IRON DAGGER, EAST LANGTON.

An Iron Dagger and Knife found on the farm of East Langton, Mid-Lothian. Dr Wilson furnishes the following account of this discovery in the Prehistoric Annals of Scotland, p. 433. "On the 22d November 1849, some farm-servants engaged in draining a field at East Langton, in the parish of Kirknewton, Mid-Lothian, found a skeleton about 3¼ feet below the surface. The body lay south-west by north-east, imbedded in moss about 3 inches thick. Near the feet were found an iron knife and a dagger, with the remains of a wooden handle and a
square gold plate and knob on the end of the haft, both greatly corroded and adhering together from the rust. There were also found in the same grave a wooden comb, broken and very much decayed, and a rude bodkin of bone, measuring 3½ inches long, which had doubtless been employed in fastening the dress of the deceased. The knife is perforated with three holes, by which a handle must have been attached to it; but it is too much corroded to afford any correct idea of its original form. Near to these lay a wooden vessel, and an earthen urn coated with green glaze, and rudely ornamented with a waved pattern; both of which were broken by the carelessness of the workmen. . .

The glazed pottery accompanying the iron weapons at East Langton is a characteristic feature of the sepulchral deposits of the last pagan period in Scotland, and is perhaps one of the earliest indications of Anglo-Saxon influence. The dagger is figured here, along with the bone pin referred to above.

The fragments of the glazed pottery, and wooden vessel, and the comb, were presented to the Society along with the dagger and knife.