

## VIII.

ON CUP-MARKED STONES IN THE NEIGHBOURHOOD OF INVERNESS.  
WITH AN APPENDIX ON CUP-MARKED STONES IN THE WESTERN  
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Inverness is in the centre of a district remarkable for the number, character, and variety of its archæological remains. These are usually in a very fair state of preservation, though the hand of the spoiler has not spared some of the best. They consist of chambered cairns, with and without encircling standing stones; stone circles; hut circles; monoliths, sculptured and plain; tumuli, graves, cists, crannogs, and pile-dwellings; hill forts, some of which are vitrified; and other evidences of prehistoric life.

Among these remains there exists a large number of stones bearing those ancient sculpturings known as cup-marks and cups-and rings.

A few of these have already been described and figured by Sir J. Y. Simpson in his work on this subject, included in the *Proceedings* of

<sup>1</sup> This paper was read at the meeting of the Society on 9th May 1881, but its publication has been delayed in consequence of the number of its illustrations and fresh discoveries.

the Society (vol. vi. appendix, read 14th March 1864), and published separately under the title of *Archaic Sculpturings of Cups, Circles, &c., upon Stones and Rocks in Scotland, England, and other countries*;<sup>1</sup> by Dr. Stuart, in *The Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, one of these the Boar Stone, near Inverness (vol. i. pl. xxxviii.), and another at Moniak (vol. ii. pl. cxxx.), with the figure of a kilted (?) man, which, however, also contains several cups not there represented; by Dr. Arthur Mitchell, in his *Vacation Notes*, read before the Society on 13th April 1874 (see *Proceedings*, vol. x.), namely, two stones in the circle at Corrimony in Glen Urquhart, which are, however, incorrectly drawn; and by Miss Maclagan in her *Hill Forts, Stone Circles, &c., of Ancient Scotland* (1875), who describes the Clava and other cairns near Inverness, and figures two cupped stones at Clava (pl. xxvi.). None of the others have as yet been described or figured. Several of them have been known to local students of the subject and others, and have been visited by the Field Club of Inverness in their excursions; but most of them have been only recently discovered. They are mostly found on the south shores of the Moray Firth, within a radius of twenty miles of Inverness.

The carvings are in general those of the very simplest type figured by Simpson, a plain unadorned cup of varying size. Some of the cups are surrounded by single rings; several have connecting gutters; others are associated with larger hollow basins carved on the stone; and some have incised lines, enclosing two or more cups. The number of cups on single stones varies from 1 to 113. They occur on stones connected with standing circles and with chambered cairns, and on separate monoliths; and for the first time in Scotland, these sculpturings have been discovered in connection with churchyards, in which they have been utilised for monuments and grave stones. The cups are carved on stones of varying composition, most of them on sandstone, many of them on gneiss and granite.

<sup>1</sup> These were two of those at Clava (p. 28 and pl. x.), two at Bruiach near Beaully (p. 16), merely mentioned, and another mentioned (p. 65) but not figured—five in all, two of them sketched.

## PART FIRST.

*CUP-MARKED STONES IN CONNECTION WITH CAIRNS, CHIEFLY CHAMBERED.*

## I. STONES AT CLAVA ON THE NAIRN.

One of the most remarkable spots for archæological remains in Scotland is the plain of Clava on the Nairn, below the battlefield of Drummosie Muir or Culloden. Here the river is skirted on its eastern bank by a flat haugh, which stretches for several miles along its course. Until lately this haugh consisted of the usual rough, stony, and gravelly deposits of the country, overgrown with broom, whin, and heather, and scattered over with an unusual number of large carried blocks of various rocks; but it has been greatly reclaimed, and is now more or less cultivated, and the cultivation is yearly extending. On this plain are found the remains of a very extensive series of chambered cairns with encircling standing stones, which had originally stretched for some two miles along the river.<sup>1</sup> Of these cairns only three now remain in a state to indicate their original character and completeness, though these are but the mere shadows of what they were within the memory of persons now living. Of three others, once large and perfect, only a single monolith remains, in each case, as the solitary representative of what they had been. Besides these chambered cairns, the whole surface was covered with tumuli of various kinds, their size and style doubtless indicating the rank or position in life of their occupants, from the usual small rude hummock of stones to the larger and more carefully built cairn, enclosed by a circle of larger blocks laid side by side upon the ground. Several hut circles also existed, only one of which now remains with a well-preserved enclosing wall, and the usual opening to the S.S.E.<sup>2</sup> So numerous are the tumuli and cairns that covered this

<sup>1</sup> See a plan of part of the series in Miss Maclagan's *Hill Forts*, &c. (pl. xxvi.), and description, p. 74.

<sup>2</sup> On the edge of a field to the east of the three remaining chambered cairns, on the other side of the road that goes from the bridge to Welltown.

valley, that the plain of Clava would seem to have been a central burial ground of note to the prehistoric cairn builders.

*Cairn No. 1.*—The northmost chambered cairn (herein called cairn No. 1), nearest to the farm of Clava, is the most complete of those now remaining. It consists of a circular pile, some 52 feet in diameter, held in by a circle of contiguous blocks, and enclosing in its centre a bee-hive chamber, 12 feet in diameter and 8 to 10 feet in height. The base of the chamber consists of fifteen larger blocks placed side by side, with a *passage running south-west leading into it from the outside of the cairn*, formed of a double line of similar blocks, with horizontal stones laid on them to reduce the whole to an equal height, so as to support the flat slabs that formed the roof of the passage. Outside the cairn proper, and enclosing it, is a circle of ten remaining large blocks, at pretty regular intervals of from 26 to 34 feet, at an average distance of 24 feet from the containing blocks of the cairn. This cairn, though sadly ruined, shows somewhat of its original form and appearance, but it is daily falling down, through being trampled upon by frequent visitors, and being tampered with by local hands. If the small stones that form the body of the cairn were removed, and the larger blocks left, the whole would present the appearance of three concentric stone circles, the stones of the two inner circles being side by side, and those of the outer separated. Counting from the central point of all, in the middle of the cairn, these circles would stand at the distances from the centre of 6, 24, and 48 feet respectively. All the stones in the outermost circle, of which there had been eleven, still remain intact, except one, and they all stood erect except four, two of sandstone on the south side, one on each side of the entrance passage, and one of gneiss, the fifth from the entrance in the east side, and second from the entrance in the west side. But these have been recently put up on end in their original positions by the proprietor, Mr. Davidson of Cantray, who has erected all the fallen blocks of the three larger cairns, and otherwise cleared off the obscuring brushwood and removed the turf round them, so as to expose them in their present state completely to view. This cairn remained unopened

till 1830, the year after the Great Floods of '29, of which Dick Lauder gave so picturesque and well illustrated an account. In 1830 Mrs. Campbell, who was then resident at Kilravock Castle, a few miles lower down the Nairn, had the cairn explored and the central chamber and passage laid open. A short account of her discoveries is given by Dick Lauder in the *Moray Floods* (chap. i. and appendix No. vii.), with drawings of the chamber and the two urns discovered there. The more perfect of these urns was found exactly in the centre of the inner chamber, some 18 inches below the surface, in a very dilapidated state, and it enclosed some calcined bones.

1. In this cairn one cup-marked stone was first noted many years afterwards, in 1862, by Dr. Grigor of Nairn,<sup>1</sup> at the inner end of the passage on the left hand looking inwards, being the last stone of the

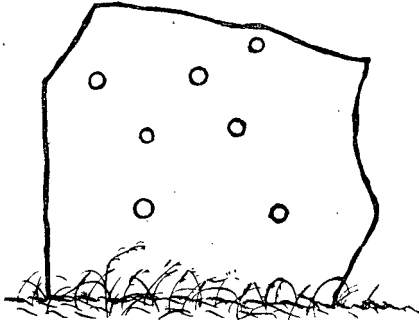


Fig. 1. At Clava.

passage on that side. It is figured in Sir James Simpson's work on the cup stones (No. 4, pl. x.), and its position in the cairn is shown there on a ground plan<sup>2</sup> (No. 2 of same pl.). The drawing given in this plate is not quite correct, either as to the number and position of the cups and the shape of the stone, showing only five cups, while there are seven. A correct

drawing is given here (fig. 1). The stone on which they occur is a flat reddish-yellow sandstone, of the variety found in the bed of the Nairn close by, all the sandstone slabs about Clava being of the same

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Grigor was asked by Sir James, then Dr. Simpson, to seek out such stones in his neighbourhood. He found the two figured in Sir James's work as at Clava, and saw, he says in a letter to me, "other cup markings there, but did not deem them worthy of being sketched."

<sup>2</sup> The plans in these plates of Simpson's are those of the *innermost circle and passage only*.

Old-Red beds, which here come to the surface along the banks of the river, and which are worked in several places for local use. The cups are well formed and very distinct. It is not a little remarkable that this is the only cupped stone yet found in connection with this cairn or its enclosing standing stones, considering that cups are so abundant in the other cairns near it, and that this is one of the best of the series. It is very probable, however, that some of the larger stones were cupped. In such stone-encircled cairns in the neighbourhood of Inverness, there stands near the entrance into the cairn in the outermost circle the largest stone of the group, which in most cases is more or less cupped. The largest monolith here is immediately to the west of the entrance, 12 feet long and 4 feet broad, and till recently lay flat on the ground. From being composed of the yellowish sandstone of the district, and lying on the outer face of the stone, which is the cupped side, the original surface has decayed, thus destroying all sculpturings that it may have contained. A second large stone not unfrequently accompanies the largest, on the other side of the entrance, and it does so in this case, in the shape of a flat sandstone, 7 feet high by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet wide, which, having also fallen on its face, has had all possible cup markings obliterated.

*Cairn No. 2.*—The cairn (herein called cairn No. 2) immediately to the south of this one has been large, the inner chamber having a diameter of some 20 feet. The breadth from the walls of this innermost circle to the second (which held in the cairn stones) is 15 feet, and from that to the outer circle of standing stones, 25 feet; so that the distances of the circles, from the centre in each case, are 10, 25, and 50 feet. A rough plan of the whole is given in fig. 2. There are eleven stones in the outermost circle, at an average distance of 30 feet. This fine cairn has been quite dismantled, all the smaller stones having been removed; but the two outer circles of stones are pretty complete, though the innermost circle, which formed the base of the enclosed chamber, has almost disappeared.

During the recent clearances and restorations by the proprietor, one most interesting feature was exposed, which seems as yet to be peculiar to this cairn. Between the second and third or outermost circles three

causeways were exposed to view, each running radially from one of the outer monoliths to the second circle, as shown in the plan, one on the west side, and two on the east; the western causeway occupying, as will be seen, a middle direction between the other two. They consist of a rough pathway of rounded stones, with a bounding line of larger stones on each side, the western one being  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad, that is 3 feet wider

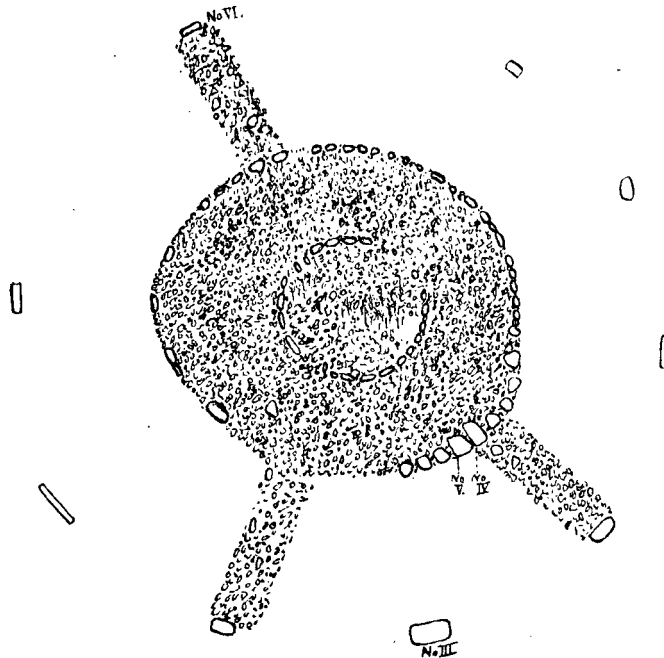


Fig. 2. Cairn No. 2, at Clava.

than the outer standing stone from which it starts; the one to the north, on the east side, being  $8\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad, that is  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet wider than its terminal standing stone; and the other, to the south, being  $7\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad. There are several cupped stones in connection with this cairn, which seem to have some relation to the curious causeways just described.

2. On the standing stone in the outer circle on the east side, between the two stones on that side having the causeways leading to them, several cups occur. This stone is an erect peaked block of grey granite or gneiss,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height and about 5 feet in width. It is shown in fig. 3. The cup marked No. 1 is very distinct, and is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in

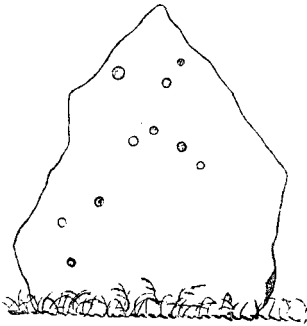


Fig. 3. At Clava.

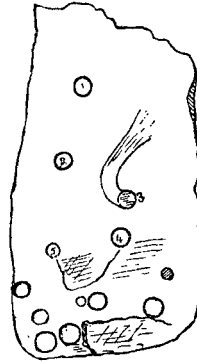


Fig. 3a. At Clava.

diameter. The rest are shallow and less distinct, and from the weathering of the granite, which exposes the sharp crystals imbedded, less smooth than in cups carved on sandstone.

3. At the *inner* end of the north causeway on the east side there are two cupped stones standing side by side, and forming part of the middle circle of the cairn. These were unearthed in June last by Mr. Johnstone, jun., of the neighbouring farm of Welltown, while clearing the surrounding ground of its superabundant shrubs. The north-west one is shown in fig. 3a. It consists of the reddish variety of the sandstone of the neighbourhood, rather rough in grain. There are thirteen cups in all, most of them well formed and very distinct. The two at the bottom of the stone, which have been made on the curved edge of the stone, are round and deep, and must have taken considerable trouble to form, from the nature of the stone there and their position. The curved hollow



running from cup No. 3 seems artificial, and is not uncommon in connection with such cups, as will be further seen.

4. The stone close by this one to the left, which is of a fine-grained yellowish sandstone, has several cups, many of them very well scooped. It is shown on fig. 4. There are some twenty cups in all. Some of them have the unusual peculiarity of being grouped together in clusters of two, as 6 and 7; of three, as 3, 4, and 5; and four or five, as 9 to 13; each group forming in one view an elongated cup, subdivided into shell-like sections by slight sharp elevations running from side to side.

5. The standing stone at the *outer* end of the western causeway of this cairn, forming part of the enclosing separated circle, is covered with a species of small cups, quite unique amongst those described in this paper;

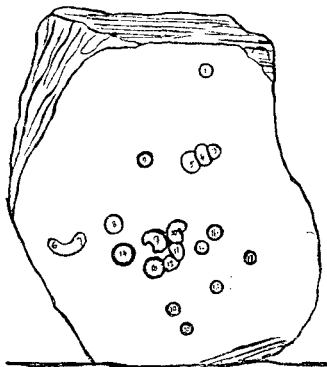


Fig. 4. At Clava.

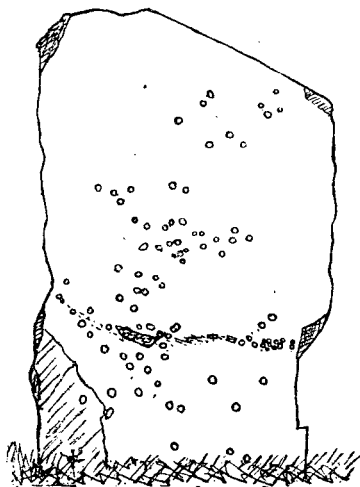


Fig. 5. At Clava.

and, as far as I have yet learnt, it is without a fellow in the country. It is shown on fig. 5. The stone is the reddish-yellow sandstone of the district. It is carved only on its *inner* side facing the cairn, and in this respect also is unique, for in the outer and middle circles of such tumuli the carvings are all outwards from the cairn.

These carvings consist of small, shallow hollows or cups, more or less circular, evidently artificial, generally smooth on the surface, from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter, and quite filled by the point of the finger. At the height also of 1 foot 8 inches from the ground, the stone suddenly contracts in breadth through natural sections in the stone on each side; and between the two incisions there stretches across the face of the stone a line of similar small dimples, evidently made here with some sharp-pointed instrument, which has hewn a rough irregular groove on the left side, half an inch deep. What these curious pittings are I cannot in any way divine. That they are artificial and ancient, like the more regular and common cups, and not the work of a modern experimenter, does not seem to admit of much, if any, doubt; and in this opinion, Mr. Romilly Allen, a Fellow of the Society, who has made a special study of cup sculpturings and who visited Clava with me, distinctly coincides. They deserve special attention. From their smallness and uncommon character, they seem to have escaped observation till now. Similar markings occur on others of the stones described in this paper, as in the stone near Croy (fig. 59).

*Cairn No. 3.*—The great cairn near this one to the south-east (herein called cairn No. 3) is almost as entire as No. 1, though it has been sadly despoiled, the central chamber still existing up to 8 or 10 feet in height, as well as the south-west passage. The stones forming the tumulus itself and the three concentric stone circles, are of the same type as the other two just described. A rough plan is given on fig. 6, with the position of the cupped stones found there, of which there are several, at least seven, more or less good. One of the stones marked (=) was removed from its original position a little to the west, when the present road was, with utilitarian vandalism, run right across the outer circle; as I am informed by the proprietor, Mr. Davidson. I mention this to prevent future error.<sup>1</sup>

6. One cup-stone, which is at the inner end of the passage on the right hand facing towards the chamber, and forms the last of its lower course of

<sup>1</sup> The plans of the two Clava cairns are by Mr. Forbes of the Clava Public School.

larger blocks, was discovered by Dr. Grigor of Nairn in 1862. It is figured in Simpson's book (pl. x. No. 3), and its position shown (pl. x. No. 1). Though better done than the former one from the first cairn, figured by

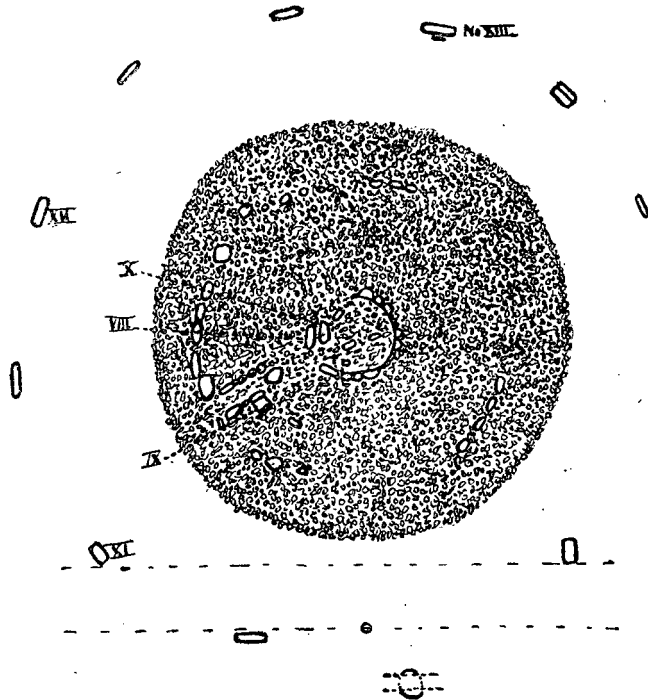


Fig. 6. Cairn No. 3 at Clava.

Simpson on the same plate, it is not quite correct,<sup>1</sup> there being fourteen cups instead of twelve, and two of these having connecting gutters, as shown here on fig. 7. The dimensions of the chief cups are these:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ in.	No. 4.	2 in.	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	2 „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „	„ 5.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „
„ 3.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „	„ 6.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „

<sup>1</sup>Of course, the stone to the left of the cupped stone in Simpson's drawing does not exist, for the passage ends at that side, as will be seen from his own plan below.

They occur on a yellowish sandstone slab, from the immediate neighbourhood, 1 foot 2 inches thick, and roughly 3 feet square. The cups are unusually distinct, deep, and well formed, and are much more squared in outline at the base than is common, being more or less of this shape  $\sqcup$ , instead of the usual egg shape  $\cup$  or the lower half of  $\circ$ . The cups also give very distinct indications of being hollowed, or *dabbed*, out by some sharp-pointed instrument, the pitted marks of which still remain in several cases. Other examples of similar pitted hewing will be found afterwards.

7. In the passage of the same cairn, on the third stone from the outer end, on the right hand, which is a grey granite block, two cups occur (see fig. 8) quite distinct, with indications of a third below.

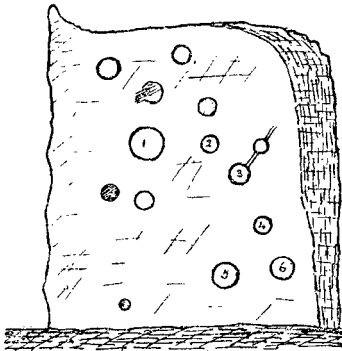


Fig. 7. At Clava.

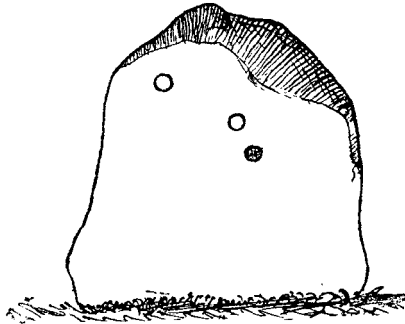


Fig. 8. At Clava.

8. In the same cairn, at the inner end of the same passage, on the last stone on the right hand of the inner circle, forming the counterpart of the stone figured by Simpson, but on the opposite side of the passage, indications of several cups are seen; but from the fissile character of the yellow sandstone on which they were formed, the surface has peeled off to some extent, and the cups are less distinct

9. In the same cairn a flat slab of the same yellow sandstone,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet by  $2\frac{1}{3}$  feet, lies on the top of the rubbish that fills the inner chamber

opposite that on fig. 7. It contains two distinct though shallow cups.

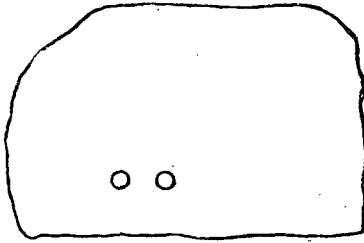


Fig. 9. At Clava.

They are shown on fig. 9.

10. Cups occur on three of the blocks that form the outermost, enclosing, separated circle. The largest monolith, which stands close by the road a little to the south-east of the opening of the passage, consists of a handsome oblong slab of the same yellow sandstone, 7 feet high, 3 feet broad, and 1 foot 2 inches thick. It contains a large number of cups on

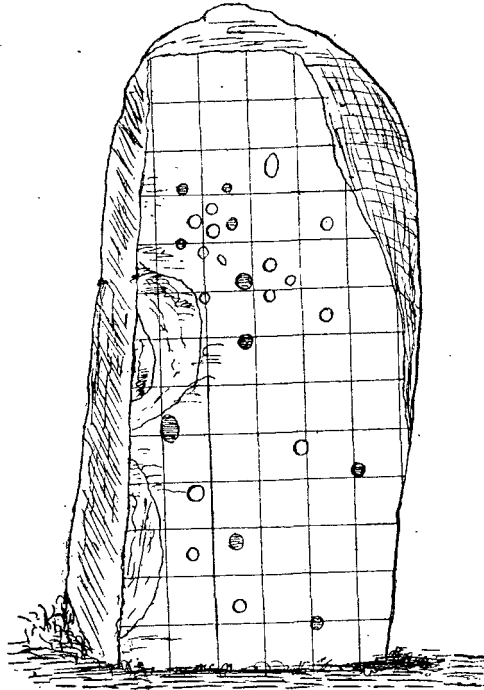


Fig. 10. At Clava.

its outer surface, but these have been greatly obliterated by weathering,

which acts strongly on such soft material, the stone facing towards the rainy quarter. They are, however, quite distinct, and are shown on fig. 10.

11. The next stone to the west of this, in the same circle, consists of a similar but reddish sandstone, 9 feet 3 inches long, 4 feet 2 inches broad, and 1 foot 1 inch thick. It has eight cups on its surface, shown on fig. 11. These are quite apparent, but their distinctness has been affected by the tendency of the stone to peel off in thin layers. When first sketched by me, with some others in the same circle, it lay flat on the ground; but, along with all the other prostrate blocks in the Clava circles, as already mentioned, it has lately been put erect once more. Unfortunately, in this

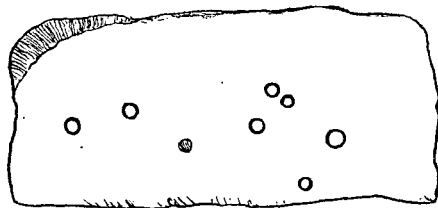


Fig. 11. At Clava.

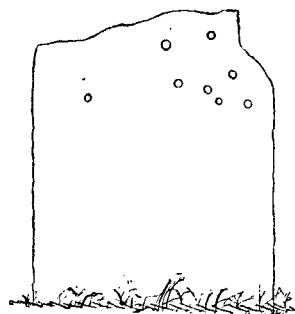


Fig. 12. At Clava.

and in at least one other instance in the same cairn, if not in other cases, the stone has been set on its wrong end; so that the cups, instead of being (as they always are in such cairns round Inverness) on the outside of the stone, facing away from the cairn, they now look *towards* it. Such errors make one question the wisdom of tampering in any way with these monuments, which it would be wiser, for many reasons, to leave in their present dilapidated condition.<sup>1</sup>

12. In the same outer circle, another standing block contains eight cups, figured on fig. 12. This block is 6 feet high, 5 feet broad, 1 foot 4 inches thick at the ground, and 8 inches thick at the top.

<sup>1</sup>The error in the stones referred to in this cairn is soon to be rectified.

## II. THE CHAMBERED CAIRN AT CORRIMONY.

Near the mansion of Corrimony, at the head of Glen Urquhart, there is a very complete cairn, with encircling standing stones, of the same type as those at Clava. Though it has not been opened, there can be little or no doubt that it is chambered. A sketch and plan of the cairn are given on fig. 13.<sup>1</sup>

13. The peculiarity of this cairn is that the largest stone now lies flat

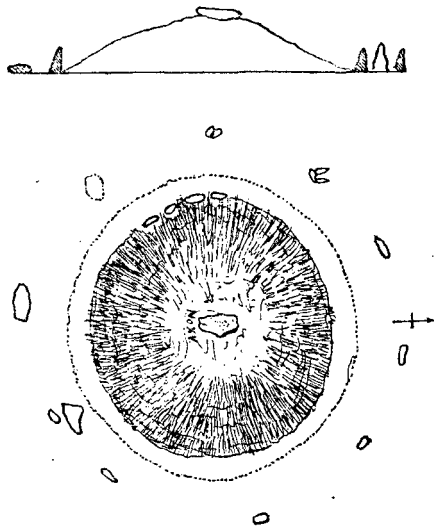


Fig. 13. Ground Plan and Section of Cairn at Corrimony.

on its top. This is, however, not its original place, for it was perched there in 1830 by the late proprietor of Corrimony, Mr. Ogilvy, who found it resting on the west side of the cairn, some 7 feet from the top. Its original position had no doubt been that of one of the standing

<sup>1</sup> This cairn was visited by Dr. Arthur Mitchell some time about 1860, and is shortly described by him, with a rough plan, in his "Vacation Notes" (see *Proceedings of the Society*, vol. x. for 1874).

stones enclosing the cairn, probably filling up the blank in the circle on the south-east side.

This flat central block, now resting on the cairn, is cupped on the upper side. A carefully drawn plan to scale is given on fig. 14.<sup>1</sup> The dimensions of the chief cups are these :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3½ in.	× 1 in.	No. 4.	2¾ in.	× ¾ in.	No. 7.	3 in.	× 1½ in.
„ 2.	2½ „	× ¾ „	„ 5.	3 „	× ¾ „	„ 8.	2½ „	× ¾ „
„ 3.	3 „	× 1 „	„ 6.	2½ „	× ¾ „	„ 9.	2½ „	× ¾ „

The stone is further interesting as containing a large number of connecting grooves.

14. One of the enclosing standing stones (indicated on the plan at X) is cup-marked. It has at least four cups, shown on fig. 15.<sup>2</sup> It is of

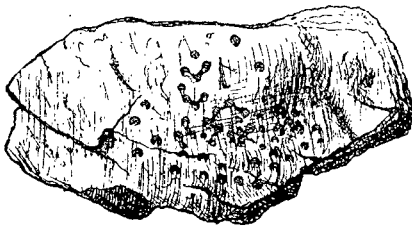


Fig. 14. At Corrimony.

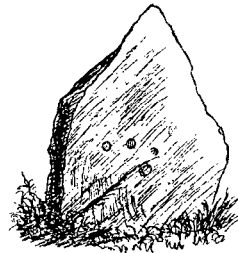


Fig. 15. At Corrimony.

mica schist, with a pretty even surface. The sculptured side faces outwards from the cairn, as in all such cases. These are the dimensions of the cups :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in.	× ⅝ in.	No. 4.	2 in.	× ¼ in.
„ 2.	2 „	× ⅝ „	„ 5.	1 „	× ⅝ „
„ 3.	2 „	× ¼ „			

<sup>1</sup> Drawn, as well as the plan on fig. 13 and the other stones in Glen Urquhart, by Mr. Angus Grant, of the Public school, Drumnadrochit, who wields a correct and artistic pencil.

<sup>2</sup> These two stones are figured by Dr. Mitchell in his "Vacation Notes" (but incorrectly). the central stone on his fig. 23 and the other on his fig. 22. Though he took pains to test their correctness, he was unable to revisit the spot himself.



## III. THE CHAMBERED CAIRN AT CULBIRNIE, NEAR BEAULY.

At Culbirnie cottage, on the farm of Loanbuie, on the edge of the Beaufort woods, above the old church of Kiltarlity, near Beauly, not far from the Public school of Culbirnie, a pretty complete chambered cairn exists, with enclosing standing stones. A plan of it is given on fig. 16. The cairn has been considerably dismantled, and the central

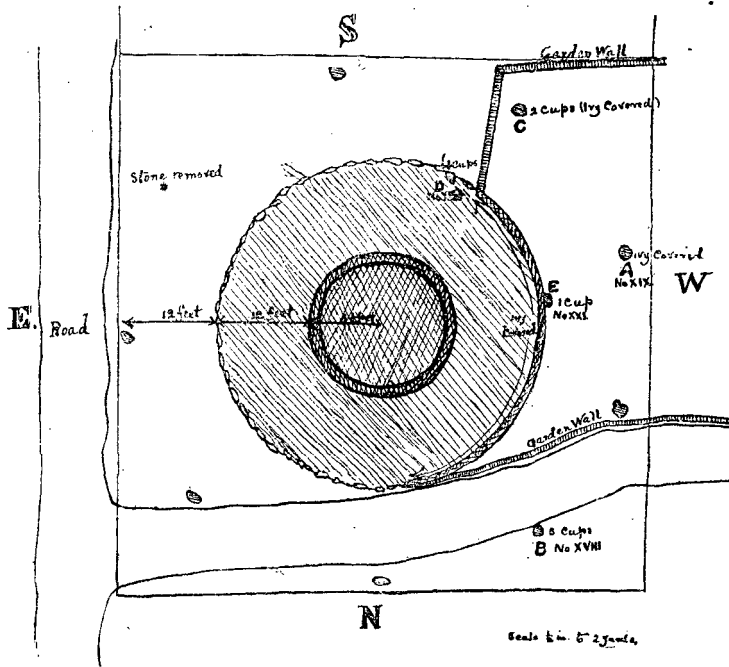


Fig. 16. Plan of Cairn at Culbirnie.

chamber, which is 17 feet in diameter, is only represented by a few feet of its lower circular walls, the entrance passage being obliterated. The diameter of the middle circle, enclosing the tumulus, is 41 feet; that of the outer is 65 feet. The surrounding standing stones are all present and erect, except one, at the south-east corner (as marked), which was

removed some years ago by a mason, who, according to popular rumour, died a sudden death in consequence of this violation! Two of the stones in the garden of the cottage are covered with ivy. The largest (marked A on plan), a fine monolith, presenting a pretty sight, is so hidden by the plant that an examination cannot at present be made, as the proprietor, Lord Lovat, does not wish the ivy interfered with. There are at least four cupped stones in connection with this cairn. The cups in all these are on surfaces looking *outwards from the centre*.

15. The standing stone of gneiss, marked B in plan, has five cups, shown on fig. 17. They are rough. The dimensions are these—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2·2 in.	× 2 in.	×	1 in.	× 1 in.
„ 2.	1·2 „	× 1 „	×	1·3 „	× 1 „
		× 3 „			× 2 in.

16. The standing stone (marked C in plan, and shown on fig. 18) has

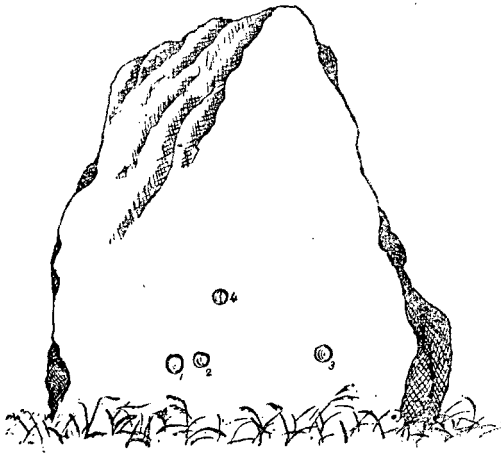


Fig. 17. At Culbirnie.

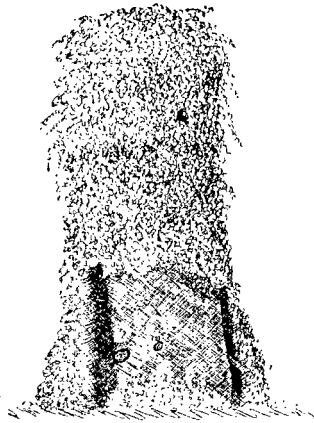


Fig. 18. At Culbirnie.

at least two cups, the closely matted ivy preventing further inspection. It is a fine slab of mica schist, above 8 feet in height and 3 feet in width. The dimensions are—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in.	× 2·8 in.	×	1·8 in.	× 1·6 in.
		× 7 in.			× 5 in.

17. A stone of gneiss (marked D, in the middle circle, and shown on fig. 19) has at least three cups, two on its face and one on its upper side. The dimensions are —

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2 in.	× 1·5 in.	× 4 in.	No. 3.	3 in. × 2·5 in. × 5 in.
„ 2.	2·3 „	× 1·7 „	× 4 „		

18. Another stone (marked E on plan) has one cup. It is shown in fig. 20. The cup is 2 in. × 1·8 in. × 5 in. deep.<sup>1</sup>

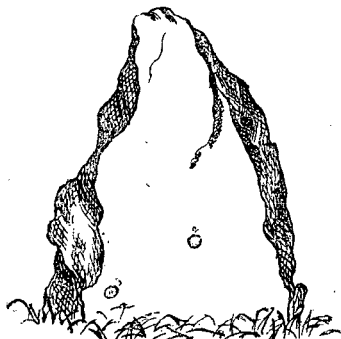


Fig. 19. At Culbirnie.

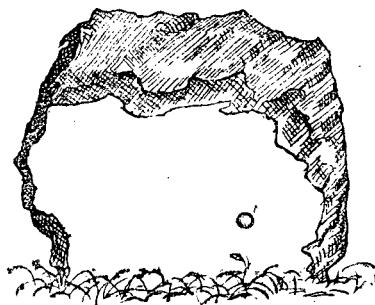


Fig. 20. At Culbirnie.

#### IV. DUNMORE, NEAR BEAULY.

19. To the west of Beauly, on the ridge above the Free Church manse, exist the ruins of what had once been a large *dun*, called from its size Dunmore, the great dun. It consists of a roundish hummocky mound, some 60 yards wide, enclosed by double circular ramparts, with a hollow ditch, 8 to 10 yards wide, between them.

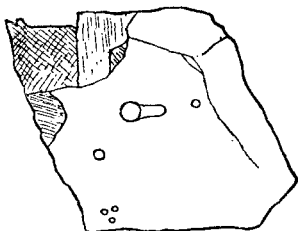


Fig. 20A. At Dunmore, Beauly.

In a hollow on the north-east side of the central mound, a cupped stone is exposed on the surface, shown on fig. 20A. It is a bluish, fine-grained

<sup>1</sup> The plan and stones of this circle, as well as those at Bruiach, are drawn by Mr. John Fraser, of Glenconvinth Public school.

schist, with small rough garnets. The largest cup is 3 inches wide and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep, rounded and well scooped. It has a finger-like hollow to the right, which also seems to be artificial. This dun should be thoroughly excavated, which would no doubt expose more cupped stones and other interesting matters.

## PART SECOND.

*CUP-MARKED STONES IN CONNECTION WITH STONE CIRCLES.*

## I. CIRCLES AT CLAVA.

1. Between the cairns No. 2 and No. 3, a little to the north, there exists a circle 12 feet in diameter, which may have once enclosed a cist or urn, now gone. The circle consists of fifteen stones, all about 3 feet across except two smaller ones, of gneiss and granite, obtained from the surrounding surface. On the east side of this circle, several cups occur on a rough, reddish sandstone flag lying flat upon the ground. It is shown on fig. 21. The surface of the stone is irregular, being roughly divided

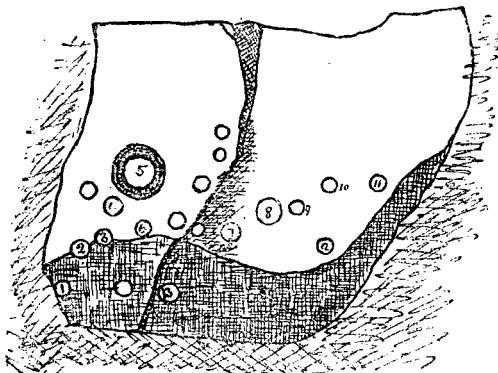


Fig. 21. At Clava.

into two parts (as marked), with different thicknesses, the one surface being some 3 inches lower than the other. There are thirteen cups in all. The most of them are on the upper flat face of the stone, but

others have been made on its sloping side, and some on the rough edge where the two faces meet. No. 5 is large and very well formed, being  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 3 inches in width, and 1·2 inches deep, and is surrounded by a hollow or ring, now much obliterated by weathering. Several others are very good, especially Nos. 2, 3, 8, and 10, the rest being much eaten out or destroyed.

The dimensions are these :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	1·8 in.		No. 8.	3 in. × 2 in.	× 7 in.
„ 2.	2·5 in.	× ·9 in.	„ 9.	2·2 in. × 1·6 in.	
„ 3.	2·3 in.		„ 10.	2 in. × 2 in.	× 4 in.
„ 4.	2·3 in.		„ 11.	2 in. × 2 in.	
„ 5.	3·5 in. × 3 in.	× 1·2 in.	„ 12.	2 in. × 2 in.	
„ 6.	1·8 in.		„ 13.	2·3 in. × 2·3 in.	
„ 7.	3·2 in.	× 2·5 in.			

Besides the three great cairns at Clava, many others had once doubtless existed, some of them now entirely obliterated, where stand the farms of Clava, Welltown, and Milton, which are built in great part, no doubt, out of their ruins; the large slabs and cupped stones found at the last two farms, spoken of afterwards, being pretty positive proof. Some of these dilapidated cairns are now represented by a few broken remains. A single monolith in the middle of the cultivated field between the bridge of Clava and cairn No. 1, is the sole representative of what is said to have been a chambered cairn. It contains no cups or other carvings.

In a field south of Milton, there exist the remains of another cairn with encircling stones. The outer circle is represented by only one great block, a handsome angular oblong mass of yellow sandstone, 7 feet 10 inches high and 3 feet 4 inches wide, which stands quite erect. If any cups ever existed on it, they have been weathered out. There still remain four stones of the middle circle and one of the inner.

Close by this circle to the south there is an oblong enclosure, with two large blocks lying at its south-east corner, forming a kind of entrance to the enclosure. Within it there are the foundations of a small building, known as St. Bridget's Chapel. The numerous large stones still remaining in connection with this enclosure and its contents

would point to the former existence here of another great cairn like the others at Clava.

In the field south of this, there are the ruins of another stone-circled cairn. The inner circle is still very complete, consisting of flat pieces of the yellowish sandstone of the Nairn. The middle circle is yet three-fourths entire, the south-east part having been removed, where a deep hollow shows quarrying or other similar operations. Two cupped stones exist in this middle circle.

2. One of them stands  $35^\circ$  south of east of the centre of the circle, and consists of yellowish sandstone, 44 inches long by  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches high. It contains two distinct cups, shown on fig. 22. No. 1 is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep, good, circular, and very distinct. No. 2 is  $2\frac{1}{4}$  in. across, rough but distinct.

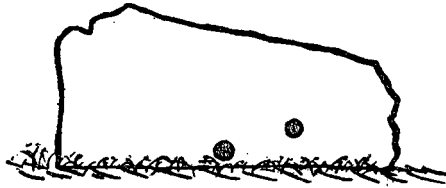


Fig. 22. At Clava.

3. The second stone in this circle, nearly opposite this one,

contains only one cup. The carved surfaces of both stones face *outwards*.

4. The outer circle of separated stones is now represented by the great stone which always forms part of it, more or less opposite the entrance. It is a splendid slab of red sandstone, 11 feet 8 inches in height above ground, and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest breadth. It must be firmly buried for a considerable depth in the ground, for it leans over, and to all appearance quite securely, at an angle of  $20^\circ$ . It stands  $35^\circ$  west of south (true) of the centre of the circle. It probably contained many cups, but from the fissile nature of the stone and its facing the rainy quarter, these have been all obliterated except two at the lower right hand corner. These are shown on fig. 23.

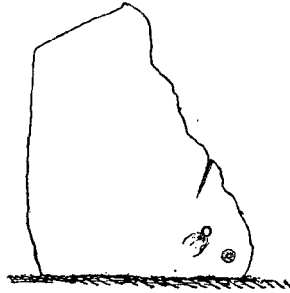


Fig. 23. At Clava.

No. 1 is 2 inches across in the inner part of the cup, which is surrounded by an outer portion which is 4 inches across, and may have been an encircling ring. No. 2 is good and quite circular, but is broken at the lower left side.

## II. THE CONCENTRIC CIRCLES AT GASK, NEAR FARR, STRATHNAIRN.

Close by the farm-house of Gask, at the sixth milestone on the road from Inverness by Leys to Farr, in Strathnairn, there is a so-called Druidical circle. It is similar to those at Clava, consisting of two concentric circles of standing stones set close together, with an outer circle of separated monoliths. Here the inner circle has been almost all removed, only some flat slabs remaining standing on end in the ground. The middle circle is very complete, and is some 25 yards in diameter, consisting of about seventy stones. In the outer circle, the most of the stones still exist, though some have fallen, and others have been moved from their original places for the sake of cultivation. This circle is some 30 yards in diameter, and contains nine stones about 9 yards apart.<sup>1</sup>

Judging from the heaps of rubbish and stones between the inner circles, the original form of this structure may have been that of a chambered cairn like those of Clava, the stones of the cairn having been partially removed. This opinion is supported by several considerations connected with the stone circles round Inverness, such as the existence not only of the same number and style of concentric circles as in the Clava examples, but of the stones of the passage from the middle circle to the innermost, where the chambers would have been, as very well seen in the circle on the old Edinburgh road above Inverness, near Leys. But this is not the place to enter into this subject.

There are at least three cupped stones in the Gask circles.

5. The great stone, which always stands in connection with such circles, generally on the same side (the south-west), contains ten or more

<sup>1</sup> It is described by Miss Maclagan, (*Hill Forts, &c.*, p. 77), and a plan given (pl. xxx.)

cups. This is a large slab of red sandstone, still erect, covered with lichen,  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet high by 10 feet wide, and from 7 to 12 inches thick. It is shown on fig. 24 with the cups. Being of soft composition, with its surface exposed to the prevalent wet south-west winds, the cups have been more or less obliterated, but those marked are quite visible, and there are evidences of others now gone. This stone stands  $50^\circ$  west of south of the

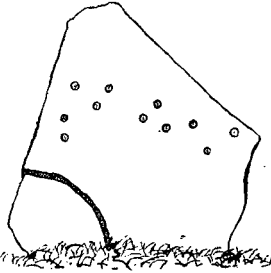


Fig. 24. At Gask, Strathnairn.

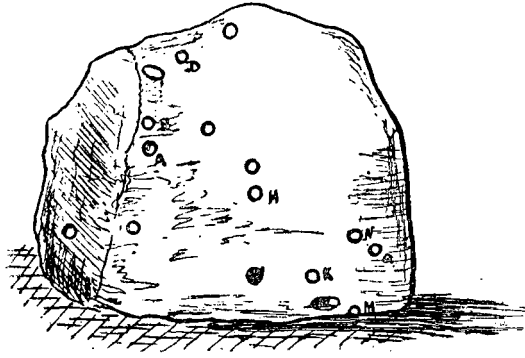


Fig. 25. At Gask.

centre of the circle.<sup>1</sup> The dimensions of the cups, taken by Mr. Ross of the Farr Public school, are—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in. × 3 in.	× $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 7.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ in. × $1\frac{1}{2}$ in.	× $\frac{3}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	2 „ × 2 „	× $\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 8.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „ × $2\frac{1}{4}$ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 3.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „ × $2\frac{1}{4}$ „	× $\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 9.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „ × $2\frac{1}{2}$ „	× $\frac{1}{2}$ „
„ 4.	2 „ × $2\frac{1}{4}$ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 10.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ „ × $3\frac{1}{2}$ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 5.	2 „ × $2\frac{1}{2}$ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 11.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ „ × $3\frac{1}{2}$ „	× $\frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 6.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „ × $2\frac{1}{4}$ „	× $\frac{3}{8}$ „			

6. In the middle circle, on the same side as this great stone, cups exist on a standing block of grey Stratherrick granite, which is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet high by 3 feet wide. It is shown on fig. 25. The cups are pretty good, more or less circular, the most distinct being H, F, D, N, A, K, M, and Q; and they are all on the front face except Q, which is on the rougher

<sup>1</sup> It is figured small by Miss Maclagan, without the cups (pl. xxx.).



left side, 6 inches from the ground. The dimensions of the chief cups are—

Diam.	Depth.	Diam.	Depth.	Diam.	Depth.
A. 1·8 in.		H. 2· in.		N. 2·3 in. × 2 in.	
B. 1·5 „		K. 2·5 „ × 2 in.		Q. 2·5 „ × 2·3 „	
D. 1·5 „ × 1·2 in		M. 2·2 „ × 2 „			

7. In the same outer circle, on a flat slab of red sandstone lying on the ground, a little to the west of the last stone, 9 yards west of a line drawn from the middle of the great stone through the centre of the circle, there are three cup marks (see fig. 26). The stone is about 4 feet long, and about the same in breadth. The dimensions of the cups are—

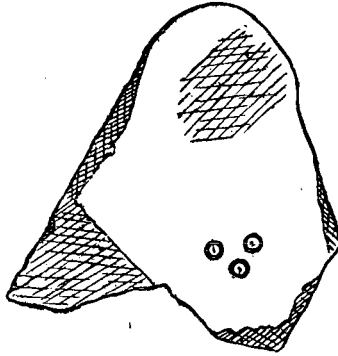


Fig. 26. At Gask.

	Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in. × 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ in.	× $\frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ „	× $\frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 3.	2 „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „

### III. THE CIRCLES AT TORDARROCH, NEAR FARR, STRATHNAIRN.

8. On the same road, about eight miles from Inverness, on the south side of the Nairn, not far from the farm of Tordarroch and the bridge that crosses the river there, concentric circles exist. These are of the same type as those of Gask. The inner circle has been almost all removed; the middle circle is pretty complete, about 20 yards in diameter, with thirty-six stones, some erect, others prostrate; the outer circle of separate stones is about 36 yards in diameter, eight stones still remaining. The largest is 40° west of south of the centre, 9 feet in height, and 5 feet broad at the base, rising to a point, and the others are partly fallen and partly erect.<sup>1</sup> Immediately opposite the great stone, and in a line with it through the centre, a rounded flat stone,

<sup>1</sup> It is shortly described by Miss Maclagan (p. 120), who seems to have missed the cupped stone.

is cupped, of grey gneiss, lying on the ground. It forms part of the middle circle. It is shown in fig. 27. It is 6 feet across from south-

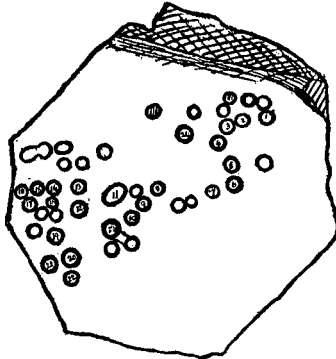


Fig. 27. At Tordarroch, Strathnairn.

west to north-east, and from 1 foot to 1 foot 5 inches thick. There are thirty-three or thirty-four cups in all, remarkably distinct, generally circular, and well formed.

Their dimensions are—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	2.2 in.	× 2.2 in. × .8 in.	14.	2.2 in.	
2.	1.9 "	× 1.9 " × .6 "	15.	2.5 "	× 2.5 in. × .9 in.
3.	2 "	× 2 " × .8 "	16.	2.5 "	× 2.5 " × 1.1 "
4.	2.2 "	× 2.2 " × .8 "	17.	2.5 "	× 2.5 " × .9 "
5.	2.2 "	× 2.2 "	18.	2.2 "	× 2.2 " × 1 "
6.	2.1 "	× 2.1 "	19.	2.2 "	
7.	2 "	× 2 "	20.	3 "	× 2.5 " × 1 "
8.	2.5 "	× 2.2 "	21.	1.9 "	× 1.9 " × .8 "
9.	2.3 "		22.	2.6 "	× 2.6 " × 1.1 "
10.	2.6 "	× 2.4 " × .8 "	23.	9 in.	from end to end of groove, formed by rough hollow in stone.
11.	4 "	× 2.3 " doubtful.	24.	1.8 in.	× 1.8 in.
12.	3 "	× 2.6 "	25.	2.3 "	× 2.3 " × 1.1 in.
13.	2.5 "				

This part of the valley of the Nairn is unusually rich in prehistoric remains, containing the very good circles of Gask and Tordarroch and another at Crofteroy, where the Tordarroch road joins the main road to

Flichity, a short distance from the Tordarroch circles (no cupped stones being, however, found in the Crofteroy circle); other cup-marked stones, to be afterwards mentioned, in the flat valley above the Nairn, in the churchyard and neighbourhood of Dunlichity, and on the moor of Gask, which also shows very numerous hut-circles, tumuli, and cists. Altogether, Strathnairn, which also embraces the plain of Clava, is one of the richest in prehistoric remains in the country.

#### IV. THE BRUIACH DOUBLE CIRCLE AT BEAUFORT, NEAR BEAULY.

At Bruiach, near Beaufort Castle, not far from the manse of Kiltarlity, on the side of the road to Culbirnie, there exist very good concentric

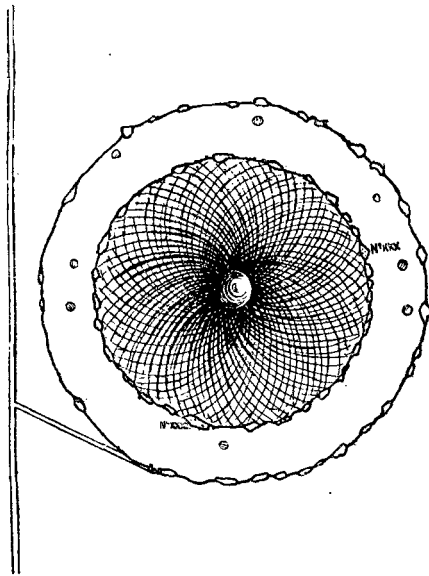


Fig. 28. Ground Plan of Circles at Bruiach. Only two of these, however, remain—the isolated outer series 77 feet in diameter, and the middle circle 49 feet in diameter—in which many of the stones have been removed, only fourteen standing. The innermost circle is gone, and the contained space has been absurdly hollowed into a pit or basin. A ground plan of the circles is given on fig. 28. Two cupped stones are found here. This double circle is partly described by Simpson,<sup>1</sup> and the two cup-marked stones are mentioned as having been noticed by the Rev. Dr. Joass of Golspie, though they are not figured. They are both in the inner of the two

<sup>1</sup> See his *Archaic Sculpturings*, p. 16.

existing circles, and lie flat on the ground. None of the stones in these circles are large, or in any way striking.

9. At A on the plan is the stone figured on fig. 29. No. 1 is the most distinct; No. 2 would have been the largest except for a depression

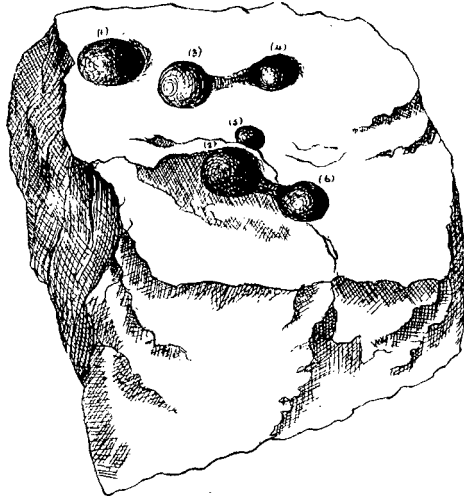


Fig. 29. At Bruiach, near Beauuly.

on the north side; Nos. 3 and 4 are united by a shallow groove, and 2 and 6 are also joined by a similar hollow, a fact that had been noted by Dr. Joass, as mentioned by Simpson. The dimensions of the cups are—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3·9 in.	× 2·5 in.	×	7 in.	
„ 2.	4 „	× 3 „	×	·8 „	
„ 3.	3 „	× 2·5 „	×	·5 „	
No. 4.	3·5 in.	× 2·5 in.	×	·9 in.	
„ 5.	2·5 „	× 2 „	×	·6 „	
„ 6.	3·4 „	× 3 „	×	·6 „	

10. At B on the plan is the stone figured in fig. 30. Cup No. 1 is the most distinct. Nos. 4 and 5 are very much worn.

These are the cup measurements :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2·8 in.	× 2·5 in.	×	·7 in.	
„ 2.	3 „	× 2·7 „	×	·6 „	
„ 3.	2·5 „	× 2 „	×	·4 „	
No. 4.	2 „	× 2 „	×	·3 in.	
„ 5.	2·2 „	× 2 „	×	·4 in.	

## V. CIRCLES, &amp;C., AT LITTLE URCHANY WESTER, NEAR CAWDOR.

11. Near the farm of Little Urchany, about a mile from Cawdor Castle, on the road to Ardlach, a double circle of stones exists, now very much broken up for agricultural purposes. This circle is called Clach Chorrach or Clach Thorrach.

The largest stone is on the south-east side. Next to it, on the north side in the outer circle, stands a grey granite block erect, 3 feet high and 18

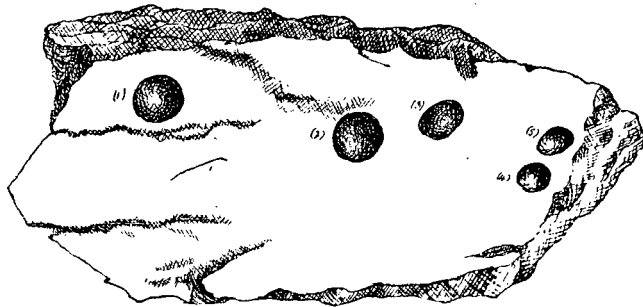


Fig. 30. At Bruiach.

inches broad. It contains several cups on the top and on the south side, and is shown on fig. 31, which gives the stone as viewed obliquely from

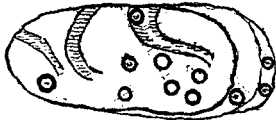


Fig. 31. At Little Urchany.

above; Nos. 4, 5, and 6 being on the side, and the rest on the top. On the top, there are eight cups, four of them distinct and good, numbered 1, 2, 3, and 4; No. 1 being very distinct and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter. No. 4 is carved on the shoulder of the stone, and there are two others on the side less distinct. Most of them are rough and shallow, except 1 and 3, the granite crystals here, as in most cases in which the cups are carved in this rock, rendering the surface of the cups rough to the touch, though no doubt originally smooth.

Another similar circle existed a little to the east of the remaining one, but it was removed by the present tenant, Mr. Clark, about forty years ago, to extend his fields for tillage.

This would seem to have been a place of some note, not only in prehistoric days, but in Christian times. About 300 or 400 yards to the north of this circle, there are the foundations of certain buildings, still known as The Chapel, which deserve to be carefully explored. Another cupped stone found at the farm is afterwards described (fig. 61).

At this farm also, an unusually fine so-called "Chappin' Stane," known in Gaelic as *Clach chrotaidh*, or beating stone, for making pot barley, has long existed, having been used for this purpose in the boyhood of Mr. Clark, who is above seventy. It contains a finely cut, deep basin, and has well-executed carvings on its sides, which would seem to indicate that it may have been a baptismal font in the neighbouring old chapel. It should be examined and figured. It has been removed for safe preservation to Cawdor Castle, by Mr. Stables, the factor.

#### VI. CLACHMHOR, AT CULNAKIRK, GLEN URQUHART.

12. On the north side of the beautiful Glen Urquhart, which opens on Loch Ness, by the steep road which runs from Drumnadrochit to Beauly, is situated the farm of Culnakirk, or the Hen's Back. Close by the farm, on the east side, is a large flat block of grey gneiss, known as *Clachmhor*, or the "Great Stone," which is the finest cup-marked stone in the neighbourhood of Inverness. It is nearly 16 feet long, and above 9 feet broad, with an average thickness of a foot. It lies flat upon the ground, sloping at an angle of 10°. The half of it, to the north of the cups, was covered with earth till recently, when it was completely exposed by Lord Seafield's factor, Major Grant. The stone lies directly north and south magnetic. It is shown in fig. 32, in an excellent drawing, executed by Mr. Angus Grant of the Drumnadrochit Public School.

Dimensions of the chief cups :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	4 in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{16}$ in.	No. 8.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ in.	No. 15.	3 in.	$\times \frac{7}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 1$ in.	„ 9.	3 in.	$\times \frac{1}{16}$ in.	„ 16.	3 in.	$\times 1$ in.
„ 3.	$3\frac{5}{8}$ in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{16}$ in.	„ 10.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 1$ in.	„ 17.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
„ 4.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{16}$ in.	„ 11.	$4\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$ in.	„ 18.	3 in.	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ in.
„ 5.	3 in.	$\times 1$ in.	„ 12.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{7}{8}$ in.	„ 19.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 6.	$2\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{16}$ in.	„ 13.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ in.	„ 20.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.
„ 7.	3 in.	$\times \frac{1}{16}$ in.	„ 14.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ in.			

The whole of the cups are very distinct, while the larger are remarkably well formed. There are 113 cups in all, and twenty of these are from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to  $4\frac{1}{4}$  inches in diameter, and from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to  $1\frac{1}{8}$  inch in depth. Many of them are united by distinct grooves, generally in pairs, but also in groups, especially the group at the south corner. From the complete absence of cups at the north end, where it was embedded in the earth, the block would seem to have been partially covered with soil when the cups were made. They must have taken no little time and trouble to carve or rub into such well-made cups, their circularity and smoothness being

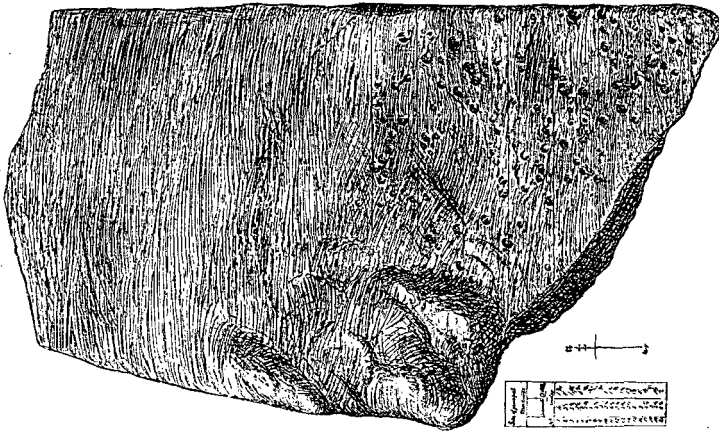


Fig. 32. At Culnakirk, Glen Urquhart.

marked. There are pretty distinct indications that this stone was once surrounded by a circle of boulders or standing stones. Several of these still remain, 2 or 3 feet in width, 15 to 17 feet apart, on the north and east sides, and from 35 to 40 feet from *Clachmhor*. On the south-west side, the circle has been obliterated by a rough cart-track, which passes over its site. This high table-land would seem to have been extensively occupied by a prehistoric race, who have left their traces in the above and other cupped-stones (two of which will be afterwards described) found

there, and in numerous hut-circles, cairns, and other evidences of occupation scattered all over its surface and on the neighbouring moors.

#### VII. THE MOYNESS STONE, NOW AT CAWDOR CASTLE.

13. In the garden of Cawdor Castle, there is a remarkable cup-marked stone, in several respects the most peculiar described in this paper. It is shown in fig. 33. It is a yellow sandstone, very soft, like much of the sandstone in the district, 3 feet 5 inches long, by 2 feet 3 or 4 inches broad, and 1 foot 3 inches thick. It contains (1) numerous cups, most of them distinct, many of them very good and smoothly carved out, especially at the top, while some of them bear marks of pitted points, as if they had been hollowed out with a pointed instrument, as well seen on those round about (C) on the left side: (2) curious grooves in various parts, some of them smooth, others rough, as if done with a pointed tool as seen at (A) at the top, some of these grooves radiating from a centre, as at the hollow (A), which is 4 inches across: (3) a rounded oblong hollow basin at (D), 10 inches long by  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad and 2 inches deep, very smooth on the surface except at the right hand end, shallowing gradually from the centre to the sides, and in form very like one of the ancient corn-grinders or rubbers in use before the quern; one feature of it being, that on its upper edge there is a range of cups and slits pointing into it, and another feature being that two grooves run from its lower edge to the edge of the stone: (4) several cups on its sides, as at the upper left hand corner, the upper right, and the lower right.

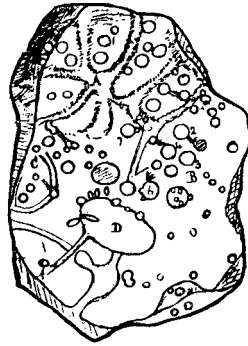


Fig. 33. At Moyness.

Some of the cups are 1 inch deep, others  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch and less.



The diameters of some of the chief cups are these :—

	Diam.		Diam.		Diam.
No. 1.	1 $\frac{3}{8}$ in.	No. 4.	2 in.	No. 6.	2 in.
„ 2.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 5.	3 „	„ 7.	2 „
„ 3.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ „				

It should be mentioned that the surface of the stone is irregular, and so full of various carvings that it is difficult to represent it well to the eye on paper.

This stone was found on the farm of Broomtown of Moyness, on the high ground between Nairn and Brodie, seven or eight years ago, during the progress of agricultural improvements there. Since entering on the lease of this farm, which consists of 170 acres, Mr. Kerr, the farmer, has redeemed about a third of it from moorland, and in doing this, has unearthed at least a dozen stone querns, all of very hard stone and finely finished. About a quarter of a mile directly south of the farm, he deemed it necessary to remove two stone circles, from 18 to 20 feet in diameter, formed of rough boulders of considerable size set side by side, enclosing a pile of smaller stones forming a cairn. In the circle farthest to the north, this curious stone was discovered, about the centre of the enclosed cairn and 2 or 3 feet from the top, but in what position Mr. Kerr does not recall. The site of this circle is now enclosed in a field under regular cultivation, about a quarter of a mile south of the Muckle Burn, which drains the valley on the north. Nothing else was noted in the circles during their excavation except a very old coin which one of the ploughmen employed kept in his possession. This district, especially round Broomtown, abounds in ancient remains. Mr. M'Arthur, Mr. Kerr's predecessor and uncle, who farmed the place for forty or fifty years and died twelve years ago, in reclaiming some land, came upon several urns and other relics; but, cherishing the superstitious fears then prevalent, and not yet extinct, in regard to disturbing such things, he thought it unlucky to remove them, and buried the whole in a deep hole, the site of which cannot now be ascertained.

Not far from Broomtown, there is also a large stone circle similar to those in Strathnairn, at the Cross-roads, a little to the west of the Public school of Moyness, near the Mains of Moyness.<sup>1</sup>

Mr. Stables, who is deeply interested in antiquarian and scientific matters, and got this fine stone removed to Cawdor Castle for safety, had some fragments of what had been a "sculptured stone" from the same district. They were, however, only small pieces much weathered, but had evidently formed part of a carved monolith.

### PART THIRD.

#### ISOLATED CUP-MARKED STONES.

##### I. ABOUT CLAVA ON THE NAIRN.

In and round Clava, there are several cupped stones still preserved, some of them in their original sites, others moved and subsequently manipulated.

1. In the dike on the left hand of the road leading from Cul-loden battlefield to the farms of Leanach and Clava, a little above the former, there is a red sandstone slab with numerous well-formed cups. It is given in fig. 34. It stands erect, facing the road, and can be easily examined. It has evidently been broken on the right side, as seen from the fresh fracture of the stone and from one of the cups being divided. It is  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet by 3 feet and from  $7\frac{1}{2}$  to 15 inches thick. The cups are very smoothly scooped, and in general quite circular.

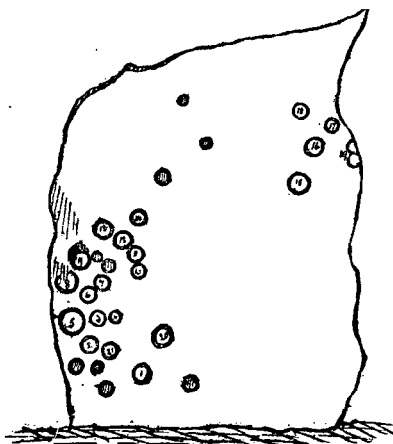


Fig. 34. Near Clava.

<sup>1</sup> This circle is described by Miss Maclagan (p. 127), and by Dr. John Stuart in the *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*.

Their dimensions are these :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	1·2 in.	× 1·3 in. × 4 in.	12.	1·8 in.	× 1·8 in. × 3 in.
2.	1·8 "	× 1·8 " × 4 "	13.	1·4 "	× 1·4 " × 4 "
3.	2 "	× 2 " × 5 "	14.	1·8 "	× 1·8 " × 4 "
4.	1·5 "	× 1·5 " × 4 "	15.	2·4 "	× 2·2 " × 4 "
5.	2·8 "	× 3 " × 5 "	16.	1 "	× 1 " × 4 "
6.	1·6 "	× 1·6 " × 5 "	17.	1·1 "	× 1·1 "
7.	2 "	× 1·8 " × 4 "	18.	1·3 "	× 1·3 " × 4 "
8.	2·5 "	broken on left × 6 in.	19.	1·3 "	broken to right × 4 "
9.	3·2 "	" × 7 in.	20.	1·8 "	dim.
10.	1·7 "	× 1·7 in.	21.	1·4 "	× 1·4 " × 4 "
11.	2 "	× 2 " × 5 "			

2. On the same road, a little to the east of the bridge over the Nairn at Clava, on the waste moorland which stretches to the right hand there, still unreclaimed, there lies flat on the ground, a fine block of grey

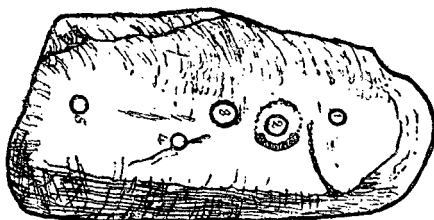


Fig. 35. At Clava.

granite with several cups. It is 8 feet long, from 3 to 4 feet broad at the base, narrowing in breadth to 1 foot 3 inches at the top, and 2 feet 1 inch thick. It has the general appearance of a granite sarcophagus, and was likely never set up on end, from

its contour and the position of the cups. There are five cups along its top. It is shown on fig. 35. The whole of them are quite distinct, No. 3 being well formed. No. 2 shows traces of an encircling ring, now greatly obliterated, with two smaller cups at the ends of its more distinct portion on the right.

Their dimensions are :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	2 in.		3.	4 in.	× 1 in.	5.	3 in.	× 2 in.
2.	3 "	× 2 in.	4.	2 in.				

3. In the fire-place of the farm of *Balanfhuarain*, or the "Town of the Well," generally known as Welltown (from a very fine well near it, to the

south of the great cairns at Clava), there is a very good cupped stone, built into the upper right side of the chimney recess. It is only part of a larger stone, and has been squared by the mason to fit it for its present place, one of the cups having been broken through. It consists of the usual yellowish sandstone found *in situ* in the river close by. It may have formed part of a cup-marked monolith from some of the dismantled cairns of the neighbourhood. The cups are unusually fine, well formed, and very well rounded and smoothed. They are all about the same size, though there are differences in diameter and depth. They are shown in fig. 36.

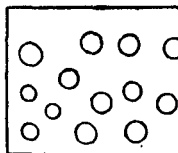


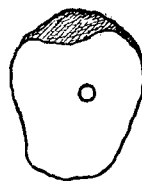
Fig. 36. At Clava.

Though the stone is small (22 inches by 17 inches), they may be said to be among the best cup marks near Inverness. They do not show any evidences of being improved by modern hands. This stone is roughly figured by Miss Maclagan, on a small scale.<sup>1</sup> These are the dimensions of the chief cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2·5 in.	× 2·5 in.	× $\frac{7}{8}$ in.	No. 6.	2·5 in. × 2·5 in. × 1 in.
„ 2.	3 „	× 2·2 „	× $\frac{3}{4}$ „	„ 7.	3 „ × 2·8 „ × 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 3.	2·5 „	× 2·5 „	× $\frac{7}{8}$ „	„ 8.	2·8 „ × 2·2 „ × $\frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 4.	3 „	× 3 „	× $\frac{5}{8}$ „	„ 9.	2·5 „ × 2·2 „ × $\frac{5}{8}$ „
„ 5.	2·5 „	× 2·2 „	× $\frac{3}{4}$ „		

4. Some small stones have been found on the plain of Clava, with one or more marks. One is given on fig. 37. It lies on the side of the field between the northmost cairn and the river. It has one cup quite distinct.

5. There is another small stone with a small cup, on the north side of the dike, on the right hand, facing the field there on the road between the farm of Clava and Welltown.

Fig. 37.  
At Clava.

6. At the far side of the ford over the stream called the *Alt Ruadh* or the “Red Burn,” which runs into the Nairn from the east, between the farms of Clava and Dalroy, a cupped stone lies imbedded

<sup>1</sup> *Hill Forts, &c.*, pl. xxvi. No. xii.

in the ground. It is of the yellowish sandstone of the district, 2 feet long by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad. It contains at least eighteen cups, of varying size, crowded together. These are shown on fig. 38.

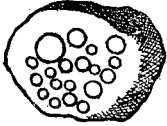


Fig. 38. At Clava.

The best is No. 1, 4 inches across and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep, and well shaped and smoothed. The others are very distinct. This stone contains more cups for its size than any other described in this paper. Its position is also peculiar, lying as it does by itself, on the

banks of a small stream.

7. Since this paper was read in May 1881, Mr. Ross, the farmer of Milton of Clava, the farm immediately to the south of Welltown, has been trenching the ground round his house, a great part of which had remained in its primitive wildness. That has led to the discovery of some new and very good cupped stones. This shows that much more still remains to be done here to exhaust the find of ancient remains. No systematic search has yet been made for examples round the farm of Clava, at the north end of this rich archæological field, nor round the two great monoliths to the south of Milton, which represent former cairns, nor at the Chapel of St. Bridget. Further search would, no doubt, be amply rewarded.

Mr. Ross unearthed one of the finest cupped stones of the group, shown

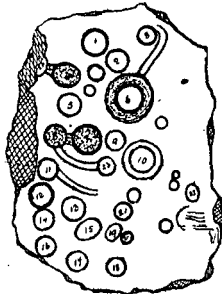


Fig. 39. At Clava.

on fig. 39. It contains about thirty cups, most of them very good. It consists of the usual soft yellow sandstone of the Nairn, 3 feet 2 inches long and 2 feet 3 inches broad. Several of the cups show most distinct evidences of being dug out by means of a sharp-pointed instrument (especially Nos. 7, 8 and 9), the pitted points still existing. Others have first been picked out in this way, and afterwards rubbed smooth by another instrument, though in many cases the original pittings still partially remain. Nos. 9

and 12 are very good, well cupped, and smoothed. The best cup, No. 6,

which has been formed in this double fashion, is very well scooped, and is surrounded by a double circle, with a projecting hollow to the right hand upwards. No. 10 has also a circle round it, now much obliterated. Several of the cups are joined to cups close by them, with the usual connecting grooves, as 4 to 24, which latter is broken, and 7 to 8; while 8 is connected with 23 by a long curving channel, and 11 has a straight groove below joined to no other cup. Several of the cups in the lower part of the stone are distinctly oval in form. The dimensions of the cups are:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in. $\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 12.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times 3\frac{1}{4}$ in. $\times 1\frac{1}{4}$ in.
„ 2.	$2\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 13.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ $\times 3\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 3.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 14.	3 „	„ $\times 3$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 4.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 15.	$3\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{7}{8}$ „
„ 5.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 16.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{1}{2}$ „
„ 6.	$3\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 17.	$2\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 7.	4 „	„ $\times 3\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{7}{8}$ „	„ 18.	$2\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 8.	$3\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 3\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 19.	$2\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{1}{4}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 9.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ „ $\times 1$ „	„ 20.	2 „	„ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 10.	$3\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 3\frac{3}{8}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 21.	$2\frac{3}{8}$ „	„ $\times 2\frac{1}{8}$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 11.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ $\times 3$ „ $\times \frac{3}{8}$ „			

8. Another stone was discovered during the same diggings, shown in fig. 40. It is of the same yellow sandstone, and is but a fragment of a larger one, being 1 foot  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 10 inches and 4 inches thick. It contains two unusually well-formed cups. No. 1 is  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches and  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch deep, tapering more to a point at the bottom than commonly; No. 2, 3 inches by  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches by  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep, more rounded in outline than No. 1. Both show evidence of being first hollowed by a sharp tool, the pits remaining very distinct in No. 2, No. 1 having been subsequently more rubbed out. Both cups are surrounded by an irregular shallow groove as shown, part of which has been chipped off by the workmen who built it into a dike. Over the surface of the stone, there are numerous smaller cuplets, like those on the curious stone in cairn No. 2, at Clava (fig. 6), several

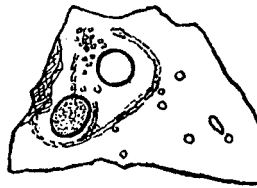
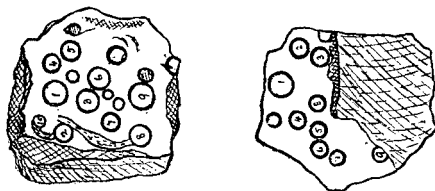


Fig. 40. At Clava.

being of the same size, and others smaller. Between the cups, and to their right, the whole surface is closely pitted. This stone is now in my own possession, having been kindly sent me by the proprietor, Mr. Davidson of Cantray.

9. On the 11th of May 1881, when these two new stones were first shown me in company with some friends who came to examine Clava, I discovered another in an old pig sty at the same farm of Milton. It is a flat piece of the same soft yellow sandstone, 1 foot 9 inches long, 1 foot 7 inches broad, and 7 inches thick. It has the peculiarity of being cupped on both sides, which are shown on figs. 41 and 42. One of the



Figs. 41 and 42. Same stone at Clava.

sides (fig. 42) has had part of its surface chipped off by a workman. It is evidently but a portion of a larger block, as proved by some of the cups on both sides being divided. The cups are very well formed, very circular, smoothed and deep. They are generally isolated and simple, without rings; but on fig. 42, 4 and 5, and 2 and 10, are united by grooves. Between 2 and 8 an artificial groove exists, formed by a pointed tool, as in the last specimen (fig. 40).

On the surface of fig. 41, there are some sixteen cups in all. The rock is a soft flat sandstone, 7 inches thick, and is scaling under the weather. The groove on the left side shows evidences of being dug out by a sharp instrument, the pits still remaining. Dimensions of the chief cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in.	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ in.	No. 4.	2 in.	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	No. 7.	2 in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.
„ 2.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 5.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times 1$ „	„ 8.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „
„ 3.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times 1$ „	„ 6.	$2^{\frac{1}{8}}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „	„ 9.	$2^{\frac{1}{8}}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „

On the surface of fig. 42 there are eleven cups in all, of which the sizes of the chief ones are :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in.	× $\frac{3}{4}$ in., but rough on surface and somewhat oval.	No. 6.	2 in.	× $\frac{1}{2}$ in., very round.
„ 2.	2½ in.	× $\frac{3}{4}$ in., smoother.	„ 7.	1¼ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „, surface rough.
„ 3.	2¼ „	× $\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 8.	1¾ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 4.	1¾ „	× $\frac{1}{4}$ „, surface rough.	„ 9.	2¼ „	× $\frac{1}{2}$ „, one side broken off at lip.
„ 5.	1¾ „	× $\frac{1}{2}$ „			

The number of stones yet discovered cupped on both sides is small. One only is figured by Sir James Simpson (pl. xx.) as being at Letham Grange in Forfar, and now in the National Museum of Antiquities, Edinburgh. Two others have been found by Mr. Romilly Allen, one in a stone circle at Balkenback Wood, and on some fragments found at Tealing, both also in Forfar. They are described by him in a paper read before the British Archæological Association, which will shortly be published.

## II. AT MONIACK CASTLE, NEAR BOGROY, IN THE AIRD.

10. At Moniack Castle, near the entrance to the beautiful Glen of Reelig, between Beaully and Inverness, there exists a large rockery, composed of curious stones from many places, some from great distances, including India, formed some sixteen years ago by the lessee of the house, Miss Campbell, daughter of Mrs. Campbell who excavated the Clava cairn. At the end of the rockery, next the entrance gate, there is an erect block

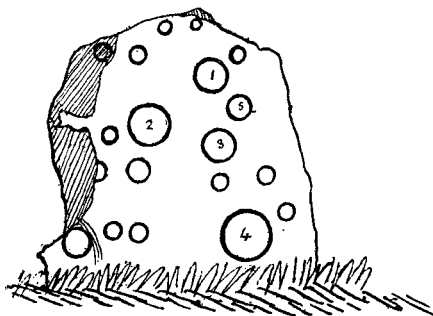


Fig. 43. At Moniack Castle.

of hard grey gneiss, 2 feet by 2 feet, with at least nineteen cups, shown on fig. 43. They are remarkably well shaped, quite circular, and very



smooth. Three of them are unusually large, No. 4 being 5 inches across and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep; No. 2,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches across and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep; No. 1,  $3\frac{5}{8}$  inches across and  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches deep; and No. 3, 3 inches across and  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch deep. No. 5 is  $2\frac{5}{8}$  inches by  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch deep. The stone shows altogether very fine specimens of cup sculpturing, all the more remarkable that the material is so very hard and close-grained.

It came, as Seaforth writes,<sup>1</sup> "from an old dike, which is the march between the farm of Mr. Yule of Maryburgh, near Dingwall, and Bakerhill of Brahan," and was lent by him to Miss Campbell. "There are, or were," he continues, "some more specimens in the same dike, and a good one on the east side of the road leading up to the farm-house of Humberstone. A remarkably fine one from Bakerhill, now on the steps at Brahan Castle, was said by Simpson, to whom I showed it, to be one of the best he ever saw." This last is the stone figured by Simpson on pl. xiv. fig. 1. Some of those mentioned there, as well as others, have been found and sketched by Mr. Joass, architect, Dingwall, who has discovered and drawn a large number of cupped stones in the neighbourhood of Dingwall.<sup>2</sup>

11. At the other end of the same rockery at Moniack, there stands a monolith about  $4\frac{1}{2}$  feet in height, with the outlined figure of a man,

<sup>1</sup> In a letter to the Rev. Dr. Joass of Golspie, of June 1880.

<sup>2</sup> The neighbourhood of Dingwall seems unusually rich in cupped stones of various types and of great interest. The list would not seem to be yet exhausted. Mr. Wm. Morrison, of Dingwall Public School, has discovered several cupped stones previously unknown to experts, though known to the old people, especially in Strathsgiach, on the south-east of Ben Wyvis. One of these is remarkable, containing some 300 cups, one of them a larger basin. It is known as *Clach Thollach*, the holed stone. I came on a very fine specimen, one of those in a stone-encircled cairn, not far from the old Free Church school of Ferintosh, above the ferry between Dingwall and the Black Isle. I was accompanied on this occasion by Capt. Warrand of Ryefield, who lives not far from the cairn. He told me that the late Dr. Ross of Dingwall, who had a pair of good eyes, had mentioned a stone of the kind as existing in connection with this cairn, which was probably the one we found. I leave it to be figured by Mr. Joass or Mr. Morrison, who, it is to be hoped, will soon complete full memoirs of the stones round Dingwall, which they know so well. This would be of interest and value in connection with the recent revival of the subject.

having a stick or other instrument in his hand. This stone was brought from a spot where it stood for a time, close to the old parish school of Kilmorack, near Kilmorack Free church. It was, however, removed to this place between fifty and sixty years ago, from a spot about 100 yards farther west, when the ground was then reclaimed. There is nothing known of the stone, traditional or otherwise, beyond this. It is figured in the *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, vol. ii. pl. cxxx., and was brought under Dr. Stuart's notice by Dr. Joass of Golspie, who sent a drawing and rubbing.

Some of the lines on the stone, especially those about the mouth and head, are somewhat difficult to make out, and may give rise to different renderings of the figure. Dr. Joass, however, seems not to have noticed the existence of cup-marks on the same surface, one of which he has interpreted as the eye of the figure; at least, these cups do not appear in the drawing in the *Sculptured Stones*. The stone, as deciphered by Mr. Mackellar, of the Knockbain Public School close by, and myself,

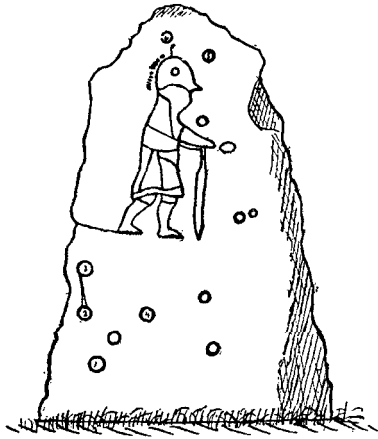


Fig. 44. At Moniak Castle.

is given here on fig. 44. The differences between the two drawings will be noted, especially about the face, neck, and hair. The eye, as mentioned above, seems to be a cup, and is scarcely in the right place to represent an eye; and the existence of hair behind is very doubtful. The outline of the staff is distinct, but the hand is indistinct. At the top of the cap or helmet, there seems to be a groove extending to the hollow or cup No. 6, forming a kind of tassel, it may be. Of the cups, No. 1 and No. 4 are about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch deep; the rest are between  $\frac{1}{8}$  and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

## III. AT KIRKTON, BUNCHREW, NEAR INVERNESS.

12. In a field on the sloping ground overlooking Englishtown, near Bunchrew, a block of grey gneiss was uncovered during trenching operations there. Near it were the remains of a hut circle or cairn, which was partially removed at a former time. The stone has been taken to Mr. Cran's house at Kirkton, where it will be preserved with care. It is about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet long and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  feet broad, and seems to be entire except at the upper left hand corner, where it has been broken. It is shown on fig. 45.

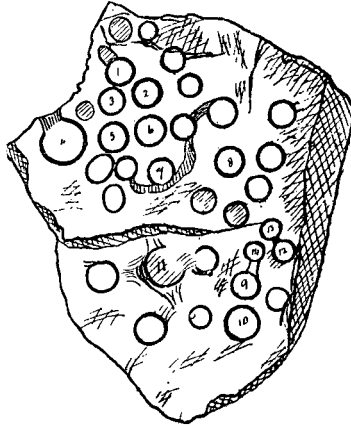


Fig. 45. At Kirkton, near Inverness.

There are some thirty-four cups in all, many of them very well formed and smoothed. The largest are from 3 inches across and  $\frac{7}{8}$  inch deep. No. 11 is larger, but is more or less obliterated. No. 4 seems to have a channel running to the edge of the stone, a not uncommon feature. There appear to be connecting gutters between 12 and 13, and between 9 and 14. Dimensions of chief cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ in.	No. 5.	2 in.	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ in.	No. 9.	2 in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.
„ 2.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ „	„ 6.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{7}{8}$ „	„ 10.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ „
„ 3.	$1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 7.	1 „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 11.	4 „	$\times 3$ „ $\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.
„ 4.	3 „	$\times \frac{7}{8}$ „	„ 8.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „			

13. Another stone, well-cupped, discovered since this one, has been removed to Kirkton, by Mr. Cran, for preservation. It is a block of rough-faced, tough, grey gneiss. It was found in a field not far from the last. It is given on fig. 46. The cups are very well formed. Nos. 13 and 14 are rough, and may not be artificial. These are the dimensions:—

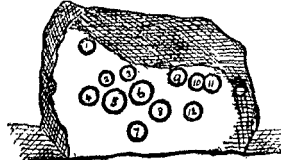


Fig. 46. At Kirkton.

Diam.	Depth.	Diam.	Depth.
No. 1. 2 in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 7. $1\frac{1}{10}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{10}$ in.
„ 2. $1\frac{1}{8}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 8. $2\frac{1}{10}$ „	$\times 2\frac{2}{10}$ „ $\times \frac{1}{10}$ in.
„ 3. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{4}{10}$ „	„ 9. $2\frac{2}{10}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{10}$ „
„ 4. $2\frac{1}{10}$ „	$\times 2\frac{2}{10}$ „ $\times 1\frac{1}{10}$ in.	„ 10. $1\frac{1}{10}$ „	$\times 1\frac{1}{10}$ „ $\times \frac{1}{10}$ „
„ 5. 3 „	$\times \frac{1}{10}$ „ $\times 1$ „	„ 11. $1\frac{1}{10}$ „	$\times 1\frac{1}{10}$ „ $\times \frac{1}{10}$ „
„ 6. $2\frac{1}{10}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{10}$ „	„ 12. 2 „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „

14. At Kirkton farm-house, there are two stones with unusually large cups. These were found at the farm of Sandargue,<sup>1</sup> in the parish of

Rhynie, near the ruins of Lesmore Castle, one mile from the village of Rhynie, and were sent from there to Mr. Cran. One of these, a dark, hard, close-grained porphyry, a common stone in the scattered boulders of Rhynie, is shown on fig. 47. It has been split on the right side, so that the stone is incomplete. The cups are unusually large and basin-like, the largest, No. 2, being from 6 inches in diameter, quite circular, very smooth in the hollow, and  $1\frac{3}{10}$  inches deep. They are very carefully formed, with an

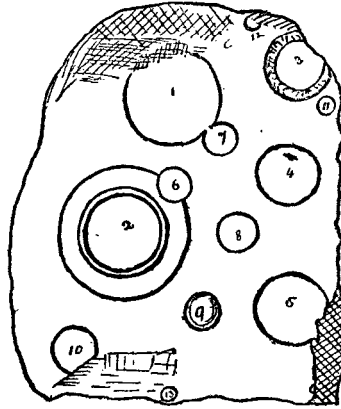


Fig. 47. From Rhynie, now at Kirkton.

egg-like hollow, and must have been made with much labour in so hard a substance. Two of them, Nos. 2 and 3, are surrounded by shallow rings. The ring round No. 2 is 9 inches in diameter, and consists of a hollow

<sup>1</sup> There is an old ballad about "Jock o' Sandargue and Tam o' Ruthven."

curve  $1\frac{8}{10}$  inch deep; and the elevated ridge between it and the inner cup is lower than the surface beyond the ring, so that the whole forms a large plate, with an interior basin and surrounding hollowed rim.

Dimensions of cups or basins:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$7\frac{3}{8}$ in.	$\times 2\frac{1}{8}$ in.	No. 7.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	$5\frac{1}{8}$ „	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 8.	$2\frac{1}{8}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 3.	$3\frac{3}{8}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 9.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 4.	4 „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 10.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 5.	$5\frac{1}{8}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 11.	2 „	„
„ 6.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 12.	2 „	„

These great basins are interesting in themselves, and as illustrating similar basins, found both isolated and in connection with cups of the usual size, whose average is from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to 2 inches. Examples of both sizes are given in this paper.

15. The second Rhynie stone at Kirkton is shown on fig. 48. It consists of a similar but somewhat lighter porphyry. The cups are exceedingly well formed, the hollow being egg-shaped, and well rounded and smoothed, without tool marks. There are no encircling rings, but several are connected by grooves, Nos. 5 and 4 and 10 and 11 in pairs, and 1, 2, and 3 in a triad; while 7 has a radiating groove connected with no other cup. The grooves between the cups are very distinct, and form shallow hollows, only slightly indented below the general surface. Like the other, this stone has been blasted, and shows only part of the original surface.

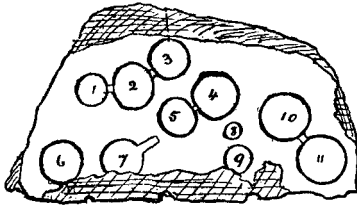


Fig. 48. From Rhynie, now at Kirkton.

The grooves between the cups are very distinct, and form shallow hollows, only slightly indented below the general surface. Like the other, this stone has been blasted, and shows only part of the original surface.

Dimensions of cups, which are of a middle size between those on the last and the common type:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.	No. 7.	$4\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	$5\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 8.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 3.	5 „	$\times 1$ „	„ 9.	4 „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 4.	$6\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 10.	6 „	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 5.	$4\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 11.	5 „	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „
„ 6.	$5\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times 1\frac{1}{8}$ „			

Rhynie seems to be remarkably rich in prehistoric remains of different kinds,—in cupped stones, of which there are in the neighbourhood about a score, of a kind similar to the above ; standing stones ; flint arrow-heads, of which Mr. Cran has above twenty very good specimens, all from one farm except two, many of them having been sent to Dr. Gordon of Birnie, and now in the British Museum.<sup>1</sup>

#### IV. IN UPPER STRATHNAIRN, NEAR FARR.

16. As already mentioned, Upper Strathnairn is very full of prehistoric remains.

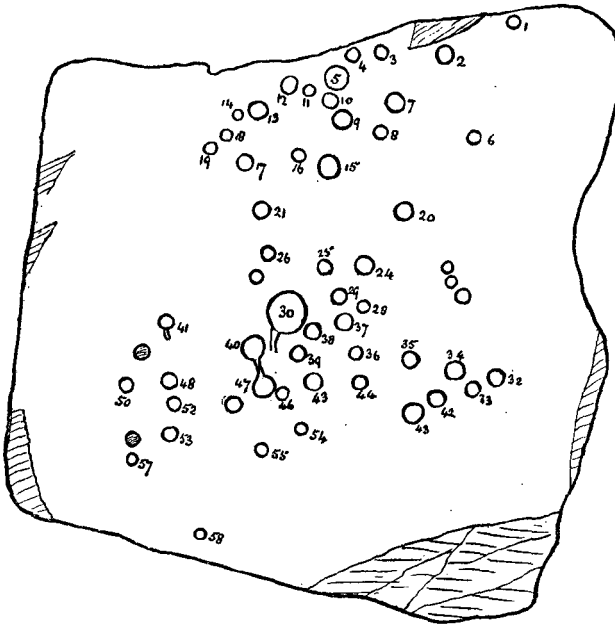


Fig. 49. At Tordarroch, Strathnairn.

<sup>1</sup> It is strange that such a rich hunting ground has not been explored as it should be, and its remains examined, described, and better conserved than they seem to have been. It is a mistake and a loss to send out of a district such archaeological monuments as these cup-marked stones, especially when they are of a pronounced and special type.

On the top of a knoll about 150 yards north of the Tordarroch Circles, already described, and close to the footpath to Tordarroch Farm, there lies a very good cupped stone with fifty-eight cups, shown on fig. 49. It was discovered by Mr. Hugh Ross, teacher of the Farr Public School close by, who has been interested in the subject since seeing with me the examples in the Gask, Tordarroch, and other circles in that neighbourhood. The block is of grey gneiss, lying flat on the knoll and partly imbedded, and has been carved on its original rough surface. The cups are not so well made as in the Tordarroch circle, because they are on a ruder surface, but they are surprisingly well-formed, when the material is considered. Some of the cups have connecting or radiating grooves.

Dimensions of cups, taken by Mr. Ross :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	2 in. × 2 in.	$\frac{3}{8}$ in.	30.	5 $\frac{1}{2}$ in. × 5 in.	× 2 in.
2.	3 " × 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	31.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "
3.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	32.	3 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 3 "	× 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
4.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	33.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
5.	3 " × 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	34.	3 " × 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{3}{4}$ "
6.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{7}{8}$ "	35.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "
7.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	36.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "
8.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	37.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 3 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "
9.	3 " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	38.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{4}$ "
10.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	39.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "
11.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	40.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "
12.	4 " × 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× 1 "	41.	3 " × 3 "	× 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "
13.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	42.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "
14.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	43.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 3 "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "
15.	3 " × 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "	44.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
16.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	45.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 3 "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
17.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	46.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
18.	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	47.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
19.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "	48.	2 " × 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "
20.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "	49.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "
21.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	50.	2 " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "
22.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	51.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
23.	1 " × 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	52.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "
24.	3 $\frac{1}{4}$ " × 3 "	× 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	53.	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{5}{8}$ "
25.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "	54.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ " × 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "
26.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "	55.	2 " × 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	× $\frac{1}{2}$ "
27.	2 " × 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	56.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "
28.	2 " × 1 "	× $\frac{1}{4}$ "	57.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "
29.	2 " × 2 "	× $\frac{3}{8}$ "	58.	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ " × 2 "	× $\frac{1}{8}$ "

17. Five hundred yards due south of Dunlichity churchyard, in the

same neighbourhood, on the north side of the river Nairn, in the south-west corner of a field in front of the farmhouse of Clachan, there are two cups on the top of an isolated crag of rock *in situ*, shown on fig. 50. One of them is large,  $8 \times 8 \times 2$  inches deep; the other  $3\frac{1}{2} \times 3\frac{1}{2} \times \frac{7}{8}$  inches deep. There are traces of others on the same rock. These were discovered by Mr. Ross. They are interesting as being on rock in place, and as showing an example of a large basin associated with smaller cups. The crag on which they occur rises in the centre of the valley, and commands an extensive view. In the churchyard close by, a very fine cupped stone is found, shown on fig. 78.

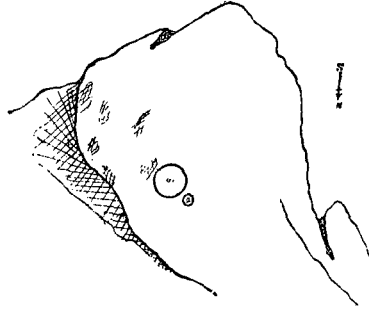


Fig. 50. Near Dunlichty, Strathnairn.

18. In the moor above Gask (which is full of archaeological remains, as already noticed), in the same part of the valley of the Nairn, there is a rough cupped stone, between the farm and a large conglomerate block to the north-west, near which there is an 8 yards' hut circle. The block is of the yellowish sandstone which is *in situ* on the moor close by. It is roughly triangular, being 4 feet in length

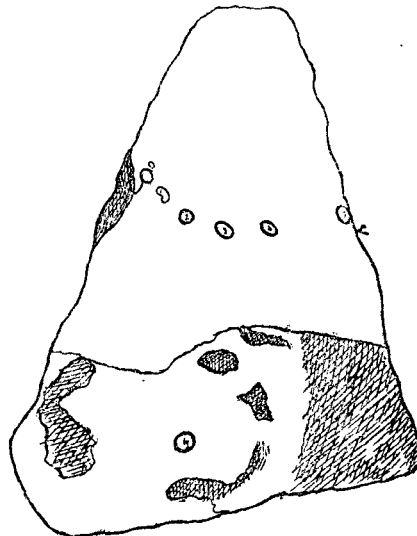


Fig. 51. In the Moor above Gask.

by 3 feet 10 inches at the base, and 4 feet thick. It is shown on fig. 51. The lower part, which was under turf when first discovered, is eaten



out into curious hollows, and contains one cup. The exposed part above shows 6 cups, which are rough and weathered, though distinct, No. 2 being the best. Dimensions of cups :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2½ in.	× 1½ in.	× ½ in.	No. 4.	3 in. × 2½ in. × 1¼ in.
„ 2.	2 „	× 2 „	× ½ „	„ 5.	2 „ × 2½ „
„ 3.	3 „	× 2 „	× 1 „	„ 6.	2½ „ × 2½ „ × 1 „

#### V. IN KILTARLITY NEAR BEAULY.

To the south of the Public school of Culburnie, not far from the Manse of Kiltarlity, the ridge of high ground on which the school is built stretches onwards and upwards between the broad Strathglass which opens out beyond and the smaller valley of the Tighnachoille Burn. On this ridge two very good cupped stones have been found.

19. The first is a little to the south of the farm of Kineras, about 1½

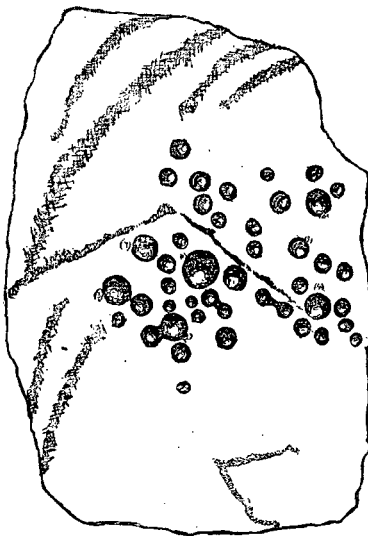


Fig. 52. Near Kineras, Kiltarlity.

miles from the school, and is shown on fig. 52. It is a slab of tough,

grey gneiss containing much mica, with a rounded surface, lying flat on the ground and partly imbedded. It contains some forty-three cups, all good and distinct. Three pairs are united by connecting grooves, the rest are the usual single type. Dimensions of principal cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	4 in.	× 1·3 in.	No. 4.	3·7 in.	× 1·3 in.	No. 6.	3 in.	× ·7 in.
„ 2.	3·5 „	× 1·3 „	„ 5.	3 „	× ·8 „	„ 7.	3·5 „	× 1 „
„ 3.	3·5 „	× 1 „						

20. About 200 yards beyond this, on the same ridge, near to the farm of Ferranbui (which means Fuaranbui, or yellow well, from a famous well once here, but drained out by the present tenant's predecessor), the second stone exists, shown on fig. 53. It contains at least nine well-formed cups,



Fig. 53. Near Ferranbui, Kiltarlity.

in a close group at one end of the stone, two pairs of which are united by grooves, and the rest are single. They are carved on the surface of a bluish, fine-grained, hard hornblende slab, lying flat on the ground and partly imbedded. Dimensions of the cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2·5 in.	× ·8 in.	No. 4.	2·5 in.	× ·8 in.	No. 7.	2·5 in.	× ·8 in.
„ 2.	3 „	× ·8 „	„ 5.	2 „	× ·8 „	„ 8.	2·5 „	× ·8 „
„ 3.	2·5 „	× 1 „	„ 6.	2·3 „	× ·7 „	„ 9.	1·8 „	× ·5 „

Both of these stones have long been known to the local dwellers, and Mr. Donald Forbes, the present farmer of Ferranbui, has seen them since boyhood thirty years ago, when he used to play upon them. This

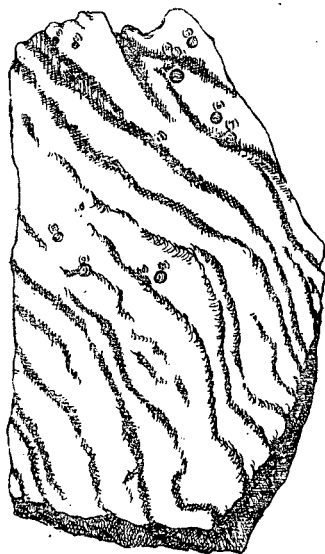


Fig. 54. Near Kiltarlity.

second stone has been locally known as the "Nine-holed Stone"; the other has no name. It was recently visited by Dr. M'William of Culmill in the neighbourhood, and it was while Mr. Fraser of Glenconvinth School, along with Mr. Ross of Culburnie School, came to sketch it, that the one at Kineras was found by them.

21. At Lonveichkime, some distance above the parish church of Kiltarlity, there exists a cupped stone, known from its colour as *Clachbhane*, or the white stone, which gives name to the croft on which it is found. It is a slab of grey gneiss, 11 feet in length and about 3 in breadth, the half only of its original size. The other half lies close

beside it, nearly of the same size and shape, and the two together form a rough circle. The carved portion, shown on fig. 54, contains thirteen cups; the other none.

Dimensions of cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2 in.	× .6 in.	No. 8.	2 in.	× 1 in.
„ 2.	1.3 „	× .6 „	„ 9.	2.6 „	× 1.2 „ × .8 in.
„ 3.	2.6 „	× .8 „	„ 10.	2.6 „	× 2 „ × .8 „
„ 4.	2 „	× .8 „	„ 11.	2.2 „	× 2 „ × .7 „
„ 5.	2.7 „	× 1.1 „	„ 12.	1.8 „	× 1.8 „ × .9 „
„ 6.	2.8 „	× 2.3 „ × .8 in.	„ 13.	2.6 „	× 1.7 „ × .8 „
„ 7.	2.6 „	× 2 „ × .7 „			

## VI. NEAR GLEN URQUHART.

22. *Near Clachmhor, at Culnakirk.*—About 58 yards west of *Clachmhor* (fig. 32), a stone was lately discovered by Mr. Burgess, Drumnadrochit, factor for Glenmoriston. It is shown on fig. 55. It is imbedded in the ground, with the exposed surface nearly level. Cups 2 and 5 are distinct and evidently artificial; the others are less pronounced.

Dimensions of cups:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	3 in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 4.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 2.	3 „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 5.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 3.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „			

23. *In Gartalie Burn*, near the farm of that name.—On the high table-land above the road to Beauly, beyond Culnakirk, I came recently on a small stone on the west bank of the stream, which is 18 feet in slope. It lay nearly on the middle of the slope, and was about a third buried, as

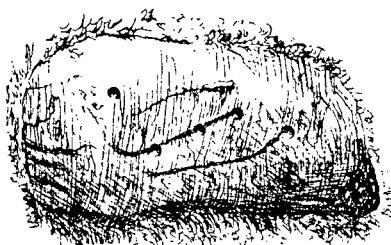


Fig. 55. At Culnakirk.

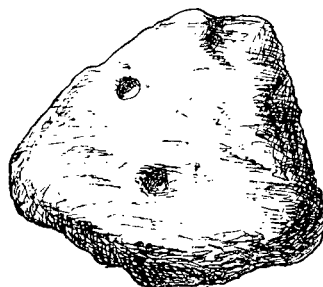


Fig. 56. In Gartalie Burn.

shown by a dotted line on the drawing, fig. 56. It is a fine-grained piece of gneiss,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet by 3 feet, smooth and rounded by natural causes, being one of several similar boulders near it. It contains two cups only, each 3 inches wide and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep.

24. *Stone near Rivulich Farm, Abriachan.*—On the rough elevated road between Abriachan and Drumnadrochit, about half a mile north by east of Rivulich farm-house, a cupped stone lies at the bottom of the march

dike there, which was removed from its surface by Major Grant, factor for Lord Seafield, and the stone exposed to be sketched. It is shown on fig. 57.

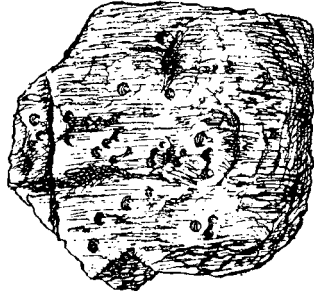


Fig. 57. At Rivulich.

The surface is very rough, and slopes eastwards at an angle of  $15^\circ$ . There are numerous grave mounds and hut circles in the immediate neighbourhood. Whether it formed part of a stone circle, removed to form the dikes round, cannot now be ascertained. It lies in the centre of an old inhabited part, now under cultivation, an upland green oasis

between Glenurquhart and Abriachan.

Dimensions of cups :—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 6.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ in.	No. 11.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ in.
„ 2.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „	„ 7.	3 „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 12.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „
„ 3.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 8.	3 „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 13.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „
„ 4.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 9.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{4}$ „	„ 14.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ „
„ 5.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 10.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „			

#### VII. NEAR CROY, ABOVE DALCROSS STATION.

25. At *Cantraybruiach on the Nairn*, some miles below Clava, on the west side of the river, a cupped stone was recently come upon by the tenant, Mr. Hamilton, while trenching in a field below the house, a little to the north-east. It lay face down, but it has been removed to the farm for preservation. There are the remains of numerous cairns and circles all along the Nairn here. A very good example, much dilapidated, exists on the river side, at the ford to Croygorstan, where a meal mill called Milton existed till recently, portions of the cairn and great standing stones still remaining, none of which show cups.

The *Cantraybruiach* stone is a slab of the reddish-yellow sandstone of the district, 5 feet long, from  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 3 feet broad, and 9 or 10 inches thick, with a very smooth surface. It contains some thirty-five cups,

shown fig. 58. The most of them are well rounded and scooped. Not a few exhibit traces of being picked out with a fine, sharp-pointed tool,

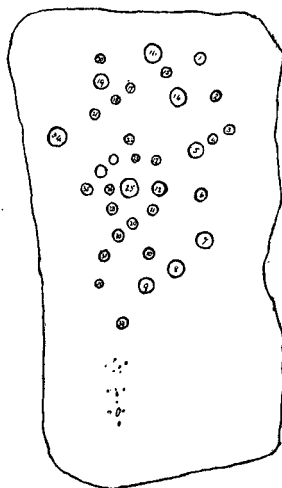


Fig. 58. At Cantraybruiach, Strathnairn.

as in others at Clava. At the lower end, there are a great number to the smaller curious finger-tip cups, shown on the stone, fig. 6, at Clava.

Dimensions of cups :—

No.	Width.	Depth.	No.	Width.	Depth.	No.	Width.	Depth.
1.	1½ in.	× ¼ in.	12.	1¾ in.	× ⅜ in.	23.	1 "	× ⅓ in.
2.	1 "	× ⅓ "	13.	1 in.	× ⅓ "	24.	1¼ "	× ¼ "
3.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	14.	2 "	× ⅜ "	25.	2¼ in.	× ⅜ "
4.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	15.	1 "	× ⅓ "	26.	1¼ "	× ¼ "
5.	1¾ "	× ½ "	16.	2 "	× ⅓ "	27.	1½ "	× ⅓ "
6.	1½ "	× ¼ "	17.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	28.	1½ "	× ⅓ "
7.	2 "	× ⅜ "	18.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	29.	1½ "	× ¼ "
8.	2 "	× ⅝ "	19.	1¾ "	× ⅓ "	30.	1½ "	× ⅓ "
9.	1¾ "	× ⅓ "	20.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	31.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "
10.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	21.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	32.	2 "	× ⅓ "
11.	1 "	× ⅓ "	22.	1¼ "	× ⅓ "	33.	1¾ "	× ⅓ "

26. At *Hillhead of Petty*.—About a quarter of a mile west of Croy, on the road to Dalcross Station, and within a few yards of the march between the Earl of Moray and Mr. Davidson of Cantray, a

flat cupped stone<sup>1</sup> lay in the middle of a field, a little to the south side of the road. It was an immense block of gneiss or mica schist, 10 feet long by  $9\frac{1}{2}$  feet broad, embedded in the ground to unknown depth, above 3 feet being visible, and must have remained in its present position for ages. It had lain unobserved in the field, partly covered with soil, at the lower and left sides, where no cups exist, and used as a receptacle for field rubbish. It was recently discovered by Mr. Wedderspoon of the Public school of Croy, who has been much interested in the subject, and has made discoveries.<sup>2</sup> It is shown, fig. 59.

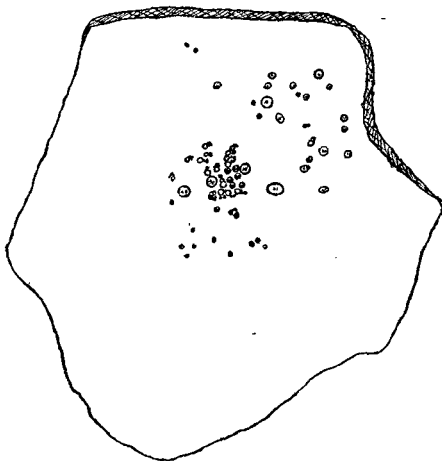


Fig. 59. At Hillhead of Petty.

The largest, No. 41, was 4 inches by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep; No. 12,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep; No. 30,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep; No. 35, 2 inches by  $\frac{5}{8}$  inch deep; the rest are smaller. The cups were generally circular, but

<sup>1</sup> I am sorry to say that this large, well cupped stone was utterly destroyed, in the end of October 1881; at whose instigation it is bootless now to inquire. This shows either gross ignorance or shameful carelessness, and furnishes another proof of the need of legislative enactment to prevent the destruction of such ancient remains.

<sup>2</sup> He sketched this and the Cantraybraich stones, and some of those in Braeclich churchyard, not far from Croy.

many were decidedly oval. Most of them were quite distinct. Some showed the same picking out by a sharp tool (already noted in the valley of the Nairn), as Nos. 4, 12, 3, 19, and 35. They were all simple and single, except 33, which was double, and 47, which was triple. There were a few of the finger-tip cups to the left of the large one, No. 30.

Dimensions of cups :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	$\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.	32.	$\frac{3}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.
2.	$\frac{3}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	33.	2 ,,	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{4}$ in.
3.	2 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ ,,	34.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ ,,
4.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	35.	2 ,,	$\times \frac{5}{8}$ ,,
5.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{5}$ ,,	36.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
6.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	37.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
7.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	38.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
8.	$\frac{5}{8}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	39.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
9.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	40.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
10.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	41.	4 ,,	$\times 3$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{2}$ ,,
11.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	42.	2 ,,	$\times 1$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
12.	$2\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ ,,	43.	2 ,,	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$ ,, $\times \frac{3}{8}$ ,,
13.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	44.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
14.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	45.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
15.	2 ,,	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	46.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
16.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	47.	2 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
17.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	48.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{5}$ ,,
18.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	49.	2 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
19.	$1\frac{3}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	50.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
20.	2 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	51.	$\frac{5}{8}$ ,,	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ ,,
21.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,	52.	$\frac{3}{8}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
22.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	53.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
23.	$\frac{3}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	54.	$1\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
24.	$\frac{5}{8}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	55.	$\frac{3}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
25.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	56.	$\frac{5}{8}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
26.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	57.		
27.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	58.		
28.	$1\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	59.		$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,
29.	$\frac{1}{2}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ ,,	60.		
30.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ ,,	$\times \frac{1}{2}$ ,,	61.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ ,,
31.	1 ,,	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ ,, $\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.			

VIII. NEAR LOCH ASHIE, ABOVE INVERNESS.

On the undulating plateau bordering on Loch Duntelchaig, at the south end of Loch Ashie, which lies in a hollow below the upper road to Stratherrick from Inverness, about ten miles from the town, is to be found an



unusual and interesting series of archaeological remains, as a whole second only to those on the plain of Clava. The district bears curiously the same name as that of the field of Culloden above Clava, viz., Drummosie. The most striking of these is a large circular enclosure on the central ridge which runs from the west end of Loch Ashie and in the same line with it, overlooking parallel hollows on each side. This structure is about 300 yards from the loch, and is variously known as *Bual Aonarnach*, the solitary fold; *Bual-a-choranaich*, or fold of the coronach; *Bual Chomhraig*, or fold of battle; and *Bual Chonard*, the fold of the plain. It forms a great circle, about 80 feet in diameter, enclosed by walls built of the red sandstone flags of the district, in the manner of dry-stone diking, 10 to 12 feet wide on the average, and still 5 to 6 feet high in parts and 4 feet high in general. It is complete in outline, and seems to have been most carefully constructed, with a probable entrance on the S.E. It encloses a concentric circle, about 40 feet in diameter, and about 40 feet from the outer circle, whose walls are much obliterated, with a probable entrance on the same side. This inner circle seems to have had standing stones, two of which still remain, one 8 feet  $\times$  3 feet, the other 9 feet  $\times$  3 feet, of the same red sandstone. The whole structure is sadly dilapidated.<sup>1</sup> It is nevertheless still impressive, and in its original condition must have been no mean piece of work. Of its nature and purpose, I can form no idea, as it is, so far as I am aware, unique in the country.

The whole ridge on which it stands, and the neighbouring undulating ground over a wide area, are covered with exceedingly numerous examples of "hut-circles," some of them uncommon, as *enclosing within them and nearly filled by well-formed cairns*, a rare feature, several of these circles being as fine specimens as I know; tumuli of all sizes, many of them large, a line of them along the central ridge being conspicuous; cairns and other related remains. The whole place would seem to have been notable in prehistoric and subsequent times, indications of which are given in the name of the hollow to the north called after Ossian, and in the name of

<sup>1</sup> Having been made a general quarry for the neighbourhood, and, not least, for the present Free Church of Dores.

the wooded hill overlooking it to the north, *Ben-na-aifrim*, the Hill of the Mass.

27. Two cupped stones have recently been discovered in the hollow to the south of the central ridge by Mr. Ross of Farr Public school. They are of a softish light-yellow sandstone, and lie flat on the ground, with the cups on the exposed surface. These are well formed.

One of these stones is shown on fig. 60. A special feature of the

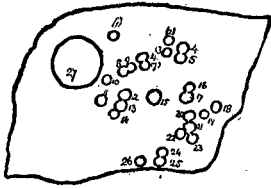


Fig. 60. Near Loch Ashie.

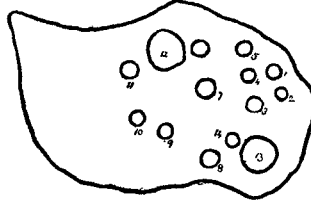


Fig. 60A. Near Loch Ashie.

cups in this specimen is their being grouped in pairs, triplets, and quartettes, only ten of the twenty-seven standing alone. Another is the existence of one of the larger basins sometimes associated with the usual cups. It is circular, and is 7 inches across and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. All the cups are quite round except No. 11, which is  $1\frac{3}{4} \times 2$  inches across.

These are their dimensions:—

Diam.	Depth.	Diam.	Depth.	Diam.	Depth.
No. 1. $1\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	No. 10. Indication.		No. 19. 1 in.	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ in.
„ 2. 1 „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 11. $1\frac{3}{4}$ in.	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ in.	„ 20. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 3. Indication.		„ 12. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 21. $1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 4. 2 in.	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 13. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 22. $1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 5. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 14. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 23. $1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 6. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 15. $2\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 24. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 7. $1\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 16. $1\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 25. $1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „
„ 8. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 17. $1\frac{1}{2}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{8}$ „	„ 26. 1 „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „
„ 9. $1\frac{1}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{1}{4}$ „	„ 18. $1\frac{3}{4}$ „	$\times \frac{3}{8}$ „	„ 27. 7 „	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ „

28. The other stone is shown on fig. 60A. The cups are all separate, and are generally larger than in the last. They are pretty circular, except No. 12. This stone contains two of the greater cups or basins, though smaller than in the last; the one (No. 13) being  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches across and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep, the other  $5 \times 4\frac{1}{2}$  inches across and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep.

Dimensions of the cups :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	2½ in.	× ⅜ in.	6.	1⅜ "	× ¼ in.	11.	2⅜ in.	× ⅜ in.
2.	1½ "	× ¼ "	7.	3 "	× ⅜ "	12.	5 "	× 2½ "
3.	2⅜ "	× ⅜ "	8.	1⅝ "	× ¼ "	13.	5½ "	× 2⅜ "
4.	2½ "	× ½ "	9.	2 "	× ¼ "	14.	Indication.	
5.	2 "	× ⅜ "	10.	2¼ "	× ¼ "			

### IX. NEAR CAWDOR CASTLE.

29. *At Little Urchany Wester, near Cawdor.*—In a wall of the farm buildings, erected some seventy years, which has lately fallen, a part of a cupped stone was recently found, shown in fig. 61. It is of a yellow sandstone similar to, but harder than the last.

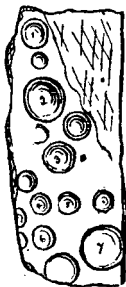


Fig. 61.  
Near Cawdor.

It is only a portion of its original, having been split on the right side, and had part of its upper right hand corner hammered off, to fit it for building. It is 2 feet 1 inch long by 8½ inches broad at one end and 7½ inches at the other. There are twelve fully formed cups on it, and two or three imperfect ones on its lower edge. They are from 3½ to 2 inches wide, and from 1⅜ inch to ½ inch deep, very distinct and well formed, though rougher than on other specimens. Search should be made for the remainder of the stone, which will no doubt be about the farm buildings.

It has been removed to Cawdor Castle for preservation.

Dimensions of cups :—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	3 in.	× 1¼ in.	4.	2 in.	× ½ in.	6.	2 in.	× ⅜ in.
2.	3½ "	× 1⅜ "	5.	2 "	× ½ "	7.	3¼ "	× 1¼ "
3.	2½ "	× ¼ "						

### X. IN STRATHGLASS, ABOVE BEAULY.

30. *At Urchany in Kilmorack, near Beauly.*—In the forest, about 3 miles above the Public school of Teanassie, which is 3½ miles from Beauly, above Kilmorack Falls, on the Strathglass road, there stand the ruins of the gamekeeper's house of Urchany, on the hill side above the valley of the Teanassie Burn at Breakachy. About six yards

from the door, lies a cupped stone, known to the inhabitants there, though it has no name. It was recently discovered by Mr. Forbes of Teanassie School, who has searched the surrounding country for cups since seeing with me those near Culburnie. It is a large carried boulder of hard, dark-grey mica schist, 6 feet 6 inches by 6 feet, and 3 feet thick, still partly underground, with irregular upper surface. It is shown in fig. 62. It contains above forty cups, on a pretty smooth surface. Those marked (1) are less distinct than the rest but are clearly cupped. A nail has been driven into the cup at (x), where it may have been partially bored for blasting. Only two of the cups are connected, Nos. 14 and 15. A part of the stone on the left side is 6 inches lower than the rest, and the stone has structural cracks in several places. The stone has been considerably worn from being so near the house, and some of the cups may have been tampered with. It is interesting as occupying so very elevated a position on a lonely hillside, commanding a very expansive view, but the place where it stands has been long inhabited as a croft. Between it and Teanassie, rises an isolated craggy hill, above the stream, crowned by an ancient hill fort, called *Dunmore*, or the great dun or fort, with an enclosing thick wall of rough stones, which is double in exposed parts. The district just below it is an upland, well cultivated hollow.

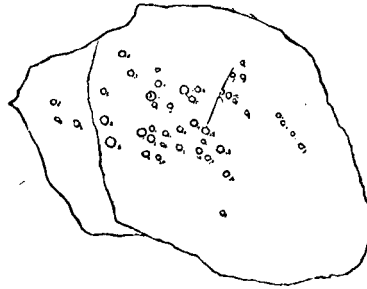


Fig. 62. At Urchany, Strathglass.

Dimensions of cups :—

No.	Depth.	Breadth.	No.	Depth.	Breadth.	No.	Depth.	Breadth.
2.	$\frac{3}{8}$ in.	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in.	11.	$\frac{1}{8}$ in.	$\times 2$ in.	20.	$\frac{1}{8}$ in.	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ in.
3.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 3$ "	12.	$\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	21.	$\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "
4.	$2\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 4$ "	13.	$\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	22.	$\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ "
5.	$\frac{3}{4}$ "	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ "	14.	2 "	$\times 4$ "	23.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "
6.	$\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	15.	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ "	24.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "
7.	$1\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ "	16.	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ "	25.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 3$ "
8.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	17.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	26.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ "
9.	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	18.	$\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times 2$ "	27.	$\frac{7}{8}$ "	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$ "
10.	$1\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 3\frac{1}{2}$ "	19.	$\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times 3$ "			

31. *At Crasky in Glen Cannich.*—At the farm of Crasky in Glen Cannich, four miles above Glen Affric Hotel at Cannich Bridge, is found a well-cupped stone. It is 20 yards from the farm-house, and some 200 yards above the River Cannich, which flows through that solitary and picturesque glen. It is a natural block of “whinstone,” probably the gneiss of the district, 9 feet

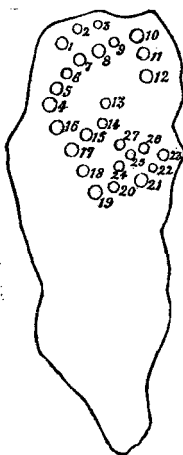


Fig. 62A. At Crasky.

8½ inches long, 4 feet at its greatest width, and 1 foot 9 inches thick. It lies flat upon the ground, and there is no evidence from its appearance or from tradition that it ever stood erect. Its upper cupped surface is in its natural state, somewhat smoothed, no doubt, from being long used as a threshing floor. It is shown on fig. 62A, to the scale of ½ inch to 1 foot. It contains twenty-seven cups, some of them very good and being well formed, especially considering the hard, tough material. They are all simple and single, without surrounding rings and connecting grooves. Two, Nos. 4 and 17, are 3 inches in diameter; three, Nos. 1, 10, and 19, are 2½ inches; No. 16

is 2¼; the rest range from 2 to 1 inch. The greatest depth is 2 inches in No. 8; Nos. 4 and 10 are 1½ inches. They seem to have a rough arrangement, forming a rude letter E or e, capital or plain; but whether this form was intentional or not, or was meant to represent any object or symbol, is a question. These are their dimensions, as taken by Mr. Lachlan Ferguson, of Guisachan Public School; for I have not seen this stone myself, it having been discovered since I was last in the glen:—

	Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.		Diam.	Depth.
No. 1.	2½ in.	× ½ in.	No. 10.	2½ in.	× 1½ in.	No. 19.	2½ in.	× 1 in.
” 2.	1½ ”	× ½ ”	” 11.	2 ”	× ½ ”	” 20.	2 ”	× ½ ”
” 3.	1 ”	× ½ ”	” 12.	2 ”	× ¼ ”	” 21.	2¼ ”	× ½ ”
” 4.	3 ”	× 1½ ”	” 13.	1 ”	× ¼ ”	” 22.	1 ”	× ¼ ”
” 5.	2 ”	× ½ ”	” 14.	1 ”	× ¼ ”	” 23.	2 ”	× ¼ ”
” 6.	2 ”	× ¼ ”	” 15.	2 ”	× ½ ”	” 24.	1½ ”	× ¼ ”
” 7.	2 ”	× ¼ ”	” 16.	2¼ ”	× ¼ ”	” 25.	1½ ”	× ¼ ”
” 8.	2 ”	× 2 ”	” 17.	3 ”	× ½ ”	” 26.	1½ ”	× ¼ ”
” 9.	1¼ ”	× 1 ”	” 18.	2 ”	× ”	” 27.	1½ ”	× ¼ ”

There are, according to Mr. Ferguson, distinct indications that the stone was connected with a circle of standing stones, set round the mound where the cupped flag lies, fourteen stones still remaining, and the circle being apparent for 36 yards. One of the stones, 6 feet 8 inches long, 3 feet wide, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick, which is within 2 yards of the cupped block, lately stood erect, all the rest lying on the ground, and the children used to shelter themselves behind it in stormy weather.

There remains no tradition regarding the stone, though it was always regarded as a curiosity. A barn connected with the farm was once built over it, and the stone itself served as the threshing-floor, on which for years descended the flail of the great-grandfather of the present tenant, Mr. Alexander Chisholm. This is the only stone with several cups yet known in upper Strathglass, which is remarkable for its archæological remains, as will be seen hereafter. It is, however, only a few miles from the stones at Corrimony in Glen Urquhart (figs. 14 and 15).

#### PART FOURTH.

##### *CUP-MARKED STONES IN CHURCHYARDS.*

##### I. IN THE CHURCHYARD OF BAREVAN, AT CAWDOR.

On the high plateau called Barevan (that is the brae or high land of Evan)<sup>1</sup> behind the vitrified fort of Dunevan, Evan's Dun, near Cawdor, stands the ancient church of Barevan, once the parish kirk of Calder, or Cawdor, before the present towered structure (which has its joughs still hanging at the door) was erected in 1711.<sup>2</sup> Barevan church is now in ruins and roofless. The north and south walls remain nearly of their original height, but only 4 feet of the west gable, which was crow-stepped, and fell about thirty years ago, while the east gable, now level with the

<sup>1</sup> This derivation, given in the first Statistical Account, would seem to be the right one. Evan is said in the second Statistical Account to be "the saint to whose tutelary protection the church and district were intrusted."

<sup>2</sup> The quaint tower and the adjoining chapel, now forming the vestry, are, however, much older. The date of their erection, and of the transference of the parish church, I have been unable to discover.

ground, stood till 1810, as recalled by the present tenant of the farm Mr. William Mackintosh, who is seventy-seven years old. The building had been about 70 feet long and 20 feet wide, and had been erected at different times, as shown by the varied styles of work on the windows and elsewhere. Most of the interior is covered with flat gravestones, and the church is surrounded by a graveyard with numerous stones of various dates, some very old, and not a few finely carved. On the north side of the churchyard, there is a stone coffin, cut out of a solid block of the yellowish sandstone of the district, 6 feet long and 2 feet 8 inches broad at the top, tapering to 1 foot  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch at the feet, with a circular space for the head, contracting at the neck.<sup>1</sup> Near the east end of the church, there lies a rounded ball of reddish granite, 19 inches by 17 in diameter, and weighing 18 imperial stones. Its shape and weight caused it to be used in the neighbourhood as a test of strength in the older days.<sup>2</sup>

These are indications of the interest that attaches to this secluded old chapel and graveyard. The view from it, with the vitrified fort of Dunevan close by and the Moray Firth bounded by the Ross and Sutherland mountains beyond, is unusually expansive and fine.

On the 10th of May 1880, I visited Barevan to examine its ruins and the surrounding churchyard, in the hope of finding something interesting in its ancient gravestones, as indicated at a previous visit a year or two before, but in no hope of discovering cups there, these being then unknown in such a connection. In the interior of the church, the floor of which is covered with gravestones, close to the middle of the north wall, I noted the stone on fig. 63. It was covered completely with moss and matted grass, except a small portion which

<sup>1</sup>This coffin is said to have been used as a place of penance or punishment for ecclesiastical or other offences, the culprit being made to lie down in it and being then covered with a heavy stone slab except the face, which gazed up into the sky for many hours, and up to the stars when his crime was greater—a nerve-trying experience of no slight kind, considering the superstitious dread of the place of the dead then common.

<sup>2</sup>Mr. Mackintosh was himself able in his younger days to lift it and place it on the dike, and the grandmother of the friend who accompanied me was capable of raising it by means of her apron, put below it rope-wise to catch hold of it.

exposed the cup marked A on the middle of the stone to the right side. A speedy exposure of the whole surface revealed the cupped slab here drawn, an unexpected and surprising discovery. This led to the examination of other stones all over the churchyard, and the disinterment of about a dozen examples of cupped stones in various parts, all of them with one exception being buried from sight under moss and grass, so old that it was with difficulty broken open and the surfaces below exposed to view. This, it seems, was the first discovery in Britain, of such carvings in connection with churchyards.<sup>1</sup>

Since this discovery of cupped stones at Barevan, I have found examples in Braeclich churchyard near Fort-George Station, Dunlichity churchyard in upper Strathnairn, Daviot churchyard on the Nairn, and in the old churchyard of Farnaway at Kirkton near Bunchrew, all described here; and more than indications of them in Glenconvinth, Kiltarlity, and Kirkhill churchyards near Beauly.

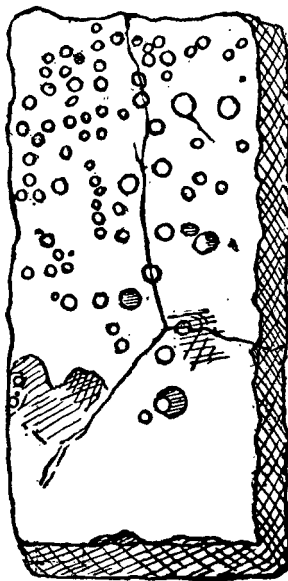


Fig. 63. In Barevan Churchyard.

1. In fig. 63 is shown the first stone discovered at Barevan, lying close to the middle of the north wall inside the church. It consists of a yellowish sandstone, medium hard, similar to the variety obtained from a quarry near Holm house on the Nairn, out of which the house was built, though the Holm stone has a redder tinge; and also in the bed of the

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Anderson, our curator, to whom I then communicated this discovery, says, "This is surely important. Cupped stones are not on record in such a connection in Scotland, unless the Cradle Stone at Burghead [described and figured in Dr. Mitchell's *Vacation Notes*, p. 43] be reckoned a cup stone. This Christian connection has been demonstrated in other countries, but no indication that this was possible in Scotland has yet turned up."



Nairn a little above White Bridge, much of the bridge, built by General Wade, being of this stone. It is noteworthy that all the cupped stones in the churchyards here described are of the same yellowish sandstone, as if quarried from the same place because suitable for the purpose. This stone contains eighty-two cups, all more or less distinct, and many of them very good. It shows marks of having been squared into its present form, especially on the right side, and it is cracked though not severed, as shown on the drawing. It is 5 feet 9 inches long, and 2 feet 9 inches broad, and about 6 inches thick. It does not seem to have been carved or lettered since the cups were made upon it.<sup>1</sup>

2. The stone on fig. 64 lies outside the church, five yards from the south wall, and about the same distance from a railed-in enclosure at the west end of this wall. It contains fifteen good-sized, well-cut cups, and a large number of much smaller ones, a variety which occurs on most of

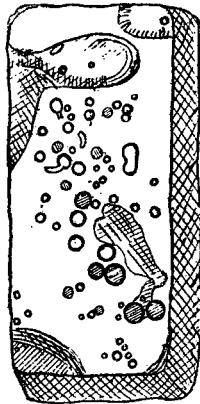


Fig. 64. In Barevan Churchyard.

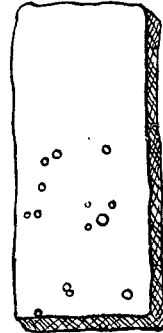


Fig. 65. In Barevan Churchyard.

the churchyard specimens described. As this small shallow cup is found only on churchyard stones, and not on those in their natural state in stone circles and elsewhere, the idea is suggested that the churchyard

<sup>1</sup> I have refrained giving the dimensions of most of these graveyard cups, as the surface has evidently been tampered with, and their original size reduced.

examples have had their faces rubbed down, in order to produce a smoother surface for gravestones, and an examination of the small cups confirms this, for they look like the bases of larger cups. In some cases, as in the next, there are no large cups at all, and in these the surface of the stone is unusually smooth, bearing marks of rubbing, such as no stone in its natural state could well present. Other peculiarities of the stone on fig. 64 are—the presence of hollow basins (like those in the example in Cawdor Castle garden, fig. 33) which are smooth and evidently artificial; the existence of small cups in the inside and on the edge of these basins; the existence of what may be called twin cups, as will be seen in several places; and of hollow grooves radiating from some of the cups, and from some of the basins. The stone has evidently been reduced from its original size to its present squared oblong shape, as shown by the division of old basins at two of the corners and on the left side.

3. Fig. 65 shows another specimen of the same sandstone; much smaller in size, with very smooth surface, containing nothing but the small variety of cup, evidently the bottoms of larger ones reduced by rubbing down.

4. In fig. 66 we have a fine slab of the same stone, a little larger than that in fig. 63, being 6 feet long and 2 feet 8 inches broad. It lies in the middle of the churchyard, a little south of that of fig. 64. It contains only the greater basins already mentioned, with two or three of the small variety, one of them of about the usual size in the inside of one of the basins on the left side. The stone has evidently been squared down to its present shape, as proved by the sections through the cups. It has also been carved with a lettered inscription, and a shield or other incised ornament on its lower half, the whole having been subsequently obliterated by a sharp-pointed pick, the pitted marks of which are easily seen, except parts of two letters and the curved side of the figure. It also contains, on its upper side, an oblong pointed form, common in Barevan and Braeclich churchyards, which, in varied shape, seems to be a plough-share. The fact of the repeated use of such cupped stones by different parties points to their great age; while the cutting through the original

cups and basins would seem to indicate that their utilisation as grave-stones was subsequent to their first purpose, whatever that was, when the cups and basins were complete. It is only in graveyard specimens that such transformations and reductions occur.

5. Within an iron-railed enclosure, at the west end of the south wall outside, is what is known as "Brodie's Tomb." Here lies a slab, of the same sandstone but with a reddish tinge, having cups, several of the regular size and two or three of the smaller kind. It is shown on fig. 67. It also contains a circular hollow basin, egg-shaped in section,

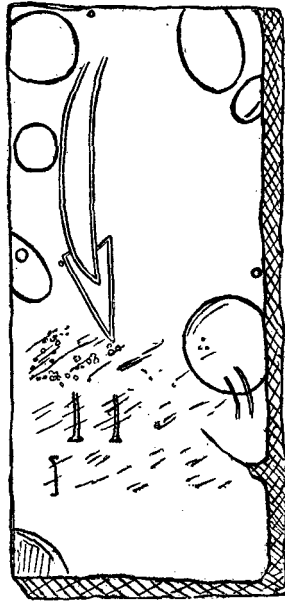


Fig. 66. In Barevan Churchyard.

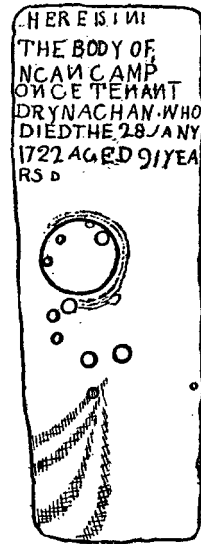


Fig. 67. In Barevan Churchyard.

10 inches in diameter and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep. This basin looks like a rude baptismal font, such as are found in different parts of the country, examples of which are given in a subsequent part of this paper, or a small "knocking stone" for preparing pot barley. (There are two

contiguous basins, similar as to size and depth, built into a recess at the east end of the south wall of the church, which, having holes in the bottom, would seem to have been a double piscina carved in the same stone, though they are popularly said to be "holy water" basins.) This basin seems to have been surrounded by an enclosing hollow ring, part of which remains. It has on its inner surface several cup marks, which are the only instances known to me of cups in such a basin. At the lower part of this stone, there are two hollows meeting in a point, similar to those on the stone at Cawdor Castle garden (fig. 33). This stone, as will be seen, has been appropriated for sepulture by the friends of

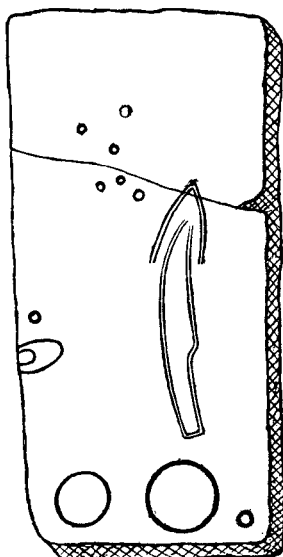


Fig. 68. In Barevan Churchyard.

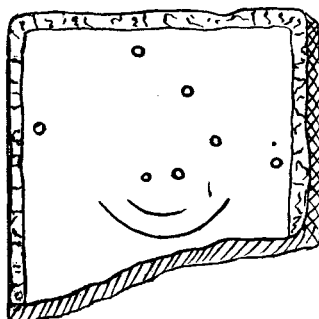


Fig. 69. In Barevan Churchyard.

a Duncan Campbell who died in 1722, part of the letters having become obliterated. The hollow basin had been recently used as a mortar pot by the masons who had been employed to erect a new granite stone in the small enclosure, and some of the lime still adheres to its sides.

6. In the churchyard, on the same side of the church, there is also

the stone on fig. 68. The cups are of the small variety, and there are two shallow basins at the lower end, and part of another at the left side. It has also the ploughshare ornament carved on it.

7. Inside the church, along the east end of the south wall, near the double piscina, there is a large broken slab (fig. 69), with letters and carving, containing cups of the small kind on its western end. The remains of an obliterated circular ornament are seen on it, as also of a lettered scroll surrounding the stone. It is of the same yellow sandstone. On the other half there are traces of several of the small variety of cup.

8. Outside the church, on the south side, 7 feet from the opening near the east side of the wall, lies the stone on fig. 70. It is of the same sandstone.

9. Near the same place, 6 yards from the wall, not far from the railed enclosure, is the stone on fig. 71. It is of the same rock, and contains

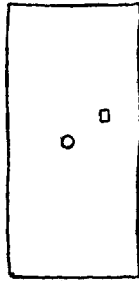


Fig. 70. In Barevan Churchyard.

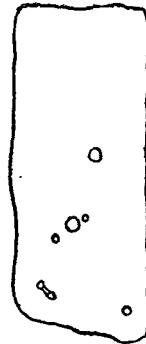


Fig. 71. In Barevan Churchyard.

only one cup,  $2\frac{1}{3}$  inches across and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep near the centre. A little distance from this cup is an angular oblong hollow, tapering downwards, and evidently formed by a sharp iron chisel; but its use or meaning is not very evident. This stone rests on two upright stone supports at the ends, which give it the appearance of a table.

10. On several other stones of the same kind there are the traces

of former cups, the small bases of which only now remain after the smoothing of the surfaces. One of these is the tomb of Duncan Campbell of Clunas, the last of the Campbells of the Cawdor branch buried in this part of the country. It is tabular and rests on stone supports at the east end of the church inside, with dates 1745 and 1746. Another stone close by it, on the south side, shows still more decided pitted marks of old cups. A stone close to that on fig. 69, another south-west of that on fig. 73, and a third on the south side and near to Duncan Campbell's tomb, show similar traces of cup marks.

## II. IN BRAECLICH CHURCHYARD, FORT-GEORGE STATION.

Near Fort-George station, on an eminence to the west commanding a magnificent view of the country, there is an ancient graveyard known as *Braeclich*. (The old name would seem to have been *Bracholy*, which, according to the New Statistical Account, is derived from *Braigh-Choile*, the brae or slope of the wood, a name that refers to a long past condition of things, for the district is now quite treeless near the graveyard.) It would seem to have been very ancient, and to have had a church or chapel in its enclosure. An aged farmer, born and brought up near the place, and living in the neighbourhood, states that his father saw one of the gables of the old fane standing, and that the stones of the church were used for making the old military road from Fort-George, which crosses at the station not far from the churchyard and runs southwards by the White Bridge across the Bridge of Dulsie on the Findhorn, past Dava, to the south country. It is recorded that a certain Earl of Ross did injury to the churches of Petyn now Petty, and Bracholy, now Braeclich, in 1281. There are no vestiges of the old church now to be seen, at least above ground.

In this churchyard there are several cupped stones, all of the same yellow sandstone as those at Barevan. Most of the cups are of the small type, like those found at Barevan, produced probably by the same cause, their being smoothed for gravestone purposes.

11. Just opposite the entrance, about the middle of the churchyard, lies

the stone on fig. 72. The cups, though smallish, are in general distinct, and there are above forty in all. The stone has evidently been smoothed on its surface and squared at its sides. It has been carved and lettered; and the proof that this has been done subsequently to the cup scooping is complete, from the existence of one of the cups within and close to the edge of the carved shield. A good deal of the carving and lettering has been obliterated by rubbing or weathering, and the letters at the bottom have been forcibly destroyed by some pointed tool, only a few fragments of the inscription remaining.

12 and 13. In the same churchyard are the two cupped stones on figs. 73, 74. The cups are of the small kind, evidently reduced by rubbing or

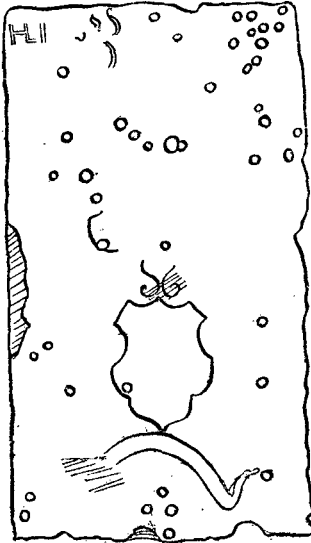


Fig. 72.

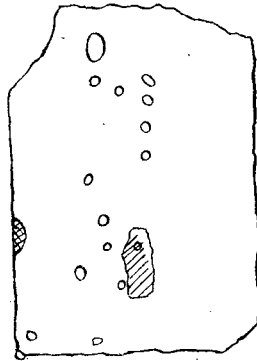


Fig. 73.

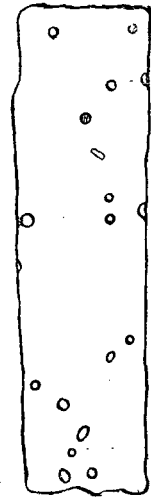


Fig. 74.

Figs. 72, 73, and 74. In Braeclich Churchyard.

smoothing of the surface, but several are still good and of considerable size. All those marked are quite distinct. They are on the same kind of sandstone.

14. Towards the west side of the yard, is the stone on fig. 75, of the

same sandstone, 4 feet by 2 feet 8 inches, but broken at the top. It contains about fourteen cups, most of them of the small size. No. 1 is 4 inches in diameter and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. No. 2 is 2 inches across and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep. The rest are from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  inches across and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep.

15. Immediately opposite the entrance gate lies an exceedingly rough flag of the same yellow sandstone, with about forty cups on its irregular surface (see fig. 76). It is 6 feet 6 inches long by 2 feet wide at one end

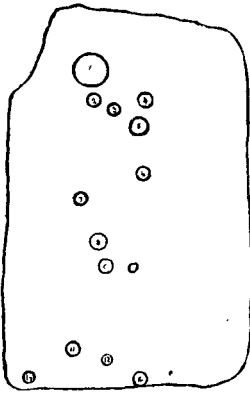


Fig. 75.

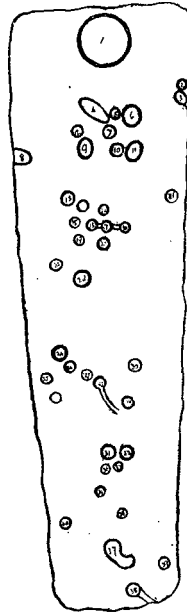


Fig. 76.

Figs. 75 and 76. In Braeclich Churchyard.

and 1 foot 4 inches at the other. One cup is large, being 6 inches wide and  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch deep; No. 2 is 3 inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep; No. 3 is a double cup, formed of two united, 5 inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch and  $\frac{3}{8}$  inch deep. Some of them are oblong; several have connecting grooves; and more than one of them have radiating gutters.



16. Fig. 77 shows another stone with one cup on its upper end,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch across by  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch deep. It also contains a curious hollow, which

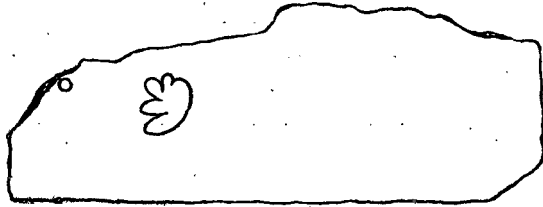


Fig. 77. In Braeclich Churchyard.

may be natural but is probably artificial, for similar conch-like grooves exist on other stones, as on fig. 5. This one is 8 inches long by 6 inches broad, and 1 inch deep.

### III. IN DUNLICHITY CHURCHYARD, UPPER STRATHNAIRN.

Beyond Tordarroch, in upper Strathnairn (already mentioned under fig. 27), close by Loch Clachan, into which run the waters of the large Loch Duntelchaig, and just under the shadow of Craig-a-Chlachan, with its perched block of Clach-an-Fhreiceadain, or the Sentinel Stone (which is seen from far like a watchman on the outlook), nestles the romantic, irregular, rocky churchyard of Dunlichity, with its neat old church, once the centre of a parish of its own before it was united with Daviot. It is in a remote, solitary spot, interesting alike to the archæologist, geologist, and scenery seeker. It is in the centre of a rich archæological region, some of whose remains have already been described (figs. 24 to 37, 50, 51, and 52).

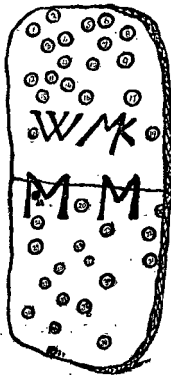


Fig. 78. In Dunlichity Churchyard.

17. In this old graveyard a remarkably good cupped stone has been found (fig. 78). It is of the same yellow sandstone as the others at Barevan and Braeclich, though the stone is not found on the Upper Nairn. The lower half of it was discovered by Mr. Ross of the Farr Public

School, a few miles distant, who visited the place on learning of the discovery of cupped stones in the churchyards already described. He took a plan of the part then found, which was used as the head-stone of a grave between the east end of the church and the enclosed vault at that side. He was unable to discover the rest of the block till I accompanied him recently to the spot, when we happily came upon its counterpart after long search, at the end of another grave on the south side, not far from the church. The whole flag is now represented. There are thirty-eight cups in all, unusually well formed, rounded, and deep. It is really an excellent specimen. The cups are remarkably equal in size and style, and do not seem to have been touched.

Dimensions of cups, taken by Mr. Ross:—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	No.	Diam.	Depth.
1.	2 in.	$\times 1\frac{3}{4}$ in.	20.	$3\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times 3$ in.
2.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 1\frac{3}{4}$	21.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times \frac{3}{8}$
3.	2	$\times 2$	22.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$
4.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$	23.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2$
5.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2$	24.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$
6.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$	25.	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2\frac{3}{4}$
7.	2	$\times 2$	26.	1	$\times 1$
8.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 1\frac{3}{4}$	27.	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2\frac{3}{4}$
9.	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$	28.	Indication.	
10.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$	29.	Indication.	
11.	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 1\frac{3}{4}$	30.	3 in.	$\times 3$
12.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$	31.	$3\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 2$
13.	$1\frac{1}{4}$	$\times 1\frac{1}{2}$	32.	$2\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2\frac{3}{4}$
14.	$2\frac{1}{4}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{4}$	33.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2$
15.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 3$	34.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$
16.	$1\frac{3}{4}$	$\times 2$	35.	2	$\times 2$
17.	$2\frac{1}{2}$	$\times 2\frac{1}{2}$	36.	3	$\times 3$
18.	Indication.		37.	Indication.	
19.	$2\frac{1}{4}$ in.	$\times 2$	38.	Indication.	

#### IV. IN DAVIOT CHURCHYARD, ON THE NAIRN.

In this churchyard, about 7 miles from Inverness, on the great road to Carr Bridge and Perth, I recently found cupped stones. They lie flat on the ground on the south-east side of the church, with the cupped surface upwards.

18. Fig. 79 shows one of them, a flat yellowish sandstone of the same kind as the others described, about half way between the church tower and the south-east corner of the yard. It is 5 feet 11 inches long and 22 inches broad at its upper end and 14 inches at the lower. Cup No. 1 is 2 inches across and  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch deep. The others are from 1 inch to  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in diameter. They are rude, but most of them are more or less distinct.

19. Fig. 80 shows another example, in which the cups are more

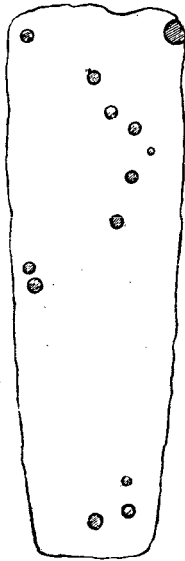


Fig. 79.

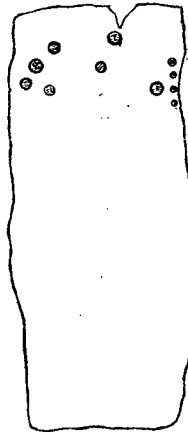


Fig. 80.

Figs. 79 and 80. In Daviot Churchyard, Strathnairn.

distinct. It is a rough sandstone passing into conglomerate, with several empty hollows where rounded stones have dropped out. It is 13 yards from the south-east corner of the church. It is 4 feet 7 inches long and from 20 to 23 inches broad. Cup No. 1 is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep; No. 2 is 2 inches broad by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep; No. 3 is  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches broad by  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches deep; and No. 4 is 1 inch broad by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. Evidences of cups occur on other stones in the same enclosure.

Round Daviot exist several other prehistoric remains: such as Dun Daviot,<sup>1</sup> probably an old hill fort; a triple stone circle near Daviot House, but without any cups; and numberless hut circles, tumuli, and cists scattered all over the high moor between Daviot and Gask. Above the churchyard, nearer the river, rises a sandy eminence, crowned, till some years ago, with one of those rare and curious detached bell towers, of which the only remaining examples in the north are those of Ardlach on the Findhorn and Latheron on the east coast of Caithness, both still pretty entire and in use.

#### V. IN FARNAWAY CHURCHYARD, AT KIRKTON.

At Kirkton, near Bunchrew, already mentioned for its cup stones (figs. 45 to 48), there exist the overgrown remains of the old churchyard and the walls of the ancient church of Farnaway or Fearnaie, once a distinct parish before it was conjoined with old St. Mary's parish and erected into the modern one of Kirkhill. All that now represents both is a small enclosure about 20 yards square, near the offices of Kirkton (which gets its name from it), surrounded by a high wall, its north side being part of the old church, which was some 20 yards long and 18 feet wide. The graveyard was once four or five times its present narrow dimensions, and many skeletons have from time to time been discovered in the field to the north of the road. This field rises into what was known as the Bell Hill, from a separate bell tower that once stood upon it.

Farnaway seems to have been an ancient site, surrounded by human habitations, of which numerous interesting evidences still remain, as the rounded hillock called *Tom-a-chastel*, where the old family of the Barons Corbet of Farnaway once held sway under the Lovats; *Tom-na-mhoit*, or the Court Hill, with its ditch round the summit of the eminence; and the old mansion of Englishtown close by.

20 and 21. There are at least two cupped stones in this churchyard. The best, lying about half way along the north wall of the church, is a flat red sandstone, with distinct bases of several cups, the surface having

<sup>1</sup> Mentioned by Miss Maclagan, pp. 77 and 118.

evidently been smoothed. The other is a reddish-yellow sandstone east of the south wall of the church, with the shallow remains of undoubted cups, also smoothed down.

#### VI. IN OTHER GRAVEYARDS.

Numerous evidences of cupped stones, with the cups now greatly obliterated, may be found in the churchyard of Kirkhill, near Beauly. Many of the more ancient and interesting stones here were removed from the very ancient burying ground of Dumballoch, on the haugh land below to the north, between this and the bridge of Beauly. Dumballoch ceased to be used as a church and graveyard some seven hundred years ago, and not a vestige remains of either, except the enclosure amidst cultivated fields and a splendid old umbrageous lime tree, one of the best in the north.

Other evidences may be seen round the old church of Glenconvinth, which stands in the middle of its graveyard, in a solitary glen half way between Beauly and Glen Urquhart, near the old road between these places. This church was once the parish kirk of a parish of its own name, now united with two others to form the present extensive parish of Kirtarlity. One or two stones lie here with the remains of old cups. There are also several stones unusually well carved, one exquisitely so (now in pieces), with a cross, rosettes, and other ornaments; and another with a well-cut representation of a man on horseback, similar to the example at Edderton, figured on the title and elsewhere in the *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*.

Similar stones with cups now greatly obliterated seem to have been utilised in the old graveyard of Kirtarlity, with the picturesque ruins of its old church, close by the wooden bridge over the Beauly, below the Falls of Kilmorack.

## PART FIFTH.

*OTHER CUPPED STONES OF A DIFFERENT, BUT POSSIBLY RELATED, TYPE.*

Round Inverness there are several stones with larger cups or basins, which may or may not be connected with those already described. They generally possess local names, and have been used for religious purposes, mainly baptismal. Such larger basins are found in connection with undoubted cups of the usual type, as shown on figs. 33, 47, 49, 50, 60, 60A, 64, 66, 67, 68, 76, and 91. Example 50 is interesting as showing a basin 8 inches wide and 2 inches deep on rock *in situ*, with only one companion cup; and 67 contains a basin 10 inches wide and  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep, identical in kind with those to be described, associated with numerous regular cups in it, as well as round it. Similar conjunctions of larger basins and common cups are found in other parts of the country, and seem to point to a common or related origin for the two classes of cups.

## I. "ST. COLUMBA'S FONT," NEAR ABRIACHAN.

At the mouth of the burn of Abriachan, which enters Loch Ness half way between Inverness and Glen Urquhart, there is an old graveyard called Killianan, or the "Cill" or graveyard of St. Fianan (anglicised Finnan),<sup>1</sup> unenclosed and picturesque, hidden there amidst the finest scenery. It contains no stone of importance, except a finely carved slab, which is said to have been carried from Iona. Above and not far from it, amongst the bushes, lies a hollow stone basin, which is said to have been used by St. Columba himself for baptism, when he visited King Brude in his castle near Inverness, and it goes by his name. It seems also to possess other virtues. Amongst these, the water it contains is said to have salutary

<sup>1</sup> The genitive of Fianan is Fhianan, pronounced Ianan. There are other Killianans in the Highlands. The name MacIannan is said to signify the son of the servant of St. Finnan.

effects in connection with child-bearing, and women are said to have frequented it in this belief till recently.<sup>1</sup> It is shown on fig. 81.

It is hollowed out of a block of hard mica schist; it is 6 inches across and  $10\frac{1}{2}$  to  $11\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. The bottom is somewhat higher in the middle than at the sides. At *bb* in the stone there is a hollow curved incision which separates the cupped portion from the rest, 10 inches broad and from  $8\frac{1}{2}$  to  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. The rest of the stone is partly covered with earth. The whole slopes at a slight angle, and stands above a foot above ground.

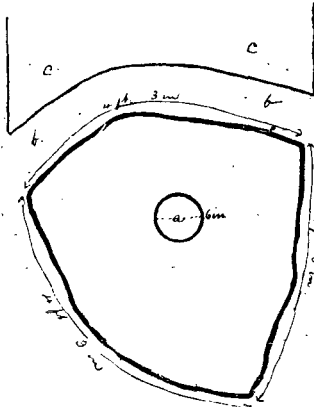


Fig. 81. "St. Columba's Font,"  
Abriachan.

It is, however, a very debatable question if the basin and circular channel are really ancient or ecclesiastical, some thinking that the stone was intended for a millstone. The sanctity derived from

its use by the wonder-working saint is nevertheless said still to survive; for the people hold that, when emptied by any one, it fills with water of its own accord. Experiments, however, by the uninitiated sceptic do not confirm this belief. The indisputable fact, nevertheless, is, that it is generally filled with water even in the hottest weather.

## II. BAPTISMAL BASIN NEAR DUNLICHITY.

Not far from the churchyard of Dunlichity in Strathnairn, on the road from it to Brin, there lies on the ground about 5 yards from the road, where a small stream crosses it, a block with a circular basin, represented on fig. 82. The basin itself is 9 inches in diameter and 4 inches deep. It is surrounded by a sloping artificial hollow ring, 17

<sup>1</sup> So Mr. George Craig, C.E., now of Leith, till lately an active member of the Inverness Field Club, was informed by a surfaceman on the road, resident in the locality, who could only talk of the subject in Gaelic to a friend of Mr. Craig's.

inches in diameter and 5 inches deep. This basin was used, within the memory of persons living, as a baptismal font for the Episcopalians of Strathnairn, of whom there are still not a few in the district, and

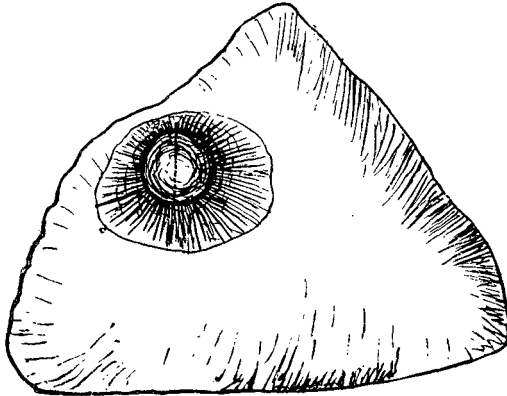


Fig. 82. Near Dunlichty, Strathnairn.

for whom there are provided a chapel and school some miles up the Strath.<sup>1</sup> It is not far from the stone on fig. 51, and lies on the same ridge.

### III. THE BISHOP'S STONE NEAR DALCROSS CASTLE.

In a wood on the farm of Balnabual, near Dalcross Castle, there is a rounded block of reddish-grey granite, with a round basin carved in it, called the Bishop's Stone. It lies seven yards south of an old, unused road from Croy to Dalcross. The block is 4 feet long, by 3 feet 8 inches broad and 1 foot 8 inches thick. The basin is 6 inches across and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, with vertical sides. It is shown on fig. 83, as drawn by Mr. Wedder-

<sup>1</sup> Not far from this stone, to the east, there is a remarkable natural circular hollow, scooped out of the abundant gravelly deposits that abound here, which was long used by them as a conventicle where they assembled to worship under the blue heavens. A better place for such a meeting could not be found. It would hold some hundreds, who could easily hear every word spoken, even the slightest whisper, while they would be entirely hidden from outside view.



spoon of Croy. The late farmer of Knocknaba, an old man, informed him that there was a tradition, that, in pre-Reformation times, the Bishop came at stated periods to this part of the country, and, from this basin, baptized all the children of the neighbourhood in the open air. Since

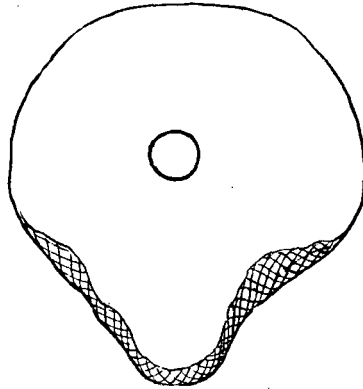


Fig. 83. "Bishop's Stone," near Dalcross Castle.

Mr. Wedderspoon saw it first, some vandal has chiselled a groove across its face, evidently with the intent to utilise it for his vulgar ends. The site of the stone is on an elevated ridge commanding a magnificent view of the Moray Firth and the mountains beyond.

#### IV. THE PRIEST'S STONE AT DALAROSSIE CHURCHYARD.

On the north side of the old burying-ground round the church of Dalarossie, in Upper Strathdearn, which is watered by the Findhorn, some five or six miles above Findhorn Bridge, over which runs the great road between Inverness and Perth, there exists a curious stone, known as *Clach-an-t-shagairt*, or the Priest's Stone. It is a rounded block of grey gneiss, 27 inches broad and 16 inches thick, shown on fig. 84 with sections, drawn by Mr. Mackay of the Public School near it. It contains a basin 21 inches in diameter, quite circular except on the upper right side, where it extends  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches beyond the true circle,



lies a stone containing a single basin, called *Clach-an-tullan*, that is, simply the stone with the little hole. It is a block of fine-grained mica schist, shown on fig. 85. The "hole" or basin is 9 inches  $\times$  7 inches

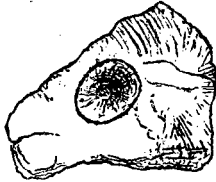


Fig. 85. Clach-an-Tullan,  
Corrimony.

by  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inches deep, and is roughly triangular. It has been excavated with a sharp-pointed instrument, the pitted marks of which are still visible, though the surface has been afterwards smoothed. No tradition now exists regarding it, for few of the older inhabitants now dwell there, and its present name conveys nothing. It looks as if it might have been a font or vessel for holy water

in the chapel of St. Uradan. It was long used to mark the grave of a family of M'Dougals, but was lost sight of for some years, being buried several inches under ground, till recovered in 1880 by the Rev. Evan Maclean, a native of the glen, residing near Balnain in it, who had heard of its existence.

The pleasant upland hollow of Corrimony, nestling amidst its enclosing hills, seems to have long been inhabited in prehistoric and after times, from the abundant remains still existing; though most of them have, no doubt, been removed for the wide cultivation that now characterises the place. There are the chambered cairn, with its cupped stones, already described (figs. 13, 14, and 15); a good ancient hill fort, called *Caistil*, or the Castle, on the crest of a rocky ridge above the bobbin mill, with double and triple enclosing walls of angular stones, where an old sword and a large specimen of the Jews' harp were found some years ago; and numerous hut circles and cairns on the neighbouring moors.

#### VI. BASINED STONES IN STRATHGLASS.

Strathglass contains several stones with similar basins.

1. *Knockfin Baptismal Stone*.—Near the head of the strath, about half a mile from Guisachan house, but on the other side of the river Deaug which drains the valley, stands the mount called Knockfin or Fingal's hill, one of that hero's many traditional graves, some 20 feet

high and 180 feet in circumference. About 250 yards to the west of this, in a cultivated field, is an oblong enclosure, lying E. and W., 14 yards  $\times$  6 yards, the foundations of a chapel, said to have been surrounded by a graveyard now obliterated. At its east end stands a cupped stone of hornblende schist, set upon another. It is 12 inches long and  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad at the top, evidently artificially squared. The basin in it is 6 inches across and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, tapering to the bottom, and is somewhat rough on its surface. It looks like a font, and the oldest man in the glen says it was known as the Mid Knockfin Baptismal Stone. West of it, 200 yards, are the remains of a cairn with some surrounding standing stones, enclosing a cist, the sides and bottom of which still remain.

2 and 3. *St. Bean's Holy Water Stones*.—On the east side of the river Beauly, between Tomich and Marydale, is the old graveyard of Comar, enclosing the old church of the parish of Comar, now merged in Kiltarlity. It contains two cupped stones. One is a rectangular squared piece of red sandstone, 13 inches long and broad, with one corner long cut off, and 5 inches thick. The basin is circular, 8 inches across and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. The other stone is a "whinstone," 19 inches long by 18 inches broad and 8 inches thick. Its basin is 8 inches in diameter and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep. They are both called the Holy Water Stones of St. Bean, the saint after whom the wooded hill not far from Inverness is named, Tor-a-Bhean, near which existed an old chapel dedicated to him.

4. *The Tombuie Holy Water Stone*.—In the garden of Captain Chisholm of Glassburn is a rough basined stone of a similar type, with a history. It lay originally at Tombuie, up Glencannich, and was known in consequence by the above name. During the persecutions of the Romish Church, the remarkable man, Father Farquharson, priest of Fasnakyle, long hid in this secluded glen, and used to baptize the infants of his flock from this stone, under the blue vault.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> An account of this priest and the stone is given by Mr. Colin Chisholm in the *Celtic Magazine*, vol. vii. p. 49.

Strathglass is rich in archæological remains of different kinds, such as:—*Camp-aig-Fionn*, or Fingal's Camp, a very fine large hill fort, not far from Knockfin, on a projecting spur of the high ridge between Glen Affric and the valley of the Deaug, commanding an unsurpassed view of the strath; *Craig-na-Fanaig Castle*, on an eminence due north of Comar house, on the north side of the Glass, looking into Glencannich and over Strathglass, with enclosing walls like the last, but only a third of its size; *Dun Roan shearn*, or the dun of the alder meadow, a good fort or broch, with chambers in the walls, on the ridge between Glen Strathfarrar and Strathglass; *Dun Struy bheg*, the little dun of Struy, a small fort on a pointed hill above the Struy Public school, near the last; the hill fort above the parish church of Erchless, not far from Struy; *Dun Fhionn*, or Fingal's Dun, a very fine vitrified fort with high walls, on a circular hillock projecting into the valley, a little above Teanassie, on the other side of the river, once excavated and described by Sir George Mackenzie of Coul; besides innumerable hut circles and tumuli on the enclosing hills; as also the chambered cairns, cup stones, and forts already described (see figs. 16 to 20A, 28 to 30, 52 to 54, 62 and 62A).<sup>1</sup>

#### VII. THE BANNER STONE NEAR LOCH ASHIE.

On the right side of the road which leads from the Stratherrick turnpike to Loch Ashie, about half way through the wood, lies a stone known in the neighbourhood as *Clach-na-brataich* or *Clach-a-bratich*, the stone of the banner. It is given on fig. 86. It has been roughly rounded, being 3 feet 5 inches long and 3 feet 4 inches wide, and 17 inches thick. It contains one circular hole or basin, 6½ inches across and 3 inches deep. The hole contracts a little below its upper lip to 4¼ inches diameter. Its walls are vertical, and like St. Columba's Font, the bottom is higher in the centre than at the sides. It suggests a stone partially prepared for a millstone, though the name would indicate otherwise; but even this may merely embody the local theory in regard

<sup>1</sup> I am indebted for notes regarding some of these to Mr. Lachlan Ferguson, of Guisachan Public School.

to it. It lay long on its face, out of sight, and was only recently turned

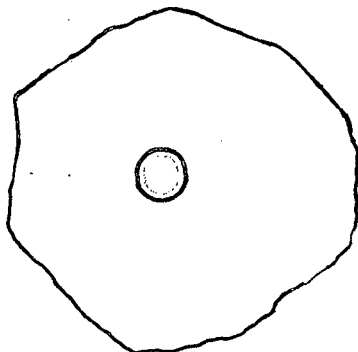


Fig. 86. "Banner Stone," near Loch Ashie.

up when Mr. Ross of Farr School heard of its existence.

#### VIII. THE BASIN STONE NEAR ARPAFEELEIE.

In the Black Isle at Taendore,<sup>1</sup> a little east of the Episcopal Church of Arpafeelie, not far from Kessock Ferry, near Inverness, there runs a sloping ridge of Old Red conglomerate, called *Creag-a-Chree*,<sup>2</sup> which gives a very fine view of that part of the Black Isle, overlooked by the big Ben Wyvis to the north. The ridge is a pleasant grassy slope, bearing a scattered group of fine large beeches, and contains three pairs of good, well-preserved "hut circles," with walls on an average 2 feet high, and openings facing E., varying to E.S.E. A plan of these is given on fig. 87, with dimensions.

Four yards from the south side of the eastmost circle, which is about

<sup>1</sup> That is, *Tigh-an-druidh*, or houses of the Druids, which it is also called.

<sup>2</sup> According to Mr. M'Intyre of the Arpafeelie Episcopal School, and the Rev. Mr. Matheson of Strathnairn, who accompanied me to the place, this may mean *C.-u-christh*, the rock of trembling or rocking, or *C.-u-chruith*, or the rock of the cattle.

100 yards from the old road by Arpafeelie, exists a stone, embedded in and level with the ground. It contains a basin, which is quite circular, 8 inches across and 8 inches deep, tapering to the bottom. It is shown in section on fig. 88, and as seen from above on fig. 89.<sup>1</sup>

The surface of the stone, which is a fine-grained gneiss, is smooth ;

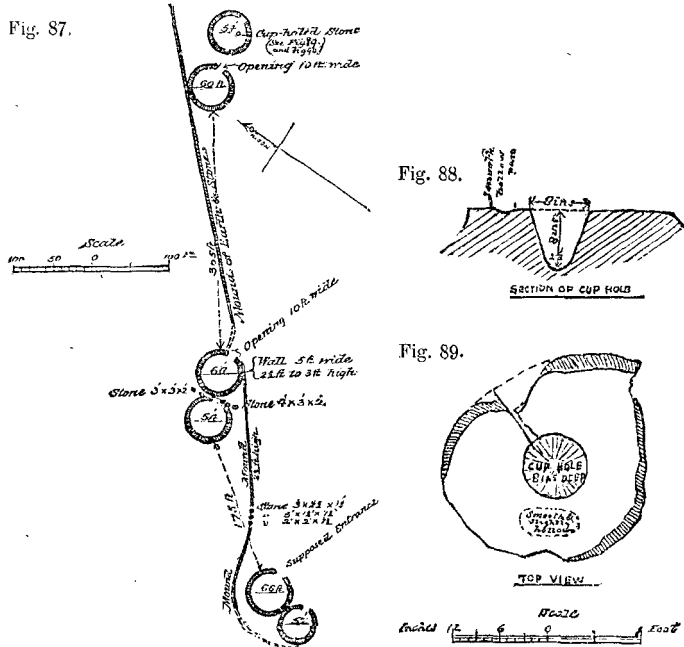


Fig. 87. Hut Circles at Arpafeelie.  
Figs. 88, 89. Section and Plan of Basin Stone.

and the surface of the hole itself exceedingly so. It has been very carefully formed in very hard rock, and is very regular, tapered, and well shaped. It has an outlet, which seems to be artificial, half an

<sup>1</sup> These drawings were kindly made by Mr. Angus J. Beaton of Munloch, who has supplied me with other notes regarding the stone.

inch deep, running S.S.E., and ending in a break on the edge of the stone.

A tradition exists regarding the stone. It seems that some fifty years ago an old man who occupied the farm of Taendore carried the stone to his house, either from a belief of some latent virtue or for more prosaic purposes. For three successive nights after its removal the family were disturbed by loud, mysterious noises, which on the third night reached a climax. The sounds were intensified, cattle bellowed, dogs howled all over the valley, and a dread voice, in tones of thunder, exclaimed in distinct syllables, "Put back that stone!" Instant obedience was given by the terror-stricken inmates, and the stone has rested untouched since then, and its mystic guardian has been silent.

Whispers are not uncommon in the district, that the stone also possesses hidden virtues similar to those of the font at Killianan on Loch Ness (fig. 81) and other stones, when childless women bathe in its cloud-drawn waters immediately before sunrise.

#### IX. THE BOAR STONE NEAR INVERNESS.

On the Stratherrick road, about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Inverness, close by the roadside, stands a fine erect monolith, known as the Boar Stone, from the spirited figure of a wild boar incised on its surface. It is represented in vol. i. of the *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, fig. 38. This drawing, however, is incorrect in several particulars, and part of the carving is omitted. Though some of the lines are not very distinct to the eye, from the roughness of the surface, they are easily traceable by the finger, the incisions being distinct and deep. It is here correctly shown on fig. 90.

It is inserted in this place for the sake of the cup-mark above the boar, with the concentric double ring round it and the connected square lines, which last are omitted in the *Sculptured Stones*. The central cup is very shallow, and about an inch across. The surrounding lines form what is technically known as "the single spectacle ornament,"



regarding the meaning of which there hangs much controversy. But it is a fact that there exists here a central cup, which, though shallow, is of the usual type; and the encircling curved and straight lines may

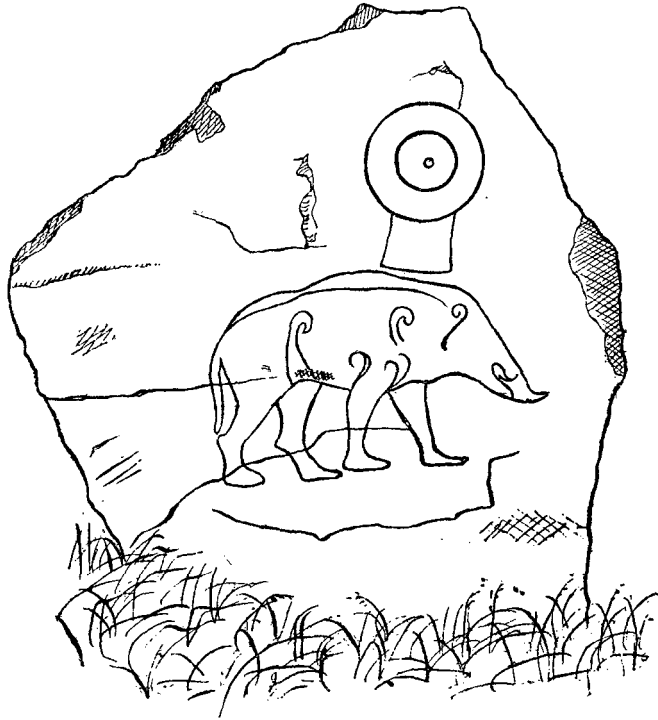


Fig. 90. "Boar Stone," on the Stratherrick Road, near Inverness.

have a direct and important bearing on the interpretation and intention of the cups, which I hope to discuss in a future paper.

## PART SIXTH.

*GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE FOREGOING CUPPED STONES.*

It will be of service to summarise and classify the facts here presented regarding the Cup Stones now described. In doing this it will be best to exclude the doubtful basins of Part Fifth, as to whose connection with the true cups of the rest of the papers there may be some variety of opinion.

1. *THEIR LOCALITIES.*—Beginning at the east, the district of Moyness, on the high ground between Nairn and Brodie, is the most distant, in that direction, of those here described, and seems to have once been a rich field for stone circles, cups, and other remains. Cawdor, to the west of this, appears to have been a good centre for similar remains, as the examples at Little Urchany and Barevan prove. Next, there is the district of Croy, which has several specimens at Hillhead, Dalross Castle, and Braeclich. Then we come to the richest region of all, and one of the best in the country for cupped stones and other archaeological remains, the valley of the Nairn, with its numerous and excellent examples, beginning at Cantraybruiach, and going upwards to Clava, Daviot, Gask Farr, and Dunlichity, including in all some thirty-four examples. In and round Clava alone there exist twenty-two cupped stones. There remain none in the *immediate* neighbourhood of Inverness, any such as once existed having probably been removed or destroyed through agricultural operations. As showing that such stones were once not uncommon there, there are the several specimens near Kirkton, a few miles distant. Farther to the west, Glen Urquhart shows some capital examples, on the high ground round Culnakirk, above Milton, and at Corrimony at its head, as well as many stone circles, hut circles, tumuli, and similar remains of prehistoric occupation. Turning north from this, we come to the district round the church of Kiltarlity, which contains some very good examples, at Bruiach, Culburnie, Kineras, and that neighbourhood. In the contiguous Kilmorack parish, we have two specimens, the one near

the Free Church, now at Moniack, and the other up the glen above Teanassie; the other stone at Moniack (fig. 43) belonging to the Dingwall district farther north, as having come from Conanside, which contains numerous and remarkable cupped stones. Farther up Strathglass there are the well-cupped example at Crasky in Glen Cannich, and the other basined stones in that neighbourhood, a district bordering close on Glen Urquhart, with its numerous good specimens and other remains.

To the east of the district now treated of important discoveries have been made by Mr. James Linn of the Geological Survey, in the county of Elgin, where he has found seven good stones, a group of them at Roseisle being perhaps the best yet discovered in the north, besides unnumbered examples on rock *in situ* on the Carden Hill, near Alves. These are being described and figured in a paper on which Mr. Linn is now engaged. When Mr. Joass's, Mr. Morrison's, and Mr. Linn's papers are completed, we shall have a full account of the cupped stones in the wide district from Elgin to Invergordon, including between one and two hundred examples, good and varied in character, and not a few of them remarkable.

The following are the 83 or more cupped surfaces here described—81 of which are figured—arranged for reference according to the foregoing localities, counting from the east.

1. *Moyness District*.—Fig. 33.
2. *Cawdor District*.—Figs. 31, 61, 63 to 71.
3. *Croy District*.—Figs. 59, 72 to 77.
4. *Strathnairn District* :—
  - (1) *Cantraybruiach*.—Fig. 58.
  - (2) *Clava*.—Figs. 1, 3, 3A, 4, 5, 7 to 12, 21 to 23, 34 to 41.
  - (3) *Daviot*.—Figs. 79, 80.
  - (4) *Upper Strathnairn*.—Figs. 24 to 27, 49 to 51, 78.
5. *Inverness District*.—Figs. 45 to 48, 60, 60A.
6. *Glen Urquhart District*.—Figs. 14, 15, 32, 55 to 57.
7. *Kiltarlity District*.—Figs. 17 to 20, 29, 30, 43, 44, 52 to 54.
8. *Strathglass District*.—Figs. 20A, 62, 62A.

2. *THE CHARACTER OF THE CUPS.*—(1) In *type* they are mostly of the simplest, a plain cup, like what would be formed by pushing more or less the end of a hen's, duck's, or ostrich's egg into a soft substance. They are generally circular, sometimes oval. Some of them form larger basins, as enumerated at the beginning of Part Fifth. In the case of fig. 5, at Clava, we have a peculiar style of cuplet very uncommon, and deserving further investigation. Occasional examples of the same are found on other stones, as noted in the remarks on that stone.

(2) In *size* they vary in diameter from  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch to 6 inches—the larger basins extending to 10 inches, as in fig. 33.

(3) In *depth* they range from a mere shallow depression to 3 inches in general, and sometimes 4 inches, with all grades between.

(4) Their *surface* is generally more or less smooth, sometimes polished, and most of them seem to have been well rubbed. Many of them have evidently been roughened by weathering, especially in granitic and gneissic stones, with their different components. Several stones retain a distinct pitting, evidently formed by a sharp tool that excavated them originally, as in fig. 40 and others mentioned in connection with it.

(5) Their *surroundings*.—The cups are often encircled by a single concentric ring, forming the combination known as “cup and ring,” as in figs. 21, 35, 39, 47. There are no examples here of double or more rings. Sometimes the cups are joined by connecting grooves or gutters—in pairs, as in figs. 7, 14, 27, 29, 32, 33, 39, 53, 60, &c. ; in groups, as in figs. 14, 32, 33, 39, 48, 60, 64, &c. There are no stones here with “radial lines” or grooves, passing from the central cup through the enclosing circle or circles, as shown by Simpson (plates i. and ii.).

There are specimens, however, of radiating grooves, sometimes straight, sometimes curved, as in figs. 7, 33, and 39. One stone (fig. 40) has several cups enclosed by an irregular, curved channel.

Fig. 33 shows an unusual series of grooves near the top of the stone not directly connected with the cups; though, towards the middle and bottom, they enclose, terminate in, or radiate from cups or basins—the whole forming a remarkable combination worth some study.

3. THE NUMBER OF THE CUPS varies from 1 up to 113 on Clach Mhor (fig. 32). There are 82 cups on a single surface at Barevan (fig. 63), 69 at Moyness (fig. 33), 66 at Barevan (fig. 64), 61 near Croy (fig. 59), 59 at Tordarroch (fig. 50), 57 at Corrimony (fig. 14), 43 at Kineras (fig. 52), 42 at Braeclich (fig. 72), 41 at Braeclich (fig. 76), 40 at Kilmorack (fig. 62), 38 at Dunlidity (fig. 78), 34 at Farr (fig. 27), at Cantray-bruiach (fig. 58), and at Kirkton (fig. 47), 29 at Clava (fig. 39), &c.

The Arisaig stone (fig. 91) contains ninety-eight. In the most remarkable example in this district recently visited by me, near Strathpeffer station, there is the extraordinary number of at least 300 cups, some of them carved on peculiar places. (See note under fig. 43.)

4. THEIR ARRANGEMENT.—In general, no definite arrangement or grouping is observable. The cups have seemingly been formed at haphazard, according to fancy, convenience, ease, or the nature, slope, or surface of the stone. The only grouping noticeable on them is, that where there is a larger basin smaller cups are disposed round them, as very well seen in the Arisaig stone (fig. 91), where this arrangement is well marked; in the Moyness stone (fig. 33), where they are seen round the oval basin (D). In some cases smaller cups are formed within larger basins, as in this last at (D), and in some of the Barevan stones (fig. 67, 64, and 66). Sometimes the cups are placed close together, so as to form a continuous figure like the chambers of a shell, as in figs. 4, 27, 77. Several cups are also enclosed in one irregular curve, as in fig. 40. There may be a possible grouping on fig. 62A.

In some stones the cups near the edge lead out by a short groove to an open mouth at the side, as in fig. 45.

5. NATURE OF ROCKS ON WHICH CARVED.—(1) These are chiefly pieces or slabs of rock detached from their parent mass. They are, as a rule, rock that lay in the neighbourhood and came nearest to hand. Sandstone is the commonest kind used, as in the most of those in the valley of the Nairn, where a workable sandstone is ready to hand. Gneiss is a frequent material, either obtained from rock *in situ* at or near the spot, or in carried boulders, as at Croy (fig. 59), Clava (figs. 3, &c.), Clach

Mhor (fig. 32), Corrimony, and Kiltarlity. Granite is occasionally used, as at Cawdor (fig. 31) and Clava (fig. 35). Mica schist is much more employed, of which specimens are most numerous next to sandstone.

(2) Occasionally the detached rocks have been carved on the spots, where they were then and are still partly *embedded*. Of this, Clach Mhor (fig. 32) is a very good sample, the upper half of the stone above the dotted line being covered with soil, which seems to have been on it when the cups were formed, for all the cups are confined to the free portion; it was only recently taken off. Other instances are those at Croy (fig. 59), a very good example; Farr (fig. 27), Kineras (fig. 52).

(3) In the stones described the cups never occur on rock *in situ*, except in one example near Dunlichity (fig. 50).

Rock *in situ* has been, however, much more utilised in Morayshire, where, on the Carden Hill near Alves, Mr. Linn informs me, on almost every place where the glaciated sandstone is bared, cup marks are found, and, on removing the turf in any place, cup marks are generally exposed. At Laggan, on the hill between Grantown and Dulnain Bridge, a numerous well-carved series is found on the exposed rock of the hill.

6. POSITION OF STONES ON WHICH FOUND.—They occur:—

(1) *On flat stones lying on the ground*, both loose and embedded, often in wild moors, and in what are now solitary spots, but even there always in places bearing evidence of prehistoric occupation. In no case do they seem to have been carved on stones distant from human habitation at all periods. The places were probably inhabited when the cups were formed. Examples are found at Clach Mhor, Kineras, Croy, Cantraybruiach, and Moyness.

(2) *On standing monoliths*, in various parts, but always in connection with ancient human occupation, as in the last.

(3) *On stones in circles*.—Examples are given in Part I. These form an important class, and suggest much speculation as to their meaning and purpose, in relation to the circles and the cairns in connection with which they exist. Few of the stone circles round Inverness are without such carving, the so-called "Druid's Temple," near Leys, to the south

of Inverness, being the most notable example destitute of such cups; though even there some circular hollows might be considered by some as artificial and belonging to the class. In connection with these circles the following peculiarities are found:—

1st. Sometimes there is only one cupped stone, as at Clava (fig. 1), Farr (fig. 27), and Urchaury (fig. 31).

2d. Most frequently there are several cupped stones, from two as at Corrimony (figs. 14, 15) to six at Clava (figs. 7 to 12).

3d. They occur most frequently in the *outermost* circle, as in all the cairns in Part I., except the Clava cairn No. 1; and in general, as in this case, on the larger stone or stones opposite the entrance passage, as well shown in the Clava cairns, Nos. 2 and 3, and Gask (figs. 24 to 27).

4th. They are found in the *middle* circle, as in Clava cairn No. 2 (figs. 3 and 4), Culburnie (fig. 16), Gask (fig. 25), Tordarroch (fig. 27), and Bruiach (fig. 28).

5th. They occur sometimes in the *passage* between the inner and middle circles, as at Clava (figs. 1 and 8).

6th. They are found also in the *inner* circle, as at Clava cairn No. 3 (figs. 7 and 9).

7th. The cups in such circles are always on one side of the stones, and on the surface *facing outwards* from the centre in the outer and middle circles, but facing *inwards* to the centre in the inner circle, and *inwards to the passages* in stones found there. To this there are no exceptions, except the one case of the curious couplets on the stone in Clava cairn No. 2. (fig. 5), which face inwards towards the centre in the outer circle, with seemingly some relation to the causeway which extends to it. The need of the carved surfaces facing in these directions is apparent in the case of chambered cairns in the middle and inner circles and the passage, as in any other position they could not be seen; but though they might be seen on either side in the outermost circle, they occur (with the one exception just mentioned) on the outer face. The same holds good of unchambered cairns and so-called "druid circles," as if these were dismantled chambered cairns or had been formed on the same model.

(4) *In churchyards*, as shown in Part IV.

7. PARTS OF STONES CUPPED.—They are generally carved only on one side. To this there is but one exception in this district, at Clava (figs. 41 and 42), a very rare case, as mentioned in the notes on this stone. In standing stones the cups are found always on the flat side of the stone, with one exception, that at Little Urchany (fig. 31), where some occur on the rounded *top* of the erect stone as well as on the side. They occupy any part of the surface on which they are carved, sometimes covering the whole of it, but being oftener on special portions, without any apparent indication why they were chosen, except on Clach Mohr (fig. 32), where the part covered with soil was uncupped. Not a few cases occur where they are on the angular edge, as at Clava (fig. 21); some occur farther round on the side or top surface, as on the Moyness stone (fig. 33).

8. MODE OF THE FORMATION OF THE CUPS.—(1) The most of them seem to have been made by means of some smooth round-ended tool, probably a longish stone, as is done by worshippers at the present time on the threshold stones of the temple of Siva in India. Such cups can easily be formed by whirling such a stone between the hands on any sandstone not too much hardened by metamorphism. This is done sometimes by boys and older idlers for pastime on soft stones in various parts of the country. Even in the case of harder stones, like granite, cups and circles can be chiselled out by a pointed flint and wooden mallet; at least its possibility is mentioned by Simpson (pp. 139 and 140). *Metallic tools* do not therefore seem to be *necessary* for their formation, an important fact in discussing their age, origin, and purpose.

(2) In many cases there is conclusive proof of the cups being hollowed out by a sharp-pointed tool, impelled either by the single hand or both hands, or by some maul of wood, stone or metal, as in fig. 39, and cases mentioned in the notes on it. Some of these pitted cups have been afterwards manipulated, as shown in the same place.

9. THE AFTER-UTILISATION OF THE STONES.—They have been variously employed to serve purposes different from their first use.

(1) *As grave-stones*.—There seems sufficient evidence, as shown in



Part IV., to prove that the use of cupped stones in this way is a Christian utilising of more ancient stones, from ideas of convenience, traditional sanctity, or otherwise. As proof of this the stones have been squared up, and cups cut across; the surface has evidently been rubbed down to smooth the face, thus leaving only the bases of the original cups which is peculiar to such cases; and inscriptions and devices have been carved on them, in many cases regardless of the position of the cups.

(2) *As sculptured stones*, the figure being carved subsequently to the cups, as shown on the stone at Moniack (fig. 44).

(3) *For modern utilitarian purposes*, to build dykes, drains, houses, fire-places, piggeries, and the like, during the age of careless vandalism in Scotland, when archæology did not exist. The amount of loss of even important ancient monuments at that period cannot now be computed.

(4) *For baptismal fonts*.—It is a question whether the fonts described in Part V. were originally basins of this class, but, as there pointed out, there seems sufficient reason to establish a connection between them.

10. OF THEIR ORIGIN AND PURPOSE, I propose treating in a future paper. It is sufficient at present to say that, in my view, these appear to have been religious.

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## APPENDIX.

### *CUPPED STONES IN THE WEST OF SCOTLAND.*

The existence of cupped stones on the West Coast, and in the Western Islands of Scotland, was long doubtful, and was even denied, till the discovery of two specimens by Mr. Joass, architect, Dingwall, in Glen Beg of Glenelg, not far from the fine Brochs in that secluded valley.

#### I. CUPPED STONES NEAR ARISAIG.

1. When in Arisaig on the 14th of June 1881 I heard of a possible cupped stone lying within the grounds of Arisaig House, through Mr. Andrew Mackay, teacher of the Public School there. Along with Mr.

Mackay and the Established and Roman Catholic clergymen of Arisaig, I paid a visit to the spot, and found an excellent example, indeed one of the finest of those here described. It lies at a place called Gaoidal, on the bare summit of a ridge between the arm of the sea, on the south, called Loch-nan-Uagh (not far from Borrodale, where Prince Charlie landed), and an open valley to the north, commanding a view of the fine peak of Roshven beyond. It is a flat slab of mica schist, lying flat on the ground, 5 feet long by some 4 feet broad, and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  feet thick. Strict inquiries as to the existence of any folk-lore in connection with it have been made by the teacher, Mr. Mackay, and the Roman Catholic clergyman, but little has been elicited beyond the fact that it has long been known to several of the natives as a peculiar stone, but that it has now neither name nor history. The teacher has discovered that it is said to possess certain virtues in connection with the ancient trade of the smith. When an apprentice smith washes his hands in the water that has fallen from the heavens into the large basin (No. 21), at sunrise on the first day of May, it will impart peculiar cunning to his hand and strength to his arm! A young man in the neighbourhood tried it, in fun or earnest or mayhap in a mixture of both, but the result is not stated.

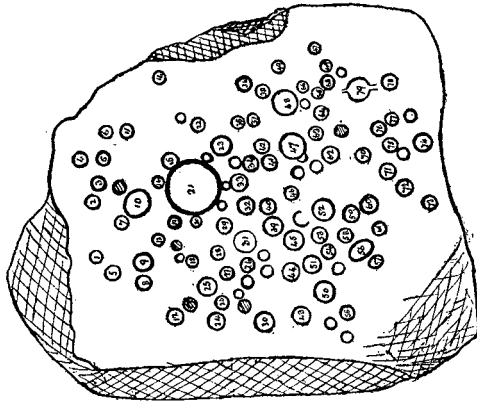


Fig. 91. At Arisaig.

A drawing of the stone is given (fig. 91), taken by me at our joint visit. It is a very fine specimen of the class, the cups are numerous, eighty-two in all, very well formed, some being not quite circular, some oval, and all well scooped and rubbed smooth. These are their dimensions, afterwards taken by the priest and the teacher:—

No.	Diam.	Depth.	Section.	No.	Diam.	Depth.	Section.
1.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times$ $\frac{1}{2}$ in., sub-angular.	40.	2 in.	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times$ $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
2.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.	41.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" well formed.
3.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.	42.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
4.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.	43.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
5.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" egg-shaped.	44.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.
5A.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.	45.	3 "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.
6.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.	46.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	" do.
7.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.	47.	4 "	$\times$ 4 "	" well formed.
8.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" egg-shaped.	48.	2 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" sub-angular.
9.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.	49.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.
10.	3 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.	50.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
11.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" egg-shaped.	51.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" egg-shaped.
12.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	" do.	52.	3 "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" well formed.
13.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" do.	53.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
14.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.	54.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.
15.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.	55.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
16.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" do.	56.	3 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" egg-shaped.
17.	Impossible to measure.			57.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
18.	2 in.	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ in.	$\times$ $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	58.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.
19.	1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.	59.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
20.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" do.	60.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
21.	6 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 6 "	$\times$ 3 "	61.	1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{7}{8}$ "	" do.
22.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.	62.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" do.
23.	3 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.	63.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" well formed.
24.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.	64.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.
25.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" egg-shaped.	65.	Impossible to measure.		
26.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" do.	66.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ in.	$\times$ $\frac{1}{2}$ in.
27.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.	67.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
28.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" well formed.	68.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.
29.	2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.	69.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
30.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" egg-shaped.	70.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.
31.	2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" do.	71.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
32.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" do.	72.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" well formed.
33.	3 "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	" sub-angular.	73.	1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
34.	2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" egg-shaped.	74.	3 "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" sub-angular.
35.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" do.	75.	2 $\frac{3}{8}$ "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
36.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ "	" well formed.	76.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{5}{8}$ "	" do.
37.	1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.	77.	2 "	$\times$ 2 "	" do.
38.	2 "	$\times$ 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.	78.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{8}$ "	" well formed.
39.	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	" do.	79.	3 $\frac{1}{2}$ "	$\times$ 3 "	" do.

The chief feature in these closely grouped cups is the existence of one of the larger type of cups, No. 21, 6 $\frac{1}{2}$   $\times$  6 inches by 3 inches in depth, a very fine, well-scooped basin, with, however, somewhat of a sub-angular

section, instead of being egg-shaped like the smaller ones. All round this basin, six or seven of the smaller sized cups are grouped, but at unequal distances. Instances of this kind of grouping have already been given in the General Observations.

Since that time, two other cupped stones have been discovered by Mr. James Fraser, head gamekeeper, on the Arisaig estate. They lie on the seashore, one on each side of a small promontory called Rhu Garve or the Rough Cape, between Borrodale and Gaoidal, about four miles from Arisaig Inn. They are oblong blocks of mica schist, lying flat on the rocks, a little above spring tide mark. I have been able to visit them since hearing of them, along with Mr. Mackay, teacher.

As I suspected, from the fact that they are found so near the sea and close to high tide level, they belong to another class of cups or basins altogether. On many parts of the West Coast and Islands, there exist, along the shore, circular well-scooped basins, similar to the larger type figured in Part V. These have been and still are used for holding shell-bait, to be thrown out into the neighbouring sea to attract fishes to the spot, so as to be more easily caught by rod and line. These basins are, of course, generally found near good fishing ground. Examples may be seen in various parts of the mainland, but they are most numerous on the western shores of the Uists, where I have visited several in the narrow sound between North Uist and Bernera, near Newton, especially on the Bernera side of the strait, and at Griminish, a little north of Scolpaig, in North Uist. The Uist shell-bait basins are 6 inches deep, whereas the deepest of these are under 3 inches, most are under 2, and some under one.

## II. CUPPED STONES IN THE UISTS.

Mr. A. A. Carmichael, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot., long resident at Creagorry in Benbecula, and now at Scolpaig in North Uist, has made several important discoveries of cupped stones in these islands, which will shortly be described, with drawings, in a paper on which he is now engaged.

1. Soon after the publication of Sir James Simpson's paper in 1864, Mr. Carmichael sent him a rubbing and drawing made by Mrs. Carmichael, of a cupped stone he had found in Benbecula. In August 1881 I had the pleasure of paying a visit to the spot, along with Mr. Carmichael, and of seeing the stone. It lies on the top of a high ridge called *Hacleit*, situated on the north shore of Benbecula, a little to the east of the inn at Gramisdale, at the south end of the North Ford. It is a large block of grey gneiss, supported on others like a "cromlech," well cupped all over its upper surface. The great peculiarity in this stone is that it has an incised circle carved at one end, evidently made subsequently to the cups. It is altogether a very interesting, if not a unique, specimen. The position it occupies commands an unrivalled view along the North Ford and its varied and picturesque shores.

2. On the west side of North Uist, near the Public School of Dunskellar, there stretches into the Atlantic a long narrow peninsula, called Ardivoran or the Height of the Deer's Grass, terminating near the small island of Boreray. Ardivoran is now a bare sandy promontory covered with bent, as its name indicates, entirely without inhabitants, though there are abundant evidences of habitation, both in prehistoric and historic times. At its extremity is an old picturesque churchyard, where the Macleans of Boreray have a walled tomb, surrounded by the graves of the common people, whose last resting-places are pointed out by rude stones taken from the neighbouring beach. Not far from this old graveyard there exists a well underneath a rock, almost on the line of spring tides, which has long been considered sacred. It is a small hollow of clear water issuing from below this rock. It bears three names—the Well of the Priest, the Well of the Cross, and the Well of the Cups. The first is from some famous priest to whom the well was dedicated, or who used it for religious and other purposes; the second is from a cross carved on the face of the rock above the well; the third is from the cups—which are of the usual type described in this paper—found on this and neighbouring stones near the well. Not only is the

face of the rock on which the cross is incised cupped, but also its top above the well, and most of the stones round the well are more or less carved with well-formed cups, cut in a dark blue or black hornblendic rock. At the other side of a rocky cape, on the north side of the well, they also occur on various stones, and notably on the top of a high angular slab resting like a "cromlech" on others, the surface of the slab being far above the height of a passer-by and only reached by climbing. Altogether, the whole forms as remarkable a gathering of cupped stones as I have yet seen.

What increases their interest is the fact that one of the old inhabitants informed us that he remembers hearing that the people of North Uist used to consider the well as sacred, and to make a pilgrimage to it every year about Easter, taking with them hard-boiled pasch eggs, which they inserted into the cups.

MONDAY, 14th June 1882.

SIR WILLIAM FETTES DOUGLAS, P.R.S.A., in the Chair.

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

GEORGE WASHINGTON BROWNE, Architect.  
 DAVID CROLE, Solicitor of Inland Revenue for Scotland.  
 JOHN CROMBIE, 74 Union Street, Aberdeen.  
 JOHN FREER, Banker, Melrose.  
 GEORGE HAY, The Snuggery, Arbroath.  
 JOHN GUTHRIE SMITH, Advocate, Sheriff of Aberdeen.  
 ALEXANDER H. MILLAR, 6 Norman Terrace, Dundee.

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

(1.) By JOHN ALEXANDER SMITH, M.D., *Secretary*.

Polished Celt of felstone, 6 inches in length and 2½ inches in breadth across the cutting face, found at Stobshiel, East Lothian. (See the subsequent paper by Dr. John Alexander Smith.)

- (2.) By C. W. CATHCART, M.B., Lecturer on Anatomy, School of Medicine, Surgeon's Hall.

Large Cinerary Urn,  $13\frac{3}{4}$  inches high and 10 inches diameter at the mouth, ornamented by a band of crossed lines under the rim. (See the subsequent communication by Mr. William Lowson.)

- (3.) By WILLIAM LOWSON, F.S.A. Scot.

Six large Cinerary Urns, varying from 16 inches high and  $12\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter, to  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high and  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter, found in a sand pit at Magdalen Bridge, Joppa. Also a small oval Bronze Blade with chequered ornamentation, found in one of the Urns. (See the subsequent communication by Mr. Lowson.)

- (4.) By CHARLES GORDON.

Broken portions of two Cinerary Urns, found at Magdalen Bridge, near Joppa.

- (5.) By PETER COLLIER, 12 Randolph Crescent.

Three Arrow-Heads of flint, from Gamrie, Banffshire.

One Arrow-Head of flint, from Lonmay, Aberdeenshire.

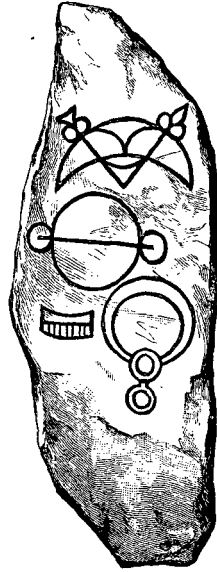
Three flint Flakes, from Forflen, Banffshire.

Spindle, 9 inches long, with whorl of oak, 2 inches diameter, from Blairshinnoch, Banffshire.

- (6.) By Miss B. M. BROADWOOD, Pitcroy.

Rubbing of an undescribed Sculptured Stone, with incised symbols, &c., in the churchyard of Inveravon, Banffshire. The stone, which is a rough flag of clay-slate, 4 feet 6 inches in length by 1 foot 6 inches in greatest width, was discovered about four years ago buried in the churchyard, which was then being put in order under the superintendence of the Rev. Mr. Maclachlan, minister of the parish. Mr. Maclachlan had sent a tracing of the figures on the stone to the late Dr. John Stuart, but

Dr. Stuart died shortly afterwards, and no record has been made of the discovery of the stone until now. As shown in the accompanying woodcut, it bears three incised figures—the crescent and sceptre, the triplet of circles, and the mirror and comb. Another stone of the same character in this churchyard is figured in Dr. Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland* (vol. i. plate 15). It shows the figure of a bird (apparently an osprey), with the symbols of the mirror and comb, and a larger circular figure, with a prolongation at one side, which has been called a mirror case. This stone, when first noticed, was resting on the top of an ordinary slab over a recent grave, close to the corner of the ruined walls of an ancient church in the centre of the churchyard. It is locally known as "Peter's Stone." About half a mile from the church, and just within the grounds of Ballindalloch Castle, is "Peter's Well," and about a mile from the church in another direction is the site of "Peter's Fair."



Sculptured Stone at Inveravon, Banffshire.  
(4 ft. 6 in. in length.)

(7.) By Rev. CHARLES ROGERS, D.D., LL D., F.S.A. Scot.

General List of Schedule-Holders, London, for Subscriptions to the Scott Monument in Edinburgh, 21st December 1841. MS.

The Poems and Songs of Mrs. Margaret Maxwell Inglis, &c. MS., 4to.

These Manuscripts are thus described by Dr. Rogers :—

"I received No. 1, entitled 'General List of Schedule-Holders, London,' from Mr. Castle, who latterly took charge of the subscriptions for the Scott Monument in Edinburgh, and for a quarter of a century it has lain in my repositories. It is a source of interest, and as Mr. Castle is dead, and I am unaware who his representatives are, I hand it



to the Society. Such documents ought to be preserved where they will be taken care of, and may be consulted by the historian or the curious. This particular document is not without interest, inasmuch as it shows what support the proposal to commemorate Sir Walter Scott by a great National Monument received from leading Scotsmen in London, nine years after his decease. As all, I believe, are deceased, save one individual, who is described by Mr. Castle as a 'first class man,' we might without any apprehension of offence, analyse the list and animadvert upon it. It is more pleasant to remark generally, that out of 265 names in it, only 25 declined to support the cause—that is, about 10 per cent. Among those who declined, No. 249 pleaded that he was in his ninetieth year; No. 190 used an imprecation; and No. 236, described by Mr. Castle as 'an old ass,' denounced Sir Walter by epithets which may not be quoted.

"The MS. No. 2 contains the Poems and Songs of Mrs. Margaret Maxwell Inglis, whose compositions, or rather a portion of them, I had the privilege of introducing in the *Modern Scottish Minstrel*. A brief memoir of Mrs. Inglis will be found in that work. She was daughter of Alexander Murray, a medical practitioner, and was born at Sanquhar on the 27th October 1774. She was twice married, first to a Mr. Finlay of the Royal Navy; secondly, in 1803 to Mr. John Inglis, only son of the Rev. Dr. John Inglis, minister of Kirkmabreck. Left a widow, she devoted herself to literature. In 1838 she published a duodecimo volume, entitled *Miscellaneous Collection of Poems, chiefly Scriptural Pieces*. She died at Edinburgh on the 21st December 1843. Her son-in-law, the late Mr. Gregory, artist, presented me with her MS. volume, which I now transfer to the keeping of the Society. The volume contains poetical compositions by various authors, as well as Mrs. Inglis's own compositions."

(8.) By REV. JAMES GAMMACK, M.A., Drumlithie, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Old Mouse-trap of oak, 5 inches by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches deep, with spring lever and catch.

## (9.) By the DEPUTY CLERK-REGISTER OF SCOTLAND.

The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland, vol. v. 1437-1454, edited by George Burnett, Lyon King of Arms, F.S.A. Scot. Imp. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1882.

The Register of the Great Seal of Scotland, A.D. 1424-1513. Edited by James Balfour Paul, advocate, F.S.A. Scot. Imp. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1882.

## (10.) By JAMES MAXTONE-GRAHAM of Cultoquhey, F.S.A. Scot.

Life of Thomas Graham of Balgowan, afterwards General Lord Lynedoch. By Alex. M. Delavoye, Capt. 56th Foot. 8vo. London, 1880.

Records of the 90th Regiment (Perthshire Light Infantry), with Roll of Officers from 1795 to 1880. By Alex. M. Delavoye, Capt. 56th Foot (late 90th Light Infantry). 8vo. London, 1880.

(11.) By Mr. MURRAY of the "Challenger" Expedition, through  
Dr. ARTHUR MITCHELL.

Adze of stone, the blade being a "celt" of greenstone, oval in the cross section, and tapering to the butt, with semicircular cutting edge, width across the face on the chord of the semicircle  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches, length of the exposed part of the celt  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the butt end being inserted in the end of a split branch  $11\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, and firmly bound with a cord of twisted grass. The branch forming the socket of the adze is tapered towards the butt, and the tapered end inserted in a hole in the thick end of a handle 2 feet in length, varying from  $1\frac{1}{2}$  to  $2\frac{3}{4}$  inches diameter, encircled on either side of the hole by bands of plaited or twisted grass.

Hammer-like Implement of greenstone,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches of the length of which are visible, the form cylindrical, and slightly tapering towards the butt, the diameter at the free extremity  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches, socketed and handled similarly to the adze last described. The implement is peculiar, inasmuch as its free end presents a circular concavity with a very blunt edge round its circumference. The length of the handle is 2 feet, the length of the straight arm in which the stone implement is inserted 16 inches. Both these implements are from Humboldt Bay, New Guinea.

Three Spears, from the Admiralty Islands, with heads formed of flakes of obsidian, the shafts 5 feet 3 inches in length.

Two Spears, from the Admiralty Islands, 6 feet in length, with points of hardwood.

Three feathered Arrows, from the Admiralty Islands, two having shafts  $26\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, of which one is tipped with a triangular barbed head of obsidian  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in length, and the other with a similar head of obsidian 1 inch in length, with the edges slightly rounded. The third has a shaft 22 inches in length, with a rudely made triangular head of slaty stone  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in length.

Ten Arrows, unfeathered, the shafts of cane, 24 to 26 inches in length, tipped with poisoned, unbarbed heads of hardwood and human bone, varying from 7 to 14 inches in length, from the island of Api, New Hebrides.

Fourteen Spears or Arrows, the shafts of cane, the points of hardwood, some barbed, from 4 feet 6 inches to 6 feet 3 inches in length, from Humboldt Bay, New Guinea.

Bow, from Humboldt Bay, 6 feet 9 inches in length.

Carved Paddle, 6 feet 8 inches in length, from Humboldt Bay.

Club of hardwood, cylindrical, 3 feet 6 inches in length, carved with zigzags at one end and ornamented with rows of human teeth inserted perpendicularly in the wood, and ground off level with the surface, from the Fiji Islands.

Two large wooden Bowls, one 22 inches diameter, with side handles spirally curved over the brim; the other, 15 inches diameter, without handles, from the Admiralty Islands.

Two Gourds, with thin carved sticks, for *chunam*, 13 and 9 inches in length, from the Admiralty Islands.

Armlet,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches diameter, made of a circular slip cut from the shell of *Trochus niloticus*, from the Admiralty Islands.

Ornament, being a bodkin-shaped piece of bone  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length and  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter, worn pendant from the nose; from the Admiralty Islands.

Four circular Plates, made from the shell of the *Tridacna gigas*, ornamented with a band of engraved triangles filled with notched lines round the circumference, and the central portion faced with a circular plate of tortoise-shell, cut in patterns of open work ; from the Admiralty Islands. They were worn as ornaments on the breast.

Comb, with attached ornament of trimmed feathers, from Humboldt Bay. The comb is made of a bundle of rods spliced together with cord, the teeth spreading out fan-wise, and the upper part of the rods bound close together to form a flattened handle. The whole length of the implement is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches, the length of the teeth  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches.

*List of the Articles acquired by the Purchase Committee, for the  
Museum and Library, 18th June 1881 to 3d June 1882.*

1. Collection of six polished stone Celts, 18 stone Whorls, one Quern, three stone Balls, plain, and one stone Cup, from Aberdeenshire.

2. Tailor's Candlestick of stone, 11 inches high and 5 inches square, bearing on one side a pair of shears, on the other a "goose" in relief, and in front the inscription, in incised letters, ANDRO LESELS, 1636.

3. Silver Finger-ring, inscribed IESUS NAZA, found in a pot of coins at Langhope, Roxburghshire (see the Donation List, 13th March, at p. 144 of the present volume).

4. Cast-iron back of an old Scottish Grate, with ornamental border.

5. Collection of 2250 flint Implements, &c., including 129 Arrow-heads entire, 212 broken ; 1584 Scrapers and other Implements, &c., of flint and chert ; from Little Ferry, Sutherlandshire.

6. Two bronze Objects, of late Celtic character, found at Henshole, on Cheviot. (These objects were exhibited on 10th January 1881, and are engraved in the *Proceedings*, vol. iii., new series, p. 79.)

7. Two finely-polished Celts of white flint and one of claystone, found in draining near Fochabers. The two specimens of flint are almost unexampled for the fineness of their shape and finish. The largest (fig. 1) measures 10 inches in length by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the face, and the smallest

(fig. 2)  $7\frac{1}{4}$  by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches. The third celt, which is of claystone and of the

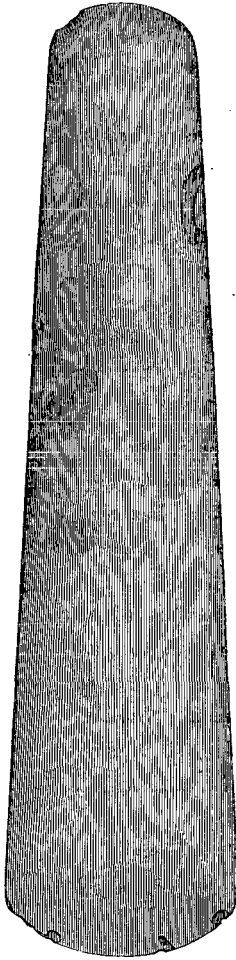


Fig. 1. Finely Polished Celt of White Flint, found near Fochabers (10 inches in length).

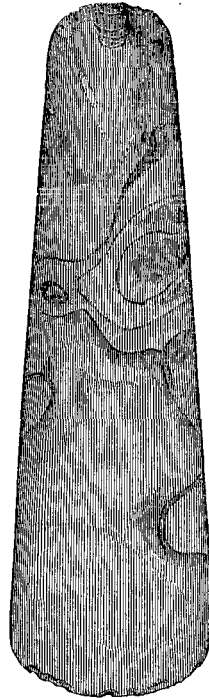
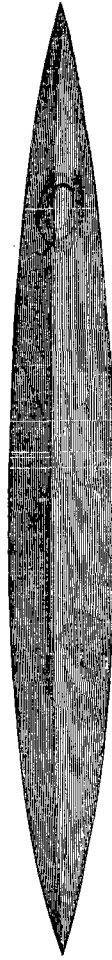


Fig. 2. Finely Polished Celt of White Flint, found near Fochabers ( $7\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length).

common type, tapering to a rounded butt, measures  $5\frac{3}{4}$  inches by 3 inches.

8. Hoard of bronze Objects, found in Islay, consisting of one broad bronze Blade, one Spear-head, two Socketed Celts, and a small Palstave, all much injured.

9. Hoard of bronze Objects, found at Monadh-mor, Killin, consisting of one Spear-head, two socketed Celts, part of a small leaf-shaped Sword, a Gouge, a hollow Ring, a penannular Armlet, and nine plain Rings of bronze of different sizes,—all as described at p. 27 of the present volume.

10. Brass three-legged Pot, found at Whitebank, Clovenfords, Roxburghshire.

11. Bronze flat Celt,  $6\frac{3}{4}$  by  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches, found at Ashy Bank, Roxburghshire.

12. Iron Horse-bit, found at Kincardine-on-Forth.

13. Bronze Spear-head, 3 inches long, with loops and leaf-shaped blade, the loops broken, found at Carlusk, Boharm, Banffshire.

14. Casts of two Sculptured Stones, from Colonsay, viz. :—(1) Cross-slab of unusual character, the cross ornamented with spiral scrolls, and the summit terminating in a human head in relief, as described and figured in the paper on the "Antiquities of Colonsay," by Mr. W. Stevenson, in the *Proceedings*, vol. iii., new series, p. 121. (2) A recumbent Slab, 5 feet 7 inches long by 1 foot 7 inches wide, ornamented with foliaceous scrolls, with a two-handed sword in the centre, a galley below, a stag hunt over it, and round the margin the inscription, in Gothic lettering, HIC JACIT MURCHARDUS MACDUFFIE DE COL[ONSAY QUI OBIT] ANNO DOMINI MDXXXIX ET MARIOTA VICILLEAM ME FI[ERI FECIT].

15. Square-shaped iron Bell,  $9\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height, from St. Mary's Priory, Bridlington, Yorkshire.

16. Small Whetsone and Scraper of flint, found near Loch Tay.

17. Highland Brooch of brass, with engraved foliaceous scrolls.

18. Small polished stone Celt,  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches in breadth across the cutting face, found near Kenny's Hill, Urquhart, Elginshire.

19. Two carved Scottish Distaffs, one of hard wood,  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, inlaid with a thistle-head and two hearts in bone, the other of white wood,  $18\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, with the date 1759.

20. Small brass tripod Ewer or Flagon, found at Dunbar, 8 inches high.

21. Seven Casts of Vessels in clay and stone, from the Indian Mounds of the Mississippi Valley. These are fac-similes (in external appearance only) to the originals which are in the collection of Indian pots, mostly of soapstone, from the valley of the Connecticut, &c., now in the Gilbert Museum at Amherst College, and the Museum at Burlington, Vermont. They are thus described by Professor Hitchcock, by whom they were sent, through Dr. Arthur Mitchell :—

(1) Pot of steatite, found in South Hadley, Massachusetts, the most perfect of its kind that Professor Hitchcock has seen. It is an oval tureen-shaped vessel, with rounded bottom and somewhat perpendicular sides, and is furnished with flat handles projecting about 2 inches from either end. It measures  $13\frac{1}{2}$  inches by 12 inches across the mouth and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches high.

(2) Similar vessel from North Brookfield, Massachusetts, measuring 12 inches by 10 across the mouth and  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches high.

(3) Similar vessel, 10 inches by  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, the upper part wanting, from the Connecticut Valley.

(4) Similar vessel,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  by  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, but without handles, from Holyoke, Massachusetts.

(5) Globular Pot of clay, with contracted neck, the mouth  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter, the vessel  $10\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, being the largest clay pot ever found in New England. It is from Bolton, Vermont, and is now in the Museum at Burlington, Vermont.

(6) Square-mouthed and highly ornamented Pot of clay, round-bottomed, the mouth  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches square, the vessel  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, found at Colchester, Vermont; it is now in the Museum at Burlington, Vermont.

(7) Small globular Pot of clay,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, from an Indian grave in Deerfield, Massachusetts, now in the Museum of that town.

(8) Fragment of a soapstone Pot, with short, flat handle, from the Connecticut Valley.

22. Twenty-seven Casts of Sculptured Stones and Fragments at St.

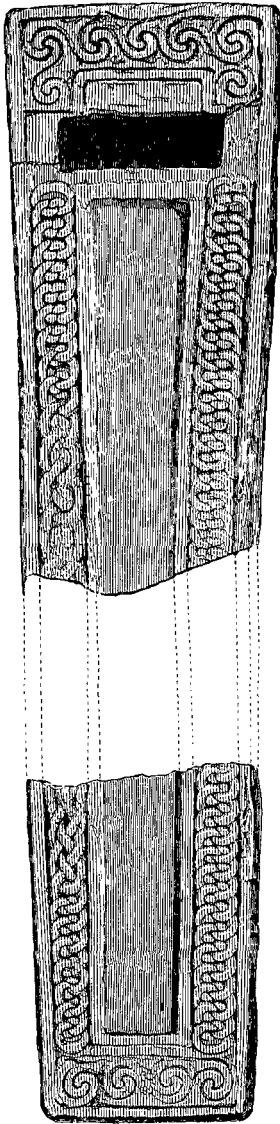


Fig. 1. Recumbent Slab with socket-hole for standing Cross.

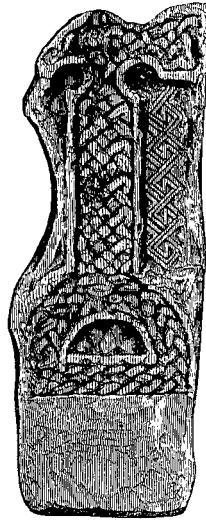


Fig. 2. Standing Cross-slab, with tenon for socket-hole.



Fig. 3. "Daniel and the Lions" on side of slab. At St Vigean, Forfarshire.



Vigeans, Forfarshire, described in a paper by Rev. William Duke, M.A., F.S.A. Scot., on the "Church of St. Vigeans," in the *Proceedings*, vol. ix. p. 481. Among these is a cast of the very remarkable slab here figured (fig. 1), the only one of its kind now known to exist in Scotland. Its form is that of the recumbent coffin-shaped slab of the 13th and 14th centuries, of which so many examples are found in the West Highland counties, although there they invariably exhibit a totally different style of art. Its entire length seems to have been over 6 feet, its breadth at the head 18 inches, and at the foot 14 inches. It differs also from the usual character of the recumbent slab in being much deeper and more massive, for though part of its thickness is now gone, it is still 7 inches in depth. The upper surface shows a central sunk panel, an inch in depth, surrounded by a border of Celtic ornament, consisting of escaping spirals at the top and bottom, and interlaced work along the sides. Near the upper end of the slab is a rectangular socket, 11 inches long,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches wide, and 5 inches deep. In this socket there has apparently stood an upright cross, similar to that shown in fig. 2, which was found in the same place, and corresponds in the character of its ornamentation, though it does not quite fit the socket. On the side of the recumbent slab is carved the group representing "Daniel and the Lions," shown in fig. 3.

23. Small silver Mug,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches high, inscribed on bottom:—Ex dono D.F. quae obiit 19th Aug. 1700.

24. Highland Brooch of silver,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches diameter, found near Ballachulish. The ornamentation of the brooch, which is on one side only, is partly engraved and partly in niello work, as shown in the annexed engraving. The Society is indebted to the good offices of Rev. Alexander Stewart, F.S.A. Scot., of Ballachulish (Nether Lochaber), for the acquisition of this fine specimen of a rare variety of the old Highland brooch, and Mr. Stewart has also been good enough to supply the following particulars as to the circumstances of its discovery:—"The Silver Brooch, which, for the purpose of future reference, ought to be known as the 'Appin Brooch,' was got in the district of Appin under the following circumstances. One day in October 1881, one of the shepherds on the

farm of Ballachullish had occasion to be on Benvere, a mountain that overhangs Loch Leven, and one of the most beautiful of the many beautiful mountains of the West Highlands. When within a few yards of the summit of the hill the shepherd sat down to rest. As he was resting, and idly poking into the mossy ground beside him with his crook,



Silver Brooch found on Benvere, near Ballachulish, Nether Lochaber.  
(Actual size.)

he turned up the brooch which is now in the Museum. The spot on which it was found is about 3000 feet above the level of the sea."

25. Polished stone Celt, showing mark of the handle, found at Dinwoodie Green, Dumfriesshire.

26. Bronze Polstave, from Aberdeen, apparently modern, and having the loop on the face of the instrument instead of on the side.

27. Iron Tirling-pin and Door-sneck, and Standing Crusie, from Inverkeithing.

28. Small Figure of "Tiki," in jade, 5 inches high, the eyes inlaid with mother of pearl, from New Zealand.

29. Old Fringe-weaving Machine of oak.

30. Basket Sword Hilt, found at Prestonpans.

31. Highland Dirk,  $17\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length, with leather sheath, brass, mounted, and carved handle.

32. Two small early Greek Vases, painted.

33. Polished stone Celt, six American Arrow-heads, and a St. Kilda brass Brooch, 2 inches in diameter.

34. Two Highland Dirks,  $14\frac{1}{2}$  inches and 18 inches in length, with carved handles of wood; and a broken bronze Spear head, found at Cardross.

35. Combined Latch and Tirling-pin of iron.

36. South American Lasso; and also a Bolas, formed of three grooved stone balls, covered with hide, and attached to each other by twisted strips of hide 3 feet in length.

37. Urn of Drinking-cup type, from a stone Cist near St. Peter's Church, Buckie, Banffshire. It was found in a cist of Old Red Sandstone slabs, about 2 feet under the surface. The cist contained the remains of an unburnt body. No other relics were observed. The urn (which is figured in the annexed woodcut) measures 6 inches diameter across the mouth and 7 inches in height.

38. Twenty-five Arrow-heads of flint, chiefly with barbs and stems, and flint Scrapers and Flakes, from Banffshire.

39. Two ancient bronze Crucifixes, from White Abbey, Ireland, viz.:—(1) Processional crucifix of brass, 9 inches in length, the figure attenuated, wearing the crown of thorns, the drapery a mere loin-cloth, the feet crossed and fastened by a single nail. Over the head of the crucified figure are the letters I.N.R.I., and answering to them on the reverse of the cross I.H.S. The reverse is ornamented with patterns of interlaced work. (2) Figure (from a crucifix) of bronze, finely patinated.

40. Hammer of greenstone,  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches in length and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in greatest breadth across the middle of the haft hole, which is not central, but nearer the butt end of the instrument. The haft hole is  $1\frac{3}{8}$  inches diameter, well formed, with almost straight sides, but slightly wider at both ends than in the centre. The butt end of the hammer is flattened,



Urn of Drinking-Cup Type. From a Stone Cist at Buckie.  
(7 inches in height.)

the sides rounded, and nearly of equal width, 2 inches across, and the lower part wedge-shaped. It was found some years ago on the estate of Rommano, near Peebles.

41. Cast of Sculptured Standing Stone at Dunfallandy, parish of Logierait, 4 feet  $8\frac{1}{2}$  inches high by 2 feet  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide. (See the notice of

this stone by Dr. John Alexander Smith in the present volume of the *Proceedings*, p. 20.)

42. Old Highland Target of wood and leather, 18½ inches diameter, tooled with fretwork and scrolls.

43. Illustrated Catalogue of the Hamilton Palace Sale.

44. Collection of 640 Objects, chiefly in flint and bronze, and mostly of small size, from Glenluce, Wigtownshire.

45. Collection of upwards of 4000 Objects, chiefly in flint and bronze, and mostly of small size, from the Culbin Sands, Elginshire.

46. Carved stone Pipe, 7 inches in length, with grotesque figures of animals, &c. ; North American.

47. Wrought-iron Bracket for a Baptismal Basin, 12½ inches diameter, from a church in East Lothian.

48. Four Pennies of Alexander III. of Scotland.

49. The Necropolis of Ancon, in Peru. By W. Reiss and A. Stubel. Parts I.-VI., folio. London, 1882.

50. The Brehon Laws. Vol. IV., imp. 8vo. London, 1881.

51. The Monumental Effigies of Great Britain. By C. A. Stothard. New Edition, by John Hewitt. Folio. London, 1876.

52. Warren's Celtic Liturgies. 8vo. London, 1881.

53. Macphail's History of the Religious House of Pluscardyn. 4to. Edinburgh, 1882.

54. Ortelius, Theatrum Orbis Terrarum. Folio. Antwerp, 1579.

55. The Altus of St. Columba. Edited by the Marquis of Bute. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1882.

56. Hallenberg, Quatuor Monumenta Ænea. 8vo. Stockholm, 1802.

57. Garnet's Tour in Scotland. Two vols. 4to. 1811. And, Scotland Delineated. 8vo. London, 1791.

58. Sabatier and Cohen's Monnaies Byzantines. Two vols. 8vo. Paris, 1862.

59. Pooley's Old Crosses of Gloucester and Somerset. Imp. 8vo. London, 1862 and 1877.

60. Vestiarium Scoticum. By John Sobieski Stuart. 4to. Edinburgh, 1842. (Contains the letterpress only.)

61. Folio Volume of Manuscript Copies of Rentals, &c., relating to Scotland.

There was exhibited :—

1. By PATRICK DUDGEON, Esq. of Cargen.

Bronze Figure of an Ecclesiastic, holding a book in the left hand, the right hand extended in the act of benediction. The figure is 4 inches in length. It has been cast, and the front surface finished with the graver, while the back is somewhat hollow and unworked. The dress presents several peculiarities which it is not easy to explain. The style of the work, perhaps, has more resemblance to that of the Anglo-Saxon than to that of the Celtic school. There is a small pin-hole through the lower part of the figure, and it seems probable that it may have been attached with other figures as part of the ornamentation of a shrine or coffer, or of the cover of a book. The date is probably anterior to the close of the 12th century. In a letter to Dr. Anderson, Mr. Dudgeon gives the following account of the discovery of the figure :—

“The bronze figure I sent you was dug or ploughed up some years ago at the ‘Druidical Circle’ of stones about 3 miles from Dumfries, in the parish of Holywood. This circle is on an arable farm ; the ground on which it is, is in a regular rotation of crop, and a fence runs right through the circle. The circle is not a large one, and the stones are of moderate size ; two or three of them are wanting, having doubtless been taken for building



Bronze Figure of an Ecclesiastic dug up at Holywood, Dumfriesshire. (Actual size.)

purposes. The parish church of Holywood is less than a mile from these stones ; the tradition is that a celebrated hermit had his cell on the spot where the church now stands. The monastery founded there about the beginning of the 12th century was one of the six Scottish foundations of the Præmonstratensians or 'white monks' of the rule of St. Augustine. Part of this abbey was used as the parish church so late as about 1780, when it was pulled down and the materials used, as usual, in building the present hideous erection. We have in our local Museum a font from the old Holywood Church.

"The circle is close to the adjoining parish of Kirkmahoe. There was in this parish, in the 11th century, a church dedicated to St. Blane, of which nothing remains ; but the name is still retained in a place called Kilblane. The beautiful ruins of Lincluden Abbey are about 2 miles from the circle, so you see there are plenty of old ecclesiastical foundations in the neighbourhood.

"It is a pity, as you say, that the relic, seemingly unique, should not be in your Museum ; but as it was presented to us, I fear it could not now be given up. I hope, however, it may be an inducement to some of the Fellows, when in the neighbourhood, to pay a visit to our Museum here, where they would, I think, find other things that would interest them."

The following Communications were read :—