NOTE OF A STONE ON THE MOOR NEAR DULLATUR, CALLED THE CARRICK STONE, SHAPED LIKE A ROMAN ALTAR, AND HAVING CUPS ON ITS UPPER SURFACE. WITH A DRAWING. By W. A. DONELLY.

The stone, of which a rough sketch is given in fig. 1, stands on a rounded knoll overlooking Dullatur and Cumbernauld, on the line of the old moor road between Glasgow and Stirling, and about \( \frac{3}{4} \) of a mile to the southward of the line of the Roman Wall. It is known locally as the Carrick Stone, and is also said to have been a Roman altar, which its shape certainly suggests, and it has also a legend attached to it that King Robert the Bruce, on some one or other of his campaigns, raised his standard upon it. It is of buff-coloured sandstone, and measures 3 feet 1 inch in height, and 2 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 9 inches in breadth and width upon the top, narrowing considerably in the middle of its height, and expanding again to the bottom.

Apart from all conjectures as to its historic associations, the stone seemed to me to be chiefly interesting on account of the cup-markings on its upper surface. It is not a cup- and ring-marked stone, but some of its cups have unmistakable ducts leading from them, one of which is
very deep. The two larger cups are about 8 inches in diameter and 4½
inches in depth; the two smaller have no ducts, and do not exceed 3
inches in diameter. Most of those who have visited the stone, I believe,
regard it as a Roman altar, but I have not been able to find any
explanation of the cups upon the top, which are certainly not usual
accompaniments of a Roman altar. Could they have been upon the
stone before it was made into an altar? Another curious feature is the
worn and rubbed appearance of the waist of the altar, as if it had been
subjected to powerful friction. It reminded me of nothing so much as
one of the old wooden pauls on a pier, the middle part of which had
been worn much thinner than the upper and lower parts by the constant
friction resulting from the mooring of vessels to it.

Having been asked whether the stone was called after the farm of
Carrickstone, on which it stands, or whether the farm had received its
name from the presence of this particular stone, I revisited Dullatur and
procured some further information. It seems that the present genera-
tion has confused this stone with another which was formerly called the
Carrick Stone. The latter was a large slab, which lay horizontally on the
ground at the foot of a field about 200 yards in a direct line from the front
door of Carrickstone farm-house, and at the base of the slope of the field.
This stone, as described to me, was a rudely dressed slab of freestone,
having inscribed on its surface, in large and boldly incised letters, the
one word C A R R I C K, and the local tradition said that it marked the
grave of a noted Covenanter who was killed and buried here. In 1857
this stone went the way of so many other relics of the past, and was
used in the erection of a modern farm-steading on the site of the older
Carrickstone farm. I went to the farm, and made a careful survey of
all the dykes, outhouses, and garden-walls, and finally of the farm-house
itself. Mr Pollock, the present tenant, who has been in the farm for
twelve years, gave me his cordial permission to search within the build-
ings for such a slab as I was in pursuit of, but there were none of the
kind wanted except some paving-stones in the boiler-house floor, and
these Mr Pollock told me he had laid down himself, and they had no
marks of any kind upon them. The only other large stone he knew
was one at the foot of the steps at the front door. It looked likely
enough, but no marks were to be traced on its upper surface, and to
make the matter certain it was raised to allow the under side to be
examined. No marks of any kind, however, were discovered. If this
were the original Carrick Stone, it must have been re-dressed and all
traces of the inscription erased.

After some inquiry, I succeeded in disentangling the confused tradit-
ions of the two stones. The cup-marked stone is more generally
known as the 'Standing Stone;' or the 'Roman Altar,' and it is the
one which is associated by tradition with King Robert the Bruce, and
sometimes confused also with the original Carrick Stone, which no
longer exists, so far as I could make out. The site of the Coven-
anter’s Stone is about half a mile from the place where the cup-
marked stone stands. Carrickstone Farm is mentioned in a parchment
deed dated 1401, which makes the Covenantter's legend all the more
puzzling.

MONDAY, 10th May 1897.

JAMES MACDONALD, LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

Rev. ARCHIBALD ALLAN, Minister of Channelkirk.
ROBERT SHIELLS, Banker, Neenah, Wisconsin, U.S.A.

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

(1) By J. G. BAXTER, Gilston, Colinsburgh, Fife.
Oval Disc of stone. 3½ by 2¾ inches, with shallow, flat-bottomed
hollow in the centre, found in draining at Gilston.

(2) By ARTHUR YOUNG.
Part of a Wooden, Comb-like Implement, having a single row of
twenty-three flat brass teeth, like short, pointless knife-blades inserted by tangs, found in the Garroch Burn, Glenkens, Kirkcudbrightshire.

(3) By John Bruce, F.S.A. Scot.

Highland Brooch of brass (fig. 1), 4 inches in diameter, ornamented on obverse with interlaced work in triangular spaces, and figures of animals placed back to back in oval spaces, the reverse plain, but bordered with bands of herring-bone work, found in Titwood Bog, Pollokshaws.

(4) By John Shedden Dobie, F.S.A. Scot.

(5) By the **Numismatic Society**.


(6) By the **Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society**.


(7) By the **Shropshire Archaeological Society**.


(8) By the **Somersetshire Archaeological Society**.


(9) By the **Surrey Archaeological Society**.

Collections of the Surrey Archaeological Society.  Vol. xiii.  8vo.

(10) By the **Sussex Archaeological Society**.

Sussex Archaeological Collections.  Vol. xi.  8vo.

(11) By the **Wiltshire Archaeological Society**.


(12) By the **Chester Archaeological Society**.

DONATIONS TO THE MUSEUM AND LIBRARY.

(13) By the Essex Archaeological Society.

(14) By the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.

(15) By the Associated Architectural Societies.

(16) By the Geological Society of Edinburgh.

(17) By the Edinburgh Architectural Association.

(18) By Sir Herbert Maxwell, Bart., M.P., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
Robert the Bruce and the Struggle for Scottish Independence. 8vo; London and New York, 1897.

(19) By William Stevenson, Leith.

The following Purchases—Articles acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library during the session 30th November to 30th April 1897—were Exhibited:
Luckenbooth Brooch of silver (figs. 2, 3), enriched with settings of paste, from Obbe, Harris, Island of Lewis.

Carved Distaff, 33\frac{1}{2} inches in length, from Harris, Island of Lewis, resembling those figured in the Proceedings, vol. xii. p. 309.

Jacobite Quaich of wooden staves, bound with hoops of cane, 4\frac{3}{4} inches diameter, having a circular silver plate let into the bottom on the inside, on which is engraved the initials J. R. with a crown above and the date 1692 below; the upper surfaces of the handles are also mounted with triangular plates of silver bearing the initials B. H.

Small Bronze Dagger-blade of the thin triangular variety, found in a cist at Letham Quarry, near Perth. [See the previous Communication by Mr F. R. Coles, p. 183.]

Penannular Armlet of gold, measuring 2\frac{3}{8} inches diameter, with very slightly expanded ends, formed of a beaten rod \frac{1}{2} inch thick, and weighing 636 grains, ploughed up on the farm of Briglands, Fossoway, Kinross-shire.

Flanged Axe of bronze, 4\frac{3}{4} inches in length by 2\frac{1}{4} in width across the cutting face, and having crescentic hollows on both sides underneath the stop-ridge, found near Largs, Ayrshire.

Axe of granitic stone, 6\frac{1}{4} inches in length by 2\frac{3}{4} inches across the cutting face, broken at the butt-end, from Clachan, North Uist.

Small Circular Silver Brooch, 1\frac{1}{16} inch in diameter, with faintly engraved ornament of triangles, filled with lines parallel to one side, from Waternish, Skye.

A Pouring of Bronze, found in a mound near Fort-William.
Pair of Stirrups of brass, 5\frac{1}{4} inches in height and 4\frac{1}{4} inches in width.

Fig. 4. Stirrup of brass, one of a pair found in Dundee. (\frac{1}{4}.)

with nearly circular foot-rests, found in Dundee. One is here shown (fig. 4) from a drawing by Mr. Alex. Hutcheson, F.S.A. Scot.

Fig. 5. Straight-edged Saw of flint, from Kippit, Daldhinton. (\frac{1}{4}.)

Two Arrow-heads of flint, with barbs and stem; two Saws of flint, one being straight-edged and finely serrated (fig. 5), measuring 1\frac{1}{4} inch.
in length by \(\frac{1}{2}\) inch in breadth; the other slightly curved and \(1\frac{1}{2}\) inch in length; Stone Axes, viz.—(1) of clay slate, \(5\frac{3}{4}\) by \(2\frac{1}{4}\) inches, (2) of greenstone, \(3\frac{3}{4}\) inches by \(2\frac{1}{4}\) inches, imperfect at the butt, (3) roughly made Axe of greenstone, \(3\frac{3}{4}\) inches by \(2\frac{5}{8}\) inches, three broken Axes; a Whorl of dark-coloured shale, \(1\frac{3}{8}\) inches diameter; and Flint flakes and Scrapers,—all found on the farm of Kippit, Dolphinton.

Collections of Flint Implements from Culbin Sands, Elginshire; Golspie Links, Sutherlandshire; and Tannadice, Forfarshire. The collection from Culbin Sands includes the hollow-faced Saw shown as fig. 6.

Carved Wooden Spindle (fig. 7), 8 inches in length, ornamented with interlaced work, from Kilmuir, Skye.


Earthenware Money-jar or Purley-pig, found full of gold coins of 16th century at Perth. It is a small globose vessel of reddish earthenware, unglazed, 31/2 inches in height and 33/4 inches in diameter, having a flat bottom, and a circular knob at top. It was found, on 29th Dec. 1896, by a little girl aged 5 years, who was playing on a heap of rubbish which had been carted from the excavation for the foundation of the new Post Office, High Street, and deposited on a vacant piece of ground beside her father’s house on the Edinburgh road. After playing with it for a time, she rolled it against a stone and broke it, scattering the contents. What was recovered of them consisted of the following gold coins:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coin Information</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John of Portugal</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis I. of France (1515–1547)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louis XII. of France (1465–1515)</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain (1474–1516)</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 25

The Money-jar (fig. 7) is shown in the accompanying illustration, and along with it another (fig. 8), of brown glazed earthenware, which
was recently found in excavating for the foundation of the new Municipal Buildings, Edinburgh, on the west side of Exchange Square, and which is exhibited to the Society by the kindness of Bailie Dunlop. Jamieson defines a purlie-pig as a circular vessel of crockery, which has no opening save a slit in the top, but he gives no indication of the antiquity of the custom.

There were Exhibited:


Curious cup- and ring-marked Boulder of sandstone, found at Gallowhill, parish of Cargill, Perthshire. [See the subsequent Communication by Rev. G. C. Baxter.]


Fragments of an Urn of drinking-cup type, finely ornamented, found in a cist near Gallanach, Oban.


Silver Tankard, found in an ancient structure in the parish of Canisbay, Caithness.

Mr Corner gives the following account of the tankard, and of the circumstances in which it was found:

"The silver tankard (fig. 9) was given me by my friend Alexander Mitchell, M.D., and he obtained it from the original finder when residing in Caithness. The discoverer stated that he found it in a 'Pict's House' near John o' Groat's, in the parish of Canisbay. The finder did not consider the vessel of any value, nor did Dr Mitchell for some time
notice that it was of silver, but kept it because of the crudeness of art and workmanship shown in its manufacture. Dr Mitchell also tells me that these 'Picts' houses' have been used from time to time as places of refuge, and for hiding, smuggling, and the like, so that things found therein are often of much later date than the structures themselves.

"The tankard is of hammered silver, and made up of four separate pieces, viz., the body, the bottom-piece, the rim, and the handle. It is 4½ inches high, 3½ inches diameter at the mouth and 3½ at bottom: it weighs 9 oz. 10 dwts. troy. The rim band is ornamented by two incised lines, having between them a central circle, slightly elevated above its edges. Its upper edge is bevelled towards the cavity; near the handle it is broken, and partially separated from the body-piece, probably at the junction of the band. The body-piece is sutured down one side, the handle being inclosed in the suture. This suture leaves a rough, slightly elevated ridge on the surface, which has been filed down by a rough instrument: the striae remain distinctly. It is ornamented above and below by a series of seven incised lines passing completely round. They are roughly cut, and irregular incisions are to be seen where the tool of the workman slipped. In both sets of lines will be seen a series of little pits or depressions: the edges of the pits are in places broader than the lines,—the explanation I think being, that the operator first marked out the lines by pits and then joined them by incisions. The bottom-piece is circular, with its edges turned up so as to embrace the body-piece, which is thus inserted into it. The turned-up portion is incised by two less regular lines than those mentioned above: there are no pits, and the incisions often overlap. The handle is curved, and of a C shape of a ¾ inch broad band, and is ornamented by two sets of incisions, very irregular in character. The vessel holds a little over a pint of water. I have failed in finding any notice of any similar specimen, but I consider it of a more recent date than the 'Pict's House,' in which it was found. But what age or by whom made I have no evidence to show."

Mr. Alexander J. S. Brook, F.S.A. Scot., of Messrs Brook & Son, goldsmiths to Her Majesty the Queen, 87 George Street, has been kind enough to examine the tankard. He says—

"The quality of the silver in the tankard is 9 oz. 8 dwt. 12 gs. to the
lb. troy. This is very coarse, as 11 oz. is the old Scottish standard, and 11 oz. 2 dwt. the modern standard. As to the date, it is very difficult to form an opinion. I should think, from several indications about its make, that it is the work of a coppersmith of one of the small Scottish burghs."