

PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE  
SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.

---

HUNDRED AND TWENTY-THIRD SESSION, 1902-1903.

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ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 1st December 1902.

THE RIGHT HON. SIR HERBERT MAXWELL, BART., LL.D., M.P.,  
President, in the Chair.

Mr James R. Reid and Mr Thomas M'Kie were appointed Scrutineers of the Ballot for the election of Office-Bearers and Councillors.

The Ballot having been concluded, the Scrutineers found and declared the List of the Council for the ensuing year to be as follows:—

*President.*

THE RIGHT HON. SIR HERBERT E. MAXWELL, Bart., LL.D., M.P.

*Vice-Presidents.*

DAVID MURRAY, LL.D.

The Right Hon. The EARL OF SOUTHESK, K.T., LL.D.

ROBERT MUNRO, M.A., M.D., LL.D.

*Councillors.*

Sir GEORGE REID, LL.D., R.S.A.,	} <i>Representing the Board of Trustees.</i>	The Hon. HEW HAMILTON DAL- RYMPLE.
Sir ARTHUR MITCHELL, K.C.B., M.D., LL.D.,		ROBERT BRUCE ARMSTRONG.
Sir KENNETH MACKENZIE, Bart., <i>Representing the Treasury.</i>		THOMAS ROSS.
Lieut.-Col. A. B. M'HARDY, C.B.		THOMAS H. BRYCE, M.D.
JAMES MACDONALD, W.S.		WILLIAM GARSON, W.S.
		JOHN M. HOWDEN.
		Prof. P. HUME BROWN, M.A., LL.D.

*Secretaries.*

DAVID CHRISTISON, M.D. | The Hon. JOHN ABERCROMBY.

*For Foreign Correspondence.*

THOMAS GRAVES LAW, LL.D. | WILLIAM K. DICKSON.

*Treasurer.*

JOHN NOTMAN, Actuary, 28 St Andrew Square.

*Curators of the Museum.*

Professor DUNS, D.D. | ALEXANDER J. S. BROOK.

*Curator of Coins.*

GEORGE MACDONALD, M.A.

*Librarian.*

JAMES CURLE, Jun.

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

- HENRY BORTHWICK, Borthwick Castle, Midlothian.
- J. G. HAWKSLEY BEDFORD, Ravencliffe, Raunmoor, Sheffield.
- EDWARD A. CHISHOLM, 43 Comely Bank Road, Edinburgh.
- WILLIAM GIBSON, M.A., 9 Danube Street, Edinburgh.
- JAMES DAVIS GILRUTH, M.A., M.B., C.M., Millgate, Arbroath.
- GEORGE G. MACKAY, Ardlui, New Brighton, Cheshire.

- Rev. JOHN M'LEAN, Minister of Grantully, Perthshire.  
 JAMES MITCHELL, 222 Darnley Street, Pollokshields, Glasgow.  
 Rev. JOHN M. ROBERTSON, D.D., Minister of St Ninians, Stirling.  
 A. H. SAYCE, M.A., LL.D., D.D., Professor of Assyriology, Oxford, 8  
 Chalmers Crescent, Edinburgh.  
 Rev. WILLIAM A. STARK, Minister of Kirkpatrick-Durham, Dalbeattie.  
 Rev. FREDERICK GEORGE WRIGHT, Chaplain to the Forces, Royal  
 Victoria Hospital, Netley.

The meeting resolved to record their sense of the loss the Society had sustained in the deaths of the following Members deceased since last Annual Meeting:—

*Honorary Member.*

	Entered
Professor RUDOLF VIRCHOW, LL.D., Berlin, . . . . .	1881

*Fellows.*

JAMES LENNOX CAMPBELL, Achacorrach, Dalmally, . . . . .	1890
JOHN CHRISTIE of Cowden and Glenfarg, . . . . .	1881
JOHN HENRY GILCHRIST CLARK of Speddoch, Dumfries, . . . . .	1901
H. SYER CUMING, 63 Kennington Park Road, Surrey, . . . . .	1867
Rev. JOHN DUNCAN, D.D., Minister of Abdie, . . . . .	1874
The Most Rev. ARCHBISHOP EYRE, Glasgow, . . . . .	1892
ALEX. A. FERGUSON, 38 M'Alpine Street, Glasgow, . . . . .	1883
MAJOR RANDLE JACKSON of Swordale, . . . . .	1883
Rev. JOHN P. JAMES, Ilkley, Leeds, . . . . .	1867
Rev. WILLIAM LOCKHART, D.D., Minister of Colinton, . . . . .	1883
Dr W. IVISON MACADAM, Slioch, Lady Road, . . . . .	1887
JAMES MAINLAND MACBEATH, Lynnfield, Kirkwall, . . . . .	1877
DAVID MACGIBBON, Architect, 65 Frederick Street, . . . . .	1862
ALEX. MACPHERSON, Provost of Kingussie, . . . . .	1890
DAVID MARSHALL, Lochleven Place, Kinross, . . . . .	1872
T. L. KINGTON OLIPHANT of Gask, Auchterarder, . . . . .	1901
Sir JOSEPH NOEL PATON, R.S.A., LL.D., 33 George Square, . . . . .	1859
ALEX. GEORGE REID, Solicitor, Auchterarder, . . . . .	1882
THOMAS H. SMITH, Corrie Lodge, Inverness, . . . . .	1890
Lieut.-Col. GAVIN MURE STEELE, 21 Coates Gardens, . . . . .	1874
JOHN TENNANT, High Street, Ecclefechan, . . . . .	1897

Lieut.-Col. F. A. V. THURBURN, Kirkfell, Upper Norwood, . . . . .	1893
JAMES A. WENLEY, 5 Drumsheugh Gardens, . . . . .	1880
Sir JOHN WOODBURN, K.C.S.I., Lieut. Governor of Bengal, . . . . .	1875
ROBERT YOUNGER, 15 Carlton Terrace, . . . . .	1878

Dr Christison, Secretary, read the following Report on the progress and work of the Society in the past year:—

*The Roll of Membership.*—In the Secretaries' Reports at our Annual Meetings of the last three years, upon the progress and work of the Society, much stress has been laid upon the importance of keeping up our numbers, and it has occurred to me that on the present occasion it might be of some interest to the Fellows to know what is our average strength, how many recruits are required annually to maintain it, and whether we are obtaining them in sufficient numbers. For this purpose our Treasurer has kindly furnished me with a Table of the figures for the last ten years.

From this Table it appears that our annual strength during that period has varied between 685 and 740, and that our present strength stands at 706.

That our loss from Deaths has varied between 18 and 31, and has averaged 24·6.

That our loss from lapses in payment of the annual subscriptions, and from Resignations, varied between 4 and 21, and averaged 11·4.

That from all causes our losses varied between 30 and 44, and averaged 36·0.

The result therefore shows that we require an annual supply of 36 new Fellows to maintain the average strength of the last ten years.

As to our gains, it appears that they have varied between 19 and 58, and have averaged 32·8; but as the large accession to our numbers of 58 resulted from a special appeal by our President in 1901 to the Scottish nobility, which brought in 17 recruits, and from the admission of Ladies for the first time, which accounted for 5 more, what may be called the ordinary influx in that year is reduced to 38; therefore 40, the number in 1893, may be taken as the fairest maximum, and the

annual ordinary fluctuation in the additions to the fellowship may be said to range from 19 to 40.

It thus comes out that the annual deficit of gains compared with losses has been 3·2, and, deducting the abnormal gain of 22 in 1901, the deficit rises to 5·6.

Taking the actual figures for two periods of five years there is an average gain in the first period of 32·2 and in the second of 33·4, but if we deduct the abnormal increase in 1901 the average in the latter period falls to 29·0.

On the whole, it appears that there has been a tendency to a falling off in our numbers, which seems the more remarkable, as our activity in promoting research in the field might have been expected to have produced an opposite result. Perhaps it may be accounted for by the competition resulting from the multiplication of Scientific Societies in Scotland in recent times, and it may be that we shall not be able to keep our numbers quite up to the present standard, but no serious diminution should take place, provided that our Fellows lose no opportunity of bringing in new recruits.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

1. *The Proceedings*.—The Volume for 1901–1902 is now on the table, in proof. It is of unusual size, containing no less than 775 pages, and it has a very large number of illustrations. The 23 papers may be classified as Prehistoric 16, Historic and Mediæval 3, Romano-British 1, Post-Reformation 1, Numismatic 1, Heraldic 1. The Prehistoric class, besides minor papers, all well deserving a place, contains three of unusual size and importance, by Sir Arthur Mitchell, Dr Thomas Bryce, and Mr F. R. Coles, to be noticed further on. The principal contribution in the second division is the exhaustive analysis of the origin of the Cavers ensign by Lord Southesk, and the solitary representative of the Post-Reformation period opens up a nearly new field of inquiry among the Churchyard Monuments of the Lowlands. Few years pass without the discovery of at least one hoard of coins, and

the volume records a large find near Stonehaven, from which, however, only four coins were deemed by our Curator worthy of a place in the National Collection. The single heraldic paper is contributed by Mr Rae Macdonald, who describes the continuance of his interesting investigations among the tombstones and buildings of the north-eastern counties.

2. *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*.—This great work, perhaps the greatest ever undertaken by the Society, after eight years of constant effort, is now in type, and there is a good prospect of its publication within a few months, or at least before the end of the present session.

3. *The Prehistory of the Scottish Area—Fifty Years' Work of the Society*.—The address on this subject, undertaken by Sir Arthur Mitchell at the request of the Council, so clearly brought together the evidences that Scotland had a prehistory as well as a history of its own, and contained so valuable a historical and statistical account of the progress of the Society, that the Council thought it well worthy of a place among their publications, and copies are now offered to the Fellows at a merely nominal price.

*The Gunning Fellowship* was bestowed on Mr F. R. Coles, for the fourth successive season, to enable him to continue his examination of the Stone Circles of Aberdeenshire, and his Report for the past year deals with forty-eight sites, which are recognisable as being, or as having been, Circle-sites, besides twenty-two on which nothing but recordless monoliths now stand. With three exceptions not one of these Circle-sites and monoliths has been previously described or figured. The importance of Mr Coles' investigations is further shown in a rather melancholy way by the fact that, if the destruction of these remains goes on at the present rate, scarcely one will survive by the end of the century, and they will be known only by Mr Coles' records of them in the volumes of our Proceedings. It reflects little credit on the intelligence of too many of our lairds and tenants that a class of

monuments which, one would think, from their mysterious origin and extreme antiquity, should appeal for kindly treatment to the hardest of hearts and the least romantic of minds, should be threatened with almost total destruction. They are in the truest sense National Monuments, for they existed at least a thousand years before the most ancient families of the present 'owners' were heard of, but the nation seems powerless to claim them. Perhaps some of the lairds, on whose land the best examples stand, might be induced to place them under the Act for the Protection of Ancient Monuments. This seems to be the only hope of their preservation.

#### EXCAVATIONS.

*Inchtuthil*.—In continuance of our investigations of Roman sites in Scotland the Camp at *Inchtuthil* was undertaken last year. This is of special interest as being the furthest north site on which the discovery of Roman relics has been recorded. The area involved is so vast that anything like an exhaustive examination was quite out of the question, but with the zealous co-operation of the proprietor, Sir Alexander Muir Mackenzie, and under the skilled management of the Hon. John Abercromby and Mr Ross, with Mr Alexander Mackie once more filling the arduous post of Clerk of Works, *Inchtuthil* has probably been made to yield the most important of its secrets, and it was at least proved that the extensive works on the site were not those of a mere temporary camp, but were intended for a lasting occupation. No doubt much remains to be done, not only at *Inchtuthil*, but in its neighbourhood, particularly in regard to the supposed Roman Camp at *Meikleour*, before the full extent and nature of the Roman occupation at this important strategic position can be determined, but meanwhile we have been in a manner compelled to break ground in a quite different locality.

*Cairns of Arran and Islay*.—The Council were glad to be able to aid Dr Thomas Bryce in his investigation of these Cairns by giving him a grant from 'The Excavation Fund.' The invested capital of this

fund amounts to about £600, of which only the interest is available for grants. Small as the yield was when the fund stood in the name of Rhind only, limited as it still is with the addition of the Primrose and Carfrae legacies, the grants have been of signal service in aiding excavations of a less formidable kind than our Roman undertakings, and no better example could be given than in the present instance. Dr Bryce, by his skilfully planned and executed work, followed by his truly scientific deductions from the results, has accurately defined a new class of Cairns, separating it from the chambered Cairns with which the very few recorded examples, previously imperfectly understood, were conjoined: he has also contributed not a little to our knowledge of the burial customs of the Stone as distinguished from the Bronze Age, and of the anatomical characteristics of the inhabitants of Scotland during these periods. Finally, by presenting his Finds to the National Museum, Dr Bryce has enriched it to a degree, in money value alone, much exceeding that of the grant made to him.

*Present and Future Excavations.*—A renewed generous gift of £150 by Mr Abercromby, supplemented by a grant of £50 from our own Funds, enabled the Society last season to undertake the excavation of Castlecary, one of the Forts of the Antonine Vallum, permission having been readily given by Lord Zetland, proprietor of the ground. After nine months of unremitting labour the work is now all but completed, and our thoughts have been turned towards the neighbouring Rough Castle, not only from its intrinsic importance, holding forth as it does a prospect of results not less valuable than those obtained in any of our previous undertakings, and more promising than what any of the remaining unexplored Roman sites are likely to yield, but because our Honorary Fellow, Mr Haverfield, has offered us a sum of £50, which has been supplemented by £10 from Mr George Macdonald, expressly for its investigation. These handsome donations, however, would not nearly cover the expense of an excavation which ought to be pre-eminently exhaustive, if done at all. The Council must, therefore, consider the means of raising further supplies. Hitherto the Society has borne



the main part of the expenditure incurred in the excavations of the last eight years, partly from income partly from capital, but the latter is now reduced to a point beyond which it might be imprudent to go.

In these straits I believe that an appeal for subscriptions would be favourably entertained, not only by those Fellows who have so liberally contributed in the past, but by many others according to their means. Nay, it may even be a question whether we should not go beyond our own borders, and as an earnest of what may be expected in that direction I have much satisfaction in announcing that two gentlemen, in no way connected with our Society, Mr Robert Hudson, Kirkintilloch, and Mr Lawrence Thomson, Glasgow, were so impressed with what they saw of our work at Castlecary as spontaneously to contribute £1, 1s. and £1 respectively in aid of the excavation of Castlecary and Rough Castle. I may also mention that from time to time I have had gratifying testimony from gentlemen engaged in similar work on the other side of the Border as to the success of our excavations, and much surprise has been expressed at the economy with which they have been conducted. This has certainly been mainly due to the enthusiastic and gratuitous services of the trained engineers, architects, and surveyors, Messrs J. H. Cunningham, James Barbour, Thomas Ross, and Mungo Buchanan, who have for eight years devoted so many leisure hours, and even so much valuable professional time, to the often difficult tasks of directing and planning the operations, and not less perhaps to the skill and steadfast endurance with which our Clerks of Works, Messrs Thomas Ely and Alexander Mackie, carried out the instructions given to them.

But, however desirable it may be to continue our Roman investigations, we should not forget that there are native remains, prehistoric and early historic, which have perhaps even a greater claim upon the regard of us Scots. In the prehistoric field our knowledge is, indeed, continually being added to, without our intervention, particularly through the accidental exposure of burial-cists, but far more complete and accurate results may be anticipated from the investigation of Cairns,

Stone Circles, etc., by our own experts. Of the early historic period—if we may so call the eight or nine centuries that succeeded the Roman occupation—we know, perhaps, even less than of prehistoric times. Here chance discoveries can do little or nothing for us, and the dense obscurity that enshrouds these dark ages can only be dispelled, if at all, by systematic excavations. The Hill Forts, which, as far as archaeological inquiry has hitherto gone, appear to belong to this age, offer themselves as the readiest means of increasing our knowledge of it. But do they really belong to it? If so, do they all belong to it? Is there really a class of intentionally vitrified forts, and, if so, what is their relation in point of date to the others? These are among the important questions that await solution by the spade. Be the results what they may, what more inspiring enterprise could be imagined than the excavation of that stupendous work, the White Caterthun? and many more of the ancient fortresses of our ancestors are hardly less interesting. In conclusion, it seems to me most desirable that if a fund for undertaking the larger kind of excavations be raised, it should be made available for ancient remains of every class, prehistoric, Roman, or historic, according as occasion may arise. If the funds suffice, and with a sufficient staff of skilled superintendence, there seems no reason why more than one large investigation should not be undertaken simultaneously.

*The Museum.*—Among the more important additions to the National Museum during last Session, the large collection of Scottish prehistoric implements, presented by the late Mr Gilchrist Clark of Speddoch, deserves special mention; also a valuable donation from Mr Robert Christison of Lammermoor, North Queensland, of weapons and implements obtained directly by himself from the natives of the Dalleburra Tribe in his neighbourhood: lastly, an unusual number of sepulchral Urns. It might be expected that the supply of sepulchral Urns, of which we have such a splendid collection, would now be nearly exhausted, but, on the contrary, it shows no sign of falling off. In the past season, without reckoning numerous mere fragments, no less than

eighteen Urns, sufficiently preserved to identify their forms, have been unearthed from six sites in Scotland, and twelve of them have found their way to the Museum. It might also be thought that it would be vain to look for the discovery of any new variety, yet only a few months ago we welcomed the arrival of four round-bottomed Urns, which were new in this sense that they came, not from the chambered Cairns, from which we got the small number we already possessed, but from the megalithic segmented Cairns of Arran; a striking proof, if any were needed, that there is no finality in Archæological investigation, even in a department that would seem at first sight to be well worked out.

On the whole, I think the Society may congratulate itself on the amount and quality of the work done in the past Session, and may look forward hopefully to a career not less useful and prosperous in future.

The Treasurer submitted a statement of the Society's Funds, which was ordered to be printed and circulated among the Fellows.

The Secretary read the Annual Report to the Board of Trustees, as follows:—

ANNUAL REPORT to the Board of Trustees for Manufactures in Scotland by the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, with reference to the National Museum of Antiquities under their charge, for the year ending 30th September 1902.

During the past year the Museum has been open to the public as formerly, and has been visited by 16,415 persons, of whom 15,176 were visitors on free days, and 1239 on pay days.

The number of objects of antiquity added to the Museum has been 374 by donation, and 546 by purchase. The number of books added to the Library has been 103 by donation and 68 by purchase, and the binding of 87 volumes has been proceeded with.

D. CHRISTISON, *Secretary.*

The Secretary read the following announcement with reference to the Barcelona Prize for Spanish Archæology :—

The Board of Education learn, through the Foreign Office, that in accordance with the terms of the legacy bequeathed to the city of Barcelona, by Senor Don Francisco Martorell y Pena, a prize of 20,000 pesetas will be offered for the best original work on Spanish Archæology. The essays may be written in Latin, Spanish, Catalan, French, Italian, or Portuguese, and must reach the Municipal Offices at Barcelona not later than noon, on October 23rd, 1906. It is suggested that British Competitors should send in their works through the British Consulate in that town. A copy of the regulations under which this competition will be held may be seen at the Board of Education Library, St Stephen's House, Cannon Row, London, S.W.

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MONDAY, 8th December 1902.

DAVID MURRAY, LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

The Hon. JAMES MONCREIFF BALFOUR, 6 Rothesay Terrace.

HENRY J. CUNNINGHAM, Lecturer in Ancient History, University of Edinburgh, Whickham, Durham.

JAMES J. M'LAUCHLAN, F.F.A., Secretary, Scottish Equitable Life Assurance Company, 19 Coates Gardens.

The following articles and books, acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library during the recess, 12th May to 30th November 1902, were exhibited :—

Circular Stud of Bronze,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, with a broken shank in the centre of the back, and having the front finely enamelled, found in the ditch at the south-west corner of the South Camp at Camelon. It has been described in the account of the excavation of Camelon in the *Proceedings*, vol. xxxv. p. 401, and figured as fig. 38 on p. 402.

Pendant Seal of Glass Paste, mounted in bronze, giving an impression of an intaglio head, also found at Camelon.

Silver Spoon with the Canongate Hall Mark and the date 1589.

A Door-sneek of Wrought Iron, of peculiar form, from Jackson's Close, Edinburgh.

Punch Ladle of Wood, with twisted handle, cut from a single piece.

Two collections of Flint Implements from Glenluce Sands, one from Culbin Sands, and one from Tannadice, Forfarshire.

Original Letter from the Home Secretary (Sir Robert Peel) to the Commissioners, authorising the Regalia to be carried back to the Castle from Holyrood, 22nd August 1822.

Books for the Library :—Milne's Rental-book of James Sixth's Hospital, Perth ; Duke of Northumberland's Incised Markings on Stones and Rocks (privately printed) ; Allan's History of Channelkirk ; Stothard's Religious Antiquities of Edinburgh ; Records of the Diocesan Synod of Dunblane ; Maidment's *Reliquiæ Antiquæ Scotiæ* ; The Lockhart Papers, 2 vols. ; Chautard's *Monnaies au type Esterlin frappées en Europe* ; *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, vol. iii., Suppl. Fasc. 3 and 4 ; Catalogue of Prehistoric Antiquities, Madras Government Museum ; Proceedings of Society of Antiquaries of London, vols. i. and ii. ; Von Troeltsch, *Pfahlbauten des Bodenseegebietes* ; Dutton's Boots and Shoes of our Ancestors ; Crum's Coptic Monuments in the Museum at Cairo ; MacLagan's Evil Eye among the Gaelic Highlanders ; Zimmer's Origin and History of the Celtic Church ; Macalister's Studies in Irish Epigraphy, 2 vols. ; Transactions of the Inverness Scientific Society and Field Club (1875–1895), 4 vols. ; Transactions of the Gaelic Society of Inverness, vols. xv.–xx. ; Fischer's Scots in Prussia ; Waring's Art Treasures of the United Kingdom ; Leith-Hay's Castellated Architecture of Aberdeenshire ; Gregory Smith's Specimens of Middle Scots ; Mackenzie's Kilbarchan ; Cormac's Saga (Translation) ; Omond's Arniston Memoirs ; and *Minor Arts in England*, by A. H. Church, C. H. Read, etc.

There were also exhibited :—

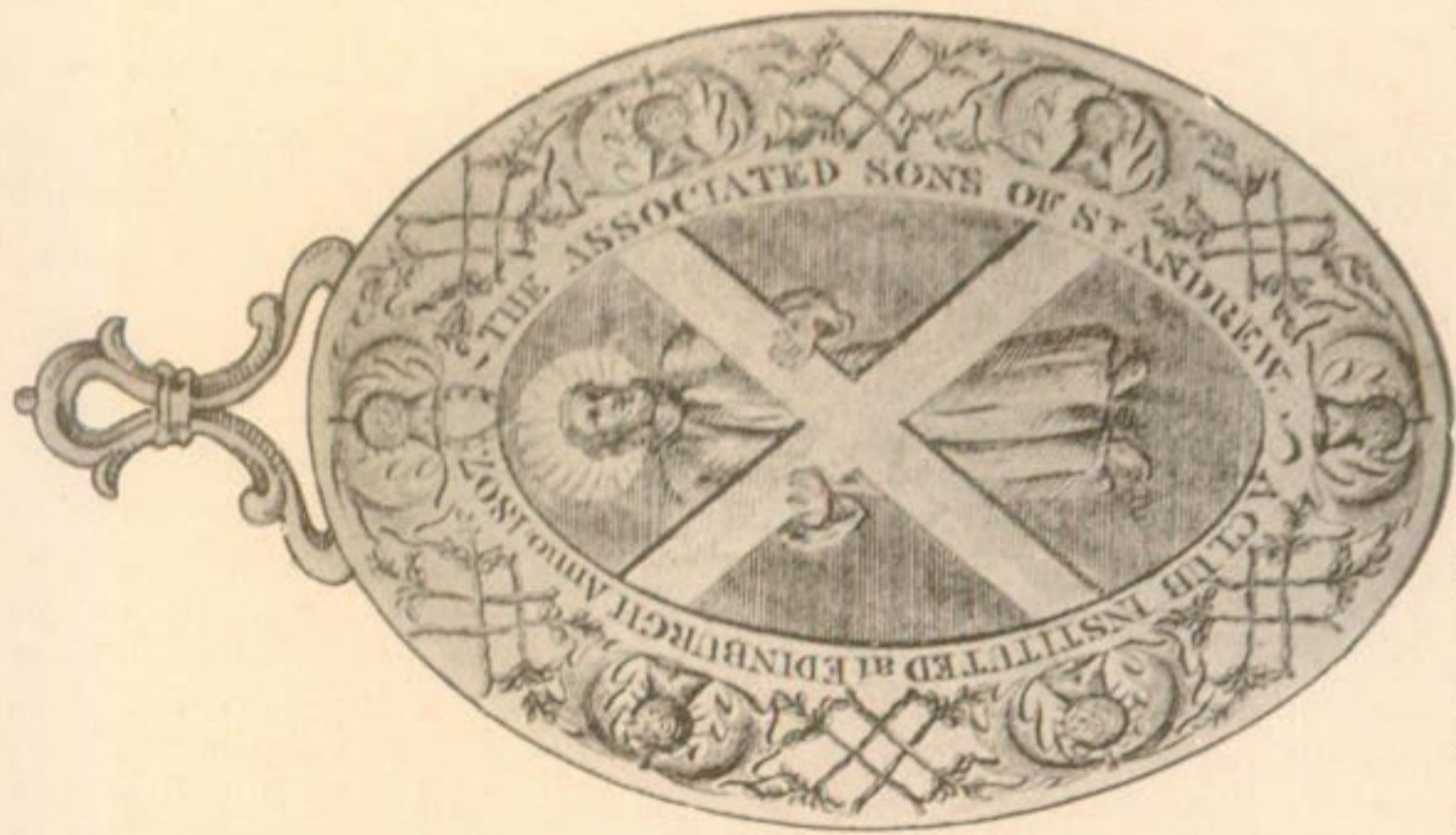
(1) By Miss WIGHT, through ALEX. J. S. BROOK, F.S.A. Scot.

Silver Medal or Badge (figs. 1 and 2), engraved on the obverse with the Royal Arms of Scotland, and on the reverse with St Andrew and his Cross, and the inscription : "The Associated Sons of St Andrew, a Club instituted at Edinburgh, Anno 1807."

(2) By Mr ROBERT DICKINSON, Longcroft.

Two Urns, found at Longcroft, Lauderdale. [See the subsequent Communication by Mr Francis Lynn.]

The following Communications were read :—



Figs. 1, 2. Obverse and Reverse of Silver Badge of Sons of St. Andrew.