

III.

NOTE RESPECTING THE RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT CAMBUS- KENNETH ABBEY.

Mr J. M. MITCHELL, one of the Foreign Secretaries, had much pleasure in bringing under the notice of the meeting the subject of the recent excavations at Cambuskenneth Abbey, now in progress, which were undertaken by the Directors of Cowan's Hospital and the Provost and Magistrates of Stirling, partly at the suggestion of certain members of the Society.

Sir JAMES ALEXANDER took this occasion to give some further details of the progress made in these excavations. On the motion of Mr LAING, the Society resolved to express the satisfaction which the members felt at the zeal and care displayed by the local authorities in carrying on such operations with so much success.

MONDAY, 13th June 1864.

COSMO INNES, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

ANGUS MACINTOSH of Drummond, Esq.
 PATRICK FRASER, Esq., advocate, Sheriff of Renfrew.
 DUNCAN M'LAREN, Esq., Newington House, Edinburgh.

The following objects were exhibited to the meeting:—

(1.) By Sir ARCHIBALD EDMONSTONE of Duntreath, Bart., F.S.A. Scot.

A Volume containing Documents from the Duntreath Charter Chest, including Autographs of King James IV. and V.; Queen Mary of Guise; Queen Mary Stewart, addressed from Meudon, France, to her mother (about the date 1554); James, Earl of Bothwell, dated at Craigmillar, 29th November 1566, to which is attached a wafer seal as High Admiral of Scotland, displaying a shield on which is an anchor and the letters KIP. TRI. in monogram; at the sides are the letters I. B., the whole is surrounded by a border.

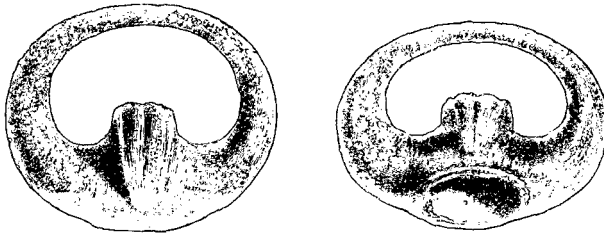
The following Donations to the Museum and Library were announced:—

(1.) By Mr BEGG, Lochnagar Distillery, Ballater, Aberdeenshire.

Circular Ball of Greenstone $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, showing six plain circular discs cut on its surface, the interspaces having been partially cut into small knobs or studs; the ornaments being apparently in course of formation. The ball closely resembles in general character several specimens in the Museum, one of which, elaborately carved, is figured in the "Proceedings," vol. iii. page 439. It was found near Lochnagar distillery.

(2.) By Mr BRUCE, Midclova, through the Rev. JOHN CHRISTIE, Kildrummy, Aberdeenshire.

Two Bronze Rings or ornaments, measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across their greatest diameter (see the accompanying woodcut), they are hollow, and open below, and show the remains of an iron pin run in with lead at each end of the hollow opening, as if for fastening to a strap. They were found many years ago in a large cairn on the farm of Hilloch-head, Towie, Aberdeenshire. The cairn contained a short cist with bones,



Bronze Rings or Ornaments found in a Cairn near Towie, Aberdeenshire.

urn, and other bronze relics, now lost, among which was a bronze ring, about 6 inches in diameter.

These bronzes seem to belong to the period of the remarkable relics which Mr Franks decides to be late Celtic; "*Horæ Ferales*," p. 172, *et seq.*, and their use may be analogous to that of certain articles figured in his plate (20), of which a large variety was found at Stanwick, Yorkshire, (also Polden Hill, Somerset, "*Archæologia*," vol. xiv. p. 90), with armour and arms, iron tires of chariot wheels, &c. The bronze objects may have been used with harness or horse gear.

(3.) By JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Fragments of Roman Pottery of different kinds, coarse yellow, red, and embossed red or Samian Ware. First Brass of the Emperor Hadrian, with a fine coating of patina; laureated bust looking to right; reverse, a female figure standing looking to left, right arm extended, and left holding a sceptre, s.c on the field; possibly Ceres, with corn, or Peace

with the olive branch; also a second Brass of Hadrian, in bad preservation. Remains of an Iron Rod bent into a Hook-shape; a Wedge or Bat of Lead weighing 26 oz.; and a rounded Mass of Lead $23\frac{1}{2}$ oz. in weight.

These articles were recently found near Newstead, Roxburghshire, and are referred to in the communication on the subject (page 360).

Also a Denarius of Hadrian, found in the Well Meadow, near Newstead, in 1852 ("Proceedings," vol. i. p. 350); and a Denarius of Domitian found near Newstead, in July 1853; both formerly described. (Proceedings, vol. i. p. 230.)

(4.) By JOHN BALFOUR, Esq., Great King Street, through ROBERT BAIKIE, M.D., R.N., F.S.A. Scot.

Small Wooden Oval-shaped Platter, found many years ago in taking down an old house called the "Cunzie* Neuk," in Peebles.

(5.) By GEORGE SIM, Esq., Curator of Coins, S.A. Scot.

Matrix in Lead, the Burgh Seal of Arbroath, s. *COMVNITATIS BVRGH DE ABRBROTHOT*; the design is the murder of St Thomas à Becket, and is evidently copied from the seal of the Abbey; the workmanship is very rude; on the lower part of the field is inscribed *SANCTUS THOS.* The seal is described at page 208 of the "Catalogue of Scottish Seals" by Mr Henry Laing. 4to. Edin. 1850.

Curious Cylindrical Iron Grater or Snuff Mill, with Moveable Lid and Receiver below; and a separate Crank Handle. The cylinder measures 4 inches in length by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter.

(6.) By JAMES T. IRVING, Esq., Architect, London.

Two Iron Keys, the largest measuring $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length; with ornamented stalk and bow, and is deeply cut for wards. Leaden Spoon with oval-shaped mouth. Circular Disc or Weight of Lead, weighing 8 ounces, on which is stamped what appears to be a shield divided by a bar and a pale; a dagger; and St George and the Dragon.

These articles were all found in the course of excavating the foundation of the Government offices in London.

* Cunzie is a common Scottish designation for a coigne or corner.

- (7.) By Sir ARCHIBALD EDMONSTONE of Duntreath, Bart., F.S.A. Scot.

A Standard in Silk, 4 ft. 4 in. broad by 5 ft. 3 in. long, a white saltire on a blue field—the Arms of Scotland. The flag was the standard of Colonel Scott's regiment of horse, engaged at the Battle of Dunbar in the year 1650, where Colonel Scott was killed.

- (8.) By WILLIAM DOUGLAS, Esq., R.S.A.
Small Bronze Finger Ring Key, from Italy.

- (9.) By E. COLQUHOUN, Esq., Glasgow.

Casts in Gutta Percha of various English Burgh, and other Seals, viz.: —City of Chester; St John's Hospital, Chester; Borough of Lynn Regis; a double seal, the reverse strongly resembling that of Inchaffray Abbey; Borough of Hastings, also double; Borough of Shrewsbury, 1425, an early example of a seal bearing a date in its legend, Robert, fifth Baron Fitzwalter, born 1249, died 1304; John Fordham, Bishop of Durham 1381; Michael Stanhope, Vice-Admiral of the County of Suffolk, *temp.* Elizabeth; Algernon Percy, Lord High Admiral of England 1637, a double seal engraved by T. Simon.

- (10.) By GEORGE LORIMER, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Three-Sided Watch Seal of Steel, with spring-catch ornamented handle. It displays the initials J. F. in monogram; a crest, a goat's head; and quartered shield of arms of a family of the Frasers.

- (11.) By J. STUART HEBURN, of Colquhalzie, Esq.

Small Amphora, or bottle of yellowish Clay, with handle on each side of neck. It measures 11 inches in height, and is $6\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter at its greatest breadth, and was taken from the Museum at Kertch in the Crimea in 1855.

An account of that Museum and its contents, &c., and of the destruction of the precious specimens of the fine arts deposited there, is given by Dr Duncan M'Pherson in his work "Antiquities of Kertch," &c., folio, Lond. 1857.

- (12.) By Mr H. CAMERON, Salisbury Street.

Two Small Three-pronged Forks of Bone, carved by a French prisoner in Edinburgh Castle in 1813.

(13.) By the Very Rev. E. B. RAMSAY, LL.D., Dean of the Scottish Episcopal Church, Edinburgh.

French Revolutionary Tri-coloured (white, blue, and red) Cockade, worn by the father of the donor as essential for personal safety, whilst in France in 1792.

(14.) By GEORGE CORSANE CUNNINGHAME, Esq., 7 Manor Place.

Dagger, measuring 14 inches in length, Iron Blade, with turned Ivory Handle, found on the body of Francois Thurot, when washed ashore after the capture of his ship by the British in Luce Bay, Wigtonshire, in 1760. See communication, page 364.

(15.) By WILLIAM BRUCE, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Engraved Portrait of Peter Garden, who lived at Auchterless, Aberdeenshire, and died 12th January 1775, aged 131 years. Also Engraved Portrait of Isobel Walker, who lived in the parish of Daviot, Aberdeenshire, and died the 2d of November 1774, aged 112 years, as stated in the records of the parish of Rayne, in the presbytery of Garioch, Aberdeenshire. The portraits are engraved by H. Gavin, after pictures by James Wales.

(16.) By CHARLES F. SLOAN, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Photographs of three pages of the Minute-Book of the Ayr Sailors' Society, dated 15th September 1647, relative to Public Confession of Sins, &c.

Dr Sloan gives the following note respecting the photographs:—"The Ayr Sailors' Society was instituted in the year 1581. The following circumstance is referred to in the three pages of the Minute-book. In 1614 Ayr was devastated by an outbreak of the plague or pestilence, which carried off two thousand inhabitants; on the approach of another epidemic in 1647, the minister, Mr Adair, impressed with the efficacy of prayer and confession of sins, prevailed on the magistrates and town council, the eight corporations, and latterly the lawyers, to meet in the church and in turn confess their sins aloud before the congregation, these were taken down in writing and entered in the minute-books and also in the book of the kirk-session. There are several things characteristic of their special sins in each of these confessions, e.g., the tailors pleaded guilty to treacherous conduct in their calling, the lawyers to

lying, but ascribe this to drunkenness, &c. In the thanksgiving sermon on the cessation of the plague, it is stated that only thirty-four died of the disease, and not one of those who had taken part in the confessions."

(17.) By the Rev. WILLIAM GORDON, Manse, Ruthwell, through
DAVID RHIND, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Two Photographs showing the four sides of the Sculptured Shaft of the Cross now standing at Ruthwell.

(18.) By MESSRS MACMILLAN & Co., Cambridge (the Publishers).
Prehistoric Annals of Scotland. By Daniel Wilson, LL.D., Hon. Mem.
S.A. Scot. 2 vols. 8vo. Cambridge, 1863.

(19.) By ALEXANDER BRYSON, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. (the Author).
Notes of a Trip to Iceland in 1862. 12mo (pp. 56). Edinburgh,
1864.

(20.) By RICHARD SAINTHILL, Esq., Cork (the Author).
The Old Countess of Desmond: An Inquiry, when was she Married?
Pt. II. 8vo. Dublin, 1863.

(21.) By M. G. HAGEMANS, Leipsic, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot. (the
Author).
Un Cabinet d'Amateur. Notices Archæologiques de quelques
Monuments de Haute Antiquité. 8vo. Leipsic, 1863.

(22.) By MRS CAMPBELL of Carse.
Fragments of Bronze Plates found at the base of a Standing Stone
on the estate of Carse, Argyleshire. These show traces of small project-
ing embossed ornaments of Vandyke pattern, and knobs, &c.

Mr COSMO INNES drew the attention of the meeting to the repairs and additions now in progress at Edinburgh Castle, and stated that as the Postern at which the celebrated parley between the Duke of Gordon and the Viscount Dundee took place at the time of the Revolution had been built up and obscured, it would be very desirable that it should be again opened up; and he suggested that the Society should convey an expression of opinion in favour of this being done to the proper quarter; which was unanimously agreed to.

The following Communications were read:—