

V.

CINERARY URNS AT MONKLAW, JEDBURGH. BY ARTHUR J. H. EDWARDS, F.S.A. SCOT., ASSISTANT KEEPER OF THE MUSEUM. WITH A REPORT ON THE INCINERATED CONTENTS BY PROFESSOR J. C. BRASH.

Two urns were found in a field 500 feet above sea-level on the farm of Monklaw, about two miles north of Jedburgh, and about 300 yards north-west of the house, when ploughing was going on during December last.



Fig. 1. Cinerary Urn found at Monklaw, Jedburgh.

The urns lay about 36 feet apart and both had been inverted. Of one there remained only the base and a few wall fragments; this must have been a very large vessel as the base measures $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter and 1 inch in thickness. Of the other, which contained cremated bones, the greater part though badly damaged was recovered, and it has been found possible to reconstruct it in the Museum. This urn is of a reddish-brown

colour and has an overhanging rim with a straight upright neck beneath. The wall portion is rather short, giving the urn a somewhat squat appearance. The vessel (fig. 1) measures $9\frac{7}{8}$ inches in height, from $7\frac{3}{4}$ inches to $8\frac{1}{8}$ inches in diameter at the mouth, $8\frac{5}{8}$ inches at the neck, and $4\frac{1}{8}$ inches across the base. The lip, which is slightly concave and bevelled downwards in the interior, is decorated by a zigzag pattern, and the broad overhanging rim by a lattice design bordered at the top by four horizontal lines and at the bottom by two. The neck is ornamented with similar markings, but round the lower margin is a row of small loops, the curvature upwards. The whole of the decoration has been formed by the impression of a twisted cord, the lattice patterns and zigzags being doubled.

The Marquess of Lothian has generously presented the urn to the National Museum, and we also have to thank Mr T. Wight, the farmer, for so carefully preserving what remained of the vessels and their contents.

REPORT ON INCINERATED BONES FROM BRONZE AGE URN,
MONKLAW, JEDBURGH. By Professor J. C. BRASH.

These remains, the incineration of which is incomplete, include more or less distorted but recognisable fragments of most portions of the skeleton: the bodies (centra) of thirteen thoracico-lumbar vertebræ are fairly complete.

The vertebræ are small and the portions of limb bones rather slender: but there are no recognisable epiphyses, nor any signs of recent epiphysial union at the upper ends of right humerus and right radius, the only parts complete enough for such an observation. A portion of the sagittal (interparietal) suture is recognisable, and shows internal union well advanced.

If asked for a diagnosis of sex, I would be inclined to suggest from certain minor indications on portions of the pelvic bones that the probability is female: but the most that one can say with any confidence is that these are the bones of a mature adult of slender build, probably below average stature.