

### III.

NOTICE OF SCULPTURINGS ON THE LINTEL OF THE ENTRANCE TO  
THE BROCH OF CARN LIATH, NEAR DUNROBIN, SUTHERLAND-  
SHIRE. BY THOMAS A. WISE, M.D., F.S.A. SCOT.

In this communication Dr Wise called attention to several markings

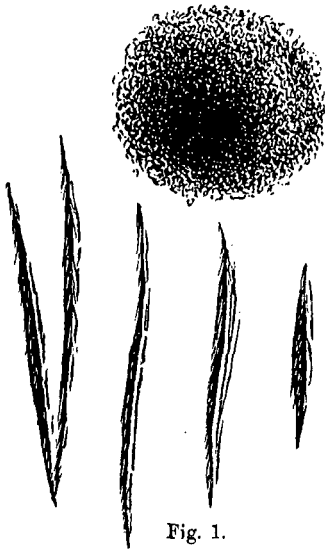


Fig. 1.

on one of the lintel stones in the secondary construction outside of the Broch of Carn Liath in Dunrobin Park, with the view of stimulating observation in regard to similar markings which may be found on the lintels of other brochs. Dr Joass had mentioned two cup-markings which were on the same lintel, but the markings to which Dr Wise directed attention were (1st) a group of straight lines from 4 to 2 inches in length, arranged as in the accompanying figure (fig. 1). These, Dr Wise suggests, may be the remains of an inscription in one of the varieties of ogham. "We must remember," he says, "that the oghams

appear to vary with the fancy of the school and country. In an Irish

MS. in my possession there are twelve varieties." The second group shown in fig. 2 is composed of two long ovals joined end to end  $3\frac{1}{2}$  inches in length, and below them a straight line  $1\frac{3}{4}$  inch in length. Dr Wise says of them,—“Under the second cup, on removing the turf and moss, I discovered a sharp deep line (fig. 2, *c*), and with the assistance of the

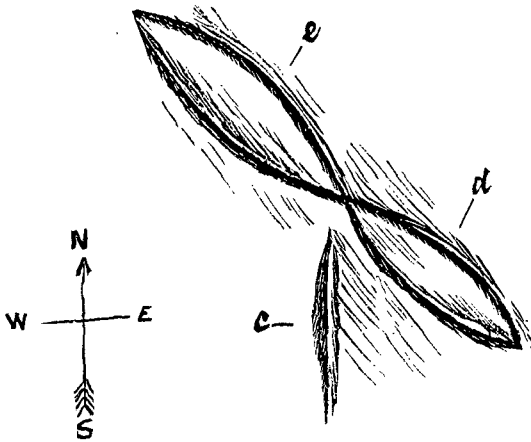


Fig. 2.

compass, I found it to be a meridian line with two oval figures, the smaller one on the right and a larger one on the left side (*d* and *e*). These oval figures indicated the S.E. and N.W." As Dr Wise thinks there is reason to believe that the builders of the brochs were sun worshippers, he suggests that these figures were intended to mark the winter and summer solstices; and he wishes the attention of observers to be directed to the subject, so that similar markings may be looked for in other localities.