

Proceeding next to Newabbey, the visitors surveyed the architectural features of the fine old ruin and puzzled over the fragmentary inscription which has been interpreted to mean that the Lady Devorgilla founded the abbey in the year 1284. Its Latin is not free from obscurity, the word which is assumed to stand for "fundatrix" appearing to be literally "fuoaatrix." The visitors had been very kindly invited by Miss Copland of Collieston to take tea at Abbey House; and here they had an opportunity of inspecting a family heirloom with a romantic story. This is a silver quaich or loving-cup which was "hanselled" at the marriage of John Copland of Collieston and Agnes **Hairstens** of Craigs on the 30th of January, 1654. It is a little basin standing two inches and a quarter high, and measuring six inches and seven-eighths in diameter at the brim. It is enriched with a dainty floral pattern. There are two little flat handles, on the upper side of which are carved the initials of the pair whose espousals it commemorates—"I. C." (the i being used for j in the old lettering) and "A. H.;" and on the under side of one of the handles the date of the marriage is engraved. This unique

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family relic has just been restored to the possession of Miss Copland as the result of an action in the Sheriff Court, it having formed part of the contents of a plate chest which went amissing in the hands of the bankers to whom it was committed for safe custody and got mixed with the Carnsalloch possessions.