

MONDAY, 10th February 1879.

JOHN R. FINDLAY, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows :—

JOHN RANKINE, Esq., Advocate.

CHARLES POYNTZ STEWART, Esq., M.A., Trinity College, Cambridge.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By JOHN BALFOUR, Esq., of Balbirnie, F.S.A. Scot.

Two Urns and fragments of seven others, from an ancient cemetery in Drymmie Wood, on the estate of Balbirnie, Fife.

Ornamented Bronze Celt, found on the farm of Dams, near the Cemetery. [See the previous communication by Mr Anderson.]

(2.) By JOHN BRUCE, Esq., of Sumburgh, through Gilbert Goudie, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

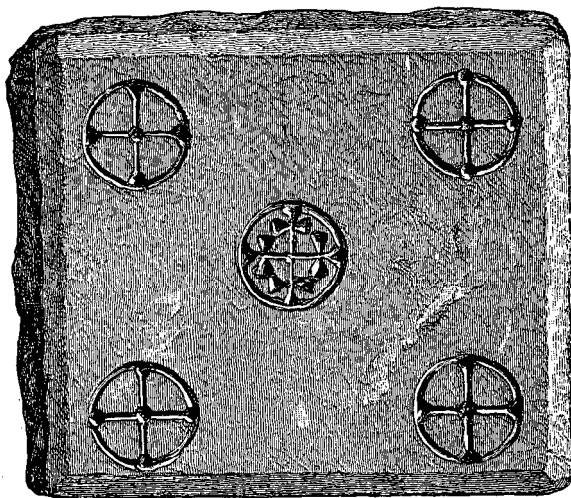
Rune-Inscribed Stone, found at Cunningsburgh, Shetland.

[For a drawing of this stone, with reading of the inscription, see the subsequent paper by Mr Goudie.]

(3.) By JAMES WOOD, Esq., Galashiels.

Altar-Slab of Sandstone, found in digging a grave at Coldingham. This interesting relic is a square slab of whitish sandstone, 11 inches by 10, and 1½ inch in thickness, slightly bevelled on the upper edges and smoothed on the upper surface, which has the usual five crosses incised upon it, as seen in the accompanying engraving. Such slabs

were usually inserted in the wooden framework of the altar, and, in fact technically formed the altar itself. This slab may have belonged to one



Altar Slab found at Coldingham (11 inches by 10).

of the smaller altars, of which there were usually a number in churches like that of Coldingham.

(4.) By Mr WILLIAM BROWN, Shepherd, through Benjamin N. Peach, Esq., H.M. Geological Survey.

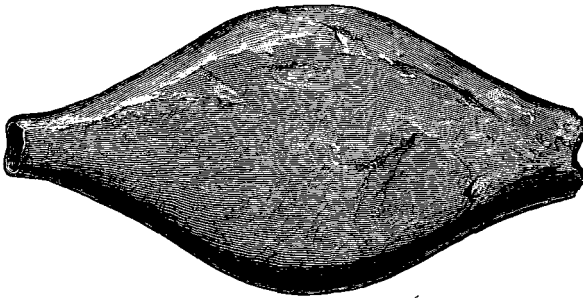
Large oblong Bead of Cannel Coal, cylindrical in form and swelling in the middle, perforated longitudinally by a hole which is wider at the extremities than in the centre of the bead, and shows signs of wear, as if by a string, at the outer edges. The bead measures  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length. It was found at the bottom of a peat bog on the Watch Hill, near Loch Skene, Moffatdale. Beads of this form, and especially of such a large size, are very rare. A necklace of such beads, ranging from 1 to 5 inches in length, and mixed with rudely-shaped and perforated pieces of

amber, was found, along with a fine well-polished celt of black flint, in the parish of Cruden, Aberdeenshire, in 1812. The beads and celt are



Bead of Cannel Coal found near Loch Skene ( $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches long).

figured in the Catalogue of Antiquities, &c., exhibited in the Museum of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland, held during their annual meeting at Edinburgh in 1856. They are preserved in the Arbuthnott Museum, Peterhead. Another bead of a similar material, and also of very large size, is in the Society's Museum. It is wider in proportion to its length than the first-mentioned bead, and is also distinguished by being greatly flattened on two opposite sides. It measures



Bead of Shale found near Pencaitland (6 inches long).

6 inches in length, 3 inches in width, and is fully an inch in thickness. It was found in the bed of a burn in the parish of Pencaitland, East Lothian, and presented to the museum in 1870, by Arthur Trevelyan, Esq., of Tyneholme. It is here figured for the sake of comparison.

(5.) By BENJAMIN N. PEACH, Esq., H.M. Geological Survey.

Rounded Hammer-Stone of white quartz, 2 inches in diameter, bearing marks of use all over its surface. Found in Shetland.

(6.) By JOHN S. GIBB, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Leaf-shaped Arrow-Head of reddish flint, 1 inch in length, found at Wandershiel, Aldbar, near Brechin, Forfarshire.

(7.) By J. R. WALKER, Esq., Architect.

Drawings of two Sepulchral Slabs at Killarrow, Island of Islay. The first is a slab 6 feet 10 inches in length, 2 feet wide at the top, and 18 inches at the bottom. It has the figure of an ecclesiastic in relief within a tri-cusped niche; on the one side the figure of a chalice, the other plain. The lower part of the stone is occupied with a pattern of foliaceous ornament, and the whole surrounded with a border consisting of a flat band.

The second slab is considerably mutilated in the upper part, so that the original length is uncertain. It contains part of the effigy in high relief of a man in armour, a sword with recurved guard and knobbed pommel, right arm and head gone.

(8.) By THE COUNCIL OF THE ROYAL SCOTTISH ACADEMY.

Catalogue of the Library of the Royal Scottish Academy. Compiled by John Hutchison, R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot., Librarian. 4to. 1878.

Forty-first Annual Report of the Council of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting, Sculpture, and Architecture. 8vo. 1878.

(9.) By WALTER DICKSON, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Japan: Being a Sketch of the History, Government, and Officers of the Empire. By Walter Dickson. 8vo. 1879.

(10.) By the Right Hon. the LORD CLERK REGISTER.

The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland. Edited by George Burnett, Lyon

King of Arms. Vol. II. A.D. 1359-1379. Published by the Authority of the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, under the direction of the Lord Clerk Register of Scotland. Imp. 8vo. 1878.

(11.) By the MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1652-1653. Imp. 8vo, 1878.

There were exhibited—

(1.) By J. R. FINDLAY, Esq.

Two Engraved Plates or Trenchers of white Metal, brought from Venice, one having a scriptural and the other an allegorical subject.

The following Communications were read :—