

VI.

NOTES ON A GOLD LUNETTE FOUND AT AUCHENTAGGART, DUMFRIESSHIRE, AND A MASSIVE SILVER CHAIN FOUND AT WHITE-CLEUGH, LANARKSHIRE, EXHIBITED BY HIS GRACE THE DUKE OF BUCCLEUCH. By J. GILCHRIST CLARK, Esq., F.S.A. Scot. (Plate I.)

Gold Lunette.—The lunette now exhibited (and represented in the accompanying Plate I.) was found during the winter of 1872–73, on Auchentaggart farm, in the parish of Sanquhar, by John Wilson, then ploughman to Mr T. B. Stewart. He was ploughing stubble at the time, with three horses, a furrow rather deeper than usual, when the plough turned up what appeared to be a piece of thin metal folded together and rolled up almost like a ball. He took it home with him, and, after washing and unrolling it, found it to be a plate of yellowish metal, shaped, as he described it, “like a man’s collar.” In being unfolded, the metal gave way, as will be observed, at one point. It was then placed on the mantlepiece, where it remained along with the candlesticks and other articles usually found there. The ploughman removed a year or two afterwards from Auchentaggart to Euchanfort in the same parish, and took with him the pieces of old metal. In the beginning of 1878 he became unwell, and was attended by Dr J. J. Underwood, then practising at Sanquhar, who, while visiting his patient, observed the yellow metal “collar,” and thinking it a curiosity, though he did not know what, obtained it from the finder. As Dr Underwood was about to go abroad, it was obtained from him, through Mr J. R. Wilson, for the Duke of Buccleuch, on whose estate it had been found, and by whom it is now exhibited. It will be observed from the representation of the Lunette given in Plate I. that a portion of one of the rounded extremities is wanting, and that along the edge next the missing portion, nine holes are pierced. The purpose of these is suggested by one of the lunettes

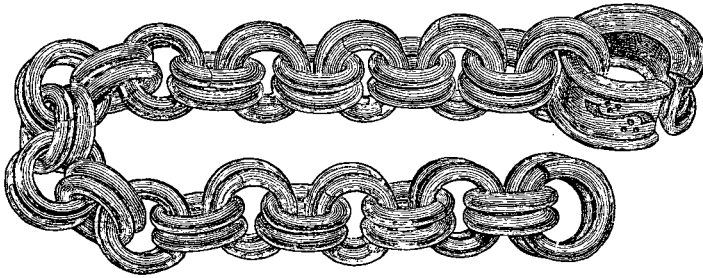


Gold Lunette from Dumfriesshire.

already in the Museum, and the missing portion may perhaps be lying still where this was found. The weight is 4 oz. 1 dwt. 5 grs.

About two miles to the north-west of the place where the lunette was found there is a supposed Druidical circle on the hill of Knockenheir, and nearer, there is on Sanguhar Moor a small crannog or lake dwelling, while between these and Auchentaggart there is a ridge, on which there are a number of small tumuli, about the size of ordinary graves, which tradition makes the scene of a battle. But there are no apparent remains of antiquity where the lunette was found, and the manner in which it was folded up and rolled together suggests the idea that, when lost, it was being concealed. It may have been in the possession of its rightful owner, or it may have formed some one's share of a rich plunder, but in any case one cannot but think that on Auchentaggart Moor it was either concealed or cast away by some fugitive who was never able to return.

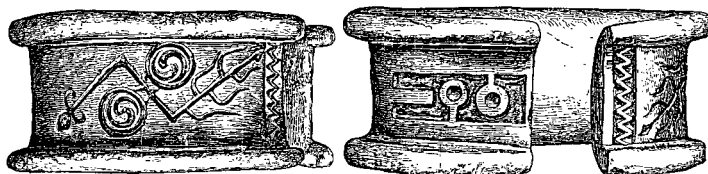
Silver Chain.—In May 1869, John Murray, shepherd at Shieldholm, in the parish of Crawfordjohn, Lanarkshire, while walking across a part



Silver Chain found at Parkhill.

of that farm, observed protruding from the side of a sheep drain which had been rather widened by the water, two or three objects which looked like rings. On touching them he found they were connected with something still in the earth, and then with a pull he brought away the whole of the chain now exhibited. It consists of forty-six rings attached to a

massive penannular link, and is almost precisely similar to the chain found at Parkhill, Aberdeenshire, now in the Museum, which is here figured. The chain had been lying about 18 inches below the surface of the ground, resting on the stiff clayey subsoil. When found the rings were all entire, but two have been since broken by persons attempting to open them. The weight of the whole is 62 oz. 12 dwt. and the silver of which it is made is not quite pure. It will be observed that the incised ornament on the penannular link is almost identical with that on the Norrie's Law plate



Terminal Link of Silver Chain found at Crawfordjohn.

or scale now in the Museum. The chain was obtained from John Murray by the Duke of Buccleuch, on whose estate it had been found, and is now by direction of His Grace exhibited to the Society.

The situation and position in which it was found, seem to suggest that it was there by accident. The spot is about 135 yards north of the march with Dumfriesshire, and a mile and a half, measuring along that march, west of Crawick Water. It lies in the middle of a tract of rough hill pasture, and there is nothing very near it to indicate earthworks or any other traces of ancient occupation. There is, however, a tradition that in former days there existed a road which led from Nithsdale by the glen of the Crawick, across this moor to Douglas, and standing on the spot where the chain was found, one can see, at the distance of about a mile to the north, the green turf that marks the site of an old camp, called on the Ordnance Map "Roman Camp," and close to the house at Shieldholm, which may possibly have been intended to command that road. If this were so, fights on the line of road would be frequent enough, and in one of such fights the chain and its owner may have been parted.

MONDAY, 12th April 1880.

REV. THOMAS MACLAUCHLAN, LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

A Ballot having been taken, the following Gentlemen were duly elected Fellows of the Society :—

JOHN H. BAXTER, Esq. of Gilston, Largo.
 GEORGE H. B. HAY, Esq., Hayfield, Lerwick.
 JOHN KIRSOP, Esq., 6 Queen's Crescent, Glasgow.

The following Donations to the Museum and Library were laid on the table, and thanks voted to the Donors :—

(1.) By the TRUSTEES of the late DAVID LAING, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Gordon of Rothiemay's View of Edinburgh. An impression of the Original Engraving, by De Witt.

(2.) By THOMAS CHAPMAN, Jun., Esq. F.S.A. Scot.

A set of "Napier's Bones" in Parchment Case. These are small quadrangular rods, measuring $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches in length and $\frac{1}{4}$ inch of a side, which were formerly used for arithmetical calculations, and are said to have been invented by John Napier of Merchiston. The use of these mechanical aids to save the labour of calculation was superseded by Napier's subsequent invention of logarithms, and the "Bones," as they were called, are now only curiosities of a past age.

(3.) By WILLIAM FORBES, Esq., *Foreign Secretary*.

Cross, of Wrought Iron, $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length, having an equal-armed cross 3 inches in length on the top of the shaft, which is also 3 inches in length, and at the other end of the shaft a flat expansion an inch and a half square, surrounded with an engraved border, and bearing the five punctures

corresponding to the five crosses or "five wounds" usually imprinted on altar slabs. This cross is precisely similar in form and nearly similar in size to one already in the Museum from Abyssinia. It is said to be an ecclesiastical implement used in the administration of the Eucharist.

(4.) By ROBERT CARFRAE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Flat Powder-horn, 13 inches in length, $4\frac{1}{2}$ inches in width, the open end mounted with lead, and one of the flat sides richly engraved with geometrical patterns in panels within a border of interlaced work.

(5.) By Mr ROBERT GELLATLY, Lochec, through Allan Mathewson, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot.

Old Leister or Eel Spear of iron, three-pronged, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, found near Lochec.

(6.) By ALLAN MATHEWSON, Esq., Corr. Mem. S.A. Scot., Dundee.

Collection of implements of flint, and articles of brass and iron, including flint scrapers, rude and imperfect arrow-heads, and a great variety of articles in brass, such as portions of thin sheet brass scarcely thicker than paper, rivets or fasteners of the same, nails made of sheet brass conically rolled together, bits of brooches and brooch tongues, buckles and buckle tongues, pins, needles, &c., along with iron articles, chiefly fish-hooks, and fragments of pottery and pieces of the crucibles in which the metal has been melted, all as described in Mr Mathewson's "Notes on the Age of the Settlements on the Sands of Culbin," printed in the Proceedings, vol. xii. p. 502.

(7.) By ALEXANDER CRAWFORD LAMB, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Dundee.

The Dundee Register of Merchants and Trades, with all the Public Offices, &c., for 1783. Reprint, privately printed in fac-simile from the only copy known, in Mr Lamb's possession.

(8.) By JOHN STURROCK, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., Dundee.

Pair of large Fetterlocks or Bilboa Irons, consisting of a bar of iron 2 inches thick and 18 inches long, with sliding loops or fetters.

(9.) By ANDREW KERR, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Candlestick Tinder-box of tinned iron, and three Flints and Steels.
Two Pocket Tinder-boxes with their Steels.

(10.) By Mr WILLIAM KINNEAR.

Candlestick Tinder-box of tinned iron, and Steel.

(11.) By JOHN HENRY PARKER, C.B., Hon. Mem. S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Primitive Fortifications of Rome. 8vo. 1878.

The Archæology of Rome—The Colosseum. 8vo. 1876.

The Archæology of Rome—The Aqueducts. 8vo. 1876.

Forum Romanum et Magnum. 8vo. 1879.

The Twelve Egyptian Obelisks at Rome. 8vo. 1879.

Plan of Ancient Rome. 8vo. 1879.

The Tombs in and near Rome. 8vo. 1878.

Church and Altar Decorations in Rome. 8vo. 1878.

The Catacombs in Rome. 8vo. 1877.

(12.) By FRANCIS ABBOTT, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Orchesography, or the Art of Dancing, with the figures. By John Weaver. London. 4to. 1706.

Dactyliothea Smithiana. 2 vols. folio. Venice. 1767.

° (13.) By J. H. RIVETT CARNAC, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

Archæological Notes on Ancient Sculpturings on Rocks in Kumaon, India. 8vo. Pp. 38. Illustrated.

Prehistoric Remains in Central India. 8vo. Pp. 16. Illustrated.

Rough Notes on the Snake Symbol in India. 8vo. Pp. 14. Illustrated.

Descriptions of Stone Carvings, collected in a tour through the Doab, from Cawnpore to Manipuri. 8vo. Pp. 4. Illustrated.

There were also exhibited :—

(1.) By JOHN STURROCK, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Jet Necklace and Urn, found in a Cist at Balcalk, Tealing, Forfarshire.

Polished Celt of Flint, found at Newton-Affleck, Monikie, Forfarshire.

Small Flint Celt from the same locality.

Chisel-shaped Celt of Flint from Forfarshire.

Oval-shaped Knife of Flint, polished, from Fordoun Kincardineshire.

Finely formed Arrow-head of Flint, of large size, from Wardneuk, Carmyllie, Forfarshire, and two Arrow-heads from Fordoun and Ellon.

[See the subsequent communication by Mr Sturrock.]

(2.) By JAMES CRUIKSHANK ROGER, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Drawing by the late Mr Charles Roger of Dundee, showing both sides of a Crescent-shaped Bronze Plate dug up at Laws, Monifieth, in 1796, bearing two of the Symbols of the Sculptured Stones, and the remains of an Inscription in Runes.

[See the subsequent communication by Mr Roger.]

(3.) By JOHN KIRSOP, Esq., Glasgow.

Two Carved Wooden Implements from South Australia. They are flat, oblong pieces of hard wood shaped like the boomerang, but not curved; one is 15 inches in length and $2\frac{1}{2}$ in width, the other 10 inches in length and $1\frac{1}{2}$ in width. Both are slightly twisted from the centre in opposite directions. They are ornamented with concentric circles and connecting bands rudely incised.

(4.) By FRANCIS MOFFAT, Esq., Craigbeck.

Three Leadens Vessels, found in a moss at Craigbeck, Moffat. These

vessels are of sheet lead, like stewpans, with flat bottoms and perpendicular sides. They have had loops of iron fastened to the rims apparently for the purpose of attaching loop handles. They are of different sizes, the largest being about 14 inches diameter and 7 inches deep and the smallest 10 inches diameter and 5 inches deep. Their use is unknown.

The following Communications were read :—