

MONDAY, 13th April 1903.

ROBERT MUNRO, M.D., LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

R. FITZROY BELL, of Temple Hall, Coldingham, Advocate.

C. L. STIRLING-COOKSON, of Renton House, Berwickshire.

Sheriff DONALD CRAWFORD, 35 Chester Street.

WALTER LAIDLAW, Abbey Cottage, Jedburgh.

JOHN HUNTER TAIT, Advocate, 43 Moray Place.

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

(1) By JAMES HOGARTH, Kirkcaldy.

Six small oval knife-like Implements, of Pitchstone, probably from a *tribulum* or threshing machine, found in a cargo of beans imported from Smyrna. The *tribulum* or threshing machine still used in the east is thus described by Sir John Evans in his *Ancient Stone Implements of Great Britain* (2nd edition, p. 284), where there is also a figure of the instrument :—“They are flat sledges of wood, five to six feet in length, and two to three in breadth, the under side fitted with a number of square or lozenge-shaped holes, mortised a little distance into the wood, and having in each hole a flake or splinter of stone. As each is provided with some hundreds of chipped stones, we can readily understand what a number of rough flakes might be left in the soil at places where they were long in use. The method of their use is that the straw with the grain on it, as it comes from the reaped fields, is spread on a piece of hard-trodden ground called the ‘threshing floor,’ and the *tribulum*, yoked usually to an ox, with the driver seated upon it, is driven round and round over the straw until the grain is separated from it by the action of the sharp flints on the under side of the sledge.”

- (2) By WM. MANSON, Jun., through Rev. DAVID JOHNSTON, F.S.A. Scot.

Bottom of a Steatite Vessel, and two fragments of Slaty Sandstone, with oblong holes near the centre, found in digging out a mound at West Quarff, Shetland.

- (3) By H. W. SETON-KARR, M.P.

Six Palæolithic Stone Implements, from Poondi, Madras.

- (4) By B. HOWARD CUNNINGTON, F.S.A. Scot., Devizes.

Nineteen Palæolithic Flint Implements, from a gravel pit at Knowle, in Savernake Forest, Wiltshire.

Mr Cunnington says in his note accompanying the donation:—"I have sent a box of flint implements from a gravel pit at Knowle in Savernake Forest. I have found nearly 1000 there myself, and I know of nearly 4000 having been found besides. Well-finished examples are scarce. I include among those sent an implement and a piece of flint as exemplifying the polish that is exercising the minds of many archæologists. Personally, I cannot get away from the theory of water or river-bed polish, with fine sand and water continually flowing in one direction. Many of the implements seem shaped to fit the hand. I have only found one example that (plainly) could be mounted on a handle. The edges are usually sharp."

- (5) By Mrs BROWN, Arkland, Canaan Lane.

Two-pronged Fish Spear, found on the beach near Skipness.

- (6) By JAMES SHARP, 6 Gillespie Crescent.

Large Baking Brander of Wrought Iron, from Strathspey.

- (7) By Professor DUNS, D.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Ethnographic Collection, consisting of eighty-seven specimens, from

India, Africa, South America, Australia, New Zealand, and the Pacific Islands.

(8) By GEORGE F. BLACK, Public Library, New York.

Antique Jewelry and its Revival. By Signor A. Castellani.

Copper Implements from Wisconsin. By H. P. Hamilton.

Telegraphing among the Ancients. By Augustus C. Merriam.

(9) By Dr W. CRAMOND, F.S.A. Scot.

The Tragic History of the Abercrombies. By D. Murray Rose.

(10) By the TRUSTEES OF THE LATE MARQUESS OF BUTE.

The Arms of the Baronial and Police Burghs of Scotland. By John Marquess of Bute, K.T., J. H. Stevenson, and H. W. Lonsdale. 4to. 1903.

There were also exhibited :—

(1) By JOSEPH DOWNES.

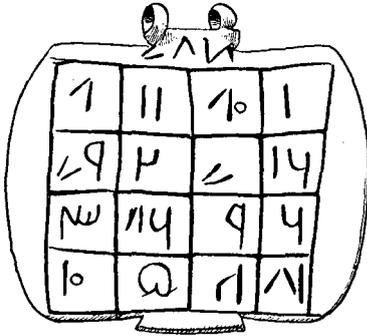
An Arrow-head of Flint,  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch in length by  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch in breadth, with barbs and stem; a minute Flint Scraper, of quadrangular form,  $\frac{3}{8}$  of an inch square, and a small lozenge-shaped Plaque of Bronze, with five cups and circles on each face, from the sands of Shewalton, near Irvine.

(2) By D. HAY FLEMING, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Silver Penannular Armlet,  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches by 2 inches in diameter, with twenty loops on one side, found at The Braes, St Andrews.

Silver Plaque (fig. 1), shaped like a book-clasp,  $1\frac{7}{8}$  inches by  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches, with a magic square engraved in old Arabic numerals on one face, obtained from a jeweller in St Andrews. The square is the common one of 16 sub-divisions, the figures in which when added horizontally, vertically, or along each of the diagonals make the same sum of 100. But the workman who punched in the figures has made two mistakes.

In the last sub-division of the second horizontal line of numbers he has reversed the sign for 2, thus making it 6, and the same mistake occurs in the second sub-division of the third horizontal line of numbers.



8	11	80	1
79	2	7	12
3	82	9	6
10	5	4	81

Fig. 1. Magic Square in Arabic Numerals, on a Silver Plaque, shaped like a Book-Clasp.

Small Jar of Red Earthenware; 4 inches in height by  $2\frac{1}{4}$  inches in greatest diameter in the middle, narrowing to  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inches diameter at the bottom and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inches across the mouth, dug up at St Andrews.

(3) By Dr A. C. SYM, through N. J. COCHRAN-PATRICK, F.S.A. Scot.

A Medal Calendar for the year 1793.

The Psalms in Metre, in the original binding. Printed in Edinburgh, 1675.

The following communications were read:—