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MONDAY, 11th April 1887.

SIR W. FETTES DOUGLAS, LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

Rev. WALTER BELL, 8 Rosebery Crescent.

JOHN HARRISON, 7 Greenhill Place.

Rev. J. KING HEWISON, Minister of Rothesay.

Rev. CHARLES ELLIS STEVENS, B.D., Ph.D., Brooklyn, New York.

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

(1) By Rev. W. FINDLAY, Saline, Dunfermline.

Whorl of claystone,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter; Whorl of sandstone, 2 inches diameter; and irregularly-shaped Disc of shale,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter, perforated in the centre by a hole half an inch in diameter, from Saline.

(2) By Rev. ARCHIBALD PRENTICE, New Craighall, Joppa.

Rude Implement of sandstone,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length by 3 inches in breadth and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest thickness, flattish on one side, roughly rounded on the other, from Walls, Shetland.

(3) By Mr GEORGE SINCLAIR.

Flint Arrow-Head, with barbs and stem, found near Dunkeld.

(4) By Dr C. G. MACKAY, Lochcarron.

Portion of a greyish resinous Mass, found in a peat-moss near Shieldaig, parish of Applecross, Ross-shire.

(5) By H. S. HOWELL, Stoneyhurst, Galt, Ontario, Canada.

Four Arrow-Heads of chert, from Canada.

Models of Canadian Canoe, Toboggin, and Snow-Shoes.

Necklace of seed-capsules, from Australia.

Spear-Head of iron, inlaid, from India.

Copy of *The Scots Magazine*, 1762.

The Keys of the Bastille of Paris, 12mo, pp. 15; with full-sized Photograph of the Keys.

The Weesils, a Satyrical Fable. 4to. London, 1691.

(6) By JOHN W. SMALL, F.S.A. Scot., Wallace Street, Stirling.

Dutch Tile, 5 inches square, with two figures in blue, with slings, on a cream-coloured ground, and small triangular scrolls at the four corners, from Major Weir's House, West Bow, Edinburgh.

Dutch Tile,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches square, with a shield-like figure of scrolls and foliage, surmounted by a bust and two birds in a purplish tint on a cream-coloured ground, and with small scrolls in the four corners, from Major Weir's House in the West Bow, Edinburgh.

Dutch Tile, 5 inches square, with a blue pattern on a white ground, from an old house in the Grassmarket, Edinburgh.

(7) By EDWARD LOVETT, Croydon.

Two of the so-called Rude Implements of quartzite,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches and 5 inches in length, from the laterite beds of the Madras Presidency, India.

(8) By Captain WILLIAM STEWART, of the 91st Highlanders.

Bronze Sword,  $28\frac{3}{8}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches across the widest part of the blade, narrowing to  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches near the hilt, and having a rounded midrib half an inch wide running down the centre of the blade from hilt to point. The handle-plate has two slots in the grip and two in the wings. No other bronze sword of this type has yet been recorded in Scotland. It was found along with another sword of the common type, measuring  $26\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length,  $2\frac{1}{8}$  inches in breadth at the widest part of the blade, narrowing to  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches near the hilt. The hilt

plate, which is slightly flanged on both sides, has two rivet holes in the grip and two in the wings. This sword is unusually thick and heavy, being fully  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch in thickness at the base of the blade where it joins the grip. Captain Stewart has supplied the following particulars regarding the finding of the two swords:—

The swords were found at Rigg, on the east side of Skye, in the month of March 1886,—the shorter one of the two by John Macvicar while digging out a rabbit, and the longer by myself a few days later on excavating under a large stone, measuring about 8 feet in length by 6 feet in breadth by 3 feet in thickness. The lower side of the end rested on some smaller stones, which left a clear space underneath; and as the earth and small stones from the cliff above closed all around except the lower side, a cavity was left under the stone big enough for a man to creep into. From the position in which the first sword was found, I think it must have been gradually moved down by the rabbits burrowing under the stone. The sword found by me lay on some stones, between which and the bottom of the big stone there was just room for it, and near its upper end, and with the blade pointing up hill. I suppose you noticed the lines on the blade of the longer sword near the hilt, also the deep gap in the edge where it met another blade at an angle of about  $45^\circ$ ; and that the edge near the point for what is called the forte or cutting part of the blade has been blunted and resharpened on both sides. The men who used these swords must have preferred the edge to the point, because the leaf-shaped heavy-pointed blade, unsuited for stabbing, would from the position of the weight acquire a great deal of momentum in cutting. The edge, similar to the modern hollow ground razor, is sharpened with a care that would be unnecessary if it was not to be used.

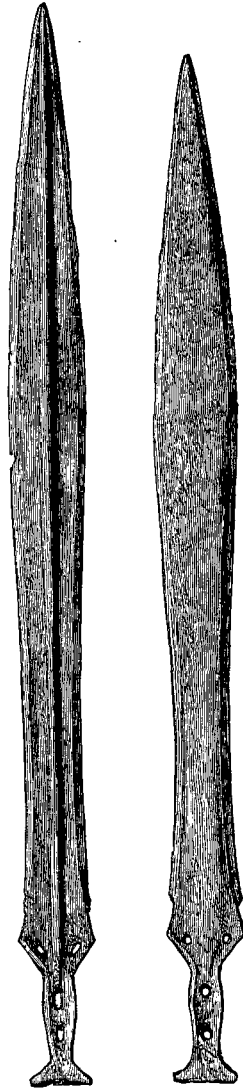


Fig. 1. Bronze Swords found at Rigg, Isle of Skye ( $28\frac{1}{2}$  and  $26\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length).

(9) By G. S. AITKEN, Architect, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Abbeys of Arbroath, Balmerino, and Lindores. 4to. Dundee, 1884.

(10) By Rev. A. W. CORNELIUS HALLEN, M.A., the Editor.

The Transcript of the Register of Baptisms, Muthil, Perthshire, 1697-1847. 4to. 1887.

(11) By the ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES, Copenhagen.

Bornholm's Oldtidsminder og Oldsager af Amtmand E. Vedel.

(12) By the MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Chronica Rogeri de Wendover. Vol. I.

Historians of the Church of York and its Archbishops. Vol. II.

(13) By the EXECUTORS of the late MRS RILAND BEDFORD, through Col. R. BEDFORD.

Portrait of the late Charles Kirkpatrick Sharpe, the famous Antiquary and Collector, painted in 1829 by Thomas Fraser.

[This valuable Donation, which was received in 1875, through Lady Hope Johnstone, from the nephews of Mr Sharpe, Col. Richard B. Riland Bedford and Francis Riland Bedford, Esq., was omitted to be inserted in its proper place under that date. The Portrait, which is a very characteristic likeness, is familiar to the Fellows of the Society, from its having hung so long in the Library. It has now been lent for exhibition in the National Portrait Gallery.]

The following Communications were read :--