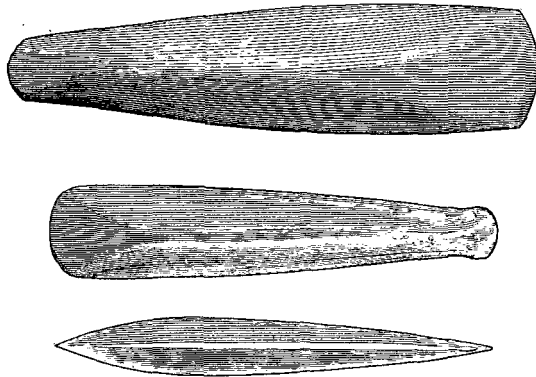


## IV.

NOTES OF STONE CELTS FOUND IN GLENSHEE, FORFARSHIRE, 1870 ;  
AND OF CLAY CONES (LOOM WEIGHTS) FOUND AT RAVENSBY,  
PARISH OF BARRIE, FORFARSHIRE. BY JAMES NEISH, OF THE LAWS,  
ESQ., F.S.A. SCOT.

At Drumour, which lies on a spur of Mount Blair, in Glenshee, some workmen were engaged in the summer of 1870 in removing boulder stones from the surface of the ground. Taking advantage of a mossy hollow,



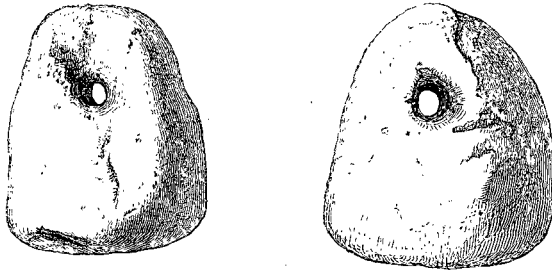
Polished Stone Celts,  $15\frac{1}{2}$  and 13 inches in length, found at Drumour, in Glenshee, Forfarshire.

they proceeded to excavate it, in order to roll in the stones. At a depth of about 5 feet were found two beautifully formed stone celts, which Robert Thomas, Esq., of Noranside and Drumour, now presents to the National Museum. There was nothing else found, unless it may be worth mentioning a small boulder of white quartz, shaped like an egg, very smooth on the surface, no doubt the result of natural influences ; on

one side, however, the writer was inclined to think that the surface might have been used for polishing the celts on.

Those implements seem to have been little used, for the markings of the tools employed in their formation are very distinct. Both are stained with brown spots, which, it is hoped, will be carefully examined and reported on.

In the neighbourhood of Drumour, some of the uncultivated slopes are covered with small cairns, hut circles, and long winding rows of stones.



Clay Cones (Loom Weights) found at Ravensby, Forfarshire.  
(4 inches in height.)

The reporter spent some time in digging amongst them, but with little result. Charcoal was generally found, and in one circle the centre was paved with flat stones, which the natives said they called the hearth stones.

A gamekeeper brought from his cottage a very small celt which he had found in a cairn twenty years ago near to Drumour, which is also sent to the Society for the sake of comparison.

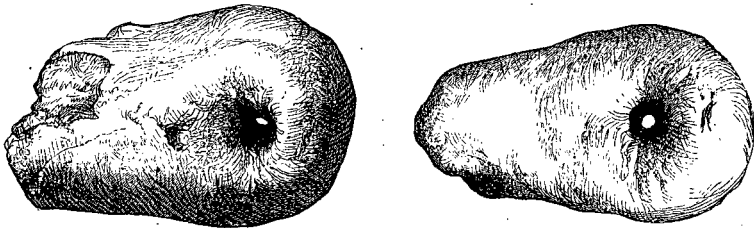
Flint flakes and arrow-heads are frequently picked up in this neighbourhood.

*Clay Cones found at Ravensby.*—While part of a field at Ravensby, in the parish of Barrie, Forfarshire, which had been long under cultivation, was being trenched and levelled for garden ground, the workmen came to a place where the subsoil of sand and gravel had previously been disturbed to a depth of about 3 feet. This space they described as being shaped like the site of a tent; the soil here was mixed with charcoal and small fragments of bone. Lying together were found seven perforated

cones made from the native clay burned; near to them was part of a small enclosure like a fire-place, formed by stones on edge. One of those stones has a small round hole through it, and is similar to some found amongst the curious structures on The Laws, about three miles eastward. Long continued cultivation had, no doubt, removed more important vestiges of an early period. Ravensby, a name said to be of Danish origin, is near to the famous Camus stone, which tradition connects with a Danish general of that name. Boece tells us of a bloody victory obtained over the northern invaders in the parish of Barre. Mr Jervise, while doubting the story as to the Camus stone having been erected to the memory of a Danish general, says, in his Memorials of Angus, "that in no part of that county have been found so many traces of ancient sepulture and tumuli as in this district."

James Walker, Esq. of Ravensby, kindly presents to the Museum two of the cones and the largest portion of bone (ox) found.

[In February 1867 Alexander Morrison, Esq., of Bognie, presented to the Society's Museum a rounded mass of hard clay with a perforation through one extremity. It is partially broken, but measures 5 inches in length,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches thick, and 4 inches broad. Another of similar size and character was presented in February 1868. They were found "in digging the foundation for a new building in the Orchard Park of Montblairy," Banffshire, about 3 feet below the surface.<sup>1</sup> These have probably been also used as "loom-weights," and, with those above described, appear to be the first that have been observed in Scotland.—EDS.]



Clay Loom-weights found at Montblairy, Banffshire.  
( $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length.)

<sup>1</sup> See Proceedings, vol. ii. pp. 347, 371; and vol. iii. p. 68.