

TWENTY-NINTH REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

TWENTY-NINTH REPORT of the Committee—consisting of the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, Dr. Brushfield, Mr. R. Burnard, Rev. J. F. Chanter, and Mr. R. Hansford Worth (Secretary)—appointed to collect and record facts relating to Barrows in Devonshire, and to take steps, where possible, for their investigation.

Edited by R. HANSFORD WORTH, Secretary of the Committee.

(Read at Cullompton, 27th July, 1910.)

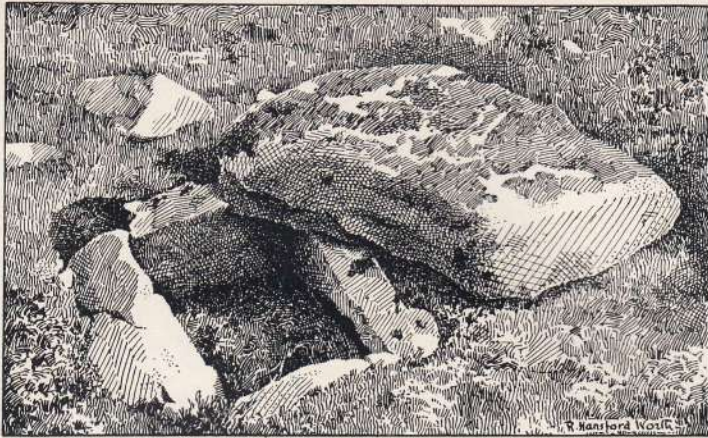
RINGMOOR—PLYM VALLEY.

IN August, 1909, a stone circle on Ringmoor in the Plym valley was re-erected. This, which we will call Brisworthy Circle, was formerly marked on the six-inch Ordnance Survey as a hut, an error corrected in the latest edition. The stone row on Ringmoor is now also to be found on the Ordnance, but the Rev. H. H. Breton, vicar of Sheepstor, has discovered a hitherto unknown very perfect kistvaen, and there is in addition a small cairn, both of which are within sight of the stone circle, and neither shown on the map.

The kistvaen is situate long. $4^{\circ} 1' 16\frac{1}{4}''$ W., lat. $50^{\circ} 18' 24\frac{1}{2}''$ N., and the cairn long. $4^{\circ} 1' 17\frac{3}{4}''$ W., lat. $50^{\circ} 28' 16\frac{1}{2}''$ N.; both should be entered on sheet CXII, S.E., six-inch survey.

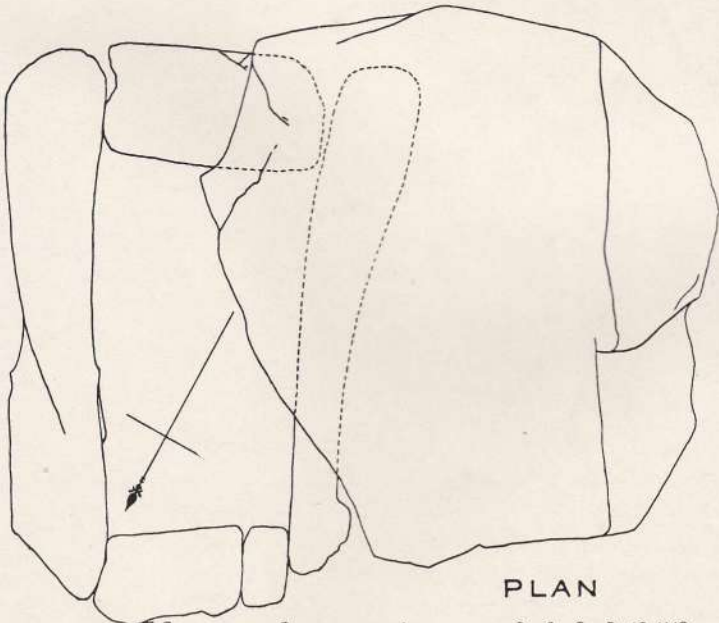
Time did not permit the re-excavation of the kistvaen, which had been opened at some unrecorded period, but a plan and view are given herewith, and the following notes. The kist is 3 feet 1 inch long, 1 foot 9 inches wide within, and 1 foot in depth to present grass floor, the direction of its length is N. 50° W. The cover-stone has been thrust to one side, and still partly overhangs the

LEGIS LAKE .

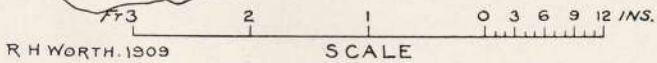


VIEW

LOOKING S. 22° W.



PLAN



kist, which lies within the remains of a retaining circle, the internal diameter of which is 14 feet; the largest remaining stone of this circle is 4 feet 10 inches in length. Of the barrow which once occupied the circle and covered the kistvaen there is only the slightest trace remaining. The distance from the centre of Brisworthy Circle is 323 yards, and the bearing from the circle is N. 24° E.

The cairn above referred to would appear to be more closely associated with Brisworthy Circle; it is but a low mound, ten inches above the general surface level, twenty-one feet in diameter within the retaining circle of stone of which slight remains yet exist; from the centre of Brisworthy Circle to the centre of the cairn the distance is three hundred and thirteen feet, and the bearing N. 77° E.

A north-and-south trench was carried through the centre of the cairn, with a slight cross-cut east and west at the centre. A section is here given along the north-and-south trench.

Immediately on lifting the turf the stones of which the mound is formed were bared, and these at the centre were found to extend to a depth of twenty inches, or ten inches above and ten inches below the general ground level. The surface soil had evidently been skimmed down to the subsoil before the interment was made or the cairn raised.

A little to the north of the exact centre, under the stones, was found a pit, sunk in the "calm," about two feet in diameter, and from seven to eight inches in depth. On re-excavation the contents of this pit were found to be charcoal mixed with earth. No implements, flint nor pottery, and no fragments of bone, burnt or otherwise, were discovered. But notwithstanding the absence of these positive evidences, it appears clear this is an instance of a very usual form of interment after cremation.

At various times during the examination of Brisworthy Circle and the associated remains, there were present the Rev. H. H. Breton, Mr. R. Burnard, Mr. Ford, Dr. Prowse, Mrs. Hansford Worth, and the Secretary, who exercised constant supervision. [R. H. WORTH.]