IV.
NOTICE OF AN URN AND FOUR ARROW-HEADS OF FLINT FOUND IN A CIST AT DAIRSIE, FIFESHIRE, AND PRESENTED TO THE MUSEUM BY MRS ERSKINE OF DAIRSIE. BY JOSEPH ANDERSON, LL.D., ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND KEEPER OF THE MUSEUM.

In the month of July last a cist was discovered in a sand-pit in a slightly elevated knoll overlooking the valley of the Eden at Dairsie. The cover was lifted, and the upper part of an urn which was visible at one end of the cist was taken out, but otherwise the contents were undisturbed, and by desire of Mrs Erskine of Dairsie the cover was replaced until a proper examination could be made. I was invited to be present at the examination, along with Mr Gillespie of Mountquhanie, and Mr Alexander Hutcheson, architect, Broughty Ferry, both Fellows of the Society; Mr Hodgson, Cupar; Mr Robertson of Edengrove, and others. The cist, which was about 2 feet 6 inches under the present surface, lay nearly north and south, and measured 3 feet 6 inches in length internally, by 1 foot 10 inches in width. It was formed of large and massive slabs of the sandstone of the district, and, when cleared of the infiltrated sand, was found to be paved at a depth of about 2 feet with rounded water-worn pebbles. The interment was unburnt, but the bones of the skeleton were sorely wasted, only the more solid portions of the shafts of the long bones and a part of the skull remaining undecayed. The skull was found at the south end of the cist, and beside it and close to the east side of the cist the fragments of the bottom part of the urn. On the same side of the cist, but near the north end, and close to where the feet would have been, were four arrow-heads of flint, which are here represented in fig. 2. They lay close together, with the points towards
the north end of the cist, as if the four arrow-shafts had been laid alongside of the body. The urn was of the tall, thin-lipped form, with bulging sides, and finely ornamented with a rather uncommon combination of bands of zigzags and chequers. It measures 7 inches in height and 5\(^{\frac{3}{4}}\) inches in diameter at the mouth. The Society is much indebted to Mrs Erskine of Dairsie for the opportunity of placing this interesting interment on record, and specially for her courteous compliance with my request that the urn and arrow-heads should be presented to the National Museum.

MONDAY, 10th January 1887.

ROBERT HERDMAN, R.S.A., in the Chair.

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

- JAMES M'DOULL, of Logan, Stranraer.
- REV. DUNCAN G. MEARNS, B.D., yr. of Disblair, Manse of Oyne.
- WILLIAM MITCHELL, S.S.C., Rosebank, Rosslyn.
- J. B. SUTHERLAND, S.S.C., 10 Windsor Street.

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

1. By Sir DOUGLAS STEWART, Bart., of Grantully.
   Sculptured Slab found on an early Christian site at Gellyburn, Murtfy, Perthshire. The slab has been described and engraved in the last volume of the *Proceedings*, p. 253.

   Five Sculptured Slabs of the early Christian period, decorated with interlaced patterns in the Celtic style, from Wigtownshire, viz.:—
Broken Slab of greywacke, 30 inches in length by 15 inches in breadth, bearing on one face a rudely incised cross, nearly equal armed, with circular depressions in the angular spaces between the arms, found in 1882 at Knock, in the parish of Glasserton.

Cross Head and upper portion of the Shaft of a standing Cross of light grey sandstone, 25 inches in length, ornamented with a running pattern of interlaced work, with a central boss and four smaller bosses, and circular spaces in the four angles of the cross, also from the parish of Glasserton.

Fragment of a Cross Head, 13 inches in length, with boss and circular depression, from Craiglemine, parish of Glasserton.

Lower part of a Cross Shaft, of bluish-grey sandstone, 42 inches in length by 18 inches in breadth, having on the one face a running pattern of interlaced work of two interlacing strands, the interlacements surrounded by an interlacing circle, and on the other face a pattern of interlacements without circles, from Craiglemine, parish of Glasserton.

Lower part of a Cross Shaft, of bluish-grey sandstone, 3 feet 6 inches in length, 18 inches in breadth, with a tenon at the base for insertion in a socket, both faces covered with interlaced work, from Mains of Penninghame.

(3) By Mr James Currie, Gardener, Auchendrane, through Mr Wallace Allan, New Market Street, Ayr.

Bronze Flanged Celt, 4 1/2 inches in length by 1 3/4 inches across the cutting face, found at Auchendrane, Ayrshire.

(4) By Captain W. Gillon, F.S.A. Scot.

Two Lamps of Terra Cotta, small Clay Jar, Unguent Vase, Shallow Dish of reddish ware, and Vase Cover, from Famagousta, Cyprus.

(5) By Colonel D. Balfour of Balfour, F.S.A. Scot.

Urn of steatite, incomplete, about 10 inches diameter and 12 inches high, found at Esholm, Island of Shapinsay, Orkney.

(6) By Dr C. G. Mackay, Lochcarron.

Small Keg of Butter, 18 inches in height and 12 inches diameter, hollowed out of a single piece of wood. It was found in a moss at Plockton, Lochalsh, Ross-shire.
(7) By Mr John Rae, 16 Hanover Street, Aberdeen, through Dr Arthur Mitchell, C.B., F.S.A. Scot.

Two Anvil Stones from "a flint factory" at Skelmuir, Aberdeenshire. They are water-worn quartzose boulders, about 8 inches by 6 inches, and 2½ inches in thickness, strongly marked on both faces with a central pitted depression, surrounded by six or seven similar but smaller depressions, apparently produced by the wear resulting from the process of breaking flints upon them with hammer-stones, which are also abundantly found on the same site, amidst great quantities of splintered flint nodules. One of these anvil stones is here represented (fig. 1), along with a hammer-stone, also in the Museum, from the same locality.

Fig. 1. Hammer and Anvil Stone, from Skelmuir, Aberdeenshire.

(8) By H. E. Hunt, C.E., through Professor Duns, D.D., F.S.A. Scot.

Conical Pestle or Hammer-Stone of granite, 4 inches in length by 2½ inches in diameter at the base. Mr Hunt gives the following account of its discovery:—"This stone implement was found in 1883, during the construction of the Minas and Rio Railway in the province of Minas Geraes, on the right bank of the Rio Verde, 75 miles to the north of the Mantequeira Mountains. The spot where it and two others exactly like it were discovered was at the edge of a wood, on a spur of low hills which approach the river at that point, and sufficiently high to be above the reach of the floods. The implement was at a
depth of 18 inches under the surface, and the ground, which was covered with grass, had no appearance of having been ever disturbed. The soil, as will be seen from that adhering to the stone, is of a red colour, formed from decomposed gneiss rock. The implement seems to be a pestle for grinding up seeds or nuts for food. Though it may be safely assumed that there was no grain then in Brazil, yet there are several species of palms which give an edible nut, which to this day is eaten by the negroes, and has a raw stringy kernel which I have no doubt would all grind up into an edible paste."

(9) By Spencer Geo. Perceval, Severn House, Henbury, Bristol.

Twelve Pamphlets, viz.:—Catalogue of Lewes Castle Museum, 8vo, pp. 17; Catalogue of Antiquities in Colchester Museum, 8vo, pp. 40, pl. 6, 1869; Catalogue of Antiquities exhibited at Chester at the Sixth Annual Meeting of the British Archaeological Association, 8vo, pp. 32, 1849; Catalogue of the Dymock Coin Sale, pp. 47, 1858; The Ancient Stronghold of Worlebury, by Tomkins, 8vo, pp. 19, pl. 4; Essay on Roman Remains near Weymouth, by Harford, 8vo, pp. 11, pl. 1, 1844; Jar found at Musbury, by Hutchison, 8vo, pp. 2; Honey-ditches, by Hutchison, 8vo, pp. 4; Excavation of Three Tumuli at Broad Down Honiton, by Kirwan, 8vo, pp. 31, 1869; Preservation of Ruins, by Hutchison, 8vo, pp. 8; Antiquities from Newton-Abbot, by Hutchison 8vo, pp. 5, 1876; Museum Tradescantianum, 12mo, London, 1656.

(10) By John Evans, D.C.L., LL.D., President of the Society Antiquaries, London, the Author.

On a Military Decoration relating to the Roman Conquest of Britain. 4to, pp. 4, pl. 1. Reprint from Archaeologia.


Genealogical Collections concerning the Scottish House of Edgar, with a Memoir of James Edgar, Private Secretary to the Chevalier St George.

(12) By the Archaeological Association of Ayrshire and Galloway, through R. W. Cochran-Patrick, LL.D., Secretary.

Archæological and Historical Collections relating to Ayrshire and Galloway, Vol. V. Charters of the Abbey of Crossraguel. 2 vols. 4to.
(13) By William M'Dowall, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
Chronicles of Lincluden as an Abbey and as a College. 4to, 1886.

(14) By J. Guthrie Smith, of Mugdock Castle, F.S.A. Scot., the Author.
The Parish of Strathblane and its Inhabitants from Early Times: a Chapter of Lennox History. 4to, large paper copy, 1886.

The following Communications were read: