PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION, 1864–65.

ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 30th November 1864.

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

The Office-bearers of the Society were elected for the Session as follows :---

Patron.

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN.

President. THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH AND QUEENSBERRY, K.G.

Vice-Presidents.

JOSEPH ROBERTSON, ESQ., LL.D. Hon. Lord Neaves, LL.D. Professor James Y. Simpson, M.D.

Councillors.

GEORGE PATTON, Esq. Representing the FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq. Board of Trustees. Professor WILLIAM STEVENSON, D.D. WILLIAM FORBES of Medwyn, Esq.

VOL. VI. PART I.

ADAM SIM of Coulter, Esq. Rev. Thomas M'Lauchlan, LL.D. JAMES T. GIBSON CRAIG, Esq. Professor Cosmo Innes. JAMES D. MARWICK, Esq.

Secretaries.

JOHN STUART, ESq., General Register House. JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D. DAVID LAING, ESq., LL.D., For Foreign JOHN M. MITCHELL, ESq., Correspondence.

Treasurer.

THOMAS B. JOHNSTON, Esq., 4 St Andrew Square.

Curators of the Museum.

JAMES DRUMMOND, ESq., R.S.A. ROBERT MERCER of Scotsbank, Esq.

Curator of Coins.

GEORGE SIM, Esq.

Librarian. John Hill Burton, Esq., LL.D.

Auditors.

WILLIAM F. SKENE, ESq. ALEXANDER BRYSON, ESq.

WILLIAM T. M'CULLOCH, Keeper of the Museum. ROBERT PAUL, Assistant.

The following gentlemen, upon the unanimous recommendation of the Council, were balloted for, and duly elected to fill the vacancies in the list of the HONORARY MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY :---

Right Hon. Sir JOHN ROMILLY, Master of the Rolls in England.

THOMAS DUFFUS HARDY, Esq., Deputy Keeper of the Public Records of England.

ALEXANDER J. BERESFORD HOPE, Esq., M.P.

M. ALEXANDRE TEULET, of the Imperial Archives, Paris.

Rev. JAMES HENTHORN TODD, D.D., Professor of Hebrew, and Librarian, Trinity College, Dublin.

An ordinary ballot then took place, and the following gentlemen were elected Fellows of THE Society :---

JOHN ADAMSON, ESq., Newburgh, Fife. ARCHIBALD ANDERSON, ESq., Advocate. JOSEPH DUNDAS OF CARTON Hall, ESq., Falkirk. ROBERT J. A. HAY OF NUNRAW, ESq., Prestonkirk. MORRIS CHARLES JONES, ESq., Solicitor, Liverpool. SAMUEL LAING, ESq., London. Rev. HEW SCOTT, Minister of Anstruther Wester. ROBERT SHAND, ESq., Perth. GEORGE W. SIMSON, Esq., Artist. WILLIAM S. SOUTAR, ESq., Banker, Blairgowrie.

Also, as Corresponding Members :---

ROBERT DICKSON, ESQ., L.R.C.S.E., Carnoustie.
M. LOUIS PROSPER GAUCHARD, Keeper of the Belgian Archives.
M. J. B. GERGERÉS, Keeper of the Library of Bordeaux.
Professor PETER LORIMER, D.D., London.
THOMAS WATTS, ESQ., British Museum, London.

In the notices of HONORARY MEMBERS deceased, usually given in the proceedings of the anniversary meeting, Mr LAING, Foreign Secretary, stated, that mention should have been made of Monsieur J. F. ARTAUD, Director of the Museum of Antiquities at Lyons. He was elected an Honorary Member so long since as 9th December 1814; and his name had been continued on the Society's List for several years after his decease.

M. FRANÇOIS ARTAUD was a native of Avignon, and born in the year 1767. Having early distinguished himself as an archæologist, he was elected a Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences in the

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 1864

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Institute of France, after his appointment as Director of the large and important Museum at Lyons. Much of his time was devoted to the preparation of a work on Ceramic Art. His "Mosaïques de Lyon et du Midi de la France," twelve numbers, in large folio, appeared between 1818 and 1827. But he did not live to complete either this or another work, entitled "Voyage Archéologique et Pittoresque de l'Aube et dans l'ancien Diocèse de Troyes." Royal 4to. It was commenced in 1837, and was carried on to the thirty-sixth number. Monsieur Artaud died at Orange, in the department of Vaucluse, in the year 1838.

It has not been the practice (Mr Laing observed) to notice in the minutes the decease of Corresponding Members, partly owing to the difficulty of tracing the history of individuals residing in distant localities; but it is right that special exceptions, more especially of learned foreigners, should be brought under the notice of the Society.

Of three learned Norwegians admitted on the 30th of November 1849, one was Professor P. A. MUNCH, then resident in Edinburgh; another was CHRISTIAN LANGE, Keeper of Norwegian Archives at Christiania, who died in 1861. A third was Professor RUDOLF KEYSER, of the University of Christiania, who died in October last. He was the joint editor with Munch of an important collection of the old Laws of Norway, entitled "Norge Gamle Love indtil 1387; af det Kongelige Norske Videnskabers selskab udgivne ved R. Keyser og P. A. Munch." 3 vols. roy. 4to. Christiania, 1846–1849.

The cause of Archæology among our Northern brethren (Mr Laing added) has, within these few weeks, sustained another loss in the person of Councillor CARL CHRISTIAN RAFN, so well known in this country as the active and indefatigable Secretary of the Royal Society of Northern Antiquaries at Copenhagen. Mr J. M. MITCHELL, Joint Foreign Secretary (who is prevented by illness from attending this meeting), has requested me to intimate that he purposes submitting to the Society a detailed account of this learned Dane, which he is well qualified to do from personal acquaintance.—[Before the close of the present session, Mr Mitchell himself has died; and therefore we may add, that Professor Rafn was born in the island of Funen, in Denmark, 11th January 1795. He was for several years employed in the University Library of Copenhagen, where he received his education. He was elected a Corresponding Member of our Society on the 28th of February 1831. He died at Copenhagen on the 20th October 1864. His widow has transmitted to his friends in this country a tribute to his memory, being "Notices of the Life and Writings of Councillor Carl Christian Rafn," &c. By Professor L. E. Broning. Copenhagen, 1864, royal 8vo.]

The Chairman stated that the following Members of the Society had died during the past year, viz.—

Honorary Member.

				Elected
JAMES SKENE of Rubislaw, Esq.,	•	•	•	1844

[Mr Skene was elected a Fellow of the Society in May 1818.]

Fellows.

The Right Honourable JAMES BRUCE EABL OF ELGIN AND						
KINCARDINE, K.G. (formerly PRESIDENT OF THE SOCIETY), .						
Adam Gib Ellis, Esq., W.S.,	1829					
SIR JOHN WATSON GORDON, Knt., R.A., President of the						
Royal Scottish Academy, .	1851					
ALEXANDER M'LEAN, Esq., Haremere Hall, Sussex, .	1862					
HUGH PATON, Esq., Carver and Gilder to the Queen, Edinburgh,	1846					
Rev. WALTER SCOTT, Minister of Whittingham,	1854					
Rev. John Sime, Edinburgh,	1848					
The Right Honourable North-HAMILTON DALRYMPLE EARL						
OF STAIR,	1856					
Major-General Thomas Swinburne of Marcus,	1850					
JOSEPH YOUNG Of Dunearn, Esq.,	1862					

The SECRETARY, Mr STUART, then read the following statement relative to the Museum and Library :---

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, NOVEMBER 1864.

	Week Day.	Sat. Evening.	Total.
1863. December,	6,447	. 628	7,075
1864. January,	16,393	651	17,044
February,	3,495	456	3,951
March,	4,278	335	4,613
April,	3,739	373	4,112
May,	4,952	578	5,530
June,	5,746	711	6,457
July,	9,588	1,586	11,174
August,	15,941	1,748	17,689
September, .	7,966	1,181	9,147
October,	5,650	803	6,453
November,* .	, ·		···
* (Shut for Cleaning).	84,195	9,050	93,245

NUMBER OF V	VISITORS	то т	HE	MUSEUM	FROM	$1 \mathrm{st}$	December	1863	то
31st October 1864 :									

The corresponding numbers for the year ending 31st October 1863 were—Day, 82,248; Saturday evenings, 9118; total, 91,366; being 1879 less than the number of visitors during the year just ended.

The donations to the Museum and Library were 212 articles of antiquity, 187 coins and medals, 71 volumes of books and pamphlets. Three articles of antiquity were purchased, and also 13 volumes of books, &c.

The donations to the Museum and Library for the year ending 31st October 1863 were 301 articles of antiquity, 140 coins and medals, and 104 volumes of books.

(The various donations here referred to have been specially described in the Proceedings.)

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MONDAY, 12th December 1864.

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

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

SIR WILLIAM JARDINE, Bart., of Applegarth, Dumfriesshire. ADAM DAWSON, Esq., younger of Bonnytown, Linlithgow. EDWARD LEE, Esq., 4 Marlborough Terrace, Penge and Thame, Oxon.

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

(1.) By Mrs Dundas Durham, of Largo.

Collection of Silver Ornaments found about the year 1817 in the tumulus of Norrie's Law, near Largo, Fifeshire. (Plates I. and II.)

These articles were exhibited in the Museum formed by the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland during the meeting held in Edinburgh July 1856, and are thus described in the published Catalogue of that collection, drawn up by Albert Way, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. :--

"The Silver ornaments, rings, hooks, fragments of plate, chains, &c., consisting of 153 objects and fragments, being the collection of relics rescued by the late General Durham from the large deposit discovered about 1817 in a tumulus, known as Norrie's Law, on the estate of Largo. The precise facts connected with this remarkable discovery were never ascertained, owing to the apprehensions of the interference of the Scottish Exchequer to reclaim the 'treasure trove.' Such particulars as could be collected are stated in the report by Dr George Buist of Cupar, on 'The Silver Armour of Norrie's Law,' and in the notices in the 'Archaeological Journal,' vol. vi. p. 248, and in Dr Wilson's "Prehistoric Annals,' pp. 511, 519. The chief relics of this remarkable hoard have also been figured in Mr Chalmers's 'Sculptured Monuments of Angus,' plate 23, and Mr Stuart's 'Sculptured Stones of Scotland,' plate 133. The date to which these ornaments should be assigned is very uncertain. Dr Wilson is disposed to regard them as Scottish of 'The Christian Period," and to limit their age to the period between the

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY, DECEMBER 1864.

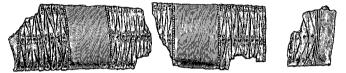
third and sixth century. The accompanying woodcuts show the more remarkable objects. Plate I. fig. 1 (original size)-one of a pair of leafshaped plates of unknown use; the boss at the upper extremity is merely hammered up, and supplies apparently the means by which the plate might be attached to any other object. This plate is chiefly remarkable. however, as bearing two of the peculiar symbols occurring on early sculptured monuments in Scotland, as shown in the late Mr Patrick Chalmers's work on 'The Monuments of Angus,' and Mr Stuart's 'Sculptured Stones of Scotland.' Fig. 2 (original size), a bodkin, probably for fastening the dress, or for the hair. A pair of these was The head originally, as it is believed, enriched with enamel, preserved. is of a peculiar fashion, of frequent occurrence on objects of this class found in Ireland. Fig. 3 (half-size), the penannular portion of a brooch, the acus lost. A brooch of silver, closely resembling this, was found in Cumberland, and is figured in Pennant's 'Scotland,' vol. ii. p. 44. Fig. 4 (half-size), a plate of unknown use, with scroll ornaments in high relief of admirable workmanship. Fig. 5 (half-size), a disk, measuring 3 inches in diameter; at the upper edge there are two holes, possibly for attaching the plate to the dress. [These holes appear to have been probably caused by the plate having been bent and broken at the place, rather than made for suspension.] A smaller disk, like a button, formed with a cavity, as if intended to be set with a gem, has no such perfora-Fig. 6 (original size), a spiral ring, the edges serrated at regular tions. intervals. Among the other relics preserved from the crucible may be mentioned a stout double hook, in form of an S; a narrow riband of silver plate, length upwards of a yard in its present state, breadth about half an inch, one end tapering to a point; a fragment of a fine interlaced chain; two fragments of armlets; a portion of a small pin or bodkin of the same form as those before described. Also numerous fragments of thin plate, possibly the remains of the coating of a shield or of a corslet, such as that of gold found in Wales, and now in the British Museum; on some marginal portions appear a border of oblong bosses, rudely hammered up, possibly to represent nail heads. The entire weight of the relics is about 24 oz."

Three small portions of a silver band or plate selected from among the scraps of silver, and weighing altogether 76 grains, show an engraved

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ornamental pattern. These are figured of the full size in the annexed woodcut.

The discovery of these singular relics was made about three miles from the coast, on the estate of Largo, the property of the donor, at no great distance from the town of Largo, on the northern shore of the Firth of Forth. The precise facts connected with the discovery have not been ascertained with certainty; even the date of their being found is uncertain; but it appears to have been either in the year 1817 or 1819. Nor was it till twenty years after the discovery that they came under the notice of Mr Buist of Cupar, who drew up and published in



Portions of an Engraved Silver Plate (original size).

1839 a report upon the subject, which has been included in a communication describing the discovery to the Archæological Institute, by Robert Dundas of Arniston, Esq., and from it the following particulars have been gathered :---

"The relics were found in or near a stone coffin, in an artificial heap or tumulus of sand or gravel, called Norrie's Law, on the boundaries betwixt the estates of Teasses and Largo. They [were supposed to have] formed part of a rich coat of scale armour, the pieces of which consisted of small-sized, lozenge-shaped plates of silver, suspended loosely by a hook from the upper corner. The helmet and shield and sword-hilt were, when found, quite entire, as were some portions of the sword-sheath. This seems to have been a large cross-hilted weapon, such as were commonly used with both hands. No part or relics of the blade were discernable; no ashes, bones, or human remains, appear to have been found near. The pieces of armour were withdrawn piecemeal, and sold by a hawker for what they would bring, and to whomsoever chose to purchase them. A considerable number of coins, now wholly lost sight of, and said to have symbolic markings, were found along with the armour of Norrie's Law, and about forty, [stated to have

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been] of the same kind, were found in an earthen pot, at Pittenweem, in 1822. A considerable part of the armour was partially corroded, the allov having been eaten away, as if by some weak acid, exactly after the manner of that employed in certain operations of modern silversmiths. These are nearly all the facts obtained respecting the Norrie's Law find, for which Mr Buist was indebted to Mr R. Robertson, jeweller, Cupar, who first made a purchase of five pounds' worth, subsequently two of ten pounds, and knew of another made by some one in Edinburgh to the amount of about twenty pounds; and is under the belief that perhaps as much as that may have been carried away, and bestowed on various uses. This, by rough computation, may, together with what remains, be reckoned not much under four hundred ounces of pure bullion. Mr Robertson had a peculiarly distinct recollection of the forms of the various portions of the armour procured by him, and gave a description of the rich carving of the shield, the helmet, and the sword handle, which were brought to him crushed in pieces, to permit convenient transport and concealment."

"The collection (now presented to the Museum) consists of the portion of this remarkable discovery which came into the possession of the late General Durham, being those pieces which were left or neglected by the finder; they were picked up by the brother-in-law of the tenant and another person, both now deceased, who brought them to the General. A bodkin and one of the scale-like plates were rescued from the crucible in consequence of subsequent inquiry, and were added to the others at Largo House."

"It may deserve mention, although doubt has been expressed as to the existence of such tradition previously to the discovery being made at Largo, that, as we have been assured, an obscure belief had existed amongst the neighbouring peasantry, that in "Norrie's Law" had been deposited a warrior and his steed, placed in an erect position. He was, according to this popular relation, the chief of a great army, and his armour was of massive silver; in the whole host, he alone was armed in that manner."

Close by the "Law" are the "Standing Stones of Lundin." Three only now exist. They measure, the highest, 16 ft.; the smallest $14\frac{1}{2}$ ft.¹

¹ Archæological Journal, vol. vi. p. 248. 1849.

Half of the Upper Portion of a Sepulchral Urn of reddish clay. It has a pattern of straight and vandyke lines, apparently done with a twisted cord, or more probably stamped with a small toothed or comblike tool. It measures $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter across the mouth, and was found among charred wood, in digging at no great depth from the surface, towards the west side of the tumulus, at Norrie's Law, Largo, in Fife.

(2.) By Mrs Morison of Bognie, Banffshire.

Portion of a Sepulchral Urn of yellowish clay, measuring $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the mouth. The upper part is ornamented with a belt of alternate vandyke patterns, each half of the lozenge or vandyke being covered with lines drawn parallel to one of the sides of the vandyke. The urn was found in a stone coffin in a small hill near Mountblairy. Other stone coffins have been found in the same hill, but they did not contain urns. It is now imperfect.

Stone Ball of Greenstone, 3 inches in diameter, with its surface deeply cut into six circular discs or facets, which are plain, or without ornament. It was found at Montblairy, Banffshire, and is similar in character to a a ball found in digging a drain several feet under ground, on the Glass Hill or Gray Hill, parish of Towie, Aberdeenshire, described and figured in the Proceedings of the Society, vol. iii. p. 439.

Large Bronze Armlet, measuring, in its longest diameter $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and $5\frac{3}{3}$ inches in its greatest depth, and weighing $3\frac{3}{4}$ lb. It is ornamented with three parallel rounded mouldings or belts, which are thickly studded with alternately transverse, and oblique projections. There are two oval apertures in front, measuring each $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length. It was found some years since on the farm of Maine of Auchenbadie, on the estate of Mountblairy, parish of Alvah, Banffshire. The farmer was trench-ploughing the field, which had long been in cultivation, and the plough brought up the armlet from a depth of 12 or 14 inches. In an adjoining field there is an artificial mound in which some relics were found, but nothing of great interest. The armlet is figured in the accompanying Plate (III.) fig. 2.

(3.) By the Honourable Captain OGILVY of Loyal, Alyth, Perthshire. Bowl-shaped Sepulchral Urn, measuring 4½ inches in height, and 6 inches in diameter across the mouth, including the thick and broad lip.

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It is covered or ornamented with small lines of herring-bone pattern; two grooves run round the upper part of the urn, the lower of which has small projections left at irregular distances; and the ridges between the grooves are each ornamented with a row of small holes or punctures. The urn was found in a cist on the farm of Mill of Queich, parish of Alyth, and is somewhat similar in character to one found in a cist at Murleywell, Forfarshire, described and figured in the Proceedings of the Society, vol. v. p. 81.

Rude Cup of green-coloured stone, measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter across the mouth, by 3 inches in height, with a small rounded handle projecting from one side of the mouth; the handle is pierced by a perforation, probably for suspension.

The cup was found at Barryhill, in the parish of Alyth, Perthshire, and is similar in type to one found near the circle of standing stones at Crookmore, in the parish of Tullynessle, Aberdeenshire, presented in the year 1852, by Mr John Stuart, Secretary to the Society, and figured in the Proceedings, vol. i. p. 117.

(4.) By Colonel K. ERSKINE of Pittodrie, Aberdeenshire.

Large Cinerary Urn, measuring 12 inches in diameter across the mouth, with an ornamented belt of vandyke pattern round the upper part, similar in character to the urn found at Mill of Queich, described above. Two round stone balls, each 3 inches in diameter, found along with the urn.

(5.) By PETER O. OGILVY of Ruthven, Esq.

Flattened Bronze Ring, now covered with patina. It is 2 inches in diameter, and was found among a quantity of ashes, charcoal, &c., near a "Pict's house" at Ruthven, Perthshire.

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

Tirling Pin, with shields (the precursor of the knocker), from the door of a house in Queen Street, Leith (now demolished), one of the supposed residences of Queen Mary of Lorraine in 1560.

(7.) By JAMES M'LEAVY, Esq., Glasgow.

Thistle Dollar of King James VI. 1581, found in a field at Cambuslang, Lanarkshire. This coin is figured in Mr Lindsay's work upon the "Coinage of Scotland," plate 10, No. 206, and is marked as to rarity No. 8, which is the highest degree given in his work. (8.) By the IRISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND CELTIC SOCIETY.

The Martyrology of Donegal; a Calendar of the Saints of Ireland. Translated from the original Irish by the late John O'Donovan; edited by J. H. Todd, D.D., and William Reeves, D.D. 8vo. Dublin, 1864.

(9.) By the Society.

Transactions of the Dumfries and Galloway Natural History and Antiquarian Society, session 1863-64. 8vo. Edin. 1864.

(10.) By the Society.

Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. New Series, vol. iii. Session 1862-63. 8vo. Liverpool 1863.

(11.) By J. B. DAVIS, M.D., the author.

Ancient British Coins. 8vo. (pp. 8.) Lond. 1864.

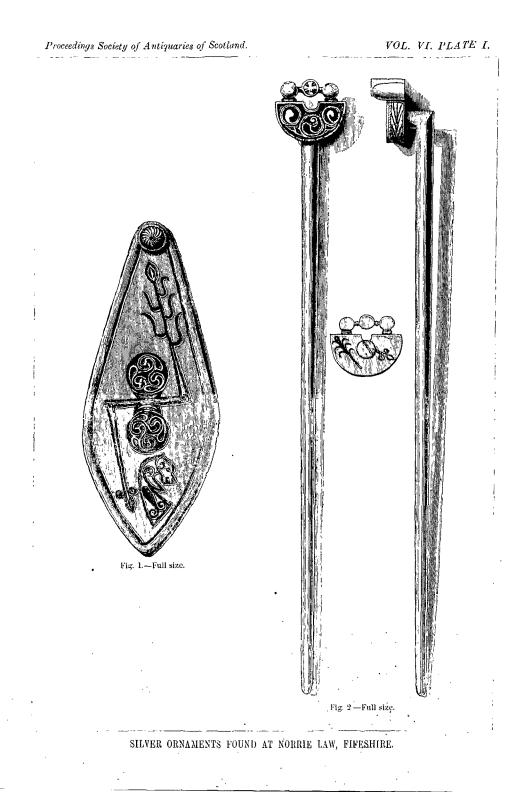
There was exhibited---

A Bronze Armlet, one of a pair of a similar description; found several years ago in digging at Castle Newe, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire. By Mr Alexander Walker, gardener, Castle Newe, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire. This armlet varies somewhat in pattern from the bronze armlet described above, the projections being less marked and the workmanship generally finer in detail. The two oval spaces or openings in front, are filled up with separate oval pieces of metal, which are ornamented with patterns in red and yellow coloured enamel. These oval portions have been fixed to the armlet by iron pins. It measures $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches in its greatest diameter, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth, and weighs $3\frac{3}{4}$ lb. It is carefully figured in Plate III. fig. 2.

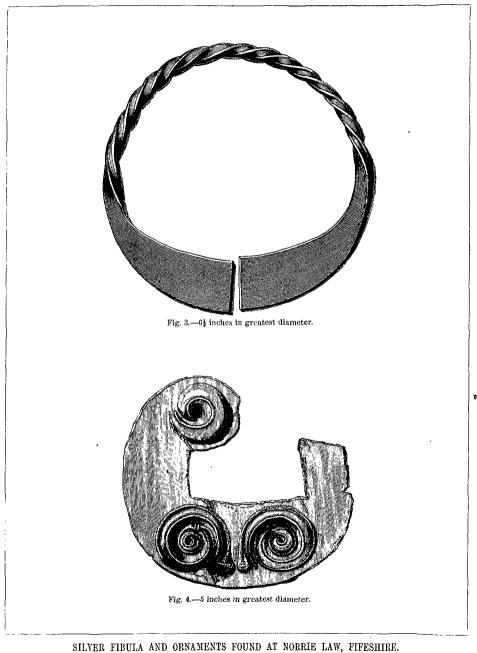
The pair of armlets were found together, embedded in the earth over the mouth or entrance to an "Eirde or Pict's House," in the garden at Castle Newe. The place, at the time when the armlets were found, was not known to be the site of a "Pict's House," but last year its existence was discovered from the great amount of fire-burnt pavement, with ashes, and parts of querns, antique beads, &c., which were come upon at a depth of two feet below the surface soil. On a search being made, the whole house was discovered : it was tolerably entire in outline; but unfortunately the garden wall had been built, several years before, running along its whole length, which extends to about fifty feet. The remains of the walls of the house were $4\frac{1}{3}$ feet in height, and built curving inwards towards each other; the breadth of the paved floor was 7 feet. Altogether the house bore a great resemblance to the "Eirde House" found at Buchaam, in the immediate neighbourhood, already described in the Proceedings of the Society. (See Proceedings, vol. iv. p. 436, and Plate XIV.)

A Denarius of the Emperor Nerva has been recently found close by the place where the pair of armlets were discovered.

The following Communications were read :---



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(At page 8, omit the references to Nos. 5 and 6, intended for this plate.)

Proceedings Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

VOL. VI. PLATE III.

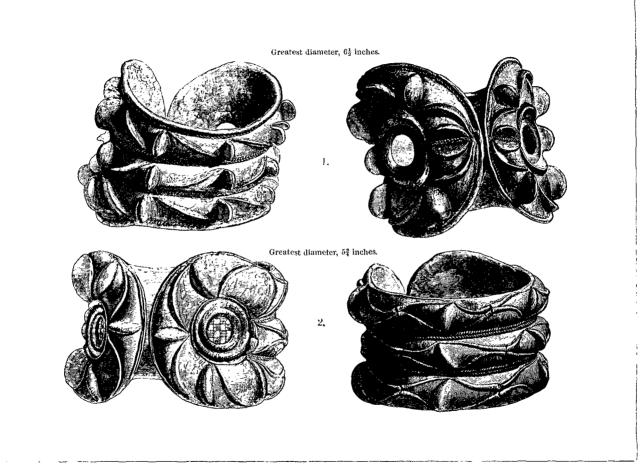


Fig. 1.—Bronze Armlet found on the Farm of Maine, Auchenbadie, Parish of Alvah, Banffshire. Fig. 2.—Bronze Armlet (with Enamels) found at Castle Newc, Strathdee, Aberdeenshire.