This incredible discovery comprises more than 100 objects, including a rich Viking Age hoard of silver jewellery and ingots. Detail of one of the Anglo-Saxon disc brooches. Conservation work will restore these to their full glory. A new type of Anglo-Saxon quatrefoil brooch. Anglo-Saxon disc brooch. Linguistics - The 19th century: It is generally agreed that the most outstanding achievement of linguistic scholarship in the 19th century was the development of the comparative method, which comprised a set of principles whereby languages could be systematically compared with respect to their sound systems, grammatical structure, and vocabulary and shown to be "genealogically" related. In the work of the next 50 years the idea of sound change was made more precise, and, in the 1870s, a group of scholars known collectively as the Junggrammatiker ("young grammarians," or Neogrammarians) put forward the thesis that all changes...
in the sound system of a language as it developed through time were subject to the operation of regular sound laws. William Blake, via Wikimedia Commons. Geoffrey Chaucer is one of the most noted writers of the fourteenth century. Though Chaucer wrote many things, mostly poetry, his most celebrated work was the extensive Canterbury Tales. Jus to add a bit: It was only recently that the literary works of Chaucer became a feminist critique. During the Middle Ages literature was never expected to be analyzed from the woman’s perspective, nor did writers make special efforts to represent women, or their womanhood. However, in the Canterbury Tales through the marriage theme there were elements suggesting that Chaucer did highlight some of the plights felt by the women in the Medieval Ages, but were his highlights strong enough to say he were defending women? Cold Case Whithorn is a new research project, which is reopening the vast Whithorn archaeological archive, and... The earliest verified remains of an English saint have been confirmed in Kent thanks to National Lottery funding. The earliest verified remains of an English saint have been confirmed in Kent thanks to National Lottery funding. Cold Case Whithorn. 29 February · Julia Muir Watt to All Roads Lead to Whithorn. 29 February · Our brilliant news - here in the Galloway Gazette - we have been awarded over a million pounds for the New Town Hall - the front hall and gym. Together with existing confirmed grants, the total exceeds £1.4m. The chase is now on to get the other annexe (bunkhouse) fund