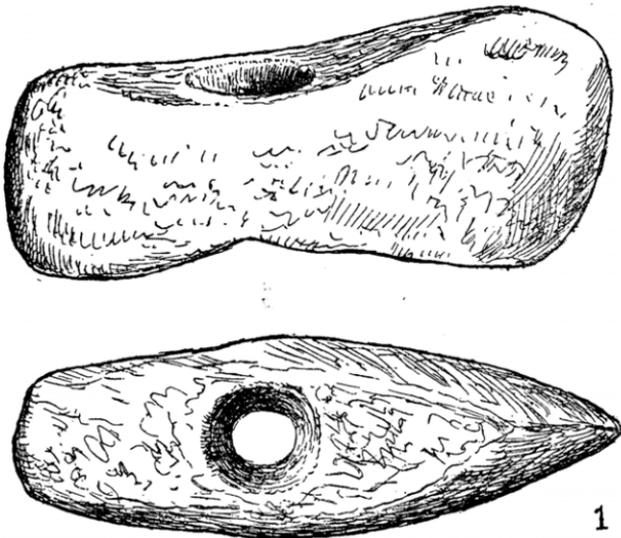


ART. XV.—*Some Miscellaneous Finds.* By H. S. COWPER, F.S.A.

IN the following pages I give a brief description of a few antiquities, which are either unpublished altogether or unnoticed in our *Transactions*.

The first object is a stone hammer-axe (Fig. 1), found between Windermere Station and the road which leads down to Bowness. Its length is 8 inches, but the shape is a little unusual, the perpendicular measurement at the



hole being considerably less than at the cutting edge, which is $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches. The hole itself is also unusual, being slightly oval instead of round. This implement was, and probably still is, in private possession at Ambleside.

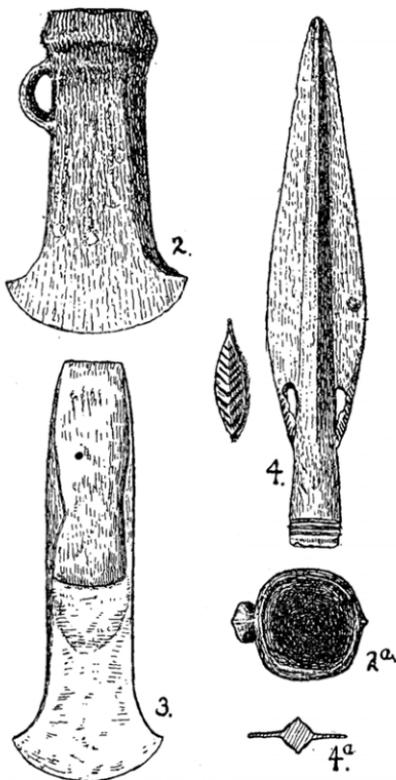
In Fig. 2 is shewn a bronze celt belonging to the small

“hoard” or group of celts, found at Urswick in June, 1902; but this example, having become separated from the rest, was not included in Mr. Gaythorpe’s note and illustrations in our recent volume (N.S., iii., 410). It is now in my collection. It is a socketted celt, similar in type to the others, and is $4\frac{1}{8}$ inches in length, and perfect; but it has apparently been cast from a very worn mould since the rib and pellet ornament is only just discernible. The weapon is sharpened for use, and the socket end is shewn in Fig. 2^a.

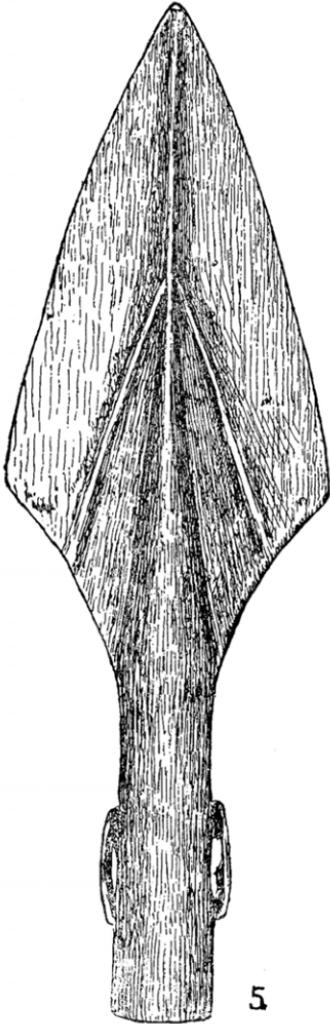
The bronze palstave shewn in Fig. 3 was found at Millans Park, Ambleside, and belongs to Mr. George Tyson. It may be described as a winged palstave, with well-defined stop ridge, and the peculiar shield-shaped ornament characteristic of these

instruments. It is $5\frac{5}{8}$ inches long, and is rather similar to Fig. 80 of Sir John Evans’ *Ancient Bronze Implements* (1881).

Bronze spearheads are far from common in our district, but those shewn in Figs. 4 and 5 are both in my collection. Fig. 4 is $7\frac{1}{8}$ inches long, and has the midrib nearly square in section. It is also made with loops at the base of the blade, outside which the metal is hammered to a lozenge



shape, and ornamented with chevron-like lines. This weapon is said to have been found in the walls of Dalton Castle, and came into my possession in 1895.

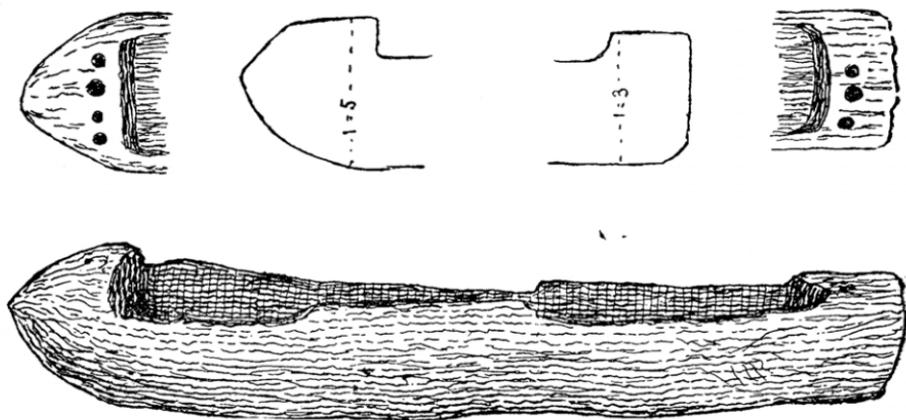


The discovery of Bronze age weapons in the walls of castles or among their ruins is very curious, and this spearhead appears to be the third example of such a find locally. Mr. H. Gaythorpe has recently described a spearhead found in 1871 embedded in the walls of Piel Castle, and apparently built in there in 1324 (these *Transactions*, N.S., iii., 410). The Gleaston Castle bronze celt is said to have been found among the ruins of that fortress in 1776 (these *Transactions*, xv., p. 161). One cannot help wondering if they were by any chance built in as a sort of foundation deposit, or if they were ever used at such a late date.

The other spearhead, shewn in Fig. 5, was discovered about 1886, lying among stones near the edge of Whinfell Tarn, about five miles north-east of Kendal. It is $7\frac{5}{8}$ inches long, and belongs to a wide-bladed type hardly known in England, though fairly common, I believe, in Ireland. It is a fine and interesting weapon, and, as far as I can remember,

the reason I never communicated my find to our Society was owing to its having come into my collection during the busy Jubilee year of 1887.

In 1888, however, I exhibited it to the Society of Antiquaries, and also a drawing of the "dug-out" canoe or boat shewn in Fig. 6. This vessel seemed to me, when I examined it, to be made of ash, but I was not quite sure; and it was quite roughly chopped out of a



6.

tree trunk. Its outside length was 10 feet, inside of "dug out" 8 feet, and greatest width 1 foot 7 inches. There were four holes near the bow and three near the stern, as shewn in the sketch; but unless these had to do with fishing, I am at a loss to explain their object.

Although this vessel was found in the tarn where the bronze spearhead was discovered, I am not at all sure it was very ancient. It was only lying at the bottom, and not embedded in bog or mud; and the blacksmith of Patton Bridge told me he had information that it was actually in use forty or fifty years ago. "Dug out" vessels were almost certainly in use on Scottish lochs in

mediæval times, and I am inclined to think that similar home-made vessels were sometimes manufactured for fishing purposes on our own tarns till quite recent times (see *Proceedings, Society of Antiquaries*, second series, xii., 225).

Fig. 7 represents two Roman "jugs" found near the Roman "camp" at Ambleside in the spring of the present year (1904). Both are broken, but they are nicely pieced, and only small fragments are missing. The larger one was found in excavating for a roadway to the two new houses which have recently been built nearly opposite Cross Syke Hill, on the road between Rothay Bridge and



Ambleside. The exact place is very close to the edge of the public road, and the depth of the pot is said to have been nearly five feet. The place is almost half a mile north of the Ambleside fort, and is just outside the limits of the map given to illustrate my paper in these *Transactions*, n.s., ii., p. 31. The pot is of a characteristic Roman type, turned on the wheel, and of a rough red ware; its height $8\frac{3}{8}$ inches, and width $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. The most interesting thing about it is that it has had some

lettering roughly scratched on the side, but with the exception of three letters (apparently CNI) they have been scoured off by over zealous washing since the pot was found.

The other pot is of the same shape but smaller, and of finer clay. Its exact height is $6\frac{5}{8}$ inches, and width 4 inches. It was found in cutting back the side of the public road in front of the private hotel close to Waterhead, which is now called "The Grange," but was formerly Waterhead House, and in Clarke's *Survey of the Lakes* appears as "Cockpie Hall." The exact point was nearly opposite the corner of the County Hotel, and one-third of a mile south-east of the Roman fort, and also just outside the map above mentioned. The depth was five feet.

These pots were both found by W. Sharp, a workman in the employ of Mr. A. Jackson, and are now in his possession. He told me that in excavating the ground at a point about fifteen yards to the east of the spot where the bigger pot was found, there was a place which seemed to have been walled round, and there was some discoloured slag-like stuff, which made him consider that smelting had been done here. Small matters like these should be noted, as the actual lines of the military roads into Ambleside camp remain as yet uncertain. The places where these pots have been found must be either very close to, or actually on the lines of road.

I have to thank Mr. W. C. Skelton of Ambleside for drawing my attention in the first instance to these Roman finds.