

III.

NOTICE OF A BARROW AT HUNTISCARTH IN THE PARISH OF HARRAY, ORKNEY, RECENTLY OPENED. BY GEORGE PETRIE, Esq., Cor. Mem. F.S.A. Scot. COMMUNICATED BY JAMES FARRER, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

A large barrow, about 30 feet diameter at the base, and 11 or 12 feet in height, was opened last winter at Huntiscarth in the parish of Harray, Orkney, by the proprietor of the farm. When he had dug about 2 feet down through the top of the barrow, he found two stones standing upright about 18 or 20 inches apart. On continuing the excavation along the stones for from 2 to 3 feet more in depth, he came to a large flag lying between the stones, and on clearing away the clay from the top of the stone and raising it, it was found to be the lid of a kist or grave about $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, formed in the usual way, by stones set on edge and a flag for the bottom, the top being the flag first mentioned. The two upright stones were set one on each side of the grave, at right angles to the flags forming its sides. A quantity of clay fell into the grave before the covering flag was lifted, as the flag was broken. A quantity of fragments of bones lay in the grave, and it was the opinion of the finder that they had been burnt. At one angle of the grave or kist there was a piece of flat stone, on which lay the four gold disks or ornaments and the beads and angularly-shaped pieces of amber. It is probable that a number of beads have been lost among the debris which got into the grave.

[The various articles above specified, as stated at p. 183, were presented to the Society at this meeting; and careful drawings of these interesting relics are also given here (Plate XXII.)]