

I beg to present this collection of Drawings of objects of antiquarian interest (many of which are falling into decay) to the Library of the Academy, with a view to its forming the fourth volume of donations of a similar kind made to the Academy on three former occasions.—
G. V. D.

A collection of miscellaneous Donations was presented, accompanied by the following explanatory letter from W. R. Wilde, Esq. (V. P.), addressed to the Secretary of the Academy, which was read in his absence by J. T. Gilbert, Esq. :—

DEAR SIR,—In the names of the undermentioned noblemen and gentlemen, I beg to present the following donations to the Library and Museum of the Academy :—

From the Marquis of Kildare, “The Earls of Kildare and their Ancestors, with the Addenda, from 1659 to 1773 (new edition);” the former edition of which I had the honour of presenting in 1861.

From Lord Farnham, a handsomely bound copy of the “Farnham Descents, from King Henry III.,” a genealogical work descriptive of the Maxwell family, printed at Cavan, in 1862, for private circulation. The donation is enhanced by the autograph revisions of the author.

On the part of George Porter, M.D., a bound collection of twenty-four government broad-sheets, descriptive of the Irish Rebellion, between the 24th of May, and the 28th September, 1798; and consisting of public notices and letters from Generals Lake, Asgill, Dundas, Duff, Johnston, Gosford, Needham, and many other persons, to Lord Castlereagh; and containing accounts of the various engagements with the rebel forces in the counties of Antrim, Mayo, Longford, Carlow, Kildare, Wicklow, Wexford, and Dublin.

I also beg to present a very ancient Icelandic medical manuscript, written on thick vellum, and consisting of seventy-three small quarto folios, which I was given by the late lamented Professor Siegfried; as I consider our Library the most suitable place for it, and I am anxious to associate, even in this small matter, the name of so distinguished a scholar with that of the Royal Irish Academy. It contains some MS. philological notes by the late Professor.

From W. Wakeman, Esq., a specimen of French and Co.’s Tuam bank-note, issued in 1812.

A photograph of Cahill’s medallion of the late John Mitchell Kemble, which has been recently placed on the tomb of that distinguished antiquary, historian, and philologist, in Mount Jerome Cemetery.

From Lord Farnham, a highly finished conical bone piercer, five inches long, found fifteen feet deep in a sand pit in the townland of Clonnygonnell, parish of Kilmore, county of Cavan. The circumstance of any remains of man’s handiwork being found either in drift or gravel, having of late years formed the subject of scientific investigation, invests this article with peculiar interest.

I have also been entrusted by his lordship with the following valuable collection of antiquities, found in Toneymore Crannoge, which have been referred to in my paper laid before the Academy, on the last night of meeting, and also several found during the past week, as the excavation is still going on :—

Five pieces of oak and other timber, which formed the stakes and framework of the crannoge. One of these, a round stake, seven and a half feet long, and eight inches thick, is worthy of comparison with that from a Swiss *Pfaulbauten*, recently brought from Lausanne, and presented to the Academy by Mr. Starkey, which is only four and a half feet long, with an average thickness of three and a quarter inches. The portion which was above ground in each is one foot. The outer surface of both the Irish and Swiss specimens have cracked in precisely the same manner. One of the timbers from Toneymore—thirty-five inches long, ten broad, and six thick—has a mortise cut in its centre 8 inches by 5 ; it probably formed a portion of one of the crannoge houses, which appear to have been constructed like the square wooden house found in the bog of Drumkein, county of Donegal, in 1833, and the base of which was twenty-six feet below the surface. See the model of it in the Museum, presented by Sir Thomas Larcom, and described in the Catalogue, part I., p. 235. Another portion, with a smaller mortise at one end, appears to have been part of the roof. These are the only remains of crannoge structures as yet possessed by the Academy.

A very perfect quern, seventeen inches in diameter, with the upper surface of the top stone highly decorated;—found at the bottom and near the centre of the crannoge.

Several pieces of slag,—tending to prove that iron smelting was carried on in this crannoge.

A barrel-shaped piece of wood, three and a quarter inches long, hollow throughout, and perforated with six holes; either used in weaving or as a net-float.

Three flat circular stone discs or quoits, averaging three and a quarter inches in diameter, and half an inch thick, similar to those on Tray N N in the Museum, and described at pp. 96 and 99 in the printed Catalogue.

A fragment of what would appear to be the stone coulter of a plough, now thirteen inches long, and having an artificial hole near the broad end for attaching it to the beam.

A most perfect and highly decorated mortar, eight inches high by seventeen and a half wide, decorated at the corners with four grotesque figures.

A stone mould, ten inches long, with the casting groove in the long axis.

A four-sided whetstone, twenty inches by three, the largest ever presented to the Museum; much worn. Eleven fragments of sharpening stones, of which two are perforated and one oval,—averaging from two and a half to six inches long.

A large oval stone, artificially smoothed on all its surfaces, ten and a half inches by three and a half; probably used as a web-polisher before the art of calendering by machinery was known to the Irish. Five globular stones, probably used as weights or sink stones for nets or lines.

A flat red touchstone, three and a quarter inches long, of jasper, used for testing the purity of gold, and similar to those described at pp. 11 and 81 of the Museum Catalogue.

A stone shot, three inches in diameter.

Two weapon-sharpeners, like those figured at p. 75 of Catalogue, of remarkably hard stone, resembling quartz; one circular, and apparently unfinished; the other, two and three quarter inches long, and much used, with a flattened edge, and deeply grooved diagonally on the flat surfaces by the points of the swords, daggers, or spears, it was used for whetting. The use of this description of implement (which is of not uncommon occurrence in Scandinavia) has recently been determined by finding one with a metal collar encircling the edge, and having a hook and strap at one extremity for attaching it to the person, like the modern "steel" of the flesher.

A smooth curved waterworn dark stone, highly polished, and probably used as a burnisher.

Two imperfect red deer's horns. Ten large boars' tusks, and some teeth of ruminants.

Two large bone beads; a variegated enamel bead; a large irregularly shaped amber bead; a smaller one of enamel paste, showing a mixture of red, yellow, and blue colours; and also a small blue glass bead.

Two imperfect bone combs, like those already figured in the Catalogue at p. 272.

A bone ferule, two and a half inches long; solid at one end.

A hazel nut, found near the bottom of the crannoge.

Fourteen portions of pottery, some rudely glazed, others burned, and some only baked; and consisting of fragments of various vessels used either in the arts or for domestic and culinary purposes, such as crucibles, pitchers, and bowls. Among these is a fragment of a bowl or urn, of unglazed pottery, highly decorated with deeply grooved lines on the outside, and slight indentations on the everted lip. It is of great antiquity; composed of very black clay, darkened still more by the long-continued action of the bog, and mixed with a quantity of particles of white quartz or feldspar, which were probably added to give it stability. A similar description of art may be remarked in some of our oldest mortuary urns. When we consider that, except the urns which must be referred to the Pagan period, we have scarcely any examples of ancient Irish pottery, these specimens possess a peculiar interest for the investigators of fictile ware.

Fragments of Kimmerage coal rings; probably part of a bracelet, which seems to have been jointed at one end.

The bowls of two small pipes, similar to those in the Museum, and usually but erroneously denominated "Danish tobacco pipes."

An enclosed ring, of bronze, three and a quarter inches in diameter; a large decorated bronze pin, seven and a half inches long; and a smaller one, three inches in length.

An iron knife blade, with perforated haft, eight and a half inches long. This article looks as if it had been attached to a long handle. A smaller blade, with tang for haft, two and three-quarter inches in length. A globular piece of iron, two and three quarter inches in diameter, like a crotal, with an aperture on one side. The head of a small iron hammer. Three portions of rings, and eleven other iron fragments, the uses of which have not been determined.

Three oval artificially-worked stones.

A small perforated stone, like a whorl or distaff weight.

A very perfect bone piercer; and a small very highly polished bone pin.

Two portions of bone combs. A bone spoon, ingeniously formed out of the epiphysis of a young ruminant animal.

With all these articles furnished by Lord Farnham from the Toney-more crannoge, may be associated the sixteen specimens from the same locality which I presented in 1860, on the part of Mr. O'Brien, and which are enumerated in vol. viii., pp. 275, 276.

When we consider that this is the only Irish crannoge that has ever been thoroughly examined from summit to base, all these articles, when collected together, and serving to illustrate the manners, habits, customs, arts, and mode of life, of that portion of the Celtic population which resided therein, perhaps for centuries, as well as illustrating beyond any account which has yet been given, the construction of these ancient habitations, they will, I am sure, be regarded with much interest, not merely by the archæological section of the Academy, but by the various other European investigators into like structures, who have called public attention to such matters during the last six years. And it is worthy of remark that, while these *memorabilia* of our ancestors have been past by with but little notice for the last twenty years, the Scientific Academy of Zurich and other literary bodies on the continent have published accounts and given illustrations of almost every fragment that has been found in the crannoges of Switzerland and Savoy.

The circumstance of several valuable gold articles having been found near the avenue leading up to the great sepulchral pyramid of Newgrange is already well known to the learned, from the description given of them in the "Archæologia," vol. xxx., p. 137, and from their being figured in Lord Londesborough's beautiful "Catalogue of articles of Ancient Art." Since then no other remnant of the past has been found either in or adjacent to Newgrange, except the grave containing the vitrified stones which I have described in the 3rd volume of "The Proceedings," p. 262, until the past year, when Mr. Maguire, the liberal landowner of Newgrange, to whom the public are much indebted for the preservation

of that great monument, and who has recently cleared away a large portion of rubbish from the opening, found in the adjoining field the small

fragment of gold which I now present to the Academy. It is a double fillet, soldered along one edge, plain behind, but highly decorated in front in two compartments, one of which presents a shell-like ornament, as yet unknown in Irish gold work, and much resembling Indian manufacture. It is $1\frac{3}{8}$ inches long by $\frac{3}{8}$ ths wide, and weighs 3 dwts. 3 grs. The chasing and punched work is remarkably perfect.

I also beg to present on the part of Mr. Faulkner, of Lower Bridge-street, Dublin, the most perfect single-piece oaken boat which has yet been discovered in Ireland. It is eighteen feet nine inches long, and averages two feet ten inches wide, and twenty inches high in the side. It was found upwards of twenty years ago in the bed of the River Boyne, near the southern bank, in the deep water between Oldbridge and Drogheda, and was exhibited as a curiosity in Liverpool many years ago. It has three artificial apertures in the bottom, as shown in the accompanying illustration.

From the venerable William Thomson, Director of the Antiquarian Museum at Copenhagen, moulds and casts of the gold handle of a bronze leaf-bladed sword, recently found in Denmark, and which fit the handles of several of the bronze swords in the Academy.

From Alex. M. Holmberg, a distinguished Swedish antiquary, a triangular flint arrowhead, two and three quarter inches long.

From the late Professor Andrew Retzius, the distinguished anatomist and physiologist of Stockholm, a collection of bronze antiquities, found in Scandinavia, and consisting of—A large and small dog-headed brooch; a double breast-fastener, the larger pin cruciform, the smaller plain, and connected by a chain a foot long, a peculiarity common to decorative articles in the north, especially along the shores of the Baltic.

Both the tortoise-shaped, the dog-headed, and many other brooches were worn double,—one over each breast, and connected by ornamental

presented by Dr. Wilde, and especially to Dr. Wilde for the interest exhibited by him in promoting the objects of the Academy.

The President informed the Academy that the articles of antiquity lent to the Academy for exhibition at the South Kensington Museum had been returned safely, and replaced in the Museum.

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1863.

The VERY REV. CHARLES GRAVES, D. D., President, in the Chair.

On the recommendation of the Council, it was—

RESOLVED,—That in acknowledgment of the very valuable donations of Drawings of Antiquities and Architecture presented to the Academy by Mr. G. V. Du Noyer, he be recognised as a Life Member, without the payment of the usual life composition.

The Rev. WILLIAM REEVES, D. D., read the following paper :—

ON SS. MARINUS AND ANIANUS, TWO IRISH MISSIONARIES OF THE SEVENTH CENTURY.

THE Academy owes to the vigilance of its excellent Librarian the recent acquisition of a volume which, independently of the value arising from its great rarity, possesses the merit of introducing to notice in this country two Irish Missionaries, whose names have escaped our ecclesiastical writers, and who, notwithstanding the deficiency of detail in their history, have yet a sufficient reality to render them a welcome accession to our recorded list of Irish worthies.

The volume comprises three tracts. The first bears the title—“*Das Leben der Heiligen S. S. Marini Bischoves Martyrers, und Aniani Archidiacons, Bekenners die aus Irrland in Bayrn kommen, des Gotshauses Rodt Patronen wordenseind. Durch Johan d Via, der II. Schrift Doctorn beschriben.*” * The lower half of the title-page is occupied by an engraved plate, having in the middle a shield, which bears quarterly the arms of the monastery of Rot, and of Christopher the abbot, supported by two eccle-

* There is a copy of this tract in the Library of Trin. Coll. Dubl. (Gall. NN. 10. 19); but the frontispiece is somewhat different, and is identical with that of the second tract in this volume. A copy of the German life was advertised some years ago in a catalogue of Thomas Thorpe, of London, marked, “extremely rare, £2 2s.”