

VII.

NOTES ON A COLLECTION OF STONE IMPLEMENTS AND OTHER ANTI-
QUITIES, FROM GLENLUCE, WIGTOWNSHIRE, NOW PRESENTED TO
THE MUSEUM. BY REV. GEORGE WILSON, FREE CHURCH, GLENLUCE,
CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

At the head of the Bay of Luce there are old sea-beaches of which no description has yet been published, which are interesting both to the geologist and archæologist. They are 20 or 25 feet above the present sea line, and run from north-east to south-west in parallel storm-beaches. For the most part they are covered by sand-hills; but when the sand is blown away the gravel is found to contain many water-worn nodules of flint, the relics of a vanished Scottish deposit of chalk. I have found the flints along a space of above six miles, from a spot a mile to the west of Glenluce, near Park Hay, to a point about half a mile east from Sandhead, in Stoneykirk. (I have found a few broken ones near Logan House, and at Terally Moat Hill, and the old fortification at the Mull Head, in Kirkmaiden.) This valuable native supply of flint attracted the ancient natives of the country. A good many years ago, some fine arrow-heads were presented by a farmer to the late Colonel M'Dowall of Logan. I have now the pleasure of presenting to the Society my collection of flint implements, some very roughly chipped, and others beautifully finished. Some of the arrow-heads are specially remarkable for the fineness of their



Fig. 1. Arrow-head
(Actual size).

finish, and others, of which the specimen figured is an example (fig. 1), are equally remarkable for their very small size. There are also stones apparently used in working the flint, and other relics of the flint workers. In some places the flints seem to lie where the workers left them. But it is impossible to arrange them in any order of greater or less antiquity, because the winds which blow away the sand leave the most ancient relics lying beside things dropped yesterday. But the high polish of most of the flints, and the dendritic markings on others, prove their antiquity. Most of them were collected in 1874.

There are several places among the sand hills, where the surface is thickly strewn with flakes and chips of flints, and it is not easy to find anywhere a flint larger than a pigeon's egg which has not been broken, a fact which proves that the work had been carried on for ages, as the different deposits were laid bare by the wind. In several places there is evidence that the stones have been carried to a higher level; and in four or five places there are traces of habitations, with circular floors of flat gravel stones, near which are fragments of charred wood, bone, and shells. At Knockencrunge, on Mid Torrs, there is a place where the stones seem to have undergone the action of fire; and not far from it is a large anvil-stone, and a lower quern stone of granite, much decayed, but with the socket for the spindle quite unharmed. About a mile off, at Ringdoo Point, is a space about 18 yards long, by 5 broad, covered with a layer of large stones, near which I found a hammer-stone and chips. This place is far from the flint deposits.

As I understand the Society's agreement with the Treasury does not authorise them to part with any articles after they have been added to the Museum, I think it right to authorise you to exchange, for the good and variety of your collection, any of those now to be presented with any other public collection at home or abroad, an example which I hope others may follow.

Subjoined is a detailed list of the Collection now presented :—

STONE IMPLEMENTS.

Polished Celt of greywacke, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, 3 inches across the cutting face, with flattened edges. It was found at Gleniron, New Luce, about twenty-five years ago, in clearing away the ruins of what was called "an

old kiln," most likely one of those pre-historic structures still termed in Galloway "Piets' kilns."

Polished Celt of the same form and material, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches long, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the cutting face, found in Glenluce.

Celt of greenstone, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch across the cutting face, evidently part of a larger celt which has been broken and re-made by being roughly chipped in the upper part. It was found at High Torrs, Glenluce.

Broken portion of the cutting edge of a small Celt of greyish stone, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch across the face, found at the same place.

Broken portion of the sharp end of a polished Celt, of bluish stone, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and 2 inches wide.

Broken portion of the upper end of a polished Celt of granitic stone, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length. It seems to have been used as a hammer-stone, or for chipping flints (?) upon, as there is a small hollow on one side which looks as if it were the result of wear in some such process. It was found at Loddanagapple.

Eleven Hammer-stones of quartz, from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter, some worn quite smooth all round, others only on the projecting corners.

Four larger Stones of different materials, porphyritic and hardened sandstone, which may have been used rather as anvil-stones than hammer-stones, the marks of their being hammered upon occurring mostly on their flat sides. One of these is from Clachshiant.

Hammer-stone, being a naturally-shaped, oblong, water-rolled pebble of greywacke, 9 inches in length, from Park Hay.

Naturally-shaped oblong pebble of greywacke, about 6 inches long, with a piece split off the upper end. It was found by me, planted firmly on end, in the moor pan, and kept in its place by some stones rammed in about it. In front of it lay a heap of flint chips, which had apparently been broken over its upper end. Close to it was a floor of flat gravel stones, and just behind it the remains of a coarse earthen pot, the convex bottom of which was set in a ring of oblong stones stuck on end in the sand, and slanting outwards.

Three oblong Pebbles, about 5 inches in length, bearing marks of hammering along their sides. One of these is nearly quadrangular in

section, and seems also to have been used as a sharpening-stone. It was near Loddanree.

Broken Sharpening Stone of sandstone, tapering to one end, and about 5 inches in length.

Broken Pebble or Hammer-stone of greywacke, oblong and flat, 3 by $2\frac{1}{2}$ by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches, having in the centre of both its flat sides irregular depressions $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter, and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch deep.

Similar Pebble of red sandstone, 5 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ by 2 inches, with depressions in the centre of each of its flat sides, 1 inch diameter, and $\frac{1}{2}$ an inch deep. It was found at Clachshiant.

Circular whorl-like Pebble of sandstone, having a hole 1 inch in diameter bored through its centre. It was found at Gillespie, Glenluce.

Oval-shaped Pebble of granite, naturally rounded, but having a depression worked in the centre of each of its opposite flat surfaces (fig. 2). Natural stones with similar depressions are common in the French caves, although, as the depressions occur only on one of the flat faces, they are supposed to have rather served as anvil-stones than as hammer-stones. In Denmark and Sweden they are known as *tilhuggersteen* or hammer-stones, and their edges generally bear marks of such use, while the depressions are supposed to have been intended to receive the finger and thumb of the operator. They are not uncommon in Ireland. In Scotland they are rare, there being only three specimens in the Museum. This specimen, therefore, is of great interest, from its rarity and the fineness of its finish. It was found close to a small crannog in Machermore Loch, Old Luce. It is presented to the Museum by James M'Harrie, blacksmith at Fordhouse, whose little girl found it among the shingle when the water was low.

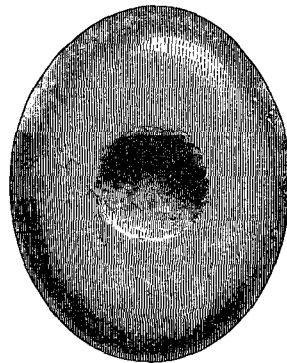


Fig. 2. Pebble of granite with depressions worked in its flat sides. ($3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length).

Spindle-whorl of clay slate, 2 inches diameter, found in the crannog in Barlochart Loch.

Imperforate Disc of clay slate, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter, found in the same crannog.

Whorl of red sandstone, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter, found near Knockskreb Mid Torrs.

Fragment of Sandstone, with a ring nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter sharply cut upon it. Found at High Torrs, Glenluce.

Large round-nosed Scraper of gray flint, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width, and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch thick, from High Torrs.

Large Scraper of brown flint, 3 by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, made from a ridged flake, square ended, and much worn both in front and sides.

Scraper made of a ridged flake, $2\frac{1}{2}$ by $1\frac{1}{8}$ inches, tapering towards the butt end, very much worn in front by use.



Fig. 3. Flint Saws found at Glenluce.
(Actual size.)

Thick irregularly-formed Scraper, 2 inches by $1\frac{1}{2}$ and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness, found at High Torrs.

Upwards of 300 Scrapers of various forms and sizes, chiefly less than $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length.

Three Awls or Borers of flint, viz., one of grey flint, $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length; one of black flint, 2 inches long; one of grey flint, imperfect.

One small Drill of flint, similar to those from the French caves, for drilling eyes of bone needles.

Seventeen Flint Knives, or long narrow flakes trimmed along one or both sides to a cutting edge. Several of these are very neatly worked, and all are finished with considerable care.

Fourteen Flint Saws, or long narrow flakes, trimmed on one edge to a series of regularly serrated teeth. Some of these flakes are triangular in section, and only one of the edges is serrated, others are chips worked along the thin edge to a saw-toothed edge. They vary in size from 1 to $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length (see fig. 3).

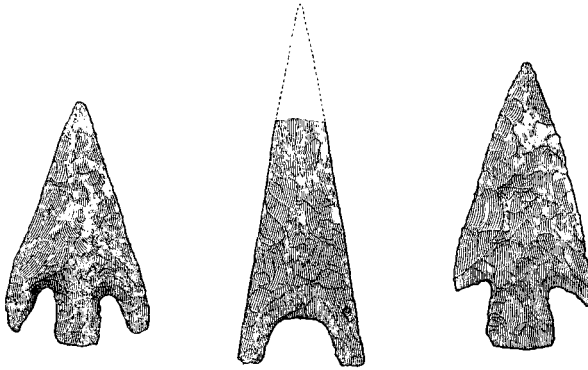


Fig. 4. Arrow-heads found at Glenluce.
(Actual size).

Three triangular Arrow-heads of black, brown, and grey flint, each $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length.

Fifteen Arrow-heads, with barbs and stem, varying in size from $\frac{1}{4}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length (see fig. 4).

Forty-eight Arrow-heads. leaf and lozenge-shaped. Many of these are of exceedingly fine workmanship, and some present peculiar varieties of form. The largest (see fig. 5) measures $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch in length and 1 inch in width. The smallest are lozenge-shaped, and do not exceed $\frac{5}{8}$ ths of an inch in length.

Twelve roughly chipped Implements, ovate, circular, and oblong,

some of which may probably be arrow- or spear-heads in process of manufacture.

A large quantity of Chips and Flakes of flint.

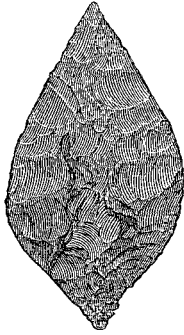


Fig. 5. Leaf-shaped Arrow-head, Glenluce.
(Actual size.)

Bracer of sandstone, oblong quadrangular form, flat on one face, and slightly convex on the other, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, $\frac{5}{8}$ ths of an inch broad, and $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch in thickness at the edges, pierced with two holes about $\frac{1}{8}$ th of an inch in diameter, both of which are countersunk on the flat side of the implement. It was found at Mid Torrs, and is presented by Mr M'Murtrie, farmer there. One from Glenforsa, Island of Mull, apparently found in association with a bronze knife-dagger, and an urn of the drinking-cup type, is not dissimilar to the present specimen, though larger, and made of greenstone well polished. The figure of it is here repeated (see fig. 6), to show the form of these objects. There are other two in the Museum, both found in connection with early interments. Their use is supposed to have been to protect the left wrist from the recoil of the bowstring.



Fig. 6. Stone Bracer, found at Glenforsa, Mull.

POTTERY.

Six fragments of Pottery belonging to the class of cinerary urns, thick and of coarse paste, with broad flat overhanging rims, ornamented with impressed markings of lines made apparently with the crenulated lip of a shell like the cockle.

Five fragments of thin and well-made Vessels of the drinking-cup type, with similar ornamentation.

One fragment of a small Crucible of whitish clay.

Two fragments of Mediæval Pottery, found at Clachshiant.

BRONZE IMPLEMENTS, &c.

Bronze Knife-dagger, 3 inches long, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch wide, still bearing the mark of the handle.

Small bronze Penannular Brooch, only $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter, terminating in two serpents' heads.

Two portions of Bronze Wire, each about 3 inches long, looped together.

Seven fragments of Bronze Ornaments.

ORNAMENTS OF JET, AMBER, &c.

Star-shaped Object of a greenish vitreous composition, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch diameter, with nine rays, and pierced in the centre by a hole $\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter (see fig. 7). Another of these curious objects almost exactly similar in form, size, and material, except that it has only six rays, is in the collection of objects recovered at different times from Blair-Drummond Moss, now in the Museum. These, however, are the only two examples known.

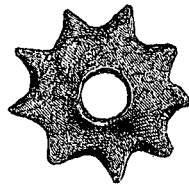


Fig. 7. Star-shaped Bead (?) found at Glenluce. (Actual size.)

Seven fragments of Jet Rings, and five small pieces of Jet, roughly chipped.

Three Beads of jet and two of amber, the latter from the site of an old chapel at Balcarrie.

Small Bead of yellow glass, not much more than $\frac{1}{8}$ inch diameter, found at Mid Torrs.