

V.

NOTICE OF A SEPULCHRAL CHALICE AND PATEN OF PEWTER, FOUND
IN BERVIE CHURCHYARD. BY REV. J. GAMMACK, M.A., DRUMLITHIE,
CORR. MEM. S. A. SCOT.

In the middle of December 1882, the grave-digger in the churchyard of Bervie found, at the depth of about $4\frac{1}{2}$ or 5 feet from the surface, the accompanying chalice and paten. The site in the churchyard was about 5 yards southward from the south-east corner of the ruined old church, and the turf or soil did not appear to have been disturbed for many years. The objects were found together among the mould, with the appearance of bones near them. The chalice had been standing upon the paten, and apparently with the bowl downwards. If, as is probable, they had been

buried in the coffin of some ecclesiastic, the weight of the mould, as the coffin decayed, had squeezed the chalice into a depressed condition, and there is no appearance of distortion beyond what would result from direct vertical pressure. The metal, as is usual in such sepulchral deposits, appears to be lead or a heavy pewter. We owe this valuable relic of antiquity to the care and kindness of the Rev. John Brown, M.A., parish minister of Bervie.

But this peculiar *find* at Bervie suggests two questions of great interest as to (1) the prevalence of such deposits, and (2) the position of Bervie as an example of them in Scotland.

(1) The fact is unquestioned that the presence of *insignia* of honour and office, belonging to the deceased, has been common at burial in all ages. It seems to appeal to some natural instinct, and from this consideration we are prepared to receive the evidence that episcopal and sacerdotal interments were often graced with such observances. It was an appeal to the sympathetic attachment of the living, and an unmistakable honour to the dead, that the bishop should be consigned to his last resting-place in the vestments and with the *insignia* of his office, and the priest as still in the discharge of his sacerdotal functions. We have little, if any, record of the actual placing of chalice or paten in the coffin with bishop or priest, but we have abundant *ex post facto* proof on the opening of the tombs, that such had been done. Without going to the Continent, where the same custom was followed, we find a chalice and paten with Bishop Grosseteste (thirteenth century) at Lincoln, with Archbishop William de Melton (fourteenth century) at York, and with Bishop Swinfield (fourteenth century) at Hereford, but they are singularly seldom met with in Scotland.¹ It is worthy of note that the custom of placing

¹ On inquiry at some of the English cathedrals, we learn that there is no record of any having been found at Canterbury, Ripon, or Carlisle; at Durham none has been found since Henry's Commissioners rifled the tombs in 1541; at Wells there is a pewter chalice; at Lincoln, some half-dozen found in the graves of Bishops Grosseteste, Gravesend, and others; at Hereford, two chalices and patens, the one set (of silver) being from Bishop Swinfield's tomb (1282-1315), and the other (of pewter) from the tomb of his contemporary, and probably his relative, Gilbert de Swinfield,

a chalice and paten in the grave is not of early date, but belongs to the later Middle Age, when the spirit of religion was becoming more and more materialised and hid in formal observances. Though we read that at the Reformation the grave of St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne was opened by King Henry's commissioners, and found to contain "a ring of gold, a chalice of gold and onyx, and a paten," yet there is no reason whatever to believe them older than the enshrinement in 1104, when the new cathedral at Durham was made a fitting and final resting-place for the often-shifted relics of the saint; we know that the relics were enshrined with the utmost reverence and honour. But when the remains of St Swithin were raised from their grave, and replaced with honour, in 970; or those of St Edward, king and martyr, in 979; or those of Adulfus, archbishop of York, in 1002; or those of St Oswin, king and martyr, in 1065, at Durham; or those of Wallenus, second abbot of Melrose, in 1171; or those of Ada, bishop of Caithness, in 1239; or the bones generally of the preceding abbots of Melrose, in 1240, we have no mention made of any special *insignia*, unless we are to suppose that the "vestments" were something different from the ordinary trappings of the tomb. This, however, is but negative evidence with regard to the date, *quantum valet*. The shape of these *calices sepulchrales* is always very plain or with the slightest decoration. I send outlines of the chalice and paten found in Bishop Swinfield's grave at Hereford, as represented in Messrs Th. Pratt & Son's *Catalogue of Church Furniture*; the paten shows in the centre a hand raised in benediction, and encircled with the words "Dextera Dei," but the one found at Bervie is plain.

(2) We may assume at once that the grave at Bervie belongs to a date

chancellor of the choir (d. 1297); at York Minster there are three silver chalices, still sometimes used at the altar; at Lichfield, three chalices, two at least being pewter; and at Wells, a pewter chalice. Though found in the churchyard at Kingoldrum with the well-known bell in 1843, the bronze chalice and glass bowl do not appear to have been properly sepulchral, but buried for security. At the Scotch museums we can find no specimens of the sepulchral chalice or paten, except, perhaps, two patens at the manse of Birmie; and the chalice and paten of wax from the tomb of Bishop Tulloch of Orkney in the National Museum.

prior to, or very soon after, the Reformation in the sixteenth century, and unfortunately we know little of the condition of Bervie till some time after the separation of the parish from Kinneff. About the end of the thirteenth century Bervie is ranked with Dundee, when, as related by John of Fordun (*Ann.* i. c. 30), King William conferred on his brother David, Earl of Huntingdon, "the earldom of the Garioch, the town of Dundee, the town of Inverbervie, and the lordship of Longforgan, with many other lands." In 1483, when the Parliament, held in Edinburgh on the 21st day of March and continuation of days, imposed taxes upon the burghs beyond the Forth, Bervie is rated at 10s., which may be compared with Forfar's £1, 6s. 8d., Arbroath's £2, Brechin's £4, Montrose's £5, 6s. 8d., and Dundee and Aberdeen's £26, 13s. 4d. (*Spald. Club, Misc.*, v. p. 27). In the temporal lordship of Lindores, the Commendator and first Lord Lindores in 1600 had conferred upon him by royal charter, for his "good and faithful services," *inter alia*, "an annual rent of eight shillings from Bervie, in the county of Kincardine." And as matter of fact, from the time of its receiving the charter of a royal burgh from King David II. in 1342, and again from its renewal by King James VI. in 1595, Bervie, or more properly Inverbervie, must have been a place of some local importance, and up to the beginning of the present century it contained residences of the neighbouring gentry. About the fifteenth or sixteenth century, and probably earlier, there seems to have been a House of the White Friars, whose places of residence and interment were near the "Friars' Dubbs," near the east end of the burgh. The late Precentor Walcott mentions the names of three priors—James Howysone about 1480, John Lyndsay about 1539, and John Anderson (without a date); by the beginning of the seventeenth century the friary was decayed, and the revenues, &c., alienated. But of the details of Bervie's social and ecclesiastical condition we have no evidence. In 1608 it was still a part of the parish of Kinneff, and the parish minister maintained a suffragan at Bervie. In 1618, the Lords for the Plantation of Kirks disjoined Bervie from the parent parish. But before its disjunction, the royal burgh must have been the chief centre of population in the parish of Kinneff, and

had probably a chapel and place of interment within the bounds of the burgh. In the Old Taxatio there is entered "Kinneff cum capella," and this *capella* is more likely to have been at Bervie than at Barras in the same parish. In other words, the cause of the disjunction of Bervie from Kinneff was, in all likelihood, not the mere extent of the parish, but the claims of Bervie as already possessing the population and ecclesiastical appliances without the parochial status. Of the priests, however, who served there in the pre-Reformation period we have no record whatever, and this chalice and paten were placed to honour the tomb of some priest now unknown, who rests from his labours, and to the world is nameless.

MONDAY, 11th June 1883.

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

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows :—

Rev. DONALDSON ROSE, Minister of the Free Church, Brechin.
JAMES B. KERR, Banker, Kelso.

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

(1.) By GEORGE HAMILTON, Skene House.

Cup-shaped Stone, a circular Boulder of granite, flattish above and below, $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter and 6 inches thick, with shallow cup-shaped hollows of about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter and 1 inch deep on its opposite surfaces, found in a Stone Circle at Skene, Aberdeenshire.

(2.) By J. H. RIVETT-CARNAC, C.I.E., &c., F.S.A. Scot.

Steel for flint, mounted in brass-bound leather case, with chatelaine of pins, ear and tooth-picks, pincers, &c., from Dakri in Kumaon, North-Western India.

String of thirty Beads of glass or stone; one flat Spindle-whorl of stone, pierced in the centre; two flat Spindle-whorls of stone, unpierced; one Spindle-whorl of burnt clay, in form of a truncated cone; one Bead of stone, unpierced. [See the subsequent Communication by Mr Rivett-Carnac.]

(3.) By the TRUSTEES OF THE INDIAN MUSEUM.

Catalogue and Handbook of the Archæological Collections in the India Museum. Part i. By John Anderson, M.D. Calcutta, 1883. 8vo.

(4.) By the SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INDIA.

Archæological Survey of Southern India. Lists of Remains in the Presidency of Madras. By Robert Sewell. Vol. i. Madras, 1882. 4to.

(5.) By HEW MORRISON, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Guide to Sutherland and Caithness. 12mo. Edinburgh, 1883.

(6.) By the SENATUS OF THE UNIVERSITY.

The Edinburgh University Calendar, 1883-84.

(7.) By LAUCHLAN MACKINNON, Elfordleigh, the Author.

Genealogical Account of the Family of Mackinnon. Privately Printed. 1882.

(8.) By D. DOUGLAS, 15 Castle Street, the Publisher.

Scotland in Pagan Times—The Iron Age. The Rhind Lectures in Archæology for 1881. By Joseph Anderson, LL.D. Edinburgh, 1883.

(9.) By the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES, London.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London. (Second Series.) Vol. viii. Nos. 4-6; vol. ix. No. 1—Archæologia; vol. xlvii. part 1.

(10.) By the BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Journal of the British Archæological Association. Vol. xxviii. parts 2-4, and vol. xxix. part 1.

(11.) By the ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

The Archæological Journal. Nos. 154-157.

(12.) By the CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

Archæologia Cambrensis. The Journal of the Cambrian Archæological Association. (Fourth Series.) Nos. 49-52.

(13.) By the ROYAL HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND.

The Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland. Nos. 50-53.

(14.) By the ROYAL SOCIETY OF NORTHERN ANTIQUARIES, Copenhagen.

Aarboger for Nordisk Oldkyndighed. 1882, parts 2-4, and 1883, part 1.

Memoires de La Société Royale des Antiquaires du Nord. 1881.

(15.) By the ROYAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, &c., through Dr HANS HILDEBRAND, Royal Antiquary of Sweden.

Teckningar ur Svenska Statens Historiska Museum. Parts 1, 2.

Svenska Sigiler fran Medeltiden. Vol. i.

Anglo-Saxiska Mynt i Svenska Kongl. Myntkabinettet. Stockholm, 1881.

Minnespenningar ofver Svenska Man och Qvinnor. Stockholm, 1860.

Sveriges Konungahusets Minnespenningar. Stockholm, 1874-75.

Antiquarisk Tidskrift for Sverige. Vols. iv., v., vi.

Kongl. Vitterhets Historie och Antiquitets Manadsblad. 1872-1881.

(16.) By the SWEDISH SOCIETY OF ANTHROPOLOGY AND GEOGRAPHY.

Ymer, Tidskrift utgiven af Svenska Sällskapet for Anthropologi och Geografi. 1882-83.

(17.) By the NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Numismatic Chronicle and Journal of the Numismatic Society. 1882, parts 2, 3, 4, and 1883, part 1.

(18.) By Rev. BEAVER H. BLACKER, M.A., the Editor.

Gloucestershire Notes and Queries. July 1882 to January 1883.

(19.) By the ANTHROPOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.

The Journal of the Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland. Vol. xii.

(20.) By JAMES B. KERR, F.S.A. Scot., Kelso.

Manuscript in the handwriting of Sir Walter Scott, apparently a rough draft:—

V E R S E S

WRITTEN

BY

THE COUNTESS OF WOLLENLUSS

Reques(t)¹ a Russian Lady

“Lady they say thy native land
 Unlike this clime of fruit and flowers²
 Loves like the minstrels northern strain
 The sterner share of natures powers
 Even Beautys powers of Empery
 Decay in the decaying bowers³
 Untill even you may set⁴ a task
 Too heavy for the poet's powers

¹ The *t* is wanting.

² Originally written, “clime of fruit flowers and.”

³ “sun” obliterated before bowers.”

⁴ The word “set” is twice written.

"Mortals in vain—so says the Text
 Seek grapes from briars from thistles corn
 Say can fair Wollenluss expect
 Fruit from a withered Scottish thorn
 Time once there was alas but now
 That time returns not now again
 The shades upon the Dial cast
~~Indelibly~~¹
 Proceed but pass not back again

"Yet in this land of lengthened day
 Where April wear the autumns hue²
 Awakened by the genial ray
 Thoughts of past visions strive to blow
 The blood grows³ warm the nerves expand
 The stiffened fingers take the pen
 And"

Mr Kerr has communicated some notes regarding this manuscript to the *Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club* for 1879. From these notes it appears that the MS. was obtained in 1878 from the niece of John Nicholson, the faithful valet of Sir Walter Scott, who died at Kelso in 1841. It seems to be the rough draft of some verses written at Rome in April 1832, when Sir Walter was very infirm. In Lockhart's *Life* it is mentioned that when at Rome, a lady had requested him to do something which was disagreeable to him. He was asked whether he had consented. His answer was "Yes—why, as I am now good for nothing else, I think it as well to be good-natured." Perhaps this anecdote may refer to the Countess of Wolkonsky. In the grounds of the villa Wolkonsky at Rome there is a monument erected to Sir Walter Scott's memory. It is a pillar, about 3 feet high, with a broken top, and bearing the inscription—

¹ The line beginning with "Indelibly" obliterated was not completed, and the following line substituted.

² This line was originally "When April wear autumnal wreath," and "hue" is altered from "glow."

³ Originally "glows."

A Walter Scott
 La douce lampe
 De nos veilles
 S'est eiteinte.

The Countess Wolkonsky belonged to a well-known family of Polish extraction, and though the reading of the MS. is certainly "the Countess Wollenluss," it seems probable that Sir Walter, in his extreme illness and weakness, had mistaken or half-forgotten the name.

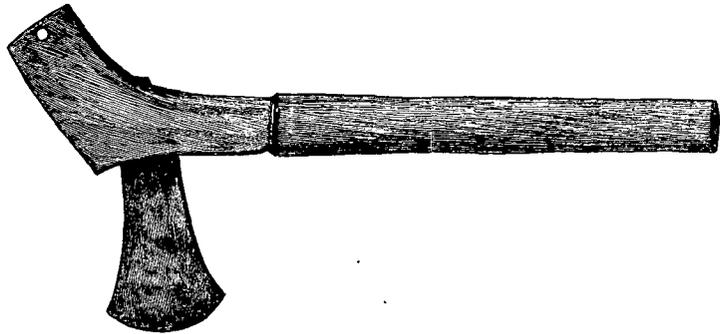
LIST OF PURCHASES

Acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library,
30th November 1882 to 2nd June 1883.

1. Bronze Palstave or Winged Celt, found at Drumfad, Blackford, Perthshire, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, the extremities of the wings slightly bent over the shaft.
2. Old Scotch Lock and Key.
3. Flat Highland Powder-horn, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and 4 inches wide at the base, ornamented with circles of interlaced work and geometrical patterns, and having the initials D. M. and the date 1669.
4. Carved Ivory Comb, double-edged, the centre ornamented with a pattern of foliaceous scrolls, stated to have been found near the ruins of the Nunnery, North Berwick.
5. Wrought iron Toaster, from Inverkeithing.
6. Large Highland Powder-horn, 17 inches by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, plain.
7. Quaich of Bell-metal, the bottom enclosing a coin of James VII.
8. Variegated Bead of serpentine, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, found in the river Lyon, near Fortingall.
9. Wrought iron Finial, from an old house in Blyth's Close, Edinburgh.
10. Polished Stone Celt, $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, from High Slock, Kirkmaiden; and twenty Arrow-heads of flint, from Glenluce, Wigtonshire.

11. Carved Highland Powder-horn, 15 inches by $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches, with pewter mounting of the mouth, and the initials D. G. and the date 1680.
12. Wooden Case, carved and inscribed with couplets, of the seventeenth century.
13. Polished Celt, $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, from Harrow Hope, near Stobo, Peeblesshire.
14. Two Sepulchral Urns, one cinerary, 9 inches high and 7 inches diameter, the other of food-vessel type, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high by $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, both found near Drumshargard, Cambuslang, Lanarkshire.
15. Two Carved Oak Panels, with dragonesque ornamentation.
16. Penannular Gold Armlet (broken), found in the Western Isles.
17. Four polished Stone Celts, viz., of sandstone, $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length by 3 inches across the cutting face, from Corennie, Cluny; of sandstone, $8\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length by 3 inches across the cutting face, from Corse, Coull; of gneiss, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the cutting face, from Williamston, Kincardine O'Neill; of gneiss, $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by 3 inches across the cutting face, from Hill of Mortlach, Lumphanan, Aberdeenshire.
18. Bronze Palstave or Winged Celt, 6 inches long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the cutting face, found near Peterhead.
19. Twelve Arrow-heads of Flint, from Aberdeenshire.
20. Wrought iron Toaster, from Dunfermline.
21. Three basket-hilted Broadswords.
22. Small Sepulchral Urn, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches high by $4\frac{5}{8}$ inches diameter, found at Yetholm.
23. Arrow-head of Flint, from Jedburgh, and Whetstone, from Lammermuir.
24. Large wedge-shaped Hammer of greenstone, $9\frac{1}{4}$ inches by 4 inches, perforated, found near Roslin.
25. Polished Stone Celt, $5\frac{3}{8}$ inches in length by 3 inches across the cutting face, found at the Loch of Menteth.
26. Flint Arrow-head, found at Doune, Perthshire.

27. Five Spears, and iron Hatchet (of the form of the Bronze flat Celt) in its handle, probably from the Fan tribes of the Gaboon, West Africa. The implement is shown in the annexed woodcut.



Iron Hatchet in its handle (18¼ inches in length).

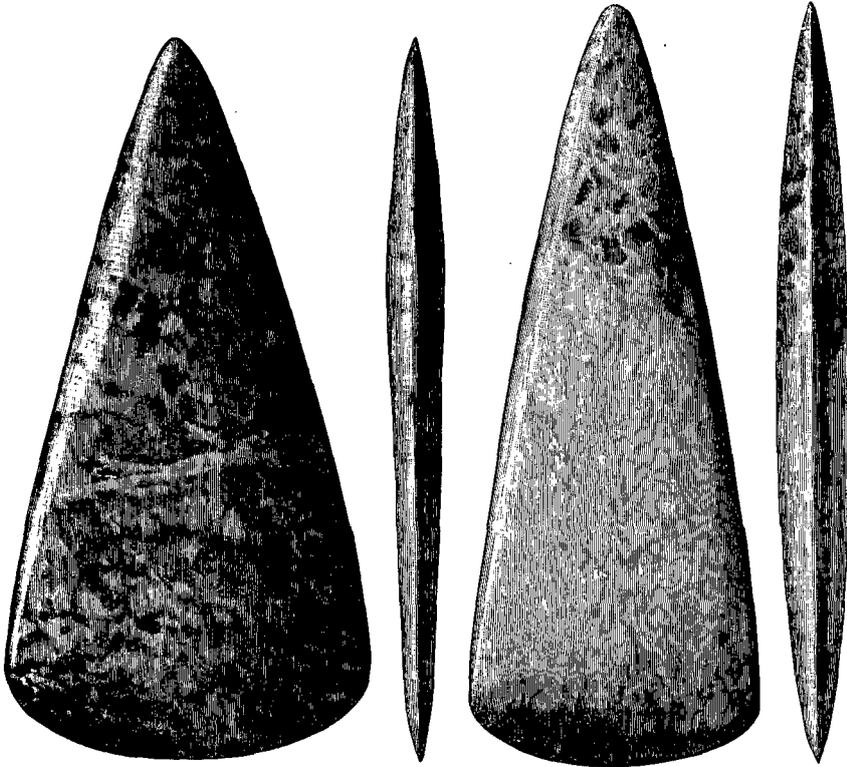
28. Collection of 2750 objects, chiefly in Flint, Bronze, or Brass, including Arrow-heads, Knives, Scrapers, &c., of Flint, and Brooches, Needles, Pins, Buckles, Fasteners, &c., of Bronze or Brass, found in the Sands of Culbin and Findhorn, Morayshire.
29. Boutell's Christian Monuments, 1854; Boutell's Monumental Brasses and Slabs, 1847; Missale Drummondense. Edited by the late Rev. G. H. FORBES. 1881.

There were also exhibited:—

- (1.) By ARCHIBALD STAVERT, of Hoscote.

A finely polished Celt or Axe-head of aventurine quartz, recently ploughed up on the farm of Cunzierton, near Jedburgh. It is 7½ inches in length, 3¾ inches in greatest breadth across the cutting face, tapering regularly to the butt. It is remarkable for its thinness in proportion to its width, the greatest thickness at about one-fourth of its length from the butt being only about ⅝ inch. In form it closely resembles a speci-

men in the Museum, found on the banks of the Ericht, in the parish of Rattray, Perthshire, and presented by Robert Herdman, R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot., in 1873. The Perthshire specimen is also composed of a somewhat similar material, though not so fine and transparent in texture and highly



Celt of Avanturine, ploughed up at Cunzierton, Roxburghshire ($7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length).

Celt of Jadeite, found on the banks of the Ericht (8 inches in length).

polished. It measures 8 inches in length by 3 inches in greatest breadth, and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in greatest thickness. Another example of similar material and the same triangular form, but flattened on one side to a more adze-

like shape, $8\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length, 3 inches in greatest breadth, and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in its greatest thickness, is also in the Museum. It was found near Glenluce, Wigtownshire, and was presented by Rev. George Wilson, Glenluce, Corr. Mem. R.S.A., in 1871. There is also a portion of a similar specimen from Castle Douglas, Kirkeudbrightshire, presented in 1782.

(2.) By ALEXANDER HUTCHESON, Architect, F.S.A. Scot.

Two Earthenware Jars, taken from the walls of an old house in Dundee. [See the subsequent Communication by Mr Hutcheson.]

(3.) By Dr BLAIR, Tayport, through ALEXANDER HUTCHESON, F.S.A. Scot.

Urn of "Drinking-cup" type, found at Tents Muir, near Leuchars, Fife.



Urn found at Tents Muir, near Leuchars (5 inches high).

This urn, which was found in fragments in a hollow between the sand-

hills, and has been reconstructed by Dr Blair, is 5 inches high and 5 inches diameter at the mouth, the diameter of the base being $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches. It belongs to the type of tall narrow sepulchral vessel, with thin everted lip and bulging sides, commonly known as "Drinking Cups," to distinguish them from the wider and more bowl-shaped variety with thick lip, commonly known as "food vessels," both of which are found with unburnt bodies. Its ornamentation consists of impressions like those of a twisted cord of two strands wound spirally round the vessel from bottom to brim. A triple band of the same markings surrounds the inside of the rim.