

II.

SCULPTURED AND INSCRIBED STONES IN JEDBURGH AND VICINITY. By WALTER LAIDLAW, F.S.A. Scot.

Jedburgh, the county town of Roxburghshire, is of great antiquity, and is often mentioned in early Scottish history. In a footnote in the new edition of Chalmers' *Caledonia*, vol. i. p. 426, we have this valuable information, which he gives as a quotation :—

(Smith's *Bede*, i, iv, cap. xxvi. app. No. ii.; Simeon of Durham, col. 69–139.) Egred, the Bishop of Lindisfarne, who died in A.D. 845, built the two villages of Geddewarde and Geinforde in Roxburghshire, with the churches thereof, which he gave to the bishopric with other towns (*Anglia Sacra*, vol. i. p. 698).

Jedburgh in after times became occasionally a royal residence. There are many objects of historical and antiquarian interest in the town and district. The earliest are probably the two cup- and ring-marked stones discovered in Jedburgh.

No. 1 (fig. 1), which is of rather unusual type, has been already described and illustrated both in the *Transactions of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club* in 1864, p. 161, by Mr George Tate, F.G.S., and also in the *Archaic Sculpturings*, by Sir James Simpson. The stone, which is about 18 inches broad, is now in the possession of the Rev. Adam Scott Matheson, Dumbarton.

No. 2 (fig. 2) is a sculptured stone, with incised ring- and cup-symbols, discovered by me in Jedburgh Abbey in 1903. It is of yellow sandstone, 1 foot 8 inches long, 9½ inches broad, 4 inches thick.

No. 3 (fig. 3). This stone, which was described by Dr Collingwood Bruce in the *Proceedings of the Society* in May 1885, forms the lintel over the entrance to the north-west turret of Jedburgh Abbey. Several erroneous readings of the Roman inscription upon it had been given, notably in Jeffrey's *History of Roxburghshire*, vol. i. p. 254, and in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxiii. p. 365. In 1885 I got permission

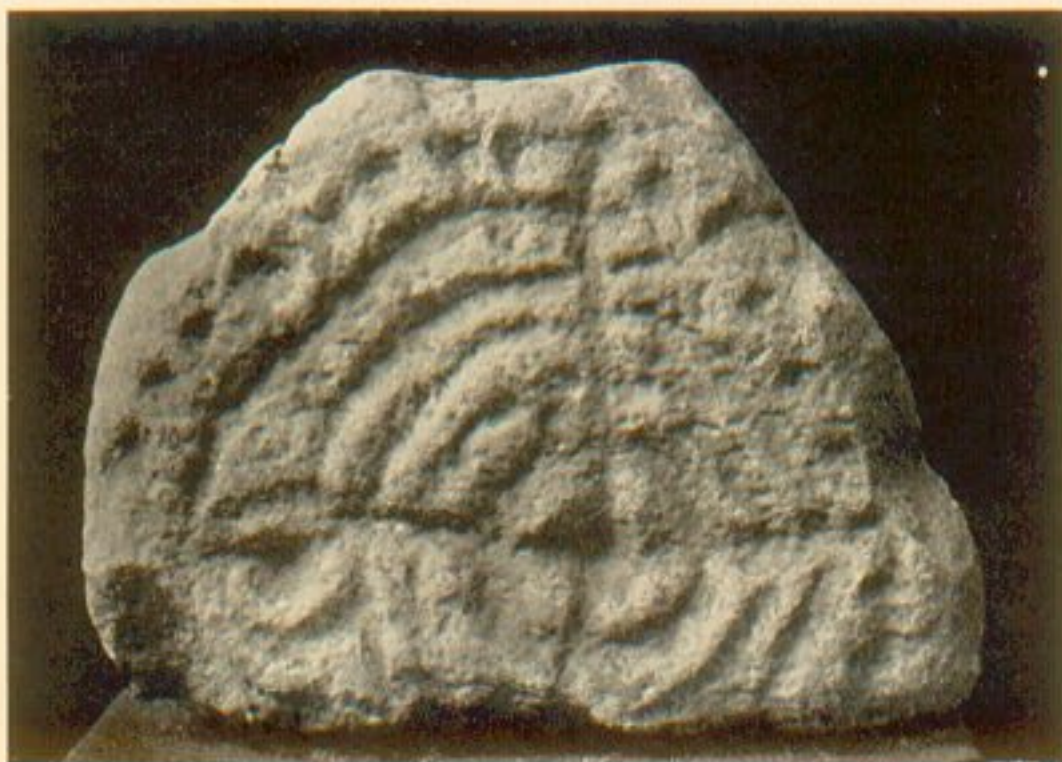


Fig. 1. Cup- and Ring-marked Stone found in Jedburgh.
(From a photograph by W. Blain, Dumbarton.)



Fig. 2. Cup- and Ring-marked Stone found in Jedburgh.

from the Marquis of Lothian to take a cast of the stone, and this I sent to Dr Bruce. The reading which he sent me, and which may be taken as being correct, was published at the time in the *Proceedings* of the Society, vol. xix. p. 321; and I may add that Professor Hubner of Berlin and Mr F. Haverfield of Oxford agree with it. The reading, when the contractions are expanded, is as follows:—*Iovi Optimo*



Fig. 3. Roman Inscription on a Stone forming a lintel in the north-west turret at Jedburgh Abbey.

Maximo, vexillatio Retorum gaesatorum quorum curam agit Julius Severinus tribunus; and may be thus translated:—To Jupiter, the best and greatest, the vexillation of the Rhaetian Spearmen, under the command of Julius Severinus, the tribune [erected this].

No. 4 (fig. 4). This is a portion of a Roman tablet, sculptured in relief. On the bottom of the left side is the figure of a boar, the badge of the Twentieth Legion. It was found during the course of excavating the Roman station at Cappuck, Oxnam, in 1886, and was



Fig. 4. Legionary Tablet of Twentieth Legion.

then described by me in the *Transactions of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club*, but not illustrated. The stone, which is 1 foot long and 8 inches broad, is now in the private museum at Monteviot. A cast of it is in the National Museum.

No. 5 (figs. 5, 5A, 5B, 5C) is the lower part of a cross-shaft of sandstone which stands a little to the west of Hartrigge House, near Jedburgh. The measurements are as follows: 4 feet $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height by about 3 feet 3 inches, and 2 feet 6 inches in thickness. This stone has been already described in the *Proceedings* of the Society, as also in the *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, and an illustration of the east side of it given. I, however, consider the stone to be of sufficient importance to give the illustrations of all four sides.

No. 6 (fig. 6) is one of three Celtic slabs preserved in the north transept of Jedburgh Abbey. It is a well-preserved slab, with sculpture in relief, 2 feet 6 inches long and 2 feet 2 inches broad. This stone has been described and illustrated in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, as also in the *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*. It is a very interesting example of the tree-like form of the foliageous-scroll ornament, with birds and beasts feeding on its fruits. This also occurs at Ruthwell on the inscribed cross, and in a more modified form at Tarbat and Hilton of Cadboll, Ross-shire.

No. 7 (fig. 7) is a slab of sandstone, with an interlaced pattern sculptured in relief, 4 feet 8 inches high by 1 foot wide by 6 inches thick. The front and one end are ornamented with interlaced work. This stone has been described and illustrated in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, and also in *Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, part iii. p. 435.

No. 8 (fig. 8) is a slab of sandstone 4 feet 7 inches in length by 9 inches wide by 4 inches thick, sculptured in relief on the front face with an interlaced pattern of knot-work, and on one side with a plait of two strands.

No. 9 (fig. 9) is a portion of a cross-shaft of sandstone, 1 foot 4 inches in length by 7 inches in breadth and 4 inches in thickness, with a



Fig. 5. Base of Cross-shaft, sculptured in relief, at Hartrigge, near Jedburgh. North side.



Fig. 5A. Base of Cross-shaft, sculptured in relief, at Hartrigge, near Jedburgh. East side.



Fig. 5B. Base of Cross-shaft, sculptured in relief, at Hartrigge, near Jedburgh. South side.

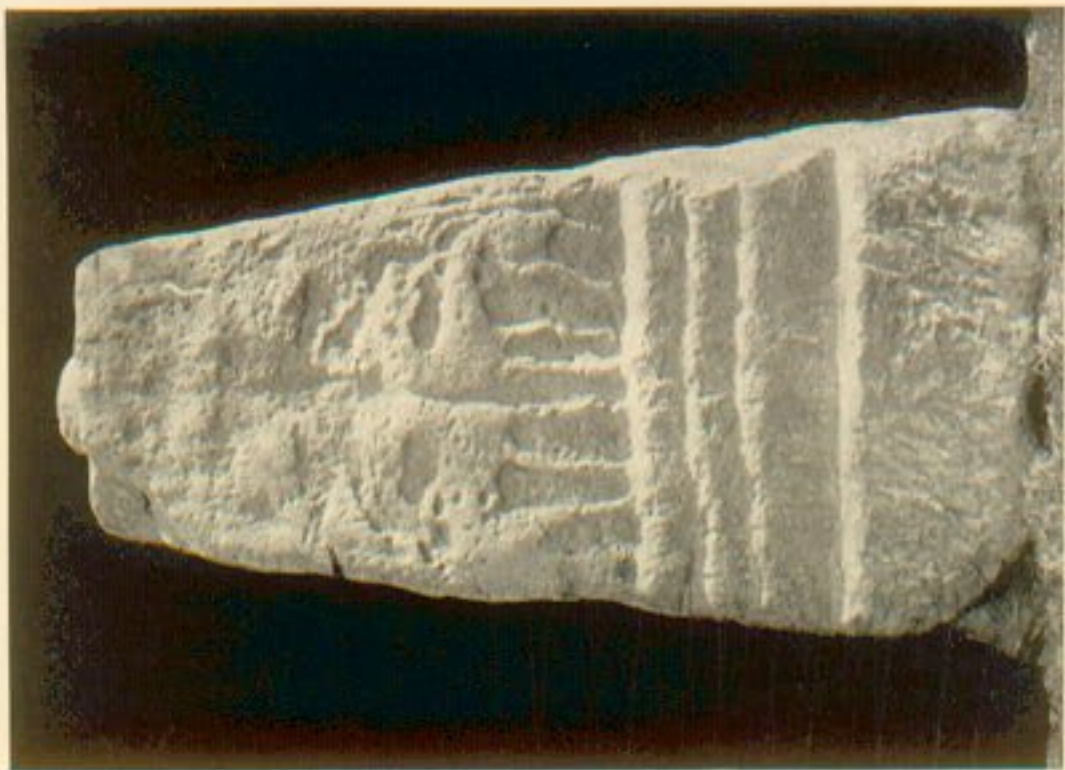


Fig. 5C. Base of Cross-shaft, sculptured in relief, at Hartrigge, near Jedburgh. West side.

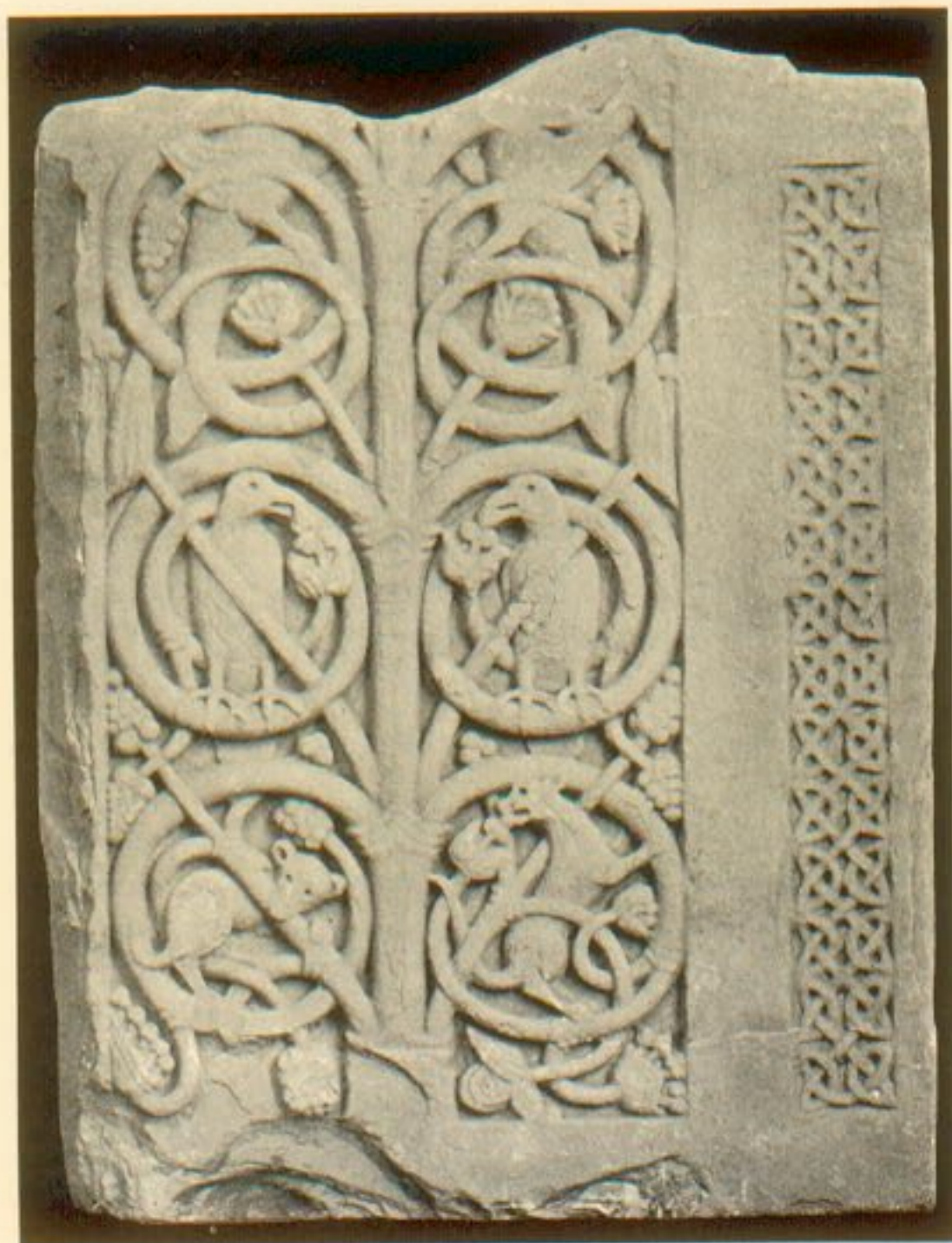


Fig. 6. Slab, with sculpture in relief, preserved in Jedburgh Abbey.



Fig. 7. Slab, with sculpture in relief,
at Jedburgh Abbey.



Fig. 8. Slab, with sculpture in relief,
at Jedburgh Abbey.

rope-moulding at one corner and a pattern of a leafy scroll on one face, the other sides broken away. It was found in taking down the manse at Jedburgh in 1878.

No. 10 (fig. 10) is a fragment of a cross-shaft sculptured in relief, 12 inches by 9 inches and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches thick. This stone has not been previously described or illustrated, having been discovered by me in



Fig. 9. Part of Cross-shaft found in taking down the old manse at Jedburgh.

the summer of 1903 in a garden near Ancrum. The person from whom I procured it can give no information as to where it came from. I have succeeded in taking an excellent cast for the National Museum.

No. 11 (fig. 11) is a stone sculptured in relief, very much weather-worn, showing a horseman with long spear attacking wild beasts. It forms the tympanum above the entrance of Linton Church. There have been many attempts to explain the meaning of the figures on the

sculptured stone, but no one as yet has been able to say what they really represent. It has been figured in the *Proceedings* of the Society, vol. xvii. p. 335.

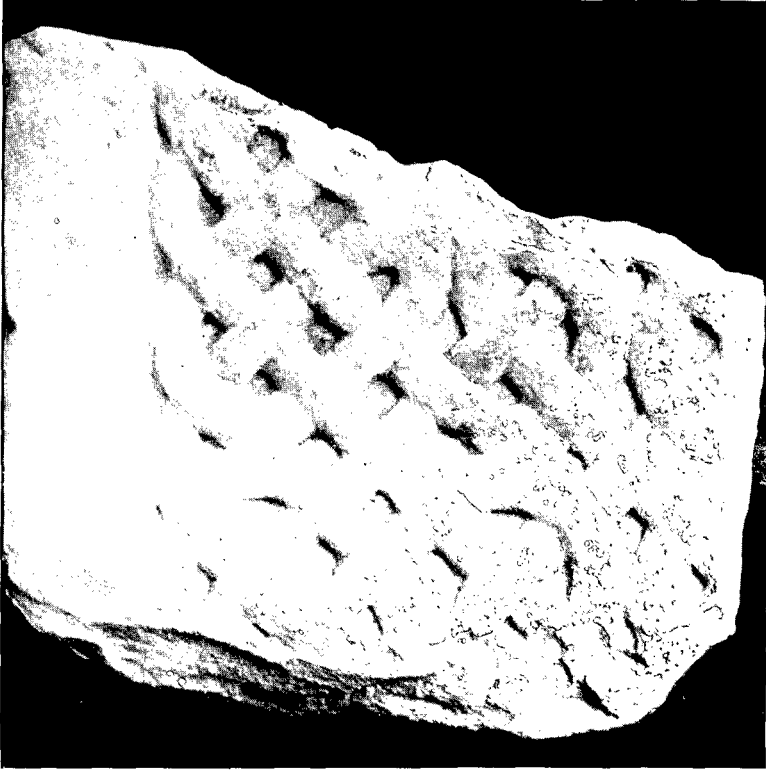


Fig. 10. Fragment of Cross-shaft, sculptured in relief,
found in a garden at Ancrum.

No. 12 (fig. 12). This is a recumbent grave-cover with sculpture in relief. It is 5 feet 4 inches long by 14 inches wide. The stone was found in digging a grave in Oxnam Churchyard, and was brought down to the

manse garden to do duty as a pillar for a sundial. I had it taken up in the summer of 1903, and it now stands against the garden wall. There is upon the front a Calvary cross sculptured in relief nearly the whole length of the stone. The date "1853" is hewn on the stone, and is supposed to be the date of its discovery.

No. 13 (fig. 13) is a fragment of a grave-cover in Oxnam Churchyard, close to the vestry door. I had it taken up and measured in 1903, and found it to be 3 feet 9 inches long by 14 inches wide, and sculptured in relief with the cross, and a band of cable ornament.



Fig. 11. Tympanum above the lintel of Linton Church.

No. 14 is a grave-cover in Linton Churchyard, 5 feet 2 inches long by 1 foot 9 inches at the top by 14 inches at the bottom, with a moulding in relief, apparently composed of two bands twisting together down the centre, the stone being worn and covered with lichen.

No. 15 is portion of a grave-cover in the manse garden at Yetholm. It is 2 feet 5 inches long by 13 inches wide, and shows on the lower part of the stone the base of a Calvary cross incised with four steps.

No. 16 (fig. 14) is the upper portion of a grave-cover at Yetholm. This stone, which is 2 feet 6 inches long by 1 foot 5 inches wide, now

stands with the top end down in the manse garden at Yetholm. It is sculptured partly in relief and partly incised, showing the upper portion

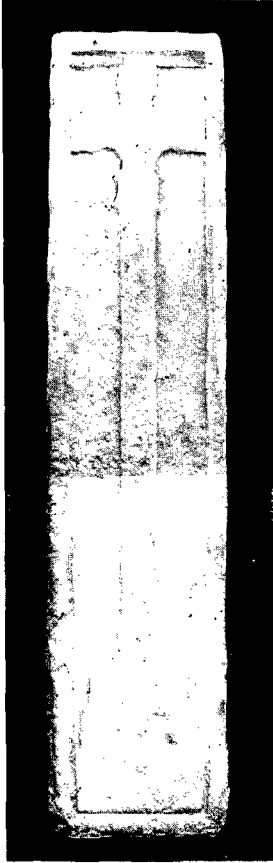


Fig. 12. Grave-cover found in Oxnam churchyard.



Fig. 13. Part of a Grave-cover in Oxnam churchyard.

of a floriated cross, and part of a sword with oval pommel and straight cross-guard.

No. 17 (fig. 15) is a stone, sculptured in high relief, at Southdean. This stone measures 2 feet 9 inches long by 1 foot 9 inches wide, and was taken from the ruins of the old church and placed on its present position on the wall of Southdean farmsteading, which is near by.

No. 18 consists of two architectural fragments at Southdean. One is 18 inches by 10 inches, the other 17 inches by 8 inches. They

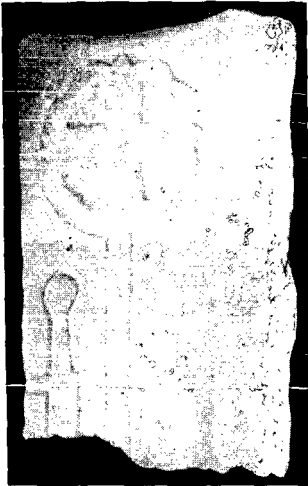


Fig. 14. Portion of a Grave-cover at Yetholm.



Fig. 15. Stone, sculptured in high relief, from Southdean.

are now used as copestones for the dyke on the west side of the ruins of Southdean church. The cusps and grooves show that the stones would form part of a decorated window in the church. Two other architectural fragments of similar character are in the churchyard at Eckford.

No. 19 (fig. 16) is a grave-cover with a curious composite cross, with Calvary base and circular head, the shaft crossed by three supplementary

arms, sculptured in relief, in Eckford churchyard. This stone was discovered in 1898 while making alterations on the church. It is 4



Fig. 16. Grave-cover in Eckford churchyard.

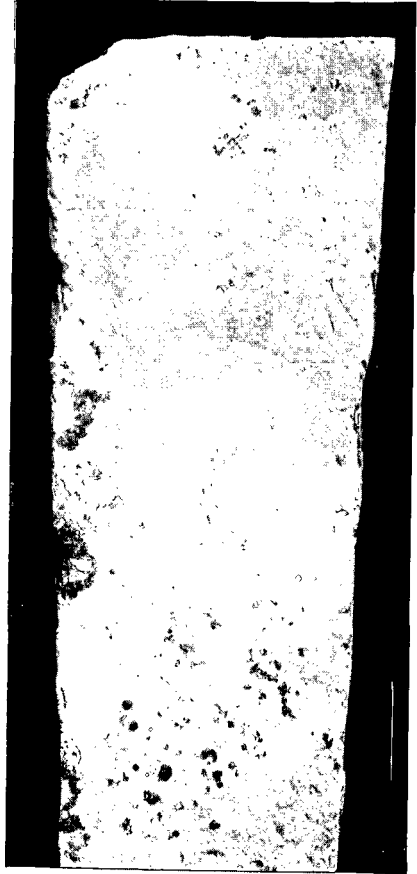


Fig. 17. Grave-cover in the nave of Jedburgh Abbey.

feet 9 inches long by 1 foot 9 inches at the top by 1 foot 4 inches at the bottom. There is on the right side the shape of shears.

No. 20 (fig. 17) is a grave-cover in the nave of Jedburgh Abbey, with two initials, apparently of later date, incised near the top. It is 5 feet 4 inches in length by 1 foot 6 inches in breadth at the top and 1 foot 4 inches at the bottom.

No. 21 (fig. 18) is a coped grave-cover in Nisbet churchyard. It is of sandstone, 5 feet 4 inches in length by 1 foot 5 inches in width by 1 foot 3 inches at the foot. It has a flat top, 6 inches in width, on which is the form of a cross, but much weatherworn. The sloping sides are covered with rows of semicircular scale ornament.

No. 22 (fig. 19). The armorial bearings on Queen Mary's House, Jedburgh, are on the front, above an arched doorway. The arms are



Fig. 18. Coped Grave-cover in Nisbet churchyard.

those of Wigmore impaling Scott as wife's arms. There is no mention of a daughter of the Buccleuch family having married a Wigmore. She may have been of a younger branch, but not of the Thirlstane or Howpaisy line, who had a difference. As for Wigmore, Mr Burnet made investigations and found records of a considerable burgess family of that name in Edinburgh in the fourteenth century, and also of Sir Roger Wigmore, but no record of an alliance with Scott or connection with Roxburghshire. The arms of Wigmore are argent on a bend sable, a ribbon dancetté of the field; motto "Avis la fin." The Scott arms are, or on a bend azure, a mullet between two crescents of the field; motto, "Solum Deo confido."

No. 23 is a shield on the Piper's House in Duck Row, Jedburgh. On



Fig. 19. Arms on Queen Mary's House.

the shield are the initials A. A., which stand for Adam Ainslie, also J. A., the initials of his wife Janet Ainslie, with the date 1604.

No. 24 (fig. 20) is a boss in the choir chapel of Jedburgh Abbey. On it is a shield with the arms of Scotland, a lion rampant within a double tressure flory counter flory.

No. 25 (fig. 21) is an interesting monogram in Hundalee farmhouse.



Fig. 20. Armorial Shield on a boss in Jedburgh Abbey.

The initials R. K. C. H. stand for Robert Kerr and Christian Hamilton, with the date 1667. The lintel was brought from the old house, which stood a little to the south-west of the new one. Robert Kerr was the third Lord Jedburgh, who married Christian, daughter of Sir Alexander Hamilton of Innerwick.

No. 26 (fig. 22) is a small cross in Nisbet churchyard, 2 feet 1 inch long by 1 foot across the head. The slab is pierced with four holes



Fig. 21. Monogram and Date on a lintel at Hundalee.

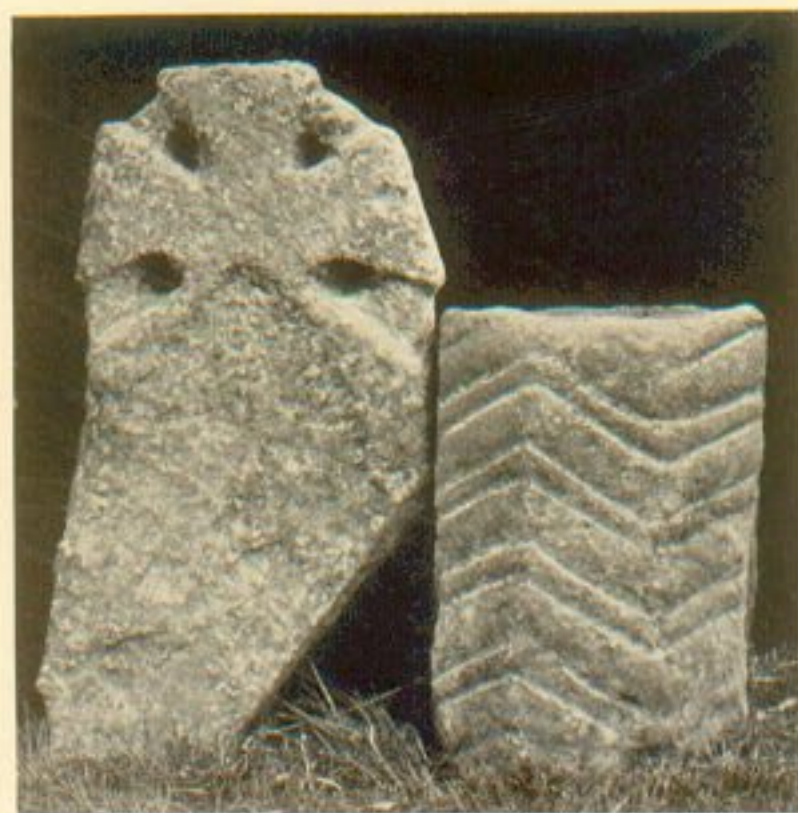


Fig. 22. Cross and Sculptured Fragment in Nisbet churchyard.

through the angles between the arms of the cross. Alongside of it is shown a portion of a sculptured stone 1 foot 4 inches long by 11 inches at the top and 9 inches at the bottom, sculptured on one side with the chevron or zigzag ornament. As this kind of ornament belongs to the Norman period, it is probable that this stone is coeval with the old church of Nisbet, which is mentioned as early as 1220. No vestige of the church now remains.



Fig. 23. Small Cross in Eckford churchyard.

No. 27 (fig. 23) is a small cross in Eckford churchyard, measuring 1 foot 7 inches in height by $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches in breadth.

No. 28 (fig. 24) is a free standing cross in the Abbey churchyard, Jedburgh. It is 2 feet 4 inches high by 1 foot 5 inches wide at the top, 8 inches at the bottom, and $7\frac{1}{4}$ inches in thickness. The inscription on the stone is almost obliterated, but the date, 1602, is quite plain, and is the oldest date I have found on any of the monuments in the churchyard. It stands on the left side of the road leading to the Abbey.

No. 29 (fig. 25). Sketch of the upper portion of a grave-cover, with part of a cross sculptured in relief, used as a covering-slab to the wall passage in the south transept of Jedburgh Abbey. The original length would be about 6 feet. The wall into which it has been built seems to belong to the early part of the twelfth century.



Fig. 24. Free-standing Cross in Jedburgh churchyard.

No. 30 (fig. 26). Shield, bearing a bull's head and pastoral staff, on a buttress in Jedburgh Abbey. The arms are supposed to be those of William Turnbull, Bishop of Glasgow. Jedburgh being within the see of Glasgow, and Bishop Turnbull belonging to the Jedburgh district, it is quite likely that he helped to repair the Abbey. He died in 1454.

No. 31 (fig. 27). This is the armorial bearings of Sir Andrew Kerr on Fernieherst Castle. Sir Andrew Kerr was the first Lord Jedburgh, Baron of Fernieherst, and one of the Lords of His Majesty's Privy Council. He was created Lord Jedburgh in 1622. His arms are a chevron charged with three mullets of the field; crest, a buck's head; supporters, two savages; motto, "FORWARD IN YE NAME OF GOD,"

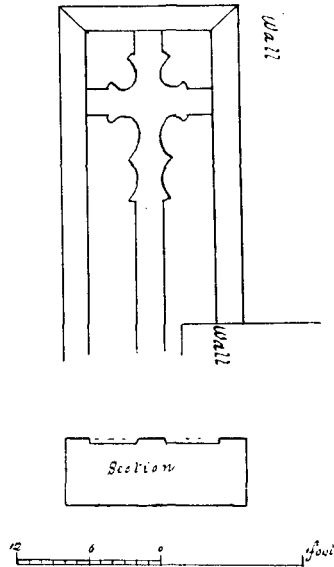


Fig. 25. Grave-cover built into wall passage of south transept of Jedburgh Abbey.

above the crest. Beneath the shield is the motto, "Soli Deo," while the date 1598 is also given. The last-mentioned motto is only to be found on these armorial bearings on Fernieherst Castle, and has since been dropped by the family. The arms having become much obliterated, were reproduced in 1898.

No. 32 (fig. 28) is the armorial bearings of Dame Ann Stewart on Fernieherst Castle. She was the daughter of Lord Stuart of Ochiltree,



Fig. 26. Shield of Arms of Bishop Turnbull on a buttress at Jedburgh Abbey.



Fig. 27. Arms of Sir Andrew Kerr on Fernieherst Castle.



Fig. 28. Arms of Dame Ann Stewart on Fernieherst Castle.



Fig. 29. Arms of John Hall, Abbot of Jedburgh.

and wife of Sir Andrew Kerr. Her armorial bearings were a lion rampant, saltire between four roses ; crest, a unicorn's head ; supporters, two dragons ; mottoes, "Forward," "Soli Deo," with the date 1598. These arms also were reproduced in 1898.

No. 33 (fig. 29). Shield, sculptured in relief, built into the wall above



Fig. 30. Sculptured Corbel at Jedburgh Abbey.

a Norman arch on the east side of the north transept in Jedburgh Abbey. In addition to the inscription, which is easily made out, is the pastoral staff of the Abbot, John Hall, who was appointed Abbot in 1478. It is evident that Hall has helped to restore the Abbey, as his name is to be found on different parts.

No. 34 (fig. 30) is a sculptured corbel in the choir chapel of Jedburgh Abbey.

No. 35 (fig. 31) shows fragments of two piscinas in Jedburgh Abbey, the figure at the left-hand side showing the under side of one which is sculptured, the upper side being plain.

No. 36 (fig. 32) is the initials of Thomas Cranston and a pastoral

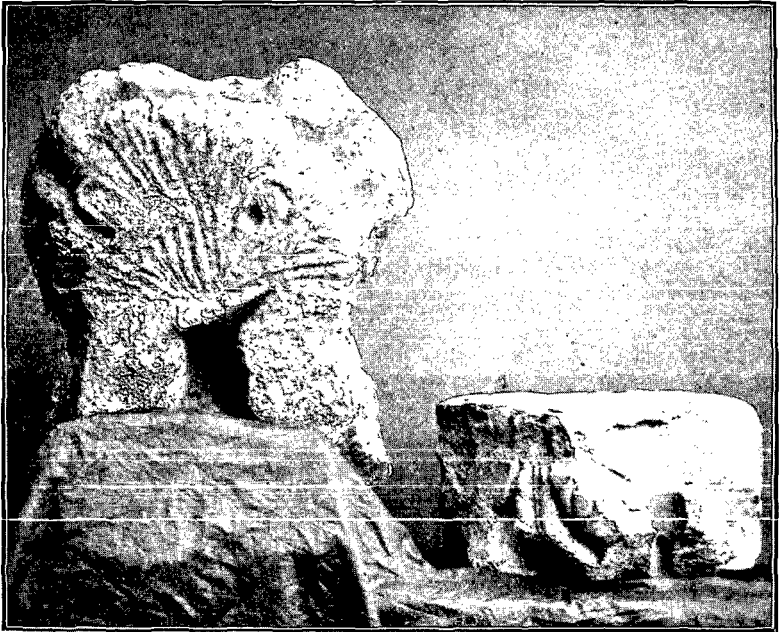


Fig. 31. Two Piscinas in Jedburgh Abbey.

staff sculptured in relief, built into the north pier of the tower in Jedburgh Abbey.

No. 37 (fig. 33) is a shield, sculptured in relief, on the south pier of the tower in Jedburgh Abbey. On the field are three cranes passant, two pastoral staves, with the initials T. C., which stand for Thomas Cranston, who was Abbot in 1484, and helped to restore the Abbey.

No. 38 (fig. 34) is a shield, sculptured in relief, on a house near the foot of the Canongate in Jedburgh. On the dexter side are the arms of William Ainslie of Blackhill, and on the sinister side are the arms of his wife Cicely, daughter of Sir John Scott, first baronet of Ancrum.

No. 39 (fig. 35) are the arms of Robert Blackadder, the Bishop of Glasgow, afterwards the Archbishop. The shield, which is not in its

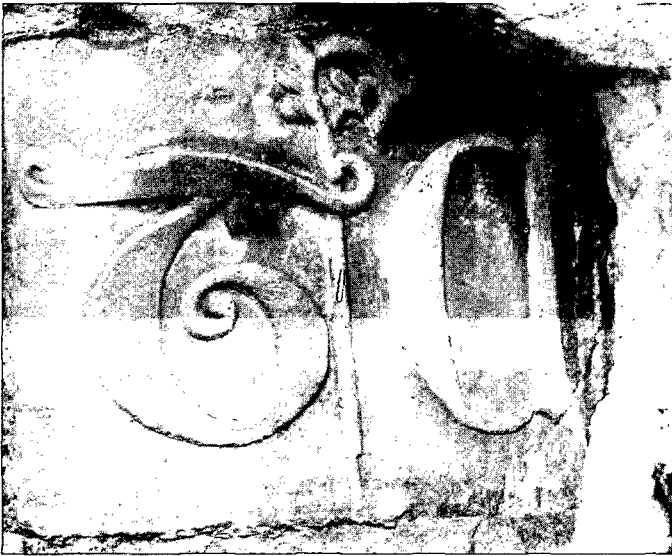


Fig. 32. Initials of Abbot Thomas Cranston on the north pier of the tower, Jedburgh Abbey.

original place, is under the large window in the north transept of Jedburgh Abbey. On the field is the chevron bearing three roses. Above the cross, on one side is the letter R, on the other the letter B, which stand for Robert Blackadder. It is believed that Archbishop Blackadder helped to restore the Abbey, as his name is to be found on different parts. He died in 1508.



Fig. 33. Arms of Thomas Cranston, Abbot of Jedburgh.

No. 40 (fig. 36). Nondescript birds, etc., sculptured in high relief, upon one of the capitals of the west Norman doorway in Jedburgh Abbey.



Fig. 34. Arms of Ainslie of Blackhill.

No. 41. Human figures, grotesque animals, and chevron ornament, sculptured in relief, on the old Norman doorway of Jedburgh Abbey.
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Fig. 35. Arms of Robert Blackadder, Archbishop of Glasgow.

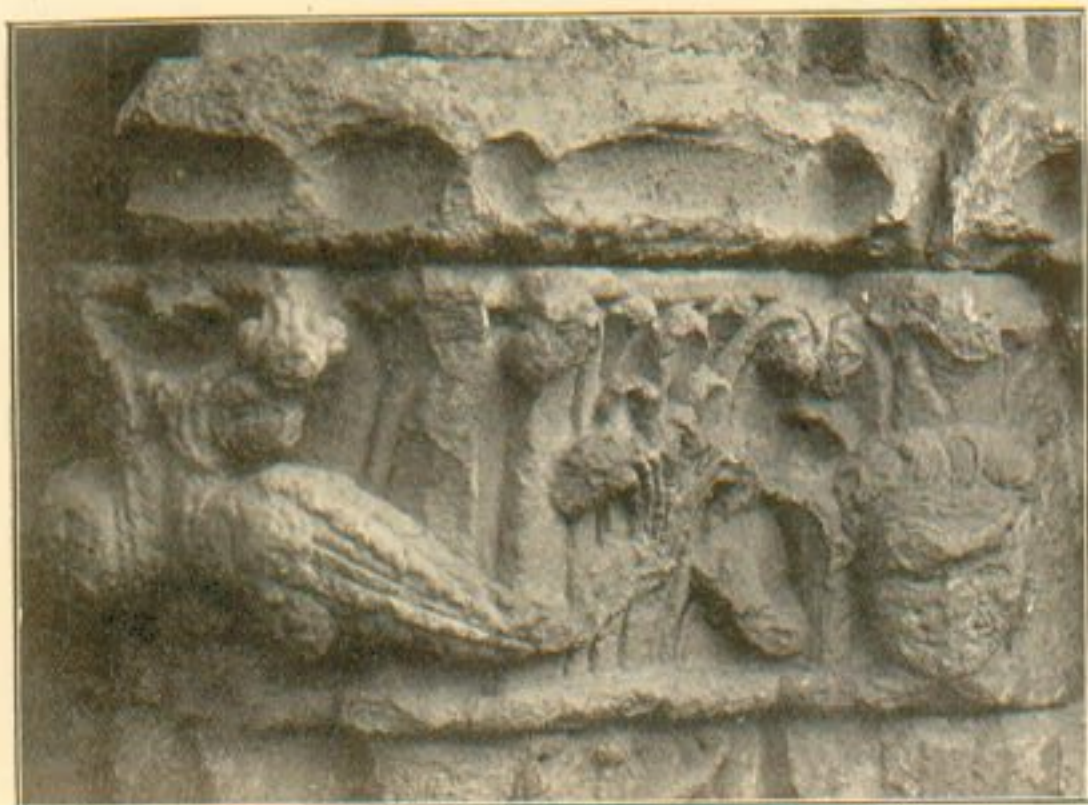


Fig. 36. Sculptured Capital in west doorway of Jedburgh Abbey.

This doorway having become much decayed, the Marquis of Lothian in 1876 caused a facsimile to be erected a little to the west on the same wall. Sir Gilbert Scott says of this and the west doorway, "They are two of the most exquisite gems of architectural work in the island."

No. 42 (fig. 37). The armorial bearings of Robert, Lord Jedburgh,



Fig. 37. Armorial Bearings of Robert, Lord Jedburgh, in Jedburgh Abbey.

in the north transept of Jedburgh Abbey. The stone, which is 6 feet 4 inches high, 3 feet 8 inches broad, and 10 inches thick, stands against the north wall. The upper part of the stone is occupied by a shield, coronet, and helmet, with the arms, on a chevron, three mullets; crest, a buck's head; supporters, two roebucks, with motto "FORWARD" on a scroll. The under part of the stone is occupied by an inscription in Roman capitals, viz.—

HERE . LYES . THE . NOBLE . LORD .
 ROBERT . LORD . JEDBURGH .
 WHO . DIED . THE . 4 . OF . AGUST .
 1692 . ÆTATIS . 63 .

No. 43 (fig. 38) is part of a unicorn which formed the top of the ancient cross of Jedburgh.



Fig. 38. Part of a Unicorn which formed the top of the ancient cross of Jedburgh.

No. 44 (fig. 39) shows two stones found when making alterations on Oxnam church in 1879, and now built into the east wall of the churchyard.

No. 45 (fig. 40) is a slab of sandstone, 1 foot 9 inches long by 1 foot 6 inches broad, discovered by Mr James Mabin, builder, while taking out a found for a house in Canongate of Jedburgh in 1903. The face of the stone is occupied with holes, the largest of which is 3 inches in

diameter. As a cannon ball which suits the largest holes has since been found at the same place, it may be taken as sufficient proof that the slab has formed part of a matrix for casting cannon balls of different sizes.

No. 46 (fig. 41) is photographed from a cast taken by me in 1903 from the bell presented by Robert, Lord Jedburgh, to the kirk of Jedburgh in 1692—the year in which he died. It measures 24 inches

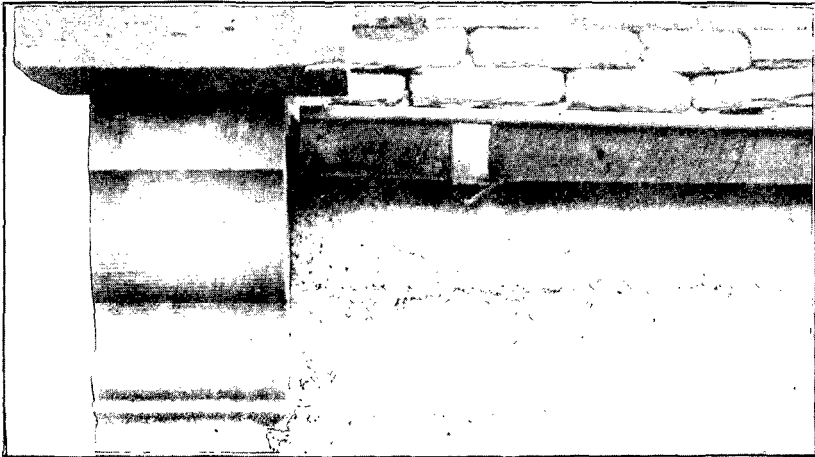


Fig. 39. Two Stones with tooth ornament found at Oxnam.

in height, 30 inches across the mouth, is richly embossed, and is now in the clock steeple. On the bell is a medallion with the arms of Lord Jedburgh, and the following inscription in Roman capitals—

ROBERT . LORD . IEDBURGH . HIS . GIFT . TO . THE .
KIRK . OF . IEDBURG . 1692 . IOHN . MEIKLL . ME .
FECIT . EDINBURGI .

[The blocks of figs. 4, 19, 29, 33, and 34 have been lent by Mr Laidlaw, who also supplied the whole of the photographs, taken expressly for this paper by Mr R. Jack, photographer, Jedburgh.]

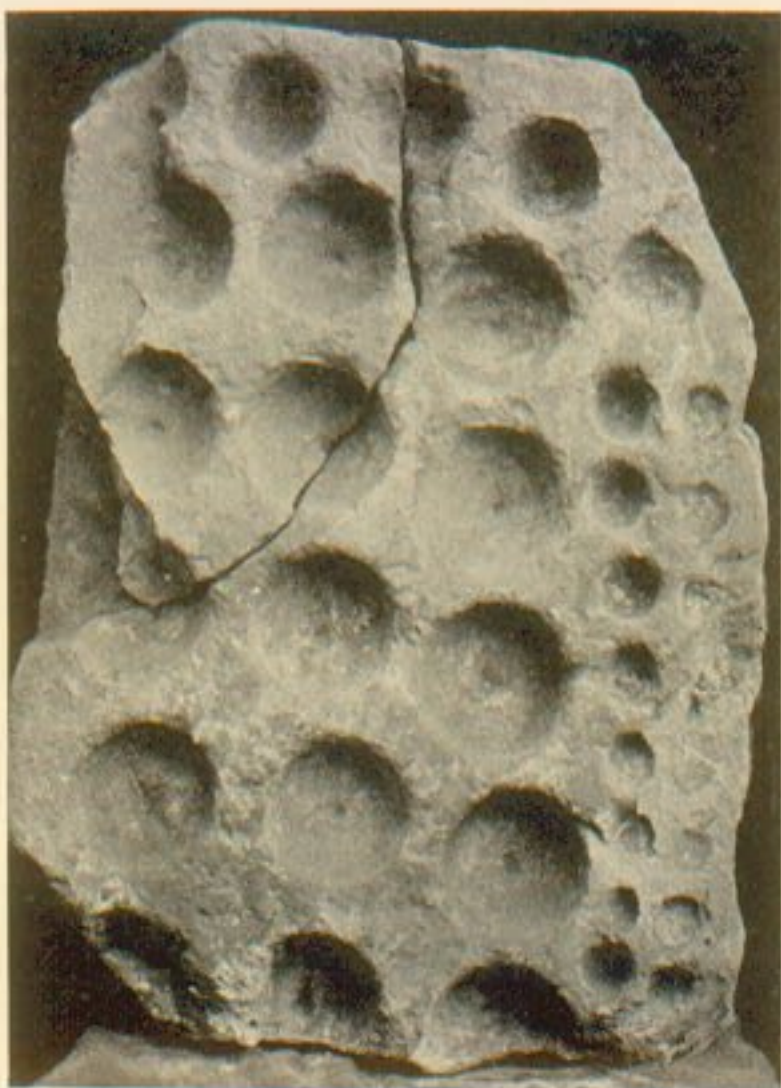


Fig. 40. Half of a Mould for casting cannon balls of different sizes, found in Jedburgh.



Fig. 41. Inscription on a bell in Jedburgh church.