

The use of war-trumpets among the Celtic races of Western Europe has been often referred to by classical authors, but only a few instruments which can be classed in this category have hitherto been found in Britain. In Ireland, however, they are more numerous, as we learn from Sir W. Wilde's Catalogue of the Museum of the Royal Irish Academy. These instruments were made either in a solid casting of bronze, or in sections by riveting tubes of sheet-metal together. The well-known large Danish trumpets are of this description. But besides the difference in their mode of manufacture, they may be classified into two varieties,

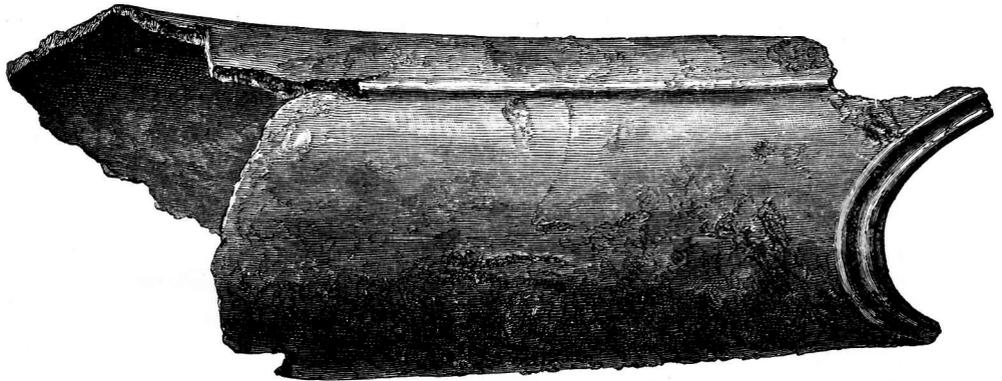


Fig. 121.—Portion of a side-blast trumpet found at Innermessan, Wigtownshire ( $\frac{1}{4}$ ).

according as the aperture of blowing is at the end of the tube or at the side.

Among the objects in the collection of antiquities presented to the National Museum by Sir Herbert Maxwell, there is a portion of a bronze side-blast trumpet, showing the mouth-piece, which had been found at Innermessan, Wigtownshire (fig. 121).

A bronze horn or trumpet (fig. 122) made in one solid casting (preserved in Caprington Castle) was found, some time prior to 1654, on the estate of Coilsfield, in the parish of Tarbolton, Ayrshire. It measures 25 inches in length,



Fig. 122.—*Bronze horn found at Coilsfield, Ayrshire (25 inches in length).*

nearly 4 inches across the end aperture, and nearly 8 inches in circumference at the lowest band.<sup>1</sup>

It is probable that some of these trumpets belong to the early Iron Age; and this opinion is strengthened by the character of the ornamentation on the disc at the distal extremity of one of them (fig. 123), which unmistakably shows Late Celtic work. In regard to this object Sir W. Wilde makes the following remarks:<sup>2</sup>

“In 1794 four brazen trumpets were found in a bog on the borders of Lough-na-Shade, near Armagh. One of these figured by Stuart, in his ‘History of Armagh,’ is the large riveted trumpet with a decorated disk, and central globular connecting portion, and which is joined with rivets; whereas all those previously noticed were cast. . . .

The decorated disk below, the details of the punched or hammered-up ornament on which are shown in the accompanying illustration (fig. 123), measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  inches across. Its style of decoration much resembles that of the

large shield-like plates represented by fig. 533, page 637.

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xii. p. 565.

<sup>2</sup> Catalogue, p. 625.

Its present mode of attachment to the trumpet-mouth is evidently modern.”

Besides the notices of these trumpets in the Academy's 'Catalogue,' in 'Ancient Bronze Implements,' &c., and in 'Horæ Ferales,' some additional notes and illustrations will be found in the 'Reliquary,' &c., for April 1899, by Mr J. C. Prætorius and the Editor.

Arrow-heads made of bronze have not as yet been found in Scotland, and their existence in England and Ireland seems somewhat doubtful.<sup>1</sup> But they are occasionally found among the remains of lake-dwellings in Central Europe, where they assume various forms, sometimes as miniature spear-heads with a tang or a socket, and sometimes as triangular pieces of thin bronze. The latter



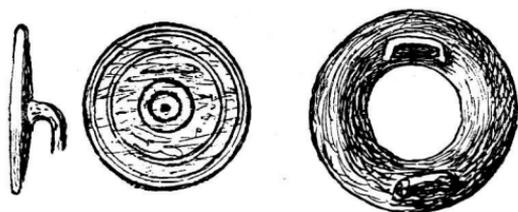
Fig. 123.—Disc ornament of a bronze trumpet found in an Irish bog (7½ inches in diameter).

contain two or more small holes by means of which they could be fastened to the stem with a string. In Southern Europe, Greece, and Egypt, a small triple-edged arrow-point was used, specimens of which may be seen in many of the Continental museums. Flint arrow-heads are so common in Bronze-Age burials that it is quite evident that the introduction of metal into general use did not supersede these weapons, so that they are not peculiar to the Stone Age.

<sup>3</sup> Arch. Journal, vol. iii. p. 47; vol. vii. p. 281; vol. xiii. pp. 20, 27; vol. xxi. p. 90; vol. xxii. p. 68.

4. *Objects of Toilet and Personal Ornament.*

That the use of bone and bronze pins survived in the British Isles to medieval times is amply proved by the discovery of numerous specimens on the sites of Romano-British towns, as well as among the *débris* and refuse-heaps of the Scottish and Irish crannogs. Hence it would be rash to infer that a bronze pin belongs to the Bronze Age, merely because it is made of bronze, unless its association with typical relics of the period would justify that conclusion. A slender bronze pin with a circular cup-shaped head was found in a moss in the island of Skye, associated with a leaf-shaped bronze sword and two socketed bronze spear-



Figs. 124, 125.—*Head of bronze pin and button-like mounting found in Edinburgh* ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ).

heads.<sup>1</sup> Another pin (fig. 124) having a flat circular head, ornamented with concentric circles, and bent over so as to bring the plane of the disc parallel with the stem,

was found in the Grosvenor Crescent hoard already referred to. Two bronze pins with similar disc-shaped heads were found at Tarves, Aberdeenshire, associated with leaf-shaped swords and a scabbard-end of bronze. Specimens of the same type of pin, with the heads highly ornamented, have been found in Ireland and on the Continent. Small pins with round heads are not unfrequently found in urns among the cremated bones, and in graves after inhumation, having been used to fasten the clothing on the body previous to the interment. But they are often so much corroded that it is difficult to determine whether they were intended for

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. iii. p. 101.

pins or awls. Canon Greenwell found bone pins more common than bronze pins in the Bronze-Age barrows of Yorkshire. The bronze pins hitherto discovered within the British Isles are very inferior to those from the lake-dwellings of Switzerland as regards size, variety of form, and beauty of ornamentation.

Buttons of bone and jet have already been described as relics of the Stone Age, but they are more commonly found among remains of the Bronze Age. A curious object of bronze, supposed to be a button,<sup>1</sup> formed part of the Grosvenor hoard (fig. 125). It is a hollow circular ring,  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch in diameter, having two loops on one side by which it could be attached to clothing. The common present-day button—viz., that of a disc, with a loop on one side—was also known in bronze.<sup>2</sup>

Needles of bone and bronze have been found in Scotland, but not often in circumstances which enable us to classify them as Bronze-Age relics.<sup>3</sup> Both sewing and netting needles of bone are among the relics from the crannogs in Ayrshire. Combs of bronze have been found both in the Swiss lake-dwellings and in the Terremare, but they are not among the relics of the Bronze Age hitherto collected in Scotland.

The knowledge of bronze gave a great impetus to the development of personal ornaments. Being an attractive metal to the eye, it was readily seized upon for the manufacture of armlets, necklaces, diadems, rings, pendants, earrings, &c.

Of the Scottish armlets a few can be assigned to the Bronze Age, owing to their having been found in association with other relics of that period. Dr J. Alexander

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xiii. p. 322.

<sup>2</sup> See Evans, 'Bronze Implements,' p. 400.

<sup>3</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xv. p. 273.

Smith describes three bracelets, with fragments of others, found, along with a number of bronze objects (a celt with socket and loop, two spear-heads, and four broken bits of tin), by a man ploughing a mossy field at Wester Achtertyre, in Morayshire<sup>1</sup> (fig. 126). Two penannular bronze armlets, tapering a little towards their extremities, were found, along with nine bronze celts, near the hill of Benachie, in Aberdeenshire.<sup>2</sup>

Another armlet of thin beaten bronze was found, along with a necklace of beads and plates of jet, in a cist contain-

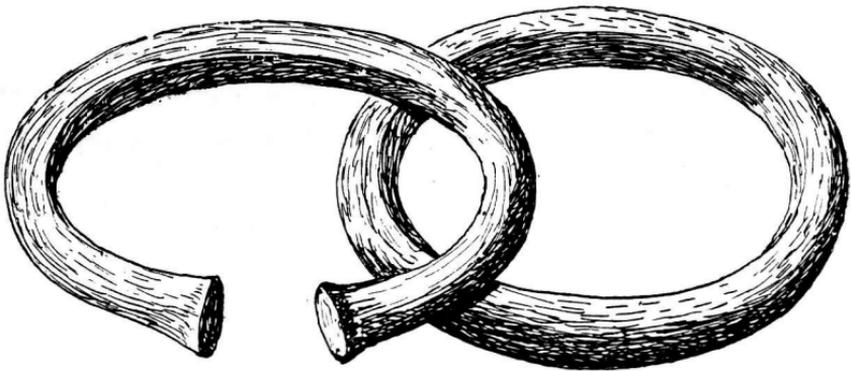


Fig. 126.—Bronze penannular armlet found at Achtertyre, Morayshire ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ).

Fig. 127.—Bronze ring-armlet, one of a pair found with an urn at Kinneff, Kincardineshire ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ).

ing an unburnt skeleton, at Melfort, Argyleshire<sup>3</sup> (fig. 128). A penannular bracelet with expanded ends, and some plain rings, were part of a hoard found, near Killin, by a man trenching an uncultivated knowe. This hoard is described by Mr Charles Stewart. Besides the bracelet and rings it comprised the following objects: portion of the hilt-end of a small leaf-shaped sword; a socketed spear-head; two socketed celts; a socketed gouge; and a circular hollow ring, "similar to one found, with two spear-heads, at Inshoch, in Nairnshire, and to a smaller one found, with a bronze

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. ix. p. 436.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 436, and vol. i. p. 138.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. xix. p. 135.

sword, in Edinburgh.”<sup>1</sup> Dr Joseph Anderson describes two ring-armlets of solid bronze (fig. 127) which were found by a man trenching ground near the Castle of Kinneff, in Kincardineshire, associated with a highly ornamented urn and a spear-head of bronze. Other armlets of the same type, also associated with burials, are recorded from the parish of Crawford, Lanarkshire, and from near Stobo Castle in Peeblesshire.<sup>2</sup>

Another form of armlet is a penannular ring with cup-shaped ends—a type more frequently met with in Ireland than in Scotland. One, described by Mr Jolly (fig. 129), was found, along with a number of socketed celts and other bronze objects, 6 feet below the surface, by a man digging peats at Poolewe, Ross-shire.<sup>3</sup> Bracelets of this type are more frequently made of gold. Sir Daniel Wilson<sup>4</sup> figures and describes a very fine example found by a labourer while cutting peats in the parish of Cromdale, Inverness-shire (fig. 130). Two gold armlets “were found in association with an interment of an unburnt body in connection with a group of burials at Alloa, of which the larger number were burials after cremation.” The armlets lay on the top of a large flat stone, underneath which was an entire skeleton.<sup>5</sup> Gold bracelets were generally made of

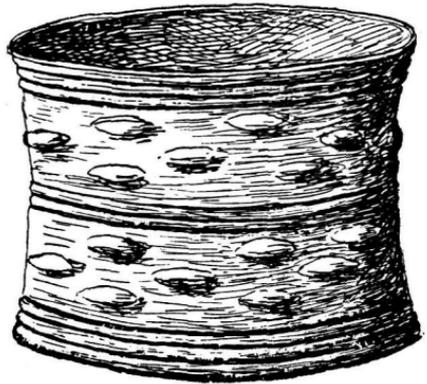


Fig. 128.—Bronze bracelet found in a cist at Melfort, Argyllshire ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ).

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xvi. p. 27.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., vol. xvii. p. 450; vol. ii. p. 277.

<sup>4</sup> Prehistoric Annals, vol. i. p. 460.

<sup>5</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xvii. p. 448.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., vol. xiv. p. 47.

solid rods, cylindrical or quadrilateral on section, with slightly enlarged or expanded extremities. Three penannular gold armlets, showing a quadrilateral section, were found together in Stonehill Wood, parish of Carmichael, Lanarkshire, and exhibited at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of London on the 18th April 1864.

Another variety of the gold bracelets found in Scotland is a flat band twisted like a corkscrew, the ends passing gradually into hook-like knobs which can be made to clasp

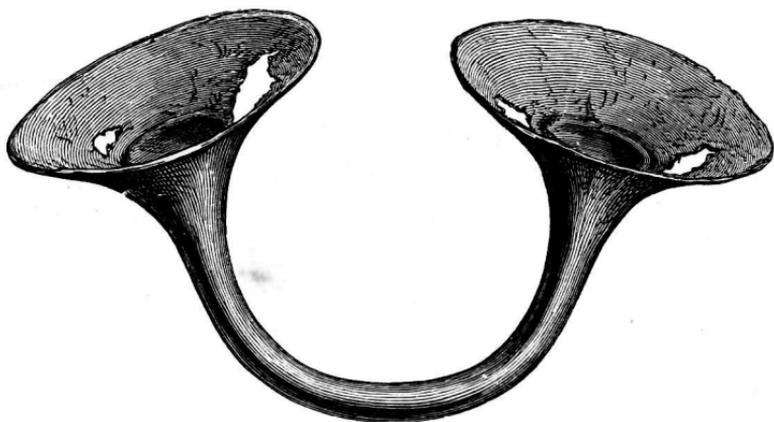


Fig. 129.—*Bronze penannular ring with cup-shaped ends found in peat at Poolewe, Ross-shire ( $\frac{3}{4}$ ).*

each other. Specimens of this type are sometimes so large that they must have been used as torques for the neck. A hoard, consisting of four of these ornaments, was discovered in 1848 in loose earth at Lower Largo, in Fifeshire, and others have been found in several other places throughout Scotland.<sup>1</sup>

Of the many coiled bracelets or arm-bands, so common in Central Europe, none made of bronze has been found in Scotland, and only one of gold. This solitary specimen was found at Slateford, Mid-Lothian, in 1846, during the construction of the Caledonian Railway.<sup>2</sup> It is made of three

<sup>1</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xviii. p. 238.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid., p. 239.

rods of gold twisted together and uniting at the ends into one rod, which is then bent sharply back so as to form a long hook. Like many other valuable relics it found its way into the melting-pot, and only a model of it now remains (fig. 131).

Penannular bracelets, with or without expanded ends, are common all over Europe. The large, hollow, and highly ornamented bracelets, so characteristic of the Swiss lake-dwellings, are not represented in the British Isles.

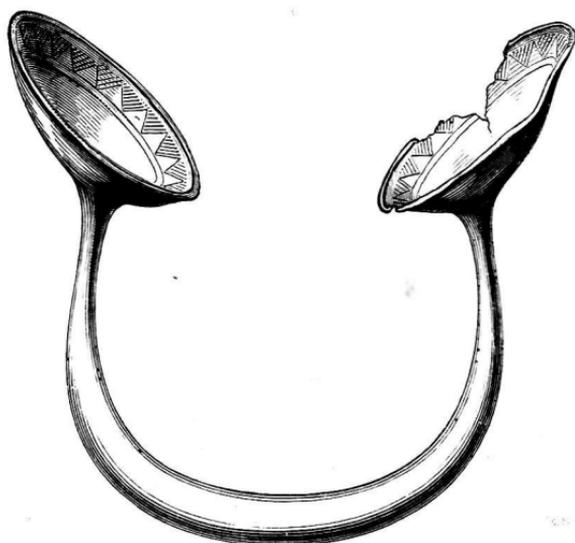


Fig. 130.—Gold armlet found in peat in the parish of Cromdale, Inverness-shire ( $\frac{2}{3}$ ).

The torque or twisted neck-ring made of bronze, and found so largely in Central and Northern Europe, appears to be unknown both in Scotland and Ireland; but a few specimens have been found in the southern and western counties of England. Those which reverse the twist one or more times, and also those terminating in broad expansions or free spirals, are only to be found on the Continent. Upon the whole, torques are rare among the remains of the true Bronze Age in Europe, as only some half-dozen specimens have been collected on the sites of the lake-dwellings of

Europe. These are all of one type, and adapted to hook at the back of the neck.<sup>1</sup> The torques and spiral bracelets of this kind hitherto discovered in Scotland are made of gold, of which specimens have been recorded from Belhelvie, Aberdeenshire,<sup>2</sup> Lower Largo,<sup>3</sup> Moor of Rannoch<sup>4</sup> (fig. 132), and parish of Urquhart, near Elgin.<sup>5</sup>

The Gaulish torques, so famous in Roman times, were not

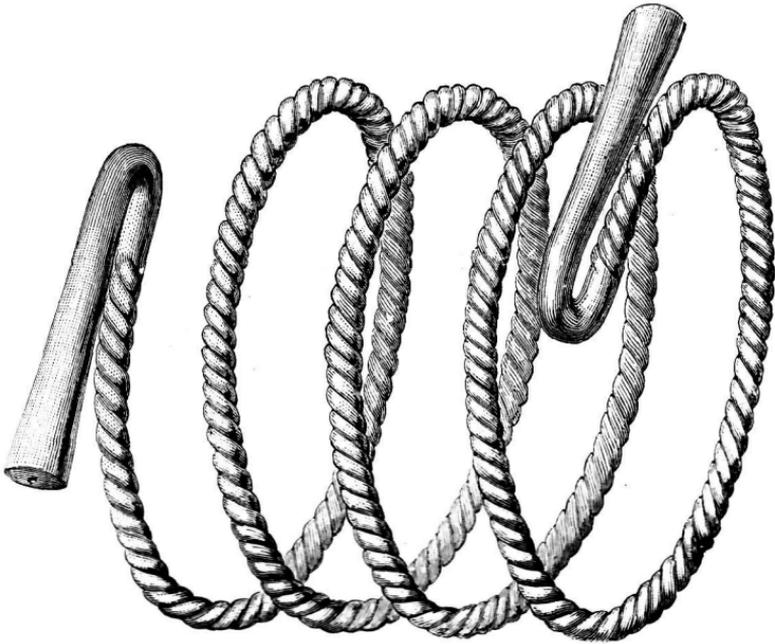


Fig. 131.—Gold armlet found at Slateford, Mid-Lothian ( $\frac{3}{8}$ ).

of this type. They consisted of two symmetrical portions fastened at the back by a movable joint, the other ends terminating in an expanded bulb like some of the large penannular bracelets. Several portions of such torques have been found in the Oppidum La Tène, and so far they appear to be precisely similar to those represented on Roman

<sup>1</sup> See 'Lake-Dwellings of Europe,' fig. 10, No. 3, fig. 63, No. 19, and fig. 98, No. 9.

<sup>2</sup> Proc. Soc. A. Scot., vol. xviii. p. 237.

<sup>3</sup> Ibid., p. 234.

<sup>4</sup> Ibid., p. 238.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid., vol. ii. p. 530.