STONE CIRCLES IN DURRIS AND NEIGHBOURHOOD.

The distances of the stones from each other are 8, 8, 9, 8, 9, 8. "This information was given me by Mr James Dawson in 1869."

Dr Brown says: "When at Castle Forbes in October 1868, I examined the circle there. Mr Rait, the ground officer, afterwards sent me the drawing and measurements, which I send along with this, but which I wish to be returned to me." I returned the drawing, which was that of a lying stone.

I have still some sadness in ending without drawing conclusions; but it may happen some day that a reader of this, when wandering over some European shores, most probably to the north, may see characteristics such as I have described, and may be led to a knowledge of a point from which men who have much influenced Scotland have certainly come; people different from the Western Celts, and, so far as we know, different from Scandinavians who have landed elsewhere in many parts of the country.

MONDAY, 14th June 1880.

PROFESSOR DUNS, D.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows:—

JAMES BARRON, Esq., Editor of "Inverness Courier."
HORATIUS BONAR, Esq., W.S., 15 Hill Street, Edinburgh.
ROBERT BRYDEN, Esq., Waltham Lodge, Murrayfield.
JOHN CRAN, Esq., Kirkton, Inverness.
JAMES LUMSDEN, Esq. of Arden, Dumbartonshire.
JAMES MARSHALL, Esq., Carlston, Glasgow.
MASKELL WILLIAM PEACE, Esq., Ashfield, Wigan.
ROBERT R. SIMPSON, Esq., W.S., 8 Bruntsfield Crescent.
JOHN MUIR WOOD, Esq., 22 Belhaven Terrace, Glasgow.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors:—
(1.) By Dr H. Faulds, Tsukiji Hospital, Tokio, Japan.

Celt of greenstone, polished, 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length, 1\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in breadth across the cutting face, tapering to \(\frac{3}{4}\) inch at the butt, edges flattened, the thickness irregular, but nowhere more than \(\frac{3}{8}\) of an inch.

Celt of diorite, polished, 3\(\frac{1}{2}\) inches in length, 1\(\frac{3}{4}\) inches in width across the cutting face, tapering to an inch at the butt, edges polished, thickness in centre \(\frac{1}{4}\) an inch.

Six Arrow-Heads of obsidian, triangular, stemless, and hollowed at the base. The length varies from \(\frac{1}{4}\) to \(\frac{3}{4}\) of an inch, and the width at the base from \(\frac{3}{8}\) to \(\frac{5}{8}\) of an inch. They are well made, and some are slightly serrated along the edge.

Six Arrow-Heads of chert, slightly larger in size, more roughly made, and varying in form from a leaf-shape to a triangular form, with hollowed base.

One Arrow-Head of obsidian, with barbs and stem \(\frac{3}{4}\) of an inch in length, and well made.

Three Borers of chert, 1\(\frac{1}{4}\) inch and 1 inch in length.

Four irregularly-shaped Implements of obsidian, not unlike arrow-heads, but with long points, and barbs of equal thickness with the points. The most regularly-shaped has some resemblance to a prick spur. They are of small size, about \(\frac{3}{4}\) of an inch long and \(\frac{3}{8}\) inch wide.

All found in the neighbourhood of Tokio, Japan.

Two Vessels of pottery-ware, which are thus alluded to in the note accompanying the donation addressed to Mr Anderson:—

TSUKIJI HOSPITAL, TOKIO,
JAPAN, January 22, 1880.

"SIR,—I beg to avail myself of Professor Dickson’s return to Scotland to forward to the Scottish Society of Antiquaries a few objects from Japan. I send two specimens of 19th century ware in use even in the metropolis, which curiously illustrate the co-existence of the most primitive types of pottery side by side with the most advanced and exquisitely-finished. These contrasts exist naturally to-day even in the same household. I send:
also a copy of the 'Japan Mail' with note of remarks on survival of primitive types of pottery and finger-marks, a subject which I am now working out."

These remarks occur in a report of a meeting of the Asiatic Society of Japan, held on 11th November 1879, at which Dr Faulds, referring to the pottery of the shell-heaps, said—

"The types hitherto found in these shell-heaps did not seem to be separated by any one well-marked character from contemporary pottery of a low grade. Indeed the shell-heaps scattered along the old and recent coasts of Yedo Bay presented in their fragments of pottery a series of modifications leading up to recent times, and some of the heaps might be seen in actual process of accumulation. People not accustomed to such inquiries, naturally perhaps, tended at first to exaggerate a little the antiquity of their discoveries, and hence cautious criticism was useful. What was the greatest antiquity which could be allowed to them? Looking at all the facts, he had ventured publicly to assign 600 years as the probable antiquity of the Omori heap, and was glad now to announce that Mr Ninagawa, of the Tokio Museum, and the principal authority on the subject of Japanese pottery, decides that the remains of earthenware cannot be older than about 1000 years, for at that time, it was known that the methods of working which had been adopted were first introduced into Japan. A definite rise of the beach had been historically recorded, and there were several facts to show that even in the present century a very noticeable elevation had taken place. He begged leave to show some interesting but unpretentious specimens of the 'prehistoric' pottery of this nineteenth century. The first is a tea-pot of unglazed earthenware. It has been entirely moulded by the fingers, and has in many places been indented all over with a rough cloth pattern, its ornamentation consists of the simplest and most childlike whirls and scratches, while its handle is stuck on in the most primitive fashion. It is in quite common use in Tokio, the capital of Japan, at the present day. The next article is still more strikingly 'prehistoric.' It cannot have been turned on the wheel, but is an imperfect cone made of a sheet of rolled-out clay folded on itself like a grocer's poke. Its neck has been narrowed and then the rim reverted by the pressure of fingers, the markings of which are retained. These vessels are used for keeping warm the sake of the Japanese night policemen, the cone being thrust into the hot ashes of the brazier. Such examples ought to—"
suggest more caution in making deductions than had sometimes been displayed in our day.”

(2.) By Ed. S. Morse, Professor of Zoology, University of Tokio, the Author.


Twenty Arrow and Spear Heads from the United States of America, viz.:

(1) Of quartz, 1 ½ inch in length, oval shaped, with short thick neck;
(2) of chert, 2 inches long, with stem and slight barbs; (3) of chert, 2½ inches long, triangular, unbarbed; (4) of chert, 3¼ inches long, triangular, unbarbed; and with thick stem; (5) of chert, 3 inches long, triangular, slightly barbed, and with flattened stem,—all from Savannah River, Georgia; (6) of chert, 1 ½ inches in length, triangular, with curved edges, barbs, and broad flat stem; (7) of chert, 2½ inches in length, triangular, unbarbed, thick flat stem; (8) of flint, 3 inches long, triangular, unbarbed, thick, flat, and tapering stem; (9) of jasper, 3¼ inches long, triangular, unbarbed; (10) of chert, 3½ inches long, triangular, unbarbed; (11) of chert, 3¾ inches long, triangular, unbarbed; (12) of quartz, 1 ½ inch long, oval, unbarbed, and stemless,—all from Flint River, Georgia; (13) of quartz, 1 ¼ inch long, oval-shaped, stemless; (14) of quartz, 1½ inch long, triangular, slight barbs, and wide flat stem,—from Georgia; (15) of quartz, 2 inches long, thick, narrow, and triangular, with thick rounded stem; (16) of quartz, 1 ¼ inch long, oval, with thick stem; (17) of quartz, 2 inches long, triangular, stemless,—all from the Chickahominy; (18) of chert, 2½ inches long, triangular, with barbs and wide flattened stem, from Bedford, Indiana; (19) of obsidian, 2¼ inches long, narrow, triangular, without barbs, and with long slightly flattened stem, from Charleston, Western Virginia; (20) of obsidian, 2½ inches long, triangular, with slight barbs and flattened stem, from Brown County, Oregon.
DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY.

Six Hollow Scrapers of flint from County Antrim, Ireland, varying in size from 1 inch to 2 inches in length.

(4.) By Provost Dawson, F.S.A. Scot., Linlithgow.

Celt of greenstone, polished, 5 inches long, 2 inches across the cutting face, thick and oval in section at the centre, tapering slightly to the butt, which is cut nearly square off, showing an oval of 1 inch by ¾ inch. This specimen is believed to have been found in the neighbourhood of Linlithgow.

(5.) By Alexander Laing, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Floor-tile 9½ inches square, the surface covered with a yellow glaze, and ornamented with rudely scratched lines, representing a square with its diagonals, found at Lindores Abbey.

(6.) By Professor Duns, D.D., Vice-President.

Bronze Reliquary found in the River Shannon. (See the preceding communication by Professor Duns.)


Lozenge-shaped Arrow-Head of yellow flint, finely made, 2 inches in length, found near the Meikle Loch, Slains.


Two Bronze Swords found in digging a drain on the farm of Jacksbank, near Fordoun. (See the subsequent communication by Mr Gammack.)

(9.) By George Cunningham, Esq., Advocate, F.S.A. Scot.

Pocket tinder-box of horn, shaped like a snuff-horn, as used by the fishermen of Lybster in Caithness, with its flint and steel.


Portion of a Sculptured Stone, having part of the "elephant" symbol on the one side and on the other part of a finely-executed pattern of divergent spirals, found in making a roadway at Strathmartine.
(11.) By John Sturrock, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Dundee.

Stone of red sandstone, 13 inches by 10 inches, with five hollows in its upper surface, from an underground structure at Tealing.

Anvil-stone, being a water-worn block of quartzite, 10 x 8 x 6 inches, marked all over its flat surfaces with pits of different shapes and sizes, some being as much as 3 inches long, 2 inches wide, and an inch in depth.

Hammer-stone, being a block of quartzite of precisely the same character, but smaller, measuring only 7 inches in length, 3 inches in breadth, and 2 inches in thickness. Both from Skelmuir, Aberdeenshire.

Also a quantity of split and chipped flints from Ellon, Aberdeenshire.

(12.) By Arthur D. Morice, Esq., Advocate, Aberdeen, F.S.A. Scot.

Collection of Flint Flakes and Chips, and one Arrow-Head of flint from the mountains about two miles east of Helouan on the Nile. The arrow-head is about an inch in length, triangular, having its sides slightly curved, no barbs, and a slightly tapering tang. The flakes are mostly thin and narrow, about 2 to 2 1/4 inches in length, occasionally serrated on one edge.

(13.) By Robert Mackay Smith, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Portable Jewel Casket of steel, 3 1/2 inches long, 4 inches high, with rounded top, damascened in gold. From the Shandon Collection.

(14.) By Francis Jones, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Declaration to Lord Burghley, Great Treasurer, of sums paid into Exchequer from Michaelmas to Easter 1594. Manuscript, folio, 20 pp.

(15.) By Alexander Mackenzie, F.S.A. Scot., Editor of the "Celtic Magazine," the Author.

History of the Clan Mackenzie, with Genealogies of the principal Families. 8vo. Inverness, 1879.


Historical Tales and Legends of the Highlands. 12mo. Inverness, 1878.
DONATIONS TO THE SOCIETY.

(16.) By Professor OLAF RYGH, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot., Christiania, the Author.

Norske Oldsager. Förste Hefte. 4to. Christiania, 1880.

(17.) By Sir HENRY DRYDEN, Bart., Cánons Ashby, Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Collection of Plans to be added to the portfolios in the Society’s Library, viz., Underground House at Skaill; West Broch, Burray; Brochs at Quoyness, Lambhead, Backaskail, Manse of Harray, Wasshow, and Breckness, Orkney; Yarhouse, Caithness, Maeshow, Orkney; Chapel with Gravestones, Iona; Cists at Bookan and Stronsay; Chapel at St Germain-sur-Vienne, Charente; and a number of Sheets of Measurements and Drawings.

There were also exhibited:—

(1.) By Dr PATERSON, Bridge of Allan, Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Stone Cup with handle, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches wide, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep, found at Lintrathen.

Quern of small size, hollow, and measuring 10 inches in diameter, found at Tyndrum.

Clasp or mounting of brass for a gipsire or girdle purse, found at Powderhall, Edinburgh.


Collection of Flint Arrow-Heads and Implements from Wigtownshire, comprising 7 stone axes, 3 whetstones, 1 polisher, 4 perforated stones, 48 arrow-heads of flint, leaf and lozenge-shaped; 30 arrow-heads of flint, triangular and barbed; 14 knives, 6 saws, 4 drills of flint, and a large number of scrapers and flakes.

The following Communications were read:—