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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

SESSIONS
MDCCCLXVIII-IX.—MDCCCLXIX-LXX.



VOL. VIII.

EDINBURGH:
PRINTED FOR THE SOCIETY BY NEILL AND COMPANY.
MDCCCLXXI.

*At a Council Meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland,
held on the 21st November 1869.*

It was reported, in terms of a former Resolution, that Part First of Volume Eighth of the PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, for the last Session 1868-69, was now completed under the joint superintendence of Mr DAVID LAING and Dr JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH. The Proceedings of the previous Session 1867-68 will follow as soon as possible.

The COUNCIL, adhering to the plan thus acted upon, of avoiding delay in printing the Proceedings of the ensuing Session, Resolved:—"That in future all Communications read before the Society, and intended for publication, shall be left, ready for press, with one of the Secretaries, within eight days after the Meeting."

It is understood by the COUNCIL that the Authors are alone responsible for the various statements and opinions contained in their respective Communications.

JOHN STUART,
JOHN ALEX. SMITH, } *Secretaries.*

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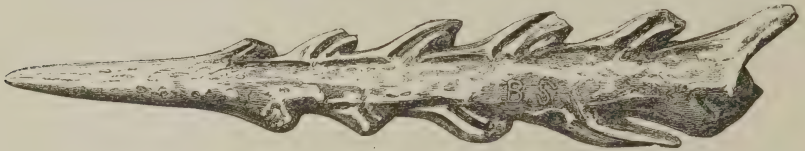
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In the notice of this interesting donation, it is incorrectly stated that it included plaster casts of two darts, with several barbs. It should have been stated a dart, or barbed spear-head of *bone*, measuring 6 inches in length, and displaying three barbs on each side: it is pointed at both extremities; and a cast in plaster of another barbed spear-head, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, having six barbs on one side and five on the other, alternately arranged. This spear-head displays, however, two letters in Roman capitals, formed by the surface of the cast having been cut away around them,



Plaster cast of Spear-Head of Bone found in the caves of Dordogne, France.
(Full size.)

and thus left the letters projecting from it. (See the above woodcut.) Also, a plaster cast of a rein-deer's horn, with a circular perforation, and a carved representation of a horse. In front of its head are the same letters.

We are not aware if anything has been said in reference to these initials, which, we suppose, are only on the cast. It seems to us rather a pity to alter in any way the facsimiles of the original weapons.

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† Contributed by His Grace the Duke of Sutherland, K.G., &c., F.S.A. Scot

OFFICE-BEARERS, 1869-70.

NOVEMBER 30, 1869.

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Assistant Keeper of the Museum.

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LIST OF THE FELLOWS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

JUNE 30, 1870.

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1853. ABBOTT, FRANCIS, Moray Place.
1853. *ABERDEIN, FRANCIS, Montrose.
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1864. ADAMSON, JOHN, Newburgh, Fife.
1864. ALEXANDER, Colonel Sir JAMES EDWARD, Knt., of Westerton, Bridge of Allan.
1846. ALEXANDER, Rev. WILLIAM LINDSAY, D.D., Pinkie Burn, Musselburgh.
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1865. ANDERSON, ARTHUR, M.D., C.B., Inspector-General of Hospitals.
1864. ANDERSON, ARCHIBALD, Advocate, 1 Athole Place.
1865. ANDERSON, THOMAS S., Lindores Abbey, Fifeshire.
1863. *APPLETON, JOHN REED, Western Hill, Durham.
1859. ARBUTHNOT, GEORGE CLERK, Mavisbank House, Loanhead.
1870. ARCHER, THOMAS C., Director Edinburgh Museum of Science and Art.
1850. ARGYLE, His Grace The Duke of, K.T.

An asterisk (*) denotes Members who have compounded for their Annual Contributions.

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1866. *AULD, JAMES, LL.D., Madras College, St Andrews.
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1862. BALFOUR, JOHN M., of Pilrig, W.S.
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1863. BECK, Rev. JAMES, A.M., Rector of Parham, Sussex.
1854. BEGBIE, JAMES WARBURTON, M.D., 16 Great Stuart Street.
1861. BERRY, WALTER, Danish Consul-General, Leith, 16 Carlton Terrace.
1852. BLACK, DAVID D., of Kergord, Brechin.
1847. BLACKIE, WALTER G., Ph.D., Publisher, Glasgow.
1870. BOYD, Rev. WILLIAM, Milnathort, Kinross-shire.
1865. BRAIKENRIDGE, Rev. GEORGE WEARE, Clevedon, Somerset.
1866. BREMNER, BRUCE A., M.D., Streatham House, Morningside.
1869. BREWSTER, Rev. DAVID, Kilmeny, Fife.
1867. BREYSIG, JULIUS A., Smith's Place, Leith Walk.
1857. BRODIE, THOMAS, W.S., 14 Alva Street.
1849. *BROWN, A. J. DENNISTON, Balloch Castle, Dumbarton.
1865. BROWN, WILLIAM, F.R.C.S.E., Dublin Street.
1863. BRUCE, HENRY, Kinleith, Currie.
1861. BRUCE, WILLIAM, M.D., R.N., Burntisland.
1849. BRYCE, DAVID, Architect, R.S.A., 131 George Street.
1869. BRYDON, JAMES, M.D., Hawick.
1845. *BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY, His Grace The Duke of, K.G.,—*President of the Society.*
1847. BUCHAN, CHARLES F., D.D., Fordoun Manse.
1857. BUIST, ANDREW WALKER, of Berryhill, Fifeshire.
1863. BURNETT, GEORGE, Lyon King at Arms.
1860. BURNETT, Sir JAMES HORN, of Leys, Bart.
1858. BURTON, JOHN HILL, LL.D., Advocate, Craig House, Morningside.
1867. *BUTE, Most Honourable the Marquess of.

1847. CAMPBELL, Sir ALEXANDER, of Barcaldine, Bart.
 1865. CAMPBELL, Rev. JAMES, Balmerino, Fifeshire.
 1850. CAMPBELL, Rev. JOHN A. L., Helpston, Northampton.
 1862. CARFRAE, ROBERT, 77 George Street,—*Curator of Museum*.
 1861. CARLYLE, JOHN AITKEN, M.D., The Hill, Dumfries.
 1867. CARLYLE, THOMAS J., Templehill, Ecclesfechan.
 1869. CARMICHAEL, Sir W. W. GIBSON, Bart., of Skirling, Peeblesshire.
 1866. CARR, RALPH, of Hedgeley, Northumberland.
 1864. CATTO, JOHN, Merchant, Aberdeen.
 1870. CHALMERS, ALEXANDER H., W.S., Aberdeen.
 1865. *CHALMERS, JAMES, Granton Lodge, Aberdeen.
 1869. CHALMERS, PATRICK HAY, Advocate, 13 Union Terrace, Aberdeen.
 1869. CHALMERS, JOHN, Castle Bank, Merchiston.
 1844. *CHAMBERS, ROBERT, LL.D., St Andrews.
 1867. *CHAMBERS, WILLIAM, of Glenormiston.
 1853. CHRISTISON, ROBERT, M.D., Professor of Materia Medica, University
 of Edinburgh.
 1867. *CLARK, ROBERT, 42 Hanover Street.
 1869. COCHRANE, Rev. JAMES, Cupar, Fife.
 1870. COGHILL, J. G. SINCLAIR, M.D., 24 Heriot Row.
 1853. COLLIER, WILLIAM F., LL.D., Saxe-Coburg Place.
 1861. CONSTABLE, THOMAS, Thistle Street.
 1862. COOK, JOHN, W.S., Great King Street.
 1867. COOKE, THOMAS E., West Arthurlie, Barrhead.
 1867. COPLAND, JAMES, General Register House.
 1851. *COULTHART, JOHN ROSS, of Coulthart and Collyn, Ashton-under-Line.
 1849. *COWAN, CHARLES, of Valleyfield, West Register Street.
 1865. COWAN, JAMES, West Register Street.
 1850. COX, Robert, W.S., 25 Rutland Street.
 1826. CRAIG, JAMES T. GIBSON, 24 York Place.
 1870. CRAVEN, JAMES BROWN, Solicitor, 130 Union Street, Aberdeen.
 1861. CRAWFURD, THOMAS MACKNIGHT, of Cartsburn.
 1855. CRAWFORD and BALCARRES, Right Hon. the Earl of.
 1861. CRICHTON, MICHAEL H., Princes Street.
 1867. *CUMING, H. SYER, Kennington Park Road, Surrey.
 1865. CUNINGHAME, GEORGE CORSANE, Bruntsfield Place.

1867. CURLE, ALEXANDER, Melrose.
 1866. CURROR, DAVID, of West Craigduckie, S.S.C.
1853. DALHOUSIE, Right Hon. the Earl of, K.T.
 1857. DALRYMPLE, CHARLES E., Kinellar Lodge, Aberdeenshire.
 1866. DAVIDSON, C.B., Advocate, 3 Union Terrace, Aberdeen.
 1865. DAWSON, ADAM, younger of Bonnytown, Linlithgow.
 1869. DAWSON, JOHN R., Bonside House, Linlithgow.
 1870. DICK, JOHN, of Craigengelt, Stirling.
 1862. DICKSON, DAVID, 3 Park Place.
 1870. DICKSON, THOMAS, Curator of the Historical Department H. M. General Register House.
 1870. DICKSON, WALTER, M.D., 3 Royal Circus.
 1844. DICKSON, WILLIAM, Accountant, 10 Royal Circus.
 1867. *DICKSON, WILLIAM, Harrowgate House, Alnwick.
 1867. DONALDSON, JAMES, LL.D., Rector of the High School, Edinburgh.
 1861. DOUGLAS, DAVID, 88 Princes Street,—*Librarian*.
 1856. DOUGLAS, JAMES, of Cavers, Hawick.
 1867. DOUGLAS, THOMAS H., Chamberlain Road.
 1851. *DRUMMOND, GEORGE STIRLING HOME, of Blair-Drummond.
 1848. DRUMMOND, JAMES, R.S.A., 8 Royal Crescent,—*Curator of Museum*.
 1849. DRYSDALE, WILLIAM, Assistant-Clerk of Session, 3 Hart Street.
 1867. *DUFF, M. E. GRANT, of Eden, M.P.
 1850. *DUNCAN, JAMES MATTHEWS, M.D., F.R.C.P.E., 30 Charlotte Square.
 1870. DUNCAN, Rev. JOHN, Scoonie, Fife.
 1848. DUNCAN, WILLIAM J., Manager of the National Bank of Scotland.
 1827. DUNDAS, Sir DAVID, of Dumira, Bart.
 1864. DUNDAS, Colonel JOSEPH, of Carron Hall, Falkirk.
 1850. DUNDAS, WILLIAM PITT, Advocate, Registrar-General for Scotland.
 1862. DUNRAVEN AND MONTEARLE, Right Hon. The Earl of, Adare, Ireland.
 1867. DURRANT, GEORGE JOHN, Solicitor, London.
1863. EDMONSTONE, Sir ARCHIBALD, Bart. of Duntreath, Stirlingshire.
 1853. ELCHO, Right Hon. Lord, M.P., Amisfield, Haddingtonshire.
 1862. ELLIOT, Sir WALTER, of Wolfelee, Roxburghshire.
 1855. EUING, WILLIAM, 209 West George Street, Glasgow.

1867. *EVANS, JOHN, Nash-mill, Hemel-Hempstead.
 1841. *EYTON, JOSEPH WALTER KING, London.
1858. FARQUHARSON, FRANCIS, of Finzean, 5 Eton Terrace.
 1866. *FARQUHARSON, ROBERT, of Haughton, Alford, Aberdeenshire.
 1848. FERGUSON, WALTER, Teacher of Drawing, 36 George Street.
 1863. *FLOCKHART, HENRY, 29 Inverleith Row.
 1870. FORBES, Right Rev. ALEXANDER PENROSE, D.C.L., Bishop of Brechin.
 1862. FORBES, WILLIAM, of Medwyn, 17 Ainslie Place.
 1865. *FRANKS, AUGUSTUS W., M.A., British Museum, London.
 1862. FRASER, ALEXANDER, 13 East Claremont Street.
 1857. *FRASER, PATRICK ALLAN, of Hospital Field, Arbroath.
 1864. FRASER, PATRICK, Advocate, Moray Place.
 1851. FRASER, WILLIAM, S.S.C., Assistant-Keeper of Register of Sasines.
 1864. FREER, ALLAN, Banker, Melrose.
 1863. FRIER, ROBERT, Artist, 62 Queen Street.
 1867. FURBY, ALCIDE, LL.B., Paris.
1870. GEIKIE, ARCHIBALD, Director of Geological Survey, Ramsay Lodge.
 1865. GIBB, ANDREW, Lithographer, Aberdeen.
 1867. GILLESPIE, DAVID, Mountquhanie, Fifeshire.
 1862. GILLMAN, ANDREW, S.S.C., Victoria Terrace, Westminster.
 1870. GLASGOW, Right Hon. the Earl of.
 1846. GOODSIR, ALEXANDER, 18 Regent Terrace.
 1860. *GORDON, EDWARD STRATHEARN, Q.C., 2 Randolph Crescent.
 1869. GOUDIE, GILBERT, National Bank.
 1852. GRAHAME, BARRON, of Morphie, Braeside, Whitehouse Gardens.
 1851. GRAHAM, WILLIAM, LL.D., 1 Moray Place.
 1870. GREENBURY, Rev. THOMAS, Ilkley, Leeds.
 1866. *GREENSHIELDS, JOHN B., Advocate, younger of Kerse, Lanarkshire.
 1870. GRIEVE, DAVID, 12 Lochend Road, Leith.
 1863. GRIGOR, JOHN, M.D., Nairn.
 1835. *GROAT, ALEX. G., of Newhall, 12 Hart Street.
1861. HADDINGTON, Right Hon. the Earl of.
 1846. *HAILSTONE, EDWARD, of Horton Hall, Bradford.

1833. HAMILTON, ALEXANDER, LL.B., W.S., The Elms, Morningside.
 1861. *HAMILTON, Right Hon. ROBERT C. NISBET, of Dirleton.
 1860. HANNAH, Rev. JOHN, D.C.L., The Vicarage, Brighton.
 1867. HARRIS, ALEXANDER, City Chambers.
 1849. HARVEY, Sir GEORGE, Knt., President Royal Scottish Academy.
 1870. HARVEY, THOMAS, LL.D., Rector Edinburgh Academy, 46 George Square.
 1864. *HAY, ROBERT J. A., of Nunraw, Prestonkirk.
 1856. HEBDEN, ROBERT J., of Eday, Orkney.
 1860. HOME, DAVID MILNE, of Wedderburn and Paxton.
 1867. HOME, GEORGE H. MONRO BINNING, Argaty, Doune.
 1852. *HORN, ROBERT, Advocate, 7 Randolph Crescent.
 1867. HORNER, JOSEPH A., Great Yarmouth.
 1861. *HOWE, ALEXANDER, W.S., 17 Moray Place.
 1867. HUNTER, WILLIAM, 22 Regent Street, Portobello.
 1860. HUTCHISON, ROBERT, of Carlowrie.
1853. INNES, COSMO, Advocate, P.C.S., Professor of History, University of Edinburgh.
 1866. IRVINE, JAMES T., Architect, Coombe Down, Bath.
1851. *JACKSON, EDWARD JAMES, B.A. Oxon., 6 Coates Crescent.
 1867. JAMES, Rev. JOHN, Morley, near Leeds.
 1859. JAMIESON, GEORGE A., Accountant, St. Andrew Square.
 1865. JARDINE, Sir WILLIAM, Bart., LL.D., of Applegarth, Lockerbie.
 1859. JEFFREY, ALEXANDER, Solicitor, Jedburgh.
 1870. JERVISE, ANDREW, Registration Examiner, Brechin.
 1848. JOHNSTON, GEORGE, D.D., 6 Minto Street.
 1849. JOHNSTON, THOMAS B., 4 St. Andrew Square,—*Treasurer*.
 1869. JOHNSTON, Rev. THOMAS, Anwoth, Kirkcudbright.
 1864. JONES, MORRIS CHARLES, Gungrog, near Welshpool.
1865. KAYE, ROBERT, Fountain Bank, Partick, Glasgow.
 1870. KELTIE, JOHN S., 22 London Street.
 1848. KERR, ANDREW, Architect, Office of H.M. Works.
 1861. KING, Lieut.-Col. WILLIAM ROSS, of Tertowie, Aberdeenshire.

1870. KING, GEORGE, 19 Carden Place, Aberdeen.
1867. KINNAIRD, Right Hon. Lord, Rossie Priory, Perthshire.
1866. LAIDLAY, J. W., Seacliff, North Berwick.
1856. LAING, ALEXANDER, Newburgh, Fife.
1824. LAING, DAVID, Signet Library,—*Secretary for Foreign Correspondence.*
1864. *LAING, SAMUEL, 1 Eastern Terrace, Brighton.
1862. LAWRIE, ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, Advocate, Nelson Street.
1862. LAWSON, CHARLES, of Borthwick Hall, George Square.
1847. LAWSON, CHARLES, Jun., of Borthwick Hall, George Square.
1856. LEISHMAN, MATTHEW, D.D., Manse, Govan.
1857. LESLIE, CHARLES STEPHEN, Younger of Balquhain, Slindon, Arundel.
1861. LESLIE, Colonel J. FORBES, of Rothie, Aberdeenshire.
1849. LOCHORE, Rev. ALEXANDER, Manse, Drymen, Stirlingshire.
1831. *LOGAN, ALEXANDER, London.
1858. LOGAN, GEORGE, W.S., Clerk of Teinds.
1860. LOTHIAN, Most Honourable the Marquess of, Newbattle Abbey.
1866. *LOVAT, Right Hon. Lord, Beaufort Castle, Inverness-shire.
1867. *LUBBOCK, Sir JOHN, Bart., High Elms, Kent.
1865. LYELL, DAVID, Writer, 39 Castle Street.
1856. M'BURNEY, ISAAH, LL.D., Athole Academy, Isle of Man.
1862. MACGIBBON, DAVID, Architect, George Street.
1867. M'GUFFIE, Rev. GEORGE, Etal, by Coldstream.
1849. MACGREGOR, ALEXANDER BENNET, younger of Kernoch, Glasgow.
1856. MACGREGOR, DONALD R., 55 Bernard Street, Leith.
1852. MACKENZIE, ALEXANDER KINCAID, Manager, Commercial Bank of Scotland.
1846. MACKENZIE, DONALD, Advocate, 12 Great Stuart Street.
1844. MACKENZIE, JOHN WHITEFOORD, W.S., 16 Royal Circus.
1844. *MACKENZIE, KEITH STEWART, of Seaforth, Brahan Castle, Dingwall.
1870. MACKENZIE, THOMAS, Sheriff-Substitute, Dornoch.
1841. MACKNIGHT, JAMES, W.S., 12 London Street.
1864. *MACKINTOSH, CHARLES FRASER, of Drummond, Inverness-shire.
1865. MACKISON, WILLIAM, Architect, Dundee.
1864. M'LAREN, DUNCAN, M.P., Newington House

1856. M'LAUCHLAN, Rev. THOMAS, LL.D., St Columba Free Church, Edinburgh.
1861. MACLEOD, WILLIAM, M.D., Ben Rhyding, Yorkshire.
1846. MACMILLAN, JOHN, A.M., Emeritus Master and Examiner of High School of Edinburgh.
1855. MACNAB, JOHN, Findlater Lodge, Trinity.
1867. MAITLAND, KENMURE, Sheriff-Clerk of Mid-Lothian.
1861. MARWICK, JAMES DAVID, City Clerk, City Chambers.
1858. MATHESON, Sir JAMES, of the Lewes and Achany, Bart., M.P.
1870. MAXWELL, Sir WILLIAM STIRLING, Bart., of Pollok and Keir, Keir House, Dunblane.
1864. MELDRUM, GEORGE, C.A., 40 Melville Street.
1853. MERCER, GRAEME R., of Gorthy.
1862. MERCER, ROBERT, of Scotsbank, Ramsay Lodge, Portobello.
1862. MERCER, Major WILLIAM DRUMMOND, Huntingtower, Perth.
1860. MILLER, JOHN, of Leithen, M.P., Peeblesshire.
1866. MILLER, PETER, Surgeon, Bellevue Terrace.
1851. *MILLER, SAMUEL CHRISTIE, of Craigentiny, 21 St James's Place, London.
1867. MILLIGAN, Rev. JOHN, A.M., Manse, Twynholm, Dumfries.
1859. MILN, JAMES, of Murie, Errol, Perthshire.
1867. MITCHELL, ARTHUR, M.D., Commissioner in Lunacy, 5 East Claremont Street.
1866. MITCHELL, HOUSTON, of Polmood, Broughton Place.
1851. MONTEITH, ROBERT I. J., of Carstairs, Lanarkshire.
1851. *MONTGOMERY, Sir GRAHAM G., of Stanhope, Bart., M.P.
1867. *MORAY, CHARLES HOME DRUMMOND, Abercairny, Perthshire.
1857. MORISON, ALEXANDER, of Bognie, Aberdeenshire.
1867. MORRALL, MICHAEL T., Matlock, Derbyshire.
1867. MORRICE, ARTHUR D., 34 Marischal Street, Aberdeen.
1856. MOSSMAN, ADAM, Jeweller, Princes Street.
1860. MUDIE, JOHN, of Pitmuies, Arbroath.
1862. MUIR, WILLIAM, Wellington Place, Leith.
1853. *MURRAY, THOMAS GRAHAM, W.S., 11 Randolph Crescent.
1867. MURRIE, JOHN, Stirling.
1863. *MYLNE, ROBERT WILLIAM, Architect, Whitehall Place, London.

1857. NEAVES, the Hon. Lord, Charlotte Square,—*Vice-President*.
 1864. NEILSON, JOHN, W.S., 23 East Claremont Street.
 1860. NEISH, JAMES, of the Laws, near Dundee.
 1857. *NICOL, JAMES DYCE, of Ballogie, M.P., Aberdeenshire.
 1861. *NICOL, ERSKINE, R.S.A., London.
 1851. NIVEN, JOHN, M.D., 110 Lauriston Place.
 1867. NORTHUMBERLAND, His Grace the Duke of.
1832. *OMOND, Rev. JOHN REID, Monzie, Crieff.
1862. PATERSON, GEORGE A., M.D., 11 North Merchiston Place.
 1859. PATON, JOHN, Meadow Place.
 1846. PATON, JOSEPH NEIL, Dunfermline.
 1859. PATON, Sir JOSEPH NOEL, Knt, R.S.A., 33 George Square.
 1869. PATON, WALLER HUGH, R.S.A., 16 George Square.
 1870. *PATRICK, R. W. COCHRANE, LL.B., Oxon., Woodside, Beith, Ayrshire.
 1862. PEDDIE, JOHN DICK, Architect, 5 South Charlotte Street.
 1855. *PENDER, JOHN, of Minard, Mount Street, Manchester.
 1860. PIERSON, JAMES ALEX., of The Guynd, Forfarshire.
 1860. PRIMROSE, Hon. BOUVERIE F., 22 Moray Place.
1865. RAINY, ROBERT, D.D., Professor of Theology, New College, Edinburgh.
 1864. *RAMSAY, Major JOHN, of Straloch and Barra, Aberdeenshire.
 1860. REID, JAMES, Secretary, Commercial Bank of Scotland.
 1866. REID, WILLIAM, W.S., 42 Frederick Street.
 1849. RHIND, DAVID, Architect, 54 Great King Street.
 1861. ROBERTSON, ANDREW, M.D., Indego, Tarland, Aberdeenshire.
 1856. ROBERTSON, GEORGE B., W.S., General Register-House.
 1859. ROBERTSON, Colonel JAMES A., 118 Princes Street.
 1862. ROBERTSON, JOHN, S.S.C., Portobello.
 1863. ROBIN, Rev. JOHN, Manse, Burntisland.
 1865. ROBINSON, JOHN RYLEY, LL.D., Dewsbury.
 1854. ROGER, JAMES C., Middle Temple, London.
 1850. ROGERS, Rev. CHARLES, LL.D., Lewisham, Kent.
 1867. ROSEHILL, The Hon. Lord, Easter Warriston.
 1869. ROSSLYN, Right Hon. The Earl of.

1867. ROSS, Rev. WILLIAM, Rothesay.
1864. SCOTT, HEW, D.D., Manse, Anstruther-Wester, Fifeshire.
1848. SETON, GEORGE, Advocate, St Bennet's, Greenhill.
1869. *SHAND, ALEX. BURNS, Advocate, 3 Great Stuart Street.
1864. SHAND, ROBERT, Teacher, 45 Mill Street, Perth.
1849. SHIEL, WILLIAM, Assistant-Clerk of Session, General Register-House.
1860. SIM, GEORGE, 9 Lauriston Lane,—*Curator of Coins*.
1865. SIM, WILLIAM, of Lunan Bank, St Bernard's Crescent.
1864. SIMPSON, Rev. ADAM L., Derby.
1870. SIMPSON, GEORGE BUCHAN, Seafield, Broughty-Ferry.
1864. SIMSON, GEORGE W., Artist, 54 Frederick Street.
1857. SINCLAIR, ALEXANDER, 133 George Street.
1833. SKENE, WILLIAM FORBES, W.S., Inverleith Row.
1853. SMALL, ANDREW, 29 East Claremont Street.
1870. SMALL, DAVID, Solicitor, Gray House, Dundee.
1844. *SMITH, DAVID, W.S., 64 Princes Street.
1847. SMITH, JOHN ALEX., M.D., 7 West Maitland Street,—*Secretary*.
1858. SMITH, ROBERT M., Bellevue Crescent.
1867. SMITH, WILLIAM, Junior, Alma House, Morley, near Leeds.
1866. SMYTHE, WILLIAM, of Methven, Perthshire.
1855. SNODY, ANDREW, S.S.C., Gayfield Square.
1864. SOUTAR, WILLIAM SHAW, Banker, Blairgowrie.
1858. STARKE, JAMES, Advocate, Traquair-holme, Dumfries.
1855. STEVENSON, THOMAS, Civil Engineer, 17 Heriot Row.
1867. STEVENSON, JOHN J., Architect, Edinburgh.
1847. STEVENSON, WILLIAM, D.D., Professor of Church History, University of Edinburgh.
1848. *STEWART, HOPE J., Clearburn House, Prestonfield.
1867. STEWART, CHARLES, R.A., Government House, Jersey.
1863. STEWART, JAMES R., 17 Melville Street.
1867. *STRATHMORE, Right Hon. the Earl of, Glamis Castle, Forfarshire.
1850. STRUTHERS, Rev. JOHN, Minister of Prestonpans.
1853. STUART, JOHN, LL.D., General Register-House,—*Secretary*.
1845. *STUART, Right Hon. Sir JOHN, Vice-Chancellor of the Court of Chancery in England.

1867. *SUTHERLAND, His Grace the Duke of, Dunrobin Castle, Sutherlandshire.
 1851. SWINTON, ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL, of Kimmerghame, Advocate.
 1863. SWITHINBANK, GEORGE E., LL.D., Newcastle.
 1856. *SYME, JAMES G., Advocate.
1860. TAYLOR, JAMES, Starley Hall, Burntisland.
 1870. TEESDALE, REV. FREDERICK D., 5 Merchiston Place.
 1870. TENNANT, CHARLES, of The Glen, Innerleithen.
 1870. THOMAS, Captain F. W. L., R.N., Rosepark, Trinity.
 1867. THOMSON, LOCKHART, S.S.C., Coates Crescent.
 1847. THOMSON, THOMAS, W.S., 1 Thistle Court.
 1862. TREVELYAN, Sir WALTER C., Bart., Wallington, Northumberland.
 1865. TROUP, WILLIAM, Hartville, Bridge-of-Allan.
 1867. TULLIS, WILLIAM, Markinch, Fifeshire.
 1869. *TURNBULL, JOHN, of Abbey St Bathans, W.S., 49 George Square.
 1865. TURNER, WILLIAM, M.B., Professor of Anatomy, University of Edinburgh.
 1866. TWEDDELL, GEORGE M., Stokesley, Yorkshire.
1862. *VEITCH, GEORGE SETON, Bank of Scotland.
 1860. VERE, WILLIAM E. HOPE, of Craigie Hall.
1859. *WALKER, FOUNTAINE, of Foyers, Inverness-shire.
 1848. WALKER, WILLIAM, F.R.C.S.E., 47 Northumberland Street.
 1861. WALKER, WILLIAM STUART, of Bowland.
 1849. WARE, TITUS HIBBERT, 20 Derby Road, Southport, Lancashire.
 1867. WATSON, REV. WILLIAM RANKEN, Manse, Logie, Fifeshire.
 1856. WEBSTER, JOHN, Advocate, 42 King Street, Aberdeen.
 1870. WHITE, JOHN, of Drumelzier and Netherurd, Peeblesshire.
 1869. WHITE, Captain T. P., R.E., Ordnance Survey.
 1867. WHYTE, ROBERT, Procurator-Fiscal, Forfar.
 1870. *WHYTOCK, ALEXANDER, George Street.
 1870. WILLIAMS, Major WILLIAM EDWARD, Bexley, Kent.
 1860. WILSON, WILLIAM THORBURN, Burnside, Rutherglen.
 1870. WILSON, CHARLES E., LL.D., H.M. Inspector of Schools, 2 Kew Terrace,
 Glasgow.

1861. *WILSON, WILLIAM, of Banknock, Stirlingshire.
1870. WINGATE, JAMES, Linnhouse, Hamilton.
1852. WISE, THOMAS A., M.D., Rostillan Castle, Cork, Ireland.
1863. WISHART, EDWARD, 22 Baltic Street, Leith.
1870. WRIGHT, HENRY, Publisher, London.
1867. WRIGHT, ROBERT, D.D., Manse, Dalkeith.
1864. WRONGHAM, WILLIAM, Agent, Dundee.
1866. YOUNG, JAMES, M.D., 36 Castle Street.
1866. YOUNG, ROBERT, Writer, Elgin.
1867. YULE, JOHN, Newburgh, Fife.
1849. YULE, General PATRICK, Royal Engineers, Inverleith Row.

LIST OF HONORARY MEMBERS
OF THE
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND,
JUNE 30, 1870.

[According to the Laws, the Number is Limited to TWENTY-FIVE.]

1820.

PRINCE GUSTAFF VASA OF SWEDEN.

1849.

Right Hon. Sir WILLIAM GIBSON CRAIG of Riccarton, Bart., Lord Clerk
Register.

1851.

Right Hon. The EARL STANHOPE, D.C.L., President of the Society of Anti-
quaries, London.

1853.

DANIEL WILSON, LL.D., Professor of English Literature, Toronto, Canada.

1855.

5 Major-General Sir HENRY C. RAWLINSON, K.C.B., D.C.L., London.

1857.

WILLIAM REEVES, D.D., Lusk, Dublin.

1860.

His Majesty The KING OF SWEDEN AND NORWAY.

Right Hon. LORD TALBOT DE MALAHIDE.

Dr RICHARD LEPSIUS, Berlin.

10 The Chevalier G. H. PERTZ, LL.D., Royal Library, Berlin.

1861.

JAMES FARRER of Ingleborough, Yorkshire.

1862.

HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS ALBERT EDWARD, PRINCE OF WALES.

Dr FERDINAND KELLER, Zurich.

The PRINCE LOUIS LUCIEN BONAPARTE.

1864.

15 Right Hon. JOHN LORD ROMILLY, Master of the Rolls

Sir THOMAS DUFFUS HARDY, Deputy-Keeper of Her Majesty's Public
Records, London.

ALEXANDER J. BERESFORD HOPE, Esq., M.P., London.

1865.

Sir HENRY DRYDEN, Bart., Canons Ashby, Northamptonshire.

1868.

THOMAS CARLYLE, Esq., Cheyne Row, Chelsea.

20 ALBERT WAY, Esq., of Wonham Manor, Reigate.

1869.

JOHN HENRY PARKER, Esq., Oxford.

M. FRANCISQUE MICHEL, Paris.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

EIGHTY-NINTH SESSION, 1868-69.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, *St Andrew's Day*, 30th November 1868.

DAVID LAING, Esq., LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Office-bearers of the Society for the ensuing Session were elected as follows :—

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

President.

THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY, K.G.

Vice-Presidents.

WILLIAM FORBES SKENE, Esq., LL.D.

HONOURABLE LORD NEAVES, LL.D.

DAVID MILNE HOME, of Milnegraden and Paxton, Esq.

Councillors.

RIGHT HON. GEORGE PATTON, LORD JUSTICE-CLERK.	} <i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>
JAMES T. GIBSON CRAIG, Esq.	
ROBERT HUTCHESON, of Carlowrie, Esq.	
JOHN M. BALFOUR, Esq.	
COLONEL J. FORBES LESLIE.	
CHARLES E. DALRYMPLE, Esq.	
PROFESSOR SIR JAMES Y. SIMPSON, Bart., M.D.	
ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D.	
SIR J. NOEL PATON, Knt., R.S.A.	

Secretaries.

JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., General Register House.
 JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D.
 DAVID LAING, Esq., LL.D., for *Foreign Correspondence.*

Treasurer.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, Esq., 4 St Andrew Square.

Curators of the Museum.

JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A.
 ROBERT CARFRAE, Esq.

Curator of Coins.

GEORGE SIM, Esq.

Librarian.

JOHN MACMILLAN, Esq., A.M.

Auditors.

JAMES D. MARWICK, Esq.
 ROBERT HUTCHISON, Esq.

WILLIAM T. M'CULLOCH, *Keeper of the Museum.*
 ROBERT PAUL, *Assistant.*

A Ballot took place, and the following Gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society :—

SIR WILLIAM HENRY GIBSON CARMICHAEL, of Skirling, Bart., Peeblesshire.

PATRICK HAY CHALMERS, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen.

JOHN R. DAWSON, Esq., Borside, Linlithgow.

REV. THOMAS JOHNSTONE, Manse, Anwoth.

JOHN J. STEVENSON, Esq., Architect, Edinburgh.

JOHN TURNBULL, of Abbey St. Bathans, Esq.

The Secretary read the following Annual Report, to be transmitted to the Treasury by the Honourable the Secretary of the Board of Trustees :—

ANNUAL REPORT of the Society of Antiquities of Scotland, for the year ending 30th September 1868.

During Session 1867-68 the Museum was only open from the 1st to the 30th day of October, and from the 24th day of December until the 2d day of January 1868, during which time the Museum was visited by 18,136 persons.

As stated in the Report for last year, an application was made to Government for a grant of money for the purpose of making extensive alterations in the Museum. The application having been agreed to, operations commenced in the second week of January. The first step necessary was to remove the Books from the Library, and the collection of Antiquities from the walls and cases. The floor and joists were then taken up, and new joists and floor laid down, bringing the floor to its original level. The lowering of the floor rendered it necessary to take down, re-arrange, and put up again, the heating apparatus. A range of additional cases was added below the wall cases. The walls and cupola were repainted. The gas fittings were altered, and extra branches and jets added.

The Library has now been re-arranged, and the re-arrangement of the Museum, including the Bell Collection, has nearly been brought to a conclusion.

The Donations during the year included 134 articles of antiquity, 110 volumes of books and pamphlets, and 25 coins and medals.

Five articles of antiquity and fourteen books and pamphlets have been added by purchase.

The Donations include books on various Archæological subjects, from His Grace the Duke of Northumberland.

A collection of works on Epitaphs and Rites of Sepulture, by the representatives of the late William Dobie, Esq., of Grangevale, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot. (See page 13).

Collection of stone and bone implements from a Piet's house in Orkney, by Dr Traill, St Andrews.

Various stone weapons, iron anchor, &c., found in Kirkcudbright, by the Rev. John Milligan, A.M., F.S.A. Scot., Manse, Twynholm.

Bone comb, whorls, and other 25 articles, by James T. Irvine, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

The TREASURER read an Abstract of his Accounts to the present time, showing a favourable state of the funds, being amply sufficient, in the course of this month, to pay the claims for Printing and Illustrating the Proceedings, for Printing and Binding the extra volume of Records prepared for the Members, and other expenses.

On the motion of the Chairman, the thanks of the Society were voted to Mr JOHNSTON for his continued services as Honorary Treasurer.

The Chairman, Mr LAING, delivered the following

OPENING ADDRESS.

IN retiring from office, as *Senior Vice-President*, I have the pleasure of congratulating the Society on its continued prosperity. Since the arrangements made through the Board of Trustees with Government, the Museum partakes of a National character, and commends itself to all intelligent persons interested in the conservation of articles illustrating the History and Antiquities of this Country. By means of the special grant from the Treasury, alluded to at the last Anniversary meeting, it has recently been enriched with the extensive and valuable collections of Irish Antiquities, formed by the late JOHN BELL, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., while a resident for many years at Dungannon.

Various important additions, presented by private individuals, consist of articles recently discovered; and also of coins and other objects of *Treasure-Trove* transmitted by the Exchequer. I hope before long, agreeably to an intention lately expressed by the proprietor, the Society will receive the large Roman Sculptured Stone, discovered in April last on the estate of HENRY CADELL, Esq. of Grange, in the parish of Carriden. This discovery is particularly interesting, as it affords evidence of the eastern termination of the Wall of Antoninus.—I may take this occasion to suggest to the noble and other proprietors in Argyleshire, that an example of the Ancient Sculptured Stone Crosses which exist in some of the outlying Western Islands, little known and seldom visited, would be a most desirable acquisition.

Besides the Treasury grant just mentioned for purchasing the Bell Collection, through the sanction and recommendation of the BOARD OF TRUSTEES, the Society has received two large sums of money, voted by the Treasury, for the improvement of the Museum itself, according to plans prepared by Mr MATHESON of H.M. Board of Works. This, as you have just heard in the Secretary's Annual Report, consisted in lowering the floor of the Museum and Library to their original level—thus increasing available space, and in providing additional cases, and also completing the glazing, &c., with such other alterations as had become requisite.

In consequence of these alterations, it was absolutely necessary to close the Museum to the public during the present year; but matters are now in such a state as may warrant the Council to direct, that it be re-opened for visitors not later than the Christmas holidays. Almost every article having had to be removed and stowed away, the Members will readily perceive that the new arrangements have been carried out in a very satisfactory manner. It would be a want of justice, not to say how much the Society is indebted to the knowledge and skill of Mr M'CULLOCH, Keeper of the Museum, in completing the tedious and difficult operation of this re-arrangement. The books in the Library have meanwhile been partially arranged, and replaced in the shelves to facilitate the preparation of the CATALOGUE, which is much required. The SYNOPSIS of the Museum is a matter that will also necessarily require the CURATORS to undertake, in order to have it carefully revised and enlarged to suit the new classification

There is another matter to which, as joint-Editor, I cannot avoid alluding. I mean the printing of the Proceedings. When this Series was commenced in 1851, it was proposed to have an Annual Part completed for each Anniversary Meeting. The Members have not, indeed, much reason this Session to complain, as they received two large Parts, including Sir James Simpson's elaborate and valuable communication, "On the Ancient Sculpturings of Cups and Concentric Rings, &c." My reason for making this statement, is the fact that Vol. VII. Part I. containing the Proceedings for the Session 1866-67, is still unfinished. Various methods have been tried to avoid such delays, but in vain, owing to a variety of causes which need not be detailed.

I therefore beg to recommend, as the best mode to prevent the printed Proceedings in future from falling so much into arrear, viz., that Vol. VIII. be commenced with the present Session 1868-69; and that the lists and communications of each subsequent meeting, from and after December, be forthwith put into the printer's hands, leaving the autumn vacation, if need be, as ample time for completing each successive part. This plan of course, will not be allowed to interfere with the completion of Vol. VII. I need not say what additional difficulties are occasioned to all parties when communications have, as a matter of course, to be postponed to some indefinite time.

In the Session 1861-62, when called upon, as one of the Vice-Presidents, to deliver an Anniversary Address,¹ it occurred to me to suggest that the Society might with advantage assume the place of one of the Literary Clubs now terminated, by publishing as a distinct series occasional volumes of original documents and letters illustrating the history and literature of Scotland. The subject, in a more restricted form, was afterwards brought under the consideration of the Council by the Secretary, who proposed that this Series, if commenced, should, for the present, at least, be limited to the lesser Chartularies of Religious Houses still unprinted, including, for instance, the charters and other records of Cambuskenneth, Inchcolm, the Chapel Royal of Stirling, Kinloss, Pluscardine, Ferne, and similar establishments of which no regular Chartulary has been preserved.

¹ Not printed at the time (see vol. iv. p. 375), being reserved for the *Archæologia Scotica*, Vol. V.

The Council eventually resolved to commence the proposed series with a volume to contain the RECORDS OF THE PRIORY OF THE ISLE OF MAY, and requested (JOHN STUART, Secretary Esq.,) to act as Editor. Mr STUART will state when the volume may be expected. At a late Council Meeting it was further resolved, that each Fellow of the Society be entitled to a copy free of charge.

In connexion with this work, it may be proper to notice that Mr Stuart, on visiting the Island, suggested to the authorities the necessity of some steps being taken for the preservation of the old Chapel now in ruins; and he will report to the Meeting the successful result of his application.

During the last Session thirty-two new Members have been added to the list of Fellows, including four of the Scottish Nobility. I mention this, as it is of importance for the Society to secure as much as possible the influence of our great landed proprietors. On the other hand, we have to lament the loss of some of our old and zealous coadjutors, who continued for many years to take a special interest in the prosperity of the Society.

The number of these deceased Members is twelve, viz. :—

	Elected.
PATRICK ARKLEY of Dunninald, Esq., Advocate, Sheriff-Substitute of Edinburgh,	1856
JOHN INGLIS CHALMERS of Aldbar, Esq., Forfarshire,	1855
HENRY CHEYNE, of Tanwick, in Shetland, Esq., W.S.,	1836
WILLIAM DRUMMOND, Esq., Rockdale, Stirling,	1859
WILLIAM H. FOTHERINGHAM, Esq., Sheriff-Clerk of Orkney,	1848
JAMES HORSBURGH of Lochmalony, Esq., Fife,	1865
WILLIAM BORTHWICK JOHNSTONE, Esq., Treasurer R.S.A., and Curator of the National Gallery,	1848
JOHN MACDONALD, Esq., Town-Clerk, Arbroath,	1853
HENRY C. MACLAURIN, Esq., Post-Office,	1841
DAVID H. ROBERTSON, M.D., Leith, author in 1851 of the curious and interesting volume, "The Sculptured Stones of Leith, with Historical and Antiquarian Notices,"	1849
ADAM SIM of Coulter, Esq., Lanarkshire,	1861
ALEXANDER THOMSON of Banchory, Esq., Aberdeenshire,	1859

Also one Member resigned. The number on the Roll is now 300.

At the conclusion of this Address, Mr STUART, Secretary, reported that the volume, entitled "Records of the Priory of the Isle of May," was now in the binder's hands, and was nearly ready for distribution to the Fellows of the Society. He also stated to the Meeting, that having visited the Island and seen the decayed state of the walls of St Adrian's Chapel, he reported their condition to the Commissioners of Northern Lights, with the view of their intervention for their repair. The Commissioners were ready to do what was necessary in the matter, and obtained an estimate for the work; but on a report by them to the Board of Trade, it appeared that no funds could be made available for such a purpose. The Secretary then, in name of the Society, addressed a letter to the Commissioners of the Treasury, setting forth the ruinous state of the Chapel, and the circumstances which invested it with such historical interest as to render its preservation a matter of public concern.

The following answer was received to this statement, and in the month of October last the whole building was carefully pointed with cement, under the superintendence of Mr Matheson of H.M. Office of Works, and with the ready concurrence of the Commissioners of Lights:—

"TREASURY CHAMBERS,
17th March 1868.

"SIR,—With reference to your letter of the 13th ultimo, I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury to inform you that they are pleased to consent to an expenditure of from L.30 to L.50 in repair of the ruin called St Adrian's Chapel, in the Isle of May.

"My Lords have requested the First Commissioner of Works to cause the necessary instructions to be given to Mr Matheson to undertake the repair, in communication with the Society of Antiquaries.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
GEO. A. HAMILTON."

At the same time the foundations were cleared out, and ground plans and elevations of these and of the Chapel were made by Mr Matheson. These were transmitted by him to the Commissioners of H.M. Works, and were afterwards presented by them to the Society, in terms of the following letter addressed by Mr Matheson to the Secretary:—

“OFFICE H.M. WORKS,
EDINBURGH, 26th Nov. 1868.

“DEAR SIR,—With reference to the letter dated 13th February last, which you addressed to the Lords of the Treasury, calling attention to the importance of repairing St Adrian’s Chapel on the Isle of May, and to my communications with you on the subject, I beg to state that the necessary repairs have been completed, which, having reported to the Board of Her Majesty’s Works, &c., forwarding the accompanying plans, elevations, and sections of the Chapel, they have now been returned to me, with directions to hand the same to you, which I have accordingly much pleasure in doing.—I am, dear Sir, yours faithfully,

ROBT. MATHESON.”

These plans and elevations have been lithographed, and will be found in the volume of “Records of the Priory of the Isle of May.”

MR DRUMMOND, one of the Curators of the Museum, read a letter he had received relative to the state of the Scottish Regalia in Edinburgh Castle. The matter was remitted to the consideration of the following gentlemen:—Sir J. Noel Paton, Mr Laing, Mr Drummond, Mr Carfrae, Mr Marwick, and Mr Stuart, Secretary.

[At a subsequent Meeting of Council, Mr LAING reported, that Mr MARWICK and himself lost no time, at the request of the other Members of Committee, in applying to the Exchequer, and he was happy to say that assurance was given that the matters to which their attention had been specially directed would not be overlooked. In pursuance of this, he added, the Secretary addressed a letter, in the name of the Society, to the Queen’s Remembrancer, pointing out the necessity of having, at least, the Crown and its jewels protected by glass, from injury and the effects of dust.]

LORD NEAVES, V.P., made a few remarks, and moved a vote of thanks to Mr LAING, the retiring Vice-President, for the active and long continued interest he has taken in the affairs of the Society. The Meeting thereafter separated.

MONDAY, 14th December 1868.

DAVID MILNE HOME, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen, on the recommendation of the Council, were balloted for and elected HONORARY MEMBERS of the Society :—

THOMAS CARLYLE, Esq., Chelsea.

ALBERT WAY, of Wonham Manor, Esq., Surrey.

The following Donations to the Library and Museum were announced :—

(1.) By ARTHUR ANDERSON, M.D., C.B., F.S.A. Scot.

Two leaf-shaped Arrow-Heads of reddish coloured flint, measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length. Chip of Flint and a broken mass of reddish-coloured flint, about 3 inches across, displaying a cast of a portion of an *echinus* on one of its sides. Found together in a field on the property of Mr Shephard, near Cairn Catta, parish of Cruden, Aberdeenshire.

Arrow or Spear-Head, of blackish-coloured flint, measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length.

Arrow-Head, of yellowish-coloured flint, measuring 2 inches in length, with barbs and stem. Found on the same property as the former flakes, &c.

(2.) By Mrs WILLIAM B. JOHNSTONE.

Iron Stand for hour-glass, probably from the pulpit of a church.

(3.) By J. T. GIBSON CRAIG, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Ten Steel Keys, of Italian workmanship, with ornamental stems and bows. The two first of the keys are gilt.

1. One measures $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, has a pointed open bow, and at the top of the stem is a shield surmounted by a raised crown, terminating in a ball and cross. On each side of the shield are initials in monogram.

2. The second has a circular bow, richly pierced in open work, with ornamental top. The key is pierced for many wards, and has the front cut like the teeth of a comb. It measures 6 inches in length.

3. Steel Key, with zig-zag ornaments on the stem. The bow is pierced with five holes. It measures $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length.

4. Steel Key, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. The bow is a simple loop, and rudely finished, apparently a mend or restoration. The bit or portion that catches the wards of the lock, has the opening cut like a monogram, and there is a spring next the stem or pipe, which, on being pressed, allows it to be separated from the stem to which it is attached, by slipping from a groove.

5. Steel Key, with three-looped bow, and stem of three tubes or barrels. The bow separates from the stem at the top, it has three projecting pegs, which fit into the tubes of the stem. The key measures 5 inches in length.

6. Steel Key, with ornamented bow, and fleur-de-lis projecting up into the open bow. The key measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and the bit part, which is cut and pierced with round holes for wards, measures 2 inches in length.

7. Steel Key, 6 inches in length, with moulded stem and open ornamented bow, and a heart-shaped opening in the centre.

8. Steel Key, 4 inches in length, with open bow. The stem projects into the bow.

9. Steel Key, 4 inches in length, with pierced bow, having a small loop on the top. The point of the bit is cut like the teeth of a comb.

10. Steel Key, 5 inches in length, with a bow in the form of a crown. The stem is composed of three tubes, and the bit or ward portion shows a saltire or St Andrew's cross.

Six small Bronze Figures from Italy. 1. One is a nude male figure, 4 inches in height, holding a ball in the right outstretched hand, with a peg projecting from the feet, for fastening into a stand. 2. A nude Male Figure, with right arm raised, the left extended, over which is a drapery. It measures 4 inches in height. 3. A partially draped Figure, with a conical cap on the head. The figure is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height. 4. A nude Male Figure, with left arm raised, having a three-looped ornament on the head, and a peg from left foot. It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height. 5. A draped Female Figure, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height. 6. Bronze Figure of a Ram, two inches in height.

(4.) By WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., Surgeon, F.S.A. Scot.

Coffer or Chest, 15 inches in length, 12 inches in breadth, and $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches

in depth. It is covered with iron plates and straps, with projecting bosses. The front of the box folds down. The inside is filled with boxes and drawers. An engraving inside of the coffer gives the date of the reign of Charles I.

(5.) By the late Mr WILLIAM MUCKLE, through Mr HAMILTON, 27 George Street.

Glass Mug, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, with handle, and an Etching, in front, showing a pair of goats feeding. The etching bears the artist's name and date: J. Wolff, 1601.

(6.) By GENERAL LEFROY, Woolwich.

Four Photographs of a Cannon of Muhammad II., 17 feet in length, and 25 inches in bore, cast A.H. 868 (A.D. 1464), now at Woolwich. It was presented in the year 1866 to Her Majesty the Queen by Abdul Aziz Khan the Sultan of Turkey.

(7.) By His Grace the DUKE OF NORTHUMBERLAND, F.S.A. Scot.

Northumberland Household Book. 8vo. Lond. 1770.

Descriptive Catalogue of a Cabinet of Roman Family Coins belonging to His Grace the Duke of Northumberland. By W. H. Smyth. Lond. 1851. 4to.

(8.) By ROBERT YOUNG, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. (the Author).

Notes on Burghhead, Ancient and Modern. Elgin, 1868. 8vo.

(9.) By the LORDS COMMISSIONERS of H.M. TREASURY, Through the Right Hon. SIR W. GIBSON-CRAIG, Bart., Lord Clerk Registrar.

The Ledger of Andrew Halyburton. Edinburgh, 1868. Royal 8vo.

(10.) By the MANX SOCIETY.

Monumental Inscriptions in the Isle of Man. Douglas, 1868. Manx Antiquities. Vol. I. Douglas, 1868. 8vo. Being Vols. 14 and 15 of the Manx Society Publications.

(11.) By JOSEPH MAYER, Esq. (the Author).

On the Preparation of the County of Kent to resist the Spanish Armada (pp. 24). Liverpool, 1868. 8vo.

Three Addresses to the Members of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. Liverpool, 1867-68. 8vo.

(12.) By the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON.

Archæologia, Vol. XLI. Part. 1. London, 1868. 4to.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London. Vol. III. Parts 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and Vol. IV. Part 1. London, 1868. 8vo.

(13.) From the TRUSTEES of the late WILLIAM DOBIE, Esq., Beith.

COLLECTION OF BOOKS ON EPITAPHS, RITES OF SEPULTURE, AND MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS, &c.

Ancient Funeral Monuments within Great Britain, Ireland, and the Islands adjacent. John Weever. Lond. 1631. Folio.

Monumenta Patavina Sertorii Ursati studio. Patavii, 1652. Folio.

The Obit Book of Ayr; with Notes by James Paterson. Edin. 1848. 4to.

Parish Churches and Burying-Grounds of Ayrshire. Glasgow, 1847. 4to.

Select Funeral Memorials. Edited by Sir E. Brydges. Kent, 1818. 4to.

Joan. Nicolaus de Sepulchris Hebræorum. Lugd. Batav. 1706. 4to.

Select Collection of Epitaphs and Inscriptions—Moral, Humorous, and Inscriptive. By T. Bailey. MS. Vol. 4to.

Collection of Epitaphs from several Counties in England and North Wales, with Drolleries taken from Signs, &c. MS. Vol. 4to.

Christian Monuments in England Wales. By Rev. Charles Boutell. Parts I. and II. Lond. 1849. Royal 8vo.

Remarks on Christian Grave-Stones, with Drawings. By Rev. Eccles J. Carter. Lond. 1747. 8vo.

The Complete Monumental Register, containing Epitaphs in and about Calcutta, &c. By M. Derozaris. Calcutta, 1815. 8vo.

Elogiorum Sepulchralium Edinensium Delectus. By And. Duncan, M.D. Edinb. 1815. 8vo.

History of Holyrood House. By John Petrie. Edin. 1819. 8vo.

Illustrium Virorum Elogia Sepulchralia: Edit. Edw. Popham. Lond. 1778. 8vo.

Light in Darkness; or, Sermons in Stones: Churchyard Thoughts, in Verse. By Joseph Snow. Lond. 1845. Sm. 4to.

Necropolis Glasguensis. By John Strang. Glasgow, 1831. 8vo.

Collection of Epitaphs and Monumental Inscriptions. By Silvester Tissington. Lond. 1857. 8vo.

- Gatherings from Grave-Yards. By G. A. Walker, Surgeon. Lond. 1830. 8vo.
- A Village Cemetery : a Sketch. Lond., 1828. 8vo.
- Biographic and Descriptive Sketches of Glasgow Necropolis. By George Blair. Glasgow, 1857. 12mo.
- Metrical Epitaphs, Ancient and Modern. Edited by Rev. John Booth. Lond. 1868. Square 12mo.
- Epitaphs, &c., in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh. Collected by James Brown. Edinb. 1867. Post 8vo.
- Select Collection of Epitaphs and Inscriptions. By Thomas Caldwell. Lond. 1796. 12mo.
- Cemetery Interment. By George Collision. Lond., 1840. 12mo.
- Description of the Parish of North Knapdale, Argyleshire. By Arch. Currie. Glasgow, 1830. 12mo.
- Select Collection of Epitaphs, &c., with Anecdotes. Ipswich, 1806. 12mo.
- Collection of Epitaphs. With an Essay on Epitaphs, by Dr Johnson. 2 vols. Lond. 1806. 12mo.
- Collection of Epitaphs and Monumental Inscriptions, chiefly in Scotland. Glasgow, 1834. 12mo.
- Another copy of the same, printed on thick paper.
- ΕΠΙΤΑΦΙΑ, or a Collection of Memorials inscribed to the Memory of Good and Faithful Servants. London, 1826. 8vo.
- Essay on Kirk-Yards and other Burying-Grounds. By an Elder, Church of Scotland. Edin. 1767. 8vo.
- Scriptural Epitaphs. Lond. 1847. 12mo.
- Things after Death, and Hints for Epitaphs. Lond. 1848. 12mo.
- Promenade aux Cimetières de Paris ; aux Sepultures Royales de St Denis, et aux Catacombes, par M. P. St A. Paris. 12mo.
- Burning the Dead, or Urn Sepulture. Lond. 1857. 8vo.
- Remarks on City Interments, &c. Glasgow, 1842. 8vo.
- The Parish Church and Churchyard of Kilbirnie. Beith, 1850. 8vo.
- Interment and Disinterment. By G. A. Walker. Lond. 1843. 8vo.
- Verses and Texts for Grave-Stones. Lond. 1859. 12mo.
- Frobisher's New Select Collection of Epitaphs. Lond. 1860. Post 8vo.
- Essay on Sepulchres. By William Goodwin. Lond. 1809. 12mo.
- Collection of Epitaphs. By William Graham. Carlisle, 1821. 12mo.

- Select and Remarkable Epitaphs. By John Hackett. 2 vols. Lond. 1757. 12mo.
- Epitaphs for Country Churchyards. By Aug. J. C. Hare. Oxford, 1856. 12mo.
- Sepulchrorum Inscriptiones; or a Curious Collection of Epitaphs. Collected by James Jones. Vol. i. Westminster, 1727. 8vo.
- The Churchyard Manual. By Rev. W. Hastings Kelke. Lond. 1851. 12mo.
- Monumenta Anglicana; being Inscriptions on the Monuments of Eminent Persons, deceased 1600 to 1649, and from 1650 to 1718. By John Le Neve. 2 vols. Lond. 1719. 8vo.
- The same, from 1680 to 1699. Lond. 1717. 8vo.
- The same, from the year 1700 to the end of the year 1715. Lond. 1718. 8vo.
- Account of the Sepulchres of the Ancients and Description of their Monuments. By John Mack Gregory. Lond. 1712. 8vo.
- The Churchyard Lyrist. By G. Mogridge. Lond. 1832. 12mo.
- An Theater of Mortality. By Robert Monteith. 2 vols. Edin. 1704, 1713. Small 8vo.
- Select Collection of Epitaphs. By Robert Orchard. Lond. 1827. 12mo.
- Chronicles of the Tombs: a Select Collection of Epitaphs. By Thomas J. Pettigrew. Lond. 1857. 12mo.
- Churchyard Gleanings and Epigrammatic Scraps. By William Pulleyn. Lond. 1840. 12mo.
- Epitaphs collected from various Cemeteries. By Joseph B. Robinson. Lond. 1859. 12mo.
- Sepulchral Gleanings. By William Snow. Lond. 1817. 12mo.
- Chapters on Churchyards. By Caroline Southey. Edin. 1841. 12mo.
- Select Epitaphs, collected by R. Toldervy. 2 vols. Lond. 1755. 12mo.
- A New Select Collection of Epitaphs. By T. Webb. 2 vols. Lond. 1775. 12mo.
- Pleasing Melancholy; or a Walk among the Tombs in a Country Churchyard. By G. Wright. Lond. 1793. Post 8vo.

The following Communications were read--

I.

NOTES OF WOODEN STRUCTURES DISCOVERED IN THE MOSS OF WHITEBURN, ON THE ESTATE OF SPOTTISWOODE, BERWICKSHIRE. IN A LETTER TO JOHN STUART, ESQ., LL.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT.; BY THE RIGHT HON. LADY JOHN SCOTT.

The curious arrangement of stakes and sticks, of which I told you, we dug down upon, having seen the ends of the sticks, near the bottom of a drain in a boggy plantation adjoining Whiteburn Moss.



Fig 1. Wooden Structure discovered in the Moss of Whiteburn, Berwickshire.

We found a causeway of wood and branches, leading from west to east into a circular place built over with sticks as thick as a man's arm, interwoven with small sticks and branches, raised like a dome, and coming

to a point in the middle. (See the annexed sketches by Lady John Scott, fig. 1.) At the outside of the circle were several stakes driven into the ground like piles, to the depth of 3 or 4 feet. Almost all the large sticks were roughly pointed at one end, and many had a notch cut a few inches from the point, into which another stick was fitted. We found two or three bones near the circle to be the long ribs of a deer, and some small seeds. We sunk two pits after this in Whiteburn Moss, and in each of them we came on something similar. Several large, roughly-squared wooden beams, the longest and thickest of which was laid from

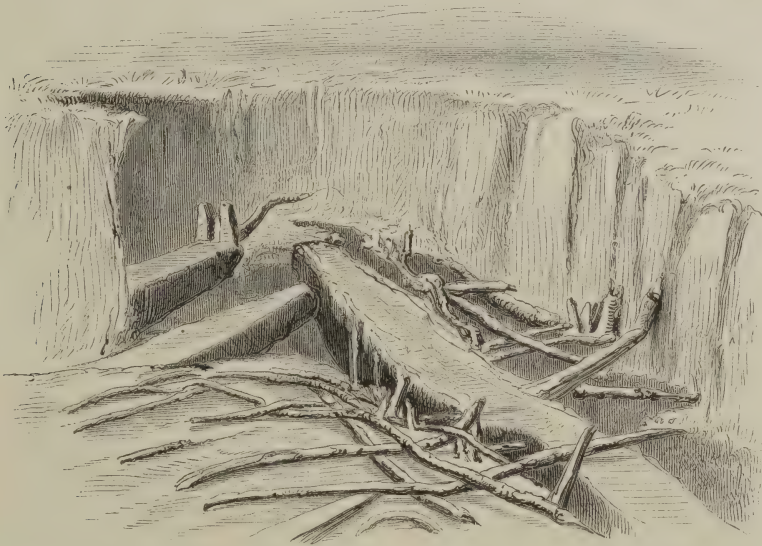


Fig. 2.—Wooden Structure discovered in the Moss of Whitburn, Berwickshire.

end to end on the top of all the others ; from east to west the other beams were laid, close together at one end, and separating like the spokes of a wheel at the other. (See sketch, fig. 2.) Small sticks, branches, &c., were crossed and interlaced, making a chequered framework in all direc-

tions; some were bent into shape like knee timber, and many were notched and laid into each other; the pointed pieces of wood were all cut exactly alike—in every instance a slant cut to the point on one side of the stick, and not cut at the back at all. The wood was much decayed, and we could not get any one of the large pieces out entire. They were all found on the clay between the peat moss and the shell marl.

About twenty years ago my father had some pits sunk in this Whiteburn Moss in search of shell marl. I was not at Spottiswoode at the time, but the men who were employed in the work told me that in each of the three pits that were sunk they found deers' horns and bones, and in one there was the entire skeleton of a deer. The peat moss was from 10 to 11 feet deep, and the bones, &c., were found in the clay between the peat and the shell marl.

Four years ago, in draining this same moss, the workmen cut through two round places like those I saw in summer. They tell me the stakes were driven down perpendicularly round the outside, and were fastened together; they were as thick as their arm. The places were made up with a quantity of branches and twigs woven together, the thicker sticks pointed and notched as in the other places. There was a great deal of withered grass and fern matted together, and some bones; and they also say, that between these two structures they found a good many bones. They saw the beginning of a similar place to the southward of the others, but this they did not cut through or destroy, so it may yet be examined.

The wood found was birch, hazel, and a little oak.

I heard from one of our men an account of a much more entire place of the kind he came upon more than twenty years ago in "Jordanlaw Moss," also on Spottiswoode estate. The stick causeway was quite perfect, and led to a round place formed of thick poles of oak and birch laid alternately, with the thick part to the outside of the circle, and the smaller ends inwards—branches, twigs, &c., woven through them. He said they came on several "caves heaped fou' o' hazel nuts a' about it." He supposed it to be a place "where the little auld folk lang syne dried their corn." I am sorry to say the place was entirely broken up, and the wood divided among several people for burning.

NOTE ON COMMUNICATION OF LADY JOHN SCOTT, DESCRIPTIVE OF WOODEN STRUCTURES AT SPOTTISWOODE, IN BERWICKSHIRE. BY JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

It would seem that these remains had been designed as places of retreat and safety at a time when the place was a marsh amid wood.

Among the early British people the woods and marshes were places of frequent resort. Eumenius speaks of these among the Caledonians; and Herodian tells us that Severus, on his expedition into Britain, in following the natives into their marshy refuges, had to form causeways by which his soldiers might reach them and fight on firm footing; and both he and Xiphiline, in describing the people, advert to their custom of living in marshes.

In several parts of Scotland, wooden structures and relics have been found in mosses and marshy spots which had formerly been under water.

As an instance, I may refer to the Green Knowe on the farm of Nisbet, in Culter parish, Lanarkshire. It consisted of a mound of stones resting on moss, penetrated in all directions by oak piles, and approached by a causeway of stones. The old name of the site of this relic was "Cranney Moss," obviously derived from the word Crannock, or Crannog, which was the term used for structures of this description in Scotch records of the beginning of the seventeenth century; and as it is a word of frequent occurrence in the topography of Scotland, in connection with mosses and bogs, it is very probable that the occurrence of crannogs might be traced by an examination of sites thus named.

Dr Mitchell has described a remarkable wooden structure found in the moss at Corncockle, in Applegarth. It consisted of a platform formed of oak trees resting on moss, and covered by a bank of the same substance of great depth. On this platform was a layer of birch twigs, above which was another of common bracken, and at one part of it was a pavement of flattish whin-stones. Here were many fragments of burnt wood, and seven large bowls or cups cut out of oak, with a rude oak mallet. This remain had not yet been completely cleared of moss, but it seems to have formed the platform on which rested the frail buildings of a group of the early inhabitants in the midst of a morass.

In the moss of Knaven, in Aberdeenshire, a canoe was dug up; and in

the moss of Ravenstone, in Wigtonshire, five paddles were found lying close to a mass of timber, about 6 feet under the surface, all implying the resort of the primitive inhabitants to these localities when they were marshes or shallow lakes.

The circular remains described in Lady John Scott's communication, seem to have been formed by large beams going round the edge, with smaller trees radiating inwards to a centre, and covered with layers of grass and fern mixed with branches and twigs, and they all point to structures analogous to the crannogs in the Loch of Dowalton, described at length in Vol. VI. of our Proceedings.

The occurrence of the wooden causeways by which they were accessible makes it probable that the locality was then a marsh; and the bones which have been discovered in connection with them would lead us to believe that, like the Islands at Dowalton, they had been places of frequent or continuous resort.

The Society is indebted to Lady John Scott's interest in such matters for this communication, and will, I am sure, welcome any farther details which future examination may enable her to give.

II.

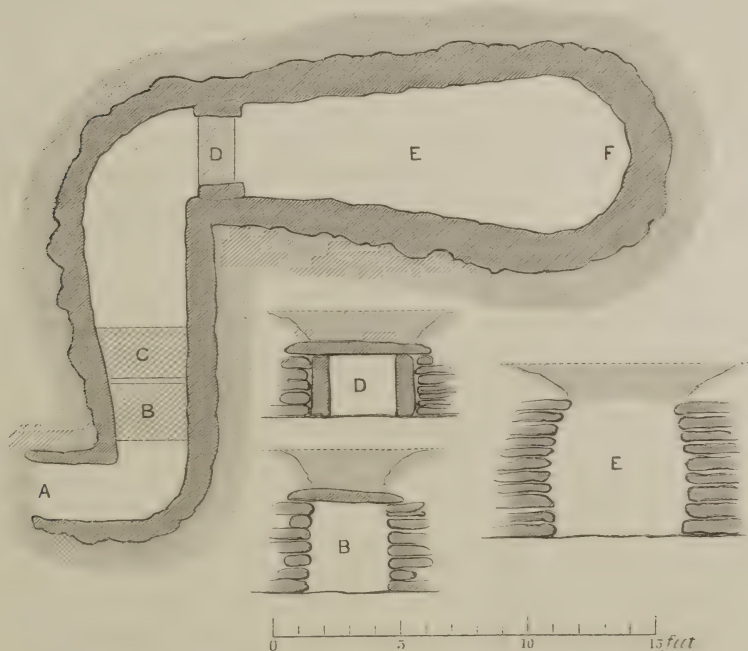
ACCOUNT OF A SUBTERRANEAN BUILDING FOUND NEAR BROOM-HOUSE, THE PROPERTY OF COLONEL LOGAN HOME, IN THE PARISH OF EDROM, BERWICKSHIRE. BY D. MILNE HOME, Esq., V.P.S.A. Scot.

During the last week of September, a field was being ploughed, when in the most elevated part of it the plough struck on a large flat stone. The ploughman lifted the stone, and saw appearances of a wall.

The proprietor having been informed of the circumstance, caused some digging to be made. It was found that beneath the flag-stone, which the plough had struck, there were rudely built walls. Farther explorations were made, and the result was the discovery of a subterranean chamber and passage leading to it, as shown on the accompanying ground-plan, made out by Colonel Logan Home's son.

The walls in the largest part—viz., D, E, F, show a vertical face of

about 5 feet. The walls in the part A, B, C, D, are not so high. I assume in this statement that the excavations have reached the foundation of the walls. At one or two spots, on making a trial, I found nothing below the walls but a sandy clay; at one or two other spots there



Subterranean Building found near Broomhouse, Berwickshire.

(A) Ground-Plan, and (B, D, E) Sections of Building.

were stones below the level of the excavations. I therefore hope that the proprietor may be induced to ascertain this point more clearly.

The axis of the larger part D, E, F, is by compass S.E. by S.; the axis of the narrower part B C, is N.N.E.

The walls are vertical in all parts except between D F. There, at the

height of about 4 feet, they approach each other in the manner represented on section E. The width between the walls there at the top is about $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; and I have little doubt that they have been covered by flags long enough to form a roof. I found one flag lying amongst the rubbish of the excavations $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet long by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, which probably formed one of the roof flags. It would be desirable to have all the large flags collected together, that it may be seen whether this conjecture is correct or not.

The only places where I found flag-stones resting on the walls are indicated by the letters B, C, D. Their size is shown by the plan and sections. The flag-stone B is not absolutely horizontal. It is laid with a slope upwards towards A, in correspondence with the floor of the passage. At D, the flag-stone rests on two upright stones, as shown in section D. They have evidently been squared for the purpose; but I could see no marks of tools on them or on any other stone.

These upright stones are of sandstone,—the rock which abounds in the adjoining banks of the River Whiteadder. From the number of water-worn stones, adapted for paving, lying at or near the bottom of the walls, it struck me that a floor had existed composed of these stones.

At the corner there are several upright stones of a massive character, similar to those at D, which had evidently been squared.

The level of the original floor between D F, had apparently been horizontal, and probably 8 or 9 feet under the surface of the ground. The floor, however, from D to A, slopes upward at an angle of about 11° , or 1 in 6. In order to suit this gradient, the flag B is about 6 inches above the level of C. It is from these circumstances plain that the tortuous passage A, B, C, was the entrance to the chamber or apartment D, E, F, and that the door of the chamber was at D; though there is nothing to show how the door was closed.

There were no appearance of charred wood, or any work of art; fragments of bones were found, which are now in the possession of the steward at Broomhouse Mains. I picked up a few hazel leaves, very much decayed, from below the floor at D. There are now no hazel trees near the spot.

When this building was first discovered, both the chamber and the passage to it was found full of earth. The earth was entirely free of

stones. The supposition is, that after being abandoned and unoccupied, the rains penetrating through the soil, which is in the whole field of a very sandy nature, had, in the course of time, carried sand through the interstices of the roof and walls, and thus filled what had been previously empty spaces. If this theory be correct, a very long period indeed must have elapsed before these spaces were filled.

There is no tradition in the district of the existence of this building; nor has the field any particular name.

The height of this field above the sea is about 200 feet.

On the north side of the chamber, near the middle of it, one of the stones in the wall at the bottom is curved in a singular way. It is about 2 feet long, and 6 inches deep. It is possible, however, that the stone may have been worn into this curved form by the effects of water.

I have avoided expressing any opinion regarding the intention of this building, and would prefer to be guided by your greater knowledge of such antiquities. If it was not meant as the dwelling of our savage forefathers, it may possibly have been intended as a place for concealing treasures in more recent times.

NOTE ON THE PRECEDING COMMUNICATION. BY JOHN STUART, Esq.,
LL.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Shortly after hearing from Mr Milne Home, I was able to inspect the underground chamber discovered at Broomhouse, and found it to correspond, in plan and construction, with the Picts' houses of Aberdeenshire and the northern counties, with which I was familiar under the name of "Eirde Houses."

The whole of these have been formed after one idea, viz., to secure an unobserved entrance, and to preserve a curved shape. From the entrance the first part of these structures is generally a low and narrow passage, growing in width and height from the point where the direction is changed, and terminating in a rounded extremity.

The part of them last referred to is generally from 5 to 9 feet in width, with a height barely sufficient to permit a man to stand erect. In some cases, however, they have been found to be of much more contracted dimensions throughout. The Eirde house at Migvie, in Cromar, only

admits a single person to pass along ; while that at Torrich, in Strathdonan, Sutherlandshire, is barely 3 feet in width.

Dr Mitchell has described another at Erribol, in that county, which is more like a large drain than anything else.

One of the Eirde houses at Buchaam, in Aberdeenshire, has two upright slabs at the curve, just as in the one at Broomhouse, and in both cases they seem to have formed the jambs of a door, which was probably formed of a large flag. In the passage to the central tomb at Maeshowe, a similar arrangement for closing up the entrance occurred. There, at a point towards the outer end, were two slabs slightly projecting into the passage, with a recess in the wall for receiving the slab which formed the door when the passage was open. The curved stone in the foundations at Broomhouse seems to have been one of the rubbing stones which probably preceded the querns ; and at Migvie a similar stone was found in the wall broken in two pieces. That at Broomhouse resembles the example which was found in excavating a group of hut circles in Strathardle some years ago, and is now in the Museum. It may be remarked, that a stone sculptured with cups and circles was found in the foundation of an underground house on the estate of Letham, near Arbroath.

These underground houses have occasionally smaller chambers, as off shoots from the main one, which are entered by openings of small size.

They occur at times singly, and at others in groups. On a muir near Kildrummy, in Aberdeenshire, a group of nearly fifty were discovered ; and five were found in one neighbourhood, in the parish of Airlie, in Forfarshire.

The Eirde houses at Kildrummy were traced by the occurrence near the entrance of low foundations, which seem to have supported the frail summer or daylight houses of the early population.

In Strathdonan, in Sutherlandshire, I examined two Eirde houses which were entered from the wall of circular huts on the surface. One of these at Kilphader, had a sort of trap at the end opposite to the entrance, formed of slabs, and permitting egress. That at Torrish, on the neighbouring haugh, had also a small opening at the extreme end to the surface of the same character ; while a curious double house at Kintradwell has an entrance at one end, narrow and difficult of access, and at the opposite end an opening by a flight of steps formed of flags.

It has been doubted if these houses were ever really used as places of abode, a purpose for which they seem in no degree to be suited.

But as to this there can be no real doubt. The substances found in many of them have been the accumulated debris of food used by man, and indicate his presence as surely as the Kindred kitchen middens which have recently attracted so much attention, while their occurrence in groups marks the gregarious habits of the early people. The bones of the ox, deer, and other like creatures have been found, as well as the shells of fish, mixed with fatty earth and charred wood. Ornaments of bronze have been found in a few of them, and beads of streaked glass. In some cases the articles found would indicate that the occupation of these houses had come down to comparatively recent times, as is the case of the Irish crannogs, where objects of the rudest times are found alongside of those of the seventeenth century. The traces of hut foundations on the surface in connection with some of these underground chambers, are also conclusive of their use as places of, at least, occasional retreat of man.

One or two of them have apertures which seem to have been used as chimneys ; but, in general, there is no opening in the roofs or in the walls.

One at Buchaam has a well-formed drain leading away from it, and a drain has also been noticed in connection with the curious congeries of apartments at Skaill, in Orkney.

Some of them are paved in the bottom, and in several the floor is rock. Pieces of pottery have been frequently found in the debris of these houses ; and in two cases (at Pitcur, near Coupar-Angus, and at Fithie, near Brechin) fragments of Samian ware have been discovered.

The Eirde or Piet's house occurs very frequently in Aberdeenshire ; and good examples have been noticed in Forfarshire and Sutherlandshire. On the south of the Forth they are comparatively rare, and in Galloway they seem to be unknown.

The example now described by Mr Milne Home is, so far as I know, the only one which has been found in Berwickshire, and in that light it has a peculiar interest. In the same neighbourhood is the curious structure known as Edins Hall, which is of the same family and idea as the Pictish castles or Brochs of the north ; and yet I know of no instance of a similar structure in the intervening country.

In Roxburghshire, also, an Eirde house has been found near the Roman station at Newstead, and has been described and figured in our Proceedings by my colleague Dr Smith. It has a very peculiar interest from the fact of its having been built of dressed stones, and stones found in it with mouldings of Roman character.

It is a gratifying circumstance, that Colonel Logan Home is resolved to preserve the Pict's house at Broomhouse from farther destruction. Its occurrence in this district is a fact of importance in any conclusion on the disposition of the early races through the country, which is not diminished by the consideration that hitherto no other has been found in it ; and that in any event these structures are of far greater rarity here than in the country on the north of the firths, which, in the days of Bede, was known as the Land of the Picts.

I ought to add that the particles of bones discovered in the Pict's house at Broomhouse have been submitted to Professor Turner, who writes to me that "the fragments you sent me for identification are so small, that, with one exception, it is impossible to state with certainty not merely to what animal they belonged, but even what bone they formed a part of. Fortunately, however, I can identify one bone. It is the right astragalus (*i.e.*, one of the bones of the foot) of a roe-deer. The other fragments consist of bits of bone, teeth, and horn ; and, as I presume, they were found with the astragalus, they may be assumed to be parts of the same animal."

It also appears by a letter from Colonel Logan Home to Mr Milne Home, written after that gentleman had prepared his description, that the Pict's house was first discovered about twenty-five years ago by a ploughman, when a number of the covering stones were removed. At this time some human bones were discovered in it ; and these were replaced, and the earth thrown back, in the belief that it had been a place of sepulture. It has not been disturbed since that time. Colonel Home adds, that the bones submitted to Professor Turner were found both in the oval chamber and the passage leading to it. They were supposed at the time to be human bones ; but as this turns out to be a mistake, it is probable that the bones found at the time of the first discovery were not human bones either.

NOTE OF AN UNDERGROUND BUILDING FORMERLY DISCOVERED IN EDINBURGHSHIRE. By JOHN ALEX. SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Mr Stuart referred to the underground building found in Roxburghshire. Buildings of a similar shape, and formed of ruder materials, had been found long ago at Cupargrange, near Cupar-Angus, and a similar one in this county of Edinburgh; they are described in the Appendix to the third volume of "Pennant's Tour in Scotland," p. 453, published in 1799. The latter is mentioned as being lately discovered in the county of Edinburgh in a field to the North of Middleton House, the seat of Mr Mitchelson, and about a mile and a half south-west of Borthwick Castle. The building was exposed by the plough at about one foot under the present surface of the ground, and was built of rough land stones, none appearing to have been formed by art; the space between the walls was mostly filled with black mould, irregularly interspersed with charcoal of wood, burnt earth, bones, and teeth apparently of sheep and oxen.



Underground Building discovered in Edimburghshire in 1799.

No artificial substances were found, nor anything else but some stones that must have fallen from the surrounding walls. The whole bottom was lined, to the depth of some inches, with fine soft clay. Both of these buildings, as well as the Newstead one, had a narrow entry pointing nearly N.W. A figure of it is given (see woodcut) with the dimensions. The writer adds in a postscript, that he has been informed a building of the above kind has been lately discovered in the east of Fife.

These notices in "Pennant's Tour" were, as far as he was aware, among the first instances of this kind of underground building being figured, and recorded, and, as one was in our immediate neighbourhood, it has been thought proper to give a copy of the figure, and the dimensions of the building:—

" Beginning of the entry,	2 feet 6 inches broad.
Length of the entry,	15 ,, 0 ,, long.
Outward wall of the circular part, . .	42 ,, 0 ,, "
Inward wall of do.,	33 ,, 0 ,, "
Height of the circular walls,	5 ,, 5 ,, "
Width betwixt the circular walls, . .	5 ,, 8 ,, "

With regard to the use of that class of buildings, Dr Smith was inclined to agree with those who held that any underground building which had no opening for light or ventilation, could scarcely have been used for a permanent dwelling, but probably, only as a place of occasional occupation, or concealment, for men or cattle, or for the storage of food, or valuables of any sort. Pennant considered them as "repositories for the ashes of sacrifices, which our ancestors were wont to offer up, in honour of their deities."

III.

NOTICE OF TWO GOLD ORNAMENTS FOUND AT ORTON ON THE SPEY, WHILE CUTTING FOR THE RAILWAY FROM ELGIN TO KEITH IN 1863. BY SIR NOEL PATON, R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot.

The interesting relic now submitted for the inspection of the Society, through the courtesy of its owner, Mr Alexander Walker of Aberdeen, is one of a pair, identical in form and material, found in 1863, at Orton, on the farm of Mr Geddes, Orbliston, during excavations for the railway from Elgin to Keith. Unfortunately, from the circumstances under which these relics were unearthed, it is now impossible to obtain accurate information as to those minuter details of position and surroundings which go so far to enable the archæologist to draw from such isolated remains those inferences by which alone the history of the unrecorded epochs to which they belong can now be constructed. Yet, meagre as they

are, the facts preserved may prove of some assistance in determining the probable use of the present example.

While cutting for the above railway, at a spot about two hundred yards north of the Fochabers station, and about forty yards from the side of what is locally termed the "Old Road," some navvies laid bare, at the depth of three feet from the surface of a gravelly hillock, a sandstone cist, almost crumbled into sand. About the centre lay a ridge of black dust; and on either side of that, about a third from one end, the two ornaments were found. The direction in which the cist lay has not been recorded, nor whether it was of the abbreviated proportions so frequent amongst those of the period to which it must be assigned. But from the fact that "the ridge of black dust" lay not in the centre, but "about the centre" of the bottom flags, it may be inferred that the body had been buried in the compressed attitude (which would necessarily throw the main bulk towards one side), and that, consequently, the cist was a short one. It does not appear that the cist contained any pottery. The ornaments were retained by the navvies by whom they were discovered; but they ultimately came into possession of the daughters of the sub-contractor for that section of the line, by whom they were transferred to the hands of a jeweller in Aberdeen, in exchange for certain *objets de luxe* of less obsolete fashion. From this person the one now before us was bought by Mr Walker, barely in time to save it from the melting-pot.

The ornament is of pure gold, and weighs about 8 dwts. It has evidently been cut out of a sheet of the hammered metal. Round the edge has been punched with considerable delicacy a border—its only decoration—in the simple and exquisite taste which everywhere characterises the spontaneous ornamentation of primitive races. It has then been rolled into its present semi-cylindrical form; a narrow, tapering tongue of the ductile metal being left in the centre of one edge, and curved over till in loose contact with the inner surface of the other; altogether presenting, to the best of my knowledge, a shape not only unique in its character, but destitute of even a family resemblance to any class of ornaments of the Bronze Period with which I am acquainted. But unusual as is the form which this article presents, I should not have supposed that there was much room for diversity of opinion as to its original purpose. I am told, however, that widely dissimilar views have been expressed on the subject.

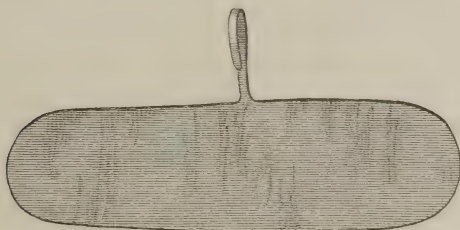
By one it has been pronounced a ring of office ; by another, a clasp for a roll document ; while a third conjectures that it was designed to secure a lock of hair at the side of the head. These hypotheses are clearly untenable. A more obvious conclusion would seem to be, that these things were simply personal ornaments, and were worn as ear-rings—in some such manner as that indicated in the accompanying cut. That they were



Gold Ornament found in a stone cist at Orton, Morayshire.
(Size, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad at the loop ; weight, 182 grains.)

thus used, as one of the earliest and most universal personal decorations adopted by human vanity, can scarcely, I think, be doubted, when we consider the preciousness of their material, their elegance, their lightness, and, above all, the position in which they are described as having been found in relation to the "black dust" of their original wearer. But whatever may have been the use of these graceful remains of archaic metallurgy, the specimen before us must be an object of considerable interest to all engaged in archaeological investigations ; and the members

of this Society cannot but feel indebted to Mr Walker for its rescue from the fate to which it was destined, and which has probably long ere now overtaken its fellow. And I trust that gentleman will pardon me if I express a hope that he may yet see it to be his duty to provide for the permanent safety of so interesting a memorial of pre-historic Scotland, by the only means by which that desirable end can be attained—its transfer to the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries.¹



Gold Ornament in Museum of Irish Academy, Dublin (weight, 89 grains).

Since the above was written, Dr J. A. Smith has drawn my attention to an ornament figured in the Catalogue of the Antiquities of Gold in the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy (figure 370, No. 73), which bears a remarkable resemblance to the Orton specimen. It is flat, however, but might easily be bent into a form exactly similar. It is without ornamentation of any kind, and weighs 3 dwt. 17 gr. It is described as having a "hook at top," and has undoubtedly been used as an ear-ring; although the compiler of the catalogue is of opinion that, like certain other thin plates of gold in the same collection, it was "either worn in the hair, on the forehead, or attached to the dress."

[At the date of our last meeting, when the paper, of which the foregoing is a summary, was read, there seemed no reason to doubt that the object to which it refers was found in cutting for the Highland line of railway between Dunkeld and Blair, as therein stated, on the authority of the

¹ With laudable promptitude, Mr WALKER has responded to this suggestion by presenting the ornament to the Museum.

jeweller from whom it was purchased by its recent proprietor. But on seeing a report of that meeting, the Rev. Dr Gordon of Birnie wrote to Dr Stuart, calling his attention to the fact that two similar ornaments had been dug up near Orton on the Spey, during excavations for the railway from Elgin to Keith;¹ at the same time forwarding a sketch and measurement of a model in tin made from one of these ornaments at the time of their discovery,—and deposited in the Museum of Elgin—the *originals having subsequently disappeared*. Dr Gordon's communication naturally suggested the suspicion that the information as to the locality in which the specimen submitted to the Society had been found was incorrect, and that *it* would prove to be actually one of the pair found at Orton. It seemed more probable that such should be the case, than that two distinct sets of ornaments in every way identical, and at the same time so peculiar in character, should be synchronously unearthed under circumstances so similar. I therefore wrote to Mr Walker, stating my suspicion, and requesting him to make further inquiries with a view to determine how far it was correct. The steps taken by that gentleman and by Dr Gordon to recover the missing facts in connection with this matter have resulted in establishing, on the testimony of the girl by whom the article was sold to the jeweller, and who was resident near Orton at the time of the discovery by her father's navvies of the two ornaments, that there was only *one* "find"—that at Orton, and that the specimen now presented to the Museum is one of the pair found in that place.]

¹ Since the foregoing was in type, it has been announced that, in August last, a surfaceman on the Highland Railway, while working in the ballast close to one of the sleepers on the line, and scarcely a mile on the Elgin side of the Fochabers Station, brought up with his pick, from among the gravel, a highly ornamented Gold Lunette, "closely rolled up as a scroll," which has been bought by the Exchequer, and will shortly be deposited in the Museum. It is understood that the "ballast" in which this interesting specimen was found had been carried, during the railway operations in 1863, from the "gravelly hillock" which yielded the gold ear-rings, as described above. It is therefore quite possible that all three may have been worn by the same person. With regard to the missing ear-ring—more recent information having led Mr Walker to hope that it might still be intact, he set inquiries on foot with a view to its recovery. These, he now informs me, have proved so far successful. There is reason to believe that it has escaped the melting-pot; and, although in the meantime it has fallen aside, its recovery is not despaired of—in which event it will be forwarded to the Museum.

MONDAY, 11th *January* 1869.

DAVID LAING, Esq., For. Sec. S.A. Scot., in the Chair.

Upon a ballot, the Rev. JAMES COCHRANE, Minister of Cupar, was duly elected a Fellow of the Society.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were exhibited, and thanks voted to the several Donors :—

(1.) By ALEXANDER WALKER, Esq., Aberdeen.

A Gold Ornament found in making the Highland Railway at Orton, on the Spey.

(See Communication, by Sir J. Noel Paton, with figure ; page 28.)

(2.) By MESSRS WYLIE & PEDDIE, C.E.

A Curious Sculptured Group in fine grained sandstone, 23 inches in height and 25 inches in length, representing, apparently, a person of some distinction in bed, at the point of death, and five figures of priests, and others, about to administer the Sacraments of Communion and Extreme Unction of the Roman Catholic Church. (Plate III.)

It was found (as described in the accompanying note, No. IV. p. 48), among the building stones in the foundation of a house, at the foot of Mary King's Close, which was removed to make way for the new buildings forming Cockburn Street, Edinburgh.

(3.) By R. DAWSON, Esq., Cruden.

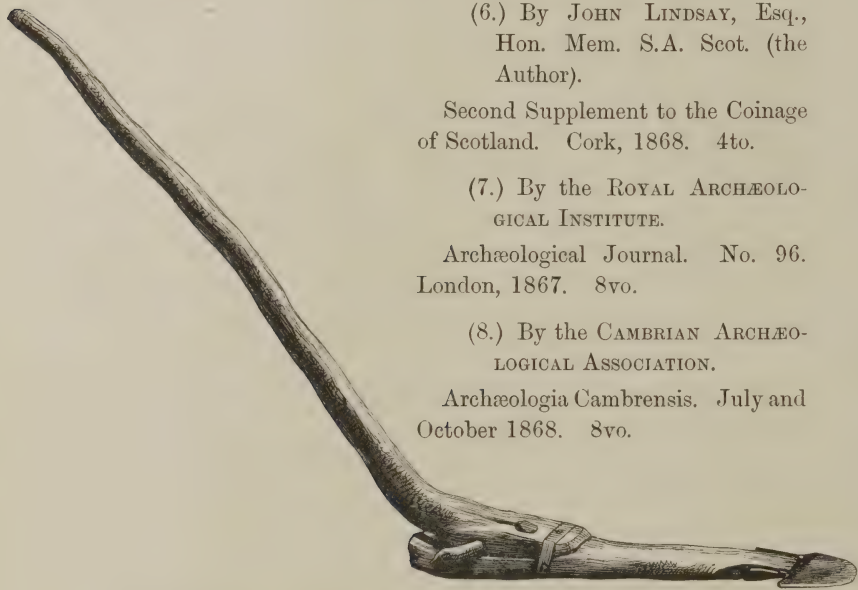
Two Stone Celts, one, partially broken, measuring $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by 2 inches broad ; the other $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and 3 inches in breadth across the face. They were found in ploughing a field in the parish of Cruden, Aberdeenshire.

(4.) By Right Hon. THE EARL OF STAIR.

A Broad Bronze Ribbed Dagger Blade, 9 inches long, and 4 inches broad next the handle, from which it tapers rapidly towards the point ; there are two rivet holes at the broad end or top, for fixing the blade to a handle.

(5.) By Mr PETER MACKENZIE, West Plean, Stirlingshire.

Iron Point of a 'Cas-chrom' or foot plough, and an Iron Chisel, found in digging at West Plean, near Stirling.



(6.) By JOHN LINDSAY, Esq.,
Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot. (the
Author).

Second Supplement to the Coinage
of Scotland. Cork, 1868. 4to.

(7.) By the ROYAL ARCHÆOLO-
GICAL INSTITUTE.

Archæological Journal. No. 96.
London, 1867. 8vo.

(8.) By the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆO-
LOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Archæologia Cambrensis. July and
October 1868. 8vo.

Cas-chrom, or foot-plough.

(9.) By the ASSOCIATION.

Journal of the Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.
Dublin, April 1868. 8vo.

(10.) By the IMPERIAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF FRANCE.

Mémoires et Dissertations de la Société Impériale des Antiquaires de
France. To complete the Second and Third Series. Paris, 1834-1868.
15 vols. 8vo.

(11.) By the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION.

Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge. Vol. XV. Washington,
1868. 4to.

Smithsonian Report, 1866. Washington, 1867. 8vo.

The following letters were read from the two HONORARY MEMBERS elected at the last Meeting of the Society :—

“CHELSEA, 20th Dec. 1868

“DEAR SIR,—Will you be so good as signify to the Gentlemen of Society of Antiquaries, who have pleased to nominate me an HONORARY MEMBER, that I accept their kindness with real pleasure, and reckon it a distinguished honour done me. Be pleased to express my humble and cordial thanks for so much friendly feeling on their part, and to beg for a continuance of the same.

“I cannot myself now hope to contribute much or anything to their important labours; but I may well henceforth welcome with a new interest what I see done by them, and wish my working brethren better and better speed.

“With many kind thanks, I have the honour to be, yours sincerely,

“T. CARLYLE.

“JOHN STUART, Esq., Secy. &c. &c.”

“THE ROOST, BOURNEMOUTH, HANTS,
Jan. 2, 1869.

“DEAR SIR,—I have received with much gratification the announcement, that the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland had been pleased to confer on me the distinction of being elected an HONORARY MEMBER of their body.

“I beg to express how highly I appreciate this mark of their favourable consideration.

“The benefits that have for many years accrued to Archæological science from the energetic and well sustained action of the Antiquaries of Scotland, are such as must win the heartiest sympathy and interest of all to whom the study and preservation of national monuments are dear. The remembrance of the courtesies and friendly co-operation that have on so many occasions been accorded by the Society to myself, and the fellow-workers in our common field of investigation, will always be cherished by me with very grateful feeling. With such sentiments, and with cordial interest in the welfare and continued good working of

the Scottish Antiquaries, to whom our common cause is so greatly indebted, I accept, with hearty thanks, the favour that it has been their pleasure to confer on me.—I have the honour to remain, your obedient humble servant,

ALBERT WAY,

V.P. of the Royal Archaeological
Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

“ JOHN ALEX. SMITH, Esq., M.D.,
Sec. Soc. Antiq. of Scotland, &c. &c.”

The following Communications were read :—

I.

ON THE SUPPOSED “ MISSING SCHOOL OF DESIGN IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH,” 1784. BY DAVID LAING, Esq.,
FOR. SEC. S.A. SCOT.

In the opening ADDRESS by the President of the Royal Society of Edinburgh, on the 7th of December last, one head was “ A MISSING SCHOOL OF DESIGN IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH.” The allusions to this were founded on a passage in the biography of Sir George Clerk Maxwell of Penicuik, printed in Vol. I. of their Transactions. The passage is as follows, in the “ Account of Sir George Clerk-Maxwell, Baronet,” read by Mr John Clerk, junior, July 5, 1784.”

“ Mr Clerk had an excellent taste for the fine arts, and was solicitous to encourage them. As one instance of this, he had the principal concern in establishing and procuring an endowment for the drawing-school in the University of Edinburgh, where twenty pupils are instructed *gratis* in the art of designing. These are selected from among such young people, of either sex, as gives signs of genius, who are destined to apply to those professions in which a skill in that art is requisite. This institution has contributed more than any other circumstance to the great improvement of ornamental manufactory which this country has made during the last twenty years. And whoever recollects the old patterns of carpet, damask, gauze, and other manufactures of that sort, and compares them with those of the present day, must allow the superior elegance of design now exhibited in those productions, and which may reasonably be ascribed, in a

great measure, to the happy effects produced by the institution we have mentioned.”¹

The President, on this “novel and surprising” statement, as he calls it, made the following remarks :—

“It is impossible that Mr Clerk, himself an ardent admirer of art, and addressing a Society composed largely of Professors of the University, could be mistaken in making this precise statement. Nevertheless, I never heard of such a School in the University. There was most assuredly no such School in existence when I first joined it as student in 1811. It cannot have merged in the present excellent School of Design, because that School, as now constituted, was founded only in recent times ; and to several of its governors this passage from Sir George Clerk-Maxwell’s biography has seemed quite as novel and surprising as to myself. What, then, has become of the University School? When did it expire? How did it vanish? Above all, what has become of the endowment? All I can say upon the last head is, that positively it has not been swallowed up by the Senatus Academicus since I became a member of the body in 1822.”²

A statement like this, coming with so much authority, might lead to the natural conclusion that not only a useful scheme had been abandoned, but that a special endowment had unaccountably been appropriated to some other purpose. I think it but right, therefore, to say that the purport of the above statement has been quite misunderstood ; and to assure the learned Professor that the School and its endowment were not under the control either of the Patrons or of the Senatus, although meeting for several years within the walls of the College, but was simply the excellent School of Drawing maintained with so much efficiency *for upwards of a century* by the Honourable the Board of Trustees, and carried on to this day within the building in which we are at present assembled. To make this conclusion undoubted, a few words of explanation may be excused—taken from notes which I collected five or six years ago for a lecture delivered to the Royal Scottish Academy.

In October 1729, an Association was formed for the encouragement of the Arts, and Improvement of the Students in Drawing from models in

¹ Vol. i. p. 55, Edinburgh, 1788, 4to.

² Opening Address of Professor Christison, Royal Society. See *Edinburgh Courant* newspaper, 9th Dec. 1868 ; also Proceedings of the Royal Society, vol. vi. No. 77. p. 401.

plaster of the best Antique Statues, &c. It was named *The Edinburgh School of St Luke*, and the Rules, dated the 18th of that month, are still preserved, signed by about twenty painters or artists, and eight lovers of painting, as Fellows. To the honour of the Lord Provost and Town Council, as Patrons of the University, the use of an apartment within the College was granted for the School in June 1731. I cannot say how long this "Winter Academy" for drawing was kept up, as no minutes are preserved; but we know, on the authority of Sir Robert Strange, that he himself was for two years one of its pupils, in 1735–1737, when it was superintended by his master, Richard Cooper, the engraver.

Previous to this time, in conformity with the Articles of the Union, George the First, by an Act of Parliament, A.D. 1727, nominated Trustees for overseeing the Fisheries and Manufactures of Scotland, and applying for their encouragement the sums destined for that purpose. That skill in drawing, at a later period, was not overlooked, appears from the List of Premiums offered by the Trustees in the year 1757, which specify drawings of figures from the antique, landscapes, and architecture, after pictures, prints, or drawings, fruits and flowers, along with patterns of designs for carpets, &c. This List, with the names of the successful competitors, is printed in the "Edinburgh Magazine" for 1758, with this title. It consists of 119 articles, among which are the following:—

"A List of the Premiums adjudged by the EDINBURGH SOCIETY for the Encouragement of Arts, Sciences, Manufactures and Agriculture, anno 1757.

- "No. 54. For the best drawing after any statue, bust, or bas-relieve, by boys under twenty years of age, *four guineas*.—To John Donaldson, Edinburgh.
- 55. For the second ditto, *three guineas*.—To Richard Cooper, junior, Edinburgh.
- 56. For the third ditto, *two guineas*.—To George Willison in Edinburgh.
- 57. For the best landscape, after picture, print, or drawing, by boys under eighteen years of age, *three guineas*.—To Peter Donaldson, in Edinburgh.
- 58. For the second ditto, *two guineas*.—Nothing of sufficient merit produced.

59. For the neatest and best drawing of architecture, after picture, print, or drawing, by boys under eighteen years of age, *three guineas*.—Nothing produced.
60. For the second ditto, *two guineas*.—Nothing produced.
61. For the best drawing of fruits or flowers with foliage, after prints, paintings, or drawings, by boys or girls under fifteen years of age, *two guineas*.—Nothing of sufficient merit produced.
62. For the second ditto, *one guinea*.—Nothing of sufficient merit produced.
63. To the boy or girl under twenty years of age, who shall produce the best pattern of his or her invention for a Scots carpet, the pattern to be drawn upon design-paper, from which the carpet can be put into the loom, *two guineas*.—Nothing produced.
64. To ditto for a damask carpet, *two guineas*.—Nothing produced.
65. To ditto for damask table-linen, *two guineas*.—Nothing produced.
66. To ditto for flowered lawn, *two guineas*.—Nothing produced."

In furtherance of this object, the Board of Trustees, in 1760, made a permanent appointment of a Drawing-master, with a handsome salary, for instructing *gratis* young persons of both sexes in those branches of drawing connected with arts and manufactures.

The first master appointed by the Board, under the new arrangement, was WILLIAM DE LA COUR. He was succeeded in 1768 by CHARLES PAVILLON, both of them, it is supposed, natives of France. On the death of Pavillon in 1772, the office was conferred on ALEXANDER RUNCIMAN, the historical painter, who had returned from Italy, and was then engaged in painting the ceilings and walls of Penicuik House for Sir James Clerk. His brother, George Clerk-Maxwell, who succeeded to the Baronetcy in 1782, had been one of the Board of Trustees since the year 1760; and no doubt took a special interest in Runciman's appointment, to which allusion is evidently made in the Memoir read to the Royal Society in 1784, the year in which Sir George died.

The following extract from a well-known work, the "History of Edinburgh," by Hugo Arnot, published in 1779, and re-issued as a new work in 1788, is quite sufficient of itself to dispel any shadow of doubt regarding the supposed Missing School of Design in the University of Edinburgh:—

“OF THE ACADEMY FOR DRAWING.

“The Board of Trustees for the encouragement of manufactures, &c., in Scotland, in A.D. 1772, appointed Mr Alexander Runciman, painter, to teach twenty boys or girls drawing, allowing him a yearly salary of L.120. *For the accommodation of this School, the Town Council have given Mr Runciman the use of two apartments in the College.* The Board bestows L.15 yearly, to be distributed among the scholars by way of premium, for the first, second, and third best drawings. The time limited for each pupil’s continuing under Mr Runciman is four years, that being deemed sufficient for any boys or girls, of moderate capacity, acquiring a knowledge in drawing sufficient to assist them in their respective occupations; this institution being solely appropriated for the use of manufactures, not intended as an Academy of painting.”¹

RUNCIMAN died in October 1785, and had for his successor, DAVID ALLAN.

[I have since been favoured by PETER MILLER, Esq., First Baillie, with an extract, as follows, from the Town Council Records, which shows that Pavillon had previously obtained the use of these two rooms in the College, in January 1769; and also gives a curious account of the arrangement made with one of the Professors in order to carry the Council’s resolution into effect:—

“The College Treasurer represented, that it being proposed to accommodate Mr Pavillon with two rooms in the College in order to teach drawing and designing, it happens that one of these rooms is presently possessed by the Clerks of the Court of Session for holding their papers. That in order to put them to no inconveniency Dr Mathew Stewart had consented to give a room for holding the said papers, upon conditions the Good Town would cause paper his dining-room, the expense whereof would be about £2 sterling. Which being considered by the Magistrates and Council, they unanimously agree to the said proposal for accomodating Mr Pavillon with two rooms in the College for teaching drawing and designing allenarly, and recommend to the College Treasurer to cause paper the said room for Mr Mathew Stewart, the expense not exceeding two pounds sterling.”²]

¹ Arnot’s History, p. 442.

² 4th Jan. 1769, vol. 85, Council Records.

II.

NOTICE OF A CIRCULAR STRUCTURE, KNOWN AS "EDIN'S HALL,"
ON COCKBURN LAW, ONE OF THE LAMMERMOOR HILLS. BY
JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT. (PLATES I. AND II.)

Cockburn Law is one of the hills of the Lammermoor, rising from the south bank of the Whiteadder to a height of rather more than a thousand feet above the level of the sea, about a mile below Abbey St Bathans. On its summit is one of the circular camps so common on the range of the Lammermoor and on many of the Cheviots; and on its northern declivity, at an elevation of about 250 feet above the channel of the stream, is placed the curious ruin to which I wish at present to direct the attention of the Society, not merely for its intrinsic interest, but on account of its ruinous condition, which demands immediate intervention, if its destruction is not to be complete.

On the shoulder of the hill, to which I have referred, is a platform projecting somewhat from its mass, and overhanging the Whiteadder, down to which it slopes with a rapid declivity. On the north-west it has a deep hollow, and on the east an irregular and less defined depression, while on the south it is overhung by the Law.

On this platform, which is of an undulating and uneven character, is placed a series of circular foundations within a wall of stone, the whole being surrounded by a double earthen rampart, with a ditch on the outside and another between the ramparts. From the edge of the outer ditch, on the south-west side, a wall without trenches runs down the hollow on the west, till it reaches the top of a small ravine descending to the river.

The principal building on the platform is a circular erection of about ninety feet in exterior diameter, constructed of large whinstone blocks on the outside of the wall, with a packing of small stones at the joints. The walls vary in thickness from 15 to 19 feet.

In the end of last century, a low and narrow passage, on the east side, of about 17 feet in length, covered with large stones, led through the

wall to the open central space. It has, however, been destroyed for many years, and the stones have been used for building dikes. In the heart of the circular wall are three chambers, which are now so filled up with rubbish, as to give the building the appearance of a ruined cairn, but a little examination reveals the lines of large stones, which formed the sides of these chambers, and enables us to trace their shape and size. In breadth they are about 7 feet, and in length they are respectively about 33 and 23 feet, with circular ends. They were entered from the central space by a passage about 3 feet in width. There are other two cells, one on each side of the entrance passage, on the east, of the same breadth as the others, and other vacant spaces in the wall, of less determinate form, are also of the width of 7 feet.

In the interior court are several square holes in the ground.¹

Mr Blackadder, a local land-surveyor in the end of last century, says, that at the time of his examination in 1793, the cells were quite distinct, and apparently had been closed at the top with large stones in the form of an arch.² Another observer, who visited the ruin about the year 1811, states that the circular walls were then about 8 or 10 feet high, and that two of the cells in the wall were covered at the top by one stone overlapping another.³

Eastward from the main building, just described, are the foundations of several circular buildings of various sizes, which are now so overgrown with turf as to make it difficult to trace them out, but are shown on a sketch of them, made many years ago by Mr Milne Home, which is now exhibited. As I have said, the whole of the erections are surrounded by two earthen ramparts and ditches.

The principal building, with its intramural cells, has long been known as "*Edin's Hall*," a name of uncertain derivation, and which probably we have not now got in its earliest form. The sound of the word has suggested various attributions of the building;—as to Edwin, the king of Northumbria, as his palace; to Eetin, a supposed giant, as his "hald;" to the god Woden, as his temple. By others it has been held to be a temple of the god Terminus; a station for an army of observation against the

¹ These were first noticed by Mr George Tate in 1861. See Transactions of the Berwickshire Nat. Club, 1856-62, p. 249.

² Idem. 1850-56, p. 13.

³ Idem. 1856-62, p. 249.

Danes ; a storehouse of provisions for a chain of camps on the Lammermoors ; and, lastly, a temple of the Druids, who are rarely omitted in such speculations.

The earliest notice of Edin's Hall is to be found in the Scots Magazine, for 1764 (p. 431), and it is so grotesquely inaccurate that I am induced to quote parts of it. The writer informs us that among the mass of ruins, almost every stone has some irregular figure cut upon it, and not one of these figures resembles another. "I believe," he says, "for my part, that the upper part of every stone has been cut to receive the convexities and ragged surface of its fellow, and that this is the whole mystery of the figures."

It is hardly necessary to remark that no such figures could ever have been seen, and the idea has obviously been suggested by the occurrence of lewis holes in the square freestone blocks of which "Arthur's Oven," then recently destroyed, was formed, and to which "Edin's Hall" came to be likened.

The writer proceeds—"The form of it is three concentric circles, 6 or 7 feet distant one from another, and the diameter of the innermost is about 20 feet." This again is entirely imaginary ; and the long narrow chamber in the wall, with their circular ends, are called "square holes." It is further stated that there were two entries, one on the south, and another on the south-west, whereas there was only one on the east.

In Sinclair's Statistical Account of the Parish of Dunse, the building is also described much in the same style. It is said that the stones are very large, "and are all ground into one another ; that is, the concavity of the one receiving the convexity of the other, so that they are locked together, and yet all these locks are different. It consists of three concentric circles, the diameter of the innermost being 40 feet : " that is an increase of 20 feet over the account of 1764.

Much of this is also repeated in the description given by Chalmers in his Caledonia, vol. ii. p. 211.

I refer to these accounts partly for the purpose of cautioning inquirers against trusting to the descriptions of such objects of last century, and as a contrast to the careful and detailed account of the ruins by the late Mr George Turnbull of Abbey St Bathans, to which I have been much indebted in preparing this sketch. The two Plates (I. and II.) which

illustrate this paper have been copied from those in Mr Turnbull's notice. I have also been favoured by Sir Henry James with a tracing from the Ordnance Survey of Edin's Hall, which will enable the Members to understand the general features of the site.

Without further reference to the guesses which the word "Edin," as applied to the main building, has suggested, I think I may safely say that the remains on Cockburn Law are those of early British times, and probably represent the settlement of a chief amid the members of his tribe.

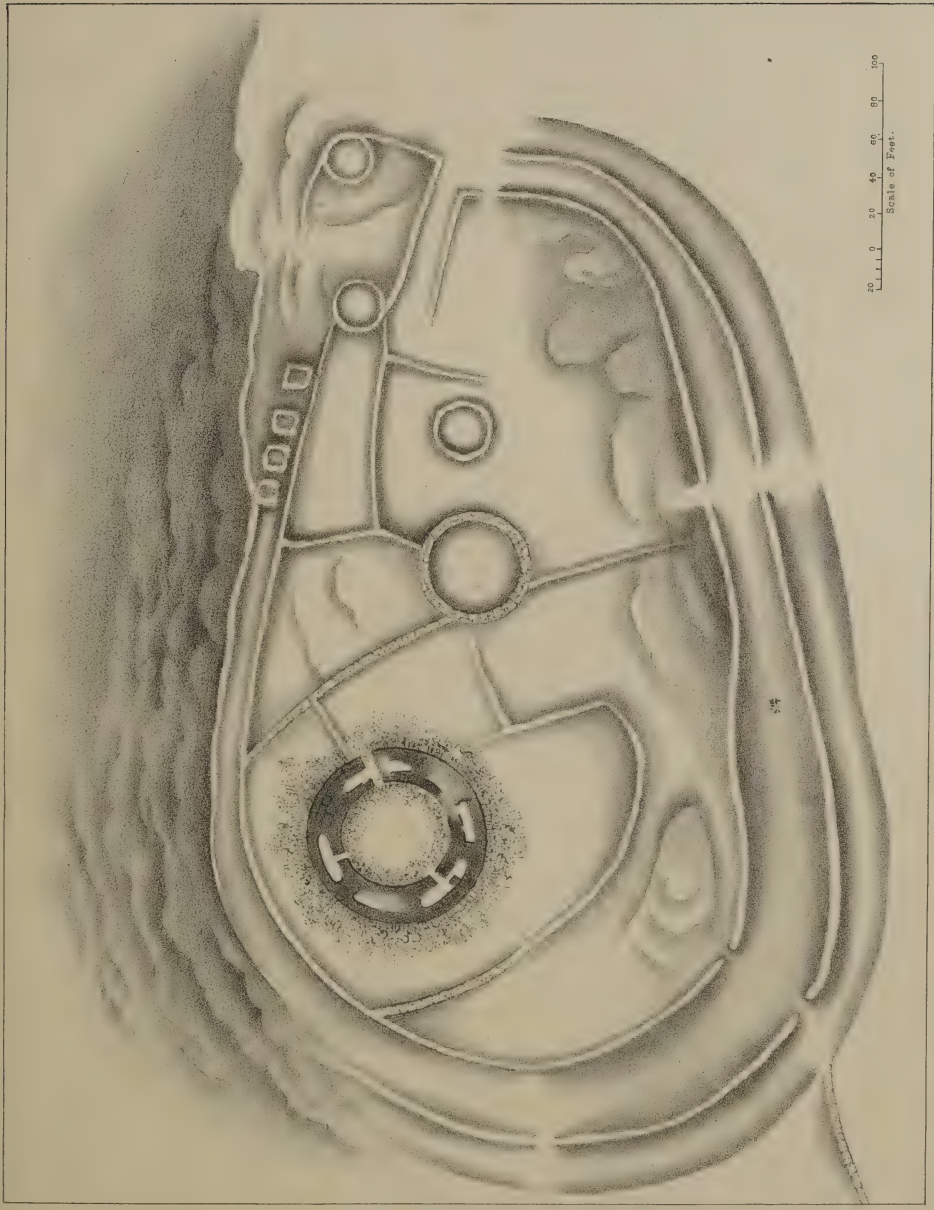
Among the glens, and on the hill-tops of the Cheviots and other portions of the border range, are groups of circular hut foundations surrounded by walls. At Linhope these clusters are undoubtedly the remains of a British village, and are so entire that its plan can easily be traced; but I do not know any of these remains which are so suggestive of a tribal settlement as the present.

But besides this, the remains on Cockburn Law have a very *peculiar* interest, inasmuch as, in shape and constructional arrangement, "Edin's Hall" is identical with many of the Pictish castles or "brochs" in Orkney, Shetland, the Hebrides, and in the counties of Ross, Sutherland, and Caithness,—the only difference being that its size is considerably greater than that of the brochs. In some of the latter, the chambers in the wall are of the same shape as at "Edin's Hall," as in the broch of Okstrow, in Orkney, of which a drawing by Sir Henry Dryden is exhibited, while in others they are circular. The chambers in the brochs, which occur on the ground story, are surmounted by galleries and other chambers in higher walls. Whether "Edin's Hall" had upper stories cannot now be known, but it is supposed that its original height was considerable, from the quantity of materials rolled down the bank, and from what still lies within and around the building.¹

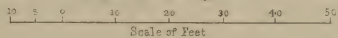
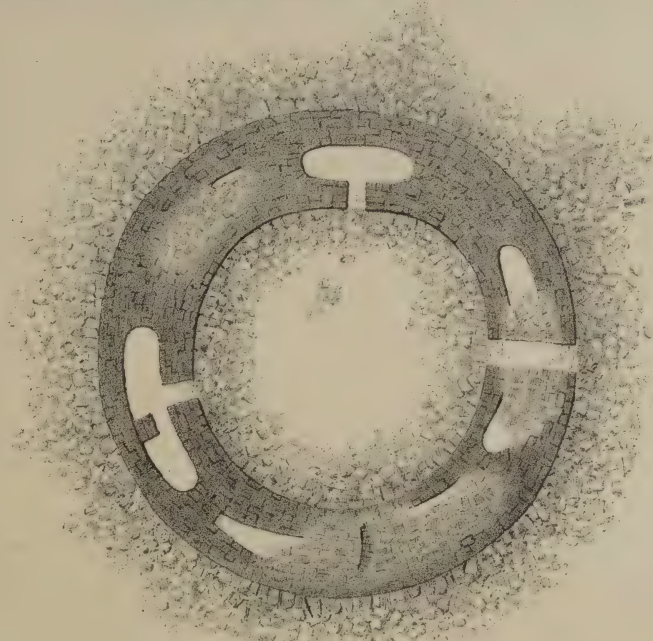
The remarkable thing is, that no instance of a broch has hitherto been found in any other country than the parts of Scotland to which I have just referred, and that this isolated example on the Lammermoor is the single exception.

This, however, is not the only case in which examples of other early Scottish remains have been found, almost equally isolated from the localities

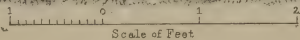
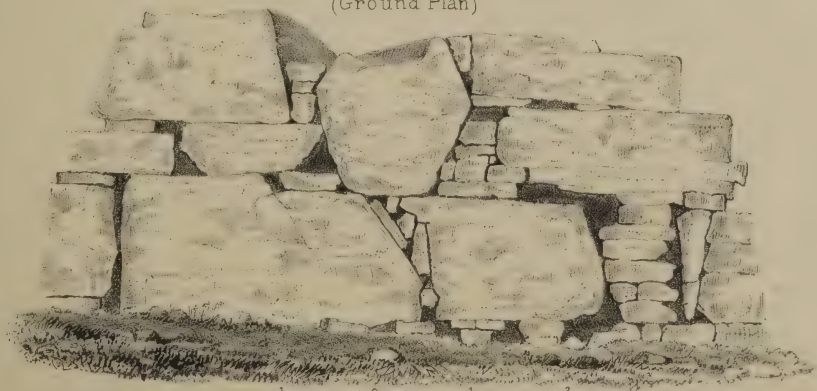
¹ J. S. Turnbull's Account, Berwickshire Nat. Soc. Proc. *ut ant.* p. 13.



EDIN'S HALL,
BERWICKSHIRE.



Principal Building of Edin's Hall.
(Ground Plan)



Masonry of Edin's Hall.

which may be called their native place, and the facts connected with them,¹ although very worthy of being noticed, are not easy of explanation.

With regard to the age of brochs, and by implication of "Edin's Hall," while objects of very various eras have been found in them, indicating long continued occupation, there are relative facts which seem to carry back their origin to a remote period. One of the most striking of these occurs in Mr Petrie's account of the broch of Birsay, in Orkney. An examination of this structure showed that at some early period it had become ruinous, and that in course of time the fallen stones had been overgrown with soil to the depth of several feet. The "broch" had thus presented the appearance of a green mound, and it was then selected as a place of interment by a people who buried their dead in short stone cists, and deposited bronze ornaments with them. In some of the many cists placed on the broch burned bones appeared; and in one a piece of a bronze fibula was found, with a fragment of some other bronze object, thus presenting the same appearances as the sepulchral deposits in the stone circles and cairns of our earliest time.

I had the opportunity in last October of paying a second visit to "Edin's Hall" in company with Mr Milne Home and Mr Turnbull. We were all impressed with a sense of the peculiar interest of the ruins, and distressed at the continued dilapidations which threaten to remove all trace of them. From time to time proposals have been made for clearing away the rubbish, but hitherto without success.

I rejoice that the prospect of something effectual being done is now brighter. The consent of the landlord has been obtained for any necessary operations being carried out, and Mr Milne Home has no doubt of being able to obtain by subscription sufficient funds.

It seems to me that these operations must include—

1. A substantial fence, which shall cut off Cockburn Law from the adjoining field.
2. The clearing out of rubbish from the chambers in the hall of the main building, and from the foundations of all the buildings.
- * 3. The covering the surface of the walls of Edin's Hall with turf, so as

¹ Some of these will be found in the "Sculptured Stones of Scotland," vol. ii. pp. 4, 45, *notes*.

to prevent any further displacement of the loose stones of which they are composed.

4. Careful excavations in the central area, and in other spots of the ruins, in search of objects likely to illustrate the condition of the former occupants, such as have been found in many of the northern brochs.

After all this has been done, I would suggest that the Society should obtain an accurate ground plan of the ruins, and at present I conclude by proposing that we should vote a sum of £5 towards the fund to be raised for the execution of the necessary operations.

On Mr STUART's suggestion, the Society cordially approved of Mr Milne Home's plan for clearing out and preserving the very curious remains in question, and voted a sum of £5 towards the necessary expense of doing so.

III.

AN ACCOUNT OF ST COLUMBA'S ABBEY, INCHCOLM. ACCOMPANIED WITH PLANS, &c. BY THOMAS ARNOLD, ESQ., ARCHITECT, LONDON. COMMUNICATED, WITH AN INTRODUCTORY NOTE, BY DAVID LAING, ESQ., FOR. SEC. S.A. SCOT.

Although twenty years have elapsed, it may be in the recollection of some Members present, that one of the Society's pleasant summer excursions had for its object a visit to the Island of Inchcolm, in the Firth of Forth. This, I find, was in July 1848. A steamer from Leith was hired for the occasion, and the party, I should think, was about thirty in number. After landing on the Island, and examining the ruins of the Monastery, founded in the year 1123 by Alexander the First, I read some detached notices of its history. The party then adjourned and held a social meeting in the Chapter House, which had been fitted up in a primitive style with benches and forms for conveniently partaking of the refreshments, which had not been overlooked.

Nearly ten years later, Sir JAMES SIMPSON, with an agreeable picnic party, revisited the Island, when he prepared an elaborate communication, which was read to the Society in July 1857, and printed in the Proceedings, Vol. III. pages 489-528, illustrated with woodcuts drawn by

Mr James Drummond, R.S.A. The special subject of Dr Simpson's investigation was the old stone-roofed cell or Oratory in the Island. I refer to it at this time simply to remind the Members of a paper, which exhibits the author's wonderful aptitude and skill in being able to invest with so much interest a matter of dry antiquarian research.

The communication which has been intrusted to me to lay before the Society this evening is also of importance. Mr ARNOLD has brought together, in a clear and distinct manner, the available information regarding the history of this Monastic establishment ; while the detailed descriptions and accompanying plans of the buildings prepared by a professional Architect, renders it, I think, peculiarly valuable.

It was my intention to have made a few remarks on the proposed publication by the Society of the CHARTULARY OF INCHCOLM, to which I thought Mr Arnold's communication might have formed the first or introductory part. Farther consideration seemed to render this inexpedient ; and I have since learned that previous arrangements had been made for printing the charters by the Maitland Club. In the interim, it will be no difficult matter for the Council, if they see cause, to fix upon some other Chartulary, to be printed for the Members ; while the Joint-Editor of the Society's publications (Dr J. A. Smith), and others, have reminded me that, agreeably to more than one resolution of the Society, some steps might now be taken for resuming the ARCHÆOLOGIA SCOTICA, and Mr Arnold's paper on Inchcolm seems to be one exactly suited to come into Part I. of Vol. V. of that series.

All this, however, is a matter of arrangement that may be afterwards submitted to the deliberation of the Council.

The first part of this communication is devoted to a sketch of the foundation and subsequent history of the Abbey, with notices of a cell and other early remains on the island. In the second part is given a detailed architectural description of the different parts of the Monastery, illustrated by careful ground-plans, and several views of the ruins.

After this communication was read, the cordial thanks of the meeting were voted to Mr ARNOLD, and a remit made to Mr Laing and the Secretaries to report as to the form in which it should be published for the use of the Members.

IV.

NOTE BY JAMES PEDDIE, Esq., C.E., F.S.A. Scot., RESPECTING A SCULPTURED STONE FOUND IN TAKING DOWN A HOUSE AT THE FOOT OF MARY KING'S CLOSE, EDINBURGH. (PLATE III.)

“CHAMBERS, 9 GEORGE STREET, EDINBURGH,
January 11, 1869.

“SIR,—I beg, on behalf of the late firm of Wylie & Peddie, C.E., to present to the Scottish Antiquarian Society the accompanying Sculptured Stone. It was found during the taking down of the old houses for the purpose of forming Cockburn Street in 1859, lying in the foundation of a house in Mary King's Close, and has been in our possession since then.—I am, Sir, your most obedient servant,

“JAMES PEDDIE.

“To the Secretary of the
Scottish Antiquarian Society.”

MR LAING, as Chairman, in moving thanks to the Donors of this interesting relic of local antiquity, expressed his opinion that the carving might be assigned to the middle of the fifteenth century.

A minute description of the sculptured stone, at the time of discovery, appeared in the Edinburgh newspapers, of the date 26th February 1859. We here extract it to illustrate the accompanying Plate, No. III., executed by Mr Adam from a large photograph of the stone compared with the original.

“*Discovery of an Ancient Piece of Sculpture.*”

“Although the old buildings, now nearly swept away to make room for Lord Cockburn Street, did not possess much attraction for the archæologist, either in respect of age or character, the excavations have brought to light a few interesting relics. Chief among these is a sculptured stone, which was found the other day, face downwards, in the foundation of a wall in Mary King's Close. The house was one of the oldest in the locality. The relic is of freestone, of a coarse quality, but apparently favourable to the action of the chisel, and in its present state is about 2 feet square, but has been evidently oblong in form, as, while it seems nearly complete in depth, the sides bear marks of portions having been



SCULPTURED STONE, REPRESENTING A DEATH-BED SCENE,

Found in taking down a house in Mary King's Close, Edinburgh.

broken off. The subject of the sculpture is the administration of the last sacrament of the Romish Church, and represents an apartment, with the dying person on a couch, surrounded by figures of sorrowing relatives and officiating monks. The dying member of the Church, judging from the character of the couch, the tasseled pillow, and the furnishings of the apartment, is a person of consequence and rank. The host has apparently just been administered, and the recipient is devoutly preparing for the assault of the 'dread king.' Near the couch, at the side, stand some monks or priests, one of whom has dispensed the sacrament; a second bears a candle in the one hand, and a vessel with the 'holy oil' in the other; while the third also holds a candle, and has the service-book, which rests upon the couch, open before him; and at the foot of the couch a monk is kneeling in prayer. Seated at what appears to be a kind of cabinet is a figure, which, both in attitude and expression, gives eloquent token of a grief both deep and natural, adding greatly to the effect of the solemn and imposing scene. Near the couch, at the side opposite the monks, is a half-prostrate youth, who is also grief-stricken. The figures standing by the couch are stiff, and the monk in the act of praying, is deficient in earnest action; but the figure of the sorrowing friend at the cabinet is in itself a picture, being easy and artistic. As regards the date to be assigned to the work, there seems 'ample room and verge enough' for conjecture; but it is considered very probable that it belongs to the early days of the fourteenth century. Some of our local archæologists will, no doubt, be able to throw light upon the date, and perhaps also the place of its execution. Meanwhile the stone is in safe keeping, and now lies at the chambers of Messrs Wylie & Peddie, Thistle Street, the engineers for the new road.

"Among the other relics found in excavating the line of the new street is an ancient stone hand-mill, which has been presented to the Antiquarian Society;¹ and a lintel-stone in Anchor Close, with the inscription,—'ANGVSTA · AD · VSVM · AVGVSTA;' translated a 'narrow house for the use of an august person.' This stone, it is said, formed the lintel of the inner door of a house in which James the Sixth was once entertained at dinner."

¹ See Proceedings, vol. iii. p. 203. The lintel-stone above mentioned was not presented to the Society, as the words may possibly suggest.

THURSDAY, 11th February 1869.

PROFESSOR W. STEVENSON, D.D., F.S.A. SCOT., in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for, and elected Fellows of the Society :—

The Right Hon. EARL OF ROSSLYN.
 REV. DAVID BREWSTER, Kilmany, Fife.
 WALLER HUGH PATON, Esq., R.S.A.
 ALEXANDER BURNS SHAND, Esq., Advocate.
 CAPTAIN THOMAS PILKINGTON WHITE, R.E.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By Captain CHARLES M'INROY.

Abyssinian MSS. : The Four Gospels, written on vellum, with illuminations, small folio ; a small parchment roll, about 65 inches in length and 3 in breadth ; and a Manual of Prayers ; also a MS. Koran, in Arabic, in Eastern binding, 4to. (See Communication No. I. p. 52.)

(2.) By Mr PETER COLLIER.

Stone Celt, with weathered surface, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the face. Found at Gask, near Turriff, Aberdeenshire.

(3.) By Mr SPALDING, Schoolhouse, West Leyis of Dun, Forfarshire.

Arrow-head, with barbs and stem, of yellowish coloured flint. It measures $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, and was found on the West Leyis of Dun.

Three Copper Bodles of Charles II., of different dates. Found near the schoolhouse, on West Leyis of Dun.

(4.) By LAWSON TAIT, Esq., Surgeon, Wakefield, Yorkshire.

Portion of the upper part of a Sepulchral Urn of yellowish-coloured clay, ornamented with two projecting ribs, and stamped with oblique indented lines ; also the Lower Jaw of an aged person ; and a leaf-shaped,

finely chipped Spear-head of dark coloured flint, 2 inches in length by 1 inch in breadth. Found in a cist under a tumulus at Strathfleet, Sutherlandshire.

Worked Flint of a yellowish colour, picked up on the Sandy Links at Dornoch, Sutherlandshire.

Collection of different coloured chips of Flint, Quartz, and Chert, ranging in size from $\frac{1}{2}$ to $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length; also a chip of Gray Granite, curved in shape, and measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by 1 inch in breadth; small portion of dark-coloured Pottery; various specimens of Shells of the Oyster, Mussel, Cockle, Periwinkle, Limpet, portion of the Shell of a Razor Fish; the broken Valves of an Astarte; and small portions of Bones of animals, of a Pig, and a Bird. Found in a kitchen midden in Sutherlandshire. (See Communication No. IV. page 62.)

(5.) By ROBERT MERCER, Esq., of Scotsbank, F.S.A. Scot.

Large Leather "Black Jack" or Flagon, with a looped handle on one side. It measures 22 inches in height, and 33 in circumference at the widest part.

(6.) By Messrs P. & J. NIMMO, Brassfounders, Edinburgh.

Ornamented Iron Bracket and Ring, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, for supporting a baptismal basin or font; formerly attached to the old pulpit of St Cuthbert's Parish Church, Edinburgh.

(7.) By JOHN EVANS, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., &c.

Circular Matrix in copper of a Seal, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, displaying the armorial bearings and supporters of Keith Earl Marischal, with the legend SIGIL · COM · GEORGH · MARISCHALLI · COM · DE · KEITH · & · ALTRIE. On a scroll under the arms the motto, VERITAS VINCIT.

(8.) By JOHN KERSOP, Esq., Glasgow.

Report of the Council of the Glasgow Archæological Society, 1868. (Pp. 10.) Glasgow, 1869. 8vo.

(9.) By the LORDS OF THE COUNCIL ON EDUCATION, &c.

Catalogue of the Third and Concluding Exhibition of National Portraits, &c., at South Kensington. London, 1868. 4to.

(10.) By the ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.

Forty-first Annual Report of the Council of the Royal Scottish Academy. Edinburgh, 1868. Royal 8vo.

(11.) By the AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Society, Vol. X. No. 77. Philadelphia, 1868. 8vo.

The following Communications were read :—

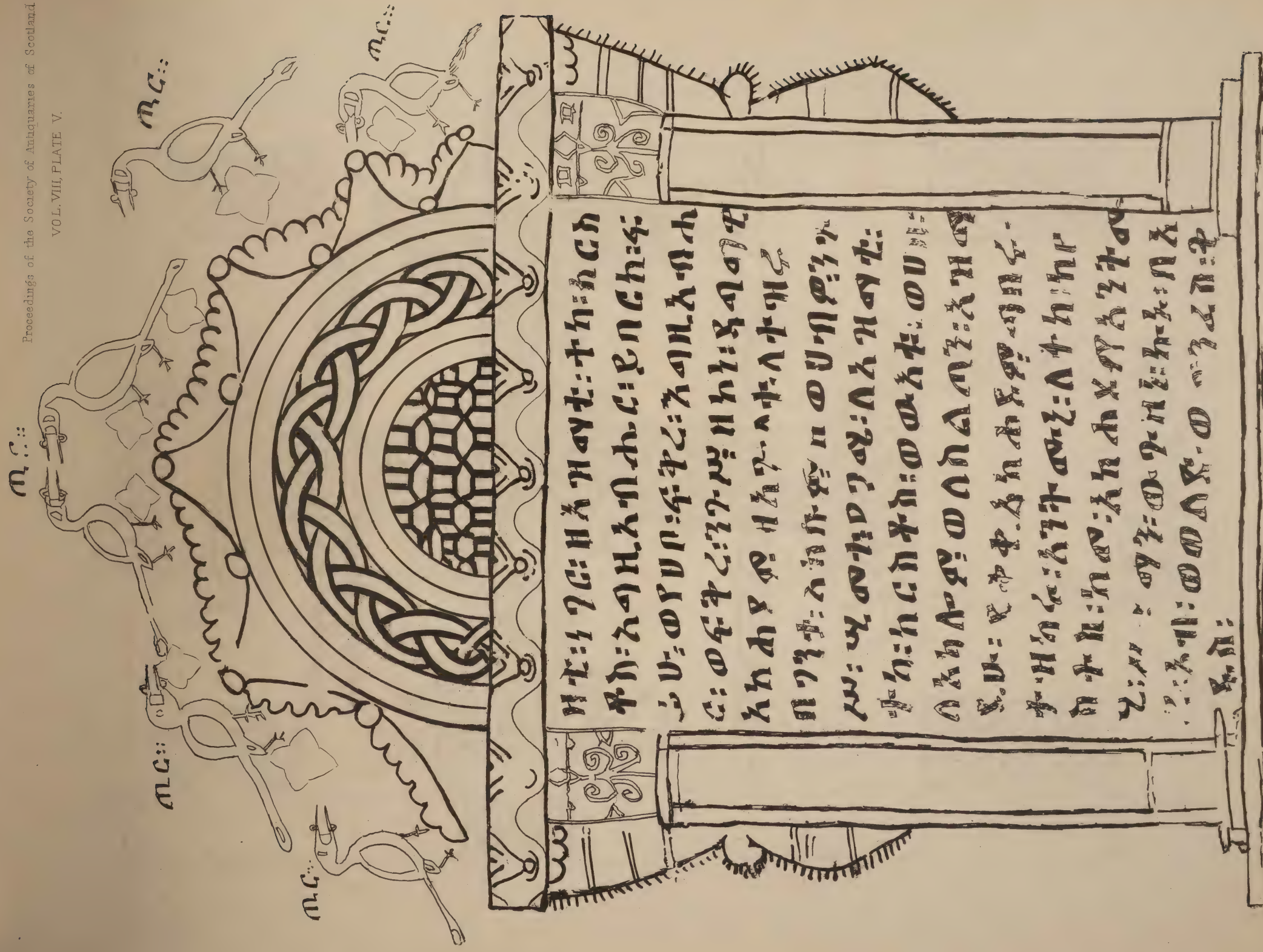
I.

A BRIEF NOTICE OF AN ANCIENT MS. OF THE FOUR GOSPELS, BROUGHT FROM ABYSSINIA, AND PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY (WITH OTHER MSS.); BY CAPTAIN CHARLES M'INROY, STAFF SERVICE, MADRAS. BY DAVID LAING, ESQ., FOR. SEC. S.A. SCOT. (PLATE V.)

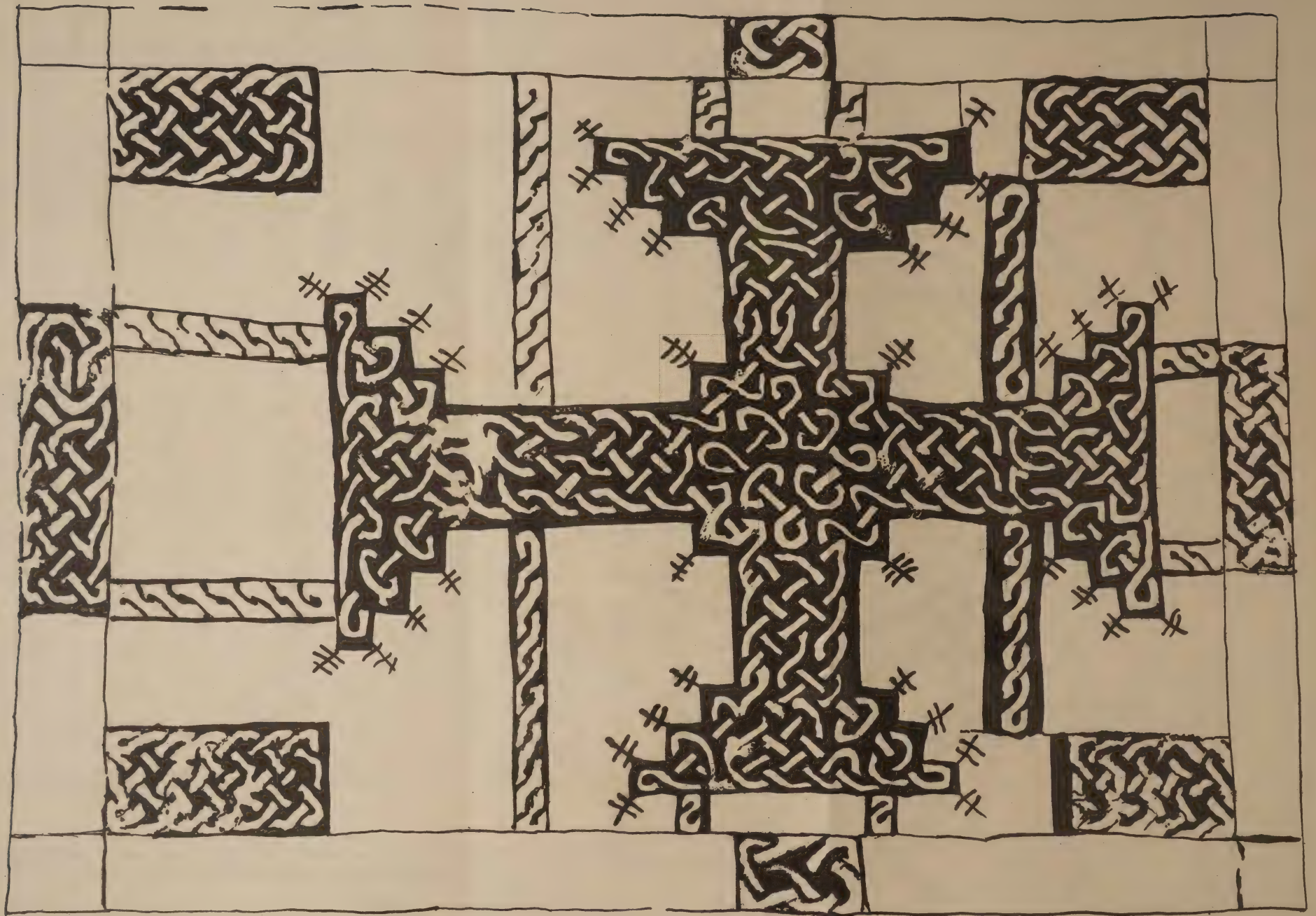
The manuscripts presented this evening as a donation from CAPTAIN M'INROY were put into my hands by ALEXANDER HAMILTON, ESQ., LL.B., W.S., a Fellow of this Society, to be deposited in some public collection.

These MSS., including some fragments, were brought from Abyssinia by his son-in-law, Captain M'Inroy; and as the object was to have one or more of them at least exhibited to the public, instead of being put aside and locked up in a dark press, I recommended, that the volume of chief interest should be given to the Society of Antiquaries, and some of the others to the Library of the University of Edinburgh. This recommendation being quite agreeable to the donor, I have now much pleasure in presenting them in his name to the Society.

It is not to be expected that as Foreign Secretary I should be familiar with all strange and outlandish languages, but the principal volume alluded to is evidently a copy of THE FOUR GOSPELS, of which three have still prefixed an illuminated page, in a very primitive style of art, intended for the several Evangelists. It is a square folio in double columns on vellum, containing about 194 leaves, written in the old Ethiopic character. Having no means at hand for comparison, it would not be safe to pronounce a decided opinion on the age of such manuscripts, but I am inclined to reckon this as not later than the end of the fourteenth century.



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 M ǫ T: ǫ L ǫ N ǫ P ǫ U ǫ N ǫ P ǫ L ǫ
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The facsimile to be given (Plate V., exhibiting a specimen of the writing, and a singular interlaced ornament or cross), may serve perhaps afterwards to ascertain its age. Along with the Abyssinian trophies exhibited last summer (and perhaps still on view) in the South Kensington Museum, there were several MS. volumes. I did not examine them with any care, and the larger collection, of three or four hundred manuscripts, intended for the British Museum, had not then been received.

Along with this volume of the Gospels is added one, of two small curious rolls, on parchment; also a Manual of Prayers in its original blackened leather case with thongs, and having a look of antiquity about it sufficient to carry one's imagination back to the time of the Flood, although not older, perhaps, than the sixteenth century.

Among the manuscripts there were two old PSALTERS. One of these has been given to the University; the other, as of less interest for this Society, I have, with the donor's consent, retained, and in its place substituted a MS. copy of the Koran, in its original Eastern binding.

The following memorandum, received since the above was written, from Captain M'Inroy, states the places in Abyssinia where the MSS. were obtained:—

“The large book, believed to be the Priest's Bible, or rather the one belonging to the Church, and from which he expounded to his people, was procured in a church between Adabagah and Dongālo, about thirty-two or thirty-three miles south of Addigerat.

“The smaller books and scrolls were mostly procured in the neighbourhood of Senafé, from churches and villages. One of the books was said, to be the Psalms.

“CHAS. M'INROY,

“Captain Madras Staff Company.

“EDINBURGH, 6th February 1869.”

In reference to Abyssinian MSS. in general, the two following extracts may be subjoined:—

In the “Travels in Abyssinia and the Galla Country,” published in 1868 from the MSS. of the late W. C. Plowden, Her Majesty's Consul in Abyssinia, we have the following information:—

“All Church service [in Abyssinia] is conducted in the Geez tongue,

unknown save to the learned. The Psalms are also in that language, and the pupil, while encouraged to read, is persuaded that he should not seek to understand them, but that he fulfils a high duty by gabbling over a number of them daily. No one, save the priest himself, is ever instructed in the Gospel, in any tongue. They teach but one book to the children of the laity—the Psalms of David; and, without forbidding other learning, discourage it, confining it as much as possible to the clergy and the scribes. Their great numbers, the almost superstitious reverence of the multitude, and the practice of confession, have enabled the priests to pursue this system with success.

“Their learning is limited almost to the books of the Old and New Testaments, into which some are admitted that we consider apocryphal; besides these, there are some monkish legends, a code of laws, and the chronicles of their kings, containing in a mass of rubbish a few sentences worthy of notice.”—(Pp. 90, 91.)

Professor Max Müller, in his Lectures on the Science of Language, 1861, p. 268, says, that a branch of the ancient Aramaic dialect “is the *Ethiopic* or *Abyssinian*, called by the people themselves the *Gees* language. Though no longer spoken in its purity by the people of Habesh, it is still preserved in their sacred writings, translations of the Bible, and similar works, which date from the third and fourth centuries. The modern language of Abyssinia is called *Amharic*.”

[While this sheet was at press the larger MS. was carefully examined by my venerable friend, the Rev. John E. Brown, who has favoured me with the following note:—

“MY DEAR SIR,—In accordance with your desire I now offer to you the results of my examination of the interesting Abyssinian Manuscript, lately presented to the Antiquarian Society of Scotland. It is with all due diffidence that I do so.

“The MS. is, as you supposed, a copy of the Four Gospels (to be found nearly perfect, I hope, when the parchment leaves shall have been properly arranged) in the Geez or old Æthiopic language and character, the latter written with extreme distinctness.

“Each Gospel is divided into sections,—the Ammonian, a division first

occurring in the third century, and generally followed where the more modern destination by chapters continues unknown.

“In the MS. after a list at the beginning of each Gospel, the announcement of an individual section reappears in red lettering at the top of a column, while, underneath it, the exact place where the section commences is marked by a cross and handle, the old *crux ansata* of Egyptian mythology, which was afterwards occasionally adopted, with widely different meaning, into Christian records.

“At the beginning of each Gospel is placed a portrait, with the name written over it,—St Matthew, St Mark, &c. To the entire four is prefixed a general title, accompanied on another page with a cross of striking figure and various adornments, all of them of most primitive character.

“No date has been determined, but may yet be so through the medium of a preliminary *excursus*, as it may be called, on the style and doctrine of the evangelists, followed by what seems intended as a tribute to the memory of the pious deceased; some, perhaps, canonised saints,—others, it may be, personal friends of the copyist—Anurios (Andreas?). Your own suggestion, meantime, may be embraced as probably a correct one, namely—that the MS. cannot be later than the fourteenth century.—I am, my dear Sir, ever obediently yours,

“J. E. B.

“24 ALBANY STREET, NORTH LEITH,
“30th June 1869.”

II.

NOTICES OF EXCAVATIONS AT PITMILLY LAW, AND ELSEWHERE
ON THE SOUTH-EAST COAST OF FIFE. BY THE REV. ROBERT
SKINNER, ST ANDREWS.

THE PARSONAGE, ST ANDREWS,
31st December 1868.

MY DEAR SIR,—Having some time ago visited, with yourself and other distinguished antiquarians, that portion of Fife which may be called the south-eastern district, in search of things dear to the fraternity, you will be pleased to learn that, a few weeks ago I revisited, along with a reverend

brother (Mr Monypenny of Pittenweem), the *Scraith Stone*, near the village of Kilrenny, with the kind permission of Mr Gray the tenant, and from that visit am now in a position to say that the stone does not likely mark the site of *human burial*, as, on a careful examination of the soil on all sides, even below the surface of the subsoil, we could discover no traces of interment whatever.

The Bents along the coast of this part of Fife are full of human bones, doubtless the remains of "Northmen," who had thought to make an easy prey of the inhabitants of that period, but who had evidently been beaten back to their ships, leaving many of their mates dead on the beach.

PITMILLY LAW, on the estate of Pitmilly, the property of W. T. Monypenny, Esq., is situated on the banks of the Kenly, within the parish of Kingsbarns. Having previously obtained the kind leave of the proprietor, Dr Adamson of St Andrews and I had agreed to meet here on the day specified, with two labourers in full digging panoply, furnished by his no less enthusiastic brother, Mr Adamson, the farmer of Burnside, immediately adjoining. The Law itself is of lowly proportions, but, as compared with the surrounding lands, there is a very perceptible difference in height, and I had always conjectured that it was an ancient barrow, other examples being prolific in the district, though not yet explored.

The Law is in form oblong, and, on careful subsequent measurement, we found it to be 72 yards in length by 44 in width, and about 30 feet high. My eye soon found the centre, which previous experience has proved to me to be the most likely place for a "find," and accordingly, in less than three minutes, the spade disclosed a flat stone, where no such stone could *naturally* be, and in a few more minutes the whole length and breadth and depth of a *cistvaen* were laid bare to view. It consisted, as usual in this part of the country, of rude slabs, perhaps taken from the adjacent burn, but cunningly wedged at the joints with smaller fragments. The cist was complete, and could never have been previously disturbed. The proportions were as follows:—Length, 5 feet 10 inches; breadth at head, 1 foot 7 inches; at foot, 1 foot $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch; depth at head, 9 inches; at foot, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches. But judge of our surprise when, on carefully removing the soil internally, we found not the slightest vestige of remains of any kind. Firm red clay soil everywhere prevailed, internally as well,—the surround-

ing soil having gradually settled into the cist through the imperfect joints up to the lid itself. Every spadeful of earth as thrown out was examined, but not even a tooth was found, nor flake,—nothing, in short! I then bade the labourers dig about one foot south of the cist, and we exposed a similar one,—length, 5 feet 8 inches; breadth at head, 1 foot 5 inches; at foot, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches; depth at head, 1 foot 1 inch; at foot, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches: and immediately under this cist was another,—length, 4 feet 3 inches; depth, 10 inches. We could not make further measurements of this under cist without destroying the upper one. But in neither of them, like the first, did we discover any remains! One would suppose that the nature of the soil would have secured the preservation of remains; but, to be sure, the surrounding tree roots might have unduly dried the soil, and thus helped to hasten the decay of human remains, and yet, under precisely similar circumstances, I have found at least one entire skeleton at Law Park, near St Andrews, where there was even a drier soil. Surely teeth could not so easily have evaporated! Should it be denied, however, that there ever was an interment of a body in the present instance, then how can one account for a perfect cist underlying another, and no space whatever between? In fact, the bottom of the upper one formed the lid of the one underneath.

Before leaving the spot, my friend and I were joined by Dr Adamson and his brother, and arrangements were made for another archæological hunt in the same cover, the result of which I have now the pleasure to give you.

As I could not myself be present during the operations, Mr Adamson of Burnside kindly promised to superintend them, and, on the 17th of this month, on revisiting the Law, I had the pleasure to find that that gentleman had disclosed three more cists on the same side,—in fact, immediately west of the former group, the particulars of which are as follows:—

SECOND SERIES, WEST OF FIRST GROUP.

North Cist.—Length, 5 feet 5 inches; breadth at head, 1 foot 5 inches; depth, 9 inches.

Middle Cist.—Length, 4 feet 9 inches; breadth at head, 1 foot 2 inches; breadth at foot, 12 inches; depth, 9 inches.

South Cist.—Length, 6 feet; breadth at head, 1 foot 6 inches; breadth at foot, 12 inches; depth, 10 inches.

The general appearance of the soil indicates that the mound is natural, and the slabs of the cist last described might denote the place of sepulture of the chief of the family, as they were full of fossil shells (of which I send you a specimen), which may yet be found on the nearest beach. The slabs of the other five cists were composed of the ordinary freestone to be found near the spot. Mr Adamson therefore thought (and I agree with him), that from the fact of the slabs having been brought so far as half a mile, that greater pains had been taken with the interment of the last-described cist, which is also the largest of the whole group. From the circumstance that we had found no remains of human beings in the former cists we had little hope of these last three containing any, and so it turned out.

Does not this fact indicate a very remote antiquity for these sepultures? I have myself been present at a great many similar disinterments, but I never saw an empty cist but one, which was found on the grounds of Rathelpie, within the western district of the burgh of St Andrews, and even then there was an enclosed urn, very elegant in shape, of which I retain considerable fragments, and in the bottom of it was some black mould; that cist was divided into two compartments, each sufficient to hold a sitting figure, and one of them was quite empty. You once told me that the derivation of Rathelpie was the rath or fort of Alpin, king of the Picts. That cist was found on the summit of the highest part of the lands of Rathelpie, and it may have contained the remains of that illustrious monarch.

If you think the above particulars worthy of being communicated to the Society of Antiquaries you are most welcome to them.—I am, &c.

ROBERT SKINNER.

To JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., &c.

III.

NOTICE OF A MATCHLOCK, WITH REVOLVING BREECH, TAKEN AT THE CAPTURE OF DELHI. [THE MATCHLOCK WAS EXHIBITED.] BY JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT.

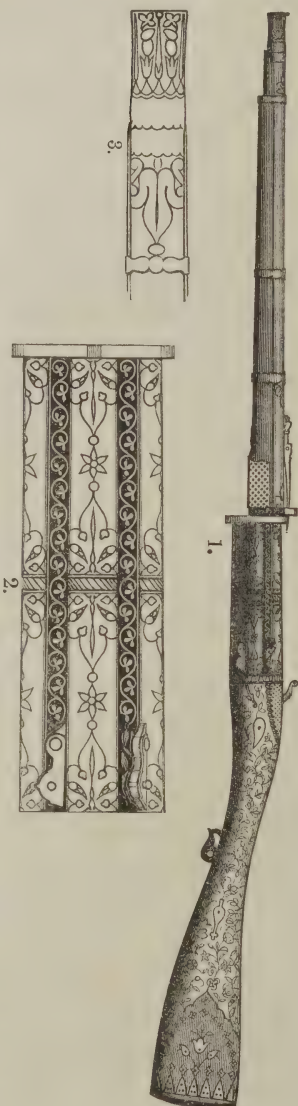
The matchlock now exhibited is the property of Henry Bruce, of Ederline, Esq., a Fellow of this Society. It has a single barrel with a small bore, which measures $22\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length (the calibre, or bore, being $\frac{9}{16}$ ths of an inch), and a four-chambered revolving cylinder, or breech, 7 inches long, each of the priming pans has a movable iron lid or cover, and both the breech and barrel are richly ornamented with engraving. The breech is simply turned round by the hand, and there is a strong pin or spring, which projects backwards from the barrel, passes through the hinder sight, and catches in a notch cut over the centre of each chamber of the movable breech. When the spring is in this position, the chamber and barrel are then in complete apposition for safe firing; and the arm is said to shoot well. The wooden stock of the matchlock is ornamented with gilding and painting, and is also partly inlaid with ivory.

(The annexed carefully drawn woodcuts, figs. 1, 2, and 3, which have been contributed by Mr Bruce, give a sketch of the arm, and details of the revolving cylinder.)

The weapon was taken in the streets of Delhi, in front of the Palace, by Captain Chalmers of the 24th Punjaub Infantry (a relative of Mr Bruce's), about the 19th of September 1857, when the King's Palace was captured. The fuzee of the matchlock was burning. Three of the chambers had been recently fired, and one remained still loaded. It formed part of the equipment of a mounted Indian, who, from the handsome character of his arms, and his saddle being richly jewelled with turquoise, was believed to have been one of the native princes. A Persian dagger or "kuttar," inlaid with gold, and a beautifully finished battle axe, were other weapons worn by the same individual, and are in the possession of Mr Bruce; he also wore a richly ornamented sword.

Specimens of native firearms, with revolving barrels, have been observed in India; and I exhibit one of this kind, a matchlock revolver with four barrels, made separately and fixed all together, with interven-

1. Indian Matchlock Revolver with four-chambered cylinder or breech. 2. Revolving Cylinder to larger scale, showing style of ornamentation. 3. Ornament engraved on Muzzle of Matchlock (of the same scale as No. 2).



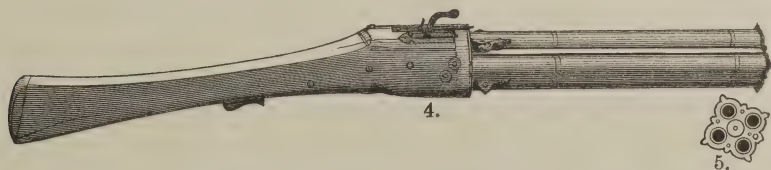
ing bars of metal between each barrel, on one of which is a ring for the ramrod. The barrels are ornamented with different engraved patterns, each barrel measures $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, and the check in this instance, is formed by an iron pin projecting from the stock, which falls into notches with an open side, cut over the revolving barrels. It was brought from India many years ago by Colonel Alex. Dewar, and is now deposited in our Museum.

A sketch of this weapon is also given, for comparison with the other matchlock. (See the woodcuts, figs. 4 and 5.)

The matchlock, with the revolving cylinder, was the only instance of a breech revolver which had come under the notice of Captain Chalmers; and Indian authorities, to whom he had shown it, considered it a great rarity, and believed, from the style of its workmanship and ornamentation, that it was above 100 years old, how much more, however, they were at a loss to determine.

The plan of increasing the power of a firearm by multiplying the number of the barrels, or the chambers of the breech, is of rather an ancient date in Europe, and various examples are preserved, which are believed to

have been manufactured about the earlier part of the seventeenth century. A curious variety of a firearm, with a repeating cylinder or breech, is described in a valuable communication, entitled "Observations upon the History of Hand Firearms, and their Appurtenances," by Samuel Rush Meyrick, LL.D. and F.S.A., which is published in the 22d vol. of the *Archæologia* of the Society of Antiquaries of London, 1829. Dr Meyrick describes a rather complicated self-loading gun, intended to give expedition in firing, the invention of which originated in Italy about the close, he says, of the English Protectorate.—"The butt was made to answer the purpose of a flask, and a small touch-box was attached to the pan. At the breech was a cylinder with a hole to receive the bullet. To the axle of this cylinder was affixed a lever, on turning which, the bullet was



4 Indian Matchlock Revolver with four barrels. 5. Muzzle of Revolver.

conveyed to its proper place, sufficient portions of charge and priming were cut off, and the piece cocked at the same time. This therefore rendered the firelock, just described, as expeditious as the long-bow; but the contrivance was attended with great danger, and occasioned the subsequent inventions of a movable breech containing several charges, or a small barrel to be brought to the breech when requisite to load, &c.; but none of these earlier arms were ever adopted for infantry regiments. Some of my son's specimen's are for snaphaunces, others for firelocks."

A self-loading gun as it is designated, a snaphaunce, with an eight-chambered revolving cylinder or breech, of the time of Charles I., is figured in plate cxix. vol. ii. of Skelton's "Illustrations of Ancient Armour at Goodrich Court." A much older example, however, of a gun with a revolving breech, is that of a matchlock of European manufac-

ture,—“a matchlock revolver of the 16th century, with eight chambers calibre, 0·48 in. ; barrel, 22·5 in.” The stock is richly inlaid with ivory and mother-of-pearl. This curious specimen is deposited by the committee of the Royal Artillery Institution in the Museum of Artillery in the Rotunda at Woolwich, and I have quoted the description from General Lefroy’s Official Catalogue. It is interesting to find an ancient European firearm, apparently so closely resembling in character the one now exhibited, of Indian manufacture.

Repeating firearms or revolvers were first made, it is believed, with several barrels revolving round a central axis, but the bulk and weight of the weapon soon caused the plan of a revolving many-chambered breech, with only one elongated barrel, to be tried instead. In both cases the rotation was effected simply by the hand, there being, however, an arrangement, as in the instances described, for stopping the motion at the proper place, so as to have the priming pan of the barrel under the stroke of the hammer of the lock, and the chamber of the breech in correct apposition to that of the barrel. The weapon, however, if it had more than two barrels, required to be very carefully and correctly finished, was apt to get out of order, and at last fell into general disuse.

The course of improvement in this direction was in a great measure confined to double-barrelled firearms, some having the barrels at first arranged one above the other, with one lock above, and another below, as shown in a pistol of the time of Charles I., figured by Skelton, whichever barrel was held uppermost being ready to be fired. Others had the barrels one above another, but also movable, so that they could be turned round and fired with one lock, as in a pistol of the time of William III., also figured by Skelton ; and still another in the same collection, has a revolving breech with double chambers and a single barrel. It belongs to the close of the reign of William III.

I also exhibit a curious firearm in the Museum of the Society, which has a long and a short barrel placed one above the other, and movable on a pivot, so that both can be fired by one lock. The last great improvement in this class was the ordinary double-barrelled gun, with the barrels fixed side by side, and a separate lock for each.

The pressure of circumstances in our own times, has caused attention to be again paid to the rather neglected class of repeating weapons, and

improvements have been made, by which the rotation was effected by an arrangement with the action of the triggers, and patents have been taken out for greatly improved mechanism adapted to revolvers, for revolving barrels, and also for revolving cylinders or chambered breeches; until the valuable mechanical adaptations of Colonel Colt, of America, and others in our own country, have worked out the system as a complete success, at least for small arms, and added a most important weapon to the equipment of the soldier and sailor; as well as helped to give increased facilities for sport to the more peaceful citizen.

IV.

NOTE ON THE SHELL-MOUNDS OF SUTHERLAND. BY LAWSON
TAIT, Esq., SURGEON, WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

On the links which extend between the Meikle and Little Ferries, there exist numerous remains of the Stone age, in the shape of hut-circles, tumuli, and shell-mounds; and these are generally at a height above high-water mark of only from ten to thirty feet. Near Skibo there is a shell-mound where my friend the Rev. Mr Joass picked up many manufactured flints. Near the Little Ferry I found many of these shell-mounds, corresponding in every particular, save that of size, to the Danish Kjökken Möddings. The shells were all adult specimens, and each heap was generally composed solely of one kind, although this was not invariably the case; while the varieties were confined to the oyster, mussel, cockle, limpet, and periwinkle, the shells of the razor fish occurring occasionally, and very rarely an astarte. The shells of the oyster were of a very large kind; and although a smaller variety of this bivalve is now abundant on the west coast of Sutherland, I am not aware that the oyster occurs at all on the east coast. The mussel shells were quite similar to those now found in the mussel scalps of the coast, but they were invariably broken at the thin edge in a manner which seems to me to indicate human labour. The arrangement of these shells; the fact that the inner layers were almost free from sand, and were occupied by a blackish loam; the occurrence amongst them of pieces of bone, and worked fragments of chert, quartz,

and flint, all led me to the conclusion that the mounds were not accidental, but the remains of the food of a prehistoric people. In one I picked up a beautifully worked but unfinished spear head of flint, covered with *patina*, indicating considerable antiquity, which had probably been lost by the ancient armourer when nearly completed; for it wants but one more skilled stroke to chip off a remaining portion of the original nodular surface, in order to make a perfect weapon; it is in the glass case along with a finished weapon from a tumulus, and another broken specimen picked up in the links. (These flint weapons are now presented to the Society, along with various specimens of the shells, &c.) These primeval weapons are identical in material and style of manufacture with some from the shores of the Cape of Good Hope, shown last year by Professor Busk at the meeting of the International Congress of Prehistoric Archæology.

V.

NOTE ON LARGE STONE IMPLEMENTS FOUND IN SHETLAND.

By ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., F.S.A. SCOT. (PLATE VI.)

Since my first communication on the collections of rude stone implements discovered in Shetland, was laid before the Society, I have had an opportunity of paying another visit to that part of Scotland. The additional information which I then obtained is embodied in this note.

1. When the subject was first brought before the Society these implements had only been found in three places, but since that time they have also been picked up at Watsness in Walls, and at Burrafirth in Unst, by Mr Umphray of Reawick, a zealous antiquary and careful observer. I am inclined to think that it will eventually be found that they are widely and generally distributed over the country.

2. In an interesting collection made by Mr Umphray, I found two large and evidently unbroken implements. In a similar collection, made by the Rev. James Russell, the parochial schoolmaster of Walls, I found another implement, still larger, but of exactly the same type and character, and also unbroken. Through the kindness of these gentlemen, I am now



STONE IMPLEMENTS FOUND IN SHETLAND.

The two Stones, Nos. 1 and 2, measure $20\frac{1}{2}$ and 19 inches in length. Copied from a photograph of the group of implements.

able to exhibit these implements (figs. 1, 2, and 3 of Plate VI.), and along with them a fourth of the same kind, but rather less and better finished, which has come into my possession, and which was recently found at West Houland, where the majority of those first shown to the Society were discovered.

The chief value of these four remarkable stones consists in this, that they show that the great majority of those which appear in all the collections yet made are, as was suspected, merely fragments, and fragments of large or small implements of this type. Such, for instance, are 2 and 3 of fig. 4, and 1 and 2 of fig. 6 in my first communication (Proc. Soc. Antiq. Vol. VII. p. 118). Why so many of them should be broken I cannot tell, and I am equally unable to explain why, whether broken or whole, none of them should exhibit unmistakable evidence of use.

3. The spud-like or handled implement (fig. 5 of the Plate) is in all respects as rough and rude in its finish as the rudest which have been found, and it becomes useful in connecting an extremely rude workmanship with workmanship of a higher character, seen in the group of handled implements in fig. 7 of the previous communication on this subject. The handled implements formerly exhibited, and now in the Museum, were of a finish so much better than the other implements, that, though found along with them, it was doubted whether they belonged to the same period. But the discovery of this *very rude* one, which is perfect, and of many fragments of others equally rude, removes this doubt. It is noteworthy that even these handled implements show no distinct sign of having been used.

4. The rude ball (fig. 6 of the Plate) was also sent to me by Mr Umphray. It presents another type of implement, and occurs with frequency. It is very rudely rounded, and shows no sign of use, differing in all respects from the *stone pestle* found at Houland, and shown in fig. 8 of my last paper on this subject.

The following extract from Mr Umphray's letter, announcing the despatch of these implements, contains interesting and valuable information regarding them :—

“The two long ones, 19 and 20½ inches,” he says, “were not found near underground buildings, as such implements usually are, but lying apparently where made. Moss having accumulated over them, they are

uninjured by exposure. So also, the large rough stone with a handle was found, when cutting peats, 5 or 6 feet below the surface. I have about a dozen of this kind in fragments, which were found along with other rough stones near the usual places. The round stone described in your paper (pestle) is not so rare as the one I forward. I have a small one like the one you describe, and I gave Dr Hunt a large one. I had another, but lost it, which was nearly 4 inches in diameter. The round one which I forward was found where there had been some underground structure, and where hundreds of the long-shaped stones are. I have as yet got very few of the latter, which show use at both ends; but as you will find in those I send, and as many have noticed in your own collection, they have been so used. There are two whole ones among those sent showing use at both ends, one $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches and the other 7 inches long, and about a dozen of fragments, some showing use at the broad and some at the narrow end.

“Some of the stones I send belong to a collection which I am making from a spot, where there has been an underground structure. They are all *rough*—the small perfect one, 7 inches \times $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches \times $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch, showing use at both ends, being the least rough. I got from this place a large piece—5 inches thick and 13 inches broad—of a stone, hollowed out somewhat like a mill-stone, but without a hole in the middle, and not round. Judging from the appearance of the fragment, the whole stone must have been 18 to 24 inches long. The concave part is $\frac{3}{4}$ inch deep, and systematically worked. I think similar stones have been found, but the interesting thing is its being found in company with these rude ones.”

The evidence of *use* to which Mr Umphray refers is to be seen at one or both ends of these implements, as if they had been rubbed against something. I have not been able, however, to satisfy myself or others that it is of anything like regular occurrence, or that, when it does occur, it is not accidental. The point is one, however, which deserves attention, and it is very much for the purpose of securing this that I have given so full an extract from Mr Umphray's letter.

The fact, that so many of these stones are broken, has been regarded by some as an evidence of their having been used.

MONDAY, 8th March 1869.

DAVID MILNE HOME, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentleman was balloted for and duly elected a Fellow of the Society :—

JOHN G. HEDDLE, of Melsetter, Orkney, Esq.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and the thanks of the Society voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By HENRY CADELL, of Grange, Esq., near Borrowstounness, Linlithgowshire.

A Roman Legionary Sculptured Stone, found at Bridgeness, close by the sea-shore, on the estate of the Donor. (See Communication, p. 108.)

(2.) By MR FAIRGRIEVE, Builder, Dewarton, Ford.

Floor Tile, Bodle of Charles II., &c., found at Crichton Castle.

(3.) By ROBERT DAY, Jun., Esq.

Copies of an Engraving of a leaf-shaped Bronze Sword, showing remains of the bone haft still attached. The sword found in Lisletrim Bog, county of Monaghan, and is now in the collection of the Donor.

(4.) By the SENATUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW.

Glasgow University Calendar for 1868. Glasgow, 1868. 12mo.

(5.) By CHARLES ROACH SMITH, Esq. (Cott. Mem. S.A. Scot., &c.), the Author.

Remarks on Shakespeare, his Birthplace, &c. London, 1869. 8vo.

(6.) By the SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES, Copenhagen.

Tillæg til Aarboger for Nordisk Oldkyndighed og Historie. 1868. 8vo.

(7.) By the ROYAL UNIVERSITY, Christiania.

“Morkinskinna” Universitets program, &c. Christiania, 1867. 8vo.
Meddelelser fra det Norske Rigsarchiv. Christiania, 1867. 8vo.

Foreningen til Norske Fortidsmindesmerkers Bevaring. Christiania, 1867.

Diplomatarium Norvegicum. Vol. VII. pt. 1. Christiania, 1867. 8vo.

Ordbog over det Gamle Norske Sprog. Hette 8, 9. Christiania, 1867. 8vo.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

THE CORONATION STONE. BY WILLIAM F. SKENE, ESQ., LL.D.,
VICE-PRESIDENT S. A. SCOT.

The Legend of the Coronation Stone of Scotland, formerly at Scone, and now in Westminster Abbey, is intimately connected with the fabulous history of Scotland. The tale of its wanderings from Egypt to Scone, and of its various resting-places by the way, is, in fact, closely interwoven with that spurious history which, first emerging in the controversy with England regarding the independence of Scotland, was wrought into a consistent narrative by Fordun, and finally elaborated by Hector Boece into that formidable list of mythic monarchs, who swayed the sceptre over the Scottish race from "the Marble Chair" in Dunstaffnage.

The mists cast around the true history of Scotland by this fictitious narrative have now been, in a great measure, dispelled. Modern criticism has demolished the forty kings whose portraits adorn the walls of the gallery in Holyrood, and whose speeches are given at such wearisome length in the pages of Boece. But the legend of the Stone of Destiny, or Fatal Chair, has taken such hold of the Scottish mind, that it is less easily dislodged from its place in the received history of the country; and there it still stands, in all its naked improbability, a solitary waif from the sea of myth and fable, with which modern criticism has hardly ventured to meddle, and which modern scepticism has not cared to question. It is still believed that the stone was peculiarly connected with the fortunes of the Scottish race, that it was preserved for many generations at Dunstaffnage, and that it was transferred from Argyllshire to Scone in the ninth century, when the Scots are said to have conquered the Pictish nation.

But the history with which this legend is connected having now been rejected as unquestionably spurious, it is surely an inquiry of some interest to what extent any part of this legend is really historical, or how far it must share the same fate. The popularly-received account of the stone may be shortly stated in the words of Pennant:—"In the church of the abbey (of Scone) was preserved the famous chair, whose bottom was the fatal stone, the palladium of the Scottish monarchy; the stone, which had first served Jacob for his pillow, was afterwards transported into Spain, where it was used as a seat of justice by Gethalus, contemporary with Moses. It afterwards found its way to Dunstaffnage in Argyllshire, continued there as the Coronation Chair till the reign of Kenneth II., who, to secure his empire, removed it to Scone. There it remained, and in it every Scottish monarch was inaugurated till the year 1296, when Edward I., to the mortification of North Britain, translated it to Westminster Abbey, and with it, according to ancient prophecy, the empire of Scotland."¹

The latter part of this account is unquestionably true. It is true that such a stone was preserved at Scone; it is true that Scottish monarchs were crowned upon it; and it is true that in 1296 Edward I. removed it to Westminster Abbey, where it now is, and can be seen under the seat of the Coronation Chair.

Fordun has left us a detailed account of the coronation of Alexander III. at Scone, in the year 1249. He did not live to continue his historical narrative beyond the reign of David I., but in the MS. preserved at Trinity College, Cambridge, are the materials collected by him for the remainder of his history, in which this account is contained, and it has been introduced, with some variations, by Bower, in his continuation of Fordun's history. It has been little noticed by Scottish historians, and by those who do refer to it, very inaccurately represented, except by Mr Robertson in his "Scotland under her Early Kings," who is always accurate; but he has taken his account from Bower's altered version, instead of from the older form of it contained in the Cambridge MS. In order to follow the description, it will be necessary that I should first produce to you ancient Scone.

The remains of ancient Scone, such as they are, are all contained within

¹ Pennant's Tour in Scotland, vol. iii. p. 116.

the present park of the Palace of Scone, which extends along the east bank of the river Tay from about a mile north of Perth for a considerable distance. From the river the park extends with a gentle ascent towards the north and east, till it reaches the road from Perth to Bridge of Isla. Through the south part of the park a small stream or burn flows into the Tay through a ravine called The Friars' Den, and on the north side of this ravine were situated the old abbey and the royal city of Scone. The present approach from Perth, now called the Queen's Drive, crosses this ravine by a bridge, and enters a broad terrace through a gate termed the Terrace Gate, till it reaches the north-east front of the present Palace of Scone, situated about 300 yards from the Den. The present palace faces the river, which here runs in a south-easterly direction. About 100 yards from the south-east corner of the palace is an old burying-ground, and in 1841, in altering one of the terraces, the foundation of a small room or cell was found between the burying-ground and the palace, and within 20 yards of the former. It was surrounded by stone seats about 15 inches broad, and might be from 10 to 12 feet in dimension. It was probably part of the abbey buildings. About 70 yards to the north of this is an oval-shaped rising ground or hillock, called popularly the Moot Hill of Scone, and having on the top a flat area of about 100 yards by 60; this was the ancient *Mons Placiti* of the *Regiam Majestatem*, and the *Collis Credulitatis* or Mount of Belief of the Chronicles. About 200 yards due east of the north-east front of the present palace is an ancient gateway still preserved, and 30 yards east of it stood an ancient cross, now removed to another site. From this gateway proceeded walls, built on the foundation of other walls, which seem to have enclosed these possessions of the abbey as well as the Moot Hill. The south wall is on a line with the east wall of the burying-ground.

The ancient palace of the abbots, with the abbey and abbey church, was entirely destroyed by a mob in 1559, who set fire to them and burnt them to the ground; but there is little reason to doubt that the present palace is built on the site of the old palace. The rebuilding of the palace was commenced by the first Commendator after the Reformation, the Earl of Gowrie, and extended and completed by Sir David Murray, who, on the forfeiture of the Earl of Gowrie in 1600, received a grant of the lands of the abbey of Scone, which were erected into the lordship of Scone in

1605. This building was replaced by the present palace in 1803. In 1624 Sir David Murray took down the few remaining fragments of the walls of the abbey church, and erected a new church on the top of the Moot Hill. The old gateway appears also to belong to his period. We know from the old descriptions that the *cimiterium* lay on the north side of the abbey, and between it and the Moot Hill, and that the abbey church was immediately west of the *cimiterium*. If the burying-ground which is now found there is the same as the old *cimiterium*, it would determine the site of the buildings; but it contains no gravestones as old as the Reformation, and its site is inconsistent with the old descriptions, while the remains of the stone wall and seats seem evidently to have formed part of the abbey buildings. The abbey was situated, therefore, in all probability, between the present palace and the old wall south of the ancient gate. On the north side of it, and almost under the Moot Hill, was the *cimiterium* or burying-ground, and, at the west end of the *cimiterium*, the abbey church. Outside of this wall, and extending along the Friars' Den, was the royal city of Scone, the site of which is marked by an avenue which still preserves the name of the Chantor Gate, leading from what is called the Gallows Knowe, at the south end, across the ravine, till it reached the road leading to the old gate from the east, which it joined 50 yards from the gate. Through this avenue proceeded the old road from Perth.¹

Fordun's description of the coronation of Alexander III. is as follows. After narrating the death of Alexander II. at Kerreray, on Thursday, the 8th of July, in the year 1249, he proceeds thus:—"Alexander, the son of

¹ "In cimiterio ex parte orientali ecclesie."—*Fordun a Hearne*, vol. iii. 758.

"Super montem ex parte boreali monasterii ejusdem extra cymyterium."—*Act. Parl. Scot.* i. 216.

In the Chartulary of Scone are two visitations of the monastery by the Bishop of St Andrews in 1365 and 1369 (pp. 137-139), which mention the *ecclesia*, the *claustrum*, the *dormitorium*, the *refectorium*, the *capitulum*, the *infirmitorium*, and the *clausura monasterii*, within which no female was admitted. They also mention the *villa de Scona* and its *tabernæ* and *bothæ*; and among the feu-rights granted after the Reformation is one to "Peter Jak and Alisoun Scharpe, his spous, of that tenement of land upon the south-eist part of the *chantourgail*, 13 April 1586."—(P. 232.)

In Slezer's "Theatrum Scotiæ" is a view of Scone from the south, looking north which shows the position of the buildings in 1693.

the aforesaid King Alexander, a boy of eight years old, came to Scone with a number of the earls, barons, and knights, on the following Tuesday, the 13th of July. There were present the venerable fathers David de Bernham, Bishop of St Andrews, and Galfridus, Bishop of Dunkeld, a man gracious in many things both to clergy and laity, careful in things temporal and spiritual, one who showed himself amiable to all, both nobles and poor, but terrible to malefactors. There was present also the Abbot of the same monastery of Scone; and, behold, as soon as they were assembled, there arose a great dissension among the nobles. Some of them wished not to make him king on that day, but only a knight, saying that it was an unlucky day; and this was said, not on account of the unlucky day, but because Alan Durward, at that time Justiciary of all Scotland, wished to gird him on that day with the knightly sword. To whom submitting, the Lord Walter Comyn, Earl of Menteath, a man eminent and prudent in council, replied, saying that he had himself seen a king consecrated who was yet not a knight, and had often heard of kings who were not knights being consecrated, and added, saying, that a country without a king was without doubt like a ship in the midst of the billows without a rower steersman. He had also always loved the late king, of pious memory, and this king on account of his father. He proposed, therefore, to elevate this boy as speedily as possible to the throne, as it was always hurtful to arrangements already made to defer them. On his advice, the bishops and the abbot, as well as the nobles and the whole clergy and people, gave their consent and assent with one voice to his being made king.

‘And it was done that the same Earl Walter Comyn, when he heard this, and the whole clergy, the Earls Malcolm Earl of Fife, and Malise Earl of Stratherne, and other nobles uniting with them, they immediately led the future King Alexander to the cross, which stands in the *cimiterium* or churchyard at the east end of the church; and, having there placed him in the regal chair, decked with silk cloths embroidered with gold, the Bishop of St Andrews, the others assisting him, consecrated him king, the king himself sitting, as was proper, upon the regal chair—that is, the stone—and the earls and other nobles placing vestments under his feet, with bent knees, before the stone. This stone is reverently preserved in that monastery for the consecration of kings of Scotland; nor were any

of the kings in wont to reign anywhere in Scotland, unless they had, on receiving the name of king, first sat upon this royal stone in Scone, which was constituted by ancient kings the "sedes superior" or principal seat, that is to say, of Albania. And, behold, everything being completed, a certain Scottish mountaineer, suddenly kneeling before the throne with bent head, saluted the king in his mother-tongue in these Scottish words—Benach de Re Alban Alexander, Mac Alexander, Mac William, Mac Henri, Mac David, and thus, repeating the genealogy of the Scottish kings, rehearsed them to the end.¹

Fordun's description is so graphic, we can almost picture the scene. A Scottish July day; the cross in the *cimiterium*; before it the fatal stone, covered with gold embroidered cloths; upon it the boy-king; at his side the two bishops and the Abbot of Scone; before him the great barons of Scotland, kneeling before the ancient symbol of Scottish sovereignty; the eager Highland *Sennachy* pressing forward to utter his barbarous Celtic gutturals; in the background the Mount of Belief, covered with a crowd of people gazing on the solemn scene; and in the distance the blue range of the Grampians, broken only by the pass through which the Tay emerges to pass before them on the west, and where the Abbey of Dunkeld lies nestled, whose abbot, the founder or *Stammvater* of his race, had, by his marriage with the daughter of the last king of Scottish race, placed his descendants in the "Marble Chair."

¹ Fordun a Hearne, vol. iii. p. 757. Bower, in his continuation of Fordun, in which the materials left by Fordun are largely interpolated, has greatly altered this description. He makes the meeting solve the difficulty as to the knighting of the king, by the Bishop of St Andrews both knighting and crowning him. He is then crowned and anointed, and has the coronation oath administered to him, "prius Latine postea Gallice;" and after the coronation he is led to the "cimiterium," and placed on the stone merely to receive the address of the Highland *Sennachy*. In short, he assimilates the coronation to that of the Norman kings of England in the church, and reduces the scene in the "cimiterium" to an unmeaning ceremony. Those of our historians who have noticed the coronation at all follow Bower in his description; but Alexander was in real fact knighted by Henry, king of England, in 1251, and no Scotch king was actually crowned and anointed prior to David II., who was the first to receive the more solemn inauguration in consequence of an application by Robert I. to the Pope. If the two descriptions were placed in parallel columns it would show the extent to which these old writers falsified history when it suited their purpose. We can only say that in matters touching the controversy with Scotland, English writers were equally unscrupulous.

The next coronation on the fatal stone was attended with more humiliating circumstances. John Baliol was crowned at Scone, and immediately after his coronation did homage to the King of England as his over-lord. William Rishanger thus describes it in his Chronicle, written about 1327 :—“ John de Balioll, on the following feast of St Andrew’s, placed upon the regal stone, which Jacob placed under his head when he went from Bersabee to Haran, was solemnly crowned in the church of the canons regular at Scone ;”¹ and there is preserved a warrant by Edward I., by which, as over-lord of the kingdom of Scotland, on the narrative that “ Duncan, son and heir of the late Duncan, Earl of Fife, was under age, and could not perform a certain function in the new creation of the King of Scotland—that of placing him in his royal seat at Scone, incumbent upon him according to the usage of the kingdom of Scotland—he assigned to John de St John to place, in the name of the said heir, John de Balliol, King of Scotland, to whom he had judicially restored that kingdom in his royal seat at Scone, according to the aforesaid usage.”² William Rishanger also records that Edward I., after he had overrun Scotland in 1296, on his return from the north, ‘ passed by the Abbey of Scone, where having taken away the stone which the Kings of Scotland were wont at the time of their coronation to use for a throne, carried it to Westminster, directing it to be made the chair of the priest celebrant.’³

¹ “ Johannes de Balliolo, in festo Sancti Andreae sequenti, collocatus super lapidem regalem, quem Jacob supposuerat capiti suo, dum iret de Bersabee et pergeret Aran, in ecclesia Canonicorum Regularium de Scone solemniter coronatur.”—Will. Rishanger’s *Chronica et Annales*, p. 135.

² “ Sciatis quod, cum Duncano filio et heredi Duncani, quondam Comitum de Fif infra ætatem et in custodia nostra existenti, quædam certa officia, in nova creatione regis Scotiae, de ponendo ipsum in regiam sedem suam, apud Scone secundum consuetudinem dicti regni Scotiae, incumbant, ut accepimus, facienda. Nos nolentes præfato Duncano, sic infra ætatem et in custodia nostra existenti, præjudicium in hac parte aequaliter generari, ratione minoris ætatis ejusdem hæredis assignavimus dilectum et fidelem nostrum Johannem de Balliolo regem Scotiae (cui Regnum illud judicialiter reddidimus) in regiam sedem suam apud Scone secundum consuetudinem prædictam. Teste Rege apud Norham xxi. die Novembris.”—Rym. *Fœd.* i. 785.

³ “ In redeundo autem, transivit per Abbathiam de Scone ; ubi sublato lapide quo Reges Scotorum, tempore coronationis, solebant uti pro throno, usque Westmonas-

Hemingford says, "At the Monastery of Scone was placed a large stone in the church of God, near the great altar, hollowed out like a round chair, in which future kings were placed, according to custom, as the place of their coronation." And again, "in returning by Scone [the king] ordered that stone, in which, as has been said, the kings of the Scots were wont to be placed at their coronation, to be taken and carried to London, as a sign that the kingdom had been conquered and resigned."¹

Harding, in his *Metrical Chronicle*, says—

And as he came home by Skoon away,
The regal there of Scotland than he brought,
And sent it forthe to Westmynstre for ay,
To ben ther ynne a chayer clenly wrought,
For masse prestes to sitte yn whan hem ought,
Whiche yit is there stondyng beside the shryne,
In a chaier of olde tyme made ful fyne.²

The Scottish chronicles all agree in asserting the same fact.

So much of the legend being unquestionably true, let us see how far the earlier part of the tale will bear the test of examination.

Starting with the stone at Scone in the thirteenth century, and playing its traditionary part in the coronation of the kings, let us trace its history back, examining the form of the legend at each stage of our progress. We may take Hector Boece as giving it in its latest and fullest form: Boece's history was written in 1527, and in 1531 it was translated by John terium transtulit illum, jubens inde fieri celebrantium cathedram sacerdotum."—Will. Rish. *Chron.* p. 163.

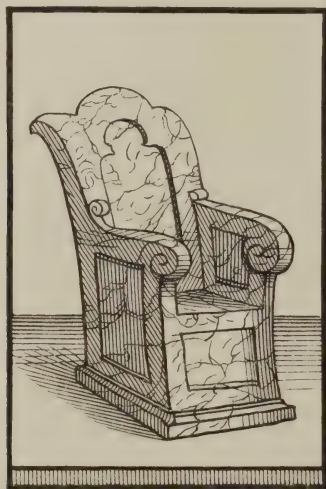
¹ "Apud Monasterium de Scone positus erat lapis pergrandis in ecclesia Dei, juxta magnum altare, concavus quidem ad modum rotundæ cathedræ confectus, in quo futuri reges loco quasi coronationis ponebantur ex more.

"In redeundo per Scone, præcepit tolli et Londoniis cariari, lapidem illum, in quo, ut supra dictum est, reges Scotorum solebant poni loco coronationis suæ et hoc in signum regni conquesti et resignati."—Hem. *Cron.* t. i. pp. 37–100.

To complete the evidence, among the king's jewels which were in the castle of Edinburgh in 1296, was "una petra magna super quam Reges Scotiæ solebant coronari" (Chalmers' *Caled.* vol. i. p. 468); and in the wardrobe accounts of Edward I. for A.D. 1300, is a payment "Magistro Waltero Pictori, pro custibus et expensis per ipsum factis circa unum gradum faciendum ad pedem nove Cathedre in quo petra Socie reponitur juxta altare ante feretrum Sancti Edwardi in Ecclesia Abbatie Westmonaster."—*Lib. Gard.*, Edward I. p. 60.

² MS. Bod. Seld. B. 10.

Bellenden, Archdean of Moray, which at once made his fabulous history familiar to the Scottish mind, so that it was soon accepted as the popular belief of the country, while the polished Latinity of Buchanan commended it to the favour of the learned. Boece's story is shortly this :—Gathelus, a Greek, the son either of the Athenian Cecrops or the Argive Neolus, went to Egypt at the time of the Exodus, where he married Scota, the daughter of Pharaoh, and after the destruction of the Egyptian army in the Red Sea, fled with her by the Mediterranean till he arrived in Portingall,



Coronation Chair, from Hollinshed's "Chronicles," London, 1577, folio.

where he landed, and founded a kingdom at Brigantium, now Compostella. Here he reigned in the marble chair, which was the 'lapis fatalis cathedræ instar,' or fatal stone like a chair, and wherever it was found portended kingdom to the Scots. In after ages it bore the following inscription :—

Ni fallat fatum, Scoti, quocunque locatum
Invenient lapidem, regnare tenentur ibidem.

which Bellenden thus translates :—

The Scottis sall brwke that realme as native ground,
Geif weirdis failt nocht, quhairever this chair is found.

Simon Breck, a descendant of Gathelus, brought the chair from Spain to Ireland, and was crowned in it as King of Ireland.

Fergus, son of Ferchard, was first King of the Scots in Scotland, and brought the chair from Ireland to Argyll, and was crowned in it. He built a town in Argyll called Beregonium, in which he placed it. From him proceeded forty kings of Scotland. The twelfth king, Evenus, built a town near Beregonium, called after his name Evonium, now called Dunstaffnage, to which the stone was removed, and the remainder of the forty kings are all crowned in Dunstaffnage, reigned there, and are buried there." In Boece it is usually called Evonium, but Bellenden invariably substitutes Dunstaffnage, and thus it became familiar to the Scottish mind as the ancient capital of the Scottish kingdom, and the place where the fatal stone was kept.

The Scots are expelled to Ireland under the last of the forty kings, but return under his nephew Fergus Mac Erc, who is crowned in the marble chair. He builds a church at Iona, and commands it to be the sepulchre of the kings in future.

Kenneth MacAlpin, the last of these kings, conquers the Picts, and brings the fatal stone from Argyll to Gowry, and places it in Scone, because it was there that his principal victory over the Picts had taken place. Some say that he then caused the verse to be inscribed on the stone beginning 'Ni fallat fatum.'¹

The forty kings are purely fabulous, but with Fergus Mac Erc the

¹ Boethii Scotorum Hist., ed. 1527, and Bellenden's "Croniklis of the Scots."

Buchanan adds to this account, that when Kenneth MacAlpin brought the stone to Scone, he placed it there "in cathedram ligneum inclusum;" but this is contrary to the expressions of the older writers, who describe the stone as "Cathedræ instar," or as "in formam Cathedræ decisum," but never that it was enclosed in a chair, as it afterwards was at Westminster. It is remarkable that while Hemingford calls the stone which was carried off "pergrandis," and in the inventory it is called "una magna petra," the present stone enclosed in the coronation chair at Westminster measures only 26 inches in length by 16 $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth and 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ in depth. The *Marmorne Stuhl*, or marble chair, in which Charlemagne is said to have sat, and the emperors of Germany were at one time crowned, is still preserved at Aix la Chapelle. It is a plain heavy seat of white marble on five steps, and with no carving or orna-

stream of fictitious narrative flows into that of history, for he is the first of the historic kings of Dalriada who founded the Scottish colony of Argyll in the sixth century ; and the historic kings of Dalriada are now interwoven with fictitious monarchs in Boece's tale. It is remarkable that when the historical element enters, Dunstaffnage disappears, and Icolmkill or Iona takes its place.

A century and a half earlier Fordun states the legend thus :—“ Neulus, a Greek, has a son Gaythelus, who goes to Egypt, marries Scota, daughter of Pharaoh, king of Egypt, and leads the remnant of the people who were not drowned in the Red Sea through Africa to Spain. One of his descendants, a king of Spain, has several sons, and sends one of them, Simon Brec, to Ireland, to whom he gave “Marmorea Cathedra,” the marble chair, diligently and carefully sculptured by ancient art, on which the kings of Spain, of Scottish race, were wont to sit. This stone or chair he places in the most eminent place of the kingdom, called Themor, which became the royal seat and principal place of the kingdom of Ireland. He adds, that of the origin of the stone there were two accounts : one, that Gaythelus brought it from Egypt ; the other, that Simon Brec, having cast anchor on the shore of Ireland, and again weighed anchor in consequence of a storm, raised, with his anchor, a stone of marble, cut in the shape of a chair. Fordun then quotes the prophecy, “Ni fallat fatum,” and adds that Fergus, son of Farquhar, when he led the Scots from Ireland to Scotland, brought with him the royal chair cut out of marble stone, in which he was crowned first king there by the Scots ; after whose example the succeeding kings received the rite of coronation in the same chair.” Fordun does not say how it came to Scone.¹

The “Cronicon Rythmicum,” which may be classed with Fordun as an authority, gives the same account, stating, however, that Gaythelus brought the stone, which it calls “lapis Pharaonis,” or Pharaoh's stone from Egypt, and applies to it the epithet of “Anchora vite,” probably the origin of Fordun's second account that it was raised with the anchor. In stating that Fergus brought the stone to Scotland, the word Ergadia is

ment, but it is believed that at coronations it was covered with plates of gold. The Scottish stone may have been similarly raised, and the seat alone taken to England, and inserted in the wooden chair made by Edward I.

¹ Fordun a Hearne.

substituted for Scotia; and in the later edition of this chronicle, after stating that the subsequent kings were crowned upon it, the line is added—

Ut Seona testatur usque tunc lapis iste locatur.¹

Neither Fordun nor the “Cronicon Rythmicum” know anything of Dunstaffnage as the place where the stone was kept in Argyll; and the former mentions it only as a stronghold of the Lords of Lorn in the reign of Robert the Bruce. Neither do they know anything of the removal of the stone by Kenneth mac Alpin to Scone in the ninth century; and Fordun, who gives his reign in great detail, makes no allusion to it.

It is remarkable that the two features of the legend to which popular belief has clung with greatest tenacity—viz., that the stone was kept at Dunstaffnage, and that it was removed from thence to Scone by Kenneth mac Alpin when he conquered the Picts—rest upon the statement of Hector Boece alone, and are totally unknown to the older authorities.

Wyntoun, though his date is later than Fordun, may be considered as an independent authority, and follows more closely the older chronicles. He begins his account with the King of Spain, who sent his son, Symon Brec, to Ireland.

A gret Stane this Kyng than had,
That fore this Kyngis Sete was made;
And haldyne wes a gret Jowale
Wylt-in the Kynryke of Spayne hale.

This stone he takes to Ireland, and

Thare he made a gret Cyté,
And in it syne that stane gert hé
Be set, and haldyne for Jowale,
And Chartyr of that Kynryke hale.
Fergus Erc son fra hym syne
Down descendand ewyn be lyne
In to the fyve and fyfty Gré,
As ewyne recknand men may sé,
Brought this Stane wyt-in Scotland,
Fyrst quhen he come and wane that Land;
And fyrst it set in Ikkolmkil,
And Skune thare-eftyr it was brought tyle,²

¹ Chronicles of the Picts and Scots, p. 333, Edinb. 1867, 8vo.

² Wyntoun's Chronicle, by Macpherson, b. iii. c. ix.

The main difference here is, that the stone is brought from Ireland to Scotland, not by the mythic Fergus, son of Ferquhard, but by the historic Fergus, son of Ere ; and, instead of being placed by the former in Argyll, is placed by the latter in Icolmkill ; but he too says nothing as to when the stone was brought to Scone, and does not allude to it in his account of the reign of Kenneth MacAlpin.

We have a still older form of the legend in the "Scalacronica," the compilation of which was completed in the year 1355. In this chronicle the legend begins with Simon Bree, the youngest son of the King of Spain, going to Ireland, "who brought with him a stone on which the kings of Spain were wont to be crowned, and placed it in the most sovereign beautiful place in Ireland, called to this day the Royal Place, and Fergus, son of Ferchar, brought the royal stone before received, and placed it where is now the Abbey of Scone."¹

By Fergus, son of Ferchar, it is obvious, from the list of his successors, that the historic Fergus, son of Ere, is here meant.

Blind Harry, the minstrel, in his metrical life of Sir William Wallace, obviously gives the legend in the same form. In talking of the coronation of John Baliol, he says :—

The crown he took upon the self-same stane,
That Gadales sent with his son from Spain ;
When Iber Scot first into Ireland come.
At Canmor syne King Fergus has it won,
Brought it to Scone, and stable made it there,
Where kings were crowned eight hundred years and mair,
Before the time that King Edward it fand,
This jewel he gart turse into England.²

By Canmor, Harry means Teamor, the Thémor of Fordun, the Royal Palace of the "Scalacronica" in Ireland, now called Tara ; and if it had been more than 800 years at Scone when Edward took it in 1296, it implies that it was placed there in the fifth century, the time when these chronicles bring Fergus Mac Ere from Ireland to Scotland,

Icolmkill, therefore, now drops out of the legend as well as Argyll, and the stone is brought direct from Tara to Scone, and placed there by Fergus himself. We also hear no more of the prophecy, "Ni fallat fatum," for which let us be thankful.

¹ Chronicles of the Picts and Scots, p. 196.

² Wallace, b. i. c. iv.

The only other mention of the legend, and the oldest I have been able to find, is by Baldred Bisset, in his document called "*Processus Baldredi contra figmenta regis Anglie*," compiled in 1301, and he makes very short work of it indeed. "The daughter of Pharao, king of Egypt, with an armed band and a large fleet, goes to Ireland, and there being joined by a body of Irish, she sails to Scotland, taking with her the royal seat which he, the king of England, with other insignia of the kingdom of Scotland, carried with him by violence to England. She conquered and destroyed the Picts and took their kingdom; and from this *Scota* the Scots and *Scotia* are named, according to the line—

A muliere *Scota* vocitatur *Scocia* tota.¹

It is remarkable that prior to Baldred not a trace of the legend is to be found in any of the older chronicles. He is absolutely the first who mentions it.

Another fact is even more remarkable. Baldred Bisset was one of the commissioners sent to Rome to plead the cause of the independence of Scotland before the Pope. A paper was prepared by the Scottish Government, called "*Instructiones*," containing an elaborate statement of the grounds on which the claim for independence was based, and what Baldred did was to convert these "*Instructiones*" into a kind of memorial, which he termed "*Processus*." Now, in the "*Instructiones*," on which the "*Processus*" was based, there is not the slightest allusion to the coronation stone or its legend. The parallel passage is this:—

"The ancient people of the Scots, thus called after *Scota*, daughter of Pharao, king of Egypt, went from Egypt, and first occupied Ireland; they occupied, secondly, Argyll in Scotland, and having driven the Britons out of Scotland, the part of Britain thus occupied was called by them by

¹ "*Filia namque Pharaonis regis Egipti, cum armata manu et maxima classe nauium, applicuit in Hibernia. Postea, assumptis quibusdam Hibernicis, in Scociam nauigauit, deferens secum sedile regium, quod iste rex Anglie, inter cetera regni Scocie insignia, secum per violenciam de regno Scocie in Angliam asportauit. Ipsa deuicit et dejecit Pictos, et regnum ipsum obtinuit; ac ab ipsa Scota, Scoti et Scocia nuncupantur. Unde versus;*

"A muliere *Scota* vocitatur *Scocia* tota."

—*Chronicles of the Picts and Scots*, page 280.

the new name of Scotia, from that first Scota, queen of the Scots, according to the line—

A muliere Scota vocitatur Scotia tota.¹

What Baldred did, then, was to make Scota herself lead the Scots to Scotland; to leave out the expulsion of the Britons; and to interpolate two passages—first, that she brought the fatal stone with her; secondly, that she herself conquered the Piets, who, in a previous passage, he says, had driven out the Britons, and taken their kingdom.

Baldred's object was to present the argument for the independence of Scotland as forcibly as possible. The derivation of the kingdom from the Scots, and their progress from Egypt through Spain and Ireland to Scotland, was the tale opposed to that of the King of England, by whom the kingdom of Scotland was derived from Albanactus, the youngest son of Brutus, the *Eponymus* of the Britons, while that of England was derived from Loctrinus, the eldest son. Both tales were seriously put forward and seriously argued, as if they possessed a vital bearing upon the controversy, and it seems to have occurred to Baldred that he would strengthen his argument if he made the *Eponyma* of the Scots, Scota herself, bring the coronation stone, which Edward I. himself, by removing it to England, had recognised as symbolical of the Scottish monarchy, with her in his wanderings. By finding it necessary to make her conquer the Piets and take their kingdom, it is plain that he only knew of Seone as the place where the stone had been for time immemorial; and I venture to suggest that we owe the origin of the legend entirely to the patriotic ingenuity of Baldred Bisset.

Once suggested, it was eagerly caught up and applied to the Scottish fable in its different stages of development. Scota first brings it direct to Seone. It is then identified with the *Lia Fail* or Irish stone at Tara, and brought from thence to Seone by the historic Fergus, when the petty kings of the first colony of Dalriada were magnified into the true kings of Scotland. Then it rests at Icolmkill by the way. Then, when Fordun pushed back the arrival of the Scots for many centuries, it is brought to Argyll by the mythic Fergus, son of Ferchard, and the prophecy "ni fallat fatum," &c., added to it. Then, when the

¹ Chronicles of the Piets and Scots, page 242.

forty kings were elaborated, it is placed in Dunstaffnage, and said to have been transferred from thence to Scone by Kenneth MacAlpin, when he conquered the Picts in the ninth century; and this is the latest form of the fable.

The Irish legend of the origin of the *Lia Fail*, or Irish coronation stone at Tara, is very different. It is contained in an old Irish tract termed the "Leabhar Gabhala," or Book of Conquests, and is to this effect:—Ireland was occupied by different colonies before the Milesians took possession of it. The monarchy was founded by the colony of the *Firbolg*, who divided Ireland into the five provinces, and established *Teamar* or Tara as the chief seat. The colony which followed them, and immediately preceded the Milesians, was that of the *Tuatha De Danaan*, who came from the land of Lochlan, where they inhabited four cities, called Falias, Gorias, Finias, Murias. From thence they went to Scotland, bringing with them from the four cities four precious articles. From Falias they brought the *Lia Fail*, which had the property of sounding under each king at his election if he was the rightful king and not a usurper. From Gorias they brought a sword; from Finias a spear; and from Murias a cauldron. They remained in Scotland seven years, inhabiting a district called *Dobhar* and *Iardobhar*, and then went to Ireland, where, after nine reigns, they were conquered by the Milesians.¹

It is somewhat remarkable that while the Scottish legend brings the stone at Scone from Ireland, the Irish legend brings the stone at Tara from Scotland. The two legends, at all events, are quite antagonistic to each other, and there is one historic fact certain as to each. First, the *Lia Fail*, or Irish stone, did not leave Tara, but was still there in the eleventh century; and, secondly, the Scottish stone was not in Argyll during the existence of the Irish colony of Dalriada, nor was used in the inauguration of their kings. The first appears from this, that the Irish

¹ The tract called the "Leabhar Gabhala," a Book of Conquests, is preserved in several of the ancient Irish MSS. There is a fragment in the "Leabhar na huidhri" of circa 1100; an edition in the Book of Leinster of circa 1160; one in the Book of Ballymote of 1380; and two in the Book of Lecain of 1418. There is a more modern edition by the O'Clerys in the beginning of the seventeenth century. There is, it is believed, a prospect of this tract being published, collated with the older editions, but the substance of it will be found fairly enough represented in Keating's History of Ireland.

translation of Nennius, made in the eleventh century, has appended to it a list of the *Mirabilia*, or wonders of Erin, among which are the three wonders of *Teamar* or Tara; and the third is "the *Lia Fail*, or stone which sounded under every king whom it recognised in the sovereignty of *Teamar*." Another version says, "there is a stone at *Temhar*, viz., the *Lia Fail*, which used to sound under the feet of every one that assumed the kingdom of Erin.¹ Petrie, in his "Antiquities of Tara Hill," quotes other old documents to show that the stone still remained there.² The second fact is shown by the account given by the biographers of St Columba of the inauguration of Aidan as King of the Scots of Argyll. The account is given by two of the successors of St Columba—Cumine the White, who was abbot from 657 to 669, and Adomnan, who was abbot from 679 to 704. St Columba had obtained at the Council of Dumceat the independence of Scotch Dalriada; and if ever there was an occasion on which the Stone of Destiny might be expected to play a prominent part, it was in the solemn rite by which St Columba constituted Aidan king, in obedience to a divine command declared in a vision, and accompanied by a prophecy regarding his successors. He ordains him by placing his hands upon his head, blessing him, using what Adomnan calls "verba ordinationis;" but, throughout the whole description, there is not a single allusion to the fatal stone.³

The late Dr Joseph Robertson suggested an ingenious theory, by which he endeavoured to reconcile the non-appearance of the stone in the inauguration of the Scottish kings of Dalriada with the legend which makes Kenneth mac Alpin bring the stone from Argyllshire to Scone in the ninth century, and his suggestion has been adopted by Dean Stanley in his "Memorials of Westminster." He supposed that the stone may have been the same which Adomnan records of St Columba that he used for a pillow, while a stone slab formed his bed, and that it was brought by Kenneth to Scone, and there first used as a coronation stone; but I think

¹ Irish version of the *Historia Britonum* of Nennius.—Irish Arch. Society, 1848, page 201.

² Petrie on the History and Antiquities of Tara Hill.—Trans. Royal Irish Acad., v. xviii. pp. 2, 160.

³ Cumine's *Vita Columbæ*, cap. v. apud Pinkerton's *Vita Antiq. SS. Scotiæ*, page 30; Adomnan's *Vita S. Columbæ*, b. iii. c. v. pp. 197–201, Reeves' edit., Dublin, 1857.

this is one of the rare occasions in which his acuteness and sagacity were at fault. His argument may be shortly stated thus:—

Both Cumine and Adomnan speak of a stone at Iona which had been used by St Columba as a pillow, and on which he rested his head in his dying hours, and the first shape in which the legend of the stone of Scone meets us is as the pillow of Jacob. When Jacob slept on his stone pillow, he had a vision of angels ascending and descending. Columba had a vision of angels before his death. The Pictish Chronicle records that Kenneth mac Alpin, in the seventh year of his reign, transported the relics of St Columba to a church which he built, and it was on the banks of the Tay, as we learn from another source. It is immediately after Kenneth's reign that we find Scone distinguished as a royal city, the place where a National Council or Assembly met in 906. Therefore the stone pillow may have been among the relics which Kenneth transported to a church on the banks of the Tay; Scone may have been that church, and it may have been subsequently used as the coronation stone.¹

This theory is put together with much ingenuity, but it will not bear examination.

At the very outset there is a fatal objection to it. The Coronation stone, when examined by Professor Ramsay, proved to be a small block of red sandstone, and he reports, on the authority of Mr Geikie, that the rocks of Iona consist "of a flaggy micaceous grit or gneiss. There is no red sandstone on it."² This drives us to the necessity of supposing that St Columba did not use one of the stones on the island for his pillow, but brought one of red sandstone from a distance. Further, it is no part of the Scottish legend that the stone at Scone was Jacob's pillow. It is not stated by any Scottish document, but solely by the English chroniclers, and we learn from Adomnan that the stone pillow used by St Columba was placed as a monument on his grave, and remained so at the time he wrote. It seems unlikely that Kenneth should, 200 years after St Columba's death, have removed the monument on his grave, and made it his coronation stone. Further, it is hardly correct to say that we learn from another source that the church Kenneth built was on the banks of the Tay. The source referred to is a Saxon document compiled not earlier

¹ Dean Stanley's "Historical Memorials of Westminster Abbey," page 496, Appendix.

² *Ibid.* page 450.

than 1058, giving the localities in England in which the relics of eminent saints were placed. It makes no reference to Kenneth whatever, but simply says that St Columcille (*i.e.*, his relics) reposes at Duncachan, on the river Tay.¹ Dunaachan is supposed to be miswritten for Dunkaldan, or Dunkeld, and it is certain that Dunkeld was dedicated to St Columba, and that relics of St Columba were preserved there as late as 1500;² but there is no trace of any dedication to St Columba at Scone, or of its ever having borne a name approaching in sound to Duncachan.

Lastly, I think it can be shown that Scone was known as a royal city before the reign of Kenneth. Fordun, in his account of the coronation of Alexander III., states that Scone had been constituted by ancient kings the "sedes superior," or principal seat of Scotland; and in accordance with this statement, we find Malcolm IV., in his charter to the monastery of Scone, confirming the grants of previous kings, states that it was founded "in principali sede regni nostri."³

We find that the kings of Scotland were not only crowned at Scone, but held parliaments there. These parliaments met on the Moot Hill of Scone. Thus, Robert II. was crowned at Scone on the 26th day of March 1371, by the Bishop of St Andrews, in presence of the prelates, earls, barons, and other nobles of Scotland, and of a great multitude of the people; and on the following day convened the prelates, earls, barons, and nobles before him, "the king sitting, as use is, in the royal seat, upon the Mount of Scone;"⁴ and on the 18th of March 1390, Robert III.

¹ Hickee, ii. 117. The passage is thus translated by him—"Sanctus Columcille requiescat in loco dicto Duncachan juxta flumen Tau."

² Alexander Mylne, who was a canon of Dunkeld, and died in 1549, narrates the following in his lives of the Bishops of Dunkeld (pp. 40-43):—"In anno domini millesimo quingentesimo, sævissima regnavit pestis, per totum regnum Scotiæ, et ut fama fertur, civitas Dunkeldensis illæsa, meritis divi patroni Columbæ a contagione pestifera semper permansit quosdamque peste laborantes, in terris suis ecclesiasticis de Capeth, visitavit [episcopus], et sacramenta ecclesiastica eis ministrari fecit; altera vero die aquam fecit benedictam, in qua lavavit os *Beati Columbæ* et eum cancellario eis ad bibendum misit, quam multi recipientes sani facti sunt."

³ Chartulary of Scone, p. 5.

⁴ Rege sedente in Sede Regia super montem de Scone ut est moris.—*Act Parl. Scot.* p. 181. This "Sedes Regia" must not be confounded with the stone seat which was used at the coronation only, and was kept in the abbey church, to which the name of "Cathedra" is always applied. The royal seat here referred

held a parliament at Scone, "upon the Mount of Scone, on the north side of the monastery beyond the cemetery."¹

The parliaments held at Scone consisted of what were called the two Estates of Scotland, viz. the barons and the higher clergy. Thus, in a parliament held at Scone in 1303, the expression is "congregatis et comparentibus prelatibus et proceribus regni;" and of another held at Scone in 1285, Wynton says:—

Alexander the thryd oure king
Gert mak at Scone a gret gadryng,
The sextene day eftyr Pasce,
Quhair thare the statis gadryd was.²

In 1209 King William the Lion held an assembly of the prelates, earls, barons, and freeholders at Scone, in which it was ordained "that the holy Scottish Church, the holy religion, and entire clergy should be maintained, with all their rights, liberties, and privileges, in quiet peace, and always under royal protection."³ Now, the assembly recorded in the Pictish Chronicle in 906 was obviously of this nature. It was held on the Mount of Belief, near the royal city of Scone, and there Constantine the king, and Cellach, Bishop of St Andrews, issued an ordinance for the

to was placed on the Moot Hill, and used when the king presided at a parliament or court of justice. It was on this seat on the Moot Hill that Robert Bruce was crowned in 1306, "in sede positus regalia," after the seat called the "Cathedra," or stone, had been removed to England.—Fordun a Hearne, vol. iv. p. 997.

Dr Joseph Robertson adds, "that there appears some reason to suppose that there were two stones at Scone—(1), The Stone of Fate, now at Westminster; (2), a stone chair, in which it would seem the Stone of Fate was placed when kings were to be inaugurated," but there seems no ground for this supposition. The "Sedes Regalis" is mentioned after the stone was removed. It never bears the name proper to the latter of "Cathedra." There is nothing to show that it was of stone, and it seems to have been the throne on which the king usually sat when presiding over his nobles, while the fatal stone is by its legends indelibly connected with the inauguration of the new king only.

¹ "Apud Sconam Sancti Andree diocesis super montem ex parte boreali monasterii ejusdem extra cymyterium."—*Act. Parl. Scot.* p. 216.

² Wyntoun's Chronicle, b. vii. c. x.

³ "Statuit Rex Willelmus apud Seonam de communi consilio et deliberacione prelatorum comitum et baronum ac libere tenentium quod ecclesia sancta Scotticana et sancta religio et universus clerus in suis juribus libertatibus ac privilegiis omnibus manutencatur in quiete pace et semper sub protectione regia."—*Act. Parl. Scot.* p. 60.

preservation of the laws, faith discipline, and rights of the Church.¹ We can here recognise a national assembly held upon the Moot Hill of Scone exactly similar to that held by King William the Lion. This Dr Joseph Robertson seems to have regarded as the earliest mention of Scone as the "sedes principalis regni;" but it is not so, for Flann of Bute, in his Synchronisms of the Kings, written in the reign of Malcolm II, and therefore very little later than the Pictish Chronicle, states of Kenneth mac Alpin that he was the first of the Scots "who acquired the kingdom of Scone."² By this expression the kingdom of the Picts is meant, and the name of the capital is used for that of the kingdom, just as the Irish annalists use the expression of the Kingdom of Tara for the Kingdom of Ireland. This passage shows, that when Kenneth conquered the Picts, Scone was the capital of the Pictish kingdom.

But, further, Tighernac, who wrote in the same century, records, in 728 "an unfortunate battle between the Picardach or Picts, at *Caislen Credi*, and the victory was against Alpin (King of the Picts), and his territories and all his men were taken, and Nectan, son of Derili, obtained the kingdom of the Picts."³ The Annals of Ulster, in recording the same event, uses the expression "juxta Castellum Credi."⁴ The word *Caislen* is the Irish for "Castellum," and *Credi* is the Irish form of "credulitas" or belief. This was, therefore, the "Collis Credulitatis," or Mount of Belief, at Scone, and here also the taking of Scone implied that the conquerors obtained the kingdom of the Picts, showing that Scone was still the "sedes principalis" of the kingdom of the Picts in 728, that is, a century earlier, and that the Moot Hill then bore the name of "the Mount of Belief."

The Pictish Chronicle, in recording the assembly in 906, has the

¹ "Ac in VI. anno Constantinus Rex et Cellachus episcopus, leges disciplinasque fidei atque jura ecclesiarum evangeliorumque, pariter cum Scottis, in colle credulitatis prope regali civitati Seoan devoverunt custodiri."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 9.

² "Cinæt macAilpin ise cet rig hro gab Rìghe Sgoinde do Gaidelaib."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 21.

³ "Cath truadh itir Picardachaibh ac Caislen Credhi ocus ro mebaigh ar in Alpin cetna ocus ro beardh a crìcha ocus a ùine de uile, ocus ro gab Nechtain mac Derili Rìghi na Picardach."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 75.

⁴ "Bellum lacrimabile inter eosdem (Pictores) gestum est juxta Castellum Credi ubi Elpinus effugit."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 355.

remarkable expression, "from this day the hill merited its name, viz., the Mount of Belief."¹ This does not imply that the name was then first applied to the hill, but that it was peculiarly appropriate to a hill on which an assembly was held regulating the faith, discipline, and rights of the Church; and it is remarkable that a similar assembly affecting the Church appears to have been held by the same Nectan, son of Derili, not long before the Moot Hill first appears under the name of the Castle of Belief. Bede tells us that in 710 this Nectan, king of the Picts, renounced the error in which he and his nation had till then been held in relation to observances of Easter, and sent messengers to Ceolfrid, Abbot of Jarrow, requesting him to write him a letter containing arguments by which he might convince those opposed to him, as well as to send him architects to build a church after the Roman manner, promising to dedicate it to St Peter. The abbot sends the letters and the architects;² and Bede tells us that "when it was read in presence of Nectan and many of his most learned men, and interpreted to him, he rose from among his nobles who sat about him, and declared that he would always observe the true Easter with his nation. A decree was accordingly sent by public command through all the province of the Picts."³

The expressions in this passage leave little room to doubt that we have here an assembly precisely similar to those in 906 and in 1209—the king in the midst of his nobles, with his clergy, issuing a decree regulating the faith and rites of the Church; and there is every probability that it likewise took place on the Moot Hill of Scone, and that it then received the name of the Mount of Belief,—a name which we find applied to it within but a few years after the date of this transaction. Nectan appears also to have founded the church at Scone.⁴

¹ "Ab hoc die collis hoc meruit nomen, id est, collis credulitatis."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 9.

² Bedæ Hist. Eccl. Angl. b. v. c. 21.

³ "Hæc epistola cum præsentē rege Naitono, multisque viris doctioribus esset lecta, ac diligenter ab his qui intelligere poterant, in linguam ejus propriam interpretata, multum de ejus exhortatione gavisus esse perhibetur; ita ut exurgens de medio optimatum suorum consessu genua flecteret in terram, Deo gratias agens, quod tale munusculum de terra Anglorum mereretur accipere. . . . Statim namque jussu publico mittebantur ad transcribendum, discendum, observandum, per univasas Pictorum provincias circuli Paschæ decennovenales."

⁴ This appears from the Legend of St Boniface, who is said to have been a

In 717, in consequence of his adoption of the Roman usages, Nectan expels the Columbian clergy beyond Drumalban, the mountain range which at that time separated the provinces of the Picts from Dalriada,¹ and in 724 he abdicates the throne and becomes himself an ecclesiastic,² retiring, probably, to the church he had founded at Scone. His successor in the Pictish is Drust, and by him Nectan is seized and bound in 726. In the same year Drust is expelled by Alpin,³ and two years after is in turn driven out by Nectan who, in the battle near the Moot Hill of Scone, recovers his kingdom and territories, and his death is recorded in 732.⁴

The events of Nectan's reign, therefore, appear all to centre upon Scone, and from his reign at least, if not from a much earlier period in the Pictish monarchy,⁵ it was the "sedes principalis regni," where the

missionary to the Picts, and to have converted them and their king Nectan to Christianity. This is obviously the same transaction, and by the conversion of the Picts and their king, the rejection of the Columbian usages and the adoption of the Roman are really meant.

Nectan meets the missionaries at Restinoth, and is converted; and it is added—"Rex vero ipsorum virorum timencium Deum locum baptisterii in nomine Sancte Trinitatis Beato Bonifacio tradidit et deliberavit."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 423. Restinoth, however, was dedicated to St Peter, and not to the Trinity; and there is little reason to doubt that it was the church built by the architects sent by Ceolfrid, which Nectan promised to dedicate to St Peter; but when Alexander II. conveys the church of Scone to the canons of St Augustine, it is described as "eclesiam in honorem Sanctæ Trinitatis dedicatam quæ est in Scona." This, therefore, appears to have been the place conveyed to St Boniface, "in nomine Sancte Trinitatis."

¹ "717. Expulsio familie Ie trans dorsum Britannie, a Nectano rege."—Tigh apud *Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 74.

² "724. Clericotum [N]echtain regis Pictorum. Druxst post eum regnat."—*Ibid.*

³ "726. Nechtain mac Derili constringitur apud Druist regem. Druist de regno Pictorum ejectus et Elphin pro eo regnat."—*Ibid.*

⁴ "732. Nectan mac Derile mortuus."—*Ibid.*

⁵ This was the belief in Fordun's time. In narrating the foundation of the monastery of Scone by Alexander I. he says, "Quam fundatam ædificavit loco, quo reges antiquitus tam Scoti quam Picti sedem regni primam constituerunt" (Fordun a Hearn, vol. ii. p. 441); and again, "Fundata enim est ædificata et dedicata, ut dictum est apud Sconam, ubi antiqui reges, Cruthino primo Pictorum rege, sedem regni Albanie constituerunt" (vol. iii. p. 680).

There is probably more resemblance than at first sight appears between the cir-

assemblies of the nation were held, and the possession of which placed its occupant at the head of the Pictish people as their monarch.

It was in this sense that Flann of Bute, in recording the possession of the Pictish throne by Kenneth mac Alpin, a king of Scottish race, says that he "obtained the kingdom of Scone."¹ He is said by Giraldus Cambrensis to have assembled the Pictish nobles to a banquet and cut them off by stratagem; and the metrical Irish chronicle, termed the Prophecy of St Berchan, implies that this took place at Scone.

By him are deceived in the East the fierce ones,
He shall dig in the earth, powerful the art,

cumstances by which, according to tradition, Tara became the chief seat of Ireland, and those which gave Scone the same character in Scotland.

Tara is in the province of Meath, and, according to old tradition, this province was formed by taking a portion from each of the four provinces of Munster, Leinster, Connaught, and Ulster, as mensal lands for the support of the Irish monarchy. In each of the four portions forming the province of Meath was a place where assemblies were held. In that taken from Munster was Tlachtga; in that from Leinster, Teamar or Tara; in that from Connaught, Uisneach; and in that from Ulster, Tailteann. Tara was the sedes principalis, or chief seat, where the *Ardrigh*, or supreme monarch, was inaugurated.

Now, of the seven provinces of which the Pictish kingdom was composed, the four southern—viz. (1), *Fortren*, extending from Forth to Tay; (2), *Atfodla* or Athol; (3), Angus and Mearns; and (4), Fife and Forthref—may be said to meet in Gowrie; and in a charter by Malcolm IV. to the canons of Scone, "in principali sede regni nostra fundata," he conveys to them the tithe "de quatuor maneriis meis de Gouerin scilicet de Scon et de Cubert et de Forgrund et de Straderdel." Scone is separated from the first province by the Tay. Cubert, or Cupar-Angus, adjoins Angus. Forgrund, now Longforgan, is separated by the Tay from a parish in Fife bearing the same name; and Straderdel, or Strathardel, stretches along the east boundary of Athol.

I venture, therefore, to suggest that Gowrie was likewise formed as mensal lands for the support of the Crown from four provinces, of which these four manors respectively formed a part, and that Scone was the "sedes principalis."

¹"Convocatosque tanquam ad convivium magnates Pictorum cunctos, captata tam cibi quam potus crapula et ingurgitacione forsan nimia et, opportunitate notata, clavorum extractione qui tabulata tenebant, in bancorum concavitatem quibus sedebant, mira decipula poplite tenus, ita quod se nullatenus erigere possent, communiter undique lapsos, de subatos, quidem et improvisos, nec ab affinis et confederatis suoque beneficio confederatis et bellorum sociis quicquam tale timentes, statim trucidaverunt universos."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 165.

Dangerous goad-blades, death, pillage,
On the middle of Scone of high shields.¹

Fordun states that Donald, the brother and successor of Kenneth, died at Scone, the "sedes regia," or royal seat;² but there is a remarkable variety in the old chronicles as to the place of his death. The Pictish Chronicle, the oldest of them, says that he died in his palace of *Cinnbel-achoir*. St Berchan, the next oldest authority, says—

Three years to the king
And three months; who shall number them?
On Loch Adhbha shall be his grave.
He dies of disease suddenly.³

A century after, one of the later chronicles says he died at *Rathinveramon*, which is repeated in subsequent lists;⁴ and the *Chronicon Elegiacum* confirms Fordun's account that he died at Scone.⁵

These names, however, can all be referred to localities in the immediate neighbourhood of Scone. One of the great military ways constructed by the Romans leads from the Roman station at Strageath, in Stratherne, to the Tay, at the mouth of the Almond, where there are the remains of another Roman station. There is here a ford on the Tay called Derder's Ford, and above it the remains of an old bridge. The Roman road is continued on the opposite side of the river, through a Roman camp called Grassy Walls; and on the bank of the river, between it and the road, are the remains of a small fort, laid down on the Ordnance map under the name of Gold Castle, but generally known as Silver Castle. This military way crosses the river about half a mile north of Scone; and between it and Scone there appears to have been formerly a small lake, the situation of which is indicated by a farm termed Lochtown. Now, the word *Belach* is an old Irish word originally applied to any leading road or highway, and in the modern form of *Bealach* to a mountain pass; and *oir* means gold. The name of *Belachoir* seems, therefore, to be connected

¹ Chron. Picts and Scots, p. 84. The *Scala cronica* says of the last king of the Picts, "Cesti fust le darain roy dez Picys, si fust tue a Scone par treisoun.—*Ibid.* p. 202.

² Apud Seonam vero sedem regiam.—Fordun a Hearn, vol. i. p. 306.

³ Chron. Picts and Scots, p. 85

⁴ "Mortuus est in Rathinueramon."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, pp. 151 and 174.

⁵ "Qui Scone fertur subditus esse neci."—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, p. 178.

with this military way, and the palace at *Cinnbelachoir* to have been at no great distance from it.¹ *Rathinveramon* means the *Rath* or fort at the mouth of the Almond, and clearly refers to the Roman station there. *Adhbha* means a palace, and *Loch Adhbha* the loch of the palace; and in its corrupted form of *Locheye* it is laid down in the Ordnance map between Scone and the Roman road. These places probably all belonged to the defences and possessions of that central seat of the monarchy known generally by the name of Scone.

Grig, the fourth king in succession from Kenneth, termed by the Pictish Chronicle, *Ciricius*, and elaborated by Fordun into *Gregorius*, is said by him to have been solemnly crowned at Scone;² and, immediately after, to have regulated the state of the Church by freeing it from the servitude to which it had been subjected under the Picts.³ The precise import of what he did is not very clear; but Fordun is corroborated by older authority, and it seems to point to an assembly held at Scone similar to those already referred to.

In the reign of Constantine, not many years after, took place, in 906, the meeting between the King and the Bishop of St Andrews, when the rights and laws of the Church were again regulated on the Mount or Belief, near the royal city of Scone.⁴

Constantine mac Culen, who seized the throne towards the end of the same century, is said by Fordun to have invaded the "sedes regia" or royal seat, and to have placed the crown upon his head there;⁵ and

¹ The name of *Belachoir* only occurs in one other document—the Life of *Cadroe*—where it is mentioned as the last of what appears to be a series of ecclesiastical foundations by the Scots, the immediately preceding foundation being *Rigmont* in *St Andrews*. "*Rigmonath quoque Bellethor urbes, a se procul positas, petentes, possessuri vicerunt.*"—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, 108. *St Andrews* is first mentioned likewise under the name of *Cindrighmonaigh*.—*Ibid.* p. 76.

² "*Idem vero Gregorius, cum regni regimen, pluribus majorum annuentibus, optinisset, Scona solemniter coronatus est.*"—*Fordun a Hearne*, vol. ii. p. 310.

³ "*Hic primus dedit libertatem Ecclesie Scoticane que sub servitute erat usque ad illud tempus ex consuetudine et more Pictorum.*"—*Chron. Picts and Scots*, pp. 151, 174.

⁴ See *antea*, p. 29.

⁵ "*Constantinus Calvus, filius Culenii, de quo superius fit mencio, ducens secum quos habuit fautores, publica constitutione despecta, sedem invasit regiam et paucis procerum annitentibus, capiti proprio regni coronam imposuit.*"—*Fordun a Hearne*, ii. 345.

that he took possession of Scone is corroborated by St Berchan, who says—

Woe to Alban through his short time.
Men will be feeble around him
In the land of Scone of sounding shields.¹

By the chronicles of the twelfth century, he is said to have been slain at *Rathinveramon*, or the fort at the mouth of the Almond, which is thus again connected with Scone.²

On the legend narrated by Fordun, that Malcolm the Second bestowed the whole of the territory of Scotland, which had hitherto “*ritu priscorum*” remained in the proper possession of the Crown, in grants to the barons and knights, retaining only the Moot Hill of Scone,³ probably little dependence can be placed; it has more the aspect of a legal fiction than of a tradition.⁴

Fordun, however, after narrating that Malcolm Canmore had, with the assistance of Edward, Earl of Northumberland, defeated Macbeth, driven him across the Mounth, and slain him at Lumfanan, adds that the adherents of Macbeth took his relation Lulach to Scone, and having placed him in the royal seat, declared him king.⁵ After four months,

¹ Chron. Picts and Scots, p. 97.

² Ibid. pp. 151, 174, &c.

³ “*Nichil inde possidendum sibi retinuit, præter regiæ sedis Sconæ monticulum.*” —Fordun a Hearne, ii. 365.

⁴ The spurious laws of Malcolm Mackenneth begin with the following:—

“1. Dominus rex Malcolmus dedit, et distribuit totam terram regni Scotiæ, hominibus suis.

“2. Et nihil sibi retinuit in proprietate, nisi regiam dignitatem et montem placiti in villa de Scona.”

To which Sir John Skene adds the following note:—

“*Montem placiti.* Montem seu locum intelligit, ubi placita, vel curiæ regiæ, de placitis et querelis subditorum solent teneri. Ubi Barones compareant et homagium ac alia servitia Regi debita, offerant [the mute hill of Scone]. Et vulgo, *omnis terra* vocatur; quia ex terræ mole et congerie exædificatur; quam regni Barones, aliique subditi ibi comparentes, vel coronandi regis causa, vel ad comitia publica, vel ad causas agendas et dicendas, coram rege, in unum quasi cumulum et monticulum conferebant.”—*Reg. Mag.* 1609, p. 1.

⁵ “*Subito namque post mortem Machabei, convenerunt quidam ex ejus parentela sceleris hujusmodi fautores, suum consobrinum nomine Lulach, cognomine fatuum, ad Seonam ducentes, et impositum sede regali regem constituunt.*”—Fordun a Hearne, ii. 398.

however, he, too, was slain, and Malcolm Canmore, having prostrated all his enemies, was himself, in presence of the magnates of the kingdom, placed in the royal throne at Scone, and solemnly crowned.¹

St Berchan implies in his obscure language, purposely veiled to preserve the fiction of a prophecy, that Macbeth had been attacked and defeated at Scone—

Twenty years and ten years
 Over Alban the sovereign reigned;
 On the middle of Scone, it will vomit blood,
 The evening of a night in much contention.²

Although Malcolm Canmore was crowned at Scone, it appears in his reign to have ceased to be the ordinary residence of the kings. The towns which had been rising in importance in other parts of Scotland gradually became both the occasional residence of the monarch, and the place where his courts and the assemblies of the nation were held; and the numerous monasteries founded by Malcolm and the kings of his race were frequently selected as the places where their court was from time to time held. Dunfermline, where Malcolm founded a monastery, was frequently his residence; and here he himself and his successors on the throne were buried. The "Castrum puellarum," or Edinburgh Castle, also appears as a royal residence in his reign. Edgar, his successor, died at Dundee; and though Alexander I. founded a monastery at Scone in 1115, and his charter, which is granted with the consent of his queen, two bishops, and six earls, implies that a council had probably been held at Scone, of the three other charters he granted to the monastery, one is dated at Stirling, another at Perth, and the third only at Scone. During the reign of David I. we find little mention of Scone. Under his auspices feudalism was rapidly acquiring predominance in Scotland, and its social state and institutions were becoming assimilated to feudal forms and ideas, while the old Celtic element in her constitutional history was gradually retiring into the background. The reign of David I.

¹ "Prostratis ubique cunctis hostibus, vel ad suam deductis pacem, idem sæpedictus Malcolmus, apud Sconam, præsentibus regni majoribus, in throno regali positus est, et in omnium Scotorum gloriam et honorem, eodem Aprilis mense, die sancti Marci coronatus."—Fordun a Hearne, p. 399.

² Chron. Picts and Scots, p. 102.

is the true commencement of feudal Scotland, and the termination of Celtic Scotland; and with it, to a great extent, the old traditionary position of Scone, as the scene of her national assemblies, and the seat of the royal court, became less prominent, although the kings were still anxious not to endanger the traditionary title of the monarchy by dispensing altogether with the Celtic element in their inauguration, and continued to be crowned, and occasionally to hold parliaments, there.

Fordun narrates that on the death of David I., the people took his grandson Malcolm, a boy in his thirteenth year, and constituted him king at Scone, in room of his grandfather.¹ This passage is taken by him from John of Hexham, a contemporary authority, and is therefore authentic. The only assembly which is recorded to have been held in the reign of Malcolm was summoned to meet at Perth,² and the charter granted by him to Scone, in which it is said to be the "principalis sedes regni," is dated at Stirling. On Malcolm's death, Fordun tells us that the prelates and nobles met at Scone, and declared his brother William to be king, and that he was blessed by the Bishop of St Andrews, and inaugurated in the royal chair.³ The traces of the assemblies of the estates and the meetings of the "curia regis" now became much more frequent. Out of twenty-four such assemblies which are recorded, only one was held at Scone, but that was the meeting in 1209 of the "commune consilium regni," at which various laws were passed, and the rights and privileges of the Church guaranteed.⁴ In the coronation of Alexander the Second, we have the first distinct intimation of the seven

¹ "Tollens quoque omnis populus Malcolmum, puerum tredecim annorum, filium Henrici comitis Northumbriæ et Huntingdoniæ, filii ipsius regis David, et apud Seonam constituerunt regem pro David avo suo."—Fordun a Hearne, vol. iii. 692. John of Hexham adds the expression, "Sicut consuetudo illius nationis est," which is omitted by Fordun —*Priory of Hexham*, i. 170.

² Fordun a Hearne, iii. p. 695.

³ "Porro, post Malcolmum regis obitum, convenerunt apud Seonam prelati Scociæ, cunctique proceres, ejusdem germani Willelmi mandante præcepto, tunc regni custodes, quem ibidem unanimes in regem erigunt. Igitur in vigilia natalis Domini, die viz. xv. post regis mortem, idem Willelmus, amicus Dei, leo justitiæ, princeps pacis, a Ricardo episcopo Sancti Andreæ, et aliis officio coadjutantibus, in regem benedicitur, atque regali cathedra sublimatur."—Fordun a Hearne, iii. 702.

⁴ Act. Parl. Scot. p. 59.

earls of Scotland taking a part in the ceremony; for we are told by Fordun that on the day after the death of William the Lion, the Earls of Fife, Stratherne, Atholl, Angus, Menteth, Buchan, and Lothian, with the Bishop of St Andrews, took his son Alexander, a youth of sixteen and a half years old, to Scone, and there solemnly inaugurated him as king—Alexander holding high festival at Scone on that and the succeeding day;¹ but of fifteen assemblies recorded to have been held in his reign, only one met at Scone.²

Fordun's graphic account of the coronation of Alexander the Third has already been given. There are notices of fifteen assemblies in his reign, but only two were held at Scone—both, however, of great national importance. The first was the meeting of the Estates in 1283 for the settlement of the succession to the throne in favour of the Maiden of Norway; and the other held in 1285, when "the States gadryd was."³

John Baliol held an assembly at Scone after his coronation in 1292,⁴ which is the first to which the name of Parliament is distinctly given; and in 1296 the coronation stone was removed to Westminster.

Such is a rapid sketch of the part which Scone appears to have played, and the position which it occupied, in the constitutional history of Scotland, for at least six out of the eight centuries during which, according to Blind Harry, the fatal stone was preserved there prior to its removal to England in 1296.

The coronation stone is described by Professor Ramsay as consisting "of a dull reddish or purplish sandstone, with a few small imbedded pebbles, one of which is of quartz, and two others of a dark material,

¹ "In crastino quoque post Regis obitum summo mane, episcopo Glasgweni Waltero, electo de Rossa Roberto, Regina, Willelmo de Boscho cancellario, plerisque familiaribus cum corpore regis defuncti remanentibus, de Fife, de Stratherne, de Atholia, de Angusia, de Menteth, de Buchan, de Laudonia comites, una cum episcopo Sancti Andreae Willelmo, filium regis Alexandrum XVI. et semis annorum adolescentem, assumpserunt, et secum usque ad Seonam adducentes, sublimius et gloriosius, tam honorifice quam pacifice, quam eo usque quisquam, et secundum Deum et homines in regem sublimatus est, omnibus congratulantibus et nemine contradicente. Rex Alexander apud Seonam eo die, feria scilicet sexta, et sabbato sequenti, festo scilicet Sancti Nicholai, necnon et imminente Dominica, festivitatem suam tenuit honorifice sicut decuit."—Fordun a Hearn, vol. iii. p. 739.

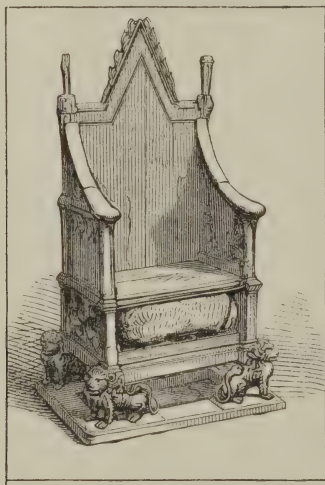
² Act. Parl. Scot. p. 76.*

³ Act. Parl. Scot. p. 82; Wyntoun, Chron. vii. c. x.

⁴ Act. Parl. Scot. p. 89.

which may be Lydian stone. The rock is calcareous, and is of the kind that masons would call freestone."¹

The country around Scone is also formed of old red sandstone. It is thus described in the Statistical Account:—"For several miles along the course of the Annaty burn the outcrop has been laid bare by the stream, and exhibits well-defined sections of the deposit. It is one of the lower members of the old red sandstone formation, which abounds in this part



Coronation Stone and Chair, Westminster Abbey.

of the country. There is little variety in the aspect or structure of the rock, except that here and there a bed of lighter or darker colour, more or less abounding in comminuted scales of mica, occasions slight apparent variations."²

The conclusion I have therefore come to is, that there was no connection between the stone at Scone and the *Lial Fail* at Tara, and that the

¹ Dean Stanley's Memorials of Westminster Abbey, p. 499, Appendix.

² Stat. Account, vol. x. p. 1044.

legends of their wanderings, like those of the tribes with whom they are associated, are nothing but myth and fable.

It was the custom of Celtic tribes to inaugurate their kings upon a sacred stone supposed to symbolise the monarchy. The Irish kings were inaugurated on the *Lia Fail*, which never was anywhere but at Tara, the "sedes principalis" of Ireland; and the kings in Scotland, first of the Pictish monarchy, and afterwards of the Scottish kingdoms which succeeded it, were inaugurated on this stone, which never was anywhere but at Scone, the "sedes principalis" both of the Pictish and of the Scottish kingdoms.

II.

NOTE ON THE CORONATION STONE. BY JOHN STUART, ESQ.,
LL.D. SEC. S.A. SCOT.

After a recent consideration of the very curious account which Mr Skene has given, in his "Chronicles of the Picts and Scots," of the invention of lists of early Scottish kings in the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, and the varying shape which the national claims to remote antiquity assumed in the course of the English claims to a supremacy over Scotland, I became convinced that, as these were shown by Mr Skene to have been historical fables suggested by political necessities, so the celebrated stone of destiny was part of the same fabric, and that its legendary fame rested on no better foundation.¹ I believed, in short, that its history commenced at Scone, and that there was no reason to believe that it had been brought thither from any other place.

When in England, in last month, I spent a morning at Westminster with the Dean, of whose warm interest in the *Lia fail* I was well aware, and I brought under his notice the many reasons which led to the conclusion that the stone was simply the inauguration stone of the Pictish people when Scone became their capital, continued in its use when the dynasty and race of the Scots became predominant, at a time when such stones were regarded as essential by all the Celtic tribes,² whether of Alban

¹ See also Innes's Critical Essay, vol. ii. p. 695.

² The coronation of Celtic chieftains on a stone is a prominent feature in all the accounts of the ceremony preserved to us in Irish records, and from these authori-

or of Ireland. It was with great pleasure, therefore, that I learned on my return that Mr Skene had undertaken the elucidation of the history of this remarkable monument, feeling sure that no one among us could bring to bear on it such a fulness of information for unravelling its mystery. I have already learned that his conclusions will not substantially differ from the opinion which I ventured to give to the Dean of Westminster, but it will be of especial interest to follow the steps by which he will be able to trace the origin and progress of the fable.

Knowing that Mr Skene will thoroughly exhaust this part of the subject, I merely venture here to draw attention to a few facts which may dovetail into his story.

When at Westminster, I had an opportunity of carefully examining the stone, which is of a dull reddish sandstone. It has obviously been dressed on the edges, while the under surface (the only one which I could see) is rough. At each end is an iron ring, connected by a link with another ring fixed in the stone.

Its appearance is certainly very unimposing, and we should with difficulty recognise in the little bit of freestone at Westminster the stone which is thus described in one of the inventories of King Edward—“*Una petra magna super quam Reges Scociæ solebant coronari*” (Arch. Journal, vol. xiii. p. 250).

It is not easy to reconcile the various statements of the chroniclers re-

ties Dr O'Donovan has shown that one of the conditions of a lawful inauguration was that it should be celebrated at a remarkable place in the territory appointed of old for the purpose where there was a stone with (in some cases) the impression of two feet, believed to be the size of the feet of the first captain, chieftain, or acquirer of the territory. (Tribes and Customs of Hy Fiachrach, p. 451.) St Columb's Stone, about a mile from Derry, is one of those feet-marked stones, and appears to have been the consecration stone formerly placed at Aileach, the great seat of the kings, as blessed by St Patrick, and set apart for the purpose. (Dr Petrie's Memoir, in Ordnance Survey of Derry, p. 233, where the stone is figured.)

The poet Spenser describes these stones in Ireland, and adds that they are commonly placed on a hill. (Ancient Irish Histories, vol. i. p. 11.)

That on which the O'Neills were inaugurated was placed on the great hill fort of Tullahog, in the barony of Dungannon, and in this case the monarchs were placed on a piece of rock, the site of which in the map of Ireland in *Pacata Hibernia*, is styled “O'Neal's Chaire.” (Ulster Journal of Archaeology, vol. v. p. 230. Hy Fiachrach, p. 451.)

garding the form and size of the *Lia fail*. In Fordun's fabulous account of its early history, he calls it "marmorea cathedra arte vetustissima diligentique sculpta opifice (Scotichron, vol. i. p. 27). Malcolm III. is said to have been placed in "throno regali;" and the privilege of the Earl of Fife is described as that of placing the king in "sede sive cathedra regali" (Idem. p. 252.)

Alexander III., at his coronation, sat upon the stone seat, "Ipso vero rege super hanc cathedram regalem sedente." (Idem. vol. ii. p. 82.) Balliol was placed "in cathedra regali." (Idem. p. 151.)

These expressions do not seem applicable to the little thin fragment at Westminster, which, in its present shape, could scarcely be a suitable seat for any one, still less for a monarch at his coronation. At the coronation of King Alexander the "sedes regalis" was covered with rich cloths and silks wrought with gold, and around him at his feet were gathered his earls and nobles, "coram lapide;" which stone, according to Hearne's edition of Fordun, was kept in the monastery of Scone, "reverenter ob regum Albanie consecrationem" (Scotichron. (by Goodal) vol. ii. p. 82, with note from Hearne.)

It seems obvious that the stone was either placed in a chair, so that the king could sit upon it, or that the stone itself was originally of a much greater size than it now is; and expressions occur in some early records which might lead us to infer that this was the case. Thus, in several inventories of Edward I., containing lists of the choice possessions of the king, the stone is thus entered:—"Una petra magna super quam Reges Scocie solebant coronari" (Arch. Journal, vol. xiii. p. 250.) Hemingburgh, a contemporary chronicler, with reference to the coronation of Balliol at Scone, speaks of the stone as "pergrandis," and as a sort of chair in itself, "Apud monasterium de Scone, positus erat lapis pergrandis in ecclesia Dei, juxta majus altare, concavus quidem, et ad modum rotunde cathedre confectus, in quo futuri reges loco quasi coronationis ponebantur ex more." The religious ceremonies described by this writer took place after the king was seated on the stone, "rege itaque novo in lapide posito, missarum solemnities incepta peraguntur, et preterquam in elevatione sacri Dominici corporis semper lapidatus mansit." ("Chronicon Walteri de Hemingburgh," vol. ii. pp. 38, 39. Lond. 1849.)

On the other hand, we know that Edward carried off the stone of

destiny, and that the chair which he ordered to be made was to receive that stone, "Pro petra super quam Reges Scociæ solebant coronari, inventa apud Scone;" or, as in another record, "Nova cathedra in qua petra Scociæ reponitur" (Arch. Journal, vol. xiii. pp. 252, 253.) Even after this new chair, with its stone, was standing in the chapel of Saint Edward the Confessor at Westminster, the Scottish chronicler records that King Robert Bruce was crowned at Scone, and placed "in sede regali, modo quo solebant reges Scotiæ insigniri" ("Scotichron." vol. ii. p. 280). Or, as Barbour phrases it,

In the kingis stole was set
As in that tym was the maner.

(*The Brus*, p. 32.)

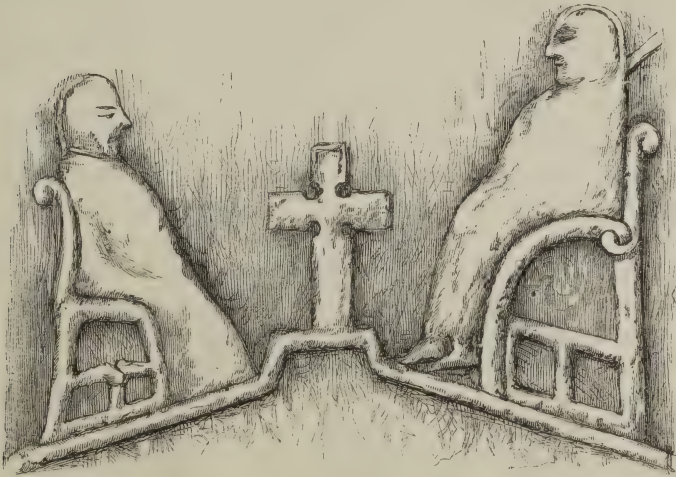
It seems, on the whole, the most probable solution of these somewhat contradictory statements, to believe that the stone of destiny was originally placed in a chair of some sort, on which the Scottish kings were seated at their coronation; and that the "sedes regalis," on which the illustrious deliverer of the kingdom was raised, at his investiture in 1306, was the chair in which the *Lia fail* had been formerly placed, and which the English monarch did not think it necessary to carry off.

However this may be, it seems plain that chairs were well known among the Pictish people, of whom the *Lia fail* was doubtless the inauguration stone. On the early sculptured stones of Scotland which are scattered over Pictland, we find frequent representations of chairs, with individuals, apparently of official dignity, seated on them.

On the pillar at Dunfallandy, in Athole, there is a group at the top above the other sculptures, consisting of two men (one of whom bears a rod) in chairs, with a cross between them, on what may be a conventional representation of a height or moorhill. This group is reproduced in the following woodcut from "The Sculptured Stones of Scotland" (vol. i. plate xlviii.).

As one of the conditions of Celtic inauguration, described by Dr O'Donovan, was the laying aside by the chief of his weapons, and the placing of a straight white wand in his hand by the brehon of the district, or some other person whose office it was, I cannot help believing that the stone at Dunfallandy may preserve a picture of the inauguration of a Pictish chief of Athole, who sits on one chair, with the tanist, or heir-

apparent, on the other. We learn from Martin that the delivery of a rod to the newly-elected chief was also one of the ceremonies at Hebridean inaugurations.¹



Sculpture on a Stone Pillar at Duufallandy, in Athole.

On a sculptured slab, at Aldbar, near Brechin, are two figures, who, as will be seen from the woodcut on next page, occupy the same chair or bench, and who may represent the same officials of Angus.²

But whether these figures represent the provincial chief and his tanist, or the chief and the brehon, the fact remains that chairs of state must have been common among the Pictish tribes.

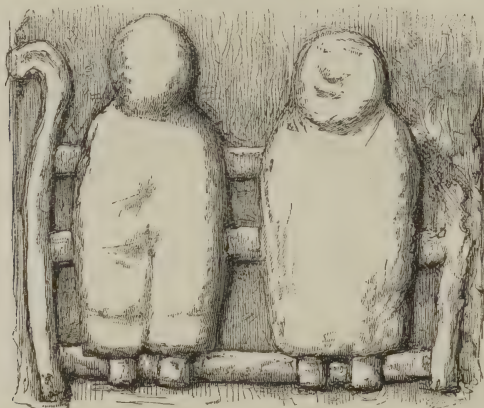
Seats, hollowed out of rocks, as well as naturally-shaped stone chairs, were also common in the early Celtic Church of Scotland. The rock

¹ Western Islands, p. 102. See also Spenser's account of the delivery of a wand to the Irish captains at their election. (Ancient Irish Histories, p. 11.)

² The chair of the Earl Palatine of Strathern appears in record in 1380, when Earl David granted a charter to John Rollo of the lands of Fyndon—"Salvis nobis et heredibus nostris Cathedra comitis et loco domus capitalis dicte terre de Fyndon" (Chalmers' Caledonia, i. p. 737, quoting Astle's MS. Diplom. Scotiæ); and the chair of the Kings of Man is yet set on Tynwald Hill.

chair of St Fillan marks the site of his monastery in Glendochart. The stone chair of St Marnan is yet to be seen near his church on the banks of the Deveron; and St Kentigern had his chair at his monastery on the Molindinar Burn. At the mouth of the sculptured cave in Arran, known as "King's Cove," is a seat cut in the solid rock; but tradition has not carried down to us the name of the solitary whose "chair" it originally was.

When King Edward had brought the *Lia fail* to Westminster, he designed for its reception a chair of bronze; and it is not unlikely that the idea of a chair may have been suggested to him by the previous arrangement of the stone at Scone.



Sculpture on a Stone Slab at Aldbar, near Brechin.

After the chair had been partly constructed of bronze, the king changed his mind, and ordered one of wood of similar form to be made, and we have in detail the expenses of Master Walter, his painter, for decorating and gilding it—"et pro duobus leopardis parvis de ligno faciendis depingendis et deaurandis," to be placed, one on each side of the chair.¹

The act of Edward in carrying off such a monument as the stone of

¹ Edward's Spoliations in Scotland. By Rev. Joseph Hunter, in *Arch. Journal*, xiii. pp. 252-3. (See Woodcut of Chair, *Proc. Soc. Antiq. ante*, p. 98.)

destiny was exactly similar to that adopted in the wars between the Celtic tribes of Ireland among themselves, where the conquerors are frequently represented, in the Irish Annals, as destroying the trees under which the inauguration stones were placed, and removing or breaking the stones themselves.¹

This was the destruction of the palladium of the tribe, and the overthrow of its pride. No doubt the King of England had similar objects in view in the removal of the *Lia fail*.

After the last of the O'Neills had "gone to the stone to receive that name," where his Gaelic forefathers had been led for a thousand years, he rose in rebellion against the English power; and, in the course of the war which ensued, we read that Lord Mountjoy, the deputy, "brake down the chair wherein the O'Neills were wont to be created, being of stone," or, as it is elsewhere said, of rock.²

The tokens of dressing on the stone of destiny may be accounted for by reference to its adaptation to some of the chairs in which it has been placed, but I am unable to suggest the origin of the iron rings, which, however, are probably of secondary use, and unconnected with its primary designation.

II.

NOTICE OF AN UNDERGROUND CHAMBER RECENTLY DISCOVERED AT CRICHTON MAINS. BY the RIGHT HON. LORD ROSEHILL, F.S.A. Scot.

Early in February last I heard that a subterranean passage had been discovered at the farm of Crichton Mains, on the property of Mrs Calander of Prestonhall.

A few days afterwards I visited the spot, and found that excavations had already been commenced, under the direction of Mr Maddison, the factor of the estate, and with the warm interest of Mr Pringle, the tenant of the farm; and that one of the entrances, and part of the passage beyond, had been cleared out.

From time to time afterwards I visited the place, taking notes, measure-

¹ O'Connor, vol. i. cxxvi.; vol. ii. p. 44.

² Ulster Journal, v. p. 233.

ments, and a few rough sketches; and from these, at the suggestion of Sir James Simpson and Mr Stuart, I have drawn up a short "Notice" of this Eirde-House.

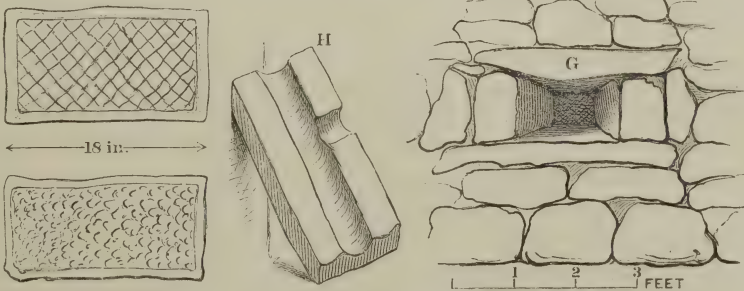
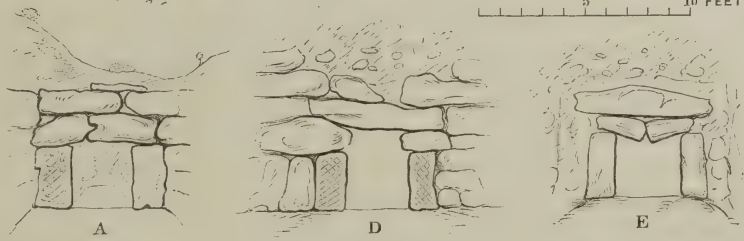
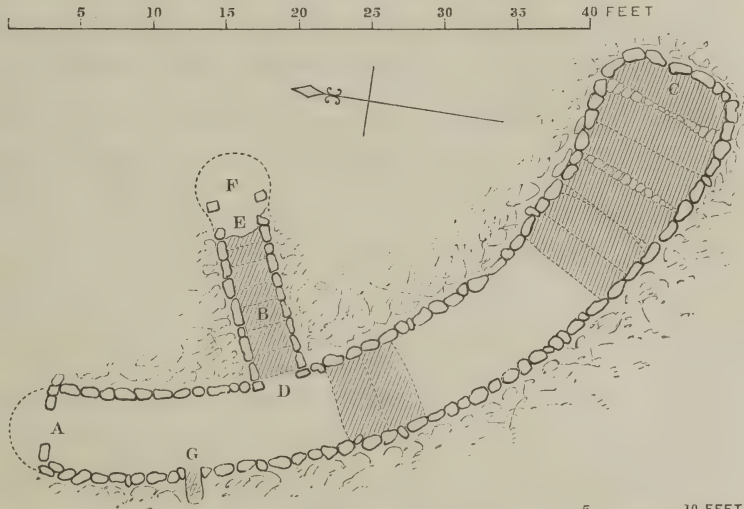
The field in which the "Picts' House" is situated is now under cultivation, though report places a clump of trees on the spot at no very remote date. It lies on a rising ground, overlooking the valley of the Tyne, and a considerable stretch of country around. In the immediate neighbourhood to the south-east is a British fort, known as the "Roman Camp;" and a similar remain, with a like name, is in sight on the rising ground towards Dalkeith.

The existence of the chamber was made known by a horse's leg having slipped into the cavity whilst ploughing; and it was then found that the covering stones of the subterranean passage were only some few inches below the surface of the ground.

The north entrance A, and the chamber or termination of the gallery C, were the first parts explored; the centre, and the branch passage B, having been discovered some time after. (See the annexed woodcut, Plate IV.)

In general shape the weem is that of an elongated pear, somewhat curved in the middle, thus resembling many others of the same description. It averages 6 feet in height; and from the middle of door A to the extremity of the gallery at C, it is $51\frac{1}{2}$ feet long. Its greatest width is within two feet of the end, where it measures about 9 feet; and the narrowest part is just inside the entrance A, or 5 feet 10 inches. The floor is throughout formed by the natural rock, and has a slight fall towards the interior. The walls are in the Cyclopean style of masonry, showing no signs of lime or mortar having been used, and consisting for the most part of large undressed stones placed above each other, the back and spaces being filled in with earth and stones. Contrary to the usual form, the walls in most places converge towards each other from the floor, upwards, to half their height; after which they rise perpendicularly till, at the average height of six feet, they are crossed by the slabs or flagstones of the roof.

These covering-stones are entirely rude and undressed, and most of them are of the common whinstone of the district; and they average 7 feet in length by 3 or 4 feet internal width, and are of very varied thickness.



UNDERGROUND CHAMBER RECENTLY DISCOVERED AT CRICHTON MAINS.

The roof is still perfect at the end of the chamber, and for some 14 feet towards the door. Two slabs also remain in position near the centre, all the rest having fallen in either before discovery or during excavation. The slabs, being mostly rounded and worn at the edges, fit each other pretty closely; but where this is not the case, it is evident that an upper row of smaller flat stones were placed across the spaces as an extra protection; and this is so well arranged, that even during the recent wet weather the covered part of the passage was almost quite dry.

The most remarkable feature is, that the inner walls are studded here and there, especially near the top, with squared and chiselled stones, showing the diagonal and diamond markings peculiar to Roman workmanship. About thirty such are to be counted, with more or less distinct markings on them; and several other large, loose stones, with deep grooves, as if for the passage of water, were also found within, or just outside the passage. The chief doorway A is simply formed of two upright stones, and a covering slab; it is 3 feet high by 33 inches wide, and the top is about 5 feet beneath the surface. One of these upright stones (H) is squared, grooved, and chisel-marked, and had evidently been used for other purposes before being brought into use as a door-post. Fourteen feet from this entrance, on the left hand side, is another doorway in the thickness of the wall D, 43 inches high by 33 inches wide at top, and 36 inches at bottom, leading to a branch passage B, at right angles with the gallery. This passage is 13 feet long, 3 feet wide, and 3 feet 6 inches high, and rises by low sloping steps in the rock to another entrance near the surface, pointing to the east, E. The whole passage is still covered by the original flagstones, and stones of Roman origin show themselves in the side walls.

The door E is peculiar, from the shape of the top-stone, which is moulded and bevelled on one side (similar apparently to some found in a like passage at Newstead, in Roxburghshire), and is placed with the bevelled part projecting inwards, forming at once a simple and ornamental entrance. Originally it was, no doubt, a square doorway, 3 feet each way; but the above-mentioned stone having cracked in the centre, the roof there is some five inches lower than at the sides.

Returning to the chamber, we find, nearly opposite to the door D, an opening in the wall formed by four larger stones, about 2 feet above the

floor G. It is 18 inches wide, by about 15 inches high, and extends some feet through the wall into the soil itself: the correct measurements are marked on fig. G. I was in great hopes of finding that it communicated with some inner room, but as yet our search has been in vain. A few pieces of charcoal were found inside it.

Before closing this notice, it may not be out of place to offer some suggestions as to the possible age of this building. The Roman stones found in it place it at once as not earlier than A.D. 80, when Agricola first advanced as far north as the plains of Lothian.

From that time till A.D. 422, this part of Scotland remained more or less under Roman rule, although, at least twice during that time, viz., before 140, and again from 364 to 367, our Celtic ancestors swept irresistibly over both walls into England itself.

It remains therefore to be decided, whether this chamber was built during one of those periods when the Caledonians had for the time become repossessed of their land, or after the Romans had evacuated the country north of Hadrian's Wall? In the latter case, it seems strange that the aborigines should return to their dark, rude, and underground dwellings, when, as in this instance, they were almost in sight of the comparative luxury of a Roman settlement such as Inveresk, boasting its baths, theatre, and villas.

A Roman road is believed to have passed within a short distance of Crichton; and the stones may have formed part of some station on this line.

III.

NOTE OF A SCULPTURED ROMAN SLAB RECENTLY DISCOVERED ON THE ESTATE OF GRANGE, LINLITHGOWSHIRE, AND PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM. BY HENRY CADELL, OF GRANGE, ESQ. (PLATE VII.)

GRANGE, Bo'NESS, 23d January 1869,

JOHN STUART, Esq.

Secy. of Antiquarian Society, Edinburgh.

DEAR SIR,—As I mentioned to you, I now beg to present to your Antiquarian Society for the Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh, the

Roman Tablet found on my property here in April last, upon condition that you place a stone near the spot where the tablet was found, with an inscription to tell of its being found there, and a copy of the inscription.

The tablet is 9 feet long, nearly 3 feet high, and 8 inches thick, the face having inscription in the middle, "IMP · CAES · TITO · AELIO · HADRI · ANTONINO · AUG · PIO · P · P · LEG · II · AUG · PER · M · P · IIII · DCL · II · FEC," on each side of which is an alto relievo, that on the left a Roman horseman riding over naked and wounded Britons, that on the right being a sacrificial scene in which a priest is standing beside an altar with the Second Legion Augusta in attendance, and a bull, a sheep, and a pig are being brought forward; on the top edge of the tablet towards the back, and on each end are dovetailed recesses, by which the tablet appears to have been held up.

The tablet was found with its face down in a sloping direction, and broken in three pieces, and had been for a long time covered with from 1 foot to 2½ feet of soil, upon a rocky promontory just above my harbour of Bridgeness, and, at the time, the sea has flowed round the promontory within about 10 yards of the stone, as is shown by the remains of an old sea wall and a beach of washed shells and sand.

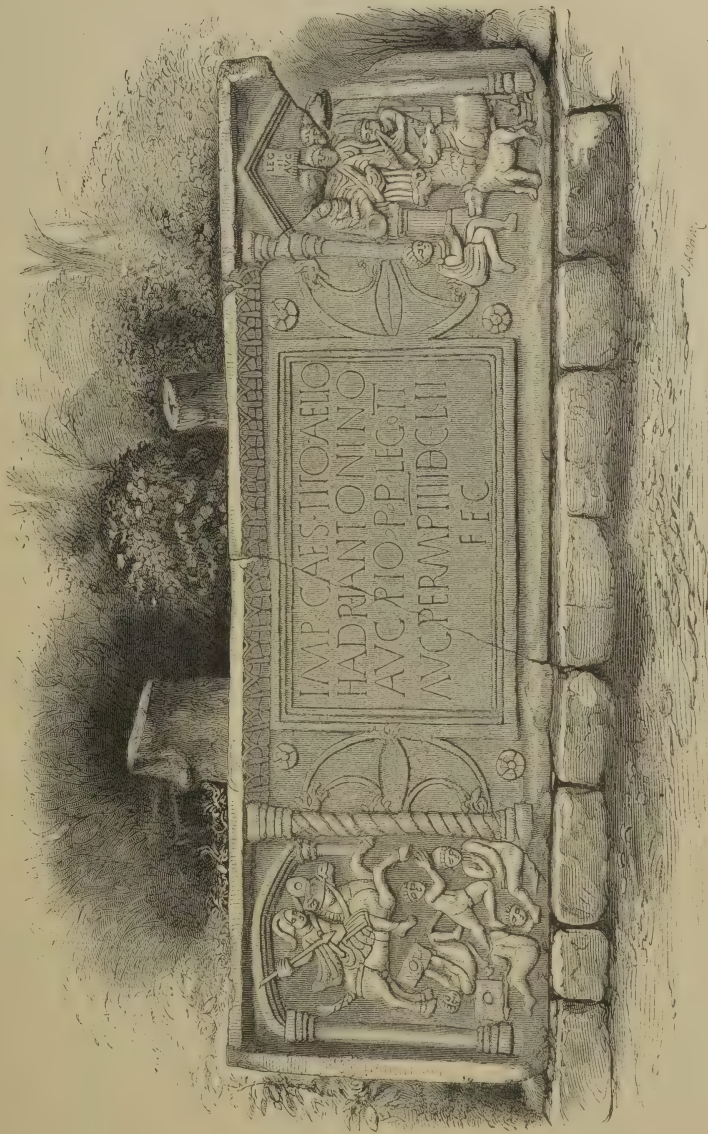
I will write Mr McCulloch to let him know what day the stone will be sent in,—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

(Signed) HENRY CADELL.

P.S.—I omitted to mention that a considerable quantity of squared sandstones, roughly dressed, were found buried in the bank a little under and near where the tablet was found, and probably Roman; most of these have been used in the building surrounding the memorial tablet now erected, but I have still a few of them, and, if desired, I can send in two or more to keep the tablet company.—H. C.

[The Council of the Society readily agreed to the conditions mentioned in Mr Cadell's letter, and authorised the Treasurer to defray the expenses connected with erecting a suitable memorial on the site, with an inscription recording this very interesting discovery.]

The stone is well shown in the accompanying Plate VII.



SCULPTURED ROMAN LEGIONARY TABLET, DISCOVERED AT CARRIDEN, LINLITHGOWSHIRE, 1869.

(9 feet in length.)

The legionary stone is of light-coloured sandstone, and measures 9 feet in length by 3 feet in width, and about 8 inches in thickness. It is divided into three panels, the centre one displaying the inscription :—

I M P · C A E S · T I T O · A E L I O
H A D R I · A N T O N I N O
A V G · P I O · P · P · L E G · I I
A V G · P E R · M · P · I I I I · D C L · I I
F E C

Which may be read as follows :—

IMPERATORI CAESARI TITO AELIO HADRIANO ANTONINO AUGUSTO PIO,
PATRI PATRIAE, LEGIO SECUNDA AUGUSTA, PER MILLIA PASSUUM IIII DC L II.,
FECIT.

To the Emperor Caesar Titus Ælius Hadrianus Antoninus Augustus Pius, Father of his Country, The Second Legion The August, (Dedicates this, Having) made Four Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Two Paces (of the wall).

The panel to the right of the inscription has sculptured on it, in high relief, a mounted Roman soldier, with short spear, sword, and rounded shield with boss, galloping over a group of four naked and defeated Caledonians, armed with spear, sword, dagger, and square shaped shields with circular bosses. One of the men is pierced with a spear, and another is beheaded. The panel to the left, displays a group of five robed figures, with heads uncovered, and bearing a small standard, inscribed LEG · II · AVG ; the second figure is pouring the contents of a patera on a small altar. In front of the group a man is playing on the double pipe, another is crouching in front of the altar, and between them, there is a boar, a ram, and a bull, for the sacrifice of the *Suovetaurilia*.

With regard to the date of this sculpture, it may be noted that Antoninus Pius took the title of P. P., PATER PATRIÆ, in A.D. 139, and that he died in A.D. 161 ; it must therefore have been executed between these recorded dates.]

Dr J. A. SMITH said, that the sculptured stone was of much interest, it was the largest, he believed, that had been discovered on the line of the wall of Antoninus, between the Clyde and the Forth ; or, indeed, on that of Hadrian across the north of England. The inscription was

similar in character to those found on other parts of the wall, the dedication being, as in all the other instances, to the Emperor Antoninus Pius, and detailing the amount of work done here by the Second Legion, and the absence of all inscriptions of a later date, seems to show the comparatively slight hold the Romans had over this district. The sculptures are of peculiar interest; that to the right, representing a Roman horseman throwing a javelin at a party of Caledonians well armed, but naked, as Herodian describes them in his History—typical probably of their state of comparative barbarism in contrast to Roman civilisation, or stript, it may have been, for the field of battle. The other sculpture, a group of the heads of the legion, with their standard, and the usual attendant piper, preparing to offer up a sacrifice—the *Suovetaurilia*—probably the sacrifice of a Lustration, to obtain the blessing of the gods on the conclusion of this, the last portion, of the important work of the dividing Wall; the place where the sculpture was found being on elevated ground close to the sea-shore of the Firth of Forth. It is the only instance of a sculptured representation of a sacrifice on any of these Legionary stones, with which he was acquainted, either on this wall or on that of Hadrian. A large sculptured stone, with a corresponding inscription, but of much inferior workmanship, the work of the same legion, which had so much to do with the building of this wall, is preserved in the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow, and represents a very similar group,—a mounted Roman soldier spear in hand, and behind him Victory with a wreath, while below, are a couple of bound and naked natives; the other extremity of the stone being, however, occupied simply with the distinctive symbols of the legion. It was found at Castlehill towards the Clyde extremity of the wall.

[Dr Smith's attention has since been called, by Mr John Chalmers, to the interesting fact, that the ancient Celtic appellation of the locality may still remain in the immediate neighbourhood, in the name of the closely adjoining property of Kinneil, which appears to be simply the descriptive Gaelic designation of Walls-end; being a compound of *Ceann*, the head, or end, and *foille* the genitive of *Fùl*, a wall of earth, a vallum, or earthen rampart, *Ceannfoille*, the *f* being silent—Kinneil, the Head of the Wall. Wallsend, situated at the eastern extremity of Hadrian's Wall,

is a familiar name, and it is said that there is a place in the same neighbourhood known as *Penfal*, a Welsh or British name, which corresponds to the Gaelic Kinneil, and, like it, signifies the end of the vallum or rampart. Bede, by an apparent fusion of the northern and southern Celtic dialects, speaks of the end of Antonine's Wall as known by the name *Pen-el-tun*, which probably designates the place known by us as Kinneil. The general character of the Wall was that of an earthen rampart, although it was also partly faced, in some places, with stone.]

(The word *foille* on the opposite page, the genitive of *fàl*, a turf fence, should have been spelled *fhail*, the *fh* being silent. The usual Gaelic word for a wall or stone fence is *balla*, the genitive being *bhalla*, the *b* being aspirated.)

Sir JAMES Y. SIMPSON, Bart., remarked on the great interest of the discovery, and the striking character of the fact which it brought out—that a Roman sacrifice to the gods had actually been offered up on the shores of the Firth of Forth.

Mr JOHN STUART trusted Sir James, at a future meeting, would favour the Society with a Communication on the discovery, and its general bearing on the whole subject of the Roman Wall.

MONDAY, 12th April 1869.

WILLIAM FORBES SKENE, Esq., LL.D., Vice-President, in the
Chair.

Upon a ballot, JOHN HAY, Esq. of Letham, was duly elected a Fellow of the Society.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the DONORS:—

(1.) By M. EDOUARD LARTET, through Sir J. Y. SIMPSON, Bart.,
F.S.A. Scot.

Collection of Flint Weapons, Bones of Animals, and specimens of

Breccia, found in Caves in Dordogne, France, in 1863, consisting of—

1. Various rounded and pointed Chipped Flints, found in Dordogne, France, in 1863:—
 - Ten specimens from Laugerie, of different colours, varying in size from $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch to 2 inches in breadth, by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length.
 - Six dark-coloured Flints from Le Moustier, varying in length from 2 to 4 inches, by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch to 2 inches in breadth.
 - Nine mottled Flints from Les Eyzies, varying from 2 to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, by $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 inch in breadth.
 - Three light-coloured Flints from Gorge d'Enfer, varying from 2 to $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, by 1 inch in breadth.
 - Seven light and dark coloured Flints from La Madelaine, varying from $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length, by about $\frac{3}{8}$ ths of an inch in breadth.
2. Bones of Animals, found in Caves in Dordogne, in 1863:—
 - Various portions of Bones and Antlers, some of them worked smooth and rounded, and one cut like a chisel; four portions of Antlers, some showing traces of cutting, and Teeth of the Reindeer, from La Madelaine and Laugerie.
 - Also Plaster Casts of the heads of two Bone Darts with several barbs, an Ornamented Bone, and portion of Reindeer's Antler pierced with round hole, and carved with the figure of a horse, found at La Madelaine and Laugerie Basse.
 - Various Bones and Teeth of the Horse, and the Aurochs, from La Madelaine, Laugerie, and Les Eyzies.
 - Two Sewing Needles with eyes, of bone, broken; one measures $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch in length.
3. Various Masses of Breccia, containing chipped flints, bones and teeth of animals (reindeer, &c.) and birds.

(2.) By the SUBSCRIBERS to the SIM TESTIMONIAL, through DAVID THOMSON, Esq., Biggar.

Portrait of Adam Sim, of Coulter, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., a Photograph, framed and glazed. From a painting by Daniel Macnee, R.S.A.

(3.) By Dr HUNTER, School of Industrial Art, Madras.

Thirty-three large Photographs of Temples and Views of Sculptures—
At Big and Little Conjeveram, Howhoblum, Tadputtry, Taramingalum,
Therookikondrum, Trichengode, Vellore, and Verinjeepurum ; India.

(4.) By ARCHIBALD M'NEILL, Esq., P.C.S., the Author.

Notes on the Authenticity of Ossian's Poems. By a Member of the
Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Edinburgh, printed for the Author,
1869. 8vo.

(5.) By the EDINBURGH GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society. Vol. I. Parts 1
and 2. Edinburgh, 1869. 8vo.

(6.) By the ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Anthropological Review, No. 25. London, 1869. 8vo.

(7.) By the AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society. Vol. X. No. 80.
Philadelphia. 8vo.

The following Articles, purchased for the Museum at the sales of the
collections of the late W. B. JOHNSTONE, Esq., R.S.A., and ADAM SIM, of
Coulter, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., were exhibited :—

(1.) Covenanters' Flag, measuring 5 feet in length, by 4 feet 2 inches in
breadth ; it is in good condition, and seems originally to have been
quartered in pink and blue coloured silk, although now faded to a weak
green and dull orange. It displays a white saltire, with a Scot's thistle
in the centre, and the inscription—

	COVENANTS	
FOR RELIGION		CROWN
	KINGDOMS.	

This flag is stated to have been carried by Stewart of Garscube at the
battle of Worcester, and was afterwards borne at the battle of Bothwell
Bridge. The flag is figured in colours, and described in a " Notice of the
Bluidy Banner of Drumclog, &c.," by James Drummond, Esq., R.S.A.,
p. 253, Vol. III. Proc. Soc. Antiq. of Scotland.

(2.) Circular Highland Target, of oak, covered with leather, and studded with brass nails in circular patterns; it is also bordered round the edges with thin plates of brass. It measures 21 inches in diameter.

(3.) Highland Dagger or Dirk, measuring 17 inches in length, with a single-edged blade, and wooden handle carved with interlacing patterns (see the annexed woodcut, fig. 1).

Fig. 1.—Dirk with Carved Wooden Handle.

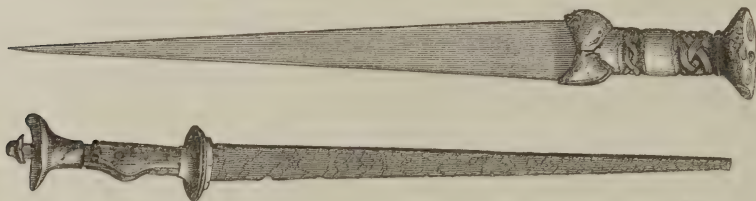


Fig. 2.—Dagger with Stag's Horn Handle.

(4.) Scottish Dagger, single-edged blade much wasted, and stag's horn and iron handle (see the preceding woodcut, fig. 2).



Fig. 3.—Highland Powder Horn.

(5.) Flattened Powder Horn, richly covered on one side with ornamental patterns, the initials C.M.L and the date 1678. (It is well shown in the preceding woodcut.)

(6.) Another Flattened Powder Horn, ornamented with circular and scale-like patterns, and the initials A · R.

(7.) A Smaller Flattened Powder Horn with zig-zag ornaments, the initials T · H., a crown, and the date 1722.

Powder Flask formed of an elephant's tusk. It is only partially made.

Rounded Powder Horn with metal mountings, covered with incised toothed lines and looped ornaments, and marked ☉LAF · ☉LAFSϕN ANO 1687, and at the thick extremity HARALD · IOHANSON · 1741.

(8.) Four Long Bows of Yew, three of them tipped with horn. Three of the bows measure 6 feet in length, and one 6 feet 6 inches.

(9.) New Zealand Weapons, &c. :—

One long Spear of black wood, with numerous barbs. It measures 9 feet in length.

Two long Spear-like Weapons, of black wood, with broad lance-shaped heads. They measure each 8 feet 6 inches in length.

Two Spear-like New Zealand Weapons of Defiance, the carved top bearing a rude representation of the human face, with large fully expanded tongue; the necks of the weapons are ornamented with skin and feathers. They measure each 6 feet 5 inches in length.

A sharp pointed Paddle for a Canoe, covered with elaborate carving. It measures 4 feet 6 inches in length.

Richly carved square shaped Handle for a Stone Axe Head, 4 feet in length, the elaborate flax tying for fixing the stone still remains, but the axe head is absent.

Wooden Club, with bent head, like a rude halbert. It measures 5 feet 1 inch in length.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

NOTES MADE DURING A WANDERING IN THE WEST HIGHLANDS;
WITH REMARKS UPON THE STYLE OF ART OF SOME MONU-
MENTAL STONES AT IONA, AND IN OTHER LOCALITIES. BY
JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A., AND F.S.A. SCOT.

During rambles in the West Highlands in search of the picturesque, old and sometimes neglected churchyards are now and then come upon,

in out-of-the-way places, where a class of antiquities is occasionally found to which comparatively little attention has hitherto been paid by antiquaries—I mean the tombstones of the old Highland chiefs and ecclesiastics. My attention was first called to these in the autumn of 1865, while on a visit to a friend in Lochaber. On a lovely August day we rowed up Loch Leven, and landed on that most picturesque of burial-places, facing the entrance to Glencoe, St Mungo's Isle, where repose at peace the rival clans, Cameron and Macdonalds, of Glencoe. In the churchyard, which means the island, there seemed nothing noteworthy among its memorials, or of the ruined and neglected chapel itself, in the farthest corner of which I found two most beautiful tombstones. Next season, spending my holiday at Minard Castle, we made frequent antiquity-hunting excursions, more especially, as far as I was concerned, in search of these interesting tombstones. A few miles from Minard (going towards Inverary) is the old churchyard of Kileven. Here I found a most interesting relic, being the shaft of a very ancient cross about nine feet long. This is so rude that the arms of the cross had been made by a stone being put through a hole in the shaft. Some miles beyond Lochgilphead is the church and churchyard of Kilmichael Glassary, in which are some of the most choice monuments in the West Highlands; but one was wanting which I was anxious to have seen. In the year 1827 the old church was taken down, that the present commonplace erection might be put up. On taking down a door, the lintel was discovered to be a very ancient cross. It was put on the gable end of the new church; from this it was taken down, to be erected as the village cross; but instead of this being done, it was for some unaccountable reason removed to the village of Ballanoch on the Crinan Canal, where it long lay, neglected and broken, until Mr Nichol, who supplied the horses for the canal boats, had it carted back to Kilmichael, clamped with iron, and erected as the village cross, perhaps where it stood previous to the Reformation, and was again the pride of the villagers, and looked upon as the one object of their district worthy of being taken care of and preserved. Some few years ago, the then proprietor of the district built a private chapel and burial-place in the grounds near his house, and, thinking that this precious relic would give a consecrated feeling to the place, had it carried off in defiance of the objections of the villagers, as if they, because they were poor, had none of

the higher and more sacred feelings of our nature—feelings of a kind particularly keen with the Celt almost to a national characteristic. The next parish is Kilmartine, the churchyard of which is, perhaps, as rich in these monuments as any other, excepting Iona; and here again complaint must be made for an incredible act of Vandalism. In the centre of the churchyard is an iron railing of a most imposing height, surrounding some seven or eight of the finest memorials of the ancient chiefs of the district, which have been selected and thus protected as the tombs of the ancestors of the now ruling family. Some of these have actually been shortened that they might go within the enclosure, and to make assurance doubly sure, the sculpturing has been defaced for 6 or 8 inches at the top of most of these, and in great staring letters, carved “Poltalloch.” This requires no comment.

This selection was made some few years ago, and the defacement was carried out under the superintendence of Mr Campbell of Prospect, then factor on the estates; this same gentleman has the credit of the first migration of the Kilmichael cross. Surely it is the duty of such a Society as this to protest against this removing of interesting land-marks, and the defacing of these ancient and beautiful national memorials.

At Iona I found matters little better; a sort of re-arrangement of the monuments was going on, left entirely to the judgment of two masons or quarrymen from Mull. What strikes one most is the fact, that most of the monuments placed in an upright position are upside down. In St Oran’s Chapel out of six, three are so; at the Nunnery nearly every one.

As a rule, among monuments of this class of a mediæval period, the sword or claymore, as we would expect, is the principal feature; and where it or some other military indication does not occur, we may safely ascribe the slab to an ecclesiastic. A galley is very frequently introduced; now and then a small group of figures, or a hunting scene, occasionally birds and fish, sometimes an ecclesiastical bell, a chalice, a prayer-book, or a harp. Then we have a pair of shears, a mirror, or a comb, to mark the grave of a female. At first I thought the shears a monkish allusion to cutting the thread of life; but, after seeing the slabs at the Nunnery, Iona, where this symbol is of frequent occurrence, I had no doubt. Where both the sword and shears occur, I should suppose husband and wife to have been buried there. As to the style of art upon

these monuments, many and conflicting opinions have at various times been advanced as to where and how it originated, some claiming an Eastern, others an Italian origin for it. Byzantine was for long a favourite theory, while Scandinavia has had its advocates, apparently on better grounds; but it seems now pretty clearly settled that it was imported there by missionaries from this country, returning again with some national peculiarities, but long after the art had been brought to perfection here. It were needless for me to pursue this point further on the present occasion, after the learned and exhaustive treatises by Mr Westwood and Dr Stuart. Sufficient for my purpose to call it "Celtic," for surely no other name could so well characterise an art so peculiar to Iona, where the class of monuments we are treating of seems to have originated, and from whence, as from a school of design—which I believe it to have been—its educated priests and monks were scattered over its dependencies in the West Highlands, among the now solitary churchyards of which these beautiful memorials are still to be found. In connection with these, a very common idea prevails among the modern Highlanders that they were all brought—or *stolen*, if you prefer it—from Iona. This theory is easily disposed of, as each locality has peculiarities of its own, differing from anything now remaining at Iona. At Kilmartin it is so; at Kilmichael Glassary to a very marked degree; and the same may be said of Strachur, where one might suppose the same man had designed them all. Then the old cross at Strathlachlan is entirely different from anything else I have seen; and at St Mungo's Isle they are sculptured in slate from the quarries on the opposite shore of the loch. Date is a more perplexing matter, there being so little to guide us; but I should think somewhere between 1350 and 1500, about the period of their execution, although some seem to me of an earlier date than this. In conclusion, I would say a word to all who, like myself, are collecting drawings of these or any other class of antiquities. Let all such be made lovingly and earnestly, adding nothing, leaving out nothing; but let every weather-worn feature, every chip, and every break be honestly jotted down. Of all things shun restoration. We all know how much easier it is to restore than to copy faithfully what we see before us; but it is only by proceeding in this spirit that such drawings acquire value as guides to the antiquary, historian, and artist.

The CHAIRMAN expressed the thanks of the Society to Mr Drummond for his singularly interesting and valuable paper. He regretted exceedingly the removal of these monumental stones from their localities, for though people might remove them with good motives, they deprived antiquaries like Mr Drummond of the opportunity of inspecting them. He referred especially to the removal of the stone of an Irish bishop from Iona, which had since turned up at Inverary.

Mr MILNE HOME thought it was only due to the proprietor of Iona that information should be given to him of the removal of the stones from the island. The Society might do well to make some representation to his Grace on the subject, and no doubt he would take steps to remedy the matter. The neglected state of churchyards in Scotland was disgraceful, and he should be very glad if some means could be taken to improve them. In one parish with which he was connected, he had found that the stones in the churchyard were being sold. One of them had been appropriated as a hearthstone, and he found a mason working in the churchyard at another. It was to be regretted that there was no public officer to go round the country at times and see that the churchyards were kept in proper order.

Mr LAING begged to remark that the subject was not new to the Society. After visiting Iona, along with Professor P. A. Munch of Christiania, in 1849, he read a joint communication on the state of the buildings and monuments on the Island; and five years later, he addressed a letter to the Hon. Lord Murray, one of the Vice-presidents (as recorded in the "Proceedings"),¹ which led to some communications with his Grace the Duke of Argyll; but no good results followed. He confessed he had little or no expectation that the interference of the Society would now prove of greater benefit, unless, indeed, the charge of the buildings and the monuments were transferred to the Crown, or Board of Works, leaving untouched the Duke's hereditary rights as proprietor of the Island.

Rev. Mr Ross described the neglected state in which he had found the churchyard in Iona last year, and said it would be very well if the Society could do anything graceful to restore it.

Mr STUART, Secretary, said that something had already been done in the matter. When attention was called to the matter some time ago, Mr

¹ Proc. Soc. Antiq. Scot. vol. ii. p. 7, 1854.

Cowper, of the Board of Works, had offered to maintain Iona as a public piece of property, without depriving the Duke of the right to the property ; but the Duke afterwards seemed to have an objection to any interference at all. His Grace said himself that he was taking steps. This was probably to arrange the stones against the walls, but there was much more wanted than that, as the walls themselves were in a very dilapidated state.

The CHAIRMAN said the misfortune was that the Duke trusted his efforts to his local factor.

The Rev. Mr Ross mentioned, as an instance of the dilapidation, that two of the stones deciphered when Mr Kelly wrote his Guide to Iona in 1856 were quite unintelligible last year.

The CHAIRMAN said that writers of guide-books often found things that other people could not.

Mr DRUMMOND said this was what he complained of—that those who drew such remains generally made quite distinct and intelligible what was so weather worn or defaced that the ornamentation or inscription could hardly be traced ; in other words, giving their own idea of what should have been, sometimes what never could have been there.

The matter was remitted to the Council.

[Since the date of this communication, Mr Drummond has carried out his intention of visiting other places in the West Highlands, and made drawings of the ancient monuments, to be exhibited at a subsequent meeting of the Society. A selection of these drawings is reserved for publication in Vol. V. of the *ARCHÆOLOGIA SCOTICA*. Meanwhile the present notice may serve to draw attention to the sadly neglected state, in too many instances, of such ancient and highly interesting remains.]

II.

NOTICE OF SADDLE ABBEY, IN KINTYRE, ARGYLLSHIRE; WITH ITS SCULPTURED SLABS. BY CAPT. T. P. WHITE, R.E. (PLATES VIII. to XIII.)

A good deal of attention has of late been drawn to the Sculptured Stones of Scotland, mainly through the medium of the Spalding Club's beautiful and elaborate work, edited by Mr Stuart ; but with the exception of those

at Iona, and a few other typical examples given with the eastern series, the rich group of slabs on the west coast, centering in Argyllshire, appear to be as yet comparatively little known. They form of themselves a distinct class, much later in date than those in the east of Scotland; indeed, the west country has scarcely any of the earlier type. In almost all the old burial-grounds of Argyllshire may be found abundant specimens, both of crosses and slabs, ornamented, as Mr Mure has remarked, "with figures of ecclesiastics, warriors, crosses, swords, galleys, and animals of various kinds, and multiform patterns of reticulated, intertwined, and floriated work."¹ The slabs or oblong tombstones are by far the most numerous, but standard crosses are also frequently met with, of pretty much the same age and style of decoration as the slabs. All this class of sculptured monuments are popularly called by the country people Iona Stones, from a prevalent idea that they originally came from Iona—a literal impossibility, of course, though their prototypes may be said to exist there.

In his Preface to Vol. II. of the work already mentioned, Mr Stuart makes the following remark:—"The crosses and slabs in Argyllshire and the Hebrides, which have been introduced in this volume, are only specimens of a very large and interesting class; and I must express an earnest hope that some of those who are more immediately connected with the districts where they occur may be induced to combine for their publication in a shape worthy of the object. As the style of the early monuments is peculiar and national, so is that of the beautiful crosses and slabs just referred to, which range in date from the end of the fifteenth to the middle of the sixteenth century; and as the former are peculiar to the east side of Scotland, so the latter are confined to the west; for the slabs in other parts of Scotland, of the same period as the *late* Argyllshire crosses, differ from them both in tone and design. In a few districts there is a link of connection between the early monuments on the east, and the later ones on the west coast; but the latter are generally covered with foliage of a graceful and somewhat unusual form, while the early Celtic sculptors rarely attempted foliage, and when they did so, their attempts are stiff and conventional." Mr Mure and others assign a some-

¹ Old Church Architecture of Scotland.

what earlier date to many of the western monuments. Mr Howson, for example, the contributor of an interesting series of papers to the Cambridge Camden Society on the Antiquities of Argyllshire, considers that the very tapering slabs, those with figures of the smaller kind cut in low relief, and those, again, bearing the long broadsword, are probably older than the full-length effigies in high relief. Who were the originators of this western branch of stone sculpturing, which only attained to its highest point of excellence in its latter days, seems to be another of the archaeological puzzles. The more general opinion attributes it to a Scandinavian race; but I think there can be no doubt that both eastern and western styles have a common fatherhood, far back out of the region of history. At the same time, the higher finish of the western style may safely be attributed to the influence of the Catholic Church, and her intense reverence for Gothic art. A certain influence, doubtless, was also exerted in earlier times upon the art by the Columban branch of the Church, which would account for the curious tradition of the stones having originated at Iona. It has been suggested that these beautiful stones correspond in western Scotland to the English monumental brasses;¹ and it seems reasonable to suppose that, like the brass engravings and illuminated missals, they were the work of the monks. One thing especially striking is the abrupt disappearance of this distinctive class of carving at or shortly after the Reformation. No gradual transition presents itself, but a line of separation as sharply defined as if we had stepped out of one geological district into another. Go into any of these West Highland churchyards, and the memorials of Catholic art, with their venerable weather-worn faces, are at a glance unmistakably distinguishable from the more modern tombstones, even those as far back as the beginning of the seventeenth century. The depth of the carving, the richness of design, the ever-graceful curves, the decision and yet irregularity of the drawing in the one, are suddenly, as it were, murdered out of art, and succeeded in the other by a style for the most part bald and inartistic, which has left us nothing better than florid escutcheons, or grotesque imitations of death's heads and crossbones. No doubt, this was owing to the same reactionary impulse which superseded or destroyed the ancient churches, and erected in their places edifices divested of every trace of

¹ I am indebted to the Rev. Mr Mapleton for this suggestion.

ornamentation. Unfortunately, the spirit is not yet extinct, and the beautiful slabs of the west are fast disappearing from the desecrated burial-grounds they once adorned. The best that could happen to them is to have lain unnoticed and undisturbed among the grass and nettles. More often their broken fragments—perhaps with a new name or initials cut over the old carvings—are set up to mark some more modern grave, or, worse still, carried away, and built up into neighbouring walls and cottages. I have found sheep and cattle grazing amongst the old graves and ruined churches; and Mr Campbell, in his “Popular Tales of the West Highlands,” even mentions an instance of an old chapel having been used as a piggery.

I have here selected for illustration the ancient foundation of Saddell, in Kintyre, as a good example, for two reasons—the sanctity and importance of the place,¹ second to none in the county perhaps but Iona; and because no drawings of its beautiful relics have, I believe, as yet been given to the public. I add the following brief account of what little is known of its history, including some particulars in the lives of its founders which may be found interesting.

The Abbey of Saddell is situated about midway along the east coast of the peninsula of Kintyre, in a lovely spot hollowed out among hills richly wooded, and close to the sea-shore. It appears to have been founded about A.D. 1160 by Somarled, the first Lord of the Isles who comes prominently forward into authentic history. To him must be assigned an important place in Scottish annals as the head of the great tribe Mr Skene calls Gallgael, or the “Siol Cuinn,” for a long time the dominant race in the Western Highlands, and also as the ancestor of the great families “De Ergadia” and “De Insulis,” or the clans Dugall and Donald, whence have sprung a multitude of offshoots, representing a large proportion of modern Highland surnames. Many incidents in the life of Somarled are given in early MSS. From a Gaelic source we learn how his father Gillibrìde returned to Scotland after an enforced exile, and secured a footing in Argyll, and how the son at the first favourable opportunity expelled the Norwegians from Morvern, and made himself master of a large territory. Then, in the “Orkneyinga Saga,” it is told how

¹ “Here are some of the most interesting tombstones in the kingdom.”—*New Statistical Account.*

he married Ragnhilda,¹ daughter of Olaf the Swarthy, King of Man and the Isles, and how well he improved the advantages obtained by the marriage. In the Manx Chronicle, written in the thirteenth century, he appears as "Regulus Herergaidel," and several chapters are devoted to his exploits, giving details of great interest;—how, at the instigation of Thorfinn Ottarson, a Manx noble, who rebelled against his sovereign Godred the Black, Dugall, the eldest son of Somarled, makes the circuit of the Isles, and is proclaimed king; how the fleets of Somarled and Godred engage in a sea-fight on the night of the Epiphany of our Lord A.D. 1156,² and as the result of the battle, the King of Man agrees to yield up all the Sudoreys, or southern half of the kingdom of the Isles, except Man itself; how Somarled afterwards invades Man with a fleet of fifty-three ships, defeating Godred, who escapes to Norway, and invokes the aid of St Machutus; what happened to one of Somarled's chiefs at the port of Ramsa, and the vengeance taken on him by the saint, the same Machutus, on the violation of his shrine; how Somarled quits the island in dismay; and how, finally, A.D. 1164, four years after the rise of Saddell Abbey, he assails Renfrew with a fleet of 160 galleys, and is there defeated and slain in an action with the forces of the Scottish king. The "Orkneyinga Saga," it is true, differs somewhat in its account of Somarled, who is there called "Somarled Hauldr." After stating his marriage, and the names of his sons, so far in accordance with the other versions, it details his death in a sea-fight with one Sweyn, described as an old pirate. In Gregory's history, again, mention is made of a tradition that Somarled was assassinated in his tent, and not slain in action; and the writer adds, that modern inquiries point to Saddell as the place where his corpse was conveyed for burial.

On the death of his father, Reginald, the second son, whose inheritance appears to have been that part of the newly-acquired Sudor Isles, consisting of Yla and Kintyre, completed and endowed the Monastery of Saddell. One account says that Reginald sent to Rome for consecrated dust, and "made the building commensurate with the extent to which it could be scattered."³ Another, that his son Donald made a pilgrimage

¹ Elsewhere called Affrica.

² The 6th of January, according to Dr Oliver's "Monumenta."

³ New Statistical Account.

there, to procure absolution for a long catalogue of misdeeds, which was granted; and on his return, added to the grants of land already bestowed upon the abbey.¹ Reginald is variously styled "Dominus Insularum," "Rex Insularum," "Dominus Inchehal," and "Dominus of Ergile and Kintyre." He is also, in the Harleian MSS., included among the kings of Man as "Reginaldus filius Sumladi," distinct from Reginald, the son of Godred, who was also king; but this is not confirmed by the "Chronicle of Man." Mention, however, is there made of a battle fought between him and his brother "Engus" in 1192, where many were mortally wounded, and where, says the Chronicle, "Engus, tamen, victoriam obtinuit." This fratricidal strife on the part of Reginald, and the violent deeds of his son, are certainly in curious contrast with their liberal endowments to the monastery. Among the Paisley chartularies is one concerning Reginald, "bestowing on the Abbey of Paisley a penny for every house on his property from which smoke issues, and one-tenth of everything which his wife Feria sells, in return for which he and his wife are to be held as a brother and sister of the house."²

Saddell, it appears, became a place of much note for sanctity. I was told of a tradition in the locality that the house is still among the religious establishments prayed for at Rome. The monks were of the order of Bernardine Cistercians,³ commonly called "white monks," to distinguish them from the Benedictines or black monks. The writer of the "Origines Parochiales," quoting from the "New Statistical Account," identifies them with the "grey friars," who made peace with Haco of Norway during his celebrated expedition against Alexander III. (A.D. 1260), and gave burial to his chaplain Simon, who died in the island of Gigha. The Cistercians had thirteen monasteries in Scotland.⁴ The church was cruciform, a shape usually adopted by this order. The parish account gives the dimensions as follows:—"Length from east to west about 136 feet by 24, and of the transept from north to south, 78 by 24. South and west of the transept there was a square 58 feet wide, forming the cloisters." I made the length 134, and width of transept 26 feet, very nearly the same thing.⁵ Early in the thirteenth century the abbey

¹ Skene's "Highlanders."

² Howson, Trans. Camd. Society.

³ See Spottiswoode's "Religious Houses."

⁴ *Ibid.*

⁵ The outline is shown in our 25 inch plan (Ordnance Survey).

was presided over by Thomas, called Thomas Sandalius, renowned for his austerity and learning, many of his works having been anciently preserved in the library of St Andrews.¹ It remained an independent foundation till about the year 1520, when David Hamilton, Bishop of Argyll, obtained its annexation to his see. A little later (1575), we find James Hamilton, another bishop, natural son of the Duke of Hamilton, becoming a Protestant, and figuring as "Commendator of Saddell."²

Of the state of the ruins, Mr Howson, writing in 1839-41, remarks,— "The demolition of the buildings is so great, that it is utterly impossible to ascertain the architectural character of any portion of the monastery. The apertures of the windows are narrow, and appear to denote an early English character, but the hewn stones were taken by an ancient proprietor of the estate to build the house of Saddell." The Statistical Account adds, that this proprietor even paved some of the offices with gravestones, and that he shortly afterwards lost his life by a trifling accident, which, with the consequent passing of the estate into other hands,

¹ Hay's "Scotia Sacra."

² Since this paper was read I have been favoured by Mr H. Macdonald, F.S.A. Scot., with some original extracts from the Register of the Great Seal, wherein King James IV. (A.D. 1507) confirms to the abbey all previous grants. The Latin enumeration of the parcels of land made over by successive Lords of the Isles is curious. Bishop David's name appears as one of the parties certifying the evidences produced in support of the abbacy's claim—"per Reverendum in Christo patrem et conciliarium nostrum dilectum David Lismorensis Episcopum modernum." In this deed Mr Macdonald draws attention to the fact, that Reginald is termed the founder ("fundator"), and not Somarled; which, he thinks, establishes that the originating of the abbey was an "in memoriam" act, on the part of the son, after his father's death. In this view, the body of Somarled was destined for Iona; but, in the event of contrary winds or storm, the transport might be unable to weather the Mull of Kintyre, and the nearest landing-place have to be run for. Saddell would be a likely spot for the purpose, and here the burial would take place, and the site be fixed of the new house. Such a view appears not improbable; but it may well have been that, even though Reginald got into the 1507 charter as the nominal founder of the establishment, his father may have had a hand in its inauguration notwithstanding. Mr Macdonald endorses the assassination story, and gives the name of the assassin as one Maurice M'Neil; but he does not add the source of this information.

I have to thank Mr Macdonald for his courtesy in supplying some fuller particulars and suggestions of interest respecting the "De Insulis" family, besides the points just referred to.

was traditionally looked upon as a punishment for his sacrilege. The wall enclosing the choir still remains, but in a ruinous state, together with portions of the north transept, the gable wall of which contains two moulded stones near the springing of a window arch. There are also two sculptured oblong blocks, originally belonging to the abbey, built into a window in one of the modern offices of Saddell Castle. (Plate IX., No. 3.)

The origin of the name Saddell, Sandale, or Sagadull, as it variously appears in ancient chartularies, may either be a corruption of "Sandy Dale," in reference to the lovely bay which fronts the castle and abbey; or, as some have thought, signify plain or dale of peace (Gaelice "Saimh-dail"). I would suggest another possible derivation in the form "Sagadale," or "Sagadull," from the Gaelic word "Sagart," a priest; and thus the name would stand as "the priest's dale." Almost all etymologies in Argyllshire are Celtic, with but a very slight intermixture of Norse, due to the early incursions of the Scandinavian vikings.

It may be interesting here to note that from the eleventh to the end of the thirteenth century, and nominally prior to that period, the Isle of Man and the whole of the Scottish isles were held under the sovereignty of Norway; and as Kintyre came to be classed as one of the Sudor Isles, through the well-known stratagem of Magnus Barefoot, Saddell, of course, fell within Norwegian territory. About the year 1265, however, these dominions were finally made over to the Scottish Crown by King Magnus, son and successor to the renowned Haco, already mentioned, whose descent on the Ayrshire coast, and subsequent defeat at Largs by Alexander III., are well-known matters of history.

Description of the plates.

Plate VIII. represents the lower portion of a sculptured cross. On one face is a cross-handled sword, part of which has been broken off, and by its side are a dog, an object like a bird or fish, and the initials in Gothic capitals D.B.I. or D.R.I. Below the hilt a bird on one side, with the fragment of something indistinguishable on the other, and, in the space next the socket, a galley with furled sail and shield. On the reverse face is a mounted warrior with sword and spear, and above a graceful interlaced scroll-work carried out of the tails of a beast and dragon-like

bird apparently in combat. The edge is filled in with the usual form of tapering ornament, terminating in the head of an animal.

Plate IX. No. 1, is the upper portion of the same cross. On one side a defaced crucifix and knot underneath, and on the other the scroll of the lower part continued, with the stump of what may have been an animal above. In the edge the stem and foliage from below pass into the cable pattern. The middle portion of the cross is missing, but its length, obtained from the taper of the other pieces, must have been about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet, which gives the total length of the cross, allowing a trifle for the defective bit at the top, as 8 feet or thereabouts.

The designs here are strikingly similar to those figured on the cross at Kilkerran, Kintyre.¹

Plate IX. No. 2.—The two moulded stones in transept wall already referred to.

Plate IX. No. 3.—The two sculptured stones now removed from the abbey. The trefoil, enclosed in an incised equilateral triangle, is a well-known symbol of the Trinity. The circle, with inscribed six-foil and segmental hexagon, is the same as that on a cross at Millport, in the Cumbræ, Buteshire, and also on an incised stone in St Kieran's Cave, near Campbelton, pointed out by tradition as having been used for a seat by this Columban saint. A similar design is traced on a stone at Aberlemno in Forfarshire, the six-foil in this instance being inscribed in both discs of a "Spectacle and Z" ornament.²

Plate X. No. 1, is a beautiful example of the sculptured slab, representing an ecclesiastic in full eucharistic vestments. Above the alb or rochet, which is distinguished by its folds, appears an elaborately figured robe, namely, the chasuble, which was worn over the alb, and fringed at the neck as indicated. The transverse band, which was brought across the shoulders and continued to the pointed extremity of the garment, is known as the "Y Orphrey," and was sometimes supplemented, as in the present example, by a corresponding V-shaped bar below the waist. The chasuble is defined by Archbishop Cranmer as typifying the purple robe which the soldiers of Herod placed upon our Saviour, and also as

¹ *Sculpt. Stones of Scot.*, vol. ii. pl. 54.

² *Sculpt. Stones of Sect.*

emblematic of charity in the celebrant of the eucharist.¹ The pattern of the figuring is a good deal worn down, but can be made out to consist of floral and foliated scroll-work. Under the joined hands is the sacramental chalice, and by its side what appears to be one end of the maniple, which generally hung over the left arm. At the neck showing above the chasuble we have the amice, and the head of the figure is bare. The figure is carved in medium relief under a cusped canopy, and the space above is filled in with foliated work. The bottom panel is divided into two, and a good deal obliterated. On one side, what has been taken for a sand-glass,—but which I imagine to be another chalice,—with a small object on either side, surmounted by an ornamental arch, and some figuring beneath. On the other side is more foliated work. Much of the pattern on this and other stones was not traceable till they had been thoroughly washed and the incisions picked out. This is probably “the abbot’s tombstone, which lies somewhere among the ruins, described as a remarkably fine one,” and mentioned in the Statistical Account.²

Plate X. No. 2 represents another slab which, with the effigy (*Plate XI. No. 1*), is within the choir. Here we have a warrior holding a leash of dogs, a stag, with horns carried into a scroll, and a curious leaf ornament above the warrior’s head. In the middle an arched niche occupied by a female figure surrounded by scroll-work, and terminating in a knot; and below that another intricate knot of very artistic form. The remaining space at the foot is filled up with shears and a tablet. The warrior’s helmet has its visor closed, and is fastened to the waist in a peculiar manner, similar, perhaps, to what is represented on the Kilmorie Cross,³ and appears on old English brasses.

Plate XI. No. 1.—Situated in the choir is an effigy in high relief, carved out of a slab 7 feet long, representing a knight in armour with helmet, sword, glaives, and elbow-plates. An inscription of nine lines in Gothic character, of which only a letter here and there can be made out, occupies an incised panel in one corner of the slab.

In the wall just above where it lies, and corresponding to its size, is an arched recess, where it may at one time have rested.

¹ Blunt’s Annotated Prayer-Book.

² The detail there given is not quite correct, however.

³ *Sculpt. Stones of Scot.* vol. ii. pl. 33.

Plate XI. No. 2.—A slab of a rich pattern, a good specimen of the very numerous class, with the sword as the principal object upon them.

The galley here is of rather different shape from what is shown in Mr Stuart's examples, the stern terminating in something like a beast's or dragon's head, and what may have been intended for a banner planted at the prow being added. In reading an account of Haco's expedition to Scotland,¹ translated from the Flatey and Frisian MSS., I was struck with certain points of resemblance in the description of the royal ship "that great vessel" which the king "had caused to be constructed at Bergen," to the form of galley here pictured. We are told "it was ornamented with heads and necks of dragons, beautifully overlaid with gold;" and, in the detail of the fleet and crews, mention is made of the quarter-deck in the king's galley, which was reserved for himself, four chaplains,² his master of the horse, and other distinguished officers. A main and fore deck are also specified. Such a separation into three decks is, I think, clearly traceable in the galley on this slab. Of the small objects near the shears one is an animal, and that next the galley resembles a greyhound's head. The other two are not clear. The figure on the right side of the sword hilt is also puzzling. Mr Campbell mentions the mermaid as being sometimes found sculptured on the slabs, and this may be an instance³ (as on the Campbellton Cross, &c.)

The drawings, with the exception of No. 1, Plate XI., and Nos. 2 and 3, Plate IX., which I sketched on the spot, are from rubbings made in 1866-7.⁴

There are two more effigies in the choir besides the one drawn, evidently of the same character, though differing a little in detail. In one, the arms of the knight meet under the sword hilt, and in the top left hand corner appears a small figure of a priest in alb and chasuble, with hands joined in prayer. At the foot, in the opposite corner, is what seems a naked figure, with its arms to the warrior's right heel, probably buckling on the spur, as in the effigy at Oronsay.⁵ The other has a small

¹ A.D. 1263.

² One of these may have been the Simon already spoken of, supposed to have been buried at Saddell.

³ Popular Tales of the Highlands.

⁴ These rubbings were exhibited at the Meeting along with the drawings.

⁵ *Sculpt. Stones of Scot.* vol. ii. pl. 60.

human figure to the left of the effigy's head, with a sort of circular band or girdle passing round the body, the two ends carried up into a scrolling. In the right hand corner is an animal with more tracery. A writer, who contributes a brief account of Saddell in a letter to the "Argyllshire Herald" of 22d August 1861, assigns these effigies to the 14th century.¹

There are also three other slabs more or less obliterated. One is interesting from its striking similarity to a stone at Kilmodan, Argyllshire; and both bear a strong resemblance to the slab with warrior and galley at Kilmichael Glassary, in the same county,² which, Mr Stuart thinks, exhibits traces of the older characters of the eastern monuments. In another we find two swords depicted side by side, the space between being filled in with a serpentine foliated stem, and at the head a galley of the usual type. The third has a single sword, with surrounding circular tracery nearly effaced.

All the slabs, ten in number including the cross, are within the burial-ground of the abbey. There must, at one time, have been many more from all accounts, and if none of them had been destroyed, we might confidently have looked for memorials of the two great founders of the monastery, as well as of their descendants, some of whom are doubtless represented by the stones which remain.

Near the abbey building is a fine spring, of the class known throughout Scotland as "wishing wells," which has always borne the name of "Holy Well." It had the usual virtues and wishing powers ascribed to it. A pretty little pillar with cross cut upon it, which has been mistaken for one of ancient date, is scooped out into a small basin to catch the drip of the water. It was erected by a Bishop Brown when residing at Saddell in the beginning of the present century, to replace an older one that had formerly stood there. Beside it flows a stream called "Allt nam Manach" (the Monk's Burn), and this, with the spring, no doubt formed the water supply of the monastery. A short distance along the shore to the south is another spring, which goes by the name of "Lady Mary's Well," so called in honour of a noble lady of the house of Saddell, who, according to the tradition, "would drink no other water."

The Castle of Saddell is a square tower of great strength, with project-

Rev. Mr Jonas of Coatbridge, I believe.

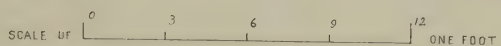
² Sculpt. Stones of Scot. vol. ii. pl. 59.

ing bastions at the angles, and an alure with machicolated parapet round the top. A fifth projection occurs over the entrance on the west side. The arches turned throughout the building are large and massive. The fire-place of the ancient kitchen is a semicircle of 10 feet diameter, and depth in proportion. There are three floors in the building, communicating with the parapet by a newel staircase, and two small vaulted chambers with loopholes underneath. The one on the south side is that known as "The Dungeon," where, it is said, the husband of a certain Irish lady was confined by a Macdonald, and starved to death. Many tales of treachery and violence are told of the lords of Saddell. In the wood near the tower are the foundations of a small building, which is pointed out as the ancient prison used by the Macdonalds. The age of the castle appears uncertain. In 1508 the abbey lands were made a barony, and license to build castles within Kintyre, and fortify them with stone walls, ditches, &c., including what is termed "le macheoling," was given to Bishop David.¹ Mr Cosmo Innes thinks the present castle may have been built by the same bishop, who received from James IV. for the maintenance of its keepers the "fermes, here, and aitis" of Kilyownane and Loched.

Plate XIII. is a sketch of the bay and castle.

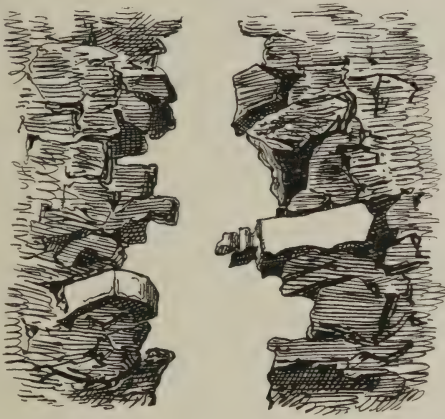
Two names of interest in the locality I may also mention. On the burnside, near the abbey, is a spot called "Bealach na Mairbh" (pass of the dead), doubtless so named after the burial ground to which in ancient times, on account of the great sanctity of the place, the dead were often brought long distances—even from the neighbouring isles. The other name is "Port-rìgh," or the king's port, given to a pretty little bay about four miles to the north, which can be entered with safety at all times of the tide, and where, according to tradition, Robert the Bruce landed, doubtless when escaping from the low country to the Western Isles. And, as a similar spot is pointed out on the west shore of Kintyre nearly opposite, we have thus two probable points in the king's line of flight after leaving Arran. This is confirmed by the existence of two monoliths, known as "Mackay's Cross" and "Bruce's Stone," on the hills intervening, both commemorative of the king's appearance in the locality.

¹ Origines Parochiales.



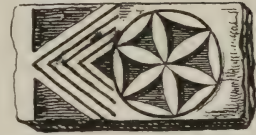
LOWER PORTION OF A SCULPTURED CROSS
AT SADDLE, ARCYLLSHIRE.

W & A. JOHNSTON, EDINBURGH.



Springing of arch of transept window showing moulded stones.

Nº 2



Sculptured stones taken from Abbey building

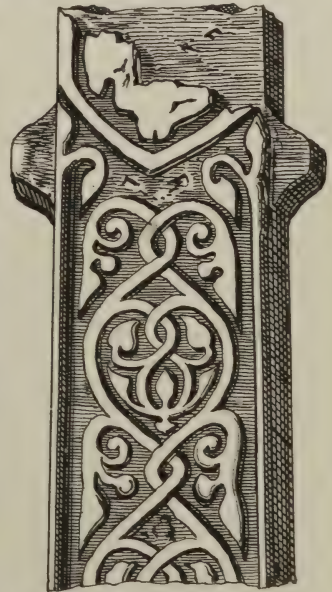
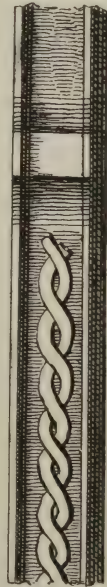
Nº 3

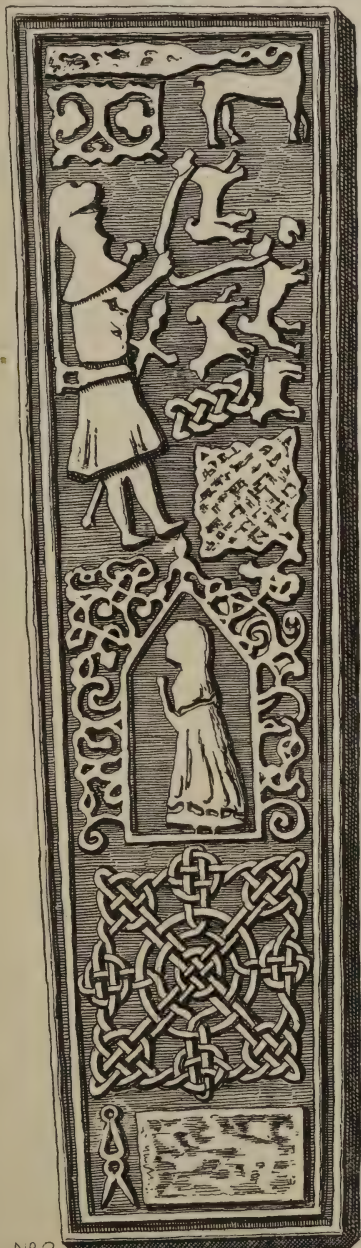
Scale m^f 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 One foot



Nº 1

UPPER PORTION OF SCULPTURED CROSS.





One Foot

No 2



No 1

SCALE OF 1 3 6 9 12 ONE FOOT.

DRAWN BY CAPT. T. P. WHITE, R.E.

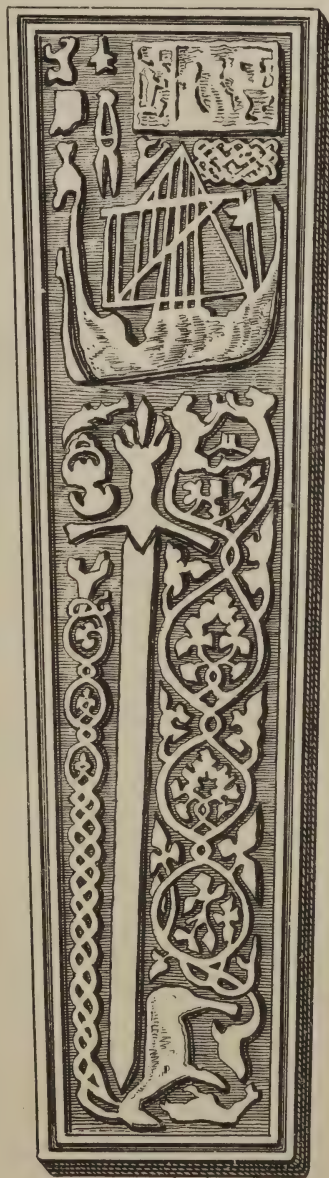
W & A K. Johnston, Edinburgh.



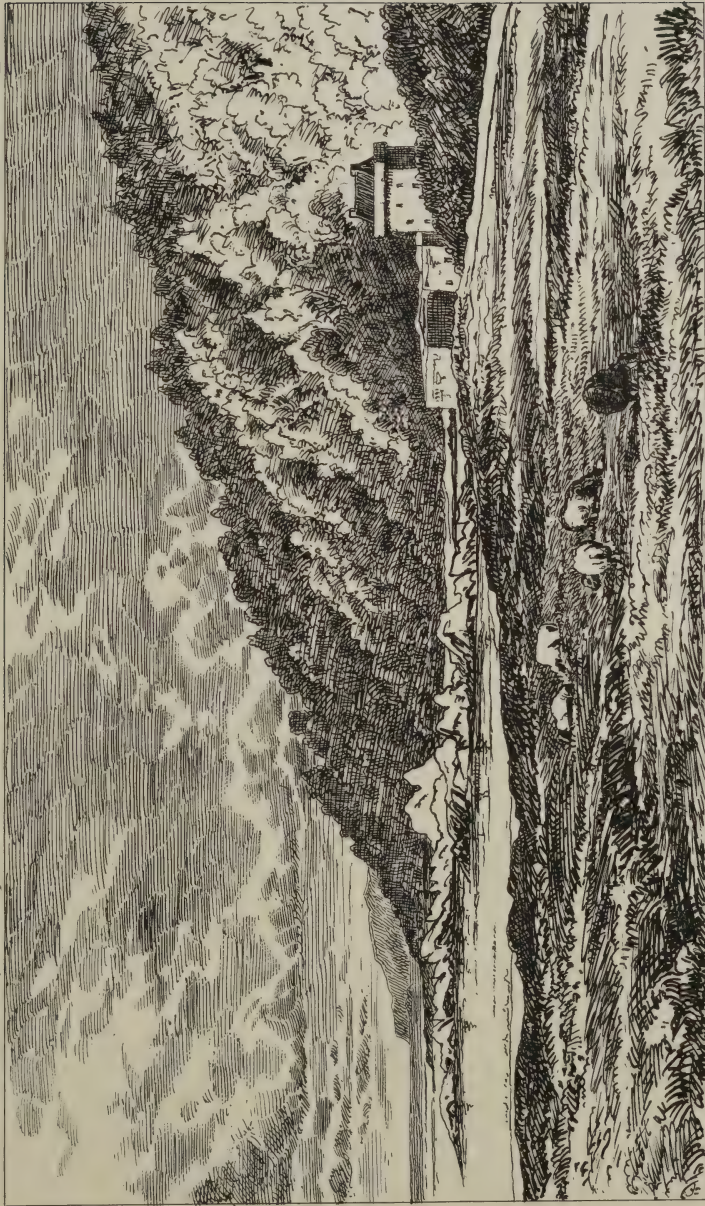
N° 1

One ————— Foot

SCALE
for
N° 2



N° 2



SKETCHED BY CAPT. T. P. WHITE, R. E.

VIEW OF THE BAY AND CASTLE AT SADDLE, ARGYLLSHIRE.

W & A. K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

In concluding this notice, I may remark that it is in contemplation by Sir Henry James, Director-General of the Ordnance Survey, to publish, from time to time, as a series of Survey Records,¹ selections from the notices and drawings of the national antiquities supplied to him by the officers of the department. Meanwhile, he has kindly consented to my placing the present contribution at the disposal of the Society.

III.

NOTICE OF A GROUP OF CISTS AT TEINDSIDE, TEVIOTDALE.

BY THE HON. LORD ROSEHILL, F.S.A. Scot.

The group of cists under notice, on the Farm of Teindside in Teviotdale, was discovered, as so commonly takes place, whilst ploughing over a spot where some signs of a low mound still remain.

Soon after two of the cists were opened and examined by Mr Govenlock, the occupier of the farm, and Dr Brydon of Hawick, who reported to Sir James Simpson what had been discovered. Sir James was of opinion that those found were possibly part of a circle of cists; and some days afterwards I visited Hawick, and in company with Dr Brydon, drove to Tindside, where Mr Govenlock had made all necessary arrangements for thoroughly examining the spot.

Before this another small cist had been discovered by a labourer, and almost destroyed in his attempts to find the jar full of gold which he supposed it would contain; and his disappointment must have been great when a flint flake alone rewarded his trouble.

Our party was enlivened not only by the presence of the poet, Rev. Scott Riddell, but by several neighbouring farmers and their wives, and I cannot help taking this opportunity of saying how much the cause to which we, as antiquaries, are devoted, would be aided and promoted if it were only usual to find elsewhere anything like the zeal, intelligence, and liberality shown by the Duke's tenants in that neighbourhood, to say nothing of their hospitality and the cordiality of their assistance.

¹ These have already been commenced.

The result of the diggings I have attempted to show by the plan and section exhibited, as also by the articles exhibited on the table, and a few words will suffice to give an idea of the position and general character of the burials.

The site chosen does credit to the taste of those who, in bygone ages, laid their friends to rest there, for it commands probably one of the finest views to be met with in the district.

It is on the north side of Teviotdale, and at a considerable height above the river, which can be seen winding for miles in each direction.

Looking west, the view extends for nine miles up the river to Teviotstone, and the blue summit of the Wisp appears beyond the Bowan Hill heights; whilst eastwards the prospect is still more extensive, and is only bounded by the Minto Crags, some eleven miles distant.

On the opposite side of the valley an undulating range of hills of considerable height stretch away to the south, on the summits of most of which appear traces of camps or forts. To the north only is the view shut out by a higher ridge of rising ground.

The mound itself was on the highest and most projecting point of a narrow tongue of land immediately above Teindside farm-house, and, therefore, on the brink of a steep slope. So much did the low mound conform to the natural shape of the ground, that it had never been considered artificial by Mr Govenlock.

The cist marked No. 1 on the plan was the first opened. It was 5 feet long, 3 feet broad near the head, and 21 inches deep. It lay east and west, or as nearly so as possible, with the foot or narrowest end towards the west. Its two sides were each formed by one large irregular slab of whinstone standing on edge. The head was formed by two smaller stones somewhat overlapping each other, whilst the foot consisted of four or five stones lying flat. The lid was a large flat stone of triangular shape, measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, by 3 feet 10 inches wide, and 10 inches thick.

This cist contained nothing but earth and stones above, and bones at the bottom; with the exception of a whitish substance resembling slaked lime, which, at the east end, was mixed with the clay about half-way down the cist. The bones were human, and seemed not to have been subjected to fire. Dr Brydon gives the following account of them,

and considers them to have belonged to a male skeleton :—"The limbs were lying horizontally, and with the feet towards the west ; the thigh bone of the right side was entire, but the other scarcely so well preserved. The 'tibiæ' were incomplete, but the right one was entire at the knee-joint, where the knee-lid (patella) was uninjured.

"Near the head of the left thigh-bone were some bones of the hand and arm of the same side. Between the 'tibiæ' was found one of the bones of the foot (astragalus), and the bones of the pelvis were not far from the extreme end of the cist, showing that the corpse must have been placed in a sitting or contracted position. The skeleton of the head and trunk was no doubt represented by the slaked-lime looking substance met with at a higher level." The floor was formed of the natural subsoil of the place, and no flints or other objects were met with.

"The second cist was only about 10 inches from the west end of that described. Its direction was also east and west, but its west end was as much to the north of west as that of the other was south. It was a regular parallelogram, 2 feet long, 1 foot 3 inches wide, and 1 foot 9 inches deep. Its two sides were formed by small flat stones neatly built, and its ends by a single stone each, standing edgewise, and fitting into the side walls very accurately. It was filled with dark-coloured earth mixed with charcoal, and closely intermingled in every part with fragments of bones, which had been exposed to the action of fire. These bones were not human, but to what sort of animals they had belonged it was impossible to determine. About 10 inches from the top we came upon the upper edge of a piece of pottery. The earth was carefully removed from around it ; and when exposed, one-half of it, that which lay undermost, was found to be entirely lost. It lay obliquely with its mouth towards the north, and contained nothing but earth of the same appearance as that in which it lay imbedded, but entirely destitute of bones."

At the other end of the cist a flint flake was discovered. The floor was regularly paved with rounded water-worn stones, and about a foot below the level of No. 1 cist. Close to the urn was a rounded piece of metallic-looking substance, which appears to be "radiated iron pyrites," and which I have myself discovered in several interments. The lid was 3 feet long by $1\frac{1}{2}$ broad.

Two feet four inches north of No. 2 was another cist, No. 3. This one was pentagonal in shape, and had a flat stone for each wall, standing on edge. It was 21 inches across at the widest part. Immediately under the lid lay a thin layer of rounded gravel; the rest of the cavity was filled with dark-coloured, finely powdered earth. With the exception of a small chip of flint, nothing was discovered in it.

No. 4 was a very neatly made cist, 18 inches long, 12 inches wide at bottom, and 6 inches more each way at the top. It was fifteen inches deep, and flagged at the bottom; but as in the former cist, no bones could be found, and only some charcoal, flint chips, and a flint stone, from which, possibly, flakes had been chipped off.

Finding no signs of the circle of cists being continued towards the north-east, we turned our attention to the centre, where the probing-rod descended easily to some depth. After removing a great many stones, a stratum of unctuous earth and clay, mixed throughout with fine charcoal, was reached, and the pit began to assume the form of a common grave of large size, its shape being easily followed by the junction of the clay with the unmoved subsoil, which formed its sides and ends. From its shape, and the absence of side slabs, and from the fact that it must have been excavated for more than four feet out of the rocky subsoil, I have marked it as the "grave" on the plan, to distinguish it from the cists.

Proceeding downwards, we came to a thick layer of stones and gravel, still much mixed with charcoal. Most of these stones, especially near the bottom, were blackened by fire. Some human teeth and bones, several fragments of an urn, and in one corner the bones of some small animal of the size of a rabbit, were found in this part. Between the stones and the flat slabs which formed the bottom of the grave, we found a layer of compressed charcoal, in which were two flint knives, a rough arrow-head, a considerable number of flakes and chips of flints of different colours, and the remains of what seems to have been a large-sized body. One nearly entire leg, showing scarcely any traces of fire, lay *across* the grave, apparently indicating that the body had been placed there in a sitting or contracted posture.

With the exception of a few teeth and charred fragments, no other bones could be distinguished, and all these were deeply embedded in the layer of almost solid charcoal. Is it therefore wrong to imagine that the

fire which consumed the corpse must have been lit at the bottom of the grave ; that before it was entirely extinguished the stones had been thrown in ; and that, in some way, the one leg had to a great extent escaped the action of the fire, and alone remained unconsumed? Pieces of an urn were found among the lower stones, so that it is possible the ashes may have been collected in it, and scattered when the urn was broken by the stones thrown in ; or again, more than one body may have been consumed at the same time.

I have omitted to state that this "grave" was about 7 feet long by 3 feet wide. The bottom was 3 feet 3 inches below the natural level of the subsoil, about 5 feet 9 inches below the top of the mound, and 2 feet 6 inches below the bottom of the cists Nos. 1 and 4.

IV.

NOTE ON NO. VII. OF MR PETRIE'S COPY OF THE MAESHOW
RUNES. BY RALPH CARR, Esq, F.S.A. Scot.

In June 1866 I received a letter from Mr George Petrie, dated the 11th of that month, in which, after notifying the reception of a copy of my late paper on some of the runes in Maeshow, which I had transmitted, and adverting to some interesting terms in the popular speech of the Orkneys, which had been noted down by him, Mr Petrie goes on to say—

"I have repeatedly visited Maeshow, and copied and re-copied, at long intervals, the inscription No. VII., and, with a view to get the copy as correct as possible, I did not look before proceeding to my task at any of the previous copies. The result was always the same, with one or two trifling exceptions, such as doubtful scratches ; these, however, I specially noted. I got a person to assist me in holding the tapers at different angles, until I got the best possible light. I now beg to enclose the inscription as I read it, after many hours laborious poring over it. The runes are mostly so faint that the casts could not possibly take them ; but they are still there to speak for themselves. Several runes at the beginning of the line are wholly illegible. I am sorry that I cannot to-

night send you a copy of the runes referred to, so carefully transcribed as I would desire. Meanwhile, the enclosed will give you an idea of the difference between my copy and those already published."

On receiving this first sketch of the characters, as Mr Petrie had so heedfully transcribed them after repeated and prolonged examination of the original lines, I clearly saw that it must supersede the hitherto received exhibition of the runes, which had been followed by the Scandinavian investigators and by Dr Charleton, and which I had also myself followed.

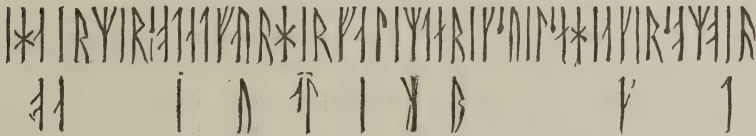
An excursion into Sutherland, which it was hoped might extend to the Orkneys, and possibly the Shetlands, being just then in contemplation in my family, Mr Petrie was made aware of it, and he accordingly reserved further discussion of the matter until we might meet at Kirkwall—a meeting which was happily effected by our reaching that very interesting old seat of the Norsemen on the 14th of July. On the day for which a party, consisting of Sir Henry Dryden, Mr Farrer, and myself, was fixed for visiting Maeshow, Mr Petrie unfortunately could not be with us. My own attention was so much absorbed by the general features of the How, and by the larger and more conspicuous runic inscriptions, which I was anxious to verify, that I had little time left for the study of No. VII. ; but, on bringing our lights to bear upon it, I was struck by the smallness and faintness of its characters, and the extreme difficulty of arriving at any definite perception of them without far more daylight from above than the aperture at the summit of Maeshow now admits, or torches or tapers much more effective than the candles brought by our guides. Nor were my own powers of vision so reliable as they formerly had been.

On another occasion, as we were passing from Kirkwall to Stromness, I made a second visit to Maeshow, accompanied by younger eyes to help my own, and desirous to give a more careful examination to runes No. VII. ; but, alas! the whole interior walls were streaming with moisture condensed from the atmosphere, and the glare the surface of the stones reflected from our lights was most unfavourable to all the smaller inscriptions. At whatever angle the lights were held I found runes No. VII. utterly illegible ; and, unfortunately, the simple expedient of applying a handkerchief to absorb the gloss of moisture from them never occurred

to me, which, I was subsequently assured by Mr Petrie, would have made their lines perceptible.

These circumstances are recorded only to explain how it is, that though no stranger to this celebrated barrow, I am yet entirely indebted to Mr Petrie for the copy of the runes of inscription No. VII. (of Mr Farrer), now presented to the Society.

Being solicitous that no copy or interpretation of mine should tend to mislead any one, I have, ever since visiting Maeshow, wished to read a recantation before the Society, as to this little line of runes; and, in December 1867, I wrote to ask Mr Petrie's leave to let me get the transcript contained in his letter of June 11, 1866, lithographed for production before the Society at some meeting of that Session.



“Inscription from Walls of Maeshow, marked No. VII. in Mr Farrer's book on Maeshow. Copied anew from the original inscription, on 24th December 1867, by George Petrie.”

(The runes in the second line are alternative readings of those immediately above.)

In reply I have received the following observations, accompanied by a larger and more distinct transcript, but not differing from the former, except that it supplies some additional alternative forms in the lower line. This transcript is now before the Society (and is carefully copied in the preceding woodcut).

The letter runs thus :—

“KIRKWALL, 2d January 1867.

“MY DEAR SIR,—Since receiving your letter of 18th ult., I have revisited Maeshow and copied anew, *without previously looking* at my former copy, the inscription No. VII. of Mr Farrer's book. The walls were thoroughly wet, the water streaming down them, and I had more

than usual difficulty in deciphering the faint runes in No. VII. On coming home I compared them with the copies formerly made, and found I just had a duplicate of them, with the exception of one or two doubtful lines which I had formerly marked, but did not give them, as I thought they might be natural markings on the stone. As I find I have got the same marks again, independently of the former occasion, I have marked them on the copy of the inscription now enclosed, which you can compare with your former copy.

“ You are quite welcome to make any use of them you please, and of my comments formerly sent you.—I remain, yours very sincerely,

“ GEO. PETRIE.

“ RALPH CARR, Esq., Hedgeley, Alnwick.”

It is almost superfluous to add, that these runes, so carefully followed out by Mr Petrie's well-exercised eye, and copied by his impartial hand, go far to upset my own attempted division and reading of the syllables in this inscription No. VII., based as it was on the characters which had been brought under the notice of various predecessors in the inquiry. I fear it must now be admitted that those characters, even with the aid of the cast preserved at Edinburgh, were too hastily assumed to be true to the original tracings on the stone.

These tracings themselves are so exceedingly slight and indeterminate, that nothing but the original can fully represent them. They are too faintly scratched to be transferable with fidelity on a cast in plaster or any other substance.

Though I have not abstained from endeavours to penetrate the meaning of Mr Petrie's elaborate, and, I believe, faithful copy of the characters of this very indistinct legend, yet I have not so far succeeded as to justify the production of any, even provisional, reading before the Society.

MONDAY, 10th May 1869.

WILLIAM F. SKENE, Esq., LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society :—

JOHN CHALMERS, Esq., Castle Bank, Merchiston.

GILBERT GOUDIE, Esq., National Bank.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By SIR HENRY DRYDEN, Bart., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Collection of Drawings and Plans of Buildings, chiefly in Orkney and Shetland, contained in five portfolios :—

1. Orkney and Shetland—Circles, Broughs, &c.; Plans by H. Dryden, large size; Stennis, Birsay, &c. Twenty Drawings, copied by W. Galloway.
2. The same, smaller size—Mousa and Burrasland. Twenty-one leaves; also seven leaves Ground Plans of Chapels.
3. The same—Churches in Orkney and Shetland. Forty-one leaves, including two of St Margaret's Chapel, Edinburgh.
4. The same—Circles, Broughs, &c., in Shetland. Sixteen leaves, smallest size.
5. The same—Churches in Orkney and Shetland. Eight leaves, smallest size.

(2.) By THOMAS DICK, Esq., Kinghorn.

Sepulchral Urn, of coarse yellowish clay, $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height and 5 inches in diameter, at the top, which is partly broken; it is ornamented with straight and zig-zag lines, and was found in a field west from Grangehill Farm, in the parish of Kinghorn, Fife.

(3.) By JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Third Brass of Romulus, son of Maxentius, and five other coins, found at Pæstum in 1868. (See Communication, p. 170.)

(4.) By Mr A. BAXTER, Smith, Dean Street.

Iron Key, found in digging the foundation of a house at the foot of Dunbar's Close, High Street.

(5.) By J. J. MUIRHEAD, Esq., 54 Princes Street.

Nest of Brass Weights, of the sixth year of Queen Anne's reign, and dated 1707; they reach from 4 to 128 oz., those below 4 oz. being wanting, and are inscribed—

PRIMO	(A Crown)	MAIL
AN ^O 17	A : R	DONI 07
A ^O REGNI VI ^O .		

(6.) By WILLIAM ELDER, Esq.

Small Jar, from Egypt, of reddish earthenware, shaped like an amphora, with perforated handle on each side; it measures 4 inches in height by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in greatest diameter.

Ornamented Tripod Stand for the Jar, also of reddish earthenware, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height.

The Jar and Tripod resemble much in character a bronze cruet and stand brought from Egypt by Mr C. D. E. Fortnum, figured in the *Archæological Journal*, No. 99, 1868, p. 245; and described as being a cruet for holding the wine to be consecrated at the celebration of the Eucharist in the Coptic Church.

Two Small Lamps, from Egypt, of reddish clay, one measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the other 2 inches in greatest length; one is ornamented with a human figure, and the other with raised patterns.

(7.) By ROBERT COX, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., one of the Editors.

Select Writings of the late Charles M'Laren. 2 vols. Edin. 1869. small 8vo.

(8.) By the ROYAL ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, London.

Archæological Journal, No. 98. Lond. 1869. 8vo.

(9.) By the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Archæological Cambrensis, No. 18. Lond. 1869. 8vo.

(10.) By the PROVOST AND SENIOR FELLOWS OF TRINITY COLLEGE, Dublin.

Catalogue of Graduates who have proceeded to Degrees in the University of Dublin. Dublin, 1869. 8vo.

(11.) By the IMPERIAL ARCHEOLOGICAL COMMISSION OF RUSSIA.

Compte-Rendu de la Commission Impériale Archéologique pour l'années 1863-64-65-66 ; avec un Atlas. St Petersburg, 1863-66. 4to.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

ON SOME OF THE VITRIFIED FORTS OF SCOTLAND, WITH REFERENCE TO DESCRIPTIONS OF SIMILAR REMAINS IN BOHEMIA, IN A COMMUNICATION FROM DR FERDINAND KELLER OF ZURICH. BY JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT. (PLATE XIII.)

It is now nearly a century since Mr John Williams, mineral engineer, in a series of letters published in the year 1777, first drew attention to the vitrified forts of Scotland. Mr Williams was employed by the Commissioners of Forfeited Estates in his official capacity ; and while so engaged he, for the first time, came to know of these remains. At the desire of the commissioners, he made a section through the walls of the fort on Knockfarril, near Dingwall, and the results are recorded in the second and third of his published Letters. This gentleman examined many other vitrified walls in the north of Scotland, with great attention to the details of each, and his observations are marked by singular candour and good sense.

The result of these investigations led Mr Williams to believe that the walls of these forts had been vitrified by the action of fire applied for the purpose, and that they were only to be found in that part of Scotland on the north of the Forth.

That the walls had been designed for forts he felt sure, because he found that they corresponded in every particular with the ordinary hill

forts of the country, except that they had been rendered cohesive by the action of fire. This applied to situation, plan, and constructional idea, even in minute details. The copy of Mr Williams' little volume, belonging to the Society, was presented by the author, and he has added to it a letter in his own handwriting, which, so far as I know, is unprinted. In it he says—"I wish to engage your attention to the perfect similarity in the choice of situation, and in the plan and figure of the ancient British fortified camps upon the north and south sides of the Forth, whether vitrified or not. Where such a spot was to be had conveniently, they always made choice of a small hill or rising ground, with a level area upon the summit of it, which they enclosed with a wall or building carried round the outer verge of that area; and where they had room enough upon the summit, they had a lesser enclosure upon the south side of the main body of the fort, if the ground allowed of its being upon the south; and this everywhere occurs, whether the fort was vitrified or not."¹

After several years devoted to a study of the subject, and the mode of construction of these walls, Mr Williams could think of no satisfactory solution of the question but the following:—

"I imagine they have raised two parallel dykes of earth or sods, in the direction or course of their intended wall or building, and left a space between them just wide enough for the wall. I suppose these two parallel dykes, the groove or mould in which they were to run their wall. This groove between the two dykes I suppose they packed full of fuel, on which they would lay a proper quantity of the materials to be vitrified. There is no doubt but a hot fire would melt down the stones, especially if they were of the plumpudding kind, and not too large. And the frame of earth would keep the materials, when in fusion, from running without the breadth of their intended wall.

"This being the foundation, I suppose they have added new fires and more materials, and raised their mould of earth by degrees, till they brought the whole to the intended height, and then have removed the earth from both sides the vitrified wall.

"I am confident, from the appearance of the ruins, that the materials were run down by the fire in some such method as this. In all the

¹ Letter (MS.), pp. 14, 15.

sections of the larger and smaller fragments of the vitrified ruins I have seen, I never saw the least appearance of a stone being laid in any particular way. I never saw a large stone in any fragment of these ruins; nor any stone, nor piece of a stone, that was not affected by the fire, and some part of it vitrified; and all the bits of stone that appear in these fragments appear higgledy-piggledy,—just as we would suppose they would fall down in the fire when the materials were in a state of fusion.”¹

The artificial character of the vitrification was rejected by Mr Pennant and other inquirers, who ascribed it to volcanic agency. And Lord Woodhouselee, while admitting that the walls had been vitrified by the hands of man, would not believe that this had been accomplished at the time of their construction, but of their demolition.

To those who have seen the regularity and extent of some of these vitrified walls, it will seem surprising that the volcanic theory could have gained any footing.

It indeed requires us to believe that the volcanoes threw out in all cases just enough of material for the construction of the walls, without any other traces of their action, and that the lava always took the shape of a wall which adapted its direction to the variously-shaped platforms on the hill tops. It is equally impossible to give any weight to the suggestion that the vitrified walls were the result of occasional peat fires, for the action of these, however intense, could never account for the enormous masses of compacted and partially melted stones of which the walls are formed.

As to Lord Woodhouselee’s suggestion, it does not seem to rest on any better foundation; for it is easier to conceive of it, if artificial vitrification be admitted, as part of the tedious process of construction than as the result of one great conflagration at the hand of enemies.

The view entertained by Mr Williams met with the support of two celebrated men—James Watt, and Dr Joseph Black, professor of chemistry in the University of Edinburgh. In a letter to Mr Williams from the latter, he says—“There are in most parts of Scotland different kinds of stone, which can without much difficulty be melted or softened by fire to such a degree as to make them cohere together. Such is the

¹ Williams, pp. 48, 49.

greystone called whinstone, which for some time past has been carried to London to pave the streets. Such also is the granite or moss-stone, which is applied to the same use, and pieces of which are plainly visible in some specimens of these vitrified walls which I received from my friends. There are also many limestones which, in consequence of their containing certain proportions of sand and clay, are very fusible; and there is no doubt that sandstone and pudding-stone, when they happen to contain certain proportions of iron, mixed with the sand and gravel of which they are composed, must have the same quality. A pudding-stone, composed of pieces of granite, must necessarily have it. There is abundance of one or other of these kinds of stone in many parts of Scotland; and as the whole country was anciently a forest, and the greater part of it overgrown with wood, it is easy to understand how those who erected these works got the materials necessary for their purposes."¹

James Watt, after a survey of Craig Phadric, near Inverness, writes—
“I think it a work of art, probably formed by piling up layers of stones and wood, and setting them on fire.”²

The result of later investigation has only strengthened the conclusions to which Mr Williams had been led.

The late Dr John Jamieson spent much time in the examination of the vitrified fort on the hill of Finhaven, in Forfarshire. On one occasion his opportunity was specially favourable, as the tenant was engaged in clearing away part of the principal wall for the erection of fences. After piercing through a mass of external rubbish of 8 or 10 feet in width, the vitrified wall was reached, and was found to be regularly built. It stood from 10 to 14 feet in height, being much the same as that of the north wall at Knockfarril, when examined by Mr Williams; and as seen in a section, was from 20 to 30 feet broad at the base.

The stones of which this wall at Finhaven was formed had been brought from various quarters. In one small heap Dr Jamieson counted seven or eight kinds of stone.³ Many of the stones appeared to have been quarried, and these not on the outside, but in the very heart of the

¹ Williams, p. 82.

² *Ibid.* p. 79.

³ Dr McCulloch has remarked that stones of different kinds appear in the vitrified walls of Dun MacSniochain and Dunadeer.—*Highlands and Western Islands of Scotland*, vol. i. p. 292.

wall. One stone in the wall bore marks of dressing, and from its description appears to have been part of a quern.¹

At the bottom of the wall a great quantity of the ashes of burnt wood was found mixed with the stones, exactly in the situation in which they must have been had the wall been originally built with stones and wood intermixed, as having sunk down through the crevices left in consequence of the wood being consumed.

The influence of the fire had not produced the homogeneous appearance which attends volcanic agency. Some of the stones had been thoroughly fused; others bore marks of burning, but not of fusion. At times the outer part of the stone was vitrified, the middle merely scorched, and the centre untouched by fire. Parts of the wall were observed, which from top to bottom afforded no vestiges of fire, while others were completely burnt.

The conclusion to which all the appearances at Finhaven seemed to tend is thus expressed by Dr Jamieson:—"A wall of about 4 feet in depth, consisting of large stones, pretty regular in their shapes, has been built as high as it might be supposed to stand. Great quantities of wood have been laid around the foundation, and transversely through the wall; wood and faggots have been piled on each side, with smaller stones of every kind intermixed, and the mass has then been brought into a state of ignition. While it was burning, more fuel would be thrown on it, and additional quantities of stones, till the irregular concrete mass formed a buttress on each side for the regular intermediate wall; for here the wall is vitrified both within and without. It might afterwards be raised to a greater height, and its buttresses be also elevated by the same process as before. The fact of the wood having appeared thoroughly burnt at the foundation, and in the inmost part of the wall, strongly confirms the idea that the vitrification was the result of design, and carried on gradually."

Dr Jamieson has in the same paper described the vitrified walls on the Laws, near Dundee. It is unnecessary, however, to refer to his re-

¹ "This in form resembled a mill-stone, with a hole bored in the centre, not, however, perforating the stone. Around this orifice was a circular groove, with diagonal lines proceeding from it all the way to the circumference."—*Trans. Roy. Soc. of Literature*, p. 243.

marks on these, further than to draw attention to his statement that the greater part of the western division of the fort had been occupied by buildings of a small size, of which the foundations remained untouched. He adds—"All the buildings have been as regularly vitrified as the walls, for the stones, as far as can be judged, retain their original foundations, and have no appearance of having been collected from fallen masses huddled together in haste on the spur of the occasion."

Vitrified buildings were also observed by Mr Williams at Knockfarril. "Immediately," he says, "on the inside of this surrounding wall there are ruins of vitrified buildings, which seem to have been worse done, and so are fallen into more decay than the outer walls. I imagine these inner works have been a range of habitations, reared against or under the shade of the outer wall."

As bearing on the questions of design and mode of construction, I am permitted by our learned associate, Dr John Hill Burton, to quote from a letter recently addressed to him by Mr Andrew Ramsay, Director of the Geological Survey of England.

In the year 1859, Mr Ramsay examined Knockfarril, in the neighbourhood of Brahan Castle. "I then came to the conclusion," he writes, "that the vitrification had been done of set purpose, and that this effect had been produced by burning wood. A circumstance which clearly proves the possibility of such vitrification came under my notice last year, and has tended to confirm my first impression. Near Barnsley, in Yorkshire, the country affords no good stone for road metal. The rocks of that district, west of Barnsley, consist of the Gannistic beds, or lower Coal Measures, which rest upon the millstone grit. These strata are chiefly formed of sandstones, composed of granules of quartz and felspar, and flakes of mica: they were, in fact, made from the debris of granite gneiss, similar to that of the Scotch Highlands. In their natural state, when broken, they yield but a very poor material for road-making, as they pound up rapidly under cart wheels. To obviate this defect, the following process is adopted:—The stone being quarried in small slabs and fragments, is built in a pile about 30 feet square, and 12 or 14 feet high, somewhat loosely; and while the building is in progress, brushwood is mingled with the stones, but not in any great quantity. Two thin layers of coal, about 3 inches thick, at equal distances, are, so to

speak, interstratified with the sandstones, and a third thin layer is strewn over the top. At the bottom, facing the prevalent wind, an opening about 2 feet high, is left, something like the mouth of an oven. Into this brushwood and a little coal is put and lighted. The fire slowly spreads through the whole pile, and continues burning for about six weeks. After cooling the stack is pulled down, and the stones are found to be vitrified. This, of course, greatly adds to their durability as road metal. I examined them carefully. Slabs originally flat had become bent and contorted; and in numerous instances stones originally separated had become, so to speak, glazed together in the process of vitrification, which I imagine could not have been effected but for the presence of the soda or potash, and of the iron, which are part of the constituents of felspar and mica. These acted as a flux, and the same would hold good in the gneissic rock, of which some of the vitrified forts have been constructed."

I have on various occasions inspected some of the vitrified forts in Scotland, including those of Knockfarril, Finhaven, Dunadeer, Dun MacSniochain, Anwoth, and Hill of Noath.

The latter, on the top of a lofty cone overlooking the rich vale of the Garioch, is perhaps the most remarkable of these curious remains. On approaching it from the north-east we first come to one of those walls which Mr Williams found connected with all the British forts which he examined. It begins here at a point on the west where the slope of the hill ceases to be steep, and runs round to the south-east side, where it again becomes so abrupt as to afford protection.

The wall on the top presents a confused and ruinous appearance, the stones, which are mostly small, covering a great central core of vitrified foundations. The small stones have no appearance of having been under the action of fire; while the vitrified core or foundation consists of large compact masses of stones cemented together by heat, and cohering as firmly as ever. All round the fort are great stones, which were probably in the wall, but have no appearance of vitrification.

A hole in the area of the fort is said to have been a well; it measures about 6 feet across, and is rudely lined with stones, but is now mostly filled up.

While, on the whole, I see no reason to doubt that the walls of these

forts were intentionally vitrified in some such way as has been suggested by Dr Jamieson, I am inclined to doubt whether the vitrified portion was in general more than a central wall, buttressed by external masses of stone on each side, or in some cases the foundation for a superstructure of ordinary walling.

I am drawn to believe that this was the case, partly from my own observation of the walls and fragments of forts, and also from finding that in the vitrified forts in Bohemia, to which our attention is now called by Dr Keller, it was in the centre of the walls only that the vitrified matter appeared.

Both in Scotland and in Bohemia the vitrified forts occur amid other strengths of unvitrified building, of like constructional arrangement; and there is no reason to believe that they are marks of different eras or different people, any more than we can conclude that long and short cists, or burnt and unburnt bodies, are tests by which to judge of their age, since we are sure that in some cases at least they must have been used contemporaneously.

Mr Williams was led to believe that all the Scottish vitrified forts occurred in that part of the country on the north of the Forth, and that no similar remains were to be found in other countries, and his statement until now required very slight modification in its acceptance.

Of forty-four vitrified forts or sites noted by Dr Hibbert, all but four are placed on the north side of the firths. Of these four, one is at Cowdenknowes, in Berwickshire, and the other three are in Gallo-way.

The late Dr Petrie, in his *Essay on the Military Antiquities of Ireland* (which unfortunately is as yet unpublished, but of which Dr Stokes has given a digest in his *Life of the Author*), has noted one vitrified fort in the county of Cavan, and four in the county of Londonderry, in that portion of it anciently possessed by the Cruithne—the Irish Picts—and he conjectured that they all belonged to that people.

The occurrence of only four examples in a country where raths and duns and caiseols are so numerous is certainly a very remarkable circumstance in the history of these forts.

The paper which has been communicated to us by our esteemed asso-

ciate, Dr Ferdinand Keller, for the first time makes us acquainted with the occurrence of vitrified forts in Bohemia.¹

These, with one exception, are situated in the west and north-west of that country.

The first which he describes, placed on the mountain Hradischt, near the city of Strakenitz, is a rampart of stones surrounding the top of 500 paces in circumference. The wall varies in height from 2 to 5 fathoms, according to the inequality of the surface, and is from 2 to 4 fathoms in thickness at its base, where it is formed of blocks of granite a cwt. in weight, with other blocks above. "The centre of the rampart is scorified in such a manner that the stones which lie at the base and immediately above it have, from a long exposure to fire, been vitrified at their surface, and are in consequence closely linked to one another. Above these stones at the bottom there lies again a layer of stones which are not scorified."

From this hill another of the same name is visible, isolated, and of a striking appearance. On its top is a fort formed of three stone ramparts, the innermost of which is scorified. The base is formed of large blocks of granite, the gaps being filled up with sand. The lower layers are molten into one mass; above them lie rubble stones and layers which are not scorified. The outer rampart is from 12 to 15 feet in height, while the inner is from 15 to 20 feet high.

After noting other eleven vitrified ramparts, attention is drawn to a fortified site at Wladar, near Luditz. A wall of basalt surrounds the hill at its base, and a similar rampart is on the top following the plateau of the hill. Its greatest height of 8 feet is on the west, and on an excavation being made on this side, it was discovered that the centre of the rampart had been molten by fire. It appeared to have been constructed in the following manner:—"Its mass consists of large blocks of basalt, the gaps being filled up with smaller stones and quartz dust, which made it susceptible of the influence of fire. Between the single blocks of stone such layers of quartz sand, almost vitrified, are still to be found. Above

¹ The paper was written by Dr Jul. Ernest Fodisch, and appeared in the Reports of the Imperial Austrian Commission for the Investigation and Preservation of the Monuments of the Empire, May and June 1868. It was translated for me by Dr Keller.

this portion of the rampart is laid a layer of round pieces of basalt which were unscorified."

The writer of this paper concludes generally, on the subject of these hill-forts, that they must be attributed to a people who were not nomadic, but resided permanently in the country. From the articles of clay, bronze, and gold found in connection with the forts, or in barrows in their neighbourhood, he believes that they agree with the civilisation of the bronze age, and that they were probably erected by the Celtic race.

From this description of the vitrified walls in Bohemia, it certainly may be inferred that the idea of strengthening them by the application of fire was known; but it does not appear that the efforts of the builders enabled them to do more than cement the *foundation stones*, that is, to link together great blocks of stone, or that they have left masses of walls vitrified, more or less perfectly *throughout*, as in the Scottish forts.

The only other instance out of Britain of what has been called a vitrified fort which I can remember is that of the camp of Peran, in Brittany. It consists of an enclosure, composed of two enclosures, each formed of a parapet and fosse. The outer wall is of earth, while the inner is of granite, in the condition of pumice-stone, very porous, and very light. The upper part of this wall is not calcined, nor the lower part; even the surfaces are in general untouched. The action of the fire, therefore, appears to have been internal. Of an excavation made under the eye of M. Anatole Bartholémy in 1846, he has noted the following results:—"We find first the foundations made without cement or mortar, and untouched; then a layer of cinders, then a layer of charcoal, then a mass of granite, of which all the fusible part has run between the stones, so as to fill up the interstices, and to hang down in the form of stalactite; and then, lastly, the upper part, which is little or not at all burnt. It seems to me therefore evident, until I see a proof of the contrary, that in constructing the wall, they first placed a layer of wood, that then they covered the whole with earth, and thus effected a choked combustion. In fact, the charcoal is often found in the midst of this kind of lava, so as to make us think that during the combustion the stones rendered fusible had fallen in upon the layer of wood."¹

¹ Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc. vol. ii. p. 278.

If the idea of designed vitrification can be traced in this description, it was carried out in a very different mode from that adopted by the Scotch builders ; and it must be said that the fort of Peran has little in common with the vitrified forts of Scotland.

As bearing on the date of this Breton fort, I may state that a fragment of a Roman roofing tile, firmly attached to the melted stones of the vitrified wall, has been recently discovered.¹

In the country on the north of the Forth we have at least two classes of ancient remains, of which no examples have yet been found in other countries, viz., the Sculptured Pillars and the Brochs. Until we can obtain detailed descriptions of the vitrified forts in Ireland, we shall be unable to say whether the examples discovered in the country of the Irish Picts agree in idea and execution with those of their Scottish namesakes ; but if they should prove to be different, then I feel inclined still to add to our indigenous and peculiar remains the vitrified forts, for the examples in Bohemia and Brittany, of which only we have heard, although they exhibit analogies, can hardly be regarded as identical with our own.

In the meantime, I express the hope that careful investigations will be instituted in the best of the Scottish examples, and that our brethren on the Continent and in Ireland may be led to a like course, for at present the question of these forts, and their relation to each other, is not without its problems, which can only be satisfactorily solved by an accumulation of well-observed facts.

The following paper on vitrified ramparts in Bohemia is that referred to in Mr Stuart's remarks :—

SCORIFIED RAMPARTS IN BOHEMIA. BY DR JUL. ERNEST FODISCH.
TRANSLATED FOR JOHN STUART, ESQ., BY DR F. KELLER. (PLATE XIII.)

(*From the Reports of the Imperial Austrian Central Commission for the Investigation and Preservation of the Monuments of the Empire, 1868, May and June, pp. 35-38.*)

Among those monuments of that remote time which is but slightly

¹ Mr Lukis, in Journ. of Brit. Arch. Assoc. for December 1867, p. 392.

illuminated by the rays of history, to which dolmens, cromlechs, giants' graves, &c., belong, may be classed those ramparts of stone, which have been raised without the aid of mortar, and encircle the summits of the mountains of Central and Northern Europe, extending even far into Siberia and the Caucasus. The antiquary's attention is, however, especially excited by those ramparts, *the mass of which has been designedly scorified by fire*. They are found on the British Isles (they are there called vitrified walls or forts), in France, Saxony, and Lusatia; also Bohemia possesses some remarkable ramparts of this kind. I intend giving some particulars about those which I myself have explored.

At the distance of about two English miles to the south-west of the city of Strakonitz (which is situated on the junction of the rivers Wollawa and Wolinka), there rises, just behind the village of Sansedowitz, a mountain which is covered with dense wood, and is called the Hradischt (Bohem. *Hradiste*).¹ It may be regarded as a spur of a long ridge of granite, which extends for many miles, and stretches as far as the Bohmerwald. The Hradischt itself forms on its top an oblong plateau, which is surrounded on all sides by a rampart of stones. The circumference of the rampart amounts to 500 paces; the height varies, according as the ground which the rampart follows is even or broken by ravines, from 2 to 5 fathoms; the thickness at the bottom from 2 to 4 fathoms. The material of the rampart consists of a fine-grained granite, which is found in this condition in the Hradischt; the base is formed of blocks of granite a cwt. in weight. Above there are lighter blocks. *The centre of the rampart is scorified* in such a manner that the stones which lie at the base, and immediately above it, have, from a long exposure to fire, been vitrified at their surface, and are, in consequence, closely linked

¹ Hradischt (*Hradiste*) denotes—1. Fortress; 2. Place of a fortress, district of a fortress, and is the general name of mountains in Bohemia which are surrounded by ramparts. The same denomination (*gorodiste*) is found in Russia; with this the German-Bohemian names Burberg, Burgberg, Burgstassel, agree. Such a Burberg is found near Komotan, and is surrounded with ramparts of stone and stone pits (punpits, margelles). Another Burberg near Kaaden, a Burgstattel near Saaz. Hradiste is derived from the Bohemian *hrad* (Polish *grad*, Russian *gorod*), an enclosed space or fortress; German *gard*, Greek *φύρατος*, Lat. *horus*, Old High German *gart*, sepimentum, cyclus; Old North *garde*, sepimentum, prædium; and Goth. *gairdan*,ingere, obsepire.

to one another. Above these stones, at the bottom, there lies again a layer of stones which are not scorified. Within the rampart (in the space enclosed by it), there lie some large blocks, which are piled in layers above one another; but besides ashes, coals, and fragments of clay vessels, no further traces of human settlements are apparent. To the south-west a tolerably spacious entrance leads inside the rampart (Plate XIII. fig. 1); close to this entrance the so-called smaller (*malý*), *i.e.* lower, rampart begins, so that it surrounds the entrance to the higher rampart for some fathoms. The extent of this rampart amounts to about 400 fathoms; its height varies from 6 to 9 feet; its breadth is 9 feet. It is not scorified. This rampart has likewise a broad entrance, which exactly corresponds with that of the higher rampart. An excavation to the west of this smaller rampart brought us to a layer of earth-like humus, which, being about 2 feet deep, was situated immediately beneath the surface, and was mixed up with the bones of animals (the thigh-bone and the shoulder-blade of a feeble stag), and several fragments of clay vessels. This part of the rampart is termed *Zahravy*, which name calls to mind the German expressions "Spielhugel" (playground), or "Tummelplatz" (scene of action), as some of the hills which are surrounded by ramparts of this sort are called. In the neighbourhood of the Hradischt articles of bronze (for instance, "celte," "paalstæbe," and fragments of a diadem of bronze) have repeatedly been found.

From the Hradischt an isolated mountain may be observed; it lies to the north-west, and has a most striking appearance. It is likewise called Hradischt, but bears besides the name of Knezihora (height of princes), or simply Hora, and rises in the immediate vicinity of the market town of *Katovic*, situated on the spot where a small rivulet falls into the Wottawa. This mountain is likewise surrounded by ramparts of stone. The extent of the outer rampart, which runs along the top of the mountain, amounts to 620 fathoms; that of the inner rampart is 192 fathoms. The latter has the shape of an irregular quadrilateral (length 65 fathoms, breadth 31 fathoms, superficies 2015 square fathoms). The outer rampart is from 12 to 15 feet, the inner rampart from 15 to 20 feet in height. On the west and on the north the mountain is very precipitous. There the pair of ramparts sufficed; but on the remaining sides, which are less steep, a third rampart has been raised, in a very peculiar manner, between the two

others. This third rampart commences on the eastern side of the mountain, where it meets the outer rampart, and extends, in the form of a belt, to the western side; from thence it makes a bend towards the north-east, round the top, and then stretches to the north, till it again reaches the outer rampart (Plate XIII. fig. 2). In this manner, the innermost rampart is covered on the side of the (more level) southern portion of the mountain by a pair of ramparts. Near the entrance, on the east side of the rampart, there are two pits, which are inlaid with stones. Such pits are found everywhere inside the stone circles of England and France. In the former case, they are called pitsteads or pennpits, in the latter margelles. *The innermost rampart of Katovic is scorified.* Its base is formed, as in the case of the Hradischt, near Strakonitz, of large blocks of granite, the gaps being filled up with sand. The lower layers are molten into one mass; above them lie rubble stones and layers, which are not scorified. The rampart is for the most part covered with a layer of humus, in which forest trees have taken root. The ramparts on the mountain of Katovic have been known already some time, and have been repeatedly described—for instance, in the Reports of the Imperial Central Commission of the year 1859, p. 218.

Besides the two ramparts just described, other scorified ramparts are found in Bohemia, namely, at the following places:—In the district of *Tabor*, in the forest of *Svakova*, near *Sobieslau*; in the district of *Pilsen*, close to the mountain *Tugoscht*, near *Schwichau*; and in the forest of *Birkovetz*, near *Pilsen*; and in the district of *Saaze*, close to the *Burberg*, near *Kaaden*, which, however, have not been explored by the writer himself.

Greater interest, however, attaches to the ramparts close to the mountain called *Wladar*, near *Luditz*, both as regards their extent and their shape. The *Wladar* is situate in the district of *Eger*, to the south-east of the city of *Luditz* (Plate XIII. fig. 3). It consists of basalt, and forms at the top a broad plateau, which is about two English miles in circumference. It is almost completely destitute of wood, and is principally sown with wheat, which gets on very well, in consequence of the excellent condition of the soil, which has been produced by the decomposition of the basalt. On this plateau there is besides a good-sized pond (Plate

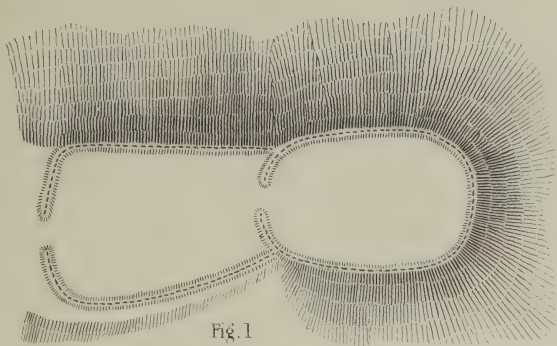


Fig. 1
The Hradischt

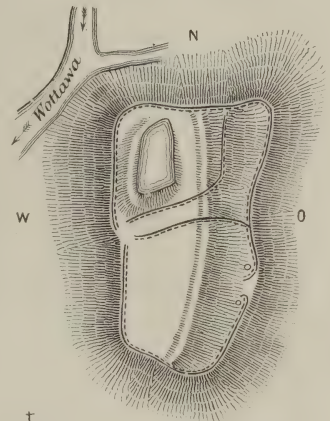


Fig. 2
Hora

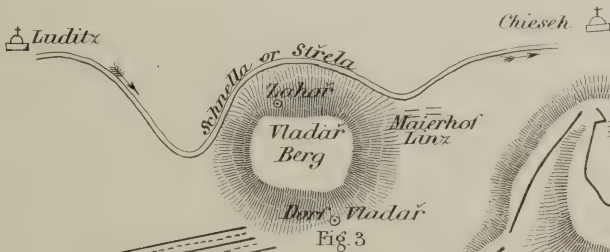


Fig. 3

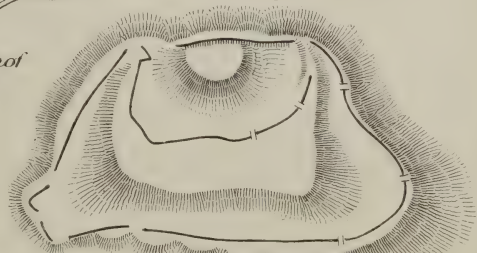


Fig. 5
Pleschitz

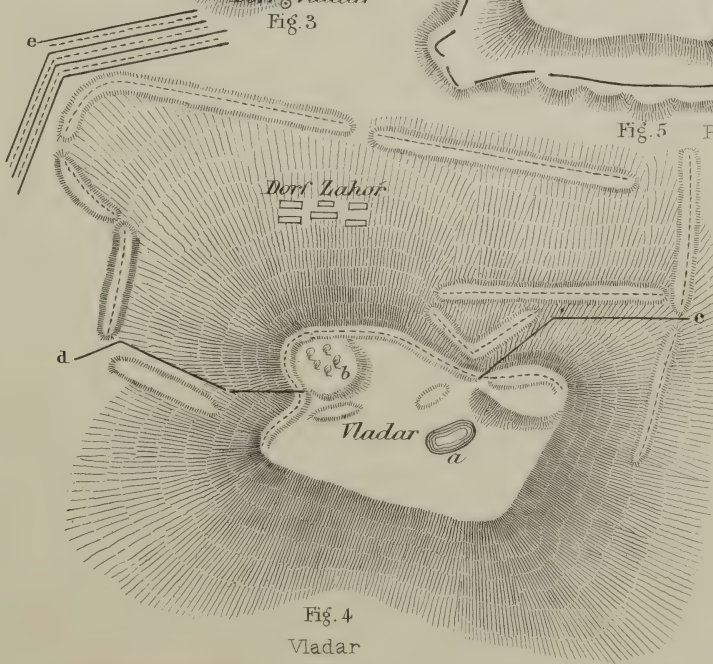


Fig. 4
Vladar

XIII. fig. 4, *a*), which is surrounded by reeds and rushes, and is remarkable for its plentiful supply of water, which has never been known to fail, not even in dry years. Towards the east and south-east the mountain is precipitous, and can be ascended on this side only with difficulty; whereas the ascent from the west and north is less steep. On this side a gentle slope extends from the foot of the mountain to the Schnellabach [Schnella-brook (Bohem. *Strela*, arrow, dart)]. On this declivity, close to the foot of the mountain, and on its western side, the village of Fahorsch is situated (Bohem. *Zahor*, under the mountain). On that side where the mountain is less steep, *i. e.*, on the west and on the north, its foot is surrounded by ramparts. These ramparts commence at the north-east corner, and extend to about 440 paces from east to north down to the Schnella. A second rampart extends in a direction parallel to the course of this brook direct from north to west, stretches right across the declivity, and shuts it up towards the north-west. Opposite to the city of Luditz the rampart takes the form of a horse-shoe, and has the appearance of a bastion. From thence it runs straight from the west towards the south, and at last runs up the slope of the mountain, where the latter again begins to be very steep. Four broad entrances lead through into the rampart, which encloses the village of Zahorsch. This rampart has an extent of 3000 paces, and is *entirely built of stones*. The base of the rampart consists of good-sized blocks of stone; but the masses of basalt which lie at the surface [top? Germ. *Oberflacche*] are still from 1 to $1\frac{1}{2}$ (Vienna) feet in diameter. The material is basalt, which has been procured in the immediate vicinity of the mountain, and is mixed up with pieces of quartz. On this part of the rampart there is no trace of vegetation; whereas that portion of the rampart which projects in the direction of Luditz consists principally of clay slate, which is found there in beds; some basalt, however, is intermixed with it.

The breadth of the rampart amounts at the bottom to 5 fathoms, its height $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 fathoms. On the south-eastern side of the mountain, where the ground is most even, and the basalt could most easily be procured, the breadth of the rampart at the base is 8 fathoms, and its height 4 fathoms (Vienna measure). Two ascents lead up to the top of the mountain—the one on the south-east, the other on the north-west. The former extends along the rampart which stretches up the ridge, the latter

is covered by two ridges of stones $1\frac{1}{2}$ fathom in height. The last-named are 400 paces in length.¹

The top of the mountain is, like the foot, encircled by a rampart of stones. The material of which it consists is principally basalt, which is but slightly intermixed with blocks of clay slate. This rampart closely follows the plateau of the mountain. It is 1200 paces in length, its height varies from 3 to 8 feet; its greatest height, namely 8 feet, is reached on the western side. On this side an excavation was made, from which it appeared *that the centre of the rampart had been molten by fire*; whence also the upper rampart of the Wladar *must be reckoned among those ramparts which are scorified*. This rampart is constructed in the following manner:—Its mass consists of large blocks of basalt, the gaps being filled up with smaller stones and quartz-dust, which caused it to be exposed to the influence of fire. Between the single blocks of stone such layers of quartz sand which have been almost vitrified are still found. Above this portion of the rampart, which had suffered from the effects of scorification, another layer of round pieces of basalt which were not scorified had been laid. Beneath the base of the rampart are found those masses of basalt which are peculiar to the surface of the Wladar, and were in this case mixed up with earth. It may be farther remarked, that there appear besides traces of ramparts which formerly stretched across the plateau of the mountain. It is highly probable that these ramparts ran along the west side of the mountain; but in consequence of the cultivation of the ground, they have disappeared. On comparing the directions of both ramparts, we find that the course taken by the outer (lower) rampart agrees with that taken by the inner (upper) rampart. Thus the protuberance, in the form of a horse-shoe, which characterises the lower rampart at the corner opposite to the city of Luditz, agrees with the prominent part of the mountain towards the west. Similarly the part of the mountain to the north is covered by two ramparts which meet. In this manner, the ramparts of the Wladar have great resemblance to those of the *Pleschivetz* (Plate XIII. fig. 5), a mountain near *Ginetz*. The size is about the same. The outer (lower) rampart is in this case also more massive along its whole extent, since it consists of stones of a considerable

¹ In fig. 4 (Plate XIII.) *b* is the woody height, *c* and *d* ascents to the forest, *e* embankments belonging to a later period.

size (greater than those which form the upper rampart), piled in such a way that in some places the stones are heaped up in masses, and their size is colossal; and in this case also the directions which the ramparts take correspond with one another. The ramparts of the Pleschitz are usually classed among the unscorified ramparts; but perhaps a closer examination will show that the upper rampart has suffered from scorification. The outer rampart of the Pleschitz is 4000 paces, the inner 1833 paces in circumference. Accordingly, both together amount in extent to nearly 6000 paces (about 2400 fathoms, or more than $2\frac{1}{2}$ English miles). The ramparts of the Wladar both together extend to 5000 paces (about 2000 fathoms). They may be reckoned, accordingly, among the grandest structures of the kind in Bohemia and Germany, whereas in bulk the lower rampart of the Wladar is not exceeded by any other either in Bohemia or in Germany. The old legend, which takes the Pleschitz to be a fairy garden, speaks of giants' cellars as existing under the ramparts of the Wladar, which are said to be filled with treasures and with wine; and many holes in the earth prove that, in fact, attempts have been made to get at these treasures.

It may be observed that we are in possession of an account belonging to the sixteenth century, which proves that even then these extensive structures excited the attention of the inhabitants of the surrounding country. Hayek von Libocan relates, in his Chronicle of Bohemia, that a city of the Boji, called Brimota, had once been situated near the Wladar. He goes on to say that the city had afterwards fallen into decay, but had been restored in 805 by Rohowitz, an opponent of Duke Wogan, and had been called Wladar, and that a second destruction of the city had taken place in 812. The words of Hayek, in the German translation of J. Sandel of 1697, run as follows:—"At last he (Rohowitz) came to the top of a high mountain, Wladarz, and on it *he found a plentiful supply of water*. He ordered his men to fell trees, and to construct a cupboard. He found besides *that once upon a time there must have been buildings on this mountain*. And in the same manner old chronicles proved that the Boëmi had once built a town there, and called it Byzimota." On Schmitt's archæological map of Bohemia (Prague 1856), the village of Zahorsch, which lies at the foot of the Wladar, is marked as a heathen place of burial, and that because during the laying out of a garden in

1802 there were found here several skeletons, besides ashes and urns. Nothing further, however, has transpired concerning this discovery.

Besides the works referred to, there appear some entrenchments near the ramparts. These belong to a much later epoch. Before that portion of the greater rampart which resembles a horse-shoe, and is in the neighbourhood of Luditz, several embankments have been raised parallel to one another—three on the north-west, and two on the south-west. They resemble bastions, and are furnished with trenches; they descend, in the form of a terrace, towards the Schnella, but lock up (as is seen in the plan, Plate XIII. fig. 4, *e*) one of the principal entrances to the rampart. The arrangement of these embankments points to the history of modern warfare. During the thirty years' war, in the year 1639, Banner had occupied the environs of Wladar, and made an assault on the city of Luditz. The assault could be directed in the most efficient manner from that part of the rampart which was opposite to Luditz. The embankments are therefore rightly called the "entrenchments of the Swedes." That the large rampart was also made use of is proved by the fact that at this place the rampart shows many signs of destruction, whereas everywhere else its preservation is excellent.

All the ramparts which have been named here, and have suffered from the effects of scorification, are situated *in the west and south-west of Bohemia*, with the sole exception of that of Sobieslau, which is situated in the south-eastern part of the country. Those parts of the country which were treated of first also abound in *ramparts of stone which have not suffered from scorification*. Ramparts of this kind are found near Maidstein, on the Moldau, near Wienetz, on the Wolinka, near the mountain called Swatobor (sacred grove), near Schuttenhofen, near Zdorow, not far from Planitz, near the mountain called Zdar, near Rockytzan, near the Hradischt, in the neighbourhood of Brezina; but they appear in great numbers, especially in the so-called Brdy forest, which is situated between Horowitz and Pribram, and has a plentiful supply of water. Great numbers of these ramparts are found also near the Hradek, the Pleschiwetz, the Ostry, and the Tremschin, as well as in the neighbourhood of the city of Nischburg, on the Berann. In the north-west and north of Bohemia we meet with such ramparts near the Wladar, near Luditz, near the Burgberg (fortress), close to Komantar.

Lastly, may be named the Fenermauer (wall of fire), near Kremnoch, not far from Teplitz, and another rampart close to the Radelstein, near Bilin. As regards the south-easterly part of Bohemia, the only structures of this sort which we can name, besides the unscorified rampart of Sobieslau, are the extensive ramparts of stones which are called the Husittenschanzen (entrenchments of the Hussites), and are situated near the Blanik, close to Wlaschirn, which abounds in legends. These ramparts, however, appear again more frequently still in the northern part of Bohemia, near the upper course of the Elbe. Four such ramparts are found pretty near one another, at no great distance from Nenpaka, Pecka, and Neuschlovo. The ground-plan of the unscorified ramparts corresponds with that of the scorified ramparts.

The majority of these structures lie on mountains with extensive plateaus on the top, the foot of which is washed by a river or brook. All the peculiar traces which we have noticed, combined with the position of these ramparts on mountains, prove that the ramparts were real entrenchments, intended to serve as defences. Supposing them to have been mere temple grounds or fanes, why did not a simple construction, and a regular form, such as a circle or an oval, suffice? Why are they built so strongly, and why do they cling to the natural configuration of the mountain?

With regard to the people which possessed these structures, it may be observed that their erection implies the existence of a numerous population, which did not wander like nomads from place to place, *but remained in one place, and stuck to the soil.* The discoveries in the immediate vicinity of the mountains afford farther conclusions. Near Ginetz, and close to the Pleschiwetz, a whole collection of articles of bronze was found in 1825 ("celts," spear-heads, twenty-two rings, scythes, &c.) The localities about Ginetz and its ramparts of stone (Koervar, Neumetel, Zditz, Cerhovitz) are known as a district in which many articles of bronze and gold have been found. Above all, the barrows have yielded much. The country bordering on the Tugost is covered with barrows. In the neighbourhood of the Hradischt, near Romotan and Nischburg, articles of bronze have repeatedly been found, besides gold coins, similar to those which were found in 1771 near Podmoke, in a brazen kettle. Besides the neighbourhood of Kremnoch, near Teplitz, the environs of Radelstein,

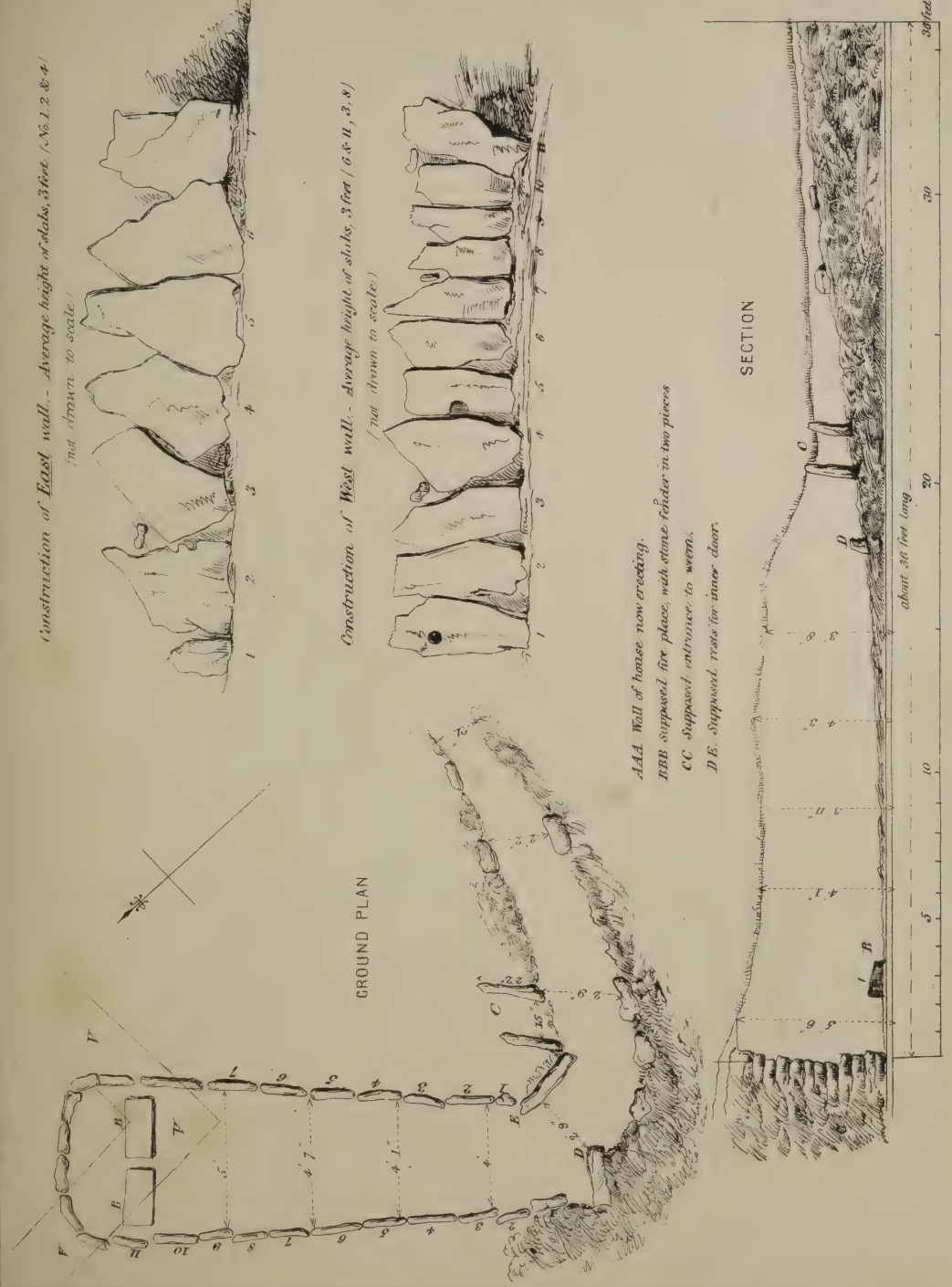
near Bilin, are rich in tombs, with urns and articles of bronze. The neighbourhood of the Burberg, near Kaaden, may also be named. The fragments of clay vessels which I myself have dug up near the Hradischt, in the neighbourhood of Strakonitz, as well as near the Wladar, testify to a kind of workmanship in clay which has passed the first stages; they agree with the civilisation of the brazen age ("bronze-zeis"). All these particulars taken together lead me to the conclusion that these ramparts of stone on mountains belong to a people which had been settled in Bohemia for a long time, and may be referred to the brazen age, and probably to the Celtic race. *They were, in fact, the regular strongholds of the people which were settled on the fertile plain, and which retired to these fortifications when danger was impending.* In the same manner, numerous ramparts of this kind, which are spread over France and the British Isles (particularly over Scotland) point to a Celtic people. As regards Bohemia, the question will only be brought to a conclusion when all the ramparts in the country have become known, and have been explored in a scientific manner.

II.

NOTICES (WITH PLANS, ETC.) OF A PICT'S HOUSE, OR UNDERGROUND CHAMBER, AT MURROES, NEAR DUNDEE; AND OF STONE CISTS FOUND AT FALLAWS, IN MONIKIE. BY ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., BRECHIN, CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT. (PLATE XIV.)

Early in April last, when Mr Sturrock, millwright at Kellas, in the parish of Murroes, near Dundee, was digging a trench for the foundation of a house which he is now building upon a rising ground on the estate of Westhall, an underground chamber or weem was accidentally discovered.

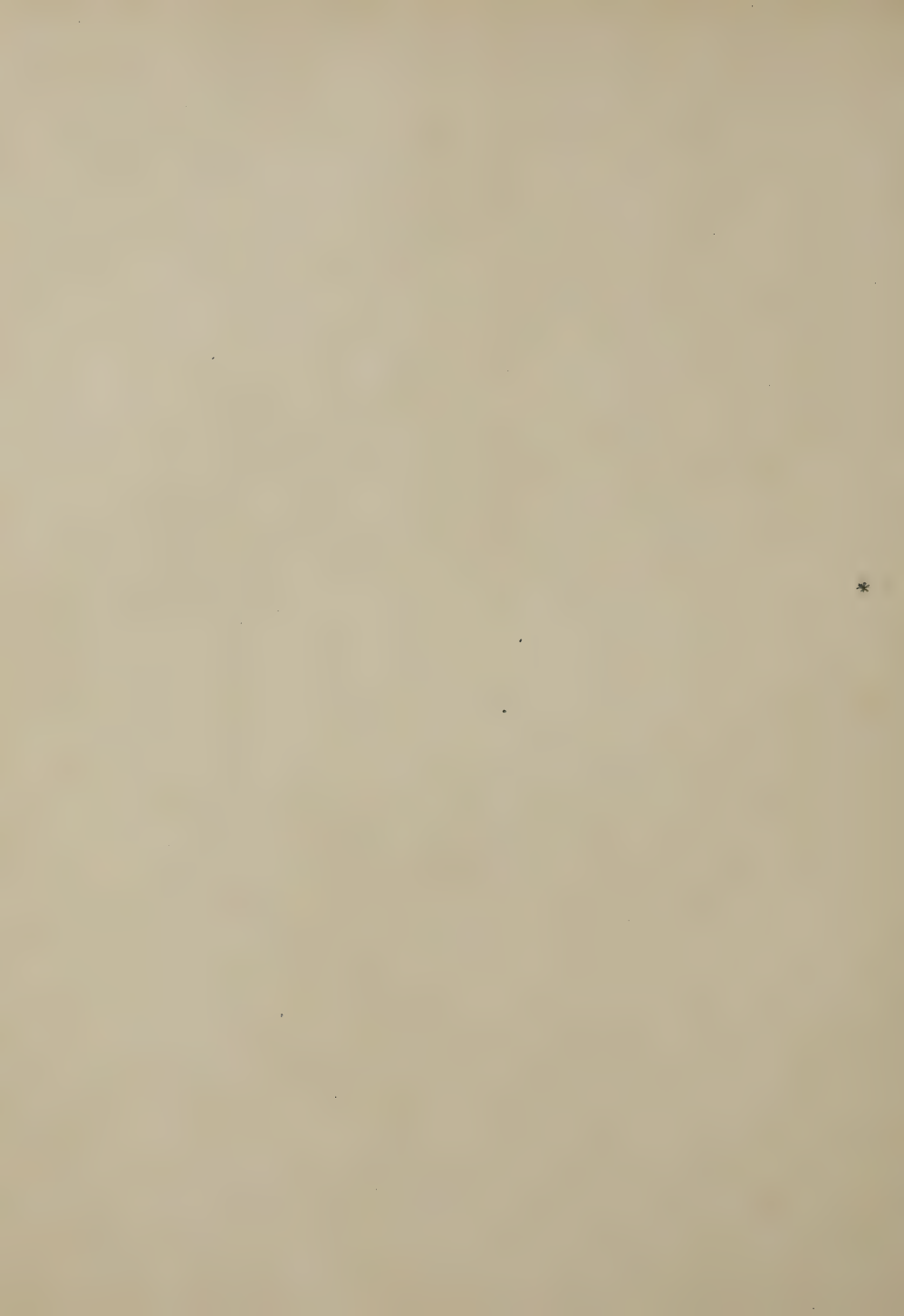
It was supposed to be the ruins of an old well, the inner or circular part having been the portion at first touched upon; but farther excavations brought to light the interesting remains, of which the plan, &c. is now sent by me to the Society. Having been made aware of my being in the neighbourhood, Mr Sturrock very kindly had the whole passage cleared out, and kept open for my inspection. Unfortunately, the inner



Construction of East wall. - Average height of slabs, 3 feet. (Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4.)
(not drawn to scale.)

Construction of West wall. - Average height of slabs, 3 feet. (Nos. 1, 2, 3, & 4.)
(not drawn to scale.)

*AAA Wall of house now erecting.
 BBB supposed fire place, with stone fender in two pieces
 CC supposed entrance to wern.
 D E. Supposed rests for inner door.*



or round end of the weem had been destroyed, and the corner of the new house (as shown at AAA on the plan) was erected before I went, so that the peculiarities and measurements of that part (including the description of the two bevelled stones, which were about two feet from the end, and lay across the chamber, within a few inches of both sides, with some inches between them, and which, I suppose, had been used by way of a *fender* for the fireplace) are given on the authority of an intelligent son of Mr Sturrock, who has taken particular note of the construction of the work, and is himself a collector of "nick-nackets." The two stones, whether used as "a fender," or for whatever purpose, have not, so far as I am aware, been found similarly placed in any other weem.

With the exception of the six red sandstones, which are shown as lying on both sides of the south part of the weem, the rest of the stones are pavement slabs, of the same sort as found in the quarries at Gagie, in the same parish. As shown upon the plan, these stones are placed upright. They are from 4 to 6 inches thick; and the average height is about 3 feet, except as noted on sketch, from which sketch their general form and distribution may be pretty correctly ascertained. The only slab with the appearance of *intentional* markings upon it is No. 1, on the west wall, in which a small round hole has been bored, about an inch deep. Luckily, the stones which denoted the entrance at C were found in the position indicated; and the south-east part of the rest of the structure rises rapidly towards the surface of the field, and becomes so shallow, that in its original state there could only have been a few inches between the natural *till* or subsoil, and the surface of the adjacent ground.

The floor is altogether composed of earth, in which considerable quantities of charred wood have been got, but no bones or barley-pickles, &c. Possibly the stone marked D had been used as a sort of rest or lintel for a door, which may have stood against the opposite stone at E, when the chamber was occupied by its inmates; but of the supposed door no trace exists. It is probable that the weem (though the fact is unrecorded) had been opened long, long ago, when the flags which covered the top had been carried off and used for building purposes. Possibly there had been some other weems in the locality, as a great many upright flag-stones were trenched out of the ground, when preparing to build another house or the same property, some years ago.

It is curious that there is no tradition regarding the existence of the weem, and the name of the site—the *Cots of Kerrystone*—do not afford any clue to its history. It is about half a mile west by north of the Kirk of Murroes, which has been an ecclesiastical site from earliest record. The district belonged in property to the Celtic Earls of Angus, and Earl Gilchrist gave the church to the monastery of Arbroath about 1211–14. There is an old mansion-house, which, like the kirk, has a picturesque but secluded site, near a considerable burn; and probably, since the Gaelic words *Mohr-uisg*, or *Mohr-ess*, mean a great burn, the parish may have obtained its name from the position of the church. The property of Westhall, upon which the weem was found, belonged to Beatons in 1526, and was long in their hands.¹ The hill of Laws, with its strangely constructed stone chambers; the old royal hunting forest of Kingenny St Bride's circle; and Cairnrig, all places of high antiquity and antiquarian interest,² lie within two miles of the site of the weem now noticed.

About four and a half miles south-west from the *Cots of Kerrystone*, in a remote part of the parish of Monikie, at a place called FALLAWS, six stone coffins were found during the autumn of 1868, in the line of the railway now forming between Dundee and Forfar. The cists were all composed of rude red sandstone flags. The first found measured 3 feet 4 by 2 feet 3 inches, was about 18 inches deep, and about 18 inches below the surface. It lay on the south side of a hillock, and a human skeleton, which was entire, excepting a bone of the forearm, lay from east to west. A clay urn, rudely ornamented with the common zig-zag markings, stood at the feet, with the mouth uppermost. In the grave were five pieces of flint. It is worthy of particular note, that the bottom of this cist was partly composed of a piece of red sandstone, 2 feet 3 by 1 foot 8 inches, which was scooped out in the middle, in the same manner as the stones which are often found in and near Picts' houses, and which are supposed to have been used for grinding barley.

Another cist was found about thirty-five yards distant from the one above noticed, in which also were the remains of a skeleton. The cover, in this instance, was about 4 feet 7 by 4 feet 2 inches. The remaining four

¹ Reg. Ep. Brechin. ii. 180; Inq. Spec. (Forfar). v. y.

² Proceeds. of Soc. iii. 440; ii. 446; vi. 98; Sculp. Stones of Scot. i. 29; ii. 54.

graves or cists were found in various places, but between the two above referred to. Some of them contained calcined bones, in which case the ashes lay upon the natural gravel or soil; and where the bones had not undergone the process of burning, the bottoms of the graves were composed of common stone flags.

These graves were found not far from the curious old site and foundations of Hynd Castle; about two miles to the north of which is the Roman Camp of Carbuddo, described and engraved by General Roy.¹ The locality of Fallaws is composed of a number of gravel knolls or hillocks; and the name, which is by no means uncommon, may be from the Gaelic *Fíadh-lagh* (pronounced *Faelaw*), which has some such signification as the "deer hillocks." This would imply the place to have been a favourite haunt of these animals in early times. A little to the south-east, a copious spring is known as the "King's Well;" but why so termed is not preserved either by tradition or history. I may add, that I visited Fallaws along with your worthy Fellow of the Society, Mr Neish of the Laws, who had been previously there, since which time Mr Neish, through the courtesy of the Earl of Dalhousie, has forwarded the stone, which was found in the bottom of the grave above noticed, to the National Museum.

III.

NOTICE OF OLD SCOTTISH COINS, FOUND NEAR PRESTONPANS IN
MARCH 1869. BY THE REV. JOHN STRUTHERS, F.S.A. SCOT., PRES-
TONPANS.

In the course of ploughing operations in a field on Birseley Brae, to the south-west of Colonel Gardiner's ancient residence of Bankton, near Prestonpans, a pretty extensive deposit of old Scottish coins was recently brought to light. The plough had been driven deeper and nearer to an old fence than usual, and thereby had brought to the surface of the furrow a few of the coins, which, from their corroded condition, were not observed by the ploughman, and by some girls who stumbled against them were taken for iron or brass. One of the pieces, however, seeming brighter and heavier than the others, was thought to be possibly of some value;

¹ Military Antiquities, p. 67, Plate xiv.

and after having narrowly escaped being cut in two by a blacksmith's chisel, it was entrusted to a carter for private disposal in Edinburgh, where, fortunately, it ultimately reached the Society's Museum, and was found to be an interesting example of Queen Mary's gold mintage, with the date 1555.

Meanwhile, the minister of Prestonpans having heard of what the girls had accidentally stumbled on, visited the locality, and, procuring help, got the ground carefully turned over for several feet, in different directions. He succeeded in picking up above a hundred additional coins. These were chiefly in more or less detached clusters of from three to ten pieces, as if the ploughshare had been driven through the centre of the deposit, and had pushed portions before it without turning them fully up to view. None of these pieces were of gold, a few were of silver, much alloyed, and the most of them of billon. Three-fourths of the whole were of Queen Mary's reign, of various years previous to 1560; and the others, of the reign of James III., James IV., and James V. respectively. Among those that were picked up by the girls, along with the gold coin above referred to, one or two specimens of French billon have been noticed.

So far as an opinion can now be formed, the deposit had originally been made simply in the earth, or in some bag or friable vessel, of which no traces remain. Not even a stone seemed to mark the spot. From the neighbourhood having repeatedly, during the latter half of the sixteenth century, and especially in connection with the advance of Bothwell and Mary's adherents from Seton to Carberry-hill, been the skirmishing ground of hostile troops, a variety of conjectures might be offered as to the probable occasion of the deposit. It might be mentioned, that the site of the ancient house of Upper Olivestob, which was for some time owned and occupied by a son of Lord Seton, is understood to have been in the near vicinity, although all traces of it have long since disappeared; and likewise that the packhorse path from the old harbour of Prestonpans, which has its charter of construction in 1525, and from the ancient chapman's cross at Preston to Lauderdale *via* Ormiston and Soutra hill, passes within a few yards of the spot; as did Sir John Cope, too, in his retreat or flight to Berwick, at a subsequent period. But obviously, from such circumstances, nothing but the most vague conjectures can be formed.

The coins were carefully examined by Mr W. F. Miller, who has kindly sent the annexed note :—

The following is a list of the Scottish coins, so far as can be ascertained. The majority of them are in poor condition : those of James III. much worn ; most of the others very much corroded :—

Gold.	Mary, Ryal, ordinary type, the Queen's bust to the right, 1555,	1
Silver.	Mary, half testoon, 1558 (Lindsay's "View of the Coinage of Scotland," No. 483),	1
	,, Francis and Mary, "NON SUNT," 1559,	1
		— 2
Billon.	James III., placks, ordinary type (one has, on the reverse, pellets in the angles of the saltire),	14
	,, James III., plack (fine billon as in Lindsay's Suppl., No. 24),	1
	,, James IV., placks, ordinary type, with numeral,	6
	,, " " " " without numeral,	7
	,, James V., placks (Lindsay, No. 51),	12
	,, Mary, Edinburgh placks (about 20 have the St Andrew Cross, on reverse plain, the rest fluted),	53
	,, Mary, Edinburgh half plack (a fragment),	1
	,, " placks, "SERVIO ET USU," 1557,	5
	,, Francis and Mary, "JAM NON SUNT," 1559 (fine billon),	10
		—109
	Total number of coins,	112

A hardhead of James VI., together with three other small copper coins, illegible, have been recently (September 1869) found in pulling down an old house in Prestonpans.

These four coins were forwarded by the Rev. Mr Struthers, along with the Scottish coins described above.

IV.

NOTICE OF A THIRD BRASS OF ROMULUS, SON OF MAXENTIUS, AND OTHER COINS, FOUND AT PÆSTUM. BY JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

In the beginning of April 1868 I was fortunate enough to be able to ascend Vesuvius, and see by night the awful grandeur of an eruption; and on the 8th of the month I had the pleasure of paying a visit to the magnificent ruins of the ancient city of Pæstum. These ruins are believed to be second only in importance to those of Athens, and the most ancient examples of classical architecture in Italy. A visit to Pæstum can now be made without any difficulty, going by railway from Naples to Salerno, sending from thence a carriage to wait for you at the railway station of Battipaglia, which you reach by the first train next morning, then driving to Pæstum, and back to Battipaglia in the evening, in time to catch the last train for Naples. The trip is now also almost free from the danger of brigands, as the Italian Government requires each party of visitors to take a guard of at least two mounted troopers (armed with sword, carbine, and revolver). This guard we got at the village of Battipaglia, they crossed with us the river Sele, and were there succeeded by other two from a barrack close by, who went with us to Pæstum, followed us closely through the ruins, and left us again at the ferry of the Sele, to be replaced by the first soldiers who returned with us to Battipaglia.

When walking among the ruins a peasant woman offered me the head of a small terra cotta female figure, or Venus, which she had picked up there (exhibited); and on passing several peasants busily engaged digging the ground within the walls, not far from the temples, one of them came to me with a few brass coins he had found. Most of these are of comparatively little interest, except as being found in that locality. They consist of—

1. Two small coins of Pæstum,—one having half a boar on the *Obverse*, and apparently one or two globules or dots, to denote its value; one, two,

three, four, five, and an S or six dots ; signifying the uncia (or twelfth part), sextans, quadrans, triens, quincunx, and semis or half, respectively, —the various parts or divisions of the As. The other coin is illegible ; but our Curator, Mr Sim, thinks, from its general appearance, it is probably also a coin of Pæstum.

2. A coin of Pæstum, the size of a third brass. It is partly broken, and has on the *Obverse* the head of a young man (Bacchus) crowned with ivy and looking to the right ; and behind the head, four dots or globules. *Reverse*, a cornucopia with a bunch of grapes hanging from it on each side, and behind the cornucopia, four dots. It is therefore a triens, and of the date of about 200 years before Christ.

3. The next is an early Roman coin. *Obverse*, a man's head looking to right ; *Reverse*, prow of a galley, and below, two dots. A sextans, or sixth part of the As, and is of the size of the third brass.

4. A third brass of the Emperor Valens, A.D. 328. *Obverse*, Victory marching to left, with crown and palm. *Reverse*, SECURITAS REIPUBLICÆ. A common coin.

5. The last coin is rather a rare one, and in fine condition. A Third Brass of Marcus Aurelius Romulus, the son of Maxentius, born about A.D. 306, and died A.D. 309. *Obverse*, bare head of Romulus looking to right, with the legend, DIVO ROMVLO NVBIS CONS. *Reverse*, a circular temple or tomb, with a dome, and on it above, an eagle with expanded wings, ÆTERNÆ MEMORIAE. In the *Exergue*, the letters M O S T T (*Moneta Signata Treveris*).

There is no specimen of this coin in the collection of the Society. There are, however, two of a Second Brass of Romulus, also of a rare type, but not in fine condition. It displays on the *Obverse*, bare head of Romulus looking to right, IMP MAXENTIUS DIVO ROMULO NV FILIO. *Reverse*, a circular temple with dome, and eagle above, with expanded wings, ÆTERNA MEMORIA. In *Exergue*, M O S T T, these letters are the same as on the third brass ; the coins have, therefore, been struck at the same place.

The reading of the letters NV, and of NVBIS CONS, in the legend of these coins, has always been considered a complete numismatic puzzle, and it is only very recently that the true explanation has been suggested by M. de Longpérier, as being for NV—N(OBILISSIMO) V(IRO) ; and Mr

George Sim has called my attention to the following notice published by Mr John Evans in the "Numismatic Chronicle" for 1865:—

"The interpretation of the legend NVBIS CONS, which occurs after the name of Romulus, the son of Maxentius, on many of his coins, has been the subject of much dispute among numismatists. M. de Longpérier, however, in the 'Revue Numismatique,' N.S. vol. i. p. 36, pointed out what appears beyond doubt the proper interpretation of the legend, as DIVO ROMULO, N(OBILISSIMO) V(IRO) BIS CONS(VLI). An inscription discovered on the site of the ancient Troesmis, in Lower Mæsia, is of interest, both as affording corroboration, if such were needed, of M. de Longpérier's suggestion, and as giving an instance of the use of a nearly similar title at an earlier date. It is to the honour of Tib. Claud. Pompeianus, who was consul for the second time in 173, and is thus given by M. Leon Renier in the 'Revue Archæologique' for December 1865 (p. 405):—

TIBCLPOM
PEIANOCV
BISCONSVLI
GVALFIRMVS
CLEGIITAL

TIBERIO CLAUDIO POMPEIANO CLARISSIMO VIRO BIS CONSULI GAIUS VALERIUS FIRMUS, CENTURIO LEGIONIS PRIME ITALICÆ."

I have much pleasure in presenting the coins to the Numismatic Collection of the Society.

MONDAY, 14th June 1869.

DAVID LAING, Esq., LL.D., For. Sec. S.A. Scot., in the Chair.

The following Gentleman was balloted for and elected a Fellow of the Society :—

JAMES BRYDON, M.D., Hawick.

On the motion of Mr STUART, Secretary, the Society resolved to record their sense of the great loss sustained by the death of Mr WILLIAM THOMSON M'CULLOCH, the late Keeper of the Museum, and the high esteem in which they held his services, his enthusiasm, and skill in the arrangement of the Museum, his unvarying courtesy to all, and his attention to the business of the Society.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks were voted to the Donors :—

- (1.) By the Rev. JAMES M. JOASS, Cor. Mem. S.A. Scot., Golspie, Sutherlandshire, through Dr J. A. SMITH, Sec. S.A. Scot.

A Tyne of the horn of a rein-deer, 6 inches in length, and flattened at the base, where its extreme breadth is rather more than 2 inches. Frontal bone, showing part of horn core, anterior of part of lower jaw, leg bones, &c., of the *Bos longifrons*, and half of the lower jaw of a dog, also shells of the spiny cockle, and several chips of flint. Found in cutting drains on the *Morbhaich mor*, a sandy down on the sea coast, near Tain. (See the annexed Communication by Dr J. A. Smith.)

- (2.) By ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., F.S.A. Scot., through Dr J. A. SMITH, Sec. S.A. Scot.

Horn of the left side of a rein-deer, with two projecting branches ; found in a moss in the island of Rousay, Orkney. (See the Communication by Dr J. A. Smith.)

(3.) By Mr JAMES YOUNG, Liberton.

Nine Church Communion Tokens, in Lead; five of these are of Edinburgh, one the Canongate, and three of Leith. They are inscribed as follows:—

J. M. D. G. (Dean of Guild); *reverse*, Edinburgh Arms, date 1805; square-shaped.

ST CUTHBERT'S 1818; *reverse*, 1 CORIN. xi. 28, 29; hexagonal.

ST CUTHBERT'S 1824; similarly inscribed, also hexagonal.

NEW CHAPEL 1793; *reverse*, LUKE xxii. 19, 1 COR. xi. 28; oval.

LADY GLENORCHY'S CHAPEL; *reverse*, 1 CORIN. xi. 28, 29; star-shaped.

C. K. (Canongate Kirk) 1813; *reverse*, shield, displaying stag's head (the Canongate arms); square.

NORTH KIRK, LEITH; *reverse*, figure of the church, and date 1816.

S. L. K. (South Leith Kirk); *reverse*, shield defaced; round.

NEW KIRK, LEITH, 1776; *reverse*, blank, 1 COR. xi. 28; oblong, with curved edges.

(4.) By JAMES CUMINE of Rattray, Esq., Aberdeenshire.

Curiously-shaped (somewhat cylindrical) Urn, 5 inches high, and 5 inches diameter across the bottom. The smallest internal diameter of the vessel is at the middle of its height, where it is only $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches across; it widens to the mouth, where it is 3 inches in diameter. There is a small hole pierced in the centre of the bottom, and three holes in the sides at unequal distances, and from an inch to an inch and a-half above the bottom of the urn. It was found in 1829, about 18 inches below the surface of the ground, and under a flat stone, near an earthwork styled the Castlehill of Rattray. (See Woodcut and Communication by John Stuart, Esq., LL.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.)

(5.) By Mr ANDREW CUNNINGHAME, Huntly Street.

Small, oval, brass, Ribbed Snuff-Box, with the figure of a ship engraved on the flat part of the lid, and inscribed below, RO^r PORTEOUS 1779.

(6.) By Mr JAMES FOGGO, Thistle Street.

Indian Dagger, single-edged sharp pointed blade, with thick back richly inlaid with gold, and handle made from the molar tooth of an elephant.

(7.) By ROBERT BROWN, Esq.

Implements of Bone, Deer Horn, &c., collected by the Donor, from old Esquimaux graves on the Duck Islands, North Greenland, lat. 73° N. :—consisting of a Hook, made from part of the horn of a rein-deer, for carrying or suspending a stone lamp ; a Knife-Handle of bone, in which a blade of flint or iron has been fixed ; a curved Bone Pin, about 7 inches in length, with flattened head ; a polished Bone Implement and rounded Bone, with point—a fire-raising implement, worked like a drill, with the tinder wood, showing holes for twirling the bone in, so as to kindle the wood.

(8.) By the CANADIAN INSTITUTE, Toronto.

The Canadian Journal of Industry, Science, and Art. Vol. XII. No. 11. April, 1869.

(9.) By the ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY of KENT.

Archæologia Cantiana. Vol. VII. 1868.

(10.) By GEORGE GODWIN, Esq., F.S.A., the Author.

Something about Masons' Marks in various countries. 4to.

There was exhibited a Bronze Tripod Pot, 11 inches in height, and 9½ inches across the mouth, with inscription of raised letters on a belt round the body of the pot, recently purchased for the Museum.

The following purchases, made at the sale of the collection of the late ADAM SIM, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., of Coulter, were also exhibited :—

1. A curious pair of Brass Snuffers, with winged head, &c., in high relief on the lid, stated to be of the reign of Henry VIII., and similar in character to those figured and described in Hone's Table Book, vol. iii. fol. 636.

2. A curious early Timepiece, with engraved floriated hour dial, with single hand, inscribed "Humphry Mills fecit."

3. Brass movement of an Eight-day Clock, inscribed on the dial, "Joseph Davis, London."

4. Brass Sun-Dial, engraved with hour circle, compass points, variation of the clock, &c., inscribed "George Jameson fecit."

5. A Copper Jug, 8 inches high, with handle, embossed in low relief, with floral pattern, and representations of greyhounds coursing and capturing hares. Stated to have been dug up in the formation of a railway in the south of England.

6. Three Pewter Measures, with handles.

One dug up from the bed of the Thames (1845), is cylindrical in shape, and 7 inches in height. It is inscribed round the middle, "John Wickins, at ye Cock and Crown in Montague Close, Southwarke." On the handle are stamped the letters

W
J M

The second, which is also 7 inches in height, is inscribed round the middle "Thomas Hollinwood, at ye foxe and tap in Chick lane."

The third is 6 inches high, and has a lid, displaying four small circular stamps, two of which have the initials R. H. on either side of a bell. The other two consist, apparently, of the initials Z. S. interlaced, and a pink, or flower, on either side. Inside the lid is scratched the inscription, "Holborn B. Aug. 1843," probably where it was found.

7. A Flagellum of Iron Wire, 22 inches in length, made of a curiously wrought triangularly-formed chain 17 inches in length. It bears at its extremity a cluster, or scourge, of five pieces of chain, each 5 inches long, and having in the middle and at the ends a piece of wire twisted round a loop, so as to present four sharp points, three-eighths of an inch long, on opposite sides of the scourge, which thus contains forty of these spikes altogether.

8. An Indian torque-shaped Neck Ornament of tin, cut into ornamental patterns in the middle, and at each extremity, which terminates in a hook.

9. A richly ornamented Panel of Bronze, 9 inches long by $6\frac{1}{2}$ broad, embossed with a figure of Siva in high relief, six armed, and holding weapons of war in each of the six hands. The figure is surmounted by a canopy of cobra's heads. The necklace and girdle of the deity are of silver, and the anklets of gold. A silver border is let into the panel on two of its sides.

10. Indian Bronze Figure on pedestal, representing a deity seated in front of an open arched canopy, the whole being 5 inches high.

There were also exhibited three New Zealand War Implements, purchased for the Museum :—

11. Two of these were the flat oval-shaped war clubs called “patoopatoos.” One made from a fine grained black stone, and measuring 14 inches in length, including the short handle, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad in the the flattest part of the blade ; it has also a loop of flax, for fixing it to the wrist. The other is formed of the bone of a whale, and 19 inches in length. Part of the handle has been broken away.

12. The third implement, a club made of a hard heavy wood, is 16 inches in length by 6 inches in breadth, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in thickness at the heavy end, from which it slopes away to the handle in slightly curved lines, the hilt and the striking end being of the same form. The edges are ornamented with a saw-tooth pattern scratched into the wood, and the handle has attached to it a loop of cord for the hand, and a wrapping of cotton thread interlaced, and twisted into pendants.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

ON THE FOOD OF MAN IN PREHISTORIC TIMES, AND THE METHODS BY WHICH IT WAS PREPARED. BY REV. JAMES BRODIE, A.M.,
MONIMAIL.

When we are told of places where the partially burnt bones of animals are found mingled with ashes and fragments of charcoal, we are naturally led to suppose that in those localities the early inhabitants of Europe had held their feasts, and that the flesh of various species of animals found in the forest must have constituted the larger part of their repast. When, again, we have descriptions given us of mounds of shells lying by the sea-shore, with flint implements and other relics of man mixed among them, we come to the conclusion that in these localities the sea as well as the forest had been laid under contribution for the support of man.

Some have supposed that the tribes who followed the chase were a totally different people from those who fed on the products of the deep. This may have been the case ; but the more probable idea is, that those

who, in the summer season, fed on the game and vegetable productions which the woods supplied, were driven by necessity during the winter to live on shell-fish and seaweed. Such has not unfrequently been the course pursued by the inhabitants of the Western Islands of Scotland even in recent times.

In regard to this subject of food, there is one question which has not received the attention to which it seems to be entitled. We refer to the process of cooking and preparation. Heaps of ashes and fragments of burnt wood, intermingled with pieces of bone, suggest the idea that the flesh had been roasted with fire, and probably that may not unfrequently have been the process adopted; but sufficient evidence seems to be afforded that a more artistic method, if it may be so termed, was also employed.

It is a well-known fact, that in early times vessels used for holding liquids were frequently made of the skins of animals. Such were the "bottles" spoken of in holy writ, and such were the vessels that contained the costly wines of the Greek and Roman epicures. Again we are told, that among some of the Esquimaux, and other American races, vessels are made of skins stretched upon wooden hoops, and that water is sometimes heated in them by putting into it stones taken out of the fire. If the stones are kept from coming into immediate contact with the skin, water by this means may not only be heated, but made to boil, so that food of any sort may be sufficiently prepared, while, at the same time, no injury is done to the skin.

The Dacotals and other hunter tribes in America followed a plan somewhat similar. When they killed a deer, they are said to have taken off the skin, and supporting it on stakes driven into the ground, they then filled it with water, and putting fire underneath, made use of it as a caldron for boiling the flesh. If memory does not deceive us, some of the Scottish borderers are reported to have pursued a similar practice in their incursions into the north of England.

In the "Proceedings" of the Scottish Antiquarian Society there are several communications which lead us to conclude, that practices similar to those we have been describing prevailed in prehistoric times. In the volume lately published, we have some "Notes on Cromlechs, Duns, &c., in the County of Sutherland," by J. Horsburgh, Esq., in which we

find the following statement:—"Higher up on the hill, near Skelpick-Burn Wood, I came upon a pit the shape of an inverted cone, 7 or 8 feet deep, and neatly lined with stones. My gillie, an old pensioner, who knew many of the old traditions, said at once that it was a pit for cooking deer in, 'in the old times.' I often looked for it afterwards, but never could find it again, the mouth of it being nearly covered over with heather; in fact, I nearly tumbled into it, it was so hidden."

This description suggests the idea of a pit with a fire kindled in the bottom of it, over which a bag of skin had been suspended by means of pegs driven in around the top of the hole. Such an arrangement, by confining the flame, would form a much more effective apparatus than that which was practised by the Dacotahs.

In a communication from John Stuart, Esq., Secretary to the Society, we have the following statements:—"On the summit of a rising ground, called Hartlaw, are two knolls, adjoining each other. That on the south showed the remains of a circular wall. About the centre of it a round pit was found built with stones like a well, to the depth of 3 feet, and about 2 feet in diameter. This pit was filled with charred wood, ashes, and black adhesive matter. Two graves were found on the south side of the knoll. In the other knoll many graves appeared. They were formed of small stone slabs, with which they were also paved at bottom and covered above. The graves were laid east and west, with the head to the west. The average length was about 6 feet. On the north-east side of the knoll were two pits like wells. One of the pits was deeper than the other. It was lined with stones, and the mouth was formed of slabs on edge. It was about 15 inches across, and 2 feet deep. It was filled with charred wood and slimy earth; and portions of black matter had penetrated below and outside the well, as if it had escaped in a liquid state.

"The graves in question may be compared with the cists at Clocharie, in the same neighbourhood. In that case, three short cists were found which had been covered by a cairn. One of them contained a large urn, inverted on a slab. This urn was filled with incinerated bones and ashes of wood. The other cists contained burnt bones and ashes, but no urn. In an adjoining knoll, a pit was found containing a large quantity of charred wood and unctuous matter; and near it, in different places, two flint implements, three or four stone celts, and round pebbles.

“A careful investigation of our early sepulchral remains seems to show that the burning of the body had, at one time, been all but universal. This practice was confined to the pagan system, and was denounced by the Christian missionaries. It seems not unreasonable, therefore, to suppose that the long stone cists we have described mark the burials of a transitional period, when the Christian rite had been adopted, but the older practice of feasting at the grave had not been abandoned. It seems most likely that the traces of burning at Hartlaw are to be accounted for by a continuance of the ancient feasts.”

In a notice of some stone cists near Kirkliston, by R. Hutchison, Esq., Carlowie, in the same volume we have an account of an ancient burial-place very similar to that at Hartlaw. The writer goes on to say—“A small kist has repeatedly been found in other barrows, similarly situated, at the extreme south end of a row of graves. . . . In these cases, the small cist is placed a little apart from the general line of graves. These small cists have no covers.”

A careful consideration of these quotations seems to leave very little room to doubt that the small cists, near the Scottish burial-grounds, were the places where they hung the skins in which they prepared the funeral feasts. In most of the cases referred to, the fire seems to have been kindled in the bottom of the pit. The round pebbles picked up at Clocharie lead us to suppose that there the water may have been made to boil by putting heated stones into it. The urn and flint implements found beside the pebbles seem to point to the practices of an earlier period.

Mr Jamieson of Ellon, in Aberdeenshire, in a paper printed in the sixth volume of the “Transactions” of the Antiquarian Society, says—“The shell heaps at the mouth of the Ythan are generally from 30 to 90 yards in length. The stratum of shells is sometimes only a few inches deep; in other cases, layers of shells and sand alternate with one another to a depth of several yards; and, in one mound, there is a thickness of 4 or 5 feet, consisting entirely of shells. The most plentiful species is the mussel; but there are also a good many cockles and periwinkles, all of them large and full grown specimens. Intermixed with the shells, there is always a number of stones, which have evidently been in the fire, and one of the largest mounds is strewed all over with small stones, a great many of

which have a scorched appearance. There is also always a mixture of charcoal, or what seems to be the remains of charred turf, with some bits of burnt twigs. I also found a few teeth and bits of bone, which Professor Turner, who examined them, says belong to deer and oxen."

In the seventeenth volume of these "Transactions," we have a notice of a shell mound on the coast of Sutherlandshire, in which "the periwinkle and limpet are very numerous, along with bones of birds, beasts, and fishes, all mingled with scorched stones and charred wood."

The facts we have quoted, showing that these stones, in different localities, have the appearance of having passed through the fire, lead us to conclude that the early inhabitants of Scotland, in preparing shell-fish for food, used vessels of skin like those employed by savage races in more recent times, in which water was made to boil by putting into it stones that had been heated in the fire. Whether this supposition be considered probable or improbable, it is evident that in whatever way the stones were employed, these prehistoric races must have made use of fire in the preparation of the shell-fish they used for food.

This inquiry may seem a matter of very little importance; but we must remember that the advancement made by any tribe in the culinary art forms one of the most important elements by which we are to be guided in determining the progress that has been made in civilisation. It is said that there are some savages who are ignorant of the use of fire. If this be the case, these miserable specimens of humanity, who feed on flesh and roots altogether unprepared, must be placed at the very bottom of the social scale. Those who roast their food by laying it on the fire, or by covering it over with embers, have made a very decided improvement in the arts of life. But those who are acquainted with the effects of boiling water, as a means of fitting both animal and vegetable substances for nourishing the human frame, have made a still further advance. The fact of "scorched stones" having been found in such abundance in our Scottish "kitchen-middens," is therefore a circumstance, trifling as some may regard it, that tends very considerably to enhance the idea we form of the progress which the early inhabitants of our island had made in the arts of life. It shows that, though they had been driven farther and farther into the wilderness by successive invaders, and had thereby been deprived of the appliances to which their forefathers had been accustomed,

they were not the low degraded creatures which some have supposed them to have been.

In one particular, at least, in preparing by boiling the mollusca they used as food, their habits were far in advance of the custom which prevails among some of our modern barbarians, who not only swallow their oysters raw, but look on the uncooked abomination as one of their choicest dainties.

In the report of the committee for exploring Kent Cavern, given in to the British Association in 1865, we are told that "the collection of the articles in the black mould consists of stones of various kinds, human industrial remains, charred wood, bones of various animals, marine and land shells. . . . The stones are, in most cases, well rounded, and were undoubtedly selected and taken to the cavern, but for what purpose it may not be easy to determine."

The committee do not seem to have ascertained whether there was any evidence of the stones having been in the fire. It would be interesting to know whether, like those found by Mr Jamieson, they have any mark of scorching upon them.

II.

NOTE OF AN URN FOUND AT RATTRAY, ABERDEENSHIRE.

By JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

This urn formed part of the archæological exhibition at Aberdeen in 1859 when I first saw it.

My attention having been recently drawn to another urn, found in a cist under one of the great cairns of Memsie, in the neighbourhood of Rattray, presented to the Society by the late Mr John Gordon of Cairnbulg, in the year 1827 (of which the woodcut, fig. 2, at the bottom of next page gives a representation), my recollection of that exhibited at Aberdeen was revived, and in the belief that they very much resembled each other in their unusual shape, I preferred a request to Mr Cumine, the owner, that he would present it to the Museum. This he has kindly done, and the urn is now on the table. (See annexed woodcut, fig. 1.)

It will be seen that it is like an inverted-flower pot, the bottom being the widest part. It measures about 5 inches in height, the same in dia-

meter at the bottom, and 4 inches across at top. There are three holes at irregular distances in the side, and one in the bottom of the urn.

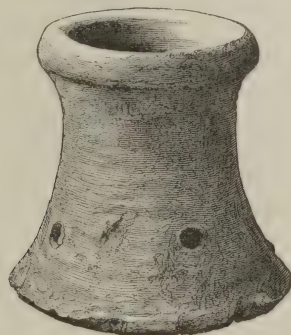


Fig. 1. Urn found near the Castlehill of Rattray, Aberdeenshire.

It was found in digging in the year 1829, about 10 inches below the surface, and was one of three disposed in a triangle . . . under a flat stone. They contained a black clammy substance, but nothing else.



Fig. 2. Urn found in a cairn at Memsie, near Rattray, Aberdeenshire.

The site of the deposit was about 100 yards from a rath, or earth-work known as the Castlehill of Rattray.

III.

NOTE OF AN ANCIENT STRUCTURE DISCOVERED AT THE LAW OF MAULDSLIE. BY D. R. RANKIN, ESQ., CARLUKE.

On the 4th of April, 1869, while engaged in the formation of a cottage garden out of gravelly and rocky matter, on the highest point of Law Hill,—about 700 feet above sea-level, and adjacent to the stone cist and stone granary formerly reported on (“Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries,” vol. vii. 1867),—the intelligent and industrious owner of

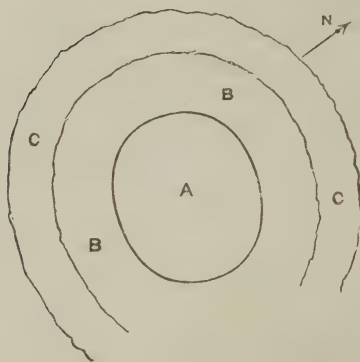


Fig. 1.—Ground-plan.

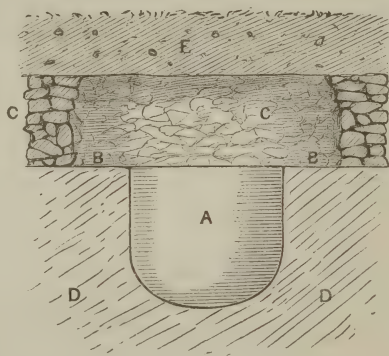


Fig. 2.—Section.

Figs. 1 and 2.—Ancient Building, with excavations in the rock, discovered at the Law of Mauldslie.

E, fig. 2, Sand and Gravel. DD, Solid Rock.

the cottage came upon a structure, which was cleared out and developed fully. This structure is distant 21 feet eastward from the position of the cist, on the sloping side of the hill, and, according to the apparent plan of operations, must, so far as the retaining wall is concerned, yield to the pick and shovel.

The structure consists of three portions—1st, a retaining wall of good rubble work, without cement, 3 feet high, and measuring in circular extent 24 feet (C C in plan); 2d, a passage on the rock within this wall, 2 feet wide (B B, figs. 1 and 2); and 3d, an oval excavation (A A, figs. 1 and 2), in the solid rock (D D, fig. 2), 5 by 6 feet wide, and 5 feet deep, bounded by the passage.

On examination, it is evident that the space for the wall was cut out as the building proceeded, bit by bit, because the natural beds of gravel and sand (E, fig. 2) above the wall remain undisturbed.

If the passage and excavation in the rock had been covered by artificial means when in use, it is certain that on the eastern side, where no wall appears, that the ground did not admit of a passage, or of a wall, unless raised above the surface; thus accounting for the absence of both. The probable entrance would be on the south-east side, where the wall is straight. That the wall and passage were mere adjunctives to the excavation in the rock is clear enough; but what might the use of this artificial cut in the rock be? At a first glance, it might be pronounced a well; but the position on a hill, sloping in all directions, and covered only by 5 feet of sand and gravel beds, would admit of no feeder. Might it not be a cistern? There would be more than one objection to this view; because, 1st, sandstone rock is a better filter than a holder of water; but if a cistern, what was the use of 24 feet of wall and passage around it, when a short straight passage would have answered the purpose? and 2d, if water had to be supplied by hand there would have been an undue expenditure of power—a thing which was not disregarded in the earliest times. Why not a store where space was needed to reach every point?

As to the finish of the excavation in the rock, although there is no mark of chisel or sharp instrument, the perpendicular lines are good, and the rounding off at the bottom equally so.

IV.

NOTICE OF REMAINS OF THE REIN-DEER, *CERVUS TARANDUS*, FOUND IN ROSS-SHIRE, SUTHERLAND, AND CAITHNESS; WITH NOTES OF ITS OCCURRENCE THROUGHOUT SCOTLAND. BY JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Several years ago I called the attention of the members to a curious paper by Dr Samuel Hibbert, a Fellow and former Secretary of the Society, "On the Question of the Existence of the Rein-deer, during the Twelfth Century, in Caithness," published in the "Edinburgh Journal of Science" for 1831; and for many years past I have been anxiously looking out for instances of the occurrence of remains of the rein-deer, in some of our northern counties, as it seemed highly probable their bones or horns may have been overlooked by persons who were not able to distinguish them from those of the common red deer.

ROSS-SHIRE.—*Tain*.—At a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries in March 1866, a paper was read, entitled, "Notes on some Northern Antiquities," from the Rev. James M. Joass, at that time minister of Eddertoun, Ross-shire, and now of Golspie, Sutherlandshire. In this communication Mr Joass stated, that "On the *mor 'aich mor*, a sandy flat to the east of Tain, when examining some sections recently exposed by draining four feet deep, I found, near two hut circles, a flint flake near the surface, which is occasionally peat-moss of varying depth, overlying, where it occurs, an undulating surface of sand. I also found the skull of a young ox, several bones of a large deer, one tine of a palmated stag's horn, and the jaw of a large canine animal. All these bones lay beneath the moss, and on a natural shell-bed, in which occurred the *Scaphander lignarius*, believed, from its size and delicacy of structure, to indicate warmer conditions of climate during its existence in such a situation, as well as a considerable subsequent elevation of the sea-bottom. The coast line is now three miles distant."¹ I was much interested in these notes which I have just quoted; and requested Mr Joass to send me the bones for examination, and especially the tine of the palmated stag's horn, thinking it might possibly turn out to be what I was in search of—that of a rein-deer. Mr

¹ Proceedings Soc. Antiq. Scot. vol. vi. p. 386

Joass wrote me in reply, giving some additional details of the locality, and at last the bones, &c., were kindly forwarded to me.

The bones, &c., were part of the frontal portion of the skull, with horn core, of the ancient small ox, the *Bos longifrons* of Professor Owen, the anterior part of the lower jaw, and some leg bones probably of the same ox, half of the lower jaw of a moderately-sized dog, and the deer's tine, which is smooth, compressed, and tapering; it measures about 7 inches long by 2 inches broad at its flattened base, where it is a good deal weathered; also some valves of the spiny cockle, *Cardium echinatum*. The palmated tine seemed to me to differ from those of the red deer, being smoother and more flattened in character, and in this respect to resemble the horns of the rein-deer; accordingly I submitted it to the skilful examination of Professor Owen, and he informs me that it is part of the horn of a rein-deer, *Cervus tarandus*. It is probably the tine that springs from the back part of the middle of the beam. (Specimens of the flint flakes found near the surface, the shells, and the bones, were exhibited; and Mr Joass requested me, if they were found to be of any interest, to present them to the Museum of the Society, which I have now much pleasure in doing; and only regret that various circumstances should have prevented me from doing so before this time.)

The *morbhaich mor*, or great grazing, as the Gaelic words signify, is part of a flat sandy tract, some four or five square miles in extent, which is bordered on the north by the Dornoch Firth, and on the south by an abrupt elevation of the land, which rises in some places to about fifty feet above the plain; on one part of this elevation stands the town of Tain. Mr Joass says, "at the *morbhaich mor*, part of this plain where the bones were found, the surface is now nearly a uniform level, covered, where not cultivated, by a thin and tough coating of turf, with bent and other arenaceous plants. Below this lies sand, close to the surface occasionally, but sometimes overlaid by a few feet of moss. Hearing that in cutting a drain there, four feet deep, some bones had been found, I went to see them. They had been carried away; but in the stuff turned out I found several fragments, the tine among the rest, and also several longer pieces *in situ* in the moss, at the bottom of a curve (a*), possibly a basin. (See the annexed sketch.)

The shells occurred on the sand, *Cardium echinatum*, *Scaphander ligna-*

rius, and the more common shells of our present shore. They extended throughout the cutting so far as I followed it. The moss was in no place more than four feet deep."

This plain is still covered in some places with blown sand, and it is believed that, at the present day, the sea is again encroaching on part of this its old domain. To show how frequently important changes occur, not in the lapse of ages alone, but often in a very short space of time, I may quote from the account of the parish in the "New Statistical Account of Scotland," where it is stated—"Some parts, indeed (of this plain), have been already wrested from the use of man, and converted into barren



Section of part of the *morbhaich mor*, near Tain.

a. Peat Moss in the hollows of the blown sand; b. Natural shell bed; c. Sand.

downs, by the sea-sand with which they have been overblown, especially the large district of the *Morrìch mòr*, which the older inhabitants remember to have seen pastured as a common, and which was turned (it is said in a single night) into an arid waste." It is also stated in the same account, that in digging a few years since (the account being written in 1837) for a new channel for part of the Tain river, "a *branching* deer's horn, of extraordinary size, was exhumed." Now, this branching character is one of the characteristics of the wide-spreading horns of the rein-deer; and it is not impossible that this may have been an earlier but overlooked instance of the occurrence of the rein-deer in this same locality.

SUTHERLANDSHIRE.—*Cill-Tròlla Broch*.—The Rev. Mr Joass was much interested in this discovery of rein-deer remains; and he informed me that pieces of *flattened* deer's horns had been found among the bones, shells, and other remains found in clearing out the ruins of an ancient circular fort, the Cill-Tròlla Broch¹ as it is designated, on the farm

¹ The name Broch (gutt.), applied to these old stone towers, is spelled here in accordance with the usual pronunciation of the northern districts of Scotland; it is

of Kintradwell, near Brora, in Sutherlandshire. This broch occupies a commanding position near the sea-coast, and is 30 feet in its interior diameter; the walls being now about 12 feet in height. A guard chamber, 6 feet diameter, 9 feet high, dome roofed, opens on the right from the entrance passage, which is 17 feet long. Inside, on the left, there is a chamber in the wall; and further along, another entrance, leading to a chamber on the left and a stair on the right. In the area is a small chamber sunk 3 feet, and a well 7 feet deep, near which was found a cup formed of steatite, about 5 inches in diameter, with handle. The larger deer horns were all found at the bottom of the debris, with which the place was filled, so as to form apparently a green mound. Outside the tower were grouped a number of stone-built huts and courts, which Mr Joass believes were all secondary, formed from the ruins of the main building. In these were found an iron spear-head and a dagger; ten human skeletons were got in and around the broch, all of which seemed to have been disturbed, perhaps by previous explorers. Mr Joass, I am glad to say, is preparing a detailed account of his exploration to bring before the Society. A short account of his first explorations was read to the Society in February 1864, entitled "Two Days Diggings in Sutherland," and is published, with illustrative plates in volume v. of our "Proceedings," p. 242. He there tells us, that "buried in black mould, and about a foot below the surface, were found jaws of pigs and deer, with part of the frontal bone and horn cores, as well as other bones, of a large animal of the ox tribe, besides fish bones, and shells of the limpet and periwinkle." A stone, showing an incised ornament, figured in plate civ. vol. ii. of the "Sculptured Stones of Scotland" of Mr Stuart, was also found in the immediate neighbourhood; and another, with cup marks and connecting gutters, on the floor of the Broch.

Various broken portions of flattened deer's antlers, found in the broch at Kintradwell, have, at my desire, been sent to me by the Rev. James M. Joass. The horns are generally smooth on the surface, though some portions showed slight channellings and granulations; they are also very

also spelled Brough or Burg, or Bur when conjoined with the names of places. It is the Anglo-Saxon *Beorg*, the Norse *Borg*, and the well-known Burgh, meaning a fortified place or town.

much compressed and flattened in character, and are unlike any horns I have seen of the red-deer; I therefore forwarded them to Professor Richard Owen, of the British Museum, London, our great authority in such matters, and he has since informed me, that he considers all the horns sent were portions of antlers of the *Cervus tarandus*, the rein-deer.

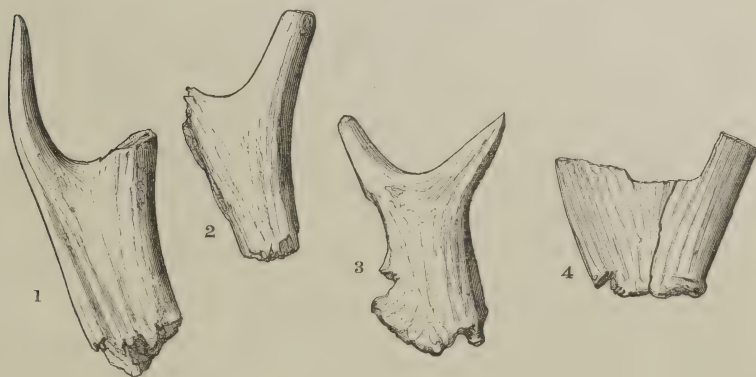
The horns belong probably to different specimens of the rein-deer, varying as they do both in size and appearance. They appear to be principally the terminal portions of antlers, either brow antlers, or probably those of the upper part of the horns. Some of them correspond to several fine specimens of crania and horns of recent rein-deer in my possession, from the neighbourhood of Archangel; in some of these heads the beam of the horn divides into two branches above, and from each of these branches a number of terminal tines rise up, several of which are compressed and flattened in character, and terminate in two distinct tines. These last correspond in character to several of the antlers found at Kintradwell. It is probable that this flattened and forked character was the cause of these antlers being preserved by Mr Joass, while many of the simpler and less distinctly marked antlers were doubtless passed over as being nothing unusual. Other portions of antlers sent include a single smooth rounded tine, and various thin flat pieces of horns split apparently into longitudinal segments, portions of the external surface of apparently much flattened horns.

(As far as I am aware, these Notices are the first that have recorded the presence of remains of the rein-deer, associated with human dwellings in Scotland, or in the British Islands; I have therefore given figures (drawn to the same scale) of some of the horns described, and a somewhat detailed account of the places, and circumstances, under which they were found.)

The first of these horns, I shall describe, is a portion of a terminal antler, much compressed in character, and measuring $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, the upper part dividing into two rather rounded tines. One of these tines is about 4 inches in length, the other is broken off at the root; at the origin of the tines the horn is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad by about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in greatest thickness. (See the annexed woodcut, fig. 1.)

Three other horns are of a similar kind. One is nearly 6 inches in length, and generally smooth or slightly channeled on its surface, like

the last ; it is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad, although imperfect at the edges ; and also divides above into two terminal antlers—one, broken at the tip, now measures $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, and the other is broken off at the base (fig. 2). The third specimen is almost exactly similar in character ; it has two terminal tines, one 2 inches long, the other longer, but imperfect (wood-cut, fig. 3) ; and it shows a mark on the side, as if a third or lateral tine had been also present. This portion is about 6 inches long by $2\frac{1}{4}$ in greatest breadth, but, like the last, one of its margins or edges is broken off or imperfect, and it is about three-fourths of an inch in thickness. The fourth specimen is also somewhat similar, being nearly 3 inches



Rein-deer's Horns found at Cill-Trölla Broch, Sutherland (figs. 1-4).

broad, and terminating in two tines, both imperfect ; it measures about $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length.

One specimen is that of a smooth tine, tapering and pointed, rather compressed at the root, and slightly channeled on its surface ; it measures nearly $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by about $1\frac{1}{4}$ broad at the root. Another portion of horn is larger and thicker, it may be the dividing part towards the upper part of the beam ; it has a concave and convex surface, and divides above into two branches, both of which are broken off. This specimen is

5 inches long by $3\frac{1}{2}$ in greatest breadth, and about $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness at the lower part.

The remaining horns consist of the flat portions which have split naturally in the course of decay; of these one is about $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in greatest breadth, channeled on the surface, and seems to be probably the split half of a terminal forked antler. Another more bent portion of split antler measures $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in greatest breadth, and may have been a portion of the dividing part of the beam. Still another fragment is similar in character, though belonging to a much smoother and different horn; it is about 7 inches long by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in greatest breadth, and seems to be a split portion of the beam, with part of a large terminal tine. Other fragments of horn are mere flat plates, slightly channeled on the surface; they are more or less curved or concave, and vary from $2\frac{1}{4}$ to 4 inches in length by 1 inch to $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth. (See woodcut, fig. 4.) Professor Owen notices these last specimens particularly, as being portions of the outer wall or crust of the antlers, and states that he "thinks this rein-deer must have been killed when the horns were in 'velvet,' *i.e.*, growing," and the horns therefore soft and splitting easily as they decayed.

It is a fact of much interest to find various remains of the rein-deer in this single broch; and when we think of the great numbers of these old castles whose ruins still exist all over the north of Scotland, in all of which great quantities of the horns and bones of red deer and other better known animals have been found, we can scarcely doubt that, had more attention been paid to these remains, the discovery of instances of the occurrence of the rein-deer in these northern counties would long ere this time have rewarded the diligent inquirer. Now that attention is at last called to this subject, it is to be hoped that all who have the opportunity will make careful examinations of these and all other early remains, and see if any additional light can be thrown on the history of man's presence, and comparatively short existence (geologically), as I believe, on our island, or even on our earth; and of the animals with which he has been associated, and which he has himself so largely helped to extirpate and destroy.

CAITHNESS.—*Keiss*.—I have, however, other instances to notice of the discovery of the horns of the rein-deer, also associated with the works of

man, in the adjoining county of Caithness. The members are aware that Mr Samuel Laing made a careful examination of several mounds in the neighbourhood of Keiss Castle, in Caithness, and published the results of his labours in an octavo volume, entitled, "Prehistoric Remains of Caithness (London, 1866)." He very judiciously sent the whole collection of stone and bone relics to the Museum of the Society—the National Museum of Antiquities for Scotland; and the interest of the collection



Rein-deer's horn found in a Broch at Keiss, Caithness.

Fig. 1. Front view; fig. 2. Back of same horn, showing marks of cutting (at *a*) with a sharp and thin instrument.

was increased by the fact of most of the bones having been carefully examined and named by various London authorities. In the collection sent to the Museum, however, some additional specimens were forwarded by Mr Laing; and on looking them over, I was at once attracted by a very distinct specimen of deer's horn, which, as it was not named, I supposed had not been before examined. It is part of the beam of a smooth horn, of considerable size, which is flattened in character, and the burr is rounded; this portion of the beam measures 9 inches in length, and about 6 inches in circumference above the burr (see the preceding woodcut). A portion of the distinctive broad brow antler is also present, showing

part of a small projecting tine ; and on the back part of the horn are a number of short, sharply cut lines (fig. 2, *a*), evidently made by man with some sharp and thin-edged instrument. It is undoubtedly part of the horn of an adult rein-deer. I informed Mr Laing of my discovery ; and in reply he tells me that he remembers the horn perfectly, from the resemblance it seemed to have to a light hammer, for which he supposed it might have been made and used ; it was found in the harbour mound at Keiss.

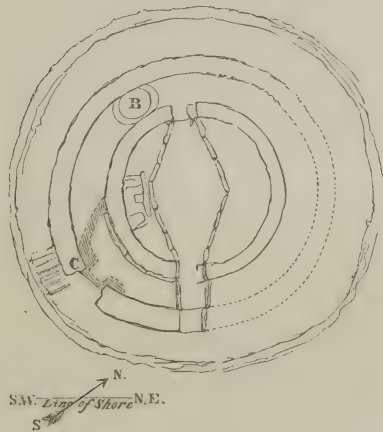


Harbour Mound, Keiss, Caithness.

To give a correct idea of the character of the harbour mound, I may quote some passages from Mr Laing's work (and I am also able, through his kindness, to add one or two of his illustrative woodcuts). The harbour mound, as Mr Laing designates it, is a large green mound a little to the north of the harbour of Keiss. "It afforded the greatest number of relics, and showed most clearly the architectural structure of these ancient dwellings. At first sight it consisted of a very irregular grassy mound, with some loose stones lying about, and showing faint traces of a low outer circular wall or rampart. On excavating, a great mass of cyclopean building and shell-midden was disclosed, with floors or pavements at different levels, which will be best explained by the accompanying sketches, ground-plan, and sections. It is clear that

this building had belonged to the class of brochs or circular towers common in Caithness and Orkney."

Mr Laing says:—"The remarkable fact in this mound is, that it indicated successive occupation and adaptation of the older parts of the

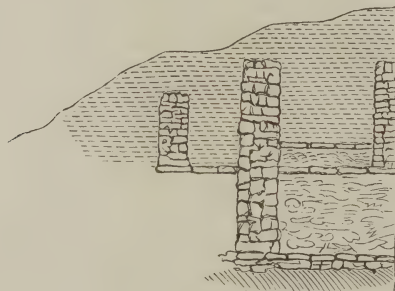


Harbour Mound, Keiss. Ground-Plan.

DIMENSIONS :—		feet.
Diameter of inner circle, about,	.	24
Thickness of inner wall,	.	2
Passage between inner and second wall,	.	3
Thickness of second wall,	.	4
Space between second and outer wall,—variable,	.	4 to 15
Thickness of outer wall,	.	1½ to 2

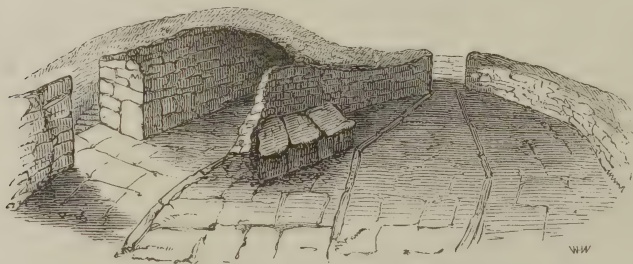
building by newer inhabitants. The primitive part of the structure seemed to be the second or middle circular wall, which was by far the most massively built, and went down to a lower pavement of large flags, resting on a layer of flat beach stones laid on the natural rock. The space for 5 feet above this level was filled up with a midden, or accumulation of

shells, bones, ashes, &c. Then came a second pavement of large flag-stones, on a level with which are the foundations of the two other—or inner and outer circular walls. (See sections of building.) Above this



Harbour Mound. First Section at C of ground-plan.

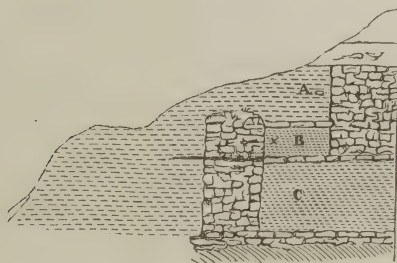
was another midden, $1\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, and then an upper pavement forming the floor of the inner circle. This, again, was covered by a midden of its own, mixed with a mass of stones and rubbish which had fallen in and



View of part of building of Harbour Mound cleared out, opposite C of ground-plan.

choked up the building. There were thus three distinct middens, separated by superimposed pavements, which, without expressing any theory, and simply as a convenient mode of representing the facts, I may call the

primary, secondary, and tertiary middens (C, B, and A of sections). Outside the walls these middens were of course less distinct, there being no pavements to separate them; but it was evident that as the refuse had accumulated at each stage on the floors inside, it had accumulated still more rapidly at certain spots where it had been commonly thrown out; and thus the same distinction of a primary, secondary, and tertiary midden, must approximately apply nearly to the same levels of the outside strata. . . . I am particular in stating these facts, as they have an important bearing on this other fact, that the class of relics found in the upper and lower middens were essentially distinct. Among the various relics from this and the other mounds,



Harbour Mound. Second Section at B.

there is no exception to the rule, that the rude forms of bone and pottery are exclusively confined to the two lower middens, while the few instances of metallic objects, finer pottery, and well-wrought bone implements, are as exclusively confined to the upper one. The same rule applies generally to the stone implements, but these are more intermixed, as might be expected of heavy objects, where so much of the original building has fallen in, or been quarried and disturbed. The skulls, and animal teeth, and bones, were of the same character throughout, and very abundant, so that many cart-loads might be taken, in addition to what had been already taken, as I was told, to manure the land. . . . The large deer's horns, especially, seemed to be most abundant towards

the top. Several of them bear marks of sawing or cutting, so clean that they must have been made by better instruments, either of metal or sharp flint, than any of those found in the kists or middens. . . . Wood, charcoal, and ashes, were common in the lower middens, while higher up the ashes seemed to be of peat."

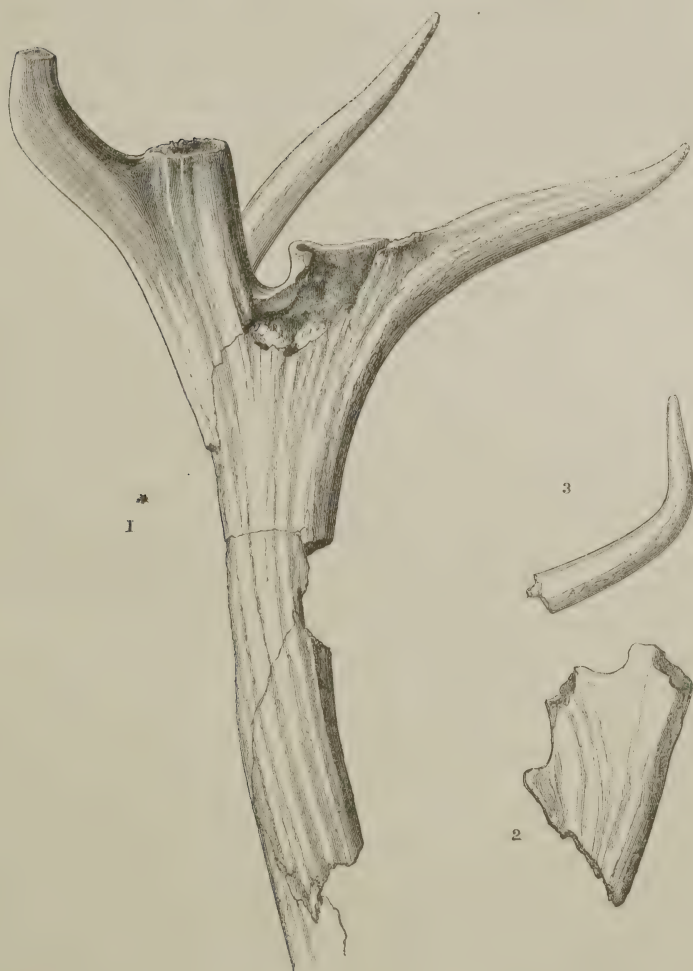
In a letter from Mr Laing referring to the discovery of this horn, he writes:—"I distinctly recollect finding it at Keiss in the lower strata of the midden, accumulated about the base of the ruined 'Brough' described as the Harbour mound at Keiss," "from section C of the lower midden of the Harbour mound," close to the base of the lowest foundation of the "Brough" on the "natural rock."

To prevent all doubt as to the correct designation of this horn found at Keiss, and also the other already referred to found near Tain, I forwarded the specimens to Professor Owen of the British Museum, and he kindly wrote me in reply, that he had examined the portions of antlers sent, they belonged to *Cervus tarandus*, and "he could not detect any specific distinction from those of the existing rein-deer."

The broken portions of another and a larger deer's horn, among the bones sent from Keiss by Mr Laing, also arrested my attention. When put together it appeared to be the upper part of a large deer's horn of a remarkably compressed character, expanding above into two divisions, each of which seemed to have terminated in two or more tines; two tines still remain, while of the others, the larger tine has been sawn off at its junction with the beam by a clean and equal cut, while the other has been only partially sawn through, and then broken across. A little behind and below this part of the beam another long and somewhat rounded tine springs from the horn. (It is well shown in the annexed woodcut, fig. 1.)

This portion of a deer's horn measures altogether about 24 inches in length, in a straight line towards the extremity of the middle tine, and no less than $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth across the beam, immediately before it divides into its two separate and terminal portions. Two inches below the dividing notch the middle of the beam measures only about 1 inch in thickness.

The horn is generally rather smooth in character, though showing various longitudinal channels and a somewhat granular surface towards its edges, and also on some parts of the tines. I was much puzzled as to



Portions of Rein-deer's Horns, found at Keiss (fig. 1), and at Yarhouse (figs. 2, 3), Caithness.

the species of deer to which this horn belonged, as I had never seen any of the red deer at all resembling it, and it seemed to me scarcely smooth enough on its surface to be that of the rein-deer. Accordingly, I forwarded the portions of the horn, with those already referred to, found at Kintradwell, to Professor Richard Owen, and he politely writes me that he has carefully examined and compared the specimens, and adds in reference to this one, "I have not seen any antlers of the red deer showing so much flattening or compression of the 'beam' as in this specimen. I believe them to be parts of the antler of a large rein-deer or variety called 'Carabou.'"

This is, therefore, another example of the occurrence of the rein-deer among the abundant remains of animals found in the human dwellings at Keiss.

Here, then, we have these horns of the rein-deer distinctly marked by the hand of man, belonging probably to the oldest fauna of the broch, and associated with the bones of other animals—the red deer, the small ox (*Bos longifrons*), the horse, the goat, the hog, the fox, the rabbit, and the dog; various birds, including the now all but extinct *Alca impennis*, the great auk; the bones of various cetacea, fish, &c., and shell-fish; on which the inhabitants of this broch had lived, not the rude savages of a remote age, but men able to build those great stone towers, numbers of which still remain to astonish and to puzzle us at the present day.

Yarhouse.—I am indebted to Mr Joseph Anderson for the opportunity of examining a peculiarly shaped deer's horn found in the ruins of another broch in this same county of Caithness. The horn is the terminal portion of a tine; it is much compressed and flattened in character, is slightly concave in its outline on one side, and has the other waved by the projection of two lateral and two terminal tines, most of which are unfortunately broken off at the root. It is generally smooth on its surface, showing only a slight channeling or granular roughness towards the back part. It measures $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, by 3 inches in breadth, and about 1 inch in its greatest thickness. The horn bears a close resemblance to the extremity of one of the large palmated antlers of the rein-deer. (See the preceding woodcut, fig. 2, rein-deer horns found at Yarhouse, Caithness.)

Two small, smooth, and rather rounded tines—one much bent in the

middle, and measuring nearly 7 inches in length (fig. 3), the other about $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, only slightly bent, and having the appearance of its pointed extremity being rudely cut—were also found at some little distance from the other horn in the same broch. I sent these horns, with the others already referred to, to be examined by Professor Owen, who informs me they are portions of antlers of the *Cervus tarandus*, the rein-deer.

The broch of Yarhouse, in which these rein-deer remains were found, is situated about five miles to the south of the town of Wick, on the estate of Thrumster, and at the south end of the Loch of Yarhouse. Mr Anderson, along with Mr Robert I. Shearer, Thrumster, made a careful examination of this broch, and he has favoured me with a few notes of its general structure and character, and illustrated them with the accompanying ground-plan of the buildings. Mr Anderson is preparing a detailed account of the whole ruins, to be brought before the notice of the Society of Antiquaries. He informs me that when they commenced their examination of this broch, it was simply a grass-covered mound, about 200 paces in circumference at its base, on a low lying corner of the shore of the Loch of Yarhouse, immediately below the hill on which two of the peculiar chambered cairns were found. These cairns are distinguished from all the others of the district by their great length, and by their dividing at either extremity into two horn-like projections.*

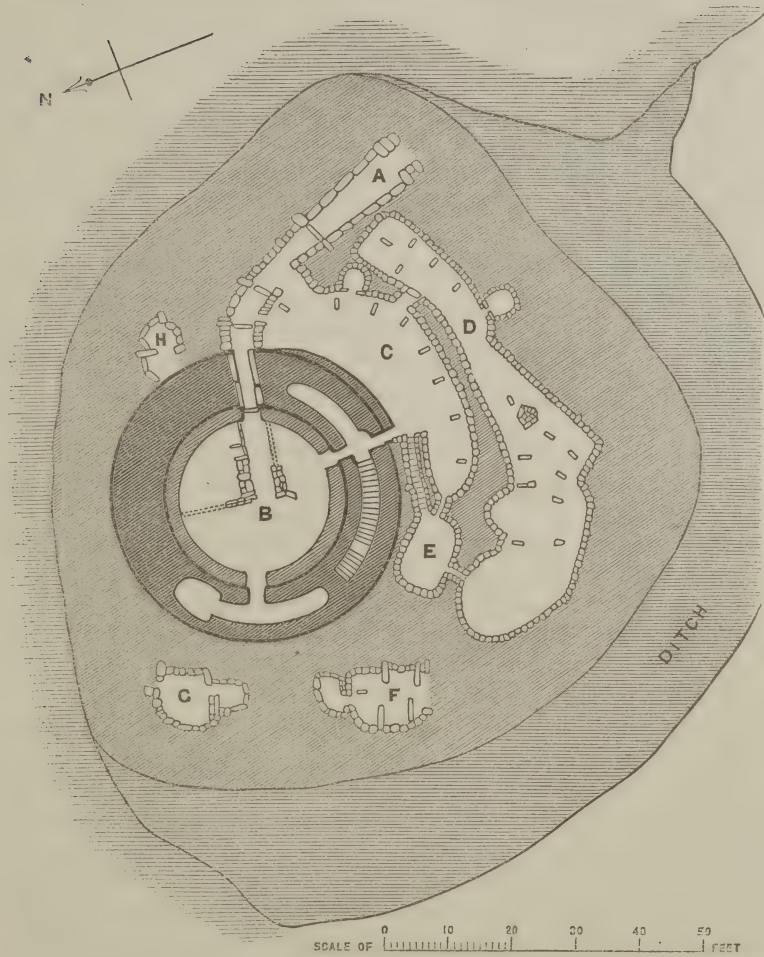
The whole neighbourhood of the broch of Yarhouse is rich in early remains. There were about a dozen chambered cairns within a radius of little more than half a mile, and no less than five other brochs or round towers would be included in the radius of a mile around it, besides an equal number of groups or pairs of standing stones, and many small cairns covering single cists.

The broch is situated on what had once been an island, a fosse about 20 feet broad having separated it from the land. The fosse is now silted up to the level of the loch, but probing gives a stony bottom at a depth of 3 or 4 feet under the luxuriant vegetation of sedges and other water plants that now cover its surface. The true broch or round tower, which stood boldly up, like the keep of an old castle, amidst its lower buildings and outworks, is 30 feet in its interior diameter, and the highest

* See paper on "The Horned Cairns of Caithness," by Joseph Anderson, Esq. Proceedings Soc. Antiq. Scot., vol. vii. 1867.

part of the wall now standing is 15 feet in height. The circular wall is about 12 feet thick, and, as usual, well built, and there were three chambers in it on the ground-floor, one, 13 feet long by 3 feet wide, being, as is commonly the case, at the foot of the stair. Two other chambers are on the opposite side of the building, and are connected together by a passage. Sixteen steps up the flight of stairs is a landing-place, where there is also an opening in the wall or window looking into the interior circular area of the broch. The whole interior of the area presents the blackened appearance left by fire, and burnt wood and peat ashes filled the crevices of the walls and stair for 5 or 6 feet above the level of the floor. To the west and south of the round castle or tower, there are the remains of an earthen dyke on the inner edge of the ditch, and the whole space between the round tower and the ditch is covered with the remains of irregularly constructed buildings connected together by narrow passages; these have as yet been only partially excavated. Some parts of the walls of these buildings appear to be of a different style of masonry from the massy walls of the broch or round tower itself, and they may probably, Mr Anderson thinks, be subsequent additions to it, of a later date. Two long irregularly shaped enclosures (C and D of ground-plan), one outside the other, surround this south side of the broch proper, and are rendered peculiar by the presence of a row of standing stones set upright and edgewise to the outer wall of each building, a few feet apart from each other, and sometimes within a foot or so of the wall itself, suggesting the idea of some of them being supports for a roof, or possibly also, of separate stalls, as if for cattle, or some such occupation. One or two of these stones, the tallest of which is upwards of 6 feet in height from the surface of the floor, appear to have been broken into shape by blows applied to the opposite sides of the stone.

I have been thus particular in giving these details of the structure of this complicated system of buildings outside of and surrounding the tower of the broch, because it was in the outer enclosure (D) that the rein-deer horns were found by Mr Anderson; they will be understood by reference to the (annexed) ground-plan, which gives a better idea of these extensive ruins than any lengthened description. The floors of all these out-buildings on this side were covered with peat ashes to a depth of 2 or 3



Ground-Plan of the Broch of Yarhouse, Caithness.

A, Entrance Passage to Round Tower and its out-buildings.

B, Round Tower.

C, D, E, F, G, H, Out-buildings of Round Tower.

feet, and among the ashes were an abundance of broken and splintered bones of the ox, horse, swine, deer, sheep or goat; occasionally, also, the teeth of dogs were found. The presence of a few fish-bones, and the shells of the common periwinkle, limpet, and cockle, showed that, though situated at a considerable distance inland, the sea-shore was also visited for their food. The pottery, which was found, was coarse, hand-made, and badly burned, and quite unornamented, with the exception of one or two pieces ornamented with short markings, as if by the nail (and similar to that found in the chambered sepulchral cairns close by). Rude stone mortars, rubbing stones, flat stone discs, "pounders," and spindle whorls, one of which was made of clay and ornamented with concentric circles, were found all over the area. Human remains were discovered in several places about 2 or $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet below the green turf, and in such circumstances that the interments had been probably made after the ruin had become a green mound. Close to one of these interments a circular bronze brooch was found, with an inscription in rude Roman characters. The palmated rein-deer horn was found towards the eastern extremity of the outer enclosure (D, of the ground-plan), it was several inches longer when first discovered, but as the whole floor of the broch had been for a series of years under water, the level of the loch having been raised to supply water to an adjoining mill, it was only by extreme care that it or any of the other softened antlers were preserved. The peculiar flatness of this one attracted Mr Anderson's notice; it was, however, so soft that it required to be carefully lifted out with a spade, along with the earth and ashes in which it was imbedded, and then carefully dried and afterwards steeped in glue. There was a considerable portion of a more rounded antler lying close beside it, in all probability part of the beam of the horn, but it was so soft that on attempting to lift it up it fell to pieces. The two smaller tines were found in different parts of this same enclosure (D). Other portions of deer's antlers, broken, cut, sometimes split, and sawn into short lengths of about 4 inches, occurred throughout the mass of ashes, but Mr Anderson tells me he considered them to be simply those of red deer, although it is by no means improbable that some of them may have also been portions of rein-deer horns, like the examples now brought under notice.

The discovery of these rein-deer remains in another part of the county

of Caithness is of much interest; and it is curious to notice, as contrasted with those found deep in the interior of the round towers at Cill-trölla and Keiss, that the horns were in this instance found in what was apparently the newest parts of the structure, the mere out-buildings of the broch, and may therefore belong to a somewhat less remote period than those found in the other localities.

The discovery of rein-deer remains, associated with those of the red deer and other animals, and beside the dwellings of men in Caithness, is also of particular interest, as affording corroborative evidence of the previous existence of rein-deer in Caithness; and therefore the probability, at least, of the truth of the statements brought forward in Dr Hibbert's paper "On the Question of the Existence of the Rein-Deer during the Twelfth Century in Caithness," to which I must again refer. In this communication Dr Hibbert quotes the following sentence from Torfæus to show that the Jarls of Orkney, in the twelfth century, were in the habit of crossing the Pentland Firth to chase the roe deer and the rein-deer in the wilds of Caithness:—"Consueverant Comites in Catenesiam, indeque ad montana ad venatum caprearum rangiferorumque quotannis proficisci."—(*Rerum Orcadensium Historiæ*, lib. i. cap. xxvi.) The same passage was previously quoted by the Rev. John Fleming, D.D., in his "British Animals," published in Edinburgh in 1828, and he remarks, "it would lead to the belief that rein-deer once dwelt in the mountains of Caithness, were it not extremely probable that ~~red~~ deer were intended. Several attempts have been made by the Duke of Athol and others to introduce the rein-deer into the country, but these have hitherto failed" (p. 27). Dr Hibbert, like Dr Fleming, was at first inclined to think that Torfæus had made a mistake here, and that he should have stated the roe deer and the red deer, instead of the roe and the rein-deer. Torfæus wrote at the close of the seventeenth century; but a learned Icelander, Jonas Jonæus, by whom an abstract and Latin translation have been subsequently published (*Hafniæ*, 1780), has explained the manuscript sources from which Torfæus derived his account, and has shown that the animals hunted by the Jarls were in reality not the roe deer, but the red deer and the rein-deer living at the same time in that district of Scotland. Dr Hibbert quotes the passage as follows:—"That var sithr Jarla nær hvert sumar at fara yfer á Katanes oc thar upp á merkr at veida *rauddýri* edr *hveína*;" which

Jonæus renders after the following manner :—“Solebant Comites quavis fere æstate in Katenesum transire ibique in desertis *feras rubras et rangiferos* venari.” The date at which Ronald and Harold, the two Jarls of Orkney alluded to, hunted these animals in Caithness, is assigned by Jonæus to the year 1159. Dr Hibbert says the Skalds were generally accurate in their descriptions of the objects of the chase. Their historical verses were often composed during the lifetime of the heroes whose feats they recorded, and were sung at public feasts; and it would have been as derogatory to their Skaldships to make the Jarls of Orkney kill rein-deer in Caithness, supposing no animals of the kind had then and there existed, as for a modern bard to celebrate a tiger hunt among the red-deer haunts of Athole. Jonæus, moreover, who was familiar with Skalds and their compositions, comments on this passage of the Orkneyinga Saga, and states that what is of the greatest moment is, the fact which it points out, that at that date there were rein-deer in Scotland. He gives references to show that the rein-deer existed in Iceland¹ in the twelfth century, but that they were extirpated by the heedlessness of the inhabitants, who have to their great loss extirpated also some domesticated animals, such as swine, geese, &c.

Unfortunately for these remote historical allusions, says Dr Hibbert, there is no record of the remains of the rein-deer having been found among the wilds of Caithness or Sutherland, but he considers it possible they may have been overlooked; and he refers, in conclusion, to the fact of the horn of a rein-deer, as stated by Leigh in his “Natural History of Lancashire,” having been found under a Roman altar at Chester, and believes this account was probably a correct designation.

It is interesting to be able to supplement this defective evidence, by these various examples of the rein-deer's horns now discovered in these northern counties; and I may state, whatever may be said of the supposed changes of climate which may have taken place, that the food of the rein-deer, the brushwood, and especially the *Cladonia rangiferina*, the rein-deer moss, is still found extensively over Scotland. The abundance and great variety of lichens, indeed, is specially noted as a peculiarity in the Statistical Account of the parish of Wick, where the rein-deer moss is stated to grow to the height of three or four inches among the heather.

¹ See *Note* at the end of this paper.

The following notes include all the other instances of remains of the rein-deer found throughout Scotland, as far as I am aware ; which, however, are as yet but comparatively few in number.

LINLITHGOWSHIRE.—*Craigton*.—The earliest instance I am aware of, is that recorded by Pennant in his “History of Quadrupeds,” 4to, vol. i. p. 100, 1781. In his account of the rein-deer, Mr Pennant says, “My worthy friend, the late Dr Ramsay, Professor of Natural History in Edinburgh, assured me that the horns of this species were found fossil in 1775, in a marl pit, five feet below the surface, near Craigton, in the shire of Linlithgow.”

LANARKSHIRE.—*Clyde*.—In 1833, when operations were in progress in the alluvium of the Clyde, for improving the navigation of the river, a cranium of the large ancient ox, the *Bos primigenius*, and some imperfect fragments of deer horns, were found in beds of finely laminated sand, on the north bank of the river, below the junction of the Kelvin. These bones were preserved through Mr James Smith of Jordanhill, and were deposited in the Museum of the Andersonian University, Glasgow. The deer horns were afterwards examined and described by Dr John Scouler of Glasgow ; they were smooth, and somewhat compressed, and one of them was a distinctive brow antler of the rein-deer ; it was flat and smooth, measured 10 inches in length by 3 inches in breadth, and terminated in three distinct digitations, corresponding precisely to that of a recent rein-deer in the Andersonian Museum. An account of them was read by him before the Natural History Society of Glasgow, 2d December 1851, and afterwards published in the “Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal” for 1852, in a communication entitled, “On the Occurrence of the Remains of the Rein-Deer in Scotland.” Dr Scouler quotes a Danish authority¹ to show that in Denmark the remains of the rein-deer and *Bos urus* (or *primigenius*) are found associated with flint arrow heads, stone hatchets, charcoal, and other relics of man, but no such direct evidence (he says) is to be obtained in the present case. It is, however, certain that remains of human art of equal, if not greater, antiquity are to be found in the same alluvial deposits of the Clyde as that in which the horns of the rein-deer were found ; and Dr Scouler then refers to the various

¹ Undersøgelser i Geologisk—Antiquarisk Retning af Forchhammer. Steinstruup og Worsæe. Kopenhagen. 1851.

canoes that have been discovered there; some of which, from their distance from the river, and others from their depth from the surface, as under seventeen feet of finely laminated sand, he considers to be of much greater antiquity than these rein-deer remains.

Raesgill.—I am indebted to Mr John Young, of the Hunterian Museum, Glasgow, for another and recently noticed instance of the occurrence of the rein-deer in this same county, belonging, however, to a much more ancient period. I had been corresponding with Mr Young in reference to the rein-deer's horn in the Museum found in Ayrshire, to be afterwards described, and he made a careful examination of the other horns of deer in the Museum, and found this one, which closely corresponded, in its general characters, to the one found in Ayrshire, but was considerably less in size.

The horn which I have had the pleasure of examining is the lower portion of the beam, of the left side, having a rounded burr, and, rising close to it, there is part of a small brow antler, about an inch in breadth. It is smooth, much compressed, and expanded above, and about 5 inches from the burr gives off a second antler very much flattened in character, and about 2 inches broad at the root. The whole fragment of the horn is about $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, the surface being smooth, and showing none of the granulations or channels as on horns of the red deer (see the annexed woodcut). It has apparently been slightly rolled by rubbing in water, the broken corners being somewhat rounded off; the general smooth and polished character of the horn, however, is quite natural, and not due to this cause. It corresponds, also, very closely in its shape and appearance to some recent horns of the rein-deer in the Hunterian Museum. There is no doubt, therefore, of its belonging to the same species. The horn was presented to the Museum in 1862 by Mr William Grossart, surgeon, Salsburgh, in the parish of Shotts.

On communicating recently with Mr Grossart, who is a geologist, and has paid much attention to the local geology of the district, I learn that the horn was found about the year 1849, in the rather appropriately named Raesgill or glen, on the north side of the river Clyde (all the glens being named gills in this district), in the neighbourhood of Carluke, where he was at that time residing. There are extensive beds of black shale, containing bands of clay iron-stone, round about Carluke, and at

that time the iron-stones were worked in Raesgill. The surface soil and true boulder-clay, several yards in thickness, were removed from the surface of the beds, which were worked "open-cast," as it is styled. It was in the course of removing the boulder-clay, and in the bed of the clay itself, that the horn was found; and it was the only animal remains of any kind that was observed. Mr Young says he knows the district well, and is quite satisfied that the clay bed was the true boulder-clay, being full of ice-worn and striated stones. He thinks, from the somewhat rolled appearance of the horn, that it may probably have been originally derived from some pre-glacial deposits, most likely corresponding in character to those, to be afterwards referred to, found in Dumbartonshire and in Ayrshire.



Rein-deer's Horn, found at Raesgill, Lanarkshire.

PERTSHIRE.—*Marlee*.—Professor Owen, in his valuable "History of British Fossil Mammals" (1846), has called attention to the probability at least of the occurrence of the remains of the rein-deer in the marl-beds of this county. The loch of Marlee, in the parish of Kinloch, Perthshire, near the foot of the Grampian mountains, had been partly drained for the sake of the marl, and in a marl-pit on its margin, under a covering of peat moss 5 or 6 feet thick, the skeleton of a beaver was discovered. The

skull was preserved, and was presented to the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, in December 1788.¹

In a neighbouring marl pit, Mr Neill says, "a pair of deer's horns, of large dimensions, and branched, were found nearly at the same time;" and, along with these, two "leg bones, so deeply grooved as to appear like double bones." These last bones were supposed by Dr Barclay to belong to an extinct species of large deer which had been contemporary with the beaver. The large and branching character of the horns so specially referred to, suggest the idea of a deer different from that of the red deer, and would agree much better with the usual branching character of the horns of the rein-deer; and Professor Owen points out the fact, that the peculiar grooved appearance of the leg bones, also described, is a remarkable character of the metacarpal, and especially of the metatarsal, bones of the rein-deer. It is therefore probable that the remains were in reality those of a rein-deer; and it has been found in a similar situation in Linlithgowshire and in Dumfriesshire, to be afterwards described.

Sir Charles Lyell states, that the bones found in the shell-marls of Scotland include the red deer, ox, boar, dog, hare, fox, wolf, and cat, and the beaver (I quote from Professor Owen's work), the animals being arranged in this list nearly in the order of their relative abundance; to these we have now to add the bear and the rein-deer. Sir Charles also makes the interesting remark, that the animals found in the lacustrine shell-marls of Scotland all belong to species which now inhabit, or are known to have been indigenous in Scotland; and the addition of the bear and the rein-deer to the list does not alter this generalisation.

In the old "Statistical Account of Scotland," vol. xvii. p. 478, Edinburgh 1796, it is stated by the Rev. John Brodie, minister of the parish of Kinloch, that "a pair of very large deer's horns were found a few years ago in a bed of marl, in Mr Farquharson's marl-pit at Marlee. From their superior size, and palmed form, they appear to be the horns of the elk-deer," &c. Now, it is much more likely, when we take into account Professor Owen's remark, referred to above, as to the resemblance of the leg bones of a deer found in the same place to those of the rein-deer, that this large palmed horn was also that of a rein-deer.

¹ See Mem. of Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. iii. 1821, "On the Beavers found in Perthshire and Berwickshire," by Pat. Neill, Esq., p. 214.

The next two instances belong more, perhaps, to the geological than to the archaeological branch of inquiry,—still, I take the liberty of including them in my enumeration, as I am anxious to give a complete list of all the discoveries of the rein-deer in Scotland; and besides, at the present time, it is not easy to say where the line should be drawn between these so closely allied sciences.

DUMBARTONSHIRE.—*Croftamie*.—On 26th March 1856, I had the pleasure of exhibiting to the Royal Physical Society here, a portion of the smooth beam of the horn of the right side of a young or female reindeer. (See the annexed woodcut, fig. 1.) The horn is small, measuring $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and 1 inch in breadth, midway between the origins of the antlers. It has been broken off obliquely, just below the slightly prominent burr, and shows the origin of the brow antler close to the burr, and at about two inches distance that of a second antler or tine, at which part the horn is much compressed, the origin of the antler being quite flattened. Beyond this we have the smooth and rounded beam, becoming again compressed and angular at the upper part, where it is broken across.

The horn was found in the formation of a cutting of the Forth and Clyde Junction Railway, in the basin of the Endrick, at the distance of nearly a mile from that stream, and adjoining the hamlet of Croftamie. The Endrick flows into Loch Lomond, and the nearest part of the loch is about four miles distant. This rein-deer horn belongs, however, to a much older period than those first described; for in this case the horn was found close upon the rock, in the lower part of a bed of blue clay, in which, at a few yards distance, various shells were found, such as *Cyprina islandica*, *Astarte elliptica*, and *A. compressa*, *Fusus antiquus*, *Littorina littorea*, the common whelk or periwinkle, and the shelly base of a *Balanus*, adherent to a small stone; all these are marine shells, and are species at present inhabiting the neighbouring seas, telling us, apparently, of a time when this valley and the neighbouring Loch Lomond were still arms of the sea. These remains were not found in the till or boulder-clay, but in a bed of blue clay *below* it, between the boulder-clay and the underlying rock of the district. The bed of clay in which the remains were found was about seven feet in thickness; and above it was a bed of till or stiff boulder-clay about twelve feet thick, containing water-worn and angular

boulders, many of great size, over which was the subsoil and vegetable mould of the surface. The remains were found at a height of from 100 to 103 feet above the present level of the sea. They were presented by



Fig. 1.—Horn of a rein-deer found near Croftamie, Dumbartonshire.

Fig. 2.—Corresponding horns of a young and recent American rein-deer.

me to the Museum of Science and Art, and along with the horn, a perfect pair of horns of a young recent American rein-deer, corresponding exactly with it in character, which I was fortunate enough to get at the time. An account of the discovery, with the preceding woodcut, repre-

sending both these horns, was published in the "Proceedings of the Royal Physical Society," vol. i. pp. 163 and 247.

To test the correctness of the conclusion to which I had come, and set the matter completely at rest, I sent the horn for examination to Professor Richard Owen of London, who favoured me with the following reply:—"It gives me great pleasure to inform you that the portion of antler from the basin of the Endrick, which you sent for my inspection, is that of a young or female rein-deer, of the existing species, and if, as is most probable, a female, of the large variety called 'Carabou' by the Hudson's Bay trappers."

AYRSHIRE.—*Kilmaurs*.—The next instance of the discovery of the remains of the rein-deer was made some years ago in removing the alluvium over part of a quarry at Woodhill, near Kilmaurs, Ayrshire. Mr Archibald Geikie, in his valuable "Memoir on the Phenomena of the Glacial Drift of Scotland," published in the "Transactions of the Geological Society of Glasgow," vol. i., 1863, p. 71, states, that "Dr Scouler has recently examined some antlers, which, along with an elephant's tusk (*Elephas primigenius*), were placed by the late Dr Couper in the Hunterian Museum of Glasgow, the whole having been found in the till at the quarry near Kilmaurs. He informs me that they are unquestionably the horns of the rein-deer. It is singular that in this little Ayrshire valley, within the compass of a few yards, there should occur a greater number of mammalian remains than have been obtained from the drift of all the rest of Scotland; and that among these there should be well-preserved relics of the only two mammals (the mammoth and the rein-deer) which have yet been ascertained beyond a doubt to have inhabited Scotland during the drift period."

On a recent visit to Glasgow I had the pleasure of examining these remains, under the obliging guidance of Mr John Young, of the Hunterian Museum. They consist of a large tusk of the mammoth and the broken antlers of a large rein-deer, which were presented to the museum on the 4th December 1829 by John Fulton, Esq., Kilmarnock, and were found 36 feet below the surface at the Woodhill Quarry, on the farm of Greenhill, at that time the property of Mr Fulton. The antlers of the rein-deer appeared to me to be the remains of the horns of a single large and probably male rein-deer, the two corresponding frontal bones with a horn proceeding from each, and various longer and shorter portions of

the broken beams and antlers of the horns, measuring altogether between two and three feet in length; no very distinct palmated portions of the horns seemed to have been preserved, but the smooth and somewhat compressed appearance of the horns was very distinctive of the rein-deer.

Mr Young showed me a curious collection of upwards of 300 seeds of fresh water plants, which he had recently obtained by breaking up and washing a piece of sandy clay which had lain in the museum since 1829. It was adhering to the cavity of the tusk of the mammoth, and formed part of the earthy matrix, in which were imbedded the tusk and horns of the rein-deer found in the old Woodhill Quarry, Kilmaurs. These seeds have been defined as belonging to some five or six species, the more abundant being a species of *Potamogeton* and a *Ranunculus*. Mr Young had failed to discover any trace of marine organisms in this clay, and was therefore of opinion that it formed part of an old estuarine deposit, which had at one time partly filled up the Carmel Valley.

At a meeting of the Geological Society of Glasgow, on the 1st April 1869, specimens of marine shells were exhibited by Mr Robert Craig, Langside, Beith, which had been recently discovered on sinking a pit at Woodhill, near Kilmaurs, by Mr Yates, jun., coalmaster, Kilmarnock. The shells were found in a thin bed of sand, 1 foot 3 inches in thickness, which here underlies 50 feet of boulder-clay and upper drift, and overlies the bed in which the remains of the mammoth and rein-deer were formerly found. Of the shells the following species were observed: *Leda oblonga*, *Tellina calcarea*, *Pecten islandicus*, *Cyprina islandica*, *Astarte sulcata*, *A. compressa*, *Natica greenlandica*, and fragments of a large species of *Natica*, *Littorina*, and a *Balanus*. At the same meeting Mr John Young read a paper "On the Succession of the Post-tertiary Beds beneath the Boulder-clay at Kilmaurs," and gave a detailed account of the whole order of these beds. Mr Young showed that since 1816, when the remains of the mammoth, *Elephas primigenius*, were first discovered at the Woodhill Quarry, some nine or ten tusks, and a portion of a molar tooth had been found, also some horns of the rein-deer. These remains were at first referred to the boulder-clay. In a communication to the Royal Physical Society of Edinburgh, in 1856, on the discovery of a rein-deer's horn in Dumbartonshire, already referred to at length in this paper, it was stated that

the rein-deer's horn there was found in a bed of blue clay lying *below* the boulder-clay of the Endrick Valley; and in this instance Dr Bryce of Glasgow showed a few years ago that these elephant and rein-deer remains were also really found in beds underlying the boulder-clay.¹ Several marine shells had been found, it was supposed, along with the tusks, but their species had not been described, and their exact locality and relation to these beds and to the tusks had not been clearly determined. Dr Bryce, from his own examination of the locality, and the testimony of competent observers in the neighbourhood, considered these beds at Kilmaurs to be marine deposits, belonging to the glacial series, and the true relation of them to be as follows, beginning from below :—

1. Carboniferous sandstone.
2. Hard gravel, 2 feet in thickness.
3. Dark blue clay (in which the mammoth remains were found, and between these, and partly in the clay, the horn of a rein-deer), 9 inches.
4. Sand (in which the shells were found), 6–18 inches.
5. Boulder-clay, 16 feet.
6. Upper drifts, 20 feet.
7. Subsoil and surface soil.

From the recent discoveries of Mr Craig, Mr Young was now able to give the following as the correct series, from above downwards :—

1. The natural surface and vegetable mould.
2. Various upper sands and gravels.
3. The boulder-clay or till.
4. Thin bed of marine sand with arctic shells.
5. Lacustrine bed with insects and seeds of fresh-water plants. In this bed the remains of the mammoth and the rein-deer were found.
6. Below this, again, there was a gravel bed.
7. And lastly, the Carboniferous strata.

Mr Craig found instances, he believed, of denudation in some places, where the upper sands, gravels, and boulder-clay rested directly on the Carboniferous strata. Mr Young could not, as yet, give a decided opinion as to the exact age of the mammoth bed at Kilmaurs, but he considered

¹ "On the Occurrence of Beds in the West of Scotland beneath the Boulder-clay," by James Bryce, M.A., LL.D.—*Quarterly Journal of the Geological Society of London*, vol. xxi. 1865.

that the evidence seemed to point it out as a pre-glacial remnant of the oldest post-tertiary strata yet discovered in the west of Scotland.

DUMFRIESSHIRE.—*Shaw*.—To the kindness of our distinguished naturalist, Sir William Jardine, Bart. of Applegarth, I am indebted for the following notice of the discovery of the horn of a rein-deer in this county.

“It was found (Sir William writes me from Jardine Hall, Dumfriesshire) with the remains of other animals, in digging marl from what is now a moss, about four miles distant from this on the property of George Graham, Esq. of Shaw. It had formerly been a small lake, but being drained, had become a morass, and grew the moss on the top, in some places of considerable depth, and was long in use for casting peats for firing. The animal remains were generally found at the bottom of the moss, lying on the marl, or nearly so. They consist of red deer (abundant), roebuck, *Bos primigenius* (rare), and one very perfect skull of a black bear (*Ursus arctos*), with a rib of the same animal. This was sent to me to tell what it was, and was the first intimation I had of any remains being found. I immediately went to the spot, and found all that I mention; and on examining a great many horns that had been collected near the house, found that which I consider to be part of that of a rein-deer.”

The horn is in the possession of Sir William, and measures about 12 inches long by about $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in greatest breadth. It is flattened in character, smooth on its surface, and wavy in its outline, from the projection of one lateral and two terminal tines, or branches. It appears to be either the terminal portion of the beam of the horn, or of a large brow antler, showing three digitations of different length.

ORKNEY.—*Rousay*.—The next instance was communicated to me by Dr Arthur Mitchell, F.S.A. Scot., who informed me, that in travelling three or four years ago through the mainland of Orkney, he saw a large horn of a rein-deer hanging nailed up above the door of a house, and was told that it was found in the adjoining island of Rousay when casting peats, and deep down below the surface. The doctor brought away the horn as a prize; but after a time, a rumour reached him that the former proprietor of Rousay had imported two or three rein-deer, and he felt this caused a doubt as to the true history of the horn, and accordingly had said nothing about it. He, however, mentioned the circumstance to me, and, at my request, sent the large and handsome horn for the inspec-

tion of the Society, and as a donation to the Museum. (See the annexed figure.) It is the horn of the left side, and measures about 3 feet 1 inch in length. There is a single, large, and palmated brow antler, 1 foot long, which terminates in four points; the next antler is also broad and palmated, and displays five or six points; on the back part of the beam



Rein-deer horn, found in a bog in the island of Rousay, Orkney.

there is the small tine projecting backwards, and the upper part of the horn expands into a palm, and terminates in four or more points.

Dr William Traill, a Corresponding Member of the Society, now resident at St Andrews, has kindly furnished me with notes of three rein-deer, a male and two females, which were brought from Archangel to Orkney by his relative, Mr Robert Traill, in 1816; but they soon after died, about the end of the winter, from want, it was believed, of their proper food, in addition to the supposed unsuitability of the climate.

Robert Baikie of Tankerness, Esq., M.D., also a Fellow of this Society, and one who is very learned in all Orkney matters, kindly informed me,

that he never heard of any rein-deer being brought to Rousay; and the only instance of them being brought alive to Orkney that he ever heard of, was the one referred to by Dr Traill. He saw these rein-deer at the time, and remembers that their horns were very small indeed, having only a single prong or so, and quite different from the large, well-developed horn now exhibited, that was found in the peat at Rousay. He believed the rumour referred to by Dr Mitchell must have been this instance of Mr Traill's bringing over the living rein-deer.

It is not easy to understand how the horns of any of these, or other domesticated rein-deer, which were most likely to be prized and preserved by their owners, could get buried in the peat-bogs of the islands; and I would rather be inclined to believe that this one found at Rousay, was really an early inhabitant of these islands, as we know it roamed over Scotland, and was also found in Iceland. We know also that great numbers of deer horns have been found with the early remains of man in Orkney; and we desiderate a careful examination of them, in case that other horns of the rein-deer may have been overlooked.

The instances now detailed include all the examples I have been able to gather of remains of the rein-deer being found in Scotland; and it is probable, when more attention is directed to the numerous remains of deer found in different parts of the country, that the number of discoveries of its occurrence will be greatly increased.

On referring to a very interesting and exhaustive communication by W. Boyd Dawkins, M.A., &c., "On the former Range of the Rein-deer in Europe," published in the "Popular Science Review" for January 1868, to which my attention has been called since these notes were collected, I find he refers to an additional instance of the occurrence of the rein-deer of which I was not previously aware; it, however, corresponds very closely with the one I have described, found in the same county of Ross. He says, "In 1865 Sir Philip Egerton met with a small fragment of antler in the peat-bogs of Ross-shire, which beyond all doubt belonged to this animal." I am glad also to find that Mr Dawkins brings the statements of Dr Hibbert's paper fully into notice, and agrees with him in the probable correctness of the account that rein-deer were hunted in Caithness in the twelfth century. Professor Brandt, of St Petersburg, he says, is also of the same opinion.

Mr Dawkins, however, rather curiously translates *capree* as goats, and thus makes Torfæus state that the animals hunted by the Orkney Jarls were goats and rein-deer, instead of roe deer and rein-deer.

Mr Dawkins refers to the fact of the rein-deer being mentioned along with the red deer, and says, "At the present day they occupy different zoological provinces, so that the fact of their association in Caithness would show that in the twelfth century the red deer had already appropriated the pastures of the rein-deer, which could not retreat farther north on account of the sea. Hence the association of these animals in the same area proves that the latter was verging towards extinction."

We have on the "Sculptured Stones of Scotland" representations of various animals, which deserve more attention, perhaps, than naturalists have as yet given to them; and on some of them we have hunting scenes, and representations of deer. There is one of this class of stones now preserved in our Museum, to which I may just allude. The stone, a block of fine grained compact grey quartzose sandstone, measures about 3 feet 8 inches in length, by 10 or 11 inches across the sculptured face, and about 8 or 9 inches in thickness; it was acci-



Sculptured Stone found near Grantown, Inverness-shire.

dentally discovered in trenching a knoll called *enoc-an-jhravich*, the hill of heather or heathery knowe, near Grantown, on the Spey, Inverness-shire. There is cut on it a very spirited representation of a deer, which, if not simply an exaggerated representation of a red deer; from its general appearance and pose, and the wide-spreading and branching character of the upper part of its antlers, bears at least somewhat of a resemblance to that of the rein-deer. Unfortunately the stone appears to have been chipped in front of the lower antlers. Each horn separates above into two principal branches or divisions, and from each of these branches various tines rise up—an arrangement which is well marked in many adult specimens of the rein-deer. It is curious to notice that immediately under the deer, and indeed the only other sculpture on the stone, there is a representation of a square-shaped frame-work, ornamented with curled-up or skate-like extremities at its opposite corners. Now, if we could suppose it possible that rein-deer broken in for harness had formerly existed in this country, then it seems to me not to require a very great stretch of the imagination, associated as this appears to be so closely with the deer, to fancy that we may possibly have here a representation of the rein-deer and its accompanying sledge! The other markings on the stone are mere scratches, and appear to have been caused by the teeth of harrows or other agricultural implements passing over it when it lay under-ground. (The sculptured stone is well shown in the preceding careful sketch and engraving by our clever townsman, Mr John Adam.)

The rein-deer now inhabits only the extreme northern parts of both hemispheres, though it is stated still to extend southwards, in certain localities, as far as the 50th degree of north latitude; and I learn from Dr A. Günther's invaluable "Record," that a society has commenced a very promising attempt at introducing the rein-deer in the Upper Engadin, Switzerland.¹

I shall not enter here into the details of the discovery of the remains of the rein-deer in the south of Europe, and especially in the caves of Dordogne in France, all of which are fully described in the beautiful and important "Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ" of MM. Lartet and Christy; these authors tell us that in the drift (or valley gravels) the rein-deer occurs but

¹ "The Record of Zoological Literature," p. 37. Edited by Albert C. L. G. Gunther, M.D., &c., vol. iv. London, 1867.

sparingly; the mammoth, rhinoceros, horse, and ox are the predominant animals. In the Dordogne caves the rein-deer predominates, associated largely with the horse and aurochs; and exceptionally with some remains of the mammoth, hyena, &c.; but all traces of such domesticated animals as the sheep, the goat, and the dog are wanting. In the kitchen-middens of Denmark they state there are no rein-deer remains; but the fauna includes the dog, indicating the presence of domestic animals; and the same may be said of the Swiss lacustrine dwellings. (I have already quoted another authority, to show that the remains of rein-deer are found in Denmark, associated with flint arrow heads, stone hatchets, and other relics of man.) The rein-deer is not found in French turbaries, and in none of the cromlechs or sepulchres, say the authors of the "*Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ*," is there a trace of the rein-deer; the remains of the fauna in them being more recent than either the kitchen-middens or the most ancient of the lake dwellings. The man of the rein-deer period in France knew nothing of the use of the metals, and although a proficient in chipped axes, had apparently no ground or polished ones; and there is no trace of his having been able to spin or make pottery.

Mr Dawkins, in his memoir, informs us that "the rein-deer makes its first appearance in Western Europe in caverns and river gravels and sand of post-glacial age." He details numerous examples of its occurrence in various caverns in England and Wales, and in several post-glacial river deposits in different parts of England. In these instances its remains are associated with those of a variety of other animals; such as the hippopotamus, the two species of rhinoceros, the mammoth, the red deer, the roe, the Irish elk, and the urus; the cave lion, cave bear, and the grizzly bear, the leopard, the otter, the wild boar, the wolf, and also with the remains of man.

In the later or pre-historic epoch, Mr Dawkins says, "While our estuaries were being silted up, and the alluvia at the mouths of our rivers were encroaching on the domain of the sea, and our peat-bogs were being formed," the red deer began to increase, and the rein-deer became gradually extinct; only four instances of the occurrence of the rein-deer in these subturbary deposits and peat-bogs have been recorded in England.

In Scotland, from the details I have now given, and as might have been expected from its more northerly position, the remains of the rein-

deer found, seem to show a very prolonged existence of the animal. From the remote pre-glacial time, with its fresh-water plants and insects; or the glacial times of the drift, when great geological changes took place, and the animal was associated, as we have seen, at Kilmaurs, in Ayrshire, with the ancient woolly elephant. Down apparently to a much later period, to the comparatively recent formations of our marl-beds and peat-bogs, as in Dumfriesshire, where it occurs along with the urus, the bear, the red, and the roe deer. The clays and sands of our river banks, as on the Clyde, in company with the urus of Cæsar, the great ancient ox (the *Bos primigenius*); specimens of which, in our Museum, were found in a marl bed near Selkirk, along with numbers of the bronze celts of our early inhabitants.¹ By our sea-shores, as on the sandy downs at Tain, associated with the domestic animals, the dog and the small ox, the *Bos longifrons*, so often found with the relics of the Roman occupation. With the red deer, oxen, pigs, goats, and dogs of the kitchen middens, of the men who built those numerous and extensive brochs or stone towers, whose massy ruins still remain in many parts of our country. (I do not at present refer to the supposed great antiquity of these brochs, as it appears to me we have as yet but slender data to guide us in our estimate; meanwhile I am not inclined to place them at so very remote an era as some antiquaries seem inclined to do.) And lastly, we have the chase of the rein-deer celebrated in the saga, bringing the period of its existence in Scotland down even to the twelfth century; at which time another northern inhabitant of both hemispheres, the beaver² (*Castor fiber*), is known to have been still living in Scotland.

¹ "Notes on the Crania of the Urus, *Bos primigenius*, in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland."—*Proc. Roy. Phys. Soc. Edin.*, vol. ii. p. 3, 1858-59.

² Mem. Wern. Nat. Hist. Soc., vol. iii. 1821, "On the Beavers found in Perthshire and Berwickshire," by Pat. Neill, Esq.; and *Edin. New Phil. Journ.* 1858, new series, vol. vii., "On the Prior Existence of the *Castor fiber* in Scotland," &c., by Charles Wilson, M.D.

Note.—It has been already stated that the rein-deer were extirpated from Iceland in the twelfth century. In 1773 they were again introduced, Sir G. Mackenzie tells us; and later travellers, as Lord Dufferin in 1856, and Wm. S. Baring-Gould in 1863, inform us that they are still to be found in the island. For information on "The Geographical Distribution of Animals," see the important work of Mr Andrew Murray. 4to. London, 1866.

V.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO THE FOREIGN SECRETARY FROM DR DANIEL WILSON, TORONTO, HON. MEM. S.A. SCOT., RESPECTING A VOLUME CONTAINING VIEWS OF OLD BUILDINGS IN EDINBURGH, SENT FOR PRESENTATION TO THE SOCIETY.

[In reading the following extract from Dr Daniel Wilson's letter respecting his donation to the Society, Mr Laing said that this volume of prints and drawings had not yet reached Edinburgh. It will be exhibited, of course, at the first ordinary meeting of the Winter Session; but he thought the Members, in the meanwhile, might be pleased to hear something of their old and esteemed Associate.]

“UNIV. COLL., TORONTO,
“*May 24, 1869.*”

“MY DEAR LAING,—I have availed myself of a private opportunity to forward to your care a large folio, titled ‘Memorials of Auld Reekie.’ Will you do me the favour to present it to the Society of Antiquaries. It contains a Collection of engravings, maps, plans, woodcuts, &c., of old Edinburgh, and some few original drawings. You will find a little sketch of the exterior of St Margaret's Well, made by me long before its site was invaded by the Railway, when it occupied a nook in the pretty sequestered lane leading down to Restalrig, with an elder tree growing* at its side.¹ Two old drawings of St Anthony's Chapel, when much more complete than now, may also attract your attention. Had I remained in Edinburgh, the collection would no doubt have been greatly increased, and possibly some of you may fill up gaps I have left. It is arranged nearly in the order adopted in my ‘Memorials of Edinburgh,’ beginning

¹ In the Proceedings, vol. ii. p. 143, &c., vol. iii. p. 165, will be found a special notice of “St Margaret's Well,” and of its successful disinterment from a railway vault to an admirable site in connexion with a fine spring of water in the Queen's Park. But I may take this opportunity to express a sincere hope that Mr Matheson of the Board of Works will at length be able to complete the design of its reconstruction, by rendering the exterior of the well an architectural ornament to the park adjoining the Palace of Holyrood.—D. L.

with the Castle and going down to Holyrood, &c. I left spaces for many things still wanted. Some few I have filled up, and I long flattered myself my exile from Scotland was not to be for ever. But that dream has faded away.

“The most common Views, if accurate, acquire a value through time, and now that the Lord Provost Chambers has originated a crusade against the Old Town, no time is to be lost in securing such records of its fleeting features.”

Dr J. A. Smith said he well remembered the large and much-valued volume, which he had the pleasure of seeing in Dr Daniel Wilson's possession, and could testify to its varied and interesting collection of illustrations of Old Edinburgh and vicinity. It would form a valuable addition to the Library of the Society.

The Society then adjourned to the 30th November next, St Andrew's Day.

ERRATA.

- Page 26, line 12 from bottom, *for* “astrapalus,” *read* “astragalus.”
,, 150, line 12 from bottom, *for* “Gannistic beds,” *read* “Gannister.”
,, 151, lines 9 and 8 from bottom, *read* “granite and gneiss.”
,, 151, line 10 from top, *for* “glazed,” *read* “glued.”

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

NINETIETH SESSION, 1869-70.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, *St Andrew's Day*, 30th November 1869.

DAVID LAING, Esq., LL.D., Foreign Secretary, in the Chair.

The Office-bearers of the Society were elected for the ensuing year as follows:—

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President.

HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY,
K.G.

Vice-Presidents.

HONOURABLE LORD NEAVES, LL.D.

DAVID MILNE HOME, Esq.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq.

Councillors.

Right Hon. EARL of DALHOUSIE, K.T. } *Representing the Board*
JAMES T. GIBSON-CRAIG, Esq. } *of Trustees.*
Colonel JONATHAN FORBES LESLIE.

CHARLES E. DALRYMPLE, Esq.
 Professor SIR JAMES Y. SIMPSON, Bart., M.D.
 ARTHUR MITCHELL, Esq., M.D.
 Sir J. NOEL PATON, Knt., R.S.A.
 Professor TURNER.
 JAMES D. MARWICK, Esq., City Clerk.

Secretaries.

JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., General Register House.
 JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, Esq., M.D.
 DAVID LAING, Esq., LL.D., for *Foreign Correspondence*.

Treasurer.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, Esq., 4 St Andrew Square.

Curators of the Museum.

JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A.
 ROBERT CARPRAE, Esq.

Curator of Coins.

GEORGE SIM, Esq.

Librarian.

DAVID DOUGLAS, Esq.

Auditors.

ROBERT HUTCHISON, Esq.
 JOHN MACMILLAN, Esq., A.M.

Publishers.

MESSES EDMONSTON & DOUGLAS.

Keeper of the Museum.

JOSEPH ANDERSON.

Assistant Keeper of the Museum.

GEORGE HASTIE.

The CHAIRMAN announced that the following Members of the Society had died during the year :—

Honorary Members.

Sir CHARLES GEORGE YOUNG, F.S.A., Garter-King-at-Arms,	Elected 1849
JAMES HENTHORN TODD, D.D., Trinity College, Dublin,	1864

Fellows.

	Elected
PHILIP BARRINGTON AINSLIE, Esq., Guildford,	1828
DONALD CRAIG, Esq., General Register House,	1866
ROBERT CLARK, Esq., Drummond Place,	1866
ALEXANDER CAMPBELL of Monzie, Esq.	1852
J. G. HEDDLE of Melsetter, Esq., Orkney,	1868
JOHN HAY of Letham, Esq., Forfarshire,	1868
GEORGE VERE IRVING of Newton, Esq., Lanarkshire,	1862
Right Hon. GEORGE PATTON, Lord Justice-Clerk,	1850
ALEXANDER WHYTE, Esq., Queensferry,	1866

On the recommendation of the Council,

JOHN HENRY PARKER, Esq., F.S.A. Oxford, and
M. FRANCISQUE MICHEL, Paris,

were unanimously elected Honorary Members.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for, and admitted Fellows :—

WALTER DICKSON, Esq., M.D.

THOMAS C. ARCHER, Esq., Director of the Edinburgh Museum of
Science and Art.

JOHN DICK, Esq. of Craigenfelt, Stirling.

Rev. THOMAS GREENBURY, Leeds.

JAMES WINGATE, Esq., Insurance Broker, Limehouse.

ALEXANDER H. CHALMERS, Esq., W.S., Aberdeen.

HENRY WRIGHT, Esq., Publisher, London.

Mr STUART, Secretary, read the following Annual Report, to be laid, as usual, before the Board of Trustees, for transmission to the Right Hon. the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury :—

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND FOR
THE YEAR ENDING 30TH NOVEMBER 1869.

During the Session 1868-69, the Museum has been open continuously from the 26th December 1868, and has been visited by 104,183 persons, as shown in the following table :—

Month.	Day Visitors.	Saturday Evenings.	Total.
From 26th December,	6,727	Shut.	6,727
January,	18,215	1,190	19,405
February,	3,197	740	3,937
March,	4,551	950	5,501
April,	3,013	653	3,666
May,	6,294	926	7,200
June,	7,433	552	7,985
July,	13,893	1,283	15,176
August,	17,463	1,094	18,557
September,	8,447	1,284	9,731
October,	5,087	1,191	6,278
November (Shut), . . . . .	...	...	...
Total,	94,320	9,863	104,183

The Museum having been closed for alterations in the premises during the immediately preceding Session of 1867-68, the numbers for the Session 1866-67 must be taken for the purpose of comparison. It is gratifying to find that there has been a large increase in the number of visitors during the past Session, as will be seen by the following :—

Date.	Day Visitors.	Saturday Evenings.	Total.
26th Dec. 1868 to 30th Nov. 1869, }	94,320	9,863	104,183
30th Nov. 1866 to 30th Nov. 1867, }	73,372	6,564	79,936
Increase,	20,948	3,299	24,247

The Donations to the Museum during the year have included upwards of 120 objects of antiquity, and a considerable number of coins and medals. Among these donations are the large sculptured stone tablet from the termination of the Roman wall at Bridgeness on the Forth, presented by Henry Cadell, Esq.; a series of flint weapons and animal

remains from the caverns of Dordogne, by M. Lartet; and the curious gold ornament found in a cist at Orton, on the Spey, by A. Walker, Esq., Aberdeen.

Among the objects added to the Museum by purchase during the year are a large assortment of weapons, &c., from Australia and the South Sea Islands, and a number of Highland antiquities, comprising some fine specimens of shields, ornamented powder-horns, and objects of historical and artistic interest.

The most extensive addition made to the Museum during the year has been the fine series of casts from antique ivories, deposited for exhibition by the Royal Scottish Academy.

The donations to the Library include upwards of 100 volumes of books and pamphlets, among which are the continuation of the series of the "Public Records," from the Right Honourable the Master of the Rolls; a MS. copy of the Gospels in the ancient Ethiopic character, from a church near Addigerat, in Abyssinia, presented along with a Manual of Prayers in a portable leather case, and a Roll on parchment (probably a "charm"), also in the Ethiopic character, and a MS. copy of the Koran in Arabic, by Captain M'Inroy; a large collection of photographs of Indian temples and views of sculptures, by Dr Hunter of Madras; and five portfolios of drawings and plans of ancient buildings, chapels, brochs, &c., in Orkney and Shetland, by Sir H. Dryden, Bart.

The Report was approved of, and directed to be laid, as usual, before the Board of Trustees for transmission to the Right Hon. the Lords of Her Majesty's Treasury.

The Chairman called the attention of the Meeting to a proposed addition to the Rules of the Society, of which, as prescribed, due intimation had been transmitted to the Members, as follows:—

Notice of Motion.

"At a Meeting of the Council of the Society, held on the 23d day of December 1868, Mr C. E. Dalrymple brought under the notice of the Society the circumstance that several Archaeological Societies in England

admitted Ladies as Members, and suggested, for the consideration of the Council, whether or not it would be desirable to admit Lady Associates to the Society. After considerable discussion, it was agreed to bring Mr Dalrymple's suggestion before the next meeting of the Society.

"1869. Jan. 13.—Notice of a proposed new Law was submitted by Mr Stuart, Secretary, for the admission of twenty-five Ladies as Honorary Members of the Society, to be elected by the Council.

"In accordance with following Bye-law, the Motion is now inserted in the Billet for the information of the Members, and will be discussed at the next Annual Meeting :—

VI.—BYE-LAWS.

"2. Every new Law, or proposal for altering Laws already established, shall be intimated to all the Members at least three months before the General Meeting at which it is to be determined on."

After fully considering the proposed motion, the Meeting unanimously resolved, "That a limited number of Ladies be admitted as Associates of the Society ; at no time to exceed twenty-five in number ; to be elected by the Council, and to be designated 'Lady Associates,' and it was remitted to the Council to adjust any necessary arrangements regarding the form and terms of admission.

The Chairman, as one of the Joint-Editors of the Society's "Proceedings," announced that Vol. VIII. Part I., containing the papers read during the last session, of which an early copy was upon the table, would speedily be ready for distribution to the Fellows ; and the concluding Part of the previous volume was also in progress.

On the motion of Mr Stuart, a vote of thanks was given to Mr Laing and Dr Smith, the Joint-Editors of the "Proceedings."

After a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the Meeting adjourned.

MONDAY, 13th December 1869.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentleman was balloted for, and elected a Fellow of the Society :—

JOHN GEORGE SINCLAIR COGHILL, M.D., F.R.C.P.E.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks were voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By DANIEL WILSON, LL.D., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot., University College, Toronto.

A large folio volume, containing engravings, sketches, &c., entitled “Memorials of Auld Reekie.” It bears the following inscription :—

“This volume of drawings, engravings, maps, and other illustrations of Old Edinburgh and Leith, including sketches and the wood-engravers’ proofs of cuts, executed for the ‘Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time,’ is presented to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, by Daniel Wilson, Hon. Mem. Soc. Antiq. Scot., in kindly memory of cherished friendships formed among its Members, and as some record of curious features of the Scottish Capital worth remembering, among things now past, or rapidly passing away.

“UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, TORONTO,
CANADA, 15th April 1869.”

(2.) By GEORGE PETRIE, Esq., Kirkwall, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Large Urn of steatitic stone, with its contents of burnt bones, from a tumulus in Stronsay, Orkney.

Large Urn of the same, oval-shaped, from the same tumulus.

Portion of Urn of red sandstone, also from the same tumulus.

The largest of these three urns, which is slightly oval in the mouth, measures $20\frac{3}{4}$ inches in the largest diameter, and 18 inches in the least, and is 17 inches deep inside. (See subsequent Communication by Mr Petrie.)

(3.) By Mr DAVID COGHILL, Wick, through Mr JOSEPH ANDERSON.

A Globular Cup of hard coarse-grained sandstone, vertically ribbed or fluted on the outside. It is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches high, and measures $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the flat of the bottom, and the same across the mouth, from outside to outside, bulging in the middle to a diameter of $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The cavity, which is circular in outline and rounded at the bottom, is $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, and 2 inches deep in the centre. The cup is ribbed vertically by flutings half an inch wide, the hollows between the ridges being fully a quarter of an inch deep; and the bottom is ornamented with a rude pattern somewhat like the calyx of a flower.



1.



2.

1. Stone Cup found in a Cairn at Breckigo, Caithness.
2. Under side of Cup, showing rudely incised pattern.

It was found about twenty years ago in what seems to have been a long cairn at Breckigo, Thrumster, Caithness. Near it was also found one of the round stone balls, about 3 inches in diameter, so commonly found in the brochs of the district; and a finely polished hammer of grey granite, which was found in the same cairn, is still preserved at Thrumster House. The hammer and the cup were figured by Mr A. H. Rhind, in the "Ulster Journal of Archaeology" (vol. ii. p. 107), where, however, it is described as "a cup or small vase of thick rough-grained pottery, presenting the peculiarity of fluted sides." (See the preceding woodcuts.)

- (4.) By ALEXANDER HAY BORTHWICK, Esq., St Dunstan's, Melrose, through Dr J. A. SMITH, Sec. S.A. Scot.

A Circular Bead of blue glass, three-fourths of an inch in diameter, from an ancient circular structure at Mosspebble, Dumfriesshire.

- (5.) By JOHN HILSON, Esq., Bongate Wool Mills, Jedburgh.

A Rubbing Stone of sandstone, found below a number of stone cists at Murray's Green, near Jedburgh Abbey. It is an irregularly shaped block of sandstone, about 16 inches by 14, and 6 inches thick, hollowed on the upper surface by use, apparently as a grain rubber. In one corner a hole, 2 inches in diameter, is bored through the stone. Mr Hilson, in a note accompanying the donation, says, "It was dug out from below the ancient graveyard of stone cists underlying Murray's Green, near the Abbey, Jedburgh. By some this burial-place is regarded as the original Anglo-Saxon cemetery pertaining to the older structure or religious house which King David's monastery supplanted. The discovery of such a primitive domestic implement under the graves suggests a more ancient date than Anglo-Saxon times, and this seems confirmed by the conditions of sepulture being somewhat unusual. The bones are packed in with short sandstone flags, and the bodies do not seem to have been doubled up, but broken up, as the flags are too short for a doubled-up interment. Sun-baked urns have also been found on this spot."

- (6.) By the Rev. W. ROSS, F.S.A. Scot., Rothesay.

A small Nugget of Native Gold, from Kildonan, Sutherlandshire.

- (7.) By J. B. MACKAY, Esq., St Louis, U.S.A.

A Ten Cent Note of the newly issued fractional currency of the United States.

- (8.) By R. B. ARMSTRONG, Esq., Dublin.

Five Rubbings from sculptured monumental stones in Liddesdale:—

No. 1 is a large cross, about 8 feet high, bearing the inscription I. H. S., and below that the initials M. A. and A. A. ; under these, on the shaft of the cross, a two-handed sword, with guard curving towards blade.

No. 2. A fragment of a flat ornamental tombstone at Ettleton, also showing a two-handed sword, with guard curving towards blade.

No. 3. A large tombstone, nearly 8 feet long by 4 feet broad, bearing round the border the following inscription :—

HEIR · LYES · ANE · WORTHIE · PERSON · CALIT · WILLIAM · ARM-
STRANG · OF · SARK · WHO · DIED · THE · 18TH · DAY · OF · JUNE · 1658
ÆTATIS · SUAE · 56.

In the centre of the stone there is the following :—

JENOT · JOHNSTOUN · RELEK · TO · THE · SED · DESISED · PERSN · HETH
PUT · UP · THIS · MONAMENTE · IN · ANNO · DOMO · 1660.

MAN · IS · GRASS · TO · GRAVE · HE · FLIES ·
GRASS · DECAYS · AND · MAN · HE · DIES ·
GRASS · RETURNS · AND · MAN · DOES · RISE ·
YET · FEW THE · PRISE.

Below the inscription on a panel are two shields, the one—that of Armstrong—to the right, bearing three pales, and, for a crest, an arm from the shoulder with a sword; the other displays three cushions across the head of the shield, below these a saltire, and under it a human heart; the arms of the two families. Beneath these a skull, hour-glass, and cross-bones, and the words MEMENTO MORA.

Two other rubbings are of coats of arms from the towers of Mangerton and Whithaugh.

No. 4. The Mangerton one is dated 1583 over the shield. The blazon here, for Armstrong, is a chevron between three lozenges in the centre of the dexter side of the shield, and a sword, point upwards, on the sinister side. On either side of the shield are the initials S. A. and F. F.

No. 5. The Whithaugh stone is much more rudely carved and considerably defaced. The chevron and lozenges are on the upper half of the shield, and the sword below them on the sinister side, the remaining space being occupied by the apparent date M559 (1559?), and some illegible letters. Over the shield is the inscription, BIGHT BE ARMSTRONG.

These stones are referred to as follows in a letter from the Donor accompanying the donation :—

“The large cross with the letters I. H. S., &c., stands at Milnholm, in Liddesdale, parish of Castletown, Roxburghshire, and is half-way between

the tower of Mangerton and the churchyard of Ettleton. It is supposed to have been erected on the spot where the remains of one of the Lairds of Mangerton, who was murdered by the Lord of Liddesdale, rested before they were removed for interment to Ettleton. Two incorrect illustrations of it have been published—the one by Sir John Sinclair, Bart., in the ‘Old Statistical Account,’ and the other by W. Scott of New Castleton, in a little book called ‘Border Exploits;’ and in both books the traditions concerning it are to be found. It is also mentioned in Chambers’s ‘Picture of Scotland,’ Chalmers’ ‘Caledonia,’ &c. Some years ago an addition was added to the head of the cross, bearing arms which I do not think were used in Scotland before the middle of the seventeenth century. I think the letters on the cross were renewed at the same time, or rather the face of the upper portion of the cross was cut away, so as to leave the letters raised. I am anxious to know the probable date of the cross (Chalmers refers it to the thirteenth century), and whether the monumental stone at Ettleton is of the same date, and also what the letters M. A. A. A. could possibly stand for.

“With regard to the stones at Mangerton and Whithaugh, the former is mentioned in Sir W. Scott’s ‘Minstrelsy of the Border;’ but the latter, which is both older and in better preservation, is known to comparatively few people. The arms on these stones differ from those given in any of the numerous books of heraldry that I have consulted, and there was no record at the Herald’s Office of such arms having been at any time used by the Lairds of Mangerton and Whithaugh, when I drew the attention of the Lord Lion to the stones some years since. The sword appears to have been a family badge; I cannot otherwise account for its appearing on the shields. The stones must have been carved to mark the time of the repairing of the towers, probably after their destruction during one of the inroads of the English, or as likely by order of the king or governor of Scotland, a not unfrequent way of punishing the proprietors when they could not be apprehended. Thus, in consequence of the frequent inroads made by the clans of Liddesdale in 1543 to prevent the proposed marriage of Edward VI. and Mary Queen of Scots, we learn that Sir Raulf Eure, keeper of Tyndale, entered Liddesdale, where he burned Mangerton and many other places.¹ Again, in 1569, in con-

¹ State Papers. Henry VIII. vol. v. p. 292.

sequence of the disorderly state of the Borders, the Regent Murray, accompanied by a large force of cavalry, marched through Liddesdale, but failing to secure the persons of the Lairds of Mangerton and Whithaugh, who, we are told, 'keipit themselves in sic manner that he gat nane thereof,' he was forced to retire, after having burned and reft their residences and a number of other strongholds.¹ At a later period, October 10, 1592, when James VI. had marched to the Borders to 'raise the houses of Mangerton, Whithaugh, and others,'² we find Bowes writing to Lord Burleigh, to tell him that, 'as he distrusts that some of the houses will be holden against him,' the king had requested him 'to write to Mr Richard Lowther that one of the cannons at Carlisle' might 'be placed in readiness, and delivered to him, with sufficient planks of oak for the carriage thereof by sledges, &c. ;'³ but I presume these places were spared at this time, for we learn that the offending Borderers had submitted, and given hostages for their good behaviour.⁴ I do not know any other mention of these towers, but the proprietors figure only too frequently during the sixteenth century as the heads of the most disorderly clan on the frontier. The stone at Sark shows the arms that were used by the Armstrongs during the seventeenth century; the Lairds of Mangerton and Whithaugh also adopted them. There is an incorrect illustration of the stone in the second edition of 'Border Exploits,' and the author mentions it as having been erected to the memory of a celebrated moss-trooper, called Kinmont Willie, which the date proves to be impossible. It may probably have been erected in memory of one of that person's descendants (probably a grandson), as his residence was Morton Tower or Kinmont, but is now called Sark. The place is on the Sark Water, in the parish of Canonbie, Dumfries."

(9.) By the Author, THEODORE AUFRECHT, Professor of Sanskrit, Edinburgh University, F.S.A. Scot., &c.

Catalogue of the Sanscrit MSS. in the Library of Trinity College, Cambridge. London, 1869. 8vo.

¹ Diurnal of Remarkable Occurrents; History of James VI.; Crawford's Memoirs; Chambers's Domestic Annals, vol. i.

² State Papers of Scotland, MS., vol. xlix. No. 29.

³ State Papers of Scotland, MS., vol. xlix. No. 31.

⁴ State Papers of Scotland, MS., vol. xlix. No. 33.

(10.) By the Author, Col. JAMES A. ROBERTSON, F.S.A. Scot.
The Gaelic Topography of Scotland. Edinburgh, 1869. Post 8vo.

(11.) By the ORDNANCE SURVEY OFFICE.

Notes on the Great Pyramid of Egypt, and the Cubits used in its Design. By Col. Sir H. James, R.E., F.R.S., &c., Director-General of the Ordnance Survey. 4to, pp. 13, plates.

(12.) By the Hon. the MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Public Record Series. Ten Volumes, viz. :—

Chronica Rogeri de Hoveden. Vol. II.

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Gesta Abbatum Monasterii S. Albani. Vol. III.

Ricardi de Cirencestria Speculum Historiale. Vol. II.

Calendar of State Papers, Foreign, 1563.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1637–38.

Rymer's Fœdera. Vol. IV.

Report on Fœdera. Appendix A.

Report on Fœdera. Appendix B, C, D.

Report on Fœdera. Appendix E.

13. By ALEX. A. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Lochmaddy, through W. F. SKENE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

A Baptismal Font, from the ancient chapel of St Malrube, near the head of Lochaoineart, Skye.

This font, which is of hornblende gneiss, is bowl-shaped, and measures 1 foot 6 inches across the brim by 1 foot in height over all. The basin-shaped cavity is $13\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep, the rim being flat, and nearly $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. The exterior is beautifully sculptured in very high relief, the sculptured figures being disposed at equal distances so as to divide it into four panels. On one side is the crucifixion, the figure on the cross being represented with head inclined to the right, draped round the loins, and legs crossed; the sculpture is surrounded by an elaborately interlaced pattern, filling up the panels on both sides. To the right is a figure of St Michael slaying

the dragon. The figure of St Michael is winged ; he holds a sword erect in his right hand, and standing with one foot on the back, and the other on the neck of the dragon, plants with the left hand the lower extremity of the long limb of a cross in its open mouth. To the left there is the figure of the Virgin, with the Child in her arms. On the side opposite to the crucifixion is the figure of a mitred bishop, in full canonicals, and with a crozier in his left hand. The panels to right and left of the bishop are filled in with inscriptions, now defaced.

The lower part of the Font recedes between the figures, and forms four sloping panels, on which are cut ornamental floral devices. The font appears to have stood on a clustered pillar of four divisions, which is still on the site of the ruined chapel.

Mr Skene read the following narrative of how the Font came into Mr Carmichael's possession :—

“ Many years ago, a crew of South Uist fishermen, while on their way to Glasgow with a cargo of fish, were driven into Lochaoineart, Skye. Upon the north-west side, and near the head of Lochaoineart, stand the church and churchyard of St Malrube, the former a roofless ruin, and the latter a deserted wild. Here the fishermen saw an old Font, and deeming it too sacred to be left with the heretic Protestants of Skye, resolved to bring it to their priest, the late Rev. James MacGrigor. They accordingly carried it to their boat, and, the weather moderating, resumed their voyage. But before reaching the island of Canna, the weather again became boisterous, and again forced them back to Lochaoineart. Attributing their misfortune to their removal of the font, a debate arose among the fishermen whether or not they should restore it to its original position ; but the wind becoming fair, it was decided by a majority of the crew to make another attempt, which was done accordingly. But the weather again became stormy, so much so, that when south of the Small Isles, they were in imminent danger, and unanimously concluding that the elements were conspiring against them for removing the font, they agreed to return, and replace it. Much angry recrimination now took place. The minority, who were against sailing with the font a second time, abused the majority in no measured terms, and told them that this was what they predicted, and the majority blamed one another. The gale increased, and with it the superstitious fears of the fishermen.

Consequently, they returned to Lochaoineart, and, with much care, replaced the font where they found it.

“The fishermen reached Glasgow, and disposed of their cargo. On their return voyage, they again called at Lochaoineart. They still cherished the desire to bring the font to Mr MacGrigor, and they accordingly placed it again in their boat, and, after much misgiving, ventured across the Minch, landed at Tocar, and carried the font in triumph to Mr MacGrigor, at Aird-Choinnich. There it lay in a corner of the chapel till a few weeks ago, when it was sent me in a present by my friend, the Rev. Donald Macintosh, the late Mr MacGrigor’s successor.”

* The following Communications were read :—

I.

NOTICE OF THE EXISTING MSS. OF FORDUN’S SCOTICHRONICON.

By WILLIAM F. SKENE, Esq., LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

In the Introduction to the “Chronicles of the Picts and Scots,” edited by me for the Scottish Record series, which opens with an account of the work of John of Fordun, I added the following note :—

“There are twenty-one MSS. of the ‘Scotichronicon’ still preserved, and, besides the imperfect copy printed in Gale’s ‘Scriptores,’ vol. iii., two separate printed editions, one by Thomas Hearne in 1772, the text of which is taken from a MS. in Trinity College, Cambridge, which appears to contain the work as Fordun left it; and another by Walter Goodall in 1759, taken mainly from the Edinburgh College MS., which contains Bower’s additions. A new edition of Fordun, from a collation of all the MSS., and discriminating between the original text and the additions of the different continuators, would be a great boon to the Scottish historian.”

Since I wrote that note I have carefully examined all the existing MSS., so far as they were accessible to me, and it has occurred to me that it might not be uninteresting to the Society if I lay before them shortly the results of my inquiry. I am the more desirous to do so, as the examination I have made leads to very definite conclusions as to the character of the printed editions, and also because I shall have to introduce to your notice a very interesting MS. which appears to me to have great claims to represent the original work as it was written by John of Fordun himself, if it was not actually his autograph.

In stating the number of MSS. still in existence, I was guided solely by the lists preserved at different times of these MSS.

The first list which I have found is an "Account of the Scotchchronicons extant A.D. 1701, under the name of J. Fordun, of Bishop Elphinston, or Liber Sconensis Cuprensis Paslatensis, &c.," which is contained in a MS., in the possession of Mr David Laing, in the handwriting of Father Thomas Innes. This list contains nineteen MSS., all said to be of Fordun's Scotchchronicon.¹

The next account of them is given by Bishop Nicolson, in his "Scotish Historical Library," published in 1702, where he gives an account of John of Fordun and his history, and notices some eleven MSS. This account was reprinted by Hearne in the fifth volume of his edition of Fordun, published in 1722, who examined most of these MSS., and adds his remarks upon them, as well as a notice of another MS. then in the possession of Mr James Anderson.

Finally, Sir Thomas Hardy, in his valuable catalogue of the materials relating to the "History of Great Britain and Ireland," vol. ii., published in 1865, gives a list, in which he enumerates only ten MSS. as now extant.

These lists, however, merely enumerate the MSS. and the possessors of them, and term them simply MSS. of Fordun's Scotchchronicon, with or without what they call Bower's additions, but without attempting to classify them according to their value, and without any more minute analysis of their contents. This has been the main object of my examination of all the MSS. which were accessible to me. I have in all examined seventeen MSS. I first endeavoured to identify them with the MSS. noticed in these different lists, and then to classify them according to their true character and contents. In this examination I have received much assistance from Mr David Laing, and I wish to take this opportunity of expressing the obligations I am under to him both on this and other occasions. Mr Laing had himself examined many of the MSS. with very much the same object in view, and, with that readiness which he always shows to make his immense stores of accurate information available to other inquirers, he has given me much useful information and many valuable suggestions.

In laying the result of my examination before you, I must, in order to

¹ By permission of Mr Laing, this list is printed at the end of this paper.

make my remarks intelligible, ask your attention for a few minutes to the printed work. The work, which, in its complete state, is termed the *Scotichronicon*, and which was published in 1759 by Walter Goodall, consists of sixteen books. There is prefixed to them a "Prologus," commencing with the words, "Incipit liber Scotichronicon. Debitor sum, &c." Then follow the titles of the chapters of the first book, annexed to which are six lines of poetry, beginning, "Incipies opus hoc, &c." Then follows what the writer terms "Præfatiuncula operis," after which we have the main body of the work divided into sixteen books. The last chapter of the sixteenth book is termed "Conclusio operis;" and annexed to this are eight lines of poetry, commencing "Hic opus hoc finit, &c." The latest date in the main body of the work is the year 1447.

Now, it is impossible to examine this work without seeing at once that it is the compilation of two different authors who lived at different times, and that the name of the writer of the earliest part was Fordun, or Johannes de Fordun.

Thus, in the poem at the end, the writer of it says—

"Hic opus hoc finit, et scribere desinit auctor,
Quod Scotichronicon jure vocare solet."

And again—

"Quinque libros Fordun, undenos auctor arabat,
Sic tibi clarescit sunt sedecim numero."

That is, that of the sixteen books comprising the *Scotichronicon*, five had been compiled by Fordun, and eleven by the author who writes. Again, in the "Prologus," he says that he had undertaken, at the request of Sir David Stewart of Rosythe, to transcribe the historic work, "per venerabilem oratorem dominum Joannem Fordoun presbyterum nuper et egregie inchoatum, in quinque libris luculenter et distincte chronographatum," and not only to transcribe it, but also to continue the work to his own time; and he adds that Fordun, after completing his fifth book, had left "multa in scriptis, nondum tamen usquequaque distincta, sed per quæ curiosus indagator opus continuare facilius poterit ad promissa;" that is, had left materials for the rest of his work. He adds, that in transcribing Fordun's part, he inserted from time to time what occurred to himself; but, as he did not intend by that to derogate from so excel-

lent a work, he had distinguished his own insertions by annexing the word "scriptor," while he denominated Fordun "auctor."

At the end of chapter twenty-three of the sixth book he adds five lines, beginning, "Hactenus auctorem de Fordun sume Joannem," implying that Fordun had compiled the first twenty-three chapters of the sixth book, as well as the first five books.

Very little is known of the life of this John of Fordun. Camden says that he was born at Fordun, in the Merns; but there is no authority for this, and it is a mere conjecture derived from his name. Pitts and others identify him with a John de Fordham, Abbot of Ford, in England; but for this, too, there is no authority, except a distant resemblance in the names. But Fordun seems to have given his own name very distinctly, for there is every reason to think that the six lines annexed to the titles of the chapters of the first book were written by himself, and the initial letters of the words in the first three lines—

" Incipies Opus Hoc Adonai Nomine Nostri
Exceptum Scriptis Dirigat Emmanuel
Fauces Ornate Ructent Dum Verbulâ Nectant,"

give the name IOHANNES DE FORDVN.

The continuator who added the eleven books calls him a presbyter, and by the writer of the Royal MS. he is called "Capellanus Ecclesiæ Aberdonensis." He was probably what was termed a Chantry Priest of the Cathedral of Aberdeen.

The period when he compiled his part of the Scotichronicon can be established within a few years by the work itself.

In Book xi. cap. xiv., he mentions Richard the Second, king of England, and adds in the older MSS., "qui nunc est," this expression being omitted by the continuator. Fordun must, therefore, have written in the reign of Richard II.; that is, between the years 1377 and 1399.

But we can come still closer to the date, for in Book v. cap. lx., he gives a genealogy of King David I., which he says, "a Domino Cardinale Scotiæ et Legato nobili doctore Waltero de Wardlaw, et Episcopo Glasguensi, dudum acceperam;" and Walter, Bishop of Glasgow, was made Cardinal in the year 1381, and died in 1389.

The original work of Fordun must, therefore, have been written after 1381, and before 1389.

The name of the continuator who compiled the other part of the work is nowhere indicated in the body of the work itself, but his date can also be pretty well fixed.

He was born in the year 1385; for in Book xiv., cap. 50, under that year we find, "Eodem anno ego ipse, qui hæc compegi, qui in primis quinque libris intitulatus sum scriptor, de utero matris meæ natus sum in mundo." He compiled his continuation at the request of Sir David Stewart of Rosythe; and Sir David Stewart of Durisdeer, who purchased the Barony of Rosythe, first appears so designed in 1436, and died in 1444. He commenced his work in the year 1441; for in the first book, and 8th chapter, in noticing the Emperor Constantine the Great, he adds, "Hoc tamen noto quod a tempore hujus Magni Constantini usque præsentem diem hujus scripturæ, qui est vii. dies Novembris, anno Domini MCCCCXLI." &c. He completed his work in 1447, which is the last date mentioned in it.

We have, therefore, the first five books, part of the sixth book, and the materials for the remainder, left by Johannes de Fordun, who wrote between 1381 and 1389.

We have also the first five books interpolated, and eleven books added, by a writer who was born in 1385, and compiled his work between 1441 and 1447.

One great object, therefore, in analysing the MSS. of this work, is obviously to discriminate between the original composition of John of Fordun in the fourteenth century, and the additions of his continuator in the succeeding century; and, in classifying the MSS., my first group consists of those MSS. which appear to represent the original work of Fordun.

They are four in number. The first is a MS. now belonging to Trinity College, Cambridge (MS. Gale, O. ix. 9). It formerly belonged to Thomas Gale, the historian, and originally to King's College, Aberdeen, to whom it was presented by Hector Boece, Principal of the College, as it bears on the first page, "Collegi Aberdon. ex dono Magistri Hectoris Bois Primi Primarii ejusdem." Gale printed the first four books, and the first eleven chapters of the fifth in his "Scriptores." Why he stopped there it is difficult to say, as there is no break in the MS. at that part. Hearne printed the entire MS. in 1772.

It is a paper MS. It contains no preface, but commences with the first five books of Fordun, without the interpolations marked "scriptor." Then follow the titles of the chapters of the sixth book, fifty-eight in number, but the text of the first twenty-three chapters alone is given. This is succeeded by what appears to be materials for the work, numbered, but not divided into chapters. The first part of it consists of different editions of materials already used in the fifth book. That book ended with the death of David I., and with the accession of Malcolm IV. commence the materials for the rest of the work, ending with the year 1385. At the end of the reign of Malcolm IV. we find the sentence, "Explicit liber quintus. Incipit liber sextus," which shows that what preceded this were materials which he intended to have added to the fifth book. In the middle of these materials, and at a date with which they do not correspond, are inserted the documents connected with the English claims, including the "Instructiones" and the "Processus" of Baldred Bisset, which belong to the year 1301.

This MS. thus corresponds generally with the description given of Fordun's share of the work in the "Prologus." It contains the first five Books without the interpolations marked "scriptor," and the materials for the rest; and the last date, viz. 1385, falls within the period of eight years, from 1381 to 1389, when Fordun must have completed his work.

Hearne considered this MS. to be the autograph of Fordun, but this opinion cannot be supported, as the handwriting is of a later date; and in the titles of the chapters of book vi., of which the text is not given, there is a list of the bishops of St Andrews, ending with "Dominus Jacobus Kenydy Episcopus," who was bishop from 1440 to 1466, showing that this MS. was transcribed between these dates, and had been to some extent tampered with by the continuator.

The second MS. is the Cottonian (Vitellius E. xi.) It has at the top of the first page the name of Schevez, and the name occurs again after the titles of the chapters of book first and at the end of book five, which shows that it belonged to William Schevez, Archbishop of St Andrews, from 1478 to 1496. It is a paper MS., and it is imperfect. Some leaves appear to have been lost after the first five books, and it commences again in the middle of a sentence in the reign of Malcolm IV. The last date is 1363; but as this terminates a page, there may have been also a leaf at the end lost. The handwriting is of the same period, and closely resembles that of

the Trinity College, Cambridge, MS. ; but it cannot be a transcript from it, for it contains three chapters which are wanting in the latter MS., and these have obviously been omitted in the latter from a mere blunder of the scribe, who seems to have passed from the end of one leaf to the beginning of another, and to have passed over an intermediate leaf, in the middle of a sentence, leaving that part of his MS. unintelligible.¹

The third MS. is in Trinity College, Dublin (561). It is a paper MS. of the fifteenth century, and contains a "Prologus" to be found only in one other MS. Then the first five books of Fordun, but differently divided, the fifth book alone corresponding. The chapters of the sixth book are omitted, and likewise the first part of the materials for the subsequent history, which in this MS. begin with the coronation of Malcolm IV. and end with the year 1363, after which are placed the documents connected with the English claims. After this follows part of the Latin life of Saint Servanus, which shows that the MS. must have belonged either to Culross or Lochleven, where Saint Servanus was peculiarly venerated. It is, however, possible that it may have come from Glasgow, as the life of Servanus is usually conjoined with that of Kentigern ; and Glasgow possessed, in 1432, a volume containing the lives of St Servanus and St Kentigern, and the scribe may have commenced to transcribe it.

The "Prologus," however, must have been written by the continuator who added the eleven books, as it contains the expression—

"Undecim libros ipsis quinque ut patet in magno ubi supra distinctibiliter adjeci,"

and the first five books contain some of his interpolations.

This MS., therefore, also cannot be earlier than the middle of the fifteenth century, and is also tainted by his alterations.²

¹ See Hearne, vol. iii. p. 743 line 22. The omitted part follows the word "prostravit," the sentence is thus concluded—"quorum detruncata capita Alexandro novo regi nova munera presentavit, propter quod ipsius honore militari rex insignavit." Then follows a new paragraph, beginning "Alexander rex Scotorum." See Goodall, ii. p. 34. The sentence beginning "Angliam, &c.," is the conclusion of the following :—"Eodem autem anno estata vero predicta Cardinalis quidam nomine Gualo missus est legatus in Angliam, &c."

² In a letter I have from the late Dr J. H. Todd of Trinity College, he says, "I do not think our MS. older than 1500, but it is probably not later than 1508-15."

The fourth MS. is in the well-known library of Wolfenbüttel, a small town not far from Brunswick, and in the duchy of that name.

I first became aware that a MS. of Fordun existed in that library by observing it in Sir Thomas Hardy's list, and the result of a communication with the librarian led me to believe that it belonged to this group. I therefore took an opportunity this summer of going to Wolfenbüttel and carefully examining the MS. It is written on parchment, and is certainly a MS. of the time of Fordun. The librarian pronounced it to have been written in the latter part of the fourteenth century, between 1380 and 1400; and a comparison of the handwriting with that of dated MSS. in the library of the same period confirmed this opinion. Its history is curious. In the year 1575, died at Frankfort, Matheus Flaccius Illyricus, the author of a work termed "Catalogus Testium Veritatis." He had been a Franciscan monk, but joined the Lutheran Reformers, and became Professor of Hebrew in Wittenberg, and afterwards Professor of Theology in Jena. Owing to the publication of some theses about original sin which were thought to be heterodox, he lost his professorship, and he is said then to have donned his Franciscan frock, and wandered about Europe, visiting the monasteries and examining their libraries. He formed a large collection of historical MSS., which enabled him to write his "Catalogus;" and it is said that when he found a valuable historical MS. in the library of any monastery, he was in the habit of slipping it into the large sleeve of his Franciscan frock and carrying it off. After his death his MSS. were purchased by Henry Julius Duke of Brunswick, who founded the library of Wolfenbüttel, at the rate of a thaler and a half, or 4s. 6d. a piece.

On the first page of the MS. there is written in the well-known handwriting of Flaccius, "Chronica regnorum Scotiae et Angliae per Johannem de Fordun ni fallor;" and on the next page, in an older hand, "Liber Monasterii Sancti Andreae in Scotia." Then follow the titles of the chapters of the first book, and the lines beginning "Incipies." After which are the five books of Fordun; of course, without the additions

I have not had an opportunity of examining this MS. myself, and I am indebted to the Rev. Dr Dickson of Trinity College, Dublin, for a full and careful analysis of it, which I take this opportunity of acknowledging.

of the continuator. Then 15 chapters of the sixth book, being the chapters from 9 to 23 inclusive, then the documents connected with the English claims in 1301, and then the materials for the history to the year 1385, which is the latest date. This MS. omits all those features in the other MSS., which can be assigned to a later date than that of Fordun himself, and if not his autograph, has certainly been transcribed in his lifetime. It is the oldest known MS., and contains some curious features. At intervals occur the words, *Tu autem domine*. This is part of the antiphon, *Tu autem domine miserere nostri*, found at the end of the lectiones in the "Proprium Sanctorum" in the Breviaries, and shows that it was transcribed for the purpose of being read aloud to the monks.

In the first thirty-three chapters, which are beautifully written, the initial letters are rubricated; but the rubrical letters are after that omitted, and a blank space left for them, and the writing becomes less careful. At the end of chapter 52 we find this sentence, *A Deo decamus gratias Plume me fault pour meulx escrivre et du vermail pour rubrichier*.

In book iii. the writing again improves, and after chapter 53, we have *Ex my gray gusse penne*.

In the materials for the history after the five books there occurs, at page 180, as in the Trinity College MS., "Explicit liber quintus. Incipit liber sextus;" but at page 199, we find "Explicit liber sextus et incipit liber septimus," which is not to be found in any other MS., and shows that Fordun intended his work to have consisted of seven books.

This MS. also throws some light on the origin of the work. In the beginning of the same century appeared in England the work termed the Polychronicon, by Ranulph Higden, a monk of Chester. It is impossible to examine this work without seeing that Fordun compiled his work on the same model. Both are made up, in the early part, of extracts from other writers, with the name of the author prefixed to each extract. Higden compiled his work in seven books, to correspond with the seven days of creation; and this MS. shows that Fordun intended his work to consist also of seven books. Higden advocates the English claims, and gives the fable of Brutus and his three sons, which occupies a prominent place in the English argument. Fordun meets it with an elaboration of the Scottish fable of the descent from Scota, daughter of

Pharaoh, king of Egypt. Higden calls his work *Polychronicon*, and Fordun calls his *Scotichronicon*. Fordun was acquainted with it, as he twice quotes it; and his work seems to have been called forth by that of Higden, and to have been intended as an answer to it.

The next group of MSS. I have to notice are those which contain the whole sixteen books of the *Scotichronicon*. They are five in number. The first two, viz., the MS. in the Edinburgh College Library, and that in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge (171), do not anywhere indicate the name of the continuator. The other three MSS. assign the additions to three different authors—the Royal MS. in the British Museum (13, E. x.), to Walter Bower or Bowmaker, Abbot of Incheolm; the Donibristle MS. to Patrick Russell, a Carthusian monk of Charterhouse, in Perth; and the Harleian MS. (712), to Magnus Makculloch, a cleric of the Diocese of Ross. The claim of the latter is soon disposed of; for he states that the MS. belong to William Schevez, Archbishop of St Andrews, and was written for him by his “clericus familiaris” Magnus Makculloch, in the town of Edinburgh, in the year 1483. It is clear that he could not have been the compiler, as the latter was born in the year 1385, and he must only have been the transcriber. The MS. appears to be a transcript of the Royal MS., with which it closely corresponds. Mr Stuart tells me that he found another transcript by Magnus Makculloch in Lord Dalhousie’s library.

The Donibristle MS. assigns the continuation to Patrick Russell, as we find at the end of Book v. the following colophon:—

Predictos quinque libros Dominus Johannes Fordoun presbyter compilavit. Residuum vero quod sequitur Dompnus Patricius Russell monachus vallis virtutis ordinis Cartusiensis continuavit et ad finem perduxit, additis tamen interim et insertis nonnullis ab incerto auctore, prout et in prioribus quinque libris.

This colophon, however, is written on the MS. in a later hand and in fainter ink, and, as we shall find, has been taken from a very different MS. There is another of the same date as the MS. which appears to give the true account of it.

Hunc librum scribi fecit Dominus Symon Finlay, capellanus altaris Sancti Michaelis ecclesiæ Sancti Egidii de Edinburgo, quem post suum obitum reliquit canonicis monasterii insule Sancti Columbe de Emonia. Orate pro eo. Ejus alienator anathema sit.

and with the property of the Island it no doubt passed into the possession of the Earl of Moray, through his ancestor James Lord Doune, who was commendator of Inchcolm. It closely corresponds with the Edinburgh College MS.

The Royal MS. assigns the continuation to Walter Bower. This MS. is commonly called the Black Book of Paisley, and, has immediately before the Prologus, "Iste liber est Sancti Jacobi et Sancti Mirine de Pasleto." Then follows,

Incipit Prologus in librum Scotichronicon inchoatum per sancti memorie dominum Johannem de Fordoun, capellanum ecclesie Aberdonensis, nec non continuatum compilatum et completum per etiam bone memorie venerabilem in Christo patrem Walterum Bower, abbatem Monasterii Sancti Columbe.

This is confirmed by a MS. to be afterwards mentioned, which belonged to the Carthusian Monastery or Charterhouse, in Perth, and is an abbreviation of the sixteen books. It is there stated in the "Prologus,"

Præfatum ejusdem Scotichronicon volumen quantum ad primos quinque libros venerabilis vir Dominus Johannes Fordon Presbyter, dudum inchoans diserto stilo compilavit. Residuum, vero in undecem libros late protensum Reverendus in Christo pater Dominus Walter Bowmaker olim Abbas insulæ Sancti Columbe, qui obiit anno Domini M^o.cccclxix, diligenter studio continuavit et usque in finem laudabiliter complevit.

This statement is quite explicit that Bower compiled the eleven books added to Fordun's five. The date also corresponds with the date assigned by the work itself to the continuator, and as it appears from the MS. itself, that the abbreviator belonged himself to the Monastery of Charterhouse, of which Patriek Russell was also a member, we may hold it as established that the work in sixteen books is the compilation of Walter Bower or Bowmaker, in which he incorporated the imperfect work of John of Fordun.

On comparing the works of Fordun and Bower, the character of the additions made by the latter appears to be as follows:—In the first five books of Fordun he has made large interpolations, but without otherwise altering Fordun's text. These interpolations, with few exceptions, do not appear to be of any historic value. Secondly, he has completed the sixth book by adding the legend of the St Waldeve contained in the first

eight chapters, and the account of the bishops and priors of St Andrews down to his own time in the last thirty-four, and has interpolated the whole of the seventh book, which is of not much value to the history of Scotland. Then, in the materials left by Fordun for the rest of the history to the year 1385, he has omitted that part of it which precedes the coronation of Malcolm IV. He has inserted the documents connected with the English claims in 1301, in their proper place, and taken the text of the "Instructiones" from a better source. He has throughout made large interpolations in the text, and added some additional matter in the shape of an obituary, and he has occasionally altered and changed Fordun's text. The interpolations are not of much value, but the obituary is a valuable addition; and the alterations he has made in the text can only be characterised as intentional falsifications of history to suit a purpose—a proceeding which, in this case, can perhaps be justified by the fact that Fordun had himself set the example by falsifying the text of the older chronicles which he has interwoven into his five books. From 1385 to 1447 Bower is narrating events which happened in his own lifetime, and for that period is entitled to the character of an independent historian.

My next group of MSS. consist of abridgments of Fordun, with Bower's additions. They are three in number, and are all in the Advocates' Library. The first is the MS. usually termed the Chronicle of Cupar (35. 1. 7), and bears the title of "Liber Monasterii Beate Marie de Cupro." It consists of the text of the sixteen books, somewhat abridged, and with occasional additional matter, broken up into forty books. The second MS. is the Carthusian MS. of Perth (35. 6. 7), already adverted to. The third is a small paper MS. (35. 6. 8). At the beginning we find, "De libro Scotichronicon hic aliqua extrabuntur qui niger liber Pasleti dictus est," indicating that it is an abridgment of the Black Book of Paisley or Royal MS.; and the colophon is,

Hujus opusculi possessor venerabilis et circumspectus vir Magister Johannes Gibson, canonicus Glasguensis ac Rector de Renfrew.

Qui liber extractus est de magno ac nigro libro Pasleti.

Quarto marci hujus libri finis extitit anno millesimo quingentesimo primo per me Johannem Gibson juniorem.

These abridgments are, of course, of little historical value.

The last group of MSS. consists of those which contain the five books of Fordun without Bower's interpolations, and append a continuation by a different hand.

The first MS. in this group belongs to the Catholic Library in Broughton Street. It is the MS. which formerly belonged to the Scotch College in Paris, and was so much prized by Father Innes. This appears from our finding on the first page, in a hand of the end of the seventeenth century, "Ex libris Collegii Scotorum Parisien. ex dono illustrissimi et nobilissimi Domini Jacobi Comitis de Drummond Anno Domini 1694." It contains the five books of Fordun, without Bower's additions. Then follows in a later hand, "Explicit liber quintus. Incipiunt tituli libri noni;" and this is followed by twenty-three books transcribed from the Chronicle of Cupar, beginning with the ninth, but omitting books 16, 20, 21, 22, 25, 37, 38, 39, and 40. The date of the transcript of these books is given as 1509.

The next is a MS. in the Bodleian Library, Oxford (Fairfax, 8), usually termed Bishop Elphinstone's History of Scotland. It contains the five books of Fordun, without Bower's additions, to which is added a continuation in six books, the first fourteen chapters of which are the same as those in the Wolfenbüttel MS., the remainder of the continuation differs from that of Bower. There is another copy of this history in the library at Glasgow College (F. 6. 14), and a third in the Advocates' Library (35. 5. 2). Mr Laing tells me that there is a fourth in the possession of Sir Hugh Hume Campbell, and Mr Stuart found a fifth in Lord Dalhousie's library. The two last I have not seen, but the three former I have examined. The Oxford MS. belonged to Lord Fairfax, who states that he obtained it from Lady Hawthornden, the widow of the poet Drummond of Hawthornden, and attributes the compilation of it to Bishop Elphinstone; but there is nothing in the MS. itself to connect it with Bishop Elphinstone. He adds, that it appears to have belonged to the monastery of Dunfermline, and that the Earl of Dunfermline told him, in 1657, that he had a very fair ancient MS. of the history of Scotland formerly belonging to that monastery. In book viii. cap. 17, in narrating the league between Charlemagne and Achaius, king of Scots, the writer adds, "Et usque in hanc diem hujus opusculi scriptura videlicet Anno Domini millesimo quadragintesimo octogesimo nono inviolata et incon-

cussa manet conservata," which appears to give the year 1489 as the date of the compilation; but this is, in fact, the date of the transcript merely, for the Advocates' Library MS. has in the same passage the date 1461.

The Glasgow College MS., which Mr Laing, who has examined it more carefully than I have, considers a superior MS. to the Bodleian, has at the end the words in French *c'est tout*, and then this colophon,

Iste liber scriptus fuit apud Dunfermlin Willelmo Sancti Andreae Archiepiscopo de mandato Domini Thome Monymelle monachi et sacristi ejusdem loci,

which confirms the statement by Lord Fairfax, that the original MS. belonged to Dunfermline; and as William Schevez was Archbishop from 1478 to 1496, this transcript must have been made between these dates. In the sentence above quoted, however, this MS. also has the date 1461, which is conclusive as to its being the date of the compilation itself, and not of the transcript. The text incidentally mentions the death of James II., which took place in 1460, so that it could not have been written before that date.

Elphinstone matriculated as a student at Glasgow College in 1457, when he was, according to Boece, in his twentieth year, and did not graduate as M.A. till 1462. He was nominated Bishop of Aberdeen in 1483, but was not consecrated till 1487. He could not, therefore, have been the author of a continuation written in 1461, but the Bodleian MS. may have been transcribed for or by him, in 1489, after he was Bishop of Aberdeen, and so become associated with his name.

This MS. contains (in book vi. cap. 14) the following sentence:—

"Item, notandum est quod ista omnia suprascripta gesta per nobilem et discretum clericum, dominum Johannem de Fordune, collecta sunt et compilata, cætera sequentia vero per venerabilem patrem Dominum Abbatem de Insula Sancti Columbæ, qui in tempore suo dictus est Dominus Walterus Bouware, sicut reperimus in magnis cronicis notatum; quorum anima in pace requiescant, et hæc signantur usque ad tempus regis Jacobi secundi hujus nominis. De residuo vero quis ea compilavit sciatur in fine hujus præsentis libri, quia de futuris contingentibus non est determinata veritas. Non mireris, O lector, si diversorum auctorum et cronigraforum in præsentis opusculo de eadem nobilissima regum prosapia oppiniones et scripturæ inferendo duobus vel tribus vicibus recitentur. Nam, secundum jura, fortior est sententia quæ plurimorum auctoribus approbatur."

The author certainly did not take his narrative from Bower, as it differs materially from his statements, and in some instances is directly opposed to him.¹ The sentence occurs immediately after a narrative which corresponds with the fourteen chapters of book vi. left by Fordun, and the meaning seems to be that a continuation had been written by Bower, which would be found "in magnis cronicis," but that the "residuum" or continuation in this MS. was written by another author, whose name would be found at the end of the book.² It must be received as an independent narrative of events from the accession of Malcolm IV. to the death of James I., which has never been published.

The last MS. of this group, and the last I shall notice, is the Harleian MS. (4674). This is a very fine MS. on parchment, and contains the five books of Fordun, without Bower's additions, to which is appended a continuation in five books, making ten books in all. It seems to be the same MS. which Hearne describes as then in the possession of Mr James Anderson. The name of "W. Gordone, cancellarius Dunkeld," appears upon it, from which it may be inferred that it once belonged to Dunkeld. On the first page is the name Johannes de Fordun, with the following lines:—

"Usque sextum codicem laus sua convaluit
Hiuc ad finem operis alter onus subiit."

After the fifth book, the colophon appears in rubrical letters, which has been improperly transferred to the Donibristle MS.

Predictos quinque libros Dominus Johannes Fordoun, Presbyter, sicut prænatus, compilavit. Residuum vero istius libri venerabilis Pater et Devotus Dompnus Patricius Russell, monachus vallis virtutis ordinis Carthusien. diligenter studio continuavit et usque in finem laudabile compilavit.

The continuation differs both from Bower and from the history attributed to Bishop Elphinstone, and I consider that this MS. contains an independent continuation, properly attributed to Patrick Russell.

And now the remark I have to make upon the analysis of these

¹ For instance, the account of the conflict on the North Inch of Perth in 1306 is entirely different from and at variance with Bower's.

² Where it is not to be found, however.

MSS. is this. Before the early history of any country can be correctly stated, there is a preliminary process which must be gone through, and is quite essential, and that is a critical examination of the authorities upon which that history is based. This has not yet been done for the history of Scotland. Many excellent histories of the country have appeared—Tytler's History, ponderous in its dry detail; Robertson's "Scotland under her Early Kings," above all praise for research and sound judgment; and Burton's History of Scotland, with its charm of lively style and graphic narrative—but all are tainted with this defect. The early chronicles are referred to as of equal authority, and without reference to the period or circumstances of their production. The text of Fordun is quoted as an original authority, without adverting to the materials he made use of, and the mode in which he has adapted them to a fictitious scheme of history; and the interpolations and additions of Bower are not only founded upon as the statements of Fordun, but his falsifications of Fordun's text are quoted as the statements of Fordun himself in preference to his original version of the events. The history of Scotland, at least prior to the fifteenth century, must always be to a great extent based upon Fordun's narrative; and a critical edition of his text is almost essential to a right comprehension of the history.

I trust, therefore, that I have shown that the statement in the note to the introduction to the Chronicles of the Picts and Scots, that a new edition of Fordun would be a great boon to the Scottish historian, is borne out by an examination of the MSS.

The original text of Fordun ought to be edited from the Wolfenbüttel MS., which should be taken as the basis, collated with the Cotton MS., and those in Trinity College, Cambridge, and Trinity College, Dublin, and the sources of his history pointed out, with the alterations he has made on his materials.

The additions of Bower, so far as they are of value with his narrative from 1385 to 1447, when he may be viewed as an independent annalist, should be separately printed; and the continuations attributed to Bishop Elphinstone and Patrick Russell should be viewed as unpublished independent histories, and edited as such.

ACCOUNT OF THE SCOTICHRONICONS EXTANT A.D. 1701, UNDER THE NAME OF J. FORDUN, OR BP. ELPHINSTON OR LIBRI SCONEN. CUPREN. PASLAT., &c.

1. Scotichron. sive Hist. Guil. Elphinston in Biblioth. Bodlyana Oxon. (Fairfax. 8.)
2. Scotichron. J. Fordun folº. in Biblioth. Cottonian. London. (Vitel-
lius E. xi.)
3. Scotichron. sive Liber Paslaten. in Bibl. Regia Jacobea fol. London.
(13. E. x.)
4. Scotichr. Jo. Fordun in Bib. Benedictin. Cantabrigien. fol. (Corpus
Christi. 171.)
5. Scotichron. sive Hist. G. Elphinston penes Henr. Jones in Com.
Beselurea.
6. Scotichron. Jo. Fordun in Biblioth. Yelverton V. Com. de Longue-
ville.
7. Scotichr. Jo. Fordun penes Th. Gale (erat) H. Boethii. (Trinity
College, Cambridge. O. ix. 9.)
8. Scotichr. Jo. Fordun in Bibl. Trinitatis Dublinen. (561.)
9. Scotichron. Jo. Ford. in Biblioth. Edynburgen. (College. Edin.)
10. Scotichr. Jo. Ford. penes Com. Moravien. (fuit dominum Drumcairn)
(at Donybristle).
11. Scotichr. sive liber Carthus. de Perth in Biblioth. Jurid. Edyn.
(35. 6. 7).
12. Scotichr. sive libri Sconens. Compendium penes D. Rob. Sybbald.
13. Scotichronicon sive libri Paslat. Compend. penes eund. (Bibl. Jurid.
35. 6. 8).
14. Scotichr. aliud ex multis compilatum in Bibl. Jurid. Edynb. (35. 5. 2).
15. Scotichr. sive Chron. Insæ. S. Columbæ penes Vicecom. Tarbart.
16. Scotichr. (*blank*) penes Com. Drummond apud Støbhall.
17. Scotichro. Jo. Fordun in Coll. Scot. Parisien. (now at St Mary's,
Broughton Street, Edinburgh).
18. Scotichr. sive Liber Cuprensis penes D. Ricard. Hay Can. Regular.
(Bibl. Jurid. 35. 1. 7).
19. Chron. Melrossen. in Bibl. Cottonian. 4to. (Faustina, B. ix.)

20. Scotichron. per Patr. Russel Carthus. 7 libris penes Wil. Cuning-
ham.
21. Chron. Scotiae, quod erat Bibl. S. Andreae in manibus D* * * *
22. Chron. Winton. in Bibl. Cotton. (Nero, D. xi.)
23. Chronicon Winton. in Bibl. Jurid. (A. 7. 1).
24. Aliud in Bibl. Norwicensi.

II.

NOTICE OF A PASSAGE IN THE SO-CALLED DEATH-SONG OF
RAGNAR LODBROG, KING OF DENMARK. BY RALPH CARR Esq.,
F.S.A. Scot.

MONDAY, 10th *January* 1870.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for and admitted Fellows :—

Sir WILLIAM STIRLING MAXWELL, Bart. of Keir.

THOMAS DICKSON, Esq., Curator of the Historical Department, General
Register House.

JOHN S. KELTIE, Esq., London Street.

ALEXANDER WHYTOCK, Esq., Easter Duddingston.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid upon
the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By Sir DAVID BAXTER, Bart., of Kilmaron, Fife.

The Sea Chest and Drinking Cup which belonged to ALEXANDER
SEL CRAIG or SELKIRK, of the village of Largo, Fife, the ROBINSON CRUSOE
of Defoe; and were with him in the island of Juan Fernandez.

1. The Sea Chest which belonged to Alexander Selkirk during his
solitary residence in the Isle of Juan Fernandez. It is a substantially
made chest of teak, 3 feet in length, by about 18 inches in breadth

and the same in depth. The lid is slightly arched above, and closes with an iron tongue or hasp, which comes nearly half-way down the front of the chest, and is there secured by an iron-faced lock.

2. The cup, which is formed of a small cocoa nut, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth inside, is ornamented on the outside with a zig-zag pattern. A depressed border runs round the rim in two divisions. On the upper one is riveted a silver hoop, three-eighths of an inch in breadth, bearing the following inscription:—"THE CUP OF ALEX. SELKIRK WHILST IN JUAN FERNANDEZ, 1704-9." The cup has also a silver lining inside the bottom, and is set on a wooden stem $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, turned in imitation of the stem of a wine glass.

These relics were preserved and exhibited by the descendants of Selkirk, in the village of Largo, until they were purchased by the Donor.

A tablet, in memory of Alexander Selkirk, has recently been erected on Juan Fernandez by the officers of H.M.S. Topaze, Commander Powell. It bears the following inscription:—

IN MEMORY OF
ALEXANDER SELKIRK, MARINER,
A NATIVE OF LARGO, IN THE COUNTY OF FIFE, SCOTLAND,
WHO LIVED ON THIS ISLAND IN COMPLETE SOLITUDE FOR FOUR YEARS
AND FOUR MONTHS.
HE WAS LANDED FROM THE CINQUE PORTS GALLEY, 96 TONS, 16 GUNS,
A.D. 1704,
AND WAS TAKEN OFF IN THE DUKE PRIVATEER,
12TH FEBRUARY 1709.
HE DIED LIEUTENANT OF H.M.S. WEYMOUTH,
A.D. 1728,
AGED 47 YEARS.
THIS TABLET IS ERECTED
NEAR 'SELKIRK'S LOOKOUT,'
BY COMMODORE POWELL AND THE OFFICERS OF H.M.S. TOPAZE,
A.D. 1868.

The following Notices of Alexander Selkirk are taken from "Willis' Current Notes" (London) for Sept. 1856; and for the use of the
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woodcuts we are indebted to A. Jervise, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot., who contributed the notices to the above mentioned publication.

The original of De Foe's *Robinson Crusoe*, it is now generally admitted, was Alexander Selkirk or Selchraig, a native of the parish of Largo, in Fifeshire. Several families of the same name resided at the time in the same place, and had long been settled in the fishing village of Nether Largo, romantically situated on the margin of the German Ocean. Here, about a mile distant from the parish kirk, was the spot of Alexander Selkirk's birth, in or about 1676; and although the year has not been certified by any entry in the parochial Registry of Baptisms, nor in any known record, still the house in which he was born is well authenticated, and remains in much the same primitive condition in its form as when built.



Cottage at Largo in which Alexander Selkirk was born.

Whether that branch of the Selkirks to which Alexander was more immediately related inherited their quarrelsome habits from their father or their mother, the latter of whom it appears was a person of an unsteady and discontented nature, or, as quaintly admitted in her own words, "of a troubled spirit," it would be idle to attempt to determine; yet certain it is, that the scenes of family strife which occurred within the house were the immediate cause of Selkirk leaving that home, and assuming a position in life which, by the graphic pen of De Foe, has eternised him as a hero of imperishable notoriety.

The Selkirk family appear to have been naturally turbulent, and from the Sessional records, it is clear that Alexander's elder brother John, in 1685, a married man with a family, also at times afforded the Kirk Session occasion to anathematise his dissolute conduct. During the summer of 1693, he was "rebuked" for being drunk, and striking some of his neighbours; again, in the autumn of the same

year, he, with a namesake, did penance "for being drunk in a mercat at Leven;" other instances might be adduced from the same record of the attempts to reform their ill-doing.

Alexander Selkirk's occupation is not stated, probably he followed his father's calling, that of a tanner and shoemaker; his reprehensible conduct, however, in 1695, placed him under the ban of the Kirk Session, to avoid the oppressive tyranny of which, it is recorded, he fled to sea, and hence commenced a career that at a later period earned him a never-dying name in the annals of the world. The Sessional Registers notice—

"August 25.—The quik day, Alexander Selchraig, son to John Selchraig elder, in Neither Largo, was delated for his undecent carriage in the church. Ordered to be cited before the Session."

"August 27.—The quik day, Alexander Selchraig called, but did not compear being gone away to the sea. This business is continued till his return."

When he returned does not appear, but he was at home in 1701, and took a prominent part in some family squabbles, which occasioned the following recorded proceedings in the Sessional Register of that year—

"Nov. 18.—John Guthrie delated John Selcraige elder, and his wife Euphan Mckie, and Alexander Selcraig, Andrew Selcraige, for disagreement together; and also John Selcraige and his wife Margaret Bell. [All ordered to appear on 25th inst.]"

"Nov. 25.—Euphan Mckie confessed that she desired to be separate from her husband, but she said she was of a troubled spirit, and that she thought her words should not be laid hold one; she said she is now in better terms with her husband.

"John Selcraige elder being enquired what was the occasion of the tumult in his house, said, he knew not, but that Andrew Selcraige having brought in a canefull of salt watter of which his brother Alexander did through mistake take a drink, and he laughing at him for it, his brother Alexander came and beat him; upon which he rüne out of the house and called his brother John. John Selcraige elder being again questioned what made him to sit one the floor with his back at the door? he said, it was to keep down his sone Alexander who was seeking to go up to get his pistole, and being enquired, what he was to do with it? he said, he could not tell.

"Alexander Selcraige called, compeared not, because he was at Coupar: he is to be cited *pro secundo* against the next Session.

"John Selcraige younger being questioned concerning the tumult in his father's house on Nov. 7, declared that he being called by his brother Andrew came in to it, and when he entered the house, his mother went out, and he seeing his father sitting one the floor with his back at the door was much troubled and offered to help him up, and to bring him to the fire, at which time he did see his brother Alexander, in the other end of the house, casting off his coate, and coming towards him; whereupon his father did get betwixt them, but he knew not what he did otherwayes, his head being borne down by his brother Alexander, but afterwards being liberated by his wife, did make his escape.

“Margaret Bell (wife of John S.) deponed that Andrew Seleraige came running for her husband John, and desiring him to go to his father’s house ; which he doing, the said Margaret did follow her husband, and coming into the house, she found Alexander Seleraige gripping both his father and her husband, and she labouring to louse Alexander’s hands from her husband’s head and breast, her husband fled out of doors, and she followed him, and called back again—You fals loon will you murder your father and my husband both? Whereupon he followed her to the door, but whether he beat her or not, she was in so great confusion, she cannot distinctly tell, but ever since she hath a sore pain in her head.

“Nov. 29.—Alexander Seleraige, scandalous for contention and disagreeing with his brothers compeared and confest that he having taken a drink of salt watter out of the cane, his younger brother Andrew laughing at him for it, he did beat him twice with a stafe. He confest also that he had spoken very ill words concerning his brothers, and particularly he challedged his elder brother John to a combate as he called it, of dry neiffells ; he said then he would not care to do it even now, which afterwards he did refuse *and regrate* ; moreover, he said several other things, whereupon the Session appointed him to compear before the pulpit against to-morrow, and to be rebuked in face of the congregation for his scandalous carriage.

“Nov. 30.—Alexander Seleraige according to the Session’s appointment compeared before the pulpit and made acknowledgement of his sin in disagreeing with his brothers, and was rebuked in face of the congregation for it ; he promised amendment in the strenth of the Lord, and so was dismissed.”

The next that is with certainty known of Alexander Selkirk, is the fact that, while sailing master of the ship Cinque Ports, in 1704, he quarrelled with the captain of that vessel, and by way of punishment was put on shore on the uninhabited island of Juan Fernandez in the Pacific Ocean, with a chest containing clothes, a hatchet, and a firelock, with some powder and shot, and that there he contrived to live till he was picked up by Captain Woodes Rogers, in 1709, and brought to England.

The firelock, his clothes chest, and drinking cup, used on the island, were brought home by him to his native village ; and with the exception of the firelock, now at Lathallan House, near Largo, the rest remain in the house in which he was born. The house, nominally at least, the property of Mrs Gillies, a poor widow, is tenanted by her ; she is the daughter of John Selkirk, grand-nephew of Alexander Selkirk, is 78 years of age, and has been the mother of a large family, nine of whom have preceded her to their last home.

Widow Gillies¹ is the last survivor of the family to which Selkirk belonged, and her circumstances are such, that she is dependent on the benevolence of those who visit her interesting cottage, and the relics of her far-famed predecessor ; visitors, it must be admitted, are not a few, some of them are and have been persons of high literary distinction ; among them not the least memorable was the master spirit of the North, Sir Walter Scott, and his publisher Constable, the latter of whom, in

¹ Mrs Gillies died in 1862, aged 83.

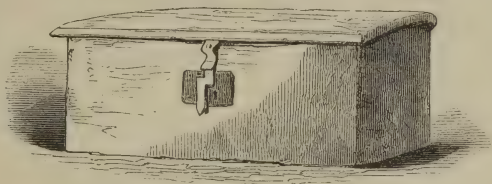
consequence of the notices recorded respecting Selkirk in the parish Registers, rebound them handsomely at his own cost; the upper side of each volume being inscribed—*Rebound for preservation at the expense of Archibald Constable of Balneil, 1820.*

The drinking cup, formed of a small cocoa-nut shell, presents a simple ornament scratched with a knife with Selkirk's own hand, is three inches and a quarter deep, by two and a half inches diameter. Mrs Gillies assured the writer, it had formerly a silver foot and stem, but that her father had disposed of it. Wanting that appendage, Sir Walter and Constable took it to Edinburgh, where the present foot and stem of rosewood, nearly three inches high, was added, making the whole about six inches in height. They also added the silver band or fillet that encircles the outside of the cup, bearing the inscription—*The Cup of Alex. Selkirk, whilst in Juan Fernandez, 1704-9.*



Drinking-Cup of Alexander Selkirk.

The clothes-chest, designated by the family in Mrs Gillies' youth, "the cedar kist," from the top being made of cedar wood, is two feet deep, eighteen inches



Sea-Chest of Alexander Selkirk.

wide, and three feet long. At one end is a small drawer or 'locker,' with a rudely ornamented lid. The hasp of the lock was a coarse strong sort of fastening, now useless. Upon the top of the slightly rounded lid are the letters A. S., and the figures 34, being the number of the chest on board Capt. Woodes Rogers' ship at the time he was homeward bound; there are also scratched, with some sharp instrument, four angular marks equi-distant. The contents of the chest, as may be premised, are few—the drinking cup, a copy of De Foe's novel of 'Robinson Crusoe,' and the rusted key, long since past use, are all it contains."

On the motion of Mr Laing, a special vote of thanks was awarded to Sir David Baxter. He stated that these articles had been sent last autumn for sale to Mr Chapman, of Hanover Street, Edinburgh. The price expected far exceeding the funds at the Society's disposal for such purposes, Sir David Baxter, hearing accidentally of the intended sale, said that if Mr Laing considered it would be a suitable donation to the Society, he would willingly purchase and present them. After examination and a favourable report being made as to the genuineness, and the interest attached to such relics, Sir David Baxter, with his usual liberality, presented them to the Society's Museum.

(3.) By LAWSON TAIT, Esq., Surgeon, Wakefield, Cor. Mem. S.A.-Scot.

Celt of Greenstone, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, of tapering rounded form, 3 inches across the cutting face, which is partially polished, the rest being roughly smoothed to an even surface. It is chipped at both ends, as if by use.

Stone Cup, with a knob or short handle, ornamented round the lip with short scratched lines obliquely crossing a line running nearly parallel to the rim, and about a quarter of an inch below it. It measures 4 inches in its greatest diameter, and nearly 2 inches in height. The cavity is circular, about 3 inches in diameter and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth. The handle, which is flattened on the upper and under sides, is constricted by a deep groove cut round it, where it joins the bowl, and a hole has been begun to be drilled through it from the upper side.

(4.) By ROBERT GARLAND, Esq., Cowhythe.

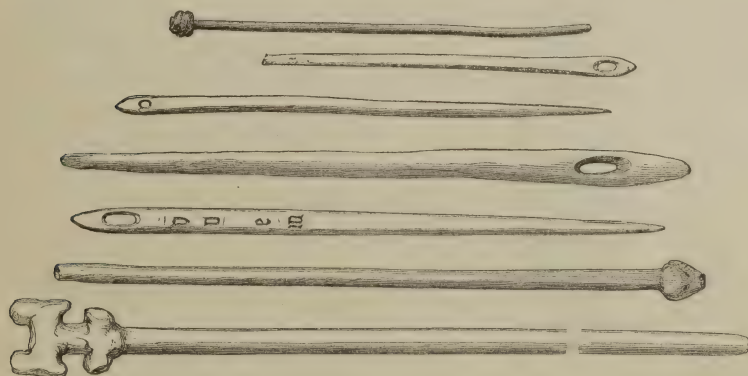
Collection of Manufactured Objects and Animal Remains from a kitchen midden at Craig of Boyne, parish of Boyndie, Banffshire.

The kitchen-midden from which these relics were obtained appears to be of the historical period. It is situated on a shelf of the rock on the side of the Craig of Boyne, on which stood an ancient castle.

The animal remains consist of the bones of the small Highland sheep, the ox, the pig, the dog, a domestic fowl with largely developed spurs, and several species of fish, including probably the wolf-fish. The long

bones of the larger animals are all broken and splintered, and some of the splinters partially shaped into pins or needles.

The manufactured objects consist of pins and needles of bone; pins of brass wire, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, and headed with a spiral twist of smaller wire (see upper figure of woodcut); partially formed bone pins; and a piece of window (?) glass, showing a fine iridescence from decay. The bone pins are two in number, both imperfect; one has a well-cut head, of a rather archaic-looking pattern (see woodcut). Of the bone needles there are five, ranging from $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches to $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. The shortest



Brass Pin and Bone Needles and Pins, from Kitchen Midden, Craig of Boyne.

are not thicker than an ordinary darning needle, and have a well-pierced eye of oblong shape. One, formed of hard white bone or ivory, is rather more than 3 inches in length, and is remarkable from having the letters **do cm** neatly cut into it, as shown in the accompanying woodcut. The form of the letters is that of the fourteenth century.

(See subsequent Communication by Mr Garland.)

(5.) By Mr GEORGE M^cWILLIE, Ardgethnie Cottage, Botriphnie, through A. JERVISE, Esq., Cor. Mem. S.A. Scot.

A Stone Cup, of oblong form, flat bottomed, measuring $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in

length, by $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, and half an inch in depth. It is of steatite, and has part of a broken handle, which is constricted by a deep groove running round it at its junction with the bowl.

- (6.) By Mr DAVID BENNET, Salmon-fisher, Abernethy, through ALEXR. LAING, Esq., Newburgh, F.S.A. Scot.

A perforated wedge-shaped Stone Hammer, found in the Tay, near Mugdrum Island. The hammer, which is of a dark coloured, close-grained, and very hard stone, is finely made and well polished. It is $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, by 2 inches wide, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick. The perforation for the handle, which is 2 inches from the one end and 3 inches from the other, is an inch in diameter, and has been bored from both sides, being narrowest in the middle.

Stone Hammer found in the Tay, near Newburgh ($6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length).



- (7.) By Mr JOHN T. ROSE, 8 Oxford Street.

A Chinese Sword and three Malay Creases.

- (8.) By the ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES.

Mémoires de la Société Royale des Antiquaires du Nord. Copenhagen, 1868. 8vo.

Tillaeg til Aarboger for Nordisk Oldkindighed og Historie. Aargang, 1868. Parts III. and IV. Copenhagen, 1869. 8vo.

- (9.) By GEORGE FINLAY, Esq. (the Author).

Παρατηρησεις επι της εν Ελβετια και Ελλαδι Προϊστορικης Αρχαιολογιας. Υπο Γεωργιου Φινλαι. Εν Αθηναις. Τυποις Λακωνιας, 1869.

(10.) By ALEXANDRE MAGNO DE CASTILHO (the Author).

Études Historico-Géographiques. Monuments Commemoratifs des Découverts Portugaises en Afrique. Par A. M. de Castilho. Lisbon, 1869. 8vo.

(11.) By the ROYAL GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF IRELAND.

Journal of the Royal Geological Society of Ireland. Vol. II. Part I. Dublin. 8vo.

(12.) By the BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF ROME.

Report of Proceedings of the British Archæological Society of Rome, 1868-69. 8vo, pp. 16.

Treasurer's Report. Roman Fund for Archæological Investigations and Excavations. 1869. 8vo, pp. 16.

(13.) By ROBERT DAY, Esq., jun., F.S.A. (the Author).

Description of a Bronze Figure, said to have been found at Clonmacnoise, Ireland. 1869. 8vo, pp. 4, plates.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

NOTICE OF THE ANCIENT BELL OF ST FILLAN. BY THE RIGHT REV. A. P. FORBES, D.C.L., BISHOP OF BRECHIN.

When I was on a visit to Lord Crawford at Duncacht this autumn, I met an English gentleman, with whom I entered into conversation on the subject of the Early Scoto-Irish Church. He stated that in the house of a relation of his in Hertfordshire there was preserved St Fillan's Bell, which the father of that relation, partly in frolic and partly to abate a still existing superstition, had carried away, on the 8th or 9th of August, in the year 1798. We subjoin in a foot note an extract from the journal of this gentleman, not only as giving an account of the circumstances under which the bell was taken, but for its valuable and accurate historical

information! He added, that the family was not anxious to retain possession of it, to which I replied that it ought certainly to be sent back to Scotland. The result was that the bell was handed over to the custody of the Earl of Crawford and myself, and it is to-night exhibited on the table of the Society.

St Fillan's bell has been preserved by this gentleman's family up to this day—October 24, 1869.

In the "Old Statistical Account," vol. xvii. p. 377, there is a note to

¹ "Aug. 9, 1798.—Arrived at Tyndrum by 4 o'clock. Rode, after dinner, with a guide to the Holy Pool of Strathfillan. Here, again, is abundant cause for talking of the superstition of the Highlanders. The tradition avers that St Fillan, a human being who was made a saint, about the beginning of the eighth century, by Robert de Bruce, consecrated this pool, and endued it with a power of healing all kinds of diseases, but more especially madness. This virtue it has retained ever since, and is resorted to by crowds of the neighbouring peasantry, who either expect to be cured of real diseases, or suppose themselves cured of imaginary ones. This healing virtue is supposed to be more powerful towards the end of the first quarter of the moon; and I was told that if I had come there to-morrow night and the night after I should have seen hundreds of both sexes bathing in the pool. I met five or six who were just coming away from taking their dip, and amongst them an unfortunate girl out of her mind, who came from thirty miles' distance to receive the benefits of the waters, and had been there for several moons together, but had never derived the smallest advantage, and, indeed, she appeared so completely mad, that whatever may be the virtue of St Fillan's Pool, I am sure Willis would pronounce hers to be a hopeless case. A rocky point projects into the pool. This pool is by no means the fountain head, for the water runs from a long way up the country; yet is not supposed to receive this virtue till it comes to the very place [Strathfillan derives its name from the saint—*strath*, in the Gaelic language, signifying a plain between two mountains. Near Strathfillan a famous battle was fought between King Robert de Bruce and the MacDouglass, which the former gained, owing to the assistance afforded by the prayers of St Fillan], on one side of which, the men bathe, and on the other the women. Each person gathers up nine stones in the pool, and after bathing, walks to a hill near the water, where there are three cairns, round each of which he performs three turns, at each turn depositing a stone; and if it is for any bodily pain, fractured limb, or sore that they are bathing, they throw upon one of these cairns that part of their clothing which covered the part affected; also if they have at home any beast that is diseased, they have only to bring some of the meal which it feeds upon, and make it into paste with these waters, and afterwards give it to him to eat, which will prove an infallible cure; but they must likewise throw upon the cairn the rope or halter with which he was

this effect:—"There is a bell belonging to the Chapel of St Fillan that was in high reputation among the votaries of that saint in old times. It seems to be of some mixed metal. It is about a foot high, and of an oblong form. It usually lay on a gravestone in the church-yard. When mad people were brought to be dipped in the Saint's Pool, it was necessary to perform certain ceremonies, in which there was a mixture of Druidism and Popery. After remaining all night in the chapel, bound with ropes, the bell was set on their head with great solemnity. It was the popular opinion, that, if stolen, it would extricate itself out of the thief's hands, and return home, ringing all the way. For some time past the bell has been locked up, to prevent its being used to superstitious purposes."

The "New Statistical Account" (No. 44, Perthshire, 1088), gives more led. Consequently the cairns are covered with old halters, gloves, shoes, bonnets, nightcaps, rags of all sorts, kilts, petticoats, garters, and smocks. Sometimes they go as far as to throw away their halfpence. Money has often been called the root of all evil, but for the disease of what part of the body these innocent halfpence are thus abused I could not learn. However, we may venture to suppose that they seldom remain there long without somebody catching the disorder again. When mad people are to be bathed they throw them in with a rope tied about the middle, after which they are taken to St Fillan's Church, about a mile distant, where there is a large stone with a nick carved in it just large enough to receive them. In this stone, which is in the open churchyard, they are fastened down to a wooden framework, and remain there for a whole night, with a covering of hay over them, and St Fillan's bell is put over their heads. If in the morning the unhappy patient is found loose, the saint is supposed to be very propitious; if, on the contrary, he continue in bonds, the cure is supposed doubtful. This bell is of a very curious shape, and has an iron tongue. St Fillan caused it to fly to this church; and a soldier seeing it in the air, fired at it, which brought it down, and occasioned a great crack in it, which is still to be seen. I was told that wherever this bell was removed to it always returned to a particular place in the churchyard next morning. This church has been formerly twice as large as it is now, as appears by the ruin of what has been pulled down—a striking proof of the decrease either of population or of religion in this country. In order to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the ridiculous story of St Fillan's bell, I carried it off with me, and mean to convey it, if possible, to England. An old woman, who observed what I was about, asked me what I wanted with the bell, and I told her that I had an unfortunate relation at home out of his mind, and that I wanted to have him cured. 'Oh, but,' says she, 'you must bring him here to be cured, or it will be of no use.' Upon which I told her he was too ill to be moved, and off I galloped with the bell, back to Tyndrum Inn."—*Extract from a Journal of a Tour in Scotland.*

details about the treatment of the mad people, stating that the ceremony was performed after sunset on the first day of the quarter, old style, and before sunrise next morning; that the dipped persons were instructed to take three stones from the bottom of the pool, and walking three times round three cairns on the bank, to throw a stone at each. They were tied to St Fillan's bed, in St Fillan's chapel, all night. If found loose in the morning, the cure was deemed perfect. The Account goes on to say—"The bell referred to in last Account was about the size of a handbell, and was an ancient relic of the chapel. It was stolen by an English antiquarian forty years ago. Popish tradition endowed it with the power of returning to its resting-place; but it would seem England is deemed a congenial home."

A religious cultus, surviving so long, naturally suggests the question, Is anything known historically of St Fillan? To answer this question we must apply to the Irish and Scottish Hagiological writers. Colgan (*Acta Sanctorum Hib.*, p. 104,) gives nineteen saints of this name, one of whom was a celebrated Continental martyr, the brother of St Fursey of Peronne, and of St Ultan, whose acts are to be found in Capgrave's *Nova Legenda*, folio cxlix., and in Colgan, p. 99, and who was killed at Hainault, in A.D. 655. But the Scottish saint of this name must be either the saint whose commemoration is found both in the Scottish and Irish Kalendars on the 9th of January, or a saint whose day is the 20th of June, "Faolan the Stammerer, of Rath-Erran in Alba; and of Cill-Fhaelain in Laoighis in Leinster, of the race of Aenghus, son of Nadfraech, *i.e.* King of Munster" (*Martyrology of Donegal*, p. 175). Colgan calls him *Leprosus*." The original is Amlobar. Probably it is the first of these saints. According to Colgan (vol. i. pp. 49, 50), the oldest record of him is in the *Martyrology of Angus the Culdee*. His name occurs in that of Tallaght, of Marian Gorman, in the *Kalendar of Cashel*, and in that of Cathal Maguire; the *Martyrology of Donegal* epitomises all that was recollected of him in Ireland in the seventeenth century—"Faelan of Cluain Maosgna in Fearatulich." We have to apply to the Scottish authority of the *Breviary of Aberdeen* for more details concerning him; and the life of his mother, Kentigerna, of Inch Caelliach, in Loch Lomond, further supplements our knowledge.

Briefly, then, Felanus, Foilanus, Fillanus, Faolan, Foelanus, or Foelan (commemorated in the Irish and Scottish Kalendars on the 9th January),

was the son of Feradach or Feriath, a nobleman probably of the race of Fiatach Finn, by Kentigerna or Quentigerna, Caentigern or Coentigern, daughter of Kellach Cualann, king of Leinster, and sister of St Congan of Turiff and Lochalsh. St Fillan's epoch is determined by the dates of his mother and maternal grandfather, who died respectively in A.D. 734 and A.D. 715, by the fact of his being educated by St Ibar, and by his receiving the monastic habit from St Munna, the saint who is known in Ireland as St Fintan-Munna MacTulcain, who died in 635, and whose name is preserved in Kilmun, on the Holy Loch, in Argyleshire. We therefore must reject Camerarius's date of 649, and place him a little after the commencement of the eighth century.

We cannot determine in what monastery of St Munnu St Fillan was trained. Dr Lanigan throws discredit on the accounts that give him any other monastery than Taghmun, in the county of Wexford. He is called St Munnu, of Kilmund and Dissert, in the Breviary of Aberdeen. If the Dissert be the Desert of St Serf, now Dysart, we may understand how St Fillan's name should be preserved in the nomenclature of his cave, a little farther to east of Fife, in Pittenweem; but the chief scene of his labours was in the uplands of Perthshire, in the parish of Killin. There we find a river and a strath called after him; there we find a church dedicated to him. Nay, but for the difference of pedigree and day of commemoration, the proximity of Strathearn to Killin suggests the probability that Faolan the Stammerer is the same with the saint of whom we are treating, inasmuch as it is said of him that he was born with a stone in his mouth, which caused his father to throw him into the pool of water, where he was guarded by angels till St Ibar brought him out and baptised him. Ratherran is Dundurn, in the parish of Comrie, near which is the village of St Fillan; there is also a Killallan in Renfrewshire (Reeves' "Adamnan," *Life of Columba*, p. lxxiv.), and a place of worship dedicated to him at the chapel yard, parish of Largs, (Orig. Paroch. vol. i. p. 89.)

Again, we find traces of St Fillan farther north. In the life of his uncle, St Congan, in the Breviary of Aberdeen, it is said that he fled from Ireland to Lochalsh, in northern Argyle,—a description of the locality which incidentally proves the antiquity of the authority from whence the narrative is taken, for it afterwards was termed Ross-shire, on the occasion

of Alexander II. granting it to the Earl of Ross. There St Fillan built a church to the honour of his uncle; and true enough, at the present day, Kilkonan and Killellan, the churches of Congan and Fillan, bear testimony to the fact.

The proximity to Pittenweem, where the saint's cave, already alluded to, is shown, would account for St Phillans being the alternative name of the parish of Forgan in Fife, though the parish church had an after dedication to St Andrew, as we see by a *confirmatio* of Pope Adrian IV. given in the "Registrum Prioratus et St Andreae," p. 51.

The estimation in which St Fillan was held in Scotland was greatly enhanced by the part he was supposed to have taken in the victory of Bannockburn. Boece gives the legend in Latin, but I prefer to read it to you in the racy Scottish of Bellenden:—

"All the nicht afore the batall, K. Robert was right wery, having great sollicitude for the weill of his army, and nicht tak na rest, but rolland al jeopardis and chance of fortoun in his mind; and sometimes he went to his devut contemplayon, making his orison to God and Saint Phillane, quhais arm, as he believit, set in silver, was closit in ane cais within his palyeon; trusting the better fortune to follow bi the samin. In the mene time, the cais clakkit to suddenly, but ony motion or werk of mortal creaturis. The preist astonist bi this wonder went to the altar quhere the cais lay; and when he found the arme in the cais, he cryit, Here is ane great mirakle; and incontinent he confessit, how he brought the tume cais in the feild dredoned that the rellik sold be tint in the feild, quhere sae greit jeopardis apperit. The king rejosing in this mirakell, past the remanent nicht in his prayaris with gud esperance of victory."—*Bellenden's Boece*, vol. ii. p. 391. Ed. 1821.

It was to the "merakle of Sant Phillane" that the king alluded in his speech before the battle, after that Mauritius, abbot of Inchaffray (the Insula Missarum in Stratherne), had "said masse on ane hie mote, and ministret the Eucharist to the king and his nobillis." If St Fillan be the Faolan of Ratherran, we here see a reason for this particular relic being brought into the camp; and it will be recollected that Killin, the special seat of the cultus of the saint, was a church under the jurisdiction of Inchaffray.

Another relic of St Fillan still exists, viz., the Coygerach or pastoral staff of the saint, which has been preserved to this day. There is a curious

account of an inquest as to its custody in the third volume of the "Spalding Club Miscellany," pref. p. xxi. and p. 237. See also Proceedings Soc. Antiq. Scot. vol. iii. page 233 and plate xxvi. for a description and figure of the crosier.

It is a happy accident that both the bell and the bacul of St Fillan should have been preserved. These were the commonest relics of the Irish saints. St Ternan's bell is alluded to in the legend of the Breviary of Aberdeen. In the same venerable authority is the account of the miraculous formation of that of St Molocus (June 25); and in an extract from Giraldus Cambrensis, given at the end of the notice of Killin, in the "Old Statistical Account," these two objects are mentioned as the objects of veneration of the early saints. "This must not be passed over, that the people of Ireland and Scotland, as well as those of Wales, hold in great honour the saints' bells, hand-bells (*campana, bajulas*), and pastoral staves, curved at the upper part, and formed of gold, silver, or brass, so that they fear to take oath on these and to perjure themselves more than they do upon the Gospels. For contemners of these are often punished by a certain hidden and divine power implanted in them, as well as by a certain vindictiveness of which these saints seem exceedingly susceptible." The element of the "vindicta, cujus præcipue sancti illi appetibiles esse videntur" is constantly illustrated in the lives of Irish saints. In the Martyrology of Donegal (p. 445); speaking of St Maoltuile, it is said "His *bacul* works miracles on perjurers before they go out of the church. His well, and his *yellow bell*, and his bacul, and his statue are there still."

All writers on Irish antiquities allude to these, *e.g.*, Dr Petrie, who has written a tract upon the Quadrangular Bells, and refers to them specially in his work on the Round Towers; and Dr Reeves has given us a valuable monograph on the bell of St Patrick, and on a collection of bells in the possession of the Anglican Archbishop of Armagh.

Indeed, one of the most curious forms of Celtic tenure was that connected with the hereditary custody of these bells and baculs. Because certain oaths were sworn upon these in the rough justice of the tribal life of the early Scots, certain lands came to be assigned to the custodiers of them. The lands of the Kirktown of Strowan are held by the possession of a bell. Dr Stuart has alluded to this in his preface to the docu-

ments connected with the Coygerach, and calls to remembrance that Mr Joseph Robertson had directed attention to the remarkable fact that the bell of St Kessog and the bell of St Lolan were included among the feudal investitures of the Earldom of Perth. He has also shown that the possession of the bell of St Kentigern gave origin to the armorial bearings of that city (Libr. Coll. N. D. Glasg. p. xxv., *cit.* Spalding Club Misc. vol. iii. pref. xxiii.) I may add that St Medan's bell had certain lands attached to it which constituted part of the dowry of the Countess of Airlie; and that the villain Moyer, who was so discredibly mixed up in the judicial murder of Archbishop Oliver Plunket at the time of the Popish plot, was the hereditary keeper of one of the most precious relics of St Patrick.

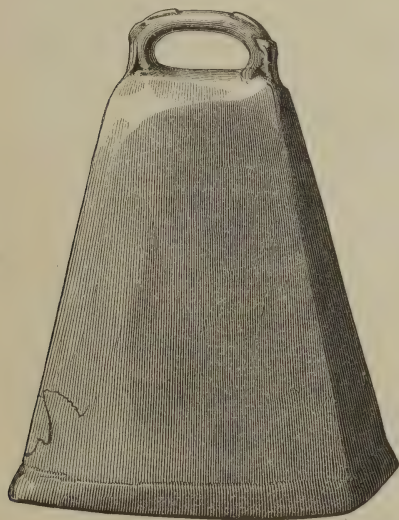
The following are extracts from the Inventory of the Earl of Airlie's Charters as to Saint Medan :—

“Instrument dated within the Castle of Airlie on 5th June 1447, on a Resignation by Michael David of the Bell of Saint Medan, of which he was Tenant and hereditary possessor, into the hands of Sir John Ogilvy of Luntrethyn, Knight, the Superior of said Bell, after which the said Sir John gave the Bell with its pertinents to Lady Margaret Ogilvy, Countess of Moray, his Spouse, for her liferent use. Witnesses—Sir Walter Ogilvy of Deskford, James Ogilvy, William Cargyl of Lasingtoun, Esquires; Duncan Stronach, Senior, and Duncan, Junior, his son, burgessis of Monros; Patrick de Fenton and Edward Pedy, with many others.

“Instrument of Sasine in favour of Margaret Ogilvy, Countess of Murray, wife of Sir John Ogilvy of Luntrethyn, Knight, of a Provision in her favour. Sasine was given by James Ogilvy, Brother German of the said John at Luntrethyn, near the Church, at the House or toft belonging to the Chaplainry of St Medan. The symbols of delivery were the giving of earth and stone, and the shutting of the Lady into the said house, all others being first put out, 18th July 1447.”

The bell of St Fillan is very similar to the Ronnell bell at Birnie, but not so large. It is 12 inches high, four-sided like most of the ancient bells, 9 by $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with a handle of which more hereafter. It has been cracked, and there is a hole at the top which greatly impairs the sound. The present tongue of iron is of recent manufacture, probably since it went to England. It will be observed that the part worn by the ancient clapper does not correspond with the present tongue. It must have been rung by being beaten by some object that worked on a pivot outside of it. The weight of the bell is 8 lbs. 14 oz., and its composition is a mixed metal. It is not riveted together, but cast in one piece.

The handle, however, is the most remarkable part of the bell, for there we find twice repeated the well-known heathen emblem of the phallus. (See annexed woodcut, figs. 1 and 2.) This symbol has, I believe, never hitherto been found in any of the Scoto-Irish metal-work, although the



1.



2.

Fig. 1. The Bell of St Fillan (12 inches high).

Fig. 2. Enlarged View of Handle of Bell.

cultus of the men-hir, which is the same in stone, still survives among the cognate race in Brittany. I have seen at Dôl, in that country, the corn in a field at the foot of one of these tall stones, crowned indeed by the cross, crushed by the knees and feet of the votaries, who came there to be cured of sterility.

That this form of nature-worship prevailed in Scotland and Ireland in what used to be called Druidical times, is certain; indeed, it is common not only to all the Indo-European races, but even prevails in the Semitic family,—the Asherah, or, as it is translated, the grove, in

the authorised English version of the Bible being of this nature, though Döllinger associates this rather with the devotion to the female goddess Astarte. In India the Linga is connected with the Sivaite sect; and one subdivision of these, the Jungums, who wear the badge in a silver box, are the puritans of the East. Their code of morals is preserved in the verses of Vemana.

The policy of the Mediæval Church, when it was strong enough, was to cast down and to root out such symbols. Sometimes, however, the local regard for them was too great, and then they were consecrated to the use of the new religion. I have no doubt that many of the ruder sculptured stones in Scotland are of heathen origin. Sometimes we see the cross marked on them, manifestly as an after thought, as in the case of that at Ulbster (Stuart, vol. i. plate xi.). It is, therefore, a moot question whether St Fillan's bell is Christian or pre-Christian.

My learned and accomplished friend, Lord Crawford, entertains the notion that the bell belongs to Christian times, because he doubts whether such bells were in use before the extinction of publicly professed paganism. In a letter addressed to me, he says,—

“This symbol carries the antiquity of the bell back to a very distant period, and seems to me to link it with pagan antiquity—not that I think it pagan, but Christian. The phallus (derived from the root found in the Sanscrit *bal-a*, strength, the Semitic *bul*, and the Pelasgian *poll-ere* and *vol-ere*) was the symbol of health, life, regeneration, and thus attributed to Baal (the Celtic Bel or Belinos), among ancient deities. Taking this fact, and the ornament on the bell, and the sanitary use to which it was put till seventy years ago, together, it appears to me, either that the ornament was employed designedly to indicate the virtue always indeed supposed to reside in bells, or that such virtue was supposed in a peculiar degree to belong to this particular bell from the ornament upon it, at a time when the phallus symbol was still believed to possess the power of repelling evil in Scotland, as it so long did in Italy. The symbol may appear strange as a Christian one, and yet, what is stranger, and what may illustrate my belief, that it was designedly put (although in a very modest and out-of-sight way) on St Fillan's bell, is the usage that prevailed at Isernia, in the kingdom of Naples, till nearly the end of the last century, and which perhaps exists still—and this with the full

sanction of the Church—the usage, namely, of presenting and consecrating votive offerings of simulachra of this description moulded in wax,¹ in gratitude for recovery from illness, to the two medical saints, St Cosmas and St Damian, at their shrine there. The very name Fillan has a curious resemblance to Belinas, and I should not be surprised if St Fillan's feast was fixed by the early missionaries on some day sacred on the spot to the pagan god, for the purpose of superseding his worship."

With much admiration for this learned and ingenious speculation, I cannot bring myself to believe that St Fillan's bell is the product of Scoto-Irish hands, in Christian times. I believe either that it belongs to the Bronze period anterior to Christian times, or if Christian, that it has been imported from southern lands, where the heathen ideas living on into Christian times were expressed in more definite forms. When I remember that neither on the sculptured stones, nor on any of the beautiful bronze cambutas, shrines, or bells of the ancient Irish Church, is there any trace or indication of this symbol, I cannot bring myself to believe that such a bell so ornamented would be fabricated in the eighth century in Ireland or Scotland. If the work of Celts, it must have a more remote antiquity. There is not the impossibility that it may have been imported from Italy; and it will be borne in mind that St Ternan, according to the legend, received his bell from the Pope. St Teiliao received a bell remarkable for its powers at Jerusalem. It may be, therefore, that the bell of St Fillan came from a land where no notion of coarseness was attached to the simulachrum; and the bronze of Magna Græcia and Latium, which, perhaps, once was part of the statue of a Sejanus, may have undergone the possible doom pronounced on it by Juvenal (Sat. iv. 61),

"Fiunt urceoli pelves sartigo patellæ,"

and in the form of this bell have been carried to a distant land, beyond the power of the "immensa Romanæ pacis majestas," to work on the imagination, and to animate the faith of the descendants of the opponents of Agricola.

I am aware, that in maintaining the improbability of the native construction of this symbol, I shall be met by the strange story told in the

¹ See R. P. Knight's "Account of the Worship of Priapus in the Kingdom of Naples." 4to. London, 1761.

Chronicle of Lanercost of the doings, or rather mis-doings, of a certain John, the parochial priest of Inverkeithing, in the year 1282, who came to a bad end for introducing a Dionysiac procession in his parish during the Easter week. Not to mention that there may have been much exaggeration in a friar's account of a secular priest's evil conduct, the whole story is told (Chron. Lan. p. 109) as something quite exceptional, and not a hint can be gathered as to its having been traditional in Scotland. That remains of the older religion maintained themselves till very lately in the Beltane fire and other rites I admit, but in none of the searching canons of the Mediaeval Church (those fertile repertories of condemned practices) do we find in Scotland or Ireland any allusion to this peculiar form of nature worship.

II.

NOTICES OF TEAMPULL MICHAEL, KEALLUN, NORTH UIST, AND OF SCULPTURED STONES IN BEARNAREY, HARRIS, AND IN BENBECULA; AN "ABRACH" QUERN, AND QUARRY FOR QUERNS, HEISGEIR, NORTH UIST, &c. BY ALEX. A. CARMICHAEL, ESQ., LOCHMADDY, IN A LETTER TO W. F. SKENE, ESQ., LL.D., F.S.A. SCOT.

St Michael's Temple (*Teampull Mhicheil*), at Keallun, in the island of Grimisey, N. Uist, is said to have been built during the last half of the fourteenth century, by Amie, sometimes named Annie, and sometimes Algive Macruari, daughter and heiress of Ruari MacAllan, styled *De Insulis*, and High Chief of Lorn. This Amie Macruari married her relation, John of Isla, the first Lord of the Isles, *Dominus Insularum*, and called by the priests of the period, from his benefactions to their Church, "the good John of Isla." Their consanguinity being within the forbidden degree, a dispensation for their marriage was obtained from the Pope. This dispensation is dated 1337. But, in the course of some years, "the good John of Isla," forming more ambitious schemes, obtained another dispensation from the Pope for the dissolution of this marriage; and, without a stain upon her character, he divorced the Lady Amie, and married the Lady Margaret, daughter of Robert II., and of

Marjory, the only remaining child of King Robert the Bruce. The Lady Amie had three sons by her marriage. These were—John, whose descendants early became extinct; Godfrey, ancestor of Siol Gorrie, in N. Uist; and Ranald, who married a daughter of the Earl of Atholl, and niece of Robert II., and ancestor of the MacDonells of Glengarry and the Clanranalds.

By his second marriage, the first Lord of the Isles had other three sons. Donald, the eldest of these, and the second Lord of the Isles, became the first Earl of Ross, and fought the famous battle of Harlaw, in 1411, against the Duke of Albany; John, *Iain Mòr*, ancestor of Clan Iain Mhoir of Isla, and the Earls of Antrim; and Alexander, *Mastair Carrach*, Lord of Lochaber, and the progenitor of the Macdonalds of Kepoch.

After her divorce, the Lady Amie dwelt on her own numerous and extensive properties, where she erected a number of secular and ecclesiastical buildings. Among others, she is said to have built the well-known Castletirin (*Caisteal-Tioram*) in Moideart, Borve Castle (*Caisteal Bhuiridh*), and St Columba's Church (*Eaglais Chalumchilee*) in the island of Benbecula, S. Uist; and the Temple of the Holy Trinity (*Teampull na Trianaid*), at Cairinnish; Christ's Temple (*Teampull Chrìosd*), in the island of Baileshear; and St Michael's Temple (*Teampull Mhicheil*), in the island of Grimisey, North Uist.

St Michael's Chapel is built upon a beautiful knoll, jutting into, and about 150 feet above the level of the sea, at Keallun Bay, in the island of Grimisey. There is a very fine and extensive view from it. The founder is said to have built it as an oratory wherein she might worship while detained from crossing the Minch by stormy weather, when going to visit her relations in Lorn.

About 150 yards north-east of St Michael's, there was another chapel and burying ground upon another point of land jutting into, but only a few feet above the level of, the sea. There are now hardly any traces of this chapel, and I have hitherto failed even to ascertain the name.

This end of the island of Grimisey is called Keallun (*Na Ceallun*), the name evidently originating from these chapels or oratories. Probably the name is derived from the Latin *cella*, which in its turn is likely to be derived from the Gaelic *cuil* or *ceall*, a cell. From this again origi-

nated the surname Mac Keallar (*Mac Ceallair*), the son of the *Ceallair*, the man of the cells, or the superior of the cells or chapels, that is, the superior of the monastery. Keallun Bay is called *Bāgh-nan-Ceall*, and these old chapels are known as *Teampuill nan Ceall*. There is a place in Mull also called Keallun, and the arm of the sea upon which it is situated is called *Loch-nan-Ceall*. I have heard of other places similarly named.

The Siol Gorrie, previously referred to, were at one time numerous in N. Uist; but a savage feud between themselves and the Siol Murdoch, another sept of the Macdonalds, brought them to the verge of extinction. The former were the legitimate possessors of N. Uist, but the latter disputed this, whereupon the two contending factions began a struggle which, in its destructiveness, might be compared to the Wars of the Roses, or the apocryphal story of the Kilkenny cats.

It would seem that the Siol Murdoch (*Siolach Mhurachaidh*), the descendants of Murdoch, were the stronger, and consequently that the Siol Gorrie (*Siolach Ghoirridh*), the descendants of Gorrie, were as much indebted to their stratagems as to their strength in maintaining the unequal contest. The greater part of the Siol Murdoch lived in the Valley of Hosta. About three quarters of a mile from, and in the hill above this, there was a lake. The Siol Gorrie upon one occasion came under cover of night and cut away the embankment of this lake, whereupon the water rushed down the glen and drowned the inhabitants of the valley beneath.

The scene of this tragedy has remained the site of the lake ever since. During calm, clear weather, I believe, the remains of houses can still be discovered in the bottom of the lake. To revenge this outrage, the rest of the Siol Murdoch marched in a body against the Siol Gorrie, who lived at Udal, on the north-east side of the island. It is said that Udal was the largest township in the Long Island at that time.

The Siol Murdoch found the Siol Gorrie at their tillage in the fields, when they came upon them unawares, and put them all to the sword, except one man, who escaped by swimming and wading across to the island of Oirisey, whence he escaped to Boisdall, in S. Uist, where it is said some of his descendants are still. After putting all their foes to the sword, the Siol Murdoch pursued their course to the hamlet of Udal, the

whole of which they gave to the flames, sparing neither young nor old, male nor female, in their savagery.

It is said that there were eighteen "ploughs" (*seisrichean*) at work in the fields on this occasion, and considering that the rude mode of tillage in vogue in those days required five or six men attending each "plough," the carnage on this field of slaughter must have been great.

The Gaelic *seisreach*, a set of plough horses, literally means six horses—*seis-ir-each*, the necessary team for ploughing of old in the Western Isles. There were four horses attached to the principal plough—*crom-nan-gad*—and two to the *rustal*, a kind of marking or scarifying plough, which preceded the *crom-nan-gad*. As evidence of the tenacity of antiquated customs, however effete they may become, I may mention that these ancient ploughs, the *crom-nan-gad* and the *rustal*, are still commonly used in Lewis.

I have examined the ruins, many of which are still visible, of the houses wherein lived the ill-fated Siol Gorrie; and in corroboration of the tradition regarding their fate, I have found charred bones, grain, and stones, and pins and needles of bone, brass, and bronze. I have seen a very fine gold pin found there. It is from three to four inches long, and very plain.

The deceitfulness of the Siol Murdoch is still proverbial in Uist, and there are those who pride themselves upon being descended not from the deceitful and illegitimate Siol Murdoch, but from the legitimate and honourable Siol Gorrie.

A funeral took place at Killmuir, on the west side of N. Uist, some years ago. It was before the bagpipe was discontinued here at funerals. The piper played a *piobaireac* that had often caused many a bloody fray between the rival septs. At once the whole scene changed from solemn propriety to a lively fight, and resulted in many severe injuries having been given and received on either side. Not long since, a piper played this party air in a house in which there was an old woman of ninety of the Siol Murdoch, upon whom the poet reflects. The piper was walking to and fro, evidently unconscious of the brewing storm. The old woman, who was spinning with her distaff, was observed to be "nursing her wrath to keep it warm," but her wrath would not be nursed, and she got up and struck the piper, breaking his chanter, and severely injuring his fingers!

I have been able to recover only the following lines of the obnoxious song :—

Gu traigh! gu traigh! Siolach a Mhurachaidh,
 Gu traigh! gu traigh! Siolach a Mhurachaidh,
 Gu traigh! gu traigh! Siolach a Mhurachaidh,
 Siol dugh nan car!
 Siol dugh nan car!
 Siol dugh nan car!
 Siol nan cuilichiann or cuiligionn.

I think the following is a sufficiently close translation :—

To the strand! to the strand! ye seedlings of Murdoch,
 To the strand! to the strand! ye seedlings of Murdoch,
 To the strand! to the strand! ye seedlings of Murdoch,
 The black-hearted seedlings!
 The black-hearted seedlings!
 The black-hearted seedlings!
 The seedlings of Murdoch.

The request, "Gu traigh, gu traigh," "to the strand, to the strand," is evidently in allusion to the Siol Murdoch being considered as intruders by the Siol Gorrie.

Such was the state of society in Uist some centuries ago, and the feelings engendered then are not even yet entirely extinct.

THE BEARNAREY OBELISK.—The stone of which I send a tracing has been taken from the island of Bearnarey, in the Sound of Harris. It formed the upper end of an obelisk which stood in a large semicircle facing the east, near the centre of the island, at a place called Killeisem (*Cilleiseam*), St Asaph. Speaking of Bearnarey, Martin, in his "Western Islands," says,—“There are two chappels in this isle, to wit, St Asaph and St. Columbus’s Chappel. There is a stone erected near the former, which is 8 foot high, and 2 foot thick.”

About fifty years ago this obelisk was broken. Boys were in the habit of mounting to the top and swaying it to and fro, till ultimately they broke it at the surface of the ground. When it fell it broke in two pieces near the centre. These were taken away by two crofters, and placed as lintels over the entrance to a cattle-fold (*cuthaidh*) close at hand. After having been there for some years, they were transferred by the same men to serve a similar purpose in their dwelling-houses. I traced

this piece to the house of one of these crofters, a MacKillop (*MacPhilip*), where it was used as a lintel over his kitchen window. MacKillop was very reluctant to allow the slab to be removed for examination, although I twice offered to replace it at my own expense. Ultimately, however, he consented. But before removing it, I thought proper to inform the proprietor, the Earl of Dunmore, of its existence, and to ask his sanction to its removal from the island. His Lordship immediately wrote his factor to secure the slab, and bring it to Rodail. Upon his Lordship's arrival in Harris he wrote me, expressing his interest in the stone, and giving his permission to make what use of it I pleased. I got the slab removed from Rodail to Lochmaddy, where it now lies. It is a dark bluish-gray gneiss, and measures 3 feet 8 inches long, 19 inches broad, and 3 inches thick. The upper portion of the carving forming the square is sufficiently distinct to be easily traced, but the lower portion is more defaced, and in some places the surface of the stone is entirely broken. How far the carving extended on the other part of the obelisk there is at present no means of ascertaining. The crofter who had it, feeling some remorse, restored it to the place where he found it. He alleged that a carlin of ugly form and features visited him one night, and entreated and commanded him to return the obelisk of *Cilleaiseam*, St Asaph, otherwise that he would suffer here and hereafter. The man went early the following morning, apparently much troubled, and entreated MacKillop to restore his part of the stone. MacKillop replied that his part of the slab was of much use to him; that he had no vision; and that he would defer returning it till the ugly carlin honoured him with a visit. The other man returned his part, and shortly thereafter went to America, where he died. Some other person less scrupulous took away this part of the stone, which I have hitherto failed to trace.

The old people of Bearnarey have told me that within their memory the base of the obelisk was surrounded with a heap of small, beautifully white, and variegated pebbles, old coins, bone pins, and bronze needles, the offerings of pilgrims at the shrine of St Asaph.

MacKillop, on whose croft the obelisk stood, told me that in delving the place preparatory to sowing corn, he was in the habit of turning up a number of bones. There is no trace now of the "chappel" mentioned by Martin, nor indeed of any building whatever. The place is in the

corner of a field, and has been under cultivation for some years. Close by the side of the obelisk there stood one of those old circular duns so common in the Hebrides. I would have inferred that this was the remains of the "chappel," were it not that MacKillop told me that it contained wall passages and galleries common to these duns. All the stones were carried away for building materials.

ABRACH QUERN AND QUARRY FOR QUERNS AT HEISGEIR.—The stones I have sent for the Museum, besides the font previously described, are the flat stone found under the sea in Benbecula, and the upper half of an old quern. This quern, I think, possesses some interest. It was found a number of years ago in Benbecula, after the winter storms blew away a large sand bank under which it lay buried. It was discovered at a place known as *Machair an Dunghaineacha*, a little north-east of Bailevanaich, where the monks had their monastery.

A large sand bank, which might be called a small hill, ran parallel with the sea south-west and north-east for about a mile or a mile and a half. Here and there some solitary remnants of this sand hill are still standing. In the large gaps dug by the winds to the level of the surrounding *machair* (sandy plain) ruins were discovered of various shapes and sizes. Among some of these ruins this quern was discovered. It is small, and of a kind known here as "*Abrachs*," evidently meaning Lochaber. These "*Abrachs*" are a peculiar kind of quern. They are smaller than the ordinary quern, and different in their geological composition. The ordinary quern is picked like a mill-stone, but these "*Abrachs*" are never picked. The people here have a tradition among them that the mode the old people had to roughen the "*Abrach*" was to place it under a waterfall at night, and in the morning that it was ready for use. At first sight this may seem absurd, but I believe it to be substantially correct. If the stone is minutely examined, the composition will be found to contain hard and soft matter in equal proportions. If the stone were placed under a waterfall, the water would wash away the soft matter, and leave the hard gritty matter unaffected. The only difficulty would be to find a waterfall in the Long Island. But these "*Abrachs*" work for a long series of years ere they require "*roughening*." I have seen one a few days ago, and I was assured that it had not been roughened within the last seventy or eighty years, although always working during that time.

The name of these querns would imply that they came from Lochaber. "Abrach," or more correctly "Aberach," means a person or thing of or belonging to Lochaber. Yet the stone of which the "Abrach" quern is made is found in the island of Heisgeir, North Uist. When there, a few weeks ago, I discovered a sea-beaten rock in a small creek, where scores of these querns were quarried. The original surface of the rock is cut away, and the size of each quern, and the marks of the tools used in cutting out, are quite visible. On examining the composition of this rock, I found it to correspond exactly with the peculiar kind of stone of which the "Abrachs" are made.

This was to me an interesting discovery. The quern cutting was in all stages of progress. Some were just begun, and the marking could only be faintly traced; others were half cut and abandoned; while not a few broke as they were being separated from the rock. Yet this quern quarry, if I may so term it, cannot have been worked for many long years. The "Abrachs" are only found among old ruins, and the oldest people in the place have no tradition where they came from, except that they infer from the name that they must have come from Lochaber. Neither did they seem to know anything of this quarry before I discovered it.

When the *brath-uacair* or *clar-uacair* (the upper quern stone sent you) was found sixty or seventy years ago, a *beirt* was placed in the eye, and it was set to work. The family who had it in Benbecula removed some years ago to North Uist. Here I traced it to an old woman at Taighearry, a daughter of the finder. It probably lay buried under the sand hill for some hundred years. You will observe that there is a cross upon it in relief. I may mention, that the people here have a tradition that the sand banks change every alternate century. They allege that the banks take a century in forming, and another in decaying. Martin mentions that the same opinion was current in his day, nearly two centuries ago.

Near the ruins where the quern was found two other interesting objects were discovered,—a paved cross and a draw-well. The cross was paved with small brown stones like a ship's biscuits, and overlapping one another like slates upon a house. The pavement was in four sections, divided by a cross of pure white sand, with a raised stone at each corner. I believe that it was about ten feet square. I got a minute description of this interesting work of antiquity from an old man who saw it in his boyhood,

but after much search and inquiry, I regret to say that I have failed to find it myself. I fear it is long ago again covered with sand. If I remember right, I think I sent a rude sketch of this cross to Captain Thomas some time ago. I intended to send him a better sketch, but I delayed in hopes to find the original.

The well I have seen, but it is now full of sand. When discovered, I believe it was somewhere between 15 and 25 feet deep, and built in the form of a cone. Over the mouth of the well there was a fine large flag, which, as well as part of the stones of the well, a man carried away to build a house. Of course the consequence was, that in such a sandy place the well immediately filled up with sand drift (*siaban*).

The people allege that the water in this well was quite different from that of any other well in the Long Island. They maintain that it was medicinal. There are many such in the Long Island. The people also maintain that the spirit of the ancient well was angry at the ruthless manner in which the well was treated, and that, as a consequence, no person has lived long or happily in the house built with the stones taken out of the well.

SCULPTURED STONE, BENBECULA.—About a mile or a mile and a half due east of the ruined well is Strome Shunnamal, or the Stronce or Sound of Sunnamal, where I found the flat slab of granite sent. Sunnamal is a small isle in the island of Benbecula, the sound of which is dry at low water. The stone rested upon a thin stratum of sand. Underneath the sand was a considerable depth of moss, as pure, fresh, and containing as much undecayed vegetable matter as any in the contiguous moor where the people cut their peats. Upon making a more accurate survey of the spot upon which the stone lay, I find that it is nearly dry at half-ebb spring tides. Close to the stone lay scattered a number of other stones, evidently the remains of some ancient building or heap of stones. The place is on the north-east side of Benbecula, upon the sound betwixt Benbecula and North Uist.

[The slab from Strome Shunnamal is of grey granite, 3 feet long by $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet broad and 8 to 9 inches thick. It bears on the one face an incised circle twelve inches in diameter, within which are three smaller circles and a triquetral ornament between them. Beside the large circle there is an oblong incised rectangular figure 13 inches long by 3 inches in

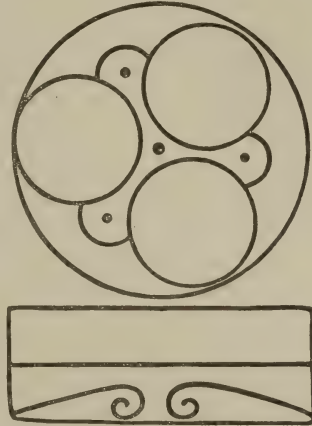
breadth, divided into two panels, one of which contains two triangular figures. The other side of the stone is not sculptured.]

STONE, WITH SCULPTURINGS OF CUPS AND CIRCLES, BENBECULA.—I sent also a tracing upon cotton cloth, for Sir James Simpson's acceptance, of a large stone discovered by me more than two years ago at N. Häcleit, Benbecula. This very fine stone is 10 feet, by $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet, by 10 inches. The under side is perfectly level, with a granular surface. The upper side is nearly, but not quite level, and smooth and weather-beaten on the surface.

This granite slab rests upon the edge of a low bank. A passage runs under the slab, and the first time I saw it the slab formed the roof of a piggery. The slab slopes towards one side and one end. On the upper edge it rests upon the ground about the centre, both ends being free; and on the lower edge it rests upon the ground from the centre to the end. This is the edge and end towards which the slab inclines, and upon which it mainly rests. The slab is on the top of a knoll, or hillock, at the end of a shepherd's house.

On one side of the slab, the knoll is seemingly composed of stones and earth, and I fancy there are some passages; while on the other side, at the end of the slab, the mound is cut away to the level of the surrounding ground for the site of a house, the walls of which are still standing.

The ring and cup-cuttings are upon the upper side of the slab. When I first saw this interesting stone I had not seen Sir James Simpson's book on Rings and Cup-cuttings, nor had I ever seen or heard anything of the stones of which the book treats. I was attracted to the stone from its size and beauty, and upon looking at it minutely I saw a ring and hollows upon it. My impression then was that these had something to do with astronomy. But since reading Professor Simpson's book, I



Sculpture on a Stone of Granite from
Strome Shunnamal, Benbecula
(3 feet in length).

find that he does not much venture upon any theory regarding the use of these circles and cup-cuttings, and when he refrains it would ill become me to suggest any.

III.

NOTES OF COINS RECENTLY DISCOVERED IN SCOTLAND, UNICORNS OF JAMES III. AND IV., HALF UNICORNS OF JAMES IV., ECUS OF JAMES V., &c. By GEORGE SIM, Esq., F.S.A., SCOT., CURATOR OF COINS, &c. (PLATE XV.)

DUNBLANE.—About the beginning of May last, certain old buildings adjoining the prison at Dunblane were pulled down, to make way for the improvement of the prison. In the course of these operations a workman, in digging the foundation for the new building, struck against an earthen vessel, which was broken to fragments, and exposed to view a large quantity of gold coins. They were taken possession of by the Procurator-Fiscal, and forwarded to Exchequer. Annexed is a list of the coins, 180 in number, and weighing upwards of 20 ounces.

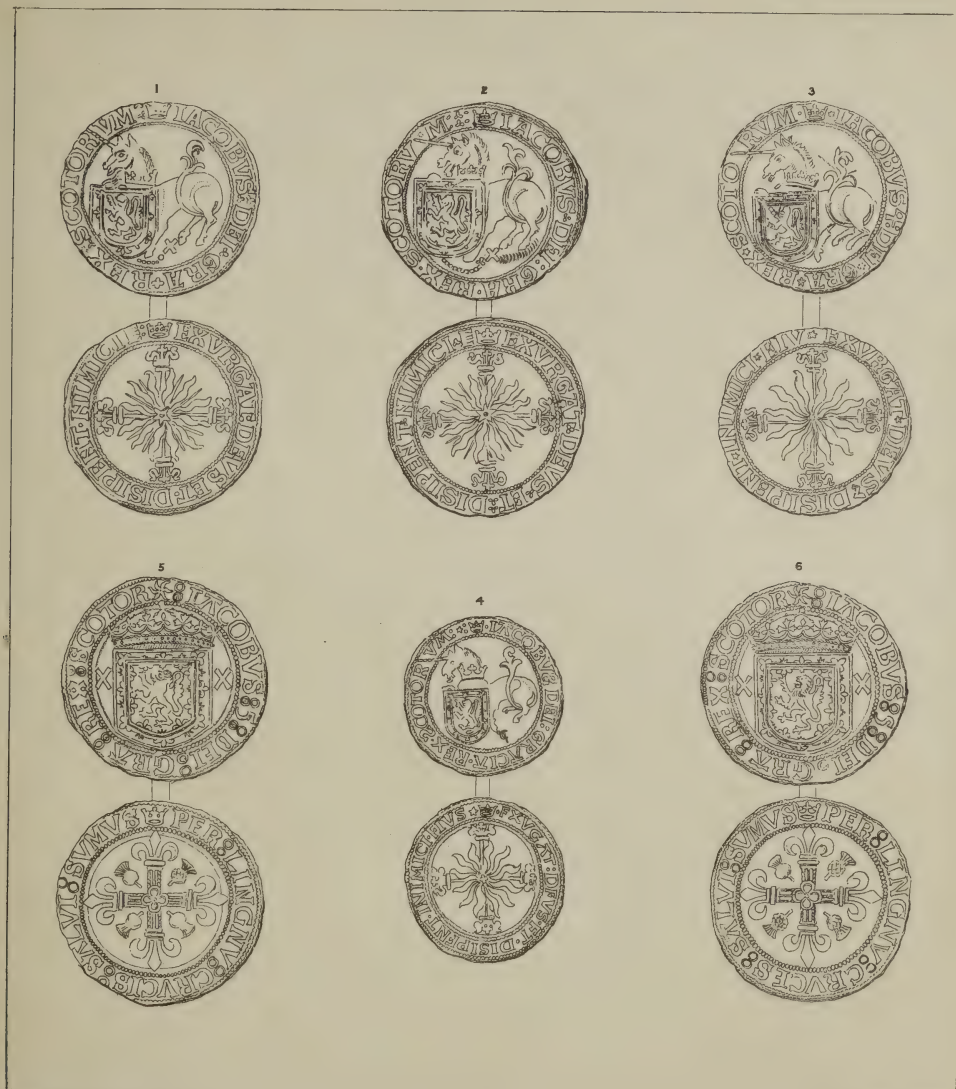
The latest Scottish coins in this parcel are the ecus of James V. There being no bonnet pieces, which were first struck in 1539, it is almost certain the concealment took place before that time. The ecus being all in brilliant preservation, and weighing 53 grains each, must, at the period of the deposit, have been almost newly issued from the mint.

The English and French coins are also, for the most part, in a high state of preservation, but present no new variety or coin of any great rarity; but among the Scottish series there are several of extreme rarity, and two of which no other specimens are known to exist (with the exception of one in the Advocates' collection), viz., the *half* unicorns of James IV.

The following are the rare coins in this important discovery:—

1st, The unicorns of James III., having “EXURGAT” on both obverse and reverse, of which there are five specimens.

2d, The unicorns of James IV., three in number, all of great rarity. Two of these are without the numeral, and besides having X under the unicorn on obverse, present other new and interesting peculiarities (Plate XV., Nos. 1 and 2). The third one has the numeral (Plate XV., No. 3), and resembles Lindsay, Pl. 13, No. 27.



W.F. Miller Delt. & Sculp.

W. & A. K. Johnston Edinb. 1869.

GOLD COINS OF JAMES IV. AND V. DISCOVERED IN 1869
AT DUNBLANE, STIRLINGSHIRE.

N^os 1 & 2 Unicorns of James IV without the numerals

N^o 3. Unicorn with the numeral

N^o 4. Half unicorn

N^{os} 5 & 6 Ecus of James V with legend PER LINGV CRVCES
SALVI SVMVS: N^o 5 has the spelling CRVCIS. All of great rarity

3*d*, The two half unicorns of James IV. before mentioned, apparently from the same die. Lindsay's Descriptive Catalogue, No. 83. They are better preserved than that in the Advocates' Library, weighing each 29 grains, the Advocates' weighing only 28 grains; and closely resemble a coin attributed in Lindsay's original work to James III. (Plate XV., No. 4.)

4*th*, The ecus of James V. (Plate XV., Nos. 5 and 6), with the legend, "PER LINGV CRUCES SALVI SUMUS," of which there are three specimens, being about as many as formerly known, and one with the same legend, but with the spelling *CRVOIS*, probably the second known.

In Mr Lindsay's first Supplement to his "Coinage of Scotland" (p. 22) he describes, and gives an engraving (Plate 3, No. 2) of an unicorn of James IV. with XC under the unicorn, and suggests whether that "should be considered as intended to express the date 1490, as we see on some of the Continental coins of this period." Two of the three unicorns of this discovery have X only, and not XC, below the unicorn. This circumstance having been communicated to Mr Lindsay as affecting his theory, he replied—

"The two unicorns with X, without the C, must, I fear, upset my theory as to the date 1490; but the substitution of another seems to afford a fine field for discussion. Perhaps the X may denote the value, 10 groats; but then what does C stand for, unless we consider it as a G, for which it may possibly have been intended."

Mr John Evans suggests that "the X and XC must simply stand for the Greek ΧΡΙΣΤΟΣ."

This suggestion by Mr Evans having been made known to Mr Lindsay, he again replied—

"The X on the unicorn of James IV., as I suspected, has given our Antiquarian brethren a bone to pick. Mr Evans' suggestion may possibly be correct, but if the value should be exactly 10 groats, I still think my supposition a better one; but it is very possible complete certainty in the matter may never be attained."

The Act of James IV., 1488, referred to by Cardonnel and by Mr Lindsay (at page 138 of his original work), where gold coins of 30, 20, and 10 groats were ordered to be struck, is indeed very puzzling. The larger pieces have never been seen in modern times, and probably never were issued.

List of Gold Coins found at Dunblane in May 1869.

Countries.	Sovereigns.	Names of Coins.	Number of Coins.	Dates.
Burgundy	Philip, Duke of,	Ecu	1	1363-1404
France	{ Charles VII. and VIII. }	Ecus	13	{ 1422-1461 1483-1498 }
Do.	{ Louis XI. and XII. }	Ecus	35	{ 1461-1483 1498-1515 }
Do.	Francis I.	Ecus	35	1515-1547
England	Edward III.	Nobles	2	1327-1377
Do.	Henry V. and VI.	Nobles	5	
Do.	Edward IV.	Angels	2	
Do.	Henry VII.	Angels	2	
Do.	Henry VIII.	Angel	1	1509-1547
Do.	Do.	Crown	1	
Scotland	James I.	St Andrew	1	1406-1436-7
Do.	Do.	Lions	2	
Do.	James II.	Lion	1	1437-1460
Do.	James III.	Unicorns	27	
Do.	Do.	{ Do. "EXURGAT" on both sides }	5	1460-1488
Do.	Do.	Half unicorns	15	
Do.	James IV.	Unicorns	3	1488-1513
Do.	Do.	Half unicorns	2	
Do.	Do.	Riders	6	
Do.	Do.	Half riders	5	
Do.	James V.	Common ecus	12	1513-1542
Do.	Do.	{ Ecus with "PER LINGNV CRVCES." }	3	
Do.	Do.	{ Ecu with "PER LINGNV CRVCIS." }	1	
			180	

COULNAKYLE (*Treasure Trove*).—In February last some work-people found a small parcel of coins at Coulnakyle, in the parish of Abernethy and county of Elgin.

The Procurator-Fiscal at Elgin was able to recover only 23 of the coins (it being known that at least 7 other coins had been discovered), which he forwarded to Exchequer on 1st March. On 4th March I examined the coins, and found them to be all pennies of Edwards I. and II., and of the following mints—viz.,

Berwick,	1
Bristol,	1
Bury St Edmunds,	1
Canterbury,	2
Dublin,	1
Durham,	2
Lincoln,	1
London,	14
	—
	23

These coins were to be returned to the finders. Also

BANKTON HOUSE, NEAR PRESTONPANS.

James III. and IV. placks,	26
James V. placks,	9
Francis and Mary, half testoons, rev. "IAM NON SUNT," &c.	10
Mary, "SERVIO" placks,	2
„ Edinburgh placks,	54
„ Edinburgh half plack,	1
	— 57
„ Gold Ryal with bust,	1
	—
	103

With the exception of the gold coin, they were all in a bad state of preservation.

(An account of this discovery, by the Rev. John Struthers, with a complete list of the coins, is given at page 167 of this volume).

IV.

NOTICE OF A KITCHEN MIDDEN AT CRAIG OF BOYNE, BANFFSHIRE.

BY ROBERT GARLAND, Esq., COWHYTHE.

Craig of Boyne stands on a rocky promontory on the south side of the Moray Firth, surrounded on three sides by the sea; on the fourth there are distinct traces of a deep moat, which seems to have been supplied with water from the Boyne, a stream running into the sea on the east side of the Craig.

I can find very little as to Craig of Boyne in any history of the coast, further than that it belonged to the Edmiston family; but tradition has it, that the last of the Edmistons of the Craig fell at Flodden, and his heiress married an Ogilvy of Findlater, now represented by Earl Seafield, the present proprietor of the Boyne estates.

[The relics sent consist of brass pins, with their rounded heads formed of a separate piece of twisted wire; bone pins of different lengths, some with ornamented heads; bone needles of different sizes, with perforated eye-holes, and one with four letters or initials in "black letter" characters, cut one above another along one of its sides, and a leaden cloth-mark, which has also been presented to the Museum by Mr Garland (see the annexed woodcut). This last relic was exhibited at the meeting of the Royal Archæological Institute, June 1869, and the following notice and figures of it are published in the "Archæological Journal," No. 103, 1869, page 298:—"This leaden relic measures about an inch in diameter; it consists of two disks united by a loop, like a hinge, the whole, however, formed in one piece, and the disks may be turned back so as to admit of the insertion between them of some thin object, for instance the edge of a piece of cloth or other tissue, to which the leaden object might be attached; it appears to have been fastened by two tags, of which the broken ends appear on one face of the article. The mode of attachment is not very obvious, but such was doubtless the intention. On one of the faces is seen a fleur-de-lys, with certain letters in relief on each of its sides; their signification is very doubtful, possibly they may be deciphered as—*lille*—and may here denote the city of Lille, long noted for its manufactures. On the other face, or reverse of the object, is seen in minuscule letters, in bold relief, *coxt* or *fort* (*sorte*); the field is diapered

with slight foliated branching ornament. The general design seems to be in the style of the fifteenth century. It may be a question whether this object was cast in a mould, or formed by stamping, in like manner as the *plomb* or *bolla*, that is commonly affixed at the present time to various articles of merchandise at the custom-houses in foreign countries. Modern ingenuity has, however, contrived an implement, like a pair of plyers or a bullet mould, that terminates in two stamps, bearing some distinctive device or inscription. A piece of soft metal, through which the cord for attachment passes, is so effectually squeezed between these intagli as to form a disk, called technically a *plomb*, that can only be separated from the article of merchandise by cutting the string. There can be little



Leaden Cloth-Mark, found at Craig of Boyne, Banffshire. (Orig. size.)

doubt that this little leaden relic is a mediæval French or Flemish cloth mark. The inscriptions that it bears may have served, as had been supposed, to indicate the quality of the article, or the name of the manufacturer." This and the other articles described and figured in the Donation List of this meeting (p. 263), were dug up from what seems to have been the midden of the castle, outside the walls, on a sloping ledge of rock (now covered by a deposit of mould), about twenty feet above the sea-level; and from the situation of the refuse, it must have been thrown from some window or opening above. The relics were found at a depth of from six inches to three feet below the surface.]

In the midden I found a great many oblong beach stones wasted at the

ends; and all the larger bones, or what we call "marrow bones," were splintered.

I may mention there is a cave on the east side of the rock, about ten feet above the sea, evidently running under the castle; at present it is so shut up with the beach, that one can only get in a few yards. I have begun to clear it; should anything be found, I shall be glad to add it to the few relics now sent.

V.

NOTICE OF A PECULIAR WEAPON OR HARPOON OF BRONZE FOUND ON THE BANK OF THE RIVER TWEED, NEAR NORHAM. By JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT., F.R.S.E.

The bronze weapon now exhibited is of a somewhat peculiar form; indeed, it is the only one of the kind which has come under my observation, and I have not seen a description of any bronze exactly corresponding to it.

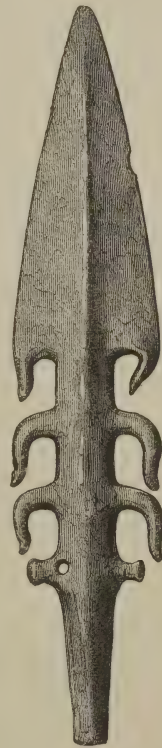
It does not resemble an ordinary spear head, but is more complicated in its character. It consists in front of a tapering blade, of dark red coloured bronze, with a projecting midrib, which terminates in a pointed extremity, and runs backwards to a pointed barb on each side, behind these barbs, two other barbs, rounded and more abrupt in character, project outwards and backwards from each side of the strong middle rib of the weapon; behind these again there is a short, rounded, horizontal bar or stop, with blunt extremity, which also projects outwards on each side. And the weapon, instead of terminating in a hollow or tubular socket for attaching it to a handle, tapers gradually backwards, and terminates in a rather blunt point, apparently for the purpose of its being inserted in a hollow socket of corresponding size at the extremity of a wooden shaft or handle. The base of the transverse bar or stop, on one side, is pierced by a regularly cut circular perforation.

The bronze measures one foot in length, by $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in greatest breadth across the blade; and the blade part, from the point in front to the extremity of one of its lateral barbs, measures $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches. The middle bar is about 1 inch across at the barbs, and the two barbs project three-quarters of an inch on each side, the transverse bar half an inch;

and the tapering terminal extremity is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. It weighs $25\frac{3}{4}$ ounces. (See the annexed woodcut.)

It was found, some time ago, by a man from Berwick when fishing on the Tweed, near Norham Castle. Turning round to arrange his tackle, he accidentally noticed part of a pointed object projecting slightly from the clay of the river's bank, at no great distance from him, and digging it out, got this curious implement. Being struck with its strange shape, he deposited it in his fishing basket, taking it home with him, and afterwards bringing it to Edinburgh when he came to reside here. He visited our Museum, and finding that we had many curious implements of bronze, brought the one he had found; I happened to be in the Library at the time, and was glad to secure it for the collection, and learned from him the particulars of its discovery.

In the number of its barbs, and its pointed extremities, it reminded me very much of some of the comparatively small spear heads formed of deer's horn, which have been found in the caves of Dordogne, in France, and are figured in the important "*Reliquiæ Aquitanicæ*" of Messrs Lartet and Christy. Several of these weapons have been presented, with other relics, to the Museum, by M. Lartet (and are now exhibited). Bone spear heads of a closely corresponding character, with numerous barbs and both extremities pointed, have also been found in Denmark, and are figured in Mr A. P. Madsen's beautifully illustrated work.¹



Bronze Weapon found on the Tweed near Norham,
(12 inches in length).

¹ Afbildninger af Danske Oldsager og Mindesmærker. Kiöbenhavn, 1870.

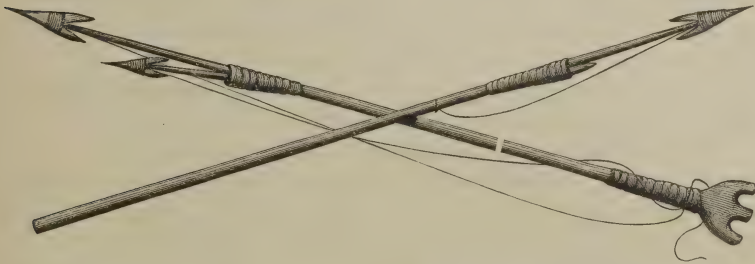
These curious weapons have generally three or more barbs projecting from each side, and many of them have both of their extremities pointed, as if for fixing into a corresponding cavity in the extremity of a separate shaft; they also show a slight projection of the bone on each side, above their tapering posterior extremity, apparently corresponding to the stop or bar on the bronze blade. These spear heads, however, are very slender in character when compared with this strong blade of bronze.

I have examined some weapons of the ruder or less civilised races of men of more modern times, to see if I could find anything corresponding in character or design to this weapon of bronze.

The principal lance or harpoon of the Esquimaux consists of a long shaft of wood, with a large separate head of bone, which is pointed in front, and terminates in barbs behind. Some of these harpoons have the head prolonged backwards to a tapering or pointed termination, for insertion into a socket hollowed at the extremity of the wooden handle, and they have also projections corresponding to the bars or stops of the bronze now described; others have a socket cut between the barbs, into which the tapering point of the shaft is inserted, and all are pierced transversely with a hole, to which a strong line of considerable length is attached; to the other extremity of this line is fixed a float or air-bag, formed of the inflated skin of a seal. When the Esquimaux sets out in his skin-covered canoe or kayak to hunt the seal or the whale, his principal weapon is this large lance, which is strapped at his side, the line arranged on a stand in front of him, and the skin float placed on the canoe behind. When he strikes his game, the head separates from the handle of the spear, which is carefully secured, and he throws the float into the water, where it acts both as a buoy to point out where the game has gone, and as a drag to retard its progress, and exhaust the strength of the wounded animal. He is thus enabled more easily to approach and stab it again and again with his smaller lance, which has a fixed head, until the prize is finally secured. Through the kindness of Dr Robert Brown, F.R.G.S., who has more than once visited Greenland, I am enabled to exhibit a small model of this ingenious harpoon of the Greenlander, with its movable head, its line, and its float, made by the Esquimaux themselves.

Harpoons of a similar construction to those of the Esquimaux are

also in use on the coasts of North-Western America, and, in an interesting little volume, giving an account of the natives of that part of the world, entitled "Scenes and Studies of Savage Life," by Gilbert Malcolm Sproat, London, 1868, I find details given of the manner of catching salmon by the natives of the west coast of Vancouver Island. They capture the fish with the hook, and with elaborately constructed traps in the rivers, and also with the spear; either from the canoes by torch-light at night in the deeper water off the mouths of rivers, or by standing in the river during the day, and striking the fish as they swim past, or lie in the deep pools of the river. The salmon spears have a



Salmon Spears used by the Natives of the West Coast of Vancouver Island. (The two headed spear is about 15 feet in length; the one headed spear is considerably shorter.)

movable barbed head, to which a line is always attached. They employ a spear with a single head in the shallow water; but in deeper water, where the chances of the fish escaping are greater, from the refraction of the water, they use a very ingenious spear, which has a double or additional head springing from the upper part of the shaft, each head with its separate line attached; and so the chances of striking the fish are much increased.

Mr Sproat says—"The salmon spears are made of pine, and are rounded and smoothed by being rubbed on watered stones, and are afterwards straightened by warmth in the ashes of the fires. The spear, with two heads and two finger places in the handle, is about 15 feet long, and is

used in the deeper water off the mouths of rivers, when the two heads double the chances of hitting a fish at one stroke. The single-headed spear is used in the shallow water in rivers. The spear head is made of elk bone, glazed with resin, and becomes detached from the spear on the fish being struck, but remains fastened to the line. The fisherman lays the spear down in the canoe, and hauls in the fish with the line. If the salmon is very large and troublesome, a few small bladders are tied to the line, as near to the fish as possible, and he is left to weary himself by the effort of dragging these under the water. In the rivers and mountain streams, in which the water generally is shallow and flows rapidly, the natives place stones across the channel, and with the single-headed spear strike the fish as they pass. It is a pretty sight to see an Indian, with his blue blanket flung carelessly around him, standing on these stones in a graceful attitude, poising his long spear," &c. (P. 221.)

These salmon spears are, therefore, made to act exactly on the same principle as the harpoon of the Esquimaux.

Mr Sproat has been kind enough to send to me, through Dr Robert Brown, some clever sketches in water colours, by a lady (Mrs Mack), of various Vancouver Indian weapons, implements, &c. (which I exhibit), including the salmon spears (copied in the annexed woodcut).

The ancient spear heads of bone found in the caves of Dordogne, with their posterior terminations tapered like the bronze weapon, were probably used in a similar manner to those of Vancouver Island, as spears for catching fish.

Whether this large bronze spear head, found on the banks of the Tweed, was used harpoon-like for spearing salmon, or for other creatures of a much larger size and belonging to a different zoological Class, it is not easy to say; probably it was used for both. It certainly looks considerably larger than necessary for the former purpose; although it is not improbable that at an earlier time the salmon of our rivers may have been at once more abundant, and may have also lived to reach a much larger average size, than their sorely persecuted descendants in our own day.

There is, however, a great similarity of design between this ancient bronze, and the modern spears or harpoons which I have described, with their movable and barbed heads, and holes with lines attached to them. The bronze like them has its barbs, and a tapering posterior extremity (the

strength of the bronze blade, and probably also its facility of detachment from the shaft, being thus increased). It has also the hole pierced through it, which, if not intended simply for fixing it by a cord to a shaft, and it is certainly not a usual way of fixing a spear head to a handle, was probably for the attachment of a long line.

I am inclined, therefore, to think that the weapon was used as a harpoon rather than as a common spear.

The usual missile of the Britons—the *matarā* of Cæsar—seems clearly identical with the heavy Gaulish javelin. I quote from the important chapter on the Historical Ethnology of Britain, by Dr J. Thurnam, in the valuable “*Crania Britannica*” of Mr J. B. Davis and Dr Thurnam. Diodorus gives the name of *saunian* to the missile weapons of the Gauls, which they themselves, he says, called *lancia*. He states that there were two forms of the saunian, one straight, the other barbed, or, as he expresses it, curved and having a jagged edge, which produced a laceration of the wound in the recovery of the weapon (Diod. lib. v. c. 30). This last phrase seems to imply that one kind of saunian was thrown with a thong, and belonged to the class of *jacula amentata*. Diodorus also states that the head of the saunian was of iron, and a cubit (18 inches) in length, and that the shaft was still longer. The “*lancea*” is defined by Isidorus as “*hasta amentum habens in medio*” (Isidor. Hisp. lib. xviii. c. 7). A Gallic spear, intended for thrusting rather than hurling, is referred to by Strabo, who distinguished it from the *mataris* or javelin. He implies that it was of great length, &c. From these quotations, referring to the ancient weapons of the Gauls and Britons; it seems therefore probable that one form of the javelin was thrown with a thong to recover it, and that it had the thong attached to the middle of the handle. It was not perhaps barbed, as Dr Thurnam puts it, but had, as Diodorus himself says, a curved and jagged edge.

A weapon barbed like this bronze—a more ancient weapon, shall I say, considering the metal of which it is formed—would be unsuitable for use as a javelin or spear in warfare, the barbs preventing the withdrawal of the weapon. It rather suggests, therefore, the capture of the animal struck by it, on the principle of the ordinary harpoon,—a weapon which, in the form of that with the movable head, seems to have been used by the inhabitants of very distant parts of the world.

Since this communication was read before the Society, Mr Joseph Anderson, the Keeper of our Museum, has called my attention to a figure of an ancient weapon of a closely corresponding character, which is published in the Reports of the General Anniversary Meetings of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries for 1838 and 1839, Copenhagen, 1839; and I am indebted to Mr Anderson for the following translation, or rather abstract of the communication :—

“The Asiatic Society of Calcutta in Bengal, along with a letter from its Secretary, the Hon. J. Prinsep, have transmitted to the Society of Northern Antiquaries two specimens of ancient copper weapons, found at a landslip near the village of Nioräi, in the province of Etäweh, between the rivers Ganges and Jumna in the interior of Hindostan.

“The first of these is a sword blade, or broad sword (23 tommers in length), with a peculiar projecting hook on one side of the tang, or handle part of the weapon. The second weapon is a spear or javelin head (14 tommers long), very massively moulded, fashioned for insertion in a shaft, where there might be fastenings to the outstanding hooks. The points of the latter are worn off. Weapons of this form are frequently dug up in the neighbourhood of the Hindoo towns Mathura and Bindráband, and the natives consider them to be of the kind used in the Mahábhárata war celebrated in the famous Sanserit Epos. This, however, Mr Prinsep considers somewhat doubtful, because the Mahábhárata poem expressly mentions steel weapons.

“The presumption of the high antiquity of these objects is very strong. They are well wrought, have a fitness for their purpose, and the artificer has not been sparing of the metal, of which it may be judged that the Indian race had an abundant supply. In the meantime the following circumstances point to a far distant age ;—first, the form and simplicity of the sword-like weapon ; and, second, the material of which they are both made. This material has been found (by a chemical analysis, to which it has been submitted by Professor Forchhammer) to be very good and pure copper, with nearly nothing, or very little, of an admixture of tin, or possibly of some other substance found therein. The addition of tin, whereby bronze is produced, was an improvement which was very early employed with weapons of copper, for the purpose of hardening them. Here, in the North, we have never found swords, but only celts and

palstaves made of pure copper, and these may be taken to have either belonged to a very early period, or to the less wealthy." Page 12, &c.

The figure of the spear-head accompanying this communication shows a weapon very much resembling the one I have figured and described. It has a blade part in front which terminates in barbs, behind which are three small and much worn projecting points springing from each side of the prolonged mid-rib of the weapon, which also terminates in a tapering posterior extremity. The blade part of this spear head is a little longer in proportion to the rest of the weapon than in the one I have described, but the projecting points, although they are much worn away, apparently correspond exactly both in number and character to the barbs and stop of the one found on the banks of the Tweed at Norham. The only difference being that there is no circular perforation through it as in the Scottish bronze—at least none is figured or described.

This Indian weapon is, therefore, of much interest, and it is curious to observe that no similar specimen has apparently been found in the north of Europe, at least none appears to be known to the Northern Antiquaries. The Indian weapons are stated, in the communication I have quoted, to be both formed of nearly pure copper, and this Indian spear-head from Bengal, being the only one I have been able to discover at all corresponding to that found on the banks of the Tweed; it occurred to me that it was possible I might have been mistaken in considering the latter to be formed of a reddish-coloured bronze. Accordingly I requested Dr Stevenson Macadam, who is always most obliging in making an analysis of any object of interest, and indeed has already analysed various ancient bronzes for the benefit of the Society, to make a careful examination of this bronze; and Dr Macadam has favoured me with the subjoined note, which shows that the Scottish weapon is really a true bronze, and not like its Indian representative, formed of nearly pure copper.

On comparing Dr Macadam's analysis given below, with those of other ancient bronzes, it would appear that this Scots bronze agrees more nearly in its chemical constitution with the class of bronze compounds found in Great Britain and Ireland, than with those found on the Continent of Europe, and this may so far be taken as a proof of its being of British manufacture. The proportion of copper in the British bronzes being generally large, and of tin and lead very small, whereas many of those

found on the Continent, contrary to what might have been expected, appear to have a larger relative proportion of tin and of lead. (See a learned communication by J. E. Wogel, "Keltnerne, Germanerne, og Slavnerne Bronzer, En Archæologisk Parallel," published in the *Antiquarisk Tidsskrift* of the Royal Northern Society of Antiquaries, Copenhagen, 1854.

"ANALYTICAL LABORATORY, SURGEONS' HALL.

"The bronze implement found near Norham, which you sent me ten days ago, has the following chemical composition:—

Copper,	91.12
Tin,	7.97
Lead,	0.77
Loss,	0.14
	————— 100.00

"These proportions indicate a hard bronze capable of taking and retaining a somewhat fine edge, which would be specially serviceable in a defensive arm or cutting instrument. If the barbs were not so far turned in, the implement would form the head of a very formidable instrument for spearing salmon."

My friend Dr John Anderson, Curator of the Imperial Museum, and Professor of Comparative Anatomy, Calcutta, who is at present in this country, has been good enough to furnish me with the following notes of another and similar barbed weapon in the great Indian Museum:—

"I have carefully examined the spear-head from the banks of the Tweed at Norham, and find that it agrees in size and in the number of its barbs with a weapon in the Indian Museum, Calcutta, found, as far as I can remember, speaking without my notes, in the North-West Provinces of India, with this difference, however, that the two pairs of barbs beyond the circular perforation are not reflected, but are shorter than in the Norham specimen, and bear the appearance as if their points had been broken off, which Prinsep also remarks of the specimen transmitted to the Society of Northern Antiquaries. The only difference between the Calcutta weapon and the spear-head in the Copenhagen Museum is the

presence in the former of a circular perforation corresponding in position to the one in the Norham specimen. Mr Anderson, of your Museum, mentioned to me that this perforation was completely obscured in the latter when it was received, but was detected and cleared out by him. It is probable that a careful examination will discover a similar perforation in the Copenhagen weapon. My distinct impression is that an analysis of the Calcutta weapon yielded a result similar to that of Professor Forchhammer's. The weapon in the Calcutta Museum is, as far as I am aware, the only one in India.

It may prove interesting to mention that the fishermen of the Ganges use a long lance or harpoon with a barbed head of hardened wood or bone, which is let into a socket at the end of the shaft, to which it is attached by a cord, which becomes disentangled when the animal is struck. These harpoons are used for spearing *Trionyx gangeticus*. In a walk along the banks of the Hooghley, below Calcutta, one may see, on the deep and sluggish parts of the river, *domes* intently watching, spear in hand, from their small boats the uprising of a tortoise. No sooner does the head of one of these reptiles appear above the murky water than the javelin is thrown with great dexterity, seldom missing its mark. I have myself, with one of these spears, harpooned a large specimen of the cetacean, *Platanista gangetica*.

If this bronze is really a harpoon head, it would appear to be more suitable for spearing such large reptiles as *Crocodilus palustris* or *Gavialis gangeticus* than for spearing fish."

MONDAY, 14th February, 1870.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were, upon ballot, duly admitted Fellows of the Society .—

Right Hon. the Earl of GLASGOW.

JAMES BROWN CRAVEN, Esq., Writer, Aberdeen.

Right Rev. ALEXANDER PENROSE FORBES, D.C.L., Bishop of Brechin of the Scottish Episcopal Church.

DAVID GRIEVE, Esq., The Ferns, Inellan.

ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., Registration Examiner, Brechin.

THOMAS MACKENZIE, Esq., Sheriff-substitute of Sutherlandshire.

DAVID SMALL, Esq., Writer, Dundee.

Rev. FREDERICK D. TEESDALE, Merchiston Place.

CHARLES TENNANT of The Glen, Esq., Peeblesshire.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By the Rev. Canon WILLIAM GREENWELL, M.A., Durham.

A collection of Flint Implements of the Drift Gravel type, comprising specimens of the long and the broad forms. These donations include specimens of flints from Broomhill, Brandonfield, Icklingham, &c.

Collection of worked Flints from the Yorkshire Wolds, comprising two very large "Scrapers" from Weeting, and a number of smaller ones from other localities; seven arrow heads, three leaf-shaped, three triangular, and one from Kirby Underdale of the one-sided form, having a stem and only a single barb; four of the curiously worked flakes termed "Awls" or Piercers; and a large assortment of Flakes more or less worked to these and other forms.

- (2.) By Right Hon. LORD TALBOT DE MALAHIDE, Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot., &c.,

A Brass Jug, 6 inches in height, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide at the mouth, and 4 inches wide at the widest part, found near Newbigging, Fife, in draining a bog as recorded in the "Interesting Roman Antiquities recently discovered in Fife, by the Rev. Andrew Small, Edenshead." 8vo. Edinburgh, 1823, page 56. There were found along with it a large Bronze Pot, and three of the smaller three-footed Pots or Ewers, with long handles and spouts opposite to the handles, and a Caldron, described as a bason. The vessel now presented, which is figured in the frontispiece to Small's work, is described by him as being something resembling our common mutchkin stoups, but globular at the bottom. It has once had a lid which moved on a hinge placed at the top of the handle, as in the modern pint stoups. The hinge is a strong copper wire rivetted on both sides of the checks between which the hinge moves. The vessel has a triangular spout rising two inches and a quarter below, and projecting half an inch beyond, the circle of the rim.

An earthenware jar of reddish clay four inches wide at the mouth and eight inches high, with a conical-shaped lid, stated to have been found in the county of Fife.

- (3.) By DANIEL ROSS, Esq., Rockville.

A model of "The Cheese-ring" near Liskeard, Cornwall, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, in a glass shade.

- (4.) By WALTER DICKSON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

A broken Phallus of Clay, coated with red pigment, taken from the ground in front of a tombstone in a native cemetery at Kanagawa, Japan. It had been placed over the grave along with offerings of boiled rice, water, and flowers.

- (5.) By W. F. SKENE, Esq., LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
The Coronation Stone. Edinburgh, 1869. Small 4to.

- (6.) By the COUNCIL of the ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.
Report of the Council of the Royal Scottish Academy for 1869.

- (7.) By JOHN RIDDOCH M'LUCKIE, the compiler, through T. ALLAN BELL, Esq. of Abbotshaugh.

Account of the principal Memorials in the Falkirk Churchyard, &c., reprinted from the "Falkirk Herald," with photographs. Small 8vo.

- (8.) By Madame F. TROYON.

Monuments de l'Antiquité dans l'Europe Barbare. Par FREDERICK TROYON. Lausaune, 1868. 8vo.

- (9.) By JOHN DICK of Craigengelt, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

An Old Print of Stirling and another of Stirling Castle.

- (10.) By Rev. CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Scotland, Social and Domestic. Memorials of Life and Manners in North Britain. Printed for the Grampian Club, London. London, 1869. 8vo.

- (11.) By JAMES HASWELL, M.A., the Author.

Columnar Structure developed in Mica Schist from a Vitriified Fort in the Kyles of Bute. 8vo. pp. 7.

There were also exhibited to the meeting,—

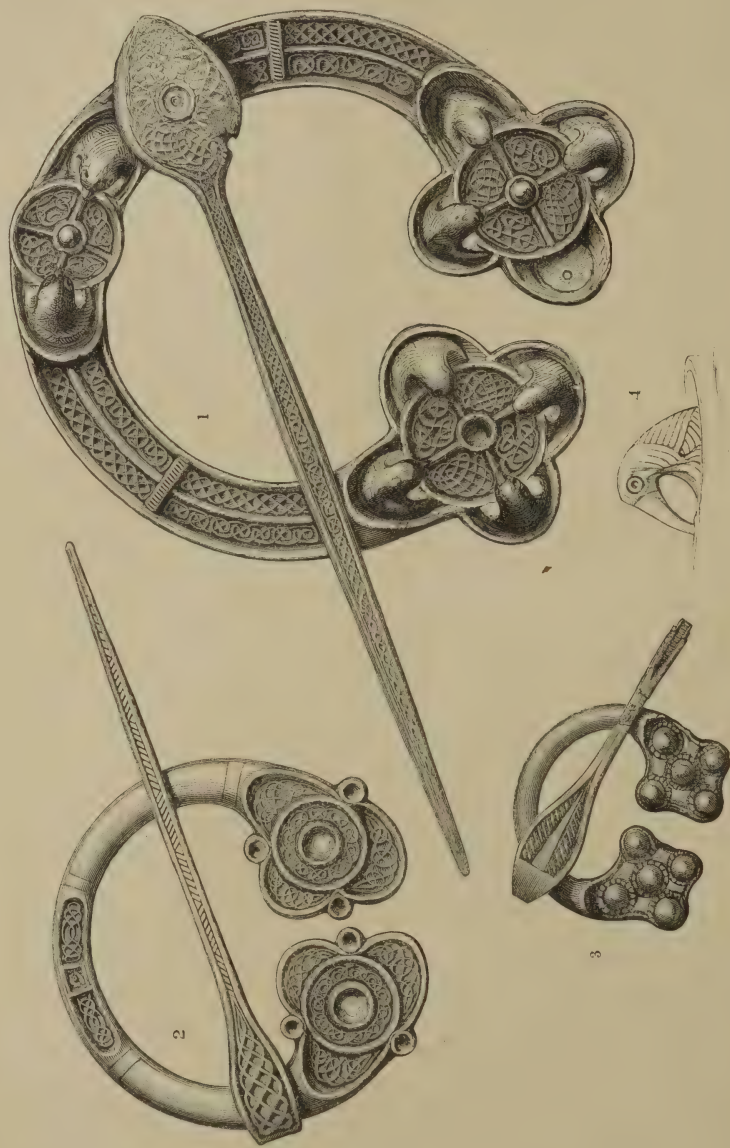
- (1.) By GEORGE A. JAMIESON, Esq., C.A., F.S.A. Scot.

The Original Matrix in brass of the Seal of the Abbey of Inchaffray, *circa* 1400 A.D.

The Original Matrix in brass of the Seal of James Drummond, Lord Maderty, *circa* 1609.

- (2.) By R. B. Æ. M'LEOD of Cadboll, Esq., Invergordon Castle, Ross-shire.

Two Brooches, of rare type, of white metal, ornamented with interlaced patterns of exquisite workmanship, found in Rogart parish, Sutherlandshire.



TWO SILVER BROOCHES, AND ONE OF BRONZE, FOUND IN SUTHERLANDSHIRE.

- 1. Silver Brooch, Gold-plated (4½ inches diameter).
- 2. Silver Brooch (3 inches diameter).
- 3. Bronze Brooch (¾ inches diameter).
- 4. Side View of the Brooch's Head Ornament of No. 1.

A Rare Bronze Implement, and portions of Bronze Rod or Ornament, of unknown use, found at Wester Ord, near Invergordon Castle, Ross-shire.

(3.) By His Grace the DUKE of SUTHERLAND.

A Small Bronze Brooch, found with the two mentioned above.

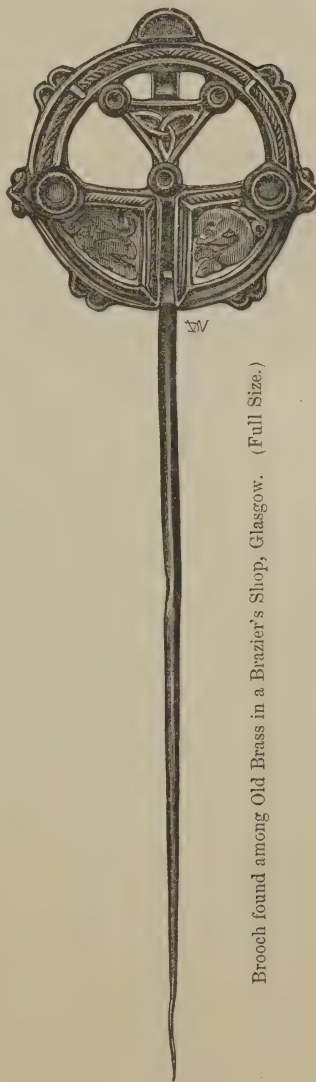
The larger of the two Brooches exhibited by Mr M'Leod measures four and a half inches across, and consists of a flattened band of silver, three quarters of an inch wide, nearly a quarter of an inch in thickness, and somewhat of a horse-shoe shape, penannular in form, terminating at the open extremities in a quatrefoil ornament, which expands to three inches in greatest width. This quatrefoil ornament bears an amber setting in the centre. Round the central setting is a circular space one inch in diameter, enclosed by a plain raised border, and intersected by four plain partitions, dividing it into four equal segments, each of which is filled in with a different pattern of interlacing tracery. Round the outside of this circle are four semicircles, also surrounded by plain raised borders. Three of these are of the same diameter as the circle round which they are set, but the fourth, which lies upon the band of the brooch, is compressed into an elongated oval, so as not to project beyond the breadth of the band. From each of these enclosed semicircular spaces there rises, to the height of half an inch, part of the body and neck of a large-billed bird. The eyes have been set with green glass; the neck bends gracefully, and the long flattened bill dips into the interior of the enclosed circle. These birds' heads are each secured by a central rivet passing through the body of the brooch. They are plain on the upper part of the neck and head, and ornamented with a chevrons pattern towards the base. On the central part of the horse-shoe shaped or penannular band of the brooch, there is a similar but smaller circle. This circle is also divided into four segments, with a central setting of amber, and the segments filled in with interlacing tracery. On either side of the circle are two of the bird's heads ornamented similarly to those of the extremities of the brooch. The space between the ornamented centre part of the band and the quatrefoil ornaments of the extremities, is indented so as to form four sunk panels of an inch

and a half in length by a quarter of an inch in breadth, divided longitudinally by plain raised borders, and crosswise by a broader ridge flattened on the top, and tooled with short incised lines. These panels are filled alternately with two patterns of interlaced tracery. The whole of the ornamented upper surface of the brooch is overlaid with thin gold-plate worked into the pattern by a tool. The back of the brooch, which is flat and slightly rounded, presents an appearance suggestive of the naturally cooled surface of the metal, which seems to have been run into an open mould, and left entirely untouched by any tool. On several parts of this otherwise untooled surface are groups of minute scratchings made by some sharp instrument. These can scarcely be confounded with the scratches resulting from wear. The acus, which is seven inches and three quarters in length, expands into an oval plate at the upper extremity, from which a loop extends backwards so as to encircle the band of the brooch. This oval is an inch in breadth, and has had a setting or ornament of some kind in the centre, as shown by the rivet hole; round it is a broad border of intricate interlacing tracery. This is continued with several variations of pattern down the whole front of the pin, which is entirely overlaid with gold like the ornamented surface of the brooch. (See Plate XVI. fig. 1.)

The smaller brooch (Plate XVI. fig. 2), which is also of silver and of the same penannular form, is three and one-eighth inches in diameter. Its ornaments are of three-petaled fashion, and not four as in the larger brooch, and it wants also the peculiarity of the quartered circle and the birds' heads. The ornaments of the extremities of the penannular band (which is plain), consist of a central setting (now gone) surrounded by a circle of interlacing tracery, round which are three semi-elliptic spaces filled in with tracery. There seem to have been three settings at the junctions of the semi-elliptical borders of these ornaments. In the centre of the band there is a setting of small size, and two small panels on either side of it, with interlaced serpent-like tracery, bearing considerable resemblance to the style of the serpent-work on the Hunterston Brooch (see "Proceedings," Vol. VII. Plate LVII.) The acus is five and a half inches in length, in general form like that of the larger brooch, but not so elaborately ornamented. These brooches, which are in almost perfect preservation, were exhibited at the meeting of the Archæological Institute, May 7, 1869,

and from the style of their workmanship were then assigned to the ninth or tenth century.

A similar brooch ornamented with birds' heads of much the same type as those of the larger brooch here described, was one of the four found in the magnificent chalice dug up at the fort at Ardagh, county Limerick, and exhibited at the May meeting of the Archæological Institute by the Earl of Dunraven (*Arch. Jour.* 1869, p. 290). The smaller brooch bears a strong resemblance in its form to one found at Skryne, county Meath, and figured in the Catalogue of the Museum of the Archæological Institute formed at Edinburgh in July 1856 (*Edin.* 1859), page 55. The ornamentation of interlacing and lacertine tracery, which in the larger brooch is combined with the peculiar birds' heads, is exhibited on several of the penannular brooches in the Society's Museum. Two examples of these are here figured, the figures being taken from Dr Wilson's "*Prehistoric Annals of Scotland.*" The first, which was found accidentally among some old brass in a brazier's shop in Glasgow, is of bronze, and has been jewelled, but the settings are now gone. The other brooch, which is of silver, still retains the original settings,



Brooch found among Old Brass in a Brazier's Shop, Glasgow. (Full Size.)

apparently of amber, and like the Cadboll brooches, the interlaced and lacertine patterns are wrought in gold. It was found in the vicinity of the mounds at Dunipace, Stirlingshire.

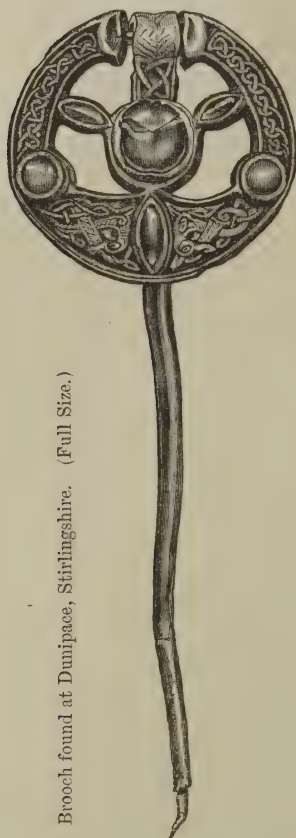
In one of the Irish examples figured by Sir W. Wilde in the Catalogue of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy, the *acus* terminates at the upper end in the representation of a human face cowered. The style of the ornamentation on the necks of the birds of the larger Cadboll brooch is not unlike that seen on the necks of the "horses' heads" that adorn the "tortoise-shaped brooch" from Caithness in the Society's Museum.

The use of interlacing patterns and lacertine knot work in the ornamentation of these penannular fibulæ, is not so uncommon as its combination with the forms of birds' heads in high relief. Dr Stevenson Macadam was requested to examine the brooches, to determine if possible the metal of which they were composed, and the following note gives the result of his examination :—

SURGEONS' HALL, EDINBURGH.

MY DEAR DR SMITH,—I returned the brooches safely to the Museum yesterday. Both brooches are made of silver alloyed with

copper, and consequently the metal is similar to the sterling or coin silver of our own country. The proportion of copper appeared to be rather



Brooch found at Dunipace, Stirlingshire. (Full Size.)

higher than usual, judging from the qualitative analysis. The gilding, or rather inlaying, is of gold.—Yours sincerely, STEVENSON MACADAM.

The third brooch exhibited by the Duke of Sutherland, preserved in the Museum at Dunrobin Castle, is of bronze, silver gilt, and considerably smaller than those already described, measuring only three inches and a quarter in diameter. Its ornamentation consists of three rounded bosses on the expanded extremities of the penannular band of the brooch. (Plate XVI. fig. 3.)

These three brooches were found along with a number of others (which cannot now be traced), on blasting an earth-fast boulder in the course of the formation of the Sutherland Railway through the parish of Rogart in 1868. With the exception of the small one now in the Duke of Sutherland's Museum at Dunrobin Castle, the others were all taken away by a relative of the finder, and sold. The two larger brooches were left by him with a shopkeeper in the village of Alness for value received, and were afterwards purchased by Mr Macleod of Cadboll, by whom they have been named "The Cadboll Brooches."

The Bronze Implement, also exhibited, is of a rare shape, consisting of a tapering circular hollow socket, which terminates in a bent leaf-shaped blade, the convex surface of the blade being smooth, and the tapering socket projecting like a midrib on the concave surface, and terminating within $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of its somewhat pointed extremity. It measures $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches along the convex surface of the implement, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in greatest breadth of the blade. The top of the tubular socket measures 1 inch across; it is pierced by two rivet holes opposite to one another for fixing it to a handle, and has a thickened margin or ridge-like projection. It is well shown in the accompanying woodcut, fig. 1.

It was found, with five other pieces of bronze (celts, &c.), under the corner of a large earth-fast boulder on the farm of Wester Ord, on the Invergordon property, in 1859. The hoard appeared to have been wrapped in a cloth, and secreted under the boulder. Among the pieces were the three portions of a bronze rod $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in diameter and about 15 inches in length, which had apparently been broken into four unequal portions, one portion displaying a slightly expanded terminal extremity. The rod is ornamented by a series of small cup-like hollows,

each with a pair of slightly projecting ears, which occur at intervals of about three or four inches along its upper border. These little cups or hollows measure a quarter of an inch across.

Two small bronze rings, each five-eighths of an inch in diameter, were also found in the same place.

The only other bronze implement of a similar kind with which we are acquainted, was presented to the Museum of the Society in February 1850, by the late Horatio M'Culloch, R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot., who stated that it was found in the Island of Skye, along with a bronze sword, spear-head, pin, &c. This implement, which is somewhat smaller than the one now described, has the midrib much less developed, and is described and figured in "The Prehistoric Annals of Scotland" by Dr Daniel Wilson, from which the accompanying woodcut, fig. 2, is taken.



1. Bronze Implement found at Wester Ord, Invergordon.
(Four and a half inches in length.)



2. Bronze Implement found in Skye.
(Four inches in length.)

Some of the other bronzes found at the same time with fig. 2 have been described and figured in a communication by Dr J. A. Smith, Sec., S.A. Scot. in the "Proceedings," Vol. III. page 201.

We append the following details regarding this peculiar implement from Dr Wilson's "Prehistoric Annals" :—

“ In the autumn of 1849 a remarkable discovery of bronze arms and other antiquities was made in the Island of Skye. They included swords, spear-heads, celts, and a bronze pin, with a hollow cup-shaped head, similar to one figured in the *Archæological Journal* (Vol. III. p. 48), a relic of one of the Irish crannoges or island strengths. A gold armilla and other ornaments of the same precious metal are also said to have been obtained along with these ancient remains, and beside them lay the fragments of an oaken chest, in which the whole appeared to have been deposited. The most of these valuable relics were secured by Lord Macdonald, but one curious and probably unique implement fell into private hands, and has since been deposited in the Museum of the Scottish Antiquaries. In general appearance it resembles a bent spear-head, but it has a raised central ridge on the inside, while it is nearly plain and smooth on the outer side. It has a hollow socket, and is perforated with holes for securing it to a handle by means of a pin. The most probable use for which it has been designed, would seem to be for scraping out the interior of canoes and other large vessels made from the trunk of the oak. But we necessarily reason from very imperfect data, when we ascribe a specific purpose to the implements of a period the arts and habits of which must have differed so essentially from our own.”

(4.) Two Roman Coins purchased for the Numismatic Collections of the Society—

Third Brass of the Emperor Lælianus. Obverse: IMP. C. LÆLIANVS P. F. AVG.; bust of Lælianus. Reverse: VICTORIA AVG.; Victory marching to the right bearing a wreath or crown.

Second Brass of the Emperor Vetricus. Obverse: DN. VETRICVS. P. F. AVG.; the bust of Vetricus, with paludamentum and cuirass. Reverse: CONCORDIA MILITVM; Vetricus in military habit, standing, holding in each hand a labarum or Christian standard—the “Christian monogram” is distinctly seen on the standards. In the exergue: I. SIS. (Struck at Siscia in Pannonia.)

Both very rare.

The following note on these two coins has been kindly furnished by George Sim, Esq., Curator of Coins, S.A. Scot.

Lælianus, (one of the thirty tyrants of his time,) was the leader of the

insurrection by which Postumus was overthrown, and after gallantly defending Gaul from the incursions of the Germans, was himself slain by his own soldiers who mutinied on account of the severe toils he imposed, and proclaimed Victorinus in his stead. These events took place in the course of A.D. 267. The coins of this usurper are very rare.

Vetranio was an officer far advanced in life who commanded the Legions of Illyria and Pannonia at the period (A.D. 350) when Constans was treacherously destroyed and his throne seized by Magnentius. Vetranio at first only intended to render assistance to Constantius (the brother of Constans) to put down the usurper, but was at last prevailed on by the troops to assume the purple himself, after which he was courted by both the contending parties, and for a time, seemed to befriend both. In less than ten months, however, he resigned all his pretensions in favour of Constantius, by whom he was treated with great kindness and permitted to retire into private life, practising, for the remaining six years of his life, the virtues of the Christian faith which he professed. The coins of Vetranio are very rare.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

NOTICE OF EASTER ISLAND, ITS INHABITANTS, ANTIQUITIES, AND COLOSSAL STATUES. BY LIEUT. C. M. DUNDAS, R.N. COMMUNICATED BY JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT. PLATE XVII.

Easter Island, or as it is called by the natives, Rapa-rui, is a small island, only remarkable for the gigantic statues found there, which are mentioned by Cook and other navigators. It is situated in lat. $27^{\circ} 10$ S., and long. $109^{\circ} 30$ W. of Greenwich, and at a distance of more than 2000 miles from the nearest point of South America, and about 1200 miles from the nearest inhabited island. It is said to have been seen by Davis, an English navigator, in 1686, but this is doubtful. Rogge-
wein, a Dutchman, discovered it in 1722, and it has been subsequently visited by Cook in 1774, La Pérouse, a Frenchman, in 1786, and by a few others. In November 1868 we were there for a week in H.M.S.

Topaze, under Commodore R. A. Powell, C.B., and the following account is drawn up from what we saw.

The island is of triangular shape, and about 30 miles in circumference; the northern and southern extremities are about 1000 to 1500 feet in height, sloping gradually towards the centre. The interior is studded with smaller hills, nearly all of which are extinct craters, and the soil is evidently volcanic in its origin, decomposed lava with loose lava stones, and pieces of obsidian or volcanic glass. The coast line is generally precipitous, and there are few places where landing would be at all practicable. There is very little vegetation, but the island is covered with long brown grass. There is a shrub-like tree, generally averaging from 6 to 8 feet in height, which the natives call Toro-miro (*Edwardsia Macnabianu* ?), having a dark reddish wood, and a leaf resembling the common vetch; and also the paper mulberry, from the bark of which the natives make tappa or native cloth.

Roggewein says that in 1722 the island was well wooded, but except a few stumps of cocoa-nut palms, we saw no trees, and as in his account the natives are described as giants, perhaps we ought not to place too much dependence upon him. The natives cultivate the sweet potato, plantain, taro root, yam, and sugar cane, and their plantations are scattered all over the island. The missionaries, who are Jesuits who came from Tahiti about the year 1865, have introduced maize and other vegetables, which appear to thrive well in their garden.

There are no quadrupeds indigenous to the island except rats, which abound, and are used by the natives as their only animal food. These rats appear to be the large brown rat found on the other Polynesian islands. La Pérouse mentions having left some hogs, but we saw no traces of any. Cocks and hens are plentiful, and the eggs were offered to us for barter. Boatswain birds, frigate birds, tern, and other sea-birds were seen, but we saw no wild land birds. Although we did not succeed in catching any fish, there must be some of very considerable size, to judge from the stone fish-hooks which we found among the natives (Plate XVII. fig. 10). They also have fine nets for small fish, and they catch crayfish by diving.

We only saw one canoe; it had an outrigger, and although it was made of small pieces of wood laced together, it resembled in general form the

canoes of the Marquesans, but had evidently not been used for a long time. Cook mentions that in 1774 only three or four canoes were to be seen.

The ordinary dwellings of the natives are long narrow houses made of sticks planted in the ground at some distance apart, bent over, and tied together; the whole is thatched with straw and rushes, and resembles in shape a large canoe upside down. These average from 20 to 25 feet in length, 7 or 8 feet in breadth, and between 5 and 6 feet in height at the centre, tapering towards the ends. There are no windows, and the door is a hole in the middle of one side, from 1 foot to 18 inches square, just large enough to admit a man crawling in. Some of these houses are much larger, however; one we saw was between 40 and 50 feet long. They have no partitions or furniture, and the only household utensils we saw were a few gourds. All the cooking is done in the open air, in the same manner as is usual among the South Sea islanders, by means of hot stones. Both Captain Cook and La Perouse mention subterranean houses, but, except at the edge of the crater, I did not see any of these.

The great crater, called by the natives Te Ranu (the crater) Kau, is situated at the summit of a hill 1200 feet high, at the S.W. extremity of the island. It is 2000 yards in diameter, and about 800 feet deep, and the bottom is flat and marshy, with reeds and rushes growing in it, and pools of fresh water here and there.

I may mention here that there is not much fresh water on the island. We found it in the great crater, at the crater Otu-iti, at the eastern end of the island; and in a few other places there are springs, but the water is brackish. On the sea edge of this great crater we found a number of very curious subterranean houses, in one of which the statue which was brought home in H.M.S. *Topaze*, and now in the British Museum, was discovered. I should think there were at least fifty of these underground houses, but they were not counted. The natives appear to have taken advantage of the natural caverns in constructing these dwellings, and they are built up where necessary with irregular flat slabs of stone of variable thickness, gradually converging at the top, and the whole roofed with larger slabs. The doors, as in the huts, are very small, just large enough to crawl through. The general dimensions of these houses appeared to be 20 feet by 6 or 8 feet, and between $5\frac{1}{2}$ and 6 feet in height.

The people may be described, I think, as very like the Marquesans in appearance, but generally lighter in colour. Their stature, I should say, averages from 5 feet 6 inches to 5 feet 10 inches. Their hair is black, and that of the women very long, and worn in a sort of knot on the top of the head. Their dress is the maro, as commonly worn by the Polynesians; the men wear a cincture of cord made of woman's hair about an inch in circumference. The women generally wear a short petticoat of tappa, and both sexes sometimes use a sort of shawl of the same material. They are generally tattooed in much the same fashion as the Marquesans, but the missionaries have prohibited this custom. They also colour their bodies with pigments of red earth. Some of the women have the lobes of their ears pierced, and ornaments, either of wood or fishbone, inserted; but this custom is evidently not carried to such an extent as at the date of Cook's visit, to judge by the engraving in the account of his second voyage (Vol. I. p. 290), where both men and women are represented with the lobes of their ears distended nearly down to the shoulders.

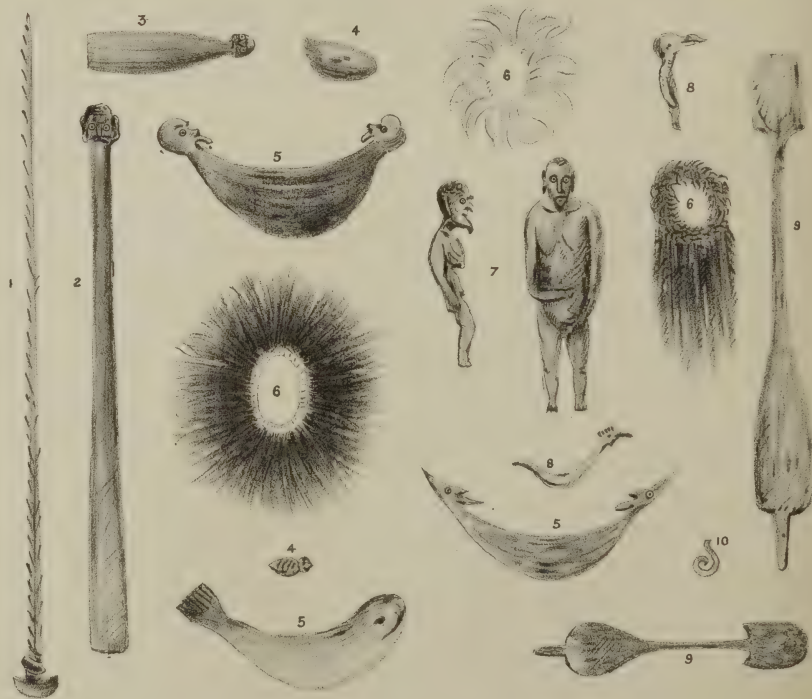
Our short stay did not allow us to come to any distinct conclusion with respect to their language; but a Frenchman, who had been wrecked on the island, and who was accompanied by a Tahitian woman, told us that she had considerable difficulty in making them understand her. Forster, however, who accompanied Cook, gives a comparative table of the languages of the South Sea Islanders, in which many words are common to Tahiti and Easter Island. The language is evidently a poor one, containing but few words.

The population in November 1868 was 900, of whom two-thirds were males. In 1774, Cook estimated the population at 700, but supposed that some of the women were concealed. La Perouse, in 1786, says they numbered 2000. In 1864 several hundreds were kidnapped by the Peruvians, and carried to the Chincha Islands to work guano; and although an order was given a year afterwards that they should be sent back, very few ever actually returned. Since this event, and the arrival of the missionaries, the natives have all congregated in one settlement, at Hanga-roa, or Cook's Bay, on the west side of the island. The birth-rate in 1868 was less than twenty per 1000, and the death-rate forty-six per 1000. As they have no written language, it is difficult to say what the tradi-

tions of their early history really are worth. The missionaries told us that a tradition exists among them, that their ancestors lived on the island of Rapa or Oparo (an island lately used as a coaling station by the Panama and New Zealand Company's steamers, nearly 2000 miles due west of Easter Island), and that having been defeated in civil war, they were put into large canoes, and were set adrift with a supply of water and taro-root; they eventually came to Easter Island, and landed at Winnipu, a bay on the south-east side of the island. That their chief or king caused the large stone statues to be hewn in the quarry at Otu-iti, where he dwelt, and finally ordered the statues to follow him to the crater Kau. This they attempted to do; some fell down, and others remain standing where they stopped. The king died, and was changed into a butterfly, and his name is still preserved as the name for all butterflies, Tu-ku-i-a. They assign no date to this story, but the island is called Rapa-nui, the great Rapa; Opara being Rapa-iti, small Rapa.

At the death of a king all the people used to assemble in the underground houses, at the greater crater; and the man who could collect the greatest number of sea-birds' eggs was declared king. This was not an easy or safe undertaking, as the cliffs are about 1000 feet high, and nearly perpendicular. They appear to have had little religion before the arrival of the missionaries, except a general belief in a great and good spirit, who planted man in the earth, and from him sprang the whole race. Of this spirit they made no effigy; and we were distinctly told that they never worshipped the large statues, nor the small wooden figures, which they used to suspend from the roofs of their houses. The taboo is respected, as in the other islands in the South Seas; and they were in the habit of protecting their plantations, by placing small cairns of stones, generally topped by a white stone, in sign of taboo. Since the missionaries have been on the island, they have succeeded in Christianising all the natives; the last was baptized a few days before our arrival.

The usual mode of burial appears to have been wrapping the corpse in grass, reeds, or tappa, and depositing them on the platforms in different parts of the island. Forster says that, in 1774, they laid their dead beside the ranges of large stone figures, and that he was told that these figures represented their deceased chiefs. There are also smaller statues, more rudely carved, which appear to have marked burial-grounds. The smaller



Lieu: M. Dundas, del.

W. & A.K. Johnston, Edinburgh.

FIGS. I. II. COLOSSAL STATUE, FRONT & BACK VIEW.

N^os 1 to 10 Weapons, implements, & ornaments, from Easter Island, South Pacific

of the two, brought home in the Topaze, called by the natives Hoa Hava, was one of these. I also saw three corpses wrapped in tappa, and deposited in an upright position in the clefts in the face of the cliffs, on the northern coast of the island, near La Perouse Bay ; but this, I believe, was a very ancient method of disposing of their dead.

But the large stone statues are much the most interesting feature on the island ; the natives call them Te Moi Maia (the stone statues), and they also say they have a name for each individually. Cook mentions this as a fact ; but I am not certain that it is altogether true. We counted about 300 in different parts of the island ; but the greatest number are found in and about the crater Otu-iti, at the eastern extremity of the island. This crater is about 1000 yards in diameter, and the bottom is marshy, with reeds and rushes growing in it. The sides slope gradually down, and are covered with wild sugar-cane and long grass. In this crater we counted thirty-one of the huge statues, twenty of them prostrate, some evidently unfinished. Outside the crater is another large group, most of them standing imbedded in the soil up to the shoulders. They are of great size, some of them measuring eighteen to twenty feet from the top of the head to the shoulders. Between Otu-iti and Winnipu, a party of officers counted 150 of various sizes, some standing, others fallen. The largest I measured was 32 feet 6 inches in length, and about 10 feet in breadth across the shoulders ; but I believe one was seen 37 feet long. They are all mere trunks, terminating at the hips, the arms close to the side ; the hands generally sculptured in low relief ; the head large, and the top of it cut off square, to enable it to carry a large flat cylinder or crown ; but we did not find any of these in their places. The face is nearly always turned upward, with a stolid severe expression, and the lower lip thrust forward. The eye sockets are deeply hollowed ; and although we could not find any specimen, I believe that they were intended to be filled with eyes of obsidian, in the same manner as the eyes of the small wooden figures. The ears are always sculptured with elongated lobes.

In some parts of the island, especially at Winnipu, the statues appear to have been placed on great platforms of roughly hewn stones, of various sizes, but well fitted together without cement. Cook, in 1774, and La Perouse, in 1786, both mention these platforms ; and from engravings in

the accounts of their voyages, it would appear that some at least of the statues wore the large crowns of reddish lava, which are still to be found lying about, but in no case, so far as I know, in their places. The platform at Winnipu is about seventy feet long; and upon it had been placed six statues, the largest nearly twenty feet high, but they are all fallen, faces downwards, and heads landwards. Some of them seem to have been decorated with paintings of canoes, and other rude figures, done in red, black, and white earths. Skeletons and bones of human beings were strewed near this platform, so it was probably one of the places of burial. Another platform, about 100 yards south of this, is more ruined. Three images used to stand upon it; and one of them, although fallen, is still very perfect, lying with its face up, and head towards the sea, and a crown, five feet in diameter, lies close to it. This place is much overgrown with long rank grass. The statues on these platforms vary in size even on the same platform, and they generally appear to have faced inland, with their backs to the sea. Not far distant is another statue of the same material as the others, but forked at the top, and with some rude carvings, which may be intended for human faces upon it, but it is much weather-worn. There are several other platforms on the island, but our stay was too short to admit of a thorough examination of them. The stone of which the statues are made is evidently of volcanic origin. It is of a greyish colour, is unequal in hardness, and the specific gravity is nearly the same as that of granite.

About two miles east of Hanga Roa there is a small extinct crater, quite dry, where there is a quarry of the red lava, of which the crowns or hats were made. Here there are still several, finished and unfinished; and on the slope outside the crater lie about twenty of different sizes, which appear to have been in the course of removal. They vary in size from more than ten feet in diameter to less than five feet at the base, tapering slightly towards the top.

The larger and more highly finished statue of the two which were brought home in H.M.S. *Topaze*, and now in the British Museum (see Plate XVII. figs. 1 and 2), was found in one of the underground houses at the great crater Kau. The natives said that its name was Hoa-hakana-*ia*, and that of the house in which it was found *Tau-ra-renga*. The back is covered with representations of birds and paddles or rapas, and

when first discovered was painted white, and the tracings in red. The face also was painted white ; but in transporting it to the beach, a distance of nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles, and afterwards rafting it off, the colour has almost entirely disappeared. Its height is 8 feet 9 inches, and weight nearly four tons. When first discovered, it was buried up to the shoulders, and there was no crown found near it. The smaller one was brought from one of the old burying-grounds, at a place called Mata-veri (the place of the centipede), by the natives. It is evidently very old, and is much weather-beaten, and the style of sculpture is inferior to the larger one. The natives called him Hoa Hava. The implement used in carving these images was a long-shaped hard stone, chisel-shaped at one end, and rounded at the other. Only one has ever been found ; it was brought home in H.M.S. Topaze, and is now in the British Museum. The natives call it "Tingi-tingi," from the sound which it makes in striking a hard substance.

We got in barter from the natives several small wooden figures (Plate XVII. fig. 7), from one to two feet in length, grotesquely carved, and well finished. They are made from the wood of the *toro-miro*, the only tools used being splinters of obsidian. The figures represent a man disembowelled and flayed, and the profile in every case is aquiline in a marked degree, and totally unlike that of the natives. The heads are in many cases adorned with carvings of birds, lizards, and other grotesque figures, in low relief ; and they all have eyes of obsidian, set in a ring of bone. Both male and female figures have a tuft on the chin. The female figures are flatter, broader, and more rudely finished. Besides these there were smaller grotesque figures of animals, &c. (fig. 8),—a man with a bird's head, lizards, &c. These all appeared to be very old. Ornaments of different sorts were also procured from the natives. Head-dresses of feathers, either of sea-birds or of the common cocks and hens, and of different designs (fig. 6). Some were quite flat ; in others the feathers stood at an angle, according to the taste of the owner. Gorgets (fig. 5), made of the *toro-miro* wood, lunate in shape, having a head, similar to those of the wooden images, carved at each end. Some of these were also shaped like large fishes. These gorgets were worn by the men at their dances, and seem to have been intended originally for use as breastplates in war. The *rapa* or flat paddle (fig. 9), with a blade at each end, flourished in their hands while dancing. The *patoo-patoo*, or short thick

sword (fig. 3). Balls of wood (fig. 4), curiously carved into different shapes, as fishes' heads, turtles with human heads, &c. I do not know how these were used. Their only weapons were the spear (fig. 1) and club (fig. 2); but they only use them on occasions of display now. The spear-heads are made of obsidian, shaped like a half moon, and attached to the shaft by stripes of tappa. [Two of these are figured in the accompanying woodcut, of larger size than in the Plate, where the head is shown attached to the shaft.] The shaft is generally made of the rib of the palm-leaf, and about $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet long. They were thrown to great distances, and with considerable accuracy; but they were only used for wounding as a rule, and the enemy was dispatched with a club. We saw very few spears. The clubs, which are now carried by the chiefs as a symbol of office, are about four feet long, slightly flattened, and bearing a double-faced head at the upper end, the eyes of obsidian, and the features flattened.

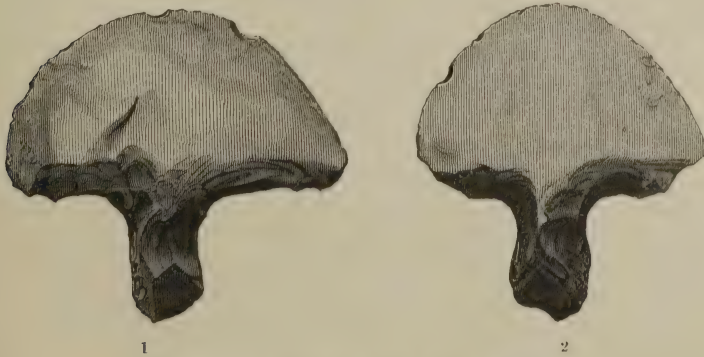
This notice is unavoidably imperfect, as our stay at the island was so short; and I have not attempted to speculate upon the great question, who were the authors of these gigantic statues, and for what purpose were they made? I must leave that to abler and more learned men.

[Since the paper was read, two of the spear heads of obsidian above referred to, have been presented to the Museum by Lieut. Dundas. They will be acknowledged in the usual way in the Donation List of the first meeting of next session, but for convenience of reference they are described and figured here.

These curious stone implements are formed from flakes of obsidian, and are somewhat of a semicircular shape, one side being nearly flat, and the other more rounded. They have been made by detaching a conchoidal fragment from the block, and then breaking away the thick back from either side, thus leaving a short handle-like projection from the centre of the straight back. The face of the weapon is not worked, and retains the original sharp, and somewhat ragged, edge of the flake. The larger of the two spear heads, No. 1, measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, from front to back, and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad, from one edge of the back to the other, being about three-quarters of an inch in thickness at the back. The stem or handle-like projection by which it was fixed to the shaft is a quarter

of an inch long. The smaller one measures $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, by 3 inches broad, and fully half an inch thick at the back. The stem or tang is fully an inch long. In the annexed woodcut the flat surface of one spear head is figured, and the rounded surface of the other.]

Dr J. A. SMITH said the communication now read included many subjects of much interest; he would, however, only refer to the curious ancient subterranean buildings, which seemed to bear a great resemblance to some discovered in our own country. This similarity had struck



Spear-heads of Obsidian from Easter Island.

($3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in greatest length.)

(No. 1. The convex side. No. 2. The flat.)

J. L. Palmer, Esq., another officer of H.M.S. *Topaze*, so much, he having had an opportunity of examining some of the ancient underground buildings found in Scotland, that he had written a letter on the subject, which had been published in the *Journal of the Ethnological Society of London* for January 1870, from which he might quote the following passages:—

“Next day (Saturday) I proposed to go to the grottos I had heard were up near the crater *Te Rano Kau*. I had heard that it was a long uphill walk; but as our people had got the image (four or five tons) thence, I thought I might get up. Judge of my surprise when I found that in all

essential particulars they are just like 'Picts' houses' at Moss-gail, on Sir J. Mathieson's estate, near Stornoway, in the Hebrides, where, many years since, I had much pleasure in looking over some of the most interesting remains (called Druidical) in Britain. The entrance to each house is very small (20 inches medium), a kind of portal like a square drain some 5 feet long, hollow underneath and flagged, the drain extending some feet outside, as in the Duns in Shetland, and Carloway in particular. This drain the guides said was for the 'dead' (victims?). This entrance opened into a hall, about fifteen paces long by five paces wide, and $6\frac{1}{2}$ feet high. I paced one large one: the side flags were three or four feet high above; then came a series of flattish tiles of stone, piled over like oyster-shells, and, for the roof, long thin slabs, the whole covered with earth; no stone pavement. There was a great deal of a small periwinkle growing. Opposite the entrance were rude mural paintings in red ochre, usually of 'Rapas.' I cannot tell you the meaning of this word, as no one could tell me; a thing like a double paddle which they shake in the dance is also so called. Overhead, on the tiling flags, were 'Aronies.' I was told they were birds, but tradition does not say of what kind; they have mostly the toucan bill, somewhat penguin-shaped body, but, in some cases, hands and feet (see Catherwood's 'Central America'). Some of the paintings were recent enough, as I saw ships with rigging, horses, sheep; some of them very old.

"The image Hoa-Hava Nana-Ta is the sacred image of this place (there was no other there), so all the natives told me, and I went into many barrows but found none. He also had his back to the sea, and faced the crater. I did not count the number of the houses, but think there must be more than a hundred. Some have one, some two chambers; some, little chambers outside; all, their little blind drain for the dead. The barrows are irregularly built, so as to take advantage of the ground, and extend quite to the edge of the cliff. The vervain has so overrun them as to make it difficult to plan and number them at a rapid visit. At the end of this settlement, which is close to the gap whence the lava escaped, almost all the blocks of lava are more or less sculptured; but, as they are weatherworn, and the material perishable and overgrown, it is difficult to make out the design—so much so that I made the coloured sketch I sent you without perceiving at the time that one represented a face, which

quite startled me on looking at my work. I wish I could have spent some hours, nay, the whole night, up there, working away with my pencil; but at 2.30 was the last boat, and so duty called me away from a most interesting place."

II.

NOTICES RESPECTING THE CASTLE OF CRAIG AND THE OLD KIRK OF AUCHINDOIR, ETC., IN ABERDEENSHIRE. BY A. JERVISE, Esq.,
CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT., BRECHIN.

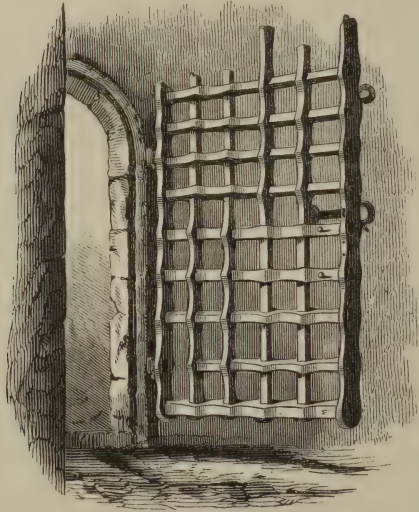
The Castle of Craig is situated in the parish of Auchindoir, in the north-east of Aberdeenshire. It overlooks a romantic den, through which flows a burn with pretty waterfalls, and commands an extensive view of hill and dale.

Like too many of our old Scottish castles, that of Craig has been sadly mangled, in the vain hope of adapting it to the requirements of modern times. It had been originally a square tower, of about 60 feet in height, with battlements and corner turrets. The battlements and turrets, apart from being much destroyed, are hidden from view by, and incorporated with, a heavy unseemly roof. The great hall, with the exception of two shields (one initialed I·G : L·B., with the Gordon and Barclay arms impaled), presents none of its ancient features—the large hearth and stone-seats or sedilia in the windows having been removed long ago, and the size of the hall curtailed by the erection of a wooden partition.

Fortunately, the original gate or *yett*, which is composed of wrought iron (and constructed in the curious way represented in the accompanying woodcut), is still upon the entrance; and the small reception hall (?) with groined ceiling, is also pretty entire. In the centre of the roof of this apartment are the Scots arms, from which spring four large, and as many small groins. Two of the first bear shields; one is charged with the five passion wounds of Our Saviour, the other with the Gordon arms, and the initials V. G. The smaller groins present little peculiar, except that one of them has a demi-angel carved upon it.

Upon the fourth landing of the stair, which leads to the principal rooms and top of the castle, is a chapel or oratory, about 17 feet wide by about

7½ broad, with an awmbry on the right side, where the altar had stood. Near to this (on the south side of the house), is a gloomy chamber, called *the prison*; and a room upon the ground flat, with a stone projecting from the arched roof, and an iron ring in it, is pointed out as the place from which the Gordons suspended criminals prior to dropping them into a well or dungeon below. The dungeon, it is added, reached to the bottom of the adjoining den.



Iron "Yett," Castle of Craig, Aberdeenshire.

There are three different shields upon the old front of the castle. The centre shield is charged with the royal arms of Scotland; and that on the left bears, quarterly, the arms of Gordon, . . . Barclay, and Stewart of Lorne, also the initials P·G·R·B. at the top: upon the base:—

IÖISLEIS: V·G·E·S.

The first of these initials (P·G·R·B.), possibly refer to Patrick Gordon *in* Fulyemont—the first Gordon of Craig—who, in 1507, had a

charter of the lands of Johnsleys, and the mill, &c., from King James.¹ Patrick Gordon's wife had possibly been a Barclay, and of the Towie race Patrick Gordon had a son, William, who, in 1511, was infeft in the lands of Auchindoir and Fulyemont, &c., an indenture of manrent having been entered into in that year between his father and Sir Alexander Irvine of Drum for that purpose, by which he was bound to furnish the king "in tyme of his weris witht fyve rydand men, tua speiris weill furnist," &c.² It is probably to this Gordon that the next initials (V · G : E · S) refer. If so, his wife had been in some way connected with the Stewarts of Lorne. The third shield, which bears the Gordon and Cheyne arms impaled, has also this date (1528) and the initials:—

M̄d̄X̄8 : V · G : C · C :

I have seen no record of a marriage between the Gordons of Craig and the Cheynes about the above date; but subsequently, William Gordon (possibly the William Gordon to whom the above initials refer), nephew of the previous laird, had a charter of Johnsleys from his uncle in 1556; and in 1562, he (as William Gordon of Auchindoir) and his wife, Clare Chein, had a grant of the superiority of the lands of Johnsleys.³ It is to the last-mentioned laird and his wife that, I think, we are indebted for the curious sacrament-house or stone altar-piece of the church of Saint Mary of Auchindoir, if not for the church itself.

A number of pieces of carved stones are pointed out at Craig, as having been brought from the castle of Lesmore; but more probably these are some of the gorgoil and other ornaments which had been thrown from the battlements of Craig castle when it was being *improved*! Two rude granite boulders, near the front door, are called the "headin' stanes" of the barons of Lesmore, in testimony of the truth of which, one of the stones bears marks made by the executioner's axe! An ash-tree in the lawn, although much destroyed by the ravages of time, still presents signs of life, though said to be as old as the memorable year of the Revolution.

As before seen, Patrick Gordon *in* Fulyemont, who lived in 1507, was the first of the family that held lands in Auchindoir; and, according to

¹ Antiq. of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. iii. p. 454.

² Ibid. vol. iii. p. 455.

³ Ibid. vol. iii. pp. 457, 776.

the family genealogy, "Patrick Gordon of Craig fell at Flodden in 1513." We know that Patrick Gordon's successors, about 1630, owing to their adherence to Popery, became very much embarrassed in circumstances; and that for the *sin* (as it was then considered) of being a *papist*, the old laird was banished to a distant town in Scotland; while his son, with his wife (who was probably a daughter of Sir James Gordon of Lesmore)¹ and their children, were expelled furth of the kingdom. Finding the income from his "poor estate" too small for their maintenance apart, the old man, who described himself as "both aged and sickly," petitioned the king to allow him to "depart the kingdome to live with his sonne, becaus by their estate undevided they may be all the more able to subsist than otherwise."² Whether the prayer of the petition was granted is not recorded; but it is worthy of note, that the son here mentioned appears to be the person who is so much lauded for his learning and other gentlemanly accomplishments by Dr Arthur Johnston, in his verses *Ad Gordonium Craigachindorium*, although the poet's opinion of Craig and its locality is by no means flattering.³

Although the Gordons became reduced in circumstances, the property of Craig does not appear to have been lost to them; and it was probably after some of the family of the last-named laird, or their descendants, went abroad and acquired wealth, that the Gordons of Craig were again able to take their place beside, and to become connected with, some of the old Scots families.⁴

Over the present entrance-gate to the castle are two shields; one bears the Gordon arms, with the motto BYDAND. It is dated 1667, and initialed T·G·E·M·I·C., which may imply two marriages; while the next, dated 1726, might imply that the laird was three times married: The initials in this case are F·G·E·B·A·F·K·C., and the bearings, quarterly, are those of Gordon, Barelly, Forbes, and Campbell. It had probably been in these later times that the old character of the castle was destroyed; for it was not until about 1832 that a new house was constructed. It is built in connection with the old castle, and was erected in the time

¹ Douglas' Baronage, p. 31.

² Antiq. of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. iii. p. 459.

³ Delitiæ Poet. Scotorum (1637), vol. i. p. 590.

⁴ Douglas' Peerage, vol. i. p. 192; Baronage, p. 32.

of the late James Gordon and his wife Elizabeth, daughter of Johnstone of Alva. Mr and Mrs Gordon died respectively in 1852 and 1851; and Mr Gordon was succeeded by his brother, Francis, of Kincardine O'Neil, who died in 185—, and who was succeeded by his daughter, Elizabeth Shepherd Gordon, or Johnstone, wife of Captain Charles K. Johnstone, a brother of the present Mr Johnstone of Alva. Mrs Johnstone Gordon died at Nice in 1863, leaving three daughters, the eldest of whom is married to Major Scott of Gala. The succession to Craig having been limited, in the case of Mrs J. Gordon, to heirs male of her body, the estate is now the property of a distant relative of the last Gordon, who has succeeded through the female line.

The lands called Fulyemont or Fidelmonth in early times, are now known as Wheedlemont. There are three circular hollows upon the Upper Wheedlemont, called Picts' Houses, each about 12 by 14 feet in diameter, and from 30 to 36 inches deep. The bottoms, until lately disturbed, were hard and crusted, as if by fire, and fragments of querns of mica-schist have been found near them.

Upon the conical-shaped hill of Knockcailleach, an elliptical entrenchment encloses about 100 acres. On the south and west sides, which are easiest of access, a ditch surrounds the base; and the remains of a dyke are upon the north, which is said to have stretched at one time as far as the Hill of Noth. Balinsarg, possibly a corruption of Balindarg, is the name of an adjoining field.

On the Kearn side of the parish, stone celts and other relics have been found, some of which are in the National Museum.¹ Upon the top of a planted knoll, north of Druminnor House, stands the *Corse Stane*, a large rough boulder, from 10 to 12 feet in height, along with other three stones of a similar description. A mound, which had been favourably situated for a fortress, called the Castle Hill, is on the Kinnethmont side of the parish, but no trace of ruins is to be seen.

So much for the Castle of Craig, and its historical associations, &c. In regard to the building of

THE OLD KIRK OF AUCHINDOIR,

a much earlier date has been assigned to it than I am inclined to admit,

¹ Proceedings, vol. vii. p. 369.

by one well qualified to judge of such matters. The writer referred to says, that it belongs "apparently to that precise period in the progress of the art, when the already softened features of the Norman were beginning to merge altogether into the still more flexible and varied forms of the First-Pointed style."¹ The architectural peculiarities and the measurements of the building are well given by this writer, who, however, appears to have overlooked the somewhat odd orientation of the church—for it stands *north and south*—as well as the armorial bearings and their similarity to the carving of the adjoining awmbry; also the fact of the church having been added to at the south end. This last point is confirmed by the appearance of the building, also by local tradition.

As previously indicated, I am inclined to ascribe the erection of the sacrament-house, if not the old kirk of Auchindoir, to the laird and lady whose arms and initials are upon shields within it. One of these shields, dated 1557, bears the Gordon arms, and motto, HOPE IN GOD; the second, initialed V · G : C · C., presents the arms of Gordon and Cheyne impaled, with the motto, GRACE ME GYD. The date and initials correspond with the time of the before-mentioned William Gordon and Clare Cheyne.

There is no doubt but the principal door of the church, which is near the south-east end, *appears* to be in the First-Pointed style, and that the outer moulding of the arch is composed of the dog-tooth ornament. Still, it seems to me that the handiwork does not belong to the period indicated, but that it is simply an *imitation* of the old style, points which a peculiar *something* in the execution seems to suggest. And this is so far proved by the fact, that the remaining initials A · S., upon the transverse lintel of the north-east door, bear evidence of having been the work of the craftsman who lettered the awmbry and the armorial bearings. The sacrament-house or awmbry, which is on the north-west of the church, and about six feet high, is in the Second-Pointed style. It is surmounted by a well-proportioned representation of Our Saviour upon the cross, with the legend, INRI, over the head, and a human skull at the feet. In allusion to the sacred nature of the symbols which the awmbry contained, the following inscription is carved upon the front

¹ Descriptive Notices of the Ancient Parochial and Collegiate Churches of Scotland. London, 1848, p. 144.

of it. The first line is upon a ribbon on the roof, and the initial part upon the sill of the awmbry door:—

HIC · Ē · CORP' · DNĪ · CVM
M · A · S¹

The press, or awmbry, which is about 12 by 15 inches in size, has an inner recess on the south side; and the decorations around it show (although their best features have been spoiled at some period by a well-meant attempt at revision), that the work, as a whole, had been a very creditable specimen of local art.² There is a door on the west, nearly opposite to the principal one, also with arched top; and, about a foot from the bottom, in the thickness of the wall, is a recess for a strong wooden bolt. A piscina is built into the front wall; and a square hole, or press, is upon the right of the north entrance.

The ruins, which are ivy-clad, stand within the burial ground, and upon a knoll, about 100 feet above the level of the romantic den and burn of Craig. A conical mound in the vicinity is called *The Cumins' Craig*, where a castle is said to have stood. St Mary's Well is about 100 yards to the west. According to tradition, it was originally proposed to build the church at a place called Kirkeairns (now Glencairns), to the south of Lumsden Village; and but for the warning voice of *The Virgin*, who appears to have been a good judge both of locality and soil, the kirk would have been placed in an obscure, sterile district. Besides being in the neighbourhood of good land, fine views of the upper part of Strath-bogie, and of the surrounding hills, are obtained from the present site.

In 1236, a dispute arose between the Bishops of Moray and Aberdeen regarding the diocesan jurisdiction of the Kirk of *Dauendor*; and in

¹ These words may be thus rendered:—"Here is the Body of Our Lord, with Mary, the Apostles, and Saints." The writer before referred to has copied these words thus:—"HIC E CORPI DNII CVM MĀS."

² Two tombstones lie within the church, in front of the awmbry or altar-piece, embellished with carvings of the Gordon arms. The inscriptions from these tombstones, as well as from those of the Forbeses and Grants, &c., at Kearn, will appear in a volume of Epitaphs and Inscriptions from Burial Grounds and Old Buildings in the North-East of Scotland, now in the press, by the writer of this paper.

1513-14, it was erected into a prebend of King's College, Aberdeen.¹ It ceased to be used as a place of worship in 1810, when a new church was erected in a more convenient spot. The old timber work was sold publicly; and the back of the pulpit, which was bought by the late farmer of Newton of Auchindoir, is preserved at that farm-house. It is of fir, and divided into several panels. One panel contains a shield with the Davidson arms, and the initials, M.W.D., *i.e.*, Mr W. Davidson, minister of the church at the undernoted date. Round the arms are these words, in interlaced capitals:—

HOLINES · TO · THE · LORD · CHAPT · 28 · OF · EXCD · VER · 36.

A second panel (the rest of them have but a plain scroll ornament) bears:—

IEHOVA · THY · THVM̄MIM · & · THY · VRĪ · VITH ·
 THY · HOLY · ON · 1625.

The new church of Auchindoir, which stands in a field, on the north bank of the Bogie, without a bush, dyke, or tree to relieve its bleak aspect, is in the *barn style*, which was so long common to Scotch churches. It is also the church of Kearn, which parish was agreed to be disjoined from that of Forbes in Strathdon, about 1795, and united to Auchindoir. Mary Fair, now held at Lumsden Village, long stood at Newton of Auchindoir, where there was an Episcopal church until about seventy years ago.

III.

NOTE OF A GOLD BROOCH OF THE 13TH OR 14TH CENTURY, FOUND IN THE WATER OF ARDOCH, NEAR DOUNE CASTLE. BY REV. J. STRUTHERS, F.S.A. Scot.

The brooch that I have now the privilege of submitting to the notice of the Society was only recently placed in my hands. I regret that my

¹ Antiq. of Aberdeen and Banff, vol. iv. p. 451.—*Dauachyndore* is another form of the name. It appears to mean the *davoch* among *hillocks*, or the *hillock-davoch*. The place abounds in knolls.

knowledge of such works of art is so exceedingly limited that I feel unable either to point out its peculiar artistic merits, or to speak with confidence as to its probable age. I exhibit it rather in the hope that some one, possessed of greater skill, may possibly throw light upon these points, than under the idea that I have myself much that is interesting to communicate.

Its history—so far as known to me, or to its owner, my friend, Mr Wilson Struthers of Oaklea House, Hamilton—is briefly this :—About forty years ago, while Mr Struthers was on a visit to the works at Deanston, in Kilmadock parish, Perthshire, then belonging to his uncle, the late Kirkman Finlay, Esq., M.P. for Glasgow, he came upon some boys who were, as it is locally termed, “guddling” or groping for trouts, beneath the slightly projecting banks of Ardoch burn, some few hundred yards above its junction with the Teith. In the course of this exciting boyish pastime, a large trout having been started, was pursued along the stream, from bank to stump, and from pool to shallow, till at last it seemed to find a resting-place beside a massive travelled stone, near to the point where the burn skirts the eastern flank of the ancient castle of Doune. By the help of such engineering skill as was readily at hand, the stone was cautiously turned over; when, to the manifest disappointment, for the time, of the adventurous youths, one of them found in his grasp, instead of the glassy speckled trout, what appeared to be merely an old buckle or a piece of ancient coffin mounting! Though at first despised and thrown away, this was afterwards picked up and carried home by one of the boys. Upon its being cleaned, and ascertained to be of pure gold and curiously wrought, it was ultimately purchased by its present owner, at such price as the district jeweller might put upon it, and has remained in his hands ever since.

The workmanship, I am informed by skilled tradesmen, is well executed and manifestly ancient. The pin is fixed in much the same way as in those that are sometimes called Celtic or witch brooches. The twisted form of the rim is somewhat similar to what is seen in some ancient armlets that are now in the Museum. The inscription, which is in mediæval church lettering, and in the old French language, is all on one side of the brooch, in eight lines, on the short smooth portions of

the diagonal twists, and commences immediately to the right of the pin hinge. It is as follows :—

+ abc!
 de + moy
 mercie
 + + pite
 mour
 coer
 en + vous
 repoce

The gold I understand has been tested, and is said to be almost entirely free of alloy. Its weight is $19\frac{1}{2}$ dwt., in which there may be perhaps 2 grs. of baser metal. It seems doubtful whether the lettering had at one time been coloured.

With regard to the history of the brooch previous to the date that has been indicated, we are left very much to conjecture. From the style of workmanship and the inscription, as well as from its type, it seems possible that its makers lived in the 13th or 14th century; but it is equally possible, and not less probable, that they flourished towards the end of the 15th or beginning of the 16th century. The words of the inscription point to a pre-Reformation period; and a minute examination of the workmanship has satisfied skilled people that it is not a modern antique of later times; although at the date of its fabrication it may possibly have been made after an earlier fashion.

It may be mentioned that at the place where it was found, there is understood to have been at one time a ford, and perhaps also stepping-stones, by which access was obtainable to the precincts of the ancient castle; and that while a ready passage was thus secured for the inmates and retainers, the castle itself was more than once assailed from that quarter by plaided foemen. It is no very extravagant conjecture, that the brooch had belonged to some one of the many illustrious chieftains, who—from the times of the ancient Earls of Monteith, of the royal Dukes of Albany, or of Henry VIII.'s sister, the widowed queen of James IV. and her numerous suitors, down to the days of the young chevalier and the redoubtable Stewart of Balloch—had either paid their court to the

occupants of the castle, helped to defend or to assail it, or had, perhaps, like the reverend author of "Douglas," succeeded by ingenious contrivance in getting out of it. If the brooch be presumed to have been worn for the purpose of fastening the folds of the plaid, or by way of ornament attached to the sash upon the shoulder or breast, it could scarcely, from its peculiar construction, have been *lost* by the *wearer*; except in the event of the cloth being forcibly cut away, or else through the plaid or sash, or whatever portion of the dress it was attached to, being torn off. In either of these contingencies, upon the less durable material perishing, it can be conceived that the weighty gold might remain but little disturbed in the channel of the stream for centuries, either where it was found, or slowly pushed along by the winter floods, until some such accident as has been mentioned brought it to view.

IV.

EXHIBITION AND DESCRIPTION OF A COLLECTION OF STONE AND OTHER REMAINS FROM SWISS LAKE DWELLINGS, ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE AGRICULTURE, MANUFACTURES, ETC., OF THE LAKE DWELLERS. BY THE HON. LORD ROSEHILL, F.S.A. Scot.

In describing this interesting collection, which was exhibited on the large table in the library, Lord Rosehill said,—Having been requested to exhibit a few specimens belonging to a small typical collection, got together by myself last summer, of remains from the Swiss Lake-dwellings of the Stone Age, and there being already a collection, or rather the foundation for a collection, of these interesting remains in this Museum, I have brought up here to-night only a few of those objects which I see are not yet represented in the Museum, and which, therefore, may be of some interest to those present who may not have seen the more perfect collections in the British Museum and elsewhere. The discovery, the geographical position, and the general character of these Swiss Pile-dwellings are so well known, that I propose only to make a few remarks in explanation of the objects exhibited, merely mentioning that my researches were confined to those of the earliest or pure Stone Age, or those in which no traces of worked metal in any form have been hitherto discovered.

My comparative success in one, at least, of the objects of my Swiss trip, I owe entirely to the hints, instructions, and introductions obtained from several members of this Society, amongst whom I may mention, Mr Stuart, Sir James Simpson, Mr Albert Way, Professor Keller of Zurich, and other gentlemen.

The specimens on the table will be found to have come chiefly from Moosseedorf, near Berne; Robenhause, perhaps the most interesting of all the settlements; Himerick, and another village on the Lake of Pfäffikon, and Wangen, on the Lake of Constance, all of the Stone Age; besides a few from Concise and Meilan, settlements of the Transition period.

The flint arrow-heads, which are all I was able to obtain, are, for the most part, rudely made and imperfect; with them are a few dart-heads of the same class. The flint knives and saws are also of the most primitive description, with rudely dentated edges. On the other hand, the stone axes show traces of considerable labour and skill. The few I have brought here to-night may serve as types. The axe in stag's-horn hafting is the only one I possess which was found at all entire. Though, even in this case, the bitumen which held it in its place had disappeared, still the position in which the two parts were found leave no doubt but that they originally belonged to each other; and a small chisel will also be seen, which is still firmly fixed in its handle.

The most interesting form of implement, to my mind, is that of the so-called "scraper," from the surprising similarity of shape and workmanship in specimens from all countries, and of all ages.

To exemplify this, I have placed together one specimen of the Palæolithic or drift type, one from the *kjökkenmöddings* or shell mounds of Denmark, and one each from England, Scotland, and Ireland. If these are compared with those from the Swiss lake-dwellings, the likeness will be at once noticed. Others are to be seen in this Museum from various countries. I have seen precisely the same shape in America, they have been found in Africa, and to this day several savage nations are said to use a stone implement identically the same in the dressing of skins.

The three grinding-stones produced show well the phases through which a stone axe passed, before being brought by use, of the finest grained one, to the final polish. The way in which a stone selected for any particular

purpose was cut through—probably simply by the use of a flint saw, aided by fine sand and water—is shown in several specimens.

I have read—but where I cannot remember—the account of a similar process as carried on by some savage nation at the present day, in which the stone to be cut was suspended by a rope from the branch of a tree, and was passed backwards and forwards, like the pendulum of a clock, over the edge of the saw or cutting instrument fixed below it. Thus the weight of the stone helped it to do its own work, and would take far less labour than the alternative of working a small flint by force into the stone. Whether any such plan was adopted here I know not; but the concave form of most of the cuts in stones I have noticed, seems to warrant some such idea.

A well-formed stone implement (S. No. 117) is a curious specimen. I have only seen one like it, which was in the collection at Zurich. It is perforated, and seems to have been worn about the person attached to a string; but for what purpose it is difficult to conjecture. A fragment of a perforated and rounded stone, of the class supposed by many to have been used in some game of skill resembling our “quoits,” and a few other specimens of less importance, end the list, so far as stones and flints are concerned—corn-crushers, mealing-stones, whet-stones, and the like—being well represented in the Museum, I need not dwell upon them.

The articles of worked bone consist chiefly of two classes, viz., the pointed and the chisel-shaped implements. The former vary from small needles or hair pins to a size which would suggest their use as weapons of defence. The chisels vary also, not only in size, but in the shape of the edges, which are square, round, hollow, or oblique, and seem to have been used for many different purposes. After these, the most common are the handles or haftings of stag's-horn. I have brought a selection to show. The celt haftings have been clearly fastened again into a handle or shaft of wood. Some of the chisel haftings have evidently been double—a stone chisel being fixed at each end; and those in which flint knives or saws were fixed I am unable to represent, except by one specimen preserved in spirits of wine.

The three bone arrow-heads shown are somewhat uncommon, as are also the bone axe-heads; and there is great doubt whether the latter were

not mere symbols, or, perhaps, the toys and sham weapons of children. The bone knives are very common, and seem to have been brought to a cutting edge by grinding, or by notching like the flint saws. The fish-hook, made, I think, out of part of a boar's tusk, is perhaps the most curious and interesting object I have in my collection, and a few other small objects, with the perforated teeth, used as ornaments, may be thought worth examining. There are also heckles for combing flax, and netting needles, &c.

In wood the principal objects are part of a bow of yew, a scraper, of much the same shape as those of stone, and some handles for celts and knives. Those not preserved in spirits having shrunk almost out of all form whilst drying.

With regard to earthenware and pottery, I have collected as many fragments as I could, showing the different kinds of marking and ornamentation. The earthenware is all very coarse, and evidently hand-made; and the markings have been produced with the aid, sometimes of the finger-nail, and at others of pointed or blunt implements of bone. I have more perfect ones at home, but being plain and unmarked, they are probably less interesting than these fragments. Spindle-whorls, cones, and perforated clay weights and balls, &c., are, I think, represented in the Museum, so I have not brought any here.

I now come to the last division, namely, vegetable remains and manufactures. The latter consists of some pieces of coarse cloth; several skeins, hanks, and knots of thread of different twists, part of a fishing net, and some plaits of bast. These must speak for themselves, as, with one or two exceptions, I did not find them myself. However, I think I can vouch for their being genuine, and they go far to show that in Switzerland the master mind of man had invented and made use of certain mechanical contrivances to aid him in supplying his wants, even before the first idea of the advantage to be derived from the use of any kind of metal reached him from more civilised lands.

The collection of seeds in small glass bottles are of some interest, and those from Robenhausen were chiefly picked out, by my wife and a friend, with tweezers from the mud, as it was thrown up from the bottom of the excavation eight to twelve feet below the surface. A list of those I have is appended, and although there are still many wanting to make up the

full list of lake-dwelling plants and seeds as given by Professor Keller, still there are enough for comparison, and I hope yet to get the rest.

(Brief reference was made to the specimens exhibited of carbonised grain in lumps and in ears, burnt apples and pears, evidently cut in two, dried, and put aside for winter use; bread, coarsely ground and roasted, nuts, fish-scales, &c., burnt straw or thatch, grass and moss for bedding, tinder, fungus, &c.)

LIST OF PLANTS OF THE SWISS LAKE DWELLINGS CHIEFLY COLLECTED IN
THE SEED BY LADY ROSEHILL FROM ROBENHAUSEN.

CEREALS—

- Hordeum hexastichon sanctum*—Lake-dwelling barley.
- Hordeum hexastichon densum*—Six-rowed barley.
- Triticum vulgare antiquorum*—Lake-dwelling wheat.
- Triticum turgidum*—Egyptian wheat.
- Triticum dicoccum*—"Emmer," or two-grained wheat.

WEEDS OF THE CORN-FIELD—

- Lolium temulentum*—Darnel.
- Lychnis vespertina*—White campion.
- Silene cretica*—Cretan catchfly.
- Ranunculus repens*—Creeping crow-foot.

VEGETABLES—

- Pastinaca sativa*—Parsnip.
- Pisum sativum* (?)—Pea.

FRUIT AND BERRIES—

- Pyrus Malus* (2)—Apple.
- Prunus (avium)*—Cherry.
- Prunus spinosa*—Sloe.
- Prunus padus*—Bird-cherry.
- Rubus Idæus*—Raspberry.
- Rubus fruticosus*—Bramble.
- Rosa canina*—Dog-rose.

NUTS—

- Corylus Avellana*—Hazel-nut (2).
Fagus sylvatica—Beech.
Trapa natans—Water-chestnut.
Papaver somniferum—Poppy.
Linum angustifolium—Flax.

FOREST TREES AND SHRUBS—

- Pinus sylvestris*—Scots fir.
Pinus montana—Pine.
Pinus Abies—Spruce fir.
Pinus Picea—Silver fir.
Taxus baccata—Yew.
Quercus Robur—Oak.
Carpinus Betulus—Hornbeam.
Betula alba—Birch.
Viscum album—Mistletoe.

MOSSES, FERNS, AND FUNGI—

- Four varieties not yet named.
Polyporus igniarius—Tinder fungus.

WATER AND MARSH PLANTS—

- Scheuchzeria palustris*—Marsh, S.
Iris Pseud-acorus—Yellow flag.
Potamogeton (perfoliatum, &c.)—Pond weeds.
Alisma Plantago—Water plantain.
Galium palustre—Marsh bed-straw.
Menyanthes trifoliata—Buck-bean.
Pedicularis palustris—Marsh louse-wort.
Hydrocotyle vulgaris—Pennywort.
Nymphaea alba—White water-lily.
Ranunculus aquatilis, &c.—Water crow-foot. &c. &c.

Professor Sir JAMES Y. SIMPSON expressed the pleasure with which the members of the Society had listened to his Lordship's remarks in illus-

ration of the very valuable and interesting collection now exhibited, and said that it was a collection which was most meritorious to Lord Rosehill, and valuable in a scientific point of view. He remembered himself with what deep interest he had gone over the sites of those settlements of the stone age at Robenhausen, where he was told there were houses full of the remains of cloth, and others full of thread, showing that some progress had been made in manufactures; and as an indication of the dawn of the age of bronze, just about the period of the destruction of the settlement, a few crucibles made of clay and horse dung were found, wherein could be seen a few specks of melted bronze. The whole story of these lake dwellings, whether in Switzerland or in our own immediate neighbourhood—as probably at Duddingston, for instance—was one of the deepest interest, and the Society should lose no opportunity of elucidating the history of our Scottish lacustrine habitations.

MONDAY, 14th March 1870.

DAVID LAING, Esq., Foreign Secretary, in the Chair.

The Chairman reported that, at a meeting of the Council of the Society, held previous to the present meeting, The Right Hon. LADY JOHN SCOTI had been unanimously elected a Lady Associate of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

A ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were elected Fellows :—

CHARLES EDWARD WILSON, LL.D., H.M. Inspector of Schools, Glasgow.

GEORGE KING, Esq., Aberdeen.

JOHN WHITE of Netherurd, Esq., Peeblesshire.

ARCHIBALD GEIKIE, Esq., F.R.S., Director of the Geological Survey of Scotland.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were announced and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By ROBERT GRAHAM THOMS, Esq., Clepington House, Dundee.

Two Spiral Armillæ of bronze, 3 inches diameter, formed of bronze wire, $\frac{3}{16}$ ths of an inch in thickness, passed eleven times round the arm, and swelling at either extremity into straight trumpet-shaped ends an inch in diameter.

Armlet, formed of a single turn of thicker bronze wire, with trumpet-shaped ends. (See woodcuts, p. 343.)

Three Portions of a Necklace of Chank Shell. (See woodcuts, p. 345.)

A number of Bronze Rings, of various sizes, probably ear-rings.

An Iron Spear-head, 23 inches in length.

An Iron "Daw," or broad-bladed, short, pointless sword.

The Bones of both the Arm and Forearm of the Skeleton showing a green stain where the armillæ were worn; the larger being on the arm, and the smaller on the forearm.

All the above were taken from a Naga grave in Laback, Cachar, on the Assam frontier of India. (See subsequent Communication by Mr Thoms.)

Also a Collection of the Arms, &c., of the Nagas and neighbouring tribes, comprising—

Two Naga Hunting Spears, 6 feet in length.

One Cookie Hunting Spear, 5 feet in length.

One Hindustani Tulwar.

Two Munipoorie Tulwars.

One Munipoorie Hunting-knife.

One Munipoorie Crease or Dagger.

One Naga Daw, used for cutting down trees.

One Cookie War Daw.

One Sylhet Daw, for cutting down jungle grass.

One Sylhet Daw, for cutting cane and bamboos.

Three Cookeries (curved war-knives, sharp on the concave edge) from Nepaul, one with sheath.

One Elephant Spear, 6 feet 10 inches long, and having a blade $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth.

Six Arrows of a hill tribe bordering on Munipoorie.

Musical Instrument of the Cookies.

Pipes smoked by the Cookie women.

Pipes smoked by the Cookie men.

Munipoorie Bridle and Pony Whips.

(2.) By Mr LEWIS W. FRASER, farmer, Achroisk, Banffshire.

An Urn, of the "Drinking-cup" type, which was found some years ago at Achroisk, in a short cist, four feet under the surface of a sandy knoll. The urn is of yellowish clay, and, as usual, is slightly contracted in the middle; it measures 6 inches high and $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad across the mouth. It is ornamented with three parallel bands of long and short longitudinal and transverse lines, made by an impressed instrument, the larger longitudinal ones having been formed by a toothed implement. The cist was formed of slabs of micaceous schist about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long. The skeleton was contracted or doubled up, and laid north and south. The urn stood at the feet, and contained nothing. A bluish stain remained on the clay of the inside of the urn.

(3.) By GEORGE SCOTT, Esq., Dunstan Square, Bilton.

An Iron Spear-head, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, with socket, found in a well at Dunstanburgh Castle.

(4.) By JOHN STUART, Esq., LL.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

The Book of Deer. Edited for the Spalding Club, by John Stuart, Secretary. Edinburgh, 1869. 4to.

(5.) By the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTE.

Smithsonian Report, 1867. Washington, 1868. 8vo.

(6.) By the ESSEX INSTITUTE.

Essex Institute Historical Collections. Town Records of Salem, 1634-1659. Salem, 1868. 8vo.

Proceedings of the Essex Institute, 1867. 8vo.

(7.) By the AMERICAN PHILOSOPHICAL SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the American Philosophical Society, 1868. Philadelphia, 1869. 8vo.

Transactions of the American Philosophical Society, 1868. 8vo.

(8.) By the BOMBAY GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Bombay Geographical Society. Vol. XVIII.

(9.) By the CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

The Canadian Journal. November 1869.

(10.) By the ANTHROPOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

Memoirs of the Anthropological Society of London. Vol. III. London, 1869. 8vo.

The Anthropological Review and Journal of the Anthropological Society of London. No. 28.

(11.) By the ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF COPENHAGEN.

Mémoires de la Société Royale des Antiquaires du Nord. Copenhagen, 1869. 8vo.

(12.) By N. OSWALD BRODIE, Esq.

Forestier Illuminato intorno le Cose piu Rare e Curiose, Antiche e Moderne, della Citta di Venezia, etc. Di S. A. R. Federico Cristiano, Principe Reale di Polonia, etc. Venice, 1765. 8vo.

The following Communications were read :—

I.

ON THE NAGA TRIBES OF THE HIMALAYAS, WITH A NOTICE OF THE OPENING OF A NAGA GRAVE. BY R. GRAHAM THOMS, Esq.

The Nagars or Nagas are hill tribes, and inhabit the lower ranges of the Himalayas bordering on Comillah, Cachar, Sylhet, and the greater length of Assam to Suddyah, the extreme boundary of the British possessions on the north-eastern frontier of India. What I know of them and their customs is principally from personal observation, and partly from a Munipoorie man who could talk their language, and acted as my interpreter on several occasions. They are a wandering race, and subsist

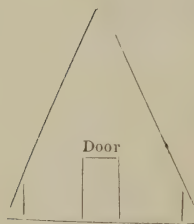
almost entirely upon roots and herbs found in the jungles, together with small fish caught in the (Bheels) swamps and rivers, and a little rice that they grow on the hills; but they are fond of pigs, buffaloes, and fowls, and more particularly fond of a dog or a dead elephant; they even go the length of breeding dogs entirely for consumption. I have seen the women carrying large baskets full of pups, and the men leading a lot of older ones for breeding purposes when removing to a new site; and I have known of a large band of Nagars, when visiting the plains, having come across a dead elephant, they at once encamped, erected huts, and did not move from the place until the whole of the elephant was con-



Bronze Armillæ from a Naga Grave. (3 inches diameter.)

sumed, and pieces of the flesh dried to take home to their wives on their return as a great delicacy. They are a middle-sized race of people, rather good-looking, not dark in complexion, and many not unlike a European in cast of features. They wear ornaments of brass or bronze round each arm above the elbow, and often on the wrists, necklaces of beads, buffalo horn, and cut shells round their neck, and rings in their ears. I have seen as many as twenty-five of these rings in one ear. They have little or no covering for their body—generally a small piece of strong coarse cloth, about nine inches wide and a foot long, hanging in front and tied round their loins with a piece of cord or strip of cloth; they seldom or never wear any covering on their heads; but tie a piece of split cane

round a little above the forehead, to prevent the hair falling over their face; their hair is generally very thick, strong, bushy, and jet black, and seldom or never worn long like the Munipoories, Cookies, and many other hill tribes. They almost always carry a spear and a daw when travelling or in the jungle. They live in small tribes or clans, and each has a head or chief; but I never learned if he holds any title or power, further than being the chief counsellor in cases of removing to a new station or settling a dispute. They generally select for their Poongies or villages the top of a small hill or commanding situation. The houses are invariably built in a line; but if a larger village, in two lines, with a street running in a straight line through the centre; the doors face the street or front, and are made in the end instead of the sides, this arises from the houses being built in a peculiar way. The walls or sides of the hut or house are made of bamboo, split, beaten flat, and plaited into a sort of coarse mat-work, and are not above three feet high. The roof is made very high, with a great slope, and thatched with sun-grass, or the leaves of the cane. The hut, when finished, has the appearance of a roof taken bodily off a house and set on the ground, (see fig.) They are generally



Naga Hut.
End elevation.

a quiet and harmless race, more especially about the hills of Cachar; but towards Assam they are warlike and often attack and burn each other's villages, carrying off the girls and young men as captives or slaves. I have never seen them follow any branch of trade; but I am told they make their own spears, daws, and other warlike weapons; and at night I have often seen large fires on the distant hills, which I am assured by the natives is smelting iron. They also manufacture most of their ornaments of bronze or other metal; but where the metal is procured, I am unable to say. The Munipoories say it comes from Burmah; and it is not unlikely, as the Cookies and Munipoories, bordering tribes, get their metal from that country. But spears, weapons, and other ornaments must be made by themselves, as it is impossible to get them except from a Nagar himself.

These tribes of Nagars, as I have said before, are a wandering race, and move about from place to place in bands of from one hundred to

five or six hundred. They generally choose a hill well situated as to water, in the dense forest jungle, where they build their houses as already described. They then clear away the forest: here they grow rice and cotton chiefly, year after year, and remain in the same place until the ground gets so weakened by constant cultivation and cropping that it ceases to yield anything like a fair return. They then choose a new situation to which they remove and continue the same process. When a man dies, a grave is dug about five or six feet deep in front of his house. All that die in the Poongie during their stay at that place are buried invariably right in front of their own house, not certainly more than five or six yards from the door. The body is wrapped in the cloth used during lifetime. It is usually striped brick-red and white, made of cotton and spun by the women. The body is then laid at full length in the grave, face upwards; his spear is placed in his left hand, and the daw in the right. The necklaces of beads, shell, and pieces of buffalo horn, and other brass or bronze ornaments, are buried along with him. These ornaments are left on the body as when alive. The grave is then filled in with earth, and a large mound of stones, about four feet high, built loosely over the grave. Some of these mounds are made of the length of the grave, and others are made round and flat on the top, where some of the relations or family of the deceased usually sit throughout the day and evening splitting cane or bamboos for various purposes, such as split cane for string to assist in the putting together of their houses, or split bamboo for making various sorts of matting and small hand punkahs (fans).

The relics from the Nagar grave in Cachar that I have presented to the Society's Museum were dug up on a hill in Cachar, called Laback, in the Cheree Valley, a few miles from a large bazaar or market-village, called Luckypoor, on the Barak river. I had gone to that place (Laback) in the year 1862, for the purpose of opening out and clearing the ground for a tea-garden. Shortly after coming there, some of



Portions of a
Necklace of Chank
Shell from a Naga
Grave. (Halfsize.)

the natives told me that this place had been the site of an old Pongie of Nagars, and one of the largest tribes or clans in the district. I immediately had the jungle cut and cleared away round my bungalow to the extent of many acres, and found what was told me to be true, as I found numerous marks of houses and great quantities of the stumps of posts that the houses had been supported with, and several mounds of stone, as already described, which I concluded must be graves. I had one dug up, and the relics now presented to the Museum are those taken out of this grave. (See Donation List, p. 340.)

The same Nagas that had inhabited or dwelt on this place were then living on a very high mountain, called "Zhou Zhong," in Cachar, and not far from the province of Munipoore. I visited this Pongie in April last year, but found they had gone somewhere else: no one could inform me of their whereabouts. This tribe was a very powerful clan, and numbered several hundreds, and, I am informed, had a chief they called a king.

The above is a rough description of the Nagas from my own experience. I could have given more minute details as to dress and mode of living, &c.; but I think I have said enough to show the general habits and condition of these tribes.

Sir J. NOEL PATON remarked that this communication possessed a peculiar interest, from the fact that the bronze ornaments now exhibited from this Naga grave were almost identical in type with the armillæ so constantly found associated with the burials of the Bronze Age in Western Europe. The theory which assigned an Indian origin to the race that overspread Europe in that early age had been ably supported by philological evidence; but the fact that there existed so close a resemblance between the personal ornaments of these nomadic tribes of modern India and the early race whose remains are found all over Western Europe, seemed strongly corroborative of the truth of that theory.

Sir WALTER ELLIOT of Wolflee agreed with Sir Noel Paton as to the interest of the communication; but there could be no general conclusion drawn with safety from the customs of a single small tribe. The same or similar forms of ornament were found on the sculptures in many parts of India. He admitted the resemblance in type common to the personal ornaments not only of different periods, but of different

ances; although, instead of deducing from this the community of descent of the populations among which these ornaments were found to prevail, he was rather inclined to believe that it was merely an indication of similar conditions of society among different races at different periods. These Nagas, he thought, might probably be of Indo-Chinese extraction; but the paper was not of such an exhaustive nature as to warrant them in founding general conclusions upon it.

II.

NOTICE OF EXCAVATIONS AND DISCOVERY OF CISTS, CONTAINING
LARGE STONE URNS, IN STRONSAY, ORKNEY. BY GEORGE
PETRIE, ESQ., CORR. MEM. S.A., SCOT.

While spending a fortnight last July in the island of Stronsay, I heard that two months previous to my visit, some stone cists and urns had been discovered near a small cottage in that island. I went to the place without delay, and got all the information I could obtain from the cottar and his wife, who had both taken much interest in the discovery, and had preserved the cists and their contents from injury in the hope that I would have an opportunity of examining them.

The cottage is within a few yards of the crest of a hill which gradually slopes down towards the sea on each side. The cists and urns were found in a low artificial mound of earth and stones about fifty yards in length, which crowns the ridge above a cottage bearing the name of "Orem's¹ Fancy." The cottage is on the property of Mr Balfour of Balfour and Trenabie, to whom I communicated the discovery, and from whom I obtained permission to make any excavations I might consider necessary.

On my arrival at the place, I saw some fragments of a stone urn, which I was told had been dug up about five years ago. The urn was not in a cist, had no covering stone, and was buried in the mound about a foot below its present surface. The cottar was trenching that end of the mound when he turned up some pieces of the urn, which, according to his account, was broken when he found it. All the frag-

¹ The surname of a man, not uncommon in the north of Scotland.

ments had been lost before my arrival, with the exception of those which I labelled as No. III., and sent to the Society's Museum.

A small cist, eighteen inches long and one foot wide, was discovered at a short distance from the broken urn (No. III.) The cist was without a cover or bottom stone, rested on hard clay, and was filled with earth intermixed with ashes.

Another cist had been opened near the south-west corner of the mound. It contained a small quantity of burnt bones and ashes. At a distance of about seven yards from this last mentioned cist there was a circle formed by rolled beach stones of an oblong shape; each stone was about a foot long, and they all stood on end about a yard apart. Within this circle two small cists were found, each containing, as usual, a small quantity of bits of burnt bones, ashes, and bits of charcoal. I did not see the cists, as corn was growing over them, and the circle of stones had been destroyed; but some of the stones were lying on the mound and were pointed out to me.

My attention was next directed to the spot where a cist containing a large stone urn had been discovered in May 1869, but had been again carefully covered up and so preserved from injury. The cist was reopened on my arrival, and I examined it and the urn very minutely, measured them carefully, and made sections and sketches before the urn was shifted from its original position in the cist. The cist was 2 feet $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches long on one side, 1 foot 10 inches on the other; and was 1 foot 11 inches wide at one end, and 1 foot 10 inches at the other; and was 1 foot 11 inches in depth.

The urn (*a*) stood on the bottom stone of the cist, as shown in the annexed woodcut (fig. 1, p. 350), and was covered by a piece of clay slate (*e*) rudely dressed to a circular shape.

A quantity of small pieces of burnt bones (*b*) lay in the bottom of the urn (*a*) to a depth of four or five inches. Several lumps of "cramp" or vitrified matter to which bits of bone adhered, were found among the bones, with one or two fragments of a human skull. One of the ends of the cist was carefully taken out, but the urn was so shattered, that I could only remove it piecemeal. The upper part of the urn, to an average depth of about four inches, came up in one piece, but even in that there were one or two ugly cracks. The urn evidently had been

long in the dilapidated condition in which it was found. Indeed, all urns of a similar material when discovered in Orkney are almost invariably cracked, or falling to pieces.

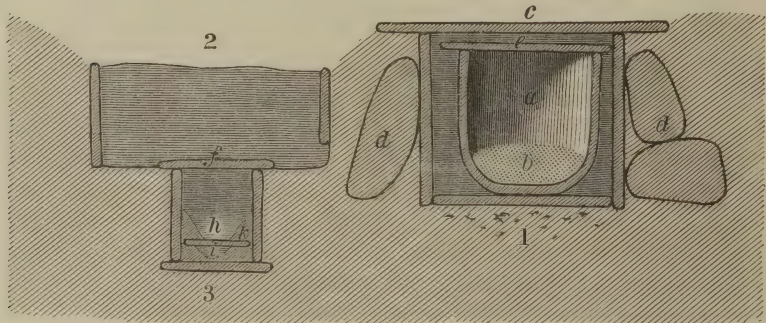
A considerable part of the mound was under cultivation, and oats were growing on it when I examined it, but the remainder was in coarse natural grass, so I set the cottar to dig in those parts of the mound which appeared most likely to contain cists or urns. At a depth of a few inches, in the first spot selected, stones were found in great abundance, and on digging them up, a large flat stone was reached, about eighteen inches below the surface of the mound. The earth having been carefully removed from the stone, it was then lifted, and the urn, whose fragments were labelled No. II., and sent to the Society's Museum, was exposed to view. It was not enclosed in a cist, but was embedded in clay. A small quantity of fragments of burnt bones was in the bottom of the urn, which preserved its form while it remained in the clay, but was so much shattered that it could only be removed in small pieces. I found that the clay which surrounded it bore unmistakable traces of fire, and was mixed with ashes and pieces of burnt stones; and a careful examination of the urn with its contents and whole surroundings, led me to conclude that the body whose remains were before me had been burnt on a mound or pile of clay and stones, which had afterwards been piled around the urn before it was finally covered up from view.

The bottom of the urn (No. II.) was so thin that a piece had apparently fallen out before the bones had been placed in it, and a lozenge-shaped stone, grooved around the edges, had been fitted into the hole where I found it when I lifted the urn.

The next excavation was made close to cist (fig. 1). A few inches below the surface a cist (fig. 2) was found filled with earth, but without a covering stone. It had the appearance of having been previously opened; but remembering that in former excavations I had found the bottom stone of one cist serving as a cover to another below it, I scooped out the earth till I reached the lower edge of one of the side stones, when I discovered a flat stone (*f*) lying across the bottom of the cist. I lifted the stone, and found it to be the cover of a small cist (fig. 3) in which there was nothing but some red clay (*k*) in the bottom, and a bowl-shaped cavity (*h*) in the clay. An inch or two of the surface of a flat stone was visible

at the bottom of the cavity, and this naturally suggested the idea that the stone so seen was the bottom stone of the cist, and that the cist had never been used for interment. On second thoughts I cleared out the clay, and then discovered that the stone on which it rested was a circular disc of clay slate, tolerably well dressed, and of a diameter nearly equal to the width of the cist. On lifting this circular piece of slate, I found that it covered a small quantity of burnt bones lying in another cavity (*i*) in some clay which had been laid on the true bottom stone of the cist.

The accompanying figure shows the relative positions of the cists (figs. 1, 2, and 3), with their contents and internal arrangements.



Cists and Large Stone Urn Found at "Orem's Fancy," Stronsay.

I felt a special interest in the excavations in the mound at "Orem's Fancy," as about eighteen years ago a large block of stone lying on the mound attracted my attention. A friend who was with me lent a helping hand in an endeavour to lift the stone, but we were unable to move it, and we therefore dug away the earth from its lower side, and then tilted over the stone into the excavation. At a depth of a few inches beneath the large stone, I found a small cist filled with dry peat moss, in which lay a small piece of rock crystal (probably an amulet or charm), but nothing else. The piece of crystal is still in my possession. The small cist had been constructed on the covering stone of a larger cist which contained some fragments of burnt bones and ashes. Before leaving the spot I filled up the cist with earth. During my late excavations,

I recognised the mound as the same in which eighteen years ago I had found the two cists just described, and after a careful examination, I came to the conclusion that the cist (fig. 2) is the larger and lower of the two then discovered. If this supposition is correct, as I believe it is, the arrangement of the cist is very curious and interesting. First a small cist (fig. 3) had been constructed, 1 foot 1 inch long, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches wide, and $12\frac{1}{2}$ inches deep. On the bottom stone of this cist a quantity of clay had been laid, and a bowl-shaped cavity (*i*) made in the centre of the clay. The cavity had been nearly filled with burnt bones and then covered by a piece of clay slate dressed into a circular form. More clay (*k*) had then been placed in the cist to the depth of about a couple of inches, and another cavity (*h*) formed in it, leaving an inch or two of the centre of the circular piece of slate exposed. There was no deposit of bones or ashes in this upper division of the cist, and on lifting the cover, my impression was that the cist (apparently empty) had never been used for sepulchral purposes. It was only when I lifted the circular stone, which was a sort of false bottom, that the bones were exposed to view. The cist (fig. 2) had been constructed above the cist (fig. 3) and was much larger, being 2 feet 7 inches in length, 1 foot 9 inches in width, and about a foot in depth. It contained some burnt bones and ashes as I had ascertained eighteen years ago, as already stated, and on its cover had been placed the small cist in which I found the bit of rock crystal. This upper cist was of the same dimensions with the lowest. The cist (fig. 1) containing the largest urn was so close to the cist (fig. 2), that I am inclined to think the former was also covered by the large block of stone to which I have referred.

I expect that more cists, and perhaps urns also, will be discovered at "Orem's Fancy" if the mound be trenched over.

The largest urn (*a*, in fig. 1) was of an oval form at the mouth, which was 1 foot $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter in one direction, and 1 foot 6 inches in the other. It measured 1 foot 5 inches in depth and 1 foot 3 inches across the bottom—all outside measurement.

The smaller urn (not figured), also of an oval form, measured on outside 1 foot 7 inches across the mouth, by 1 foot 3 inches; and was 1 foot 3 inches in depth, and about $10\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the outside of the bottom.

III.

NOTICE OF THE OPENING OF A BURIAL CAIRN AT SHAWS, SELKIRK-SHIRE. By JAMES BRYDON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The farm of Shaws is in the Vale of the Ettrick, about nine miles above Selkirk. To the south of the farm-house, and separating it from the Shaws Lochs, from which flows a tributary of the Ale, there stretches from east to west a ridge of pasture land, which attains an elevation above the sea of between eleven and twelve hundred feet. Nearly at its highest part there stood a little hillock, which from time immemorial has borne the name of "the Sleepy Knowe." The name is suggestive, but its origin is shrouded in mystery. It may have been translated from one language to another, and handed down by succeeding generations, from that period of remote antiquity when it was piled up around the body of the mighty chief who was there sleeping the sleep of death; or it may merely be derived from a certain alleged habit of the shepherds of the present day.

It was allowed to remain undisturbed till about four years ago, when stones being required for a neighbouring march-dyke, it was fixed upon as a likely spot to furnish them. The stones lay very loosely together, but that they formed an artificial structure was never suspected till the workmen exposed a stone coffin containing a quantity of human bones. Mr Gibson, the farmer, learning this, at once stopped further proceedings, and it was allowed to remain further undisturbed till July last, when I had it thoroughly explored. Except where it had been broken into, it was covered by a thick sward of short fine grass, quite different from that growing on the surrounding soil. Its general outline was circular; its circumference measured 108 feet, and the summit was between 5 and 6 feet high. The part removed was on the west side, and might be about one-sixth of its whole bulk. On the bottom of this, 12 feet from the margin, on the natural soil, stood the cist already mentioned; with the end furthest from the centre wanting, as was also the cover. It measured $1\frac{1}{2}$ foot in breadth, 1 foot 9 inches in depth, and its length, as ascertained from the extent of the floor, was 2 feet. The floor was regu-

larly paved with flat stones, some of which were partially coated with charcoal. The only parts of the skeleton it had contained that were preserved, were a portion of the frontal and of the right occipital bones. These, however, were sufficient to show that they belonged to the skeleton of a man, whose skull had been of large size.

Below the thin covering of turf, which most likely formed no part of the original structure, over the whole extent of the cairn, there was a layer of small shingly stones, which rested upon large irregularly placed and shaped stones, of which the great bulk of the hillock consisted. About two feet from its margin, three or four tiers of large stones lay upon each other, slanting inwards and downwards, forming the semblance of a wall all round. Throughout its whole extent the natural surface was covered with rounded water-worn stones.

Near the centre, a foot and a half from the surface, a heap of small broken bones and mould was discovered, which, as nearly as could be made out, represented the remains of a dog. Immediately to the south of this the stones, which were very large, assumed the appearance of a rudely constructed arch. Lying on the surface of this, imbedded in a quantity of finely powdered earth, we found, among other particles of bone, portions of a human skull. This arch-like layer rested on a number of large stones, with wide crevices between them, several of which were filled with damp, dark, tenacious mould. Below these we came upon a large flat stone, with several artificial markings on its different surfaces. Like those composing the rest of the cairn, it was an unhewn, irregular whinstone. It lay 3 feet to the east of the cist, and 4 feet from the surface. Its greatest length is 3 feet 3 inches; breadth, 1 foot 9 inches; and thickness, 10 inches. On its upper surface there are several depressed lines, evidently the product of design. Three of them are nearly parallel, and about 4 inches long. The two eastmost are joined together by an oblique line, which leaves the top of the middle one and runs into the other; which is also joined near its north end by another running in the same direction, but not reaching the middle line. From between these two interrupted lines proceed in the same direction. On the same surface there are several superficial pittings evidently made by the same instrument. The under side presents on that half of it which lay to the south five oval-shaped superficial depressions. Around its

edge-sides there are a series of circular pits or cups, from a half to three quarters of an inch deep, and generally about an inch across. Leaning against it, on the east side, was another large oval stone, which, although it had evidently been chipped into shape, presented no traces of design. Below this, with its apex stretching in below the sculptured stone, we found another of a pyramidal shape, with two cups on its base, which lay towards the east. Immediately to the east of these lay several fragments of bones. The objects described were separated from the natural soil, in addition to the water-worn stones, by a layer of whitish substance, evidently peat ashes.

Four feet to the north-east, $18\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the east margin, 18 from the west, 22 from the south, and 14 from the north, we next discovered a regularly built cavity, containing the debris of a piece of pottery and fragments of bones. It measured 24 inches in depth, 20 in length, and 15 in breadth. Its floor and cover were each formed by one flat stone. The urn has been of very rude construction, made of coarse clay, and without the aid of the potter's wheel. Its fragments lay in a confused heap at the bottom of the cavity, but above the bones, so that most likely it had been inverted over them. On some of them are straight depressed lines with pittings at regular intervals, running parallel to, but never crossing each other. A bead had projected around the brim, a large fragment of which indicates a diameter of 20 inches. The bones were in a state of extreme decomposition, but one fragment was clearly a part of the frontal bone of a dog.

Between this cavity and the sculptured stone, in a large crevice, there was a quantity of animal mould and a piece of the tibia of one of the larger quadrupeds.

About three feet to the north-east of the urn-cist there was another cavity of nearly similar dimensions. Although it had been built, the mason-work was of the roughest. It was quite empty; but on the outside of its eastern wall, lying on the floor of the cairn, there was a heap of finely powdered clay mixed up with fragments of pottery and bones. Two feet east from this, but quite distinct from it, there was a similar deposit. These pieces of pottery were thinner, and made of finer clay than those of the urn already described; but they were so small that no satisfactory opinion as to the size or shape of the original vessels could be formed.

Nearly west from this, three feet to the north of the urn-cist, below two large slabs of whinstone leaning against each other roof-wise, we came upon a large flat upright stone, standing nearly east and west. On its north side another large stone lay up against it in a slanting position, covering a heap of animal mould, bones, and portions of palmated deer horns.

In the south-east quarter of the cairn there were other three nests of bones, one of which lay against the east side of a large flat stone standing on edge; but all of them were so much decayed as to render identification impossible.

The whole of the cairn was turned over; and although a keen look-out was kept, nothing else—no weapons, ornaments, or implements, not even a flint chip—was discovered.

MONDAY, 11th April 1870.

The Rev. W. LINDSAY ALEXANDER, D.D., in the Chair.

A ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society:—

THOMAS HARVEY, M.A., Esq., Rector of the Edinburgh Academy.
 MAJOR WILLIAM EDWARD WILLIAMS, Bexley, Kent.
 CAPTAIN F. W. L. THOMAS, R.N., Rosepark, Trinity, Edinburgh.

Mr Laing, Foreign Secretary, read the following letters, which he had received from the recently elected Honorary Members, acknowledging the honour done them by the Society:—

PARIS, RUE SAINT ANDRÉ DES ARCS, No. 60,
 15 December 1869.

GENTLEMEN,—Your Chairman and Foreign Secretary inform me that at a general meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, held at the end of last month, I was elected an Honorary Member of the Society. I beg to acknowledge the intimation I received, and to thank you for the unexpected honour you conferred upon me.

If a most decided partiality to your *bonnie* country and a relentless labour to illustrate its history and antiquities, are sufficient titles to such a favour, I daresay I deserve it; but when I consider that the number of Honorary members of the Society is limited to twenty-five, and that, even in France, there are more literary characters anxious to elucidate the annals of Scotland, I must own that I am indebted for the distinction you have bestowed upon me, to the hope you entertain of future labours in the same field. It is a promise I made to myself, and which I beg to renew to you.

You know how zealously I devoted myself to elucidate the history of Scotland in its relations with France; but I consider that my task is not at an end, and that I have to add to my two volumes a sort of history of the rise and progress of civilisation in your country by its language.—I am, Gentlemen, with much respect and gratefulness, your obedient and devoted brother,

FRANCISQUE-MICHEL.

To the Secretary and Fellows of the Society
of Antiquaries of Scotland.

27 VIA FELICE, ROME,
Feb'y. 24, 1870.

DEAR SIR,—By some accident your letter, dated on the 6th of December last, has only just reached my hands, or I should certainly have acknowledged the receipt of it at once, and have thanked you for it. I now request you to return my best thanks to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for the honour they have done me in electing me one of their Honorary Members. I have often regretted that I have not had more opportunity of studying the Antiquities of Scotland, which I have always found extremely interesting, so far as I have been able to investigate them. Of late years it seems to have been the will of Providence that I should be chiefly occupied with the antiquities of Rome, which go so far back, that it seems almost impossible to arrive at the starting point. It seems clear to me that the Rome of the Empire and of the Republic was built upon the Rome of the Kings; and that the fortifications in the times of the kings were chiefly earthworks, with scarped cliffs and great *fossæ* in which the streets of the Republic were made. These were altered in the time of the early Empire, by raising them up to the banks on the level

of the soil, instead of being at the bottom of the great trenches. I find pavements at three levels continually; (1.) six or seven yards below the surface; (2.) about half that depth; (3.) on the present surface, the level of which in many parts of Rome has not been altered since the time that the gateways of Honorius were built A.D. 400. One of these interesting gateways (the inner one at the Horte S. Lorenze) was destroyed in the summer of 1869, by order of the Baron Visconti (the Pope's inspector of monuments), in order that he might use the travertine stones as a quarry for the base of the marble column on the Janiculum, to commemorate the present Council. . . . I will send you, by book-post, some pamphlets relative to the Antiquities of Rome, that I have lately issued for the use of my countrymen here.—Yours sincerely,

J. H. PARKER.

DAVID LAING, Esq., For. Sec. Soc. Ant., Scot.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By J. W. LAIDLAY of Seacliff, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

A Collection of manufactured objects and animal remains, from a kitchen-midden on the top of an isolated rock, named "The Ghegan," near Seacliff, East Lothian. The collection comprises:—

Two Pins or Awls of Bone, $2\frac{1}{4}$ and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length respectively, rudely squared at the heft as if for fixing in a wooden handle. They are polished by use towards the points. (See woodcut, fig. 5, p. 375.)

Two fragments of similar bone instruments.

Two Bodkins of Bone, one $1\frac{1}{2}$ and the other 2 inches in length, and $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{8}$ inch in greatest width, where it is perforated for the eye. The eye-hole is circular, and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch from the wider end of the bodkin, which tapers both ways, to a blunt point at the short end, and a sharper point at the longer end. (See woodcut, fig. 4, p. 375.)

A Comb of Bone, having a flat semi-circular back or top, highly ornamented on one side with incised figures or patterns. These consist of a crescent, surmounting three ellipses very regularly cut. The central

ellipse has two nearly circular figures of half its diameter, touching each other in the centre, and the remainder is filled up with punctulations. The two ellipses on either side of it have each an inner ellipse concentric with the outer, and the space between filled up with punctulated markings. The crescent is also filled in with punctulated markings. An inch and a quarter from the upper margin of the comb, an incised line is drawn across below the elliptical figures at the base of the teeth. The teeth are not quite straight, but incline slightly towards the centre from both sides. They appear to have been originally about an inch in length, the longest now remaining being fully $\frac{7}{8}$ ths of an inch. A hole bored in the back of the comb was probably used for suspension. (See woodcut, fig. 3, p. 375.)

Two fragments of a double-sided Comb, bearing marks of a central band of bone and iron rivets, which joined them together.

An Ornament of blackened and polished Bone, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, consisting of a plain cylindrical central part, with a raised ridge and a rounded knob at each extremity. (See woodcut, fig. 6, p. 375.)

A slightly convex and circular disc of polished Serpentine, 1 inch in diameter, and $\frac{1}{3}$ th of an inch thick at the edges.

A portion of a circular ring of Black Shale, $\frac{7}{8}$ ths of an inch in diameter, and $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch in thickness.

A rude Bone Pin or Awl, 5 inches in length, formed of the leg bone of a small animal.

A Cylinder of Bone, hollowed by a tool. It is 1 inch in length, and the same in diameter, and has been sawn across at both ends, and half sawn across by a thin-edged saw, a quarter of an inch from one end, and half of the cylindrical part removed.

A small rude rounded Vessel or Crucible of Clay, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch wide at the mouth, and the same in height.

Twelve splinters of Bone of various lengths, probably either broken or unfinished implements.

A large portion of a large coarse Vessel of Yellowish Clay, or Amphora, of Roman type, in fragments.

A quantity of rude, black-coloured Pottery, in fragments.

Two Hand Bricks, that is, masses of clay simply squeezed in the hand, and used probably to support clay vessels while being fired in the kiln.

Similar Hand Bricks have been found in Lincolnshire and the Channel Islands.

Two rounded Pebbles, or "Boiling Stones," of trap rock, about 3 inches diameter, which exhibit the cracked appearance characteristic of stones that have been made red-hot, and suddenly cooled by being plunged into water. The practice of cooking by means of heated stones has been used by many races of men, and is still practised among the Assinneboins, or modern "stone-boilers of North America." The custom is thus described by Mr Tylor, in his work on the "Early History of Mankind" (pp. 262-9):—"A hole is dug in the ground about the size of a common pot, and a piece of the raw hide of the animal is put over the hole, and then pressed down with the hands close around the sides, and filled with water. The meat to be boiled is then put into the pot of water; and in a fire which is made close by several large stones are heated to a red heat; these are successively dipped, and held in the water until the meat is boiled. From this custom the Ojibbeways have given them the name of Assinneboins or Stone-boilers." Heated stones have been and are also used for baking purposes by the New Zealanders. A paper by the Rev. J. Brodie, Monimail, "On the Food of Man in Prehistoric Times" (Proceedings of the Society, vol. viii. p. 177), refers to the use of stones in cooking.

Lower stone of a Quern of a hard, bluish-coloured rock. It is oval, has a spindle hole in the centre, and measures 20 inches in longest diameter.

Upper stone of a Quern, of the same kind of stone, and 14 inches diameter. It has the usual wide hopper-like hole in the centre, and two holes close together near the circumference. These holes are for the insertion of the fingers to turn it round, and are worn perfectly smooth, and highly polished by long use.

A large collection of Animal Bones, for a description of which, and figures of several of the objects described above, see subsequent communication by J. W. Laidlay, Esq.

(2.) By ADOLPH ROBINOW, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Electrotype Copy, in copper, of a Marble Bas-relief, "The Apotheosis of Homer," found near Rome in the middle of the 17th century.

(3.) By Miss JANE MILNE JAMESON, Glen Rose, St. Heliers, Jersey.

Silver Teaspoon, stated to have been used by Prince Charles Edward Stuart at Holyrood.

The following memorandum accompanied the donation :—“ This spoon was given by Mr Buchanan, one of the gentlemen who went to France for his Royal Highness, to his nephew, Duncan Graham, whose daughter left it by will to my father, the Rev N. Jameson.”

Four Indian Coins, of silver, used as Counters by the ex-King James at St Germain.

(4.) By Sir ARCHIBALD WARDLAW, Bart., of Pitrevie, through GEORGE SIM, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Letters and other Documents of Duncan Forbes of Culloden (Lord President.)

(5.) By FRANCIS LIGHTBODY, Esq., through JAMES WILSON, Esq., Chief Clerk, Board of Manufactures.

Burmese Sacred Manuscript, painted on Palm Leaves, and Case of gilt wood, with Wrapper of coloured cloth, taken from a Temple at Rangoon during the first Burmese War.

(6.) By Mrs PETER MACLAURIN, through Dr JOHN ALEX. SMITH, Sec. S.A. Scot.

Portion of Marble Moulding, and small portion of the Sandstone Coffin from the Supposed Tomb of Robert the Bruce at Dunfermline. Discovered 1818.

(7.) By Rev. GEO. M'GUFFIE, F.S.A. Scot.

Lead Communion Tokens of Etal Church, of different dates.
The Priests of Etal. 8vo.

There were also exhibited—

(1.) By JAMES T. IRVINE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

A Pair of Bronze Spoons, found at Weston, near Bath. (See Plate XVIII., where one of the spoons is figured full size.)

The following description of these curious and interesting objects is taken from an important paper in the "Archæological Journal" for March 1869 (No. 101), entitled,

"Notices of certain Bronze Relics of a peculiar type, assigned to the late Celtic Period," by Albert Way, Esq., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot., &c.

"This pair of spoon-like objects was found in 1866 in Somersetshire, about a mile to the north-west of Bath, and near the road towards Bristol. Unfortunately the precise circumstances connected with their discovery have not been recorded; for the following particulars, and also for the kind permission to publish these highly interesting relics with the series of examples that I have now brought together, I am indebted to the courtesy of Mr James T. Irvine, F.S.A. Scot., of Coomb Down, near Bath.

"A new road having been made from Weston Lane to the village of Weston, near Bath, a lias quarry was opened for the purpose of obtaining stone. The spot is on the south side of the new road, and on the western brow of a small hollow, down which a little rivulet flows towards the Avon, into which it falls nearly opposite Tiverton. The new road shortly after joins the *Via Julia*, the great Roman line from *Aque Solis* into Wales. In removing the 'heading' for quarrying the lias rock, at a depth of 7 feet or thereabouts, as stated, the bronze relics were brought to light by one of the labourers, who gave them to the foreman, William Smith, from whom I received them.¹ I made careful inquiry whether any other object was found, or any trace of wood, as of a box or the like, but I was assured that nothing else was discovered. The situation is so similar to the sites where remains of Roman villas occur, on gently sloping banks open towards the south and south-east, and adjoining some stream of pure water, that I am disposed to imagine that the vestiges of a Roman dwelling must exist not far from the spot.

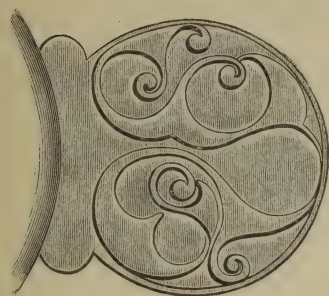
"In the great difficulty that has been found in regard to the intention

¹ In a subsequent communication Mr Irvine informed Mr Way that, in regard to the great depth (7 feet) at which these bronze objects were stated to have been found, he had made fresh inquiries of the foreman before mentioned, who stated that they lay near the stream, in the ancient hollow course of which the earth had doubtless gradually slipped down the sloping cultivated bank, at the upper part of which there was only a layer of 12 or 18 inches in depth covering the lias rock.

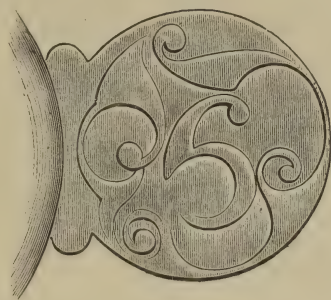
of these objects, Mr Irvine suggests that they may have served for some culinary or gastronomic purpose in Roman times. The frequent occurrence of villas, and of vestiges of every description that abound near *Aque Solis*, and have been carefully described by our friend Canon Scarth, could not fail to suggest to so observant and sagacious an archaeologist as Mr Irvine the probability that these objects, found not far distant from a great Roman way, might be assigned to the Roman period. It must, however, be considered that in no instance, as I believe, has any specimen been discovered in immediate proximity to relics of that age, or even to any site of Roman occupation.

“The specimens from Somerset, unfortunately damaged at the edges, are of special interest for the perfection in their workmanship. The bronze also has assumed the highly-polished, dark-coloured patina, resembling that of objects of classical antiquity, and rarely if ever equalled on the other relics under consideration. The dimensions are as follows:—length, $4\frac{3}{8}$ inches; diameter of the handle, nearly $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch; of the bowl, rather over $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The ornament presents slight variations, which seem to prove that the two objects, if, as I believe, they were castings, were not produced from the same mould, although they closely resemble each other. The curiously-involved designs on the reverses of the handles (see Plate XVIII., figs. 2 and 3) are not identical, although at the first glance it might be supposed that they are repetitions. In execution they are peculiar; there is only a very slight degree of rilievo in the ornament, in some parts only the field is slightly depressed, in others the effect is assisted by a certain slight rounding off of the edges of the design, a process frequently made available by artificers of a much later period and wholly distinct school of metallurgical manipulation, namely in the mediæval enamels, on the surfaces to which vitrified colour was not applied; this has been termed by some French writers on the art as practised at Limoges and elsewhere about the twelfth century, *sous-relief*.

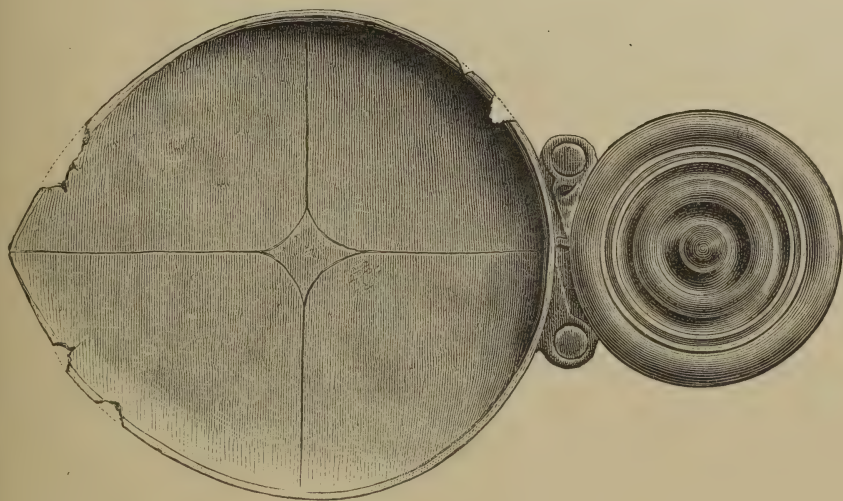
“It may deserve notice, that the circular concentric mouldings on the obverse of the handle (see Plate XVIII. and woodcut, fig. 1), as also the handles of four other specimens previously described, bear much resemblance to work on certain Roman or Gallo-Roman objects, for instance on bronze saucepans (*trullæ* ?), of which examples found at Arnagill, near



3.



2.



1.

BRONZE SPOONS FOUND AT WESTON, NEAR BATH.

1. One of a Pair of Bronze Spoons found at Weston (full size). 2. Ornamentation on the reverse of the handle of fig. 1 (full size).
3. Reverse of handle of the other Spoon (figured in the text).

Swinton Park, Yorkshire, were published by Mr Charles Tucker in this Journal;¹ one, found in the Isle of Ely, was exhibited by Mr Goddard Johnson at the meeting of the Institute at Norwich in 1847; and five,



Fig. 1.

One of a pair of Bronze Spoons found at Weston, near Bath.
(Scale two-thirds original size.)

brought to light on the Castle Howard estate in Yorkshire, have presented to Mr Oldfield the subject of a very valuable memoir, published in the *Archæologia*.²

“In these Roman vessels, and also in other objects of the same period,

¹ *Arch. Journal*, vol. vi. p. 47.

² *Archæologia*, vol. xli., pl. xv. p. 325, where notices of other specimens may be found. Mr Ecroyd Smith has described examples found near Abergele, N. Wales, *Trans. Lanc. and Chest. Hist. Soc.*, 1868.

the circular mouldings seem undoubtedly to have been produced on the lathe. On the Celtic objects under consideration, they do not appear to have been thus worked; these concentric ornaments were doubtless produced in the mould, with the admirable precision that characterises the works of the skilful artificers of the period. It has, however, been suggested that the model, of wood possibly, from which that part of the concave mould was formed, must apparently have been turned on the lathe. The use of that mechanical appliance amongst the Celtic peoples presents a subject of considerable interest.¹

(2.) The following Coins and Medals purchased for the Museum were exhibited:—

1. Aureus of Valentian II.
2. Aureus of Honorius.
3. Silver Medallion—William III. of England on the Peace at Ryswick, *rare*.
4. Another of William III. on his Landing at Torbay, *also rare*.
5. Medal of Charles II.
6. Tin Coin of Bombay, George II.

The following Communications were read:—

I.

NOTICE OF THE AMBER SEAL (MATRIX) OF A CANON OF INCHAFRAYS, FOUND NEAR ST JOHN'S CHURCH, PERTH. BY SIR J. NOEL PATON, Kt., R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot.

The small amber matrix which I have now to bring under your notice was turned up some two years ago during excavations in the immediate vicinity of St John's Church, Skinnergate, Perth. It was found about fifteen feet below the surface, along with a quantity of human bones. But there was no indication of any kind of coffin; nor was anything else

¹ The cup of amber found at Hove, near Brighton, figured Arch. Journal, vol. xiii. p. 183; the vessel of bituminous shale discovered by the Rev. R. Kirwan in a barrow, near Honiton, as described, Transactions of the Devonshire Association, vol. ii. p. 625; the Kimmeridge coal-money, and several other relics of the like material, present remarkable evidence of the early use of the lathe in Britain.

of interest discovered in the course of the operations. A pawnbroker of the Fair City, who was present, bought it of the finder for sixpence, and immediately thereafter disposed of it, for the same sum, to the gentleman whose property it now is. Subsequently its edges got a good deal chipped and blunted by contact with old coins and other metallic rubbish amongst which it was kept. These slight facts are all in the way of history that I have been able to obtain regarding this seal; but they are sufficient to remove any doubts of its genuineness on the part of persons who may not have an opportunity of examining the thing itself.

Whether the beautiful substance in which this matrix is cut was frequently used for such purposes, I am not learned enough to say; but considering the wide use of amber in the manufacture of personal ornaments by the northern races, it seems not improbable that it was. The present is the only specimen I have met with, however. Nor, as Mr Henry Laing informs me, has he ever seen or heard of another in the course of his inquiries into the history of seals and seal-cutting. Probably some member who has made these matters a special study may be able to state whether other specimens are known to exist, or whether there are any allusions to such seals in old documents.

The present specimen is of the symbolical form generally adopted for monastic seals,—but not for these only, as is popularly believed: several seals of Laymen,¹ and all the seals of Ladies² figured in Mr Henry

¹ *Seals of Laymen of this form*:—Seal of Thor Longus, *circa* 1094 (Laing's Sup. Cat., No. 663). Seal of Philip de Petcox, *circa* 1214 (Laing's Cat., pl. vii. fig. 4). Counter-Seal (?) of Roger Avenel, *circa* 1190 (Ibid. pl. v. fig. 3).

² *Female Seals of this form*:—Seal of Avieca Morvile, *circa* 1176 (Laing's Cat. pl. v. fig. 7). Seal of Margaret de Vesci, *circa* 1220 (Ibid. pl. vi. fig. 5). Seal of Petronella, daughter of Adam Harang de Meinichoch, *circa* 1170 (Ibid. pl. vii. fig. 6). Seal of Marjorie, Countess of Carrick, *circa* 1285 (Ibid. No. 141). Seal of Muriel, daughter of Convel of Stratherne, *circa* 1284 (Ibid. No. 764). Seal of Queen Matilda, daughter of Malcolm III., and Queen of Henry I., *circa* 1100 (Laing's Sup. Cat. pl. i. fig. 5). Seal of Margaret, sister of William the Lion, and wife of Conan, Duke of Brittany, died 1171 (Ibid. No. 134). Seal of Margaret Bruce, Lady of Kendal, third daughter and co-heiress of Peter de Bruce, Lord of Skelton, *circa* 1280 (Ibid. No. 142). Seal of Isabella, daughter of Robert Bruce, Earl of Carrick, sister of King Robert the Bruce (Ibid. No. 145). Seal of Lady Eleanor Lazouche, *circa* 1296 (No. 609). Seal of Devorgilla Balliol, daughter of Alan, Lord of Galloway, and wife of John Balliol (Ibid. No. 71).

Laing's interesting Catalogue—with the single exception of the seal of Mariota Keith, dating about 1390 (Laing's Suppl. Catal. pl. vii. fig. 4)—being of this form.

The Abbey of Inchaffray was dedicated to God, the Virgin Mary, and St John the Evangelist; and this seal, like the well-known circular great seal of the establishment, bears in the field an eagle, the symbol of St John. This eagle is what the heralds call *displayed*, however, and has no nimbus; in these respects differing from the eagle in the great seal. In another, and perhaps a more important point historically, the two seals also differ. In the great seal, and in the seal of one of the abbots of this monastery preserved in the Chapter House, Westminster (the date of



Amber Matrix of Seal (full size) of a Canon of Inchaffray.
Found near St John's Church, Perth.

which I have been unable to ascertain, though I do not think it can be earlier than the fourteenth century), the Latin form of the name—"Insula Missarum," is adopted; whereas, in the seal before us, the Gaelic form—"Inchaffray" is used. I am uncertain how far the date of the great seal has been determined; but from this circumstance, as well as from certain scarcely definable differences in the art of the two seals, I am inclined to think the amber seal the earlier. The inference that the use of the Latin form of the name points to a date posterior to the use of the Gaelic form,

is supported by the fact that, in all the charters of the founder, Gilbert, Earl of Stratherne, and others of that early date—with but few exceptions,—five, I think, in all—it is called *Inchaffray*; but in the charters of Earl Gilbert's successor, Robert, who died prior to 1244, and all subsequent documents, it is invariably called by its Latin name. In two charters¹ dated 1238, which would seem to be the transition period, both names are given:—"Monasterio de Inchaffryn quod Insula Missarum dicitur."

The legend of the seal is, "✠ S' ALANI CANONICI DE INCHAF.," and the lettering is undoubtedly that of the thirteenth century. No list of the canons of Inchaffray has been preserved, and the list of abbots is imperfect. But from 1258 to 1271 there was an Abbot Alan, whose name appears in various charters.² And from the coincidence of the name, and the fact that the seal must be assigned to this date, I am disposed to believe that in it we have the private seal of that shadowy personage, prior to his elevation to the abbacy of the Isle of Masses. The brother destined to fill so elevated an office as that of abbot must have been a person of more than ordinary importance in the community; and this may account for his possession of a seal. For the use of seals by canons would seem to have been somewhat rare: only two other instances having come under my observation,—one, that of John de Gamery, Canon of Caithness, *c.* 1360, figured in Laing's catalogue; the other, that of Brother John Morel, Canon of Jedburgh, *c.* 1292, figured in the recently published *Monasticon of Scotland*. An additional interest, therefore, attaches to this seal as another illustration of the practice. There is, however, in the Museum of this Society the brass seal of a simple *monk* of Arbroath—Matthew by name (dating, I should think, about the middle of the fourteenth century), which may be

¹ *Liber Insula Missarum*, Reg. pp. 71, 78.

² He gives a charter under the designation of Abbot of Insula Missarum, dated 1266, *Liber. Ins. Miss., Reg.* p. 47. He witnesses two charters of Malis, fifth Earl of Stratherne, who died in 1270, *Ibid. Appen. to Preface*, p. xxxiii., and *Reg.* p. 53. Also a Confirmation Charter, dated 1271, *Ibid. Reg.* p. 54. I also find amongst a number of unprinted documents preserved in the Archives of Mag. Col. Oxford—copies of which Professor Cosmo Innes, with his usual obliging courtesy, has sent me—a Confirmation Charter by Alexander III., of a lease of Gasknes, granted by one of the De Quencys, Earls of Wynton, which Alan signs as Abbot of Insula Missarum.

held as proof that the use of seals was not unknown even among the humbler members of monastic communities. And this we can understand: for many of these were the sons of high families, who brought considerable possessions to their respective establishments; over which possessions they may have continued to exercise some rights of administration requiring the use of a seal, even when—as in the case of these Canons Regular of St Augustine—the property thus brought to the Monastery was devoted to the common sustenance of the brethren.

The powerful family of Stratherne were the founders and liberal benefactors of the Abbey of Inchaffray; and it is not impossible that, in accordance with the practice of the Alban as of the Irish Church, Alan, the third Abbot, may have been of “founder’s kin.” That the first head of the establishment in 1200, called Malis—a name of frequent occurrence in the Stratherne pedigree—was of the same stock, is, I should think, more than probable. But however this may be, between this seal of Alan the Canon and that of Muriel, daughter of Convel of Stratherne, appended to a Charter, *c.* 1284 (No. 764 in Laing’s Catalogue), there is a resemblance in shape, size, lettering, and artistic treatment of the bird which forms the principal object in both, so strong as to have suggested to Mr Laing—what had previously occurred to my own less experienced eye—that they may have been the work of the same hand,—as undoubtedly they are the work of the same period. Upon the whole, the probabilities would seem to be in favour of the identity of the Canon Alan, of whose existence this tiny bit of amber is the only known record; and the Abbot Alan, who certainly has bequeathed to posterity his name, but nothing more.

It will be observed that at its upper point the matrix has been extended into a sort of flattened knob, pierced transversely for the insertion of a ring or cord, no doubt with the intention of its being worn on the person of the owner. This portion, which was entire when the seal was found, has since, unfortunately, been broken. But enough remains to remove all uncertainty as to its purpose. That certain of these smaller seals—what are called counter-seals, especially—were designed to be thus worn is clearly indicated in several of the engravings from impressions, given in Laing’s interesting work, and in Anderson’s *Diplomata*. Above a dozen of these I have noted as bearing the more or less distinct indentation of

the loop by which the seals were suspended,¹ but this list I need not now take up your time by reading. In the impression of the counter-seal of Eustace de Vesci, *c.* 1160, given in Mr Laing's Catalogue, this indentation is so well defined as to have suggested to that adept, that the matrix had "been worn as a locket as well as used as a seal." But the impressions of the counter-seal of Bricius, Bishop of Moray, *c.* 1208, and that of Richard, Bishop of St Andrews, *c.* 1163, show yet more distinctly the loop, which in the latter instance bears unequivocal traces of ornamentation. The wearing of these privy seals upon the person was obviously necessary as a check upon fraud, in a state of society in which it was probably as much beneath the dignity as it was generally beyond the capacity of great barons and doughty paladins to do more in the way of "shaveling's" work than dash down their *'cross*, as chief party or witness to a charter. The great seal of the Baron or high Ecclesiastic was unavoidably left in the keeping of his Chancellor; his counter-seal, which was used as his sign manual—a practice still general in the East—was carried upon his own person, suspended—as the cases I have cited would seem to prove—by cord or chain, either from his belt, or, as is more probable, from his neck. But, no doubt, many of the smaller of these signets were worn, as in classical times, on the finger; and I dare say not a few were held to possess talismanic virtues.

The necessity of wearing these counter-seals on the person must have

¹ *Pendent Seals.*—Seal of Sir Thomas de Aunoy, *circa* 1237 (Laing's Cat. pl. vii. fig. 9). Counter-seal of Richard, Bishop of St Andrews (set with antique gems, ornamental loop), 1163-77 (Ibid. pl. xiv.). Counter-seal of Eustace de Vesci (set with antique gem), *circa* 1160 (Ibid. p. 138, and pl. vi. fig. 4). Seal of Sir Patrick de Ridel, *circa* 1170 (Ibid. pl. 5, fig. 10). Seal of Peter de Curri, *circa* 1179 (Ibid. pl. iv. fig. 1). Seal of Roger Burnard, *circa* 1165 (Ibid. pl. iv. fig. 2). Seal of Philip de Petcox, *circa* 1214 (Ibid. pl. vii. fig. 4). Counter-seal of Patrick, Earl of Dunbar, son of Earl Gospatrick, "set with an antique gem, fine Greek or Roman work," Laing, *circa* 1150 (Laing's Supplemental Cat., No. 308). Counter-seal of Earl Gospatrick the Younger (Diplomata Scot. pl. lxxi.). Seal of Robert, Bishop of St Andrews, Cons. 1126 or 28 (Ibid. pl. c.). Seal of Richard, Bishop of St Andrews, elected 1163 (counter-seal, an antique gem, charioteer driving a biga—Melr. Ch.), (Ibid. pl. c.). Counter-seal of Bricius, Bishop of Moray (antique gem), 1203-1222 (Laing's Cat., pl. xviii. fig. 1). Counter-seal of Walter, Bishop of Glasgow (chaplain to William the Lion), 1207-1232 (Ibid. pl. xv. fig. 4). Seal of Walter Fitzalan (gem), *circa* 1130 (Ibid. pl. iii. fig. 1).

led, in the natural course of things, to their becoming objects of decoration and display. For with that love of personal magnificence,—or may we not rather say, with that instinctive passion for beauty which permeated the society of the middle ages to a degree which we, in this era of white chokers and Government schools of design, can but dimly recognise,—there was nothing the hand of man then made, which this quickening spirit within did not compel him to make beautiful. That this influence was at work in the case of these seals—not less than of the other items of male and female—of military, ecclesiastical, and civil costume—is sufficiently proved by the specimens brought together in Mr Laing's Catalogue and the Diplomata; both of which works—to go no further—contain numerous instances of the fashion of enriching seals with the costly and delicate productions of the glyptic art of the ancient world, so many of which must have percolated northwards through various channels, from the great southern fountains of civilisation. These engraved gems are sometimes found introduced into the true seal, in pairs, as in the beautiful seal of Hugh Normanvill, *c.* 1200 (Laing), or in greater number, as in the seal of William de Vesci, *c.* 1220 (Laing), which has three, and that of Walter de Berkley, to be again referred to, which has six. The De Vescis would seem to have been rich in these gems; for, besides using one for the pendent counter-seal, mentioned above, Eustace de Vesci has one introduced into his great seal (Laing, pl. vi. fig. 4). But, in spite of the analogy of other seals where the gems were clearly fixtures, and in spite of the design of this seal itself, which has obviously been contrived to leave a central space for the gem, I suspect, from certain indications of upheast in the wax, that Mr Laing is right in believing this imprint to have been made from a detached gem—probably worn as a ring—after the impression of the seal itself had been completed. In numerous cases an intaglio has been simply surrounded by a rim of metal, bearing the legend, as in the pendent counter-seal of Walter Fitzalan, *c.* 1130 (Laing), which is formed of one magnificent intaglio of a warrior and horse; that of Richard, Bishop of St Andrews, above mentioned, which is formed of a smaller gem, representing a charioteer driving a biga at full speed; that of Thomas Colvil, *c.* 1220 (Laing), and others which I need not enumerate. In the Diplomata (pl. lxxvii.) is engraved—but unfortunately not well engraved—an impression from the seal of Walter

de Berkley—a member of a Norman family settled in Scotland, and chamberlain of the kingdom in the reigns of Malcolm IV. and William the Lion. This must have been an extremely beautiful specimen of this description of composite seal. It was circular, about three inches in diameter, and bore in the usual way the name and designation of the owner. But its chief interest for us at present lies in the circumstance that it was studded with no fewer than six gems, probably intaglios, of unquestionably classical execution—one, large, in the centre, surrounded by five of smaller and slightly unequal size. Although the impression bears no trace of any loop by which this seal might have been suspended, it can scarcely be doubted that an object of so much beauty must have been worn as a personal decoration. In all likelihood it was hung by a ring affixed behind, like the curious brass matrix found on Arthur Seat, and described in the Proceedings of this Society (vol. i. pp. 39, 150), or by a perforated piece of ornament attached to the upper posterior rim, like the beautiful Chapter Seal of Brechin, figured in the Proceedings (vol. i., p. 189), and also the Arthur Seat matrix—in the Catalogue of the Archæological Exhibition of 1850.

Doubts have been expressed to me by one whose opinions must always command respectful consideration, as to the fact of these bosses having been antique gems at all. But if not antique gems, what were they? They bear no resemblance to any details of jewellers, seal-cutters, or other work of the period to which this seal belonged, or, indeed, of any portion of the period which we broadly call *Gothic*. While, rudely and imperfectly as they are presented in the *Diplomata*, they do resemble the productions of the classical gem-cutter, in those leading lines and quantities, which, however rudely reproduced, no eye accustomed to compare the characteristics of various schools of art can well mistake. The number of these beautiful works worn as signets, or applied as embellishments to parts of male and female dress, and to articles of religious and domestic use, in the classical ages was, as we know, very great. It is also clear that in the earlier middle ages they were still to be obtained in immense quantities, as may be seen in several of the cities of Germany and northern Italy, where on altar, shrine, pulpit, and reliquary—each a miracle of Christian art—they are scattered in bewildering profusion. But we have just seen that these things actually were used in our own country

during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, as seals, or as the enrichment of seals. We are, therefore, I think, more than justified in concluding that the bosses on the seal of Walter de Berkley were indeed antique gems.

In saying thus much of ornamental seals I have not wandered so far as may seem from the matter before us; for, simple and unadorned as it is, this seal of Canon Alan comes within the category; the substance of which it is made having no doubt been chosen for its beauty and its fitness for becoming an ornamental adjunct of dress. I do not remember to have seen this custom of wearing seals as personal ornaments noticed elsewhere than in the brief note of Mr Henry Laing on the counter-seal of Eustace de Vesci, above quoted. But the subject is not without interest in its relation to the costume of the ages of Faith and Chivalry, and to the ideas and social habits of which costume is to so great an extent the unrecognised exponent. I profess no special knowledge of sphragistics, however, and only venture to hope that these necessarily superficial remarks, which I have been accidentally led into making, may be the means of eliciting from some one more deeply versed in the subject the information which I have failed to supply.

II.

NOTICE OF AN ANCIENT STRUCTURE AND REMAINS FROM A
"KITCHEN-MIDDEN," ON AN ISOLATED ROCK NEAR SEACLIFF,
EAST LOTHIAN. BY J. W. LAIDLAY OF SEACLIFF, ESQ., F.S.A., SCOT.

The site on which the relics which I now have the honour to offer to the Society were found, is a detached rock jutting out from the western point of the little bay at Seacliff, locally known as the *Ghegan*; just isolated at spring tides, but at other times not separated by the sea from the mainland. The surface of the rock, gently sloping towards the south, was covered with a beautiful green sward which presented no indication of the remains found beneath it, or of ever having been disturbed by the hand of man. Accident, however, led to the discovery of some bones of oxen and other animals in a rabbit hole; and this was, almost as a matter

of course, followed up by further research, which terminated in laying bare the foundations of an ancient building of considerable dimensions, with its accompanying kitchen-midden, abounding in the remains of a variety of animals, some few implements of bone, some rude pottery, and a large amount of littoral shells, particularly those of the limpet and periwinkle.

The accompanying sketch (fig. 1) will give a sufficient idea of the rock

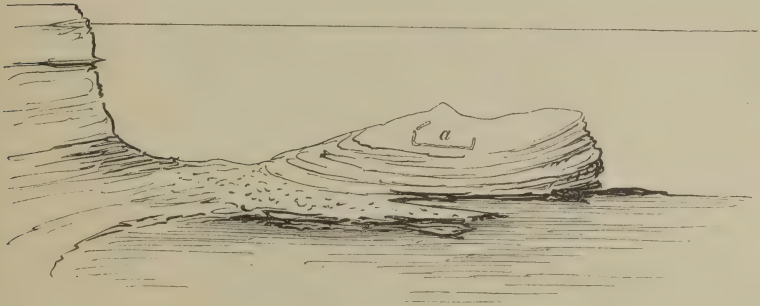


Fig. 1.

The "Ghegan Rock," near Seacliff, East Lothian.

(*a*, low wall.)

itself, and the position of the foundation walls of the ancient building, indicated by the lines at *a*; of which a more enlarged view is given in the ground plan (Fig. 2.) The lower part of the building running east and west, is situated about 22 or 23 feet above the level of the sea at high water, and rises gradually to its highest point at B (Fig. 2), where it is some 6 feet higher. This foundation wall was built of stones, apparently selected from the neighbouring beach, and joined to other without cement, unless it may be mud, or perhaps only earth. It was traceable in the lower part (A) for about 39 feet; on the east side it turned northward at a right angle for some 12 or 15 feet, when it disappeared; and on the west side it turned also northward for 26 feet 8 inches, when it bent towards the north east for about 15 feet, and again all trace was lost; in fact, at these points the wall seemed to emerge from the protecting cover of earth to the naked surface of the rock, and hence was more exposed to removal

from many causes. The soil, I may mention, was of a depth of from 3 to 4 feet on the lower part of the building, and thinned away till the bare rock was exposed on the northern side. In the centre of the area was a rude pavement and a well-made drain (*c* and *b* in the sketch); and at the north west corner (*a*) was a ledge made in the rock, apparently to intercept the water running down from the upper part.

The bones were found for the most part pretty uniformly distributed through the mass of soil within and around the foundation walls, as if the

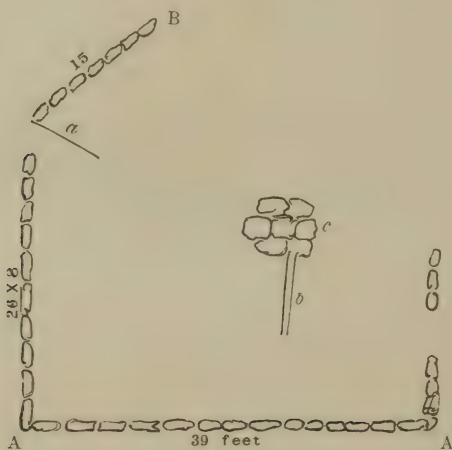
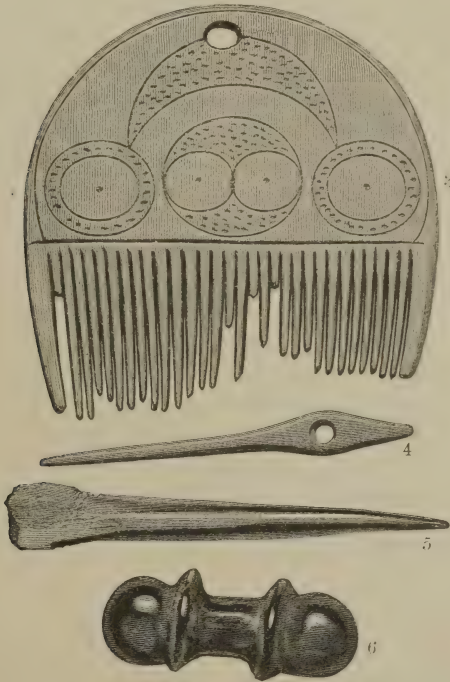


Fig. 2.

Foundations of Walls on the Ghegan Rock.

accumulations of a long period of time, and the result of repeated upturning of the ground, or renewals of the entire building itself. They consist of human bones, a few; of oxen, in great abundance, and consisting of several varieties—the *Bos longifrons*, and others; sheep, also in very great abundance, and of a small size; goats, a few; horses, pretty numerous, of a small size; hogs, a few; deer, the red deer—the roe; dogs, several, of a large size; rodents, the water vole, &c.; birds and fishes, a very few; besides the remains of rabbits, rats, &c., of which, as they might find their way naturally to the deposit, no account need be taken.

Nearly all the larger bones were broken for the evident purpose of getting at the marrow ; and by far the larger portion was reduced to such very small fragments that I dismissed them as of no value ; so that the collection preserved gives by no means an adequate idea of the total



Figs. 3, 4, 5, 6. (Full size.)

Comb, Implements, and Ornament of Bone, found on the Ghegan Rock.

quantity found. It is remarkable that but a very small portion indeed exhibit any marks of the direct application of fire ; that is to say, very few of the bones are charred.

Of the implements found, not one was of metal. They consist of needles of bone (fig. 4), bone awls or arrow points (fig. 5), arrow heads

combs, and bones ground to serve as knives, chisels, &c., in every respect resembling the corresponding implements found in the Swiss lakes. The number of these relics is very small, and these were only obtained by the very laborious process of sifting the earth as it was turned over, to the amount of many tons.

Of the earthenware found, by far the largest portion consisted of fragments of a very rude description, moulded apparently by the hands, and most likely produced on the spot. These were very abundant, and, like the bones, diffused pretty uniformly throughout the soil. Only one small specimen was found entire; it will remind those who have been in India of the crucibles extemporised by goldsmiths and other workers in metals. To what purpose the small vessel could be applied it is not very easy to conjecture. Might it have served as a lamp?

There are a few fragments of a better manufacture among the relics tendered to the Society; and especially those of an earthen vessel of considerable dimensions, and evidently the production of more skilful workmen than the inhabitants of the rock. It appears to me to be of Roman workmanship, and corresponds very closely, both in make and material, with several vases of the same kind in the Society's Museum. It was formed apparently in a mould, as the external surface indicates; the interior surface having been turned, or rather smoothed, by the fingers, guided by a string (or some substitute) radiating from a central rod passing through the bottom of the vase, where, as may be seen in the present instance, a plug of the clay afterwards closed the aperture. This vase, which was probably one of the most valuable articles of furniture in the establishment on the rock, is unfortunately broken into very many fragments. I have endeavoured to restore it, but have only very partially succeeded; sufficiently, however, to show its size and general shape. These fragments are so small, and the ware itself is so hard and thick, that it is difficult to suppose that its destruction was the result of mere accident. Possibly this consideration, and the circumstance of the human bones found on the site, may indicate a state of things not always favourable to the preservation of pottery and life.

Among the objects, not of an artificial character, found on the rock, were a considerable number of round stones, or small boulders, of a few inches in diameter, which had been subjected to heat, and were cracked

in various directions, precisely as if they had been suddenly cooled by plunging them in water. One or two specimens of these will be found in the collection offered to the Society. My friends and myself conjectured that these stones may have been used in cooking, either in earthen ovens, or for heating water in which food was prepared. And this conjecture consists well enough with what I mentioned in a former paragraph, that hardly any of the bones found exhibit the least traces of the direct action of fire.

Finally, there were found one very rude quern, the upper and the nether stones of which are entire; and another in fragments, which I hardly think worth offering to the Society. The former will, I think, prove one of the rudest in the Museum. Such is a brief account of the relics found upon the Ghégan, testifying of an early people of whom many other remains abound in the neighbourhood, and are from time to time brought to light. It is not easy to conjecture why a situation so exposed as this rock should be chosen as a fixed, or even an occasional, place of abode, unless on account of its capability of defence. Whether from the configuration of the lofty cliffs adjoining, or from whatever other cause, the wind often sweeps over it with excessive violence even when comparatively gentle on the mainland; and the spray from the sea in stormy weather must have contributed not a little to the discomfort of the site. As to the period when this dwelling was occupied, although of course no precise date can be assigned, I think that the remains of the animals found, particularly those of the *Bos longifrons* and the very diminutive sheep—the bone implements, and the very rude pottery—and, on the other hand, the absence of all metallic implements—indicate an age not later than the Roman, possibly before it, but extending to it, as the large vase would seem to show. And if this be so, I may perhaps be allowed in conclusion, though transgressing the strict limits of the Society's pursuits, to notice briefly the interesting bearing the whole subject has upon a geological question of the day, namely, the supposed rise of the neighbouring coasts within the historical period. Against this theory the dwelling upon the Ghégan seems to me a cogent protest: a very considerable depression of the rock would render habitation there simply impossible.

III.

NOTICE OF REMARKABLE CISTS IN A GRAVEL BANK NEAR KILMARTIN, AND OF INCISED SCULPTURINGS OF AXE-HEADS AND OTHER MARKINGS ON THE STONES OF THE CISTS. BY THE REV. R. J. MAPLETON, M.A., DUNTRON.

I wish to communicate to you some particulars of a very interesting cist that I examined on the 23d of March.

There is a small plantation on the edge of the moss, about one mile below Kilmartin. Some forty years ago it was a gravel bank, entirely surrounded by moss; at that time, when the bank was trenched, three cists were found. Houses also were built on the bank, close to the cists. It is difficult now to trace the outline of the cairn, but there certainly was one. Of these three cists, one was partially destroyed in making a lime-kiln; the cover is gone; two side slabs and one end slab remain; and all that we saw worth noticing was, that the side slabs were nicely grooved to admit the end slabs. This cist is only 4 or 5 feet to the N. of one that I shall describe presently. About 21 feet to the N. of this is another cist, lying N.E. and S.W. It is a beautifully formed cist; in fact, more artistically made than any I have seen before. The cover lay just below the surface of the soil; total length of cover 10 feet; width, 4 feet. The inside measurement of cist was 4 feet 4 inches long, by 2 feet 2 inches broad, and 2 feet 3 inches deep. The side slabs were about 5 feet 6 inches long.

It was formed of four slabs, except that at one end the slab was not sufficiently high, and was supplemented by a smaller one. The side slabs were grooved, as in the other cist. One peculiarity in this cist is, that instead of a pavement of boulders or fragments of stone, there is a neat and thin slab, at 1 foot 9 inches from the top—same length as the cist, but not so wide—it is 4 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 9 inches; the space at the side is filled up very neatly with a border of small boulders. On this slab we found burnt bone; but as the cist had been peeped into forty years ago, and the cover partially rolled off, there might have been an urn, or some implement. The inside slab had not been disturbed. About 27 feet from this, and only 5 feet from the other, but on the S. side of

both, is another cist, which seems to have occupied the centre of the cairn ; it also is just below the surface of the soil. The cist stands E.N.E.

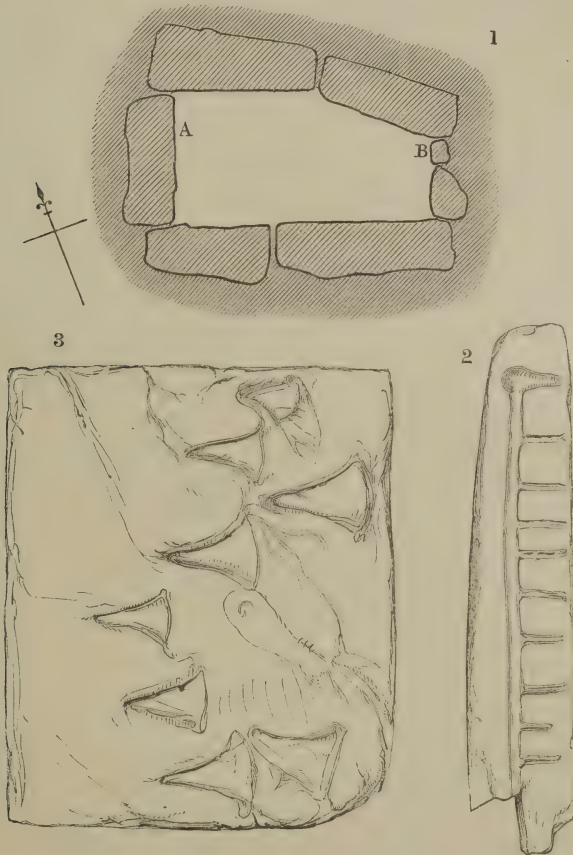


Fig. 1. Ground Plan of Cist (6 feet long inside). Fig. 2. Incised Face of Upright Stone B. Fig. 3. Front View of Stone A, showing Sculpturings of Axe-heads.

by W.S.W. Its form and construction are unusual in this locality ; it seems a transition between the chambered and the ordinary cists. I send

you a plan of it—accurately drawn to scale—which will give a better idea than any description. (See woodcut, fig. 1.) Upon rolling off the cover, my attention was at once drawn to the small standing stone B, at the E.N.E. end, which helped to form that end of the cist. We afterwards found that it was more deeply fixed in the soil than the side slabs; its extreme length, 3 feet 4 inches; width, from 7 inches to 8 inches; and the thickness, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches at top, and 5 inches at bottom.

This stone was marked with sculptures that give me the impression of their being large Ogham letters. (See woodcut, fig. 2.)

At the other end, *i.e.*, W.N.W. end, on the large slab A, are some sculptures (see woodcut, fig. 3), of which I send you a rubbing. The dark lines are the *edges* of the figures. The figures are not mere outlines; the whole of the inside part is chiselled out, though they are very *shallow*. They are nicely executed, and some of them not so much worn away as the others. They show most manifest signs of tools, and apparently bronze tools; the tooling is too coarse and blunt for iron, but, I think, too regular for stone or flint.

It is needless for me to offer a suggestion; but I should be glad to hear from some of the F.S.A.'s of Edinburgh whether they consider them as portraits of bronze weapons, placed there instead of the real weapons, and whether such things have been found elsewhere.

Or, secondly, whether they may be some form or modification of cuneiform letters. Their combination seems to point to symbols, or hieroglyphics, rather than to mere portraits.

On another stone, that formed part of the side, and was next to the stone with the axe-head markings, are about 9 or 10, or 11 small "pits," or hollows, as large as a fourpenny piece, most clearly artificial; I could trace no other sculptures but these. The cist had a rough pavement as usual. There was not the slightest sign of burnt bone, charcoal, flint, or implement. But the clay was very dark, and very unctuous, and, when first opened, the men complained of a very close unpleasant smell. There can be no doubt that the body was unburnt, and I should suspect it was extended, and not in a sitting posture. I obtained one minute portion of what I believe to be bone, not larger than a pea, which was among the most unctuous part of the clay, and which almost melted in my fingers.

[Casts of both these stones have since been presented to the Society's museum. See Donation List, p. 389. In the Proceedings of the Royal Irish Academy, vol. viii. p. 398, a series of similar sculpturings, from a chambered tumulus at Locmariaker, in Brittany, are figured and described.]

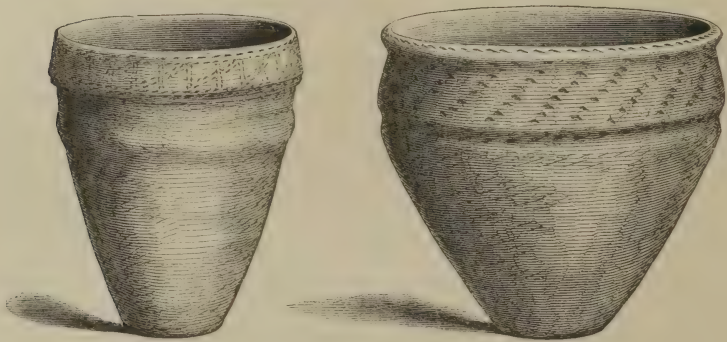
IV.

NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF A CIST WITH OVERLYING URNS, AT TEALING, FORFARSHIRE. BY JAMES NEISH, Esq., F.S.A., Scot.

On the 26th January I had the satisfaction to examine some interesting remains in the parish of Tealing, which I shall attempt to describe. At the base of Tealing Hill there are two large standing stones near to a gravelly hillock, and to which Mrs Fotheringham's gardener had been for years in the habit of resorting for gravel. The working was carried on from the east end, and no discovery was made until near the centre; at this point men were taking the soil before them to a depth of 6 feet, when an urn filled with calcined bones fell to the ground. Soon after they came to the ends of four flat stones, laid one upon another; these being removed, another urn inverted, also filled with bones, was found slightly protected with small stones, and within $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet from the surface. Immediately underneath the four stones was another large flag stone which, being removed, proved to be the cover of a well-constructed cist, composed of other four coarse flat stones. The space measured 4 feet in length, 2 feet wide at the head, 1 foot 7 inches at the foot, and was 2 feet in depth. The cist lies about east and west, the bottom of it (gravel) being 8 feet from the surface. A skeleton (male) was found quite entire, the body had been laid on its left side with the head to the east, the legs had been drawn up towards the front. The size of the bones indicates that they belonged to a person under the middle height. The urns are unfortunately much broken, but I am enabled to send sketches of them as near as possible to what they had been. They had occupied counter positions, one being at the east end of the cist, and the other at the west, both being on a level about 3 feet higher than the cist cover.

Thinking over the narrow cist and its depth from the surface (8 feet), I wrote to the overseer, Mr M'Nicoll, who has acted in a most intelligent and careful way, asking his opinion as to its construction. He replied, "We removed all the soil that had been moved at first and no more; the width of the opening is about 6 feet; there was a marked difference between the disturbed soil, and that which had not been touched."

Had the standing stones any connection with this interment, may



Urns found overlying a Cist at Tealing.

they have been part of a circle of such stones round the hillock? Having described the discovery to the Rev. William Greenwell of Durham, he kindly replied, "The discovery which you describe is similar to many that have come under my observation, an unburnt body with one or more burnt bodies overlying it; were the two burials, the burnt and unburnt, contemporaneous? I am inclined to think they were, and I have found so many cases where a burnt and an unburnt body have been laid in the grave most unquestionably at the same time, as to make such a proceeding as by no means an unusual one. It is difficult to say why one was burnt, whilst the other was interred without having undergone the process of cremation. I have thought we have in the burnt bodies those of wives or slaves killed at the time of the funeral of the man; still that is mere conjecture, and men were found burnt and laid

along side of unburnt women, if we may judge of the sex by the accompanying implements or weapons which seems a fair deduction, but I am certain that inhumation and cremation were practised, not only at the same time, but for interments made on the same day. It is probable that the case you mention was a similar one, and that the two overlying burnt bodies were laid there at the same time as the unburnt body. The burials were, no doubt, of the native population, and in all likelihood pre-Roman."

I may add that no flints or other articles were found, although carefully looked for both amongst the soil and burnt bones.

The skull has been carefully examined by Professor Turner, and Dr J. A. Smith, and the following note gives the details of its general characters :—

A well-shaped symmetrical adult male skull, of an elongated oval form, with its lateral walls somewhat flattened, and with the supra spinous part of the occipital bone ascending almost vertically from the external protuberance. Supraciliary ridges and glabella well marked, but not excessive. Sutures of vault obliterated. Teeth all regular, free from decay and present, excepting three of the wisdom teeth which have been shed. Surfaces of crowns partially worn down, but not so much flattened as is sometimes seen in crania found in cists. Lower jaw well formed, with the rami rising at almost a right angle. The chin broad and strongly everted. Foramen magnum elongated to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in its antero-posterior diameter. The dimensions of the skull are given in the following table :—

Internal Capacity	.	.	.	.	88	cubic inches.
Extreme Length	.	.	.	.	7·2	„
„ Breadth	.	.	.	.	5·3	„
„ Height	.	.	.	.	5·2	„
„ Frontal Breadth	.	.	.	.	4·4	„
„ Parietal	„	.	.	.	5·2	„
„ Occipital	„	.	.	.	4·0	„
„ Zygomatic	„	.	.	.	4·9	(The right arch being imperfect.)

Maxillary Radius	3·7	cubic inches.
Fronto-Nasal ,,	3·8	„
Frontal ,,	4·5	„
Vertical ,,	4·7	„
Parietal ,,	4·8	„
Occipital ,,	3·8	„
Basi-Cranial Length	3·9	„
Longitudinal Arc	14·4	„
Frontal ,,	5·0	„
Parietal ,,	5·2	„
Occipital ,,	4·2	„
Frontal Transverse Arc	12·2	„
Vertical ,, ,,	12·8	„
Parietal ,, ,,	13·4	„
Occipital ,, ,,	10·3	„
Horizontal Circumference	20·8	„
Proportion of Length to Breadth .	100 to 73	„
Proportion of Length to Height .	100 to 72	„

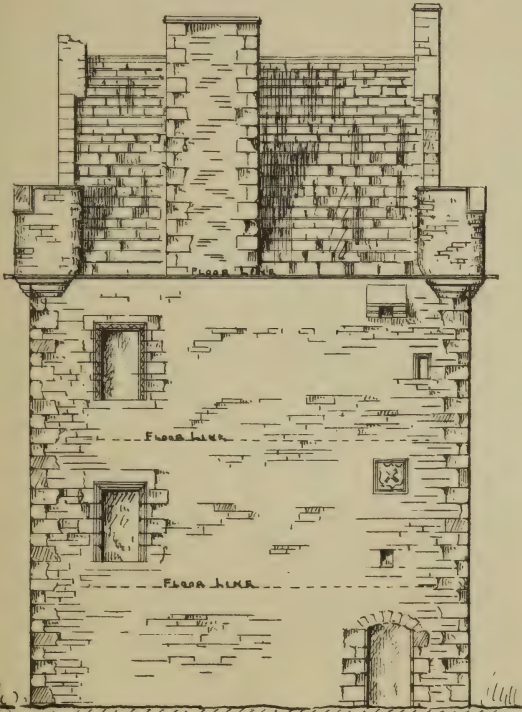
The skull is therefore decidedly dolichocephalic. The measurements of the skull have been taken after the method employed by Mr Busk, and may be compared with measurements of other crania from cists previously recorded by us in the "Proceedings of the Society," where the same method has been employed.

V.

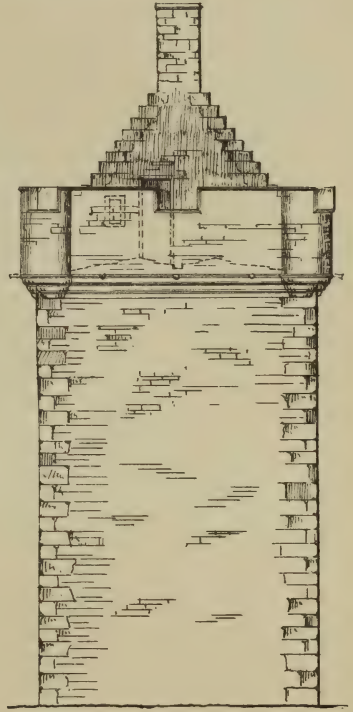
NOTES RESPECTING CRAIGCAFFIE CASTLE, WIGTONSHIRE. By
JOHN M'LACHLAN, ESQ., ARCHITECT. (PLATE XIX.)

Craigcaffie Castle is situated about two miles from Stranraer. The road to it lies along the shore of Loch Ryan. It is situated in a hollow, separated from the loch by a rising-ground on which stands the present hamlet of Innermessan. This village of Innermessan was at one time a place of very considerable importance. Symson, in his "Description of Galloway" written in 1684, says, that it was the "greatest town there-

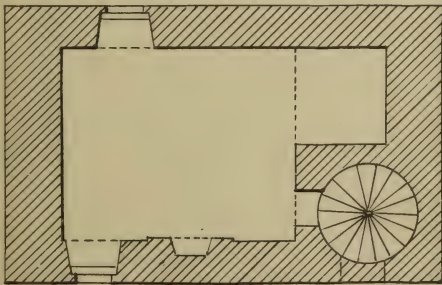
CRAIGCAFFIE CASTLE NEAR STRANRAER



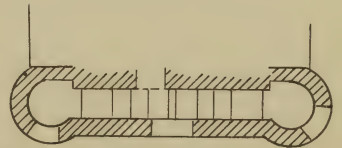
FRONT ELEVATION



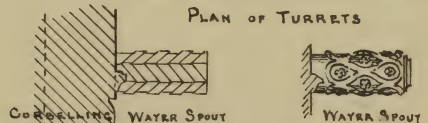
END ELEVATION



PLAN



PLAN OF TURRETS



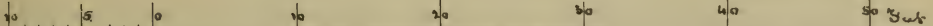
CORCELLING

WATER SPOUT

WATER SPOUT



SKIEW PUTS.



abouts till Stranraer was built." It has now dwindled down to a few single-storey cottages, with no remains of its ancient grandeur. It may be interesting to notice that in the immediate neighbourhood of Innermessan there is one of these earthen tumuli which occur so frequently in the rhinns of Galloway called "Moats." This at Innermessan is a very large one, about 336 feet in circumference at the base, and 78 feet high, and commands the whole basin of Loch Ryan. The castle of Craigcaffie is behind this moat in a hollow, about a quarter of a mile inland, and so completely hidden from public observation that many people living even in the neighbourhood know nothing of its existence. The site seems to have been selected to escape rather than court public observation, and this, perhaps, from the comparative feebleness of the family to whom it belonged. It is only the strong man who courts *observation*, which in perilous times means danger. The building, as may be seen from the drawing, is a remarkably perfect specimen of a small laird's house of the sixteenth century, when propriety and comfort were sacrificed to secure safety and protection from the lawless.

The building may be shortly described as three small rooms and an attic, placed one above another, with a staircase in the corner leading to the different flats. These rooms are about 17 feet long by 14 feet wide, with an additional recess opposite the staircase corner. The ground flat, which is arched, and has a drawwell in the middle of the floor, served probably as the general storehouse of the castle. The first floor would be used as the hall and general living-room, and the second floor and attics as sleeping-rooms.

The gable-walls are 4 feet thick; the side walls 3 feet. The upper floors are lighted by two windows, one on each side. These windows have the *boutel* and hollow mouldings characteristic of the Scotch architecture of the period,—the upper window on the east side having in addition in the hollow a rude species of dog-tooth ornament. At the four corners there are four open pepper-box turrets, with a sentinel's walk at the gables between the turrets, supported by bold corbelling and ornamented by *gurgails* of various design, a few of which are shown in the sketch.

A noticeable feature of the building is a small opening in the wall immediately above the outer door, protected by an oblique stone supported on corbels. This opening is placed as high as it possibly can be, imme-

diately under the eaves of the house, and it was no doubt used as an orifice whence might be poured at a height which would ensure considerable momentum, boiling water or other liquid on the head of any visitor who might wish access to the house contrary to the wishes of the proprietor.

On the face of the bottom crow step of the north gable are some figures wonderfully distinct, which are delineated in the sketch, and which may be taken as the date of the erection of the building. The figures are 1, 5, 7, which would seem to point to 1570 as the date of building, exactly three hundred years ago. I should be inclined, from the character of the mouldings, were it not for these figures, to have fixed for the building an earlier date.

The whole building, even to the mouldings, is in good preservation, and is at present occupied by one of the yearly-men of the adjoining farm. The stone of which it is built is freestone, and must have been brought from a considerable distance, because there is no freestone in Wigtonshire. It is of a hard gritty nature, and has preserved with great sharpness the contour of the different mouldings.

Of the family history of the Neilsons, the former proprietors of the estate and castle of Craiggaffie, nothing very definite seems to be known. The family never appears to have been one of great power or political importance. So far as one can see through the gathering oblivion and mist of two or three centuries, they seem to have been a rough, fearless, honest race of men, clinging with wonderful tenacity to their little stronghold, but wanting altogether in the art of "boosing," in that suppleness, and tact, and management which, handed down from father to son, tended in so many other families in Scotland, to swell the original peel-house and adjoining field into the baronial castle and ducal estate. This worldly astuteness seems to have been altogether wanting in these old lairds.

Their small estate, which was originally granted by Robert the Bruce to John, son of Neil, Earl of Carrick, seems to have been as large then as it ever afterwards became.

The Neilsons of the succeeding three hundred years seem to have added little or nothing to the family inheritance. None of them seem to have been men of great mark. The fullest chronological list of them I have been able to find is contained in "Paterson's Lands and their

Owners in Galloway," recently published, which may be consulted by those curious in the matter. I may note one or two points in their family history which may possess a little interest.

We find it related in Sir A. Agnew's *Sheriffs of Galloway* that in 1494 the young laird of Craigeaffie (at that time Neil Neilson), out on high jinks one night along with two or three other riotous young men of the period, drove off in high glee, for their "grait solace and divertisement," the following animals belonging to Quintene Agnew, Sheriff of Galloway:—

"24 kye, with their calfs, price of the piece 2 merks.

220 sheep, price of the piece 4 shillings.

8 oxen, price of the piece 30 shillings; and 3 horses."

For this frolic young Neilson and his companions were tried in Edinburgh before the Lord Auditors. Their punishment was, that they should restore the "spuilzed" cattle, and pay a fine of L.40, in addition to paying 40 shillings as the expenses of the witnesses.

In 1662 we find the Neilson of that day again fined, but for a different cause. He was fined in the sum of L.1300 for his adhesion to the Presbyterian faith. Throughout their whole family history the Neilsons seem to have come in for a fair share of fines, which doubtless told in the long run on the prosperity of the family, and on the finances of their little estate, for we find that in 1688 Sir Thomas Kennedy, at one time Lord Provost of Edinburgh, had sasine of the lands and barony of Craigeaffie, no doubt on account of money lent by him.

The Laids of Craigeaffie seem never to have got their head above water much after this. The estate and castle were transferred by them to John M'Dowall of Logan in 1759, from whom it was bought by the Earl of Stair in 1791. It has now formed part of the Stair estates for the last eighty years.

Craigeaffie Castle, although not courting danger, was well adapted to stand a siege. The walls are very thick; there is no opening on the ground flat except the outer door, covered by the shot-hole already mentioned; the lowest window is 12 feet from the ground; and the drawwell in the centre of the lowest floor would ensure to the garrison a never-failing supply of water.

MONDAY, 9th May 1870.

SIR JOSEPH NOEL PATON, Kt., R.S.A., &c., in the Chair.

Before proceeding to the business of the meeting, the Secretary, John Stuart, LL.D., referred in feeling terms to the loss sustained by the Society in the death of SIR JAMES Y. SIMPSON, who had so long occupied a prominent position in the Society as a vice-president, a member of council, and one of the Society's most active members. Their departed friend, he said, was so many-sided and sympathetic that his loss would be deeply felt in many very different walks; but it fell to them more particularly to lament the blank created by his removal from among the students of archæology. It was impossible even in doing this, however, to disassociate one's thoughts from the ever-sympathetic friend who was always ready to exchange ideas on topics of historical interest; but as a member of this Society, his loss was so great that it was difficult to weigh it. The many valuable papers which he had contributed to the Society's Proceedings would be an enduring monument of his interest in its welfare, as well as of his wonderful Archæological attainments. But those only who had had reason to know the pains which he bestowed on their preparation, his sifting of authorities, his resolution to exhaust every point which could illustrate his subject, could really understand their value. The originality of his mind, conspicuous in his professional pursuits, shone equally in his archæological disquisitions, and his untiring activity of investigation, kept him open to every fresh discovery. He was the centre and bond of union of a wide circle of inquirers both at home and abroad, and it was one of his greatest pleasures to bring together, amid the hospitalities of his own house, friends who were engaged in kindred pursuits, while his manifold connexions gave him opportunities of obtaining information and kindling research which were never neglected. With all his wonderful powers and acquirements, Sir James Simpson was one of the most modest and gentle of men, and it was not saying more than the truth that his removal had deprived them of one of the most valuable and pervading influences in the promotion of archæological and historical research.

Mr Stuart then moved:—"That the Society record their deep sense

of the many and lasting benefits conferred upon it and upon the study of Archæology by the late Sir James Y. Simpson, and of the irreparable loss which his death has caused; while they lament the removal of an associate with whom personal intercourse, as one of the Vice-presidents, as a member of Council, and as an ordinary member of the Society, was a source of unvarying pleasure and instruction."

Mr Laing, Foreign Secretary, seconded the motion, remarking that it was unnecessary to say more than has been expressed by Mr Stuart, of their deep sense of regret at the removal of SIR JAMES SIMPSON in the midst of his usefulness. People sometimes wondered how he could bestow so much of his attention on Archæological pursuits; the fact was, that with him these studies were a recreation—he not only arranged occasional excursion parties during the autumn, but he never missed the chance of visiting an interesting archæological site when opportunity occurred.

It was then unanimously resolved, that, as it was understood that the funeral was to be a public one, the members of Council, at least, should attend it as representing the Society.

In proceeding to the ordinary business of the meeting, a ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were elected Fellows:—

ROBERT W. COCHRANE PATRICK, of Ladyland, Esq., B.A. Edin., LL.B. Cantab.
 GEORGE BUCHAN SIMPSON, Esq., merchant, Dundee.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors:—

- (1.) By the EXECUTORS of the late Professor William Stewart Traill, M.D., through the Rev. J. R. OMOND, Monzie, F.S.A. Scot.

A Collection of Egyptian Antiquities from the tombs at Thebes, comprising:—

Three small Hand-Lamps of reddish clay from Thebes, $2\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, rudely ornamented with an incised pattern of curved lines and rows of dots, and having a cross on the handle.

Bronze Figure of the Infant Bacchus (?) or Osiris (?), with crest, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height.

Two Symbolic Eyes of Horus. Three Emblems of Deities. One Brick Cone with impression of seal.

Ten small Mummy Figures in earthenware and other materials.

Braid of Hair from a tomb. Hawk-like figure in wood, emblem of Horus. Two Crocodile Mummies, young.

Two Circular Baskets, from tombs. A Portion of a Mummy Cloth.

A Pair of Shoes from the feet of a Mummy, and portions of shoes.

Flat Two-handled Vase of clay, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high.

A Collection of Antiquities from Orkney, comprising:—

Iron Pin, 7 inches in length, with gold gilt head, found in 1834, with the skeleton of a young female, under a marble slab in the cathedral of Kirkwall, supposed to mark the grave of the Maid of Norway.

Two rude Bone Pins, $4\frac{1}{2}$ and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, from a tumulus at Skail. Also a curiously shaped Bone Pin, measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, found in the island of Sanday. (See the annexed woodcut.)



Bone Pin found in the Island of Sanday. ($3\frac{1}{2}$ inches long.)

Two Spinning Whorls of stone, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter, from tumuli in Orkney. Hemispherical object or Whorl (?) of lead, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter, and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, pierced with a hole in the centre $\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter; found in Orkney.

Portion of Burnt Bones, &c., found in an Urn, from a tumulus in Orkney. Specimens of Ashes and Burnt Bones, from early graves in Orkney.

Portion of Iron Spear-head (?), found in a tumulus in Orkney.

Portion of a Comb of Bone and Slip of Bone, with iron rivets. The latter is ornamented with incised circles. From a tumulus in Orkney.

A Disk of polished marble, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, and about $\frac{3}{8}$ ths of an inch

in thickness; found in a tumulus in the island of Westray, Orkney, in which were also found pieces of armour and portions of a glass cup, with bones apparently burnt.

A Number of Rings of the Trachea of a Bird, from a tumulus in Orkney.

Curious Grotesque and Twisted Head of an Animal of coarse glazed pottery, stated to have been found in Orkney.

Circular Table-man of Bone, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter, found in the ruins of the Bishop's palace, Kirkwall, with rude figure of an animal (a rabbit?) (See the annexed woodcut.)



Table-man of Bone, Kirkwall, Orkney. ($1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter.)

Embossed Knife Handle of silver, in two pieces, 3 inches long, found in a grave in Orkney.

Iron Boss of a Shield, measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, and the same in height, found in a grave in Orkney.

Portions of an Iron Boss of a Shield, and of a small Iron Knife; found in a grave at Sweindrow, in the island of Rousay, Orkney.

Roughly Circular Disk of sandstone, 2 inches diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick, pierced with nine holes; found in Orkney.

Specimens of Vitrified Stones, from the vitrified fort of Dunsinnane, Perthshire.

Specimen of the Sandstone of which the broch of Mousa is built.

Specimens of Hazel-nuts from the Orkney peat.

Volcanic Dust collected in Orkney.

Small portions of Red Fresco Painted Plaster, from the wall of a Roman house in Herculaneum.

Portion of a Roman Brick from Verulam.

Wheat from a Roman station near St Albans.

Fragments of an Iron Shell, thrown by the Turks at the last siege of Athens.

(2.) By ALEXANDER FRASER, Esq., Slockvullein.

Cast of Stone, with incised axe-head sculpturings, and of Stone with incised markings, referred to in the "Notice of Remarkable Cists in a Gravel Bank near Kilmartin" (p. 378 *ante*), by Rev. R. J. Mapleton, M.A., Cor. Mem. S.A. Scot., Duntroon.

(3.) Bequest by the late PHILIP BARRINGTON AINSLIE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., The Mount, Guildford, presented through Mrs AINSLIE.

Painting on canvas (3 feet 6 inches by 3 feet 2 inches) of a Portrait of a Man with Helmet and Breast-plate, inscribed "EFFIGIES VERA GVLLIELMI VALLECI DE ELDERSLIE." (See "Remarks on the Portraits of Sir William Wallace," by David Laing, Esq., Proc. Soc. Antiquaries of Scotland, vol. ii. p. 308, where this picture is described.)

(4.) By J. G. SINCLAIR COGHILL, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

A Coping Brick from the Great Wall of China, $14\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, 7 inches in breadth, and 4 inches thick.

(5.) By DAVID GRIEVE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Dissertations by David Hume, volume in 12mo, as originally printed, with some corrections in the Author's handwriting, and a MS. note by his friend Allan Ramsay, the Painter, respecting this volume.

Portrait of a Clergyman,—a small early drawing in China ink, on the back of which is written: "By Allan Ramsay (the Poet), 1706. His first and last piece of this kind."

(6.) By the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE.

Lapidarium Septentrionale; or, A Description of the Monuments of Roman Rule in the North of England. Published by the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne. Folio. Newcastle, 1870.

(7.) By the TRUSTEES OF THE BLACKMORE MUSEUM.

Flint Chips : A Guide to Prehistoric Archæology, as illustrated by the collection in the Blackmore Museum, Salisbury. By Edward T. Stevens, Hon. Curator of the Blackmore Museum. London, 1870. 8vo.

(8.) By the HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

Transactions of the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. New Series. Vol. IX. Session 1868-69. 8vo.

(9.) By the SOCIÉTÉ POLYMATHIQUE DE MORBIHAN.

Bulletin de la Société Polymathique de Morbihan. Année 1869. Vannes, 1870. 8vo.

There was also exhibited—

A Circular Embossed Bronze Shield, recently found near Yetholm.

This shield, lent for exhibition by the Queen's Remembrancer, exactly resembles in character those previously found at the same place, which are described and figured in the Proceedings, Vol. V. Plate IV. page 165.

Dr J. A. Smith was indebted to Alexander Jeffrey, Esq., solicitor, Jedburgh, F.S.A. Scot., author of the well-known "History and Antiquities of Roxburghshire," for the following detailed account of the discovery of this shield :—

"The shield was found by a man while ploughing, on the 19th day of March, in a small field in Yetholm Bog, about half-a-mile north-west from town Yetholm, on the north side of the Kelso and Yetholm road. The place was formerly part of a large lake, which joined the river Beaumont close to Yetholm, but was drained about forty years ago. The shield was found about 10 inches from the surface of the ground, standing on edge, in the direction of east and west. The two circular bronze shields in the Museum of the Society were formerly discovered near the same place."

The shield is $22\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter; it has a plain rounded projecting boss in the centre, 2 inches in depth and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and between it and the circumference of the shield is ornamented with twenty-nine embossed concentric circles, each alternating with a row of

small rounded projecting dots or nail-head-like ornaments, closely set together. The outer edge of the bronze shield is turned over to the inside, forming a larger concentric circle than the others. The shield is very thin, and part of a small broken bronze handle remains attached to the inside of the boss, to both sides of which it had been rivetted. Two small moveable tongues of bronze are fixed on the inside of the shield, in the fourteenth concentric circle, and on the opposite sides of the central projecting boss. A pair of similar small tongues of bronze are also rivetted through the other shields found here, about half-way between the centre of the boss and the circumference of the shield. These tongues have been supposed to show the probable attachment of a leather strap by which the shield might be slung round the body; the tongues of bronze, however, fit so close to the shield that there seems little room for a strap of any kind.

Alexander Curle, Esq., writer, Melrose, another Fellow of the Society, had also been good enough to send Dr Smith a note of its discovery.

The following communications were read:—

I.

NOTICE OF RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT EDIN'S HALL, ON COCKBURN LAW, BERWICKSHIRE. WITH AN ILLUSTRATIVE PLAN. BY JOHN TURNBULL, OF ABBEY ST BATHANS, Esq., F.S.A., Scor.

In this paper the author detailed the results of a series of Excavations undertaken last summer under the superintendence of a local committee of subscribers, aided by a subscription from the Society of Antiquaries. The chief object of the Excavation was to ascertain more fully the plan of the main building, which has now been ascertained to be a true Broch, in every respect similar to those of the northern counties of Scotland. As the subject of additional Excavations will be brought before the Society, the present interim report is withheld, at Mr Turnbull's request.

II.

NOTES ON THE EAST WINDOW OF THE CHOIR OF BOTHWELL CHURCH, AND ITS ARMORIAL SHIELDS. BY JOSEPH BAIN, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

This ancient ecclesiastical building has received but superficial notice at the hands of archæologists or topographers—scarcely, indeed, what it merits from its position in the county of Lanark, where, with the exception of our venerable cathedral, we possess so few remains of the piety of pre-Reformation times. Indeed, after being degraded, during the barn-building era which succeeded the Reformation, by its attachment to one of the meanest-looking of the wretched edifices which that age produced,¹ the old choir is even now looked upon, I fear, merely as the receptacle for the heating apparatus which comforts the worshippers in the modern but handsome parish church, which harmonises *externally* somewhat better with the old fabric; and also as the place of sepulture for the local magnates of the district. With two exceptions (the houses of Hamilton and Home, which, in different lines, represent the Angus branch of the house of Douglas), not one of these has any right to appropriate the choir as a place of burial, any more than had the numerous heritors of the barony of Glasgow, who, for the better part of half a century, took violent possession of the beautiful crypt of Glasgow cathedral.

Hamilton of Wishaw, the earliest historian of Lanarkshire, whose taste, however, did not lie so much in the ecclesiastical walk as in chronicling the possessions of his brother lairds, dismisses Bothwell choir with a word or two. He merely says (p. 39), “the queer” [of Bothwell] “is of curious workmanship, built and covered with polisht stone.”

In the “Geographical Description of the Paroch of Bothwell” (Appendix to Wishaw, p. 132), said by the editors to be from the Macfarlane MSS., and probably by the incumbent, Mr William Hamilton, about 1720, the following occurs:—

¹ See the plate of Bothwell church, p. 132 in Hamilton of Wishaw’s “Lanarkshire,” in proof of the truth of these remarks. The *western* portion of that building was shortly afterwards replaced by the present parish church and tower, which last forms a conspicuous ornament of the landscape over a great part of the county.

“The kirk, or rather quire, is a very stately structure, not very large, but old Gothik work, ane arched roof, and very fine workmanship. It was built and endued by the family of Douglass, as is evident by the armes of that family cutt in stone, both without and within the house, at the south corner of the great window in the east end of the Quire. There is no description by which it can be understood when the church was built; only in both the above-mentioned places the Douglass armes are quartered with the Royall armes, which probably poynts at Archebald the Grime, who was marryed to King Robert's daughter; and, as the tradition goes, both of them lyed buried under a very large marble stone within the said Quire.”

The worthy incumbent seems, therefore, to have been a little more observant than his neighbour and contemporary the laird of Wishaw, though, as we shall see, his historical information was far from being correct, and his description of the arms is by no means exhaustive.

Pennant, in his Scottish tour of 1772 (4to edition, of 1790, Part i. p. 143), remarks of the church, “The outside is said to be incrustated with a thin coat of stone, but I confess it escaped my notice.” The traveller then proceeds to state, with a disregard for accuracy which one would scarcely expect to find a *Welshman* exhibiting in a matter of *pedigree*, “In it are interred the founder and his lady, daughter of Andrew Murray, son to King David Bruce, with whom he got the lordship of Bothwell.”

The learned editors of the “*Origines Parochiales*” do not notice the architectural features of the choir, and, to the best of my recollection, little or nothing is said regarding them either in the Old or New Statistical Accounts of the parish. I have, however, writing in the country, at present no means of reference to these last. Where Pennant got his information regarding the “thin incrustation of stone” I am at a loss to imagine, nor is it easy to suppose what the object of such a troublesome piece of work could be. I am inclined to think that such is not the case, and that the building is constructed in the ordinary manner. It is to be regretted that Billings gives no account or drawing of the choir, and that it will not be preserved in that beautiful work, “*The Baronial and Ecclesiastical Antiquities of Scotland.*”

I shall not attempt any detailed description of the building, not having been able to make the necessary measurements, &c.; and, moreover, the

chief interest centres in the eastern window. It is, as the old minister says, a "stately structure, not very large," built of the reddish stone of the district, but apparently of a better quality than is now found there, having stood, with but trifling repair, the storms of nearly 500 years. It has four bays, with deeply-recessed windows, separated by plain buttresses. The north and south windows, at the western extremity, are of smaller size than the others, having two lights only; while the remainder, with the exception of the east window, the old tracery of which has long disappeared, have three lights.¹ The very high pitched roof, one of the most picturesque features, is covered with large grey stones, overlapping each other, and must be of enormous weight. At its eastern extremity a modern stone cross, of the heraldic shape known as a "cross crosslet," occupies the place of one, possibly of coeval antiquity with the building, which was blown down in the tremendous gale of 9th February 1856. The entrance is on the south side, by a low circular-headed doorway, below the second window from the west, to which a descent of one step is necessary, from the interments in the churchyard having raised the level of the ground. In the buttresses on either side are niches for statues of saints, now empty. On entering, the principal feature which one observes is the loftiness of the vaulted stone ceiling, and likewise the nakedness of the interior, stripped of the tapestries and other ornaments which, no doubt, it possessed in the days of its glory. Among others to persons of inferior note, two huge mural monuments, in the florid style of the 17th and 18th centuries, occupy a large space of the eastern walls. The earlier one is, I think, to the memory of James Marquess of Hamilton, the other is that of Archibald Douglas, Earl of Forfar, who died of wounds received at Sheriffmuir. No vestige is traceable of the place where the altar stood. There is a piscina in the south-east angle, and three sedilia, the tabernacle work on the canopies of which shows the rude treatment to which they have been subjected by the "rascal multitude." A doorway on the north side gives access to a small vaulted chamber, probably a vestry, so dark (there being only one little square pierced window), that it must have been artificially lighted. In the south wall of this there is a very

¹ The lights of the windows have trefoiled heads, and the enclosing arch is filled with quatrefoils. The window tracery seems to have been much renewed, and to be of a later date than the building. But on this point I speak with submission.

deep recess, perhaps for holding the vestments and other articles for the service of the church. The stones which compose the floor of the choir must, I think, be of comparatively modern date, as none of them exhibit any inscriptions or other marks of burial; while the probability is, that, besides the distinguished founder, others of his wife's predecessors and kin must have been removed from the former parish church to his new choir, which is believed to occupy nearly the same site.

Let us now, without further preliminary, examine the armorial shields on the eastern window, which, so far as I know, have not before been particularly or accurately described. They are four in number, of the usual triangular shape, and one supports the impost of the window arch on either side. The first, at the north side of the window, outside, exhibits the heart, *uncrowned*, on an ermine field; on a chief, the three stars. It has no supporter, and is in good preservation. This is known to have been the shield borne by Archibald the Grim, as Lord of Galloway, previous to his succession to the earldom of Douglas in 1388. It is singular that no impalement of *her* arms commemorates his marriage with Johanna de Moravia, the heiress of Bothwell, which took place some time after 1366, the date of her father's death, though on this last point there is some difference among authorities.¹ Sir Archibald must then have been a man of mature age, for he was a renowned warrior as early as the field of Poitiers, where he was captured and ransomed, as picturesquely related by Fordun. The corresponding shield at the south side of the window has a single supporter, apparently a human figure. It is impaled, and the dexter side exhibits a figure, much weather-worn, but which, I think, is intended for the Scottish lion. The sinister impalement is unmistakably the Douglas coat—the heart, *uncrowned*, in base, and three stars in chief. Surmounting *both* impalements there is a very distinct label of three teeth. We may conclude that this represents the arms of the unfortunate David Duke of Rothesay, and his wife Marjory, the daughter of Archibald the Grim. The "Extracta e Cronica Socie" (p. 207), states that they were married "apud Bothwele;" and such an illustrious connection would no doubt be commemorated by the venerable founder on the walls of his choir.

¹ The Moray stars, however, form the third quarter in the shields of her son and grandson.—Seton's *Scottish Heraldry*, plate xii. figs. 8 and 9.

The third shield, inside the window, and opposite to that of the founder, is without supporter, and impaled. The dexter presents the three Moray stars, two and one, surrounded by the tressure. On a chief the three stars again appear *in fesse*. The sinister impalement exhibits the three Moray stars, two and one, quite plain. This must indicate the alliance of a Moray of Bothwell (which family, *alone* of that name, originally bore the tressure to show their royal descent from Christian Bruce) with a lady of the same surname, not of royal blood. I do not know who was the wife of Thomas Moray, the last Baron of Bothwell, but should think the dexter impalement must represent his shield.¹

The fourth and last shield at the south corner of the window inside, and opposite to No. 2, is also impaled, and has a single supporter, apparently a savage man, whose naked arms encircle it. The dexter side shows the heart, still *uncrowned*, and in chief the three stars. The sinister, though in better preservation than its neighbour outside, yet is rather indistinct, but appears to be the Scottish lion. In this last, therefore, we have probably the arms of Archibald the Second, the "Tineman" of Homildon and Shrewsbury, who died at Verneuil, Duke of Touraine, and of his wife Margaret, daughter of King Robert III.

If my views then are correct regarding the historic personages commemorated by these shields, what a suggestive family chronicle is briefly recorded on these slowly mouldering stones! The mental eye of the gazer recalls the long career of the distinguished founder, who, though starting in life with the bend sinister on his shield, yet became the head of the house of Douglas—the tragic death of his ill-fated son-in-law at Falkland—and the honours won in France by the "Douglas" of Shake-

¹ The late Mr Vere Irving, "History of the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire," vol. i. p. 122 (Account of the Parish of Crawford-John), states that John de Crawford, owner of that barony, died in the first half of the fourteenth century, leaving two daughters and co-heiresses, one of whom married Thomas de Moravia, who in that way acquired half of the barony. But this does not seem to be borne out by his reference to the *Chamberlain Rolls* for the year 1359, which state that Thomas then drew the rents of half the barony, "*ex concessione regis, quamdiu est obses pro rege,*" quite a different thing from being its *absolute* owner.

The shield, if his, is additional evidence that his wife could not have been a Crawford, their arms being "*ermine, a fesse gules.*"

speare, whose ashes, with those of his gallant son-in-law, the Constable Buchan, repose in the chancel of Tours.

Such reflections as these, arising from the contemplation of genuine heraldic remains, supply cogent reasons why antiquaries should sternly discountenance and expose on all occasions the erection of sham armorial shields, either in stone or in the shape of stained glass windows, both far from uncommon of late years, and utterly meaningless, even when they do not declare deliberate falsehood.

According to the *Origines Parochiales* (v. *Bothwell*), the collegiate church was founded by Archibald the Grim, on 10th October 1398, just two years before his death, for a provost and eight prebendaries, and was liberally endowed with lands and teinds in Lanark and Peebles shires.

The provost at the era of the Reformation was John Hamilton, a brother of the notorious Bothwellhaugh. The houses of the churchmen have long since been demolished, but their sites still retain the name of the "Prebends' Yards."

We have thus seen that the worthy minister's account of the "quartering" (as he calls it) of the Douglas and Royal arms is not much beside the mark, though his deductions are erroneous. Yet for his incurious age, the information is tolerably minute. I fear that the "large marble stone," which, according to tradition, covered the remains of some



Incised Slab in Bothwell Church.

one or other of the distinguished persons buried in the choir, has ceased to

exist. The sole relic of monumental sculpture is a fragment of a large double slab, which now stands upright against the wall beneath the east window. I have no information in what part of the building it formerly stood. It is of Bothwell stone, about four feet in height, by three in breadth, and in two compartments. The upper is occupied by a circle enclosing a cross with triangular-headed limbs, between which are four smaller circles, all in low relief. (See preceding woodcut.) The dexter half of the lower compartment, if any arms were ever sculptured on it, shows no vestige of them now. The sinister exhibits an incised shield (rudely carved) bearing the Moray stars, and its lower extremity prolonged into a plain crosshanded sword, in pale, point downwards, one half at least of this however being broken off. Resting on the top of the slab is a detached stone, bearing an inscription, still easily decipherable, in Old English characters—*Magister thomas tron.*"¹ I do not know which of the lords of Bothwell is commemorated by the tombstone. The rudeness of its carving, and the want of the tressure would seem to point to the conclusion that it belonged to William or Walter de Moravia, who both flourished in the thirteenth century. (Reg. Glasg.) The coveted distinction of the tressure only came into the family, according to Mr Riddell, with Christian Bruce. I regret that though I took accurate sketches of the several shields, the time and means at my disposal on my last visit, did not permit of my taking a rubbing of this upright stone, which might perhaps have enabled some brother antiquary to determine its date.² It would appear that Thomas de Moravia was buried at Bothwell, no doubt in the Old Parish Church. Mr Riddell in *Stewartiana* (p. 97), cites the following entry from Gray's MS. Obituary and Chronicle, written early in the 16th century. "Dominus Thomas de Moravia de bothuel dominus obiit anno gratie MCCC Sexagesimo sexto³ in assumptione beate Marie Virginis, et *jacet apud Bothuell* ;

¹ I learn from Mr J. G. Scott, Fairyknowe, Bothwell, to whom I am indebted for a photograph of the stone and the monumental slab, that the stone was the lintel of a window in the old Tower, as its shape in fact indicates. May it not record the name of the architect or master builder of the choir?

² This want has been supplied by Mr Scott's illustration.

³ Lord Hailes, *Annals* (Vol. ii. p. 273 *n.*) says on the authority of Fordun, that Thomas Moray died in 1361 of the Plague.

decessit apud Newcastlell. Obitus Archibaldi comitis de Douglas, viz. *blak Archibald* qui fundavit collegium de bothuel in vigiliis natalis domini anno domini J^m IIII^e, apud trief; jacet apud bothuell. Iste Archibaldus dispensavit filiam et heredem Thome de Moravia post mortem patris sui, et duxit eam de Anglia, propter quod prius obtulit se ad duellum cum quinque Anglicis." Sir Thomas was then, and had been for some years, a hostage for the ransom of David Bruce. The "gallant and chivalrous way," as Mr Riddell calls it, in which Archibald the Grim won his wife from his English rivals, bears out the character which Froissart and Fordun have handed down to us of that eminent Scotsman.

"Archibald Douglas, a worthy knight, and much dreaded by his enemies, dismounted and held up before him a long sword; its blade was of two ells; scarcely could another man raise it from the ground, yet he wielded it with ease. He dealt such heavy blows with it, that wherever he reached, he overthrew. Before him the hardiest of the English army shrank." (Froissart cited in Hailes' Annals Ed. 1797, III., p. 261.) And Fordun's continuator, Walter Bower, says, (as rendered by Lord Hailes,) "In 1400 died the Lord Archibald, first of that name, Earl of Douglas, surnamed the *Grim*, who surpassed all Scotsmen of his age in civil wisdom, prowess, and hardy enterprise, in the extent of his acquisitions and in wealth. Most upright was he in judgment, yet severe. Faithful to his promise, he had always a numerous retinue of valiant men. He showed high reverence to the ecclesiastical order." (Hailes *sup. cit.* p. 263 note.) And the *Extracta e Cron. Scocie* (p. 207), thus sums up his character. "Dowglace primus comes Archibaldus dictus Gryme sive terribilis, obiit: prudens, iustus, fortis, audax, conquestor, fidelis, ecclesiasticis graciosus, monasteriis non onerosus. Quia propter insolenciam monialium Linclowden in collegium clericorum reformavit, Bothwell collegium fundavit." It is such traits of character as these from the pens of contemporaries that give life to a picture, and relieve the monotonous grandeur of history. The great earl, though he died at Threave, his stronghold in Galloway, was borne to rest within his own choir. But no stone now remains to mark the spot where his dust reposes.

I cannot bring these remarks to a close, without expressing a natural regret that the Presbyterian form of worship did not admit of the

incorporation of this ancient building with its modern adjunct the parish church, in a more becoming and suitable manner. Had the addition, for instance, taken the form of a nave for Episcopal service, how different in that case would have been the present aspect of the choir? It would not then have been reduced to the position of a lumber room and general burial place for a number of families, many of whom are but recently connected with the parish, and have no right of sepulture within the walls other than assumption. More than this, the very reprehensible practice has obtained of digging graves and burying the dead *close to the foundations*, both inside and outside of the choir, in the latter case, in the recesses formed between the buttresses surrounding it, thus most materially injuring the stability of the foundations; and not content with this, the appropriators of these have in most instances erected hideous railings or cages over their departed relatives, thus quite preventing proper drainage around the walls. This practice, as is known, had been carried on extensively round the Cathedral of Glasgow, and much trouble and expense was occasioned before the excrescences were finally removed, and a system of drainage properly established. This was one of the many evils strongly condemned by the late Mr Archibald McLellan in his talented *Essay on the Cathedral of Glasgow*, a work which pointed the way, it may truly be said, to all the improvements which have since taken place, and which have made that venerable building the most perfect relic of mediæval church architecture left to us in Scotland.

III.

NOTICE OF A RECENT VISIT TO THE GREAT WALL OF CHINA.

By J. G. SINCLAIR COGHILL, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The two greatest national works ever undertaken in any country, whether regarded from their vast extent or the marvellous engineering difficulties overcome, are unquestionably the Grand Canal, and the Great Wall of China, of a recent visit to the latter of which I propose to give the Society some account.

The Great Wall, commencing at Ning-hai or Shan-hai-Kwan, in the

Gulf of Peechee, extends westwards through no less than twenty-two and a half degrees of longitude, to the highest source of the Whangho or Yellow River. A mountain chain bounds the great northern plain of China on the north, separating it from Manchuria and Mongolia, and the Great Wall follows the highest ridges of this range of mountains in three portions of its extent, separating into loops enclosing large elevated mountain basins of great extent, the one enclosed by the loop of wall between Nan-Kow and Chan-Chia-Kow, called by the Russians Kalgan, being sixty miles across. The mere limits of its stretch through so many degrees of longitude give a very inadequate idea of its extent, as its course is extremely sinuous, following everywhere the highest and most commanding ridges of the mountain range. It is nearly three thousand miles in actual length, and is known in Chinese as Wan-le-Chang or the wall of 10,000 le, a le being about the third part of a mile. In all its extent there are but five passes practicable for the transport of merchandise with any degree of facility; but the two great routes of traffic are the Koo-peh-Kow, or old north pass, which is the best and principal route from Pekin to Manchuria. Through Koo-peh-Kow is the road therefore to Gehol, the great hunting-seat of the imperial family, in fact the Chinese Balmoral, being situated in the native country of the reigning dynasty; and it is also the route to Moukden, a very fine city and the capital of Manchuria. When I was in Pekin on this journey, the great ceremony took place of transporting the official documents connected with the late emperor's reign to Moukden, where the imperial family archives are deposited—in fact, it is the Chinese Simancas. The other great pass is the Nan-Kow or Howkien pass, so called because it is situated on the most southerly bend of the wall, Chan-Chia-Kow being the pass through the corresponding outer or northern bend of the loop. It is also the nearest point of the wall to Pekin and the main route into Mongolia; all the traffic into Siberia by Kiachta and Kalgan traverse this pass, although it presents ten miles of the most difficult road probably in the world. The different portions of the wall exhibit evidence of being of different ages. The Chinese topography says that originally the passes were in the possession of, and were fortified by, the various feudal princes who held the northern portion of the country before its consolidation into the empire. The wall, as a connected work, was completed in the

reign of Chung-Chi-Wang-Che, a contemporary of Alexander the Great ; but the southern loop at Nankow and other extensions were effected in the reign of the first emperor of the Tsin dynasty, B.C. 220 ; and indeed little has been done to keep it in repair ever since except at the passes. It seems never to have answered its purpose as a barrier against invasion, as the Tartars from Mongolia burst through in a flood of invasion, and placed themselves on the throne of the native Chinese dynasty ; and in turn they were displaced by the Manchus, who now occupy the imperial seat, who forced their way into the empire through the Koo-peh-Kow and other passes to the east.

I left Peking at noon of the 12th October 1868 by the Ta-ling-Mun, or north-west gate, with a party of friends mounted on the excellent native ponies, with three double mule carts containing our servants and baggage. We reached San-Chia-Tien, sixty le from Peking north-west, and spent the night. Our road, or rather track, lay north-west through the plain, and we passed several Mogul encampments—the natives resting in their strange conical tents of camel-hair on their way to the capital with the produce of their country, carried, with themselves, on the Bactrian or double-humped camel. We also passed droves of 300 or 400 ponies on their way south. Next day, Tuesday, starting early, we halted at noon at a pretty village on the banks of a stream running into the Peiho on its right bank, called Nien-lan-Shan, 20 le from where we spent the night, and reached Mi-Yu-tien, a walled town on the Peiho, 50 le further, where we spent the night.

Next day, Wednesday, we reached at noon Hsi-shia-tien, a walled town 60 le further on, on the Peiho, which we had to ford, and with some difficulty. We then entered a series of shallow rocky ravines, traversed by a well-cut road, and fording several smaller streams, and finally, with very little light, the Peiho again, which here comes through the pass between immense bastions in the Great Wall, entered the town of Koo-peh-Kow, built in an enciente of the wall, late at night, after a journey from noon of 110 le. Thursday we were early astir, anxious to gain a closer inspection of the Great Wall, which we had had in sight most of the previous day, following the highest crest of the mountains as far as the eye could reach. We first visited the fortifications which close the pass at Koo-peh-Kow. They consist mainly of two large forts, on the margin

of the Peiho, on either side, into which the Great Wall runs. The view from the plain in front, looking up the pass between the towers in the opening of the wall, is exceedingly grand. We then toiled up on the top of the wall to the highest mountain peak above the town. The view was superb, and the noble wall with its frequent towers could be traced with the glass for miles, following the highest ridge of the mountain range east and west. Its dimensions have in many previous accounts been much exaggerated, but not the beauty of its materials and workmanship, and the extraordinary engineering feats overcome in its construction. I made careful measurements, and found it was 14 feet between the parapets, 25 feet at the base, and 50 feet high to the base of the parapet. At intervals of 50 yards, but always on an elevated point, there are square towers or bastions of hewn granite, with heavy granite roofs parapetted. These towers are about one half larger than the wall section, or forty feet square at the base and 30 feet square at the summit. They had circular arched doors and windows, and were intended to enfilade the wall as well as lodge the defenders. Nothing can exceed the excellence of the masonry, and I did not see any showing much signs of age or decay. The wall is everywhere laid on courses of stone, mainly granite, where this material is abundant. The whole structure is completed with it, including parapets and pavement; but elsewhere the material used for the upper courses is straw-burnt bricks, containing a good deal of lime in their structure. They measure $15 \times 7\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, and all the brick and stone work of the wall has been laid and pointed with excellent lime. Having spent part of two days about the pass, we started on our return at noon and reached Hsi-shia-tien, and spent the night. Next day, leaving our old route at Mi-yu-tien, we struck due west along the base of the mountains topped by the continuous line of the Wall to Hhy-yu-tien, a walled town, doing 100 le from our last resting-place. Next day we reached Tang-Shan, the Bath Hill, where there is an imperial palace, with the remains of magnificent furniture, and baths in white marble, all in a state of great decay. The water is alkaline, and the temperature nearly boiling. Our next halting-place was a chow or second class city, Chung-ping-Chow, 30 le south-west from Tang-Shan. Next day we visited the tombs of the Ming dynasty—the Medici of China, who gave place to the present Manchu dynasty. Next night we reached Nankow, at the southern end of the

pass. The pass, which at one time seems to have been rudely causewayed, is fully twelve miles long, and defended by three strong lines of fortifications at intervals. The cannon (6-pounders) are here still seen in the embrasures of the Great Wall, but nearly all dismantled. We went up the pass next day to the outer line of fortifications at Cha-tao-ne. The scenery throughout is most romantic. The road is simply a ravine filled with immense boulders; and the only animals that can traverse it laden are mules, asses, and camels, the numbers of which, streaming in both directions through the pass, was incalculable, and did much to mitigate the gloomy grandeur of the scenery. The structure of the Great Wall was here identical with that at Koo-peh-Kow. The only use made of the Wall is purely fiscal. The taxes on all imports are levied at its passes.

I forgot to mention that at Chu-Yung-Kwan, where the road passed through the second line of fortification in the Nankow pass, the arch is covered with an inscription relative to its construction, repeated in some seven different languages, among which I noted Sanscrit, Persian, and Arabic.

The walls of Peking throw the Great Wall into the shade as far as its dimensions are concerned. The Chinese city is enclosed with a wall 14 miles square, and the Tartar city with one 16 miles square; and within the latter are the walls of the official city or court suburb; and within that again the wall of the imperial palace. The outer wall of Peking is 75 feet high, and paved with granite. The width at the top would admit six carriages abreast, and the base corresponds. It is kept in excellent repair, and the view from the promenade on the top is magnificent.

IV.

NOTE ON A SMALL GOLD RING OF TWISTED WIRES, FOUND IN A PICT'S HOUSE, AT SHAPINSHAY, ORKNEY. EXHIBITED BY DAVID BALFOUR OF BALFOUR AND TRENABY, ESQ., F.S.A. SCOT.

This ring, which is formed of three twisted wires of gold, is not unlike that figured in Vol. V., Plate VI., page 214, of the Proceedings, as having been found in the island of Bute, except that the Bute one has only two

strands, whereas this Orkney one has three. The Bute ring is also slightly larger and heavier, weighing 202 grains, while this one weighs only 132 grains. The history of its discovery, so far as known, is given as follows in "The Old Statistical Account," vol. xvii. 1796, p. 237.

"Near Cliffdale, some short time ago, when the workmen were digging for the foundation of a house, they discovered a subterraneous building of a singular nature. It had been formed by digging the earth about 3 feet deep, and erecting pillars of stones built one upon another to the height of 4 feet, to support a flat roof of broad stones or flags that covered the whole building, which was composed of two hexagons contiguous to one another, and their diameter about 3 feet, and of a rectangle as large as both. As the whole fabric was considerably below ground, and no vestige whatever to be seen on the surface, it perhaps has been used as a place for concealing various articles of value, for which it seemed well calculated. However that may be, there was found in it a gold ring of an uncommon construction. The outside of that ring was broad and large, composed as it were of three cords twisted or plaited together; the inside was much narrower, and pretty well fitted for the use of the finger. No inscription whatever appeared on any part of it; and at the joining, instead of being soldered, it seemed to have been beaten together with a hammer."

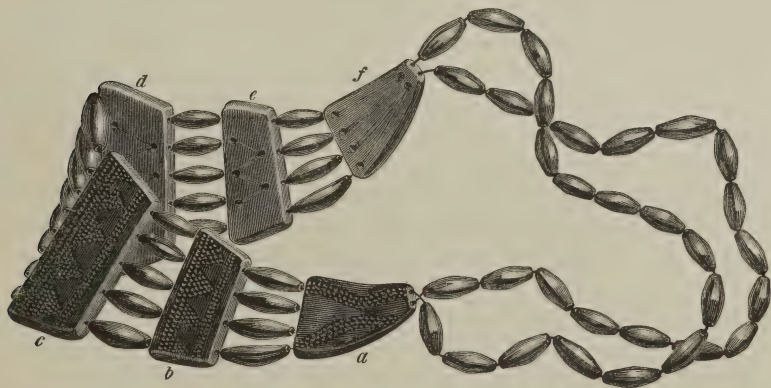
V.

NOTES OF THE DISCOVERY OF A NECKLACE OF BEADS AND PLATES OF SHALE AND JET, ALONG WITH FLINT ARROW HEADS, FOUND IN A CIST UNDER A SMALL TUMULUS AT TORRISH, KILDONAN, SUTHERLANDSHIRE. BY THE REV. J. M. JOASS, GOLSPIE, COR. MEM. S. A. Scot.

A few days ago, as some boys were digging after a rabbit in a tumulus at Torrish near Helmsdale, they came upon a cist. In clearing it out they found a number of black beads and some small plates. These were secured and sent to me by Captain Houstoun, Kintradwell. On examination I found that there were twenty-six small beads made from the shale associated with the Oolitic Lignite of this coast. There were also three whole plates and part of a fourth of the same material. These were orna-

mented on one side by a double line of punctures parallel to the sides, with triangles extending between, each alternate triangle being filled in with similar punctures, as in the accompanying sketch. There were, besides, a whole plate of jet of the same size as one of the above, but not ornamented, and fragments of another. Jet also is a product of our local Oolite, but rather rare.

On laying these out as suggested by the Assynt Necklace ("Wilson's Prehistoric Annals," p. 294, 1st edition), I found that the pieces marked *a*, *c*, and *e* (see the accompanying woodcut) were present, and half of *b*, all of shale. The whole jet piece was similar in size and style of string-holes



Necklace of Beads and Plates of Shale and Jet found in a Tumulus at Torrish, Sutherlandshire.

to *e*, but for the opposite side, so that it might be substituted for *b*. The fragments of jet belonged to a plate like *d*, judging by size and style of boring. The upper and lower string-holes in these plates were bored right through, the intermediate holes, entering like the others at the edge, came to the surface behind a short way inwards. This was the style of all the holes in the terminal plates. The twenty-six smaller beads being all required to match the perforations in the plates, none were left to complete the circuit of the necklace. It was, therefore, proposed to explore the cist on the presumption that this had not been thoroughly done.

Accordingly Captain Houstoun and myself, accompanied by his keeper (a capital practical antiquary), with digging tools and a *riddle*, made an early start for the ground, which we reached after a two hours' drive, and found *the cist cleared out*. This we now learned had been done on its discovery. After taking dimensions and bearing of the cist, which were found to be, length 3 feet, breadth and depth 20 inches, direction north and south, there seemed as if nothing more could be done; but, on handling the out-turned earth, a bead was found. The riddle was brought to the front, every handful of earth sifted, and thirty small beads discovered, and the remaining half of *b*, but no trace of *f*. During the riddling a chert arrow-head was found, when a shepherd, who was present at the first search, said that he had then found in the cist a flint tool twice as long as the arrow, but had broken and thrown it away. Part of this was afterwards recovered, and identified by him as the point of what, when found, was an inch wide at the other end. It seemed a javelin-head made of yellow flint. Several small pieces of charcoal were found, but no trace of bones or pottery.

The cist seemed to have been formed upon the undisturbed gravel. Over this lay yellowish clay and sand, and next a stratum of peaty earth reaching to within six inches of the covering flag, which, with the sides and ends, were made of the undressed Granitoid rock of the district, and bore no artificial markings. The covering mound, about 8 feet in diameter and 3 feet high, consisted of peaty mould and stones—the larger of these appearing to have been arranged as a retaining circle around the base.

Upwards of sixty similar tumuli lay round about, all more or less marked by a circle of large stones below. Three of these tumuli, equal in size to that with the cist, were dug through and proved barren.

On the outskirts of this group were two hut-circles of the usual diameter of 33 feet. These occurred on a gentle slope facing southwards, and about 500 feet above the bottom of the valley.

At the same elevation, proceeding down the strath, we passed through groups of tumuli almost continuously, and counted five other hut-circles, till about a mile off we reached the Cil-Pheadar burn, close to which, on the further bank, is the hut-circle with Eirde-house underneath, and, towering near, the most imposing Broch in all Sutherland, where there are so many. (See Proc. Soc. Ant., vol. v. p. 246.)

With reference to the occurrence of the pieces of jet which seemed to have belonged to another necklace, it may perhaps be suspected that there was another, and that we missed it. This, however, can hardly be the case, as the riddle worked well, and was carefully watched. It is probable that the shale plate *d* being lost, a jet substitute was used, of which we have the fragments, and another for *b* which, though broken, was preserved and buried with the owner's ashes. The connection of the flint implements with the necklace is of peculiar interest, reminding us, as stated by Wilson, that "the modes of personal decoration which modern taste and refinement reserve for the fair sex are very differently apportioned in ruder states of society."—"Prehistoric Annals," p. 294.)

VI.

NOTE OF THE DISCOVERY OF A NECKLACE OF JET BEADS AND PLATES, FOUND ALONG WITH AN URN, IN A SHORT CIST AT TAYFIELD, NEAR NEWPORT, FIFE. BY JOHN BERRY OF TAYFIELD, ESQ. (THE BEADS AND FRAGMENTS OF THE URN WERE PRESENTED BY MR BERRY TO THE SOCIETY'S MUSEUM.)

In excavating for gravel on the estate of Balgay, near Dundee, about fifty yards from the side of the estuary of the Tay, between the pointsman's house and the station house, about 1 foot 3 inches from the surface, there was found a stone cist—length 2 feet 10 inches, width 2 feet 3 inches, depth $1\frac{1}{2}$ foot—covered with two rough slabs of stone about 3 cwt.

Within the cist there was an urn in fragments, ornamented with rows of short lines and triangular indentations, a small handful of blackish earth, and the pieces of an ornamented necklace of jet or lignite.

[The necklace, of which a representation is given in the accompanying woodcut, consists of a series of plates of jet or shale, and alternating rows of beads of various lengths. The centre plates, which are 2 inches long and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch broad, are pierced with holes from side to side corresponding to the number of beads to be strung between each pair. The large terminal plates are triangular in shape, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ in breadth, and are ornamented by a dotted pattern. One of these is now absent,

only a few small fragments of it having been found, sufficient however to show that it was exactly similar to the other. In the original necklace,



Necklace of Beads and Plates of Jet or Shale found at Tayfield.

the number of "bugles" was no doubt considerably larger, judging from the number of fragments received along with those that were entire. The separate triangular ornament (see woodcut) pierced in the centre of one side, was probably a pendant attached to the middle of the necklace. Necklaces formed of amber beads and plates, having pendants attached in a somewhat similar way, are still much worn on the shores of the Baltic. —ED.]

MONDAY, 13th June 1870.

FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A ballot having been taken, the following gentlemen were elected Fellows of the Society :—

Rev. WILLIAM BOYD, Milnathort,
Rev. JOHN DUNCAN, Scoonie, Fifeshire.

and, as a corresponding Member,

ALEXANDER A. CARMICHAEL, Esq, Lochmaddy, South Uist.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) Bequest by the late Rev. PETER CHALMERS, D.D., Dunfermline.

A Collection of Antiquities, &c., comprising a number of fragments of marble carvings and pillar-like ornaments from the supposed tomb of King Robert the Bruce, in the church of Dunfermline, discovered in 1818 (see "Archæologica Scotica," vol. ii. p. 435).

A piece of Lead enclosing lime and small stones, found in the same tomb.

[Whatever may be thought of the correctness of the decision come to in the report made by Henry Jardine, Esq., His Majesty's Remembrancer, relative to the tomb of King Robert Bruce in the church of Dunfermline, which is printed and illustrated in vol. ii. of the "Archæologia Scotica," it may be stated, that there can now be no doubt that the supposed ancient plate of copper, with the inscription ROBERTUS SCOTORUM REX, &c., which was found in the course of the excavations then made, was actually the work of some clever and unscrupulous practical jokers, who, seeing the interest excited by the discovery of the tomb, which was evidently that of a person of distinction, prepared and placed the plate in the locality where it was found.

This discovery appeared to supply the missing link as to the identification of the human remains; and as the Government officials had taken up the matter, the perpetrators were at once pleased at the success of

their scheme and alarmed for being discovered, and so kept silence as to what they had done. It was not until some time afterwards that the true state of the case became known.—ED.]

Three Iron Keys found in the churchyard, Dunfermline Abbey.

Pieces of Stained Window Glass, Blue and Purple, and of Painted Glass, forming parts of a design found in Dunfermline Abbey.

Part of a Leather Shroud, from a tomb in Dunfermline Church, supposed to be that of Prince Ethelred.

Portions of Glazed Flooring Tiles found near the high altar in Dunfermline Church.

A number of Scottish and other Coins, chiefly copper.

A large number of Casts of Ancient Seals and Reduced Copies in Plaster of the Elgin Marbles.

Specimens of the Vitrified Stones from Craig Phadrig, Inverness-shire.

Portion of the Oak Ceiling of Westminster Hall.

Curious Curved Dagger of Buffalo Horn, ornamented with concentric circles.

A Chinese Writing Style, of silver-plated metal.

A collection of fossils and objects in Natural History.

(2.) By R. GRAHAM THOMS, Esq., Clepington House, Dundee.

Two Human Crania, from the Kirkhill, an ancient cemetery at St Andrews, Fifeshire.

A Tiger's Tooth, pierced for suspension, and worn on the person as a charm by the hill tribes in India.

Nine Old Communion Tokens, inscribed as follows:—

R. Aitken, Dundee, surrounding the letter *m* in the centre; reverse, Asso. Cong. B. Street, 1816; two examples.

T. D.; J. W.; I. G.; surrounding *m* in the centre; reverse, Dundee, 1748; two examples.

Jas. Playfair, senr.; reverse, Liff, 1769.

Dundee, 1785; reverse, blank.

Dundee, A. S. con.; reverse, blank.

K., 1817, 4; reverse, illegible.

Impression in wax of the Common Seal of the cathedral church of Dunkeld.

(3.) By DANIEL HENRY, Esq.

Topstone of a Quern, found in digging the foundation of the National Floorcloth Works, Kirkcaldy.

(4.) By ALEXANDER A. CARMICHAEL, Esq., Cor. Mem. S. A. Scot.

Two Sculptured Stones, Stone Mortar, and Stone naturally formed like a Shoe, from North Uist, Hebrides. (See communication, p. 276.)

(5.) By THOMAS EDMONSTONE of Bunes, Esq., Shetland.

Masquerade Dresses of Straw, used in the Shetland Islands, and specimens of Native Knitted Work, from Fair Isle.

(6.) By Mr DANIEL HOSSACK, Hill Square.

Mason's Chisel and Old Lock, found in the demolition of Cardinal Beaton's House, Cowgate.

(7.) By ROBERT CHRISTISON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot., Professor of Materia Medica, University of Edinburgh.

Specimens of Vitrified Stones, from the Vitrified Fort on Finhaven Hill, near Aberlemno, Forfarshire.

(8.) By JAMES TAYLOR, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Six Old Leases and other Documents.

(9.) By C. ROACH SMITH, Esq., the Author.

The Rural Life of Shakespeare, as illustrated by his Works. London, 1870. 8vo.

(10.) By the Right Hon. THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Calendar of State Papers. Carew Manuscripts, 1601-1603. London, 1870. Royal 8vo.

Annales Monasterii S. Albani, a Johanne Amundesham, Monacho, Conscripti. London, 1870. Royal 8vo.

(11.) By JAMES WINGATE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Illustrations of the Coinage of Scotland. Glasgow, 1868. 4to.

(12. By JOSEPH BAIN, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Sir James Dalrymple's Historical Collections. 1705. 8vo.

Remarks on Dalrymple's Collections (by Gillan). 1714. 8vo.

Ruddiman's Vindication of Buchanan's Psalms. 1745. 8vo. (Presentation copy.)

Geo. Buchanani Poemata. Elzevir, 1628. 18mo.

Arturi Jonstoni Poemata. 1642. 18mo.

Moysie's Memoirs. 1755. 12mo.

There were also exhibited—

By F. S. BENTLEY INNES of Thrumster, Esq., Caithness.

The Frontal Portion of Skull, with Horn cores attached, of the *Bos Primigenius*, found in the marl of the Loch of Breckigo, Caithness.

Two Antlers of Red Deer, (?) one being smooth on the surface, from the marl of the Loch of Breckigo.

One Antler of Red Deer, from the peat overlying the marl of the Loch of Breckigo.

By Mr JOHN BREMNER, Jun., Thrumster-Little, Caithness.

Shed Antler of Red Deer, sawn across, and also partially cut through with a hatchet close to the burr, Horn Core of the *Bos longifrons*, and Cylinder of Bone from the Broch at Thrumster-Little.

Purchased for the Museum—

A Native Model of a New Zealand Canoe, seven feet long, curiously carved, with grotesque imitations of the human face, and spiral ornaments.

Curious Indian Knife, of semilunar form, with a wooden sheath.

A pair of old Steel Cymbals and their Leather Cases.

A Wooden Block, covered with ornamental engravings, and inscribed "Mr Henry Wickes, citizen and pinmaker in London," with the legend "Virginitas et unitas nostra fraternitas."

A Circular Highland Brooch of silver, inlaid with blue enamel. It measures 3 inches in diameter, and is ornamented with four circles, and covered with chequered and floriated ornaments.

Before proceeding to business, Mr JOHN STUART, Secretary, read the

following letter addressed to him by Lady Helen Warrender, Bruntisfield House, Edinburgh, in which she directed attention to the "Harefaulds," a curious structure in Lauderdale, which seemed to be of the same character as "Edins Hall"—being a large circular wall with chambers in the thickness of it. Mr Stuart stated that he had seen this ancient structure, and thought it would be desirable to obtain for the Society a detailed description and plan of the ruin :—

"I see an account of the meeting of the Antiquarian Society, at which a paper by Mr Turnbull on the excavations at Etin's Hold was read. I am very glad indeed that there is a prospect of the excavations being continued, but without wishing to detract from the importance of this specimen of a broch, let me remind you of a ruin not very far distant which I think you have visited, viz. the "Harefaulds" on the farm of Blythe, the property of the Earl of Lauderdale. It has never been properly examined, but in my recollection, before the tenant had carried off the largest stones, it presented a similar appearance to Etin's Hold, a large circular building with cells in the thickness of the wall; only it was infinitely larger in size, and fifteen years ago much more perfect. Since that time a system of spoliation has been carried on whenever there was a dike to build or a byre to repair; but even now the remains are such as to reward a careful investigation, and if the attention of the Antiquarian Society could be turned towards its preservation, another specimen of the ancient broch might be added to those already noted."

The following Communications were read :—

I.

NOTICE OF A REMARKABLE SCULPTURED CROSS AT BILTON. YORKSHIRE. BY W. F. SKENE, Esq., LL.D. F.S.A. Scot.

When paying a visit in the neighbourhood of York last April, I was informed by the Archdeacon of York that the fragments of a cross had been discovered at Bilton, near York, which seemed to bear upon them one of the symbolic figures peculiar to the Scottish sculptured stones.

I was unfortunately prevented from going to Bilton and examining the fragments of the cross myself, but I took some pains to obtain an accurate description of it. The cross is in two or three fragments. The upper part is in the Rectory Garden. The stem is built into the wall of the church at Bilton. The form of the cross itself belongs to that class in which the limbs of the cross are enclosed within a circle, and from the description seems to resemble that on the Auldbar and St Madoes' Stones and many others similar to these.

The stem contains some of the usual interlaced knot-work, and below it are two figures male and female. On the breast of the female figure is the symbolic figure usually called the spectacle ornament. The Arch-deacon of York has sent me some rubbings of the stem of the cross, which I now present to the Society.

This cross of course derives its chief interest from the spectacle ornament connecting it with the Scotch sculptured stones, and enabling us thus to extend the distribution of these monuments into Yorkshire. The position of the ornament on the figure of the woman seems to bear out Mr Stuart's theory, that these symbolic figures in the main were intended to represent personal ornaments. I have always held the same view.

Bilton is situated about ten miles due west from York, and is not far from the river Wharfe, which was the northern boundary of the old Celtic district of Elmet.

There appear to have been two old districts lying between the rivers Wharfe and Aire, which preserved their distinctive names till long after the whole of this part of England was occupied by an Anglie population, and these were Loidis or Leeds and Elmet. The latter name is still preserved in the two parishes of Berwick in Elmet and Sherborne in Elmet. They probably were for a time merely subjected to the Anglie rule and retained their Celtic population, traces of which are to be found still in the topographical names. Berwick, whenever it occurs, I have no doubt was originally Aberwick, the accent, according to the law of the Welch language, being laid on the second syllable. And in Elmet there is a place still called Aberford, where, as is not uncommon, the Celtic word is followed by its Saxon equivalent, the Abers being always placed at the ford of a river.

II.

NOTE OF SCULPTURED STONES IN THE CHURCHYARD OF KILMUIR, SKYE, IN A LETTER TO W. F. SKENE, ESQ., LL.D. BY M. F. CAR-MICHAEL, LOCHMADDY. (THE SKETCHES WERE EXHIBITED.)

I sent a few days ago, per favour of Mr Birnie, some sketches of stones in the burying ground of Kilmuir, on the west side of North Uist. It is only lately that I discovered that any such existed here. None of them are native productions; all seem to have been brought from some other place, by grand or great-grandfathers of some of the natives, who are still proud of the theft. There are large letters rudely cut across the chest and left arm of the figure on the stone marked No. "5," these I omitted in the sketch, as only calculated to mislead. We afterwards learned from the Receiver of Wreck, here, that the stone is over the grave of his grandfather, and that he when a boy, between forty and fifty years ago, cut his grandfather's initials upon it. The cross marked No. "1" was brought from a place called "Kirkabost," some miles from where it now is, probably twice stolen. Both arms are broken off, but one of them we found close by. There are several stones in and near the same place, but I had not time to look at them, as the place is seventeen miles distant, and we rode there and back on the same day. But we hope soon to make another exploring trip in that direction, and shall send you whatever of interest we find.

If full-sized tracings of any of the stones would be of use to you, I shall have much pleasure in sending them.

III.

NOTE OF EXCAVATIONS AT "GRIMES' GRAVES," NORFOLK.
BY THE HON. LORD ROSEHILL, F.S.A. Scot.

Had this not been the last meeting of the Society for this season, I should have offered a longer paper on this subject than I am at present able to do. But the Rev. Canon Greenwell (who not only first discovered the archæological importance of the spot I wish to describe, but also has

borne almost the entire expenses of a lengthy series of excavations), has not yet read his own paper on the subject to the Ethnological Society.

However, by his permission, and with the aid of his notes taken at the time, as well as my own, I will endeavour to give a short account of a discovery peculiarly interesting to those interested in prehistoric archaeology.

These "Grimes' Graves," which will be described further on, have been frequently inspected by local archaeological and other societies, and described, in all sorts of fantastic ideas, as an early British village, the site of a battle-field, the remains of round hut-circles, and everything else possible or impossible.

It remained for Mr Greenwell to hit the right nail on the head, and to undertake a systematic clearing out of one of the pits to the bottom,—former explorers having only scratched the surface to the depth of a few feet, and drawn conclusions from that unsatisfactory data.

The undertaking, however, was greater than even Mr Greenwell imagined. A pit, 40 feet deep and 28 feet diameter at the top, is not cleared out in a short time, with no more scientific aids than a ladder, and men carrying up the stuff in small baskets on their heads; but for three successive years Mr Greenwell returned perseveringly to the work, until this last time—when I had the pleasure of accompanying him—the bottom of the pit was reached, the galleries running in every direction were discovered, and the problem solved as to the object, use, and comparative age of these most interesting remains of prehistoric labour.

With this introduction I may pass on to gather a few passages from the notes, which are too lengthy to read in full to-day.

I may remark that I have brought up a few specimens of the implements and worked flakes found in and about the pits in question; but the best of them, together with all the objects of real interest found in the pit, are now in London.

The small town of Brandon, in the county of Suffolk, is, with one exception, the only place in England where the manufacture of gun-flints is still maintained. This is due to the abundance of flint of a superior quality which the upper chalk of the district supplies.

Over the whole neighbourhood implements of flint belonging to the Neolithic age are found on the surface. There are some sites, however,

where such articles, together with large numbers of chippings and cores of flint, broken implements, and the tools with which they were fabricated, are discovered in such profusion, that it seems evident they are the spots where the manufacture of implements was carried on. One of them is situated about three miles north-east of Brandon and one mile north of the river Ouse, at a place called "Grimes' Graves," in the parish of Weeting.

The "graves" consist of a large collection of pits, situated in a wood, the ground sloping slightly towards the north. They are about 254 in number, and cover a space of from 20 to 21 acres in extent, being scattered in an irregular fashion.

The pits are circular, and vary in diameter from 20 to 65 feet. They have all been filled in to within about 4 feet of the surface, and present the appearance of a number of bowl-shaped depressions, with generally a mound round their edge, due to some of the excavated material not having been thrown back into the pit when it was filled in. As a rule the pits are about 25 feet apart; but, in some cases, they have run together, and form irregularly-shaped hollows, probably owing to the falling in of the roof of the galleries beneath,—and the present bowl-shaped appearance of the top of the pits may be due to the same cause, and to the settling down of the loose stuff thrown in, during the many centuries which must have elapsed since that was done.

The pit which was opened is situated on the east side of the series. It is rather under the medium size, being 28 feet in diameter at the mouth, and eventually proved to be 40 feet deep, gradually narrowing to a width of about 12 feet at the bottom.

Not expecting the undertaking to be so arduous as afterwards turned out, Mr Greenwell made no mechanical arrangements for bringing up and disposing of the loose stuff dug out of the pit, and this was throughout performed by men who carried up the earth on their heads in baskets. Unfortunately, after getting down a few feet, it was determined not to clear the pit out all round, but to leave a part of one side standing, so as to economise time and labour. Accordingly, about one-third of the filled in stuff was left *in situ*; and eventually this not only probably prevented us from finding another series of galleries leading from the bottom of the pit, opposite the one we entered, but also caused some uneasiness

lest the mass should fall in on us and close our only egress from the galleries.

The filling-in was composed at the top of chalk rubble, in which many bones and flint chippings were found; then sand, with flints and pieces of chalk, and, towards the bottom, almost pure chalk.¹ The section, as shown by the undisturbed earth at the side of the pit, first cuts through a layer of yellow sand about 12 feet thick. Under this comes the chalk, 20 feet below the surface of which lies a stratum of flint, called by the modern gun-flint workers the "*wall-stone*" flints. Above this, in the chalk, and even in the sand, occasional thin layers of small and thick-skinned flints occur, which are useless for manufacture; and even the "*wall-stones*" are now principally used for building purposes, though our ancient pit-diggers seem to have made considerable use of that stratum for the smaller and coarser kind of implements.

Somewhat more than 7 feet below the "*wall-stone*" flints comes a second bed, now called the "*Floor-stone*," which are large sized and clear flints of the very best possible quality. This bed has an average thickness of from 7 to 8 inches, and is very regular, and it was just below this stratum that the original bottom of the pit was reached, 40 feet below the surface.

Here also the door-way (*a*) was discovered, leading to a labyrinth of passages and galleries, which probably connect the whole workings in the neighbourhood together; and here, too, was the problem solved as to the object and character of the pits, and the fact established that these stupendous undertakings—considering the working tools of the age—were mere flint mines, and were carried out by a people to whom metals were unknown, and probably before the finer and more scientific arts even in flint-chipping had become understood.

The doorway (*a*) was 4 feet high by $4\frac{1}{2}$ broad, cut out of the chalk, and irregular in shape, owing to some of the roof having fallen in. We found afterwards (from the inside) traces of a corresponding doorway about the spot marked (*b*) on the plan; but as this was behind a portion of the loose stuff which had been left standing, we dared not investigate it.

¹ Cores of flint, pebbles for flaking, tools of deer's horn, bones, charcoal, and wood ashes, &c., were found throughout the whole.

Possibly a third entrance may exist on the third side of the pit also, behind the unmoved filled-in material, somewhere about the spot (c).

The "Floor-stone" flints had been removed to the limits of the shaft itself, and the galleries had then been excavated in all directions slightly below the level of the bed of flints, which had been also picked out at each side as far as was safe without endangering the roof.

The galleries were originally about 3 feet high, and from 4 to 7 feet

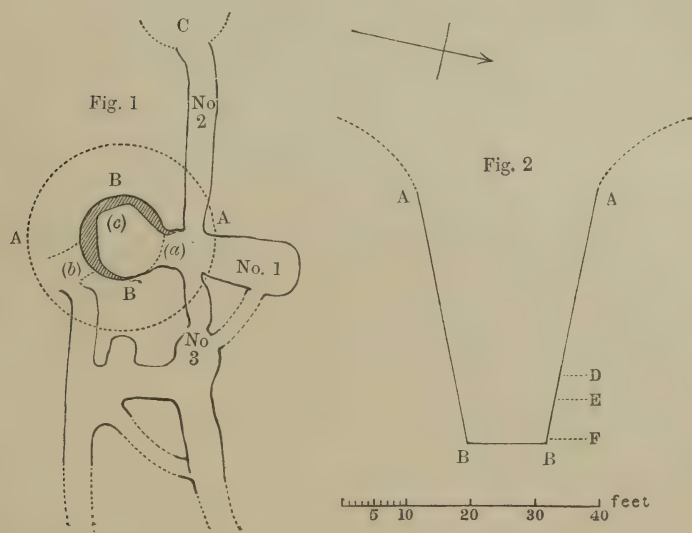


Fig. 1. Ground-plan of Pits A, A, and C, and of Galleries No. 1, 2, and 3.

Fig. 2. Vertical section of Pit A, A.

wide, according to the state of the chalk; but in many places we found a height of 5 feet, and sometimes even standing room, owing to the falling-in of bits of the roof.

Unfortunately we only reached the bottom of the pit a few days before we were obliged to leave Norfolk, consequently it was impossible to

explore the galleries as far as we should have wished ; but the plan of those we did clear out will give an idea of their ramifications and the way in which they run into each other, and there can be little doubt but that the whole of the pits are united by a complete net-work of passages.

The galleries were half, and many of them almost entirely, filled up with loose chalk, seeming to show that, as one gallery was worked out, it was more or less filled in with the loose stuff from other ones. One side gallery (No. 2), leading at right angles out of the main one near the entrance, was very low and narrow, but had not been much refilled with rubbish, so that, on the discovery of its entrance—a hole with barely room to squeeze through—we were able to crawl its whole length, a distance of 28 feet, where it ended in the bottom of one of the neighbouring pits, C, which still remains filled in.¹ It was near the end of this passage that I found a very perfect horn-pick, a well used hammer-stone, and on a ledge in the wall one of the chalk cups—perhaps lamps—all of which are described below.

A most interesting discovery was made at the end of No. 1 gallery, and about 21 feet from the doorway, the description of which I will quote in full from Mr Greenwell's notes. "The roof had give way about the middle of the gallery, and blocked up the whole width of it to the roof. On removing this, and when the end came in view, it was seen that the flint had been worked out in three places at the end. In front of two of these hollows was laid a pick, the handle of each towards the mouth of the gallery, the tines pointing towards each other, showing, in all probability, that they had been used respectively by a right and left handed man. The day's work over, the men had laid down each his tool, ready for the next day's work ; meanwhile the roof had fallen in, and the picks had never been recovered. It was a most impressive sight, and one never to be forgotten, to look, after a lapse of, it may well be, 3000 years, upon a piece of work unfinished, with the tools of the workmen still lying where they had been placed so many centuries ago."

The galleries to the right of No. 1 were the most complicated, as may be seen by the plan, but want of time prevented us from following them to any great distance, as they were almost quite filled up with rubble.

¹ The loose stuff in this pit had not settled down to the bottom, so that we could see some feet up the shaft from below.

The manufactured articles found in the shaft and galleries may now be described. The most numerous as well as the most important were the already-mentioned "picks" of deer's horn. No less than seventy-nine of these tools were found in the course of excavation, as they seem to have been used both as picks and hammers. In shape they much resemble a modern pick, being made of the antler of a red-deer, the points on all the tines, except the brow tine, being cut or broken off.¹ They average about 18 inches of handle, and the brow tine would naturally serve as a pick for excavating the galleries, and loosening the chalk round the flints; whilst, if reversed, the heavy end or burr would be well suited for dislodging the flints, or even splitting them, if necessary. That they have been more or less used for both these purposes is evident in the whole of these tools, and the corresponding marks both of pick and hammer are distinct on the roof and walls of the galleries, appearing as fresh in the chalk as if made but yesterday. The animals to which these antlers belonged—most of which were shed ones, only eleven out of the seventy-nine being from deer which had been killed—seem to have been of large size, and much beyond the average of the present Scottish red-deer.

One hatchet of basalt was found in No. 1 gallery, and the marks of its edge were plentiful on the sides, showing that other implements besides the horn-picks were used in excavation, but probably rarely, as no other specimen of the kind was discovered.

Two implements of bone were found in the shaft—a pin or awl, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, and a piece of bone, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, rubbed smooth, and showing signs of use at both ends.

Fourteen small water-rolled pebbles had been used for flaking flints, or some such purpose; and seven large rounded cones of flint showed signs of much use as hammer-stones.

Four rudely shaped circular cups of solid chalk were found—one, as before mentioned, on a ledge in No. 2 gallery. They have evidently been hollowed with flint flakes, and are about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and 2 inches high. As some light must have been necessary in the galleries, it may be suggested that they were used as lamps of some kind, though the absence of any signs of grease or burning about them makes this a matter of doubt.

¹ In several instances they had been partly burnt through, before breaking.

Several other curious objects of chalk were found, of which the use or object is more than doubtful. One is a flat thin piece, with a hole in the middle, which has been drilled from both sides; two others, though very rough, resemble parts of a human arm and finger; whilst a fourth, though hardly to be described here, is astonishing in the accuracy of its anatomical features, and may have formed part of a whole figure, unless some religious significance can be attached to so extraordinary a work of art.

With one exception—that of a small bird—no bones were found in the galleries, but a number were mixed in the material which filled the pit, most of which had been split to obtain the marrow. Mr Greenwell has had them examined, and they seem chiefly to belong to a small species of ox—*Bos longifrons*. Several dogs of a small size were represented; but altogether the remains in bone were poor.

Having thus given a short description of the pit and galleries opened, and of the remains found in them, a few words on the general character of “Grimes’ Graves” may not be out of place.

Canon Greenwell, in his paper for the Ethnological Society, goes at length into the subject, and offers several suggestions of great ethnological interest. For me, here, it will be sufficient to point out a few of the most obvious facts, and the plain deductions arising from such.

That these pits and galleries are nothing more nor less than “flint mines” is too clear to need discussion. That they, although belonging only to the neolithic age, are of vast antiquity, is proved by the remains discovered in and around them and by the manner of their construction. The absence, not only of the faintest sign of the knowledge of metals, but of any trace of those more highly finished flint tools, whether polished or chipped, which mark the later stone period, and also the absence of all pottery, seems to carry us back at once, not merely to anti-metallic days, but to a time indefinitely more remote, the very object of these huge workings implying the universal use of flint up to, at any rate, the time of their ceasing to be worked.

Moreover, the pits themselves seem to represent a considerable space of time. As before mentioned, there are upwards of 250 of them at “Grimes’ Graves” alone, and it is certain that very few were being worked together, probably only one at a time—otherwise, how do they

come to be filled up? or rather, what has become of the immense mass of material taken from so many pits and galleries? Obviously each pit has been filled in, after the galleries leading from its bottom had been worked to a certain distance, by the stuff thrown up in sinking the next pit to it. This is almost proved by there still being at one end of the series, and near what we may consider to be the first pit, a large mound, which was opened under the idea of its being a tumulus. It was found, however, to consist merely of chalk, sand, and flints, obviously the material taken from the first pit, when there was no other into which to throw it; and at the opposite side of the group are some pits only partly filled in, seemingly the last of the series. Why so many shafts were sunk, instead of carrying the galleries to greater distances, it is hard to say; but for some reason it must have been found either easier or safer, and the immense labour in sinking so large a shaft in those days carries with it the idea of a considerable lapse of time. Besides which, it must be remembered that a single pit with its galleries would afford flint sufficient for the manufacture of many thousands of implements, even allowing for lavish waste. The 254 pits already counted give some idea of the enormous quantity supplied by the "Grimes' Graves" alone; but these are probably only one of a series of like workings in that district, and, as Mr Greenwell says, "imagination fails to conceive the vastness of the supply of material for the people of the second stone age, and the extended time required for the neolithic age alone."

After opening a good many barrows in the neighbourhood, I occupied the last day or two of our stay in working at a second pit, at the opposite side of the group from the one Mr Greenwell had so long toiled at. Like all those on the west of the series, this pit was much smaller than No. 1, and probably not so deep, as the slope of the ground on that side brings the layer of "floor-stone" flints nearer the surface. However, I only had time to get down some 8 or 10 feet, and found, besides quantities of split bones, two very rude adze-shaped tools of flint, of a very ancient type, almost resembling the flints of the Drift, and some hammer-stones; but, as in No. 1, no trace of pottery.

That the large flints were broken up on the spot, and there and then converted into implements and tools, is evident from the huge quantity of broken implements, chips, flakes, &c., on the neighbouring fields.

becoming more frequent the nearer the pits are approached. These may be gathered by thousands wherever the plough has been used. The most are, of course, chippings and flakes, refuse pieces struck from the cores. The rest consist chiefly of roundish cores of flint, used for hammers or flakers, and generally showing much wear; drills, or tools for boring; knives and saws; scrapers, round and oval, as big as $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter; some rude spear-heads; and hammer-stones of every size and shape.

The typical implement of "Grimes' Graves" somewhat resembles an adze. It has a cutting edge, flat on one side, and more or less convex on the other. It varies from 4 to 8 inches in length, and differs from any other type of tool I have met with, but is seldom found whole. Besides there are many articles to which it would be impossible to assign either use or name, but one and all are chipped into shape, and show no signs of grinding, with the one exception of the axe found at the bottom of the shaft, which is obviously from some other locality, being of partly ground whinstone, and of a type commonly found in East Anglia.

I hope before long to visit this most interesting spot again, and to obtain permission to open out some more of the pits both in "Grimes' Graves" and some of the other groups of ancient flint mines in that neighbourhood.

IV.

NOTICE OF AN IRON MASK. By JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A.,
F.S.A., Scot. (PLATE XX.)

The mystery of the Man in the Iron Mask having lately been brought prominently before the public, it occurred to me that the exhibition at this meeting of an iron mask in my possession would interest the members of the Society. In doing so, however, it is not my intention to enter into any discussion as to who really was the victim known in history as the Man in the Iron Mask, further than to remark, that no better illustration could be given than this story of how far men will go in advocating a favourite idea, even in defiance of historical proof to the contrary.

Among the theories advanced, the most probable, at first sight, was that it was a twin-brother of Louis XIV., who was thus kept in life



LITH. W. & A. K. JOHNSTON.

IRON MASK, THE PROPERTY OF M^R DRUMMOND, R. S. A.

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durance, for state reasons ; unfortunately no reliable facts can be adduced that such a person ever existed. Then came the Count of Vermandois (a son of Louis XIV. and the Duchess de la Vallière), although it is well-authenticated that he died in the midst of a camp, after some days' illness, and was buried with great pomp in the cathedral church of Arras, in 1683. Even the beheading of the Duke of Monmouth on Tower Hill, in 1685, did not prevent his being brought forward. But there was one more extraordinary still, Henry Cromwell, the youngest son of the Lord Protector, who, after returning from the government of Ireland, settled quietly upon his estate at Spinney Abbey, where he died in 1674, being buried in Wicken Church, where a black marble tablet still marks his burial-place. Claims have even been set up for Mahommed IV., the Turkish Sultan who was deposed in 1687, as also for an Armenian patriarch. Fouquet, the finance minister of Louis XIV., having crossed his master in some of his projects, was, with that king's usual vindictiveness, accused of treason, sentenced to perpetual imprisonment, and thrown into the Bastile in 1661, from whence he was removed to the prison of Pignerol, where he died in 1680. So far this looks very like the real prisoner ; but the Man in the Iron Mask, whoever he was, lived till 1703, in which year he died in the Bastile. Present opinion is in favour of Count Matthioli, who had been secretary of state under Charles III., Duke of Mantua ; but who having entered into a secret treaty with Louis XIV., to deliver up Casale, and thus open the way for the admission of the French army into Italy, betrayed the secret to some of the Italian Courts. Louis finding himself deceived, had the Count secretly arrested in 1679. After this nothing is heard of Matthioli ; but evidence has been adduced, on apparently good authority, identifying him with the Man in the Iron Mask. To call what was used on the above occasion an "iron mask," is a misnomer, as it is well known to have been "of black velvet, stiffened with whalebone, and furnished about its lower part with steel springs, which permitted its wearer to breathe, eat, drink, and sleep without difficulty. It covered the whole of the face, and was fastened behind with a padlock"—in other words, it was simply used for concealment.

That which I now submit is, or rather has been a knight's helmet of the sixteenth century (see Plate XX.), the bevor and vizor of which (being in one piece) have been riveted to the under or chin part, the side

joints have also been unfastened, and the ends filed away, their place being supplied by two rude hinges at the brow, and thus forming a sort of rude box, which is held close by two strong hasps, which may be fixed by a padlock or chain; and if used, as I conjecture it must have been, would be an instrument of torture of the most barbarous nature, for the purpose of starving a man into confession or perhaps to death. A few small openings for breathing or seeing certainly; but for food, none. Once shut into it, farewell to the world; hope being shut out with the last click of the padlock, or the last rivet of the chain. A more horrible death could hardly be conceived. I acquired it at the dispersion of the collection of the late Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, who very likely knew its history. It was put up as "a rusty old helmet." At first I thought it might have been part of a trophy hung over a knight's tomb in a church; but on examining it, saw that it had been converted by the means described into an iron mask.

V.

NOTICE OF THE PRIORY CHURCH OF BEAULY, INVERNESS-SHIRE.
By CAPTAIN T. P. WHITE, R.E., F.S.A., Scot.

Among the remains of religious establishments planted in Scotland during Mediæval times, not the least interesting is the Priory Church of Beaulieu or Beauly,¹ situated within the parish of Kilmorack in Inverness-shire.² Nearly six centuries and a half have elapsed since its foundation by Sir John de Bisset of Loveth,³ the then representative of an illustrious Scottish family resident in the neighbourhood. The actual date⁴ of the founder's gift appears to have been the 9th July 1223, the charter of endowment being confirmed by King Alexander II. in 1231, and by Pope Gregory apparently in the same year, namely, the fourth of

¹ Also spelt Bewly, Beuli, Beauli. The Latin title of the priory was "Prioratus de bello loco."

² Sometimes stated to be Ross-shire:—an erroneous impression, arising, I suppose, from the proximity of Beauly to the border of that county. The village is ten miles almost due west from the town of Inverness.

³ Written Bysset, Bizet, Bisert, &c.

⁴ MS. History of Frasers, 1749. Advocates' Library.

his pontificate.¹ The establishment was for a fraternity known as the monks of Vallis Caulium or Val des-Choux, a community which sprang up within the diocese of Langres in the Duchy of Burgundy, about A.D. 1193-7 under one Virard. They were a reform or offshoot of the Cistercians; and, like that larger community, followed the rule of the primitive St Benedict, who may be called one of the fathers of western monastic institutions. "By their constitution," says Keith, "these monks were obliged to live an austere and solitary life, none but the prior and procurator being allowed to go out of the cloisters for any reason whatsoever." They were first introduced into Scotland between A.D. 1220-30 by William Malvoisin, Bishop of St Andrews, and had only three monasteries in North Britain—Pluscardine in Moray, Beauly, and Ardehattan in the county of Argyle, each under the direction of a prior.² Sometimes the monks of Val-des-Choux³ are styled Benedictines from the saint whose rule was followed by this Order as well as by so many others.

Father Hay, again, author of the MS. volume commonly known as "Scotia Sacra,"⁴ mentions another Order as having, in conjunction with that of Vallis-Caulium, been brought over by Bishop Malvoisin, and settled at Beauly. This Order, founded by St Gualbert, he styles "Vallis Umbrosæ," so called from the Abbey of Val-Ombre near Florence in Tuscany. Either he has confused these two Orders,⁵ or the confraternity at Beauly may have been partly made up from both. From his account of them,—and considering his ecclesiastical position, he was an unlikely person to exaggerate,—there was great need for reform somewhere. Speaking of the Order,—but whether he means the Vallis-Caulium monks, those of Val-Ombre, or the Cistercians the former had branched from, is

¹ A.D. 1230 is the year generally quoted.

² Keith's Catalogue of Bishops.

³ Wardlaw MSS. of Frasers, &c., in Advocates' Library, date 1750.

⁴ In Advocates' Library. It is dated 1700, and written in a beautiful clerly hand in French, Latin, and English indiscriminately mixed up. He subscribes himself as Mr Richard Augustine Hay, Canon-Regular of St Genovers in Paris; Prior of St Pierremont, &c.

⁵ Keith tells us this confusion often occurred. He calls the Val-Ombre monks Camaldulians; and says they were a community of hermits, founded a century and half earlier than the Order of Val-des-Choux.

not very clear,—he adverts in brief but severe terms to their infractions of discipline, the diversion to private uses of goods which should have been shared in common, the overgrowth of wealth, and other corruptions which had crept in among them.¹

In attempting to give a brief historical sketch of this ecclesiastical foundation before I notice what relics have remained to the present day on the ground itself, it may be convenient to consider the subject separately, as far as practicable, first, with reference specially to the monks themselves as a religious community, and, secondly, in connection with the two or three leading families of the locality, including that of the founder, most prominently associated with this community. It is a misfortune that the original chartulary of Beaulieu Priory has been lost sight of.² Here we should have expected to meet with much bearing upon the transactions of the monks and contemporaneous local history, for which we have, as it is, to depend mainly upon extracts not always at first hand, and often fragmentary.

In addition to Macfarlane's transcripts from the Priory Register, as bearing upon the history of Beaulieu, there are certain manuscript family records of last century, the Chartulary of Moray, and a few other isolated notices.

To begin with the monks, then. It was about 1222, according to one MS.³ on the Isle of Ach-na-baidh, that the first prior, Pater Jacomo Baptista,⁴ with six French monks, landed within the demesne of Lovat. On this same spot stood, or had previously done so, a chapel of St Michael, and

¹ "Cum divitiis ordo crevisset paulatim infracta disciplina, et mores corumpi corpore dum bonis in commune absumendis ad privatos usus abutuntur, et aliis libidinum irritamentis."

² Mr Brichan, in the "Orig. Parochiales," and Dr Stuart, both remark upon this. The latter tells us there are eleven religious houses, Beaulieu among them, whose registers cannot now be traced, though several of them were quoted by writers of the last century. He thinks it probable some of them may be yet found in the libraries or charter-rooms of our great proprietors.—*Royal Commission on Historical MSS., first Report*, 1870.

³ Called "Diplomata Prioratus de Bello loco." Ach-na-baidh, plain of the estuary the old name of the spot.

⁴ It is just possible the writer has mistaken the name of John the Baptist, "Johanni Baptiste" occurring once or twice in the earliest of the Beaulieu Chartulary transcripts, as a patron Saint, for that of the Prior.

the king, Alexander II., in his confirmation to the monks of the lands of Strath Alvi, directs that the Priory is to be erected there. The brotherhood was to be maintained, we are told, at the public expense, till the founder of the priory was in a position to settle them in their new sphere. The precise date of the erection of the Priory buildings cannot be fixed. One account gives it as A.D. 1245, in the time of Pope Innocent IV.; but supposing it to have been actually begun so early, many years may have elapsed before its final completion. Upon purely architectural grounds, indeed, there are reasons for doubting if the present structure can be earlier in date than the end of the thirteenth or the beginning of the fourteenth century.

The monks, on landing, being struck with the fairness of the prospect, pronounced the isle of Ach-na-baidh to be a lovely spot, and it was thenceforward called Beau Lieu (*bellus locus loci amœnitate*). The fruits of the field, it is recorded, were plentiful in the plain where the monastery was situated;¹ and by the liberality of the Lord of Bysset the community soon found itself possessed of a goodly portion in lands. The exact precincts and extent of these lands has been noted in some of the MSS., and, like most monastic possessions, they must have been increased considerably by endowments from successive proprietors. The first grant named is the lands of Strath Alway, in which the isle of Ach-na-badi, now Beau Lieu, was included, and which extended from Inachterradales on the east to the burn of Breasach westward.² The next grants we hear of are as to certain *mutures* bestowed by the Laird of Bisset within the parishes of Wardlaw and Kiltarlity, namely, those on the lands of Loveth, Luss, Finask, Muniack, &c., all of which are confirmed to the said monks by King Alexander in 1231. Again, between the years 1227 and 1241, when Pope Gregory confirms the Beaully friars in their property, the lands of Fithenay and Karcurri, with the fishing of the Forne, are mentioned as further gifts from the liberal founder of the monastery.³ "We have taken," says His Holiness in this Bull, "your persons and the monastery specially under the protection of the blessed

In fertili planitie quæ nullis ferma extraneis fructibus, &c.—*Hay.*

¹ MS. Hist. of the Frasers.—Advocates' Library.

³ Macfarlane's Transcripts. Chart. of Beaully.

S. Peter and ourselves; as also the possessions of Lithenay and Karcurri, with the Forne fishery which John Bisset granted to you; . . . likewise your landed property and your other goods; . . . and we confirm you in the same by our apostolic authority. . . . Given at the Lateran." . . . (Date omitted.) About the same time, William, brother to John de Bisset, grants to the monks, in the name of "God, the blessed Mary, and the blessed John Baptist," the church of Abertarf,¹ in the diocese of Moray; and this gift, as well as their tithes and fishings on the Spey, is ratified to the Beaully monks by Andrew, Bishop of Moray, shortly after. The charter of ratification is subscribed by the Bishop and fourteen canons.² This William frequently witnesses to his elder brothers charters and donations. The terms of the founder's charter were, that the brethren should pray for him during his lifetime; after his death take charge of his body and obsequies, and keep alive the memory of his departed soul by continual sacrifices and works of piety.³ Scarcely, however, was Bisset's endowment secured to the Beaully monks when an event occurred which entirely changed the fortunes of his family. And now let us note what is known of the history of this ancient house.

The name of Bizet, Biseth, or Byset, stands out in early Scottish history under circumstances of unusual prominence. The family, according to Anderson, was originally from England, and first settled in Scotland, it is said, under William the Lion, though Abereromby supports the position of their introduction in the reign of Malcolm III. As this Malcolm (Ceann Mor) reigned A.D. 1057-93, and we find a Byset about a century later occupying a position of great eminence at the court of William, and actually marrying the king's daughter,⁴ there is no difficulty in accepting the latter view as the more probable. At all events, this John de Byset, son-in-law to the Scottish king, makes his appearance as Lord of the lands of Lovat A.D. 1170, the previous possessors having apparently been Fentons

¹ The grant includes some rights of fishing, specified as salmon, "et garbarum." ["Garba" means a sheaf of corn, teind sheaves.—ED.]

² Keith says fifteen.

³ "Ut pro ipso dum viveret, &c., &c., prosequerentur.

⁴ The Wardlaw MS. says her name was Agnes.

and Gilchrists or Grahams. Of these last names it may be remarked that they continued in the district in the persons of individuals holding Crown wardships of the two forts, Beaufort or Downie, and Lovat, during the Bysets' tenure of the lands these forts were built upon. And in the interval between the fall of the Bissets and the rise of the Frasers of Lovat, these Fentons and Grahams appear to have got back some of their property in the neighbourhood.¹ John de Bisset, first of Lovat, says one manuscript, was "a great courtier with William the Lion, and was settled in Lovat with commission from the king, a man of great courage and activity."² To him succeeded his second son, John, who married, A.D. 1206, Jean Haliburton, daughter of the Lord of Culboynie. At this time the family had become sufficiently important as to have granted lands under conditions of vassalage to several smaller lairds, who were styled the Bysets' barons, Fenton and Haliburton being among the number. The M'Kays and M'Raes, who were settled in Urquhart, Abriachar, and the neighbouring parts, were also vassals of the house of Bisset.³ The former clan or sept, we are told, were the only supporters the Lord of Bisset could muster in an expedition (date not named) into Glenelg to collect his rents;⁴ so that at some time that district, or part of it, must have been among the possessions of the family. In William the Lion's reign several families of Bisset were, according to Chalmers, settled in Moray and the Merse districts.⁵ One of them makes over to the Abbey of Kelso the manor of Upsetlington. From the Chronicle of Melrose⁶ we hear of one Sir Walter de Bizet, who married Ada, daughter of Rowland M'Donal, Lord of Galloway, about the year 1200. His grandson, William de Bisset, was one of the auditors in the competition between Bruce and Balliol, A.D. 1291; and William's grandson, again, Thomas de Bisset, was second husband (the first being William de Ramsay) of Isabella M'Duff, heiress of the earldom of Fife. To Thomas, King David II., in the year 1362, granted a charter of that earldom to revert to the Crown failing male heirs. He took the title of Earl of Fife, and died without issue, about 1366. His widow married Walter Stuart, Earl of Menteith, who also died without issue; and in 1371 she disposed of the Fyfe

¹ Chart. of Moray, &c.² Wardlaw MS.³ Anderson's Hist.⁴ Wardlaw MS.⁵ Anderson's Hist.⁶ According to the Kiltravock MS.

earldom to Robert Stuart, afterwards Duke of Albany. Upon the forfeiture of this peer's son, Duke Murdoc, the earldom was annexed to the crown.¹ According to the Kilravock MS., the first Bisset of Lovat was settled there, with many other strangers, by King Malcolm IV. (the maiden) in his northern expedition against Moray; and his son, the founder of Beauly, was made governor of the Fort of Lovat.² It is thus pretty evident that the Bissets were a rich and powerful family, connected with some of the first blood in Scotland. John de Bisset had no sons that came to age. Of his three daughters, Mary,³ the eldest, married David de Graham; Cecilia, the next, William Fenton of Beaufort; and Elizabeth, the youngest, Sir Andrew de Boseo, Dominus de Redcastle and Eddyrdor, whose daughter was the ancestress of the family of De Roos or Rose of Kilravock. By this marriage with Bisset's eldest daughter, who was heiress of Lovat, a Graham once more became possessor of that lordship. In 1258, as "Dominus de Loveth," he makes an arrangement with the Bishop of Moray about some fishings on the Forne, part, if not all, of which his father-in-law had, as we have seen, granted to the Beauly monks.⁴ In 1280, William Fenton Lord of Beaufort, and Cecilia Bisset his wife, are excommunicated by the same bishop for unjustly retaining the lands of Kiltalargyn.⁵ In 1222, the mention of "nobilis vir Joannes Bisseth, Dominus de Loveth," occurs in the chartulary of Moray. Two years later John de Byset enters into a compact with Bryce or Brisius, Bishop of Moray, with respect to the transference of the Church of St Maurity in Doun-bealach to Balbray or Mons St Marie, where it was erected into a mensal, and parochial church.⁶ This deed is subscribed by the bishop and the chanter.⁷ In it the said John Byset, "for the soul of his father, and likewise for the safety and the souls of himself, his mother, and all his posterity, conferred upon and granted to the

¹ Sibbald's Hist. and Kilravock MS.

² Kilravock and Wardlaw MSS.

³ It was a favourite theory with the genealogists of the Fraser family that one of their house, the Sir Simon who took so determined a part against Edward I. in his invasion of Scotland, and was afterwards beheaded in London, married a Mary de Bisset, and thereby acquired the Lovat property; but this assumption has been shown to be incorrect; the dates, in fact, are all against it.

⁴ Chart. of Moray.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Anderson's Hist.

⁷ Wardlaw MS.

church of Dul-batelach,¹ for the purposes of a free and perpetual alms seven acres of land in a suitable place and near the parish church, after its translation to Fyngart, in the place called Wardlaw."² Again, in 1226, he devotes the right of patronage or advowson of Kiltalirgy (Kiltarlity) church "to God and the Church of St Peter of Rothven for the maintenance of lepers devoting themselves to God in that place."³ In this grant the favours conferred upon the Bissets by King William are recognised. It was given, says the chartulary, "for the soul of the Lord William King of Scotland, and also for the preservation of my noble Lord and King Alexander, and for the soul's health of my ancestors and successors."⁴ In 1228 the Lord of Lovat is again heard of, this time in dispute, as to certain church lands, with Bishop Bryce's successor, Andrew de Moravia, who laid the foundation stone of the magnificent cathedral church of the Holy Trinity at Elgin.⁵

So far we have traced nearly all that is known respecting the Priory and the family of its founder up to the period when the connection between the two was suddenly severed. The circumstance which led to that severance I shall quote in the words of the Fraser MS. :— "About the year 1244,⁶ while King Alexander II. and a great number of his nobility lay at Haddington, the lodging of Patrick Cumming, Earl of Athole, took fire on a sudden, in which the earl and two servants were burnt to death. Though it was not known how the fire began, yet a general suspicion ran against the Bissets, upon account of a standing feud betwixt the earl and them. They were accordingly summoned to appear to answer for that murder, and such was the great power and interest of the Cummings, that though William Bisset proved by many witnesses, among whom was the queen, that he was at Forfar—upwards of sixty miles from Haddington—the night that that villany was perpetrated, yet

¹ In this transformation of the name (see Doun-bealach above) we have an example of the hazards to be encountered in attempting to interpret topographical etymologies. An easy transition from this rendering would give us Dal-bataile, which would read instead of "hill of the pass," the "field of battle."

² Scotice, Balbrach; Anderson's Hist.

³ I quote the Chart. of Moray as literally as possible.

⁴ Anderson's Hist.

⁵ Keith and Fraser MS.

⁶ Anderson makes it 1242.

the Cummings insisted that several of his servants and vassals were seen there; upon which the whole family was banished, and their estates confiscated to the king." Bisset, finding himself attainted and stripped of his property, shortly afterwards leagues himself with Donald, Lord of the Isles, and accepts a charter from that potentate for the lands of Auchterless in Aberdeenshire, on condition of paying him the customary homage. This so incensed the King of Scotland when it came to his knowledge, that Bisset was at once proclaimed an outlaw; and, on being captured in the wood of Auchterless, where he had doubtless gone to take possession of his illegally gotten acquisition, he was banished to Ireland, where his four brothers accompanied him, in the year 1249. Yet his forfeiture must have been partially remitted, as in 1258 he was in possession of the lands of Erchless."¹ After his banishment, according to one account, the barony of Lovat was bestowed upon Sir Simon Fraser of Tweeddale,² and passed on to his son, thus inaugurating the new house of that name in the north; but there appears to be no satisfactory evidence of this, as the first Fraser styled of Lovat does not appear till A.D. 1367.³ A family genealogist would naturally make the most of his patron's pedigree, and the statements of such an one must be accepted with reserve.

Between the years 1242 and 1278, charters for grants of land and quit claims from various individuals to the Beaulieu monks are recorded in the ancient registers.⁴ The names of Bisset's daughters and sons-in-law occur pretty frequently about this period. In 1279 the Prior of the monastery is appointed sub-deputy by the Abbot of Deir to settle a dispute as to the church lands of Kiltarlity, between Archibald, Bishop of Moray, and William de Fenthon, lord of Beaufort, who, as we have seen, was husband to one of Bisset's daughters and co-heiresses.⁵ About 1293 this lady, Cecilia Bisset, then a widow, grants a charter to the monks of the third part of the lands of Altyre,⁶ which she had inherited. In 1295, Elizabeth, daughter to the nobleman, the Lord John of Bisset, and formerly

¹ Afterwards owned by the Chisholms.

² Fraser MS.

³ Anderson's Hist. and Chart. of Moray.

⁴ Origines Parochiales.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ "Diplomata" of the Priory. It is given "to the brethren of Vallis-caulium serving God in house Belli Locii."

spouse to the Lord Andrew of Bosco, subscribes a deed making over to her child, Mary de Bosco, the estates of Kilravock.¹ In the year 1278, Andrew de Boscho, lord of Eddyrdor, and Elizabeth his spouse, grant an annual alms of two merks to the monastery of Beauly (domui Belli Loci), the same to be paid "at our castle of Eddyrdor by us and our heirs." The witnesses to this charter are William, Vicar of Eddyrdor, and Colin Gove, Constable of Farnedale, and it is dated "die Veneris" (or Friday), next after the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, A.D. 1278.² Somewhere about the same period a deed of gift appears in the Beauly Chartulary from "David de Innerlunan" (whom I take to be John Bisset's son-in-law, Sir David de Graham) before his marriage, granting, with consent of Gillecris³ MacGilliduff, to the brethren of Beauly all his estate of Auchterradale, namely, one half of the davoch land which he held of the said Gilchrist. The witnesses are—The Lord Walter of Moray; the Lord Andrew of Moray; William, Earl of Sutherland; Alan, brother to the said Lord Andrew; Isaac Mac Gillendre; John Christinson (fili Cristini); Duncan Duff; Bechly Beg, and others.⁴ In the same register is a charter by William de Fenton, Lord of Beauford, dated on St Valentine's Fairday, 1328, granting to the monks two merks value of the Beauford multures. And, during the first quarter of the 14th century, we hear of Patrick de Graham, who gives one-third part of the Altyre lands in exchange or quit claim for certain multures for one-third of one hundred and twenty merks which his grandfather, Sir John Bisset, had pledged himself to pay the monks in perpetuity towards the fabric of the priory church, and for other debts.⁵ The witnesses to this charter are John de Grant, Thomas, Bishop of Ross, the Lord William de Fenton, and John de Fenton his son. In the south and elsewhere the name of Bisset reappears from time to time in the different Chartularies;⁶

¹ Fraser MSS.

² Chart. Beauly.

³ The Grahams were also styled Gilchrists, according to Anderson.

⁴ Chart. Beauly.

⁵ Origines Parochiales.

⁶ In 1305 a Bisset is constable of Stirling Castle, and there are proofs of a branch of the family having held the estates of Dalry and Merchiston near Edinburgh in the reigns of Robert I. and David II.—*Anderson's Hist.*, *Chalmers's Caledonia*, &c. And in 1431 Donald Balloch of the Isles inherited through his mother, Marjory Bisset, the territory of the Glens in Antrim.—*Gregory*.

but, so far as the subject of the present paper is concerned, this once distinguished family, which, in the person of the founder of the Beaulieu Priory, would seem to have possessed the estates of Lovat, the Aird, Stratherick,¹ part of Glenelg in the west, Altyre, Urquhart, and Kilravock, in all a princely heritage, may be said to pass out of notice in the beginning of the 14th century.

We have next to glance at the other Scottish houses grouping themselves around the Monastery. First in importance comes the illustrious race of the Frasers, who, after a short interregnum, replaced the Bissets in the heritorship of Lovat. The genealogy of the family has been amply discussed elsewhere, and need not be entered into here. I may just remark, however, that the name of Fraser or Friselle was undoubtedly among the first introduced into this country at the Norman Conquest, though the date of the family's entry into Scotland is involved in obscurity. Their earliest settlements, says Anderson, north of the Border were in East Lothian, whence they successively branched off into Tweeddale in the 12th and 13th centuries, and afterwards to Invernessshire and Aberdeenshire. It was not, however, as we have seen, till the year 1367 that a Fraser figures in a written charter as Lord of the Barony of Lovat and Ard. The principal southern line of the house terminated as to heirs male in the person of the Sir Simon Fraser who was beheaded in London in 1306, a year after Sir William Wallace had suffered a similar fate. The headship of the clan then passed to Sir Simon's uncle, Sir Andrew Fraser, whose son, also named Simon,² equally devoted as his patriotic cousin to the house of Bruce, fell at the battle of Halidon Hill, A.D. 1333.

Now, apparently, both of these Simons are alluded to in the Fraser MS. in connection with Beaulieu. Of the first, who was distinguished from his father in the southern chronicles by the title of "filius," the writer remarks, calling him "the brave Sir Simon,"³ that he settled

¹ Strath Errick, on the east shore of Loch Ness to the north of Foyers.

² From whom the chiefs of the Lovat Frasers took their Gaelic patronymic "Mac-Shimi," or the Son of Simon. This Christian name had been popular in the earlier times of the family.

³ There is probably some confusion here on the writer's part between the two chiefs of the same name.

and married in the north during his father's lifetime, and that his first act after his marriage was "to settle marches betwixt him and the monks of Beauly." The MS. then proceeds to speak of the mother of him who was slain at Halidon Hill, and whom it styles the fifth laird. She spent, we are told, much of her time in acts of piety, contributing liberally towards *building*¹ and beautifying the monastery, and it was her intention to erect a stone bridge over the water of Beauly, for which purpose a great heap of stones was collected, "still to be seen in y^e river," called "Carn-na Baintighearna" (the lady's cairn); but death prevented her executing the work. This lady had estates in the county of Caithness, then within the sheriffdom of Inverness;² and the probabilities are that the clan Fraser got its first footing in the north through Sir Andrew, her husband, and that it was their son Simon, and not his cousin, who had to do with Beauly.

From the year 1333 the portraits given us of the Chiefs of Lovat become more distinct. Next to the Simon of Halidon Hill memory, the generally admitted first Fraser of Lovat, came Simon, his eldest son, who died unmarried, and was succeeded by his brother Hugo or Hugh, about A.D. 1348. Hugh is the Fraser of Lovat and Ard who first appears in the Moray Chartulary as such, A.D. 1367.³ This laird, we are told, was beloved by the clergy, who paid him every mark of esteem while he lived, and after his death gave him a princely burial. "The Bishop of Murray, Alexander Bar, and Tho^s. Tulloch, Bishop of Ross, w^t all their dignities, the Abbots of Kinloss and Fearn, the Priors of Pluscardine and Beaulie, with their orders, attended the funeral which appeared like a procession of churchmen, till the body was interred within the Church of Beaulie."⁴ He died in 1397 in his 70th year. Alexander was the next laird. In him, if the picture drawn be a true one, we have exhibited a character of devoted piety rarely found among laymen of that day, or indeed any other, and not too often among the clergy themselves. Unlike most of the nobles of "the age he lived in," "he cared not," we learn, "for

¹ Perhaps a re-building of some portion of the church, or an addition such as cloisters, &c., may be meant.

² Anderson.

³ "Dominus de Loveth, et Portionarius terrarum de Ard."

⁴ Fraser MS.

the noise and pomp of the court," but gave himself up to retirement and prayer, spending most of his time in the priory, "where he had the conversation of y^e prior and the monks and their regular canonical devotions." "It was pity," says the writer of the Lovat Memoirs,¹ "he was not a churchman, having often declared he would rather serve at God's altar than attain the highest state preferments. He was a pattern of primitive piety to all around him. He never mentioned y^e name of Jesus Christ but w^t this respectful addition 'My Master.'" His education was at first conducted within the walls of the monastery at Beaulie, where he afterwards assisted the prior in beautifying and adorning the church and cloisters. At his expense a beautiful steeple of carved oak was erected on the western pinnacle of the building, and a curious bell placed in it. Before his death he devolved the charge of his affairs on his brother Hugh who succeeded him. He died in 1415. Alexander was never married, but the narrator of his extraordinary piety laconically informs us that he left one son Robert, commonly called by the country people "Rob-mac-amaiche," the monk's son, on account of his father's sanctity. From this Robert sprang one of the principal branches of the house of Fraser. Of Hugh Fraser, or as he is termed in the old monkish chronicles, Hutcheon Frezel, fifth Laird and first Lord or Baron of Lovat,² it is recorded that "he built the north work of y^e Church of Beulie and y^e Chapel of Holy Cross," and got the privilege of a fair at Beaulie, thereafter styled Cross Fair, held annually on the 3d day of May. He also erected a famous cross at Wellhouse, on the high road, which was afterwards brought to Beaulie, "where it still remains."³ This Hugh Fraser is supposed to have been created a lord of Parliament in the year 1431,⁴ and from his

¹ Referred to by the Author of the Fraser MS.

² According to Anderson. He says the Lovat family never had a patent of nobility. It is not known precisely how early they were classed with the peerage. In Scotland there is often confusion between the greater and lesser barons, *i.e.*, between peers proper and lairds of estates, from their having been indiscriminately styled "Dominus" in the early charters.

³ Fraser MS. and Anderson's Hist. In Anderson's "Highlands and Isles" the shaft of this cross is said to be still visible in Beaulie village, but I did not notice it.

⁴ Anderson's Hist. Though the Fraser MS. says it was the fourth of the name who first received this dignity, and that the Lordship was held under the Earls of Ross and Moray till their forfeiture.

time it is certain that the family of Lovat have been ranked among the Scottish Peerage.¹ He died in 1440, having married Janet Fenton, sister of the representative of the old lairds of Beaufort, and was buried at Beauly. His successor Hugh, fourth of the name, second Lord Lovat, was educated at Beauly under the care of James Reid, the prior, who "bred him a good scholar and devout man." He only lived to the age of 28, and was buried in the priory church. His eldest son Thomas, who also died young, was prior of Beauly, *ad commendam*.² Of the third Lord, we hear nothing in connection with the monastery. His successor, Hugh Fraser, fourth Lord Lovat, died at Beaufort Castle in 1524, and was buried at Beauly. His eldest son, Robert, by a second marriage, married Janet Gelly, heiress of Braky in Fife, and was killed we are told, at the Water of Beauly, by the monks.³ The particulars of this deed of violence it would have been interesting to learn, but the MS. which recites it does not seem to have added anything in the way of explanation to satisfy our curiosity. Some wanton act of sacrilege, perhaps, considering the period, something to do with the reforming tenets that were growing up in the land, may have exasperated the churchmen. Yet one of the MSS. speaks of this Robert as an amiable and esteemed individual. In 1521, an injunction was issued by Sylvester, "Nuncio of the Apostolic See," to the abbots of Kynlos and Fearn in favour of the "noble and potent Hugh Fraser of Loveth," respecting the lands of the Kirkton of Kilmoricht and the fishings of the same. It provided that a sum of L.5, 6s. 8d. was to be paid annually to the heirs and assigns of the late Thomas Fraser of Lovat for four barrels of salmon from the yearly fishings of the Ess of Kilmoricht, &c. This injunction was executed in 1532. Hugh, seventh of the name, fifth in the peerage, procured an Act of Parliament for a weekly fair at Beauly. At that time there were three fairs held in the Vale, the fair of St Mauritius at Beaufort, All Saints' at Kilmorack, and of Michaelmas at Beauly. My Lord's retinue on the occasions when he rode to proclaim the fairs, was very imposing. In one of these ceremonies he is said to have had in his train three lords and

¹ Anderson's Hist.

² *Ibid. ut supra.*

³ Culduthel MSS. of the Lovat family in possession of the Frasers of Culduthel. — *Anderson.*

six barons,¹ with all their followers in full armour. In 1540 he is known to have sat as a peer in parliament. Four years later, the bloody fight which took place at Loch Lochy between the Clanranald and the Frasers, cut him off, and with him his son, the Master of Lovat, and eighty gentlemen of his clan. Four Frasers, it is told, and seven of the Macdonalds, were all that escaped with life, and of these every man was wounded, only one, Fraser of Foyers, ultimately surviving.² The combat lasted twelve hours, and is said to have been the bloodiest ever fought in that part of the country. The bodies of Lord Lovat and his son were brought off the field next day by his people, and conveyed to Beaully for burial. The inscription over this lord's tomb was visible till the year 1746, and was as follows:³—"Hic jacet Hugo Dominus Fraser de Lovat qui fortissime Pugnans contra Reginalderios⁴ occubuit Julii 15. 1544." On the death of his father, the next son, Alexander, a youth of sixteen, succeeded. He had been put under charge of Robert Reid, who combined the functions of Bishop of Orkney, Abbot of Kinloss, and Prior or Com-mendator⁵ of Beaully, and who built a great mansion-house in Beaully, where, says the 1746 writer, "his arms is yet to be seen." This priestly dignitary appears to have been worthy of his emoluments, for he was eminent for generosity and hospitality. He kept an open house for the children of the principal gentry, and had at the same time under his roof as guests, Lord Lovat, his brother William, the lairds of Kintail, Foulis, and others. He also kept his "pleasure barge to transport him betwixt Kinloss and Beaully." Alexander, Lord Lovat, died in 1558, still a young man, and was laid with his predecessors in the Priory Church of Beaully.

In the year 1560, at an eventful period of Scottish history, Hugh, seventh baron, and twelfth laird of Lovat, was served heir to his deceased father. He was, like every one else, more or less mixed up with the factions and agitations which were in full force around the person of the beautiful but ill-fated Mary. He was a great intimate with Sir

¹ Lesser ones, or simple lairds doubtless.

² Fraser MS.—*Anderson*.

³ *Anderson*.

⁴ From Reginald, son of Somarled, ancestor of the Lords of the Isles.

⁵ This term now makes its appearance.

Walter Reid, brother to the Bishop of Orkney above-mentioned, and this Sir Walter I shall have to mention again in more immediate connection with the priory. As to his relations with the young Lord Lovat, the family MS. gives us a glimpse of them which is not without interest from the incidental mention of other personages:—

“Among y^e other great acquaintance y^t Lord Lovat made then at court, he became very intimate with Sir Walter Reid and his lady. This Sir Walter was brother to y^e Bishop of Orkney, who was the great friend and patron of Alexander, Lord Lovat, and when y^e bishop was with others sent to France to transact y^e marriage of Queen Mary with y^e Dolphin, his brother, Sir Walter Reid, was, by an Act of Parliament, made commendator of these two monasteries of Kinloss and Beauli. He was Lord Lovat’s relation by y^e house of Balnagown, and this acquaintance was of signal use to Lord Lovat in y^e purchase of y^e lands belonging to y^e priory of Beauli, as will appear afterwards.”

This Lord Lovat was one of the Lords of Association to whom the Queen surrendered herself after Bothwell’s defeat and flight, and who confined her in Loch Leven. He also subscribed the bond for the defence of her son, James, which followed upon her forced resignation. Sir Walter, seeing the clouds which were storming up on the ecclesiastical horizon, lost no time in seeking what shelter he could. As prior and commendator, with consent of the Beauly monks, he got himself appointed heritable baillie of the priory by a charter dated in November 1571, and confirmed under the Great Seal in the following February. Finding this, however, to be an insufficient security, and fearful of falling a prey to some one of the powerful chiefs on the look out for crown grants of church property, he makes over *in toto* to the Lord Lovat, and his heirs male, the lands of the benefice—viz., the town and lands of Beaulie, Ardnacrase, Rixandown, Inch-rori, &c. Both concessions are made in the same year;¹ and in 1573, scarcely two years afterwards, the unlucky prior, as if in disgust, resigns the priorate and commendatorship in favour of one Master John Fraser, who receives his appointment from King James VI. Lord Lovat died at Towie, in Aberdeenshire, on

¹ According to the “Origines Parochiales” the lands were not relinquished till 1573, after Sir Walter’s resignation.

New Year's day 1577, some said of poison, and he must have had many enemies who would not scruple to get rid of him in that way. He was on his return home from Edinburgh, where he had gone as one of the confederate lords to consult with Morton on the affairs of the North. There was never, says the chronicler,¹ such a funeral seen in these parts (*i.e.*, about Beaulie) for grandeur and magnificence. There were upwards of 2000 men under arms that conveyed the body from Towie to Inverness, besides all the nobility and gentry in the North. They arrived at Lovat on the first of February, and his remains were laid among the ashes of his noble ancestors before the great altar in the Priory Church of Beaulie. According to the same account, this was the last funeral procession of the race of MacShimi which entered its walls, as hereafter the family burial-place was removed to Kirkhill. Another authority, however, says that Simon, the eighth Lord, who died in 1633, and a Sir Alexander Fraser of Doors, who died seven years before while a guest at Lovat, were both buried in St Catharine's aisle within Beaulie Church.² The last we hear of the priory in connection with the Lovat family was during the minority of the said Lord Simon. His uncle, Thomas Fraser of Knockie and Strichen, having, not without some trouble, got himself appointed tutor to the young lord in 1576, takes the first opportunity of seeing the dispossessed monks of Beaulie reinstated in their cells and provided for during the rest of their days. He then turns his attention to a question of disputed marches between the priory lands and those of Mackenzie of Kintail, which had long been in an unsettled state. The two parties were very nearly going to battle on the subject; but, on the tutor bringing an imposing force to the front, which advanced to the banks of the Conan, the chief of the clan Kenzie grew alarmed for his own property, and made overtures which resulted in an amicable adjustment of their differences. On the 13th October 1576, a tack or lease is granted by the prior of Beaulie, with the chapter's consent, of the vicarage tithes of the parish of Canveneth³ to Simon, Master of Lovat, son and apparent heir of Hugh, Lord Lovat. About the same time Strichen, the "good tutor," as he was called, appoints a regality court at Beaulie to

¹ Lovat Memoirs, quoted in Fraser MS.

² Wardlaw MSS.

³ Also spelt Cornwath.

confirm the late lord's patent and rights to the priory lands, which, we have seen, had been absolutely surrendered to him by the late prior, Sir Walter Reid. Finally, in 1592, after the general surrender of church benefices to the crown, Lord Simon is granted by the King a new charter of the lands of Beauly, which are to be henceforth held as a barony.

The next great clan or family we have to notice in connection with Beauly is that of Mackenzie, the chief representative of which was the house of Kintail in Ross-shire, having as their principal seat the beautiful region on the north side of Loch Duich, with the castle of Eilean Donan on an island in the loch, now a picturesque ruin. The "Domini de Kintail" became peers of Scotland as Lords Kintail, and afterwards Earls of Seaforth,—but this was not till post-reformation times. With the exception of the Campbells, this noble race was at one time the most powerful in the Western Highlands,¹ having sway over nearly the whole extent of the large county of Ross, but their invariable adherence to the Stuart cause resulted in the attainder of the Earl of Seaforth in 1715 for his participation in Mar's rebellion, and the old property has now passed into other hands. Notwithstanding the disappearance of many of the collateral branches of this family there still remain a sufficiently goodly number to show how widespread and influential the Mackenzies must have been. Beauly, we know, was the burial-place of the later Kintail chiefs, also of some of the branch families of Mackenzie, probably those that were within comparatively easy reach of it. Most fortunately the tomb of one is still to be seen within the ruins of the Priory Church, engraven, a still rarer circumstance, with a very perfect and legible inscription giving the date of 1491. Of this tomb more presently.

The first noticeable ancestor credited to the Mackenzies is one Colin Fitzgerald,² who is supposed to have figured at the battle of Largs, and received for his services the wardship of the Castle of Eilean Donan or Danton³ from Walter Stewart, Earl of March and Carrick, along with a charter of the lands of Kintail, dated A.D. 1266. Having married a

¹ Gregory's Hist.

² Chief of the Geraldines the writer calls him, which gives a wide margin for an antecedent pedigree.—*Mackenzie* MSS. in Advocates' Library.

³ *Ibid.* So named, he says, from its having been built for the "daunting of the Isles."

daughter of the chief of the Macmahons, the former possessors of Kintail, Colin had a son, Kenneth; and, as Fitzgerald it is alleged was a stranger in the country, this Kenneth, being the first chief of native blood, came to be the ancestor from whom the clan patronymic of MacChainich (or Mackenzie) was derived. He, we are told, married Morba, daughter of Macdougall of Lorne, and sister's daughter to Cummin, Earl of Athole. The next Kenneth distinguished himself by his devotion to the royal house of Bruce, and held Eilean Donan Castle in his interest, which fortress, it was afterwards the boast of the Mackenzies, had never been commanded by the Bruce's enemies, either English or Scots. Of Kenneth, the third laird, nicknamed "Nistroir"¹ from his big nose, Murdoch Dow² (M'Kynich), who is granted a charter of the Kintail lands by King David I. in 1362, and Murdoch "Nichroich," the fifth laird, (perhaps another sizeable-nosed one), there is nothing to record in connection with Beaully. The last named Murdoch had to wife, first, Anna, daughter of Macdougall of Lorne,³ by whom was Kenneth, sixth laird, and from a second marriage came Hector, first of the Gairloch Mackenzies.² This Kenneth, sixth of Kintail,⁴ is the chief whom the beautiful tomb, with recumbent effigy, at Beaully, was erected to commemorate. Of him we know something more than of the others. He was twice married, his first wife, Margaret, being a sister to the celebrated Donald Dubh, or the black Lord of the Isles, (who also styled himself Earl of Ross). By her he had one son named Kenneth Oig (young Kenneth), who was one of the hostages kept in confinement at Edinburgh Castle for the good behaviour of the Island chiefs, but, having made his escape thence, was followed and killed in the Torwood by the laird of Buchanan. Sir Kenneth's second wife was Anne,⁵ daughter of Hugh, third Lord Lovat, and the MS. gives a curious account of the rough and ready way in which he made his proposals for the lady's hand. "Sir Kenneth," says Anderson, "went to Lovat, accompanied by 200 armed men, and besieged

¹ What Gaelic this is I cannot make out unless it be a corruption of "Na Srdine mhòr."

² Mackenzie MSS. in Adv. Lib.

³ De Ergadia, also an ancient and powerful, we may say a princely, family.

⁴ Anderson calls him by mistake the eighth laird.

⁵ Mackenzie MSS.

the house. Lord Lovat demanded his purpose, when he coolly told him he wanted to marry his daughter, Ann, and vowed friendship or revenge as his suit was received. His lordship gave his consent to the match, provided the young lady was favourable. She fortunately proved submissive, and Mackenzie returned with his bride."¹ From the same authority we learn that Sir Kenneth divorced his first wife, and afterwards, namely in 1491, obtained from the Pope a sanction for this irregular proceeding. If so, the sanction was just in time for the peace of his conscience, as his tomb tells us he died on the 7th of February 1491.² He is the recorded hero of a great fight which took place near Park between the Mackenzies and a nephew of the Lord of the Isles, one Gillespie M'Donald, who must have been a connection of his divorced wife, and who was, partly perhaps on that account, in arms against the lord of Kintail. The Islanders were in considerable numbers, but Mackenzie, with a hundred bowmen sent by the Master of Lovat to assist him, was too much for M'Donald, whose men, when their enemies got within half a mile of them, became alarmed at the sight of the hostile clans in such force. "Kintail," says the MS., "asked Glaiissan Fraser (Gow), who commanded the Lovat bowmen, how he would behave if he were in command that day."³ "By St Mary of Kirkhill," was Fraser's reply, "I would soon be in y^e heart of them."³ After this engagement such of the Macdonalds as escaped, being ignorant of the country, were nearly all drowned in the water of the Conan. This action was fought in the year 1478. Sir Kenneth is said to have been named Kenneth "Iolair" (or the Eagle) by the Highlanders on account of this victory.⁴ Sir Kenneth was the first of his family buried at Beauly, all his predecessors having been interred at Icolmkil.⁵ He left four sons and two daughters, the eldest, John, having afterwards served as privy councillor to James V. and Queen Mary. Roderick, the third son, from whom sprang the Mackenzies of Achilty, Faerburn, Ardross, and others, died at Contin in 1533, and was buried at Beauly. The families of Suddy, Ord,

¹ Hist. of Frasers, p. 70.

² That is, 1491-92. Anderson has evidently mistaken the dates here, as he puts Sir Kenneth's death at about 1506-7.

Fraser MSS.

⁴ Mackenzie MSS.

⁵ Anderson.

Corrovalzie, Highfield, Inverlal, Little Findon, Scatwell, and others, claim Kenneth, the fourth son, as their ancestor. He fell at Flodden Field on the 9th September 1513. Sir Kenneth, we are informed, was knighted "for being highly instrumental in reducing his fierce countrymen to the blessings of civilised life;"¹ but it may be doubted if, in that stormy age, the golden spurs would be conferred on any one for such peaceful services; moreover, the lord of Kintail's mode of courtship was not, as we have seen, quite of the most civilised kind. The tomb of this chief² is an arched niche in the portion of wall separating the main aisle from the north transept, which latter formed a side chapel or sacristy, apparently the chapel of "Holy Cross" built by Hugh, first Lord Lovat, and is probably what the family writer means by "Mackenzie's aisle." This monument is of the kind known as "high" or "altar" tombs. The niche has an ornamental canopy facing into the chapel, of the usual style of this kind of enriched work. The arch is a pointed one with square crockets, terminating in a pretty finial, and there is a plain shaft alongside the niche, which latter contains a recumbent figure. This figure, a full length one, is carved in stone richly elaborated, in this respect occupying a middle place between the ruder effigies of the Highlands, and the exquisite work of our mediæval alabaster sculptures to be met with in England. The front of the tomb below the figure is panelled into six trefoil headed compartments. On the side of the nave the niche has been subsequently bricked up, leaving only the projecting sill and the side shafts. It is on the sill that the inscription is written, the date being carried on up one of the shafts. It runs thus, and is in the old English character—

¹ Anderson.

² Sketches of this tomb, the two other mediæval ones described further on, a view of the church with a few bits of its detail, and an approximate plan of the building, kindly sent me by a brother officer, were exhibited at the meeting for purposes of general illustration. It was not till after the proofs of this paper were in my hands that the existence of an elaborate set of architectural drawings of Beaulieu, lately prepared by Mr Anderson, architect, F.S.A. Scot., was made known to me. These drawings, which I have since had the pleasure of seeing (along with lithographs for the Spring Gardens Sketch Club), are executed in the most minute architectural detail.

Hic jacet . Ranycus . m kynych
 d'us . de Kyntapl . q . obiit hii . die
 Februarii . a . di m.cccc.lxxxii.

The feet of the figure rest upon a dog, the head upon a double cushion, and the hands are joined in prayer. The detail of the armour is complete: feet and elbow plates, spurs, sword belt with its slings, the dagger, or misericorde, as it was called, over the right thigh, and a short tunic of mail reaching a little below the waist, with the sword-belt carried over it. The succeeding lairds appear to have all been buried at Beaully till comparatively modern times. The Fentons and Grahams have already been spoken of, and if to these names we add that of Chisholm or Chesholm, a family anciently settled in Strath Affrick, members of which appear occasionally in early documents, and whose burial-place was Beaully, the list of the families connected with the monastery appears to be complete.

We now return to the history of the monastery itself.¹ The monkish records are often unsatisfactorily brief, containing little beyond the names of the priors and witnesses to the charters; but still these scanty details are better than nothing. In the year 1255 a charter is granted by Lawrence the Soldier or Knight, son of the nobleman warden of Inverness, devoting all his estate in Bromiholm and the island to St John the Baptist, "de bello loco," and the prior. It is dated at Rosmarc on Jove's day (or Thursday) next after the feast of the exaltation of the Holy Cross. In 1275 there is one by Master Henry of Folyngtham, rector of the church of Tarnedale. After reciting that there had been a controversy between him and the prior of Beaully, the charter continues:—"At length . . . on Jove's day, within the octave of the Epiphany, anno 1274, in the cathedral church of Elgyn . . . the arbiters gave judgment as follows." That the said Master Henry was to pay tithes of all his land appertaining to the church of Tarnedal for eight years "from next term to Pentecost of 1275." . . . "That each half-year the brethren were to be entitled to

¹ My information here is principally derived from the Orig. Parochiales and a number of transcripts from the "Diplomata" of Macfarlane, supplied to Dr John Stuart by Mr Cosmo Innes, and very kindly lent me by the former.

claim the said Master Henry's services, with two horses, 'et duobum garcionibus' (whatever that may mean), and that he was faithfully to discharge all due expenses, besides giving his protection and services to the prior and convent for the said period of eight years."¹

In the years 1341, 1356, and 1357, Robert Prior of Beaulieu appears in record. In 1362 Symon is the superior of the monastery. Between 1336 and 1372 a Sir Manrico, prior "belli loci," witnesses a charter by William Earl of Ross.² "In the Ides of March," the third year of his pontificate,³ Pope Gregory XI. issues a bull to the prior and convent, confirming all their liberties. The Bull is dated from Leghorn. In 1380 there is a charter by John of Urchard, perpetual Vicar of Abertarff, respecting certain tithes of fishings at that place. It is given at Beaulieu, on the Sunday next before the feast of St Peter.

In 1458 we have a curious record of the value of an article of food, which, if not a necessary of life, may at least be said to give a spice to it. This year, the king's chamberlain north of the water of Spey, in rendering his accounts for the year preceding, takes credit for a sum of L.4 which was paid by him to the Prior of Beaulieu as due from the fermes of the baronies of Avach and Eddirdale by ancient infestment; and also for the sum of 3s. 4d., also paid the said prior, as the price of 1 *lb. of pepper* due to him yearly on the same account.⁴

Under date A.D. 1471 is noted the death of Alexander Frisale, prior of Bewley.⁵ About 1478-9 the priory was repaired, at the expense of the superior, a natural son of Alexander of Kintail,⁶ who is there buried. In 1480 appear in record Sir John Fynlay, prior, and Sir Patrick Morra and Sir John Duncan, monks.⁷ The same year, William Bishop of Moray addresses the Lord Fynlay, vicar of the parish church of Wardlaw, "in our diocess," regarding the vicariate to which he had succeeded, *vice* Donald Galle deceased. In this document the names of the prior and monastery of Bewley are introduced by the bishop, apparently in some connection with the presentation and "our contribution" to the parish

¹ Transcript Chart. Beaulieu.

³ A.D. 1373-4, on Keith's Computation.

⁴ Orig. Paroch. (Exchequer Rolls, No. 227).

⁵ Orig. Paroch. (Exchequer Rolls, No. 227).

⁶ Mackenzie MSS. and Anderson's Hist.

² Orig. Parochiales.

⁷ Orig. Parochiales.

church of Conveth. William Jackson, procurator, and the Lord Alexander Fany—afterwards a later record tells us Vicar of Conveth—are also mentioned as priests of the diocese. The charter is “given under our round seal at our palace of Spynie,” on the 7th September.¹ Sir John Fynlay appears to have been succeeded as superior of the monastery by Hugh Fresal, who died “extra Romanam curiam,”² for what offence does not appear. His death must have taken place about 1496–7. In 1497 Dougal M'Rory (Roderici) is presented by Pope Alexander VI. to the priorate, whose fruits he alleged were not above L.40 per annum. The bull and execution thereof, and the form of oath taken by the said Dougal, were given in the Chartulary of Beauly.³ Apropos of this Prior Dougal, the Beauly Chartulary gives us a letter of censure addressed to him by James Courtois (Quartus), general of the Vallis Caulium order, the details of which relieve the somewhat monotonous uniformity of the monasterial records. The letter is dated on the 18th of December 1506, and in it the writer styles himself “Brother James Courtois, prior of the monastery of Vallis Caulium, head or general of that order in the Duchy of Burgundy, near Chatillon on the Seine.” The cause of the reprimand was as follows. A certain Scottish priest, named William Thomson, had appeared at Vallis Caulium, and presented some letters unsigned and unsealed, purporting to be from the Prior of Beauly, and addressed to the Prior-general of Vallis Caulium. In these letters the Prior of Beauly complains that the Bishop of Ross claimed a general jurisdiction and right of visitation over his priorate to which he had no title. In reply, the prior-general informs the superior of Beauly that he is quite wrong, that in France all the houses of the order were regularly visited by the bishops, and that, at the same time, he must recollect they were but a limited community, numbering only thirteen small houses. He cannot supply a copy of the institution and confirmation of the privileges of the order, as requested by the Prior of Beauly, as the original is kept at their treasury at Bivion, and he (the prior-general), by reason of ill health and the approaching Feast of the Nativity (Christmas day), cannot go there himself for it. That the Prior of Beauly was to blame for never having sent to him for a proper legal induction into the priorate, and he therefore orders hini,

¹ Transcripts Chart. Beauly.

² Orig. Parochiales.

³ Macfarlane.

under the usual penalties, to appear in a chapter of the order, to be held on the next Feast of the Invention of the Holy Cross (3d May 1507), when he would learn their statutes, privileges, &c. Further, he complains that the Priors of Beaulieu had of late failed to attend quadrennially at Vallis Caulium, either in person or by deputy, as the prior's last predecessor (Hugh Frisel) had promised they should do. Nor had any of the salmon come to him from Beaulieu which the same Hugh Frisel had undertaken should in future be sent to the prior-general's agents at Bruges or Valenciennes. However, concludes the general, he hears the Prior of Beaulieu is an upright and pious man, and he hopes these things will be rectified, and that next summer the Prior of Beaulieu will pay up all arrears of fish, &c., &c.¹ Besides giving us an interesting glimpse of the relations and discipline of a Romish confraternity, this letter shows how the limited export trade of that period between Scotland and the Continent must to some extent have been affected by this kind of ecclesiastical intercommunion. In the May preceding the receipt of this admonition, Prior Dougal had been given, we find, by the same Courtois a commission empowering him to visit the monastery of Ardquhatten, in the west, and make such regulations there as he should find requisite for observing the rule and constitution of the order.² Probably Father Thomson's batch of letters had not then come to hand. In the same year (1506), Pope Julius II. issues a Bull in favour of the said Dougal and the convent of Beaulieu, threatening with excommunication all who had interfered with their property, unless restitution was made.³ This Bull was not executed till 1513. On the 11th May 1512, the superior dates at the monastery a deed of presentation to the perpetual vicarage of Conweth church, vacant by the death of the late (domini) Donald Watson, priest, who had received the same presentation from the prior in 1493, in the room of Alexander Fany (above mentioned), deceased. In 1529 King James V. promoted Master James Haswell, chaplain of St Margaret's Chapel, in Edinburgh, to be Prior of Beaulieu. Next year Robert Reid, already spoken of in connection with the Lovat family, received the priorate or commendatorship of Beaulieu, in addition to the abbacy he already held. Ten years later, namely, in 1540,

¹ Transcripts Chart. Beaulieu, and Orig. Paroch.

² Transcripts Chart. Beaulieu and Keith.

³ Transcripts Chart. Beaulieu.

the bishopric of Orkney came to swell the other dignities of this prelate. In 1537 he received seven young men as monks into the priory of Beauly, and at that time, we are told, was engaged in preparing material to build or rebuild the nave of the church.¹ In 1540 he transferred five of the Beauly monks to the abbey of Kinloss, to the tutorship of one Ferrerius,² a French ecclesiastic. Their names were Sir Thomas Togay, Sir David Dason, Sir John Crawford, Sir James Pop, and Sir Gilbert Gray. The same year the commendator builds the nave of the priory church of Beauly at great expense, roofs it with oak, and repairs the belfry, which had been struck with lightning.³ On the death of James V., in 1542, Ferrerius sends the five monks back to Beauly, and returns to France. In 1544 Bishop Robert Reid, who appears to have taken a great interest in Beauly, substituted for the old rickety prior's house a new one, large and elegant, with six vaults below⁴—a requisite addition, doubtless, considering the open-handed hospitality he was in the habit of dispensing. This very commendable commendator died in 1558.

Religious confraternities, though they were in the main enlisted on the side of law and order, were not, as it is well seen from history, by any means always so. When an individual became obnoxious to a community of churchmen, they found in too many instances a summary way of getting rid of him. The Beauly brethren and the clergy of the diocese of Ross appear to have been no exception to their class. In 1543, Sir James Haisty,⁵ a monk of Beauly, found surety before a civil court to appear in answer to a charge of having aided and abetted the Bishop of Ross and his accomplices in oppressing one Master Gawin Dunbar, treasurer of the diocese, by laying hands on him within the cathedral to the effusion of his blood.⁶ Another case of violence we have already met with in the murder of one of Lord Lovat's sons, said to have been committed by the monks of Beauly.⁷

Between 1561–6 the records give us an enumeration of the rental of the priory, which appears to have been in various kinds, viz., silver, victual, mutton, malt, meal, oats, poultry, salmon, &c.⁸ At the Refor-

¹ Origines Parochiales.

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ In Hutton's collections, a MS. volume in Advocates' Library, Haisty is noted as prior.

⁶ Origines Parochiales.

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Ibid.

mation, the monasterial income, according to Playfair, was L.136, 13s. 4d. Scots; oats, 14 chalders 2 bolls 3 firlots $3\frac{1}{2}$ pecks; marts, 10; sheep, 20; 21 dozen of fowls; and 2 lasts and 6 barrels of salmon.¹ In 1568, Walter Reid, already alluded to, the last Prior but one, gives a tack of part of the lands of the benefice to "our lout seruent, John Clerk in Bewlie," and failing him, Alexander Clerk, his lawful son, for nineteen years following Whitsunday of 1568. This deed is subscribed by the Prior, Brother John Crawford, James Rose, Sir Thomas Taynam, monk, and George Moray.²

In 1573, Walter Reid was succeeded by Master John Fraser, the last of the superiors of the priory, and the history of the monastery closes with the dissolution of the religious houses, when, as we have seen, the church property of Beaully passed into other hands.³

I now proceed to notice the existing remains. The church is one of those long narrow ones without aisles so frequently met with in the west of Scotland. It consists of nave and choir, extending to a length of 136 feet by 21 or thereabouts inside walls,⁴ and two small side buildings so disposed as to form a transept, making the church cruciform. These wings, however, are not a perfect pair, the southern one being smaller than the other, and not placed symmetrically with it. It was probably a later addition; and where the transept came, the width of the new building would have to be increased, so as to take it in, as there was already a large window in the south wall. The style appears to be an early specimen of Middle or Second Pointed Gothic, and may date, Mr Mure thinks, from about the first decade of the 14th century.⁵

¹ Playfair's Stat. Description of Scotland (Anderson). In the *Libellus Taxationum* the Priory of Beaully is valued at 400 merks, and in the *Taxatio*, sec. 16, it is rated at L 62.

² Hutton makes note of an original feu charter dated the next year, 1574, wherein Lord Lovat grants to John Mackenzie of Gairloch, and Agnes Fraser, the lands of Ardnagrask, within the Barony and Priory of Beaully, with all rights, liberties, and privileges.—*MSS. Collections*. ³ *Origines Parochiales*.

⁴ The general plan of the building appears to be very similar to that of the Abbey Church (as far as we can make it out) at Saddell in Kintyre, described in Vol. VIII. of the Society's Proceedings. In both cases the lengths I obtained by pacing are identical, viz., 134 feet, the mean width of Saddell being 25 as against 21 feet in Beaully. These figures, of course, are not to be taken too absolutely.

⁵ Mure's Church Architecture of Scotland.

There are no architectural distinctions dividing the aisle and choir beyond a change in the character of the details. The walls and most of the windows are in a pretty entire state, though the roof is gone. The east or choir window, which is the least perfect, was a very wide one, the jambs approaching quite close to the angles of the building. These jambs and the soffits of its arch evidently formed a continuous set of mouldings,¹ and, according to Mure, the window must have been of six or seven lights. The west gable is entire, and contains three long narrow windows without mullions, the central one elevated a little above the others, almost an exact counterpart, only in miniature, of the window arrangement in the west front of Wells Cathedral, which is known to be Early English. Under these is a shallow ogee headed niche, and under that again a circular headed doorway of two roll and hollow orders with quasi shafts in the jambs.² Over the doorway, on the outside, is a weather moulding, terminating in plain corbels. On one is a pretty monogram of I · H · S., and on the other a heart between a pair of hands and a pair of feet. Higher up in the gable is a saint's niche or tabernacle, with a small panel on the sill, having a stag's head and Bishop Reid's initials, R. R., on it.³ The remaining windows are of varied pattern. In the choir are three long pointed ones on either side pretty high up, with a plain moulding carried over the heads of their interior openings, and continued so as to fill up each intervening space with a smaller arch giving a graceful effect. These windows have a single mullion, forming a triplet of lights. On the south side, in the clear-story, are three small spherically triangulated windows enclosing a trefoil light, which is not at all a common type. There are three piscina niches, one below the triangular windows, with another square niche beside it, and another a recess, with a neat double cinque-foil arch over it and containing two basins, situated in the south wall immediately to the right of the high altar. The third is on the outside of the north wall, a little west of the transept,—with a doorway near it now built up,—which would lead to

¹ Cordiner's drawing of the church shews this.

² Mure.

³ The date of this tabernacle may therefore with tolerable certainty be put down as 1540, the year the bishop is recorded to have repaired the nave and belfry (*vide ante*, p. 455).

the impression that it had at one time been intended to fill up this angle with a chapel. The stoup, or holy-water stone, a small plain basin 16 inches square by 10 deep, projects from the wall near the west door. To the left of the doorway, after entering the south transept, or St Katharine's aisle as it was called, from the nave, and exactly opposite Sir Kenneth Mackenzie's tomb, is another semi-circular recess, obviously also designed for a monumental effigy, but afterwards built up. Through this portion of built-up wall a small square recess has been pierced. It cannot have been meant for a genuine squint, as the high altar is not visible from it, but it may have been used to pass the sacred elements into the chapel after consecration. The walls of the church, which are $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, I should judge by the eye to have stood 22 or 23 feet to the wall-plate, and the roof had a steep pitch of about 15 feet more of vertical height. The north transept building is said to have been a chapter house, but as cathedrals alone had chapters, it is more probable it was a sacristy or side chapel. It had a vaulted roof, with a pair of diagonal ribs and two cross springers, of which the corbels only remain. The church was buttressed throughout, though the buttresses have entirely disappeared. The proprietor, I was told, intended at one time to restore them, and some of them have lately been restored, with the intention of reappropriating the church for Roman Catholic worship; but, finding there were difficulties with some public board of conservancy, he stopped the work.

The arrangement of the Priory buildings was what we should expect to find in a church of the kind. The south-west angle formed by the nave and transept appears to have been filled up with a range of dwellings, as at Saddell and elsewhere, one chimney only remaining at the corner of the western gable. These buildings or cloisters would seem to have been lean-tos, as a projecting moulding underneath the clear-story runs the whole length of the nave, and round the transept as far as its western angle. The broken prolongations of the walls are still visible, and from them it is evident the cloisters were carried out some distance in a southerly direction beyond the transept. At the north-west angle of the sacristy is a small hexagonal tower, with the remains of a spiral staircase in it, evidently the belfry of the church. In early English

architecture these bell turrets were placed in various positions, and often took a polygonal form.¹

The state of preservation of these interesting ruins is a satisfactory contrast to the unsightly and neglected condition of so many others. The situation of the priory is well deserving of its name, commanding, as it does, a charming view of the Beaully Firth, with the Black Isle beyond, and a background of heathy hills on the inland side. It stands on a flat of rich soil by the river side, and a large field adjoining is still pointed out as the site of a very fine orchard which belonged to the monks, where two solitary apple trees of unknown age are yet to be seen. One of them certainly looks ancient enough, and is said to be the largest in girth of any in this part of Scotland.

Of the ancient tombs I have already described one, that of Sir Kenneth Mackenzie of Kintail. The interior of the church is what Cordiner describes it to have been in his time, full of gravestones, but they are almost all modern ones, belonging principally to Frasers, Mackenzies, and Chisholms. Out of these, in fact, after a careful search, I could only find two of the mediæval period, which seems unaccountable, considering the long line of the Lovat chiefs known to have been buried here.

Probably a more thorough investigation might bring others to light, but to carry this out, many of the later slabs would have to be taken up from their present position. If St Catharine's Chapel, besides the choir, was the Lovat burial-place, as the Wardlaw account says it was, the tombstones must all have been removed, for not one is now to be seen there. Of the two pre-Reformation slabs, the smaller is of oblong shape, of the usual length, with an incised wheel pattern cross upon it, and near the right-hand edge what I imagine to have been a long sword, the hilt of which has disappeared. The long irregular-shaped panel between the sword and shaft of the cross was probably intended for an inscription. The incisions are not deeply cut, and I should say this slab was late mediæval. The modern initials A.G., KMC., referring most likely to some one named Kenneth M'Kenzie, have been mercilessly cut right across the middle of the shaft of the cross, and disfigure it very much. This slab

¹ Parker's Glossary. The "New Statistical Account" states that "the ruins bear no trace of turrets or steeples, and are entirely destitute of sculpture or ornament"—a loose assertion, to say the least of it.

lay about the top of the nave. The other tombstone, a very large one, is on the north side of the choir; and if my view is correct, this is a monument of considerable historical interest. It represents a mailed knight, holding his long sword with cross-guard, which is caught in over the left elbow, and, suspended from a belt on his right side, is a dagger. He wears roundels on his shoulders, "condières" or elbow guards, and ornamented genouillères to protect the knee. His basinet is open, and the features are roughly indicated. An escutcheon with four quarterings, and an animal—apparently a stag—in rather a mutilated state, fill up the space on either side of the knight's head, and in the space separating the legs there appears to have been some tracery. The effigy is in low relief. On three sides of the margin, which has been doubtless left broad for the purpose, is an inscription partly legible, though the most important part, the date, if there ever was one, cannot be made out. On a careful inspection of this inscription in the rubbing taken of it, the following words are more or less plainly distinguishable:—¹

"Hic . . . (n)obilis vir (*this fills up the top margin*).
 . . . o mc Sh(o)mi . dūs . d . loith . . . qui hanc ecclesiam
 stravit . . . undecimo . . ."

The words "jacet" and "Hugo" we can at once supply in their proper places.

Let us now compare the information derived from this inscription with the style of armour and accompaniments portrayed on the slab. Hugh, the first laird, who, as we saw, was a great favourite with the clergy, and had a distinguished burial, died in 1397. Now, we know that the period within which roundels were worn in England was almost entirely confined to the 14th century,² though the fashion might doubtless linger on in the north of Scotland to a somewhat later date. Alexander the recluse was the second laird; Hugh, his successor, the first peer, became chief of his house in 1415, and died in 1440, while Hugh, the second Lord Fraser, died quite young in 1450; after him the Lovat chiefs appear in the records as Lords Fraser ("dominus Fresale de Lovet"), and might

¹ The bracketed letters are doubtful.

² Boutelle gives the latest limit as about A. D. 1405.

therefore be expected to have that surname appended to their tombs. Thus, in determining the individual this slab commemorates, the probabilities lie between the two first named Hughs, father and son. But the words in the inscription, "qui hanc ecclesiam stravit," tally exactly with what the Fraser MS. tell us of the extension of the church¹ by the former, and therefore, if the MS. is correct in this particular, as in all likelihood it is, we may assume the date of this tombstone to be A.D. 1440 and the monument itself to be that of the first Lord Lovat.

There is nothing particularly noteworthy about the later gravestones. Many of them date back to the seventeenth century; and these present an unvarying uniformity of type, which may be called florid and staring without being rich. One example will describe all the rest. It is a slab in the north aisle of date 1669, with the cognisance of a stag's head at the top, and death's head, sandglass, and crossbones at the bottom. In the centre panel is a verse from the book of Job, with "memento mori" written underneath. Round the margin is the following inscription: "Heir lyes ane honorable man called Kenneth McKenzie sumtyme Laird of Gairloch who departed the 22d of Apryl 1669."

Cordiner's notice of Beauly gives us little or no information worth having. As he wrote in Pennant's time, the record of his observations would have been most valuable had they been systematically made. Instead of this, we have a rambling discourse on the perishable nature of tombs in general, and some moralising reflections on the corresponding mutability of mortal concerns. Out of this we are enabled to extract a few crumbs of information. If he was not speaking loosely, there must have been in his day many slabs of mediæval sculpturing which are now lost, as mention is made of several with "a large cross" on them, "ornamented with various flowerings, symbols, swords, animals," &c., which he remarks had no inscriptions. He seems to have noticed the Lovat tombstone, to judge from his remarks; but there is not a word of description specifically about Sir Kenneth Mackenzie's tomb. He was not, however, insensible to the artistic excellence of the sculpturings, but recognises in them "a degree of neatness and elegance, both in their design and execution, implying a refinement in taste and progress in the arts which cer-

¹ See *ante*, p. 442.

tainly had much declined in later ages." He adds, that "in the vaults of the abbey there are some remains of bodies found in the stone coffins. On the lids of these are warriors well carved, and in fine relief. These have Latin inscriptions in old characters round the margin, which seem to be dated in the fifteenth century, but are in general so much defaced, it is impossible to copy them."¹ Accompanying these remarks we have two views of the church, which are by no means unlike the place, though spoilt to modern ideas by the introduction of a pile of slabs huddled into the foreground, one across another, in the stiffest manner conceivable, by way of giving a comprehensive illustration of swords, crosses, and warriors all in one.

As for Dr Macculloch, he does condescend to mention the name of Beaulieu in one of his letters to Sir Walter Scott; but it is only to make short work of it. After adopting Cordiner's statement, almost word for word, as to the large number of the tombstones within the building, he dismisses the subject with the assertion, that "the church is neither picturesque nor interesting, being built of a dark red sandstone, and without any features of architecture to atone for its disagreeable raw colour."² Such a remark from so able, observant, and racy a writer would seem strange in the present day, when every relic of real antiquity is guarded as a treasure, and can hardly be too minutely sketched or described. But we have to remember that the writer lived at a time when ideas of architecture, church architecture especially, were only just emerging from the lowest ebb they had ever sunk to, and the taste of the educated could think of nothing worthier to imitate than the pompous façades and sham temples of a bastard-classic school. Besides which, it is very doubtful if Macculloch personally knew anything more of Beaulieu than could be seen from a post-chaise, as he declares there was nothing to the north of Inverness, including the scenery along all the various roads leading to the west coast, which would repay the trouble of looking for. And we all know by experience, that what we have ourselves passed by without examining, it is often convenient to set down as not worth

¹ It seems extraordinary he should have overlooked the very perfect Mackenzie inscription.

² Macculloch's Highlands and Islands.

examination. We have seen that the original name of Beaulieu¹ was "Ach-na-baidh," plain or field of the estuary. In the end of last century the place was locally known as "Vanechan," or the place of the friars; and the river as "Avin-na-Manich," "the monk's river."²

I shall conclude this notice with the mention of two ghost stories relating to the priory. In the north wall of the church is an imprint shaped like a human hand,³ which is thus explained. For some time a ghostly visitant was said to have been seen in the church, and people feared to go near the place after sunset. A certain tailor, however, engaged to finish two pair of hose in it on a certain night. Accordingly, at the appointed hour he arrived within the dark and silent walls, and began his work. He had not long been engaged before a gigantic spectre made its appearance, and stretched out a skeleton arm, exclaiming in a curdling voice, "Behold, tailor, a great hand without flesh and blood." The only reply vouchsafed by the tailor was, "I see that, and I sew this;" and by the time these mutual parleyings had been thrice repeated, the man of the needle had completed his task, and was skurrying off with his hose. With uplifted hand the spectral form pursued, but the plucky tailor escaped, the blow which the ghostly hand intended for his head, taking effect on the wall, and leaving the mark still visible.⁴ This would not be a bad addition to the collection of stories in the "Night Side of Nature," and it is a great pity to disturb such a tale in any way. But it is necessary to note, that the identical story, with scarcely a variation in detail, is told of Saddell Abbey; and therefore we must conclude there were two congenial spirits in the two places, who were both well aware that there might be a connection between tailors and geese.

The other legend, relating to the birth, in 1666, of Hugh eleventh Lord Lovat, is picturesquely told by a well-known author,⁵ and I take the liberty of quoting it in his own words:—"At the time of this child's birth, it is recorded that round the old mansion and the still older priory of Beaully 'a wondrous blaze was seen to gleam,' and a voice called on him who would dare to look into the future fate of the mighty race of

¹ There was also a Cistercian abbey of this name near Southampton, founded by King John in 1204.

² Origines Parochiales.

³ New Stat. Acc. (Kilmorack).

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ J. H. Burton: Life of Lord Lovat.

MacShimi, to enter the sacred roof and take from the altar the scroll on which their weird was inscribed by no mortal hands. The tutor of Lovat, who appears to have been the same with our hero's father, was the person who dared to seize the mystic scroll. It was reported to the clansmen to be written in an ancient and obsolete character, on a venerable shred of parchment, and to predict a train of evils coming from the rival sept of the Mackenzies, only to be obviated by the Frasers remaining united and placing trust in each other." Hugh had a large black spot on his upper lip, whence he derived the name of "Mac Shimi Ball dhu," or the black spotted son of Simon. Three other Highland chieftains, it appears, were at this time distinguished by physical deformities—Mc Keinich Glindu (black-kneed Mackenzie), "Squint-eyed" Mackintosh (Mac-an-Tochich Claon), and Shisalach Came, or Chisholm of the crooked eyes.¹

As an instance of the desecration of the ancient church fabrics which was carried on in Scotland after the Reformation, I may mention that in building the citadel of Inverness, 1652-7, recourse was had to the monasteries of Beaulieu and Kinloss, the bishop's castle of Chanonry, the Greyfriars' Church and St Mary's Chapel at Inverness, for the purpose of supplying the stonework.

The latest reference I find with regard to the ruins of Beaulieu is by General Hutton, who notes a paper, dated 2d May 1815, arranging to invite subscriptions for the repair of the church from certain gentlemen who had their family burial-places there. The object is stated to be "for repairing the breaches in the walls, and particularly for raising and building up the east end of the church, by which idle persons enter and loiter about to the detriment of the place, and to prevent any access but by the west door." The parties to be consulted were the families of Lovat and Gairloch, The Chisholm, M'Lean of Craigs Coirie, and the Frasers of Newtown Ayis and Eskadale.

Anderson's History of the Frasers.

VI.

NOTE ON AN ARTIFICIAL ISLAND AND ANCIENT CANOE FOUND IN DRAINING A LOCH NEAR TOBERMORY, MULL. IN A LETTER TO JOHN STUART, LL.D., SECRETARY. BY FARQUHARD CAMPBELL, ESQ. OF AROS, MULL.

The loch called *Na Mial*, in English *Of Deer*, is about a mile south of Tobermory, and about 150 feet above the level of the sea, and 50 acres in extent. There was in the loch one of the artificial islands which are found in almost all the lochs of Mull. I drained the loch, which was only about 6 feet deep of water, by blasting a passage through whinstone rock 20 feet deep. The mud under the water is of great depth. Of course, we had to make deep drains round the loch, to catch the water. On coming with the drain to the edge of the loch opposite this island a large canoe was found 4 feet under the surface of the mud. The canoe was of black oak, 17 feet in length, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet beam, quite fresh and sound. Several canoes of a smaller size were also found, but near the surface of the mud, and in a half decayed state. Three boats, of modern *clinker-built* construction, of whose history none of the natives had any knowledge, were also found. I had the large canoe dug out of the mud, and put into the sea, in order that, being saturated with salt water, it might be preserved from cracking. There is another loch on my property which has two of these artificial islands. The loch is large—about 1500 acres. I may also mention that, close to the site of the large canoe, I found a *stone causeway laid upon oak trees*. This was at the same depth under the surface of the mud (viz., about 4 feet). This causeway led direct to the artificial island, which was formed of a quantity of loose stones, on the only rock near the surface of the water in the whole loch.

I converted this loch into a beautiful hay meadow, and it now gives me large crops of hay, and grazes a number of sheep in winter.

VII.

NOTE ON THE DISCOVERY OF URNS SET IN A ROUND HOLE IN THE GROUND UNDER A TUMULUS, AND OF AN INVERTED URN COVERING CALCINED BONES, AT GORDONBUSH, SUTHERLANDSHIRE. IN A LETTER TO JOHN STUART, LL.D., SEC. S.A. SCOT. BY REV. J. M. JOASS, GOLSPIE, CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

Captain Houstoun has broken ground at Kintradwell, near the Eirde House, and found a great deal of rude building, with flagged passages and fireplaces, set about with stones like the outworks of the Broch, and containing in them food debris, flattened antlers, charcoal, bones of various kinds, and fragments of manufactured shale. When the place has been cleared out it will be better worth reporting upon, and may form a postscript to the Broch paper. I may mention that, during some digging near Gordonbush, set agoing by Houstoun to give work to some unemployed people, and also, I believe, to look for another small necklace, two rude urns were found, mouth downwards, and containing burnt bones. They occurred in a round hole in the ground, with no slab above or below, under a cairn or tumulus, among many formed of earth and stones. One of the urns was broken in very small pieces in the attempt to remove it. The other, after being cut clear of the packing earth, was left *in situ* to dry. I was asked to go and see the lifting; but when we got there it was found smashed, and we discovered that a half-wit, who was noticed watching the digging, was the offender. Both these urns were about 8 inches high, without ornamentation, and very rude. Just outside the same tumulus, two stones, about 3 feet apart, and standing about 1 foot high, were found to be firmly bedded. On clearing a few inches of rubbish a small flag was found between them, and under this a small round hole, about 6 inches diameter, with smooth inside, widening downwards. This was another inverted urn, of which the bottom had fallen in. After very careful work with knife and trowel it was got out nearly whole, and is 17 inches high, and 13 inches wide at mouth, very rude, unornamented. It contained burnt bones, one of which is certainly human, being the characteristic atlas vertebra.

VIII.

NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF A QUERN IN A SUPPOSED GRAVE CONTAINING BURNT HUMAN REMAINS, AT COMMONSIDE, ROXBURGHSHIRE. BY JAMES BRYDON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The farm of Commonsides lies in the valley of the Teviot, about seven miles west from the town of Hawick, in a district rich in antiquarian remains. On almost every hill top the outlines of an ancient fortress can be traced; and on the slopes and water-side plains circular camps and other earthworks are of frequent occurrence. The Catrail or Picts'-ditch, that mysterious barrier or pathway which for the last hundred years has engaged antiquaries in fruitless speculations as to its nature, runs through the farm for a considerable distance. Several sepulchral cairns are still to be found in the neighbourhood. Two of these, about a mile from the farm-house, were demolished, a twelvemonth ago, to furnish stones for a park dyke; but as the labourers who removed them were ignorant of their nature, nothing was looked for, and nothing, with the exception of an iron spear-head, was found. On the other side of the farm there is a large artificial mound, in trenching a part of which, some years ago, a stone coffin and an earthenware vessel were exposed. Little more than half a mile to the east of this, at Teindside, a series of cists, containing human and other remains, was discovered last year, of which an account was read to this Society by Lord Rosehill. Flint arrow-heads, stone beads, hammers, and hatchets, have frequently been discovered when cultivating the land within the last few years—since the people have learned, through the labours of our local Society, to look for them.

The farm buildings have recently been reconstructed on nearly the same ground as the old set they replaced. These, in their turn, within the memory of those yet living, supplanted a still earlier onstead, which occupied the same position. Indeed, from the nature of the site, forming a commanding eminence, in a bend of the river, it has probably been, from a very early period, a place of human habitation. During the last changes it has undergone a lawn has been laid out in front of the house, three feet of the original soil has been levelled away, and a series of drains have been made leading to the plain below. While digging one of these

the workmen came upon a stone with the appearance of which they were greatly puzzled. Happening to be in the neighbourhood at the time, my attention was called to it, and I found it to be the upper stone of a quern, of the common bowl form, 9 inches in height. At the base its circumference is 3 feet 8 inches, and at the top 18 inches. The hopper at the top measures 5 inches across, and its lower aperture $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch. There is a hole about 2 inches deep on its side, into which the handle for turning it round would be fixed. As a number of large stones, coloured by the action of fire, and with pieces of charcoal adhering to them, had been thrown out from the same drain, I suggested that perhaps the nether millstone, and possibly something else connected with it, might also be buried near by, and asked Mr Stevenson the farmer's permission to have the place thoroughly investigated. To this he not only consented, but also offered to supply labourers to do it; and on the 25th March we had a regular digging.

The under stone of the quern was not discovered, but we found that the upper one had occupied the following interesting position. Down from the surface of the earth remaining, for a short distance around, the earth lay loosely together, and was of a dark colour. This latter character we found it derived from an abundant intermixture of charcoal, some pieces of which were of considerable size. It was all carefully removed, and we then found that we had excavated a triangular pit of the following dimensions:—Its greatest length, and this was from east to west, was 5 feet; its greatest width, which was 2 feet from its west end, was $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet; and its depth was about 3 feet; but if we take into consideration the three feet of soil already taken away, then we have a depth of 6 feet. The drain in which the quern was found crossed at about two feet from the west end; and it must, from the depth in the drain at which it was discovered, have lain about a foot and a half from the bottom of the pit. But its position, and the shape of the cavity, will be best understood by referring to the diagrams exhibited. As the walls of the pit were formed of a dark tenacious clay above, and an equally tenacious, bluish-coloured clay below, and were blackened and otherwise marked by the effects of a great burning, there could be no mistake about their extent. Whether the same outlines had reached up to the original surface there was no way of determining. Every spade-

ful of earth was most carefully scrutinised; but, with the exception of the charcoal, and a few fragments of cinerated bones, nothing extraneous was discovered. In one of the latter, however, although in a state of extreme disintegration, I was able to recognise the lower part of a human *ulna*—a circumstance pointing to the probability that it had been a place of human sepulture.

In this view of the case, several interesting questions at once suggest themselves, two of which especially call for notice. The first is, Why was the quern in the grave? Was its presence accidental? Was it thrown in among the clay and other stones lying about, merely to help to cover the ashes of the dead? or was it placed there for a purpose? The former supposition is very unlikely, for, to the survivors who performed the funeral rites, it undoubtedly was a machine far too valuable to be thus loosely lost sight of. Moreover, this is by no means an isolated case. Only a few days prior to the present discovery a somewhat similar one was made at Jedburgh. Indeed, a "find," made by the late Mr Bateman, is sufficient of itself to settle the question. In two graves, a short distance from each other, he found in one the upper stone, and in the other the lower stone, of the same quern. If, then, as seems to be the case, it was placed there for a purpose, what was that purpose? One explanation is, that it was the same as we sometimes see expressed on old tombstones, where a hammer, a pair of scissors, or other implement of trade, is carved out, to show that the adjacent burying-ground is that of a blacksmith, a tailor, or whatever other occupation the emblem may indicate—that its object was to show that this was the place of interment of a grinder of grain. In the present instance, such an explanation does not seem far-fetched; for it was some distance from the bottom of the grave, and may originally have occupied a position still nearer to, or even at, the surface. This is the less improbable, seeing that the place has been for so long the scene of man's operations. But the position was exceptional, and it affords a good example of how worthless deductions are when drawn from limited observations. If querns are found in the bottoms of graves along with the remains of the body, their position being the same as that of arrow-heads and other weapons and implements, which are universally believed to have been designed to administer to the wants of the deceased in a future state of existence, there is no good reason

for thinking that their purpose was different from that which has been assigned to these other articles deposited with the deceased.

The second question is, to what time does this interment belong? The form, size, and other characters of the grave, show that it belongs neither to the earliest nor most recent period of man's history, but it shows us nothing more. The quern is a little more explicit. Its presence cuts us off from a great antiquity, and restricts us to within that period when man had not only learned to cultivate the soil, but also to prepare its products for his use, by a method undoubtedly the result of a lengthened experience, both of their nature and that of the materials used for their preparation. On the other hand, if the explanation of its purpose in the grave given above be accepted as the correct one, then it carries us back to pre-Christian times. This opinion is further corroborated by the fact that the body had been disposed of by the pagan method of burning.

IX.

NOTES ON A STRAW MASQUERADE DRESS STILL USED IN SOME PARTS OF SHETLAND, AND ON CERTAIN WOOLLEN ARTICLES MANUFACTURED IN "FAIR ISLE;" ALSO OF A SUPPOSED RELIC OF THE SPANISH ARMADA. BY THOMAS EDMONDSTON OF BUNESS, ESQ., UNST, SHETLAND.

I beg to offer for the acceptance of the Society of Antiquaries for Scotland to be placed in their Museum—

- 1st. An old Chair which is stated to have belonged to Don Guzman de Medina, commander of a division of the Spanish Armada, whose ship was wrecked at the Fair Isle, which lies between the Orkney and Shetland Isles.
- 2d. Some specimens of Woollen Manufactures by the natives of "Fair Isle."
- 3d. A Masker's suit, made of straw, still worn in some of the Shetland Islands, at or about the term of Hallowmas, and at Christmas.

1st. As to the Admiral's chair.—My friend Professor Russell Martineau of London had some correspondence with me as to the authenticity of

this chair. It was reported to me to have been the property of the Commander-in-Chief of the Armada, the Duke de Medina Sidonia. The Professor proved, as I think satisfactorily, that the relic had been in the ship commanded by Don Guzman de Medina, commander of a division of the Spanish fleet, whose vessel was wrecked at "Fair Isle." Wishing to obtain all the information possible, I wrote to a friend in Orkney, asking that he would kindly make inquiry. He replied as follows:—"I have just come from a visit to David Balfour of Balfour, Esq., and when there I mentioned to him your wish to obtain information about the Spanish vessel wrecked at Fair Isle. He showed me a silver cup with various heraldic shields, &c., on it, and some initials thus, M S—a certain Malcolm Sinclair, who is said to have received the cup from the Spanish Admiral. A marriage with a Balfour introduced the cup into that family. Mr Balfour values the relic as an historical heir-loom, and entertains no doubt as to its authenticity. He is also possessed of an old paper, which I saw, viz., a contract between Earl Patrick Stuart and William Irving of Sabay for recovering 'the ordnance tint in the Spanyzert Schip at the Fair Isle.' '8th March 1593,' is the date of the paper. I have also heard of a *chair* (now I believe somewhere in Shetland) that had been in the Admiral's ship." On receiving this letter, I at once instituted a search as to the whereabouts of the interesting chair, a memento of a famous historical event. I ascertained that it was in possession of Mrs Budge of Seafield, and wrote making inquiry. She replied that my surmise was correct, and that her late husband placed great value upon the relic; at the same time she most generously presented it to me, on the understanding that I would take steps for ensuring its being deposited in some place of more than local fame. I consider that I have amply fulfilled the condition in proffering it to your Society.

2d. The woollen stockings, socks, and caps from Fair Isle show in the patterns a somewhat rude imitation of the "Arabesque," taught the Islanders no doubt by the wrecked Spaniards. The patterns are unknown to the other districts of the Shetlands. These patterns, together with the secret of dyeing the woollen yarn so many and such varied and peculiar colours, are only known to the natives of that Island.

3d. The straw suits are still, in some parts of the Shetland Islands, worn by the peasantry in order to disguise themselves when going from house to

house at Hallowmas or Martinmas, and at Christmas. Those disguised are sometimes termed, as in Scotland, "gyzarts," and also in some localities "skeklers," but I have not ascertained the derivation of the latter term. The straw helmet is usually ornamented with long streamers of ribbons of different colours. One of the pieces surrounds the neck and covers the shoulders, the larger covers the middle, and the narrow bits are anklets. The face is covered partially with a coloured handkerchief. The maskers go from house to house, and if possible accompanied by a fiddler, performing the most grotesque dances, expecting a dram or small gratuity. The custom is fast dying out, and it is not easy to procure a complete suit. The dresses exhibited were made in the Island of Fetlar, where until very lately the people generally had comparatively little communication with the South.

[In the specimens of woollen manufactures from Fair Isle the prevailing character of the patterns is geometric, running in separate bands, rendered rather monotonous in consequence of no masses of plain colour being left between the bands. Notwithstanding this, the general effect is rather harmonious than otherwise. The colours used are primaries, on black and white; neither the secondaries nor tertiaries being used, at least in the specimen shown. Generally, when any plain mass is left, as on the cowl, or scarf, white is observed; the colours being reserved for those parts which form the outer borders. There is no doubt that they approach nearer to the Moorish, or Spanish, than any other style of ornamentation.

Taking into account the remote Island where they are produced, and the producers being altogether removed from instruction in the art of design or colour, they are highly meritorious, and deserve more attention and publicity than they have hitherto obtained.—R. C.]

APPENDIX.

NOTICE OF THE DISCOVERY OF A PICT'S HOUSE AT FITHIE, IN THE PARISH OF FARNELL, FORFARSHIRE, IN WHICH ROMAN POTTERY AND ANIMAL REMAINS WERE FOUND. BY ANDREW JERVISE, ESQ., CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT., BRECHIN.¹

About the middle of April 1868, while ploughing the Quarry Park field, immediately to the west of the farm-house of Fithie, the plough struck upon a large boulder, which it was found advisable to remove. Upon doing this, a deep hollow presented itself; and on further investigation being made, other two large stones were found, and a curvilinear chamber discovered measuring about 12 feet in length. It was about $3\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide at the north, or entrance end, and expanded, but not very regularly, to a width of about 6 feet at the inner end, which part, like that in similar structures, was semi-circular. The floor of the chamber was composed of the red sandstone rock, and sloped towards the south-west, from a height of about 4 to 6 feet.

The side and end walls were built of rough land stones, cemented with clay; and the floor or rock was bedded to the depth of some inches, with a layer of prepared clay, mixed with oak leaves, acorns, charcoal, and other vegetable substances. But, unfortunately, the walls were too much broken down by the ploughmen, and the form of the weem otherwise destroyed before being seen by any competent person, to admit of a plan being made of it.

The cover nearest the entrance of the chamber was of freestone, and measured 4 feet 7 inches in length, by about 2 feet in breadth; the middle cover, of gneiss, was 8 feet long, and about 3 feet 3 inches broad; and

¹ This paper was read before the Society 8th June 1868, and should therefore have appeared in vol. VII. p. 534, but the MS. was unfortunately mislaid.

the third, a conglomerate or limestone boulder, was 7 feet by about 2 feet 4 inches broad. These covering stones varied in thickness from about 12 to 6 inches, and were very unequal in form.

The bones of animals, &c., now sent to the Museum (see *Proceedings*, vol. VII. p. 479), were found scattered upon the floor of the chamber; and the remains of a vase or urn of red embossed Samian ware, were below the centre cover. The piece of curved iron was got upon the floor between two of the covers, so that it may have fallen into the chamber at a comparatively late period.¹

About half a mile to the south of the weem, and in a district which has only been recently brought under the plough, are the remains of a so-called "kitchen midden," of large dimensions, in which quantities of animal bones have been found; also flint arrow-heads.

Tradition avers that "the midden" is of an equally old date with the Pict's house at Fithie,—a notion which has probably arisen from the finding of flint arrow-heads in the former place. It is more certain, however, that the lands of Fithie were held by a family who, as vassals under the Bishops of Brechin, assumed their surname from that place from about the middle of the thirteenth century.²

A little to the eastward of the weem stood the castle of Fithie (mentioned by Moniepenne), now represented by a cottar's house, near to which is a slight eminence, where, says tradition, a lady of Fithie was burnt for the murder of her lover, *Young Reiden*. This tragedy, it is added, took place at the "Red Den," on the west side of the parish, where traces of ancient sculpture have been found.³

The property of Fithie now belongs to the Earl of Southesk, who is sole heritor of the parish of Farnell.

¹ These were presented by the late Mr Hall, farmer, Fithie, to whom I am indebted for the particulars of the discovery of the weem, which I visited soon after it was found.

² *Reg. Vet. de Aberbrothoc*, p. 322.

³ Notices of the history and antiquities of Farnell will be found in *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland*, Vol. II. p. 197; and in *Memorials of Angus and the Mearns*, pp. 34-45.

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