

NOTES ON SOME STONE INSTRUMENTS FROM ABERDEENSHIRE,  
NOW PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM. BY THE REV. JAMES PETER,  
OLD DEER, F.S.A. Scot.

1. *A highly polished chisel-like Celt of Flint.*—The fine specimen (which is here figured) belonged to the late Dr. Gordon of Auchleuchries, the last of his race, who to a fine physique added an original and enquiring mind. He, during a long period, resided on his property in Buchan, and took an interest in antiquarian and kindred subjects; and there seems no doubt that either he himself found the chisel or acquired it from some neighbour who picked it up in Buchan, though the precise locality cannot now be ascertained. The interesting relic came into the possession—it does not appear how—of an ardent collector, a working shoemaker, belonging to the parish of Old Deer, who retained it, valuing it highly, and showing it to any one who expressed an interest in such things. One day, however, when exhibiting it to a friend, who handled it loosely, it slipped from his fingers, fell on the lapstone, and broke in pieces. The possessor was greatly disconcerted, but having succeeded

admirably in putting the pieces together by means of shellac, resolved that it should not encounter the danger of another such accident, and accordingly requested me to have it deposited in the National Museum.

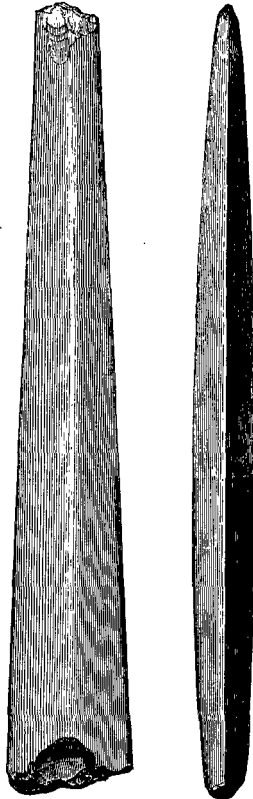
2. A *small flat Celt* accompanied it, but being of the ordinary type, it does not call for special remark.

The other objects submitted were acquired in a different part of Aberdeenshire, viz., the parish of Kemnay, extending along the Don from Inverurie upwards. They are—

(1) A carefully-shaped stone of diorite, used apparently for bruising corn, or sharpening flint or other implements,—similarly-shaped stones being, I am told, in the Museum, Copenhagen, and classed as “a stone on which flint implements were sharpened.”<sup>1</sup>

(2) A fine specimen of a stone hammer of hard quartz, and which seems to have been long used, judging from the great abrasion of the edges.

(3) A stone somewhat in the shape of a spade,  $5\frac{1}{2}$  inches broad, by 9 inches in length. The small end might have been intended for a socket, or for the direct grasp of the hand. The smoothed surface underneath points to its having been pushed before. Indeed, the shape is almost identical with that of a sock of a plough; or again, it may be said to bear a pretty close resemblance to a



Chisel-like Celt of Yellow Flint. (8 inches in length.)

<sup>1</sup> This stone is in shape the quadrant of a circle, and was found in proximity to a series of small mounds, in one of which was discovered an urn placed mouth downwards and cemented at the base by clay to preserve the few bones which it covered.

flaughter-spade. A probable use also suggests itself, of employment for raking in the ashes of a peat or turf fire.

These two last were picked up, the spade by myself, in the neighbourhood of a very copious and celebrated spring, about half a mile from the spot where the first (1) was discovered.

The locality, from the gentle slope to the south-west (named Sunnyside), and the shelter from the rising ground behind, would point to it as having been a favourite camping ground, and possibly, if further search were made, other relics may yet be found, showing that a tribe had been in the habit of frequenting it.