VII.

NOTICE OF TWO SCULPTURED STONES IN GLEN URQUHART. By WILLIAM MACLAY, SOLICITOR, INVERNESS, F.S.A. SCOT.

These stones were found about seventeen years ago in a cairn on the farm of Drumbuie, Glen Urquhart, Inverness-shire, and were removed by the late Earl of Seafield to Balmacaan, where they now are. The rubbings which accompany this notice were made by me in August 1885.

Fig. 1. Sculptured Stone at Glen Urquhart.
SCULPTURED STONES IN GLEN URQUHART.

Stone No. 1 is a rough-surfaced, weather-worn slab of irregular shape (see fig. 1), its greatest length being 2 feet 6 inches, and its greatest breadth 2 feet 6 inches. The figures on it are—a serpent intertwined with the Z symbol, and the spectacle symbol. As will be observed from the drawing, this stone resembles the one at Newton, Aberdeenshire, of which there is a cast in the Society’s Museum.

Stone No. 2 is evidently a fragment. As it now stands its greatest length is 3 feet 8 inches, and its greatest breadth 2 feet 10 inches.

Fig. 2. Sculptured Stone at Glen Urquhart.

Its surface is rough and weather-worn, but the following figures are still easily traceable on it (see fig. 2), viz., a small mirror and a larger and more elaborate one; part of a fish, the other part being broken off; and
a figure, which may probably have been intended for a comb. This stone, when found, was broken in three parts, but the Earl of Seafield caused them to be carefully cemented and "set" into a large stone, which keeps them together. Stone No. 1 has also in the same way been encased in another stone, so as to prevent its being broken.

The discovery of these stones at Glen Urquhart adds a new locality to the list of symbol-bearing stones, and furnishes another example of the remarkable group of symbols consisting of the serpent and double disc, hitherto known only at Newton in Aberdeenshire.