

V.

NOTICE OF WORKING DRAWINGS SCRATCHED ON THE WALLS OF
THE CRYPT AT ROSLIN CHAPEL. By ROBERT ANDERSON, Esq.,
ARCHITECT, F.S.A. SCOT. (PLATE I.)

In a few words I wish to bring to your notice a number of markings on the walls of what is generally known as the Crypt at Roslin Chapel, and which on close examination I found to be working drawings.

The one I first observed was on the south wall, and is the rough indication of a working drawing for a pinnacle. Observing others on the north wall of a different nature, I made an accurate survey of each wall, laying down all the stones exactly, and examining every one. The result of this is shown on the sketch I now lay before you. (Plate I.)

Various other lines may be observed on the north wall, but these have apparently been rubbed out previous to drawing the ones shown on the sketch, and nothing can be made of them.

These markings consist of—1. A drawing of a pinnacle. It is not possible, from its very incomplete state, to identify it with any of the pinnacles

now existing, but it evidently has reference to one or more of those on the buttresses of the south side. There are no other drawings on this wall.

2. A pointed arch, A. This has reference to the arches of the windows of the retro-choir, the part representing the gusset of masonry between the extrados of the window arch and the vaulting. (Plate I.)

3. A vaulting rib, B, with cuspings. This is one of the cusped vaulting ribs of the retro-choir, as it agrees with them in size and number of cusps.

4. Various lines, C, having reference to vaulting, but as they are incomplete they cannot be identified with any part of the building.

5. Two circles, DD, one of them cusped. These are drawn from centres on the same level, and evidently refer to one thing; but as there are no circles cusped in this manner now to be seen about the building, I can scarcely say what they were intended for. Probably the parapet of the aisle, a portion of which still remains, is very ornate, and no doubt the design of each compartment was treated differently.

The other markings are too incomplete to say anything definite about them. The question is, "How came such drawings to be made on these walls?" They are undoubtedly of the same age as the building, and probably the handiwork of the master mason who built this wonderful chapel. They therefore indicate that the crypt was built before the chapel. Every one acquainted with the practical details of carrying on a building such as this knows that the full-sized drawings are made on a horizontal, scarcely ever on a vertical surface, and as these drawings are all incomplete, and do not accurately agree with any part of the structure, it is highly probable that they are mere trials or tentative drawings to solve questions in construction, that were being worked out on the floor of this crypt, which no doubt served as the drawing-board for all the work that has so long been the admiration of visitors to this interesting spot.

MONDAY, 10th *February* 1873.

BARRON GRAHAME, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., in the Chair.

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

R. ANGUS SMITH, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., &c., Manchester.

WM. R. M'DIARMID, Esq., Whitehill, Dalbeattie.

JOHN SMALL, Esq., M.A., Librarian of the University, Edinburgh.

CHARLES RAMPINI, Esq., Advocate, 21 St Bernard's Crescent.

DAVID SEMPLE, Esq., Writer, Paisley.

P. H. M'KERLIE, Esq., Bayswater, London.

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

(1.) By the ROYAL HISTORICAL AND ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION OF IRELAND, through their Secretary, Rev. JAMES GRAVES.

Specimens of Pottery from the Crannog of Ballydoo Lough, county Fermanagh, Ireland, comprising :—

Portion of Pot-like Vessel, with ear, being part of the rim and bulging

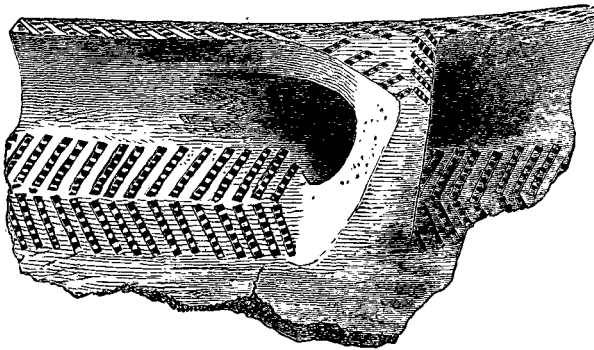


Fig. 1. Fragment of Pottery from Ballydoo Lough Crannog, 1.

side of a vessel of coarse, dark-coloured, hard-baked clay. The thickness of the vessel at the brim is about half-an-inch, the top of the brim is

flattened and surmounted with obliquely impressed rows of markings with a square-ended punch applied while the clay was soft. Below the rim, on the upper part of the globular bulge of the pot, is a chevron pattern formed of rows of impressed markings similar to those on the rim. (See figure 1.)

The mode of ornamentation presents some resemblance to that on silver articles in the Cuerdale hoard, dating somewhere about the 9th century; but, on the other hand, it is not very unlike that of the early sepulchral urns usually found associated with weapons of stone. Mr

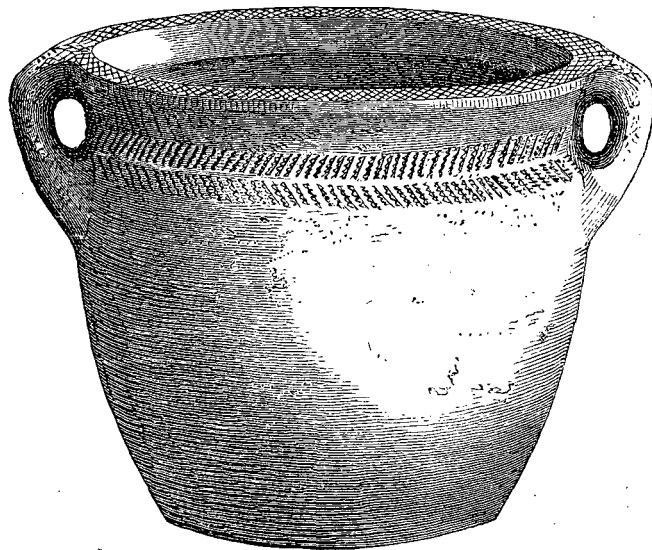


Fig. 2. Fictile vessel from Ballydoo Lough Crannog (restored).
(13 inches diameter.)

Albert Way, to whom some of this pottery was submitted, says in a note to Mr Wakeman:—

“Your samples seem to come nearest to our Anglo-Saxon, which is, of course, black or dingy brown paste, full of small grit or particles of stone, to give some greater consistence to the ill-compacted clay. There certainly appears to me to be some resemblance, though not identity, between

your ware and the vessels found so abundantly with us; but your forms are much better, the contour more graceful. The two wares are perfectly distinct, although there may be some indications that might suggest the idea that the two are not far apart as regards period. The little ears are also peculiar. The impressed ornament is not of the earliest period with us. I should not, however, ascribe these remarkable wares to a very early age; for instance, to that in which the use of bronze was prevalent. I have sought in vain for data on which to ground any reliable opinion as to the date of this very curious pottery."

Portion of the Lip of a Vessel, which in the texture of the clay, and also in its style and shape of ornament, somewhat resembles the Lewis craggans, described and figured in the Proceedings, vol. ix. p. 205, except that the ornamentation is bolder and more regular, consisting of short oblique lines drawn deeply in the soft clay with some pointed instrument.

Portion of a similar Vessel like the pot first mentioned, ornamented, but much smaller.

Three Fragments of the Side and part of the Bottom of three plain Vessels, not differing greatly in colour and texture of clay from the others.

A Description, with plans, of the Crannog of Ballydoo Lough, from which these relics came, is given by Mr W. F. Wakeman in the Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland for 1871, vol. i., 4th series, p. 360.

(2.) By Rev. JOHN SOUTAR, Inverkeithing, through ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Stone Ball, 3 inches diameter, of a coarse gritty felstone, with seven flat circular projecting knobs cut on its globular surface. Similar balls are described in the Proceedings, vol. vii. p. 102, vol. v. p. 340, and vol. iii. p. 439.

(3) By Dr G. FITZJAMES COLBURN, Newark, New Jersey.

Arrow Head of brownish flint, 3 inches in length, found in Monmouth County, New Jersey, U.S.

(4.) By THOMAS EDMONSTON of Buness, Esq.

Two Models of Shetland "Casies," or peat-creels of straw.

(5.) By Mr J. MILNE, Photographer, Abbey House, Arbroath.

Photograph of a Bronze Alms Dish said to have belonged to the Abbey of Arbroath.

(6.) By ALBERT WAY, Esq., A.M., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Photograph of a Gold Ornament recently dug up at Chatham, apparently a bracelet, weighing over 22 oz., and having its surface worked spirally into grooves and ridges.

(7.) By Mrs SCOTT, Mansion House Road, through GEORGE SIM, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Curator of Coins.

The New Testament, Coverdale's revised edition, printed at Paris 1538, for R. Grafton & Co., London. 8vo. This edition is very rare, the copies, it is said, having been seized at Paris, and destroyed by the Inquisition.

(8.) By ARTHUR LAURENSEN, Esq., Lerwick, the Author.

Two Norse Lays: "The Home-bringing of the Hammer," &c. Translated from the Old Norse. Kirkwall, 1872. 8vo.

(9.) By the COMMITTEE OF THE SCOTT CENTENARY EXHIBITION.

Catalogue of the Exhibition held at Edinburgh in July and August 1871, on occasion of the Commemoration of the Centenary of the Birth of Sir Walter Scott. Edinburgh, 1872. 4to.

(10.) By DAVID SEMPLE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Poll Tax Rolls for Renfrewshire, 1695; privately printed. 1872. 8vo.

Saint Mirin: an Historical Account of Old Houses, Old Families, and Olden Times in Paisley. Paisley, 1872. 8vo.

(11.) By the SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF NEWCASTLE.

Lapidarium Septentrionale. Part iii. Folio. 1871.

(12.) By the ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF KENT.

Archæologia Cantiana. Vol. viii., 1872. 8vo.

There were also exhibited :—

- (1.) By the HERITORS AND KIRK-SESSION OF THE PARISH OF FORGUE,
through ALEX. MORRISON, Esq. of Bognie, F.S.A. Scot.

Silver Chalice, with the following inscription :—"GIFTIT · TO · GOD · AND ·
TO · HIS · CHVRCH · BE · IAMES · CREIGHTOVN · OF · FRENDRAVEHT · TO · THE ·
KIRK · OF · FORRIG · 1633."

Silver Salver, with the inscription round its edge :—"GIFTIT · TO · GOD ·
AND · HIS · CHVRCH · OF · FORGUE · BY · JAMES · VISCOUNT · OF · FRENDRAVGH ·
LORD · CRICHTONE ;" and having a Coat of Arms in the centre with the
motto, "GOD · SEND · GRACE." (See subsequent paper by Dr Stuart.)

- (2.) By the Rev. DAVID ARNOT, D.D.

Silver Flagon of the High Church, Edinburgh, inscribed :—

"Praefecto Ballivis Concilio et Comitati
Edinburgi Regni Scotorum Acropolis
Georgius Montaignus nuper
Decanus Westmonasteriensis
nunc Episcopus Lincolnensis
Libens merito donavi
Anno MDCXVIII."

Silver Chalice of the High Church, Edinburgh, inscribed :—"GIVEN BY
THE PAROCHINERS ON THE NORTH QUARTER FOR THE COMMUNION, 1643."

- (3.) By the SENATUS ACADEMICUS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ABERDEEN,
through Professor STRUTHERS.

Silver Chain, with Ornamented Disc and Tassel, found in 1735 under
the flooring of Marischal College Library, Aberdeen. (See subsequent com-
munication by Dr John Alexander Smith on "Ancient Silver Chains.")

- (4.) By Sir J. NOEL PATON, Kt., R.S.A., F.S.A. Scot.

Jousting Helm, middle of Thirteenth Century.

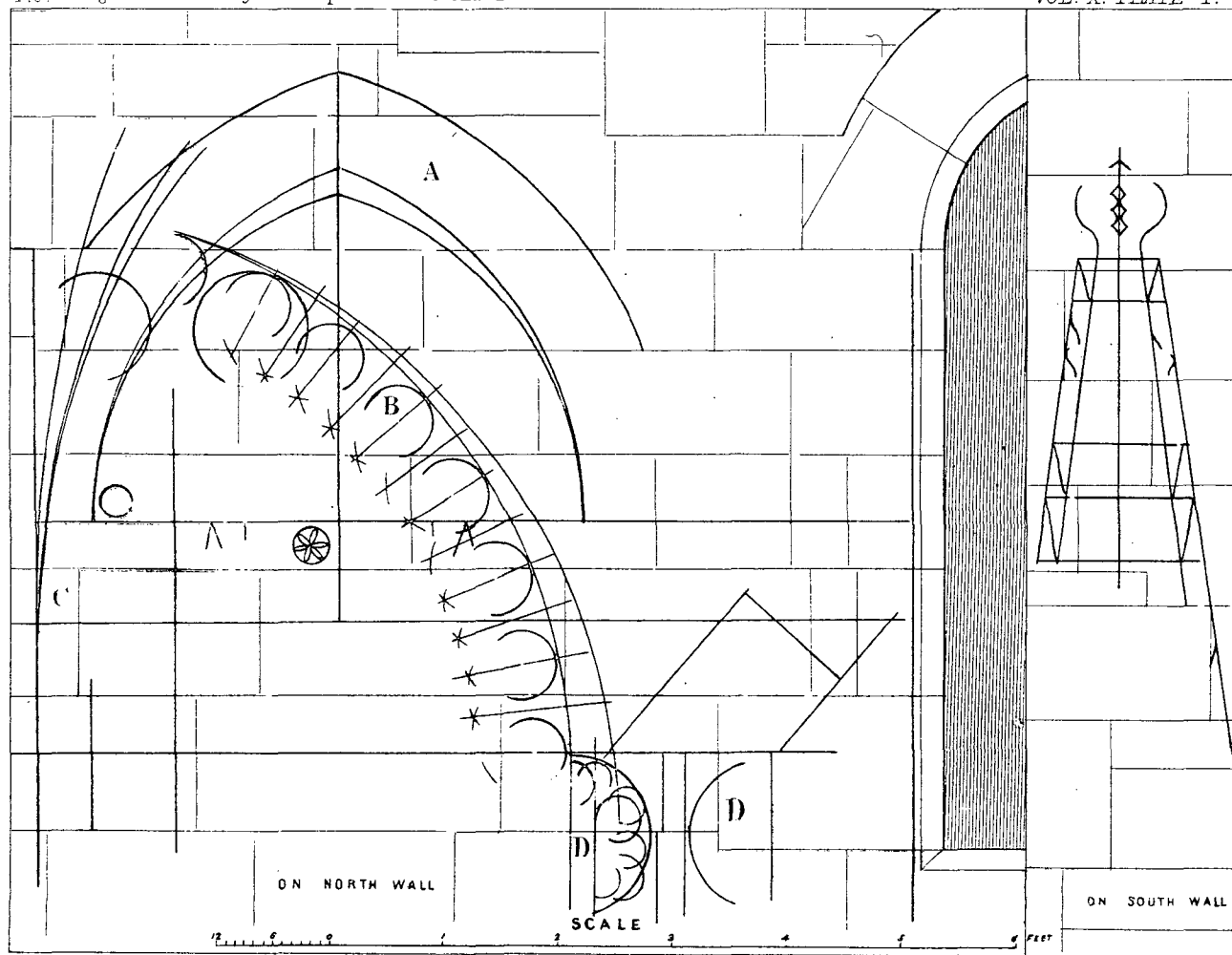
Jousting Helm of Sir Richard Pembridge, middle of Fourteenth Century.

Jousting Helm, last quarter of Fifteenth Century.

Jousting Helm, end of Fifteenth Century.

Detailed descriptions and drawings are given in the communication by Sir J. Noel Paton on the Jousting Helm of Sir Richard Pembridge in the *Archæologia Scotica*, vol. v.

The following Communications were read :—



Robt Anderson fecit.

WORKING DRAWINGS IN CRYPT, ROSLIN CHAPEL.

W & A K Johnson, Edinburgh