PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

HUNDRED AND FOURTH SESSION, 1883-4.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1883.

ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., LL.D., Vice-President,
in the Chair.

The Vice-President made the announcement that the Council at their
last meeting had unanimously elected Mrs RAMSAY, Kildalton, a Lady
Associate of the Society.

On the recommendation of the Council, the Rev. J. COLLINGWOOD
BRUCE, LL.D., Newcastle-on-Tyne, was elected an Honorary Member of
the Society.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly
elected Fellows:

STAIR AGNEW, M.A., Advocate, Deputy Clerk-Register.
CHARLES M. ANDERSON, Fir-trees Cottage, Hazel Grove, Cheshire.
THOMAS BOYNTON, Ulrome Grange, Yorkshire.
REV. G. F. BROWNE, B.D., St Catherine's College, Cambridge.
RICHARD VARY CAMPBELL, Advocate, 37 Moray Place.
WALTER THOMSON CURRIE, Solicitor, Dundee.
WILLIAM GEMMILL, M.B., C.M., Drumore, Stranraer.
JAMES GUTHRIE, Scottish Club, London.
JAMES ISLES, St Ninians, Blairgowrie.
WILLIAM JAPP, Solicitor, Alyth.
The Secretary having read the Minute of the Council relative to the vacancies by rotation in the Council, and also to those caused by the lamented death of the late Dr John Alexander Smith, one of the Secretaries, and by the retirement of Mr David Douglas from the Treasurership, the meeting agreed to record their high appreciation of the valuable services of Mr Douglas in the responsible office of Treasurer for the long period of twelve years, a period of financial prosperity unexampled in the history of the Society.

The Office-Bearers for the ensuing year were elected as follows:

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President.

THE MOST HON. THE MARQUIS OF LOTHIAN, K.T., LL.D.

Vice-Presidents.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Stair.

Arthur Mitchell, M.D., LL.D.

The Right Hon. The Earl of Rosebery, LL.D.

Councillors.

Sir J. Noel-Paton, Kt., LL.D., R.S.A., Representing the Board of Trustees.

Francis Abbott, Alexander Laing, LL.D.

Robert Munro, M.A., M.D.

John J. Reid, B.A.

David Douglas.

George Hunter Thoms.

George Seton, M.A.

Stair Agnew, M.A.
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Secretaries.

John Ritchie Findlay.
R. W. Cochran-Patrick, LL.D., M.P.
Joseph Anderson, LL.D., Assistant Secretary.
William Forbes,
Thomas Dickson, H.M. General Register House,

Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence.

Treasurer.
Gilbert Goudie, 39 Northumberland Street.

Curators of the Museum.
Robert Carfrae.
Sir Wm. Fettes Douglas, P.R.S.A.

Curator of Coins.
George Sim.

Librarian.
John Taylor Brown.

The Secretary having read the following list of the names of Fellows who have died since St Andrew's Day last year:—

Honorary Member.
Right Hon. Lord Talbot de Malahide, 1860

Fellows.
Rev. George Weare Braikenridge, 1865
William Chambers, LL.D. of Glenormiston, 1867
Thomas Coats of Ferguslie, Paisley, 1878
William Pitt Dundas, C.B., Advocate, 1859
Francis Jones, 1880
David Lumsden of Fincastle, 1883
John Miller of Leithen, 1860
David Rhind, Architect, 1849
John Merry Ross, LL.D., 1876
William Sim of Lunan Bank, 1865
John Alexander Smith, M.D., Secretary, 1849
The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society has sustained in the deaths of these members. And with reference to the death of Dr John Alexander Smith, who had been twice Vice-President of the Society, and who had been for twenty-seven years one of its Secretaries, and had also been one of the Editors of its Proceedings ever since their commencement in 1851, the meeting specially desire to record their deep sense of the greatness of the loss the Society has sustained, with an expression of their high esteem for his personal qualities, and their appreciation of his numerous and valuable services to Archaeology.

The Right Hon. Lord Talbot de Malahide was for upwards of thirty years President of the British Archaeological Institute. He presided at the meeting of the Institute, held in Edinburgh in 1856, and it was mainly owing to his influence that many of the objects brought together to the temporary Museum of the Institute were gifted to the Society's Collection, then on the point of being permanently established as the National Museum of Antiquities.

William Chambers, LL.D. of Glenormiston, Peeblesshire, survivor of the two brothers who were the original partners of the well-known publishing firm of W. & R. Chambers, was Lord Provost of the city of Edinburgh from 1865 to 1869, and principal promoter of the Improvement Scheme, which has so greatly altered the appearance of the older portions of the city. Though he did not contribute papers to the Society, he was author of a number of interesting sketches of Scottish Family History, and of a History of Peeblesshire. The restoration of the Collegiate Church of St Giles, which he had generously undertaken at his own expense, was scarcely finished when he died.

Thomas Coats of Ferguslie, Paisley, possessed the largest private col-
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lection of Scottish coins extant. A detailed catalogue, copiously illustrated (which will practically be a descriptive catalogue of the Scottish coinage), is in preparation by Mr Edward Burns, a Fellow of the Society, and will shortly be published, in accordance with the wishes of Mr Coats.

JOHN MERRY ROSS, LL.D., born at Kilmarnock in 1833, was educated for the ministry of the United Presbytertian Church. In 1866 he became Senior English Master of the High School of Edinburgh, and received his degree from the University of Glasgow in 1874. He edited the *Globe Encyclopedia*, and was author of a posthumous work on *Scottish History and Literature to the Period of the Reformation*.

Dr JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, born in Edinburgh in 1818, educated at the High School and the University, from which he obtained the degree of M.D. in 1840, became a Fellow of the Society in 1849. In 1852 he was appointed one of the Secretaries of the Society in conjunction with Dr Daniel Wilson. On Dr Wilson's removal to Canada in 1853, Dr Smith continued to hold the office of Secretary, first in conjunction with the late Alexander Christie, who succeeded Dr Wilson, and then in conjunction with the late Dr John Stuart, who succeeded Mr Christie, until in 1870 he was elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society, and was succeeded in the Secretaryship by Dr Arthur Mitchell. Dr Smith was again elected one of the Vice-Presidents of the Society in 1875. On the death of Dr John Stuart in 1877, he was again appointed to the office of Secretary in conjunction with Dr Mitchell, and continued to hold this office, as the colleague, successively of Dr Mitchell and Mr J. R. Findlay till his decease. For upwards of thirty years he was also a prominent member of the Royal Physical Society, of which he was successively Secretary and President, having held the former office for the long period of twenty-one years. In 1863 he became a Fellow of the Royal Society, and contributed occasional papers to its *Proceedings and Transactions*. In 1865 he became a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, and on the death of Dr Somerville in
1874 the Fellows of the College chose him as their Treasurer. Although he was an accomplished Physician, circumstances had made it unnecessary for him to press for professional work. His scientific tastes went strongly in directions which took him away from strictly professional studies, and he became thus perhaps more of a naturalist and archaeologist than of a medical man. Indeed, he occupied a very distinguished position as a student of natural history and antiquities, and his work in these directions led to large and important additions to knowledge. Even in archaeology he showed a special bias for natural history, and his papers on the Ancient Wild Cattle of Scotland and on the extinct feræ nature of the country, bear witness to the thoroughness of his work in this direction.

List of Papers contributed to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland by Dr John Alexander Smith.

Notices of various Discoveries of Roman Remains at the Red Abbeystead, near the village of Newstead, Roxburghshire, with an endeavour to localise the Site of the Roman Station of Trimontium, in the neighbourhood of the Eildon Hills. Read 21st May 1850. Printed in Arch. Scot., vol. iv. p. 422.

Notice of an Inscribed Stone found near Newstead, Roxburghshire, in 1783, with an attempt to trace its existence in one of the Altars now in the Society’s Museum. Read 28th May 1851. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. i. p. 30.


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Remarks on a Bronze Implement, and Bones of the Ox and Dog, found in a bed of undisturbed gravel at Kinleith, near Currie, Mid-Lothian. Read 13th April 1863. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. v. p. 84.


Notice of a remarkable Bronze Ornament, with Horns, found in Galloway, now at Abbotsford; also of a Bronze Ornament like a Swine's Head, found in Banffshire. Read 9th December 1864. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. vii. p. 334.


Notice of a Cinerary Urn, containing a small-sized Urn (in which were the Bones of a Child), discovered in Fifeshire; with Notes of similar small and cup-like Vessels in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Read 10th April 1871. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. ix. p. 189.


Notice of the supposed "Charter Chest of Johnny Faa," and its contents—probably the Official Box, and Plates with Trade Marks


Notice of a Silver Chain or Girdle, the property of Thomas Simson of Blainslie, Berwickshire; another in the possession of the University of Aberdeen, and of other ancient Scottish Silver Chains. Read 9th June 1873. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. x. p. 321.

Notice of a small Bronze Blade found in a Sepulchral Tumulus or Cairn at Rogart, Sutherland, and of similar Bronze Implements found in different parts of Scotland. Read 12th January 1874. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. x. p. 431.


Notes respecting a Fragment of an Ancient Sculptured Stone or Anglo-Saxon Cross, found at Gattonside, near Melrose, and a portion of the old Cross of Jedburgh. Read 12th January 1874. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. x. p. 448.


Notice of ornamented Stone Balls found in different parts of Scotland; with Remarks on their supposed Age and Use. Read 14th December 1874. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. xi. p. 29.


Notice of a Horn of a Rhinoceros, stated to have been found in a marl-pit in Forfarshire. Read 12th January 1880. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. ii. (New Series) p. 98.


Notice of the Discovery of a massive Silver Chain of plain double Rings or Links at Hordwell, Berwickshire; with Notes of similar Silver Chains found in Scotland. Read 13th December 1880. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. iii. (New Series) p. 64.

Notice of a massive Bronze “Late Celtic” Armlet, and two small objects of Bronze (Horse-trappings), found with a Roman Bronze Patella, at Stanhope, Peeblesshire, in 1876; with an Account of other Bronze or Brass Armlets found in Scotland. Read 15th June 1881. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. iii. (New Series) p. 316.
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Notice of a large Copper-like or Brass Anvil, stated to have been found in the South of Scotland; also of a small Ancient Bronze Anvil found in Sutherland. Read 12th December 1881. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. iv. (New Series) p. 15.


Note of a Stone Celt found at Stobshiel, now presented to the Museum; also of a large Cinerary Urn found at Stobshiel, Haddingtonshire, recently presented to the Museum. Read 14th June 1882. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. iv. (New Series) p. 473.

Notice of two Bronze or Brass Brooches; also a pointed Implement of Bronze or Brass found in Sutherland. Read 14th June 1882. Printed in the Proceedings, vol. iv. (New Series) p. 492.


The Secretary then read the Annual Report to the Board of Trustees, approved by the Council, and ordered to be transmitted to the Lords of H.M. Treasury as follows:

**ANNUAL REPORT of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland to the Honourable the Board of Trustees for Manufactures in Scotland, for the year ending 30th September 1883.**

During the year the Museum has been open as formerly, except during the month of November, when it was closed as usual for cleaning and re-arrangement.

The following table shows the number of visitors for each month:
During the year 523 objects of antiquity have been presented to the Museum, and 94 volumes of books and pamphlets to the Library.

Among these Donations may be specially mentioned a Collection of Objects obtained by the excavation of a crannog at Buston, Ayrshire, the gift of the Right Hon. the Earl of Eglinton and Winton; the Collection of Articles obtained in the excavation of the ancient fortifications of the Law's Hill, near Dundee, presented by the Representatives of the late James Neish, Esq. of the Law's, F.S.A. Scot.; a series of Casts of Sculptured Monuments in Islay, including a cast of the Kildalton Cross, presented by Mrs Ramsay of Kildalton; and a valuable Collection of Gold and Silver Ornaments found near Largo, in Fife, presented by Robert Dundas, Esq. of Arniston.

During the year 5640 objects of antiquity have also been added to the Museum, and 15 volumes of books to the Library, by purchase.

The new Catalogue of the Museum is now nearly ready for the press.

J. R. Findlay, Secretary.
PURCHASES FOR THE MUSEUM.

Monday, 10th December 1883.

John Ramsay, Esq., of Kildalton, M.P., in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentleman was duly elected a Fellow of the Society:—

William Whyte, Whitehouselee, Merchiston Crescent, Edinburgh.

The following letters, from Mrs Ramsay, Kildalton, and Rev. J. Collingwood Bruce, LL.D., were communicated to the meeting:—

Kildalton, Port-ellen, via Greenock,
6th December 1883.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication dated 30th ult., in which you inform me, that at a special meeting of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, held in Edinburgh on that day, I was elected a Lady Associate of the Society, and I have to request that you will do me the favour to express to the Council my sincere thanks and the deep sense I entertain of the high honour they have conferred on me.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient Servant,

Lucy Ramsay.

To the Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Edinburgh.

Newcastle-upon-Tyne,
5th December 1883.

Dear Dr Anderson,—I have to-day received the diploma constituting me an Honorary Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland. Will you assure your Council that I feel it to be a very great distinction to be associated in this way with a Society which has done so much and so well to promote the study of Antiquarian Science.—I am, my dear Dr Anderson, yours faithfully,

J. Collingwood Bruce.


The following articles, acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library, during the recess from 18th June to 30th November 1883, were exhibited to the meeting:—

1. A basket-hilted Sword, 38½ inches in length, the blade much worn,
marked in a shallow fluting *Andrea Ferara*, followed by a dolphin, the basket small, globular, and clumsily made, with S-shaped side pieces.

Dirk, with wooden handle, rudely carved with a human face on both sides, the blade single-edged, 12½ inches in length.

Dagger, with double-edged blade 9 inches in length, and sheath of wood carved with interlaced patterns.

2. Carved Staff, 5 feet 5 inches in length.

Polished Celt of flint (Scandinavian), 5½ inches by 2½ inches.

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3. Highland Brooch of brass, 4½ inches in diameter, engraved with interlaced work, foliageous scrolls, and nondescript animals (see fig. 1).
PURCHASES FOR THE MUSEUM.


5. Bracket of wrought iron for a Baptismal Basin, 31 inches in length, jointed, and ornamented with fleurs-de-lis; Spoon Creel of wicker-work; Iron Mounting for an old timber plough; and Iron Crusie, from Aboyne, Aberdeenshire.

Flat Celt of bronze, 4 inches in length by 2½ inches in breadth at the cutting face, narrowing to one inch at the upper end, part of which has been chiselled off, from Aboyne, Aberdeenshire.

Polished Celt of greenstone, 8½ inches in length by 3½ inches in breadth, from Aboyne, Aberdeenshire.

Celt of sandstone, 5½ inches in length by 2½ inches in breadth, partly polished, from Aboyne, Aberdeenshire.

6. Large Hunting Knife, the blade 18½ inches in length, 2 inches in width, with thick back channelled for 12 inches of its length, and pierced with 11 circular holes ½ inch diameter, which pass from side to side and meet at right angles with 11 other holes drilled in the centre channel of the back. The blade is double-edged, and tapering for 6½ inches from the point. The grip of the hilt is wanting. The blade has a sheath of tooled leather with copper lining. The sheath has two side-sheaths like those of the ordinary Highland dirk. In one of these is a knife with blade 5½ inches in length by 1 inch in width, of the same form as the larger blade, and similarly channelled and pierced. Its handle is of wood, carved with interlaced patterns like that of the ordinary Highland dirk.

Flat Celt of bronze, 4½ inches in length by 2¾ inches in width at the cutting edge, with irregular surface, from Renfrewshire.

Flanged Celt, 4¾ inches in length, with stop-ridge between the flanges, the upper part damaged by hammering, from Renfrewshire.

7. Brass Sporran Clasp, oblong, with slides, engraved on the back with the initials, D M'K, and the date 1759, the front ornamented with a row of concentric circles.

Brass Sporran Clasp, pentagonal, ornamented with concentric circles.

8. Flat Highland Powder Horn, 10 inches in length, brass-mounted; one side engraved in panels of interlaced work, and bearing a shield of arms—three dogs' heads—with the initials I. F., and the date 1672 (see fig. 2).
Flat Highland Powder Horn, 6½ inches in length, the small end simulating an animals' head, both the flat sides ornamented with engraved patterns of interlaced and geometric work, on one side the initials T B, and the date 1695, on the other the initials I L inlaid in pewter or lead.

Flat Highland Powder Horn, 8½ inches in length, pewter mounted at the small end, one side (see fig. 3) covered with engraved ornamentation in panels, the centres of two of the panels filled with quaintly rendered figures of a lion and unicorn, the panel which has contained two initials...
PURCHASES FOR THE MUSEUM.

with a heart between them defaced; on the other side the rudely scratched initials w s, and the date 1783.

9. Drinking Cup of horn, 2½ inches high, ornamented with semi-circular lines; Egg-Cup of turned wood; Blade of an old toothed Reaping Hook; Spindle of wood; Yarn-Winder of wood; Door-Key of iron; and Hammer-Stone, from Bonar Bridge, Sutherlandshire.

10. Collection of Flint Arrow-heads, viz.:—Four from Banffshire, one from Whaligo (Caithness), seven from Elginshire, thirteen from Forfarshire, and forty-nine from Aberdeenshire.

11. Stone Whorl, of dark-coloured stone 1½ inch diameter, found at Linlithgow.

Leaden Seal, with the Hamilton Arms in the centre, and round the shield the inscription M. IACOBI. HAMILTOVN, also found at Linlithgow. James Hamilton, M.A., studied and obtained his degree at the University of St Andrews 25th July 1668, and was admitted minister of Borrowstounness in 1677. Two men were scourged for an assault upon him in that year. He died in 1685, in the seventh year of his ministry.

12. Polished Celt of indurated sandstone, 7 inches in length by 3 inches in breadth across the cutting face, the butt and sides rounded, ploughed up at Mersington, Berwickshire.

13. A Scottish Gold coin, the Lion of James II.

14. Square Crusie of wrought iron, with upper and under shells, probably for use as a street lamp.

Small flat Powder Horn, plain.


18. Walks along the Northern Roman Wall. By George Waldie. 12mo. Linlithgow, 1883.


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There were exhibited by J. R. FINDLAY, Secretary:—

Four small Statuettes of terra-cotta, from Tanagra, in Boeotia.

These exquisitely beautiful figurineæ had been obtained by Mr Findlay at Naples. They were typical examples of a class of archaeological objects of special interest on account of their artistic merits. Popular attention had been first attracted to them by the International Exhibition in the Trocadero at Paris in 1878, but attention had previously been drawn to their exceptional beauty and gracefulness of form, by articles which appeared in the Gazette de Beaux Arts and the Gazette Archeologique in 1875. Tanagra, the place of their discovery, is a small town in Greece, 20 miles due north of Athens, lying on a spur of the mountains in the eastern part of Boeotia, which separate that province from Attica. That the town was formerly of some importance is shown by the remains of its theatre, &c., but these attracted no attention until the discovery of the figurineæ. Occasionally labourers in the vineyards had come on tombs containing vases and small terra-cotta figures, but it was only in 1872 that researches began to be conducted with something like system. The tombs were then found to be of two classes—an earlier class, scattered up and down among the fields, which contained vases of the usual character;
and a later class, formed of great slabs of tufa, the graves being disposed in groups or arranged in regular lines. In these the *figurinae* were found sometimes to the number of three or four placed inside the cists, and sometimes in more numerous groups on the top of the tomb. Many of the figures were ornamented with gilding and colour, but it was only in dry situations that either the colours or the figures themselves were well preserved. As the prices of the best *figurinae* speedily rose to very high figures, the whole population left their vineyards to dig for the statuettes, and between 6000 and 8000 tombs were thus explored. There is nothing in ancient literature to tell us the precise intention of these figures, but they may safely be taken as conveying to us details of the familiar life of the people of this district of Greece somewhere about the commencement of the third century B.C.

The following Communications were read:—