

#### IV.

##### REPORT ON THE SCOTTISH AND ENGLISH COINS IN THE SOCIETY'S MUSEUM. BY GEORGE SIM, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., AND THE KEEPER OF THE MUSEUM.

In accordance with the remit of the Society (of date 16th January 1860) to Mr George Sim and Mr William T. M'Culloch, requesting them to examine and report on the Collection of Coins in the Museum; and they, during the vacation, having carefully examined the collection, submitted the following interim Report:—

“It was considered advisable to give our first attention to the Scottish and English coins.<sup>1</sup> The detailed list or inventory of these coins, arranged chronologically in the usual manner, we now lay on the table, which will enable the Society to see that many blanks in the mintages of several of the monarchs remain to be filled up. As there are many duplicates in the collection, among which are many rare coins, we may remind the Society that this collection is simply the result of an accumulation of donations from the Exchequer and private individuals, without any definite attempt having ever been made to form a complete series. We have selected a series of the Scottish and English coins for exhibition in the glass cases. The late Mr Hay Newton's bequest of rare coins, &c. is, for the present,

<sup>1</sup> See “Archæologiæ Scotica,” vol. ii., App. p. 5, for a catalogue of the Scottish Coins, dated May 1820, by James Skene, Esq., Curator.

exhibited by itself; but the coins included in it are given in the inventory now laid on the table, arranged in their chronological order.

"We may remark, in conclusion, that we looked over the Collection of Anglo Saxon coins, many of which appear to be very rare and valuable, but their detailed examination and arrangement we are obliged for the present to postpone.

"We are not prepared to report upon the large Collection of Greek, Roman, and other Coins, the arranging and making detailed catalogues of which will be a work requiring considerable time and labour."

"The following abstract of the Report gives a few of the details of more general interest in relation to the Society's Collection of Coins:—

"SCOTTISH GOLD.

"The Scottish Gold consists of the St Andrew of Robert II. and of Robert III.; lions of James I. and James II.; half-lion of James I.; unicorns and half-unicorn of James III.; St Andrew, rider, and half-rider of James IV.; the ecu, bonnet-piece, and two-thirds of bonnet-piece of James V.; the lion, half-lion, ryal, and half-ryal, of Mary; thistle noble, lion, rider, half-rider, sword and sceptre pieces, half-sword and sceptre pieces, unit, double crown and thistle crown of James VI.; Briot's unit and half-unit of Charles I.; and the Darien pistole and half-pistole of William III.

"SCOTTISH SILVER.

"Among the Scottish Silver are pennies of David I., Henry Prince of Scotland and Earl of Northumberland, William the Lion, Alexander I., Alexander II., Alexander III., John Baliol, and Robert I. (Bruce); halfpennies of the three last-named kings; David II. groat, half-groat, and penny, all of Aberdeen mint; Robert II. Perth half-groat, with "B" behind the head, previously unpublished; Robert III. penny, R., "Rex Scotorum," nearly unique (engraved in Mr Lindsay's Supplement to his work on Scottish Coins, plate ii. No. 22\*); James I. groat of Stirling; varieties of the groats of James II. and III; halfpenny of

James III.; groat of James III. of sixth and last coinage, having "Rex. Cot." on obverse—a fine, unique, and unpublished coin; some very rare varieties of the groats of James IV. and V.; testoons and half-testoons of Mary and Francis and Mary; a very remarkable testoon of Francis & Mary (see Lindsay, plate viii. No. 181), with date 1553, being several years before Mary's marriage with the Dauphin, supposed by Mr Lindsay to have been struck as a medal; a still more remarkable testoon of Francis & Mary (R. Vicit. Leo, &c.), bearing the extraordinary date 1565, after her marriage with Darnley, as to which Mr Lindsay can offer no explanation—only two specimens of this coin are known; the testoons of Mary, with bust, during her widowhood, 1561 and 1562; and half-testoon, 1561, very rare; varieties of the Cruikston dollar, &c.; James VI. XL shilling piece, with bust, of which only three specimens are known, and the crown and half-crown after his accession to the English throne; Charles I. shilling and sixpence from his father's dies, both very rare, &c. &c.

" SCOTTISH BILLON AND COPPER.

" Among the Billon coins are a James III. penny of Aberdeen (engraved in Mr Lindsay's Supplement, plate iii. No. 5); pennies of Mary, with bust, and some rare varieties of placks, &c.; James VI. hard-head, with "Vincit Verit," perhaps unique, very rare; a half hard-head, with reverse resembling coins of Mary (*vide* Proc. vol. i. p. 232); a half-Atkinson, of which only three are known; copper penny, with bust, of which only five are at present known; plack, with two sceptres in saltire, and other very rare placks, &c. &c.

" ENGLISH GOLD.

" The English Gold consists of Edward III. nobles and half-noble; Richard II. noble; Henry VI. angel and angelot (Anglo-Gallic); Edward IV. noble; Henry VIII. sovereign, very rare; angel, and half-crown; James I. half-laurel, quarter-laurels, crowns, and half-crown; Charles I. half and quarter-sovereigns; Charles II. double guinea; William and Mary guinea; and George I. quarter-guinea.

## " ENGLISH SILVER.

"The English Silver consists of pennies of all the early sovereigns, some of the mints being uncommon; groats and smaller money of Edward III.; Anglo-Gallic coins of Edward the Black Prince; Henry IV. groat, half-groat, and half-penny; Henry V. gros blanc (Anglo-Gallic), groats, and smaller money; Henry VI. groat and penny; Edward IV. groats and smaller money; Richard III. groat, very fine and rare, with boar's head mint mark, on both sides; Henry VII. groats and smaller money; Henry VIII. shilling, groats, and smaller money; Edward VI. crown (on which a date for the first time appears on the English coins, if we except the coin said to be struck by the Duchess of Burgundy for "Perkin Warbeck" (the Duke of York) which bears date 1494), shillings, sixpence, and testoon or side-faced shilling; Philip and Mary shilling; groats of Mary and Philip and Mary; Irish billon groats and English rose pennies of Philip and Mary; milled and hammered shillings and smaller money of Elizabeth; James I. crown, shillings, and smaller money; Charles I. Newark siege half-crown, and Pontefract siege shilling, and other money; the Commonwealth money, a complete set; the Cromwell crown, half-crown, and shilling, all fine and rare; with money of the subsequent sovereigns, including a very fine bronze farthing of Anne, 1714.

## " ENGLISH AND IRISH COPPER.

"The English and Irish Copper includes Charles I. Irish siege piece; St Patrick's pence and half-pence; gun-money of James II.; and English copper of all the sovereigns from Charles II. inclusive; also Isle of Man money, with a silver pattern of the Earl of Derby's; there is also a large collection of provincial and other Tokens, of towns, tradesmen, political, &c."

MONDAY, 28th January 1861.

PROFESSOR J. Y. SIMPSON, M.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Special Meeting and *Conversazione* was held, by permission of the Royal Society, in their Hall, when the Vice-President's ADDRESS ON ARCHÆOLOGY was delivered (*vide* page 5). At the conclusion, on the motion of the Honourable LORD NEAVES, a cordial vote of thanks was given to PROFESSOR SIMPSON for his very learned and important Address.

The company then adjourned to the Museum and Library of the Society.

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MONDAY, 11th February 1861.

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

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

THOMAS CONSTABLE, Esq., Publisher.  
 JAMES CRAWFORD, Jun., Esq., W.S.  
 Major WILLIAM ROSS KING, Badenscoth, Aberdeenshire.  
 WILLIAM MACLEOD, M.D., Ben-Rhydding, Yorkshire.  
 JAMES DAVID MARWICK, Esq., City Clerk.  
 MATTHEW TUNNOCH, Esq., S.S.C.  
 WILLIAM STUART WALKER of Bowland, Esq.

*As a Corresponding Member.*

ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., Deputy-Commissioner in Lunacy.

The Donations to the Museum and Library were as follows:—

Large (Clay Iron) Stone, shaped somewhat like an ancient Battle-axe with Handle, measuring 20 inches long, 10 inches across face, and 3 across handle. It was found in the bed of the river Esk. By ROBERT DUNDAS, of Arniston, Esq.

Collection of Bone Pins, Bronze Brooches, Buckle, and Stone with incised Cross, Stone Implements, &c., as detailed in the communication of Captain F. W. L. THOMAS, R.N., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Two small Circular Perforated Stones, termed Adder Stones, recently used in the Lewis as amulets for the cure of the diseases of cattle. Triangular-shaped Bar, or specimen of Pig-iron, 12 inches long by 6 inches broad, found while excavating on the site of the old Furnace of Pollewe, Gairloch, Ross-shire, 1860. By ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., Deputy-Commissioner in Lunacy.

Nine Specimens of Vessels of coarse Pottery, made and used recently in the Uig and Barvas districts of the Island of Lewis, and called Craggans, 1860. By Captain F. W. L. THOMAS, R.N., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot., and ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., Deputy Commissioner in Lunacy.

These vessels consist of six wide-mouthed, globular-shaped dishes, varying in size from 4 to 9 inches high, and from 13 to 32 inches in circumference. One of them is ornamented with incised lines on the upper part. Two bowl-shaped vessels; the one is 6 inches high, and 11 inches across the mouth; the other  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth. One vessel is shaped like a stew-pan, 5 inches deep, and 6 inches across the mouth, with a handle 4 inches long. All these vessels are rudely made with the hand, without the assistance of the potter's wheel, and are annealed by milk being thrown upon them while they are red-hot. They are used for various culinary and domestic purposes. Until within the last ten years metal pots were unknown in the Island.

Conical-shaped stone, measuring  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, about 3 inches in diameter, with perforation through pointed extremity, and three perforations in base. By THOMAS STEVENSON, Esq., C.E., F.S.A. Scot.

The stone is apparently a sink-stone used for fishing-nets, and was found, in 1855, at the top of a precipitous rock about 170 feet high, called "Muckle Flugga," lying about three-quarters of a mile to the northward of Unst, the northernmost island of the Zetland group. The sinker was found embedded in rocky matters, three feet below the surface, by workmen who were cutting a foundation for a lighthouse. It is probably of considerable antiquity, as it was very compactly embedded. Similar stones are still used for sinking nets in Zetland.

Archæologia; or, Miscellaneous Tracts relating to Antiquity. Pub-

lished by the Society of Antiquaries of London. Vol. XXXIII. Part I. 4to. London, 1860.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London. Vol. IV. Nos. 49-52, 1858-59; and Vol. I. Part I., Second Series. 1859; 8vo. London, 1858-60. By the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON.

Illustrations, Historical and Genealogical, of King James' Irish Army List (1689), second edition. 2 vols. 8vo. Dublin, 1860. By the Author, JOHN D'ALTON, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Comitatus de Atholia. The Earldom of Atholl, its Boundaries Stated, &c. With Proofs and Map. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1860. Printed for private circulation. By the Author, Colonel J. A. ROBERTSON, F.S.A. Scot.

Reports and Papers read at the Meetings of the Architectural Societies of York, Lincoln, Northampton, Bedford, Worcester, and Leicester, during the year 1858. 8vo. Lincoln, 1860. By the Societies, through the Rev. E. TROLLOPE, Leasingham.

Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, 8vo (pp. 40). 1860. By GEORGE TATE, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Notices of Various Animal Remains, as *Bos longifrons* (Owen), &c., found with Roman Pottery, near Newstead, Roxburghshire. With Notes in reference to the Origin of our Domestic Cattle, and the Wild White Cattle of this Country. 8vo (pp. 12). (From "Edinburgh New Philosophical Journal," vol. liv. 1853.) By the Author, JOHN ALEX. SMITH, M.D., F.S.A. Scot. The animal remains described were formerly presented by Dr J. A. Smith to the Museum of the Society.

Transactions of the Glasgow Archæological Society. Part I., 8vo. Glasgow, 1859. By the SOCIETY.

Stonehenge; being the Report of a Brief Lecture on the Spot, August 1860, 8vo (pp. 16). Exeter, 1860. By the Author, JOHN THURNAM, M.D.

Notices of Remarkable Greek, Roman and Anglo-Saxon, and other Medieval Coins, 4to (pp. 12). Cork, 1860. By the Author, JOHN LINDSAY, Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Illustrated Descriptive Catalogue of the Collection of Antique Silver Plate formed by Lord Londesborough, now the Property of Lady Londesborough. 4to. London, 1860. Printed for private circulation. By the Author, FREDERICK W. FAIRHOLT, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

The following recent purchases for the Museum were also exhibited :—

A Series of Scottish and English Coins, towards completing the collections in the Museum.

Medal in Brass, struck on the Defeat of the Spanish Armada, 2 inches in diameter. It displays a fleet dispersed by a storm, and the inscription—**וַיִּפֶּן**, FLAVIT ET DISSIPATI SVNT. 1588. *Rev.*—Church on a Rock in the midst of the Sea—inscription, **ALLIDOR NON LÆDOR**. Also,

Leaden Badge, the Virgin seated with Child in lap, an Angel on each side; diameter,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches. Found near the ruins of Cambuskenneth Abbey, Stirling. And a

Bronze Hand-Candlestick, ornamented in high relief. Length of handle 5 inches; socket for candle 1 inch high. Found, along with two Irish Groats of Philip and Mary, in digging in a bog in the county of Tyrone, Ireland.

The following communications were read :—