

NOTICE OF A CUP-MARKED STONE FOUND AT WILLIAMSTON, IN THE
PARISH OF ST MARTINS, PERTHSHIRE. BY ALEXANDER HUTCHES-
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In the beginning of May 1888, a cup-marked stone was uncovered by the plough in one of the fields on the farm of Williamston, in the parish of St Martins, tenanted by Mr Robert Bruce. The farm is situated about half a mile south-east of the village of Guildtown. The field in which the stone was found lies about 120 yards to the south of the steading, and about 250 feet above sea-level Ordnance datum. The stone is apparently only a fragment of a larger slab of reddish sandstone, naturally weathered on one edge, and on the cup-marked surface—the cups, as usual, being confined to one side of the stone. This fragment is irregularly shaped, and measures in greatest longitude about 2 feet by 1 foot 6 inches broad, and is about 6 inches in thickness. The cups are twenty-five in number. The largest one is $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch deep. The deepest cup is 1 inch in depth. Two of the cups are surrounded by a concentric shallow ring or groove, and other two are connected by a similar but straight groove. These are the only divergences from the series of single or isolated cups. The cups are well formed, and of the usual type. The surface on which they occur exhibits considerable weathering action, the weathering being, however, confined to the surface of the stone, and has affected very slightly, or not at all, at the bottom of the cups. This may be due, as I have before observed, to the cups having been filled up with clay or earth which protected the bottom, while the surface was exposed to the weather; or it may be due to the bases of the cups reaching down to a harder stratum of the stone.

This whole district, embracing as it does the neighbouring parish of Cargill, is peculiarly rich in cup-marked stones. The principal of these have been noticed at various times in the *Proceedings of the Society*.

For information of the discovery of the present stone, as well as of the interesting Whitefield Stone described by me in the Society's *Proceedings* (vol. xviii. p. 313), I have to acknowledge my indebtedness to, the Rev. George Baxter, F.C., Cargill, who has for many years taken a deep and active interest in the preservation of the antiquities of the district. To Mr Baxter's good offices in behalf of this Society and to the courtesy of Mr Robert Bruce, farmer, Williamston, I am further indebted for enabling me to present the stone which is the subject of this notice to the Society of Antiquaries for preservation in the Society's Museum.
