

MONDAY, 11th May 1936.

SIR GEORGE MACDONALD, K.C.B., President,
in the Chair.

The Chairman intimated that M. F. A. Schaeffer had agreed to deliver the course of Rhind Lectures for 1938, his subject being the Excavations at Ras Shamra, Syria.

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

KENNETH CAIRNIE FERGUSON, 2 Clarendon Crescent, Edinburgh 4.
LANGTON HALDANE-ROBERTSON, Consul of Brazil, Kingston, Jamaica,
British West Indies.

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

(1) By Rev. R. S. G. ANDERSON, B.D., F.S.A.Scot.

Pair of Wafering Irons from an old mill north of Drumore, Wigtownshire.

(2) By W. DOUGLAS SIMPSON, M.A., D.Litt., F.S.A.Scot.

Small Stone Axe, measuring $1\frac{1}{16}$ inch in length, $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch across the cutting edge, and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in thickness, from Parkhill, Lumphanan, Aberdeenshire.

(3) By WALTER G. GRANT, F.S.A.Scot.

Flint Implements consisting of eight Scrapers, the largest measuring $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch by $\frac{1}{16}$ inch, and the others from $\frac{1}{16}$ inch by $\frac{3}{4}$ inch to $\frac{9}{16}$ inch by $\frac{7}{16}$ inch, from Westness, Rousay, Orkney; fourteen Scrapers, measuring from $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch by $1\frac{5}{16}$ inch to $\frac{5}{8}$ inch by $\frac{5}{8}$ inch; and a side Scraper, measuring $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch long, from Nearhouse, Rousay; twenty-two Scrapers and three worked pieces, measuring from $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch by $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch to $\frac{9}{10}$ inch by $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, and part of an Object of light coloured Quartz, highly polished near one edge, found near the Cairn of Rinyo, Bigland, Rousay.

Doubled-edged small-toothed Comb of Bone, incomplete, now measuring $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches by $1\frac{3}{8}$ inch, and three fragments of hand-made pottery, two being rim portions, from a site on the Muckle Skerry, Pentland

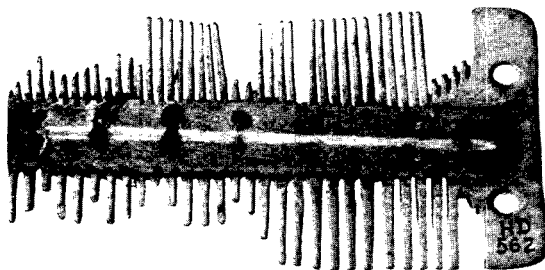


Fig. 1. Hair-comb of Bone from the Pentland Skerries. (4).

Firth. The comb is formed of thin narrow plates clasped together by a long narrow plate on each side fixed by bronze rivets set in pairs (fig. 1).

(4) By the Most Hon. THE MARQUESS OF AILSA, F.S.A.Scot.

Cinerary Urn found on the farm of Kirklands, Kirkoswald, Ayrshire. (See previous Communication by A. J. H. Edwards, F.S.A.Scot.)

(5) By THOMAS YULE, F.S.A.Scot., Vice-President.

Double Cup of Silver; the bowls, connected with a baluster-shaped stem, are of a size suitable to contain a hen's and a duck's egg; height 4 inches, weight 5 oz. 4 dwt., maker's mark T. & Co., Inverness, c. 1790. Both bowls are engraved, and turned to represent staves with wooden hoops.

(6) By GEORGE VEITCH, F.S.A.Scot.

Silver Spoon with trifid stem and a long rat-tail on the back of the bowl, bearing the initials C. T. C., and the maker's mark J B. (J. Borthwick), Edinburgh, c. 1690.

(7) By ALEXANDER GIBSON, 17 Belgrave Crescent, Edinburgh.

Five Clacktonian Flint Flakes, four from Barnham, East Anglia, and one from Three Hills Camp, from glacial old wash.

(8) By CHARLES E. WHITELAW, F.R.I.A.S., F.S.A.Scot.

Four Sailmaker's Tools: (1) Bone pin-like Object called a "Fid," measuring 7 inches long, principally used for opening the strands of a rope for splicing (fig. 2, No. 1); (2) a "Serving Board" or hammer-shaped Object of Cetacean Bone, the head being convex on one face and

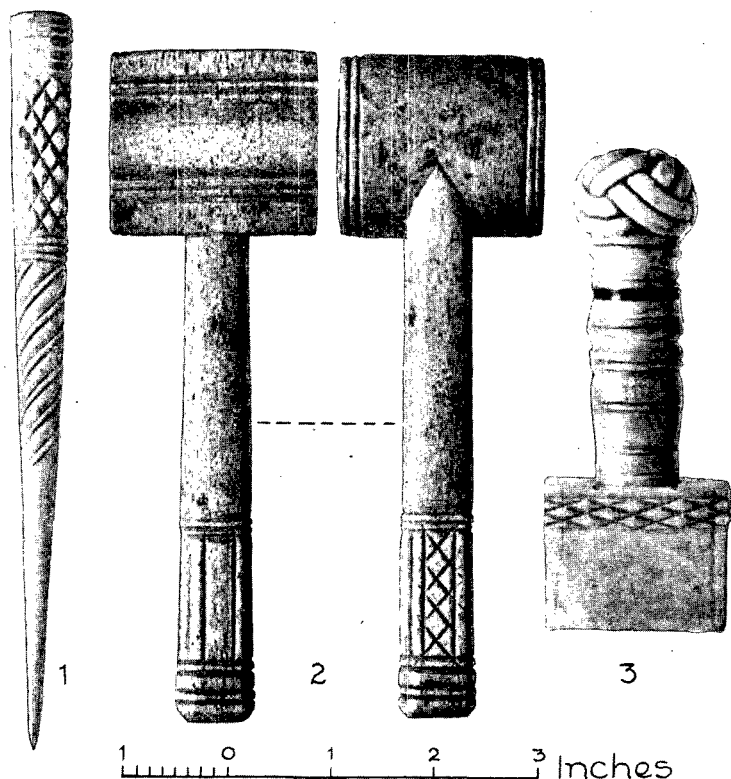


Fig. 2. Sailmaker's Tools of Bone.

1, A Fid. 2, A Serving Board. 3, A Rubber.

concave on the other, for winding marline on ropes, measuring $6\frac{5}{16}$ inches long, the head being 2 inches broad and $1\frac{3}{4}$ inch deep (fig. 2, No. 2); (3) a "Rubber" or tool, with the lower end wedge-shaped for flattening out seams and hems on sails, of Morse Ivory, measuring $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length (fig. 2, No. 3); (4) and one of Wood, measuring $4\frac{7}{16}$ inches in length.

Pair of Spurs for cock-fighting, of Leather and Horn.

Small Leather Tinder-pouch containing a fleerish, a piece of flint, and two pieces of soft leather with which to grasp the flint when striking it.

Lady's Keeking-glass, of flat, oval shape, measuring $3\frac{3}{8}$ inches by $2\frac{3}{16}$ inches by $\frac{9}{16}$ inch. The case is covered with red morocco leather.

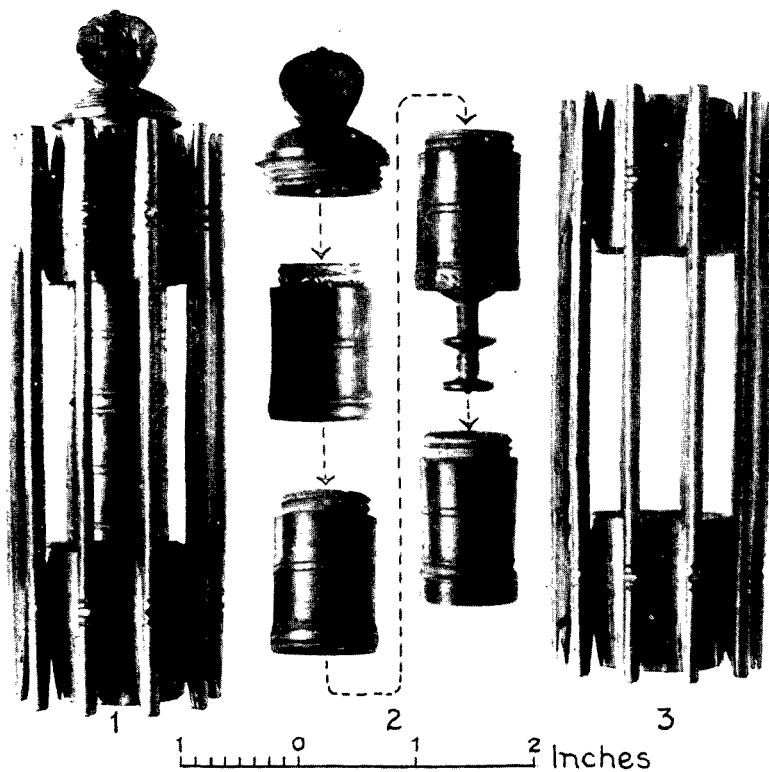


Fig. 3. Silk Container and Winder:
(1) Pieces screwed together, (2) Separate parts.

It is hinged in the centre of one side, and has a hook and loop catch on the other. The glass is sunk within one half, and in the opposite one is a pad covered with flowered blue silk. Probably early eighteenth century.

Silk-container and Winder of box-wood (fig. 3), with its leather case.

Two Perpetual Calendars in wooden frames: One oblong with cut corners and the other circular, each with three tables printed on paper; invented by John Gillespie, and made by Gavin & Son, Engravers, 13 Parliament Square, Edinburgh, about 1820.

All from Kirkcaldy.

(9) By J. C. MOWAT, Eshaness, Shetland.

H-shaped Implement of Bone, measuring $4\frac{5}{16}$ inches in length. It is of flattened oval shape and tubular; a deep hollow is cut in both ends so as to leave two sharp points in each. Found in Braewick Loch, Eshaness, Shetland, when it was drained by a storm bursting the shingly dam between it and the sea.

(10) By THE HONOURABLE COMPANY OF EDINBURGH GOLFERS, Muirfield, Gullane, through H. J. YOUNGER, F.S.A.Scot.

Objects found in a kitchen-midden at Muirfield, Gullane, East Lothian. (See previous Communication by H. J. Younger, F.S.A.Scot.)

(11) By Colonel F. R. T. T. GASCOIGNE of Craignish.

Food-vessel Urn, Stone Axe, and a quantity of human Hair, found in a short Cist near Craignish Castle, Argyll, and part of another Food-vessel found in an adjoining cist.

Professor V. G. Childe, F.S.A.Scot., has furnished the following note on the discovery of these relics:—

Mr Colin Kennedy, an employee of Craignish estate, was digging gravel, when he came upon three cists. This gravel pit has been dug in the shingle of the 25-foot beach, just above the road on the south shore of a small cove opening into Loch Craignish, at Bàgh Dùn Mhuilig (O.S. Map, Argyll 138).

The first two cists had been destroyed, but the third was still *in situ* on the face of the excavation when I arrived on 9th April, but one of the side stones had fallen out and was lying at the foot of the working face (fig. 4). In shape it is a parallelogram, measuring 4 feet 8 inches by 2 feet 4 inches by 3 inches, but too heavy to move. There was no sign of a cairn above the cist, the capstone of which lies about 2 feet 6 inches below the present ground level. A band of grey clay is visible along the quarry face at the level of the capstone. The cist was composed of six slabs. The end slabs measure on the inside 2 feet by 1 foot 8 inches by 3 inches and 2 feet 3 inches by 1 foot 5 inches by 4 inches, but small horizontal slabs have been placed under both the uprights as wedgers. The rear slab measures 4 feet by 1 foot 8 inches on the inside. The floor of the cist is formed by a rough slab fitting closely against the lateral uprights and the wedgers under the end stones. It measures 4 feet by 1 foot 8 inches by 8 inches. The capstone resting upon the uprights projects beyond them in all directions. Its width is uncertain, but it is at least 4 feet 11 inches long and 6 inches thick, and projects 2 feet 10 inches from the rear lateral slab and some way under the gravel beyond its upper edges. I observed no carvings on the exposed surfaces.

The cist contained a food-vessel (fig. 5) and a stone axe (fig. 6).



Fig. 4. Short Cist at Craignish, Argyll.



Fig. 5. Food-vessel from Craignish, Argyll.

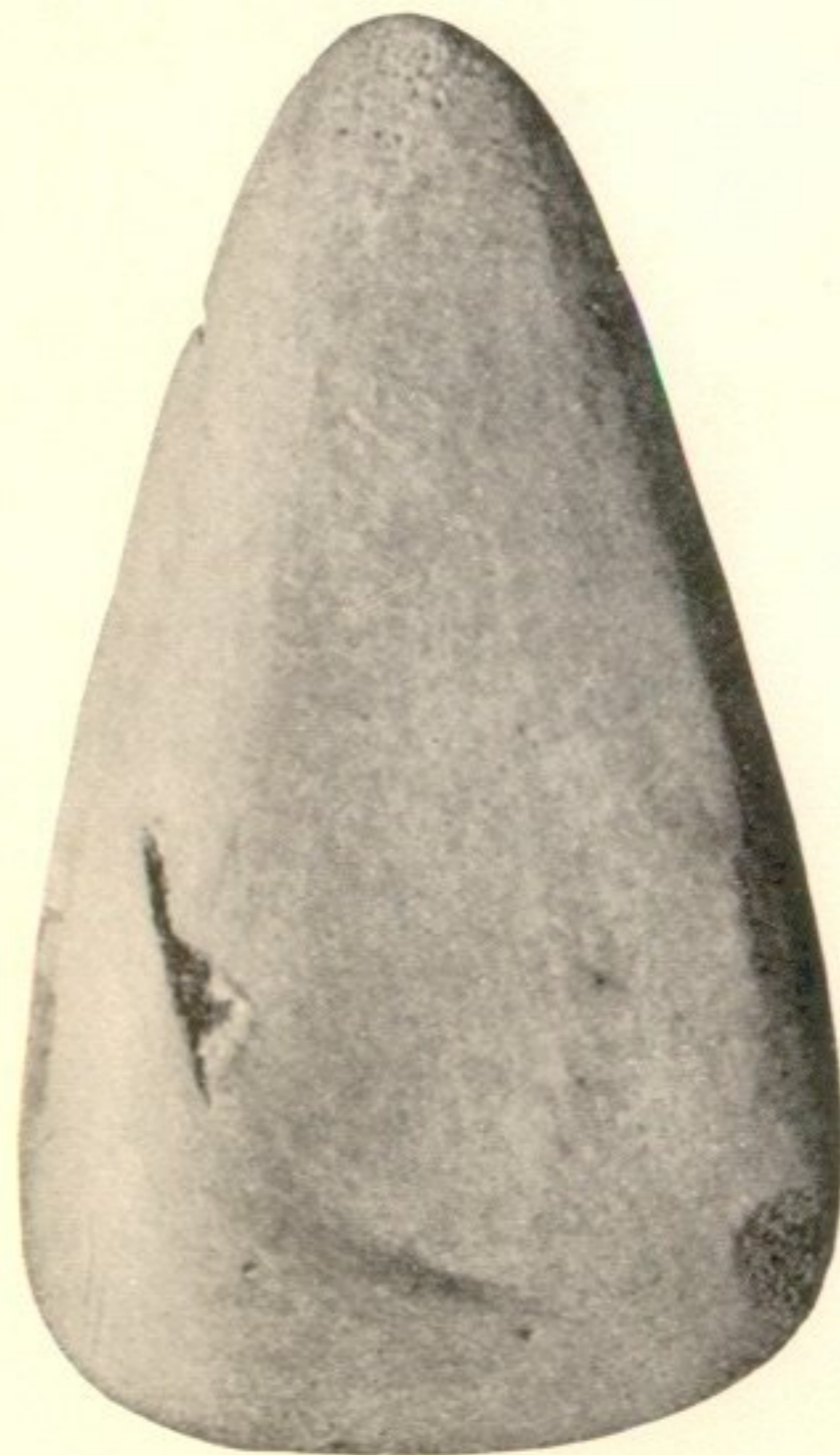


Fig. 6. Stone Axe found in Cist at Craignish. (†.)

The urn is of dark brown ware and measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, $6\frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter at the mouth, $6\frac{3}{8}$ inches at the shoulder, and 3 inches across the base. It is constricted just under the rim and has two slight cordons below. The upper part of the wall is decorated by transverse lines, and the lower part by reversed hatched triangles, formed by the impressions of a twisted cord. The top of the rim, which is bevelled sharply towards the interior, is decorated by similar markings. Round the outer edge of the lip is a row of triangular impressions.



Fig. 7. Food-vessel from Craignish.

The axe measures $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, $2\frac{1}{16}$ inches across the cutting edge, and $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in thickness. Kennedy stated that he found the urn inverted. There were also several much decayed adult human bones, probably male, including teeth, femurs, and a small fragment of skull, as well as a considerable quantity of human hair.

The urn from one of the lost cists is also a food-vessel, but it is incomplete, less than one-third having been recovered. It has, however, been possible to restore it in the Museum (fig. 7). It is of fine hard brown ware and has measured about $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches in height, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the mouth, and $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches across the base. The exterior of the rim, the neck, and upper part of the body bear eight narrow bands of incised ornamentation in the form of oblique lines, herring-bone and lattice designs. Below there have been six or seven vertical panels divided into four and five ribs by deeply incised lines, and bordered on both sides by impressed triangles; the ribs bear incised chevrons. The rim is 1 inch broad. It curves convexly downwards towards the inside and bears five rows of triangular punctuations between single marginal lines.

(12) By ADAM S. DAGG, Newmills, Lauder, Berwickshire.

Small Bronze Spear-head with small, protected loops on the socket, measuring $4\frac{7}{16}$ inches in length, found on the farm of Newmills.

The following Purchases for the Museum were intimated:—

Six Scottish Coins from the Cochran-Patrick Sale:

- (1) Alexander II. Sterling. Sale, No. 138.
- (2) Alexander III. Penny, presumably Lanark. (*See Burns*, p. 154, and fig. 110c.) Sale, No. 151.
- (3) Alexander III. Penny of Roxburgh Mint. (Not in Burns.) Sale, No. 152.
- (4) Alexander III. Penny of Berwick. (*See Burns*, p. 125, 9b, fig. 84b.) Sale, No. 163.
- (5) John Balliol Halfpenny. Obv. Sale, No. 175.
- (6) James I. Penny of Aberdeen. (*Burns*, 1a, fig. 422a, p. 48.) Sale, No. 207.

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

(1) By HIS MAJESTY'S GOVERNMENT.

Calendar of State Papers. Elizabeth. Vol. xxii. July–December 1588. London, 1936.

(2) By THE FIRST COMMISSIONER OF HIS MAJESTY'S WORKS.

Ancient Monuments of Great Britain. List of Monuments prepared by the Commissioners of Works. (To 31st December 1935.) London, 1936.

(3) By CHARLES E. WHITELAW, F.S.A.Scot., the Author.

Notes on Swords with Signed Basket Hilt by Glasgow and Stirling Makers. (Published in *Transactions of the Glasgow Archæological Society*, New Series, vol. viii., part iv. Supplement, 1934.)

(4) By THE BRITISH BROADCASTING CORPORATION.

B.B.C. Annual. 1936.

(5) By T. HARVEY THOMSON, M.D., D.P.H., Drumore House, Campbeltown.

The Ancient Churches and Chapels of Kintyre. (Reprinted from *The Campbeltown Courier*.)

(6) By THE CURATOR.

Bulletin of the Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum, Bournemouth.
Vol. xv. No. 1. March 1936.

(7) By THE CLAN MACLEOD SOCIETY.

The MacLeods: Their History and Traditions. By Rev. Canon
R. C. MacLeod of MacLeod. Edinburgh, 1929.

The Clan MacLeod Magazine. First Number. 1st February 1935.

The following Purchases for the Library were intimated:—

The Ancient Burial-Mounds of England. By L. V. Grinsell. London,
1936.

Story of the Bagpipe. By W. H. Grattan Flood, Mus.Doc. London,
n.d.

The following Communications were read:—