

Finds

Artifacts. In N.M.A., except the pottery which is lost (*ill. p. 254*).

1. Pottery, in the floor. 'The broken fragments of four or five urns . . . some of them of decidedly well made pottery. . . . These fragments are larger than any found in the floors of the other cairns. One of these vessels of well-burnt clay, blackened on both sides, must have been twelve inches across the mouth. The pieces marked nos. 1 and 2 join together, and form a large segment of the rim. They were found three or four inches under the surface of the floor, close together, but while the lip of the one was uppermost, in the other case it was down. The clay of these is also plentifully mixed with mica. On no. 8, the ashes still adhere to the inner side, while the outer side is clean and unblackened. Fragments, nos. 3, 4, 5 and 6, belong to the same vessel, and partly piece together. It has been of very handsome make, and is the thinnest pottery I have seen from these cairns. Holes, about the diameter of an ordinary goose-quill, have been bored in it at intervals, immediately under the lip. No. 7 (of the fragments) exhibits an ornamentation unique as regards the pottery of these cairns. The outside is roughened all over by the impression of the point and nail of a small finger, obliquely thrust into the clay.'¹ 'Some were ornamented with incised lines.'³ 'Some had thickened, and others had everted, lips.'²

(I).

2. Knife of dark grey speckled flint, with fine pressure flaking, one edge ground, broken at each end (EO 97).

3. Transverse arrowhead of grey speckled flint (EO 101).

4. Scraper of grey flint (EO 98).

5. Long triangular point of grey-buff flint, steep retouching down each side (EO 102).

6. Flake of brown flint, retouching on one edge (EO 110).

7. Rectangular blades of grey and brown flint, retouched down each long side (EO 103-4).

8. Flint flakes with one or two edges retouched (EO 99, 100, 105-6, 111, 114, 118, 119).

9. Broken end of a worked flake of brown flint (EO 107).

10. Small utilised flint flakes (EO 108-9).

11. Flint and chert flakes (EO 112-3, 115-7, 120-22).

12. Iron knife-blade (EO 123).

1, 2 in the earth and ash layer; 12 lay on this layer.

1, 6, some of 8, 10, 11, 12 not illustrated.

Skeletal. Lost. On the earth and ash layer, were unburnt human bones, more than in the layer below.² In the burnt layer were 'a considerable number of fragments of human bones, mostly imperfectly burnt, but in some cases completely calcined',² the remains of at least three or four skeletons. In the passage blocking 'two skeletons were found about half way between the chamber and the outer end of the passage. Of the skeletons only the upper extremities remained; and the skulls and arm bones were not on the floor but among the stones above it. The suggestion of the circumstances was that the bodies had been placed there in a sitting position, and the stones that blocked up the passage packed in about them.'³

Animal remains. Lost. Relatively few animal bones.

