

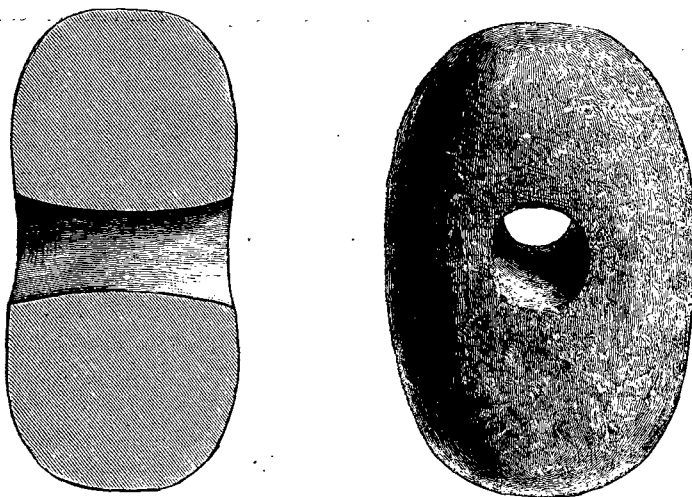
## II.

NOTICE OF A CIST RECENTLY DISCOVERED ON THE FARM OF CLEUGH-  
HEAD, GLENBERVIE, CONTAINING BURNT HUMAN BONES AND A  
PERFORATED STONE HAMMER. BY REV. JAMES GAMMACK, M.A.,  
CORR. MEM. S.A. SCOT.

On the farm of Cleughhead, in the estate and parish of Glenbervie, a plough at work on lea land, on a southern slope, about three hundred yards from the farm steading, struck upon a hard, resisting substance, which, on being uncovered, proved to be the slab covering a stone cist. On this being opened by the removal of the slab, the cist seemed to be filled with the ordinary mould of the field, but on the end of the pick being brought down upon it without any special force, the pick and mould at once sank down as if an understratum had collapsed. Unfortunately no particular care was taken in the removal of the mould which was afterwards found freely mingled with bones, and when carefully examined about a fortnight after (on March 1st 1878) no trace could be found and no account could be got of how any bone or bones had lain. With the exception of part of the right upper jaw and small

parts of the cranium, and of the larger bones, no distinct traces could be found; but the mould, which had been shovelled out of the cist, was largely mixed with the comminuted fragments of bone. Such as they are, the chief fragments are herewith sent. There were no teeth seen anywhere.

In the cist, but in what part or position is unknown, as it seems simply to have been turned out among the mould, there was a stone hammer, oblong in form, flat at the ends, which are much narrower than the body, and the whole form smooth and rounded: length,  $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches, width,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches; thickness at the eye, which is in the centre,  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch; the diameter of the eye, which is not exactly uniform throughout its length, but shorter in the middle, is about  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch. Beyond this stone hammer there was no vessel or implement found, no urn or celt. The



Stone Hammer found in the Cist at Cleughhead ( $3\frac{3}{4}$  inches in length).

stone hammer, with the fragments of bones, is herewith presented to the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, by the tenant of the farm, Mr Alexander Thomson.

The cist is formed of slabs, and its length is 24 inches, width 13

inches, and depth 18 inches. The sides, ends, top, and bottom are formed of single slabs; but across the ends, with the inner edges resting upon the end slabs, there are two long narrow slabs, and again at the south-west corner another small broad slab, as if these latter three were required to make up the level of the ends and corner for the reception of the covering slab, and perhaps also in some measure to prevent the covering slab being moved, as the long narrow slabs are considerably longer than the width of the cist, being each 30 inches. The upper slab is a grey granite, 5 inches thick, and of an irregular rhomboidal shape, its extreme length being 3 feet 11 inches, its greatest width 2 feet 5 inches, middle 2 feet one inch, and least 1 foot 10 inches. The north side slab is also of granite 3 inches thick; the south side slab a blue slate 3 inches thick; the end slabs are slate  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch thick; and the bottom slab also slate 1 inch thick, but this last is broken recently by the stroke of a pick. It had been laid into the bottom of the cist after the sides and ends were placed, and beneath it there was only the shingly soil of the field. The cist lies directly east and west. No cists are known to have been got on or near the same field, or on the farm, but as the soil is probably sinking and other cists may be in the neighbourhood, a close watch is to be kept, and any found are to be at once reported that the contents may be minutely examined.