

MONDAY, 11th May 1925.

THOMAS YULE, W.S., in the Chair.

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

The Lord COLUM CRICHTON-STUART, M.P., 22 Mansfield Street,
London, W.1.

WILLIAM MARSHALL, 36 Ashton Road, Gourrock.

NEIL MATHESON, 6 Nevill Street, Dundee.

HERBERT J. NICOL, 136 Ashkirk Drive, Mosspark, Glasgow.

DAVID HEYLIN RUDD, Assistant Curator and Curator of Print Room,
Kelvingrove Art Gallery, 2 North Park Terrace, Hillhead, Glasgow.

There was exhibited by Miss Wright, Alticry, Port-William, a Stone Axe, recently used by Sirionós Indians.

The axe (see illustration), which is rather blunt, measures $6\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, $4\frac{1}{4}$ inches in breadth, and $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch in thickness, and is encircled near the middle by a groove, which is very shallow on the sides, but runs into a deep notch at the top and bottom edges.

In a note accompanying the relic, written by Mr Clement M'Ewan, Manager of the Anglo-Bolivian Rubber Company of Concepcion, Bolivia, who secured the axe, it was stated that "the Sirionós Indians are a nomadic tribe inhabiting the north-east corner of Bolivia (south of the river Iténes). Their language is, so far, unknown to any people other than themselves. They are a dark brown-coloured, short, thick-set people, and go practically naked. What 'clothes' they wear are made from the inner bark of the Bibosi tree. Their food consists of monkeys, birds, and fish. They fell the Totai palm and eat the 'heart' part, which is soft and white and of a nutty flavour. Their weapons consist of the bow and arrow and axe. The bow is of 'chonta' wood, black and hard, about 6 feet long; the arrows are made of lighter wood (reed), and measure 3 metres (over 9 feet) in length; they are discharged by holding the bow with its foot, the lower end, resting on the ground. The arrows are barbed but not poisoned. For felling trees the rude stone axe is used, and this is sometimes employed as an offensive weapon. The axe is fitted into a cleft stick, bound tightly above and below the axe-head, which is thus kept in position. The axe exhibited was left in the Esperanza Rubber Forests in September 1923, during a raid by the Sirionós, who wander, naturally, more in the dry season, June to November, than at other times, in search of game, etc. These

Indians are implacable enemies of the white man. In captivity they refuse all food, and prefer to die rather than to eat. No attempts have been made by the Bolivian Government to civilise them, but indeed they are fired on at sight by the Bolivians on every occasion. As far as their axes go, the Sirionós are living still in the Stone Age."



Stone Axe from Bolivia. ($\frac{1}{2}$ ca.)

Mr J. G. Marwick, J.P., F.S.A.Scot, exhibited two stone Whorls found, with at least twenty more, on the farm of Housegarth, Sandwick, Orkney, all the others being broken. They were discovered by the farmer, Mr Johnston, in a hollow under a small flat stone which lay about 9 inches deep and was dislodged by the plough. Digging in the vicinity revealed no further relics. A dwelling is said to have existed formerly at the spot, but all traces of it have disappeared; only, there is a dark-coloured patch, on what is otherwise sandy soil,

which is said to have been the kailyard. Both whorls are very roughly made, the larger measuring $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch, and the smaller $\frac{15}{16}$ inch, in diameter.

The following Donations to the Museum were intimated and thanks voted to the Donors:—

(1) By ALEXANDER WALKER, 52 Union Street, Aberdeen.

Stone Axe, measuring $12\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, $3\frac{7}{8}$ inches in breadth, and $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch in thickness, and showing the bold flaking, made during the process of blocking it out, only partially removed by subsequent grinding and polishing, from the glebe of North Mavine, Shetland.

(2) By JOHN CORRIE, F.S.A.Scot.

Flat Bronze Axe, measuring 6 inches in length, $3\frac{5}{8}$ inches in breadth, and $\frac{3}{8}$ inch in thickness, with glossy dark green patina, from Brockhillstone, Dunscore, Dumfriesshire.

(3) By JOHN M. CORRIE, F.S.A.Scot.

Rim and wall fragments of two Vessels of hand-made pottery, probably of Iron Age, found with a globular Jet Bead on the Glenluce Sands, Wigtownshire.

The following purchases for the Museum were announced:—

Flanged Bronze Axe, measuring $4\frac{7}{16}$ inches in length, $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch across the cutting edge, and $1\frac{1}{16}$ inch across the flanges, with stop-ridges $\frac{3}{8}$ inch deep, from Perthshire.

Flanged Bronze Axe, measuring $3\frac{5}{8}$ inches in length, $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch across the cutting edge, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch across the flanges, with stop-ridges $\frac{3}{8}$ inch deep; in front of the stop-ridges are two ribs which converge forwards, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with loop complete, measuring $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length and 2 inches across the cutting edge; the socket, which is circular at the mouth, is $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in external diameter; there is a moulding round the mouth of the socket and a smaller one below, and the axe has a pitted green patina, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with loop complete, measuring $1\frac{11}{16}$ inch in length and $1\frac{7}{8}$ inch across the cutting edge; the mouth of the socket is oblong with rounded corners, and measures $1\frac{5}{16}$ inch by $1\frac{3}{16}$ inch externally; there is a slight moulding round the mouth of the socket, and three small parallel mouldings encircle the axe opposite the upper part of the loop, from Perthshire.

Bronze Spear-head with small loops on the socket, measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch across the blade at widest part; the socket, which is damaged at the mouth, is of circular section until it enters the blade, where it forms an angular midrib, from Perthshire.

Socketed Bronze Axe with imperfect loop, measuring $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length and $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch across the cutting edge; the mouth of the socket is oval and measures $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch by $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in external diameter, locality unknown.

Fragment of a large Casting of Bronze of indeterminate use, bearing a slight resemblance to the leg and part of the base of a large three-legged pot, from Fife.

Padlock of iron with a semicircular staple bow or shackle, and the keyhole in side of the lock, probably seventeenth century.

The following Donations of Books to the Library were intimated:—

(1) By CHARLES E. WHITELOW, I.A., F.S.A.Scot.

Scottish Exhibition of National History, Art, and Industry, Glasgow (1911). Catalogue of Exhibits, with Illustrations. 2 vols.

(2) By JOHN H. DIXON, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Pitlochry, Past and Present.

(3) By KEITH S. M. SCOTT, M.B.E., B.Sc., F.S.A.Scot.

Memoirs of Scott of Thirlestane and other Families of the Name of Scott. By John Scott of Rodono, Esquire. Vol. II. Typewritten copy.

(4) By R. C. COWAN, F.S.A.Scot.

History of the Island of Mull. By J. P. MacLean. Vol. II.

(5) By President G. N. MANNING, Security Trust Company, Lexington, Kentucky, as Executor of Dr James K. Patterson.

A Biography of James Kennedy Patterson, President of the University of Kentucky from 1869 to 1910. Prepared by Mabel Hardy Pollitt, formerly Assistant Professor of Latin and Greek.

(6) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

The Origins of Christianity in Aberdeenshire. Aberdeen, 1925.

The Castle of Tolquhon. Reprinted from the *Aberdeen University Review*, March 1925.

(7) By Professor A. M. TALLGREN, Honorary Fellow, the Author.

L'Orient et l'Occident dans l'Age du Fer Finno-Ougrien jusqu'au IX^e siècle de notre ère. Helsingfors, 1924.

The Copper Idols from Galich, and their Relatives. Reprint from *Studia Orientalia Fennica I.*, 1925.

The following Communications were read:—