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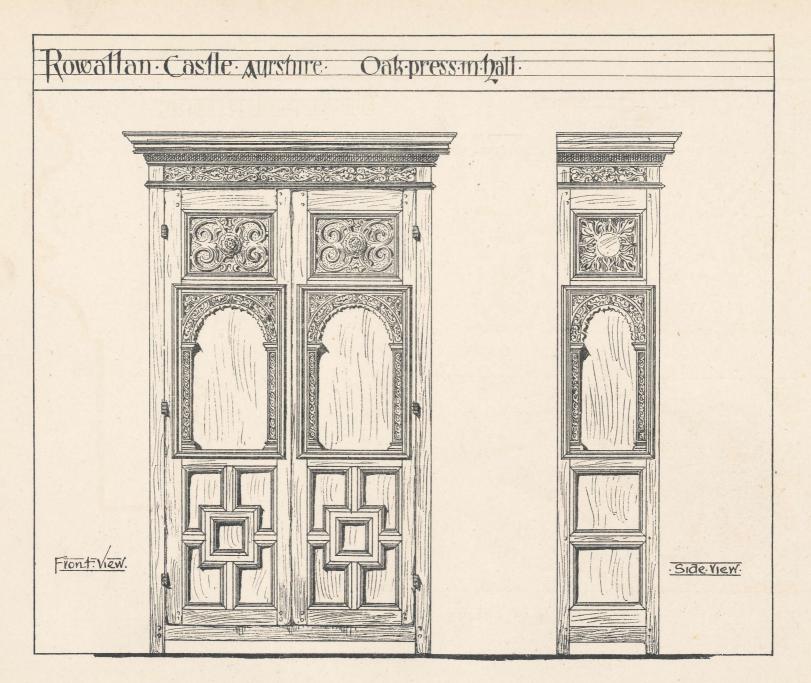
VII.

WOODWORK AT ROWALLAN CASTLE.

Scotland is famous for its old woodwork, and Rowallan Castle contains many fine specimens of the sixteenth century. From its rich treasures the accompanying plates have been taken by the kind permission of Lord Loudon. They show an oak press standing in the dining-hall of the castle, which is constructed in a thoroughly good and sound manner, decorated with rich mouldings, and elaborately carved. The enrichments are vigorously cut, and are very characteristic of the period they have been executed in. The side view shows the end to have been as richly dealt with as the front, contrasting strongly with much of our modern woodwork. The press measures 3 feet 11 inches across the front, 7 feet 3 inches in height, and 1 foot 5 inches across the end. From the second plate, which shows parts of the press drawn to a larger scale, one can form a good idea of the elaborate character of the subject under review. The plates have been drawn very carefully from measurements and full-sized drawings taken on the spot by Mr. J. W. Small, F.S.A. Scot.

Amongst the other objects in wood worthy of notice are two Ambrys, with characteristic moulded and decorated doors; remains of wall panelling, showing plainly that tapestry has at one time filled in the panels; a massive extending dining-table, constructed exactly on the same principle as one in Holyrood Palace; an old arm-chair, with the initials S. W. M., and date 1612, carved on the back; and a remarkably effective outside door, enriched with bold carvings, especially in the upper panels. The mouldings used throughout are very fine, and many of them are richly carved. These examples of woodwork are testimonies to the honest work of the sixteenth century, and are worthy of imitation at the present day.

JOHN POLLOCK.



Scale Hilliam 1 3 Feet

