

The Marchmont or St Ronan's Arrow

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ABSTRACT

The Marchmont Arrow was the prize at an archery competition held from 1830 to 1844 at the St Ronan's Border Games at Innerleithen. The competition had its origins in the revived medievalism of James Hogg and Walter Scott, which was linked to their view of society and to their Tory politics. The Arrow was made by the Edinburgh silversmith William Cunningham. There are two Appendixes: one describes the nine medals attached to the Arrow, discussing their makers and winners, and the second lists 19 Scottish silver arrows dating from c1603 to 1850.

INTRODUCTION

How can I choose but mourn? When I think on
Our games Olympic-like in times agone.
Chiefly wherein our cunning we did try,
And matchless skill in noble archerie.
Henry Adamson, *The Muses Threnodie* (1638)

In the Middle Ages archery was not as important in Scotland as in England – as the English archers demonstrated at Falkirk, Homildon Hill, and elsewhere. Archery was, however, encouraged in the burghs, and continued as a sport after it had ceased to be important in war: the typical trophy was a silver arrow, and five Scottish ones survive from the first half of the 17th century. On the basis of the sporadic evidence available some archery competitions, such as those at Musselburgh and Peebles, may have continued irregularly through the 17th century. The founding of the Royal Company of Archers in 1676 may be seen as the re-establishment of an earlier tradition which had been disrupted during the uncertainties of the mid-century, in the same way that horse-racing was revived after the restoration of the monarchy. A modest interest in the sport continued throughout the 18th century.

The general revival of archery in England dates from about 1780 (Waring 1832, 8). It reached Scotland in the early decades of the 19th century. For example, the Paisley Arrow dates from 1806, and the Irvine Toxophilites were revived in 1814 (Buchanan 1979, 25, 14). Archery was given a boost by the appointment of the Royal Company as the King's Bodyguard for Scotland when King George IV visited Edinburgh in 1822. One reason for the sport's popularity was that men and women could compete together, and it was not an unusual pastime among the gentry. Susan Ferrier mentioned it several times in her novel *The Inheritance* (1824) when she was

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describing life in a country house. Archery was particularly popular between 1830 and 1860: old competitions were revived, as at St Andrews, and new clubs sprang up, most of them in Edinburgh and Glasgow. After 1860 the Volunteer movement encouraged rifle shooting and its many competitions at local, county and national levels completely swamped the activities of occasional archers such as the ones who will be described here. The sport survived in the hands of highly competitive target archers who had their own competitions.

The main concern of the present article is the Marchmont or St Ronan's Arrow, the prize for a competition at St Ronan's Border Games at Innerleithen. The Games date from 1827, and are still held. The Arrow was an archery prize there from 1830 to 1844 (Anderson 1933, 133–4). It is now in Tweeddale District Museum, Peebles. A description of the early years of the St Ronan's Games has been published by David Groves (1987). Here we will concentrate on the archery competition, though we discuss also some broader issues and quote sources which are additional to Groves'.

ST RONAN'S BORDER GAMES

Local games which included a variety of sports were quite common in Lowland Scotland and the Borders in the early 19th century. At Carnwath, for example, there were three foot races, throwing the hammer, putting the stone, and 'leaping the bar' – the high jump (*Glasgow Herald*, 29 August 1834). The unusual feature of the games at Carnwath, pointing to a long history, was the prize of a pair of red hose given by the leading landowner to the winner of the main foot race. The games were thus not merely a collection of sports, but also reflected the structure of local society. At Straiton in Ayrshire there were foot and horse races, a hop, step and leap, and finally 'much hilarity and social feeling in various inns.' (*Ayr Advertiser*, 3 July 1834).

The St Ronan's Border Games and the associated St Ronan's Border Club were created by James Hogg (1770–1835) in 1827. Hogg's accomplices were Professor John Wilson (1785–1854), otherwise Christopher North, and Henry Glassford Bell (1803–74). At the dinner on the evening of the first Games, Wilson took the chair and Hogg sang to the company. The following year Sir Walter Scott (1771–1832), John Gibson Lockhart (1794–1854) and William Blackwood (1776–1834) joined the Club. The idea of a general sporting club was modelled on Edinburgh clubs such as the Gymnastic Club and the Six-Foot Club: Bell was a member of the latter and Scott its 'Umpire of the Games, who has been elected for life' (Six-Foot Club 1829, 5).

The political and social views of Hogg and his friends were similar. They were all Tories. Most were associated with *Blackwood's Magazine*: Blackwood as publisher and editor, Wilson and Lockhart as the chief contributors. Wilson was the main contributor to *Noctes Ambrosianae*, which appeared in *Blackwood's*, and Hogg was the model for their main character. Bell edited the *Edinburgh Literary Journal* between 1828 and 1831, and counted among his authors Lockhart, Wilson, and David Macbeth Moir (1798–1851). Moir was a Tory and physician, who wrote for Blackwood and attended him in his last illness, and who shared Hogg's interest in the traditional life of ordinary people; his novel *Mansie Waugh* (1827) includes a description of a race for cart horses near Dalkeith.

The St Ronan's Games were held in Hogg's country. Born at Ettrick and having lived much of his life in the Yarrow Valley, he was by 1827 installed at Altrive (now Eldinhope Cottage), to the south of the Yarrow. Altrive was close to the start of the road from the Ettrick over Paddock Slack to Traquair. Innerleithen, facing Traquair across the Tweed, was thus the nearest town to Altrive. Innerleithen was also within reach of Edinburgh and was easily accessible up the Tweed valley from Abbotsford.

The Border Games were Hogg's attempt to establish an event which would increase the sense of local community (Groves 1987, 5). He believed that rural Scotland was becoming demoralized because agriculture was becoming more commercial and emigration was biting deeply. In the Borders, people were being forced off the land and drawn into working in textile mills and living in overcrowded towns. The woollen industry had started to work on an industrial scale in the 1790s, and since then standards of living had fallen. By the 1820s Britain was in the depths of the depression which followed the Napoleonic Wars, many were afraid of the 'combination' of the working classes, and the Peterloo Massacre was a recent and unpleasant memory. One can see the St Ronan's Games as a Tory reaction to the uncertainty produced by industrial unrest, seeking safety in the past – a paternalistic form of Toryism in contrast to the severe authority with which the government had conducted the 'Radical war' in 1820.

An expression of this search for certainty in the past was the interest in the history of sport. This interest was British rather than merely Scots. The antiquarian Joseph Strutt (1749–1802), author of *Sports and Pastimes of the People of England* (1801), had broad enthusiasms and wrote on church history and the history of costume, as well as on his own trade of engraving. His last work, left incomplete on his death, was an unusual novel, *Queenhoo Hall* – unusual because Strutt's entire purpose was to give a description of life in the 15th century. The plot hardly mattered and scarcely existed. One of the events in the novel was an archery competition at games held on May Day (Strutt 1808, i. 20–4). Its particular relevance here is that the publisher asked another author to provide the ending to *Queenhoo Hall*: Walter Scott.

Although Hogg was the moving spirit of the St Ronan's Games, their existence and the prominence of archery in them owed much to Scott's propaganda for the Middle Ages. Scott's interest in archery appears both in his poetry and his prose. In *Ivanhoe* (1820) Scott included an archery competition for the prize of a silver bugle (chap. 13), and it was won by Locksley, otherwise Robin Hood. His rival had appeared to be unbeatable when he hit the very centre of the target: Locksley split the arrow in two with his own. *Ivanhoe* was hugely popular, and inspired that great medieval pageant, the Eglinton Tournament, in 1839 (Anstruther 1963, 119). *Ivanhoe* also coloured the image of archery: it was heroic and historical. An account of the competition for the Marchmont Arrow in 1831 said, 'its principal charm lies in the associations we connect with it – Robin Hood, and the cool green recesses of Sherwood – the cloth-yard shafts of Cressy and Agincourt' (Anon 1831, 77).

Scott was familiar with the history of archery in Scotland. In 1818 he wrote a letter to James Boswell, son of the biographer, in which he said: 'The Burghs had most of them silver arrows or similar prizes frequently shot for by the neighbouring gentlemen. There is one preserved at Selkirk, another, I believe, at Peebles, and others in other places; but the exercise is now out of fashion' (Grierson 1933, 128). This was accurate: Scott was familiar with the tradition of awarding a silver arrow as an archery prize. He had himself found the Selkirk arrow, and the Royal Company of Archers came to compete for it in 1818 (Craig-Brown 1886, ii. 64–6). He was a member of the Royal Company from 1821, and of their Council in 1825, though Balfour Paul thought that he had never shot with them (Balfour Paul 1875, 141).

Innerleithen owed much of its prominence to a Scott novel, *St Ronan's Well* (1824). Although it is not one of his more famous books, it was highly popular in the 1820s. Scott did not model the village of St Ronan's on Innerleithen – the connection was made by his readers. He did, however, recognize the Games in a note added to the Magnum edition of *St Ronan's Well*. Having ended the novel by saying 'The little watering-place has returned to its primitive obscurity', he commented: '*Non omnis moriar*. Saint Ronan's, since this veracious history was given to the public, has revived as a sort of *alias* ... to the very pleasant village of Innerleithen on Tweed ... prizes for some of the

manly and athletic sports, common in the pastoral districts around, are competed for under the title of Saint Ronan's Games' (Scott 1832, ii, 358). Scott thus shares with Hogg the responsibility for locating the Games at Innerleithen. The enthusiasm of Scott and Hogg for the revival of traditional sports can also be seen in their common response to the ba' game which was held in 1815 at Carterhaugh, by the meeting of the Ettrick and the Yarrow: both wrote poems about it.

Hogg and his friends were themselves keen athletes. Hogg was an expert at fishing, curling, running, jumping and wrestling, and he came second in the competition for the Marchmont Arrow in 1831 (Groves 1987, 5). Christopher North was a famous athlete, whose feats of walking, running, rowing and boxing were well known. He had been a member of the Royal Company of Archers since 1823 (Balfour Paul 1875, 378).

The best summary of activity on the day of the Games is given by John Gibson Lockhart in his life of Scott. He was present in 1830 and 1831 (Anon 1830, Anon; 1831, 76), and wrote:

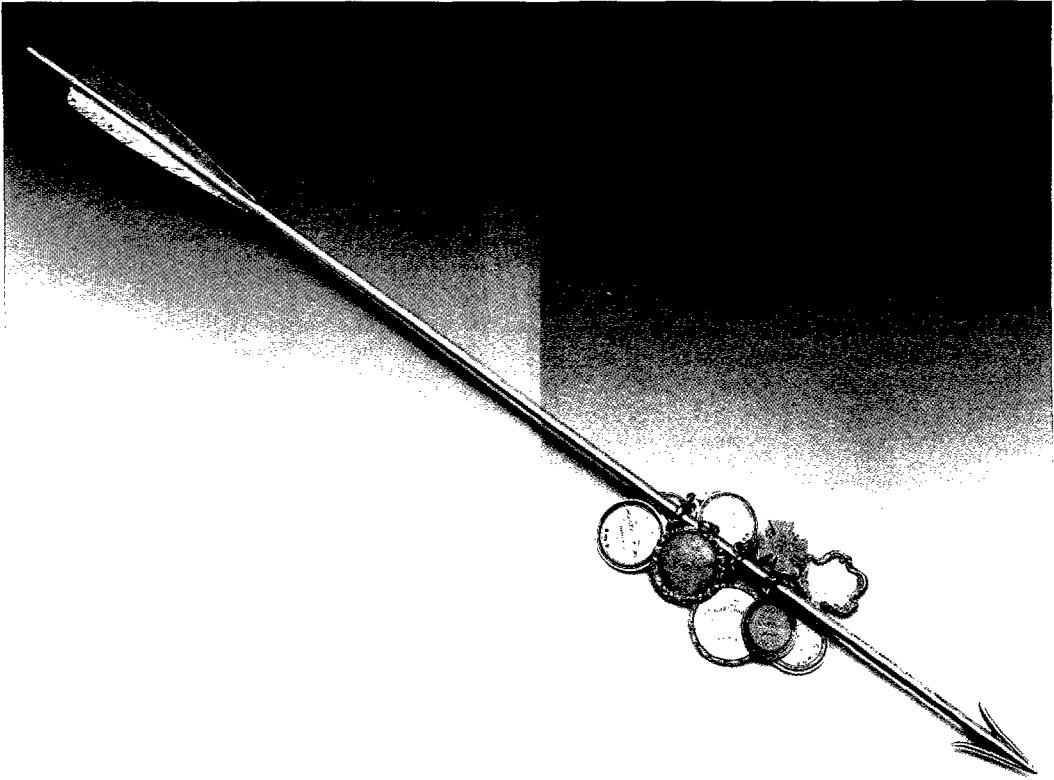
a yearly festival was instituted for the celebration of *The St. Ronan's Border Games*. A club of *Bowmen of the Border*, arrayed in doublets of Lincoln green, with broad blue bonnets, and having the Ettrick Shepherd as Captain, assumed the principal management of this exhibition; and Scott was well pleased to be enrolled among them, and during several years was a regular attendant, both on the Meadow, where (besides archery) leaping, racing, wrestling, stone-heaving and hammer-throwing, went on opposite to the noble old castle of Traquair, and at the subsequent banquet, where Hogg, in full costume always, presided as master of the ceremonies. The Shepherd, even when on the verge of threescore, exerted himself lustily in the field, and seldom failed to carry off some of the prizes, to the astonishment of his vanquished juniors; and the *bon-vivants* of Edinburgh mustered strong among the gentry and yeomanry of Tweeddale to see him afterwards in his glory, filling the president's chair with eminent success, and commonly supported on this – which was, in fact, the grandest evening of his year – by Sir Walter Scott, Professor Wilson, Sir Adam Fergusson, and Peter Robertson (Lockhart 1902–3, vii. 192–4).

The judge Patrick Robertson (1794–1855), familiarly Peter, was another staunch Tory. Hogg's uniform is preserved by Ettrick and Lauderdale District Museum, at Halliwell's House Museum, Selkirk (Accession no 4247).

THE ARCHERY COMPETITION

The competition for the Marchmont Arrow was held the day before the athletics or, more usually, the day after. Other archery events were associated with it, some of them arranged on the day. There was also rifle shooting and another dinner in the evening. In 1833, after the shoot for the Arrow there were two sweepstakes and Hogg won both 'in beautiful style' (*Dumfries Times*, 14 August 1833).

The names of the competitors for one year – 1834, the year before Hogg died – have been discovered (*Glasgow Herald*, 18 August 1834). There were 11, and those who can be identified fall into one of two categories. There were literary men from Edinburgh such as Henry Glassford Bell, one of the sons of William Blackwood, and 'Clapperton' – probably William Clapperton, author of *The Poetical Scrap Book* (1824). Secondly there were archers, often with Border connections: John Haldane, the winner in 1834; Walter Lothian, winner in 1830 and 1843; Francis Harper of Housebyres, near Melrose; and Lord James Andrew Ramsay (1812–60), later 10th Earl and Marquess of Dalhousie, and President of the Council of the Royal Company of Archers in 1848–60 (Balfour Paul 1875, 222, 243). Hogg, of course, was a member of both groups. He was



ILLUS 1 The Marchmont Arrow, by William Cunningham, Edinburgh, 1830. (Copyright of the Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland)

present as usual in 1835, and after dinner 'delighted the meeting with many of his best songs' (*Dumfries Times*, 19 August 1835). He died two months later.

The fullest description of the various sports on the day of the archery competition dates from 1839:

The Bowmen of the Border mustered strong on the plains of St. Ronan's, and about twelve o'clock were joined by the fair daughters of the Tweed, who had met to contend for the palm of victory in an archery contest for a beautiful medal, the gift of the Right Hon. Lord Napier, and after a very equal and animated contest, the prize was won by Mrs. Stewart [ie Steuart] of Glenormiston ... The Marchmont Arrow was next shot for, and gained by Edward Thomson, Esq., Duddingston. The Medal given by the Ladies of St. Ronan's was shot for as a second prize (the winner of the arrow not being allowed to compete for it), and gained by William Cadell, Esq., Auchindinny ... A sweepstake was shot for by the Bowman of the Border, and victory was proclaimed in favour of Francis Harper, Esq. Housebyres ... As a farther encouragement for the extension of archery, two additional medals are to be given at next competition, and a subscription purse or a valuable medal is to be presented to the Club next year by the inhabitants of Auld Reekie, who are natives of the Border counties. (*Dumfries Times*, 7 August 1839)

The National Museums of Scotland have acquired another archery prize from the St Ronan's Games, the Border Bowmen's medal of 1835 (H.1995.308).

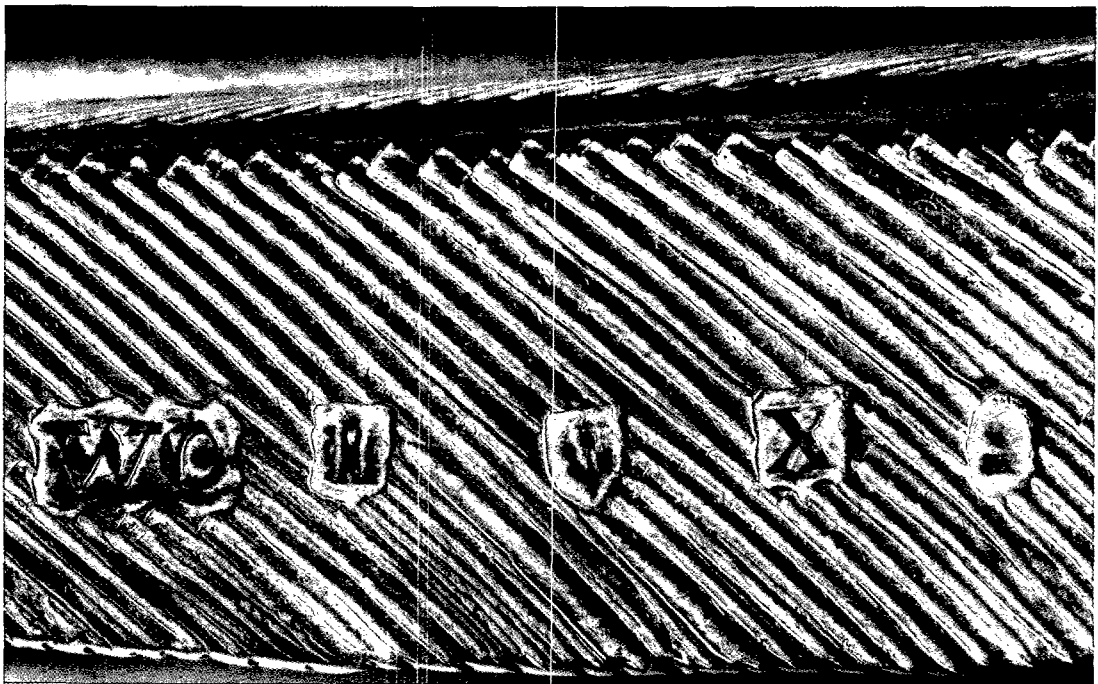
THE MARCHMONT ARROW

The Marchmont Arrow (illus 1) was presented to the Bowmen of the Scottish Border by Sir William Purves Hume Campbell (1767–1833) of Marchmont in Berwickshire. There is no evidence of Sir William being an active archer, though his son Hugh (1812–75) was admitted a member of the Royal Company of Archers on 24 May 1833 (Balfour Paul 1875, 380).

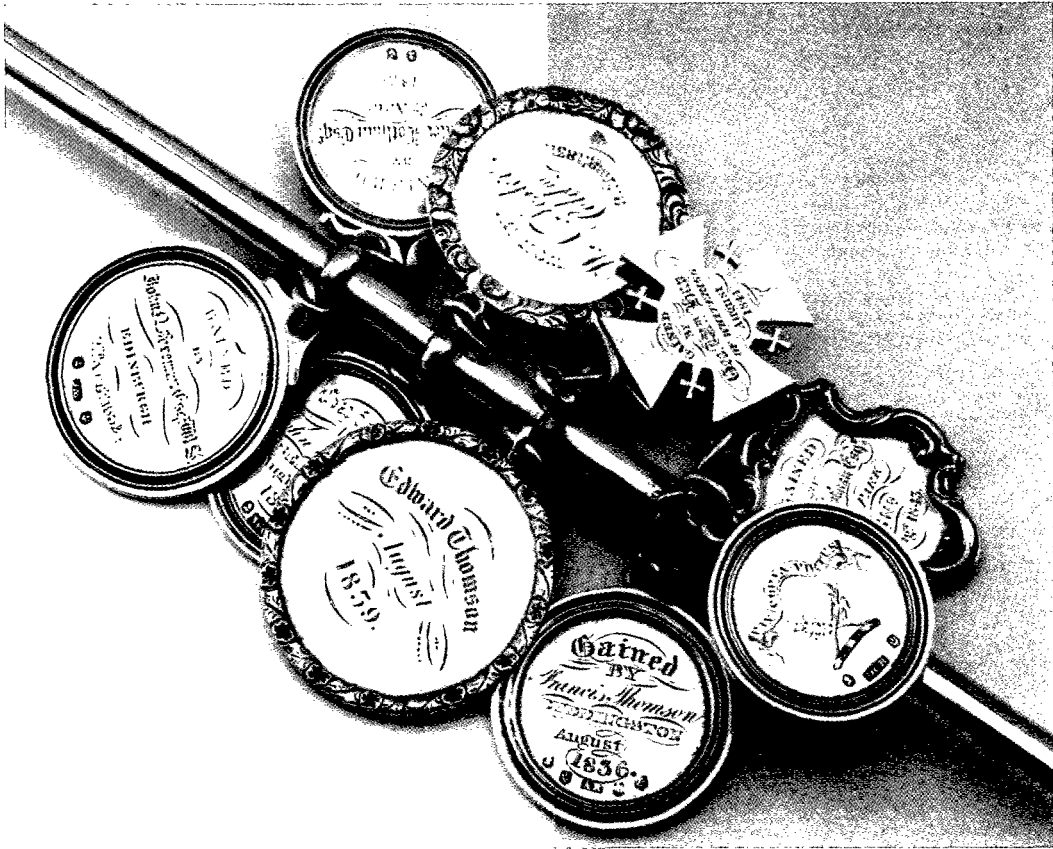
After the 1829 Games a report – Groves suggests that it was written by Hogg – said that Campbell had presented a silver arrow and a yew bow for competition, but no contest had been held since it was advertised too late (Groves 1987, 18). The first competition was therefore held in 1830.

The Marchmont Arrow is a realistic representation of a real arrow. It has a hollow shaft, with three flights equally spaced round the shaft, engraved to represent feathers. One is pierced at the tail, and another (illus 2) is fully hallmarked – WC (William Cunningham); castle (Edinburgh); thistle; X (year mark for 1829–30); king's head. The tip of the shaft bears the same hallmarks. Half-way along the shaft is engraved: Marchmont 1830. The end of the shaft is nocked and engraved to represent bindings. The shaft tapers to the point, which has two curved hollow barbs. The arrow is 708 mm long, and the shaft is 8 mm in diameter. The flight feathers are 136 mm long. The Marchmont Arrow is extremely similar to the second Musselburgh Arrow of 1713, now in the hands of the Royal Company of Archers (see Appendix 2), and appears to be a copy of it.

Four collets are soldered to shaft, from which nine medals are suspended (illus 3). The



ILLUS 2 Detail of hallmarks and maker's mark on engraved flight feather. (Copyright of the Trustees of the National Museums of Scotland)



ILLUS 3 Detail of surviving medals, 1830–1844. (Copyright of the Trustess of the National Museums of Scotland)

collets are made of a strip of silver bent round the shaft of the Arrow. The first is 169 mm from point, then they are 19 mm, 17 mm, and 17 mm apart. Each collet has one hole pierced in it with a free ring, and two further rings soldered to each collet, again with swivel rings attaching the medals. There are three medals on the first collet, and two on each of the other three.

William Cunningham, the maker of the Arrow and of the medal for 1834, was one of 10 members of his family who were closely connected with the goldsmith's trade. Born in 1779, he was the son of Patrick Cunningham, one of the founders of the firm of goldsmiths, W & P Cunningham. Apprenticed to his father in 1792, William was admitted as a freeman of the Incorporation of Goldsmiths on 31 July 1802 when his essay or test piece was a gold hair ring set with pearls. Some two months later he became a burghess of Edinburgh.

With his younger brother Patrick, William took over the running of the family firm in 1812. Despite the death of Patrick in 1822, the name W & P Cunningham was used until 1827. From then until 1845 William traded under his own name at 51 North Bridge, describing himself as a manufacturing goldsmith and jeweller. He succeeded his father as the Goldsmiths' representative on the Charity Workhouse Board and was Deacon of the Incorporation in 1845/6 and 1846/7

although he was no longer in business. Cunningham married Barbara Sinclair and had 12 children. He died in 1848.

William Cunningham was one of the foremost goldsmiths in Edinburgh, and throughout the period of his association with the family firm it made a wide range of important pieces. Its range included a variety of sporting trophies and medals, such as a pair of silver dog collars presented as a prize by the Tweeddale Shooting and Coursing Club in 1827 (NMS H.MEQ 1492), two pairs of wine coasters presented as coursing trophies in 1819 and 1822 (sold Sotheby's, London, 25/3/1965 and 27/7/1967, NMS Recs) and a silver prize medal of the Pennicuik Curling Club in 1835 (NMS Recs). He was therefore an obvious choice for the laird of Marchmont to commission to make the Arrow. The Arrow was assayed at Goldsmiths' Hall, Edinburgh, on 7 July 1830, in time for that year's Games.

The box for the Arrow is rectangular and made of mahogany, with brass corners and carrying handles. A plaque in the centre of the lid reads: ST RONANS CLUB. There is a brass lock and three brass hinges. The inside is lined with chamois and fitted to support the arrow at each end and in the centre. One of the supports has a 'broken' retention hook. There is a trade label in the box: JAMES HOWDEN & CO. / WATCHMAKERS, JEWELLERS / AND / Manufacturers of Gold & Silver Plate / 56 NORTH BRIDGE / EDINBURGH.

Silver arrows were comparatively common archery prizes in Scotland from the 17th to the 19th century. A list of those which have been traced is given in Appendix 2. It is fortunate that the Royal Company of Archers has preserved no less than eight in Archers' Hall. Several were originally prizes for local competitions which fell into decay, and were passed to the Royal Company for safe keeping.

Apart from silver arrows there were other kinds of archery prize in the early 19th century. Over the whole of Britain, medals were the most common, followed by bugles. Silver arrows, bows, silver bows and quivers are also recorded from more than one location. Cups were uncommon (Hansard 1840, 269–70). Later in the century, prizes became more diverse, such as the box for bowstring wax won by William Ferguson in 1845 at Partick (NMS H.NS 105), the Eglinton Gold Belt which was awarded at Irvine, badges, salt cellars and coffee pots. The most usual prize for women was a brooch. The Denny Archers' Club in Stirlingshire, founded in 1822, used as prizes two poisoned arrows from Africa (Nimmo 1880, ii. 365).

The practice of each winner adding a medal to a trophy was common in Scotland. For example, medals are attached to most of the arrows listed in Appendix 2, and those on the Silver Jack of the Edinburgh Society of Bowlers and the Rattray Silver Ball have been described recently (Dalglish 1990; Rodger 1992). In some cases the trophy has had to be extended to accommodate the large numbers of medals, such as the Kilwinning Arrow. The practice was also common on the Continent.

After the end of the archery competition at Innerleithen, the Marchmont Arrow was kept in Innerleithen by Robert Boyd, who had been Secretary of the Games from the beginning. Following his death, Henry Glassford Bell, the last survivor of the St Ronan's Border Club, presented it to the 3rd Peeblesshire Volunteers in 1872 (Anderson 1933, 133–4; Dobson 1896, 78). They used it as a prize for rifle shooting until 1914. It was again competed for at the centenary games in 1927, when it was in the hands of Captain Adam Watt. Dobson, writing of the 1860s, said that he remembered 16 or 18 medals on the Arrow. This seems unlikely: indeed, the 'missing' medals for 1833, 1835, 1837 and 1838 may never have existed since it was incumbent upon the winners to provide the record of his success and they may not have done so. In the 1930s the Arrow had the medals which are attached to it today (Anderson 1933, 133).

CONCLUSION

Why did the competition for the Marchmont Arrow cease in the mid-1840s, only 15 years after its beginning? Archery societies in Ayrshire were thriving, and archery in Glasgow reached its zenith at exactly this time. The answer is twofold. First, key individuals who took a particular enjoyment in archery had departed: Hogg and Scott were dead and Henry Glassford Bell moved to Glasgow in 1839. Second, partly as a consequence, the St Ronan's Games ceased to be of interest to professional men from Edinburgh, and became merely a local festival.

In contrast, the competitions arranged by the Royal Company of Archers continued throughout the 19th century because the Company was a large body in the capital city, and had a function (as the Queen's Bodyguard for Scotland) which had little to do with archery. The shooting of the popinjay, the effigy of the parrot set on the tower of the Abbey at Kilwinning, lasted until 1878 because it enjoyed a popular support and was linked to the whole of local society: for example, the final act every year was a reel danced at Kilwinning Cross in which the Captain – usually a local laird – partnered an old woman of the town. The irony of the St Ronan's competition was although it copied a medieval sport, it transformed it into a game for a social élite, and kept at a distance the people of the Borders whose ancestors had heard James I's injunction 'that all men busk thaim to be archaris fra they be xij yeres of eilde'.

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APPENDIX 1

MEDALS ATTACHED TO THE MARCHMONT ARROW

1830 Circular with reeded rim, suspension loop with pierced scroll supporters. Obv: GAINED / BY / Walter Lothian Esqr. 4th AUG^T. 1830. No mark.

Winner: Walter Lothian of Meadow Place, Edinburgh (Anon 1830). The bow presented by Sir William Purves Hume Campbell was won by W A Foster.

1831 Circular medal with cast foliate rim. Diameter 42 mm. Obv: WON BY / W.A. FOSTER / Cold^m. / 2nd. Aug^t. 1831. Rev: mark: TAF in shaped punch.

Maker: Thomas Ashbury Forrest, Edinburgh. This business was founded by Thomas's father Daniel, who became a burghess of Edinburgh in December 1818 (Edin Burgess Recs). By 1824 the firm was Forrest & Son, jewellers and medallists to the King at 171 High Street, 'opposite to the Tron church' (PO Dir). Thomas became a burghess in 1831 when he seems to have taken control of the business (Edin Burgess Recs). From 1835 to 1838 he was recorded as an 'importer of curiosities and medallists to the King.' With the death of William IV the royal connection ended and the firm became simply 'Jewellers and Dealers in Curious Property' (PO Dir). In 1839 the firm returned to the name of Daniel Forrest, but had moved to Helen Street, London Road, as 'medallists to the Royal Family for Scotland' (PO Dir). It ceased to appear in the Directories after 1846. At this date, tradesmen identified in the records as jewellers commonly made all kinds of silver and gold work, not just jewellery.

Winner: William Air Foster (1801–62), born at Coldstream: poet, shoemaker and friend of Hogg. He

was an all-round sportsman, but especially an archer. He was 'the best thrower [of the hammer] of his size and weight in Scotland' (Anon 1830).

- 1832 Circular with reeded rim, pierced suspension loop. Diameter 39 mm. Obv: GAINED / BY / John N. Forman Esq^r. W.S. / EDINBURGH / 2ND. AUG^T. 1832. Marks: King's head, thistle, JM in slightly shaped punch.
Maker: James Mackay, jeweller and partner in the firm of Mackay and Cunningham, goldsmiths and jewellers, 47 North Bridge, Edinburgh. Mackay was one of Edinburgh's most prolific medal makers during this period. The Assay Office Records between 1834 and 1836 have 17 entries for Mackay, covering some 125 medals (EAO Recs).
Winner: John Nairne Forman of Staffa (1806–82) (*Register*, 109) member of the Royal Company of Archers from 13 May 1830, and winner of many of their prizes between 1831 and 1848 (Balfour Paul 1875, 379, 321–44).
- 1833 Missing. Won by James Gray, Esq. (*Dumfries Times*, 14 August 1833).
- 1834 Circular with reeded rim. Diameter 36 mm. Obv: Gained / BY / John Haldane / SELKIRK / August 1834. Marks: King's head right in oval punch; WC in shaped punch; thistle. Rev: Gained also / IN / 1840.
Maker: William Cunningham (see above).
- 1835 Missing. Won by William Spittal (Groves 1987, 37).
- 1836 Circular, reeded rim, with suspension loop. Diameter 36 mm. Obv: Gained / BY / Francis Thomson / DUDDINGSTON / August / 1836. Marks: King's head right, oval punch; thistle; AR in rectangular punch; castle; gothic E (1836–7). Rev: Blank.
Maker: Either Alexander Ramage, goldsmith, made a burgess of Edinburgh on 4 April 1816 (Edin Burgess Recs), who had silver assayed at Edinburgh assay office in 1829–32 (EAO Recs), or more likely Adam Reid, a working jeweller who is mentioned first at 26 South Richmond Street, Edinburgh, in 1834, and then from 1836 to 1841 at 6 Milne Square.
Winner: Francis Thomson (1814–58), son of the Revd John Thomson of Duddingston (1778–1840). Francis was a doctor, who practised and died at Peterhead (Baird 1895, 115). He won the sweepstake following the 1835 competition (Groves 1987, 37).
- 1837 Missing.
- 1838 Missing.
- 1839 Circular with cast foliate rim. Diameter 44 mm. Obv: Edward Thomson / August / 1839 Rev: blank. No mark.
Winner: Edward Thomson (b.1822), son of the Revd John Thomson of Duddingston. Went to Australia as a young man and died in obscurity (Baird 1895, 115).
- 1840 see 1834.
- 1841 Maltese cross with smaller crosses between the arms, with twisted suspension loop. Height over loop 37, width 29 mm. Obv: GAINED / BY / Geo. W^m. Hay / OF WHITERIGG / August 1841. Rev: GAINED ALSO IN 1844. No mark.
Winner: Hay lived at Whiterigg, two miles south of Melrose (Findlay 1843, 187).
- 1842 Circular, reeded rim, suspension loop, free swivel ring. Diameter 33 mm. Obv: GAINED / BY / William Steuart Esq^r / OF GLENORMISTON / Aug^t 1842 Rev: Crossed laurel branches, above them on a banner PAX COPIA VIRTUS. Marks: King's head right in oval punch; DCR in rectangular punch, thistle.
Maker: D C Rait, Glasgow. David Crichton Rait was admitted to the Incorporation of Hammermen of Glasgow as a goldsmith and jeweller on 31 August 1832, when his essay was a plain gold ring (Lumsden & Aitken 1912, 312). He seems, however, to have been in business before this date, as two earlier items with his mark are known: a lemon strainer dated 1827 and a punch ladle of 1828 (NMS Recs). His business address was in Buchanan Street, Glasgow, although he also had a clientele in Edinburgh. He sent a name punch to be recorded at Edinburgh Assay Office in 1864 (EAO Recs). A prolific craftsman, he produced a considerable number of sporting medals, including ones for the Fairywell Curling Club, St Quivox, in 1846–7, and the Ayr Curling Club in 1857 (NMS Recs). Between 1832 and 1863 Rait made 10 of the medals attached to the Kilwinning Arrow (NMS Recs).

He also made the gold medal presented by the 13th Earl of Eglinton to Kilwinning Bowling Club (*Ayr Advertiser*, 31 May 1860), and was Medallist to the County Archery and Rifle Club for the West of Scotland in 1846.

Winner: William Steuart came from Groynynogin, North Wales, and owned Glenormiston from 1824 to 1849. He sold it to William Chambers, the publisher (Buchan 1925–7, ii. 412). Steuart became a member of the Royal Company in 1828 (Balfour Paul 1875, 379).

- 1843 Shield-shaped, with cast scrolled edge. Height 44, width 38 mm. Obv: GAINED / BY / Walter Lothian Esq^e. / HOPE PARK / EDIN^R. / 1st. Aug^t. 1843. Rev: marks: M&GS in rectangular punch; Queen's head left in oval punch; thistle.

Maker: M & G Shanks, Edinburgh. This short-lived firm operated as working jewellers, 3 Rose Street, between 1840 and 1845, when they also had gold and silver assayed at Edinburgh Assay Office (EAO Recs). The firm was carried on as M Shanks, first in Rose Street and then from 1846 to 1848 at 8 South St Andrew Street (PO Dir).

Winner: see 1830.

- 1844 See 1841.

APPENDIX 2

SCOTS SILVER ARROWS

The 19 Scots silver arrows known are listed below: 18 of them survive. They are in the order of their date of manufacture: in several cases this can only be estimated from the date of the first medal attached to the arrow. In parentheses at the end of each entry are given the name of their present owners and references to descriptions and illustrations of the arrows.

- 1 Musselburgh (first), c 1603. The date of the earliest medal is 1603. (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 305–12 & pl 9; Brook 1890, 309–14, with drawings of medals).
- 2 Meikleour or Rattray, 1612. Made by Thomas Ramsay, Perth. Engraved 'WC/1612'. (Private collection, on loan to Perth Museum; Fittis 1891, 136–7; Findlay 1991, 113).
- 3 St Andrews (first), c 1618. The date of the earliest medal is 1618, the latest 1642 (University of St Andrews; Brook 1894 (illustrated)).
- 4 Peebles, c 1628. The date of the earliest medal is 1628. (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 346–8 & pl 9; Brook 1890, 320–1, with drawings of medals).
- 5 Linlithgow or Hopetoun, c 1629. Medals date from 1629 to 1631 (Marquis of Linlithgow, Hopetoun House).
- 6 Selkirk, c 1660. The date of the earliest medal is 1660. (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 348–9 & pl 9; Craig-Brown 1886, ii. 52 (illustrated); Brook 1890, 318–20, with drawings of medals).
- 7 St Andrews (second), c 1675. The date of the earliest medal is 1675, the latest 1703 (University of St Andrews, Brook 1894 (illustrated)).
- 8 Stirling, c 1678. Competition first recorded 1678. The arrow has been lost since 1745. (Balfour Paul 1875, 349–50).
- 9 Aberdeen, 1679. (Aberdeen Grammar School; Brook 1894 (illustrated)).
- 10 St Andrews (third), 1704. (University of St Andrews; Brook 1894 (illustrated)).
- 11 Edinburgh, 1709. Made by Thomas Ker, Edinburgh. (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 315–21 & pl 7; Brook 1890, 314–18, with drawings of medals).
- 12 Musselburgh (second), 1713. (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 305–12 & pl 9).
- 13 Kilwinning, 1724. The earliest medal (1697) predates the arrow. (The Ancient Society of Archers of Kilwinning; Brook 1890, 323–4; Ker 1894; *Sporting Glory* 1992, 28 (illustrated)).
- 14 Dalkeith, c 1727. The earliest medal is dated 1727 (Royal Company of Archers; *Sporting Glory* 1992, 36–8 (illustrated)).

- 15 Aberdeen, 1769 (Marischal Museum, University of Aberdeen).
- 16 Paisley, 1806 (Paisley Museum).
- 17 Marchmont or St Ronan's, 1830. The subject of this article.
- 18 Kirkcudbright, 1838. Made by William Law, clockmaker, Kirkcudbright (Stewartry Museum, Kirkcudbright; *Sporting Glory* 1992, 34–5 (illustrated)).
- 19 Montrose, 1850 (Royal Company of Archers; Balfour Paul 1875, 351).

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