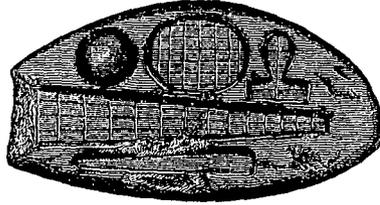


ANCIENT STONE MOULD.

A Stone Mould for casting bronze weapons and implements, was exhibited by Thomas Brown, Esq., of Lanfine. It is an irregular oval slab of green serpentine, $16\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, by $9\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, and about $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in greatest thickness. The accompanying woodcut exhibits the principal front. The longest hollow, it is supposed, may have been designed for the blade of a dagger, which was to be ground into its final shape; and possibly that to the right of the oval was for its handle, afterwards secured to it by rivets, as is usually the



case with all the early bronze daggers. The smaller groove may be presumed to be adapted for moulding a knife or chisel; but the precise purpose of the other hollows it is difficult to determine. The opposite side of the stone has formed a half mould for casting a large irregular oval mass of metal. This curious relic was found, at no great depth, on the estate of Trochrig, near Girvan, Ayrshire, in 1851. Similar serpentine exists *in situ*, about eight miles to the south of the place where it was discovered.