

## IV.

NOTICE OF INCISED SCULPTURINGS ON THE STEATITE ROCK AT FEIDELAND, THE EXTREME NORTH OF THE MAINLAND OF SHETLAND, AND OF A CLUSTER OF RUINED STRUCTURES STYLED PICTS' HOUSES, ON THE KAIM OF ISBISTER, SHETLAND. COMMUNICATED BY REV. GEORGE GORDON, LL.D., BIRNIE, CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT., IN A LETTER TO DR ARTHUR MITCHELL, SECRETARY.

The Rev. Dr Gordon, in transmitting the accompanying notices, writes as follows :—

“ Mr George Cockburn, student in divinity at Aberdeen, while residing last summer at the extreme north of the mainland of Shetland, made, at my request, some sketches, and has also given me some descriptions of the antiquities on the Kaim of Isbister, and at Feideland.

“ These I now beg to submit to you, in the hope that such a notice, if read at one of the meetings of the Society, might lead to a more minute examination than has hitherto been made.

“ As to the *Kaim of Isbister*, I am satisfied that it is not the site of a Broch. The foundation-plans are wholly different from those of any of the many Brochs which I have seen ; but they agree well with those of the existing ‘ lodges,’ as the fishermen call their summer huts which they use, when they are employed at the haaf-fishing—such as are to be seen at Stennis Northmaven, at Ronas Voe, and at Feideland itself.

“ Had the Kaim of Isbister been the site of a Broch, some of the building stones would have remained on it. None are to be seen; and it would have been out of the question to have carried them thence, as has unfortunately been done at so many other places, to build houses, walls, and, as at Brae, to construct a drying-beach for fish. The transport of such heavy materials by so dangerous a path, as the long and narrow neck of rock that connects the Kaim with the land, would not have been attempted in modern times. There are, indeed, no structures or even vestiges of buildings in the vicinity to suggest the probability that old broch-materials might have been appropriated in their erection.

“ At p. 180 of ‘*Archæologia Scotica*,’ vol. v. pt. i., there is given, as the site of a Broch, ‘Feideland, on a *precipice* connected to the land by a neck of land, about three feet broad.’ There is

some confusion here, I suspect—as if the undoubted *Broch of Feideland* had, for its site, the *Kaim of Isbister*. The Broch at Feideland is on a low shingly beach, and *not* ‘on a precipice.’ The *map*, in the same vol. (of *Archæologia*) showing the sites of Brochs, is more correct, as it marks *no broch-site* between that of North Roe and that of Feideland. Had it recognised one at Isbister, it would have placed it about halfway, in the coast line, between these two. I saw but one at Feideland. There is probably another, as marked on the map, near Sand Voe (which I did not visit), although it is not given in the ‘List of Northmaven Brochs’ in p. 180.

“Had foundation-plans, such as are shown in Mr Cockburn’s sketches been met with on a flattish shore, or near a creek, where boats and their cargoes could have been landed and sheltered, they might have been passed by, as the remains of a deserted fishing station; but it is by no means likely that the holm on the rock or Kaim of Isbister would have been selected for this purpose in civilised times. To all appearance it must have been chosen as a site for dwellings, because it was also one of defence or secure refuge. Future excavations may reveal something indicative of the period at which it was inhabited. Yet there is a marked connection between that period, whatever it was, and the present day, in the close resemblance that may be traced between the ground plans or arrangement of the huts or ‘lodges’ then used, and that of those seen occupied to-day, at Stennis, Feideland, and Ronas Voe.

“This style of setting down dwellings close and parallel to each other (although not with walls in common) may be now traced in some of the older fishing villages on the east and north-east of Scotland.

“The local name of ‘Pechts’ Houses,’ by which I heard them first spoken of, is not to be overlooked, although it may indicate simply a mysterious antiquity for them.

“And now, as to the *Kliber Stone* at Feideland. The smooth soft surface must have presented, to the earliest inhabitants, a tempting field on which to develop that art of imitation, now said to be one of the few innate peculiarities allowed to belong to our race. No wonder then that large and fine sheets of steatite, like the *kliber-stone* of Feideland, should exhibit sculptures of various ages, down to the passing century.

In the very short time I could remain there, it appeared to me that the blocks that lie near to or even in the sea, had engravings not of yesterday. From the position in which some of these blocks now lie, it seemed as if they had been carved upon before they fell so low.

“It has been suggested to me, that the circle is not the sort of figure one would cut for mere amusement, without the help of a string and nail; and Mr Cockburn’s sketches show no centre hole; and it has also been suggested that the outlining of fresh circles, which you witnessed, might be the copying of old ones.

“Dr Joass, having seen Mr Cockburn’s sketches of the kliber-stone figures, has shown a striking resemblance between some of them and of figures selected from the second volume of the ‘Sulptured Stones of Scotland.’

“My object in sending you this communication will be fully attained, if you direct the attention of your antiquarian friends to this northern locality, which, although of much interest, is not likely to be often visited.”

*Sculptures on the Steatite Rock at Feideland.*—Sculptures occur upon fallen blocks and upon the natural face of the steatite rock in the Isle of Feideland for the distance of about 100 yards along the cliff. Towards the south the markings are indistinct, owing to the greater decomposition of the rock, which is there impregnated with a large quantity of iron. The sculptures are in the form of circles and squares, of a size varying from about 3 feet in diameter to less than one. The deepest marks are nearly a foot in depth, others are so faint as to be scarcely visible. The circles and squares are joined on one to another, and those markings which now appear as wavy lines may be either incomplete figures or the remains of figures partially obliterated. The sculptures are either rough pick marks, or smooth and carefully finished, in most cases perpendicular on the side next the figure and sloping outwards. Evidently the sculptures had been formed before the blocks fell down. There is no tradition about the falling of the soapstone cliff, and there is every appearance of its having taken place at a remote period. The people say that there are sculptured blocks entirely covered by the sea. Partially covered by the sea there are about seven blocks, in size 16 × 20 feet and upwards: above high water-mark there are about twenty blocks,

varying in size from 6 feet  $\times$  10 to 16  $\times$  20. There are many sculptured blocks of smaller dimensions. From high water-mark to uppermost block is about 20 yards. Above this there is a strip of grass 40 feet in breadth, and on the upper side of it sculptured steatite *in situ*. This lower face is about 30 feet in height and is covered with markings—in several places the grass has grown over it, and very distinct markings, would no doubt be found on its removal. Above this lower face is a band of grass about 20 feet in breadth, and on the upper side of it steatite again crops out. The upper band of steatite is of no great height, bears few marks, and is much broken up by the overlying serpentine and mica schist which forms the upper part of the cliff running into it. The blocks would appear to have fallen down from the upper face of steatite and from that part which is now covered by the upper band of grass. Of course the different regions,—1, submerged blocks; 2, partially submerged blocks; 3, blocks above high water-mark; 4, lower strip of grass; 5, lower face of steatite; 6, upper strip of grass; 7, upper face of steatite; 8, serpentine, &c.—cannot be traced along the whole 100 yards, but these various regions are distinct towards the north, where the sculptures are in the best state of preservation. The cliff of steatite is on the east side of the (so-called) Isle of Feideland, and the sea spoken of is Yell Sound. So far as can be ascertained the inhabitants have no tradition as to what the marks are, or who formed them.

*"Picts' Houses," Kaim of Isbister.*—The Kaim of Isbister is situated on the east coast of the mainland of Shetland, a mile and a half north of North Roe, and the same distance south of Feideland Point, the extremity of the island. It lies in the scattald of Houll, and a neighbouring headland is termed Verdibrig, from a natural arch which fell down a few years ago. The Kaim is entered by a narrow footpath along the crest of a rocky ridge, more than 100 feet high. The footpath is 100 yards long. The Kaim is about 150 feet high on the west side—*i.e.*, the mainland side. It slopes towards the east for 120 yards until it reaches the level of the sea. For the first 70 yards it is covered with grass; the last 50 are bare rock. There is no level ground in the Kaim, but there are two steep banks running north and south—one about the middle of the green part, the other at the commencement of the rock. The Kaim seems to be a mass of mica slate covered with a little clay.

As indicated in the sketch exhibited, there are visible the remains of twenty-three "*Picts' Houses.*" In general appearance the houses resemble old potato pits. Seventeen houses in two rows are situated to the west of, and immediately above, the bank running along the green. They consist of pits about two feet deep. They had originally been partly excavated, partly built, but little of the walls, which had been composed of a mixture of stones and turf, remains. In some cases the west end of the house had been excavated and the walls of the east end built, no doubt, with the material dug out. Every advantage has been taken of the natural configuration of the ground. The houses vary in breadth from 8 to 10 feet, and in length from 10 to 24 feet. Sixteen feet would be the average length and 9 feet the average breadth. In a majority of cases the doors look to the south-east, but this, as well as the situation of the houses east and west, would seem to be entirely a matter of convenience—the door could not have been in the west end, owing to that end being excavated. On digging trenches in two of the houses, I found nothing but ashes and stones marked by fire, and what appeared to be the remains of a nail or some instrument of iron. I got neither bones nor shells.

I shall not venture on any speculation as to what these houses may have been, but would note the following points wherein they resemble the huts raised by Shetland fishermen at the present day. By actual measurement I found that they coincide in *size* with the huts at Feideland. In the fishermen's huts the door is invariably situated at the most convenient corner. The huts are frequently excavated at one end, and another marked peculiarity is joining two huts together so as to make one wall serve for a back to both, the water off the roof sinking down the wall the best way it can. This architectural peculiarity is six times exemplified in the Kaim of Isbister.

I do not think that much weight should be laid upon the name, as I have been repeatedly told by the more intelligent of the inhabitants that it was customary to say of any thing whose origin is unknown, that it was built by the Picts. It is also to be remembered that there was a Broch at Burravoe, North Roe, and another at Feideland, which would surely have been sufficient to shelter all the Picts that ever were in the district.

G. COCKBURN.

MONDAY, 14th May 1877.

DAVID LAING, Esq., Foreign Secretary, in the Chair.

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

THOMAS CHAPMAN, Jun., Esq., 7 Lauriston Gardens.

HUGH KENNEDY, Esq., Redclyffe, Partickhill, Glasgow.

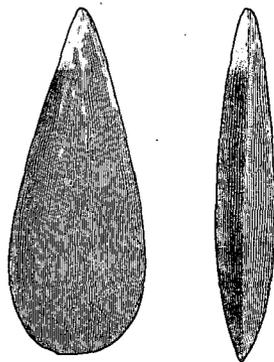
JAMES MUDIE, Esq., Rowanbank, Broughty-Ferry.

ANDREW MUIRHEAD, Esq., 56 Castle Street.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By ALEXANDER WALKER, Esq., Dean of Guild of Aberdeen, F.S.A. Scot.

Two finely polished Celts of Greyish Porphyritic Stone, each 9 inches in length,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches broad at the widest part, tapering towards the butt end, and about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest thickness. They are remarkable as forming a pair exactly similar as regards material, shape, and size. The form is one which is not common in Scotland. The precise locality in which they were found is not known, but it is believed to have been in Aberdeenshire.



Celt found in Aberdeenshire  
(9 inches in length.)

(2.) By Mr PETER COLLIER, 12 Randolph Crescent.

Oval-shaped Flint Knife, 3 inches long by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches broad, with ground edge, found on the Hill of Pitdoulzie, Turriff, Aberdeenshire. This implement belongs to the class of "horse-shoe shaped blades of flint," described by Dr John Alexander Smith in the Proceedings (vol. xi. pp. 576-77), where two other specimens also in this Museum are figured. Several specimens from different parts of England are described by Mr John Evans in his work

on the "Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain," but the whole number of specimens on record does not exceed a dozen, all British, of which our Museum now possesses four.

Flint Flake, 2 inches in length, and about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in breadth, with a finely serrated edge, apparently intended for use as a saw. It differs from the flint saws found at Glenluce, Wigtonshire (figured in the Proceedings, vol. xi p. 584), in being thinner, broader, and less regularly serrated. It was found on the farm of Kirkton, Forglen, near Banff.

Arrow-Head of Reddish Flint,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, with barbs and stem, found on the Hill of Byth, near Turriff.

Arrow-Head of Reddish Flint, 1 inch in length, leaf-shaped, finely finished, also found on the Hill of Byth.

Arrow-Head, lozenge-shaped,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length, also found on the Hill of Byth.

(3.) By Mr JAMES CRUIKSHANK, Schoolhouse, Inchberry, Orton, Speyside.

Portion of a small Button-Mould in Clay Slate,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches, with circular hollows for casting four small buttons of various patterns.

(4.) By D. R. RANKIN, Esq., Carluke.

Carved Distaff, 2 feet  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, the plain rounded part of the staff being 17 inches in length. Above this the shaft is octagonal for the space of 3 inches, terminating in a tapering four-sided extremity 13 inches in length, pierced at the commencement with four rectangular openings 3 inches in length and about  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in width. The octagonal part and the pierced part are ornamented with a series of designs composed of triangular markings arranged in triangular spaces, bounded by slightly incised lines single or double, each face of the shaft showing a different arrangement of the pattern. On one side of the plain quadrangular and tapering portion of the shaft are the letters E M in copper, inlaid in the wood. On the opposite side is a curiously formed mark or sign, and on the side between them the date 1733. Along with the distaff is a spindle, with its stone whorl. The spindle is  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and the whorl of claystone, 1 inch in diameter, is

neatly rounded and ornamented by a median line round the circumference.

Carved Distaff similar in form to the one described above, but without the perforations. It measures 2 feet 7 inches in length, and is similarly ornamented with patterns of triangular spaces and intersecting lines. On one of the sides of the plain tapering and quadrangular part of the shaft are the initials R L, on another M C, and on a third the date 1704 boldly, incised. It is pierced at the extremity by a round hole nearly a quarter of an inch in diameter. Along with the distaff is a spindle with its stone whorl. The spindle measures  $11\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length, and the stone whorl, which is of claystone and unornamented, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter.

Hand-Reel, 2 feet 5 inches in-length (See the account of the process of using the hand-reel in the Donation List of the subsequent meeting, and also in the subsequent Communication entitled "Notes on the Spinning Gear of former Times," by D. R. Rankin, Esq.).

(5.) By DAVID STEVENSON, Esq., C.E.

Hammer-Stone, or probably a Socket-Stone of Quartzite, being a flattish rounded water-worn boulder 6 by 5 inches, and 3 inches thick, having on one of its flat faces an almost hemispherical depression 2 inches diameter and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches in depth, worn as if by a revolving spindle. One edge of the stone also shows some signs of abrasion, as if it had been used as a hammer-stone. It was found in dredging the Forth below Stirling.

Socketed Celt of Bronze,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length,  $1\frac{5}{8}$  inches wide across the cutting edge, the socket opening nearly square and measuring  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches from side to side. A raised line runs round the collar of the celt, and on the flat sides three raised lines descend perpendicularly from it. As usual it has a small loop at one side. This celt is of the type of the square-socketed one found with two others at Bell's Mills on the Water of Leith, and figured in the "Proceedings," vol. vi. p. 275. It was found in excavating near the citadel at Leith.

(6.) By Professor Sir C. WYVILLE THOMSON, Kt., F.S.A. Scot.

Three Stone Balls of the *Bolas* used by the Patagonians. These balls are of a kind of greenstone, worked to an irregularly spherical form, and having

a shallow groove cut round the middle of the circumference. They are of different sizes, one being 2 inches diameter, another  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches, and the third, a flattened spheroid, about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter. "The *bolas* proper, as in use on the Pampas," says Mr Evans, "consists of three balls of stone nearly the size of the fist, and covered with leather, which are attached to the ends of three thongs all branching from a common centre. Leaden balls have now almost superseded those of stone. The hunter gives to the *bolas* a rotary motion, and can then throw them to a great distance, in such a manner that the thongs entwine round the legs, neck, and body of his prey and thus render it helpless" ("Stone Implements of Great Britain," p. 377). These three balls, which may probably have been united in the same *bolas*, were found in a kitchen-midden or shell heap near the Straits of Magellan.

Polished Celt of Hard Mottled Flinty Slate,  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, 2 inches across the face, and 1 inch thick, rounded on the sides and tapering slightly to the butt end, which shows the natural fracture of the stone. It was brought from Japan by Professor Sir Wyville Thomson, and is the only specimen of a Japanese stone implement in the Museum.

(7.) By Rev. A. W. HALLAN, M.A., F.S.A. Scot.

The Decretals of Pope Gregory IX. "Decretales Epistole Gregorii Noni Pontificis Maximi, jam recens plus sexcentis mendis cum in textu tum in glossis repurgate." (Engraved title-page by Rembolt), Parisiis. 1527. folio. It bears in a good bold hand the following inscription on the fly-leaf: "Thomas Abbas de Kynloss me suo Monasterio dedicavit, Anno gracie 1530." It also bears on a printed label pasted on the title page: "Ex libris domini Roberti Reid, Abbatis a Kynloss." On the title page is written: "Liber Jacobi Jhonstoun, Minister de Birnay." James Johnston was exhorter at Birnie, and "Scribe to the Assemblies in Murray" in 1568. (Scott's "Fasti," pt. v. p. 158.) He was minister of Birneth in 1574 (Wodrow Miscellany, p. 358), and was still the incumbent of the same parish in 1588. On another part of the fly-leaf is written: "Liber Henrici Thornton;" and beneath it are the following lines in the same hand:—

"Ne placeant turpes pietatis imagine tede,  
Si bonus es, et vis ducere, duc similem,  
Quid faciet meretrix faciet que casta putatur,  
Vina placent aliis, fex ne relicta tibi?"

Underneath is the motto "Fides et amor." On the title-page is the inscription "Liber Gulielmi Guild, S.T. D." The volume, which has been at various times the property of the persons designated by these inscriptions, belonged originally to the Library of the Monastery of Kinloss, and is thus referred to in the Chronicle of John Smyth, Monk of Kinloss (Harl. MS. 2363): "Item memorie commendandum quod Thomas Abbas de Kynloss fecit Robertum abbatem ejus successorem de Galliis plures probos libros secum deferre anno domini M<sup>o</sup>V<sup>o</sup>XXIX quorum nomina sunt in registro." In the "Life of Thomas Chrystal" by Ferrerius, the work of Pope Gregory is mentioned as among the books in the library formed by that Abbot, and enlarged by Robert Reid, his successor; and in the life of the latter by the same author there is a curious notice of a dispute as to whether some of the books thus brought from Paris by Robert Reid were bought with his own money instead of being furnished at the Abbot's expense, and whether they ought not to be regarded as his property rather than of Thomas Chrystal. (See the "Records of the Monastery of Kinloss," edited for the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland by John Stuart, LL.D., 4to, 1872, pp. 9. 36 and 63.)

(8.) By Capt. JOHN CUNNINGHAME of Balgownie, Culross.

The Original Copy (with signatures) of the Document known as "The Godly Band of 1557," framed and glazed. (See the subsequent Communication (p. 217) by Mr Laing, in which a copy of the document is given.)

(9.) By Sir HENRY DRYDEN, Bart., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Ground plan of Cairn at Nether Swell, Gloucester; and three Sketches of Brochs in Glenelg, to be added to the portfolios of plans and sketches previously presented.

Illustrations of the Cathedral Church of St Magnus, Kirkwall. Folio. 1872.

Lexicon Cornu-Britannicum: a Dictionary of the Ancient Celtic Language of Cornwall. By Rev. Robert Williams, M.A. 4to. London, 1865.

(10.) By Lieut.-Col. WALTER STANHOPE SHERWILL, Perth.

Recherches et Antiquitez de la Neustria, etc. 8vo. Caen, 1833.

Voyage aux Côtes d'Afrique, par M. de Gennes. 12mo. Amsterdam, 1699.

Series of 130 Silhouettes, chiefly of Windsor characters in the reign of George III. The following is a list of those that are named :—

## SILHOUETTES.

George III., . . . . .	5 black.
Queen Charlotte, . . . . .	1 white.
Princess Amelia, . . . . .	1 black.
Duke of Wellington, . . . . .	3 white.
Sir Isaac Heard, Garter King at Arms, . . . . .	3 black.
A Lady (E. Patterson), . . . . .	1 do.
Mr Masson, . . . . .	1 do.
Mrs Delaney, . . . . .	1 do.
Mr Delaney, . . . . .	1 do.
Dr W. Haberdon, . . . . .	3 do.
Jacob Bryant, . . . . .	1 do.
Chamfixes, a minor Canon of Windsor, . . . . .	1 do.
Dr Solander; . . . . .	1 do.
Do. . . . .	1 white.
A Provost of Aberdeen, . . . . .	1 black.
Thomas Paine, . . . . .	3 do.
David Hume, the historian, . . . . .	2 do.
Lord Kinnoull, . . . . .	1 do.
General Gordon, brother to the Duke of Gordon, . . . . .	1 do.
Duke of Montagu, . . . . .	1 do.
Duke of Athol, . . . . .	1 do.
Capt. Grose, the antiquary, . . . . .	1 do.
Sir Benjamin West, painter, . . . . .	1 do.
Dr Isaac Hutton, . . . . .	1 do.
Pascal Paoli, . . . . .	1 do.
Falke Greville, . . . . .	2 do.
Gray, the poet (full length), . . . . .	1 do.
Mr Mackenzie, Lord Bute's brother, . . . . .	3 do.
Tiberius Cavallo, . . . . .	2 do.
Sir Geo. Howard, K.B., 1792, . . . . .	1 do.
Sir Adolphus Oughton, K.B., 1776, . . . . .	1 do.
J. C. Mack, . . . . .	1 do.

Capt. Harrington, . . . . .	2	black.
Gloucester Wilson, . . . . .	2	do.
Mr Bridges, . . . . .	1	do.
Rev. Dr Bostock, Vicar of Windsor, . . . . .	2	do.
Rev. Mr Clarke, . . . . .	1	do.
Rev. Mr Clark, minor Canon, . . . . .	1	do.
Capt. Bird, Royal Horse-Guards Blue, . . . . .	2	do.
Rev. Mr Hand, . . . . .	1	do.
Mr Ridout, sen., . . . . .	2	do.
Capt. Ridout, 11th Light Dragoons, . . . . .	1	do.
Mr Macqueen, surgeon, . . . . .	1	do.
Sir John Woodford, Guards, . . . . .	2	do.
Mr Ward, writing-master at Windsor, . . . . .	1	do.
Black Footman of Dr Lind's, . . . . .	1	do.
Major Price, . . . . .	3	do.
Miss Home, . . . . .	1	do.
Richard Cooper, artist, . . . . .	1	do.
Paul Sandy, artist, . . . . .	1	do.
Mary Rooke, . . . . .	1	do.
Dr J. Hunter, . . . . .	1	do.
Mrs J. Hunter, . . . . .	1	do.
Mrs Vincent, . . . . .	1	do.
Syder Ali Khan, . . . . .	1	do.
Mrs Bird, . . . . .	1	do.
Mrs Cheap (Miss Clark), . . . . .	1	do.
Mrs Leduc, . . . . .	1	do.
Lady B. M., . . . . .	1	do.
Miss Douglas, . . . . .	1	do.

Besides those named there are 38 unnamed specimens. In a letter addressed to Mr Anderson, the Keeper of the Museum, Lieut.-Col. Sherwill gives the following account of these curious and interesting *silhouettes* :—

“DEAR SIR,—In continuation of our conversation, I have now the pleasure to forward the remaining nameless *silhouettes* then mentioned by me. You will perceive that some are duplicates of those already handed in by me.

“All I can gather with regard to the maker of the collection is as follows :—

“In the latter end of last century a Doctor James Lind, M.D., F.R.S., resided at Windsor. He had an unmarried daughter then living with him, who was very clever at cutting out *silhouettes* from life without even pencilling them. This lady subsequently became my mother; but the following extract just received from one of my sisters gives further information on the subject. She says: ‘As regards the *silhouettes*, I thought you knew that they were *all* cut out by our dear mother. I still have in my possession the small scissors she used for the work. It was all done from life, without the aid of any instrument. As “Lucy Lind” she was constantly in the company of royalty, and as all the scientific men of the day visited at our grandfather’s house, she had no want of opportunity for the exercise of her talents. She was a perfect artist in this line, as well as in sketching likenesses, so that you may depend on their being perfectly correct likenesses and therefore valuable. Grandpapa (Dr Lind) was a friend of the King’s, not his physician. Queen Charlotte used to delight in hearing him read and relate his travels, he having been round the world with Capt. Cook, which in those days was considered a great exploit. He had also visited China, and spoke the Chinese language, and in company with Dr Solander he paid a visit to Iceland.’”

[Dr James Lind, a native of Edinburgh, took his degree of M.D. at that University, May 3, 1748. He filled the office of Physician in the Royal Hospital of Haslar, and was well known by his writings. Dr Lind was admitted a Fellow of the Royal College of Physicians, Edinburgh, May 1, 1750; and died at Gosport, July 18, 1794.]

(11.) By JAMES CURLE of Evelaw, Esq.

Metatarsal Bone of an Ox, from Whitrig Bog, Berwickshire.

(12.) By Rev. JOHN CAMPBELL, Iona.

Swivel Seal, glass paste mounted in brass, one side bearing a shield with three crescents and three stars, the other two birds with a triple branch between them, found in Iona.

(13.) By Rev. WILLIAM HERDMAN, Minister of Rattray.  
A leaden Church Token, Parish of Rattray, 1708.

(14.) By JAMES DRUMMOND, Esq., R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot.  
Spinning-Wheel of Birch and Mahogany, Ivory-mounted.

(15.) By Mrs. W. FETTES DOUGLAS.  
Fragment of a Bronze Vessel in Calcareous Earth, from Rome.

(16.) By R. M. SMITH, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.  
Publications of the "Islenzka Bókmentafelag" Society. 43 parts.

(17.) By Dr J. T. LOTH, the Author.  
The Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite. 4to. London, 1876.

(18.) By the AUTHOR.  
Notes and Sketches illustrative of Northern Rural Life in the 18th century. 12mo. Edinburgh, 1877.

There were also Exhibited :—

(1.) By Miss PEARSON, 5 Pitt Street.  
An Original Copy of the National Covenant of 1638, with signatures.  
(See next page.)

(2.) By Capt. JOHN CUNNINGHAME of Balgownie.  
An original Copy (with signatures) of "Ane Godlie Band for the Maintenance of the Evangell, 1557."

A special vote of thanks was given to Capt. Cunninghame of Balgownie, who intimated his intention of Presenting to the Museum the original copy of the Godly Band of 1557, now exhibited.

The following Communications were read :—