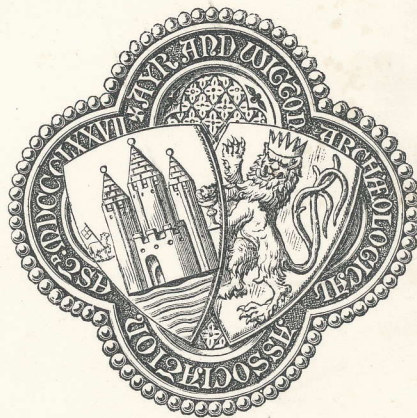


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I.

NOTES ON THE ANCIENT STONE IMPLEMENTS OF WIGTOWNSHIRE.

FOUR implements, referred to in Vol. I. of our *Collections*, are now illustrated by engravings, and some others lately discovered are described.

§ 1. *Polished Imperforate Stone Axes*.—The familiar word *celt* may have to be given up, as originating in a mistake, but may be used until a better term is agreed on. Fig. 1 shows a form not common in this district, with the *sides rounded* instead of sharp or ground flat, of claystone, $5\frac{1}{4}$ inches long, $2\frac{3}{4}$ broad at cutting edge, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ thick, with some of the chip marks not ground out. Found near Castle Kennedy, Inch, and now the property of our President, the Right Honourable the Earl of Stair. I have two of this type, one from High Torrs, Old Luce, of very dark greenstone, $4\frac{1}{3}$ by $2\frac{1}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{3}$ inches, with some of the chip marks not ground out; the other, from Dunragit Moor, Old Luce, where it was found in a dry stone wall, is of very coarse but close-grained siliceous sandstone, much weathered, and measures $8\frac{1}{4}$ by $3\frac{5}{8}$ by 2 inches, the greatest width being $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch from the edge; much rounded and broken at the *pointed* butt.

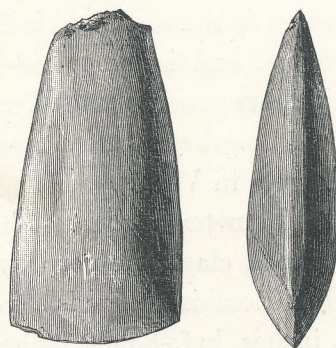


FIG. 1.—Stone Axe, imperforate.
Castle Kennedy, Inch. Scale $\frac{1}{3}$.

§ 2. *Perforated Axe-Hammers*.—Fig. 2 represents a curious implement from Machermore, Old Luce, of reddish gray sandstone, $6\frac{1}{2}$ by $3\frac{3}{8}$ by $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches, the diameter of haft-hole nearly 2 inches at the upper side, $2\frac{1}{8}$ at the lower, and $1\frac{5}{8}$ at the middle, its centre being nearest the cutting edge, which is much worn by use, especially at the lower side. Almost the whole surface looks as if it had been ground to its present shape. The right face is comparatively straight, but the *left face turns suddenly inward*

from a point near the haft-hole. In Vol. I. p. 16, I have described a very rude implement having a similar outline, of which the smaller end is $\frac{1}{2}$ inch thick at the sharpest part, and is also most worn at the lower side. Mr. M'Caig has sent me one similarly curved from Low Mye, Stoneykirk, of dark gray sandstone, 9 by $4\frac{1}{2}$ by 4 inches behind haft-hole, and 3 at the lunate edge, diameter of haft-hole at surface $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and at middle $1\frac{1}{2}$, its centre $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches from the butt, where the stone is defective on the curved face. It was found on a small hill at Mye Loch, with a smaller one of the same form. These implements seem to be of a peculiar type.

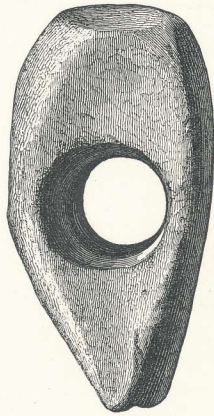


FIG. 2.—Stone Axe-Hammer. Machermore, Old Luce. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$.

§ 3. *Stone Hammer*.—A correspondent has sent me one found near Torhouse Mill, Wigtown, $5\frac{3}{4}$ by $3\frac{3}{4}$ by $2\frac{3}{4}$ inches, haft-hole $1\frac{1}{2}$ at surface, and $1\frac{1}{4}$ at middle, its centre $2\frac{3}{4}$ from the butt, which is rounded, and is $2\frac{1}{8}$ inches in width and $1\frac{3}{4}$ in depth. The wedge-shaped end is somewhat lunate at the edge, but a good deal damaged, the sides are much rounded, especially near the butt, and the sides are concave both lengthwise and across, like the implement from the same neighbourhood figured in Vol. I. p. 15. The whole surface has been ground smooth, and the diameter of the haft-hole is more uniform than usual. The stone seems to be a claystone porphyry. In the Museum of Dr. Grierson at Thornhill, Dumfriesshire, there is a wedge-shaped hammer of gray sandstone, 10 by 5 by 3 inches, haft-hole 2 inches at surface and $1\frac{1}{2}$ at middle. It was found by a drainer, at a depth of 3 feet 10 inches, on the farm of Stelloch, Glasserton.

§ 4. *Stone Implements, with circular hollows wrought on their faces*.—In Vol. I. pp. 17 and 18, I have described five, and figured one, of these curious implements, which are rare in Scotland.

(A.) *Elongated type*.—Fig. 3 represents one from Gillespie, Old Luce; a water-worn pebble of lightish coloured fine-grained sandstone, 4 by $2\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, with a smoothly ground central depression on each face 1 inch in diameter and nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth. At the lower end, next the least curved side, there are marks as if it had been used for hammering. I have presented it to the Museum in Edinburgh. A

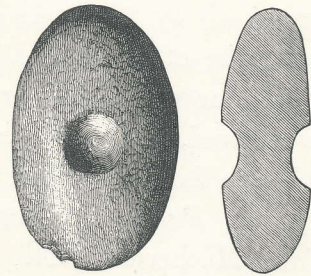


FIG. 3.—Elongated Sandstone Pebble, with circular depression worked on its flat sides. Gillespie, Old Luce. Scale $\frac{1}{2}$.

similar implement found at High Mark, Leswalt, which also has marks of hammering, is described in Vol. I. p. 18.

(B.) *Circular type*.—A very fine specimen from Old Luce is figured in Vol. I. p. 18. Fig. 4 represents one found on the Moor of Galdenoch, Leswalt, and presented by the late Rev. Thos. B. Bell, Free Church, Leswalt, to the National Museum of the Soc. Ant. Scot. in Edinburgh. It is a rough-grained pebble of gray sandstone, 3 by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches, with a smoothly ground central depression on each face $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth.¹

I have described a smaller one very like it, from Gillespie, Old Luce. These three implements show no marks of having been used for hammering, and the depressions are broader in proportion to their depth than in the elongated type. In all five the depressions are not so pointed at the bottom as those I have seen in a partially bored stone hammer in Dr. Grierson's Museum.

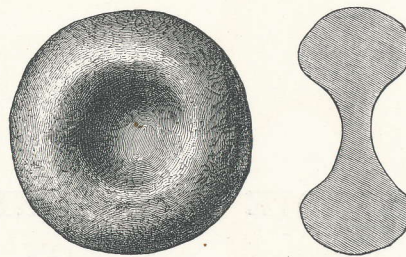


FIG. 4.—Circular Sandstone Pebble, with circular depression worked on its flat sides. High Mark, Leswalt. Scale above $\frac{1}{2}$.

While these pages were being printed, my friend John Douglas, Esq., M.D., Whithorn, lent me two specimens of this type from Glasserton parish. One from Garrerie, very like the figure in Vol. I. p. 18, is of gray granite, $3\frac{1}{4}$ by $2\frac{7}{8}$ by $1\frac{1}{2}$ inches, the hollow on one face $1\frac{1}{8}$ inch in diameter and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch in depth, that on the other face 1 by $\frac{1}{8}$ inch. On one side it is somewhat bevelled, as if worn by use. The other, from a different part of the same parish, is a gray sandstone, 4 by $3\frac{3}{4}$ by $1\frac{3}{4}$ inches, the hollow on one face $\frac{5}{8}$ of an inch in diameter and depth, that on the other $\frac{1}{2}$ inch, much bruised all round the sides, many of the marks being recent. Only eight of these implements have been reported in Scotland, one from Dunning, Perthshire, elongated and with rounded angles, and all the rest from Wigtownshire.

GEORGE WILSON.

FREE CHURCH, GLENLUCE.

¹ *Proc. Soc. Ant. Scot.*, vol. iv. p. 440 ; quoted by Evans, p. 215.