

II.

NOTICE OF REMAINS FROM THE ANCIENT LACUSTRINE HABITATIONS OF SWITZERLAND; AND FROM THE DRIFT OF THE VALLEY OF THE SOMME. BY GEORGE J. ALLMAN, M.D., REGIUS PROFESSOR OF NATURAL HISTORY IN THE UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH, F.S.A. SCOT. (WITH EXHIBITION OF SPECIMENS.)

Professor Allman gave an interesting and minute description of the curious remains of ancient habitations recently discovered in various Swiss lakes, dividing them into classes from the diversity of the objects found beneath their ruins. He exhibited a stone weapon and some charred grain which had been found there, and contrasted the former with specimens of the flint hatchets found in the drift in the valley of the Somme, which he also exhibited, pointing out the greater size and rudeness of the latter, and drawing the conclusion from the various facts which he detailed, that the remains found in the drift along with the bones of extinct animals must be held to prove the very great antiquity of the deposits, and of the existence of men at the time.

Dr John Alex. Smith, in some remarks on this communication said, he was not inclined to concur altogether in the views thus advocated, as he considered the greater apparent rudeness of the flint weapons found in the drift was due simply to the material of which they were composed, chipping being the easiest and best way of bringing flint into shape for a weapon of any kind; and he brought forward various facts to show the possibility of the results described, having been caused by agencies not requiring by any means the theory of an immense antiquity for the race of man. M. Boucher des Perthes himself, in his valuable and elaborate work, the "*Antiquités Celtiques et Antediluviennes*," from the wonderful changes recently caused by the sea, and observed by himself in the Somme valley, such as the complete filling up and altering of the bed of the river, &c.; considers that it is very difficult, if not impossible, to

determine the age, and length of time, occupied in the formation of these alluvial deposits.

After referring to an interesting communication by the late Dr Hibbert, published in the "Edinburgh Journal of Science,"¹ Dr Smith said there was but little reason to doubt that man himself may have been the exterminator of the last decaying families of some of those extinct animals whose remains have been found in the gravel-beds; as we know he was, of these more recently extinct that lived down to our historical times—the bear, the wolf, and the beaver. Indeed this view has been ably discussed by the late Professor Fleming in a communication to an early number of the "Edinburgh Philosophical Journal,"² without his considering it at all necessary to assume a greater antiquity for the human race, than that commonly given by the best expounders of the Sacred Scriptures.

Professor Simpson also expressed his opinion that the question of the assumed very great antiquity of the human race must as yet be regarded as an open one. Mr Joseph Robertson, Lord Neaves, and Dr D. H. Robertson took part in the discussion.

¹ See Edin. Journal of Science, vol. v. New Ser., 1831, p. 50, "On the question of the Existence of the Rein-Deer during the twelfth century, in Caithness, by S. Hibbert, M.D.," &c.

² See Edin. Phil. Journ., vol. xi. 1824, p. 287. "Remarks illustrative of the Influence of Society in the Distribution of British Animals." By the Rev. John Fleming, D.D., &c.

MONDAY, 13th April 1863.

JOSEPH ROBERTSON, Esq., Vice-President, in the Chair.

The Donations to the Museum and Library were as follows; and thanks were voted to the Donors:—

(1.) By Mr JAMES YULE, Lochee.

Portion of the calvarium and bones of the face of a human cranium; and Small Clay Urn $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter across the mouth, the base being $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter. It is nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch in thickness, and is ornamented on the upper part by a band of oblique lines, bordered with straight lines, the lower part being covered with irregular horizontal lines of twisted or cord pattern. Found with the skeleton, in a short stone cist at Ninewells, near Invergowrie, Forfarshire (see woodcut, fig. 1).

Fig. 1.



Urn found in a Cist at Ninewells,
Forfarshire.

Fig. 2.



Urn found in a Cist at Murleywell,
Forfarshire.

(2.) By STEWART T. M. HOOD, Esq., Pitcur.

Small Clay Urn $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches in height, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches across the mouth, and $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches at the base. It is ornamented with zigzag and straight lines, and has four knobs or ears projecting at regular distances from each other

round the widest part of the urn; and each of these knobs is pierced with a small hole. It was found in a short stone cist in the parish of Glamis, near a place called Murleywell, in 1852 (see woodcut, fig. 2).

Two small portions of embossed red Samian ware; portions of rusted iron; teeth and bones of cattle, found in an underground building or "Pict's house," at Pitcur, near Coupar-Angus.

(3.) By the Rev. J. G. MICHIE, Schoolhouse, Logie-Coldstone.

Small shallow Stone Cup or Lamp of mica slate, 4 inches in diameter, with a circular perforation through its short rounded handle; found while digging the foundations for the new buildings at Balmoral Castle, Deeside, Aberdeenshire.

(4.) By DAVID ROBERTSON, Esq., Mains of Edzell.

Rude Cup of coarse sandstone, found in Forfarshire; it measures 5 inches in diameter.

(5.) By Mr ALEXANDER G. ANDERSON, Schoolhouse, Strathdon.

Small Ring of Jet, measuring $\frac{3}{4}$ of inch in diameter, found at Castle Huntly, Strathbogie.

Rude bead of mottled stone, one inch in diameter, found in Glenfiddock, Banffshire.

Small Flint Flake, and Arrow Head with barbs and stem, of yellowish flint, from Strathdon.

Whorl for distaff, of brown coloured stone, $1\frac{1}{4}$ inch in diameter, from Strathdon.

Flat greenish coloured stone, measuring $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, with a hole pierced at one end, probably a small "burnisher"; it was found in a "Pict's house" at Rinnachie, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire.

(6.) By the Right Honourable the Earl of DALHOUSIE, K.T., F.S.A. Scot.

Two Clay Pipe Heads, with Small Bowls, found among the ruins of the Baths of Edzell Castle.

(7.) By ANDREW JERVISE, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Hand Specimen of Burnt Stone, from the walls of the so-called "Pictish capital" of Beregonium or Selma, Ardchattan, Argyleshire.

Inscriptions from the Shields of the Incorporated Trades in the Trinity Hall, Aberdeen, by A. JERVISE, (pp. 78) 12mo. Aberdeen, 1863.

(8.) By Mr RIACH, farmer, Lochans, Strathdon, Aberdeenshire.

Stone Cup or Lamp, 5 inches in diameter, with long straight handle, partially broken. It was found in Strathdon.

(9.) By Dr JAMIESON, Brodick, Arran.

Portion of the upper part of a large Urn of Yellowish Clay, ornamented with projecting parallel bars, and rudely sloping lines, the lip is covered with zigzag ornaments. It was found under a tumulus at Glen Cloy, Island of Arran.

(10.) By the Rev. J. M. JOASS, Eddertoun Manse.

Circular Brass Brooch and Pin, with Tooled Ornaments.

Portion of a Small Bronze Buckle or Clasp, with lozenge-shaped extremity, which is ornamented with six projecting knobs; and a Small Ring Brooch, imperfect; found near Tarbat Lighthouse, Ross-shire.

(11.) By Mr A. DODS, Edinburgh.

Brass Mounted Horse Pistol, with flint lock, and brass plate on which is a coronet, and below it the initials P.S.

(12.) By Mr ALEXANDER GRIEVE, Leith.

Oval Tobacco Box, made of horn, the top and bottom of brass and copper, inscribed PETER JONS, 1704.

(13.) By DAVID MILNE HOME, Esq., of Wedderburn, F.S.A. Scot.

Small Greybeard of glazed grey-coloured ware, with bearded mask, and stamp in front. It was found in digging the foundation of a house in Eyemouth, Berwickshire.

(14.) By C. T. NEWTON, Esq., Keeper of Antiquities, British Museum.

Eight Terra Cotta Figures, from the site of a temple of Demeter, Halicarnassus; from 6 to 7 inches in height.

Two Terra Cotta Heads from the same site.

Twenty-seven Terra Cotta Lamps of red and black ware; with from one to twelve lights,	} from the <i>temenos</i> of Demeter, Cnidus.
Three Glass Bottles, from 5 to 7 inches in length,	
Four Marble Tablets for votive inscriptions,	

Two Small Circular Weights for the loom, Temple of Venus, Cnidus. One Cup, two Lids or Covers, five Circular Shallow Dishes, and four Bottles, all of terra cotta, from Cnidus.

- (15.) By the SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, Washington, U.S.A., Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections. 4 vols. 8vo. Washington, 1862.

Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution, showing the operations, expenditures, and condition of the Institution for the year 1860. 8vo. Washington 1861.

The U. S. Astronomical Expedition to the Southern Hemisphere during the years 1849-50-51-52, Chili, the Andes, and Pampas; Observations to determine the Solar Parallax. Magnetical and Meteorological Observations. By Lieutenant J. M. Gillies, A.M. Vols. 1, 2, 3, and 6. 4to. Washington, 1855-6.

Documents relative to the Colonial History of the State of New York, procured in Holland, England, and France. Vols. 2 to 10 except 7. 4to. Albany, U.S., 1858.

Catalogue or Alphabetical Index of the Astor Library. 4 vols. 8vo. New York, 1859.

The following communications were read :—