

MONDAY, 11th May 1885.

G. H. M. THOMS, Sheriff of Caithness, Orkney, and Shetland,
in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected :—

FELLOW.

CHARLES BRUCE, J.P., Mount Hooly House, Wick.

CORRESPONDING MEMBER.

CARLOS ALBERTO MORSING, C.E., Rio de Janeiro.

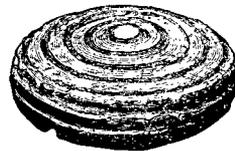
The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1) By Miss JESSIE KNOX SMITH, Manchester.

Dagger-Blade of iron, single-edged, with thick back like an ordinary Highland Dirk, the blade 10 inches in length, with a tang of 2 inches.

Finger-Ring of bronze, being a thin flat strip of metal about $\frac{1}{8}$ th inch in width, bent to a circular hoop.

Hollow Disc or Mounting of bronze, $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter, the hollow on the back $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in depth, the exterior rim also $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch in height, and with two notches in the lower part opposite each other. The circular top of the disc, which is slightly raised in the centre, is ornamented with a series of concentric circles in red enamel round a central circular space filled with yellow enamel. The enamelling process employed is that known as *champlevé*, the spaces to be filled by the colouring matter being scooped out of the metal, leaving raised margins of metal between the different hollow spaces of the pattern. In



Enamelled Disc of Bronze,
found in Dun Mac Uisneachan (actual size).

this case the concentric circular spaces are somewhat less than $\frac{1}{8}$ th inch wide and $\frac{1}{16}$ th of an inch in depth, and they are separated from each other by marginal partitions of the metal, having a thickness of about one-third of the width of the spaces enamelled. The scheme of colour seems to have been five concentric bands of red on the top of the disc, and two on the side, with a single spot of yellow in the centre.

The interest of this small object is very great. It is one of a very few examples of the occurrence of this *champlevé* enamel on bronze which have yet been recorded in Scotland; and it adds another example to the evidence of the early practice in Britain of this kind of enamelling, which was unknown to the Romans till after their conquest of Gaul and Britain. The examples which have been found in Scotland have always been associated with the style of decoration now recognised as Celtic, whether of the Pagan or of the Early Christian period. It occurs in the Pagan period upon such objects as horse-trappings and massive armlets of bronze, and in the Christian period on shrines or caskets, brooches, &c., of bronze.

The three articles above described (and now presented by Miss Smith) were found by the late Dr R. Angus Smith, F.S.A. Scot., in the course of his excavations in the vitrified Fort of Dun Mac Uisneachan, near Loch Etive, Argyllshire. They are referred to in his communication to the Society, entitled "Descriptive List of Antiquities near Loch Etive," Parts I., II. and III., in the *Proceedings*, vols. ix. and x., which were afterwards expanded and published separately in a volume, entitled *Loch Etive and the Sons of Uisneach*. London, 1879.

(2) By Colonel DAVID BALFOUR of Balfour and Trenaby, F.S.A. Scot.

Urn of clay, found on the North Hill of Shapinsay, Orkney.

(3) By Captain W. GILLON, F.S.A. Scot., 71st Highland Light Infantry, through Professor DUNS, D.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Highland Brooch of brass, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches diameter. In a note announcing the donation, Professor Duns says:—

"At my request Captain Gillon has kindly presented this good specimen of the plaid-brooch to the National Museum. It is of brass, with steel pin, and ornamented with small concentric circles. It was given to Captain Gillon by 'Noble,' The Mackintosh's keeper, at his Shooting Lodge, Daviot. The brooch belonged to Noble's grandmother, and was believed by her to have been in her father's family long before her time."

(4) By Mr J. W. ROWLAND, 8 Wardie Avenue.

Ten Stone Axes from Secondi, on the African Gold Coast. These implements, which are interesting on account of the rarity of Gold Coast specimens in Europe, were obtained from the side of the hill on which the fort of Secondi is built. Secondi lies within a hundred miles of Cape Coast Castle. The axes are of diorite, and are all of small size, the largest not exceeding $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch across the cutting face. Six of these are very rudely finished, and ground only on the lower part of the implement towards the cutting edge. A seventh is a short wedge-shaped axe, 2 inches in length by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in width, ground smooth on the whole surface. The remaining three are remarkable for their nearly cylindrical and slightly tapering form, showing the grinding in as many as twelve to fourteen longitudinal facets.

(5) By Mrs MACLEOD POWELL.

Stone Axe of Algonquin Indians, from Hull Mound, Canada East. It is a chisel-shaped implement of greenstone, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in breadth, roughly chipped to shape, and ground to a cutting edge at one end only.

(6) By Dr ROBERT MUNRO, F.S.A. Scot., Kilmarnock.

Spindle, for use with the distaff, of wood and iron, from Brittany. It consists of a bobbin of turned wood 6 inches in length, in the upper end of which is fixed a spindle of iron wire 5 inches in length, with a spiral groove for the thread, which terminates in a slight hook at the point.

(7) By ANDREW MUIRHEAD, F.S.A. Scot.

Ornamental Figure of a Man in cast brass, with a loop attached ; use unknown.

(8) By WALTER GEORGE DICKSON, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Phallus of stone, 10 inches in length and $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter.

Phallus of wood, of similar character, and slightly larger.

Both these Phalli were taken from among a large number of objects of the same description, deposited as votive offerings in a temple at Consei, Toge, near Yumoto, in the province of Kotsuki, Japan.

(9) By ANDREW KERR, Architect, F.S.A. Scot.

Key of the Old Broughton Jail, 11 inches in length, with pipe and loop.

(10) By Rev. JAMES MORRISON, F.C. Manse, Urquhart, Elginshire, F.S.A. Scot.

Nine Flint Scrapers of various sizes, from $\frac{1}{2}$ inch to $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch diameter, of which the two largest are here figured (figs. 1, 2).



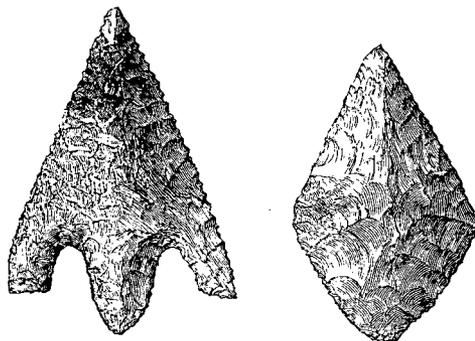
Figs. 1 2. Scrapers of Flint, from Urquhart, Elgiushire (actual size).

One Side Scraper of reddish flint, $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length by 1 inch in breadth, the edge carefully trimmed.

Triangular Arrow-head of greyish flint, partly tinged with red, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch in length by $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in breadth, the edges finely serrated, with barbs and stem (fig. 3).

Leaf-shaped Arrow-head of brownish flint, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in length, by 1 inch in breadth, the upper edges straight, the lower convex (fig. 4).

All found in the parish of Urquhart, Elginshire.



Figs. 3, 4. Arrow-heads of Flint, from Urquhart, Elginshire (actual size).

(11) By Major THOMAS DUNDAS, through ROBERT DUNDAS, Esq., of Arniston.

Massive Penannular Finger-Ring of gold, flat on the inner side, the outer side beaded, from County Cork, Ireland.

(12) By the Most Hon. the MARQUIS of LOTHIAN, *President*.

Cast in plaster of a portion of a Sculptured Slab at Jedburgh Abbey, bearing scroll-work of a tree or vine, with birds and beasts feeding on its fruit among the branches. At one side is a long panel of interlaced work. The slab is figured in Stuart's *Sculptured Stones of Scotland*, vol. ii. pl. 118.

Cast of a slab with a Roman Inscription, also from Jedburgh Abbey. [See the subsequent communication by Dr Collingwood Bruce.]

(13) By JAMES WATSON, Peebles, the Author.

Examination of Ancient History of Ireland and Iceland; Ireland not the Hibernia of the Ancients; Interpolations in Bede's History, &c.

(14) By Rev. E. A. COOKE, F.S.A. Scot.

Novum Testamentum Græce, cum Vulgata Latina, &c., et cum prefatione Ben Ariæ Montani. Geneva, 1619 (*imperfect*).

(15) By CARLOS ALBERTO MORSING, C.E., Rio de Janeiro, through R. HALLIDAY GUNNING, M.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Itinerario e trabalhos da commissao de estudos da estrada de ferro do Madeira e Mamore. Rio de Janeiro, 1885.

Series of Photographs of Rock Sculpturings in Brazil.

[See the subsequent communication by Professor Duns.]

(16) By ALEXANDER HARRIS, F.S.A. Scot.

Inventory of Selected Charters and Documents from the Charter House of the City of Edinburgh, deposited in the General Register House.

(17) By Rev. B. H. BLACKER, the Editor.

Gloucestershire Notes and Queries. Parts 23–26.

(18) By the MASTER of the ROLLS.

Croniques, &c., par Waurin, 1431–1447; Calendar of State Papers, Domestic, 1657–1658; Eadmeri Historia Novorum in Anglia; Chronicles of the Reigns of Stephen, Henry II., and Richard I. Royal 8vo, 1885.

(19) By THOMAS KERSLAKE, Bristol, the Author.

The Liberty of Independent Historical Research. 8vo, pp. 66.

(20) By CHARLES A. PARKER, M.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Notes on a Roman Altar, and on Gosford Church and Churchyard, &c. 8vo, 1883.

The following Communications were read:—