

II.—*An Account of the Ancient Crosier of St Fillan's, described in a Letter from WILLIAM THOMSON, M. A. Student of Christ Church, in Oxford, to the EARL OF BUCHAN. (a)*

[Read to the Society, 28th June 1785.]

MY LORD,

I AVAIL myself of your Lordship's being in London, to request that you will, on your return to Edinburgh, communicate to the Society the following notice of a *Relic* which was shewn to me during my Summer tour in Scotland, in 1782.

I have the honour to be, your Lordship's obedient and obliged humble servant,

W. THOMSON.

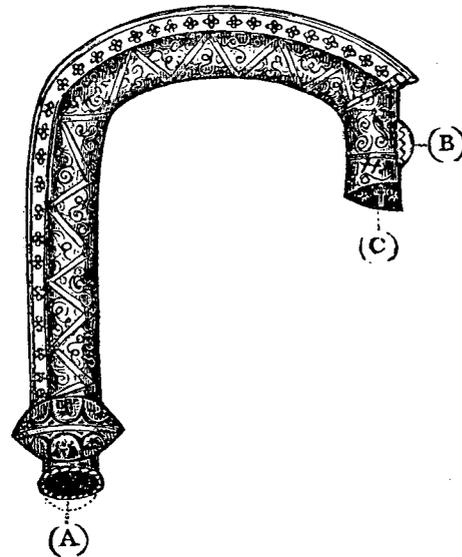
No. 2, Millman Place, Bedford Row, London.

At Killin, July 5th 1782, in the house of Malice Doire, a day labourer, I was shewn what he called *the Quigrich*. It is the head of a Crosier, formerly belonging to St Fillan, who gave name to a neighbouring Strath.

I intreat the Society to excuse the rudeness of the representation annexed, it being the hasty sketch of a traveller, particularly as it is only meant to lead them to the possession of the original. With it is shewn a copy of the King's letters of appropriation and security, which I have carefully transcribed.

(a) *Written in Pencil on this Communication*—"The Owner of the Relic afterwards emigrated to America, carrying the Quigrich with him."

The neighbours conducted me to the envied possessor of this Relic, who exhibited it according to the intent of the Royal investment. A youth of nineteen, the representative of his father's name, and presumptive heir to this treasure, lay drooping in an outer apartment, under the last gasp of a consumption.



I am induced to advertise the Society of this circumstance, lest the relic in question should, at the death of the present owner, become a sacrifice to the neediness of his heirs, and find a ready passage to the melting-pot.

W. T.

This weighs about 7 or 8 lb.; is of silver gilt, and hollow at one end (A). On the other, which is flat, (C) is engraved a crucifix, having a star on each side of the body thus. ✱

An oval crystal is set in the front of the staff, and is here seen in profile (B).

AT EDINBURGH the first day of Novr 1734 years in presence of the Lords of Council & Session, Compeared Mr. John Lookup advocat as procurator for MALICE DOIRE after designed & gave in the letters of gift under-written desiring the same to be registrat in their Lordships books, as a Probative Writ: which desire the said Lords found reasonable & therefore they ordain the same to be done accordingly, conform to act of Parliament made anent the registration of Probative Writs in all points, whereof the tenor follows:—

JAMES be the grace of God King of Scottis to all & sindri oure Leigis & subditis Spirituale & Temporall to whais knowledge thir oure Letters sal cum greting Forasmekle as we have understand that oure Servitour Malice Doire & his forebears has had ane relic of Saint Filane callit the *Quigrich* in keping of ws & of oure progenitouris of maist nobill mynde quham God assolyie sen the tyme of King Robert the Bruys & of before & made nane obedience nor ansuer to na persoun spirituale nor temporale in ony thing concerning the said haly relic uthirwayis than what is contenit in the auld infestment thareof made & grantit be oure said Progenitouris We charge yow herefore straitly & Commandis that in tyme to cum ye & ilk ane of yow redily ansuere intend & obey to the said Malice Doire in the peciable broiking & joising of the said relic And that ye or nain of yow tak upon hand to compell nor distrenyie him to mak obedience nor ansuere to yow nor till ony uther bot allenerly to us & oure successouris according to the said in-

festment & fundatioun of the said relic & sicklike as wes use & wont in the tyme of oure said progenitouris of maist nobill mynde of before And that ye make him nane impediment lettng nor distroublance in the passing with the said relic throw the contre as he & his forebearis was wount to do And that ye & ilk ane of yow in oure name & autoritie kepe him unthrallit bot to remaine in sicklike fredome & liberte of the said relic like as is contenit in the said infestment under all the hiest pain & charge that ye & ilk ane of yow may amitt & inrin anent ws in that part Given undir oure privie sele at Edinburgh the xi day of July the yeir of God I^m iiiic lxxxvii yeirs and of oure Regnne the xxvij yere Sic subscribitur

JAMES R.

Litera pro Maliseo Doire in Strafname.

(The Privy Seal is appended to the principal.)