

## 8. TWO SHETLAND FINDS.

1. *Runic Stone, Papil, Burra Isle.*

In August 1951 a workman employed digging a trench for a water-pipe near Papil, Burra Isle, unearthed a fragment of a rune-inscribed stone. Mr R. B. Leask, the foreman in charge of the excavations, forwarded the find to Lerwick. The stone was found at a depth of 2 ft. about 200 yds. SE. from the old church of Papil, the site of numerous interesting finds (Pl. XLIII, 2). Roughly triangular in shape, the fragment is of brown sandstone, the longest side, on which the runes are incised, measuring  $7\frac{1}{2}$  ins., the greatest breadth being  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ins. Neatly incised to the full thickness of the stone, namely  $1\frac{3}{8}$  in., the runes read as follows: R : REISTI : S. giving only one complete word. Work on the Burra Isle water-pipe line was completed without any further finds coming to light.

2. *Stone Implement from Urafirth, Northmavine.*

While crossing the Skurds of Urafirth at a point about half a mile NE. of the township of Urafirth, in July 1951, Mr John Harrison, Fjordhavn, Heylor, noticed a pointed stone implement projecting from the side of a peaty cleft in a small ravine (Pl. XLIII., 4). The greater part of the implement was under 3 ft. 6 ins. of peaty soil, and great care had to be exercised to remove it intact. It is of sandstone, 3 ft.  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ins. long, slightly oval in section, 3 ins. in diameter at its greatest breadth, weight  $13\frac{1}{2}$  lbs., and pointed at each end. Both points show wear or use on one side only, the abrasions following the line of the stone. It is possible that this implement may have been used in puddling clay for the manufacture of urns.

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