

V.

NOTES ON AN URN FOUND AT KENNYSHILLOCK, URQUHART, ELGIN, NOW PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM, AND ON A BULLET-MOULD OF STONE, LENT FOR EXHIBITION BY MR J. MACDONALD, DUNPHAIL. BY JAMES MORRISON, URQUHART, CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

1. URN.—In vol. ix. page 260 of the Proceedings there is a brief notice of a cairn partially explored in May 1871. It was about 8 yards in diameter, and being cut across from west to east, a grave 5 feet deep was discovered, 2 yards within the circumference on the east side. In the bottom of the grave there lay on its side a well-shaped urn, now in the possession of Canon Greenwell. The moor has been ploughed up during the past summer, and the farmer carted away the remains of the cairn. In doing this he came upon another grave of the same depth as the former one, but more oval in shape. On removing the large stones which filled the grave, a rude cist resting on a sandy bottom was exposed, covered over with flattish boulders. It was 4 feet in length by 2 feet in breadth, and was constructed of six rough sandstone flags, two on each side, and one at each end. From the surface downwards, and very thickly in the bottom, there was abundance of wood ashes and charred fragments of oak, but no trace of bones of any kind. In the south-east corner of the cist, which lay north and south, the urn now presented to the museum, was found, leaning inwards. It was entire when discovered, but broke in being lifted out. All the parts are preserved, and can be put together. The piece of flint was in the cist amid the ashes, most



Urn from a Cist at Kennyshillock
(5 inches high).

probably placed there ere the grave was filled up, though it is possible it may have fallen in from the surface during the exploration. It is thought that another grave of the same character exists in the cairn. This will be ascertained by and by, and the result intimated to the Society. It will be seen in the volume of the Proceedings referred to, that the district around the cairn is rich in remains, and has yielded some rare and valuable flint and stone implements.

2. *BULLET MOULD*.—The mould is the property of Mr J. Macdonald, gamekeeper to Lord Thurlow, Dunphail, and he has sent me the following statement regarding it:—"The Rev. Charles Farquharson was a native of Braemar. He died Nov. 30, 1799, nearly 90 years of age. I believe he made the mould when a young man in Braemar. My grandmother was his niece, and got the mould along with other things belonging to the priest. Her husband, my grandfather, Donald Macdonald, my father, Donald Macdonald, and my brother Donald, all had it before me, I being the fourth Macdonald that has had it. James Farquharson of Balmoral, who was out at the head of the Mar men in 1745-46, was brother to Father Charles as they called him. There were lots of the bullets fired at the battles of Falkirk, Prestonpans, and Culloden, made in that mould. I have in good preservation Balmoral's sword,—a Highland one of course. It is said that Prince Charles made some bullets in the mould for his pistol."

The mould is of hard claystone, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness. It consists of two parts, which fit together and are kept in position by dowells of lead answering to corresponding holes in the stone. Both sides of each half of the mould are hollowed into cavities for casting shot of various sizes from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch diameter. The number of different sized bullets that can be cast in it is thirty-seven.