

VI.

FURTHER NOTICE OF EXPLORATIONS ON THE HILL OF THE LAWS,
FORFARSHIRE. By JAMES NEISH, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Mr Neish, referring to the account of his excavations on the Laws, Forfarshire (Lawys of Ester Athy in a charter of Robert II.), published by the Society in 1860 (Proc vol. iii. p. 440), reported that he had been

digging a good deal lately, tracing additional walls, quite as puzzling to him as those reported on before. He expected soon to have these and others inserted on the ground-plan, in the hope of throwing some light as to the general arrangement. Meantime he exhibited a double-sided comb, a piece of lead, a stone whorl, an iron pin, an iron buckle, a circular substance resembling fuller's earth, with artificial marking. These were all found amongst the stones and earth supporting the pavement in the circular building marked "k" on plan (Proc. vol. iii. plate xxxv.) Formerly a bronze armlet and iron nail were found at same place.

MONDAY, 9th May 1864.

JOSEPH ROBERTSON, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following articles were sent for exhibition :—

(1.) By JOHN GRIGOR, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

An ornamented circular Stone 'Tableman,' and Glass Bead, found near Nairn.

(2.) By Colonel Sir JAMES E. ALEXANDER, Knt., F.S.A. Scot.

Stone, showing a Monogram, from Cambuskenneth Abbey.

Drawing, in Water Colours, of the Funeral of Sir Walter Scott, Bart., in September 1832, made at the time by the Exhibitor.

The Monarchick Tragedies, and other Poems, of Sir William Alexander, afterwards Earl of Stirling, printed at London 1607, 4to, in richly gilt binding, with shield of arms stamped on the boards, supposed to be those of Charles the First, when Prince of Wales.

(3.) By Sir JOHN STUART HEPBURN FORBES of Fettercairn and Pit-sligo, Bart.

A parcel-gilt Silver Tankard, said to have been given by Mary Queen of Scots to Thomas Hepburn, parson of Oldhamstocks. It is of beautiful filagree work, and appears to have been made at Augsburg, about the end of the fifteenth or beginning of the 16th century.

(4.) By JOHN ALEX. SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

1. An original letter, in very fine preservation, of Prince Charles Edward

Stuart, to his mother-in-law, the Princess of Stolberg, dated Florence, 16th December 1774. The letter is as follows :—

“ Madame Ma Cousine et tres Chere Belle Mere,
Je me rejouis avec vous de L’etablissement de La Princesse votre Fille,
dont Le Mariage ne peut que m’etre agreable puis quil est de Votre
Choix. Je vous prie, Madame, de faire mes Complimens a La Marieé, a
que je souhaite toute sorte de Bonheur, aussy d’etre assureé que Je seray
toute ma vie avec tendresse.

Votre tres affectionné

Beaufils et Cousin,

FLORENCE,

Le 16 Decembre

1774.

Madame La Princesse de Stolberg.”

CHARLES R.

It is addressed on the enclosing cover of the letter,

“ A Madame Ma Cousine
Et tres Chere Belle Mere
La Princesse de Stolberg.”

The Prince signs “ Charles R.,” using thus the title of King. It is sealed with the Royal Arms of Great Britain and Ireland, crowned ; surrounded by a ribbon, with the motto, “ Honi soi qui mal y pense,” and the collar of the Order of the Thistle.

2. The marriage-contract of “ Maister Ebenezer Erskine, Minister of the Gospell at Portmough,” the Father of the Secession Church ; with his first wife Alison Turpie, second daughter to Alexander Turpie, writer in Leven. It is dated at Leven the 12th day of January 1704. The “ tochergood” of the bride was “ twa thousand merks Scots money ;” and the document is signed by Ebenezer Areskine and Alieson Turpie, also by the bride’s father, Alex. Turpie, and before these witnesses—Maister Ralph Areskine, brother-german to the said Mr Ebenezer ; Robert Lindsay, servitor to the Earle of Rothes ; Archibald Robertson, clerke of Leslie, writer hereoff ; and David Burgh, chamberlain to the said Earle.

These two interesting documents are the property of Ralph Erskine Scott, Esq., C.A.

The following Donations were laid on the Table, and thanks were voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By ROBERT MERCER of Scotsbank, Esq., Curator S.A. Scot.

Two square-shaped Communion Tokens, in Pewter—D.K. 1745. Duddingston Kirk, near Edinburgh.

(2.) By the Rev. GEORGE MURRAY, Manse, Balmaclellan, Kirkcudbrightshire.

Seventy Church Communion Tokens in lead and pewter, formerly used in Parish Churches in the district of Galloway. They are either square, circular, or oval, and vary from $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{7}{8}$ of an inch in diameter.

Balmaclellan—square-shaped, B.A.

Buittle—circular, with the monogram B.K.

Carsephairn—circular, on the one side, a chalice between ps. 116; on the other, the bread and c.A.

Colvend—circular, K. on one side and c.S on the other.

Crossmichael—circular, C.P. 1648.

Crossmichael—square, C.M. 1727.

Crossmichael—circular, C.M. 1812.

Dalmellington—circular, DAMHELENTOUN, a chalice, ps. 116; on the reverse, the bread I COR. 11.26. 1760.

Dalry—square, the monogram D, with a small I in the centre of it.

Dumfries—square, with the corners cut off, D.F. 1773.

Dumfries—circular, R.T. 1739.

Girthon—circular, G.K. 1721.

Girthon—square, G.K. 1748.

Glasserton—square, GLASSERTON, 1771 M^r J. L.

Glasserton—square, K.

Keir—square, K.K. 1747.

Keir—square, K. 1750.

Kells—square, with the corners cut off, K.

Kelton—square, KELTOUN. M^r I. L. on one side, and on the other 1746.

Kelton—square, KELTOUN.

Kirkbean—circular, K.B. 1716.

Kirkcolm—oblong, KIRKCOME . 1706 on one side, and on the other a Thistle and Lily.

Kirkcolm—square, KIRKHOLM, 1766.

Kirkcudbright—circular, KIRKCUDBRIGHT . R.M. on one side; A.D. 1776 on the other.

Kirkmabreck—heart-shaped, K.B on one side; 1777 on the other.

Kirkowan—circular, KIRKOWEN on one side; 1742 . T, and a heart on the other.

Kirkpatrick-Durham—square, K.P.D. 1725.

Leswalt—heart-shaped, LESWALT on one side; 1710 on the other.

Minnigaff—circular, MONIGOR . 1719 on one side; K on the other.

Mochrum—circular, R. W. MOCHRUM on one side; a heart pierced with an arrow 1719.

Old Luce—oblong, OLD : LWCE.

Parton—square, PAR. 1717.

Parton—square, P.K. 1755.

Parton—circular, 17—.

Penninghame—circular, PEN . 1760 on one side; M^r W. B. on the other.

Sorbie—circular, SORB . 1726 on one side; a heart in a frame on the other.

Sorbie—circular, SORB . 1776 on one side; a heart on the other.

Stranraer—oblong, STR.

Terregles—square, K.S. 1737.

Tongland—circular, I.S.T.K. on one side; A.D. 1778 on the other.

Tongland—circular, W.R. on one side; T . 1788 on the other.

Tongland—circular, TONGLAND . T.B. 1809.

Tynron—square, T.K. 1748.

Urr—square, UR. 1728.

Wandell and Lamingtoun—triangular, W on one side, L on the other.

Whithorn—square, WHIT . 1744 on one side; M^r A.M.D. on the other.

Wigton—square, W. 1744 on one side; E.B. on the other.

Wigton—square, W.

Uncertain—circular, C.P on one side; 1648 on the other.

Uncertain—circular, G.S. 1722.

Uncertain—circular, G.S. 1723.

Uncertain—square, ——— 1728.

Uncertain—square, monogram, P.L.M. on one side; 1767 on the other.

Uncertain—triangular, monogram K.R.

Uncertain—square, T.L.

(3.) By D. H. ROBERTSON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Pair of Ear-rings of Lava and Gold, each consisting of two balls cut into triangular facets, with gold settings, stated to have been given to Flora Macdonald by Cardinal York, 1746.

Oval Medallion in Lead of John Fletcher the Dramatist, 1625.

Diploma of Master of Arts, on vellum, in favour of Alexander Argo, dated 5th April 1808, with seal of Marischal College, Aberdeen, attached.

(4.) By Mr DAVID MITCHELL, Carmyllie.

Pale-coloured Flint Arrow-Head, $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches long, with barbs and stem; found in the parish of Carmyllie, Forfarshire.

(5.) By the Rev. J. G. MICHIE, Logie Coldstone.

Fragments of a Clay Sepulchral Urn, showing Vandyke pattern, and portions of Calcined Bones; found at Logie Coldstone, Aberdeenshire.

(6.) By Mr JAMES WALLACE, Turriff.

Cast, in Red Brick Clay, of a fragment of a Tombstone, or cover of a Coffin, showing a cross with trefoil ornaments; which is now built into the wall of the old parish church of Turriff, Aberdeenshire.

(7.) By Mr Joss, Kinellar, Aberdeenshire.

Rude Finger-ring of Bronze, showing double facets, cut on one side.

Second Brass Coin of TIBERIUS, *Rev.* HIPPOPOTAMUS, struck at Alexandria in Egypt.

Large Brass Coin of Trajan, struck at Alexandria.

(8.) By Mr H. SMITH, Newton of Auchindoir.

Small Silver Roman Coin, with legend much worn, apparently of Valentinian I., or about that period; it was found in the parish of Clatt, Aberdeenshire.

(9.) By Mr ROBERT DINNIE, Wood Cottage, Birse, Aberdeenshire.

Small Brass Roman Coin of the Emperor Valentinian I. Brass Coin

of ATHENS, *Obv.*, helmeted head to right; *Rev.* ΑΘΗ, Minerva standing resting on a shield.

(10.) By ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., Brechin, Cor. Mem. S.A. Scot., through whom also the donations 4 to 9 were presented.

Two Circular Stones, Whorls or Buttons, with perforations in the centre, one measuring 2 inches in diameter, the other 1 inch; found at Navar, Forfarshire.

Flat Oval-shaped Pebble, measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in greatest diameter, formerly worn as a charm by a farmer in Forfarshire, who died in 1854, at the age of eighty-four. It was contained in a small bag, which was suspended by a red string round his neck.

(11.) By W. LAUDER LINDSAY, M.D., F.R.S. Edin., &c., Gilgal, Perth.

I. Four Stone Celts or Axe Heads (the "Toki" of the Maori), from Otago, New Zealand. They were found in different parts of the province, on land chiefly that had once been covered with forest; overlaid generally by a slight covering of leaf-soil or humus, or by a few inches of "drift" sand or clay. They are, or were, used chiefly in cutting down timber, and in scooping canoes out of the trunks, of "Totara," "Kauri," or other forest trees; in dressing posts for wharés or huts; in grubbing up roots for food; in killing animals—such as the Moa, dog, and rat—for food; in preparing firewood; in eating (scraping flesh from bones); and otherwise in the domestic arts. But they were also employed, in times of war, as weapons of offence and defence, as a supplementary kind of tomahawk. In shape and size they resemble the stone celts of northern Europe, except that they are generally more highly polished, and have a finer cutting edge. They are seldom found entire, being usually chipped or broken in various of their edges or parts. The material of which they are formed is mostly,—

- a. Some fine grained, compact, often slaty, variety of *basalt* (such as clinkstone).
- b. *Lydian-stone*, or other variety of flinty slate,—probably belonging to the Silurian system.
- c. *Jade* or *Nephrite*, the "greenstone" or Poenamú of the colonist or Maori.
- d. Occasionally *Jasper* or *Granite*.

They were used by fixing them to a stick about 2 feet long, resembling in form a hammer-haft.

II. Recent edible shells, which occur on the present eastern sea-coast of Otago, and form also a large proportion of the contents of the shell-heaps or "kitchen-middens," which mark the site of former Maori cooking camps and villages. These kitchen-middens were, *mutatis mutandis*, analogous in their contents to the "kjökken-mödding" of Denmark, the pileworks ("Pfahlbauten") of Switzerland, sepulchre caves of France, shell mounds of Scotland, and similar food-remains of the ancient inhabitants of northern and central Europe. They generally occur on sea-coasts (bays, fjords, river-mouths), where temporary camping-places of the nomadic Maoris were at one time formed; or on the sites of former "pahs,"—fortified or permanent villages,—which were generally, like the ancient "hill forts" of Scotland, seated on the summits of conical, isolated hills. The predominant shells, in the New Zealand kitchen-middens, are various edible species of,—1. *Cardium* (Cockle); 2. *Mytilus* (Mussel); 3. *Ostrea* (Oyster); 4. *Patella* (Limpet); 5. *Pecten* (Scallop); 6. *Haliotis* ("Paua" or "Mutton-fish"); 7. *Venus*; 8. *Mesodesma*; 9. *Amphibola*; 10. *Monodonta*; 11. *Turbo*; 12. *Unio*. The five first named are apparently identical with our common, existing, edible British and European species.

With these are associated the *bones* of,—

1. *Man*, occasionally: of enemies killed in battle and subsequently eaten.

2. Certain *land quadrupeds*: such as the native dog and rat.

3. Certain *birds*: especially large wingless ones of the Struthious family,—*e.g.*, The "Moa" (species of *Dinornis*, *Aptornis*, *Notornis*, *Palapteryx*), with fragments of Moa eggs. "Kiwi" (species of *Apteryx*); "Kaka" (species of *Nestor*); "Weka" (species of *Ocydromus*); "Titi" (species of *Pelecanoides* and *Procellaria*); "Pukeko" (species of *Porphyrio*); "Kakapo," &c. The bones are generally only the long bones, and bear marks of having been—(1.) broken (probably by the Toki or stone-hatchet) for their marrow, the flesh having been removed probably by means of stone "flakes" or knives; (2.) gnawed by man or dog; and (3.) burned or calcined in the process of cooking.

4. Various *fish*, both marine and fresh-water.

5. The remains of various shellfish (Crustacea,—such as the crab, lobster, &c.)
6. Stone celts and flakes.
7. Ornaments of various kinds (made of bone, shark's teeth, jade, &c.)
8. Cooking ovens and stones; ashes, charred wood, &c. :

The New Zealand kitchen-middens are of no great age. Many of them are certainly not above a century old, and not a few much less; for at the period of Captain Cook's first visit (1769), the Maoris were a nomadic and predatory race of fishers, hunters, and cannibals, and the only animal that may have been extinct at that date, and whose remains occur in the shell heaps, is the "Moa." There is, however, no proof that the Moa did not then, though sparingly, exist,—the date of its final extermination being wholly unknown. The traditions equally of colonists and Maoris point, indeed, to the suspicion or supposition that it may yet, in certain unexplored and densely wooded parts of the South Island, be alive!

II. Moa Bones; fragments,—mostly referable to various species of *Dinornis*.

They were found in the same positions as those occupied by the stone celts already described, with which, moreover, they are occasionally intermixed. This enormous and powerful ostrich like bird was undoubtedly co-existent with, and exterminated by, man. It inhabited the dense forests, which once overspread the whole face of New Zealand, and which Maori tradition says were burned with a view to the capture of this now apparently extinct animal. In the remarkable paucity of the New Zealand fauna—as regards terrestrial mammalia,¹ which so abundantly formed the "game" whereon the inhabitants of Northern Europe, during the stone period, in great measure subsisted—the Moa was the chief aim of the hunter—its flesh, bones, and feathers being equally in request.

IV. Numbers of the "Islendingur" (or "Icelander" newspaper), [a designation comparable with that of the Edinburgh newspaper, the "Scotsman"], published at Reykjavik, the capital of Iceland.²

It is a gratifying and surprising evidence of the literary tastes and typographical aptitude of the Icelanders of the present day that, in a town whose population is only 1200 to 1300, no less than *three* news-

¹ Only two native bats, a dog, and rat—the two latter now extinct.

² The date of the donor's visit to Iceland was 1860, and to New Zealand, 1861-2.

papers are printed at different intervals, the paper and typography in all of which may be favourably compared with those issued by the best presses of Europe. The "Islendingur" is of folio size, eight pages; the "Thiotholfur," 4to, of four pages; the "Hirdir,"—devoted mainly to the maintenance of the pastoral interest, in a country which, besides its fisheries, has little animal produce to depend on save that of its sheep, cattle, and horses,—8vo, of sixteen pages.

(12.) By MRS JOHN SCOTT, 2 Mansion House Road.

Penannular Ring of Bronze with flattened ends, used as money by the natives at Calabar, on the west coast of Africa, and called Manillas.

Portion of Wood wrapped in Cloth, and bound with a narrow band of copper, used as a charm by the natives of the west coast of Africa.

(13.) By JOHN EATON REID, Esq. (the author).

History of the County of Bute and Families connected therewith. 4to. Glasgow, 1864.

(14.) By ADAM SIM of Coulter, Esq. F.S.A. Scot.

Annals of the Parish of Lesmahagow, by J. B. Greenshields, Esq., advocate. 4to. Edin., 1864.

(15.) By JOHN T. ROSE, Esq., Leith.

Declarations of the Lords and Commons assembled in Parliament upon the Statute of 5 Henry IV., whereby the Commission of Array is supposed to be warranted, &c. Small 4to, pp. 30. London, 1642. And other nine pamphlets, published in London between the years 1642 and 1668.

(16.) By the CAMBRIAN INSTITUTE.

Cambrian Journal, Nos. for November 1862, March and June 1863. 8vo. Tenby, 1862-63.

(17.) By the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Archæologia Cambrensis, Nos. for January and April. 8vo. Lond. 1864.

Mr STUART read the following communication from the Archæological Institute of London, in reference to the speedy rebuilding of Trinity College Church :—

“ LONDON, 1 BURLINGTON GARDENS, W.,
“ 8th April 1864.

“ GENTLEMEN,—I have the honour to inform you that, at a meeting of the Institute, held on Friday, April the first instant—Sir John P. Boileau, Bart., V.P., in the chair—the accompanying resolution was put and carried unanimously.

“ Hoping to hear from you on the subject to which it refers, I have the honour to be, Gentlemen, your faithful servant,

“ THOMAS PURNELL.

“ The Secretaries of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

“ April 1, 1864.—*Sir John P. Boileau, Bart., in the Chair.*

“ Resolved,—That, in the opinion of this meeting, the continued omission by the Town Council of Edinburgh to fulfil the engagements in reference to the Church of Trinity College, into which it entered at the time of the demolition of that structure for the purposes of the North British Railway Company, calls for the serious observation of all who are interested in architectural antiquities ; and that the Secretary of the Institute be therefore requested to communicate to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland the readiness of the Institute to co-operate with them in remonstrances to the Town Council, and in any movement which may seem expedient for inducing the Council to carry out the original agreement.

“ The above resolution was proposed by the Honourable W. O. Stanley, M.P., and seconded by Mr E. Oldfield, M.A.”

The Meeting in reference to this Communication expressed great satisfaction to find that the Archæological Institute should evince such a special desire to promote the restoration of this venerable edifice ; at the same time it was a subject of deep regret that the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland could not now interfere in this matter by making any further application to the Edinburgh Town Council ; more especially as the recent decision of the Lord Chancellor, by restricting the sum that shall be expended in replacing the Trinity College Church, most effectually precludes any attempt at the proposed restoration of the original building.