

## III.

MEMORANDUM RESPECTING THE SMELLIE CORRESPONDENCE.  
PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY THE TRUSTEES OF THE LATE  
JOHN SMELLIE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. By DAVID LAING, Esq., For. Sec.  
S.A. Scot.

Mr John Smellie, a member of this Society, died at Portobello in January last. His father and grandfather having for many years filled the office of Secretary to the Society, it occurred to me that various papers or letters connected with its proceedings might have remained in his custody. I took occasion, therefore, to apply to Mr John Wood, one of his trustees, requesting him to make some inquiry on the subject, as I had no doubt that the Society would willingly acquire such papers, either by purchase or as a donation. Mr Wood kindly undertook to keep this in view when Mr Smellie's repositories were examined.

He afterwards told me that upon a search no letters of the kind could be discovered, and he understood that a quantity of useless papers had been destroyed. A few days, however, after the furniture, &c., of the house had been sold by roup, a bundle of letters was found in one of the upper rooms, and sent along to my house a few evenings ago by Mr Tawse, W.S., agent for the trustees, in case they might be those after which I had inquired; and it was left to myself to make what use of them I pleased, should I think them worth preserving.

Upon examining the bundle, I found the letters, although mutilated and in bad preservation, had been folded and docketed with some care, and I had no difficulty in recognising them as forming part of the materials from which Mr Robert Kerr compiled his work entitled "Memoirs of the Life, Writings, and Correspondence of William Smellie, F.R.S. and F.A.S., late Printer in Edinburgh, Secretary and Superintendent of Natural History to the Society of Scottish Antiquaries, &c." Edinb., 1811, 2 vols. 8vo.

Mr WILLIAM SMELLIE was an original member of the Society of Antiquaries, and was for several years Superintendent or Keeper of that portion of the Museum which was appropriated to Natural History. In 1793, he was elected General Secretary, but died within two years, in the fifty-fifth year of his age. He is known as the translator of "Buffon's

Natural History," and the author of the "Philosophy of Natural History," 2 vols. 4to. He was also the chief compiler of the original "Encyclopædia Britannica," in 1771, 3 vols. 4to. But his "Memoirs," as Mr Robert Chambers remarks with much truth, "is a work very much disproportioned to the subject."

Upon comparing the letters with the printed book, the result has been that only 87 letters out of about 220 seem to be preserved. A more careful examination of some letters or papers supposed to be unprinted may perhaps add to the number. Most of those wanting are of little importance, if we except two written by the Count de Buffon and one by Robert Burns. These may perhaps have been given away as autographs.

In the bundle itself, curious enough, there is in Kerr's handwriting, a note suggesting that the originals, after being employed, should be pasted in regular order in a bound book, and deposited in the Library of the Antiquaries, titled,

Original MSS. respecting the Life of Wm. Smellie.	Or,	Remains of Wm. Smellie.
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Had I been in any doubt regarding the disposal of these letters, a passage in the printed "Memoirs" would have settled this point. There it is distinctly stated "the whole original documents on which the following work is founded shall be arranged in a large volume and deposited in the library of the Antiquarian Society of Scotland, as memorials of its authenticity." How his son, Mr Alexander Smellie, should not have carried this proposal into effect may appear singular; but his grandson was likely enough to overlook it.

I have now great pleasure in presenting the letters to the Society. In themselves they are not of much importance, but they include one or more autograph notes, or letters, of men of eminence, such as Lord Kames, Lord Hailes, Principal Robertson, Dr Gilbert Stuart, Thomas Pennant, and Dr Blair.

I think, therefore, it would be well that the above suggestion for binding them be now carried into effect. I also beg to propose that the cordial thanks of the Society be voted to Mr Smellie's trustees, and to John W. Tawse, Esq., W.S., for this donation.

The meeting approved unanimously of Mr Laing's suggestions, with thanks to himself for his share in this matter.

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MONDAY, 8th June 1863.

JOSEPH ROBERTSON, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

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

JAMES R. STEWART, Esq., Exchequer.

HENRY FLOCKHART, Esq., Inverleith Row.

The Donations to the Museum and Library were as follows, and thanks were voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By JOHN HAY, Esq., of Letham, Forfarshire.

Clay Urn,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, and  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth; somewhat bowl-shaped, and ornamented on the outside with three horizontal parallel and slightly projecting bands. The whole surface of the urn is covered over with a short indented pattern. It was found on the estate of Letham, near Arbroath.

(2.) By Mr ALEXANDER WALKER, Castle Newe, Strathdon.

Small Stone Ball,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, found at Strathdon, Aberdeenshire.

(3.) Mr HENRY LAING, 3 Elder Street.

Electrotype Copy of the Book-Stamp of John Hamilton, Archbishop of St Andrews, 1548-1571. (See Communication, page 140.)

(4.) By Mr W. T. M'CULLOCH, the Keeper of the Museum.

Large Iron Key, with a long projecting point, and a bow of Gothic form, found near the ruins of St Anthony's Chapel, Queen's Park, Edinburgh.

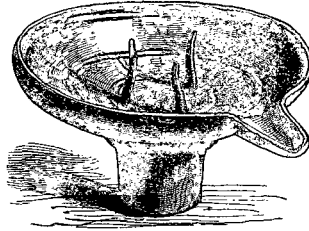
(5.) By Professor J. Y. SIMPSON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

One long-shaped Boat Paddle, with oval blade; Twenty-Six Arrows of

Reeds, with wooden points; Three long and straight Bows; Two Spears—one with a long pointed iron head, thickly barbed, and a rounded disk of iron at its other extremity; the other of wood, with compound head, of long and short points; Four Spears, two with lance-shaped points or heads, of Obsidian or Volcanic Glass, the other two with stone heads awaiting; ; from the South Sea Islands.

(6.) By the Rev. GEORGE MURRAY, Manse, Balmaclellan, New Galloway.

Bronze Cup-Shaped "Save all" for Candle, from New Galloway. (See woodcut.)



Bronze Save-All from New Galloway.

(7.) By Colonel PILLANS, Bengal Artillery.

Piece of the Sandal-Wood Gates of Somnauth, a celebrated Hindoo Temple, in Gujerat. These gates were taken by Sultan Mahmoud of Ghurjni on his last invasion of India, A.D. 1024, and placed on his tomb at Ghurjni. On the capture of that city by the British in 1842, they were brought back to India by General Nott, and erected in the Audience Hall of Akbar the Great, in the Fort of Agra.

(8.) By the Rev. DAVID ARNOT, D.D., George Square.

A Book in Chinese.

Small Clay Figure of Buddha.

(9.) By DANIEL WILSON, LL.D., Professor of English Literature in University College, Toronto, Canada, Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

A variety of Articles collected by himself, accompanied with the following detailed list or inventory:—

"LIST OF AMERICAN AND OTHER ANTIQUITIES PRESENTED TO THE  
SCOTTISH MUSEUM.

1. Small Vase, with crouching figure for Handle, from an ancient Huacal at Chirique, Isthmus of Panama.
2. Terra-Cotta, Human Head, from Mexico.
3. Cast of Mississippi Mound Pipe-head, *vide* "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley," p. 245, fig. 145, compared with Wilson's "Prehistoric Man," vol. i. p. 464, fig. 19.
4. Cast of Harpy Pipe-head, *vide* "Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley," p. 247, fig. 147.
5. Cast of Head of Morse Pipe-head, *vide* do., p. 271, fig. 192.
6. Fish of an alloy of Silver and Copper, from the dress-ornaments found in an ancient grave at Attacama, Peru.
7. Collection of Indian Pottery (fragments) from Indian graves in Canada.
8. Three Carib Shell-Knives, from Barbadoes, *vide* "Prehistoric Man," vol. i. p. 209, fig. 6.
9. Ancient Stone Pipe, of dark steatite, with Lizard (imperfect), dug up near Lake Simcoe, Georgian Bay, *vide* "Canadian Journal," vol. ii. p. 235.
10. Ancient Stone Pipe, with Human Head, carved from a hard silicious limestone, found on the shores of Lake Couchiching, where the stone occurs *in situ*.
11. Double Stone Pipe, used by the Cree Indians for two smoking together.
12. Curiously formed Pipe, made of the red pipe-stone of the Couteau des Prairies, found on the shores of Lake Simcoe, *vide* "Canadian Journal," vol. ii. p. 331.
- 13, 14. Two large specimens of Winnebago Pipes, formed of the favourite red pipe-stone, inlaid with lead.
15. Tastefully Carved Pipe of Red Pipe-Stone, inlaid with lead and black pigment, dug up on the north shore of Lake Erie.
16. Chippewa Pipe, with perforated ridge Ornament.
17. Assinaboin Pipe of Red Pipe-Stone.
18. Stone Pipe (imperfect) of Grey Limestone, inlaid with lead, found

in an Indian ossuary, near Burlington Bay, Upper Canada, alongside of tropical shells, from the Gulf of Mexico.

19. Two Clay Pipes, found under the roots of a gigantic pine tree, at the Mohawk Settlement, on the Grand River, and presented to me by the Indian chief Kahkewaquonaby.

20. Twelve Ancient Clay Pipes (some imperfect) and Clay Pipe-Stems, dug up in ossuaries, and on sites of ancient Indian villages in Canada.

21. Ring and Ornaments formed of White and Blue Beads and Iouqua Shells, from the mummy of a Chinook child with flattened skull, from Oregon.

22. Iron Knife, found along with a tomahawked skull in a Huron grave, Georgian Bay.

23. Stone Tube, found in county Talbot, Upper Canada, *vide* "Mon. Mississippi Valley," p. 227, fig. 125.

24. Blue Glass Beads and Red and Blue Tubes, Wampum, from an Indian grave at Orillia.

25. Collection of Bone Pins and Bodkins, from Indian graves, and sites of ancient villages in Canada.

26. Bone Disc, made from a human skull, found in an Indian grave mound at Nassagawaya, Upper Canada.

27. Stone Knife, from the Labrador coast.

28. Ornamental Crescent-shaped Stone, perforated, *vide* description of objects of this class in the "Anc. Mon. Mississippi Valley," p. 218, fig. 114.

29. Perforated Stone Implement, of same class as No. 27, made of veined slate, of which many of the tubes and other stone relics of the ancient mound-builders are formed.

30. Pendant or Plummet, of stone, *vide* "Anc. Mon. Mississippi Valley," p. 235, fig. 132.

31. Perforated Stones, styled Gorgets, *vide ibid.*, p. 237, fig. 136.

32. Stone Implement, in shape of an animal's head, from county Norfolk, north shore of Lake Erie.

33. Stone Ornament (Totem), perforated for attachment to the dress, found on Dryden Farm, county Norfolk.

34. Implement of Green Stone, (a flaying knife?) from ancient mound on Lake Huron, *vide* examples figured in "Anc. Mon. Mississippi Valley," p. 239, fig. 138, where it is remarked, "It may be reasonably

conceived, from their uniform shape and apparent unfitness as implements, and also from the wide range of their occurrence, that they were invested with a conventional significance, as insignia, badges of distinction, or amulets."

35. Upwards of 100 Lance and Arrow Heads of Flint and Stone, from Canada and the United States. (The localities are marked on many of the specimens.)

36. Large Flint Spear-head from Lake Superior.

37. Large Flint Lance-head, from Lake St John, Saguenay, Lower Canada.

38. Portion of large Stone Vessel, and various Stone Implements, from an ancient grave at Amoskay Falls, on the Merrimac, New England.

39. Rude Animal's Head in Stone, from Indian Grave on Lake Huron.

40. Twenty-two Stone Axes and Gouges from Canada and the United States. (The localities marked on most of them.)

41. Various knives and other implements of Stone.

42. Perforated Ring, formed from the Vertebra of a Sturgeon, found in an Indian Ossuary on Georgian Bay.

43. Large Copper Wedge, found near the ancient copper mine at Ontonagon, Lake Superior.

44. Curious Carved Drinking-Cup of Maple Wood, obtained from the Chief of the Tête-boule Indians on the St Maurice River, Lower Canada.

45. Esquimaux Ivory Comb, brought by Dr Rae from Repulse Bay, Hudson's Bay, Lat. 66° 32' N.

46. Esquimaux Marrow-Spoon from do.

47, 48. Two Esquimaux Ivory Forks from do.

#### "SCOTTISH AND OTHER RELICS.

1. Small Silver Spoon, found in digging the foundation of a house in the West Bow, Edinburgh, engraved with a cross croslet, *K. A. Born Dec. ii. 1716.*

2. Iron Buckle from a Grave at Barry, Orkney.

3. Stone Pipe, rudely cut in shape of an animal's head, dug up at Morningside, near Edinburgh. Vide "Prehist. Annals of Scotland," p. 681.

4. Bronze Celt, dug up on Arthur Seat, above Sampson's Ribs.

5. Stone Celt found on East Bonnington Mains, near the cromlech called "The Auld Wives' Lift," Mid-Lothian.
6. Two Stone Celts; one from Ratho, Mid-Lothian; one from Ayrshire.
7. Silver Bars and broken Rings or Armillæ, found in a sepulchral mound in the Isle of Skye in 1850.
8. Whetstone found alongside a group of cists at North Berwick, East Lothian. *Vide* "Prehist. Annals," p. 133.
9. Quaich of native Green Marble, found in Glen Tilt.
10. Oblong Shale Bead, from a Barrow, Forfarshire.
11. Inscribed Bronze Ring, dug up in the manse garden, Cumbernauld.
12. Dentated Bone Ring (only nine nobs), found at Inveresk. Presented to me by the late Dr Moir (Delta).
13. Engraved Brass Box, "Isaac blessing Jacob" (Dutch).
14. Small Urn, dug up on Arthur Seat. *Vide* "Prehist. Annals," p. 228.
15. Large Flint Flake, from a Cist, Mid-Lothian.
16. Do. from Linlithgow.
17. Cornelian Arrow-head; small fine flint do.
18. Stone Hammer, found in a Cist at Pentland, Mid-Lothian.
19. Ancient Key, of elegant form.
20. Bronze Spear-head, dug up at Kinghorn, Fifeshire, in 1848.
21. Large Shale Ring, found in a Cist on the Carriestane Farm, Cumbernauld, Dumbartonshire.
22. Cherub carved in Oak, from Colchester.
23. Metal Figure in Ducal Robes, dug up at Colchester.
24. Bronze Gouge and Iron Implement, dredged up in the river Tay.



Bronze Gouge found in the river Tay.

25. Two Bronze Axe-blades; one from Mid-Lothian, the other from a Cairn in Fifeshire.
26. Two Bronze Spurs.



27. Perforated Stone, called a "Witch Stane," which was hung up in the byre of a farm-house, in the parish of Cumbernauld, as a protection for the Cattle.

28. Perforated Circular Stone (a Table-stone for Drafts), from a Cist, East-Lothian.

29. Rounded Triangular Stone, with double perforation, and the name *Will. M. H.* scratched on it; probably a witch-stone; found in the ruins of a byre in Dumfriesshire.

30. A Stone Whorl.

31, 32. Coronation Medals of George II. and Queen Caroline."

(10.) By General PATRICK YULE, R.E., F.S.A. Scot.

Tryal of Philip Standsfield, son of Sir James Standsfield of Newmilns, for the Murder of his Father, Feb. 7, 1688. Folio (pp. 36). Edin., 1688.

(11.) By T. J. PETTIGREW, Esq., London.

Explanation of the Inscriptions found in the Chambers of the Maes-Howe. By the Rev. T. Barclay, D.D.; with an Account of the Tumulus by T. J. Pettigrew. 4to (pp. 18). London, 1863.

(12.) By JOHN LUBBOCK, Esq., London (the Author).

Review of Works on the Antiquity of Man. 8vo (pp. 26.) Lond. 1862.

(13.) By GEORGE SETON, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. (the Author).

The Law and Practice of Heraldry in Scotland. 8vo. Edin. 1863.

(14.) By THE WILTSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

The Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine. Nos. 21 and 22 for Oct. 1862 and June 1863. 8vo. Devizes, 1862-63.

(15.) By THE ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETIES.

Reports and Papers read at the Meetings of the Architectural Societies of the county of York, Diocese of Lincoln, &c., during the year 1861. 8vo. Lincoln, 1862.

(16.) By THE CANADIAN INSTITUTE.

The Canadian Journal of Industry, Science, and Art for 1862, being Nos. 37-42, vol. vii. New Series. 8vo. Toronto, 1862.

(17.) By THE ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES.

Antiquarisk Tidsskrift udgivet af det Kongelige Nordiske Oldskrift-Selskab. 1858-60. Tredie hefte, 8vo. Kjöbenhavn, 1860.

(18.) By THE ROYAL UNIVERSITY, CHRISTIANIA.

Diplomatarium Norvegicum. Vol. 10. 8vo. Christiania, 1861.

Norske Rigsregistranter tildeels I. uddrag. udgivne efter offentlig Foranstaltning. 1523-1571. Two vols. 8vo. Christiania, 1861-62.

Stjorn, Norsk Bibelhistorie, 1299-1319. 8vo. Christiania, 1863.

Foreningen til Norske Fortidsminde merkers bevaring Aarsberetning for 1861. 8vo. Christiania, 1862.

(19.) By THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF BONN.

Jahrbücher des vereins von Alterthumsfreunden im Rheinlande, 31, 32, 33. 8vo. Bonn, 1862-63.

Das Denkmal des Hercules Saxonus im Brohlthal. erlaeutert von Johannes Freudenberg. 4to (pp. 30.) Bonn, 1862.

(20.) By THE SOCIÉTÉ FRANÇAISE D'ARCHÉOLOGIE, pour la Conservation des Monuments Historiques. Through JULES CARRON, Esq., Consul of France.

Annuaire de l'Institut des Provinces, des Sociétés Savantes et Congrès Scientifiques. Vols. XII. and XIV. 8vo. Paris, 1860-62.

Congrès Archéologique de France, XXVII et XXVIII Session. Two vols. 8vo. Paris, 1861-62.

Two nearly perfect Bronze Shields, found while cutting a drain in a marshy field near Yetholm, Roxburghshire, in 1837, and recently purchased for the Museum, were exhibited. A careful drawing of one of the shields is given in Plate IV.

Fig. 1. The front view of the shield, its diameter being  $23\frac{3}{4}$  inches.

Fig. 2. Boss of shield.

Fig. 3. Portion of front of shield, showing the details of the natural size.

(See "Notes on Bronze Shields," by Mr W. T. M'Culloch, page 165).

The following Communications were read :—