

VII.

NOTICE OF A COLLECTION OF ANTIQUITIES IN STONE AND BRONZE
FOUND UNDER BLAIR-DRUMMOND MOSS. BY THE LATE HENRY
HOME DRUMMOND, OF BLAIR-DRUMMOND, ESQ.

[These antiquities were exhibited many years ago to the Society, and are again exhibited at the request of the Society, by George Home Drummond of Blair-Drummond, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., and the communication, illustrated by two plates of the antiquities, drawn by Mr Harding, of London, is reserved for publication in the "Archæologia Scotica," vol. v., now in the press].

MONDAY, 10th April 1871.

DAVID MILNE-HOME, LL.D., Vice-President, in the Chair.

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

(1.) By ANDREW WILSON, Esq., S.S.C., F.S.A. Scot.

Three small bars or ingots of Silver, measuring $2\frac{1}{4}$, $1\frac{1}{4}$, and $\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length respectively, found at Cuerdale, near Preston, Lancashire, along with a large hoard of Silver Armlets, Cufic and Anglo-Saxon Coins, &c., in 1840.

A detailed description of the hoard is given in the "Archæological

Journal," vol. iv. p. 111. In digging for some repairs on a wall that had been built to protect the banks of the Ribble, the workmen found a large mass of Silver, consisting of ingots or bars of various sizes, a few Silver Armlets tolerably entire, and a number of fragments and ornaments of various kinds, cut into pieces of different dimensions and weights, amounting to upwards of a thousand ounces, exclusive of about six or seven thousand Coins of various descriptions, the whole being enclosed in a leaden chest, which was so decomposed that only small portions of it could be secured. The coins consisted of Anglo-Saxon pennies, pieces of the second race of French kings, a few Oriental, and some apparently belonging to some of those piratical Northern chiefs, who obtained at different times a temporary authority both in England and France. An attentive examination of these leads to the conclusion that this mass of treasure was deposited about the year A.D. 910, and the ornaments must be considered such as were worn about the time of King Alfred, or perhaps somewhat earlier, for none of them appear to have been in actual use at the time of deposit, but rather ornaments laid aside ready to be broken up for facility in melting. In their general character they bear a close resemblance to the hoard found at Skail, in Orkney, in 1858. (See "Proceedings," vol. iii. p. 207.)

(2.) By JOSIAH LIVINGSTON, Esq., Chairman of the Scottish Chamber of Commerce.

A Collection of Pottery and other articles, consisting of:—

The lower part of a globular vase of reddish earthenware, about 6 inches diameter and $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches high (broken).

Five small elegantly formed Cups of reddish unglazed pottery, 2 inches high and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches diameter (one entire, the rest broken).

Three-handed Cup of reddish glazed earthenware, 3 inches high and $2\frac{1}{4}$ inches in diameter at the lip (broken).

The handles of three large earthenware Jars, with green glaze, and ornamented with the figure of a human head, and a band of a chevrony pattern of dots impressed by a comb.

A pair of Iron Pincers, 6 inches long.

A portion of a Shirt of Mail, formed of interlaced rings.

Four Tobacco Pipes.

These articles were obtained in excavating on the site of the New Scottish Wharf, Wapping, as detailed in the following note from Mr Josiah Livingston to Dr John Stuart, Secretary:—

EDINBURGH, 18th October, 1870.

Dear Sir,—The Scottish Wharf Company sometime since acquired a property at Wapping, fronting the river Thames. The houses standing on the site thus obtained were old, of substantial build, and showing that they had been the residences of persons of wealth. Mr Henley, M.P., pointed out one of them as the place of his birth. I believe these mansions had been built about 1740 or 1750. It was necessary to excavate the ground on which they had stood to a depth of 15 feet, and in doing so the workmen found various remains, which I have the pleasure of now sending to the Society, along with a letter from our manager, which explains itself.—I am, dear Sir, yours truly,

JOSIAH LIVINGSTON.

The Manager's letter is as follows:—

352 WATSON'S WHARF,
HIGH STREET, WAPPING, 29th Sept. 1870.

Sir,—The articles now sent were found on the site of the new Scottish Wharf, Wapping, from twelve to thirteen feet below the surface, and beneath oak land-ties which appear to have been put in subsequently, and over which again other timbers are found which seem to have belonged to an old boat-yard; nearer the surface is a stratum of curiously mixed material, hair, bones, and horns, as of a fell-monger's yard.

At one point of the excavations a number of old walls are exposed, the bricks of which are thinner than those in present use in London, and not having the chalk and breeze mixture characteristic of the London stock. At another point an old wall is built on a fine bed of puddle, but this seems to have been put outside a prior wall to render it water-tight. The chain armour was found the lowest, but not quite in the same position as the other things.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

JAS. W. BUTLER.

JOSIAH LIVINGSTON, Esq.

(3.) By ROBERT MERCER, of Scotsbank, Esq., F.S.A. Scot.

Old Padlock and Key, of curious workmanship. The Padlock, which is square in form, is $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches wide, 3 inches thick at the lower part, and 4 inches high. The bolt enters the upper part, and fastens with a spring, which brings forward a dog's head to close the bolt-hole when unlocked.

(4.) By SAMUEL TALBOT HASSELL, Esq., Kingston-upon-Hull.

A China Plate, being part of a dinner service made for his grandfather, Francis Hall, Esq., at the newly erected pottery in Kingston to commemorate the beating off of Paul Jones by the Baltic trader, "the Crow Isle" (owned by Mr Hall), off the Yorkshire coast in 1779. The singular name, "the Crow Isle," was given to Mr Hall's ship from the name of the place in the Baltic to which she traded for deals. The design on the plate represents a ship and sloop in action, and beneath are the words, "Success to the Crow Isle."

(5.) By Mr DAVID CRICHTON, Duke Street.

A slab of Ivory, being a tranverse slice from an elephant's tusk, 6 inches in diameter, and half an inch thick, with 4 lines of an inscription in Indian characters.

(6.) By Mr DAVID BENNET, salmon-fisher, through ALEXANDER LAING, Esq., Newburgh, F.S.A. Scot.

Flint Spear Head, with stem, $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, $\frac{3}{4}$ in. wide, lozenge-shaped in section (wants the point end), found on the farm of Gattaway, parish of Abernethy, Perthshire.

(7.) By ALEXANDER MACLEAN of Ardgour, Esq., through Sir W. ELLIOT, K.S.I., F.S.A. Scot.

A Bronze flat Celt, $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, by $3\frac{1}{4}$ across the wide end, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ across the small end, found in a cave on the mountain side, behind Ardgour House, in which was a considerable deposit of the bones of deer, sheep, and other animals.

- (8.) By Captain ALEXANDER GUNN, Braehour, through Colonel GUTHRIE of Scotscaulder, Esq.

A Bronze Palstave, $4\frac{3}{4}$ inches long, by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches across the widest part of the face, and 1 inch across the small end, with flanges rising to half-an-inch in depth, and a stop-ridge $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches from the small end. It was found when digging peats in a moss in the parish of Watten, Caithness.

- (9.) By Mr ROBERT MACADAM, Mill of Watten, Caithness, through ANDREW KERR, Esq., of H.M. Board of Works, F.S.A. Scot.

Iron Spear Head, 10 inches long (broken at the point); found in a short stone cist, at Watten, Caithness.

In a gravel hillock near the Mill of Watten, a short stone cist was found in the year 1867, in which were the remains of a skeleton, the skull and thigh bones being tolerably entire. In 1869 some further digging in the same hillock, about 20 yards further west, exposed two other graves lying parallel to each other, and about 20 yards westward from the first one, and distant from each other about 6 feet. In one of these the spear head was found. The whole neighbourhood is full of early remains.

In 1841 the large mound on the edge of the brae at the fork of the burn at Auchingale, lying to the south of the Mill of Watten, was opened by Mr William Larnach. The mound was found to cover the ruins of a Broch. A considerable refuse heap of shells, broken bones, and deer horns was found in connection with it. Human remains were also found, as they have been in almost every such mound that has been found in Caithness. A large cairn, called the Cairn of Auchintoft, is not far distant. On either side of the Parliamentary road at Greystones, still nearer the Mill of Watten, there were a number of small circular tumuli, which were levelled when the ground was brought into cultivation about the same time. The farm of Greystones takes its name from two large standing stones in the meadow near the burn, only one of which now remains. There was attached to them the usual tradition of a battle with the Danes. When the house of Greystones was being built, a small tumulus, in what is now the garden attached to the farm-house, was found to contain a cist about 4 feet long, and nearly 2 feet deep, covered with a large flagstone. In

the cist were "Calcined" Bones, and an Urn which fell to pieces when lifted. In the spring of 1840, Alexander Bremner, the landlord of the adjoining hostelry, in trenching a plot of ground near the river, exposed a circular wall 12 feet in diameter. The interior was filled with ashes and rubbish, among which he found a stone celt, 17 inches long, 9 inches across the broadest end, and 4 inches across the narrow end. It is described as "shaped like a tailor's lapboard," and is probably the largest stone celt on record if the measurements given are correct. Along with it were found two round balls of granite.

(10.) By C. W. BOASE, Esq., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

A Century of Banking in Dundee. From 1764 to 1864. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1867.

(11.) By the Rev. CHARLES ROGERS, LL.D., F.S.A. Scot., the Author.

The Poems of Sir Robert Aytoun. With a Memoir. By the Rev. Charles Rogers, LL.D. Privately printed. 8vo. London, 1871.
Genealogical Chart of the Family of Bain.

(12.) By the LORDS COMMISSIONERS OF H.M. TREASURY, through the
MASTER OF THE ROLLS.

Calendar of State Papers. Colonial, East Indies. 1617-1621. 8vo.
Letters and Papers, Foreign and Domestic. Henry VIII. Vol. iv.
Part 1. 1524-1526. 8vo.

(13.) By JOHN STUART, LL.D., Secretary.

Illustrations of the Topography and Antiquities of the shires of Aberdeen and Banff (Spalding Club). Vol. i.

(14.) By JAMES GIBSON GREIG, Esq.

Index or Abridgment of the Acts of Parliament. By Sir James Stewart. 12mo. Edinburgh, 1707.

Memoirs concerning the Ancient Alliance between the French and Scots. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1751.

Report on the Statements of the Lord Provost and Mr A. Bruce respecting the Affairs of the City of Edinburgh. By John Greig. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1819. Pp. 57.

Titi Livii Patavini Historia. 12mo. Amstel. 1635.

Tentamen Physiologicum Inaugurale. By James C. Maclaurin. 8vo. Edinburgh, 1788.

The following Communications were read :—