

V.

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

The stone, of which a rough sketch is given in fig. 1, stands on a rounded knoll overlooking Dullatur and Cumbernauld, on the line of the old moor road between Glasgow and Stirling, and about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile



Fig. 1. Cup-marked Stone at Dullatur.

to the southward of the line of the Roman Wall. It is known locally as the Carrick Stone, and is also said to have been a Roman altar, which its shape certainly suggests, and it has also a legend attached to it that King Robert the Bruce, on some one or other of his campaigns, raised his standard upon it. It is of buff-coloured sandstone, and measures 3 feet 1 inch in height, and 2 feet 4 inches by 1 foot 9 inches in breadth and width upon the top, narrowing considerably in the middle of its height, and expanding again to the bottom.

Apart from all conjectures as to its historic associations, the stone seemed to me to be chiefly interesting on account of the cup-markings on its upper surface. It is not a cup-and-ring-marked stone, but some of its cups have unmistakable ducts leading from them, one of which is

very deep. The two larger cups are about 8 inches in diameter and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in depth; the two smaller have no ducts, and do not exceed 3 inches in diameter. Most of those who have visited the stone, I believe, regard it as a Roman altar; but I have not been able to find any explanation of the cups upon the top, which are certainly not usual accompaniments of a Roman altar. Could they have been upon the stone before it was made into an altar? Another curious feature is the worn and rubbed appearance of the waist of the altar, as if it had been subjected to powerful friction. It reminded me of nothing so much as one of the old wooden pauls on a pier, the middle part of which had been worn much thinner than the upper and lower parts by the constant friction resulting from the mooring of vessels to it.

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

enough, but no marks were to be traced on its upper surface, and to make the matter certain it was raised to allow the under side to be examined. No marks of any kind, however, were discovered. If this were the original Carrick Stone, it must have been re-dressed and all traces of the inscription erased.

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

MONDAY, 10th May 1897.

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

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

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

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

(1) By J. G. BAXTER, Gilston, Colinsburgh, Fife.

Oval Disc of stone, $3\frac{1}{2}$ by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, with shallow, flat-bottomed hollow in the centre, found in draining at Gilston.

(2) By ARTHUR YOUNG.

Part of a Wooden, Comb-like Implement, having a single row of

twenty-three flat brass teeth, like short, pointless knife-blades inserted by tangs, found in the Garroch Burn, Glenkens, Kirkcudbrightshire.

(3) By JOHN BRUCE, F.S.A. Scot.

Highland Brooch of brass (fig. 1), 4 inches in diameter, ornamented on obverse with interlaced work in triangular spaces, and figures of animals placed back to back in oval spaces, the reverse plain, but



Fig. 1. Highland Brooch of Brass. (3.)

bordered with bands of herring-bone work, found in Titwood Bog, Pollokshaws.

(4) By JOHN SHEDDEN DOBIE, F.S.A. Scot.

Memoir of William Wilson of Crummock. By James Dobie, F.S.A. Scot. With a Prefatory Notice of the Author. By John

Shedden Dobie, F.S.A. Scot. Privately printed. 4to; Edinburgh, 1897.

(5) By the NUMISMATIC SOCIETY.

The Numismatic Chronicle and Journal of the Numismatic Society. Third Series. Vol. xvi. 8vo.

(6) By the BRISTOL AND GLOUCESTERSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archæological Society. Vol. xviii. 8vo.

(7) By the SHROPSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Transactions of the Shropshire Archæological and Natural History Society. Second Series. Vol. viii. 8vo.

(8) By the SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society. Third Series. Vol. ii. 8vo.

(9) By the SURREY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

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

(10) By the SUSSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Sussex Archæological Collections. Vol. xi. 8vo.

(11) By the WILTSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

The Wiltshire Magazine. Vol. xxix. 8vo.

(12) By the CHESTER ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

Journal of the Architectural, Archæological, and Historic Society for the County and City of Chester and North Wales. Vol. vi. pt. 1. 8vo.

(13) By the **ESSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.**

Transactions of the Essex Archæological Society. New Series. Vol. vi. 8vo.

(14) By the **HISTORIC SOCIETY OF LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.**

Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. Vol. xlvii. 8vo.

(15) By the **ASSOCIATED ARCHITECTURAL SOCIETIES.**

Reports and Papers read at the Meetings of the Architectural Societies of Lincoln, Nottingham, York, Bedford, &c. Vol. xxiii. pt. 1. 8vo.

(16) By the **GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF EDINBURGH.**

Transactions of the Edinburgh Geological Society. Vol. vii. pt. 2. 8vo.

(17) By the **EDINBURGH ARCHITECTURAL ASSOCIATION.**

Transactions of the Edinburgh Architectural Association. Vol. iii. No. 2.

(18) By Sir **HERBERT MAXWELL**, Bart., M.P., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

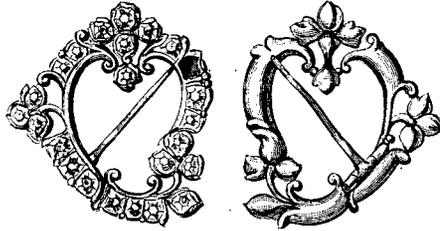
Robert the Bruce and the Struggle for Scottish Independence. 8vo; London and New York, 1897.

(19) By **WILLIAM STEVENSON**, Leith.

Vocabolario degli Accademici della Crusca. Venice, 1763. Folio; 4 vols.

The following Purchases—Articles acquired by the Purchase Committee for the Museum and Library during the session 30th November to 30th April 1897—were Exhibited :—

Luckenbooth Brooch of silver (figs. 2, 3), enriched with settings of paste, from Obbe, Harris, Island of Lewis.



Figs. 2, 3. Luckenbooth Brooch of silver, back and front. (4.)

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

Jacobite Quaich of wooden staves, bound with hoops of cane, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches diameter, having a circular silver plate let into the bottom on the inside, on which is engraved the initials J. R.⁷ with a crown above and the date 1692 below; the upper surfaces of the handles are also mounted with triangular plates of silver bearing the initials B. H.

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

Penannular Armlet of gold, measuring $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches diameter, with very slightly expanded ends, formed of a beaten rod $\frac{1}{8}$ inch thick, and weighing 636 grains, ploughed up on the farm of Briglands, Fossoway, Kinross-shire.

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

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

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

A Pouring of Bronze, found in a mound near Fort-William.

Pair of Stirrups of brass, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height and $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in width,

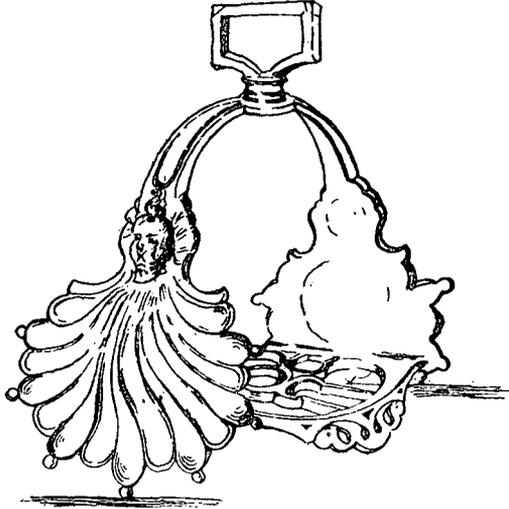


Fig. 4. Stirrup of brass, one of a pair found in Dundee. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

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



Fig. 5. Straight-edged Saw of flint, from Kippit, Dolphinton. ($\frac{1}{3}$.)

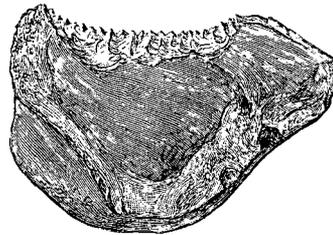


Fig. 6. Hollow-faced Saw of flint, from Culbin Sands.

Two Arrow-heads of flint, with barbs and stem; two Saws of flint, one being straight-edged and finely serrated (fig. 5), measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch

in length by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in breadth, the other slightly curved and $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in length; Stone Axes, viz.—(1) of clay slate, $5\frac{3}{8}$ by $2\frac{3}{8}$ inches, (2) of greenstone, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $2\frac{7}{8}$ inches, imperfect at the butt, (3) roughly made Axe of greenstone, $3\frac{5}{8}$ inches by $2\frac{5}{8}$ inches, three broken Axes; a Whorl of dark-coloured shale, $1\frac{5}{8}$ inches diameter; and Flint flakes and Scrapers,—all found on the farm of Kippit, Dolphinton.

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

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



Fig. 7. Carved Spindle, from Kilmuir, Skye. ($\frac{1}{2}$.)

The following Coins:—Robert III.—St. Andrew, Aberdeen Groat. James I.—Groat. James II.—Groat. James V.—One-third Groat. James VI.—Ryal, Two-thirds Ryal, Half Balance Merk, Quarter Thistle Merk, Twopence. Charles II.—Four-Merk piece, Dollar. Charles I.—Half-Crown, Shillings (2), Sixpence, Unit. James VI.—Rider. Alexander III.—Pennies (2). David II.—Pennies (2). Robert II.—Penny Edinburgh, Halfpenny. J. Baliol.—Penny. James I.—Groat. James II.—Groat. Mary and Henry—Two-thirds Ryal 1566; James VI.—Hardhead, Thistle Merk 1601, Noble 1572, Noble 1574, Half-Nobles (2), Two-thirds Ryal 1569, Two-thirds Ryal 1571, One-third Ryal 1569. Charles I.—Thirty-Shilling pieces (2), Shilling, Noble. Charles II.—Half-Merk 1664, Half-Merk 1669, Half-Merk 1672, Quarter-Dollar 1682, One-eighth Dollar 1685. William and Mary—Forty-Shilling piece 1690. Anne—Edinburgh Shillings 1708 (2), Sixpences 1707 (2). *Gold*.—James IV.—Half-Rider 1594. James VI.—Sword and Sceptre piece 1603, Thistle Crown. David I.—Penny. William the Lion.—Penny. David II.—Pennies (3), Groats (8), Half-Groat. Robert II.—Pennies (2), Groat, Half-Groats (2).

Robert III.—Penny, Half-Groat. James II.—Groat. James III.—Groats (4), Half-Groat.

Earthenware Money-jar or Purlie-pig, found full of gold coins of 16th century at Perth. It is a small globose vessel of reddish earthenware, unglazed, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height and $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter, having a flat bottom, and a circular knob at top. It was found, on 29th Dec. 1896, by a little girl aged 5 years, who was playing on a heap of rubbish which had been carted from the excavation for the foundation of the new Post Office, High Street, and deposited on a vacant piece of ground beside her father's house on the Edinburgh road. After playing with it for a time, she rolled it against a stone and broke it, scattering the contents. What was recovered of them consisted of the following gold coins :—

John of Portugal,	1
Francis I. of France (1515–1547),	11
Louis XII. of France (1465–1515),	10
Ferdinand and Isabella of Spain (1474–1516),	3
	—
	25

The Money-jar (fig. 7) is shown in the accompanying illustration, and

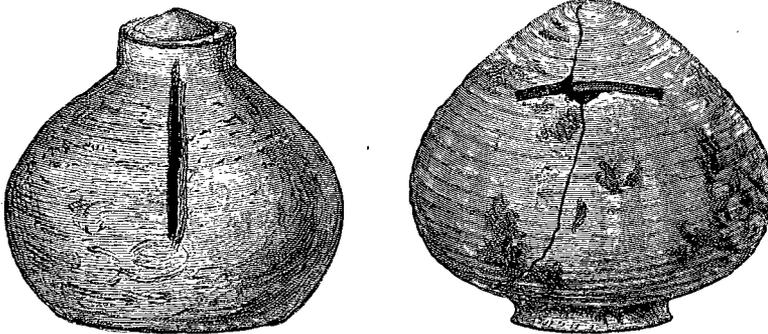


Fig. 7. Money-jar or Purley-pig (16th century), from Perth.

Fig. 8. Money-jar or Purley-pig, found under the Municipal Buildings, Edinburgh.

along with it another (fig. 8), of brown glazed earthenware, which

was recently found in excavating for the foundation of the new Municipal Buildings, Edinburgh, on the west side of Exchange Square, and which is exhibited to the Society by the kindness of Bailie Dunlop. Jamieson defines a purlie-pig as a circular vessel of crockery, which has no opening save a slit in the top, but he gives no indication of the antiquity of the custom.

There were Exhibited :—

(1) By Rev. G. C. BAXTER, F.S.A. Scot.

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



Fig. 9. Silver Tankard, found in a "Pict's House" in Canisbay, Caithness.

2. By J. PATTEN MACDOUGALL
of Gallanach, F.S.A. Scot.

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

3. By FRANK CORNER,
M.R.C.S., Manor House,
Poplar.

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

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

"The silver tankard (fig. 9) was given me by my friend Alexander Mitchell, M.D., and he obtained it from the original finder when residing in Caithness. The discoverer stated that he found it in a 'Pict's House' near John o' Groat's, in the parish of Canisbay. The finder did not consider the vessel of any value, nor did Dr Mitchell for some time

notice that it was of silver, but kept it because of the crudeness of art and workmanship shown in its manufacture. Dr Mitchell also tells me that these 'Picts' houses' have been used from time to time as places of refuge, and for hiding, smuggling, and the like, so that things found therein are often of much later date than the structures themselves.

"The tankard is of hammered silver, and made up of four separate pieces, viz., the body, the bottom-piece, the rim, and the handle. It is $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter at the mouth and $3\frac{1}{2}$ at bottom: it weighs 9 oz. 10 dwts. troy. The rim band is ornamented by two incised lines, having between them a central circle, slightly elevated above its edges. Its upper edge is bevelled towards the cavity; near the handle it is broken, and partially separated from the body-piece, probably at the junction of the band. The body-piece is sutured down one side, the handle being inclosed in the suture. This suture leaves a rough, slightly elevated ridge on the surface, which has been filed down by a rough instrument: the striæ remain distinctly. It is ornamented above and below by a series of seven incised lines passing completely round. They are roughly cut, and irregular incisions are to be seen where the tool of the workman slipped. In both sets of lines will be seen a series of little pits or depressions: the edges of the pits are in places broader than the lines,—the explanation I think being, that the operator first marked out the lines by pits and then joined them by incisions. The bottom-piece is circular, with its edges turned up so as to embrace the body-piece, which is thus inserted into it. The turned-up portion is incised by two less regular lines than those mentioned above: there are no pits, and the incisions often overlap. The handle is curved, and of a C shape of a $\frac{3}{8}$ inch broad band, and is ornamented by two sets of incisions, very irregular in character. The vessel holds a little over a pint of water. I have failed in finding any notice of any similar specimen, but I consider it of a more recent date than the 'Pict's House' in which it was found. But what age or by whom made I have no evidence to show."

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

"The quality of the silver in the tankard is 9 oz. 8 dwt. 12 gs. to the

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