

IV.

NOTICE OF TWO OLD COMMUNION CUPS WHICH ONCE BELONGED TO THE PARISH OF MONIFIETH. By NORMAN MACPHERSON, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The object of this communication is simply to record the tracing of one of the old chalices which once belonged to the parish of Monifieth, and were stated to have been given to George, Earl of Panmure, in exchange for modern cups of what were supposed to be more convenient shape. They cannot be of more graceful form than the one of which accurate drawings have been obtained through the kindness of the Rev. W. W. Jackson, Rector of Exeter College, Oxford.

The discovery of this cup is due to Miss Swann, Walton Manor, Oxford, who writes as follows:—

“Both the Monifieth chalices came into the possession of a friend of Mrs Jackson’s. One she sold in 1888, to give the proceeds to a charity; the other she gave about the same time to Mrs Jackson, who now has it. The two chalices bore different dates, one being a few years earlier than the other, but both were of the seventeenth century. (The date given on the cup which has been discovered is three years earlier than that mentioned in vol. xx. p. 430.) The size and ornamentation of both cups were somewhat similar, but there was a slight difference in the stems, Mrs Jackson’s being the slighter of the two.”

The bowl of the chalice is extremely shallow. Its diameter across is $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches. The whole height is $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches. It strongly resembles in shape the chalices at Fintray and Beith (figs. 23 and 24) in the paper on “Scottish Church Plate,” *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, 1885–86, vol. xx. p. 420.

The bowl of the chalice is inscribed on the outside, and it also bears a coat of arms. Round the edge of the cup (outside) are the words—

WILLIAM DURHAM

JEAN AVCHTERLONIE

and beneath this, a shield, impaled, with the arms of Durham and Ochterlonie, and the inscription:—

“In ovr cheretie ve disspos this sam for the celebrating of the holy
convnion vnto the church of Monifvth.”

Anno Domini 1642.

The goldsmith's letters impressed on the cup, of which a rubbing has been sent, show that it was made by Robert Gairdyne, who was a goldsmith in Dundee. His mark is also to be found on a communion cup, dated 1643, belonging to Brechin Parish Church, and on several other pieces of plate of the same period.