

NOTE ON THE CHILDREN'S BONES.

The children's bones, I believe, have never been moved from the time the bodies were first laid under the large flat stones over the entrance. I base this opinion on the fact that none of the bones are broken; the flat bones, especially the cranial bones, are warped and flattened, and some of the long bones are corroded by time, but none are broken. Again, all the bones requisite for the building up the five skeletons, I believe to be present, except such small ones (those of the hand and foot, for instance) as must have crumbled away in the course of years. Had such delicate bones been even slightly disturbed, they could not have been found in their present perfect condition.

The regular gradation in the age of the children (beautifully shown in the jaws and long bones, and in the various pelvic bones) from the infant to the youth of seven, seems to indicate that they were all of one family; if so, doubtless all buried at the same time.

Quæro.—Was a whole family sacrificed, and then placed under the great flat stone which served as an altar?

Captain BURTON referred to the work recently published by the Society, Carl Vogt's *Lectures on Man*. He felt sure they must be unanimous in the opinion that a great boon had been conferred on science by their excellent president in editing it, and that they would all join in a vote of thanks to him.

Dr. HUNT acknowledged the compliment, and observed that he only held the office of President of the society until some other person, more worthy of the office, could take his place. He hoped that all the members present would attend the anniversary meeting, to be held that day fortnight, when the important question would be taken into consideration, of the steps to be adopted to obtain separate recognition of Anthropological science at the meetings of the British Association for the Advancement of Science. He also announced that Mr. Laing intended to have casts made of the skulls found at Caithness, and that he had kindly offered to send some to this society to be placed in their museum. He proposed the thanks of the meeting to Mr. Laing for his liberal offer as well as for his valuable communication.

The thanks having been given the meeting then adjourned.
