NOTICE OF A COMPRESSED SKULL AND SOME SPECIMENS OF ANCIENT POTTERY FROM PERU, EXHIBITED TO THE SOCIETY. BY COLONEL SIR J. E. ALEXANDER, K.C.L.S., F.S.A. Scot.

The skull which is now exhibited is remarkable for its flatness, leading me to suppose it properly belongs to a North American tribe of Indians —it may have been that of an attendant on a Peruvian Inca. It was dug out of a "chulpa" in Selustani, 4 leagues from Puno, and is the property of Dr Paterson, Bridge of Allan, to whom it was gifted by a friend from South America. Selustani was the old cemetery of the Incas.

The ancient pottery exhibited, and of grotesque forms, was from the interior of Peru, near Cuzco. In the bottom of the shallow vessel is painted the figure of a fish, a siluroid.

As in Africa, so in Peru, on the death of an Inca, a number of attendants were put to death, so that the chief might appear with dignity in the next world, and in their guacas or barrows were deposited mirrors of polished stone, hatchets, and vessels of earthenware.

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted to Mr Robert Love, Lochwinnoch, for many of the details here given.