

IV.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES AT
DRESDEN. BY J. M. MITCHELL, Esq., S.A. SCOT., ONE OF THE SECRETARIES
FOR FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

On a tour to Saxon Switzerland last autumn, I happened to be at Dresden on the day of a Meeting of the Royal Saxon Antiquarian Society, and having been invited to attend that Meeting I had much pleasure in assisting at their proceedings. Several interesting papers were read, and various antiquities presented and described.

This Society, which is composed of the leading men of Saxony, is supported by the patronage of the Sovereign, and is generally presided over by His Royal Highness Prince John Duke of Saxony. Its meetings are held in a large and spacious building called the Royal Palace, situated in a large garden; and in this palace is preserved the collections of the Society. The Museum is extremely rich in mediæval antiquities, and particularly in ancient sculptured monuments from churches, as also highly interesting old carved wood, and cabinets. It possesses, also, some ancient coins and bronze weapons.

It would be unnecessary, even thus briefly, to state these few particulars, were it not that I was made the means of communication with our Society, but nothing tends to promote the Science of Archæology more than the interchange of ideas with kindred Institutions, and observing the systems and collections of such Societies. The Saxon Society expressed a desire to open friendly relations with us, and to exchange our respective publications; and accordingly, the following morning, I received an address to our Society, in German, of which the following is a translation.

The Royal Saxon Society for the discovering and preserving the National Historical and Artistic Antiquities, to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

While we do ourselves the honour, at the invitation of Mr John M. Mitchell, to send you the Memoirs 1st, 4th, 6th, 8th Numbers (the 5th will follow), we offer our best thanks for the verbal communication made to us by Mr J. M.

Mitchell, with offer of exchange of Memoirs, and we add to this the request for future exchange of Proceedings, and the assurance of our particular esteem.

By order of the Directors,

(Signed) D. MAX. L. LÖWE, Professor,
and Librarian.

DRESDEN, 1st October 1855.

The numbers or parts mentioned in this letter I have now the pleasure of presenting, in the name of that Society; and in order to follow up the friendly wish of so distinguished a body, I beg to propose, that this communication be published in our Proceedings, and that you authorize the Secretaries for Foreign Correspondence to transmit to the Royal Saxon Society copies of our Proceedings, with a suitable reply to the above Letter. This proposal was unanimously agreed to.