

IV.

NOTE RELATIVE TO EXCAVATIONS AT BALGONE NEAR NORTH
BERWICK. BY THE REV. JOHN STRUTHERS, F.S.A. SCOT., PRESTONPANS.

In the course of draining operations at the northern base of the crags
of Balgone, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of North Berwick, and within 300 yards
or so of the Mansion House of Sir George Grant Suttie, Bart., a some-

what remarkable and extensive collection of bones of various animals has recently been discovered imbedded deeply in the moss. Some years ago, a little to the westward of the same locality, and at a slightly higher elevation of what appears to have been an ancient lake or morass, there were found a number of bronze culinary vessels, four with loops at the sides for handles, one with a long handle, two flagon-shaped and two shallow basins, both imperfect, which were transmitted to the Museum shortly afterwards.

The bones which have more recently been discovered were found lying on a nearly horizontal base, at a depth of between 6 and 8 feet of black moss, and with another foot of similar black moss beneath them, which again rests on a bed of soft marl, of between 4 and 5 feet in thickness. The locality is near to what seems to have been the outlet of the ancient lake, and the soil underneath the marl is composed of gravel and the debris of the rocks adjacent.

The bones consist of the antlers of deer—some of them very large—of boars' tusks, of the vertebræ and thigh and other large bones of oxen, horses, &c., and also of some human bones, including two very well preserved crania, which have been forwarded, through Sir Roderick Murchison, to Professor Owen of London. Several of the bones, of which one or two were exhibited, appear to have been formed into cutting implements; and another article, of doubtful use, of jet or bituminous shale, and similar to a jet ornament found in the Isle of Skye, now in the Museum. It is cylinder-shaped, with the ends rounded off, and measures 3 inches by 1 inch in diameter; in the centre is a long opening, and it has obviously had considerable labour bestowed in its fabrication.

MONDAY, 13th March 1865.

PROFESSOR J. Y. SIMPSON, M.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The following Gentlemen were balloted for, and elected Fellows of the Society:—

WILLIAM BROWN, Esq., F.R.C.S.E.

WILLIAM SIM, Esq., of Lunan Bank, Forfarshire.

The following Gentlemen were elected Corresponding Members :—

REV. WILLIAM GREENWELL, Durham.

REV. EDWARD L. BARNWELL, Ruthin, North Wales.

(1.) By Sir WILLIAM MAXWELL of Monreath, Baronet.

Collection of Articles found in exploring a Crannoge, or Artificial Island in Dowalton Loch, Wigtonshire, consisting of a

Square-shaped Stone, 5 inches in length, 1 inch in breadth, and $\frac{5}{8}$ inch in thickness, and tapering to a point $\frac{5}{8}$ inch square; probably a whetstone.

Three Bronze Basins; one measures 10 inches in diameter and 4 inches in depth. It is formed of sheet metal, fastened by rivets, with portions of an iron handle. This pot or basin shows several patches or mendings. (See Plate X. fig. 1.)

Another Vessel of Bronze, measures 12 inches in diameter and 4 inches in depth. It appears to have been made by hammering it into shape out of one piece of metal.

The third Vessel measures 12 inches in diameter and 3 inches in depth, and is also formed out of one piece of metal. On its upper edge is a turned-over or projecting rim, 1 inch in breadth. (See Plate X. fig. 2.)

Pot or Patella of yellowish-coloured Bronze, with a handle springing from the upper edge, 7 inches in length, on which is stamped the letters *CRIPOLLET*; at the further extremity is a circular opening. The bottom is ornamented by five projecting rings, and measures in diameter 6 inches; it is 8 inches in diameter across the mouth; the inside appears to be coated with tin, and has a series of incised lines at various distances. The vessel is ornamented on the outside opposite to the handle by a human face, in relief surrounded by a movable ring which could be used in lifting the pot. (See Plate X. fig. 3.)

Bronze Ring, measuring $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, which passes through a loop fastened to a portion of broken bronze, apparently part of the upper edge of a large bronze vessel, the ring having formed one of the handles.

Small, very rude Clay Cup or Crucible, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter.

Bronze Implement, being a short tube 1 inch in length, with a projecting rim at one extremity, which is 2 inches in diameter. It is not unlike in shape to the socket portion of a modern candlestick.

Bronze Penannular Ring or Brooch, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, with bulbous extremities.

Small plain Bronze Ring, 1 inch in diameter.

Small portion of Bronze, probably portion of a vessel.

Small Bronze Plate or Ornament, 1 inch in length, having a projecting tongue at three of its corners, each projecting portion being pierced with a hole through in its centre.

Two Iron Axe Heads; one with a square-shaped head, which tapers to a sharp cutting face, and measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long; it has a large perforation close to the square head for receiving the handle.

The other measures 6 inches in length. The perforation for the handle is near the centre; and one end has a sharp cutting face, the other a blunt rounded extremity, or head.

Iron Hammer Head, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, with hole in the centre for handle; the head is square, and tapers slightly to a blunt face.

Several masses of Iron Slag.

Wooden Boat Paddle, the blade measures 2 feet 4 inches in length, by 10 inches in breadth, and 1 inch in thickness. It has a short, rounded handle, measuring 7 inches in length.

Portions of Wooden Piles, several showing mortice cuttings.

Portions of the Common Fern or "Bracken" (*Pteris aquilina*), which formed the bed on which the Crannoge was built.

Half of a Ring, 3 inches in diameter, formed of white glass or vitreous paste, and streaked with blue.

Half of a similar Ring, formed of yellow-coloured glass or vitreous paste.

Large Bead, measuring $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter. The centre portion is formed of blue glass, of a ribbed pattern. The central perforation or opening is formed of a tube of bronze, and the edge of both sides of the perforation is ornamented by three minute bands of twisted yellow glass. (See Plate X. fig. 4.)

Bead of Earthenware, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, of a ribbed pattern, and showing traces of green glaze.

Small Bead of Vitreous Paste, of a white colour with red spots, and measuring $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.

Amber Bead, $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter.

Half of a Small Bead, measuring $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in diameter, of white glass streaked with blue.

Small portion of Blue Glass.

Portion of a Leather Shoe, measuring 7 inches in length, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in its greatest breadth, nearly covered with ornamental stamped patterns. (See Plate X. fig. 5.)

Various Bones of Animals, &c.

(See Communication, page 121.)

(2.) By Colonel JOSEPH DUNDAS, of Carron Hall, F.S.A. Scot.

The following articles, found in excavating an underground chamber at the Tappoch, Torwood, Stirlingshire. (See details in Communication made to the Society by Colonel Dundas in a subsequent part of this Volume, page 114.)

Three irregularly shaped Blocks of Grey Sandstone, measuring 2 feet in greatest length, $1\frac{1}{2}$ foot in breadth, and 8 inches in thickness. On the upper side of one is incised two concentric circles, surrounding a projecting boss in the centre; on the second is a circle, and portions of two concentric circles, surrounding a cup-shaped indentation; portions of two similar circles are on the third stone. The outer circle measures in diameter from 5 to 6 inches.

Upper and Lower Stones of a Quern or Grain-rubber; the upper stone is of granite, and measures 12 inches in diameter, and is pierced with a hole in the centre, and also a hole at one side, apparently for the handle. The lower portion is oval shaped, and measures 20 inches by 16 inches.

Upper Stone of a Quern, measuring 16 inches in diameter.

Thirteen Water-worn Stone Balls, varying from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 inches in diameter.

Two Oval Stones, with cup-shaped depressions on the upper surface; greatest length 4 inches, and 3 inches in breadth.

Oval-shaped Stone, measuring 5 inches in length by 4 in breadth, with a cup-shaped depression on each side.

Small circular Cup or Lamp of yellowish clay, measuring 3 inches in diameter, with a projection at one side, as if to form a handle.

Oblong Stone, with flattened sides and rounded ends, measuring 5 inches in length and 2 inches in diameter; apparently a whetstone.

Stone, polished on all sides, 3 inches long by 2 inches in breadth, and 1 inch thick; which may have been used as a burnisher.

Flat, Pear-shaped piece of Shale, having a hole at the narrow end; greatest length $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and breadth 2 inches. One side is covered with scratches of a Vandyked pattern.

Stone Ball, flattened above and below, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter; it is pierced with a hole through the centre, and has a groove round its sides.

Two flat circular Stone Whorls or Buttons, with a hole in the centre; one measures 2 inches in diameter, and the other $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter.

Small portion of an Urn of coarse clay, probably a sepulchral urn.

Portions of Charcoal.

Various Teeth of the Ox, &c.

Iron Axe Head, 6 inches long, with a large hole for the handle; it tapers gradually in thickness from near the head, which is rounded, towards the face, which is imperfect.

Iron Hammer, with handle, both the head and handle being of iron; the back portion of the head is round, the other extremity terminates in a sharp point. The hammer-head measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, the handle is 12 inches long; and it has a hook for suspension at its extremity.

Portion of a Jar of coarse Pottery, showing remains of a yellowish-coloured glaze.

The two last articles were found outside of the entrance to the chamber.

(3.) By ARTHUR MITCHELL, Esq., M.D., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Portion of a Bronze leaf-shaped Sword, part of the handle and of the point being wanting. It measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches long by 1 inch in breadth. The portion of the handle that remains shows two small holes pierced on each side for fixing it to the bone or wooden handle. It was found in Dumfriesshire.

(4.) By JOHN ALEX. SMITH, M.D., Sec. S.A. Scot.

Portion of a small Bronze Candlestick, measuring 4 inches long. At the upper part is a cup-shaped portion, for receiving the candle, which is pierced with a square aperture at the side, in the middle of the stalk is an ornamental projecting ring. It was found, many years ago, in a moss near Denholm, Roxburghshire.

(5.) By GEORGE S. VETICH, Esq., F.S.A., Scot.

Flat circular Brooch of Copper, measuring $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches in diameter; in the centre is a Monogram of the Letters **GP** in relief, which is surrounded by a border of leaves, and the letters **mad : ybu :** The brooch has apparently been enamelled. It was found in excavating the foundation for the recent extension of the Bank of Scotland, Bank Street, Edinburgh.

(6.) By D. H. ROBERTSON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Iron Knife, with a narrow, rounded handle, and a curved razor-shaped blade; all in one piece. The blade measures $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, and the handle, 4 inches in length, is ornamented by three groups of incised grooves encircling it, one at each extremity, and the third in the centre; the lower end is tapered off to a sharp four-sided point, each side of which is ornamented by an incised pattern. This razor-like knife is stated to have been found in a cairn at South Uist, Orkney.

(7.) By the Rev. J. G. BEVERIDGE, Minister of the parish of Inveresk, East Lothian.

Communion Tokens,—one, circular, on one side M. K. Musselburgh Kirk, on the other ^{Mr}_{R.H.}, for the Rev. Mr Richard Howieson, ordained 1690; three, square, 1727 I. W. in monogram, for the Rev. Mr John Williamson, ordained 1701, died 1739; another, oval in shape, on one side INVERESK KIRK, on the other Rev^d L * M. 1806, for the Rev. Leslie Moodie, admitted 1806, died 1840.

Denarius of Trajan, dug up in the manse garden, Inveresk.

(8.) By A. D. COWAN, Esq., through James Sinclair, Albany Herald.

Large Wooden Saddle-Tree and Leather Crupper.

Pair of Turkish Stirrups of Steel, with large triangular sides, which are inlaid with silver, and ornamented with two brass studs on the outer surface.

(9.) By WILLIAM PAGAN, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. (the Author).

The Birthplace and Parentage of William Paterson, founder of the Bank of England, and projector of the Darien Scheme, with suggestions for improvements on the Scottish Registers. 12mo. Edin. 1865.

(10.) By the PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL of the Royal Scottish Academy
Thirty-Seventh Annual Report of the Council of the Royal Scottish Academy of Painting and Architecture. 8vo. 1864.

(11.) By Miss CARNEGIE, Laverock Bank House.

The Scot's Magazine, containing a general view of the Religion, Politics, Entertainment, &c. in Great Britain; and a succinct Account of Public Affairs, foreign and domestick. 64 vols. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1739-1802.

(12.) By WILLIAM REEVES, D.D., Hon. Mem. S. A. Scot. (the Author).

The Culdees of the British Islands, as they appear in History; with an Appendix of Evidences. 4to. Dublin, 1864.

The following Communications were read :—



Fig. 3.
Fig. 4
(Length, 1 inch.)
(Height, 1½ inch.)
(Height, 5½ inches.)

Fig. 2.
(Height, 3 inches.)

Fig. 1.
(Height, 4 inches.)

Fig. 5.
(Length, 7 inches.)

ARTICLES FOUND IN DOWALTON LOCH.

1, 2, 3. Bronze Vessels, and a Roman Patella. 4. Glass Bead, with Metal Core. 5. Portion of Ornamented Leather Shoe.