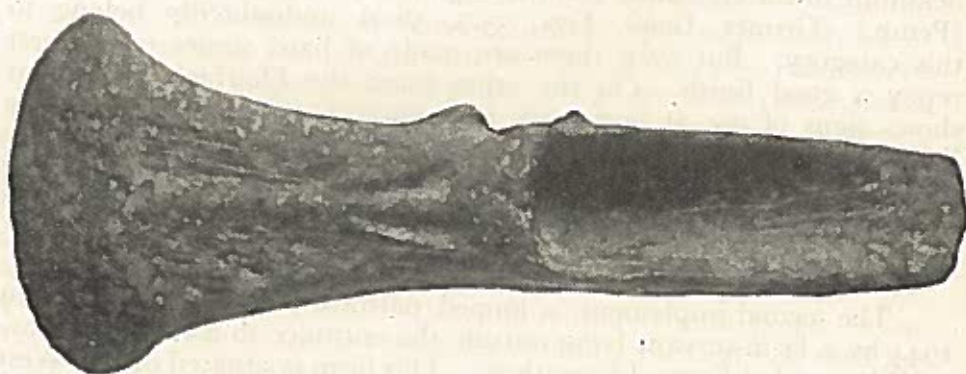


Bronze Age finds and sites given in the *Carmarthenshire County History* (Vol I, map IV), for isolated discoveries of implements to occur almost wholly in the neighbourhood of the Towy valley itself. This distribution contrasts strongly with that of Bronze Age burials, which are almost confined to the higher parts of the main watersheds between the Teifi, Towy and Tawe. The authors of the relevant chapter of the *County History* (Vol. I pp. 63 ff) assume that the perforated stone implements which form a large proportion of the isolated finds belong to the Early Bronze Age, and as most of the barrow burials are undoubtedly of Middle or Late Bronze Age date, they conclude that



LOOPED PALSTAVE, CILSAN-UCHAF, LLANGATHEN.

settlement was confined to the Towy valley and the lower hills adjoining it during the Early Bronze Age, and only extended to the high moorland during the Middle Bronze Age, when the sub-Boreal climatic phase brought drier conditions. But while it is true that simple forms of perforated axe-hammer, some of them with splayed blades like the Ffairfach and other Towy Valley examples, do occur in grave-groups of Early Bronze Age date in England, axe-hammers with splayed blades are well represented in the 'Food Vessel' and 'Wessex' Cultures of the same area, which belong in the main to the Middle Bronze Age, and even in the Urn Culture of North Britain during the