

IV.

ANCIENT PORTABLE MONEY-BOX OR "OFFERAND STOK."

By CHARLES TAYLOR, F.S.A.Scot.

This portable money-box is of oak, circular on plan, made from a single stick, and cored, bound and riveted with wrought iron with a lock and double hasp covering the key-hole, and with an additional

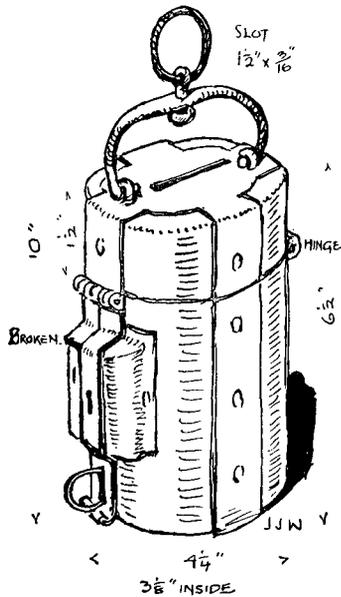


Fig. 1. Old Money-Box or "Offerand Stok."

protection of a ring or hasp for a padlock (fig. 1). The slot in the centre of the hinged lid for the admission of coins has a good balance-flap inside which makes it impossible for any unauthorised person to abstract any coin. A handle and ring surmount the hinged lid.

Unfortunately its history is unknown, except that it has been in its present owner's possession all his life and his father's before him.

It appears to be an offerand stok such as the one believed to belong to St Eloi's altar in St John's Church, Perth, which is described and figured in our *Proceedings*, vol. xx. p. 50. The Perth box, however, is larger and square on plan instead of circular.

The illustration is from a drawing by J. Jeffrey Waddell, F.S.A.Scot.