NOTE OF A FINE "CELTIC CINERARY URN" FOUND IN A CIST NEAR DARN HALL, PEEBLESHERIE, AND EXHIBITED BY LORD ELIBANK.

BY LIEUT-COL. G. G. FRANCIS, HON. SEC. FOR SOUTH WALES TO THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF LONDON; CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

Visiting Lord Elibank at his charming place, I was surprised at finding on the floor of the drawing-room a fine specimen of a Celtic cinerary vase in good preservation, but the history of which was quite unknown to either Lord or Lady Elibank.

Inquiries amongst the servants tended to show that it had been brought to the house by a labourer a few years back.

On speaking to the overseer of the estate, it turned out that he was present at its discovery two or three years back, during the removal of some gravel from a part of the estate known as "The Skim Park;" that three stone coffins were found near one another; that this vase was in the middle one, and contained, when first discovered, some dust and fragments of bones; that not much interest was taken in the find, but one of the
men took "the pot" away with him. Nothing else was found that was considered curious.

I, however, felt considerable interest in the urn, and readily obtained permission of my noble hosts to properly label it and secure it under glass. With their kind consent I have brought it over to our Society's rooms at Edinburgh for exhibition at this meeting. Having accomplished this, I shall feel that I have done my duty as an Antiquary of Scotland and London.

[This fine specimen has since been presented to the Museum by Lord Elibank.]

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**Monday, 13th January 1873.**

**ARTHUR MITCHELL, M.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.**

After a ballot the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:—

John Balfour of Balbirnie, Esq.
Charles de Flandre, Esq., 15 Dundas Street.
Charles Augustus Howell, Esq., C.E., Fulham.
Alex. Orrock, jun., Esq., 12 Lonsdale Terrace.
Robert Reid, M.A., Esq., Iffley, Oxford.
Thomas Spowart of Broomhead, Esq., Dunfermline.
James Cunningham, Esq., W.S., 50 Queen Street.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were announced and exhibited, and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By J. G. Sinclair Coghill, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

A complete suit of Japanese Armour, as recently worn by the retainers of the Daimios. This suit, which was used at the battle of Osaka in 1868, consists of helmet and visor, cuirass of breast and back plates, with laminated skirts of plates overlapping each other horizontally to cover the lower part of the body. The thighs are protected by short, trouser-like pieces of mixed scale and ring armour, and the legs below the knees are
covered by greaves of plate having knee-caps of quilted work. The arms are enveloped in sleeves of mail, having wrist-plates and plates to cover the back of the hand and first joints of the fingers. The helmet, which is a deep globular skull-cap, has a neck-guard of laminated semicircular plates. The visor, which has the form of a grotesquely fierce-looking mask, is entirely separate from the helmet, and is meant to be fastened by a cord round the head. A gorget of laminated plates, falling down from the lower part of this mask over the upper edge of the cuirass, protects the hollow of the neck. The suit is made of thin plates of iron, thickly coated with a black varnish, and the different pieces are strung together with tapes.


Wedge-shaped Hammer of coarse-grained siliceous sandstone, 10 inches in length, with rounded butt, and haft-hole nearer the thick end than the cutting end. The haft-hole, which is 2 inches diameter, has been made from both sides, and appears to have been picked out and not bored. The implement is slightly unsymmetrical.


Arrow Head of brown flint, with tang, and slightly barbed, 1 1/2 inches in length.

Arrow Head of brownish flint, leaf-shaped, 1 1/2 inches in length.

Four Flint Flakes, two of which have secondary working on the edge.

Three scraper-like Discs of worked flint, about half an inch diameter.

Small Bead-like object of lead half an inch in diameter, with hole through the centre.

All these were found in the neighbourhood of High Torrs, Old Luce, Wigtonshire.

(4.) By Mr James Bryce, Farmer, through James Gilchrist, Esq., Banker, Carluke.

Slab of coarse-grained red sandstone, measuring about 4 feet by 3, and about 5 inches in thickness, having on one side several rude sculpturings of spirals, triangles, &c., found covering a short cist in a cairn on the farm of Wester Yird Houses, Carnwath Moor.
Portion of the Clay Urn found in the cist underneath the above-mentioned stone. (For description and figure of the stone and fragment of urn, see the subsequent paper by D. R. Rankin, Esq.)

(5.) By David Grieve, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Three Human Skulls taken from a mound at Boyndie, Banffshire, in 1853. This mound was traditionally represented as covering a trench in which were deposited the remains of those slain in the reputed battle between Indulf, king of Scots, and the invading Danes, about A.D. 962. The enclosure in which the mound was situated is known as the "Ardanes Field."

The following particulars in reference to the skulls are quoted from notes made on their first examination by Mr Grieve:

"The number of skulls removed from the trench (with permission) was twenty-one. Three of these were deposited in the Banff Institute of Science, five were retained by Mr Grieve, and the remainder reburied. (The skulls now presented to the Museum of the Antiquaries of Scotland are of the number retained by Mr G.)

"A careful measurement of these twenty-one skulls gave the following average results:—"

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measurement</th>
<th>Inches</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Extreme circumference</td>
<td>29 1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Length along the vault from the junction of the nasal and frontal bones to the foramen magnum</td>
<td>15 1/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth of the anterior part of the coronal bone</td>
<td>4 2/6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Breadth across the vault, measured from and to the meatus auditorius externus</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Attention was particularly drawn to the large proportion of abnormal or misshapen skulls found in the number examined."

(6.) By Robert Carfrae, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Medal in silver of the Duke of Cumberland. Obverse, bust of the duke in armour, bareheaded, and the inscription GVL. OVMBERL. DVX EXERCIT. M. BRIT. IMP. Below the arm, M. HOLTZHEF FEC. Reverse, above a representation of victory the words, RESTITVTORI QVIETIS, and underneath REBELL. AD INNERNIVM DEVICT. MDCCXLVI.
DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM.

(7.) By Miss DICK, Craig Kennochy, Burntisland.

Letter, with Autograph Signature of Napoleon I.:—

"Monsieur de St Vallies, je reçois votre lettre du 14 novembre par laquelle vous me faites connaître la dernière réunion qui a eu lieu au Senat. J'approuve les pensions accordées par le conseils d'administration, parce je prie Dieu Monsieur de St Vallies qu'il vous ait en sa sainte gard.

A. Burgos le 20 Novembre 1808.

(Signed) "NAPOLEON."

(8.) By Mr PATRICK RITCHIE, F.G.S.E.

Stone Mortar, with Ears, resembling the modern mortar, dug up at Drumsheugh.

(9.) By the Most Hon. the Marquess of BUTE, F.S.A. Scot., through WILLIAM ERASER, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Editor.

Registrum Monasterii S. Marie de Cambuskenneth, A.D. 1147-1535.
Grampian Club. Edinburgh, 1872. 4to.

(10.) By Rev. Professor WILLIAM STEVENSON, D.D., F.S.A. Scot.

The Legends and Commemorative Celebrations of St Kentigern, his Friends and Disciples, translated from the Aberdeen Breviary, and the Arbuthnott Missal; with an illustrative Appendix. Edinburgh, 1872. 8vo. Privately printed.


A Directory of Church Government, drawn up and used by the Elizabethan Presbyterians. Reprinted in fac-simile from the edition of 1644.


(13.) By the SOCIÉTÉ POLYMATHIQUE DE MORBIHAN.

Bulletin de la Année 1871.
(14.) By the Society of Antiquaries of London.

(15.) By the Smithsonian Institution.

There were also exhibited—

(1.) By J. G. Sinclair Coghill, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.
A large collection of Japanese Weapons, principally swords and daggers, and a collection of native drawings of the heraldic crests or insignia of the Daimios.

(2.) By the Hon. Mrs. Swinton.
Brass Matrix of a Seal of Godfray de Ros, found on the banks of the river Nairn.

(3.) By W. T. Black, Esq.
A large collection of Photographs illustrative of the scenery and antiquities of Italy.

The following Communications were read:—