IV.

NOTICE OF A SMAIL URN, OF THE SO-CALLED "INCENSE CUP" TYPE, FOUND WITHIN A LARGE URN AT BLAIRGOWRIE IN MARCH LAST, AND NOW PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM. BY REV. WILLIAM FRASER, M.A., MINISTER OF BLAIRGOWRIE.

About a fortnight ago, that is in the last week of March, there was found on a detached field of my glebe, in the moor of Blairgowrie, and about a mile and a half from the parish church, a circular goblet-shaped urn containing bones. It was about a foot in diameter and about a foot deep. It lay in gravelly soil, on a large stone which seems to have been hollowed out, probably by the action of the water of the Ericht, which flows near by, and the bed of which contains many stones of similar size, on which the action of water is very marked. Over the urn (slanting) was a large, flattish, unhewn stone. The urn rested about two feet below the surface of the ground, and unfortunately it was much broken in being removed from its bed. The fragments have been almost all given away by Mrs Dickson, the feuar in whose feu off the glebe it was found. But it has been my good fortune to secure for the Museum the small vessel which was found along with the larger urn.



Small Urn found within a Larger Urn at Blairgowrie (13 inches high).

Antiquarians here tell me they have never seen so small an urn, and we are puzzled to know what purpose it could have been intended for. The interior of the large urn was black, as if from the burning of some substance in it, or from the substance within it having in long process of time imparted some of its blackness to the urn. But this small vessel is not darker in the inside than on the outside, although it bears on the inside at the bottom the prints of the thumb-nail of the person who made it.

A considerable number of stone weapons, &c., have been found in this neighbourhood.

[See the paper on these small urns, by Dr John Alexander Smith, in the "Proceedings," vol. ix. p. 192.]