

XIV.—*The Quigrich, or Crosier of St Fillan.*

(Plates XLIII. and XLIV.)

In consequence of the acquisition by the Society of the Crosier of St Fillan for permanent preservation in the National Museum of the Antiquities of Scotland, it has been thought desirable to give the accompanying illustrations of the Crosier and its silver case. Plate XLIII. represents the relic as it has been known from time immemorial, enclosed in its outer casing of gilt silver. Plate XLIV. represents the Crosier head of copper contained within the silver casing. Both figures are given of the actual size and colouring, from drawings prepared by Robert Gibb, Esq., A.R.S.A., and lithographed by Messrs W. & A. K. Johnston.

The earliest notice of the Crosier is that communicated to a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland on 28th June 1785 and printed with an engraving of the Crosier in the "Archæologia Scotica," vol. ii. p. 289, under the following title: "An Account of the Ancient Crosier of St Fillan, described in a Letter from William Thomson, A.M., Student of Christ Church in Oxford, to the Earl of Buchan."

The next account of it, by one who had actually seen it, is contained in a letter by Sir Edmund B. Head, Bart., Governor-General of Canada, to Lord Talbot de Malahide, dated Toronto, 17th April 1858, which is printed in an article entitled "The Quigrich, or Crosier of St Fillan, with a Notice of its present existence in Canada," by Lord Talbot de Malahide, read to the Archæological Institute, and published, with illustrations, in the Journal of the Institute, vol. xvi. p. 45.

This was followed by an elaborate paper by Dr Daniel Wilson, read before the Canadian Institute on 12th February 1859, and published, with an illustration, in "The Canadian Journal" for November of that year. A short paper with lithographic illustrations from photographs sent by Dr Wilson also appeared in the "Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland" of the same date (vol. iii. p. 233).

An account of the acquisition of the Crosier by the Society, with full

details regarding its historical associations and artistic character will be found in "Historical Notices of St Fillan's Crosier, and of the Devotion of King Robert Bruce to St Fillan," by Dr John Stuart, printed in the "Proceedings" of the Society, vol. xii. pp. 122-182, pls. v., vi.; and also in the accompanying "Notices of the Quigrich, or Crosier of St Fillan, and of its Hereditary Keepers," by Dr Daniel Wilson; and in the "Deed of Conveyance of the Quigrich," by Alexander Dewar, the last Hereditary Keeper, with consent of his son, to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland for the National Museum, of which the tenor follows:—

"WHEREAS I am possessed of that ancient Scottish relic known as the "*Quigrich*," or Crosier of St Fillan, which has been in possession of my ancestors and family, as I believe, from the time of Robert the Bruce.

"AND WHEREAS the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland have applied to me, through Daniel Wilson, of the city of Toronto, LL.D., professor in University College, Toronto, for the surrender to them of said "*Quigrich*."

"AND WHEREAS I have consented to dispose of my right and title to said "*Quigrich*" to the said Society of Antiquaries for the consideration following, that is to say, the price or sum of seven hundred dollars, to be paid in manner following, videlicet: five hundred dollars, and the remaining two hundred dollars of said sum to be credited to me by the said Society of Antiquaries as my contribution or donation towards the acquisition of said relic, and on the further express considerations that the said Society shall permanently deposit said "*Quigrich*" in the National Museum of Antiquities in Edinburgh, and shall record my name in the archives of said Society and Museum as joint donor of said relic.

"NOW KNOW YE AND THESE PRESENTS WITNESS, that in consideration of said sum of five hundred dollars, now paid to me by the said Society by the hands of the said Dr Daniel Wilson, the receipt whereof I do hereby acknowledge, and of the said agreements on the part of the said Society of Antiquaries above set forth, I, the said Alexander Dewar, have granted, sold, assigned, and transferred, and do grant, bargain, sell, transfer, set over, and surrender unto the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland the said "*Quigrich*," to hold the same unto the said Society of Antiquaries and their successors on trust to deposit the same in the National Museum of Antiquities at Edinburgh, there to remain in all time to come, for the use, benefit, and enjoyment of the Scottish nation."



Fig. 1

Fig. 2

Fig. 3

From a drawing by R. Gibb.

W & A. K. Johnston, Chromo-Lithog. Edinburgh.

THE QUIGRICH OR CROZIER OF ST FILLAN.
(Of Silver gilt, 9 inches high.)

Fig. 1. Side view of the Crozier.

Fig. 2. Front part of do.

Fig. 3. Terminal Plate of do.

