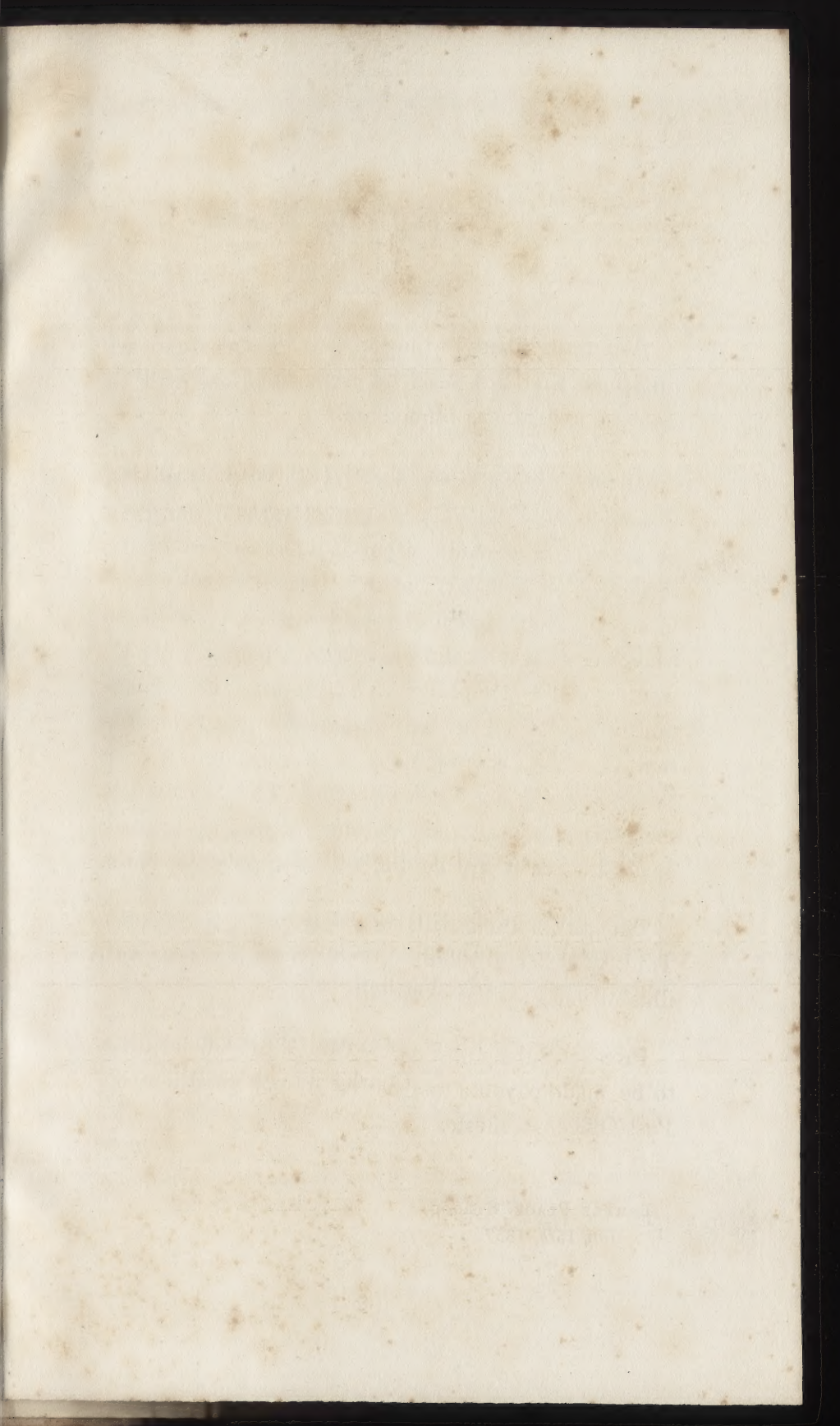


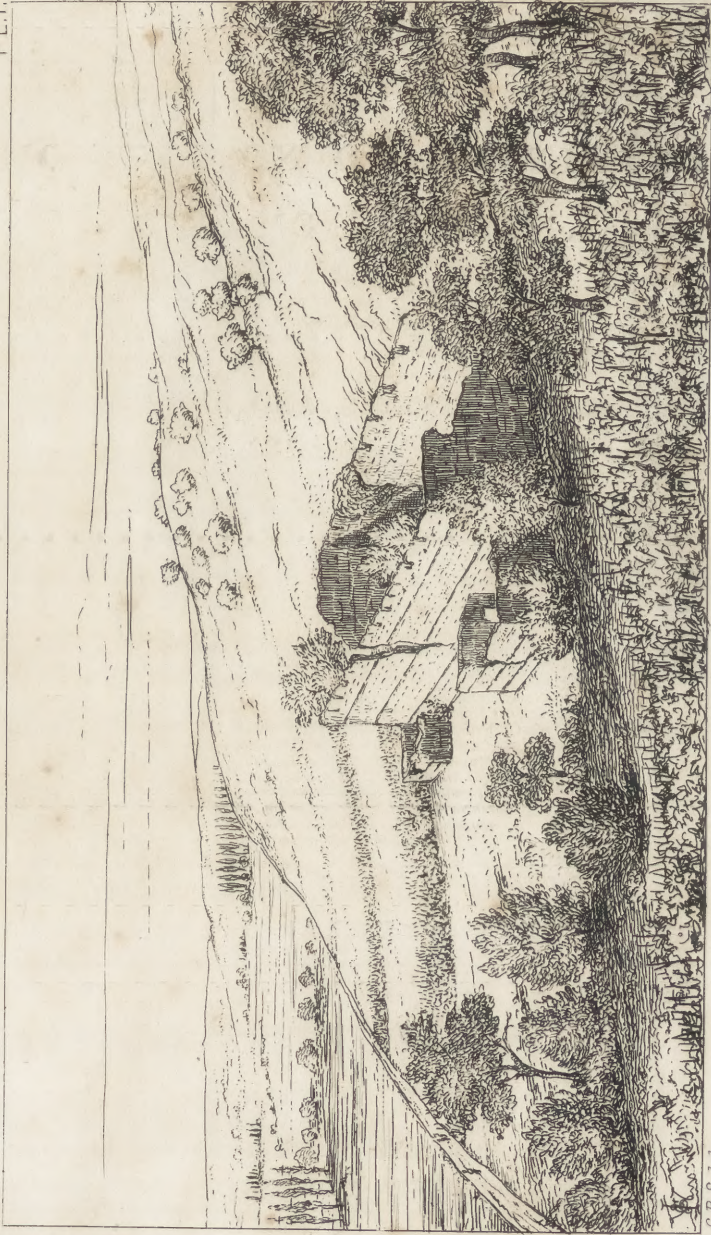
Mr. Sewer, F.S.A
from the Author.

—

1850
1851



PL. I.



J. G. M. sculp.

C. R. S. del.

THÉSÉE.

From the hill above the Village

COLLECTANEA ANTIQUA,
ETCHINGS AND NOTICES OF
ANCIENT REMAINS,

ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE

HABITS, CUSTOMS, AND HISTORY
OF PAST AGES.

BY

CHARLES ROACH SMITH, HON. M.R.S.L.,

Honorary Member of the Numismatic Society of London; Corresponding Member of the Societies of Antiquaries of France, of the "Société Française pour la Conservation des Monuments," of Denmark, of Normandy, of Picardy, of the West of France, of the Morini, of Touraine; of the Society of Emulation of Abbeville; of the Archaeological Societies of Wiesbaden of Mayence, of Spain, and of Luxembourg; of the Societies of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, and of Scotland; of the Archaeological Societies of Cheshire, of Norfolk, of Sussex, and of Surrey, of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, etc.

VOL. IV.

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WILLIAMSON'S

THE

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THIS THE FOURTH

T. RICHARDS, 37, GREAT QUEEN STREET.

THE

COLLECTOR

IS

REGISTERED

BY

THE

FOR THE

TO
THE SUBSCRIBERS
AND
DONORS,
THIS, THE FOURTH VOLUME
OF THE
COLLECTANEA ANTIQUA,
IS GRATEFULLY
DEDICATED
BY
THE AUTHOR.

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is arranged in several paragraphs and appears to be a formal document or letter.

PREFACE.

THE present volume, owing chiefly to the necessary duties attending my leaving London, has been delayed a considerable time beyond the period proposed for its completion. It is trusted it will not be found less worthy the approbation that has been awarded to its precursors.

It will be seen that the subject matter, with slight exceptions, has been selected by me after a personal observation of the objects discussed. This, indeed, has been the basis of the work, as it should be of all archæological essays and disquisitions. But in one case I departed from this rule; and to this I have now to direct the attention of my readers.

I subjoined to the account of my last tour in France a review of Monsieur Lenormant's *Découverte d'un Cimetière Mérovingian à la Chapelle Saint-Eloi (Eure)*. (See p. 30.) I did so, because a portion of the essay had reference to notes I had made at Evreux; because the contents of M. Lenormant's pamphlet were calculated to interest in the highest degree the antiquaries of England,

and indeed of all Europe, as well as those of France; because the *Institut* of France, of which M. Lenormant is a distinguished member, had by its reception of a paper by the author, disarmed all suspicion of the possibility of finding that doubts existed on the genuineness of the inscriptions, and on the main points of the entire discovery. Indeed, up to the present time, the *Institut* has not impugned the correctness of M. Lenormant's statements; but the *Société libre du Département de l'Eure* has printed the report of a Commission* appointed to investigate the sources of the discovery, which report denies not only the accuracy of the facts and the validity of the conclusions deduced from them, but it also asserts that M. Lenormant has been deceived. To this report M. François Lenormant has replied;† and the Commission has published a rejoinder reiterating its assertions.‡ The late Mr. Kemble, moreover, informed me that he and Dr. Grimm believed the runic inscriptions to be forgeries. Thus stands the matter. The public must suspend its judgment until M. Lenormant himself and the *Institut*

* *De la Découverte d'un prétendu Cimetière Mérovingien à la Chapelle Saint-Eloi, par M. Charles Lenormant. Rapport fait à la Société libre du Département de l'Eure, et publié par son ordre.* Evreux, 1855.

† *De l'Authenticité des Monuments découverts à la Chapelle Saint-Eloi, par M. François Lenormant.*—"Le Correspondant," Sept. 25th, 1855.

‡ *Deuxième Rapport, fait à la Société de l'Eure.* Evreux, 1856.

have responded to the objections made by the Commission and dispelled the suspicions it has excited.

In an Appendix I have printed some matters of a personal kind. That relating to the London Antiquities is introduced as bearing upon the question of the utility of the preservation of ancient national monuments ; and what is to be done when public bodies, such as the Corporation of London, discountenance and ignore them. From the great interest shown for the collection by most of the recognized antiquaries, and by many persons distinguished in general science, it was due to their generous interposition to make some record of the good feeling displayed and of my appreciation of it.

The other matter embodied in the Appendix also demands one word of comment. The receptions which it records were unsought and unexpected by me. But flattering as such spontaneous and cordial compliments were to me, they assumed in my eyes far less of respect paid to an individual, than a public recognition of the principle of giving encouragement to those particular labours which are not understood or acknowledged in the routine which, in this country, usually indicates the persons to be selected as deserving of honours.

Especial assistance rendered towards the production of this volume, by the following contributions, is gratefully acknowledged :—Mrs. John Charles (late of Chillington House, Maidstone), Fifty Guineas. Mr. Joseph Mayer,

Twenty-five Pounds. The Lord Londesborough, plate xxx. Mr. Harry Lupton, plate xxxvii. Mr. Joseph Warren, plates xxv and xxxviii, and a woodcut. Mr. W. H. King, Mr. H. W. Rolfe, Mr. G. Hillier, Mr. R. Windle, etchings, as indicated by their respective initials; the wood-cut, p. 121, Mr. C. Warne; and the loan of wood-cuts by the Rev. Joseph Hunter and the Rev. J. C. Bruce.

ERRATUM.

Page 69, line 5 from the bottom, for "olem" read "solem."

OMISSION.

Appendix, p. 123, "William Chaffers, Jun., F.S.A., dealer in, and valuer of, antiquities, 14, Grafton-street."

NOTES ON SOME OF THE ANTIQUITIES OF FRANCE :

THE RESULT OF AN EXCURSION IN JULY AND AUGUST 1854.

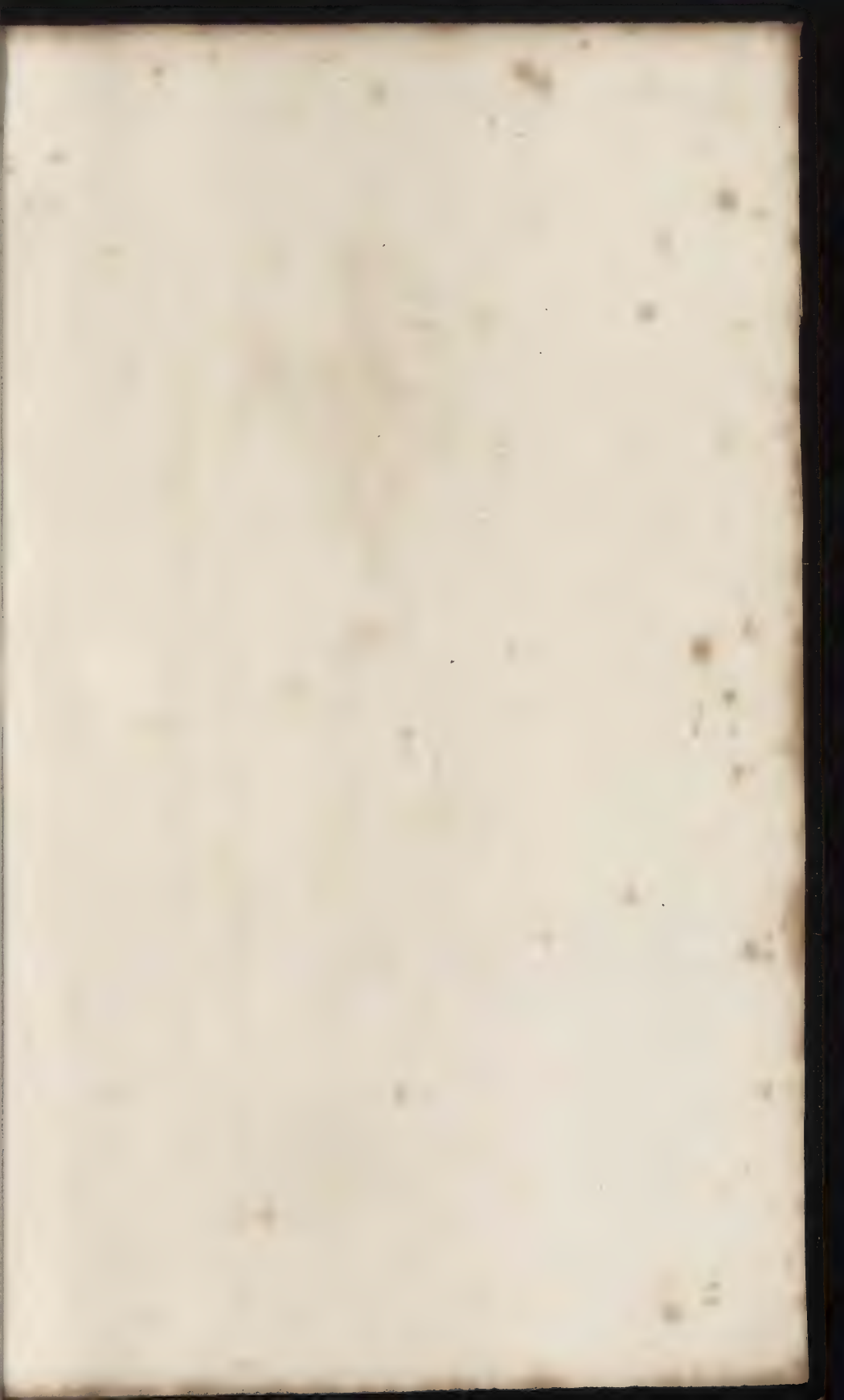
IN the preceding volume I introduced some remarkable Roman remains in France ; and endeavoured to show not only their great general interest, but also their intimate connection with the history and antiquities of our own country. The splendid ruins, sculptures, and bronze statue of Lillebonne, the historical monument of Vieux ; and the castrum at Jublains, unparalleled in its preservation and peculiarities, afforded novel and valuable studies to the artist, the architect, and the historian ; and their reception by the patrons of the *Collectanea* and by others, has encouraged me to make some further researches in the same fertile land. From the banks of the Seine to the department of Mayenne, the distance is but little ; and yet how remunerating the result ! But those who would examine the antiquities of France, must break away from the railroads and highways, and seek them with that necessary degree of trouble, which, after all, enhances the gratification of a successful exploration.

In July last, accompanied by Mr. C. Warne, who was my companion in 1853, I extended my tour somewhat

further to the south and west of France, visiting Orléans, Blois, Amboise, Montrichard, Thésée, Tours, Larçay, Poitiers, Saumur, Doué, Le Mans, and some other places; my more especial object being to examine Thésée and Larçay, as announced in my third volume: to the remains at these two villages, the tour was indeed almost subservient; and they will, therefore, receive the chief share of consideration on the present occasion.

Thésée is a village on the high road to Bourges from Tours to Montrichard. Its ancient name was Tasciaca; and its site will be found in the Peutingerian Table, where it stands between Cæsarodunum (Tours), and Gabris (Gièvres). The names Tasciaca and Gabris are remarkably retained in those of their modern representatives; and the high road of the present day is upon the Roman via, I believe, almost entirely from Tours to Bourges. On approaching Thésée, the eye of the antiquarian traveller is arrested by a long high edifice, of a novel and imposing character, which, as he arrives opposite, discloses also two square rooms attached to the front wall, as shown in plate II: he will moreover discern, a little in advance, a detached square building facing the further angle of the great edifice, and abutting almost on the high road. He will soon see that much is yet wanting to complete the plan of the ancient establishment, which appears to have been a large square, enclosing the buildings which are now standing. These are, however, in such good preservation that they might, without any great trouble and expense, be roofed and restored. Plate I gives a view of the chief building and the surrounding country, taken from the hill above the village.

It consists of a vast hall, of about forty yards in length by about thirteen yards in width, with a vestibule of about ten yards in width and thirteen in length. The commu-



PL. II.

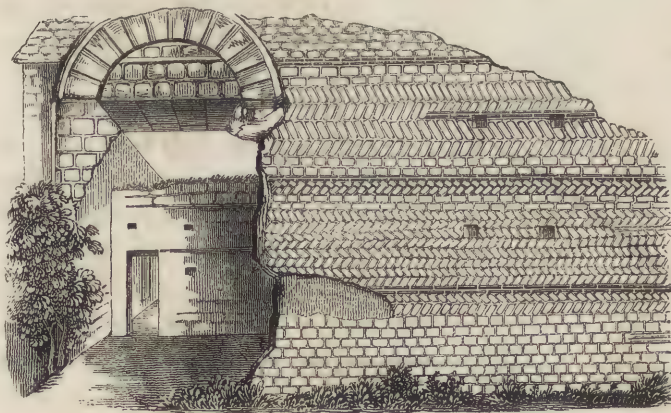
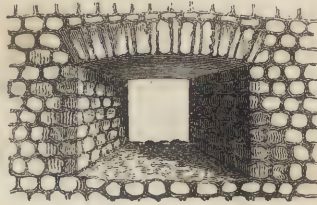


J. B. M. sculp.

C. R. S. del.

THÉSÉE.
Front View.

nication from the vestibule to the hall is by a small door. The walls are about two feet thick ; in some parts rather less and in others somewhat more ; and in height they are about thirty feet. At the upper part they are pierced with windows, the jambs of which are splayed inwards, somewhat after the fashion of the loopholes of the castles of the middle ages. One of the more perfect of these is shown in the annexed cut, which will also convey a notion of the facing of the walls, built in small squared stones, with rows of tiles at intervals. This facing is very neatly worked and uniform throughout, except in the wall of one of the smaller chambers, where the squared stones alternate with longer and thinner ones, laid in what is termed herring-bone work. The cut beneath shews this peculiarity, as well as the doorway to this chamber, formed of stones and tiles with thick layers of mortar. There are other examples in the building of the semi-circular arches of doorways filled up in this manner ; it is



also observable in a small window in the wall that separates the great hall from the vestibule (pl. III, fig. 2).

Plate III contains views in the interior of the vestibule (fig. 1) and of the great hall (fig. 2). The windows are in all the walls except that which separates the two rooms: they will be immediately recognized as occupying the elevated position in which we may notice the windows in representations of Roman buildings. That at Pompeii, described by Sir W. Hamilton (in the *Archæologia*, vol. iv, pl. XVI), may be referred to as an example. The eaves of the roof, it is probable, projected over the windows at least a foot.

Tasciaca was evidently one of the intermediate stations between the large towns and between *castra stativa*, termed *mansiones*. They were sufficiently commodious for lodging troops on a march and for all the purposes of a large posting inn, being furnished with provisions for men and horses, with carriages and other necessaries, the allotment and distribution of which were under the inspection of the government agents, who were controlled by strict legal enactments. In these, as well as in the cities, were magazines for the public stores, granaries, measures and scales, all provided at the public charge and administered under stated regulations, which are often specified in the imperial laws and referred to by the historians. The admirable manner in which, throughout the Roman provinces, the soldiers on their long marches were provided for, is well known (except perhaps to some modern statesmen and generals); and the various stations along the roads were constructed with this important object in view. Lampridius tells us, that Alexander Severus arranged that at the *mansiones*, his soldiers, going on an expedition, should receive their provisions and other necessaries; and not be compelled to carry, as



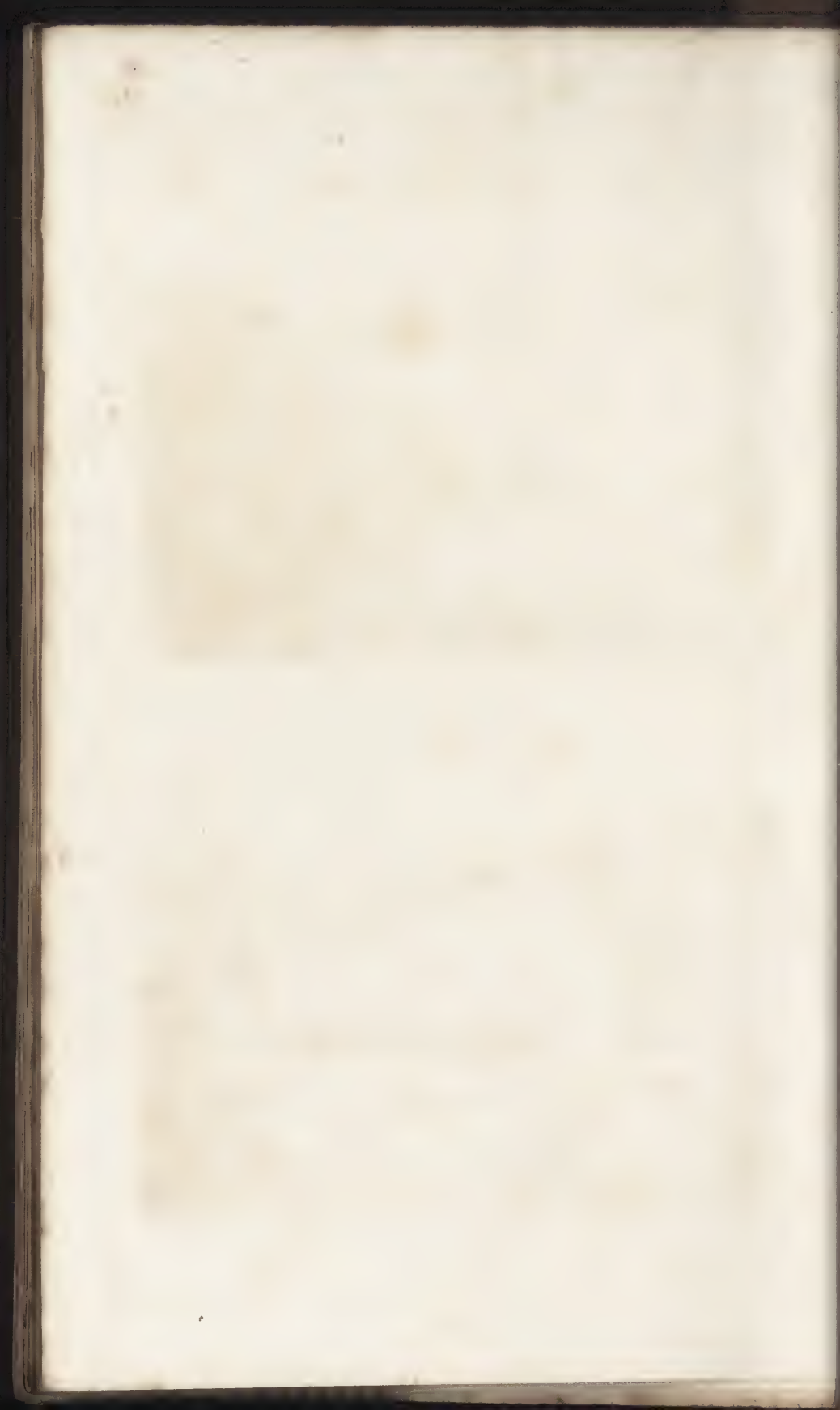
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W. H. del.

J. G. W. sculp.

THÉSÉE.
Interior.



they had been accustomed, rations for seventeen days : *militēs expeditionis tempore sic disposuit, ut in mansionibus annonas acciperent, nec portarent cibaria decem et septem, ut solent, dierum* : (c. 47.) And the same historian, speaking of Alexander's care and providence in making preparation for marching his troops, states how he notified where he should be on such and such a day, in what *mansiones* and *castra stativa* he should rest, and where the provisions would be provided : *illa die, illa hora ab urbe sum exiturus, et si dii voluerint, in prima mansionē mansurus ; deinde per ordinem mansiones, deinde stativæ, deinde ubi annona esset accipienda* : (c. 45.) It is to this fixed regulation as regards the stations that St. Ambrose* alludes, in speaking of the duties of a soldier :— *si alio ambulaverit itinere, annonam non accipit, mansionem paratam non invenit : quia imperator iis jubet hæc præparari omnia, qui sequuntur, nec dextra nec sinistra, a præscripto itinere declinant.*

The fine remains at Thésée are of a character so totally different from that of the *castra* or military fortresses, and so perfectly adapted for purposes such as the *mansiones* were intended, that we can have no hesitation in appropriating them to this class of stations.

In some of the ancient itineraries the stations which were either *mansiones*, or *mutationes*, (the latter for relays of horses,) are designated by those titles ; but usually in Gaul and in Britain the names of the places alone are given ; and as in most instances all external evidences of buildings have long since been destroyed, it is not only impossible to determine the class to which they belonged, but very frequently even their exact sites have nothing to indicate them. Not a single example is to be seen in

* Serm. v, in Psalm. 118.

England; and Thésée is the only one I have yet been able to meet with in France; but as the monuments of that country have been less destroyed than those of England, it is not improbable that other remains of this class may yet be found. Until such discovery be made, the *mansio* at Thésée must be considered unique. It is not surprising that such remarkable remains should be totally unknown in our own country; but it is strange they should as yet have excited so little attention in France. M. de la Saussaye, in his excellent work entitled *Mémoires sur les Antiquités de la Sologne Blésoise*, is almost the only one who has published any satisfactory engraving of this *mansio*.* In the ground-plan which accompanies it, a pavement is indicated at the angle of the walls beyond the great building; but it does not appear that excavations have ever been made, except on a very limited scale; and we are, therefore, quite ignorant of what may be concealed underground. Let us hope M. de la Saussaye may be induced to continue his researches: he would doubtless receive every encouragement both from the government and the department.

M. de la Saussaye speaks of Roman remains found in and about the village of Thésée, and in the neighbourhood, which also demand further exploration; and he gives some very interesting plates of antiquities from Gièvres, which occupies the site of Gabris, the station between Tasciaca and Avaricum; but as no architectural details are given, we may conclude the remains of the buildings of Gabris have been destroyed.

Thésée is about five or six miles from Montrichard.

* The "Journal d'Indre et Loire" of Nov. 17, 1853, contains an interesting report by a member of the Archæological Society of Touraine, on a visit to Thésée and Larçay, by himself and MM. Boilleau and Salmon.

The road along the bank of the Cher is extremely beautiful. On one side is a series of rocky hillocks, excavated for stone for building and converted into semi-subterranean dwellings, the chimneys of which emerge from among the vineyards which cover the upper ground. These rock buildings form an exceedingly picturesque and curious feature in the scenery of Touraine: they extend, at intervals, over a vast district. At Amboise, they are said to be particularly spacious and interesting, and are popularly ascribed to the Romans, under the appellation of *greniers de César*: it is very probable that the excavations were commenced by that people, and that they have been continually made, with little intermission, down to the present day.

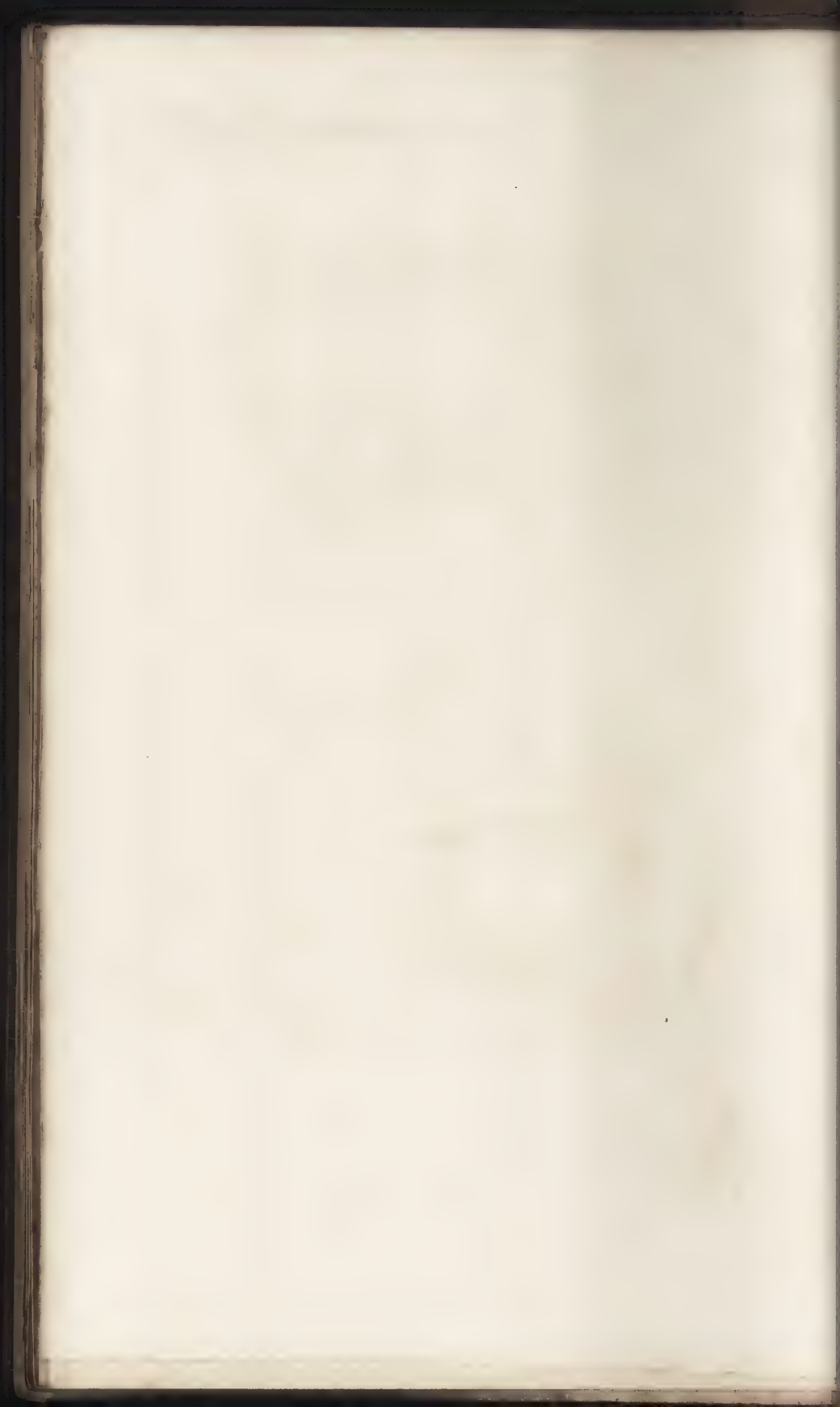
Montrichard, where the visitor to Thésée will probably stay, is an old and very picturesque little town on the bank of the Cher, which is here crossed by a bridge, from which the view of the town, with the ruins of the castle above it, is exceedingly pretty. Montrichard has been strongly fortified: on the west side are two fine towers and a portion of the wall, thirty feet high, yet remaining: the keep of the castle may date from the twelfth century: the other buildings, the ruins of which cover a large space of ground, seem generally of later periods. The chapel of the castle, now the parish church, an irregularly built structure, is of the early part of the twelfth century. The church of Nanteuil, at the entrance of Montrichard, is a very elegant structure, and has lately been restored in good taste. In it is the chapel of the celebrated pilgrimages of Notre-Dame of Nanteuil: built with an upper story, in the flamboyant style. Round the walls are suspended an immense quantity of votive offerings in wax, representing children, legs, arms, heads, and other parts of the body; honeycombs, and old crutches.

LARÇAY.

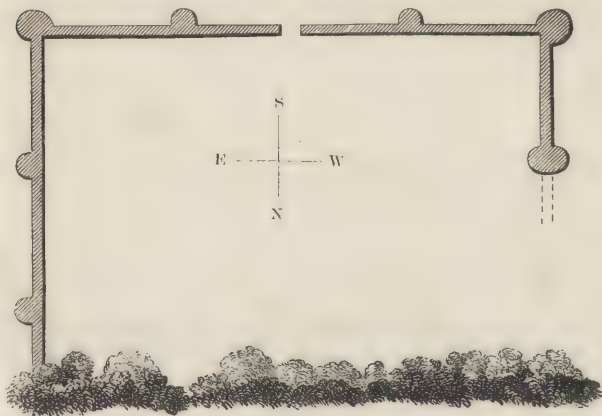
To M. Boilleau of Tours, the antiquarian world is indebted for the discovery of a Roman castrum on the wooded heights above the village of Larçay, situate about six or seven miles to the south-west of Tours. Remarkable as the discovery is, when we consider the conspicuous character of the walls, some twenty feet high and a dozen thick, flanked with buttresses, it nevertheless seems to have been unnoticed by any antiquary until M. Boilleau, about two years since, found and examined it. His correct appropriation of it has been disputed in a paper read to the Institute of France by M. Quicherat, who, it must be presumed, could never have inspected it; but who will, no doubt, be ready to rectify his error in supposing it medieval.

Larçay is a village on the south bank of the Cher, about six miles south-east of Tours. The highway, which appears to be on the course of a Roman road, runs for miles in a straight line below a ridge of high ground, well wooded, and at intervals perforated with caverns, formed by the quarriers of stone, and now used as wine cellars. The castrum is not discernible from any part of the public road; for besides having been built upon the high ground, the steep bank is covered with wood, and not a glimpse of the building can be discerned until the spectator has reached the upper ground and approached almost close to the eastern angle. At the auberge d'Ascension a foot-path leads up alongside of a ravine or fosse through the wood to the back of the castrum: on the eastern side is another fosse, which also descends down the cliff to the high road. Plate IV, etched from a view taken on approaching the castrum, shows the entire eastern wall, which is the best preserved. That on the south is





almost hidden by buildings which have been constructed both in and upon it. Some of the rooms of the dwelling of M. Pomparé,* the proprietor, are excavated in the tower at the south-west angle and in the walls adjoining. This side, from the interior, presents a view of a row of houses rising above and out of the wall, broken masses of which, covered with brush-wood, flank most of the buildings and make a very picturesque appearance; the corner house takes the semicircular shape of the tower in which it has been constructed. The wall on the western side has suffered considerably; only about half of it and one tower remain. This tower is of larger dimensions than those on the opposite side and appears to have been originally circular. The subjoined plan is prepared from a rough sketch given me by M. Boilleau, who also furnished the following measurements :

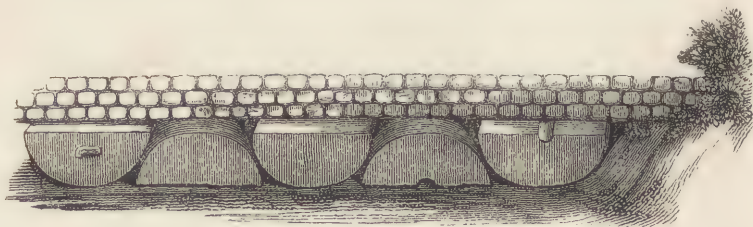


Castrum at Larçay.

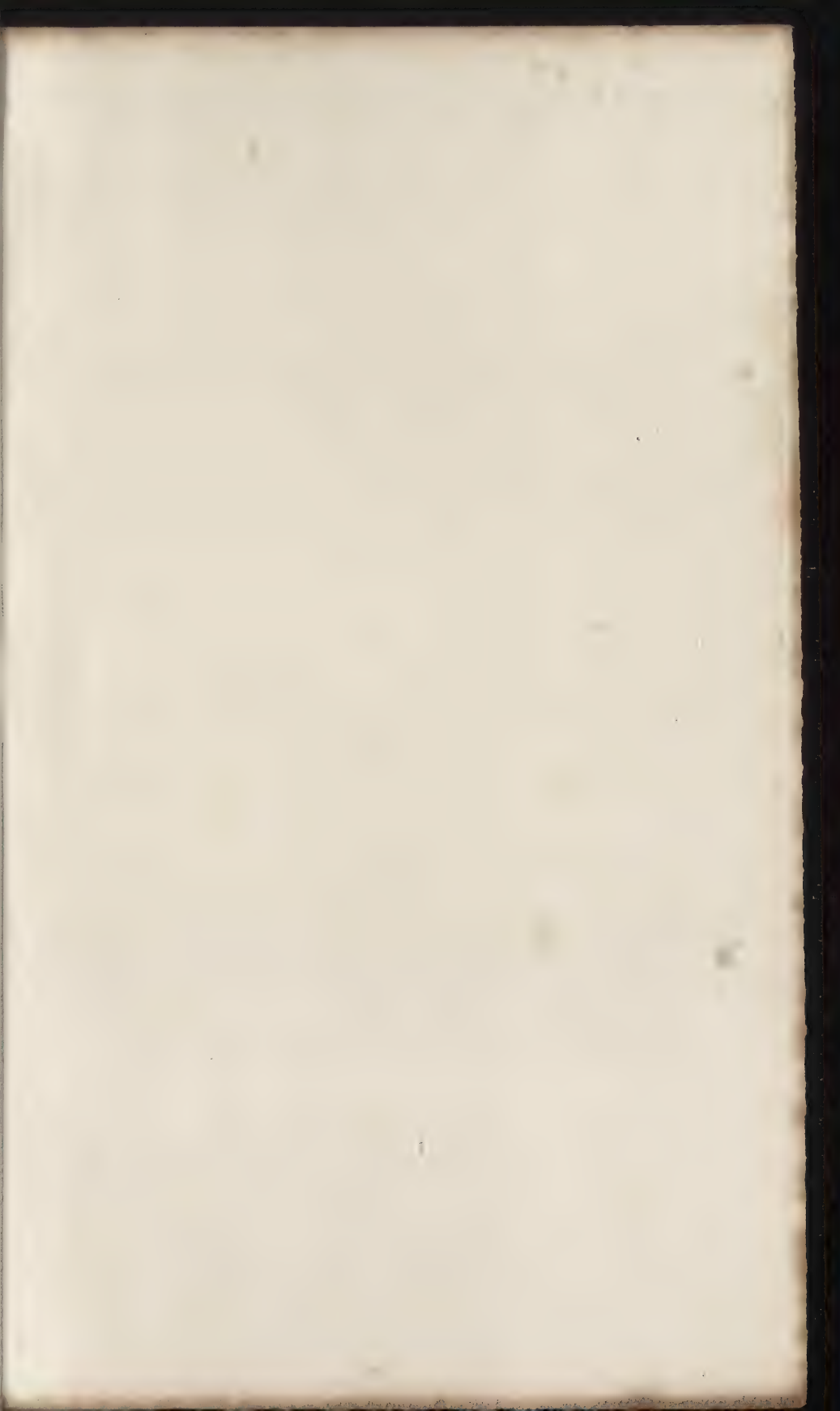
* I have much pleasure in acknowledging M. Pomparé's attention to me during my visit in the morning of an exceedingly sultry day.

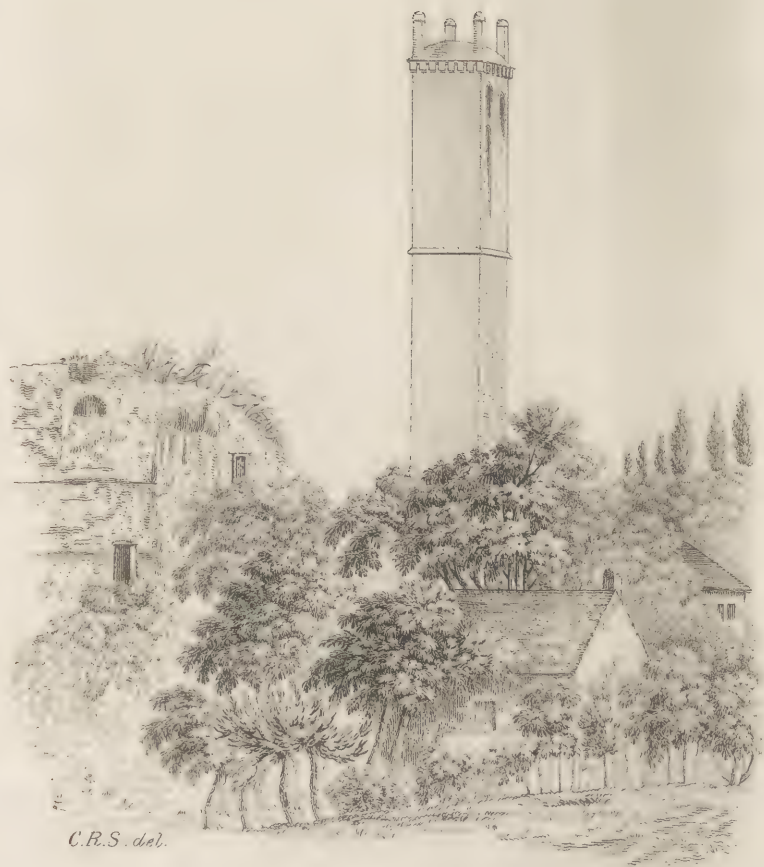
Façade of the castrum	about 231 feet.
From tower to tower	„ 52½ „
Height of the walls	13 to 16 „
Thickness at the base	13 „

The north side is entirely open, being formed by the verge of the precipitous bank. In this peculiarity, as well as in the general construction, the castrum at Larçay closely resembles the castra at Richborough, Lymne, and Burgh, in our own country; but it is not, as may be seen by comparing the plans, on so large a scale. The large circular tower is remarkable, and deserves, as does the entire castrum, a close examination, such as we may expect will be shortly instituted by M. Boilleau. Some slight excavations have been made, disclosing extensive foundations of buildings, both within and without the castrum, which, from the following discovery, appears to have been partly built out of the ruins of edifices of some architectural pretensions; and it may therefore be considered of a comparatively late date. On making excavations along the inner base of the eastern and western walls, it was found they were built upon a layer or basement of columns, sawn transversely and horizontally, and disposed as shewn in the subjoined cut, made from a sketch of a



portion of the eastern wall. They form, as it will be perceived, a set off. The cut also gives a portion of the facing of the walls, which has been almost wholly removed





PILE CINQ MARS.

Approach from the Village.

both within and without ; it was banded, as is usually the case in such castra, with rows of tiles at intervals. The columns upon which the western wall is built are many of them fluted ; and in the substruction of the large circular tower are other worked stones which had once occupied a more conspicuous place in some anterior structure.

At present, all that can be said of this castrum is that it was a strong fortress, built probably at a late period of Roman domination ; something of its obscurity may be expected to be removed by excavations, which would probably yield inscriptions throwing some light on its history, or on that of the earlier buildings from which it was so largely constructed.*

PILE CINQ-MARS.

The Pile Cinq-Mars, or Saint-Mars, is a remarkable quadrangular pillar near the village of Cinq-Mars, on the right bank of the Loire, four leagues from Tours, and between Luynes and Langeais.

Above ground, it stands upwards of ninety feet high, the shaft being about four and a half feet square, except towards the base, where it expands to seventeen feet by nineteen, as we measured it ; but I observe in the account of it by M. Meffre, printed in the *Mémoires* of the Archæological Society of Touraine, it is called a square of about eighteen feet. Its upper part is pyramidal, with a square column about ten feet in height rising from each corner ; there is a tradition of a fifth column placed on the summit, which is said to have been overturned by a storm in 1751.

* On my second visit to Larçay, I had the advantage of being accompanied by M. Boilleau, the Abbé Bourassé, President of the Archæological Society of Touraine, and Mr. C. Warne, who was unable to accompany me in the morning.

Plate v is from a sketch taken from the lower ground approaching the monument from the village. Plate vi is a view from the back, taken at a considerable elevation,

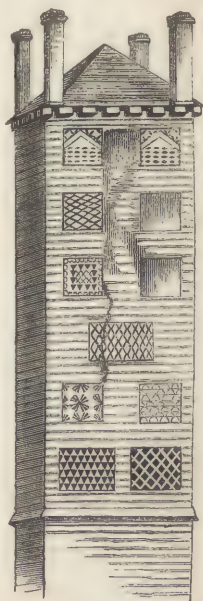


Section of the base.

shewing the position of the pile in relation to the surrounding country. The wood-cut annexed gives a horizontal section of the exterior of the lower part, which does not appear in either of the plates.

This stupendous piece of masonry is built of tiles to the depth of upwards of three feet on each face, the body being a concrete

of great hardness. The tiles are of the larger kind, laid with great care in regular rows divided by mortar made of chalk, sand, and pounded tile, which is almost as hard as the tiles themselves. At about a third of the height, from the summit, is a slightly projecting band, formed of two rows of tiles. Between this band and the entablature, on the front side, are eleven rectangular compartments filled with tile-work of various patterns. These decorations are not unlike those of certain descriptions of hollow tiles* used in the flues of Roman houses; but applied externally, as we find them in the Pile



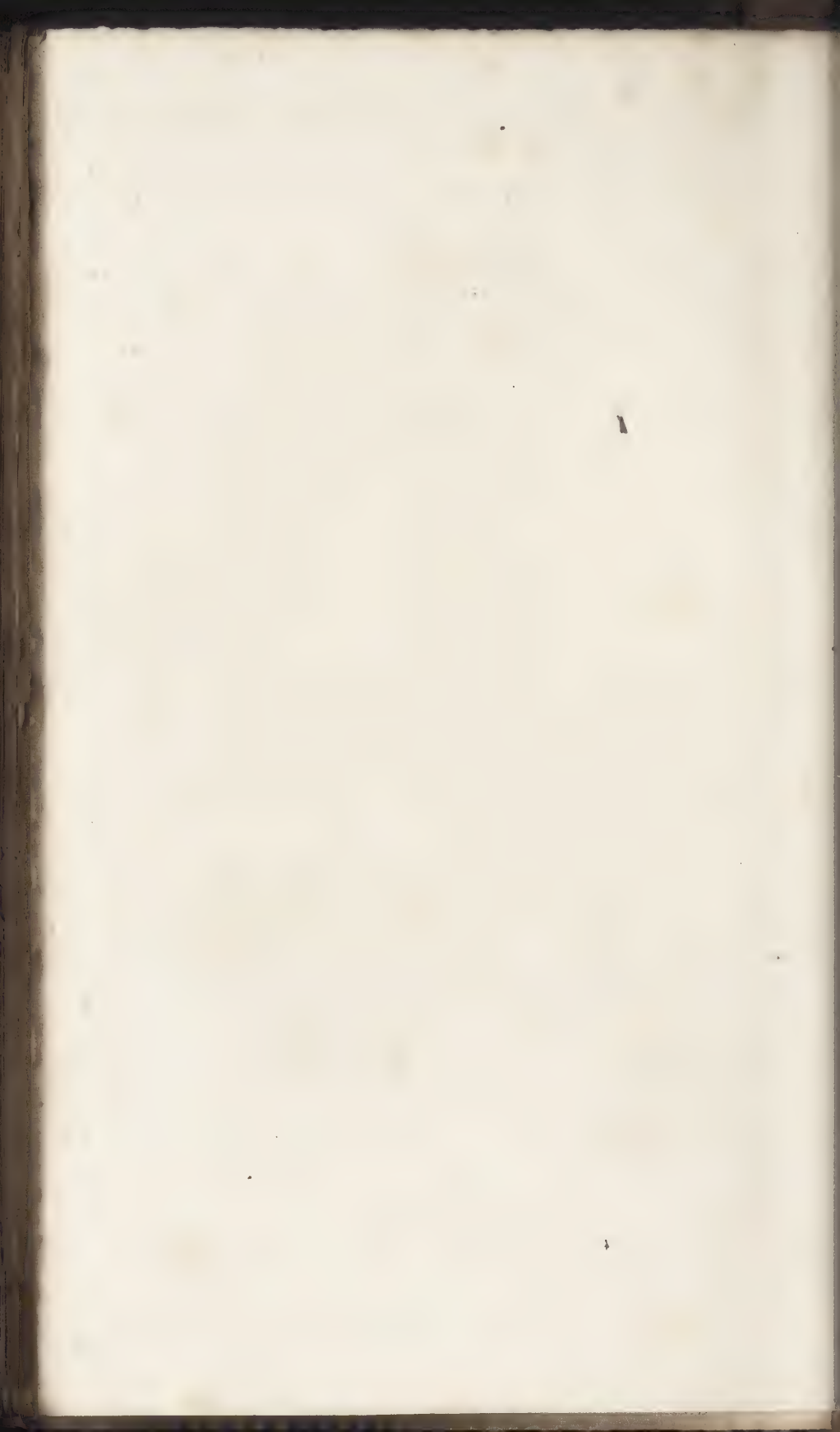
* Compare with No. 250 in the "Catalogue of the Museum of London Antiquities", p. 57.



C.R.S. del.

J. Cleghorn. sc.

PILE CINQ MARS .



Cinq-Mars, they constitute a very uncommon feature. The ornamentation appears to be not unlike that of a Roman wall at Cologne; but having had no opportunity of making a personal examination of that singular structure, I am unable to say how the details may correspond. The subjoined cut gives portions of most of the patterns on the Pile Cinq-Mars.



As there is no trace whatever of scaffold poles, the framework for constructing this lofty pile must have been of enormous dimensions. With the exception of mutilations, made to force an entrance into the supposed hollow interior, the monument is in a fine state of preservation; and viewed either from a distance or in close proximity, its effect is grand and majestic. The bank at the back was dug away to help to form the platform upon which it is built; and this was faced with squared stones, several rows of which yet remain.

Like many other remarkable isolated monuments of the Roman epoch, the Pile Cinq Mars divulges nothing of its own history; neither does written record or lapidary inscription throw any light on its origin, or on the purpose for which it was erected. In the absence of all evidence on these points, conjecture has, of course, been busy. Some have considered it a military monument; others have seen in it a sepulchre; by one it is assigned to Julius Cæsar; by another to the time of Aëtius; while some have even questioned its Roman origin. Had it been either a sepulchral monument or a military trophy, it is most probable it would have borne some inscription or characteristic sculpture; at the same time, the great

pains and cost bestowed upon it seem adverse to the notion of its having been built either at a very early or at a very late period of the Roman domination. Its position and general character are more in favour of its having been a terminal column, erected when the province of Gaul was in a peaceful and flourishing condition.

The village or bourg which gives name to this monument, is called, in early charters, *Sanctus Medardus*, of which the present appellation is evidently a corruption more complete than that of *Saint-Mars*, of the time of Rabelais, who uses this orthography when he speaks of it in describing the tail of Gargantua's great mare, "*car elle estoit poy plus poy moins grosse comme la Pile Saint-Mars après de Langès, et ainsi quarrée.*" (Lib. i, c. 16.)

The Archæological Society of Touraine, a few years since, appointed a committee of its members to make excavations to discover, if possible, some clue to the origin and object of the pile. To the astonishment of the excavators, it was ascertained that at some remote period the foundations had been undermined for the purpose, as it seemed, of getting into the interior, and finding treasure: nearly the entire base had been hollowed, even to the risk of overthrowing the monument. The excavations leading to no other result than that of confirming the perfect solidity of the structure, the Society ordered the vault to be filled up properly, and made some other reparations: for this purpose, and for purchasing the ground on which the pile stands, 2,000 francs were expended,—a judicious outlay, highly creditable to the subscribers.



PL.VII.



J. G. W. sculp.

C. R. S. del.

DOUÉ.

DOUÉ.

The Nantes railway, which brought us to Cinq Mars, from Tours, conveyed us in two hours, through a country fertile to exuberance, to the town of Saumur, the nearest point towards Doué, the amphitheatre of which was one of the objects of our excursion. Doué is about twelve miles from Saumur, on the high road to Montreuil-Bellay. With the exception of two fine cromlechs, which will be presently described, the road presents but few objects of attraction. It runs in a straight line through an open country, much of which, though cultivated, contrasted very unfavourably with the luxuriant banks of the Loire. Around Doué it wears almost the aspect of sterility; and the town itself, at first sight, presents nothing whatever promising to the antiquary, and would be considered by most tourists as a cheerless and desolate place, to be passed by and avoided. We, however, remained there long enough (although our time was, unfortunately, very limited) to regret that our engagements prevented a full exploration of a locality we felt convinced contained other matters of interest besides the *Arènes*, as the remains we came to see are popularly called.

After some difficulty, by a very circuitous road, we found, at the further extremity of the town, the object of our search. Those who are familiar with the remains of amphitheatres, or theatres rather, as many of those commonly called amphitheatres really were, will find, in the construction of that at Doué, a very remarkable exception to the architectural principles on which such buildings were usually erected. In fact, instead of being built at all, it has been excavated out of the sandstone rock; the only portions in which we detected masonry being parts of the ceiling of the corridor, and a surrounding wall, or parapet, on the platform, above the seats.

Plate VII represents nearly all of what is now to be seen of the theatre; but it is impossible to say how much more of the original plan might be recovered if the adjoining buildings and accumulations of ruins were removed. The view is taken near the entrance from the road, which runs close by; but which is elevated some feet above the interior level. On the left of the sketch, a portion only of the great opening into the corridor is shewn. The tiers of seats, about fourteen inches wide, and somewhat less in depth, are calculated to have held 4,000 persons; but these dimensions must have been so inadequate to comfort, that it is difficult to understand how the spectators arranged their legs without adopting a very inconvenient position. The summit of the theatre, as before remarked, was enclosed by a wall, portions of which remain; but they do not indicate the original height. Through this wall were formerly several gates, about five feet wide, and eight feet in height, which were, apparently, the ordinary entrances to the seats. M. de Voglie, engineer of the bridges and roads of Touraine, who, a century since, drew the attention of Count Caylus to this remarkable structure, states that twenty-five of these entrances were then visible; and he seems to consider that this was below the original number. We may infer from this statement how much has been destroyed during the last hundred years.

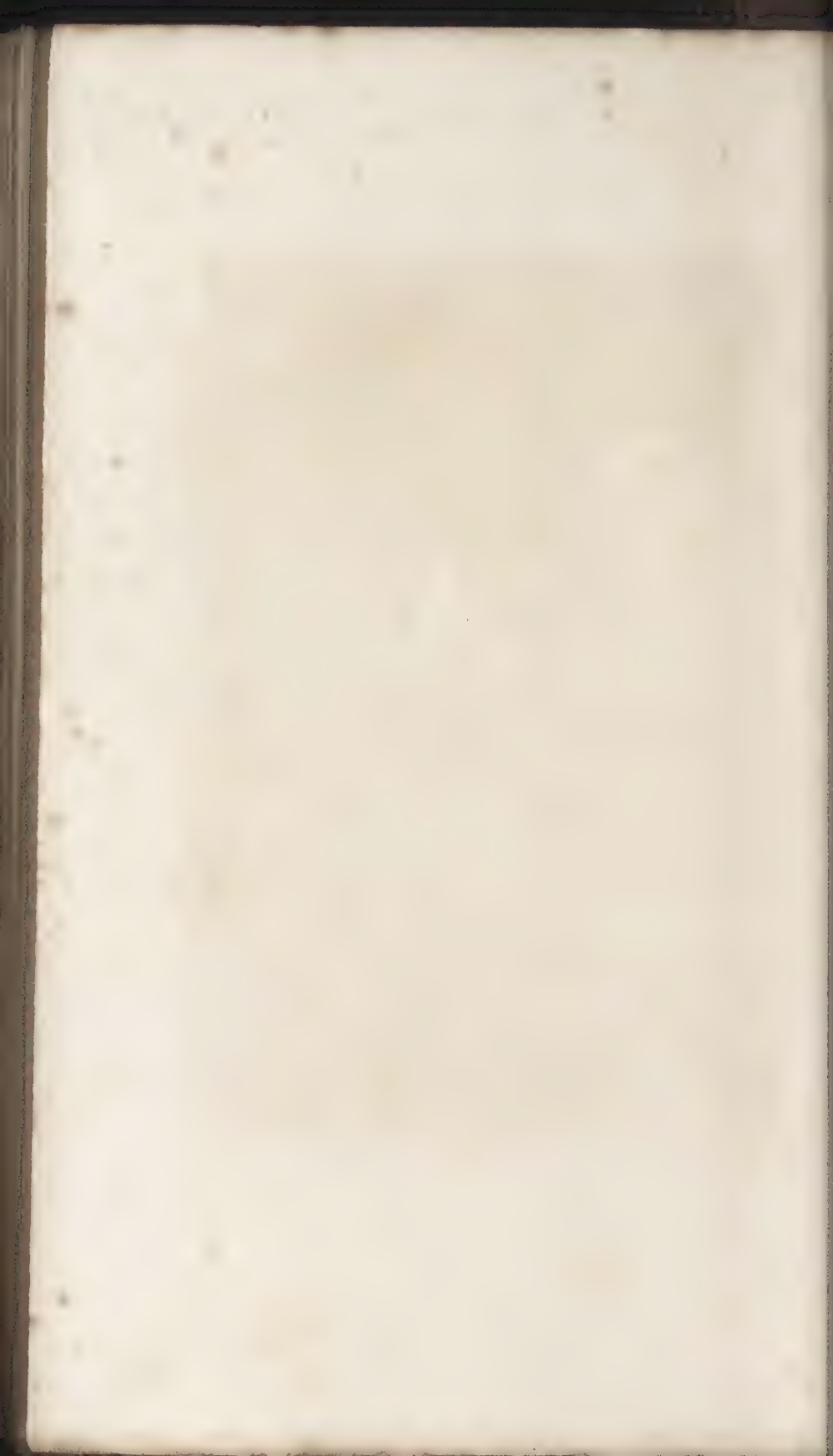
Plate VIII is a view of a portion of the corridor beneath the seats. It takes, like them, a semicircular form; but is very irregular, varying from twenty to thirty feet in width, and from forty to fifty feet in height. The apex, or ceiling, is lined with cut stones, which remain firm and compact: their peculiar disposition is shewn in this plate. These vast and gloomy chambers were lighted by windows opening into the seats, or *cavea*, as indicated in the



C.R.S. del.

G.H. sculp.

DOUÉ.



etchings. It has been suggested, without any plausible reason, that these windows may have been of subsequent date. From the main chambers branch off smaller ones, into some of which we found our way only by aid of a guide with a candle. At one end these subterranean vaults are converted into stables; and in the central part are houses, the interior of one of which is almost wholly within the ancient corridor.

Hadrian de Valois, finding by the early French annalists that Doué was called *locus Theodad*, *Theotuvadum Palatium*, and *Doadum castellum*, concludes that these remains are not what they are popularly called, *Arènes*, but, on the contrary, the ruins of a palace built by one of the Carlovingian kings; and he censures Justus Lipsius for calling them an amphitheatre.* It certainly appears that a few centuries after the Romans had left Gaul there existed at Doué what was called a palace, and a castle; or that the place itself was designated a *palatium*, and a *castellum*; but we are not necessarily to conclude that either or both could well have been the singular structure, the remains of which are yet extant. It is probable that these ruins may have been included within the precincts either of a palace or of a castle; and they could have been made subservient to some of the purposes of either or of both; but that the structure could ever have been intended for any other object than that of public sports or theatrical representations, is highly improbable, or, rather, impossible.

Caylus, after expressing surprise that a construction so remarkable for its rude grandeur, and for the labour ex-

* "Notitia Galliarum", *sub voce Theotuvadum Castellum*, p. 552.

pended on it, should have remained so long unknown, confesses that in refuting the popular notions respecting it, he rather shews what it was not than what it was ; and some of the French antiquaries of the present day, I understand, are inclined to abide by the opinion of Hadrian de Valois. I confess I never should have hesitated to recognize, in remains so marked and characteristic, a Roman amphitheatre, or theatre, well adapted for the usual purposes of such buildings. The amphitheatre at Treves is sunk in a hill, doubtless for the same motive as that at Doué, namely, to save labour ; but this at Doué, which in every architectural feature and in magnitude is much inferior to the other, is cut wholly out of, and formed in, the native rock. At Lillebonne, also, advantage was taken of the rising ground to lessen the labour and the cost of material. At Doué, the nature of the ground did not admit of the adoption of such a plan ; and the architect ingeniously took advantage of a site which could supply good building materials, and ultimately a theatre. The place furnishes tempting scope for research ; many of the houses adjoining the theatre we considered of Roman origin ; and M. de Voglie states,* that he believes the amphitheatre, although at the present day on the verge of Doué, was in the centre of the Roman town, because the surrounding land covers the foundations of walls and houses.

CROMLECHS NEAR SAUMUR.

The neighbourhood of Saumur abounds in Celtic remains. Two of the most remarkable of the larger monuments are at Pontigny, about two miles from Saumur, on the road to Doué. The first of these which we visited

* "Recueil d'Antiquités", tom. vi, p. 366.

is in a field by the side of a lane, in an uncommanding site. It consists of a vast chamber of huge unhewn slabs of stone, from eighteen to twenty-five inches thick, placed edgewise, four on each side, and one at the west end, covered with similar slabs. One of these capstones



measures nearly twenty-five feet in length, and full twenty feet in width; its thickness being about thirty inches. The interior height of the chamber is about ten feet, with a width of about eighteen feet. Its length is about fifty-five feet, but it may originally have been longer, as one or two slabs at the entrance are now lying level with the ground. The woodcut, prepared from a sketch made on the occasion of our visit, will convey a fair notion of this rude but impressive structure.

This cromlech, which is one of the largest kind, may be compared with that of l'Ancrese, in Guernsey, explored and described by Mr. Lukis, and of which the most recent illustration accompanies a paper by Dr. Lukis on the Celtic Megaliths, in the *Archæologia*, vol. xxxv, p. 243.* There is a close resemblance between the two;

* Mr. Lukis' account of the cromlech of l'Ancrese appeared, also with illustrations, in the first volume of the "Archæological Journal", p. 142 to p. 151.

but the Pontigny cromlech exceeds that of l'Ancrese in dimensions; the latter being forty-five feet in length, by fifteen wide, and nearly eight feet in height.

There are no signs remaining of the mound of earth which, there is every reason to believe, once covered this huge monument; and in surveying it as we now see it, there is difficulty in believing, as Mr. Warne remarked on the spot, that it was not intended as a dwelling for the living; a palace; a council-hall; or some public edifice of a primitive race. The researches, however, of the Messrs. Lukis seem too conclusive as to the sepulchral character of this extensive class of monuments, to warrant an exception even to that of Pontigny; and the extraordinary discoveries made in the l'Ancrese cromlech forbid a doubt as to the original destination of the kindred structure just described.

The other cromlech, about a quarter of a mile to the westward of that described, is situated on a gentle elevation. Its smaller dimensions render it less striking; but it is only by comparison with so uncommon an example that it appears inferior. In its present state, it consists



of not more than six stones of a like character, and of similar construction. One slab, eighteen feet in length,

forms one of the sides, and a similar one serves as the capstone; the height inside is about eight feet; prostrate stones reveal that, originally, it was of greater length.

While these notes are in the press, I receive a letter from Mr. Lukis, which I need not apologize for inserting.

*"The Grange, Guernsey,
"15th March, 1855.*

“MY DEAR SIR,

“I have received your friendly letter, and observe that you are occupied with the examination of structures similar to those in this neighbourhood. It is true that the French writers apply the term ‘dolmen’ to most of the stone structures, without reference to their distinctive characters; but reserve that of ‘cromlech’ for those stone enclosures which, from their size and construction, were never intended to be covered.

“Thus, very dissimilar memorials of that interesting age are confusedly made to bear the same name, ‘though we have endeavoured to show how far they differ, and in what consist the points of difference; and, again, the writers of the two countries describe very opposite structures under the same appellation.’ It was in order to enable future writers to call each structure by a specific name, and thus essentially to facilitate the description, that we ventured to offer a nomenclature based upon a most extensive and careful examination of them in almost every part of the globe.

“By this definite knowledge of each, we have been able to detect at a glance the minutest differences; but yet so far from being trivial, in other instances they have indicated, without exception, the existence of remains beneath, of unquestionably widely extended periods. In fact, we do not hesitate to affirm, that it is possible to

determine the contents of any as yet undisturbed, in something more than a general way, on solely an *external* view of the structure.

“The cromlech to which you allude at Pontigny, near Saumur, is the same mentioned by Merimée as standing near the village of Bagneux. It is a magnificent specimen, and I missed it by taking a wrong road when at Saumur. It resembles those in the Channel Islands, and many in Britany. It has the usual orientation of the true Celtic or early period, and has on the right, or northern side of the entrance, a dry wall occupying the place of one of the supports. This is suspicious, and leads to the inference that it has been resorted to in ages more recent than that of its construction. This dry walling usually indicates the time when gold torques, or highly finished delicate stone celts, and stone beads of finely polished agates, and other similar ornaments were manufactured. It is the period of tumuli, such as enclose megalithic chambers, which, you are aware, are not cromlechs generally speaking, according to the definitions in our nomenclature, although we have seen as many as three of these latter structures beneath the same mound in Britany.

“The cromlech of the French writers we have designated the ‘Peristalith’; for it encloses many a cromlech, or other megalith; or is intended merely to invest a grave without a stone chamber.

“The cist, which you inform me has recently been opened, I do not know; the character of the neighbourhood is such as to admit of these structures, as also of monoliths. These monuments are often near each other, and frequently attached to the more ancient. This is very generally the case in Britany, as also in the Anglo-Norman Isles. The true cist has no openings at the sides. The capstone, or cover, was removed when access

to the interior was required. The eastern end of cromlechs is not unfrequently prolonged by a succession of more recent cists. The destruction of these small structures was easy, and the *débris* of these chambers is often perceived at that extremity, whilst the main cromlech remains untouched. It is to these minor additions that the term sacrificial altar has been applied.

“ I fear to enlarge too much upon these matters, which, probably, you have already so well studied; believing, however, that these few remarks may not be unacceptable, my pen has instinctively run on. Any question you may be desirous of asking I shall be glad to answer. And with sincere regards,

“ Believe me,

“ My dear Sir, yours,

C. ROACH SMITH, Esq.,
5, Liverpool Street,
London.

“ FRED. C. LUKIS.”

The left bank of the Loire appears to abound in similar remains, which, we may express a hope, will one day receive from the Messrs. Lukis the attention they have so successfully given to the primitive monuments of the Channel Islands and of Britany. In Poitou, also, they are numerous. In the vicinity of Loudun alone it is said there are no less than twenty-four cromlechs, dolmens, demi-dolmens, and maenhirs, commonly known under the names of *pierres couvertes* and *roches aux fées*. A cromlech in the commune of Bournard, presents a gallery forty-five feet in length, by about thirty feet in width, and seven feet in height.* The tradition is that the

* “ Mémoires de la Soc. des Antiquaires de l'Ouest”, vol. iii.

fairies built it; and the peasants believing it under the protection of beings of the invisible world, will only enter it by daylight.

THE SAUMUR MUSEUM.

PLATE IX.

The collections of local antiquities in this museum, although not very extensive, are good, and contain some very rare objects, the chief of which is a Roman trumpet (*tuba*), in bronze, four feet seven and a half inches in length, fig. 1. There are representations of this kind of trumpet upon the arches of Titus and of Constantine, at Rome; but examples of the instrument itself are so uncommon, that it would probably be difficult to cite another on this side of the Alps.

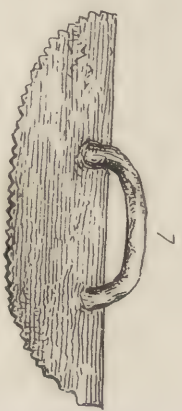
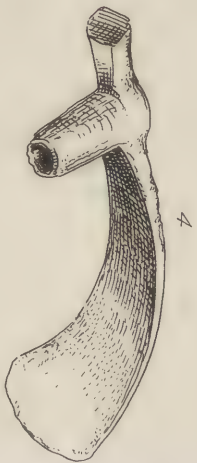
Fig. 2 is an axe in iron, about twelve inches in length, not unlike the carpenters' axes in the middle ages; but which, if we may infer from some implements with which it is associated in the museum, is of earlier date.

Fig. 3 is a knife in silex, with a handle of horn, stated to have been discovered in or under a dolmen, in the neighbourhood of Saumur. Its total length is about ten inches.

Fig. 4, fifteen inches in length, is a Roman adze, in iron; with it were others of the same form, but smaller. Fig. 5, nine and half inches in length, is in bronze.

Fig. 6, in bronze, is apparently the end of a Roman sword scabbard; and fig. 7 is a Roman saw, in iron, of a very uncommon form.

The museum of Saumur is sadly in want of a catalogue *raisonné*, to give confidence to the appropriation of various rare and uncommon objects, the history of which is not supplied. We understand it is much indebted to the liberality of M. Lange, a goldsmith of the place, who



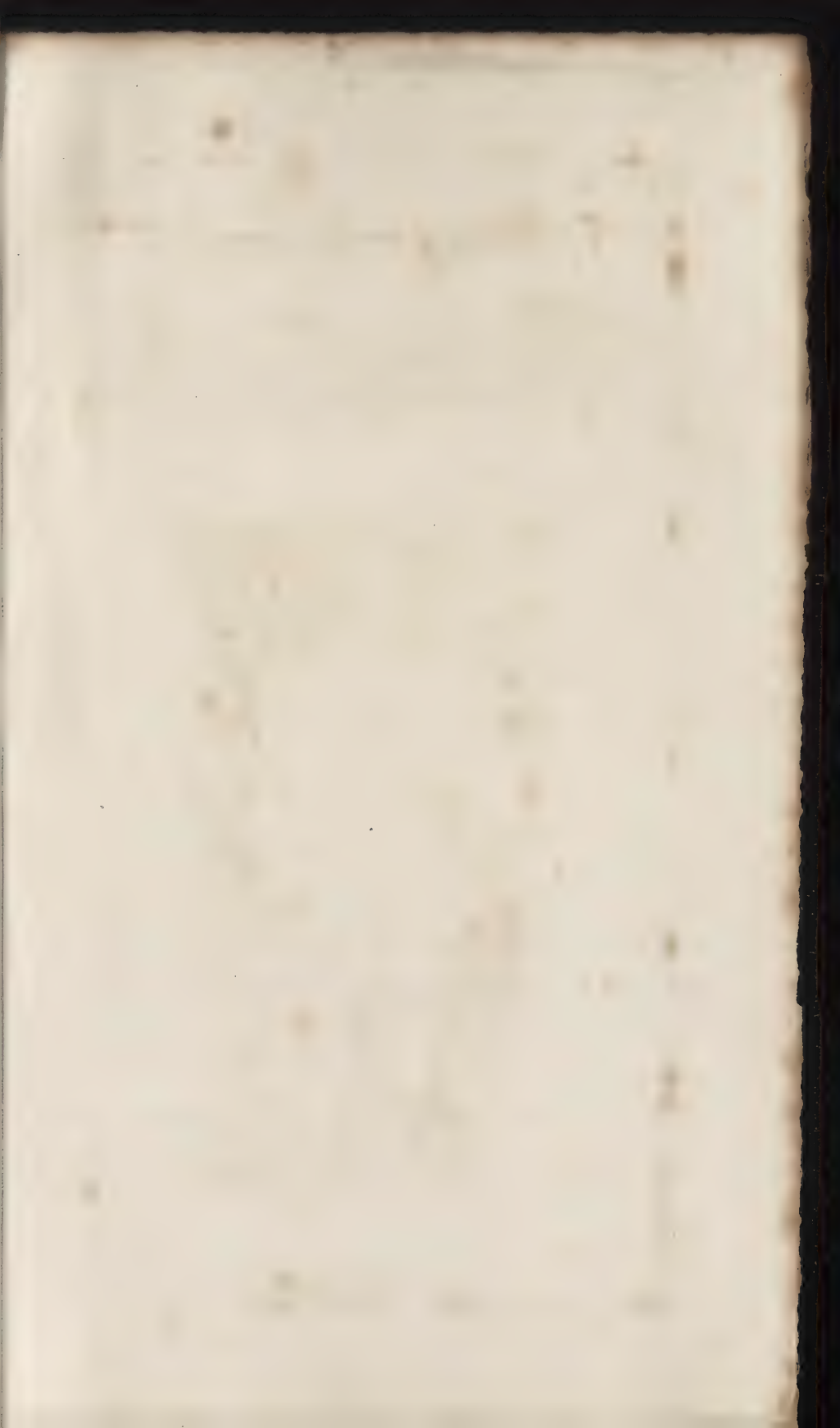
PL. IX.



SAUMUR MUSEUM.

1862





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M A R C O · M R S L L



G. R. S. 1880

E. J. J. 1880

ORLÉANS.

possesses a valuable private collection of Limoges enamels and other works of medieval art.

MUSEUM OF ORLÉANS.

PLATES X AND XI.

The town of Orléans retains but little, if any, ostensible signs of its early antiquity. Its Roman walls are entirely destroyed, or their ruins are concealed by buildings; and the fine medieval houses, structures which commonly abound in many of the towns in France, have here so wholly given place to new streets, that the stranger who would realize any notion of the Orléans of history must leave the widened thoroughfares, and thread his way through the less molested inner streets and lanes. In the museum (formerly the Hôtel-de-Ville) he will find, however, remarkable objects of interest; and when it is considered that the collections are but of comparatively recent formation, the institution is very creditable to the founders and supporters.

The Roman antiquities are not numerous. Among the most remarkable are the subjects selected for plates x and xi. The former is a monumental stone, four feet five inches in height, by two feet six inches in width. The inscription, unusual as regards its brief and terse expression, may be read: *Dis manibus et memoriæ.—Marco Marsillia.*

All we have to guide us to a conjecture as to the occupation or calling of Marcus, is the object placed by the sculptor in the hands of his effigies. This appears to have been intended to represent a whip terminating in a point or goad; and we may therefore consider that he was a conductor and proprietor of vehicles for transporting merchandise; or that he was employed in the public post. This monument was discovered in removing part of the

Roman wall of Orléans, on the bank of the Loire; and its preservation is owing to its having been used as part of the materials of the wall.

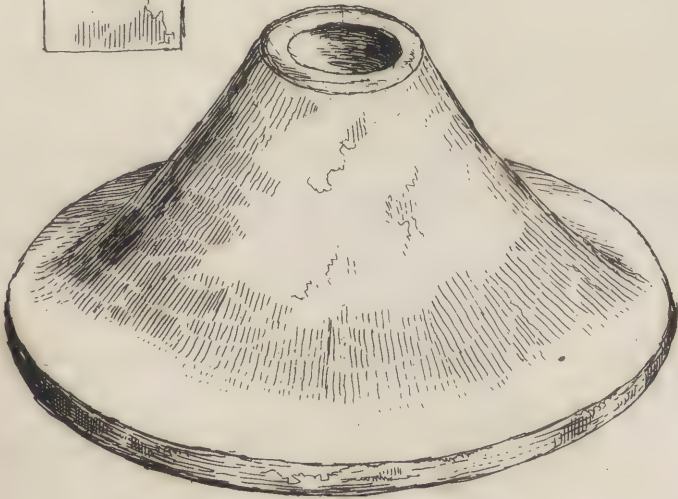
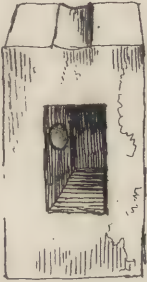
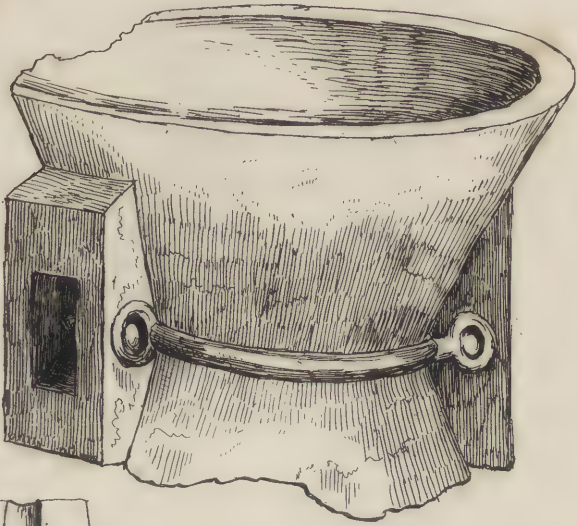
Plate XI represents a very fine example of the Roman handmill; or, from its dimensions, a mill turned by a mule or an ass. It precisely resembles the handmills found at Pompeii; and is exceedingly interesting as showing clearly how such mills were constructed and worked. The upper part (which is not quite perfect) was in shape somewhat like an hour-glass, and fitted over the lower conical-shaped stone which stood upon a cylindrical base. In the centre of the upper stone was fixed the handle by which it was made to revolve upon the cone below. The upper stone (*catillus*) is two feet four inches in width across the top, and, when entire, was about two feet and a half in height; the lower one (*meta*) is two feet six inches in diameter at the base, and one foot three inches in height. The material is of volcanic origin, and was probably brought from the banks of the Rhine. The mill was discovered at a great depth in the ancient cemetery of Orléans.

An inscription on a milliary column found on the Roman road of Saclas, in cutting the railway, is of historical interest. It reads as follows:

IMP. C. L. D. AVRE
LIANO. P. F. INVIC
AVG. PONT. P. M. P. P. TR. P. VII
COS. III. GER. M. GOT. M. PA
R. M. DA. M. CAR. M. I. M.

Imperatorii Cæsari Lucio Domitio Aureliano Pio Felici Invicto Augusto Pontifici Maximo, Patri Patriæ, Tribunitia Potestate VII Consuli III Germanico Maximo Gothico Maximo Parthico Maximo Dacico Maximo Carpico Maximo 1 mille (passuum).

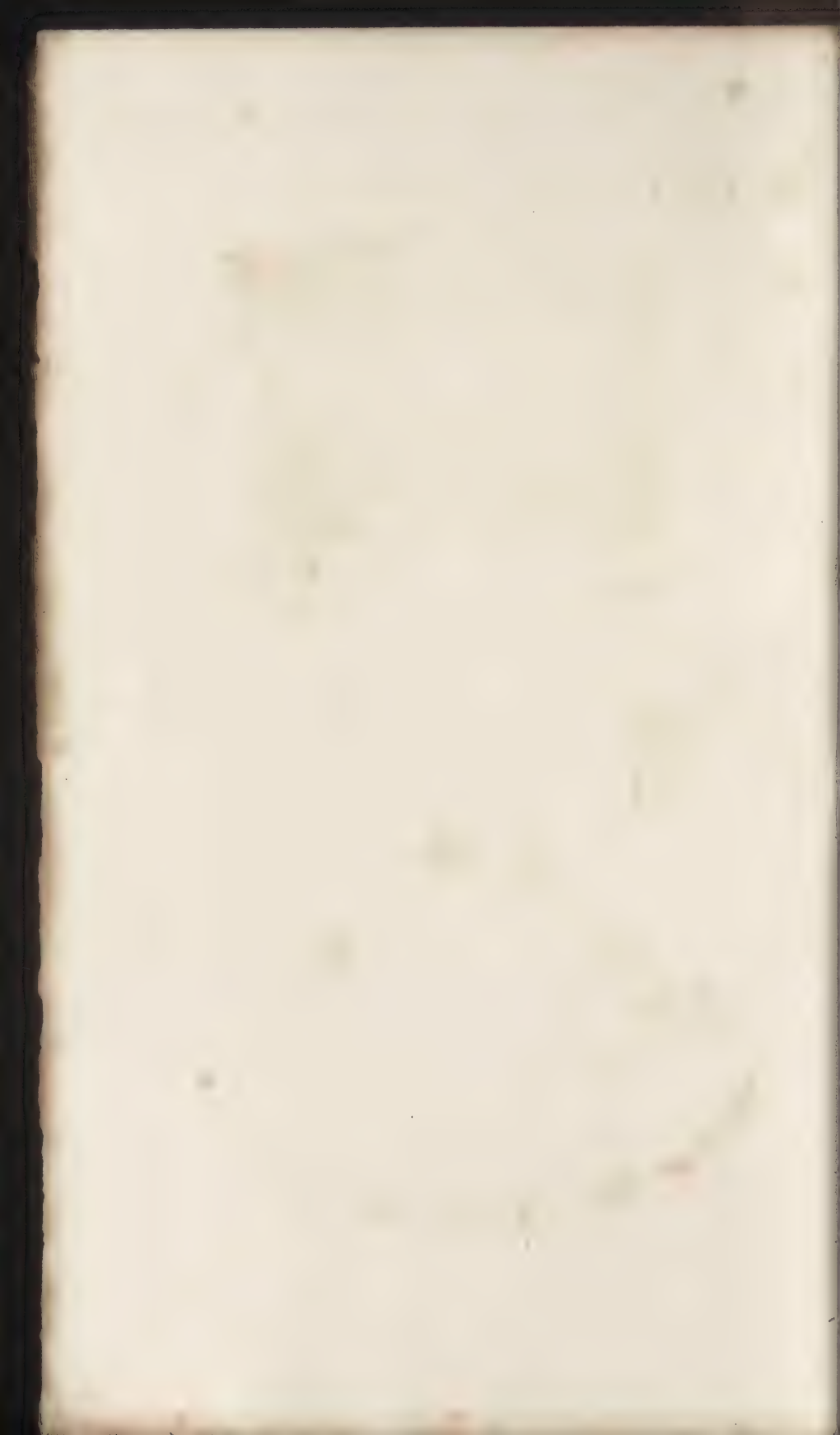
This stone was set up, as we may infer from the date of his third consulate, after Aurelian had conquered Tetricus.



R. S. del

E. Scovill FSA sc.

ORLÉANS.



With the title of consul for the third time is associated an assumption of the tribunitian power for the seventh time, TR. P. VII. COS. III., which does not agree with the usual chronological accordance of these two offices, as especially applied to the reign of Aurelian. It is, however, remarkable that some of his coins are recorded with TR. P. VII. COS. III. : but it has been supposed that the VII is a mistake for V. The additional instance of an apparently chronological inconsistency appearing in a lapidary inscription, demands a revision of the numismatic readings. At present I find at least three gold coins of Aurelian cited in numismatic works as reading TR. P. VII. COS. III. ; but as yet I have had no opportunity of seeing the coins themselves.

Another peculiarity in this inscription may be pointed out. It is in the numerous titles conferred on Aurelian by the senate for his victories. Among others is that of *Carpicus*, which I do not find in any other inscription relating to this emperor. It appears from Vopiscus that it was conferred on Aurelian after his conquest of Zenobia and the east, on account of his having subjugated the Carpi; but the emperor did not seem to attach much importance to the title: "Pacato igitur Oriente in Europam Aurelianus rediit victor, atque illic Carporum copias afflixit: et quum illum *Carpicum* senatus absentem vocasset, mandasse illico fertur, *Superest P. C. ut me etiam Carpisculum vocetis. Carpisculum* enim genus calciamenti esse satis notum, quod cognomen deforme videbatur: quum et *Gothicus* et *Sarmaticus*, et *Armeniacus*, et *Parthicus*, et *Adiabenicus*, diceretur." (Cap. 30.)

The early name of Orléans was Genabum. It is generally supposed that it changed its name on account of its restoration by Aurelian; or, as some suggest, by Marcus Aurelius; but these conjectures of the derivation are unwarranted by any direct historical evidence. It is, however,

certain that Aurelian recovered the province of Gaul from Tetricus; and he may have so renovated Genabum as to lead to the adoption of a new name in compliment to his patronage. In the time of Honorius it was called *Civitas Aurelianorum*, from which it would seem that the people of the district, the ancient Carnuti, had changed their name.

A third inscription in this museum is also of interest, although it has long since been published. It was found in excavations made at the fountain of Etuvéé, in the commune of Fleury, where it appears to have been let into the wall of the temple of the goddess of the fountain, or of the locality:

AVG. ACIONNAE
SACRVM
CAPILLUS. ILLIO
MARI. F. PORTICVM
CVM SVIS ORNA
MENTIS. V. S. L. M.

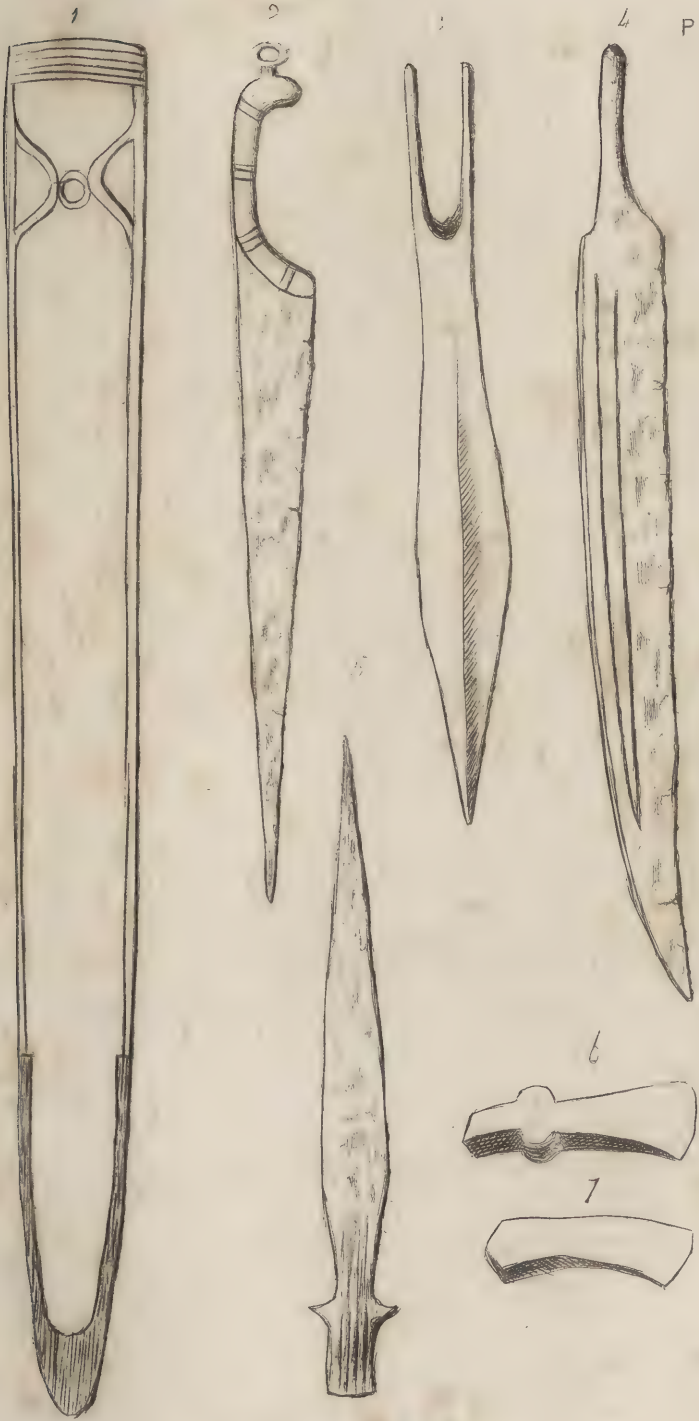
*Augustæ Acionnæ sacrum. Capillus Illiomari filius
Porticum cum suis ornamentis votum solvit lubens merito.*

MUSEUM OF AMIENS.

PLATE XII.

The weapons in this plate are selected from the local antiquities in the museum of Amiens, for comparison with analogous examples, to assist the classification of the classes to which they belong.

Fig. 1, an iron sword in a bronze scabbard, with an enamelled stud upon its upper part, belongs to the same class as the fine specimen in Lord Londesborough's collection, figured in plate XVI of our third volume. It was found in the Somme, near Camou; and measures two feet ten inches.



AMIENS MUSEUM.

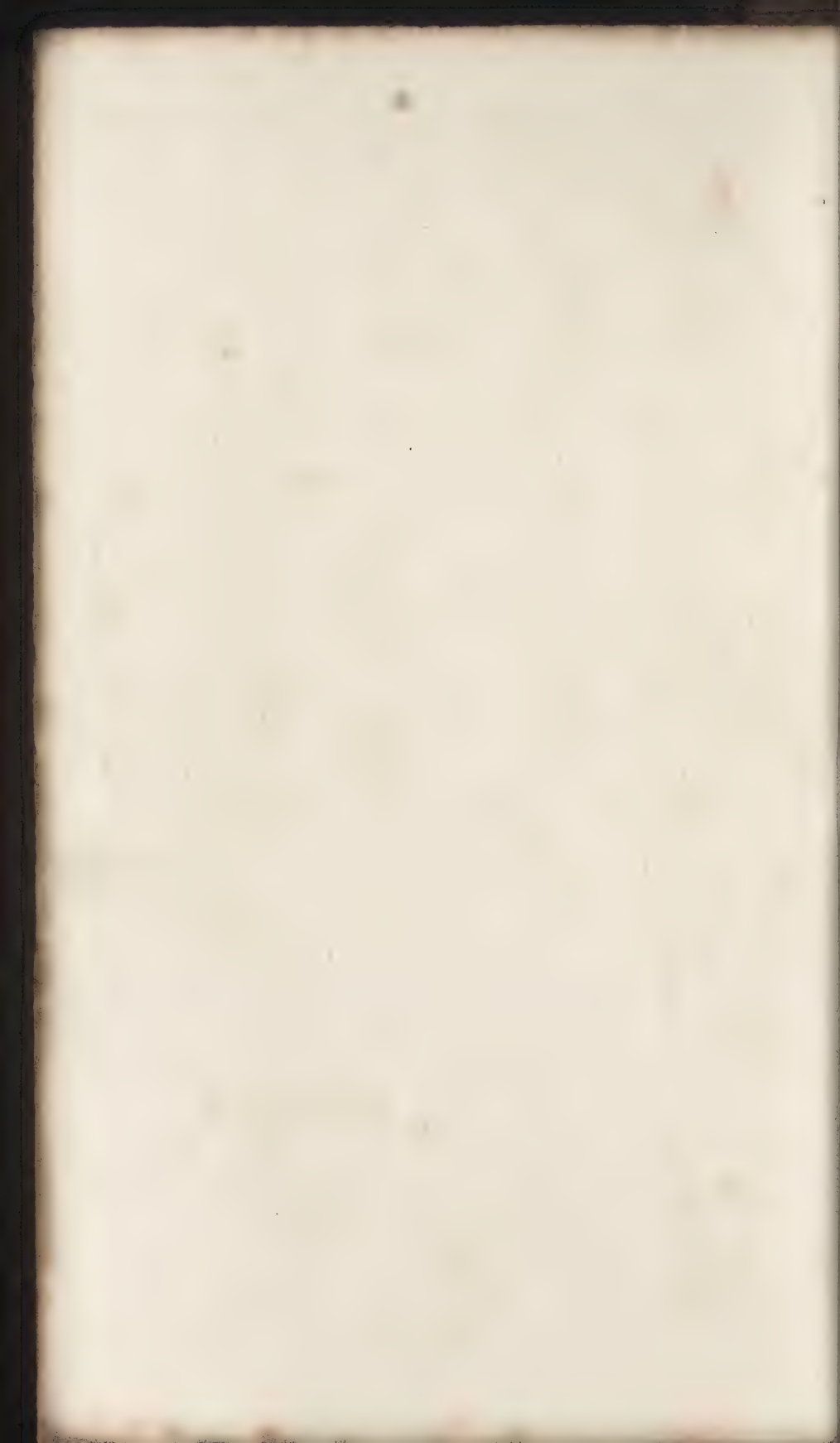


Fig. 2, in iron, was found at Bertangle, with Roman antiquities (as stated in the Catalogue), among which are fragments of an urn, in black earth, *à dents de loup*. We may probably refer it to the Frankish period. It measures somewhat under two feet.

Fig. 3, iron spear-head, "trouvé dans le camp Romain de l'Etoile." (Catalogue, No. 200.) Length, about eighteen inches.

Fig. 4, an example of the Frankish sword-knife, about eighteen inches in length. (See pl. LVIII, vol. ii, *Col. Ant.*)

Fig. 5, spear-head in iron, sixteen inches in length, found in the "Camp de César" at Picquigny. Compare with the fine example of the same class, from the Thames, No. 546 of "Catalogue of the Museum of London Antiquities."

Fig. 6, length, four inches; fig. 7, length, three inches: varieties of the *francisca*. (See pl. I, vol. ii, *Col. Ant.*)

The museum contains valuable collections of local antiquities of the Celtic, Gallo-Roman, and Frankish periods. Among the first of these divisions will be found an extraordinary quantity of bronze weapons and implements, found together in a turf-pit near Amiens. They comprise thirty hatchets (*paalstabs* and *celts*), fifteen javelin heads, fragments of a sword, eight bracelets, two kinds of punches, and a large quantity of other implements, and ingots, all in bronze.

An excellent catalogue of the collection of antiquities, by M. Ch. Dufour, enhances the value of the Amiens museum.

DISCOVERY OF A MEROVINGIAN CEMETERY AT
LA CHAPELLE SAINT ÉLOI (EURE).

In my notes on the excursion in France in 1853, I noticed, at Evreux, some interesting inscriptions relating to a locality called, in ancient times, the *vicus Gisiaca*, and to a local divinity called Gisacus; showing, at the same time, how these inscriptions are illustrated by passages in the life of Saint Taurinus. (See *Col. Ant.*, vol. iii, p. 120-4.)

A singular discovery recently made and published by M. Lenormant, confirms the opinions I then formed on this subject; and reveals such curious additional information connected therewith, that a brief notice of M. Lenormant's pamphlet will form an appropriate supplement to my notes, referred to above, and direct attention to the new discovery, which is in itself of general interest.

La Chapelle-Saint-Eloi is a secluded spot in the canton of Beaumont-le-Roger, not far from the site of a Roman villa (described by M. le Prévost), at the confluence of the Charentonne and the Risle, near the Roman road from Paris to Lillebonne, between Evreux and Lisieux. The author informs us that "a Roman camp of imposing dimensions faces the villa, and at a short distance are the lower layers of the stonework of a bridge of the same epoch. The ground is everywhere strewed with curve-edged tiles and other *débris* of the industry of the ancients: moreover, the sudden appearance, in 1830, close to our valley, of those vases of silver, which, under the inaccurate name of vases of Bernay, have acquired in the archæological world great and merited celebrity,—all these inspired a hope that one day we might learn something more of loca-

* Découverte d'un cimetière Mérovingien à la Chapelle Saint-Eloi (Eure), par Ch. Lenormant. Paris, 1854.

lities, all traces of the historical importance of which had not yet completely disappeared. But a quarter of a century had glided away since the discovery of the vases of Bernay, or of Berthouville, or, better still, of Villeret, and the glory reserved for that part of ancient Gaul seemed to have limited itself to one fact, isolated and inexplicable,—suddenly the veil is raised.”

The remains described by M. Lenormant were accidentally brought to light by a peasant digging stone to build a cottage. They seem to belong, as the author considers, to the ruins of a Christian baptistery, built from the overthrown materials of a Roman building. From a very mutilated inscription, and the fragments of a statue, the date of the Roman building is referred to the time of Caracalla. This seems one of the most questionable of the conclusions deduced; but it must be considered we have as yet only a very imperfect account of the entire discovery; and the illustrations do not allow us to judge how far the portrait of the statue resembles the well-known features of the cruel and debased son of Severus. Up to last December no less than seventy-four inscriptions, most of them traced upon Roman tiles, had been dug up, all of which are to be published in a work by M. Edmond le Blant, on the Christian inscriptions of Gaul.

M. Lenormant, founding his theory on the legendary history of Taurinus, imputes to that holy person the destruction of the Roman monument and the establishment of the baptistery, which is thus described: “On entering the baptistery of St. Taurinus, and in imagination reconstructing it as it once existed (perhaps for a short time only), we find ourselves surrounded by the most ancient and the most venerable mementos of Christianity. Our attention is at first excited by the monumental inscriptions with which they had been decorated, at a time doubtless posterior to the building of the edifice.

“ On the exterior face was the inscription, often repeated at this period: *Fiat pax (intranribus)*; ‘Peace to those who enter these walls.’ At the bottom of the baptistery we read: *Christe spi[ritus], sus[cipe] or[ati]one[m] nostram*; ‘O Christ, Spirit, receive our prayer’; and, above, were figured the emblems of the first centuries, the dove, the eucharistic cup, and the chrism, forming a cross, on the arms of which are suspended the Alpha and Omega, an arrangement adopted as a protest against the Arians after the Council of Nice. The impression caused by these objects, which carry us back to the fifth century, further increases on an examination of the fragments of vases collected in the ruins. In fact, we find there almost all the symbolism of the catacombs, the Greek cross, the different forms of the monogram of Jesus Christ, the mysterious fish, the palm branch, with the exclamations noted by the explorers of subterranean Rome, [*pie*] *zes[es]*, ‘drink and you will live’, a Greek formula, written in Latin letters, which alludes to the sacrament of the eucharist, *vivas in Deo*, ‘live in God’, traced with so much elegance upon a red vase of so pure a material, that, by the aid of this indication, one would not be satisfied in attributing it to any period later than that of St. Taurinus himself. Then follows the series of names of those who have left upon the font of the baptistery, or upon the wall which surrounds it, this trace of their presence and mark of their veneration. This series is completed by that of the epigraphs of the cemetery, accompanied almost always by the primitive formula *in pace*, a double chain which seems to commence with the religion itself, and to break off, as is demonstrated by the palæographical characters of the letters, at the end of the sixth, or early in the seventh century.

“ The study of the proper names we have collected fur-

nishes interesting deductions: among them may be noticed some purely of Latin formation; some of Greek origin; but one only has yet been found of a Gaulish character; so firmly had the Roman impress stamped the population of our district. By the side of *Viriodurus* we here find *Eugenius* and *Theodorus*; there *Firmus*, *Lætus*, *Sextus*, *Vincentius*, *Fruventius*, *Fortunatus*, *Festus*, *Optatus*, *Rusticus*, *Liberius*, *Gentianus*, *Ursus*, *Laurentius*, *Clemens*, *Barbara*, *Columba*, etc. The form of the letters might often be referred even to the second century of our era; a great number of the monuments range themselves conveniently in the fifth; and among those, which from positive signs we recognize as belonging to the sixth century, the purity of the elements of the writing, and the correctness of style, have often less of alteration, perhaps, than those found at Rome itself. The metrical epitaphs, which it is not difficult to restore, are distinguished by the purity of the language, and a certain degree of elegance. On one we read:

Ga[llius hic tegitur juvenis] sub cl[ave sepulcri],
 Servatu[r corpus,] spiritus a[stra colit].

On another, which indicates the tomb of a child:

Corpus in hoc [tumulo] Tutī servato[r amati],
 Quem matri [rapuit] mors [inimica suæ].

This name of Tutus, which is certainly not common, had already been found in our district. The most elegant of the vases discovered at Villeret were dedicated to *Mercurius Augustus* by *Q. Domitius Tutus*. This name, then, had been handed down either by lineal descent or by affranchisement.

“ Among the funereal monuments, of which the formula varies but little, is an epitaph, traced in large letters of a good style, reading: SYR[O] FAM[VLVS] DE[I]. This title

of *Servant of God*, save some exceptions peculiar to certain countries, seems to indicate, in the early Christian inscriptions, adoption of the monastic life. The inscriptions of the period anterior to the establishment of the German conquerors in Gaul have, as yet, afforded us no chronological indication; but, starting from the sixth century, dates of the reign of the Merovingian monarchs appear and begin to increase. Unfortunately, not one of those of which the vestiges have come into our hands is complete; there is one of Childebert I, and of a Clotaire, who is, perhaps, the second of that name. At the same time, we perceive names of barbarous origin; a *Baudulfus* is inscribed upon one of the stones of the church contiguous to the baptistery, of which we shall doubtless discover the foundations; a *Teudulfus*, deceased at the age of twenty-one years, reposed in the cemetery. But what justly excites our attention is the trace left of persons who belong to history. In this respect I think no sanctuary has hitherto furnished anything so worthy of interest as our's, since we read on the stones of our baptistery the name and, in a manner, the signature, of the son and successor of Clovis, Childebert I; and of St. Germanus of Autun, the contemporary, counsellor, and friend of this prince. These two inscriptions, which are mutually illustrative, appear to have been traced by the same hand. The memorial of St. Germanus, which is in four lines, in a cursive character, reads: *Germanus . . . fui anno SM. regnante Childeberto*. The date is in Greek. The year 46 of Childebert, 557 of our era, answers to the epoch when St. Germanus, raised to the episcopal throne of Paris, remained by the side of the sovereign who had adopted him, and shed over the last days of the son of Clotilde a salutary influence. If, as seems certain, we have under our eyes an authentic spe-

cimen of the writing of St. Germanus, there can be no doubt of his having also written the name of the prince whom he accompanied.

“By the side of the monogram of Childebert I, and the inscription of St. Germanus, we read a third name, which it is difficult to separate from the two preceding; it is that of *Clodoald*. This name presents an unexpected peculiarity; it is in a character which is neither Latin nor Greek; in short, it is written in *Runic* characters, and is not the only example found of the use of this writing. Another Frank, named *Herman*, had inscribed his name in runes upon the font in which he had doubtless received baptism. Nine epitaphs on curved-edge tiles, three of which are bilingual, present names of persons of both sexes, such as we most frequently meet with among the Salic Franks; and two of these inscriptions bear their date. Here, then, are indubitable examples of the use of German runes as far back as the first half of the sixth century; and of all the results of our researches, this, without contradiction, presents the most striking and novel character.

“Dr. Jacob Grimm, whom I have consulted on this subject, attaches, as I have done, a serious importance to the result of my discovery. He remarks, that the characters of our inscription differ from the Anglo-Saxon runes, as well as from those attributed to the Marcomanni, and resemble the Scandinavian, without being identical with them. The names in the Runic epitaphs, *Sigefried*, *Hagen*, *Sigebert*, *Ingomer*, *Clotilde*, *Nantechilde*, *Cremhilde*, are those we meet with in the ancient Germanic epic, or in the family of the Merovingians. As to the date to be attributed to these monuments, we possess positive indications, irrespective of their relation to this rich collection. I have already cited the fragment which

formed part of an epitaph dated in the reign of Childebert. Another inscription, which has fortunately come to us entire, may be rendered thus: *Ingomer, son of Hagen, in peace; in the reign of Clovis, Consul.* The formula *in pace* is translated by *in friede*. The title of consul is transcribed, without alteration, in runes, *Konsul* (fig. 3, pl. XIII). Ingomer, then, died at the epoch when Clovis, having received from the emperor Anastasius the insignia of Consul, celebrated the event at Tours with triumphal pomp, as described by the father of our history. This took place in 510; and Clovis died the year after. This settled point allows us, in accordance with the most competent judges, to place our Runic inscriptions among the most ancient monuments we possess of the language and writing of the Germans.

“At the same time, we cannot but be struck at the twofold influence which acted upon the Frankish tribes since their establishment in our country. In appropriating to their own language the formula of the catacombs, *in pace*, they shewed the warmth of their attachment to the Christian faith. In proclaiming the title of *Consul*, which their sovereign had received, they give evidence of the involuntary respect with which Roman greatness inspired even those who effaced its last vestiges. Nevertheless, the warriors who had brandished the framea, came, in their last moments, to beg an asylum in a spot sanctified by the religion of Jesus Christ; and so, in their tomb, become children of the same God, they slept among the Romans with the hope of a glorious and common resurrection.

“I am not ignorant that others, and not far off, from patient and ingenious researches, have considered that they have deduced conclusions very different. According to the author of the explorations to whom I allude, the

Franks settled in Gaul continued to dwell separate in the tomb as during life. If these last conclusions hold good, it is not the less true that those to which we have arrived accord much better with what we know of *France formed by the bishops.*"

I presume it is the author of *La Normandie Souterraine* who is referred to in the last paragraph of the above abstract. M. Lenormant, if I comprehend his meaning, considers that the deductions made by the Abbé Cochet from his researches in the Frankish cemeteries on the northern coast of France, do not, as regards the influence of Christianity, harmonize with the facts brought to light in the cemetery of *La Chapelle St.-Eloi*. They certainly do not; but the results obtained by the two explorers are different, solely because the circumstances were different. The Franks in the districts examined by the Abbé Cochet had not yet renounced their pagan habits and customs; those whose inscriptions make so curious and novel a feature in M. Lenormant's interesting report, were early converts to Christianity. With them we find no more the shield, the sword, and the spear, and the numerous other accompaniments which mark their pagan character; their remains are not found upon the hills or plains; but in the consecrated precincts of a Christian church or chapel, in the burial-place of Christianized Romans. The discovery made by M. Lenormant is an important supplement to those made by the Abbé Cochet, in no way contradicting his conclusions, but affording new and valuable facts.

The Gisacus mentioned in the inscriptions found at Vieil Evreux, which I have given in my third volume, p. 121, and which M. le Prévost supposes is the modern Gisay, a village in the neighbourhood of Bernay, M. Lenormant infers, from the metrical inscriptions found at

La Chapelle St.-Eloi (see fig. 1, pl. XIII), to be the site itself of this discovery.

The tile on which this is traced is not curve-edged, and seems to have been prepared in making (M. Lenormant thinks) for receiving an inscription. The restoration he proposes is as follows :

HIC VBI TAUR[INVS] VIRGARVM VE[RBERE CAESVS]
 EST GISACI VICV[S] CAMPOS QV[A] R[IVVS OBERRAT]
 HIC VBI LICINI [SCE]LERATA [EFFERBVIT IRA]
 [MV]NERE [PERFVNCTVS SACRO SVRO AETHERA LIQVIT]

The inscription, as may be seen by reference to the plate, fig. 1, retains enough to warrant this restoration, except the conclusion: "In this place where Taurinus was scourged, is the village of Gisacus: here where Licinius", etc., is all clear enough, and consistent with the story; the last line, which is not the most material one, is constructed under the supposition that the inscription is an epitaph written in honour of some holy person who had been baptized at Gisacus; and the only one known being a Suro, his name is here introduced more to complete the line, and give a probable notion of the full sense of the verses.

The next, here selected (fig. 2), is equally interesting, mentioning Gisacus, and associated with the Auleri: "*Viriodu[rus] Syrus, et [. . .], ex vico Gis[aco] Auleric[orum], in pace.*"

The third (fig. 3), is the most important of the Runic inscriptions. It is thus read :

*Inkomr : sn : Hahn[s ?]
 in : frid[ou]
 konounk : Khloudoouik :
 konsoul*

The proposed translation of which is :

Ingomer, son of Hagen,
in peace,
[being] *King, Clovis,*
Consul.

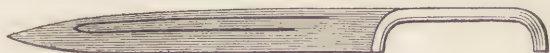
On fig. 4, M. Lenormant remarks: "I annex to the foregoing inscription this fragment of another tile, on account of the precious chronological indication which it furnishes. We read: . . . *onounk Khil* . . .; and it is positively part of a date of the reign of Childebert I. We find the same among our Latin inscriptions: *Regnante Childeberto; regnante Chlotario.*

Fig. 5 is "an epitaph of a female who bore the same name as the wife of Clovis I. We read distinctly, *Krouthkild : in : d* . . . Gregory of Tours wrote this name, *Chrotechildis.*"

M. Delisle has supplied a text of the life of St. Taurinus from the *Bibliothèque Impériale*, different from that given by the Bollandists, and apparently better. It will be read with additional interest in connexion with M. Lenormant's discoveries. Several of his annotations of this work, and the application of passages in it to inscriptions from the Merovingian cemetery, are worthy of consideration. The learned writer will, however, find that many will feel a difficulty in believing that the chief actors in this legendary story were historical personages; as, for instance, that Licinius who scourged Taurinus was he who was afterwards the emperor Publius Licinius Valerianus; and that Leonilla, his wife, was the Mariniana of the coins; but, in many other respects, they will admit the value of these early ecclesiastical compositions.

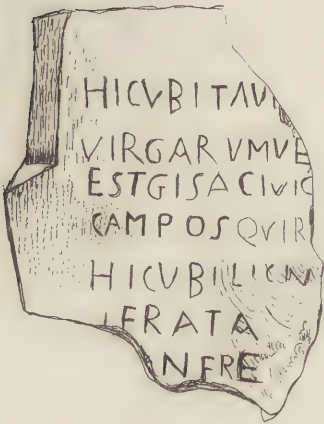
Incidentally, M. Lenormant makes some sensible remarks on the epoch to which may be referred the restoration of the Roman walls of many of the ancient cities of

France. It is his opinion that a system of defence against the invasions of the German nations was set on foot by Alexander Severus; that it was continued by Aurelian, and assumed a general and regular form under Diocletian. Closely connected with this question is that of the existence of ruins of Roman towns in the districts of cities of known Roman origin, such as Evreux, Lisieux, Poitiers, Le Mans, etc., many of which are popularly considered as the original towns, such as Vieil-Evreux, and Vieil-Poitiers. At Le Mans we found that the chief antiquities in the museum had been collected, not from the site of Le Mans itself, but from Allones, about three miles distant, where are the remains of a town, now entirely covered with trees; and similar evidences of an apparent change of locality, in relation to the Roman towns in France, are frequently to be noticed. The subject is one exceedingly curious and suggestive, and highly worthy the attention of local antiquaries, who are the most proper persons to undertake the inquiry, by making excavations on the sites of these ruined towns.



Museum of Epinal.

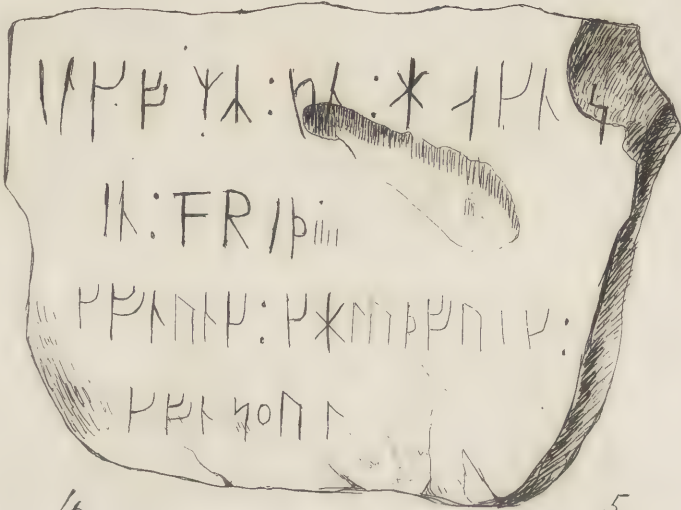
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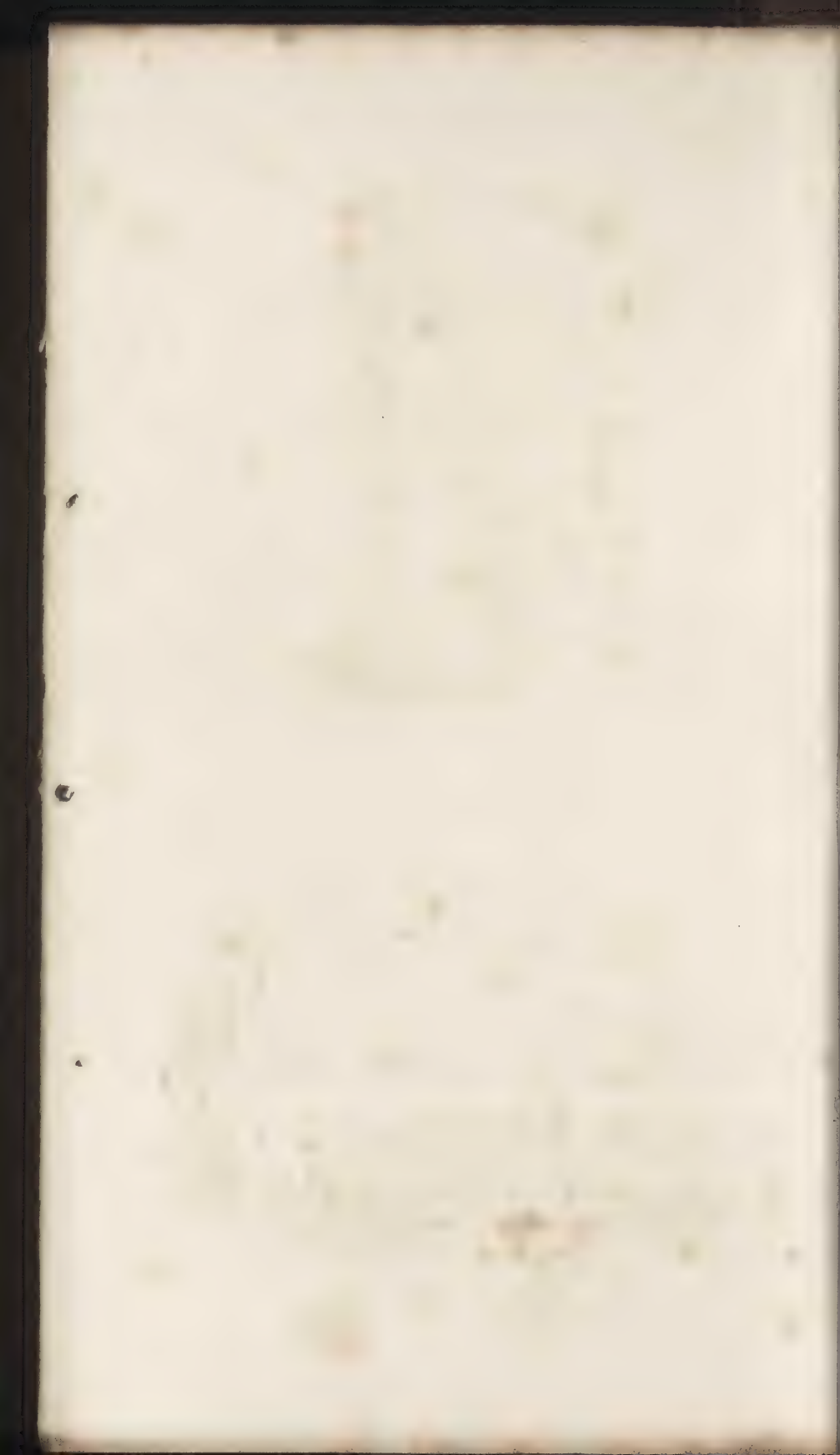


WINCHESTER.



H. W. Parker

IRCHESTER.



ALTAR INSCRIBED TO THE DEÆ MATRES,
FOUND AT WINCHESTER.

PLATE XIV.

At the close of the third volume of the *Collectanea*, mention was made of the discovery at Winchester of an inscribed altar. Mr. F. J. Baigent has redeemed the promise he made, by sending me a Daguerreotype of it, made by his brother, Mr. Richard Baigent, Jun., from which Mr. H. W. Rolfe has executed the etching, pl. xiv. The application of this process to such objects leaves nothing to be desired; and if portability could be combined with the mechanism, it would be a valuable agent in the hands of the antiquary.

The altar is of a blue compact sandstone, and measures in height nineteen inches, in width eight inches.

The inscription must be read:

MATRI
ITALIS GER
MANIS
GAL . BRIT
. NTONIVS
. CRETIANVS
. F . COS . REST.

With the exception of a couple of letters in the last lines, it is perfect, and presents no difficulty in being understood:—MATRIBus ITALIS GERMANIS GALlicis BRITannicis ANTONIVS CRETIANVVS *Beneficiarius* consulis RESTituit:

—To the Italian, German, Gaulish, and British Mothers, Antonius Cretianus, a Consular Beneficiary, restored (it).

On the prevalence of the worship of the deities called *Matres* and *Matronæ*, in Britain and in Germany, I have already made some remarks in the first volume of the *Collectanea*, in illustration of the sculpture found in London (pl. XLVII); and in the second volume is represented (p. 193) a sedent figure of one of the goddesses, found at Birdoswald. The present discovery demands special reference to some inscriptions which have a more immediate connection with its subject.

At Castlesteads, on the line of the Roman wall, occupying the site of the station Petriana, was dug up, many years since, a stone, which, like ours from Winchester, had been used for building purposes. It has been published by Horsley (Cumberland, No. xxxiv), and also by Lysons, who reads a portion of the inscription (not the more important part), somewhat differently from Horsley:—

MATRIBVS
OMNIVM
GENTIVM
TEMPLVM
OLIM VETVS
TATE CONLAB
SVM. C.IVL.CVS
PITIANVS
P.P. RESTITVIT.

Matribus omnium gentium templum olim vetustate conlabsum Caius Julius Cuspitanus centurio propria pecunia restituit:—“Caius Julius Cuspitanus, a centurion, at his own charge, restored this temple to the Mothers of all Nations, which had long before fallen down from the decay of age.”

The Winchester inscription is much more comprehensive than the generality of the dedications to the Mothers; but

this is of an unlimited range, and shews, when temples, and not altars merely, were erected to these divinities, how essentially their worship had entered into the mythology of Roman Britain. Hodgson observes: "Of this altar, it may be curious to remark, that though, from the form of its letters, it does not seem to belong to a low period of the Roman empire, yet it not only records the re-building of a temple, the ruins of which, time had stamped with the character of antiquity, but that changeful years had removed it from the sanctuary, the restoration of which it recorded, stricken off its consecrated capital, and employed it as a common stone in one of the gateways of the Station."*

An altar found at York upwards of a century since, presents an inscription, which seems very analogous to that of Winchester. The letters, unfortunately, are in a bad state of preservation, and in consequence, various readings have been suggested. In the Rev. C. Well-beloved's "Eburacum, or York under the Romans," they are collected for comparison with an engraving of the altar. The learned author observes: "several letters of the first line, in which the greatest difficulty is found, appear to have been originally so peculiarly formed, and now are so indistinct, that it is next to impossible to decypher them." The earliest reading in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, of the year 1752, runs thus:

MATribus AFricis ITALis GALLicis
 MARcus MINvtius MVDE
 MILEs LEGionis VI (*sextæ*) VICtriciis
 GVBERnatori LEGionis VI (*sextæ*)
 votum solvit LL (*libentissime*) MERito.

The interpretation of the first line, "to the African, the

* "The Roman Wall and South Tindale", p. 217. This inscription is said to be preserved at Netherby.

Italian, and the Gaulish mothers," which the engraving referred to seems to warrant, is rendered more satisfactory by the clear and unquestionable lettering of the Winchester altar, and the general purport of analogous inscriptions.

We have at least three dedications found in this country to the transmarine mothers, an expression which, although it extends in its fullest sense to all nations beyond the limits of Britain, may probably be more especially intended to refer to the mothers of Germany and Gaul. One of these, found at Brougham, in Westmorland, was set up by a vexillation of Germans. Another, found at Old Penrith, was erected by soldiers; but from what country, the remaining part of the inscription does not tell us. We learn, however, that it was of the time of Alexander Severus, and as other monuments found at the same place record a cohort of Gauls as having been stationed there, in the reign of Philip, it is probable that those who addressed the transmarine mothers were of the same nation. Horsley (Cumberland, LI.), gives this inscription thus :

DEABVS MATRIBVS TRAMARINIS
 ET N IMP ALEXANDER AVG ET IVL MAM
 MEAE MATER AVG N ET CASTRORUM TO
 .. TI DOMVI DIVINAE AE ..
 LATIO MR?

That the worship of these deities was introduced into Britain by the foreign auxiliaries, and was not indigenous, is further supported by the third of these inscriptions to the "transmarine mothers;" for in this instance, the dedicator is a Julius Victor, who, as appears by another inscription, was a tribune of the first cohort of the Vangiones. (See Dr. Bruce's *Roman Wall*, 2nd edition, p. 402).

In the following dedication we have an instance of Gauls addressing the British mothers, associated with the *campestres*, or goddesses presiding over the fields. It was found on the Antonine Wall. Mr. Stuart, who has published it in his *Caledonia Romana* (p. 305), candidly avows that he is not quite satisfied in reading the ET of the second line as *æternis*, adjectively agreeing with *campestribus*, and in making the third line *Britanniæ*:

CAMPES
 TRIBVS ET
 BRITANNI
 Q . PISENTIUS
 IVSTVS . PREF
 COH . IIII . GAL
 V S L L M .

This I read: "*Campestribus et Britannicis Q. Pisentius Justus præfectus cohortis quartæ Gallorum votum solvit,*" etc. To the field deities and to the British mothers, etc.

The worship of the *Deæ Matres*, as we learn by inscriptions, had extended all over Britain. When we find them represented, they are always three, seated, and holding in their laps baskets of fruit. This is the form in which they appear in Germany on their altars. There, however, they are as usually designated *Matronæ* as *Matres*; and almost always the name of the place or district over which they presided is added, as *Matres Treveræ*, *Matres Aufanæ*, *Matronæ Romanæ*, *Matronæ Gabiæ*. In the numerous German inscriptions, the adjective appended usually expresses a locality, which can commonly be identified as being that in which the altars were found. In England, on the contrary, it is a general epithet expressive of a country, as in those above cited; or, more generally, they are addressed simply as *Matres*. A subordinate class of topical goddesses divided with the *Matres*, the *Nymphs*, other triads and divinities of all kinds, the

worship of the population of the northern provinces of the Roman empire, as guardians of rivers, districts, and places. We find them addressed in the singular number connected with the name of the locality; as, for instance, on the altar found at Bittern, near Southampton, which is inscribed *Deæ Ancastæ*; and the dedications found in Scotland (*Col. Ant.*, vol. iii, p. 202), which latter, as far as regards the name of the goddesses, I believe of German origin. In France and in Germany they are very common; but not so in this country.

The influence supposed to be exercised by the three goddesses appears to have been of a beneficent kind, as they are often represented on sculptures with the fruits of the earth, the attributes of Ceres and Pomona; and they seem to have been regarded, especially by the peasantry and lower orders, as having control over the affairs of human life, giving prosperity and health, and watching over the occupations of people, their dwellings, and their property. The influence they held over the mass of the population lasted long after the introduction of Christianity, and the superstitions connected with their worship were with difficulty subdued, because they were the superstitions of the people and especially of the peasantry. Thus, in the middle ages, we find, among the popular beliefs, traces of the Mother goddesses so marked as to leave no doubt of their origin. Mr. Wright has collected some of them, which are very remarkable, and particularly a story the scene of which is in the neighbourhood of Winchester, where we now find, from the discovery of our altar, these goddesses were worshipped.

“A Latin poet of Winchester, the monk Wolstan, who lived in the middle of the tenth century, has left us a singular story relating to the three nymphs who presided over the district, and whom, differing in this from Egwin,

but agreeing with the generality of ecclesiastical writers when they handled the popular superstitions, he has blackened both in person and character. A citizen of Winchester one day went out to visit his farms, and returning somewhat late towards his home, near the little stream which passes by the city, he was stopped by two dark women in a state of nudity—

Nam prope præfatum solus dum pergeret amnem,
 Haud procul aspiciens furias videt ecce gemellas
 Ante suam faciem, nullo velamine tectas,
 Sed piceas totas obsceno et corpore nudas,
 Crinibus horrendas furvis et vultibus atras,
 Armatas gelido serpentinoque veneno.
 Quæ super extreman prædicti fluminis undam
 Ceu geminæ externis furium *sedere* sorores.
 Quæ mox ut coram sese properanter euntem
 Conspexere virum, surgunt, et cominus illi
 Occurrunt, et eum paritur hac voce salutant:
 ‘Frater amande, veni; nostras adtende loquelas;
 Huc celer appropia, volumus quia pauca loquendo
 Verba referre tibi: tu stans ea protinus audi’—

Wolstani Mirac. S. Swithuni MS. Reg.

15 C. vii. fol. 74, vº.

“The man, instead of paying due respect to the ladies by listening to them, ran away in a fright, and they pursued him, threatening vengeance for the disregard which he had shown to their commands—

‘Cur, insane, fugis? quo jam, moriture, recurris?
 Non nos incolomis, miser, evasisse valebis,
 Sed *nobis spretis* horrenda pericla subibis.’

“He now gave himself up for lost, and his terror was increased when a third female, who had lain concealed on the hill, stopped his way.—It is not improbable that these nymphs haunted the deserted fortress of the pagans of

old, and the barrow-covered downs which still overlook this ancient city, from which their worship had then been banished by the influence of the gospel.—

Tertia progreditur veniens a vertice collis,
 Terribilis vultu proceraque corpore vasto,
 Usa tamen niveo pictoque decenter amictu,
 Dissimilisque habitu vultuque prioribus extans.
 Hæc etenim latuit post collem fraude reperta,
 Propter iter per quod cupiit transire viator
 Quatinus hunc caperet, furvis si intactus abiret.

“ In her angry mood, the third nymph struck the inobedient mortal senseless to the ground, and then they disappeared in the waters of the river—

Nec mora, cum furiis linquens abscessit in amnis
 Gurgite, præcipiti saliens ac præpete saltu.

“ The man gradually recovered his senses, but he found himself a cripple, and with difficulty crawled to the eastern gate of the city, which was not far distant.

“ Another Anglo-Latin poet, but who lived in the latter half of the twelfth century, Nigellus Wireker, has preserved in his *Speculum Stultorum*, a tale which furnishes a still more remarkable illustration of the character of the three goddesses when they had become mere personages of medieval popular fable. Nigellus still compares them with the Latin *Parcæ*. The three sisters, he says, went out into the world to relieve men from their troubles and misfortunes—*

Ibant tres hominum curas relevare sorores,
 Quas nos fatales dicimus esse deas.”

* The extracts from this poem are taken from an old printed edition, compared with a copy in MS. Harl., No. 2422.

Unus erat cultus tribus his eademque voluntas,
 Naturæ vitiis ferre salutis opem ;
 Et quod avara minus dederat, vel prodiga multum,
 His emendandis plurima cura fuit.

“As they went along, they found, under a shady bank, a beautiful maiden, of a noble family, and rich in the goods of the world, yet in spite of all these advantages she was weeping and lamenting. Two of the sisters proposed to relieve her of her grief, but the third opposed their desires, and gave them a short lecture on the ill uses some people make of prosperity.

‘Venimus, ut nostis, nos tres invisere mundum,
 Ut ferremus opem, sed quibus esset opus.
 Non opus est isti, quia quam natura beavit
 In quantum potuit, et quibus ausa fuit,
 Cui genus et speciem formæ tribuit specialem,
 Debet id et nobis et satis esse sibi.
 Forsitan auxilium si præstaremus eidem,
 Posset de facili deteriora pati.’

“They left the weeping damsel, and proceeded to a shady wood, where lay another maiden on a couch: she, like the former, was beautiful and intellectual, and, as it appears, like her also, rich; but she was lame of her lower extremities, and, unable to walk, had been brought thither to enjoy the green shade. She courteously addressed the three nymphs, and showed them the way to the most beautiful part of the wood, where a pleasant fountain gave rise to a clear stream. The two sisters now proposed to relieve the damsel of her infirmity; but the third again interposed, on the ground that the lady enjoyed advantages sufficient to overbalance this one inconvenience under which she laboured, and which were granted to few of those who are made perfect in their limbs. The nymphs again passed on, and, towards even-

ing, were proceeding towards a town, where, not far outside the gates, they saw a rustic girl, who, unacquainted with the delicacies of more cultivated life, performed an act in public which shocked the two nymphs who had shown so much compassion on the former occasions. The third nymph drew the others back—

Erubuere duæ, visum vultumque tegentes,
 Vestibus objectis, arripuere fugam.
 Tertia subsistens, revocansque duas fugientes,
 ‘ Ut quid,’ ait, ‘ fugitis ? sistite, quæso gradum.’

She shows them they have here really an occasion of bettering the condition of one who enjoyed none of the advantages of fortune; and they determine to give her all sorts of riches, and to make her the lady of the town.

‘ Quodque nequit fieri, naturam degenerare
 Nolumus, injustas non decet esse *deas*.
 Res et opes adjici possunt, extraque liniri
 Naturæ salva proprietate sua.
 Nos igitur, *quibus est super his collata potestas*,
 Demus abundantiam munera magna manu,
 Divitias et opes, census, fundos, et honores,
 Prædia, montana, pascua, prata, greges;
 Urbis et istius dominam statuamus eandem,
 Ut nihil in nostro munere desit ei.’

“ It may be observed, that from the Pænitentiale of Baldwin bishop of Exeter, the contemporary of Nigellus Wireker, who composed this work for the use of his own diocese, it would appear then to have been the common practice in England, to lay the table with *three* knives (at night, of course) to conciliate these three personages, that they might confer good gifts on children born in the house.*

* Qui mensam præparavit, *cum tribus cultellis* in famulatum

“ At the beginning of the eighth century, according to a pious legend, a Worcestershire swine-herd, forcing his way through the dense thickets of the forests which then covered that part of the island, in search of a stray swine, came suddenly to a fair open lawn, in the midst of which he saw *three* beautiful maidens, clad in heavenly garments, and singing sweetly, one being superior to the others ; (we have here the distinction constantly observed in the traditional legends between two of the goddesses and the third): he told his story to the bishop Egwin, who accompanied him to the spot, and was also favoured with the vision. Egwin *decided* at once that it was the Virgin Mary, accompanied by two angels ; and he built on the spot a monastery, which was afterwards famous by the name of Evesham.* The vision is represented on the old abbey seal. In all probability the site of Evesham had been a spot dedicated by the unconverted Saxons to the worship of the three goddesses, and Egwin had seized the popular legend to consecrate it for a Christian establishment.

“ In a fabliau of the thirteenth century, of so indelicate a character that we cannot even mention its title, the three goddesses appear in the character of three beautiful fairies, bathing in a fountain, and are still endowed with the same quality of conferring benefits. There was a beautiful shady fountain in the midst of a fair meadow—

En la fontaine se baignoient
Trois *puceles* preuz et senées,
Qui de biauté sembloient fées ;

personarum, ut ibi nascentibus bona prædestinent. Liber Pœnitent. Baldw. Iscani Episc. MS. Cotton. Faustina A, viii. fol. 32, r^o.

* MS. Cotton, Nero E. I. fol. 26, v^o, where the story is told by bishop Egwin himself.

Lor robes à tout lor chemises
Orent desor un arbre mises.

A knight passing that way, very ungallantly seizes upon their dresses; but, softened by their urgent entreaties, he restores them. In return for this courtesy, each of them confers a gift upon him: the gift of the first was, that he should be received into favour wherever he went; that of the second was, that he should always be successful in his suits to the ladies; and the third, who here again appears as giving something totally contrary in character to that of her two companions, conferred a gift which cannot easily be named. In a manuscript in the British Museum (MS. Harl. No. 2253), there is a different version of this fabliau, which seems to be the one current in England at the beginning of the fourteenth century; in it the scene of the nymphs bathing is thus described—

Ce fust en esté quant la flour
Verdist e dount bon odour
E les oylsels sunt chauntanz,
E demenent solas graunz.
Come il ererent en une pleyne
Qe ert delées une fonteyne,
Si virent un petit russhel,
Anke petit més molt bele;
Yleque virent *treis damoiseles*,
Sages, cortoises, e tresbeles,
Qu'en la russhele se bagnerent,
Se desdurent e solacerent.

“The foregoing remarks have been thrown together very hastily. A careful search would doubtless show still more distinctly the influence of the older worship of the three goddesses on medieval superstition and romance.”*

* The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon, p. 284-8.

While these last pages were passing through the press, I noticed an inscription to which I should have referred in the first part of these notes had I then comprehended its full import. But as it had never been satisfactorily interpreted, and as it did not then appear to bear so especially on the subject before us, I did not think it called for any remark on the present occasion. Closer examination of it, however, has enabled me to offer an interpretation, and I present it as a new and interesting addition to the inscriptions to the Deæ Matres.

It is cut upon an altar found, in 1781, at Doncaster, in Yorkshire, and now in the possession of Mr. G. J. Jarratt of that town.* The altar has been engraved in Gough's translation of Camden's *Britannia*, vol. iii, pl. i; in the *Archæologia*, vol. vii, pl. xxx; in Wainwright's *History of the Wapentake of Strafforth and Tickhill*; in Miller's *History of Doncaster*; and in the Rev. Joseph Hunter's *History of the Deanery of Doncaster*, vol. i, p. 3.

By the kindness of Mr. Hunter I am enabled to introduce on the next page, the wood engraving from this valuable topographical work.

After noticing the difficulty of the reading suggested in the *Archæologia*, vol. vii, p. 420, which makes the fourth line a proper name, Mr. Hunter quotes another interpretation of the line, *Ob Romanorum totam alam*; "in effect that M. N. Antonius consecrates this altar to the mother goddesses, on behalf of the whole wing of Roman soldiers with which he was connected"; and remarks, "but after all it must be acknowledged that the inscription is still open to antiquarian criticism."

* As Mr. Jarratt does not particularly value this curious monument, I make no doubt of his being willing to cede it to the Museum of Local Antiquities at York, if proper application be made to him.



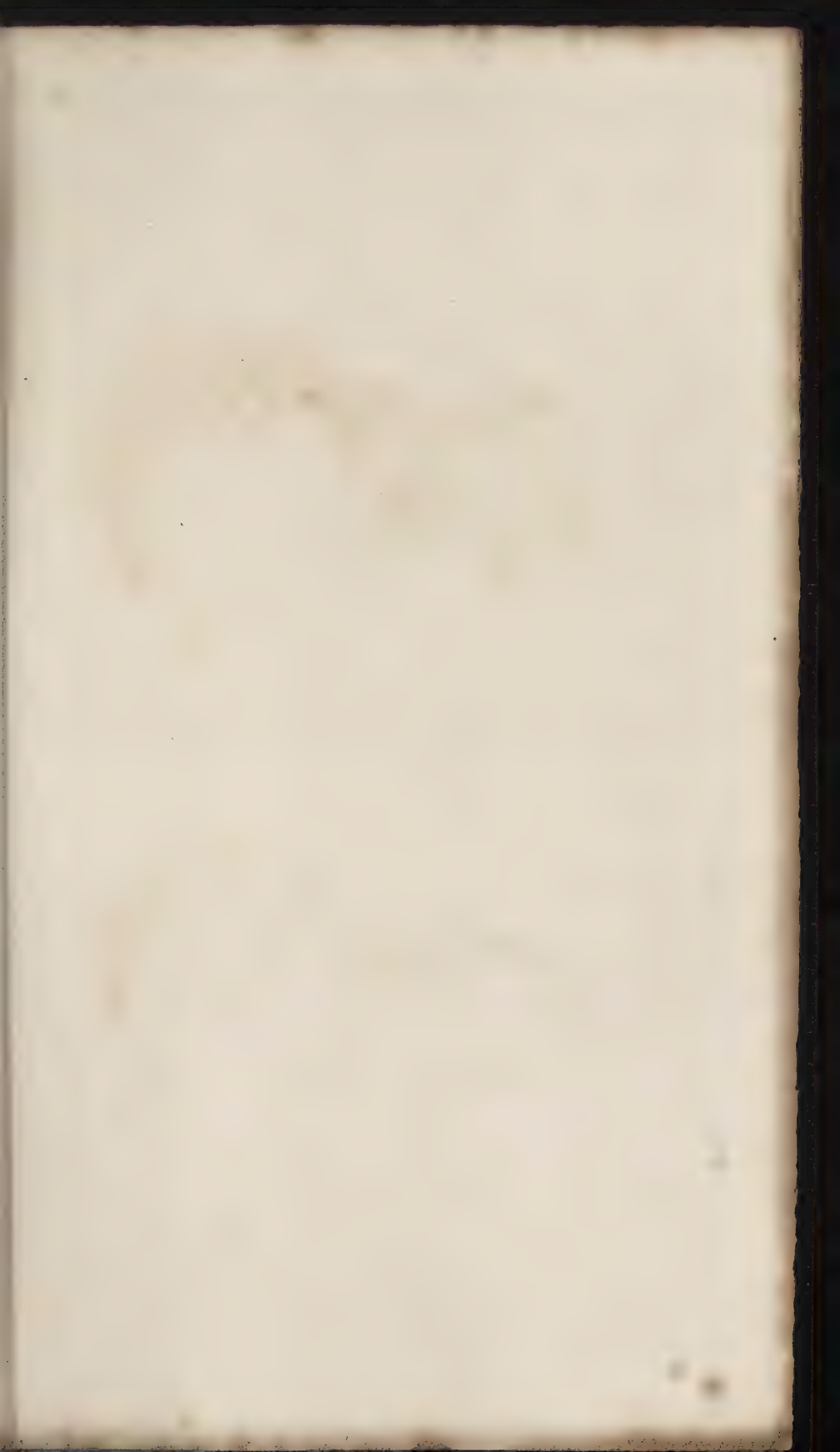
Altar found at Doncaster. Height, 2½ feet.

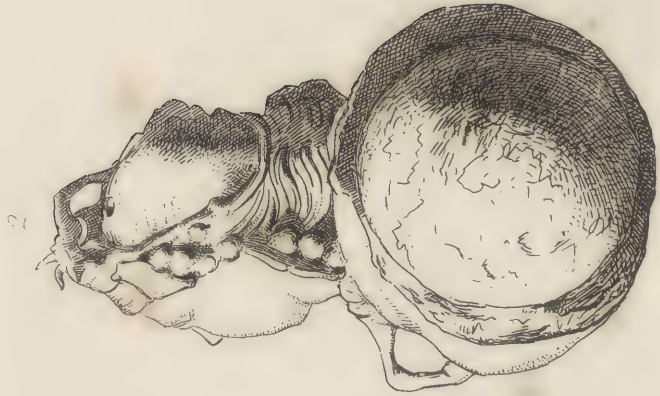
As the fourth line at present stands, it certainly does seem to defy all attempts at explanation. This is no longer the case if we transpose it and place it second, where I believe it was intended to be; but by the ignorance or neglect of the mason, the proper sequence of the lines was not attended to. This rectification will then give us *MATRIBVS ORBI TOTAL.*, or *Matribus orbis totalis*, a dedication to the mothers of the whole world, which is equivalent to, though somewhat more comprehensive than, the address *Matribus Omnium Gentium* (see p. 42), and perfectly consistent with the general character of this interesting class of monuments, and with the spirit in which the dedications were conceived and offered. It must be acknowledged, that the transposition of a line in order to read a puzzling inscription, would be dangerous as a general rule. It can, indeed, only be justified as an exception, in a very peculiar case, such as the present, where a blunder of the mason appears to be almost obvious, and where the fresh arrangement of a line makes what was previously unintelligible, easy to be understood, and gives such a meaning as might have been expected from the context.

The material of the Winchester altar very much resembles the stone at Binstead or Quarr Abbey quarry, in the Isle of Wight. If it could be positively ascertained as identical, it would prove that this quarry was worked many centuries earlier than it is believed to have been; and it would be the earliest lapidary record we have yet discovered of the footsteps of the Romans in the Isle of Wight, where, as yet, very few traces of that people have been noticed.

This valuable monument formed a portion of the foundation of a wall of the old Winchester goal, built towards the end of the last century. It was subsequently left exposed

for some months in a stonemason's yard, and would probably have been used again as building material, but for the intelligence and activity of Mr. Francis Baigent, to whom the antiquarian world is much indebted for placing so important a contribution to the history of our country in a safe and accessible position. We daily see more and more, the want of Government interference on behalf of our ancient national monuments, the preservation of which is, as it ever has been, left to chance and accident, and not insured by any provident regulation, instituted by the Government, by the trustees of the British Museum, or by the numerous societies which abound throughout the country.





BUST of a BACCHANTE,

ROMAN STEEL-YARD WEIGHT FOUND
AT NURSLING, HANTS.

PLATE XV.

THIS interesting work of Roman art was found, about the year 1842, at Nursling, near Southampton; but under what circumstances I could never succeed in ascertaining.

Soon after its discovery it passed into the possession of the late Mr. Richard Hollier, who exhibited it to the Society of Antiquaries; but it remained unengraved up to the present time. At the recommendation of Dr. H. W. Diamond, Mr. Hollier transferred it to my own collection of antiquities. It is now, for the first time, by the assistance of Mr. Waller, introduced to the antiquarian public. The etching, about half the size of the original, exhibits the weight in two views; fig. 1 being the front, and fig. 2 the back.

The bust is composed of bronze, hollow in the lower part and filled with lead (see fig. 2). Upon the crown of the head was fastened a chain ending in a ring, by which the weight or equipoise (*æquipondium*) was made to slide upon or traverse the beam of the *statera* or steel-yard.

The best efforts of the artists of antiquity were often bestowed upon the most common implements and utensils. The appreciation of form and beauty was so general, that whatever met the eye reflected a universal purity of taste; and usefulness was not considered, as in after and in

modern times, incompatible with elegance. The prevalence of good taste on the one hand, and the absence of it on the other, form the chief distinction between ancient and modern works of art; of this fact a good example is presented in our steel-yard weight. It represents the bust of a Bacchante wearing a light vest, fastened over the left shoulder with fawns' legs. The hair is decorated with a vine branch and bunches of grapes. The bust, as before observed, is in bronze; but the lips and nipples are of copper; the eyes are silver; and the pupils, now wanting, were probably of paste or stone.

SAXON REMAINS FOUND AT
SOUTHAMPTON.

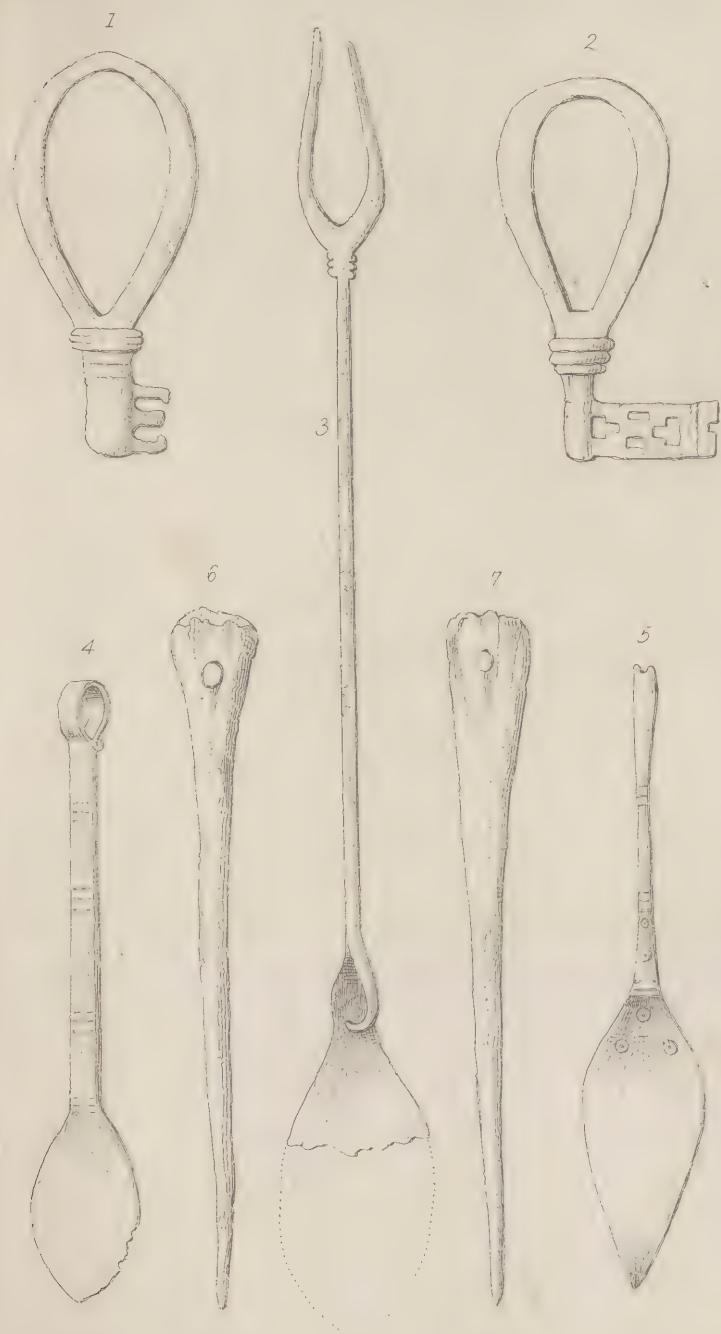
PLATE XVI.

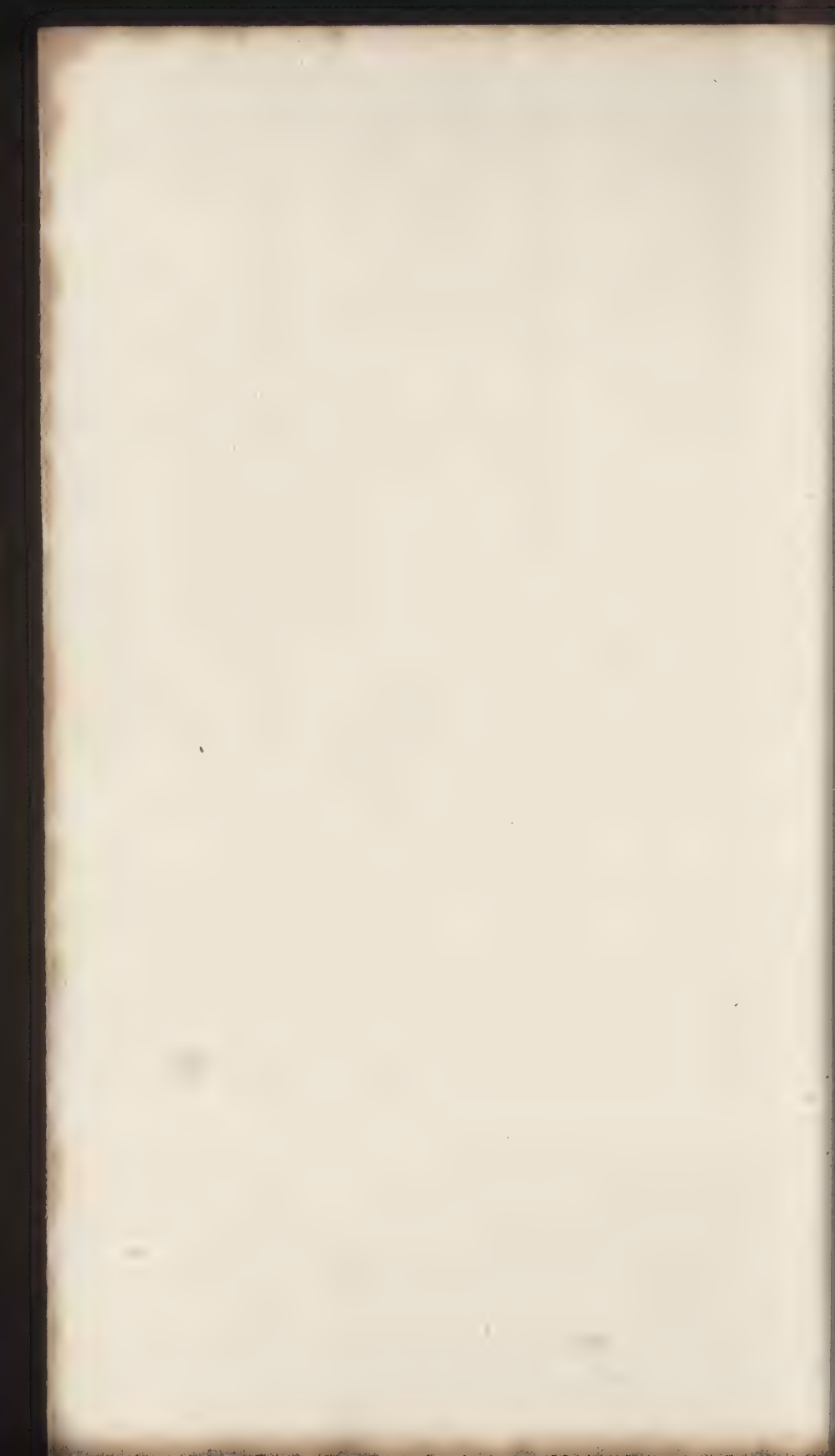
THE following letter from Mr. J. R. Keele, will be read with interest in relation to Southampton and its neighbourhood. The objects engraven in this plate are in the possession of Mr. Keele:—

Southampton, June 26th, 1855.

MY DEAR SIR,

The relics you have seen were found in a field in the parish of St. Mary's, by some labourers who were employed during the winter months in digging clay for brick making. The digging for clay commenced in the year 1839. The field is situated to the north-eastward of





the town, extends to the banks of the Itchen, is about eight acres, and hitherto used partly as arable and partly as garden ground. In the course of their operations, the labourers found that the field had been perforated in all directions by large holes, which were two feet under the present surface of the land. They were about six or seven feet in depth, from four to ten feet in diameter, and about twelve feet apart. In the space of about half an acre a great many of these holes were first discovered, from which the clay had been taken away and the holes afterwards filled with all sorts of rubbish, amongst which were found the bones and teeth of various animals, such as, deer, oxen, horses, sheep, pigs, boars' tusks in great numbers, oyster shells, fish bones, some very large, others small, fowl bones, etc. The bones were in such quantity, that the labourers collected and sold them to the bone dealers in the neighbourhood at the rate of two shillings for a ballast-basketful, containing about ten gallons. In two days a quantity sufficient to produce twenty-four shillings was obtained; so that one man of the party was afterwards employed to collect the bones and sell them for the benefit of the other labourers, and frequently got fifteen shillings a week for his share of the spoil. It was thought that, at the end of 1849, fifty tons of bones had been obtained from the holes. In looking over the rubbish, several Saxon coins and other relics were found. Some of the coins are now in the possession of Mr. Bradby, who was the owner of the field; a gentleman of the name of Witchurch, I am informed, had several of them; your friend, Mr. Atherley, has a few. Mr. Bullar of this town has two or three. I have about half a dozen sceattas, a penny of Ethelstan, one of Ceonwulf, and another of Alfred, found there, in good preservation; and some others, which cannot be decyphered, were brought to me when some men

were last employed in digging the foundation of our new prison, which is built on part of the same field in which the holes were found. I had also a penny of Offa, and another of Ecgbeorht found there, which I presented to our friend Mr. Atherley.

In reflecting on the circumstances of this extraordinary deposit, I cannot but think it affords strong evidence for believing that this tract of land was originally the site of the ancient town of Southampton. There is a tradition to that effect still in common belief here. Leland, in his *Itinerary*, gives an account of this impression in his time. Some years ago, in laying out a part of the same estate for building purposes, a great number of human bones were found on the space now occupied by a row of houses called Grove Street, which lies to the southward of the brickfield, and which I think must have been the cemetery of the ancient town, from its vicinity to the field with the bone-holes above mentioned. It is not likely that the inhabitants who dwelt on the tract of land now occupied by the present town, would have deposited the refuse of their houses at such a distance from their habitations. But it is very reasonable to suppose, that the persons who dug out the clay for the building of houses in the ancient town, would also fill up the holes for their own convenience with whatever rubbish could be obtained on the spot. Hence the remains above mentioned, and the establishment of a burying-ground near their habitations. There have been many more relics found in the holes than those you have yet seen. I have heard that nine or ten iron and bronze keys have been found; three or four of the iron keys are now in my possession, besides the bronze keys (figs. 1 and 2), etc., which you have seen; and several metal pins with ornamented heads, which I at first thought were gold; but on examination it was found

they were of a baser metal of the colour of gold. I have also a curious vase of green glass, found within a grave near the spot I have called the cemetery, with the remains of a skeleton. The vase was found lying over the face of a skull, and removed without injury. The labourers employed in digging obtained the clay from the spaces left untouched between the holes, and the rubbish taken from the holes was afterwards used in levelling the ground. There is still another field of about four acres left, which extends from the land we have been speaking of to the banks of the Itchen. This field has not yet been examined. It is now used as a garden ground. When the land is required for building purposes or for brick making, it is likely more discoveries may be made. If I have an opportunity I shall endeavour to look after it. In conclusion, I send a list of the coins* I have been able to get of those discovered in this remarkable field, and remain,

Yours very truly,

J. R. KEELE.

To C. ROACH SMITH, ESQ.

The field appears to have been, in part at least, the site of an early Saxon burial-place, encroached upon, in after times, as the population of the locality increased. To the earlier period must be referred the glass vase (similar to one represented in the upper cut on p. 162, vol. ii, *Col. Ant.*), the sceattas, and some other objects; while the

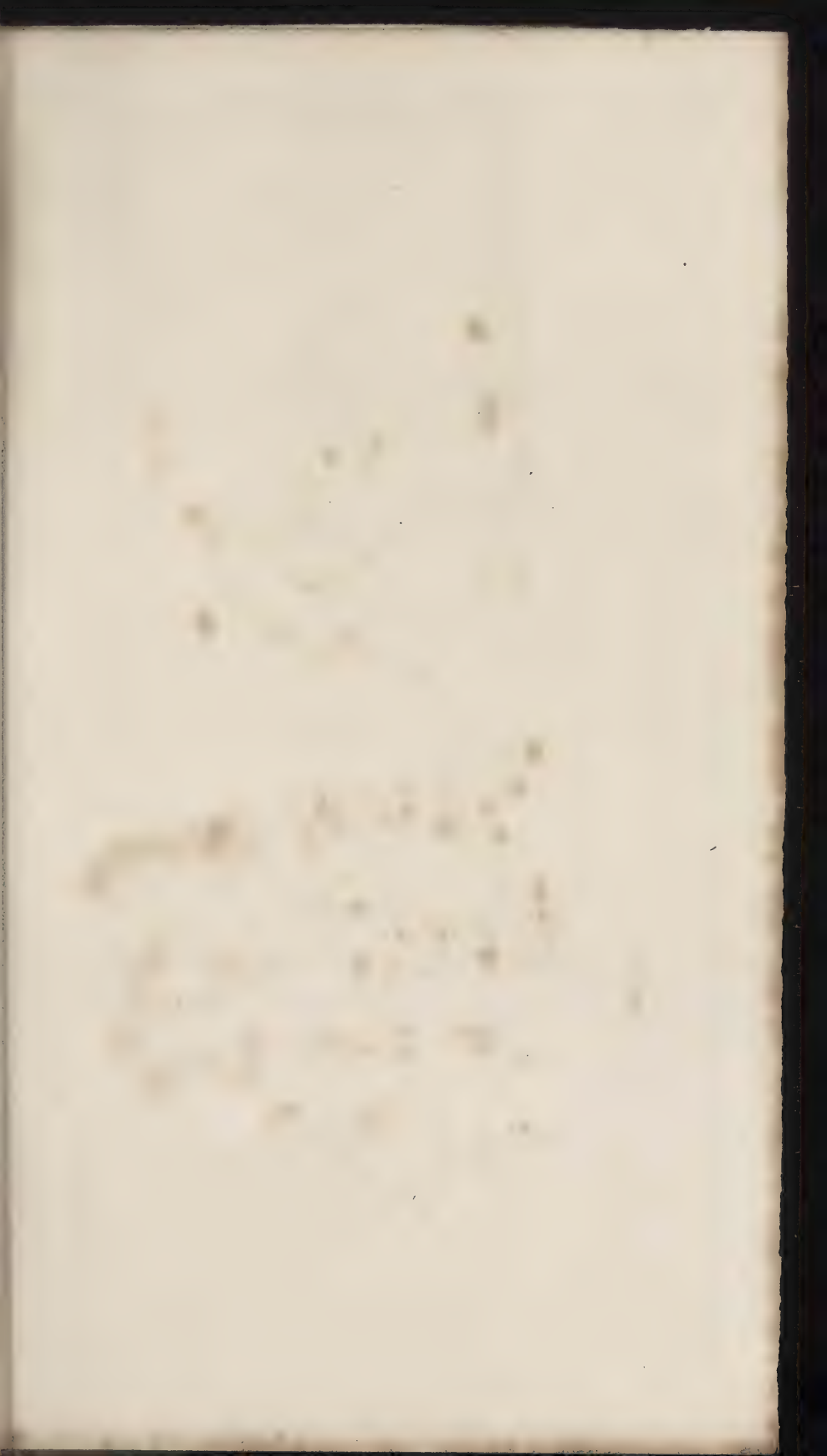
* The coins include sceattas (type fig. 7, pl. xlv, vol. ii, *Col. Ant.*); one in brass; and pennies of Offa, Coenvulf, Burgred, Ceolvulf, Aethelward? Plegmund, Eadward, Aethelstan, Eadmund, Eadred, Eadgar, and Aethelred?

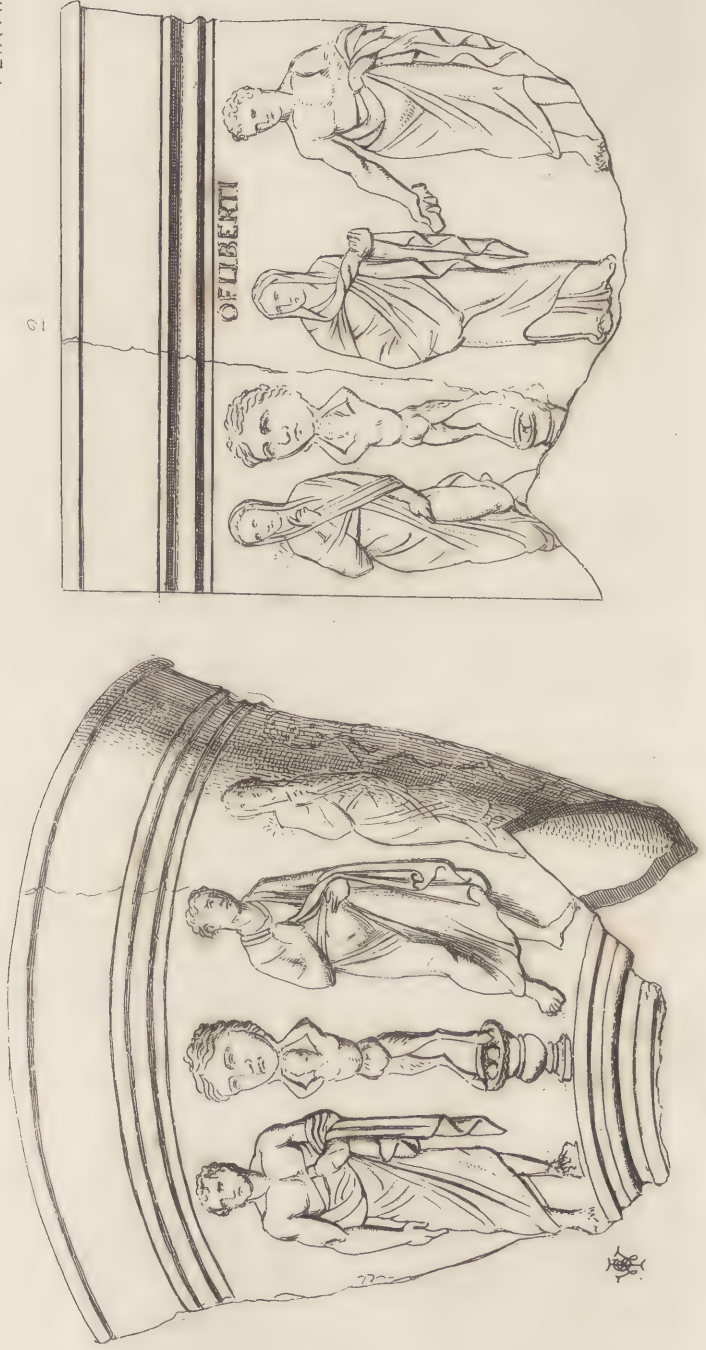
bulk of the remains, including figures 3, 4, and 5 of pl. xvi, may range from the eighth to the tenth century.

The most remarkable objects in this discovery are the spoons and fork, on account of the very few specimens of so early a period hitherto met with. For comparison, reference may be made to the *Archæologia*, vol. xxvii, pl. xxiv, where a Saxon spoon and fork are engraven.* They were found in Wiltshire, together with coins of the eighth and ninth centuries; therefore they are of about the same period as those in the possession of Mr. Keele; which, however, are of bronze, while those from Wiltshire are in silver. A very rude fork was found by Mr. Akerman at Harnham, near Salisbury, in a Saxon grave.† In my collection of London antiquities are two or three very early examples of the fork, one of which must be assigned to the Roman period. The combination of the fork and spoon (fig. 3), is an exceedingly rare and curious illustration of the domestic implements of our Saxon forefathers. The projection over the bowl reveals the Roman type from which this peculiarity originated.

* These valuable relics have lately been purchased at a public auction, for the museum of Lord Londesborough.

† Remains of Pagan Saxondom, pl. xxxvi, fig. 1.





ROMAN VASE found at OUNDLE.

ROMAN VASE FOUND AT OUNDLE, IN
NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

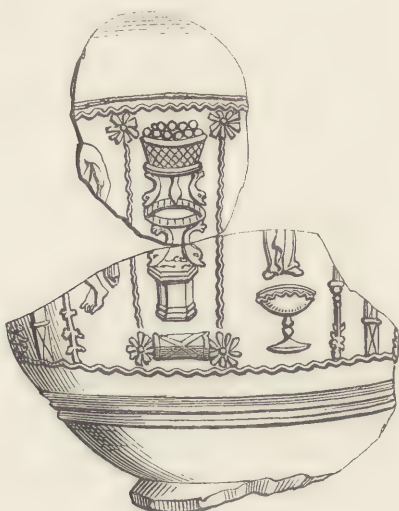
PLATE XVII.

THE fragment of Roman pottery here shown in two views is of a class so rare in this country, that I do not recollect to have met with more than one more example. Fig. 1 gives the form and actual size ; and fig. 2 the completion of the design, with the mark of the potter, OF LIBERTI.

The fabric and material of this specimen are very different from those of the well-known red pottery, called "Samian," with which we are so familiar. The body is a light red clay, which is glazed within and without with a thin reddish brown and somewhat lustrous glaze. In substance, however, it is not so compact and hard as that of the bright red kind alluded to ; but in the treatment of the figures, it equals the best artistic work bestowed upon the finest examples of Roman pottery with which we are cognizant, the figures being modelled and finished with great care and skill. They all seem to have been copied from sculptures of the best Roman epochs, if they are not, indeed, copies from Greek works.

Among the numerous examples of Roman pottery in our museums, private and public, I can only cite one fragment of a similar description ; and that is in my own

London collection. Unfortunately it is very fragmentary ; but, for comparison, it is here introduced, two-thirds of the actual size :



Fragment of Roman pottery found in London.

For the loan of the subject of this plate I am indebted to Mr. Thomas Beal, of Oundle, who possesses other Roman antiquities found in and about the town of Oundle.

MEDIEVAL SEALS SET WITH ANCIENT GEMS.

PLATES XVIII, XIX, AND XX.

WHEN the pagan mythology gave way to the Christian religion, and its rites, ceremonies, and practices became discountenanced and prohibited by legal enactments and the strong arm of power, it had become too deeply engrafted in the popular mind to be suddenly rooted out. Many counteracting influences were opposed to the change of a system of belief which had so long governed the world; and a novel course of mental culture, repudiating doctrines which had, time out of mind, been inculcated and received as truths, was not likely, however rational and good, to be received but by slow degrees. The history of Christianity is a history of the pertinacity with which the human mind clings to prejudices and errors in spite both of reason and of physical compulsion. It required some centuries to complete the overthrow of the temples and shrines of the gods, and the destruction of their statues. So long as these insignia and representations remained, the great mass of the people continued idolators; and when in the process of time they became destroyed, there were yet preserved an enormous number of smaller pagan works, which could not so easily be exterminated. There was scarcely an art or a business which

did not borrow from paganism some attraction. If the statues which stood in the temples, in the streets, and the highways, were no longer visible, within doors the eye could rest on no piece of furniture, implement, or utensil, without seeing some memorial of what had been deemed sacred and holy; the walls were decorated with mythological subjects, and the solid pavements of the domestic apartments were worked in similar designs. All these works, picturing deities and myths, contributed largely to sustain old prejudices against the innovations of the new creed, and readily supplied illustrations for those who were interested in maintaining the established against the hitherto non-established religion.

There were also other materials at hand which were even more capable, to a certain extent, of being used for this purpose. These were the smaller objects, which were portable and could be carried about or concealed upon the person; such as ornaments, and particularly engraved stones, which had been used as personal decorations or as seals. The cameos and intaglios of the ancients are, many of them, exquisite as works of art, vying with coins and medallions in the variety of the subjects portrayed, and in the skill with which they are executed; and, like the productions of the ancient mint, they have never ceased to be appreciated. In early Christian times, and down to a comparatively late period, they retained the influence of paganism in being supposed to possess particular virtues, according to the representations engraven upon them; and this belief appears to have been so general as to have led to a kind of system of classification well calculated to be turned to the profit of the fortunate possessor; and to such a cause we may attribute many of the rude old imitations of the fine antiques which have descended to us enclosed in seals.

Mr. Wright has furnished us* with a very remarkable inventory of these engraved stones, preserved among the Harleian MSS. in the British Museum of the thirteenth century; but the date at which it was first composed, he observes, it is difficult to fix. The professed object of the inventory is to instruct the finder of gems in their particular value and use; but there can be little doubt that those who had faith and could afford to purchase were never long in finding a vendor, nor the possessor of the treasure a customer.

The first on this list is a Pegasus, such as appears in pl. xviii, fig. 1. It is described as very good for warriors, conferring boldness and swiftness; and also as freeing the horses of riders who carried such stones about them from disease.† A stone, engraved with the figure of Hercules, was also considered to ensure victory; one with Saturn,

* *Archæologia*, vol. xxx, p. 449.

† *Si inveneris lapidem in quo sit equus alatus qui dicitur Pegasus, optimus est militantibus, et in campestri bello; bel-lantibus enim præbet audaciam et velocitatem, et dicitur liberare equos ferentes super se tales lapides ab acutis infirmitatibus et ab infusione. Hic lapis præest arieti, et vocatur Bellerofons, i. bellorum fons.*

The following are a few selections from the inventory as ex-amples:—

Si inveneris Andromedam qui habet crines sparsos atque manus remissas, ille lapis in quo hoc signum est habet potesta-tem reconciliandi amorem inter virum et mulierem, et inter nebulones et adulteras.

Si inveneris lapidem in quo sit Saturnus depictus, habens in dextera manu falcem, hic lapis reddit se ferentem potentem, cujus potestas crescit semper usque dum eum habuerit.

Si inveneris lapidem in quo sit sacrarium, i. in modum casulæ ferentis sacra, hic lapis reddit se ferentem ornatum per-

gave power to the owner, which increased the longer he carried the stone; a representation of Mercury endowed the possessor with grace, wisdom, and health, and made him acceptable to God and man; Orion gave victory in war; Perseus protected from lightning, tempests, and demons. The figures of various animals are also enumerated, with the peculiar kinds of good fortune they conferred. The wearer of a stone with the figure of a whale, will be happy upon land and upon the sea, prudent, amiable; and will recover lost property. If you find a stone upon which a hare is sculptured, so long as

petua virginitate, et facit eum gratum Deo et hominibus, licet sequatur caudam scorpionis.

Si inveneris lapidem in quo sit libra, gemini, et aquarius, tales lapides calidi sunt, et ærei et occidentales, hii vero proculdubio liberant se ferentes a quartanis febribus et paralyti, et faciunt Deum placatum.

Si in lapide inveneris cervum vel venatorem vel canem vel leporem impressum, ille habet potestatem curandi dæmoniacos, lunaticos, maniacos, et in nocte militantes, atque freneticos.

Directions for Mounting and Wearing Engraved Gems.

Calcedonius debet perforari et scetis ascelli et collo et brachiis suspendi.

In corallo debet inscribi natura noctilucae, hoc et accate (*al. eichete; leg. Hecate*); signatur autem in eo Gorgonis figura.

Crisolius debet perforari et in sinistro brachio suspendi.

Adamas debet includi in auro, vel argento, aut ferro anulo, et debet in sinistro brachio ligari.

Si in pirite sigillum hoc modo sculptum inveneris, turturem, s. et ramum olivæ ore tenentum, in argenteo anulo ponas et tecum deferas, a cunctis enim invitaberis, et multa convivia tibi parabunt, et in illis conviviis ubi præsens fueris nullus qui ad os manu dextera cibum deferat saturabitur, sed omnes te conspicient et mirabuntur.

you have it you will not be injured by any evil spirit. Several are mentioned in relation to the signs of the zodiac; and these are generally pointed out for the cure of diseases, as well as endowing the bearers with virtues. The ship, with sail set and sailing before the wind, a favourite type of prosperity, renders the possessor successful in mercantile matters. This inventory includes directions how the precious stones, according to the material, should be mounted and worn; and the kind of metal of which the rings in which they are to be set should be composed. In one instance* the impression of the seal in wax is directed to be carried upon the person, and the bearer will not find any man or woman who will speak ill of him. In another,† the gem is to be placed in a leaden ring, and under the stone roots of mugwort and fenugreek are to be put, and the wearer is to stand upon the bank of a river and invoke any evil spirit, who will answer such questions as may be asked.

As, in the course of time, the incompatibility of these pagan representations with Christianity became more palpable, we find them explained in a very forced and curi-

* Si inveneris sigillum in quovis lapide sculptum, s. virum stantem, cujus caput capiti bovis sit simile, et pedes aquilæ pedes ejus, hoc sigillum exprime in cera, et ipsam ceram tecum porta, et non invenies aliquem vel aliquam quæ tibi male loquatur. (This refers evidently to one of the seals called *abraxas*.)

† Si inveneris sigillum in diacono sculptum, virum magnum et rectum, et stenet in una manu diabolum et in alia serpentum, et super virum olem et lunam, et sub pedibus leonem, hoc sigillum pone in anulo plumbeo, et sub lapide pone radicem artemisiæ et radicem fæniculi Græci, et fer tecum super ripam aquæ, et invoca quemlibet de malignis spiritibus, et habebis responsum de qualibuscunque interrogaveris.

ous manner, under a Christian signification. It is not very likely that this was done, at least wholly so, through ignorance of the real meaning of the figures and designs. Following the inventory cited in the foregoing pages is a French version,* in which, among the translations of the Latin original, are the following Christian intercalations.†

A stone, in which is engraven a man upon a mountain of stones, seated or standing, holding in his hand a stone ; this is a figure of our Lord, who, according to the philosopher, was carried to the top of a mountain of adamant. This stone is good against all tempests, and against devils, and all enemies, and renders men devout and obedient to God.

If you find in a stone a man crowned, holding in his right hand a claw and in the left a palm branch, and beneath his feet a stamp ; this stone set in gold has great dignity, for when the owner asks of the Saviour of the

* This, Mr. Wright has taken from an early printed book, entitled, *Le Lapidaire en françois, composé per Messire Johan de Mandeville, chevalier*, as it appears in M. Le Roux de Lincy's *Livre des Legendes*.

† Une pierre où il y a ung homme en ung mont de pierres, assis où debout, tenant en sa main une pierre, c'est la figure de Nostre-Seigneur qui, selon le philosophe, fut veu en une montagne de pierre de dyament. Ceste pierre vault contre toutes tempestes et contre dyables, et tous ennemys, et rend l'omme dévot et obéyssant à Dieu.

Se tu trouves en une pierre ung homme couronné, tenant en sa destre main une serre et en la senestre une palme, et desoulz ses pies estamel, cette pierre mise en or a grand dignité, car ce que on requiert au sauveur du monde, souventes fois luy est sa requeste ottrouée, quant elle est juste et raysonnable.

world anything that is right and reasonable, often is his request granted.

The liberty taken in the interpretation of the figure in the first of these two stones, is assumed in no example in the original Latin inventory ; but it was exercised freely and commonly down to a late period, and vestiges of it may probably be found on the continent. Montfaucon* gives several remarkable instances.

An agate, with Jupiter and Mercury, and a tree between them, was preserved for several centuries in one of the most ancient churches of France, where it passed for a representation of Adam and Eve in paradise ; and round it was cut in Hebrew characters, of late date, a passage from Genesis, " The woman saw that the tree was good for food," etc. The great agate of the Holy Chapel, he observes, which represents the apotheosis of Augustus, passed during several centuries for the history of Joseph the son of Jacob.

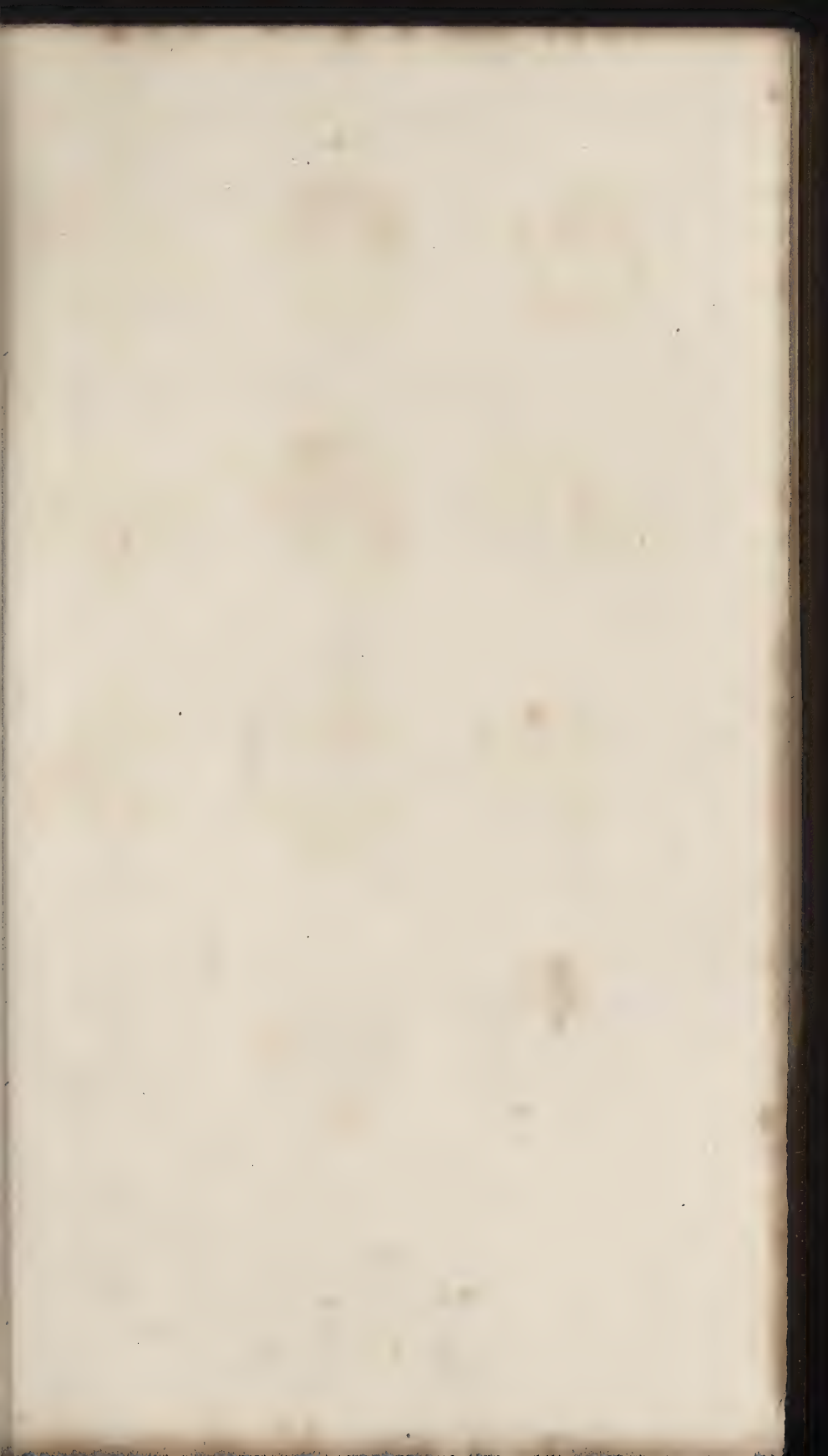
An onyx, with the heads of Germanicus and Agrippina set in a ring, was preserved in a church in Provence, and honoured for six hundred years as the ring with which Joseph espoused the Virgin Mary at their marriage, and as such was kissed with much devotion yearly on a certain day. The fine agate, engraved with an eagle carrying on its back an imperial personage, crowned by a Victory, usually supposed to represent the apotheosis of Germanicus, was for nearly seven hundred years in the possession of the Benedictines of St. Evre de Toul, who, in 1684, presented it to the king of France. The group had always been considered to be St. John the Evangelist, carried to heaven by an eagle, and crowned by an angel.

* Supplement de l'Ant. Expliq., tom. iii, p. 26.

Roger, archbishop of York, used a counter seal (A.D. 1154), with a chimera of three heads, which by the inscription affixed to it, + CAPVT NOSTRV TRINITAS EST., was taken to represent the Holy Trinity. Another antique gem, bearing a human head with three faces, which impressed the seal of a grant from Henry de Lancaster, Earl of Derby, to Thomas Wake, is surrounded with a legend to the same effect, expressly declaring the triune head to be the image of the Trinity. As published the legend reads thus:—...NATIMAGO IVSSA IOHIS ACO...; but the correct reading should obviously be, *Trinitatis* IMAGO: IVSSV, etc. The counter seal of Richard, abbot of Selby, was set with an intaglio of the emperor Honorius, as an inscription, DN HONORIVS AVG, indicates; but the medieval legend which surrounds it, recognizes in the imperial effigies the head of Christ:—+ CAPVD NOSTRV M CHRISTVS EST.* Mr. Fairholt has given me an impression of a seal in the possession of Mr. Wheeler, of Stratford-upon-Avon, which bears around a youthful head, + CAPVT + OMNIUM + XP̄. I have seen others of a similar description, and with a little trouble it would, no doubt, be easy to collect many curious examples.

Plates XVIII, XIX, and XX, contain seals set with antique gems, most of which are selected from numerous impressions supplied me by Mr. Albert Way and Mr. Franks, to whom, as well as to Mr. H. W. King, I am also indebted for some particulars respecting their history. They include, as will be perceived, a few privy and personal seals, the legends to which bear no particular reference to the antique representations.

* *Vetusta Monumenta*, vol. i, pl. liv, lviii, lix.





MEDIEVAL SEALS
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PLATE XVIII.

Fig. 1. † CRISTVS VINCIT X R I. A Pegasus. *Christus vincit, Christus regnat, imperat?* The Pegasus, as before observed, was considered good for warriors. It seems here used as an emblem of the Saviour. In the Revelations, chap. vi, v. 2, the white horse is associated with a conqueror; see also Psalm xlv, v. 3, 4, where the Saviour is represented as an equestrian warrior.

Found near Southfleet, in Kent; and now in the possession of Mr. G. B. Wollaston.

2. † ANGELVS CONSILII FORTIS GLADIATOR. Minerva, with spear and shield. The goddess of wisdom is here transformed into the angel of wisdom, and the inscription is very appropriate. With the iconologists the Virgin armed had the same signification, and figures of Minerva were doubtless often understood as meaning the Virgin. It is probably to an adaptation of this kind that the preservation of the figure of Pallas cut upon a rock in the suburbs of Chester is owing.

Found upon Barham Down. In the possession of Mr. Warren, of Ixworth.

3. SVM LEO QVOVIS EO NON NISI VERA VEO. A lion passant; the head of a bull under one of his fore paws. This well-known ancient emblem is here used as a symbol of truthfulness in reference to the contents of the letters sent by the owner of the seal. In a seal of John de Laval, of which an impression has been sent me by Mr. John Evans, a similar gem has



been used; but from the ECCE.VICIT'LEO, the Lion of Judah, or strength and boldness, is to be understood.

Fig. 3, found near Luddesdown, Kent, is in the possession of the Rev. Edward Shepherd.

4. SIGILL' GILEBERTI DE HVLCOTE. Bloodstone, set in silver, representing a sea horse; found under the walls of Norwich castle. Gilbert de Hulcote was sheriff of Norfolk, *circa* 1220. Engraved in "Norfolk Archæology," vol. iii, p. 422, with a representation of the elegant ornament on the reverse. In Mr. R. Fitch's collection.

5. † NŪQ VITAB' C'LPA SI M'LTA LOQ'RIS. *Nunquam vitabis culpam si multa loqueris.* A Victory, or angel. A late Byzantine gem, set in silver. In the collection of Mr. P. B. Purnell.

6. † ROB'TI SIGNŪM NIL SIGNANTIS N: DIGNŪ. *Roberti signum nil signantis nisi dignum.* Amethyst, representing a sea-horse, set in silver, with an ornamented loop at the back. Found near Diss, Norfolk.

7. † VERBA SALVTIS AVE. On a cornelian gem. Two figures joining hands; above, two heads; below, a griffin. Mr. Akerman possesses a cornelian on which the same subject is treated in precisely the same manner, but more clearly executed. As Mr. Akerman conjectures, they were probably both cut at Smyrna, in the decline of the Roman empire. This pagan group is here considered to represent the Salutation of the Virgin, as we may infer from the inscription. In a similar feeling a seal of the date A.D. 1250, engraved in the "Vetusta Monumenta," vol. i, pl. lix, bears an antique gem with two nude figures, and is inscribed AVE MARIA GRACIA.

Fig. 7 was in the possession of my friend, the late Mr. G. Rawlence, of Fordingbridge. The setting is silver, looped on the back.

8. † NVNCIO VOBIS: GAVDIVM ET SALVTEM. The an-

nouncement of the birth of Christ to the Shepherds. An animal like a griffin, possibly intended for Pegasus, cut in an onyx, and set in silver. Found on the site of Stratford Langthorne Abbey, Essex; and now in the possession of Mr. Wakelin of Tottenham. It is engraved, not very accurately, in Mr. Osborne's "History of Essex."

9. + AMICE · CHRISTE · IOHANNES: Bloodstone representing a cock? This bird was evidently looked upon as an eagle, the symbol of St. John, which has caused the legend. It was found at Thwaite, in Suffolk; and is now in Mr. R. Fitch's collection. Engraved in "Norfolk Archæology," vol. iii, p. 422.

10. QVI ME PORTE SI EST LEMVS. "He who carries me is the mute one"? A bearded head in cornelian, set in silver. Stated to have been found in Ireland. In the possession of Mr. J. Hill, of Clifton.

11. [SIG]ILL OFFICIA[LIS ARCH]IDI WELL:: The gem, representing a female head, with a chaplet of laurel, is introduced in a kite-shaped or escutcheon-shaped aperture in the centre of the metal setting, which is of pointed oval form; below is a crescent, and over the gem was probably engraved a star or sun, as in fig. 6. This seal, used by the official of the archdeacon of Wells, is attached to two instruments of the thirteenth century, in the archives of Winchester College. The impression was presented by the Rev. W. H. Gunner.

12. + EGO : SECRETA : TEGO. A bearded head, set in a gold ring. In the possession of Mr. Joseph Mayer.

PLATE XIX.

1. SIGILL' RICARDI FILI IVONIS. Two lions; before them a bull's head. From a document in the muniments of one of the colleges at Cambridge.

2. + IESVS · EST · AMOR · MEVS. Head of an aged man, considered to be that of Jesus, as may be inferred from the inscription, which seems to have been selected from the same motive as that which dictated the inscription on the seal of Richard, abbot of Selby, previously mentioned (see p. 72). This seal, used by John Starlinge, of Chris-hall, co. Essex, is attached to a deed in the muniments of Caius College, Cambridge, 33 Edw. III.*

3. + s' HVGONIS + + DE SCALE[TO]. An elephant. From a deed in Balliol College, Oxford.

4. + INICIVM : SAPIENCIE : TIMOR : DNI. Cupid riding upon a sea-horse.

5. + S ION'IS CASSELL' ARCHID. A sea-horse; set in silver. This seal was found in the co. Tipperary, and was formerly in the possession of the late Sir W. Betham. Mr. Caulfield has given a representation of it in his "Sigilla Ecclesiæ Hibernicæ," pl. iii, p. 14. There were archdeacons of Cashel named John about the period to which this seal may be assigned, namely, one in 1220; Magister Johannis in 1230; and there was John O'Grada, archdeacon of Cashel in 1365. See Dr. Cotton's "Fasti Eccl. Hib.," vol. i, p. 52. In the collection of the Royal Irish Academy?

* Taken by Mr. Ready, 2, Great St. Botolph's Lane, Cambridge, from whom impressions of any of the Cambridge seals, and of many others, may be obtained.



F. H. V. 1872

MEDIEVAL SEALS
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 ANTIQUE GEMS.



6. PETRE : SEQVERT : ME : Christ's call to St. Peter, Matt. iv, 19. The animal rudely designed appears to be a lion, with a head like the beak of a bird.

7. + S' HERVEI · DE · STANTON · CL'ICI. A well-engraved female head. It is the seal of Hervey de Stanton, 2 Edw. II ; from a document amongst the muniments of Caius College, Cambridge.

8. + S'. WILLELMI HEVAEVN ? The gem, of rude execution, was evidently intended to represent Leda. In the muniments of Caius College, Cambridge.

9. + VITAM ET VERBAM. Antique head, probably considered to represent that of Christ.

10. EST : MEA : MORS : VITA. A scorpion ; above, on the rim of the setting, a crown. The motto may have been selected to apply to the scorpion as an emblem of death, its bite being fatal ; and the crown may refer to the crown of life. Seal of Geoffery de Burningham, 14 Rich. II. Caius College muniments, Cambridge.

11. FRANGE LEGE LECTA TEG[e]. "Break (the seal), read the contents, and conceal what you have read." This is a favourite jingle, occurring on medieval seals. The device upon this seal is a *quadrige*. A gold ring, in the possession of Mr. E. Waterton, set with a sapphire, engraved with a veiled female head, bears the legend TECTA · LEGE · LECTA · TEGE.

12. + CROIES · LI · POVR · QVI · VIN · CI. "Believe him for whom I came here." An eagle displayed. Seal of John de Rapham, *Clericus*, 3 Edw. II ; in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

13. + SERVVS : SCI : KENELMI. Two figures combatant. This is used as the counter seal of Winchelcombe Abbey, Gloucestershire, founded by Kenulph, king of Mercia, and subsequently dedicated by Bishop Oswald to St. Kenelm, son of Kenulph, murdered by his sister.

14. Sigillum Andree Gerveys. The legend in black letter. A figure holding a cornucopia.

15. + MVNIO : SIGILLVM. "I protect the seal." The device is a man standing, and an ox in front of him.

PLATE XX.

1. This has no legend. The gem represents Equity or Justice, holding the scales in her right hand, and a *hasta pura* in her left. Around the verge is a trailing foliated ornament of elegant design.

2. + CAPVD SERVI DEI. A young male head. Attached to a deed of Agnes, wife of John Dunning; of Cambridge, 4 Edw. II.

3. + LECTA · TEGE. Figure of Bacchus or of a Cupid holding a bunch of grapes. Set in silver: on the back is an elegant leaf ornament and loop for suspension. The original, which is in the possession of Mr. R. Fitch, was found near North Walsham, Norfolk.

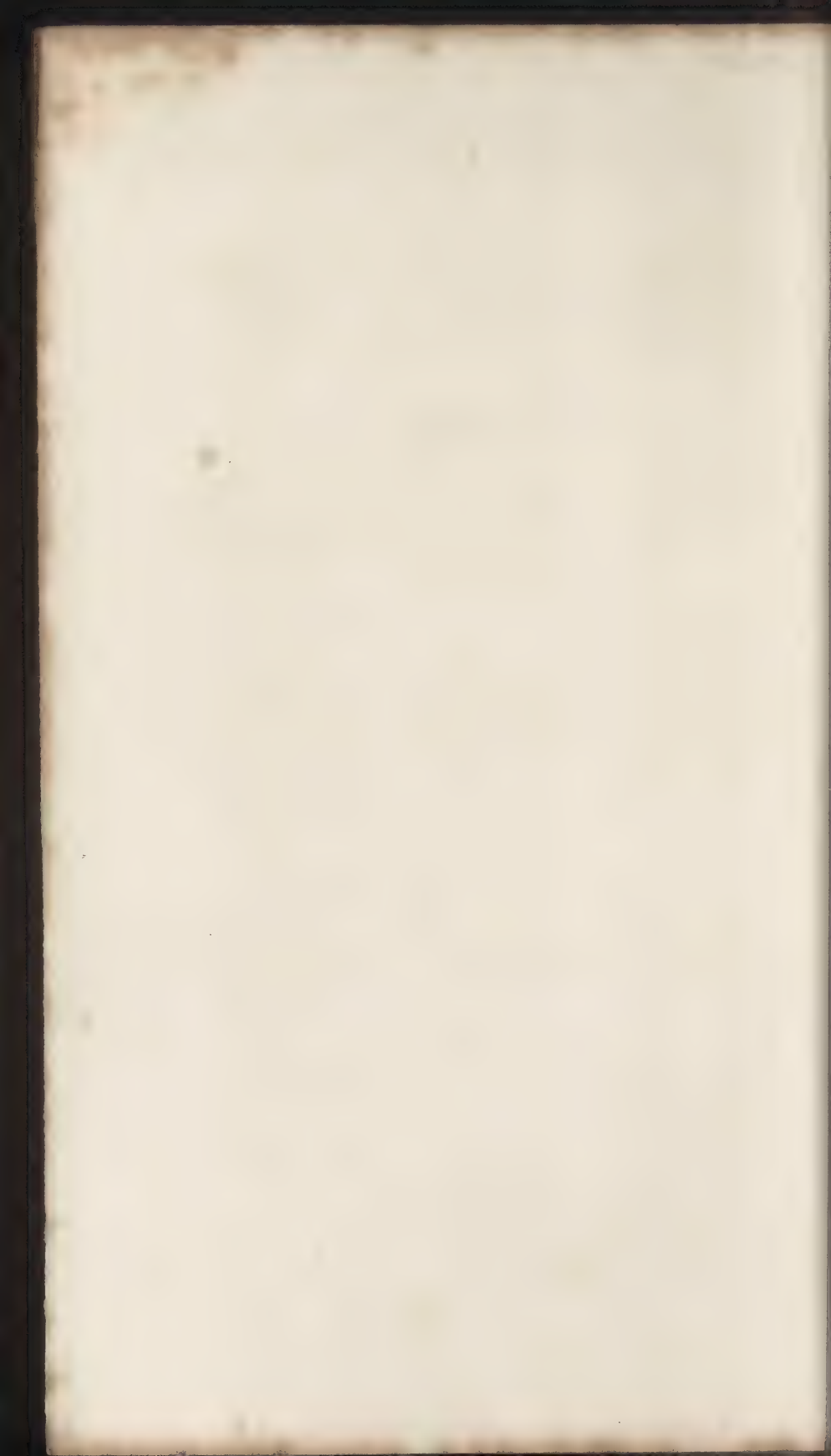
5. The legend is much defaced and now illegible. Instead of a cross at the commencement, a star within a crescent is here introduced (see fig. 9, and pl. xviii, fig. 6). This gem appears to have represented the contest between Hercules and Antæus.

6. + AVE MARIA GRATIA PLENA. This gem is of the best Roman, if not of Greek art; the subject may possibly be the return of Ulysses; but it was probably taken for a representation of the Annunciation. Attached to a deed of Thomas Lovel, of Chesterton, 2 Hen. V.

7. + SVM : ET ERO : SINE : DOLO. A female bust; the hair being upon the neck and tied up behind. Attached



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to a deed of Elesia Peryn or Peris, of Cambridge, dated 8 Edw. II, in the muniments of Corpus Christi College.

8. IE SVY SEL DE AMVR LEL. "I am the seal of true love." Two hands joined; behind them a caduceus and ears of corn; these emblems of concord and prosperity often occur upon ancient coins and gems. Green stone, set in silver and looped; in the possession of Mr. W. H. Rolfe, of Sandwich, who bought it at Winchester.

9. SIMON : EST : NOMEN : EIVS. A young male bust. At the commencement of the legend occur the crescent and star, as in No. 5. Seal of Simon de Wycombe, rector of St. Mary's, Cambridge; attached to a deed dated 1271, in the muniments of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge.

10. IESVS · MARIA. A male head, of rude workmanship. Attached to a deed of John Cross, of London, 4 Ric. II.

11. + QVI : LABORAT : MANDVCET. A figure standing, holding ears of corn. The legend was probably intended to refer to and illustrate the gem, the ears of corn indicating the natural result of agricultural industry.

12. A gem representing the Sun standing with his left hand raised, and holding in his right a whip; at the sides of the setting the initials s and b. Seal of Simon Baret, of Thornham, co. Cambridge, attached to deed 2 Ric. II; in College muniments, Cambridge.

13. + S · GALFRIDI · D'L'EST. Seal of Geoffrey East? The gem represents a fish.

14. Hippogrif, set in an ornamental foliated border. It is the seal of John, son and heir of John, son of Philip de Comberton, co. Cambridge, 43 Edw. III; Camb. College muniments.

ROMANO-BRITISH POTTERY.

PLATES XXI TO XXIV.

THE state of the useful and ornamental arts in Britain under the Romans is one of the most interesting inquiries that can engage the attention of the archæologist. It is a subject comprising great practical usefulness to the artist and artificer of the present day, as well as affording a clearer insight into the general state of the civilization of the country during the first four centuries of what we may call its real history. Architecture, public and domestic, sculpture, the working of mines and of quarries, house painting and decorating, the manufacturing of metals, glass making, the works of the potter, and other arts and processes, would all be capable of being explained and illustrated from existing remains to an extent far greater than is generally imagined. Materials are abundant; and experience could probably be easily brought to accomplish the task of treating the subject in a comprehensive and popular manner; but the necessary expense will be an obstacle until the time shall come when we may calculate on having added to our Government a Minister of Public Instruction. Till then, we must work on as well as we can with the means at our command, and print and engrave what those means may permit.

The subject of ancient pottery discovered in this country would of itself, if fully treated on, make a volume; for

it has a very wide range, and would embrace numerous classes and an almost infinity of types. In the *Collectanea* various examples have been introduced; and on the present occasion a particular kind, which has often been referred to, will receive some further explanation. It belongs to a class which we have commonly termed Castor or Northamptonshire ware, on account of its having occurred frequently in immediate connection with potters' kilns discovered near Castor, by the late Mr. E. T. Artis. This active and intelligent investigator of the Roman remains at Castor and in its neighbourhood, was the first in England to discover, not merely the sites of Roman potteries, but the very kilns in which the pottery was baked. The sites of potteries have been found in Kent, in Hampshire, and probably in other counties; but in none of them have the kilns themselves been detected.

Mr. Artis's researches, therefore, first enabled us to speak with confidence on the parentage of some particular descriptions of pottery, which we call Romano-British rather than Roman, in order to distinguish the manufacture from that of other kinds which were imported into the country from Gaul, Germany, and Italy. At the same time this term must be used with some little qualification. Examples resembling some of the Northamptonshire vessels are met with in France, in Belgium, in Holland, and in Flanders; and questions naturally arise as to whether they were exported from Britain, or whether they may not have been made contemporaneously in all these countries. Mr. Artis, having traced vestiges of the potteries along the banks of the Nen and its tributary streams to the extent of upwards of twenty miles, concluded that this ware was exported from Britain. To determine the question, a peculiar and rather tedious investigation would be required; and for the present we

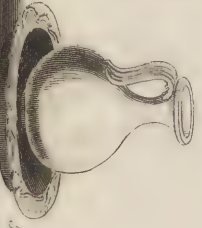
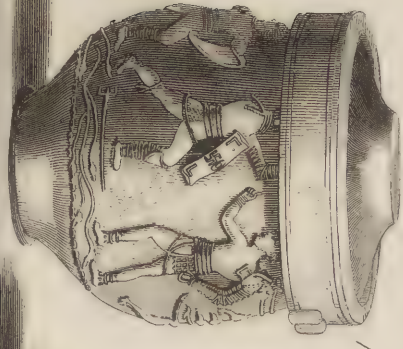
must rest contented with the information we have obtained; moreover the inquiry does not come within the scope of my immediate object, which is limited to the introduction of some very curious and rare examples of what, I believe, we may safely consider to be Romano-British pottery. They belong to the class assigned to the Northampton manufactories; but they are of a higher artistic order than most of them; and as yet I have not met with any similar out of England. Their peculiarity consists in the representation of human beings and mythological subjects, as well as of animals and foliage to which the majority are confined.

The first of these (pl. XXI) was discovered near Colchester, in 1853, on the property of Mr. John Taylor, at West Lodge, a locality well known as occupying part of the site of a very extensive Roman cemetery which bordered the road from Londinium to Camulodunum. It formed the chief of a group in a sepulchral deposit, and contained calcined bones. The vessels when discovered were arranged as shown by fig. 1, in the plate. The cinerary urn was covered with an inverted shallow vessel (exhibited in fig. 2), accompanied by a bottle of straw-coloured pottery and a red "Samian" dish. When the cover was removed, an inscription traced with a pointed implement was perceived upon the upper part, which had been concealed by the cover. The plate (engraved from an excellent drawing by Mr. Parish) gives the urn, which is about nine inches in height and six in diameter, in two views, together with an entire view of the subjects which ornament it, on a scale of $4\frac{1}{6}$ inches to the foot.

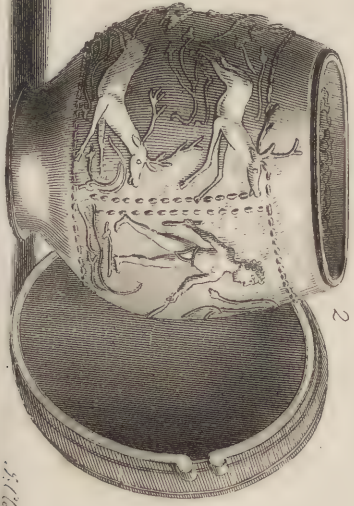
The urn is covered with bas-reliefs, which compose subjects very different in character. Nearly one half of the surface is filled with animals (two stags, a hare, and a



PL. XXI.

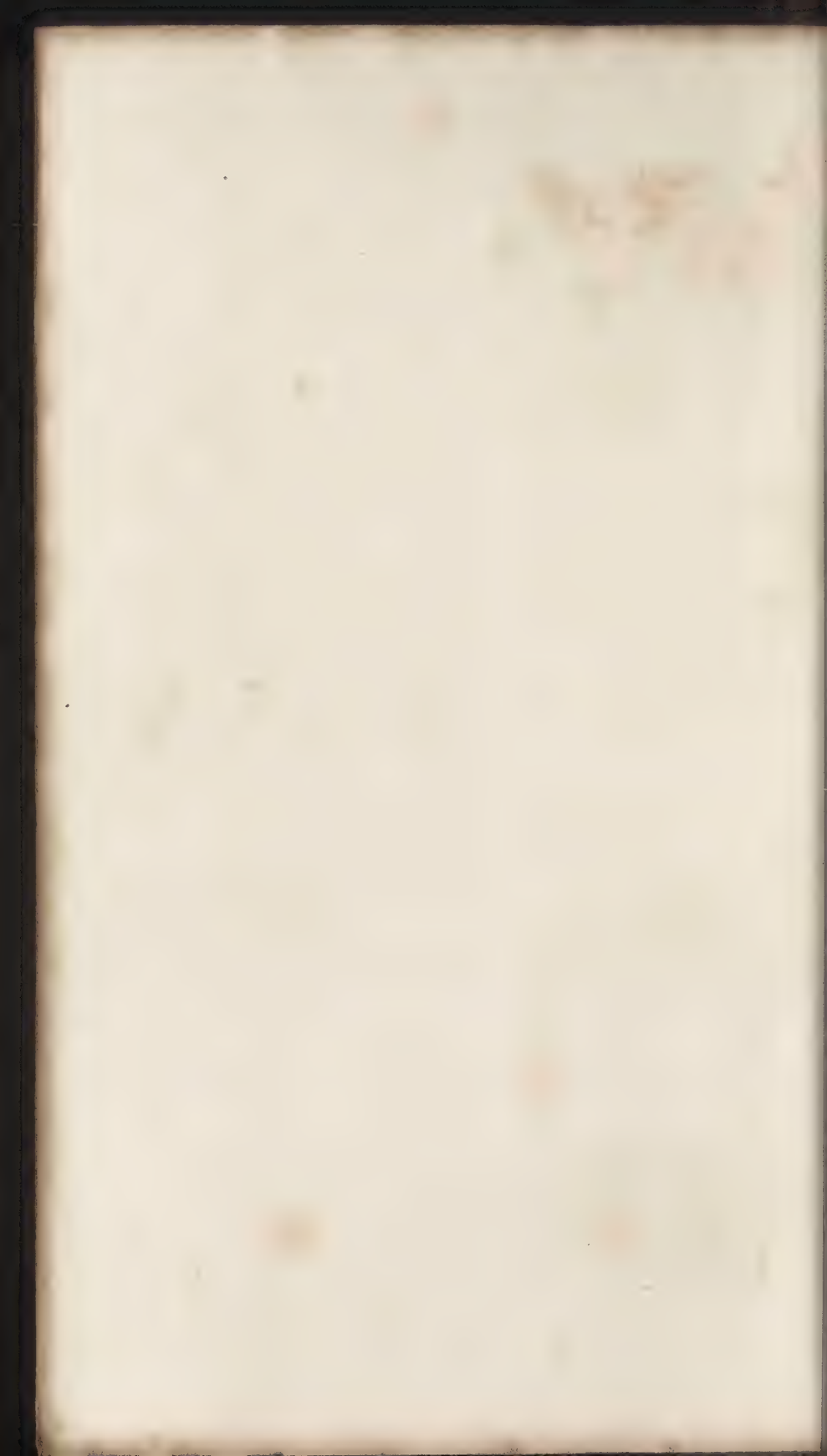


Musei Capitolini del.



2

Musei Capitolini del.



dog), interspersed with foliated ornaments, such as are common to this class of pottery. The remainder is devoted to two separate groups; the one, two men with a bear between them; the other, two gladiators. To these the inscription refers.

The chief actor in the scene of the men and the bear carries a whip in his right hand, his left arm being covered with a shield, or protected with a covering made to serve the purpose of a shield; the legs and the other arm are defended with bands of leather or metal. The long thong of the whip falls over the head of the bear, which, with distended jaws and upturned head, seems by no means reconciled to its situation. The other figure represents an assistant advancing towards the bear with two sticks. Over the head of the man with the whip is traced *SECUNDVS MARIO*, which I shall presently consider.

This group is evidently intended to represent the training or exhibiting of a dancing or learned bear, a pastime common to the ancients as well as in the middle ages, and known even at the present day, though, like bear and bull baiting and other abuses of the inferior animals, it has gradually given way to more rational and innocent amusements. There is a remarkable resemblance in the chief actor and the bear, to a representation upon an antique gem* of a man with a whip and a tame bear, which are respectively superinscribed Marcellus and Irene. The two pet bears of Valentinian, called Mica Aurea and Innocentia, which their imperial owner occasionally fed with human beings, are immortalized by Ammianus Marcellinus; Lampridius informs us that Elagabalus was accustomed to amuse himself in frightening his guests with savage

* *Antiquités d'Herculaneum*, gravées par F. A. David, tom. vii, pl. ix, fig. 2.

animals, taught by trainers and introduced suddenly at the dinner table; and Martial* mentions Libyan bears among the wild beasts which had been tamed and were commonly exhibited at Rome:—

*Picto quod juga delicata collo
Pardus sustinet, improbæque tigres
Indulgent patientiam flagello :
Mordent aurea quod lupata cervi,
Quæd frænâs Libyci domantur ursi,
Et quantum Calydon tulisse fertur,
Paret purpureis aper capistris :—*

but, perhaps, the most curious account of the popularity of bear-baiting among the Romans, is to be found in Apuleius, *Metamorph.*, lib. iv.

The other compartment of the vase is occupied by a scene between two gladiators,—a *Secutor* and a *Retiarius*. The latter has been vanquished; he has dropped his trident, and elevates his right hand to implore the mercy of the spectators. The former, armed with a close helmet, an oblong shield, and a sword, is advancing upon his conquered adversary and prepared to strike the fatal blow. The costume of the combatants is in correct keeping with the well-known equipments of the particular classes of gladiators to which they belong; and the details, worked with as much care as the material would admit, are evidently not wanting in fidelity. The manner in which the legs and arm are protected is shewn with care and minute finish, even to the nails in the shoes; the peculiar *filfot* ornament upon the shield, which often occurs upon the monuments of the Ælian Dacians, quartered at Amboglanna on the Roman Wall, is also worthy of notice. The artistic skill displayed in the figures upon this urn will be

* Epigram. lib. i, cv.

better appreciated by bearing in mind that they were not moulded, but laid on with a thickish *slip* of clay similar to the body of the vessel, and formed by the hand with sharp and blunt skewers ; and there seems to have been no retouching after the slip trailed from the instrument.

The inscriptions now demand consideration. Over the head of the bear trainer is *SECUNDVS MARIO*. It may be a question whether this is intended to apply to the figure, or whether it should not be interpreted to denote that the urn itself was a gift from Secundus to Marius.

There can be no doubt that the legends superscribed in the compartment of the combatants, were intended as a descriptive reference to the two figures. The conquered retiarius is Valentinus, or, as the *I* is elongated, probably pronounced Valentinus, of the thirtieth legion :—*VALENTINVS LEGIONIS XXX*. Over the head of the secutor is *MEMN'N'SAC'VIII*. The first word of this inscription must be read Memnius or Memnon, the name of the successful gladiator ; the other portion may be rendered, if we consider the *A* as intended for an *E*, *Numeri secutorum victor III(ter)*. If there remain any question about the rendering of *SAC*, there can, I think, be no doubt of the general intention of the superscription, that it was meant to describe Memnon or Memnius and his vocation. He is unquestionably a *Secutor* ; and there is less difficulty in adopting the reading I have proposed than in selecting others, which, as far as I see, would involve greater objections and not be in keeping with the spirit of the design, or with the well-known custom of appending the names of gladiators, charioteers, and other performers in popular sports to similar representations, as may be instanced in the groups of gladiators at Pompeii, in the figures upon the glass vessel found at Hartlip (see the second volume of the *Collectanea*), in tessellated pavements and other works.

The Rev. Barton Lodge, under the notion that this urn was manufactured for funereal purposes, suggests a very different interpretation to the inscription. I will here insert the view he takes of the subject, as it appears in the "Essex and West Suffolk Gazette," of September 1, 1854, premising that it may be noticed I have slightly modified my opinion on the VIII. Mr. Lodge, after describing the urn and giving the inscription, proceeds:—

"The question is, how is this inscription to be interpreted. Mr. Roach Smith, in his letter to the "Essex Standard," inclines to think that it may have been scratched by the owner for his amusement, and that he made the principal scene represented on the urn apply to some gladiatorial exhibition which he had witnessed. The letters Memn. standing over the head of the victorious gladiator, he would have to signify that a gladiator named Memnon or Memnius, had been so victorious; and that SAC, or rather SEC VIII, means he had engaged as secutor nine times; and that Valentinu Legionis xxx, means that a gladiator named Valentinus, of the thirtieth legion, had been defeated in a manner similar to that here represented. Of Secundus Mario over the bear, he says nothing. With all deference to a veteran antiquary like Mr. Roach Smith, I cannot help thinking that the whole is one connected inscription, having no reference to the figures on the urn, but to the deceased whose ashes were contained in it. It seems, indeed, reasonable to suppose that cinerary urns were seldom, or never, deposited without some mark to identify them. If such marks are now rarely to be met with, it may be that they have been defaced by the rude fingers of decay; that accretions, in course of time, may have filled up the grooves of the letters; whilst it is owing to the fortunate position of the earthen covering in this case that this has been so well preserved. I would suggest, however, that it would be worth while to examine urns exhumed with the view of discovering traces of inscriptions.

"I shall be expected to give some reasons for my opinion. These I will now briefly state, wishing that I had a more satis-

factory rendering to offer, in the place of that to which I venture to object. In the first place, then, Secundus Mario looks like the ordinary commencement of a Roman epitaph. If this is not its meaning, what is it? What other business has it on a cinerary urn? and it would be very strange, if such is allowed to be the signification of these first words, that those that follow should have reference to something else. Though Memn. might point to a gladiator named Memnon, yet I do not think that *N SEC* (supposing it to be *SEC*) would be used to denote, without a numeral or epithet, the band of *Secutores*, even supposing the classes of gladiators were divided into '*numeri*.' Lastly, *Valentinu leg. xxx*, cannot, I think, describe a gladiator, inasmuch as that degraded class of men would not be admitted among the legionaries. I propose, with much diffidence,

Secundus Mario Memnii nepoti sacravit nonæ Valentinianensis
(*sc. cohortis*) *leg. xxx.*

It was not unusual to call a cohort, or a whole legion, by the name of an emperor, as the 8th legion, I believe, was called *Antoniniana*. In the *Notitia Imperii* there is mention of troops called *Valentinianenses*, from the Emperor Valentinian. But this alters *Valentinu* of the inscription into *Valentini*; and the 30th legion does not appear to have been in Britain. Is there, then, an *x* too many? or was a *cohort* of the legion here, though the main body of that force was in *Dalmatia*? I see an old inscription, found at *Pola*, in the collection of *Amantius*,* in which the 30th legion is mentioned. I have also copied, from the same collection, an inscription which alludes to a case in which some sort of respect was shown to these wretched men. It seems that a person who had made such an exhibition (*munerarius*) had obtained great popularity by the performance, in which the *retarius* and *secutor* were both killed; and the exhibitor erected a tablet to them. There occurs in it the expression *Secutor pugnarum VIII*, a singular resemblance, it must be allowed, to *Mr. Roach Smith's* conjecture. He refers to one of the poor

* "*Inscriptiones Sacrosanctæ Antiquitatis*," by *P. Apianus* and *B. Amantius*, 1534, *Ingoldstadt*.

creatures having left a wife in great affliction. 'Constantius Munerarius Gladiatoribus suis, propter favorem muneris, munus sepulcrum dedit, decorato retiario qui peremit cæruleum et peremptus decidit: ambos extinxit rudis, utrosque protegit rogas. Decoratus Secutor pugnarum VIII Valeræ uxori dolorem privum reliquit.' This inscription has more than the usual share of blunders, but its meaning is clear enough.

"I would just add, that we do not derive the full benefit afforded us by these notices of the barbarous habits which prevailed in ancient times among people of great mental accomplishments, unless we are led by them to value more highly, and promote more widely, that divine faith which put these abominations to flight."

The foregoing are Mr. Lodge's objections to my opinion on the character of the urn, and to my interpretation of the inscription. I should readily acknowledge them to be valid, and willingly adopt his views, if I could substitute them as rectifications of my own. I cannot do so; and for these reasons. Sepulchral urns were not, as he supposes, commonly inscribed; on the contrary, it is extremely seldom they are found with inscriptions; probably not one in ten or twenty thousand bears any traces of lettering; and not because time may have worn away the characters, incised in the mode adopted on the Colchester urn; but because it was not customary for the ancients to inscribe their sepulchral urns. We may wonder they did not avail themselves of a process so simple and effectual to perpetuate the memory of the dead; but facts demonstrate that they very rarely did so. In the few examples of inscribed funereal urns which could be cited, the formulæ accord with those of analogous inscriptions upon stone, the material usually employed for the purpose.*

* In a future part of this work I hope to introduce a very remarkable and singular instance of an inscribed Roman or

The chief objection to the reading suggested by Mr. Lodge is that it does not agree with any of the numerous sepulchral inscriptions with which we are acquainted, and which, whether elaborate or concise, are usually in accordance with formulæ which seldom leave the sepulchral character of the inscriptions in any doubt. The omission of the concluding letters in the words MEMN. and VALENTINV is not at all in discordance with the orthography of inscriptions, as may be seen on reference to remarks on the inscribed Romano-Gaulish vase in the third volume of the *Collectanea*. The Valentinianenses were troops named after the emperor Valentinian; and although we have no direct evidence to guide us in determining the period at which this urn was interred, and it possibly may have been buried in or subsequent to that emperor's reign; yet I think it may more probably be assigned to an earlier date.

I therefore adhere to the opinion I expressed when I first saw the urn, soon after its exhumation, which opinion I gave briefly as Mr. Lodge has faithfully cited it. I think the Secutor is named Memnius or Memnon, and the Retiarius, Valentinus, of the thirtieth legion; but as the inscription is posterior to the fabrication of the urn, it is as impossible to say what amount of connexion there may be between the figures and the names, as it is to say when, or on what occasion, the inscription was added. The urn was made, most probably, in what is now Northamptonshire; we find it at Colchester. Camulodunum in extent, in power, and in luxury, could have been but little inferior to Londinium; it doubtless had its places of public amusements; and among these amusements may

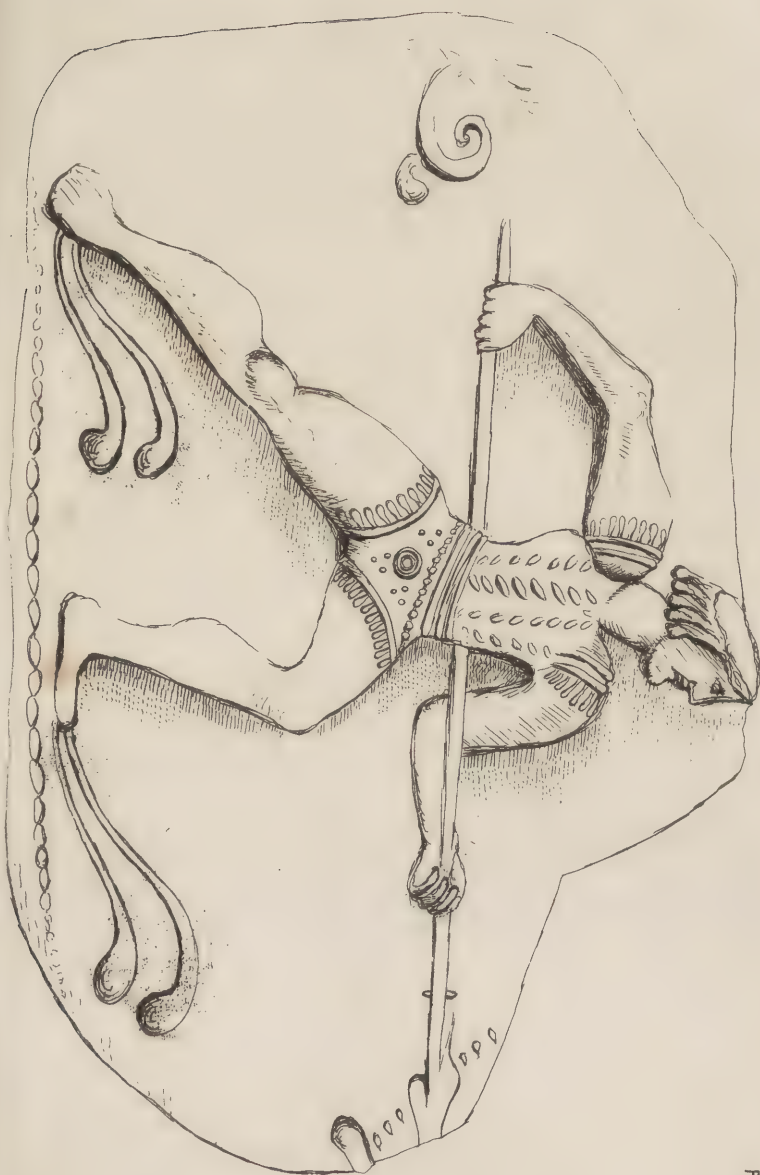
Romano-British sepulchral urn, which I noticed last year in the Faussett collection in Mr. Mayer's museum.

be reckoned exhibitions of animals and gladiatorial fights: some of these may have influenced the writer of the inscription in assigning the names, from a fancied resemblance in the figures to real persons, who may have been conspicuous in their vocations; or who, on some occasion, may have distinguished themselves.

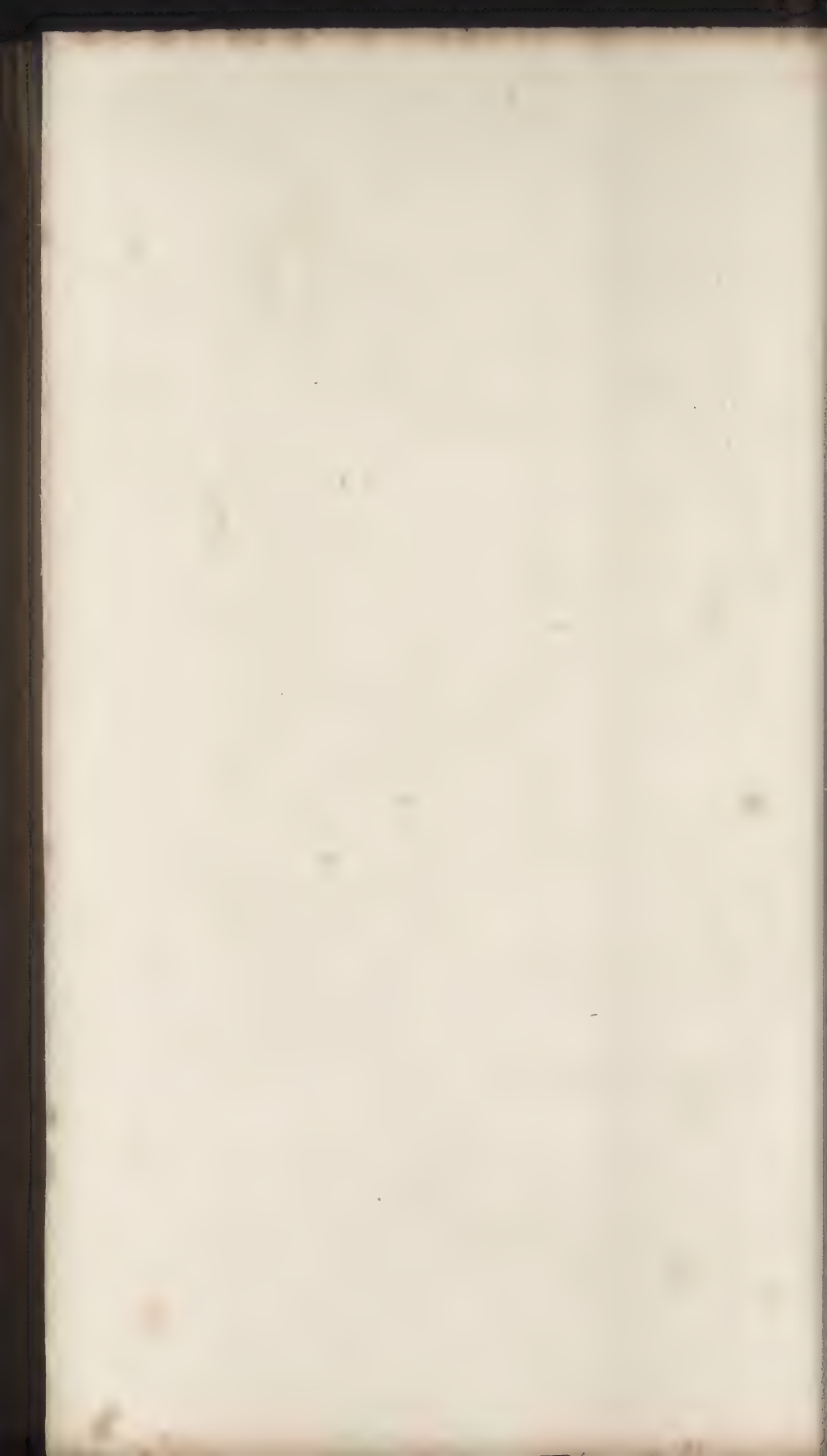
The fragments figured in plates xxii, xxiii, and xxiv, belong to the same class as the Colchester vase. Plates xxii and xxiv are etched two-thirds of the actual size; plate xxiii, the full size. Plate xxii, and fig. 1, plate xxiii, are portions of a vase found at Bedford Purlieus by Mr. Artis. The figure, in plate xxii, is spearing a stag; enough remains of the other to show that he holds a whip in his right hand, and a veil in his left (remining one of the Matadors in the Spanish bull-fight), and is encountering an animal which appears to be a wolf. This vase is externally of a darkish colour, and about the same size and figure as that from Colchester.*

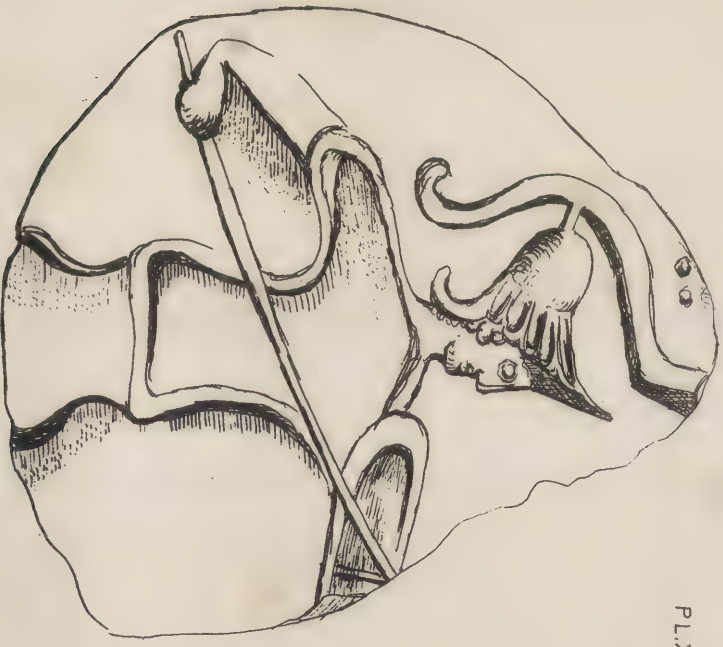
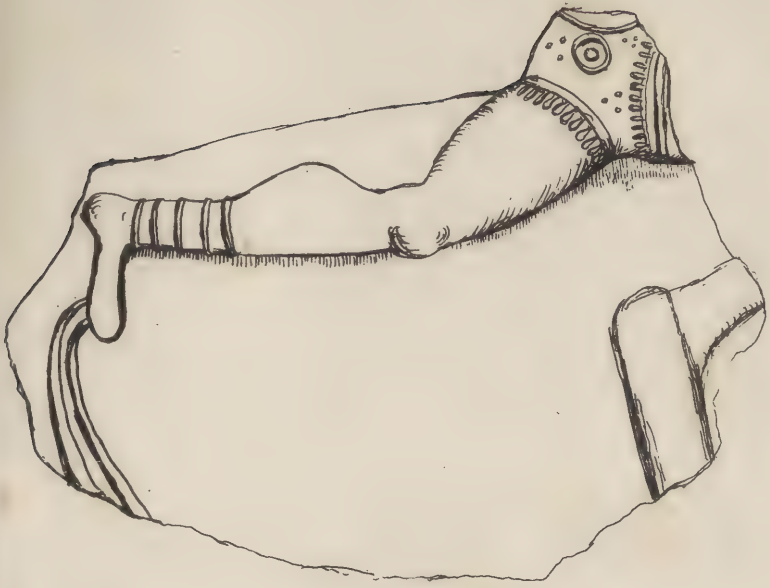
Plate xxiv is a fragment of another Castor urn, in colour, in dimensions, and in manufacture, resembling those described. The subject is the mythic story of Her-

* Mr. Artis gave me the casts from which the etchings are made. I was not aware that these were the fragments engraved in pl. iii, vol. xxxii of the *Archæologia*, until, while this article was going to press, I turned to that plate for comparison! The paper which this urn illustrates, describes some sculptures and other Roman antiquities found at Sibson and at Bedford Purlieus by the late Mr. Artis; but as his name is not once mentioned in this paper, I had a notion that the urn there described may have been another. The omission of Mr. Artis's name in connexion with the description of the sculptures is still more remarkable, as the Society of Antiquaries was first supplied, through me, with a notice of the discovery, by Mr. Artis himself.



PL. XXIII.





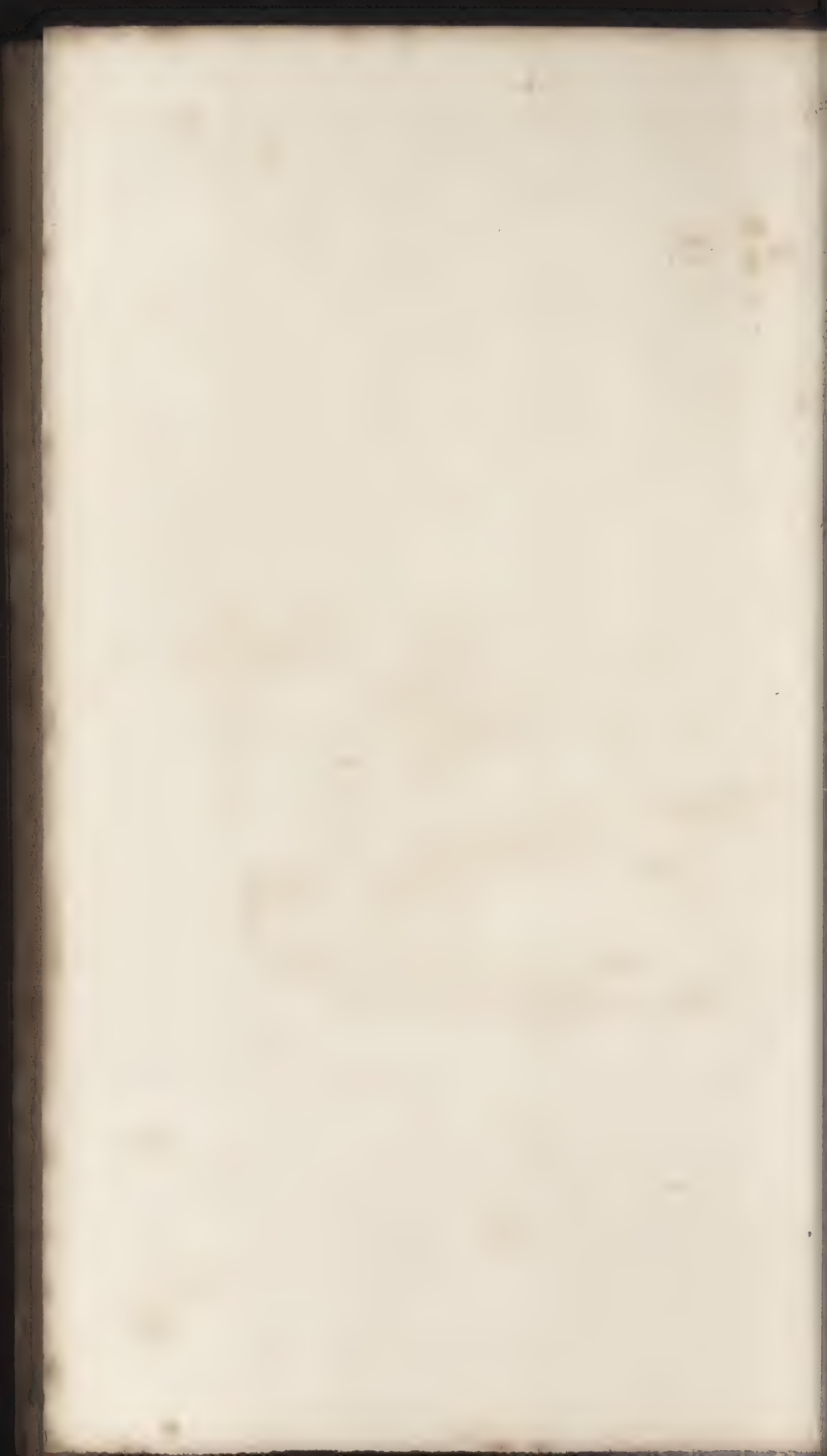
PL. XXIII.





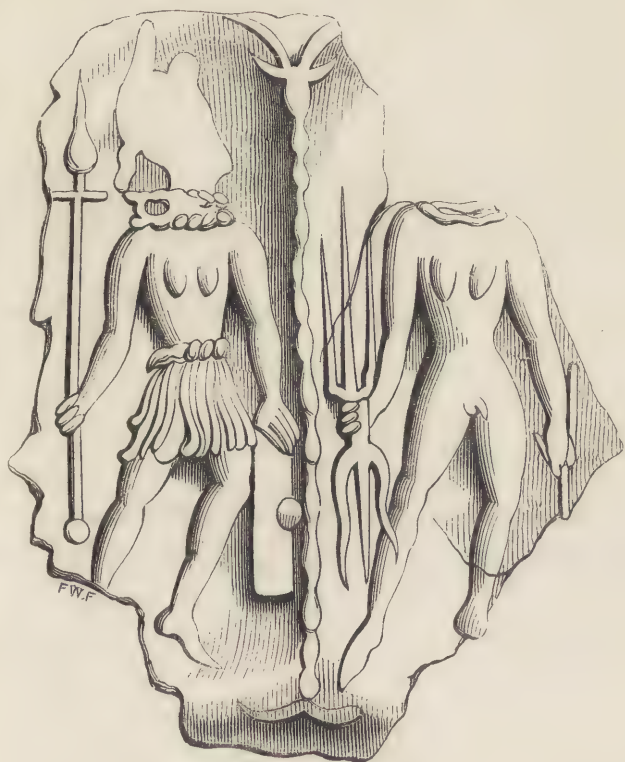
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PL. XXIV.



cules delivering Hesione from the sea monster. It is the only example the Romano-British pottery affords (so far as I have noticed) of a scene drawn from a mythologic source; and the manner in which the subject is treated is curious. Hesione is placed between Hercules and the monster; her arms are tied behind her, and her escape prevented by heavy weights, to which she is chained.

Fig. 2, pl. xxiii, is a fragment of a figure of Pallas, executed in a much ruder manner. The material is straw colour, with a buff glaze.



Fragment of pottery found at Chesterford. Two-thirds the actual size.

Further varieties are exhibited in the fragments of two apparently octagonal vessels, with indented compartments, dug up, many years since, at Chesterford. The body of one



Fragments of pottery found at Chesterford. Two-thirds the actual size.

of these vessels is of a salmon colour, covered with a dull brown glaze, which in the most prominent parts has a reddish hue. The figures upon them are representations of deities; those of the fragment on the preceding page being Jupiter and Mars; those in the cut above were Mercury, and probably Venus or Pallas. When complete the figures may have comprised the planetary deities presiding over the days of the week, as we find them in

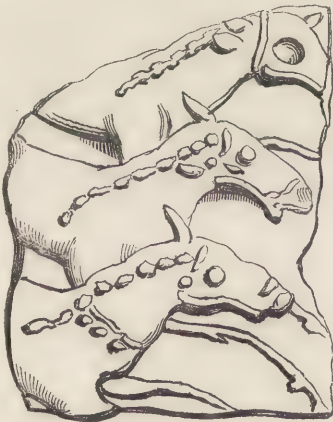
the Bramdean pavement, and upon other ancient works. (See *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. ii, p. 59-63.)

To the foregoing examples may be added two fragments found in London. The one represents a man covered with some kind of defensive dress. From the attitude, he seems engaged with a wild beast, indications of the feet of which are to be noticed on the right. What the trailing object may have been intended for, is not easy to say; probably it is only an ornament.



Actual size.

The other, from the spirit with which the horses are



Actual size.

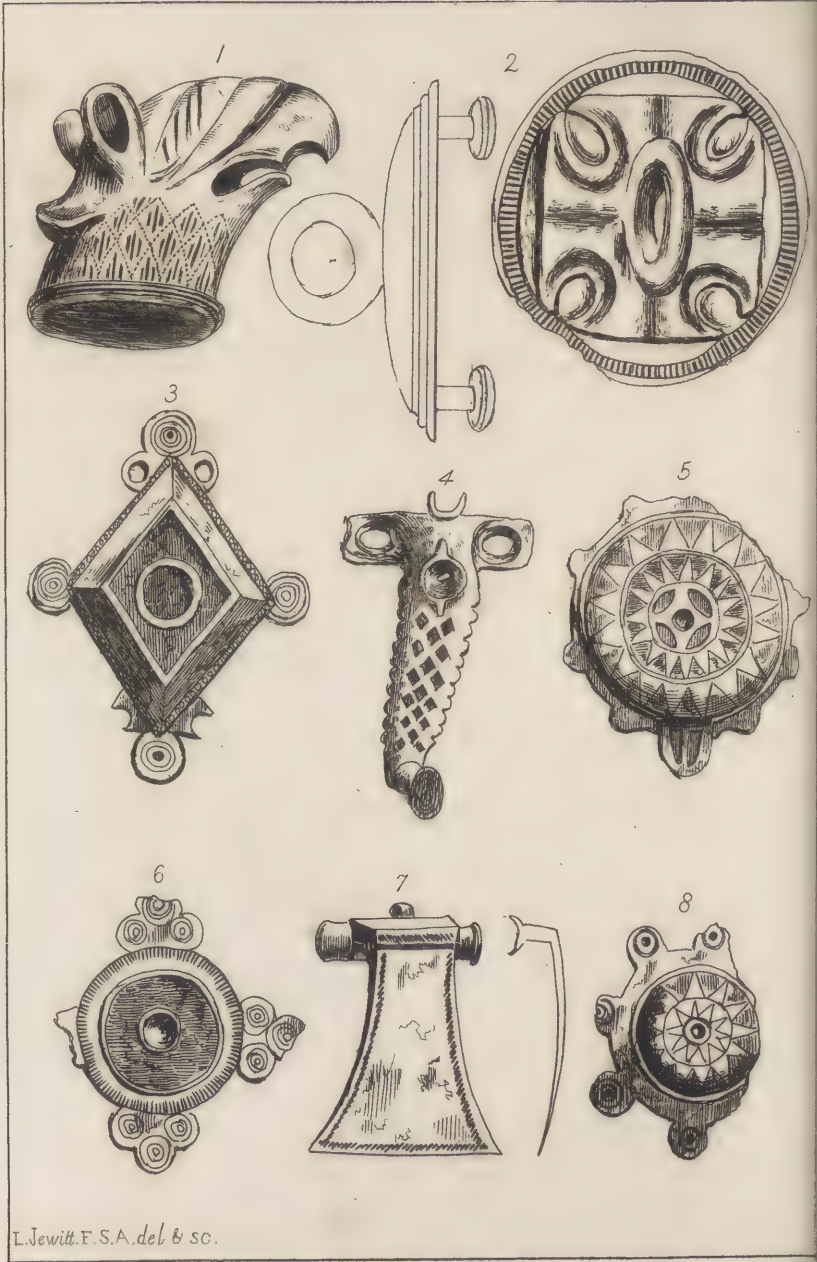
executed, appears to have belonged to a vessel of a superior description, one of the subjects with which it was ornamented having been, most likely, a quadriga.

I have not considered it necessary to introduce here various well-known kinds of the Castor pottery; my object, as before stated, being to call attention to some rarer varieties: but as the Colchester vase is hitherto the most interesting and most artistic example discovered, I append, in contrast and for comparison, a cut of one of the most common of the Northamptonshire vessels, found in London.



Height, six inches.





ROMAN ANTIQUITIES FOUND AT
IXWORTH, SUFFOLK, AND IN ITS
NEIGHBOURHOOD.

PLATE XXV.

THE objects here represented have been found at various times, and chiefly under accidental circumstances, in and around Ixworth. They are in the possession of Mr. Joseph Warren, who has kindly contributed the etching.

Fig. 1, in bronze, appears to have been the pomel or termination of the handle of a sword. It was found in Ixworth.

Fig. 2, was found at Icklingham. It had been fixed to wood or to leather; it may have belonged to carriage or horse furniture. The inside of the ring is worn, as if by the constant attrition of a chain or of a thong. The cross upon it is remarkable.

Figs. 3 to 8 are fibulæ.

Fig. 3 was found at Icklingham. It has been filled with a red enamel; and is not unlike one of the fibulæ from Etaples in pl. iii, vol. i, of the *Collectanea Antiqua*.

Fig. 4 is from Pakenham; it also bears traces of red enamel.

Fig. 5. This convex circular fibula, found near Ixworth, has been ornamented with red and blue enamel, in two bands of triangular cells; the top having a cruciform ornament. This kind of fibula is found in almost all parts of this country and in France.

Fig. 6, found at Pakenham, is filled with blue enamel.

Fig. 7, in plain bronze, was found at Icklingham.

Fig. 8 is a variety of the fig. 5 type; and, like it, is enamelled with blue and red: it has been silvered. It was found at Pakenham.

All of the above are in bronze.

An account of the antiquities found at Ixworth, illustrated by a map, was contributed by Mr. Warren to the Bury and West Suffolk Archæological Institute, and is printed in the first volume of its *Proceedings*. The same work also contains notices of Icklingham and Pakenham, both of which places appear to have been very fertile in Roman antiquities.

ON MEDIEVAL GIRDLE ORNAMENTS.

 BY F. W. FAIRHOLT.

PLATES XXVI AND XXVII.

No article of costume, from the earliest period in England until the close of the sixteenth century, appears to have occasioned greater solicitude than the girdle. The best attention of the decorative artizan was devoted to its design and execution, and the goldsmith and jeweller were both employed in the careful enrichment of its surface. The early Briton fashioned his bone or metal decorations as carefully as his means would allow him; but with the Dane and Saxon came ornamental works in the precious metals, which, for neatness of execution and beauty of general effect, have never been surpassed. The pages of this work have frequently been devoted to the illustration of such examples of girdle ornaments exhumed from their graves; and the surprise expressed by practical goldsmiths at the extreme neatness and beauty of these ancient works, is sufficient to assure us that in manipulative excellence they could not be surpassed by workmen of the present day.

Joseph Strutt, that indefatigable artist and antiquary, to whose ill-requited labours we all owe a deep debt of gratitude, in one of his excellent works, the *Complete View of the Dress and Habits of the People of England*,

says: "The girdles of the Normans differed little from those of the Saxons, especially during the twelfth century: they were probably formed of the same materials, and we are well assured that such of them as belonged to kings, earls, and great barons, were not only embroidered with gold, but also adorned with precious stones."

In the inventory of the jewels belonging to king John is named a belt, or girdle, wrought with gold, and adorned with gems. The author of the *Romance of Garin* describes his hero as habited in a *bliaut*, or tunic of silk, and girt with a girdle embellished with great fillets of fine gold, and precious stones that were attached to it:—

"Et ot vestu un bliaut de samiz;
Un baudre ot à grand bandes d'or fin,
A chiere pierres sont attachés et mis."

Matthew Paris includes among the presents made by Henry III to the king of France in 1254, "girdles of silk, with golden buckles."

In the very curious *Fabliaux inédits*, published by M. Robert, conservator of the library of St. Geneviève, Paris, copied from a manuscript of the thirteenth century, is one descriptive of the "stock-in-trade" of a mercer, who, among other attractions for the fair sex, particularly dwells on the pretty little girdles he possesses:

"J'ai les mignotes ceinturetes."

He also adds, "I have good buckles for girdles":—

"J'ai de bones boucles à cengles."

But what is more curious, and more immediately illustrative of our present engraved examples, is another of his announcements, "pewter clasps for children":—

"Fermaillez à enfanz de peutre."

In another part of the poem, brass fermails are mentioned.

These *fermails*, or buckles, were used to secure the shoes over the instep, and the opening of the tunic at the breast, as well as the centre of the girdle.*

Those curious chroniclers of the habits and manners of their day—the authors of the *Romances of Knighthood*, and *Fabliaux*—have left many incidental descriptions of the gay apparel of their favourite characters. In *The Adventures of Arthur at the Tarnewarthelan*, a romance of the fourteenth century (published by the Camden Society), a lady is described as wearing a girdle of “blenket”, or plunket, a white cloth or stuff, which is decorated with figures of birds; and bosses of gold, with a handsome clasp. The stanza runs thus:—

“Ho was the wurliche wighte that any wee wold; †
 Hir gide ‡ that was glorijs, was of a gresse-grene;
 Hir belte was of blenket, with briddus ful bold,
 Beten § with besandus, || and bocult ful bene.”

There is an excellent description of a lady's girdle in a love poem of the beginning of Edward I's reign, pre-

* I have reprinted this curious poem, with a literal prose translation by my friend Thomas Wright, M.A., in my collection of *Poems and Songs on Costume*, published by the Percy Society.

† This line, read literally, means, “She was the worthiest or most desirable lady any man could wish for.”

‡ Gown.

§ Decorated.

|| Bezants were gold coins, so termed from having been struck at Byzantium: hence the flat gold studs, which were so commonly adopted as decorations for the girdle, were so called from their similarity; unless, indeed, the custom may have originated in crusading times, when the girdle might ostentatiously have been enriched by such coins, as the headdresses of the ladies of the Greek islands still are.

served among the Harleian manuscripts, No. 2253, which is as follows:—

“ Hire gurdel of bete gold is al,
 Umben hire middel smal
 That triketh to the to ;
 Al whith rubies on a rowe,
 With-inne corven craft to knowe,
 Ant emeraudes mo ;
 The bocle is al of whalles bon,
 Ther with-inne stont a ston
 That warneth men from wo ;
 The water that it wetes in,
 Y-wis it wortheth al to wyn
 That sezen seyden so.”

In this instance we see that the girdle of the lady was useful as well as ornamental ; and in an age of superstitious observance, when a belief in charms, and the magical properties of precious stones, was quite general, these, that “warned men from woe” by the mystic properties they held, must have given more than its intrinsic value to such a ceinture. A similar notice of this same article of ladies costume is given by Chaucer in his translation of the older *Romaunt of the Rose*, as worn by one of the enigmatical characters in that remarkable “Garden of Love”, so quaintly imagined by William de Lorris:—

“ Richeſſe a girdle had upon
 The bokill of it was of ſton,
 Of vertue grete and mokil might ;
 For whoſo bare the ſtone ſo bright,
 Of venim durſt him nothing doubt,
 While he the ſtone had him about ;
 That ſtone was gretely for to love,
 And till a rich man is behove

Worth all the golde in Rome and Frise ;
 The mourdaunt,* wrought in noble gise ;
 Was of a stone full precious,
 That was so fine and vertuus
 That whole a man it couth ymake
 Of palsie and of the tothe-ake,
 And yet the stone had soche a grace
 That he was sikre† in every place
 All thilke daie not blinde to ben
 That fasting might that stone sene ;
 The barris were of gold full fine,
 Upon a tissue of satin ;
 Full hevie, grete, and nothing light,
 In everiche was a besaunt wight.”‡

In the romance of *Sir Eglamour of Artois*, a child is found in a wood :—

“ Yn a scarlet mantelle woundyn,
 And with a golden gyrdylle boundyn ;”

by both of which articles of dress the finders assure themselves that the child is of “ gentylle blode.” The bold barons in *Ywain and Gawaine* are—

“ Clad in purpure and ermyne,
 With girdles all of gold ful fyne.”

Chaucer’s *Plowman* rails at the clergy for their love of secular magnificence in array, and declares,—

“ No common knight maie go so gaie,
 Change of clothing every daie,
 With golden girdils grete and smalle.”

The author of the *Eulogium*, an anonymous work of the fourteenth century, notes the extravagance of apparel

* The mordaunt is the clasp or buckle, from the Latin *mordere*, to bite.

† Sure or certain.

‡ White bezant.

among the commonalty; and says, "their girdles are of gold and silver, and some of them worth twenty marks."

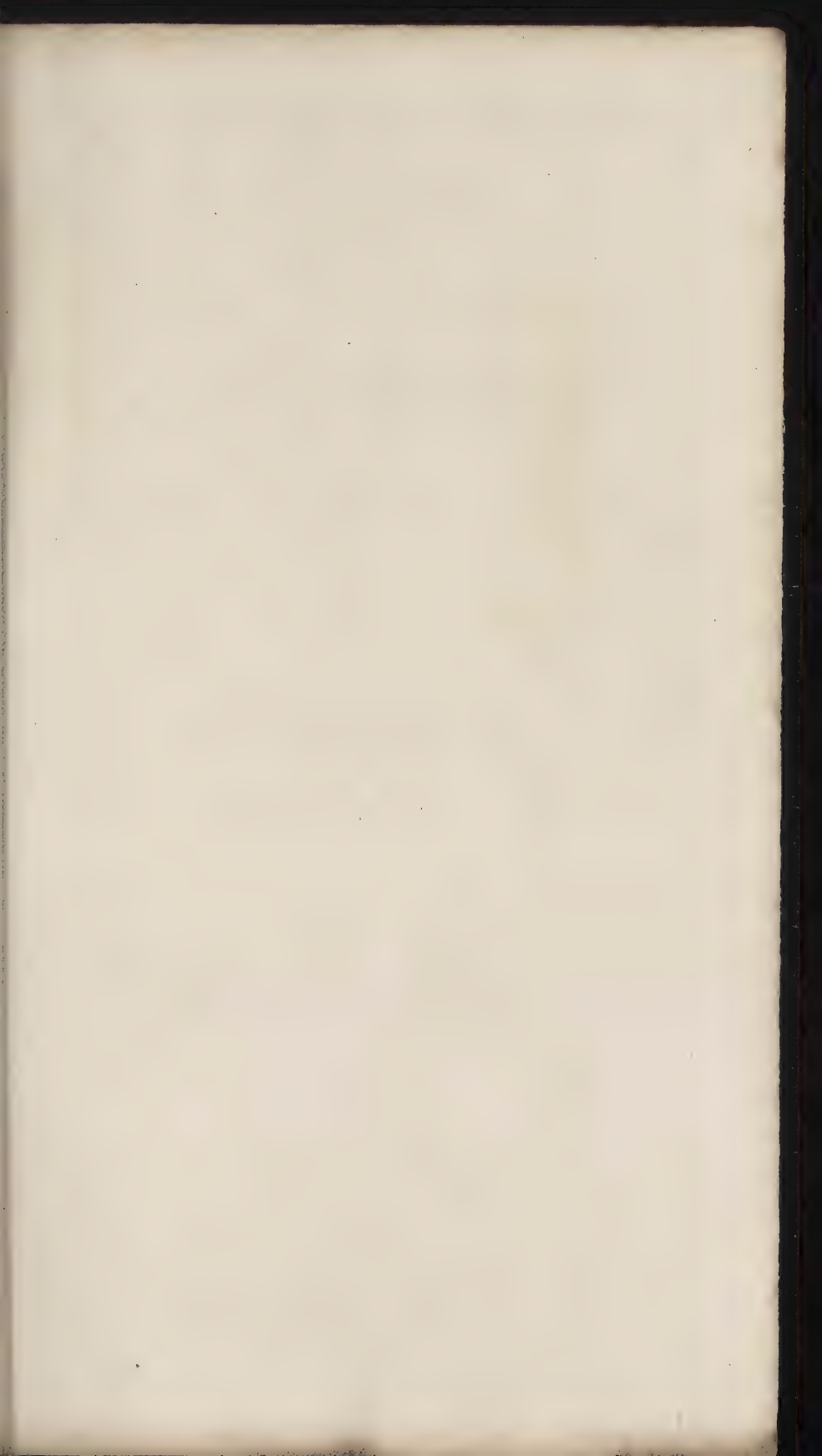
The sumptuary law of the 37th of Edward III prohibits tradesmen, artificers, and yeomen, from wearing "any gold or silver upon their girdles", while esquires and gentlemen under the estate of knighthood are allowed "girdles reasonably embellished with silver." Such sumptuary laws were, however, constantly broken, and were as constantly re-enacted by our sovereigns, without much affecting the taste for extravagant display among all classes.

From this constant fashion of decorating the waist, that portion of the body was popularly termed the *girdlestead*, or place for the girdle. Thus, in the *Lay of Sir Launfal*, we are introduced to a lady in a garden, who, oppressed with the summer heat, loosens the upper part of her dress, as described in the words of the author:—

"For hete her clothes down she dede
Almost to her gerdylstede."

The term was in use to a comparatively modern period; and Stubbes, in his *Anatomy of Abuses*, speaks severely of fashionable doublets in the reign of Elizabeth, as "short, scarcely reaching to the girdlestead or waste."

It would serve no useful purpose to multiply, in these pages, references to the monumental effigies, so ably delineated by Stothard, Cotman, Hollis, Waller, and others, many of which afford admirable examples of the beauty of design and excellence of execution displayed in these portions of ornamental costume. It is sufficient to allude to them as proving the perfect truthfulness of the pictures drawn by the pens of such ancient authors as we have just quoted. The object of this slight essay is more immediately to direct attention to the decorations worn upon the leathern girdles of the humbler classes—the burgesses, frankleyns, and commoners, whose unre-





F. W. Fairholt, del. et sc.

CIRDLE ORNAMENTS.

Discovered in London.

corded history would have frequently been much more valuable to the modern historian than the details of diplomacy and court intrigue.

Minor articles of costume are so rare, from their intrinsic value being little, and their common use destroying that interest in their own day which we feel towards them, that my own studies in the history of dress have induced me to look with much curiosity upon the examples of girdles and their ornaments now in the museum of Mr. C. Roach Smith, which he has obtained from various localities within the boundary of the old metropolis of England; they may, therefore, be looked upon as fair specimens of the best and usual fashions of the time when they were constructed; they also show that the prevailing form of decorative enrichment adopted in architecture was carried out in a variety of ways upon objects of everyday use; and the fact that these ornaments are, in many instances, cast from moulds, also proves the large demand made for such articles, as well the simple, but good taste of the medieval manufacturers.

I may now note the peculiarities which distinguish those I have selected and engraved in the two plates illustrative of these remarks.

PLATE XXVI.

Fig. 1. Pendant for the end of a girdle, which was usually from two to three yards in length, passing round the waist, and hanging in front of the gown to the feet. This ornament is cast in lead, and exhibits a small figure of a saint, beneath a canopy enriched with pinnacles and foliations, precisely similar to those so constantly adopted on the sides of altar-tombs, in the style of architecture known as the florid gothic, and perpendicular.

Fig. 2. Pendant of brass, chased; the ground between the foliations hatched with the graver's tool. It greatly resembles one worn by the figure of John Corp, who died 1361 (35th of Edward III), in Stoke Fleming Church, Devonshire, and which is engraved in Waller's *Series of Monumental Brasses*. A similar pendant may also be seen on the brass of Margaret, widow of Sir Fulke Pennebrygg, in Shottesbrooke Church, Berkshire; this lady died 1401.*

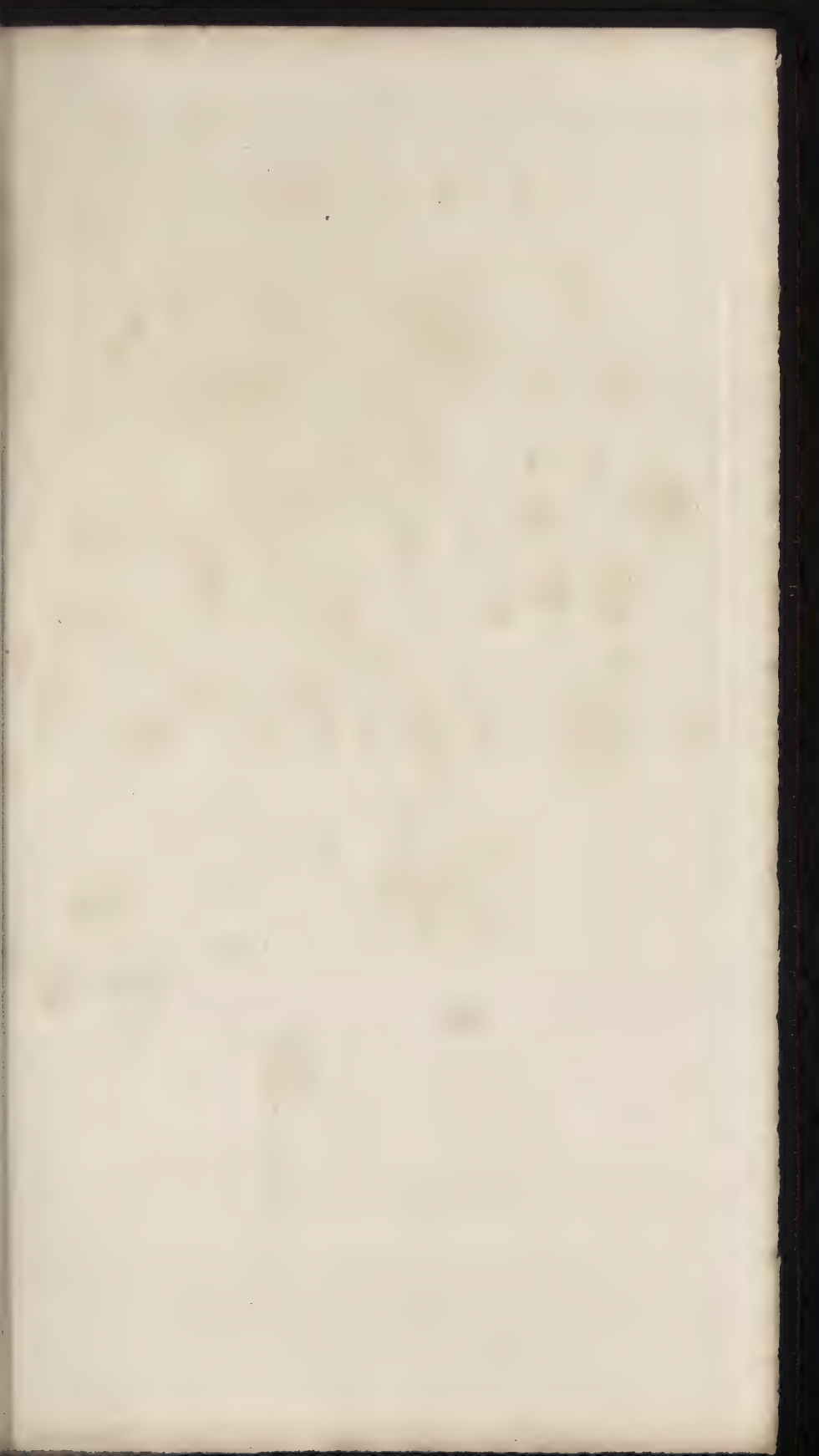
Fig. 3. A very elegant pendant of thin brass, which appears to have been struck in a die; the quatrefoils are pierced, and the ornament fastened by small studs to a stronger piece of metal.

Fig. 4. Fragment of a buckle, cast in lead, and consisting of that portion only which was secured to the girdle, and formed a holdfast. The ornament upon it is entirely architectural in character, consisting of geometric tracery, similar to that which is frequently seen upon canopy work in altar tombs of the fourteenth century.

Fig. 5. Cast leaden buckle, decorated with berries and leaves. The ring of the buckle is of very old fashion, and may be said to have descended from Anglo-Saxon times, inasmuch as one very similar was discovered in a cemetery of that period, opened by Mr. Rolfe, of Sandwich, at Ozingell, near Ramsgate. It has been engraved in vol. iii of the present work, pl. v, fig. 17.

Fig. 6. Leaden buckle, cast, having the letters I H C raised upon the shank. The effigy in Willoughby Church, Nottinghamshire, supposed to be that of Sir Richard de Willoughby, who was chief justice of the King's Bench, 11th Edward III (which effigy has been engraved in Stothard's great work), wears an elaborately ornamented

* This is engraved in my work on *Costume in England*, page 173.





F.W. Fairholt del. et sc.

CIRDLE ORNAMENTS.

Discovered in London.

girdle, with a pendant, which has upon it the letters I H C, similar to this example; it terminates in a niche containing a figure of a saint, similar in design to fig. 1; but, like that, it has been so far injured by time, that the saint cannot be identified, as his attributes are obliterated.

Fig. 7. Small *eye* for the reception of the hook of a girdle. It is cast in lead, and has the letters I H S in the centre; above is a four-leaved flower, forming a stud to secure it to the leather.

Fig. 8. Small *eye* for the reception of the hook of a girdle; it is affixed to a circular ornament, globose in structure, and formed by casting two cup-shaped pieces of lead, and combining their edges; a protruding piece of metal (now broken away) appears to have been used to affix it to the girdle in the manner of a rivet.

PLATE XXVII.

Fig. 1. A cast leaden buckle, having upon it the letter S, the initial of the favourite motto of Henry IV, "sovereign"; and which is so profusely displayed upon the enrichments of his tomb in Canterbury Cathedral, as well as upon the queen's collar. This buckle was affixed by pins to the leathern girdle, a portion of which is still preserved between the clasps of the metal.

Fig. 2. A brass pendant, chased and strongly gilt, having a crowned S upon it, the form of the crown being precisely similar to that of the effigy of Henry IV in Canterbury Cathedral, upon the tomb alluded to above.

Fig. 3. A brass girdle-hook, chased. In the centre are two figures, very rudely executed, and the chased lines on them coarsely incised. It may be intended to represent the Salutation of the Virgin, but it cannot be

positively affirmed. The hook is fastened to the circular ornament by a rivet; and on the opposite side the rivets which fastened the whole to the girdle remain, as well as a strong piece of wire passed through all for greater security. A portion of a letter has been chased on the shank or holdfast, relieved by a few rudely hatched lines. The letter appears to have been v.

Fig. 4. A very simple and elegant little pendant, the upper portion consisting of a small dotted circle, within which is a letter m, the initial of the name of the Virgin Mary. The design terminates in an acorn. The upper part of this pendant opens like a letter-clip for the reception of the leathern end of the girdle, to which it is secured by a rivet which passes through all, and to which the circular ornament is also affixed, that having been struck from a thin piece of separate metal, like a coin from a die.

Fig. 5. Hook cast in lead; it is decorated with floriated ornament, of a graceful pattern.

Fig. 6. Eye affixed to a trefoil ornament, and cast in lead.

Fig. 7. Bronze buckle, upon which the letters AVE and part of an m are inscribed; it evidently originally consisted of the words Ave Maria, the salutation of the Angel Gabriel to the Virgin Mary, words so constantly displayed upon the furniture of the Romish Church.

Fig. 8. Bronze buckle, ornamented with chasing. It is of somewhat unusual form, but excellently designed for security. One end of the girdle was fastened within the plate moving upon the centre pin, to which the tongue is affixed; the other end was then brought through the opening in front, affixed by the tongue, and passed again under the loop on the opposite side of the buckle, thus giving it a double security.

It must be remembered that, though some of these ornaments may have been worn by the wealthier classes, the majority would belong to the toilette of the humbler ones, as the larger number are of that kind alluded to by the mercer in the poem quoted upon p. 98, being cheaply cast in pewter. It is very evident that they must have been of small value, and easily broken from the girdle, as the insecurity of a fastening of pewter need not be insisted on. The buckle and pendant with the S upon it was doubtless worn by a retainer of Henry IV, in compliment to that sovereign; and the museum which has furnished me with these specimens can afford one of a leathern girdle decorated with a double row of circles, having an S in the centre of each; this ornament being produced by stamping. I have already engraved and published this curious fragment in my *Costume in England*, p. 508; and remarked, that it may probably be one of the "Caddis leather girdles" so often mentioned by writers of the period as manufactured at Cadiz from English leather.

With regard to the religious inscriptions, it may be remarked, that they were used in accordance with the partiality our ancestors evinced for them on all occasions;* but there exist on leathern girdles, in Mr. Roach Smith's London collection, many instances of others of an amatory and even superstitious character, some of which were believed to have a preservative tendency toward the life, health, or good fortune of the wearer.†

In conclusion, I may add, that all the various objects in each plate are engraved of the exact size of the originals.

* The effigy of Sir R. Grushill, in Stothard's series, has the letters R H S upon the upper part of the scabbard of a sword.

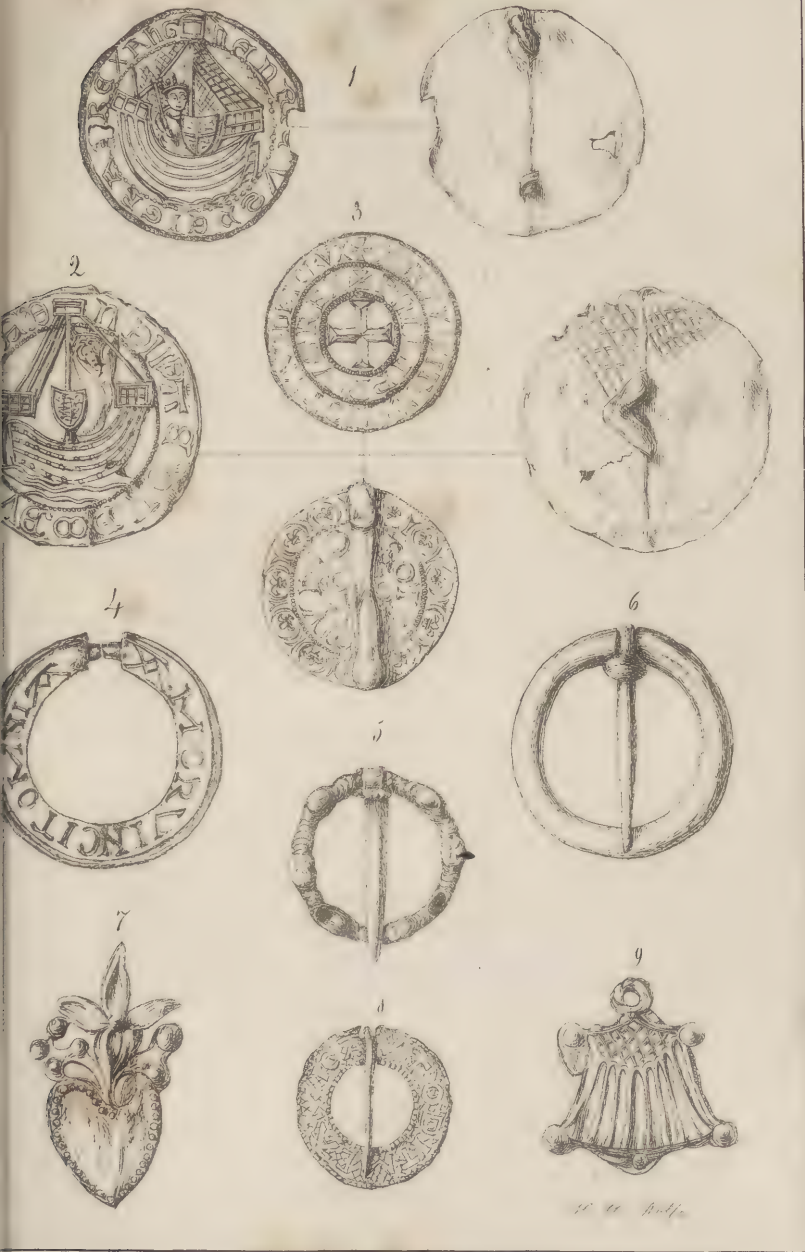
† See vol. i of this work, p. 121, for a garter bearing the names of the three Magi, believed to have supernatural virtues.

MEDIEVAL BROOCHES.

PLATE XXVIII.

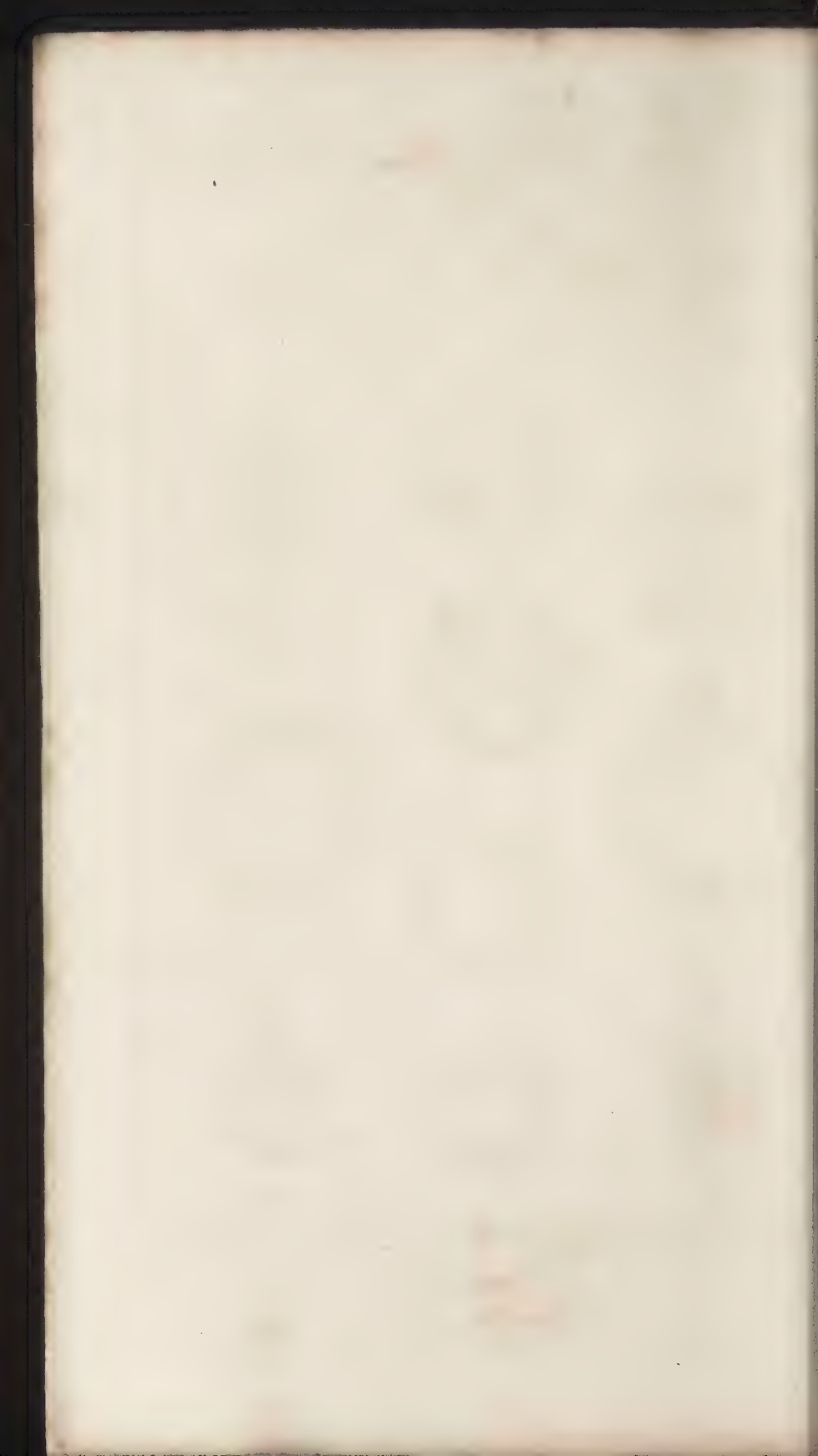
THE contents of this plate have a close affinity with those of the two preceding, in relation to costume. They were also discovered in London, and are preserved in the same collection.

While girdles were often richly decorated, and, as we note in the preceding examples, were made the vehicles for elegant ornamentation, fibulæ, or brooches, in all ages were the especial favourites of fashion, on which artificers often lavished exquisite skill and unbounded cost. They are found upon the earliest works of art, holding a conspicuous place either upon the shoulder or upon the breast. The Roman fibulæ were often of costly materials; but others, of foreign manufacture, seem to have been even more costly and complex in their workmanship. Such were the fibulæ often sent as presents from persons in authority, or given as military rewards. In the third volume of this work, p. 95, among gifts sent by Claudius Paulinus from Britain into Gaul, occurs "a golden fibula set with precious stones". Towards the decline of the Roman Empire, this class of personal decorations appears to have increased in sumptuousness and show. The Anglo-Saxon costume cannot be understood without taking into consideration the conspicuous fibulæ that modern discoveries have made so familiar to us; several of which were sometimes worn upon the dress, either distributed



BROOCHES.

discovered in London.



across the breast, or arranged down the front. When they occur in the precious metals, they are often of considerable intrinsic value; in one instance, at least, weighing four to five ounces in gold. Had Wordsworth known of such brooches, he would probably have selected some other object to illustrate futile pursuits; and not have spoken of

“Mere fibulæ without a robe to clasp”;

for many of them would, singly, have purchased whole suits of clothes.

However, all fibulæ were certainly not worth more than the robes they clasped; and, in relation to the common sort, such as those in our plate, the poet's simile holds perfectly good.

Figs. 1 and 2, in lead, are copies of the obverses of nobles of Henry the Fourth and Edward the Third; but the letters in the latter are so transposed as not to represent the reading upon the coin; and the work is very rudely executed.

Fig. 3, in silver, is a coin of Philip IV of France (A.D. 1286-1313), mounted for use as a brooch.

Fig. 4 is inscribed with the amatory and trite AMOR VINCIT OMNIA, the motto upon the brooch worn by the prioress in Chaucer's celebrated *Canterbury Tales* :—

—“a broch of gold ful shene,
On whiche was first i-written a crowned **A**,
And after, *Amor vincit omnia*.”—*Canterb. T.*, l. 160.

Mr. Charles Warne possesses a gold brooch actually in the form of the letter A,* bearing on one side the inscription,

IO FAS AMER E DOZ AMER ;

* For crowned letters in lead or pewter, see *Catalogue of the Museum of London Antiquities*, No. 708.

and on the other, the mystic *AGLA*, which we may also consider as a kind of love charm. The monk in Chaucer's tale wore an ornament of like signification.

“ And for to festne his hood under his chyn,
He hadde of gold y-wrought a curious pyn :
A love knotte in the greater end ther was.”

Cant. T., 1. 195.

Fig. 8, of brass gilt, inscribed *VT ODI ME AMICA* : *because my sweetheart dislikes me*. This was probably used as a charm to promote or win back affection. In Mr. Halliwell's *Notices of Fugitive Tracts*, page 62 (printed for the Percy Society), is an old receipt “ *To make a ring that will draw love affection*”. At the conclusion of the instructions, the lover is directed to say, “ *Omnia vincit amor*”; and then secretly to slide the ring on his mistress's finger, when he will find “ a strange alteration in her”. The motto on fig. 8 has much the same meaning as that upon a silver ring found in Suffolk :—

✠ Me eylet, me eylet, me eylet,
That hope behotet and faillet.

It grieveth me, that hope promises and faileth.

Fig. 5 is in silver gilt, set with rubies : fig. 6. in brass.

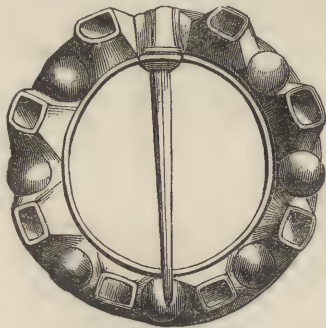
Figs. 7 and 9 are in lead or pewter. The device on fig. 7, a heart, from which springs a flower, may either be a love token, or, as Dr. Husenbeth suggests, intended to represent the heart of St. Joseph, which is depicted with lilies growing out of it. Fig. 9 is a brooch, in form of the old purse or *gipciere*.

These examples, which might easily be multiplied, are further illustrations of customs and fashions often alluded to, as Mr. Fairholt, in his remarks on the girdle ornaments, has indicated. To these it may be added, that the

makers of such ornaments, "laten workers and broche makers", are mentioned among the London crafts or trades, in the satirical poem called "Cocke Lorelles Bote".*

The brooch here represented has been set with stones. It is probably of the fourteenth century; and was found in the City.

The term *fermail*, commonly signifying a clasp, was, it seems, particularly applied to circular brooches with the acus, placed as in the example before us. Upon a gold specimen found in Essex,



communicated to me by Mr. Neale, is inscribed—

"Jeo sui fermail, pur garder sein,
Ke nus vilein n'i mette mein."

The two fibulæ which are appended to these notes do not belong to the class therein described. They are of a much earlier date, and much more remarkable and uncommon.

The first, in brass, was presented to me by M. De



* Percy Society's Publications, vol. vi.

Rheims, of Calais, having been found, I believe, in the neighbourhood of that town.

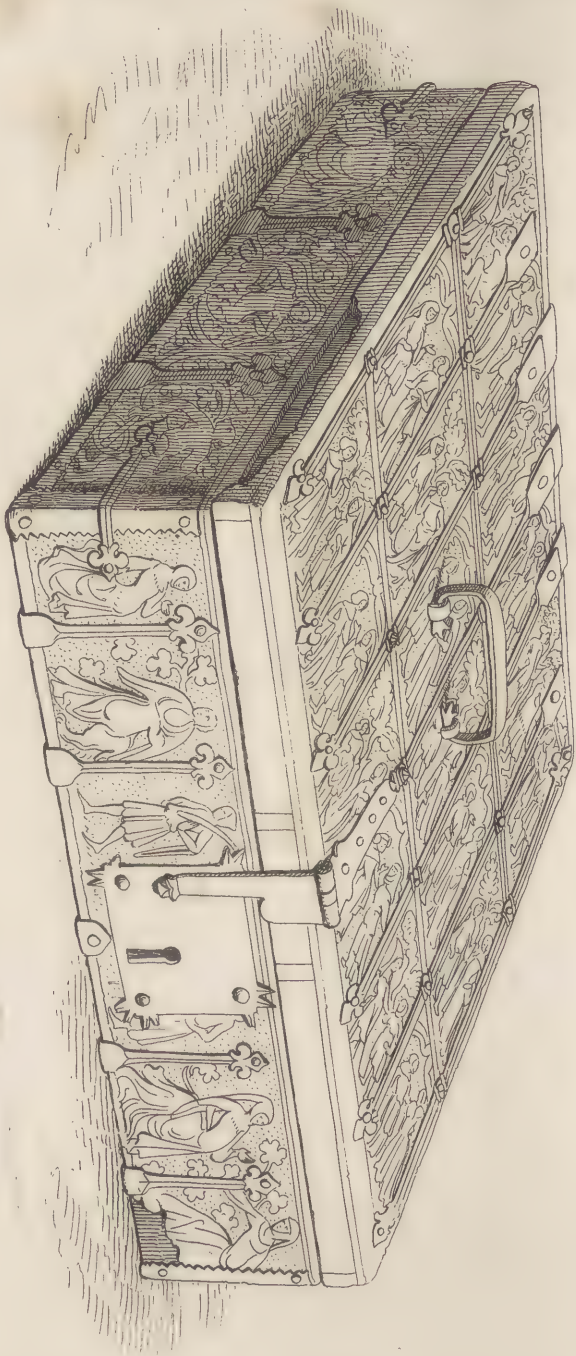
The rude head, if we may infer from the letters, HLODVICVS, would appear to have been intended either for one of the Merovingian princes, called Clovis, or for one of the later kings of France bearing the same name in its more modern form of Louis.

The singular example here appended was discovered in London. It is in silver, and apparently of late Saxon or early Norman manufacture.



Actual size.





J. W. Fairbanks del. &c.

CASKET IN CUIR-BOUILLI.

ON

A CASKET IN CUIR-BOUILLI,* IN THE
MUSEUM OF C. ROACH SMITH;

AND OTHER WORKS OF THAT CLASS.

BY F. W. FAIRHOLT.

PLATE XXIX.

CUIR-BOUILLI—a preparation of leather softened by heat, and in that state stamped or slightly incised with decorative enrichments—was extensively used in the fourteenth and fifteenth centuries in all the industrial arts, whether useful or ornamental. Thus we find it formed into sword and dagger sheaths, purses, girdles, shoes, as well as portions of the equipments of the soldier. All works of this class are, from obvious causes, so much more rare than other artistic productions, that the few examples we possess are deserving extra attention, particularly when they aid us in understanding better the domestic habits of our forefathers.

The small coffer used by ladies in the middle ages were frequently formed of cuir-bouilli, and the one engraved is an excellent sample of their taste and form;

* This casket was presented to Mr. Roach Smith, by Mr. George Isaacs.

from the costume visible on the figures, consisting of a long gown and close hood for the ladies, with bosses on each side the face;* while the male figures are habited in tunics reaching to the knee, close hoods, from which hang liripipes,† and long pendants from the sleeves: its date may be fixed to the middle of the fourteenth century.‡ These figures are partially embossed; but the outline, and the drawing generally, is effected by incised lines, slightly cut into the leather when soft. The figures are, therefore, indicated somewhat rudely, but not without considerable vigour. The spaces between the various figures are covered with dots, or rather minute circles, formed by a small punch. The subjects which occupy the cover (consisting of eighteen compartments) are exceedingly characteristic of the period at which they were executed, and delineate those garden scenes in which medieval knights and ladies appear to have especially delighted. Two ladies conversing, seated beneath a tree; or a knight and lady overshadowed by the branches of another tree; or standing under a niche; comprehend the subject of the series, varied only by such incidents as the presentation of a flower garland from one to the other. The sides are decorated with grotesque figures, partly human, partly animal; and which are precisely similar to those abundantly introduced in the borders of illuminated manuscripts of the period, as well as in the architectural enrichments of ecclesiastical edifices. Among them are sirens; monkeys playing the tabor; and nondescripts, consisting of winged

* The hair was thus gathered in a knot, or artificially bolstered and padded.

† Pendant strips of cloth.—See Ducange.

‡ The well known psalter executed for Sir Geoffrey Loutterell in 1345, has figures in similar costume.

lions, and dragons on two feet, their bodies swathed in draperies, after the mode of those so commonly represented during the reign of Edward III. These are encircled by scroll ornaments of vine tendrils and leaves, the ground being "pounced" or dotted entirely over. This leather covering is firmly affixed to a wooden basement, which is, however, concealed, both within and without, by leather consisting of three separate layers, those beneath being apparently much softer than the outer ornamental one, which is almost of the solidity of horn.

The metal work of this coffer is also worthy of attention, as it is a production of the same era. It consists of a series of bands ending in fleurs-de-lys, secured by small nails to the surface of the box. These nails are sometimes in the form of a stud, and are occasionally pointed and ornamentally grooved. The narrow clasps of iron are ridged and ornamented on the cover; but, at the lower part, they widen into flat bands of metal, which cross each other upon the under surface. The corners and lower edges of the coffer are also strengthened by narrow toothed fillets of metal. The handle terminates on each side, after it passes the hasps, in animals heads. The hasp of the lock has a quaint enrichment, which will be familiar to all who have studied the rows of similar decorations in church architecture. The lock is slightly ornamented, with projecting points on each angle, the fastening consisting of a simple bolt: the works for its necessary movement are of the most primitive form.

The engraving represents this coffer exactly half the size of the original.

In the collection formed by the late Mr. Ralph Bernal, was a coffer of the same period as that just described. It was purchased for the collection of decorative art, now exhibiting at Marlborough House, in connexion with the

Government Schools of Design. On the lid four figures appear, in as many compartments; in the centre is a gentleman and lady advancing towards each other; they are habited in dresses similar to those in our engraving, and have long pendants from their hoods and elbows—the peculiar fashion of the reign of Edward III. A man playing the pipe and tabor, and a lady, who appears to be moving to the music, complete the series. They are executed with great delicacy; and the embossed folds of the dresses allow a play of light and shadow, like a delicate sculpture in relief. The sides are ornamented with foliage and birds; the iron work is also antique, resembling in general design that in our engraving.

The collection of the School of Design has one very valuable specimen, which displays amongst its armorial devices that of Blanche of Castille, queen of St. Louis of France, enabling us to fix its date at A.D. 1300-30. It is ten and a-half inches high, and fourteen inches deep: the lid is shaped, *en dos d'ane*, like the sarcophagus of the period. The surface is decorated entirely with heraldry: the iron work original.

In this collection are also three other caskets, and a powder flask of the same material. One of these caskets, of the latter part of the fourteenth century, is enriched with scroll ornaments, very delicately executed by the knife, an exquisite variety of relief, and consequent play of light and shade being brought about by slightly raising or embossing the surface by some obsolete mechanical process, the artistic effect of which has great resemblance to that of *repoussé* work in metals.*

In the hospital of St. Nicholas, at Harbledown, near

* Catalogue of the Museum of Ornamental Art at Marlborough House. By J. C. Robinson, F.S.A., Curator.

Canterbury, is still preserved a curious case in cuir-bouilli, which was probably intended to protect a speculum. It is circular in form, opening in the middle, the two parts of the case being held together by a leathern thong, passing over it, and secured to a button at top, to prevent the entire disseverance of the upper and lower portion. It is covered with arabesques, enclosing figures of birds and chimerical monsters.* In Shaw's *Dresses and Decorations of the Middle Ages* is engraved a pen-case of this material, which formerly belonged to king Henry VI, and was left by that unfortunate monarch, as tradition affirms, at Waddington Hall, during his wanderings in Yorkshire, after the fatal battle of Towton. This case is decorated with relievo ornaments, among which is the crowned rose and lion of England. The cover is attached by a silk cord, allowing full freedom of motion in raising it, but not of disseverance; as is the case with the one at Harbledown, just described.

In my *Costume in England*, p. 505, is engraved an excellent specimens of a gipciere, or purse for the girdle, of the fourteenth century, which is richly ornamented all over with a foliated pattern; it has a border of small circles, each containing the figure of an eagle. At page 595 of the same work are engravings of sword, dagger, and knife sheaths, also from the collection of Mr. Roach Smith.

But it was not to the manufacture of minor articles that cuir-bouilli was restricted. It was frequently used for defensive armour in all parts of Europe. In Walter Mapes' romance of *Lancelot*, written in the latter half of the twelfth century, a party of robbers are described as being "armed like clowns, with leathern jackets,

* It is engraved by me in the Archæological Album, p. 39.

and caps of cuir-bouilli. They appear to have generally occupied the place of the helmet among the lower classes of soldiery. Chaucer, in that excellent burlesque of the doggerel rhymes of knight-errantry current in the middle ages—*The Rime of Sir Thopas*—tells us that the knight's—

“Jambeux were of cuir-bouilli;”

and the museum of Mr. Roach Smith furnishes me with the subjoined curious cut of a jambe, or leg-piece, of this very material. It embraces the front of the leg, and is secured behind by leathern thongs, which pass through holes in the leather. Another has metal eyelet holes for the fastenings.



Mr. Thomas Wright, in the *Archæological Album*, p. 39, remarks, “Perhaps the invention was brought from the East, for Froissart, who makes frequent mention of articles made of cuir-bouilli, describes the Saracens as covering their shields with *cuir-bouilli of Cappadocia*, which, ‘if the leather were not too much heated, was proof against iron (iv. 19).’” The extreme hardness of the artificial surface thus produced upon it has been already noted. The remarkable durability of ornamental work impressed upon leather is shown by the various specimens preserved in the same museum, and which were exhumed from positions where they had been much exposed to damp. Among the most remarkable is the front of a shoe, of the age of Edward III, of most elabo-

rate design, covered with embossed figures and inscriptions. But the lappet or wing of a saddle, here engraved,



is evidently of the same period as the coffer in our plate, and is decorated with similar foliage and chimerical monsters.

In the York Museum is a circular box of the same material and period. It is three inches in depth and twenty-one in circumference. There are hasps of leather to hold strings by which it may be secured, as in the case at Harbledown already described. The decorations of the sides consist of foliage and ornamental compartments; the cover and base are divided into four sections, each containing an animal; the ground is dotted, and has been filled with red colour. This custom of colouring leather is mentioned in the curious poem of the thirteenth cen-

tury, entitled *Du Mercier*, preserved among the manuscripts in the Royal Library at Paris. In the course of the enumeration of his wares the mercer says, "I have store of stamped leather, red and green, white and black, that I sell readily at fairs."

"J'ai mainte ferrée corroie
Rouges et vez, blanches et noires,
Que ge vent moult bien à ces foires."

That leather work of this kind was, however, occasionally employed on a large scale, is evident from history; for it is recorded that the effigy of Henry V, which was as usual exposed on a bier at his funeral obsequies, was formed of cuir-bouilli. In the collection at the Louvre are various examples of cuir-bouilli; and in the British Museum is a case for knives, very richly ornamented with figures and inscriptions produced by incision. Two cases for knives, also richly decorated, occur among the gatherings of art-workmanship in Marlborough House; one made to hold a spoon along with the knife, and intended for insertion in the girdle, is decorated with the arms and cap of a cardinal; the enrichments are particularly bold and graceful in their character.

From the Bernal collection there has been added to this museum two later examples of coffers, in ornamental leather, stamped, painted, and gilt, exhibiting the latter mode of thus enriching caskets with leather and vellum. Thus one is covered all over with a crowned H, and appears to be of the reign of Henry IV of France; the other is covered with vellum, upon which arabesque ornament is traced with a sharp tool, and relieved or "picked out" with colour.

As the value of *dated* monuments of all kinds is considerable, I will conclude with the description of a coffer in the possession of Mr. Charles Warne, which I have here

engraved. It measures eight inches in width at front, the cover projecting a quarter of an inch over on each



side: the sides of the box are five inches across, and its total height is five and a half inches. It bears date 1532; and, like the earlier example in our plate, has been formed over a wooden sub-structure covered, in this instance, by one layer only of vellum; but it is of a perfectly hard and horny consistence. The entire decoration is produced by incised lines, but so beautifully executed that the shadowings are effected by a series of fine lines as delicate as those on a copper plate engraving; and those shadows have sometimes been deepened by cross-hatching in a similar manner. The surface of the box appears to have been originally decorated with much gilding, and the arabesques have been relieved by a ground of bright blue. Other portions are enriched with an equally vivid green, and the bands which separate the compartments with vermilion. All these colours appear to have been mixed with varnish, and are remarkably transparent, so that the hatched lines, expressive of drawing or shadowing, can be seen through them. The front of the box has, upon one side of the lock, a representation of St. Francis miraculously receiving the stigmata, in ac-

cordance with the old legend of the saint, which asserts that a glorified figure of the Saviour upon the cross appeared to him and impressed the five wounds, made by his mortal punishment, on the corresponding parts of the saint's person. On the other side is a figure of St. Michael conquering the Devil, the saint being habited in the fanciful armour of the sixteenth century, brandishing a sword in his right hand, and holding a small buckler with his left. The cover is divided longitudinally into three compartments. In front are two circular medallions, surrounded by four smaller ones containing busts. In one of the large medallions is the bust of a gentleman, richly habited in the costume made so familiar to us by the works of Holbein; above his head is a scroll, in which is the date 1532. In the other medallion a lady's head is represented in profile; she wears a close hood with a pendant hanging behind, and the details of her rich dress are given with minute truthfulness. On the summit of the box are flowers and foliage. The third compartment, at the back of the cover, is decorated with monograms or cyphers, which appear to be *C* and *IP*, surrounded by an ornamental knot. The sides of the box are decorated with scrolls and busts: at the back are two coats of arms, evidently those of the noble personages, on the lid. One consists of a double-headed eagle having a small shield on the breast, and is the arms of the Emperor of Germany (at that time Charles V); the other coat is displayed on a lozenge-shaped shield, indicating it to be the lady's, and exhibits the same arms impaled with those of Portugal. Now, as the Emperor Charles V married Isabella, daughter of Emanuel, King of Portugal, it is not too much to conjecture that this little casket was a royal gift of affection; and that the busts are representations of those Sovereigns, whose arms and initials are also upon it: the de-

sign and workmanship are quite worthy of regal acceptance.* The metal-work on this casket is also ancient, and remarkable for the peculiarity and beauty of its details: its history is entirely unrecorded, and it is not known how it came into this country. It was purchased by Mr. Warne, at Salisbury, some years ago.

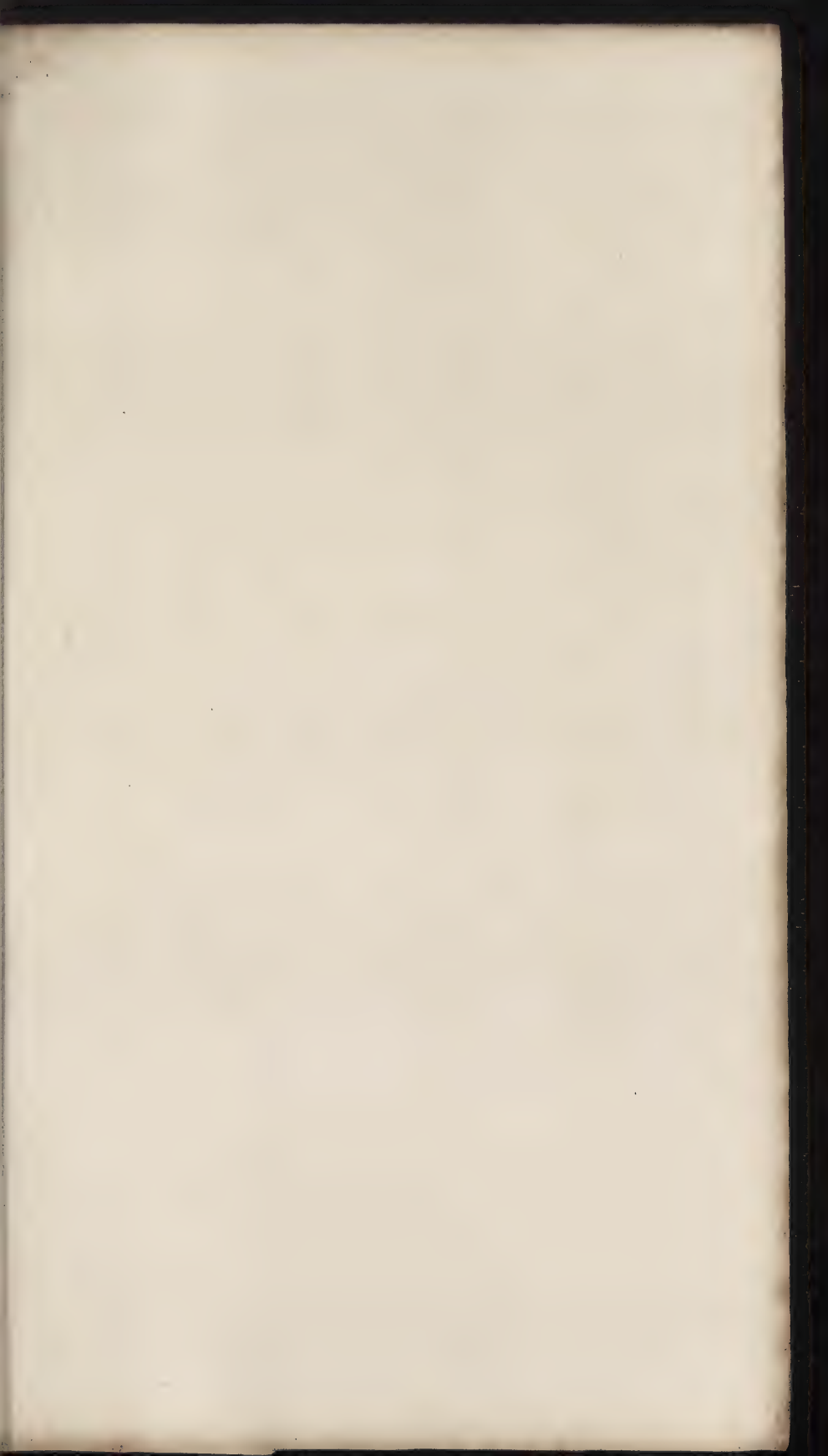
Lord Londesborough possesses one of the latest and finest examples of the art, in genuine cuir-bouilli: it is a shield elaborately decorated with figures, emblems, and arabesques, enclosing a central subject—the rescue of Andromeda. It is a work of the sixteenth century, and was formerly in the collection at Strawberry Hill: it is evidently of Italian workmanship, and has been engraved in the third plate of the work entitled *Miscellanea Graphica*, devoted to the illustration of his lordship's collection.

The manufacture of this kind of ornamental leather work appears to have ceased for general uses† about the middle of the seventeenth century, though it was so ex-

* These coffers formed part of the wedding *trousseau*, and were indispensable to a bride in the middle ages. They appear to have been used by ladies for holding their jewels and articles for the toilet. In France, particularly, the coffer and the *bahut* (a trunk, or chest), were the articles of furniture always brought by the bride to the house of her husband, and they were decorated according to the circumstances of the parties.

† It was, however, sparingly used for such articles of personal convenience as were originally made from it. Thus, the first of the curious series of emblems, published by Johan de Brune under the title of *Emblemata op Zinne-wercke*, at Amsterdam, in 1636, represents a barber, with a razor case hanging on his right side, exactly made like the penner of Henry VI, referred to in p. 117.

tensively used at the end of the preceding one ; at which period it was adopted in the place of the older "hangings", or tapestries ; and was stamped, coloured, and gilt with a variety of patterns, after the fashion of the modern wall-papers. This manufacture was anciently known as *or basané*, and afterwards as *cuir-doré*, or *argenté*, according as it was gilt or silvered. It is believed to have originated in the East, and was afterwards chiefly manufactured for the European market at Venice : it was subsequently extensively made in Flanders and France ; and Henry IV founded two factories for its production in Paris, in the faubourgs of St. Honoré and St. Jacques. The chamber in the Louvre, used by Henry II and afterwards by Henry IV, was decorated with hangings of *cuir-doré* with green ground. They were valued for the greater durability of fabric and colour over tapestries ; and were composed of pieces of leather neatly joined, which, when softened and passed through the press, "welded" together so as not to be distinguishable to the eye. The embossed ornaments were impressed on the surface from incuse wooden blocks, and the gilding, painting, or chasing done afterwards by hand. Sometimes small portions of dyed leather were cut into ornamental patterns, and affixed by heated irons to the larger sheets. The last recorded manufacturer of this article was M. Hordequin, who resided in Paris about 1760.





Drawn and Engraved by F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A
 COINS, OF CARAUSIUS AND ALLECTUS.
 In the Cabinet of Lord Albert D. Conyngham.

COINS OF CARAUSIUS AND ALLECTUS.

PLATE XXX.

THIS plate was kindly presented, some years since, by Lord Albert Denison Conyngham (now Lord Londesborough), as a contribution, from his own cabinet, to a series of plates of the coins of Carausius and Allectus, which I had proposed to publish. Circumstances* having caused me to suspend this work, I have now so far modified my original intention, as to resolve to print the plates for the subscribers to the *Collectanea Antiqua*, at intervals.

1. *Obv.*, VIRTVS.CARAVSI. Helmed and radiated head, and bust in armour, to the left. On the left arm is a shield; and in the right hand a javelin resting upon the shoulder.

Rev., PAX.AVG. Peace standing to the left; in the right hand, extended, a flower; the left holding the *hasta pura* perpendicularly.

This coin is very rare in relation to the obverse; and its value is enhanced by its fine preservation.

2. *Obv.*, IMP.CARAVSIVS.P.F.AVG. Radiated head to the right.

Rev., VIRTVS.AVG. A military figure standing to the

* One of the causes of this suspension was the engraving and publication by the Government (without even my sanction or knowledge) of a number of unique and unengraved coins in my own cabinet, which I had announced my intention to publish.—See Preface to vol. ii, p. xi.

right; his right hand grasps a spear resting upon the ground; his left rests upon a shield by his side.

3. *Obv.*, as fig. 2.

Rev., MARS.VICTOR; in the field, B.E; in the exergue, MLXXI. Mars advancing, to the right, with spear and shield.

4. *Obv.*, inscription as fig. 2. Head, with a wreath, to the right.

Rev., VOTVM.PVBLICVM. An altar with the fire kindled, inscribed MVLTIS XX IMP; in the exergue, RSR.

The legend of this coin, and the type, present some peculiarities. The inscription upon the altar may be read *Multis Vicennialibus imperet*. Other coins have a slight variation of the legend; and, in one instance, it occurs with a wreath instead of an altar.

5. *Obv.*, as fig. 2, etc. *Rev.*, IN. A ram. In the exergue, M.L.

A coin in the cabinet of Mr. Charles Hall, with a ram, reads LEG IMI . . I am, therefore, induced, by comparison with that in the cabinet of Lord Londesborough, to read the legend, in full, as LEG.I.MIN; *Legio Prima Minervia*. Inscriptions show that the first legion, surnamed Minervia, was stationed on the Rhine over a considerable period of time. It is not improbable that some portion, at least, of this legion may have sided with Carausius. The few known examples of this type are in very bad preservation, with the exception of that referred to above.

6. *Obv.*, as before. *Rev.* LEG.VIII.GEMINA; a bull. A similar coin, engraved in Stukeley's *Medallic History of Carausius*, pl. v, fig. 7, was in the Duke of Devonshire's collection. As I know of no other example, it may probably be the identical coin here produced. The coins of Carausius with LEG.VIII.AVG, bearing the same symbol, a bull, are not so rare.

7. *Obv.*, as before. *Rev.*, LEG. IIII. FLAVIA. A lion walking. A variety of this type has two lions meeting; and, above, a radiated head; and upon another, in silver, a lion has a thunderbolt in his mouth.

8. *Obv.*, IMP. C. CARAVSIVS. AVG; radiated head to the right.

Rev., SECVRITAS. PERP. A semi-nude female figure leaning upon a column.

9. *Obv.*, as fig. 8. *Rev.*, SALVS AVG. A female figure, with cornucopia, feeding from a patera a snake twisted round a column-shaped altar.

10. *Obv.*, IMP. CARAVSIVS. AVG. *Rev.*, FORTVNA RAE . . . *Fortuna Raedux*. Fortune, standing, holding a wheel and cornucopia.

Figs. 8, 9, and 10 are from a hoard of coins of Carausius, found, a few years since, near Rouen. This discovery not only supplied several types new to the numismatist, but it afforded, at the same time, a remarkable peculiarity in all the brass coins, of which the hoard chiefly consisted. The portrait is unlike that on the coins of Carausius found in this country; and it more resembles that of the emperor Carinus. From this fact it may be inferred that these coins were struck in Gaul soon after Carausius had assumed the imperial insignia, and before the artists employed in engraving the dies had procured his likeness. There were discovered at the same time, and with the brass coins, a few in silver, of much better work; and on which the portrait is precisely similar to that generally found on the gold and silver coins of this emperor.

11. *Obv.*, IMP. C. CARAVSIVS. AVG; radiated head to the right. *Rev.*, IOVI. CONSERVATORI; in the field, L. S; in the exergue, c. Jupiter, standing, holding a thunderbolt in his right hand, and a long sceptre in his left.

12. *Obv.*, IMP. C. ALLECTVS. P. F. AVG: radiated head to

the right; bust in armour. *Rev.*, VIRTVS.AVG; in the exergue, QC. A galley with four rowers. Upon the prow stands a figure of Victory holding a wreath and palm branch. This is a very rare variety of the common galley type; and of great interest. The coins of Allectus with the galley are very common; but not, on that account, of less historical importance; for they illustrate the reliance placed in the fleet which first enabled Carausius to detach Britain from the Roman Empire, and to preserve it for some years as an independent empire. It is not improbable, that this coin with the addition of a figure of Victory added to the galley, may indicate a special success gained over the Saxons, or some other German people. One, unpublished, in the possession of Mr. Humphrey Wickham, has a figure of Victory standing in the centre of a galley. In connexion with these may be placed an equally rare coin found in Gloucestershire: *Obv.*, IMP.C.ALLECTVS.P.AVG: radiated head to the right. *Rev.*, .ICTORI.GER. . . *Victoria Germanica*: in the field, S.P; in the exergue, C.



All these coins are in brass.

NOTES OF A WEEK'S TOUR IN THE
AUTUMN OF 1854.

PLATES XXXI TO XXXVI.

IN the following pages are comprised the more striking results of a week's excursion, made in the autumn of 1854, during a visit to Lord Londesborough at Grimston. The time allotted to this tour, though brief, enabled me to walk from Bishop's Auckland through the county of Durham, on the line of the great military Roman road called the Watling Street, to Corbridge on the Tyne; thence to Chesters and Housesteads; thence (occasionally aided by the railway) to some districts on the Roman Wall, such as the station Petriana, and Irthington, not previously visited; and to return by Carlisle, taking a hasty view of Plumpton, Keswick, and Lancaster.

On previous occasions, I had inspected most of the Roman stations on the line of the Wall from Newcastle to Carlisle; and, as the weather was now fine, I thought the opportunity favourable for obtaining a sight of some of the *castra* on the south of the barrier, which are somewhat difficult of access, seldom visited, and little known, except to a few of our more zealous colleagues in the north. The examination of many of the Roman stations in the north and west of Britain cannot yet be said to be

complete or wholly satisfactory. Interesting and important as they are, above all other ancient monuments in our island, it is only to the labours of a very few, undertaken, probably, with many disadvantages, that we owe what knowledge we possess of them; and many of the inscriptions which they have yielded, though often of great historical value, have been lost or separated from localities, upon the history of which and their inhabitants they were calculated to shed a light.

One great reason why this class of ancient monuments has been, comparatively, overlooked and neglected is, the physical strength as well as zeal demanded of the explorers. Roman roads are not to be travelled in gigs and carriages; and *castra* and ruined towns are seldom to be attained by railways. Roman Britain and Roman Gaul are, in this as in other respects, much in the same condition. Very recently has M. De Caumont, in speaking of the newly-discovered (?) *castrum* at Larçay (see p. 8 *ante*), lamented the want of more strenuous energy and nervous zeal in this department of the national archæology. "Disons-le," observes the editor of the *Bulletin Monumental*,* "en terminant, la Gaule romaine est loin d'être complètement explorée; il y a encore énormément à faire, et malheureusement nous n'avancions guère: la génération actuelle a trop peu de courage pour explorer nos voies romaines, nos débris de constructions antiques, qu'il faut aller chercher au milieu des ronces, sous des buissons. Cette besogne est au-dessus des forces de nos jeunes antiquaires à gants jaunes, plus habiles à fumer des centaines de cigarres, qu'à faire à pied quelques kilomètres à la recherche d'une voie ou d'un monument antique."

* 22e vol. de la Collection, p. 320.

BINCHESTER.—Binchester is the Vinovia of the first iter of Antoninus, and the Vinnobion or Vinnovion of Ptolemy. The situation accords sufficiently with both of these authorities, and the modern name retains the first syllable of the ancient designation. But the coincidence is completed by an inscription dug up some years ago, in which the name of the place also appears. This remarkable confirmation is one of the most satisfactory evidences of the great importance of examining inscriptions upon the spots where they are discovered and recording them immediately. Had the one in question been allowed to share the fate that has befallen many others, its connection with Binchester, which constitutes its chief value, would soon have been lost; and very probably it would, in some other locality, have served only to misguide the inquiring antiquary.

This inscription, as published by Lysons,* is fragmentary only, being upon a broken altar, set up by a soldier, apparently named Amandus, of a cohort of the Frisii stationed at Vinovia:

.....
 EX · C · FRIS ·
 VINOVIÆ
 V · S · L · M.

Brief as is this fragment, its interest is not exhausted in recording the name of a Roman station. It discloses, also, the fact that a cohort of the Frisii was quartered in it. The Frisii were in Britain with the Lingones and Nervii (from Germany and Spain), in the time of Trajan and Hadrian; and other memorials of them have been found in this country which, like the Binchester monument, cannot be referred to any precise period of time.

* Reliquiæ Britannico-Romanæ, vol. i.

But they appear to have been in Britain when the *Notitia* was compiled, although it has not been considered by antiquaries that the *Frixagi*, mentioned in that work as stationed at Vindobali on the Wall, could hardly have been other than the Frisii.

The Binchester inscribed stones have shared the usual fate of our national monuments: many of them have been taken away and lost, even within the present century and the latter part of the last. One of my correspondents tells me that a considerable number were left for years in a courtyard and farmhouse, and were ultimately used for building materials! A fragment of one has been preserved by Camden; but, as in Horsley's days it had become illegible, it is very doubtful if the reading, as it has come down to us, be wholly correct. It is as follows:

.....

 TRIB · COHOR · I
 CARTOV · · · · ·
 MARTI VICTORI
 GENIO LOCI
 ET BONO
 EVENTVI.

It is sufficiently clear that it was an altar erected to Mars Victor, to the Genius Loci, and to Bonus Eventus, by a tribune of a cohort; but what cohort this was, the letters, as given by Camden, do not explain. Horsley suggests, with good reason, that for *CARTOViorum* we should read *CORNOViorum*, because a cohort of the Cornovii is mentioned in the *Notitia* as stationed at Pons Æli (Newcastle-upon-Tyne). In the Cornovii of the *Notitia* we recognize the Cornavii of North Britain mentioned by Ptolemy. There is another lost inscription given by Camden, in which the *Carvetii* appear to be indicated. It is almost fruitless to discuss readings which depend upon

a letter or two, when the originals cannot be traced, as the chances are that a letter may have been misread, or a ligature or some minute peculiarity may have been unnoticed.

Two altars, at least, erected to the Deæ Matres, are recorded as having been found within the precincts of the Roman station at Binchester. One of these was first published by Camden; then by Gale; and lastly by Horsley, who reads it thus: *Deabus Matribus Quintus Lucius Quinti filius Claudia [tribu] Quintianus beneficiarius consulis votum solvit libens merito*. In my copy of the "Britannia Romana," Roger Gale has appended in a manuscript an interpretation which appears preferable to Horsley's:—*Deabus Matribus quæ locum occupant Tib. Claudius Quintianus, beneficiarius consulis*, etc. Horsley, when he visited Binchester, found another altar to these goddesses "lying loose in the kitchen:"—*MATRIBUS SACRUM* GAMELLVS V · S · L · M. There is also another Binchester inscription published by Lysons. It is monumental; erected to the memory of Nemontanus, a *decurio*.

From the foregoing references, it would appear that at least two different bodies of soldiers had been stationed at Vinovia; but at what time or under what circumstances there is no evidence. Besides these, some other cohort or division of auxiliaries has left one of those durable memorials of its residence, which the Roman soldiers were often so careful to leave behind them. It is a peculiar stamp with which some of the building tiles are impressed, as shewn below in a cut from Dr. Bruce's "Roman Wall."



There is some difficulty in reading it satisfactorily, but it is probable, that by obtaining impressions from several tiles, it may be better understood. As here represented, it would seem to have been intended to be read, LING · COH · VI ;—*Lingonum Cohors Sexta*.

The walls of the station, on the north-east, are yet to be traced, notwithstanding they have evidently been resorted to as quarries for building stone by generations of landed proprietors ; but with one half, at least, the lords of the soil have more successfully done what they liked with their own, and not one stone is left standing upon another. The buildings within the station have also long since been pulled down ; and over their ruins the earth has accumulated to the depth of five or six feet. What may still be there buried it is impossible to say, except so far as regards the remains of a substantial building, shown in two views in plate xxxi : in the lower view are indicated some of the outer columns of tiles which support the flooring of what was a spacious apartment, warmed by a hypocaust.*

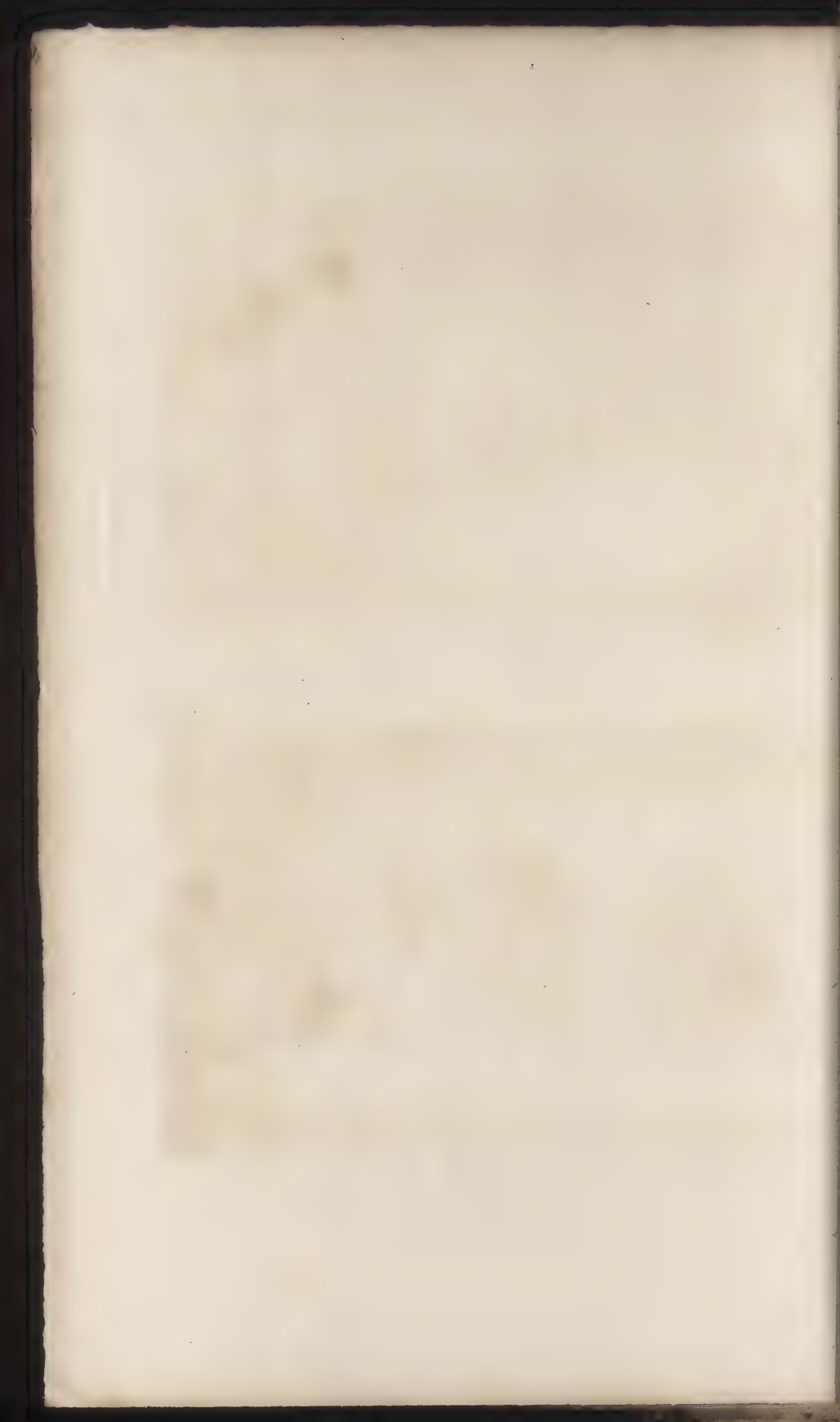
The situation of the station, like that of all the military posts of the Romans, was well chosen for defence and command of the surrounding country. It stands upon a promontory formed by the sinuous course of the river Wear, which in this district is remarkable for its wind-

* I was indebted to a member of the family of Mr. Robson, the tenant of the property, for a sight of these ruins ; and for a direction across the country to Brancepeth, where there once was an inn ; but let the traveller, who may now expect such an accommodation at this village, understand that the inn is converted into a Temperance hostelry, where, whatever he may get, it will certainly not be a bed. In such a county as Durham it may be useful to him to know this.



H. W. Peck

BINCHESTER.



ings. My object did not include an examination of the great military road, commonly called the Watling Street, upon which Binchester stands; indeed, from the nature of country, and the necessity of moving onwards somewhere in the direction of Lanchester on account of the approach of evening, it would have been impossible to have seen much of it; and I had on the following days excellent opportunities of seeing it further north. But, as I stood upon the high ground at Binchester, and looked upon the winding Wear and distant hills and woods, I could but regret the want of time to do more than take a direct walk through an unknown country which evidently would well repay careful exploration. About ten miles to the north-west, and equi-distant from Lanchester, is Stanhope, where were found the remarkable monuments erected by a prefect of an *ala* or wing of Gauls, called *Sebosiana*, to commemorate the capture of a wild boar of extraordinary size, which many before him had tried in vain to take. The inscription is as follows:—*Silvano Invicto sacrum C. Tetius Veturius Micianus præf. alae Sebosianæ ob aprum eximie formæ captum quem multi antecessores ejus prædari non potuerunt v. s. l. p.*

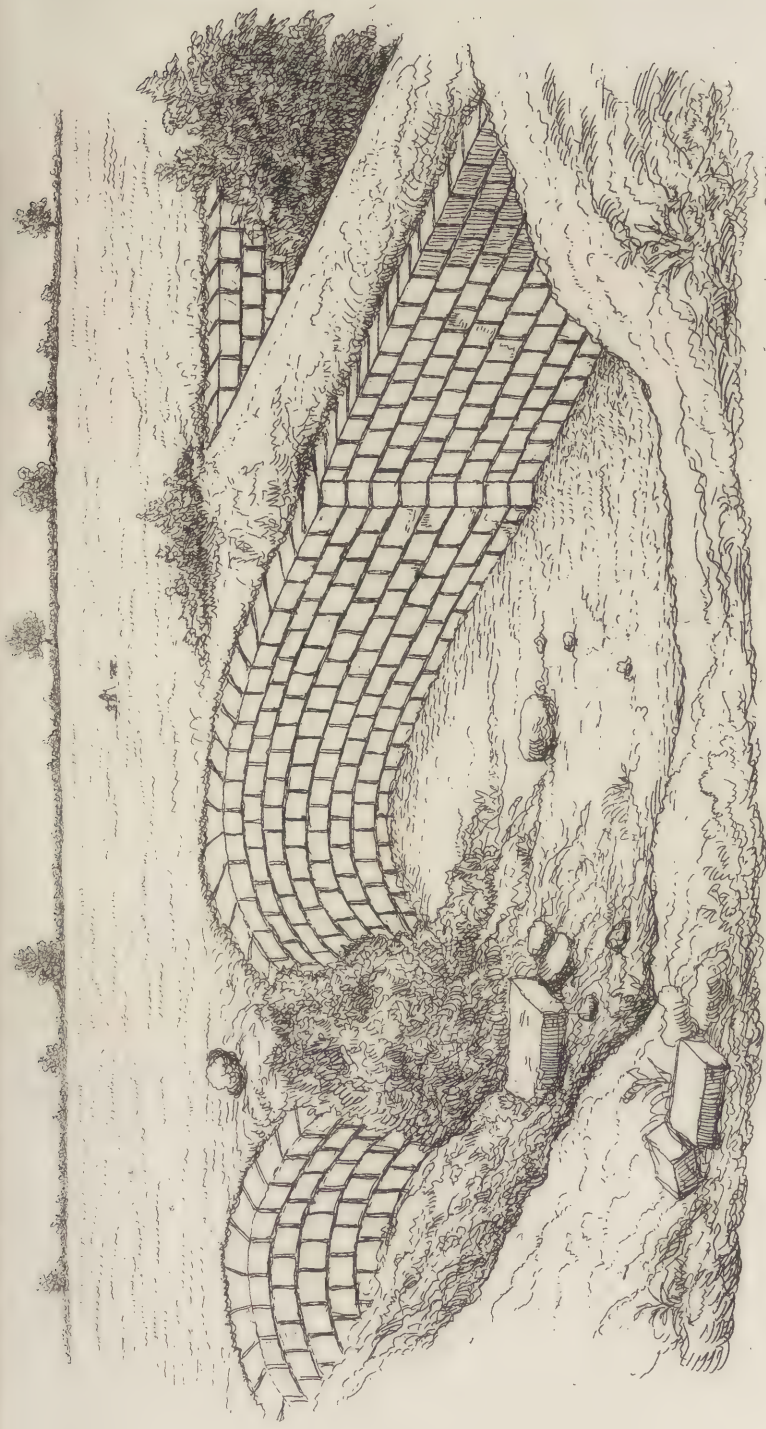
The *ala Sebosiana* is not recorded in any other lapidary inscription; but, from a military diploma discovered in Cheshire, we learn that it was in Britain in the time of Trajan, and was composed of Gauls. Where it was quartered when the event occurred which caused its prefect to dedicate the altar to Silvanus, there is no evidence to show; neither can we infer the date; but most probably this body of soldiers was in garrison, either at Binchester or at Lanchester. The insight the inscription gives us of the mode in which the Roman soldiers partly occupied their leisure hours in the dreary wilds of North Britain is particularly interesting; and, in this point of view, may

be compared with one found at Birdoswald, which records a similar act of devotion to Silvanus by the hunters of Banna, a neighbouring station. This god, it may be observed, was worshipped, not only as the chief deity presiding over rural affairs, but also as holding special providence over camps:—

.....
 MAGNE DEUM SILVANE POTENS
 SANCTISSIME PASTOR ' QUI NEMUS
 DEUM ROMANAQUE CASTRA
 GUBERNAS

is part of an invocation recorded by Spon (*Misc.* p. 84); and dedications to Silvanus very frequently occur upon the altars discovered in and near Roman military stations.

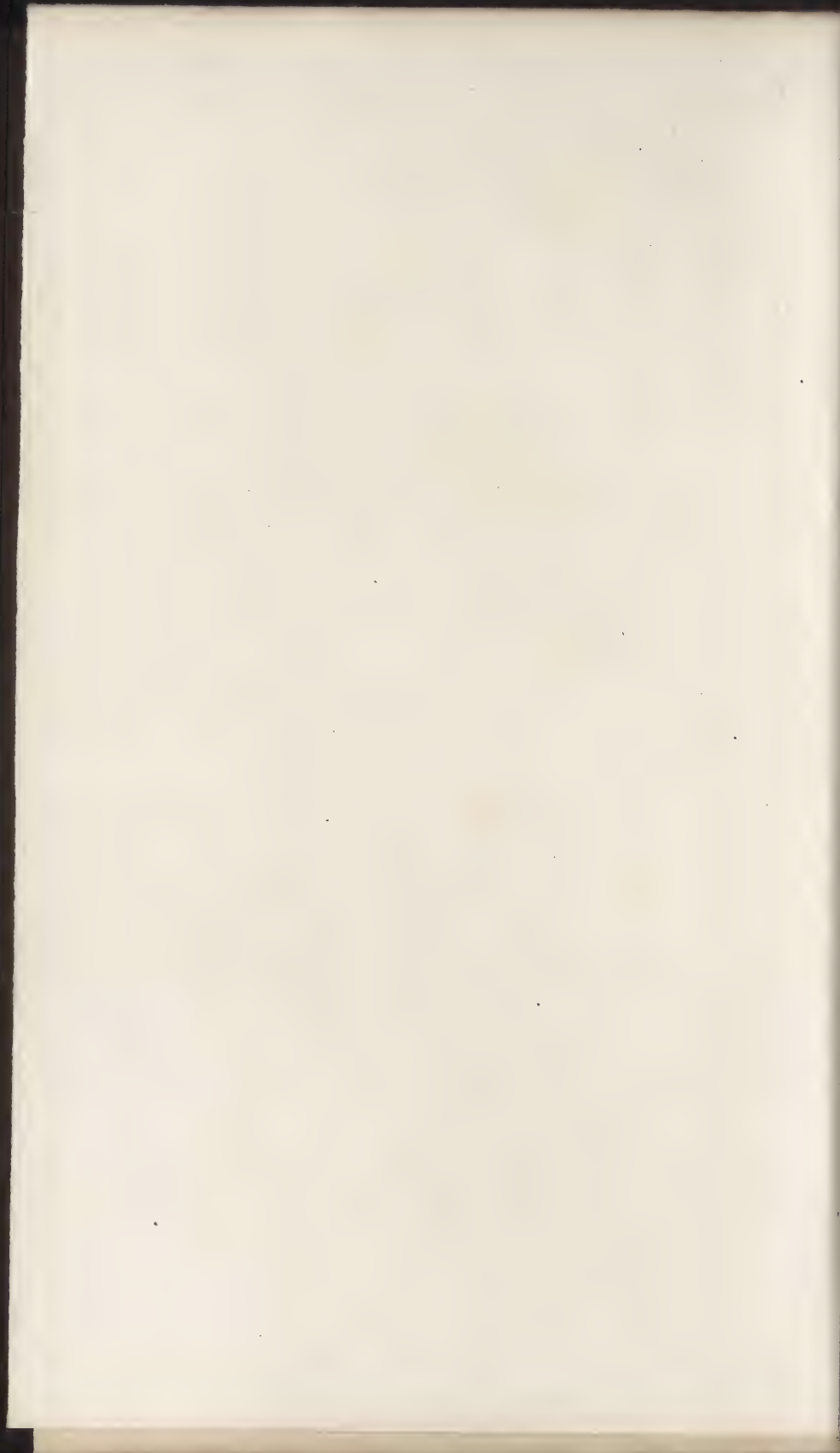
LANCHESTER.—Lanchester, situate about ten miles to the north of Binchester, and about midway between that station and Ebchester, presents features of unusual interest. It is one of the most extensive and strongest castra, containing within the walls an area apparently upwards of seven acres. The walls have been deprived of their facing stones, and in some parts are almost entirely leveled; yet they still exhibit an imposing appearance. That on the south side is eight feet above the present level of the ground. Extensive foundations are indicated in several parts of the area; and the substantial character of the buildings is shown by what has been laid open by a partial excavation made, apparently, some few years since. (See plate.) Two valuable inscriptions, discovered many years since ("Britannia Romana," Durham, Nos. xi and xii), give the names of two proprætors of the time of Gordianus III; one of them refers to the building of a *balneum* and a *basilica*; the other, to the restoration of the *principia* and *armamentaria* of the station, which had become decayed through age.



R.M.
1856

LANCHESTER.

C.R. S. del.



From the fact that in the reign of Gordianus these buildings had needed reparation on account of old age, it may be inferred that the castrum itself must have been constructed a long time anterior ; and yet it is omitted in the second iter of Antoninus, which very clearly includes the stations to the north and south of it. It is difficult to explain this omission, knowing the importance of the place, and that it must have been in existence when this itinerary was compiled. As Dr. Bruce informs us, the coins discovered in the castrum come down to the time of Valentinian, its name, doubtless, occurs among the places mentioned in the *Notitia* upon the line of the Wall, *per lineam Valli*. If so, it must be among those, the allocation of which, notwithstanding the opinions of some of our best antiquaries, is still a matter of doubt. The inscriptions found at Lanchester, though numerous, convey no information which can be used in determining its ancient name. Horsley considered it the Glannibanta of the tenth iter of Antoninus ; and as the iters usually set out from places of superior consequence, and, also, as there would be difficulty in finding such a place with an unsettled name, much further north, Horsley's opinion is so far feasible. Serious objections, however, have been made to his disposal of some of the intermediate stations between Glannibanta, the first, and Mediolanum, the last of the tenth iter ; but it must be owned that difficulties equally strong, or more so, arise in accepting the opinions and suggestions of other writers on the ancient name of this once important place. In the lists of the chorographer of Ravenna, immediately before Vinovia (Bingchester) comes Lineojugla, which would indicate Lanchester, if such a name appeared in the *Notitia*. But as many of the names in these lists come down to us in an obviously corrupted state, there may be a question whe-

ther *Lineojugla* can be identical with the *Longovicum* of the *Notitia*, which Camden, and after him the late Rev. John Hodgson, fixed at Lanchester.

Mr. Hodgson, who at one time I believe lived at Lanchester, has given some interesting particulars relating to the Roman station, which, as they are printed in a work not generally accessible (the *Archæologia Æliana*), I transfer to these pages :—

“The ancient importance of this station, is further shown by the great labour which has been employed in making the aqueducts that lead to it. The plan of these works, which I have been enabled to lay before the Society (the Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne), was copied from a survey made several years since by Mr. Fenwick, of Dipton, and Mr. White, of Woodlands. Both its lines are in many places, and especially in Mr. White's woods, as visible as in the day they were made. The bottom of it, on account of its course lying over sandy ground, has been puddled; and the upper part of the northern branch has, of late years, been employed in conveying water to the fishponds at Woodlands. The earth embankment at the head of the channel of this branch, where two small rivulets fall into one, partly remains: it has been rudely faced with stone, and raised to the height of thirty feet, in order to obtain level for throwing the water into the chanel of the aqueduct. The place where the southern branch has received its water from the brook, called Rippon-burn, is obliterated; but the embankments made near the house at Cold-Pike-Hill, for receiving the waters of several springs, and preserving level to the station, are very distinct. The reservoir was in a field at the southwest corner of the station; and a conduit that appeared near the bath is supposed to have led to it. Several wells have, from time to time, been discovered here by labourers on the outside of the walls; and there is a plentiful spring at a short distance from the place where the bath stood.

“Between the lines of the aqueduct, there are two remark-

able heaps of iron scoria. One of them on the west side of Mr. White's plantations, near the Rippon-burn; and the other at a place called Cold Knuckles, about a quarter of a mile south from the head of the northern branch of the aqueduct. That at Cold Knuckles contains many thousand tons of slag; but there was a still larger heap about a mile further to the west, the greater part of which was some years ago employed in making a part of the turnpike road which leads from Bishop's Auckland to Corbridge. Similar heaps have been found at a place called Goldhill, on Houseley-burn, a little above Healeyfield; at Nuckton-burn, about three miles above Blanchland; at Burshblades, near Tantovy; and at Norwood, near Ravensworth Castle. In several parts of the parish of Lanchester I have frequently observed that the surface of the earth is exceedingly irregular, with small pits, which the country people call *delfs*, no doubt from *delving* or digging; and that these places are invariably attended with a stratum of ironstone not far from the surface. Similar appearances may be seen in one of the plantations belonging to the Earl of Bute, on a farm called the Delfs, on the south side of Pontop Pike, and on Tanfield Moor. But in what age either they or the heaps of scoria were formed, I know of no evidence on which a favourable conjecture can be formed, unless the following account can be admitted as testimony.

“When the ruins of a great part of the station at Lanchester, and especially of its suburbs, were raised, about forty years ago (*circa* 1790), the great number of hearths, cinders, and slaking troughs that were found, and that resembled those of our smitheries, induced the neighbouring people to conclude that the Romans were ‘a tribe of smiths.’ If, indeed, there were not reasons to believe that the *armamentaria* were common to every station, and consequently at no greater importance at one place than another, there is sufficient evidence that places under that name were not only used as depôts for arms in the Roman age, but as workshops for military purposes. ‘Nunc operibus aspiciendis tempus dabat, quæque in officinis, quæque in arma-

mentario ac navalibus fabrorum multitudo plurima in singulis dies certamine ingenti faciebat.*

“If, however, it could be shewn that the armamentaria mentioned in the inscription found here, were connected with the numerous hearths I have just mentioned, and that these had been used by smiths, we should not only obtain a clue to the history of the heaps of scoria, but obtain good ground of evidence that Lanchester, while the Romans were in Britain, was both famous for its iron works, and distinguished for an extensive manufactory of arms.

“Some of the slag at Goldhill is blueish, and partly of a glassy nature. The flat pieces at Cold Knuckles are very black, dense, and heavy; and consist of sulphur, combined with small proportions of iron, carbon, and silex: the amorphous pieces are very light, porous, and black. The earth under the heaps has been much burnt: and pieces of charcoal still remain in them.”—Vol. i, p. 119.

The aqueduct at Lanchester may be compared with one explored by Dr. Bruce at Great Chesters on the Wall, the ancient *Æsica*. The latter is six miles in its entire length, though the distance is little more than two miles and a quarter in a strait line. This is explained, Dr. Bruce observes, by the difficulties of the ground, and the tortuous track by which it was necessary to bring the water, obstacles which the skill of the Roman engineer effectually surmounted:—“The watercourse at *Æsica* is a striking memorial of the skill, forethought, and industry of the Roman garrisons. At the present day, in a highly civilized country, and after the enjoyment of a long period of internal peace, we are but beginning to see the necessity of bringing water from a distance into our large

* Livy, lib. 26, c. 51. See also Seneca de Tranquil. Animi. Val. Max. viii, c. 13; Cicero, de Orat. l. xiv; Plin. vii, c. 37. In the last three places *armamentarium* means a dockyard.

towns. An individual garrison, exposed to all the hazards of war, scrupled not, even fourteen or sixteen centuries ago, for some purpose which they thought important, to cut a watercourse six miles long."—*The Roman Wall*, 2nd edit., p. 228.

With these exceptions, and an inscription discovered at Caernarvon, which mentions the restoration of an aqueduct, I do not call to mind that these laborious works have been noticed in England. Agricultural operations have doubtless greatly contributed to efface them; and it will be noticed that in the two instances cited above, the districts through which the aqueducts passed were, from their comparatively undisturbed state, favourable to the preservation of the channels. In France, on the contrary, they are frequently met with; and in some localities they are so numerous, and constructed upon such scientific principles, as to form one of the most striking features of the industry, ingenuity, and skill of the Romans in Gaul. They are almost invariably constructed at the sides and bottoms with a thick layer of mortar or concrete, and at the top with stones, laid either flat or slightly arched; and the dimensions are commonly about two feet in width and three feet deep. These aqueducts are frequently several miles in length. They may be considered as a gradation between those of the north of England and the aqueducts above ground conducted in channels upon arches, some of which, from their stupendous character, are familiar to the traveller in the west and south of France, and in other countries formerly provinces of the Roman empire.

The evidences at Lanchester of the extensive working of iron by the Romans, give additional importance to this great station. They resemble similar vestiges found at Caerleon and other places. In connection with the armamentaria of the inscription referred to above, they are

particularly interesting. This word, as Hodgson was evidently inclined to believe, means not only a place for the custody of arms, but also the workshops for the making of them; and in the latter sense it is used in the *Notitia*. This is, I believe, the only instance in which it occurs in inscriptions found in England. It appears, in the singular number, in one found in Holland recording a restoration in the reign of Severus.*

The *principia* mentioned in the same inscription, it need scarcely be observed, means the quarters of the chief officers and place of deposit of the standards. The word occurs in an inscription of the time of Elagabalus lately dug up near Bath, and published in the *Journal* of the Archaeological Institute.

A considerable number of inscriptions, exclusive of the two previously referred to, have been discovered at Lanchester. Several are engraved and described by Horsley. Among them is one to the twentieth legion, apparently the *legio Gordiana*, twice mentioned at this place: altars to Mars, and to Fortune; and one, by a tribune of a cohort of the Lingones, to the *Genius of the Prætor*, as Horsley reads it.† The word *Prætori*, however, should probably be read *Prætorii*, “to the Genius of the Prætorium.”‡ At Mr. Greenwell’s are yet preserved some fragments of sculpture, one of which represents a figure reclining on a couch; and an inscription to Silvanus, by a Consular Beneficiary, named Marcus Didius Provincialis.

EBCHESTER. Ebchester is the next station north from Lanchester; and about midway between that and Cor-

* Codex Inscript. Roman. Rheni, No. 955. See also Gruter.

† Durham, No. xv.

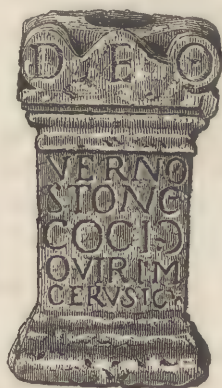
‡ See the altar found at Little Chesters (Vindolana) dedicated *Genio Prætori (sic)*.—“The Roman Wall,” p. 208.

bridge. It is situated upon the river Derwent, in a sheltered situation, and at the present day one which, for its pretty scenery, compensates the traveller for a dreary walk through a district blasted by smelting furnaces. The remains of the *castrum* are, however, not at all imposing; and have to be searched for with some difficulty, being in part concealed by the out-buildings of farm-houses; but the ramparts, the peculiar irregularities of the soil, and the lettered and carved stones which abound in the church and houses within the area, will direct the antiquary in his researches. The turnpike-road from Newcastle to Shotley Bridge passes through the centre of the *castrum*, apparently upon the ancient thoroughfare. The north wall stands upon rather high ground adjoining the river Derwent.

Ebchester seems to possess unquestionable claims to be considered as *locum tenens* of the *Vindomora* of the first iter of Antoninus, in which it is stated to be *IX mille passuum* from *Corstopitum*, now Corbridge: on inquiring the distance to Corbridge, I was told it was nine miles; but unlike Lanchester, which is not mentioned in that iter, and the ancient name of which there is doubt about, Ebchester has furnished but few and unimportant inscriptions. I noticed a centurial stone in the wall of a cartshed—*Q VARSIDI IVSTI*, the century of *Varsidius Justus*; and Dr. Bruce has recorded another, of one Valerius, together with an altar dedicated to Mars and the deity of an Augustus; and the fragment of a tile-stamp with the letters, . . HIBR, which, as he observes, probably represent *COHORS I BRITONUM*. The walls of the houses of the village, and those of the church, built within the south-west corner of the station, give, however, ample evidence of having been constructed of the materials of Roman buildings; and some of them, which are of con-

siderable dimensions and bear traces of ornamentation, may very probably contain concealed inscriptions, to be revealed, it may be, to some future generations.

Since my return, Dr. Bruce has communicated to me an inscription stated to have been found at Ebchester some time since. It is now preserved in the Roman Catholic Seminary of Ushaw. The copy supplied to me is taken from a rubbing made by Dr. Charlton; and as rubbings do not always shew clearly the more minute details, it is probable that an inspection of the monument itself would suggest some corrections, such as, for example, the o in the fourth line, which may be a q. This altar attracted the notice of the late Rev. John Hodgson, in his "Roman Wall and South Tindale," p. 178; and Mr. Swinburne gave an account of it in the "Gentleman's Magazine" for 1784, Supplement p. 974; but up to the present time it has been overlooked. Dr. Bruce having had it engraved for the third edition of his "Roman Wall," has kindly forwarded me the wood-cut here introduced.



It reads,—DEO VERNO STONO COCID OVIRIM (QVIRINI?) CERVSTO. The well-known British god, Cocidius, is here

associated with the names of deities not easily recognized; and apparently of foreign origin. Pliny mentions a river of Gallia Narbonensis named Vernodurum; and a town called Stonos, which must have been in or close to the regions of the Rhæti and Norici, of which nations detachments served in Britain under the Romans, as did the Gauls. This Stonos was evidently the capital of the Stoni of Strabo. It was therefore quite in accordance with the custom of the soldiers and civilians who were transplanted into foreign countries, to retain feelings of devotion towards the gods of their native country; and we may consequently, without a wide stretch of the imagination, refer this altar to some individual connected with the auxiliary troops who filled the castra of the north of Britain.

The word *Verno* or *Vernum* is found in the names of other places abroad; and also of two in Britain, namely, *Vernometum* and *Durovernum*, the former of which is explained in a distich of Venantius Fortunatus, referring to a locality of similar name in Gaul:

Nomine Vernemetis voluit vocitare vetustas

*Quod quasi Fanum ingens Gallica lingua refert.**

CORBRIDGE (*Corstopitum*.) After leaving Ebchester, † the traveller soon regains the Watling Street and enjoys the pleasure of walking upon it for miles in one of its best preserved and most conspicuous courses. As, however,

* Collected works by Luihi, 1786, 4to., part i, p. 15, "de Basilica S. Vincentii Vernemetis."

† I take this opportunity of expressing my pleasing remembrance of the civility I received during a night's sojourn in Ebchester, from Mr. and Mrs. Wilson; and of attention also from Mr. Surtees.

this road approaches the Tyne, it becomes less marked, and is only to be recognized with some difficulty. The remains of the castrum of Corstopitum lie a little to the west of the town of Corbridge, which, together with its church, appear to have been chiefly built from the materials of the ancient station. The site of the castrum is called Corchester. The walls have been entirely levelled; and their foundations can only be traced here and there. Dr. Bruce states that the foundations of a bridge which crossed the Tyne opposite the station can still be discerned when the water is low; and he has noticed that they are precisely similar to those on the North Tyne at Cilurnum: see vol. ii, p. 183.

The chief inscriptions found here are those in Greek characters to the Tyrian Hercules and to Astarte: the latter is now in the collection at Netherby; but the former appears to be lost. Both have been repeatedly published. Near Corbridge was found the interesting silver dish (*lanx*), preserved in the collection of the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle. It has been frequently engraved; but the cast in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, shows that the engravings do not faithfully explain the peculiar artistic character of the figures. I noticed over the door of a house, opposite an inn called the Black Bull, a mutilated bust of a Roman *signifer* or standard bearer; and one or two other sculptures in other houses which appeared to be Roman; but they were not in a situation to admit of being closely examined.

Corbridge made the fourth station I visited on the Watling Street from Bishops' Auckland towards the Great Wall which runs about two miles north of it. The Watling Street passes in a pretty direct line through Corbridge to Bremenium, from which station the first iter of

Antoninus proceeds to Prætorium, in Yorkshire. I believe it has never yet been ascertained how the Wall was guarded at the point of transit of this road. Bremenium and some of its more important inscriptions have been spoken of in preceding volumes of the *Collectanea*. Further excavations have been made there with so much success, that we must regret they were abandoned without laying open the entire area of this interesting castrum. An account of the excavations made during the summer of 1855 has been published by Dr. Bruce, in the first volume of the new series of the "*Archæologia Æliana*." From this report I extract an inscription which will be read with great interest by all who have considered the extraordinary monument found at Vieux in Normandy, and described in the third volume of the *Collectanea*. It will be remembered that one of the persons mentioned in that inscription is Claudius Paulinus, who held the office of proprætor in Britain, in the reign of Caracalla. I then remarked, that hitherto no trace of this proprætor had been discovered in England. It will be seen that an inscribed stone found at Bremenium now supplies his name and office :

IMP . CAES . M . AV . . .
 PIO F
 TRIB . POT . COS . . .
 P . P . BALLIST . A SO . .
 VARDVL
 TIB . CL . PAVL
 PR . PR . FEC
 P . AEL

It is a dedication to Elagabalus of a *ballistarium*, by a cohort of the Varduli, during the proprætorship of Tiberius Claudius Paulinus, and under the superintendance of a person indicated in the last line, P. Aelius.

This stone, then, confirms the statement on the Vieux

monument relative to Paulinus; and affords a striking instance of the utility of extending our researches into France and Germany, with a view to the better elucidation of the monuments of our own country.

WALTOWN CASTLESTEADS. On a former occasion (see *Col. Ant.* vol. ii), I had an excellent opportunity of examining the Wall and its *castra* from east to west as far as Birdoswald. This is the last of the *Notitia* stations *per lineam valli* which have been identified inferentially, as to their ancient names, by means of inscriptions which relate to the particular cohorts or other bodies of troops quartered in the respective *castra* at the period when the *Notitia* was compiled. Although numerous inscriptions have been found in the more westerly stations, they do not, in local order and in the names of the military occupants, bear out the *Notitia* arrangement. For instance, the station that comes next in that work to Amboglanna (Birdoswald), is Petriana, to which was attached the *ala Petriana*. Proceeding westward from Birdoswald along the line of the Wall, the next great station, the remains of which we meet with, is that of Chesters or Castlesteads, in which we may expect to recognize Petriana. But the inscriptions found there mention the second cohort of the Tungrians and not the *ala Petriana*. Now, according to Camden, a stone bearing the name of this *ala* was found at old Penrith, which was a strong military post on the river *Petterel*, some ten or twelve miles south of Carlisle; and which, in consequence, Camden assumed to be Petriana.

Similar discordancies occur with the stations westward of Castlesteads, as will be readily seen by reference to the table; p. 199, vol. ii. To confirm or to rectify the present localizations of the stations requires a very laborious and delicate process, which is rendered all the more

troublesome from the inattention formerly paid to the inscriptions themselves, which were frequently transplanted considerable distances from the places where they had been dug up, and their history often lost sight of. The late Rev. John Hodgson was often perplexed in tracing the original localities of inscribed stones; and in reference to one, ascribed with questionable accuracy to Petriana, he exclaims:—"It is strange that any one who had curiosity to collect original inscriptions, had neither industry nor regard for truth to record where he procured them. As mere curiosities what is their value? They are useful only in proportion to the quantity of general or local history they contain, or their tale can unfold; and in local history they can rarely indeed be of use, unless it be known where they were found."*

Castlesteads (or *Casteds*, as it is pronounced in the locality), is situate between Lanercost and Irthington, at about a mile from the latter place, and a little to the south of the Wall. The walls are entirely leveled, and the area of the station is now the garden and shrubbery of Walton House. The second cohort of the Tungri is mentioned in three inscriptions found here; one of the time of Gordian, in which the cohort is styled *Gordiana*. In and about the station have also been dug up altars dedicated to Mars, to Mithras, to Belatucader, and to the Mothers of all Nations. The last of these mentions the restoration of a temple. In the garden, among a considerable number of inscribed stones and sculptures, I noticed a fragment of a figure of one of the *Deæ Matres*, which probably belonged to this very temple.†

* The Roman Wall and South Tindale, p. 215.

† Most of these are now engraved, and will appear in the third edition of Dr. Bruce's "Roman Wall."

But perhaps the most interesting of all, is that to which I alluded in p. 175, vol. ii; but which I had not then seen. It reads thus:—

DISCIPV
 · INAE
 · VG
 VSTI ·

Disciplinæ Augusti.

It is on an altar, three feet by twenty inches, the left side of which is much injured; and, from apparent erasures, the present inscription is not the original one, which may account for the peculiar division of the second word. Hodgson says that it was found in clearing away the ruins of the station to make the garden. He alludes to Mr. Carlyle's interpretation of *disciplinæ* as "institutions" (obviously incorrect); and remarks:—"We had before dedications Fortunæ, Spei, Bonæ Spei, Concordiæ, Felicitati, Victoriæ Augusti, etc.; but here *Disciplinæ Augusti* seems to be unique. The dedicator's name is lost; but he was perhaps some lover of strict military discipline, which varied much under different reigns in the decline of the Roman empire."

It appears to me that the inscription can refer only to the emperor Hadrian. It is only unique, I believe, as applied to this emperor; and was only previously known upon some of his gold and brass coins, which bear representations of the emperor marching, followed by three or more standard bearers, and are among the most interesting and finely executed productions of the Roman mint. Historical evidence abundantly confirms that of coins and the Castlesteads inscription as to the rigid martial and civil discipline instituted by Hadrian. Spartian, in his life of this emperor, observes:—"Labantem disciplinam incuria superiorum principum, retinuit, ordinatis et officiis

et impendiis ;” and “ *disciplinam civilem non aliter tenuit quàm militarem.*” The military institutes of Hadrian indeed became, in the course of time, embodied in the Roman code.

Assigning then, in perfect confidence, this monument to the reign of Hadrian, it becomes of some topographical importance in the question of who built the Wall. As it was discovered within the castrum at Castlesteads, we infer that the station itself was coeval with, if not anterior to, Hadrian; and probably erected at the time when he constructed the great barrier from sea to sea. It is not, like most of the castra, built into and as part of the Wall; but it is separated from the Vallum and the Wall by a deep scar.

The close of a wet day made me hasten on to the residence of Mr. Robert Bell of Irthington, about a mile from Castlesteads, who, a few months since, had sent me a friendly invitation. I was glad to make the personal acquaintance of a well-informed, zealous, and warm-hearted antiquary, who, for the pure love of science, had long attended to the antiquities of the locality, without, as he told me, receiving any sympathy in his pursuit, from his neighbours.* I promised Mr. Bell that I would be his guest at some future time, to inspect, under his guidance, some remarkable ancient remains in the locality;

* Mr. Bell, however, mentioned one exception; and that was his landlord, Lord Carlisle. An eminent foreigner, who had made a long stay in this country to examine its antiquities, once told me that nothing struck him so much during his abode in England, as the disregard shown by the nobility to men of literature and science who may happen to live near them. My friend will no doubt, when he reads this, remember his remark; and be pleased in noticing this exception.

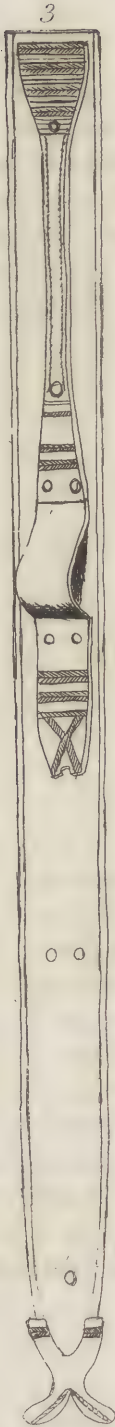
but that time will now never come, for the antiquary of Irthington is no more. A short time previous to his death, Mr. Bell sent me a copy of an inscription (since communicated to the Society at Newcastle), upon an altar which had just been found about three hundred yards to the north of Castlesteads. It is as follows, rivaling in difficulty of entire interpretation that of Ebchester :

N. AVG.
 DIIOVANA
 VNTIAVREL
 ARMIGER
 DECPRINC

*Numini AVGusti DIIO (Deo) VANAVNTI AVRELIus ARMI-
 GER DECurio PRINCIPALIS ; OR DECurio PRINCIPUM.*

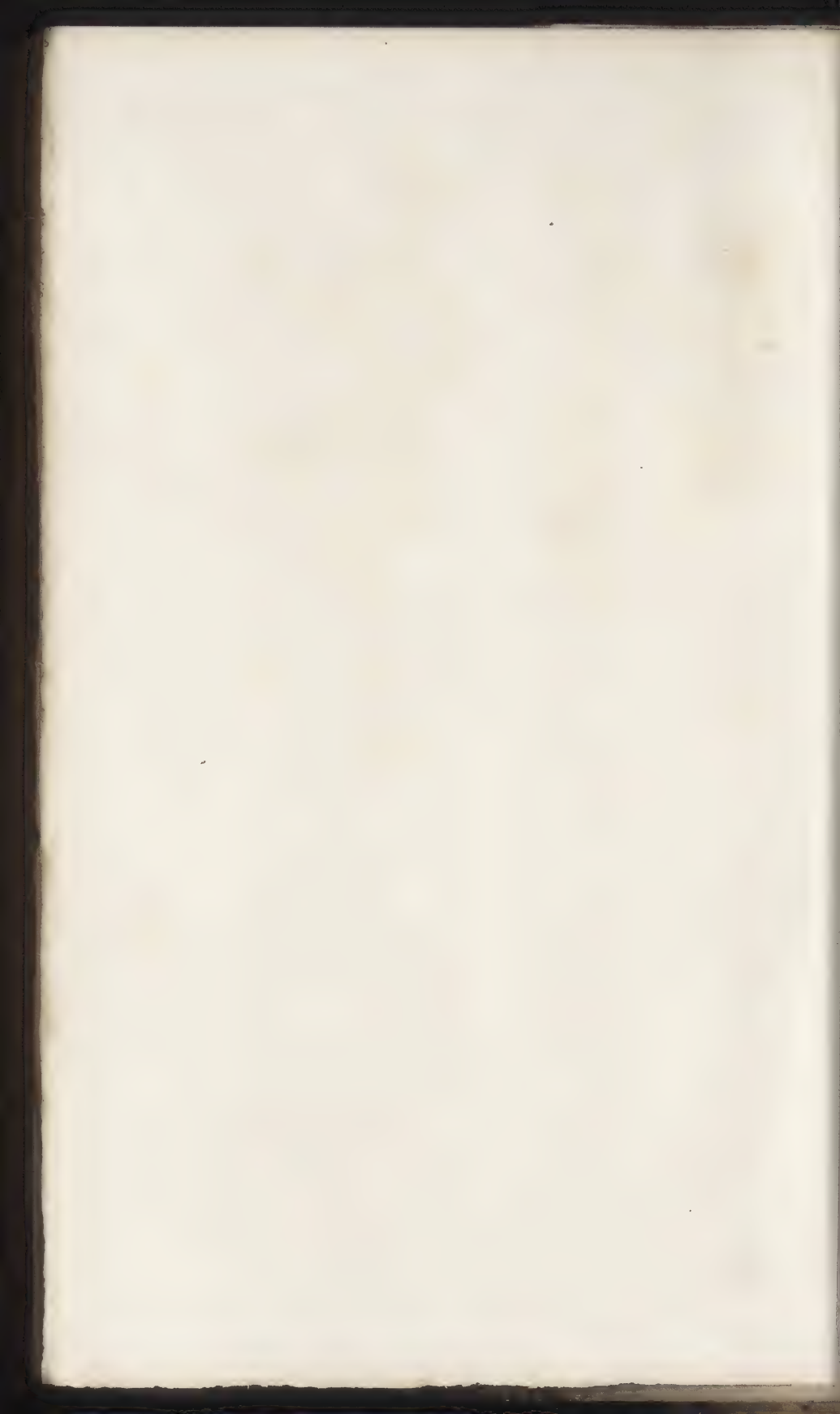
The only word in this dedication which is obscure is that of the name of the deity addressed. In the vicinity of the place where the stone was found, stood the station of *Banna*, previously mentioned. It is not improbable the *Vana* may be derived from it ; but at the same time the entire word resembles the *Bannaventum* of Antoninus, which was in the central part of the province Britain. The continual discovery of remains so interesting, warrants the expectation that important additions to our materials for the history of Roman Britain are yet to be extracted from the many unexplored *castra* along the line of the Wall ; and we can never approach the subject without lamenting the rejection of the Duke of Northumberland's proposal made through the present president to the Society of Antiquaries of London ; and this at a time when it was really necessary to infuse fresh vitality into the languishing veins of the rich but exhausted society.

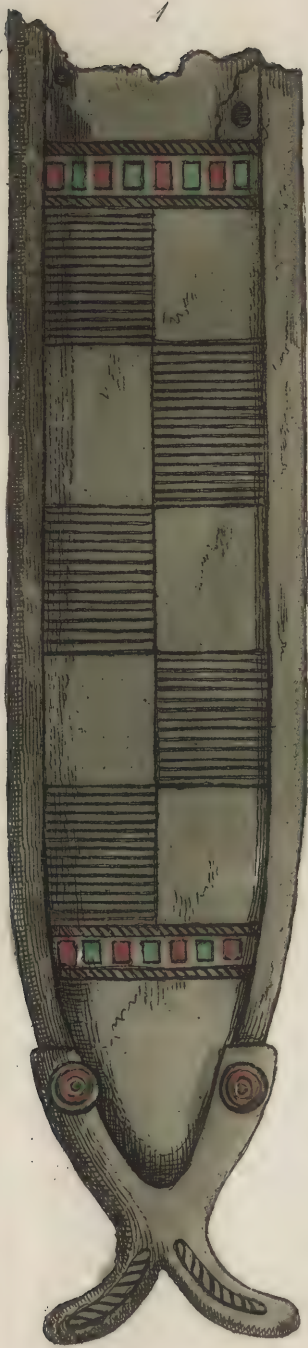
KESWICK. A public museum in this romantic little town, the property of Miss Crossthwaite, contains, among a miscellaneous collection of works of nature and of art,



R. 210
1838

SWORD FOUND AT EMBLETON.





R.W.
7850.



some remarkable local antiquities. The most conspicuous and rarest, is the sword etched in several views in plate xxxiii; and in part, of the actual size, in plate xxxiv. The handle and the sheath, of bronze, are enameled to a far greater extent than any example with which I am acquainted. Upon comparison, it will be noticed that there are points of resemblance connecting it with the class to which the sword in Lord Londesborough's armoury belongs. This is engraved in *Col. Ant.*, vol. iii, pl. xvi; and to the accompanying remarks I refer my readers, having, at present, but little to add to them, except to observe that I was informed by Miss Crossthwaite that the Keswick sword was found at Embleton, in Northumberland, together with other swords in iron, and with spear-heads; but under what circumstances I could not ascertain. A large circular concave bronze ornament, with an interlacing pattern, fastened to a triangular plate of iron; and a thin flat circular enameled plate, the size of a crown piece, were, as I understood, supposed to have been found with the sword. It is possible the etchings may meet the eye of some of our colleagues in the north who may be able to collect a few authenticated facts relative to the discovery of this sword, which, for the true purposes of archæology, is in a position similar to that of the inscription which called forth the rebuke of Mr. Hodgson.* The entire length of the sword is twenty-six inches and a half.

The Keswick museum also contains a fragment of sculpture executed in a good style of art, which has evidently belonged to some architectural building of no mean pre-

* I am indebted to Mr. H. Houghton Young, of Leamington, for drawing my attention to this sword, now some years ago.

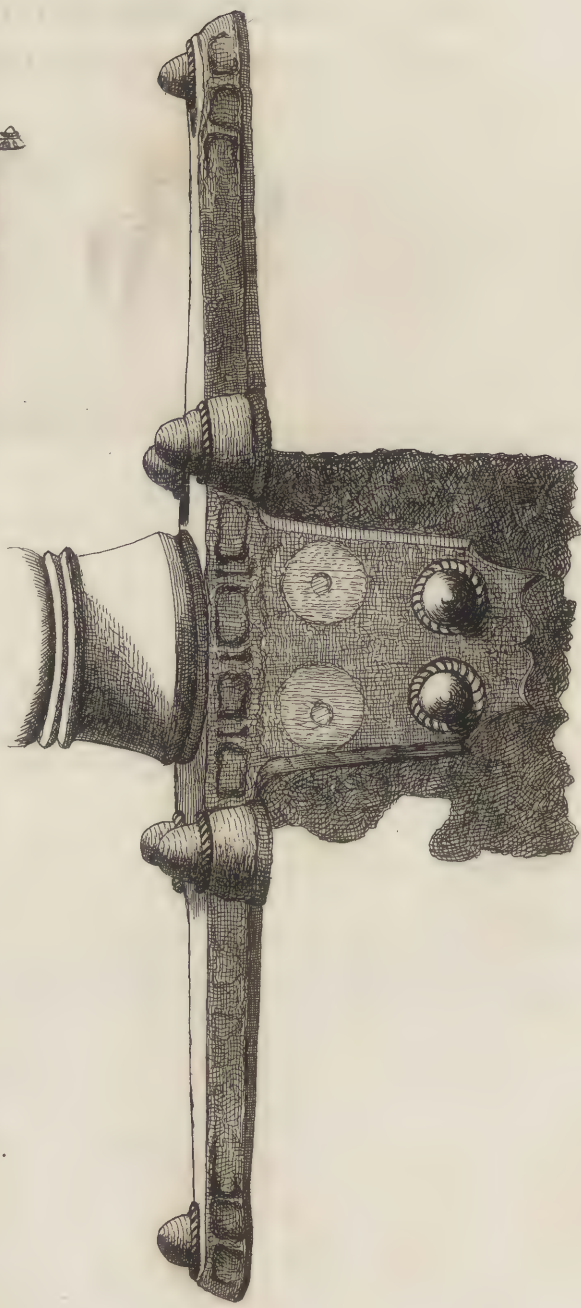
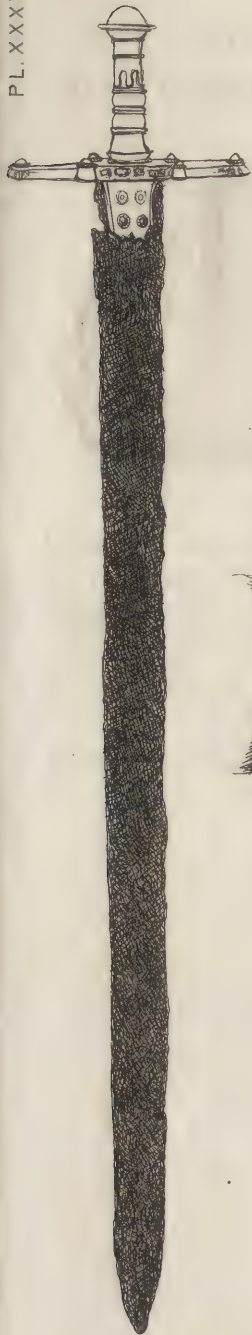
tensions. It is stated to have been found at old Carlisle.



Length, 2 feet 3 inches; width, 11 inches; thickness, 8 inches.

LIVERPOOL. Plates xxxv and xxxvi represent a sword in the valuable museum of Mr. Mayer, to which it is not easy, with full confidence, to assign a date and parentage; all the history that seems to accompany it being the assertion that it was found near Bologna. Probably it is of the fifth or sixth century, or somewhat later.

The entire length of the sword is thirty-six inches. The plates show the handle, in two views, of the actual size.

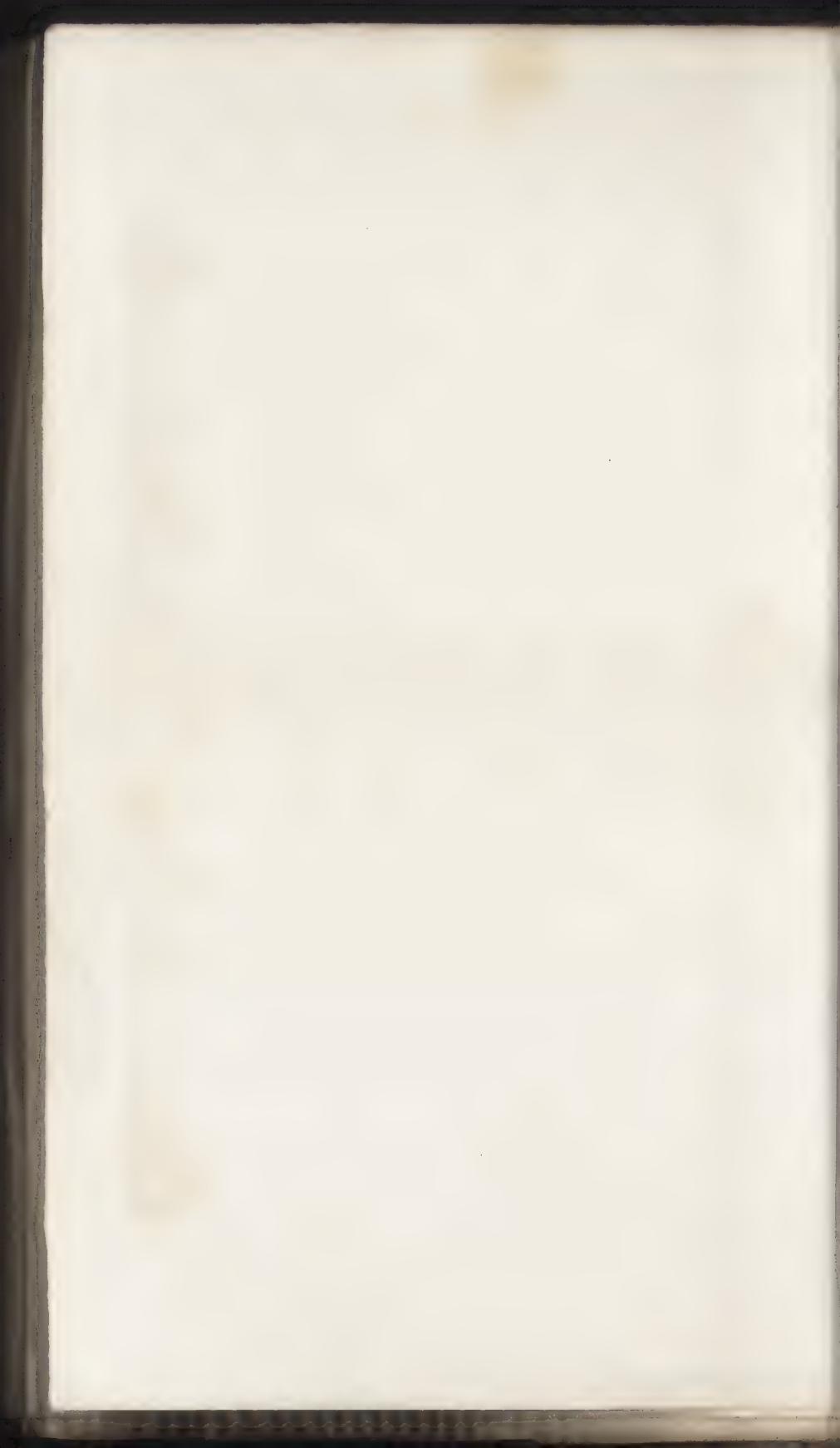


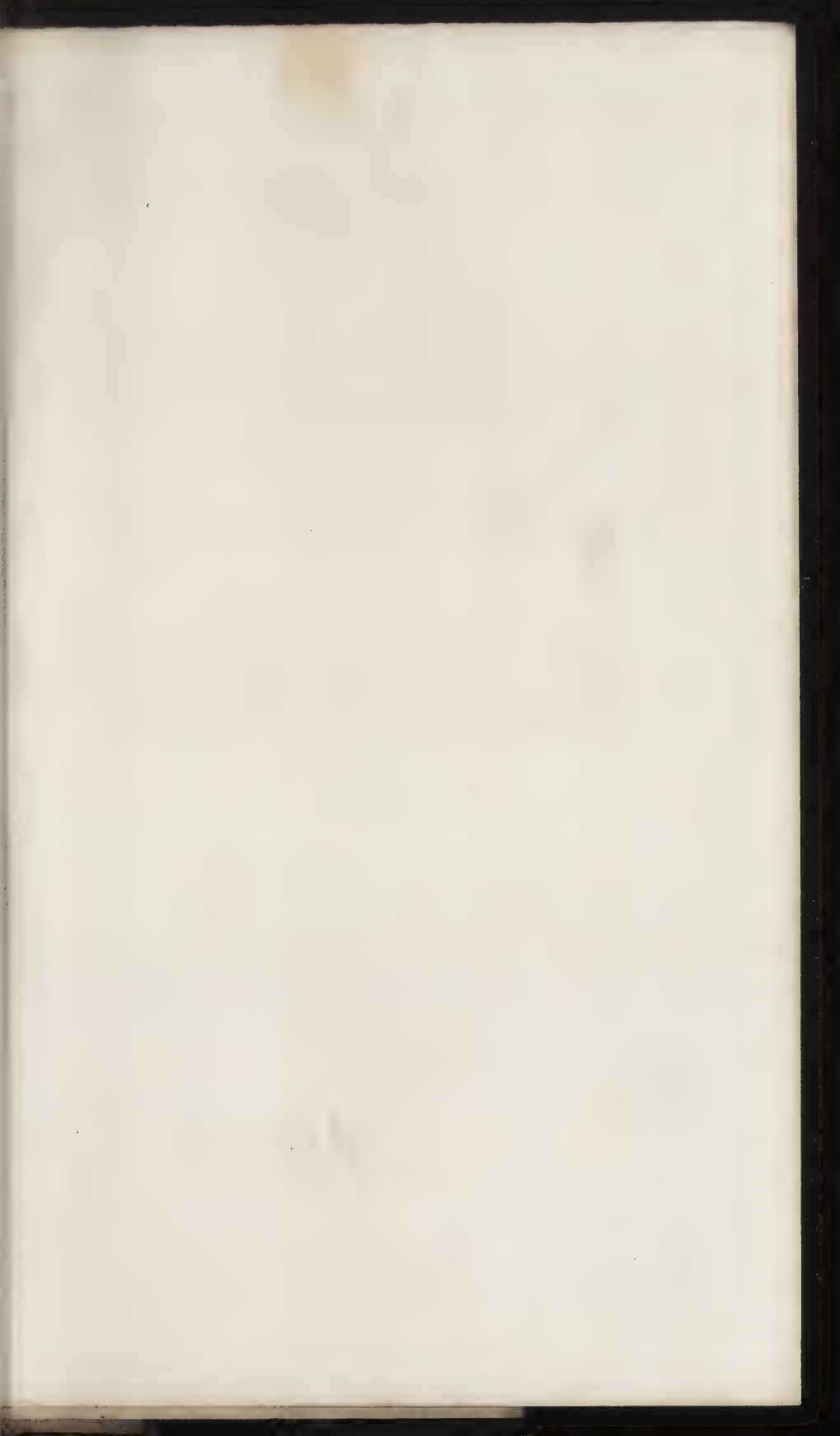
SWORD IN THE MUSEUM OF JOSEPH MAYER ESQ F. S. A.





PLATE
75-56.







J. Pugh

GRENDON, BUCKS.

ROMAN REMAINS DISCOVERED AT CRENDON, BUCKS.

(*A Letter from HARRY LUPTON, Esq., of Thame, to the Editor.*)

PLATE XXXVII.

“Dear Sir,—In the year 1824 some labourers digging in a field on the northern side of the church, about a furlong from that edifice, and near a road bearing the name of Angle Way, came upon an old cemetery, apparently of Roman or Romano-British origin, and very near the site of the fort or castle of the Giffards, which was situated on an eminence near the church of Crendon, and was the head of the honour of Giffard, by whom was founded and endowed the abbey of Nutley, in their park of wild beasts, at Crendon. The field in which these ancient remains were found is of stone brash, and it was while digging for lime stone for road mending, that the first discovery was made upon a ridge of the land; and the urns were found embedded in the stone brash; that is, each urn was deposited in a hole dug into the brash; and each separately. Having been informed that many things had been found in this field, I rode up to Crendon; and was sorry to find that very many of the antiquities had been wantonly destroyed: amongst them many pateræ of beautiful

red "Samian" ware, wantonly broken into small fragments. Of these, one still retained the name of the potter—OF. L. Q. VIRIL. They were about $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ deep, having a small stand. A small incense pot, or something like it, the shape of which may be likened to two half circles, the larger above the smaller, was also found, with a circular stamp or cipher at the bottom: also a perfect lamp of the same ware.

"A great number of broken urns, of rough, half-baked clay, one of which retained, on the inner surface, the indentations of the fingers of the manufacturer, were also turned out. I left a request with the labourers, if they came upon any others, to take great care not to break them, and to let me know; which they did, on finding one of a smaller size filled with ashes and half-burnt bones, many of which were of birds; and containing also rings of brass, connected together by a fine brass wire, some of which appeared to have been set with small stones, apparently as earrings. One urn, which was kept *in situ* till I rode up to Crendon, was of blue clay unglazed, $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, $\frac{3}{8}$ ths of an inch thick, 4 inches in diameter at the brim, 3 at the bottom, and 24 in circumference, was, after being dug out, recomposed by cementing together more than fifty fragments, and presented the most perfect specimen. It had no ornament, save a narrow line round the lower part of the neck, with small knobs like nail heads at regular intervals, like basket work—this urn contained ashes and bones of birds. The lamp (which I gave to a lady at Thame, at her earnest request), is now, I believe, in the hands of a gentleman resident there. A small portion of one urn of large size showed that its diameter at the brim was full six inches, exceeding an inch in thickness, and its height at least three feet, having handles five inches in circumference conjoined to the

neck and belly of the vessel, which was of coarse yellowish ware, and after exposure got a reddish tint. The whole of these remains I presented to Dr. Lipscomb, who was then engaged in compiling his History of the County of Bucks. Independent of the urns many human bones were found, which had not undergone cremation, and which, as far as could be judged, appeared to lie from north to south. Many of the localities of Crendon still bear evidence of Saxon names; as, for instance, the Ellborough, on the eminence of which stands a most conspicuous windmill; the Konigheer and the Beryll hill, from which a beautiful view extends over the vale of Thame and a long range of the Chiltern hills.

“Some years previously to this, riding from Brill to Muswell hill, in some holes by the road side I found many pieces of broken pottery of Samian ware, one of which was stamped at the bottom with the word REGNUM or REGIVM;* and a broken piece of tile, with the clear impression of a dog’s foot and claws, of course made before the baking. Brill has been a pottery from time immemorial; now, only of the rougher commoner samples, such as flower pots, bricks, and tiles: I do not presume of the finer wares, such as Samian, or terra cotta. I remember also, many years gone by, visiting the Roman villa at North Leigh, near Woodstock, and finding many tiles impressed by the hoofs of deer and dogs. I now come to the last relic found in the field of Crendon before named, about the year 1851. In ploughing, the point of the share caught hold of a piece of flat stone, and on examination it turned out to be a small sarcophagus, (fig. 4), containing three small urns all perfect. The tenant, Mr. Rose, had purposed sending down the whole to me; but,

* Probably REGINI.M.; see “Col. Ant.,” vol. i, p. 154.

on the morning of the same day, the agent of the College of All Souls, Oxford, had been informed of the discovery, and had claimed them for the lords of the soil. They are now in the library of that college, and I send you a drawing of them with their dimensions, &c. ; and if you think them worthy of an insertion in your very valuable *Collectanea*, I shall have great pleasure in being answerable for the expense of the etching or engraving.

Dimensions :—fig. 1, height, $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches : fig. 2, height, 4 inches : fig. 3, height, $3\frac{1}{4}$ inches : fig. 4, 2 feet square.

“ I am, dear Sir, very truly yours,

“ HARRY LUPTON.

“ Thame, March 24, 1856.

“ To Charles Roach Smith, Esq.”

REMARKABLE SAXON URN, DISCOVERED AT KEMPSTON, BEDS.



THE urn, of which a representation is here given, is of so unusual a character in some respects, that it demands an especial description, which will be best afforded in the following communication from Mr. James Wyatt, of Bedford, in the spring of last year.

“ A few days ago, whilst digging gravel, some labourers turned up a lot of bones, of several skeletons, one of which was nearly entire. With them were a spear-head, an iron boss of a shield, of the precise form of one figured in the *Collectanea*, vol. iii, and an urn of a beautiful form, about five inches high.

“ The urn is fluted from the shoulder to the bottom with semi-circular, or semi-cylindrical cavities; and is further ornamented with punctures in triangular compartments, as found on other Saxon vases. It is unbaked; and, at the bottom, a *piece of glass*, about the diameter of a shilling, is inserted. This was done while the clay was moist.

“ Shortly after this discovery the men found another

skeleton, in a crumbling state ; and near the lower jaw, a number of pieces of metal, thin, and of the size of a florin ; a quantity of small beads, apparently of glass ; and fragments of twisted wire.

“ Saxon, as well as Roman remains, and many Roman coins, have been found in this same parish, Kempston, two miles from Bedford. We have circular fibulæ, knife-blades, and spear-heads, which have been turned up in the same gravel pits. From the frequency of bones being found there, I think it must have been a rather common place of burial.”

The peculiarity of the urn consists in the insertion of the piece of glass : for comparison I was unprepared with any other instance until Mr. Kemble favoured me with an example, which invests the Kempston discovery with a high degree of interest, and affords another striking instance of the importance of extending our researches beyond the limits of our own shores, into the countries which gave birth to the peoples who immigrated into Britain. Mr. Kemble remarks :—

“ It will interest you to know, if you have not already seen it in our Archæological Institute *Reports*, that an urn was found, some years ago, on the Elbe, not far I believe from Bardewick, in the principality of Lüneburg, with two pieces of green glass inserted, one in the side and the other in the bottom. The glass was so let into the clay as to form an integral part of the wall of the urn, as a window does that of a house. It was not *stuck on*, but *let in*, so that the light shines through it. The glass is, I think, Roman ; and it is a question whether the application of it to such a purpose does not imply a great value set upon the material : whether, in fact, it does not suggest a period at which glass was by no means so common as we now find it in the majority of graves belonging to the ages of burial without cremation.

“The urn seems to be a good specimen of its class, although small.” But I have observed, that the small urns of this sort are always by far the most elaborately ornamented. I have dug up some, and seen others, which were worked in very deep relief; in two cases, with rhombs and squares of several orders, going nearly three-quarters of an inch deep into the clay. The Bedfordshire urn might easily be paralleled from among those at Stade. The Lüneburg urn is, or was two years ago, in the possession of a certain captain of engineers, named, I think, Thiemen, then resident in retirement at Lüneburg itself. But it is possible it may *now* be either in the museum at Hanover, or the collection (a noble one) of Mr. Wellencamp, of Lüneburg; as the captain, when I last heard of him, was dangerously ill; and in Germany the heir always sells everything. I hope it is at Hanover, for that collection, at least, cannot be easily dispersed, while a private one generally is, with abominable facility.

“I have been looking among my drawings for one of this Lüneburg urn, which I certainly made, but cannot find it. It probably remained at Hanover with many others I gave the Museum, and neglected to take duplicates of.”

On the present occasion it is only necessary to refer the readers of the *Collectanea* to the *Journal* of the Archæological Institute; and to a paper, by Mr. Kemble, on the Stade urns, addressed to the Society of Antiquaries in 1855, but not yet published. It may not be wholly irrelevant to allude also to pl. iii, figs. 4 and 5, of the “Antiquities of Richborough, Reculver, and Lymne,” for fragments of an urn ornamented with a yellow vitreous substance in which are embedded common white crystals and bits of mother-of-pearl. It was dug up within the walls of Richborough, and may be assigned to the Saxon period.

SAXON REMAINS, FOUND NEAR IXWORTH, IN SUFFOLK.

PLATE XXXVIII.

THE gold ornaments here delineated are in the collection of Mr. Joseph Warren, of Ixworth, who has generously contributed this illustrative plate and woodcut.

They were accidentally dug up, about a year since, by some labourers, in what appeared to have been a grave, together with some objects in iron, of which examples, a quarter the actual dimensions, are here represented.

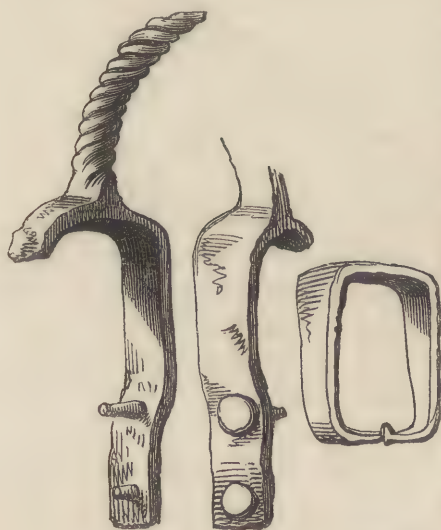
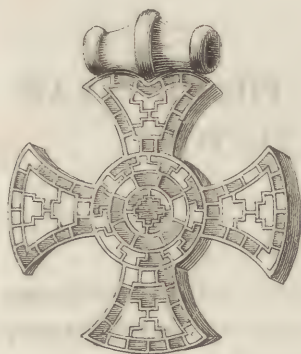


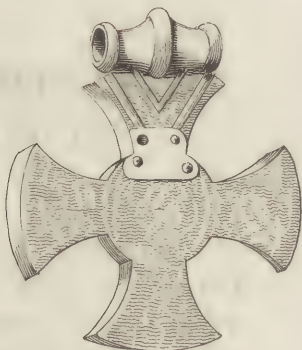
Fig. 1.

Fig. 2.

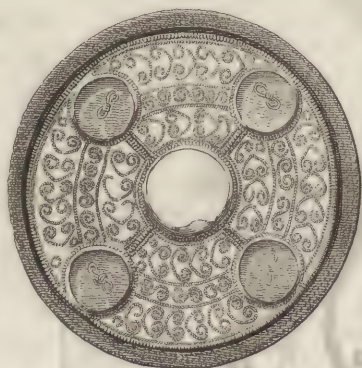
Of fig. 1 there were four ; and of fig. 2, twenty-four : in all probability they were, as Mr. Warren suggests, the handles and staples of a coffin, which seems to have been further indicated by a quantity of the mouldering remains of wood, which the workmen stated they noticed in the grave.



1



2



J. Cleghorn. del. et sc.

SUFFOLK.

In the possession of M. Warren.

Faint, illegible text, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is arranged in several paragraphs and appears to be a formal document or letter.

It will be observed that fig. 2 of the plate is imperfect. It is only the upper part of one of the beautiful Saxon fibulas, of the more elaborate workmanship, such as are engraved in plate ii, fig. 4, of the "Inventorium Sepulchrale;" which were formed in two pieces, welded together by a circular band. As there is every reason to believe that it came into the hands of Mr. Warren in the condition in which it was excavated, it must be supposed that it was interred in this fragmentary state; and had been separated from the lower portion before it came into the possession of its owner, whose corpse it had been deposited with in the grave. This supposition bears on the question of the age to which these ornaments must be referred; and whether they may be considered of one and the same period.

The fibula resembles the finer examples found in Kent and in some other parts of England. It may be especially compared with that found near Woodbridge, in Suffolk, engraved by Mr. Fairholt in his "Costume in England," p. 465. That, like Mr. Warren's, was only the upper plate of the fibula; and, like this, denuded of the principal settings;* but the surface of the Ixworth plate, unlike that found near Woodbridge, is wholly covered with filigree or vermiculated work, like that engraved by Mr. Akerman, fig. 2, pl. xxxii, in his "Remains of Pagan Saxondom," which is stated to have been found somewhere between Husband's Bosworth, in Leicestershire, and Welford, in Northamptonshire; and in this respect, but not so fully, it may be compared with that found in Derbyshire, and now in the museum of Mr. Bateman: see his "Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire," p. 20.

* This is now, I believe, in the collection of Mr. R. Fitch, of Norwich.

The cross (fig. 1) is not paralleled by any of those found in the Kentish graves, nor by that discovered with the fibula in Derbyshire. But it very closely resembles one found in a gravel-pit at Lakenheath, near Brandon, in Suffolk, a few years since. The form of the cross is the same; the setting of the garnets and the turquoises, which cover the upper surface of both, is precisely similar; and each is surmounted by a barrel-shaped gold bead. That from Lakenheath, however, bears in its centre a gold coin of the emperor Heraclius; and this helps us, in a certain degree, towards assigning an approximate date to both. Heraclius reigned A.D. 610 to A.D. 641. It is obvious, therefore, that these crosses (believing them, from the close accordance of the workmanship, to be coeval) could not possibly have been fabricated anterior to the reign of this emperor, that is to say, the first half of the seventh century. But it is not improbable that the coins may have been thus applied some considerable time posterior to the death of Heraclius.

The Saxon circular jewel found at Bacton, in Norfolk (now in the British Museum), encloses a gold coin of Mauricius, A.D. 582 to A.D. 602. The setting of the stones in the border which surrounds the coin is by no means so tastefully arranged as that of the Suffolk crosses, which may be further and better compared with the clasps of a purse found with gold coins in Hampshire, and published in the "Numismatic Chronicle," vol. vi; and in the "Remains of Pagan Saxondom," pl. xxxiii. The latest of these coins cannot be assigned to a period earlier than the latter half of the seventh century.





PILGRIMS' SIGNS.

PILGRIMS' SIGNS.

PLATE XXXIX.

HAVING, in previous volumes, given several plates of these curious religious signs or tokens, it may assist the further investigation of the subject to direct attention to some objects of the same class recently published in France.

Together with others which do not strictly come within the denomination of Pilgrims' Signs, they are described in a paper by M. E. Hucher printed in the 19th volume of M. de Caumont's "Bulletin Monumental," a work which, though it be but little known in England, justly commands an extensive circulation in France as the chief organ of the *Société Française pour la conservation des monuments*, of which M. de Caumont is the founder and director. Some of the woodcuts which illustrate this paper I have made free (by the aid of Mr. H. W. Rolfe) to copy in the plate; and the description and remarks are chiefly an abridgement of M. Hucher's paper.

Fig. 1. Christ seated: before him Mary Magdalen in a suppliant posture: above, a vessel of perfumes, and two shields bearing the arms of Anjou and of Provence. Around, *Signum* BEATE : MARIE : MAGDALENE; and within
..... SANCTI : MAXIMINI :

This sign, which is of the 14th century, is a record of the devotion paid, during the middle ages, to the memory of St. Mary Magdalen, at the convent of St. Maximin, in Provence. It was found at Paris, in the bed of the Seine.

According to tradition, Mary Magdalen came into

France with St. Maximin, who settled at Aix. Mary Magdalen selected for her abode the celebrated grotto of St. Baume, in the *département du Var*, a cavern in an immense rock, upwards of 2800 feet high; and after her death, St. Baume soon became celebrated as the resort of pilgrims; but her remains were buried in a tomb of alabaster under the church of the abbey of St. Maximin.

Charles II, king of Sicily and count of Provence, superintended the excavation of the tomb of Mary Magdalen, and built at St. Maximin a magnificent church in place of the old edifice. The head of the saint he enclosed in a shrine, surmounted by a crown of gold, which is mentioned in the last inventory made in 1780.

Pilgrims flocked to St. Maximin in greater numbers than ever; happy in being privileged to carry away with them the little leaden *signacula* of St. Mary Magdalen. The abbé Faillon, in his *Monuments inédits sur l'apostolat de sainte Marie-Madeleine en Provence*, has printed an ordinance of Louis and Johanna, king and queen of Sicily, relative to the fabrication and use of these signs. The abbé Faillon states that these were cast in moulds of iron or copper which were under the custody of the sacristan, who alone was authorised to give out these moulds to the casters. In the reign of queen Johanna a contagion ravaged Provence. After this scourge, the province of the sacristan became usurped by many persons, who took upon themselves to make new moulds and sell the leaden pieces to the pilgrims, by which the sacristan was deprived of his profits. The clergy brought the unauthorized traffic before the king and queen. Louis and Johanna wrote, in consequence, to the magistrates of St. Maximin, on the 29th of April, 1354, commanding them to maintain the rights of the clergy and to prohibit the sale of the leaden signs by all unauthorised persons.

This ordinance is so important an acquisition to the history of Pilgrims' Signs, that I copy the text entire :

“Ludovicus et Johanna, Dei gratia rex et regina Jerusalem et Sicilæ, ducatus Apuliæ, et principatus Capuæ; Provinciæ et Folcalquerii ac Pedemontis comites, bajulis et iudicibus terræ nostræ Sancti Maximini, de comitatu nostro provinciæ, præsentibus et futuris fidelibus suis: gratiam suam et bonam voluntatem.

“Pro parte prioris et conventus regalis nostræ ecclesiæ Sancti Mariæ Magdalenæ, de dicta terra, nostrorum fidelium oratorum, habuit expositio reverens facta nobis, quod, a longo jam præterito tempore, consuetum fuit ac etiam tenaciter observatum, quod nullus, cujuscumque conditionis existeret, in dicta terra Sancti Maximini aude-ret facere imagines plumbeas, sculptas imagine dictæ Sanctæ Mariæ quæ peregrinis dantur ad devotionem ipsius sanctæ, præter ipsius prioris et conventus specialem licentiam ex mandatum, datis ferris et aliis opportunis, habentibus dictam licentiam, per sacristam ipsius ecclesiæ; et continue per annos quadraginta tres præteritos, dicti prior et conventus fuerunt in possessione pacifica dandi dictam licentiam, ipsis facientibus dictas imagines, et dandi ferros et ad id alia opportuna. Nonnulli tamen de dicta terra seu inibi habitantes, a tempore generalis mortalitatis, proximè præteritæ, non verentes super premissis, dictam ecclesiam perturbare, eorum auctoritate propria, præter licentiam et mandatum ipsorum prioris et conventus, dictas imagines plumbeas faciunt et peregrinis vendunt; contra præfatam antiquam et observatum consuetudinem temere venientes, in juris injuriam, dictæ quæ ecclesiæ præjudicium et gravamen. Super quo nostra provisione petita, nos gravamina quælibet, nostris irrogata fidelibus, et præcipue præfatæ nostræ ecclesiæ, cujus sumus et esse debemus præcipui defensores, detestabile abhorrentes ac

attendentes quod jura ecclesiarum defendere domini cura debet esse solita: volumus ac vobis committimus et jubemus quatenus si vocatis evocandis, summarie inspecta tantum substantia, veritatis, vobis constiterit de præmissis dictos priorem et conventum, seu ipsam ecclesiam, in possessione in qua eam super præmissis inveneritis, justis et opportunis vestris præsiidiis, manu teneatis ac etiam defendatis, non permissuri eos per molestatores et turbatores ipsos, seu quosvis alios, super præmissis, aliquatenus indebite molestari. Ex nihilominus, sub certa et formidabili pæna mandetis expresse molestatoribus ipsis et cuilibet eorumdem, pro parte nostra ab eis, si secus indeferet, irremissibiliter extorquenda, quod a molestationibus ipsis indebitis desistentes, omnino permittant eos dictam que ecclesiam, super his, pacifica possessione gaudere. Si vero molestatores ipsi, super præmissis, jus aliquod forte habere prætendunt; illud, si voluerint, eorum competendi iudice ordine debito, prosequantur. Presentes autem literas, post opportunam inspectionem earum, remanere volumus præsentanti efficaciter in antea valituras. Datum Neapoli, per Sergium dominum Ursonis de Neapoli, militem, juris civilis professorem, magnæ nostræ curiæ magistrum rationalem, vice protonotarium regni Siciliae, anno Domini M^o CCC^o LIII^o, die penultimo Aprilis, VII ind., regnorum nostri regis anno VI^o, nostræ vero reginæ anno XII^o.

Fig. 2. An oval plate of lead with a representation of the Virgin crowned, nimbed, and holding a sceptre, seated with the infant Jesus in her lap; and inscribed ✠ SIGILLUM: BEATE: MARIE: DE ROCAMADOR. M. Hucher correctly assigns the date to the thirteenth century, or, possibly, to the early part of the fourteenth. An example, in larger module, is etched by Mr. H. W. King (from my own collection) in the "Publications of the Antiquarian

Etching Club," part 3, 1853,* and is now in the British Museum. It appears to be of the twelfth century; and differs somewhat in detail from M. Hucher's: the nimbus of the Virgin is surrounded by a shaded pattern; that of the infant shews three points of a cross; and the embossed legs of the chair terminate, upwards, in *fleurs-de-lis*. They both have been cast from the matrices of seals, and adapted for sewing upon the dress.

Roc-Amadour, M. Hucher tells us, is a celebrated place of pilgrimage, situate in the middle of the ancient province of Quercy, at eighteen *kilomètres* north-east of Gourdon. Placed in the bosom of a site exceedingly picturesque, it seems suspended between heaven and earth. Roc-Amadour owes its renown partly to the worship paid, from the most remote times, to the sacred Virgin, in a particular chapel of the church of that locality; and partly to the relics of St. Amadour, which have been preserved there for ages, and of which some remains are still shewn. The chapel is of the simplest construction, and its altar is of wood. The effigy of the Virgin is small, and painted black.

The origin of the pilgrimage of St. Amadour is lost in the night of time: the history of the sacred personage himself is not well understood, some confounding him with the Zaccheus of the New Testament, and others with St. Amateur, bishop of Auxerre.

St. Louis, convalescent from a long sickness, made, in 1244, a pilgrimage to our Lady of Roc-Amadour, as did Charles-le-Bel and John of Bohemia, in 1324; and in 1463, the weak and superstitious Louis XI bestowed at her shrine a share of his devotions, carrying away with

* J. R. Smith, Soho Square.

him upon his hat, we may suppose, one of the leaden signs of which he was so fond.

Friends and enemies equally respected the pilgrims who carried these tokens; and there is on record an account of an Englishman, who had been captured by the soldiers of Cahors, having been set at liberty immediately he was recognized as a pilgrim of our Lady of Roc-Amadour.* The English acted in like manner; but to render this privilege available, it was necessary to carry the particular sign (called in the Latin deed *sportula* or *sportella*), bearing upon one side the image of the Virgin, and upon the other that of St. Amadour. The people of the town manufactured them in a somewhat different manner, introducing the Veronica; but these were not so esteemed as the others. The bishop of Tulle, as abbé of Roc-Amadour, granted the right to the former and forbade the inhabitants to make them. But they sold both kinds to earn a livelihood in those troublous times. At last it happened, in 1425, that the bishop permitted the inhabitants to sell both these kinds of signs during two years.†

Fig. 3. A square plate of lead, much oxidised: Saint Eloy, forging upon an anvil, lifts the left hand to receive a circulated object, which a personage standing in front presents to him: behind the latter is a horse bridled, above which is what appears to be an angel in the clouds, with an incense pot: in the upper part, the legend: SIGNV · SCI · ELIGII. It may be assigned to the thirteenth century.

Dr. Rigollot, in his *Monnaies inconnues des Evêques des Innocens, des Fous, etc.*, † Nos. 117 and 118, has en-

* L'Abbé de Fouilhiac, Chron. Manusc. du Quercy, à l'an 1399.

† Ibid., à l'an 1425. † Paris, 8vo, 1837.

graved two very similar signs of St. Eloy, as bishop of Noyon. Dr. Rigollot remarks: "In a petition, presented, 1379, by the religious of the abbey of St. Eloy, of Noyon, mention is made of the pilgrims who resorted to the tomb of St. Eloy, offering to him wax candles and buying certain signs and scarfs of pilgrimage, objects which were sold for the benefit of the abbey (*Annales de l'église cathédrale de Noyon, par Jacques Levasseur, 1633, p. 493*).

Dr. Rigollot is of opinion, that the object offered to St. Eloy is a *wax candle in the form of a serpent*.

M. Hucher does not agree with Dr. Rigollot; and for the following reasons. He observes that all the signs which he describes in his paper, and all others which he has examined, represent the saints in the most striking and most popular traits of their life: the saints are glorified by the miracle or the action which has chiefly procured them veneration and worship; never is the worship itself represented;—we ought, therefore, to recognise in the scene upon this sign a miracle of the saint. The serpent or dragon held by the horseman, is the eternal enemy of mankind conquered by the virtue of the saint. In a chapel of the Virgin, in the cathedral of Mans, is a representation, in painted glass, of St. Eloy, as a smith, holding by his pincers the snout of a green devil, which seems to implore mercy.

M. Hucher's ingenious interpretation must, I think, be replaced by an explanation more satisfactory and equally in accordance with the rule he has proposed.

Mr. Waller and Dr. Husenbeth, see in the wheel-like object neither a candle nor a serpent; but a coil of gold wire.

Mr. Waller remarks: "St. Eloy, having learned the art of working in gold, left his native country and came to France. His skill became known to Bobboni, the

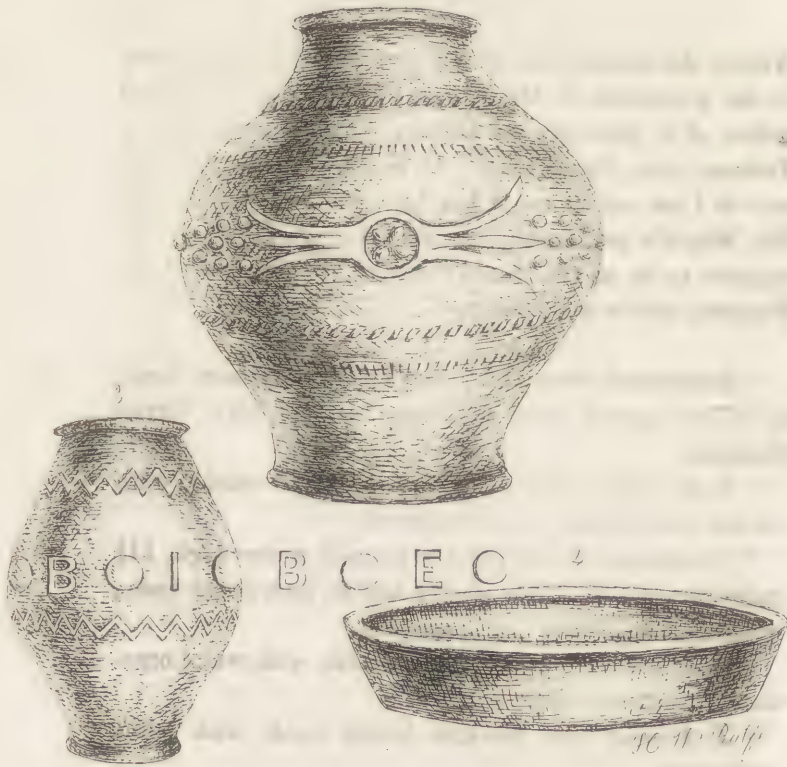
treasurer to king Clotaire. The king wished to have a saddle made of gold and gems. The treasurer introduced St. Eloy to him as a skilful workman. The king then delivered to him a large mass of gold, and the treasurer sent it to St. Eloy. With the gold so delivered to him he made *two* saddles instead of *one*, and did not lose a morsel of gold either by filing or by the furnace." Dr. Husenbeth refers to the same legend; and suggests that the angel may be supposed to be adding another piece of gold, to denote the miraculous assistance St. Eloy received. Upon the signs published by Dr. Rigollot, the supernatural aid is indicated by a hand proceeding from above. The horse stands below ready to receive the saddle.

Fig. 4. A sign of St. Nicholas, used as a brooch, with an acus at the back. It represents St. Nicholas and the three youths saved by his intervention, the subject of the well-known legend: below is inscribed S. NICOLA.

Fig. 5. ✠ SIGNA MARITRVM (*sic* for *martyrum*), LAVRENTII ET STEFANI. St. Lawrence holds in the right hand the handle of a huge gridiron, or the instrument used to hasten his death, placed before the sacred personages. The emblems of St. Stephen are four stones placed near the head of the martyr, outside the nimbus.

...the first ...
...the second ...
...the third ...
...the fourth ...
...the fifth ...
...the sixth ...
...the seventh ...
...the eighth ...
...the ninth ...
...the tenth ...

...the eleventh ...
...the twelfth ...
...the thirteenth ...
...the fourteenth ...
...the fifteenth ...
...the sixteenth ...
...the seventeenth ...
...the eighteenth ...
...the nineteenth ...
...the twentieth ...



PETHAM, KENT.

ROMAN REMAINS FOUND AT PETHAM, KENT.

PLATE XI.

AMONG the manuscripts of the Rev. Bryan Faussett, now in the possession of Mr. Joseph Mayer, is an illustrated notice of a discovery of Roman sepulchral remains at Petham, near Canterbury. It is not without interest; and as I am not aware it has been published, it is, with Mr. Mayer's permission, transferred to these pages. It appears to be in the handwriting of his son, Mr. H. G. Faussett, and is as follows:—

“ Account of some Antiquities found at Petham, Kent, in 1775: copied from the notes of the Rev. Bryan Faussett.

“ 1. A leaden chest, ornamented on the outside with corded raised work, as in the sketch.

“ Dimensions, 2 feet 5 inches long, $8\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, $11\frac{1}{2}$ inches broad; thickness, nearly half an inch at the ends; weight, about 1 cwt.

“ 2. Urn of very thin brownish earth, with white ornaments: contents, about a quart.

“ 3. A small one, blackish brown earth, with white ornaments.

“ 4. A patera of coarse black earth.

“ The leaden chest, which contained the urns and patera, was discovered and drawn out of the ground by the plough, in a field belonging to the Rev. Henry Thompson, near a place called Garlinge Green, in the parish of Petham, in the county of Kent, some time in the month of March, 1775. It is wonderful it had lain so long undiscovered, as it lay not above six inches beneath the natural surface of the ground, which had been continually under tillage. The persons who were present at the discovery and who opened the chest, declared that it contained nothing more than the particulars here mentioned, and that the urns were entirely empty. The larger urn was broken (as they say) by the ploughshare entering the chest. The smaller urn, with the word BIBE on it, appears to have been used as a drinking cup. (See such another, in *Beyer. Thesaur. Brandenburg.*, vol. iii, fol. 462.)

“ There can be no doubt but that these remains are Roman; but how they came to be thus deposited, by themselves (*i. e.*, without any human bones, ashes, medals, or the like) is very unaccountable. Such evidences might possibly have been met with by opening the ground to some distance round the place where they are found. This chest might probably, for instance, have been deposited (which is very usual) at the feet of some skeleton; but Mr. Thompson and his people contented themselves with only deepening the hole out of which it was drawn, and on finding nothing there, gave themselves no further trouble. It is not improbable, however, but that this spot may have been a Roman burying ground, though no appearance of any tumuli is now to be seen, they having many years ago been leveled by the plough. The soil, indeed, is an unfavourable one for researches of this nature, it being a stiff, stony clay. The situation is on

the hanging side of a gently declining hill, and faces the north-east. Indeed, the Roman burial grounds are most commonly, though not always, placed on declivities facing the south-west, and a chalky or gravelly soil, if such was to be had. There is chalk under this spot, and rises to the surface at the bottom of the hill, where there is a chalk pit.

“ B. FAUSSETT.”

It is most probable that the coffin contained the body of a child, which had entirely perished from the action of the atmospheric air, which these leaden coffins were not calculated to exclude; and, in this instance, the contiguity to the surface of the soil may have aided the decomposition of the bones.

In the third volume of the *Collectanea*, I have given a plate of Roman leaden coffins found in this country; and I have also cited several discovered in France. The example from Petham is somewhat different from all of them in the arrangement of the cable pattern, which seems to be designed to represent cords binding the coffin.

For examples of similar drinking cups, reference may be made to the *Collectanea*, vol. i, pl. iv.

DISCOVERIES OF
FRANKISH SEPULCHRAL REMAINS.

BY
M. AUGUSTE MOUTIÉ.

Plates XLI to XLV.

THE two cemeteries more particularly the subjects of M. Moutié's present notice,* are situate in the arrondissements of Mantes and Rambouillet, in the department of Seine and Oise, at a short distance from the town of Houdan. He tells us the whole of this part of the country is very rich in antiquities of the Celtic, Roman, and Merovingian periods. It came early under the dominion of the Franks; and the two vast cemeteries in question, prove it to have been a favourite settlement with that people.

The first of these cemeteries is situate on rising ground,

* This paper was kindly placed in my hands by M. Moutié, on the occasion of my last tour in France, when I visited him to inspect the antiquities described. The paper had been read before one of the leading antiquarian societies in France; but it remained unpublished. The tracings which illustrate the manuscript, are not sufficiently distinct and clear to warrant my giving so many etchings as I could have wished. [*Ed.*]

near the village of Maulette, to the north-east of Houdan, somewhat on the right of the high road from Paris to Brest. It was discovered some years since, during the construction of a new road, the cuttings for which disclosed a number of coffins of plaster, similar to those found at Epinay, near Dieppe, by the Abbé Cochet. The coffins were regularly ranged side by side, and were from three to four feet deep in the soil. The skeletons they contained were deposited on their backs regarding the east; and by them lay arms, ornaments, and vessels of coarse pottery, such as to positively bespeak Teutonic interments. Unfortunately M. Moutié was not apprised of this discovery, till the objects then found were entirely scattered or destroyed. A bronze coin or two, of the emperor Valentinian, seem alone to have fallen into his hands. It so happened, however, that the men whom he afterwards employed in his important explorations, were the very persons who discovered these coffins. These men at once recognized the close resemblance of the objects met with on that occasion with those they were now purposely set to disinter; and M. Moutié had the satisfaction of hearing all their statements. Since this discovery, the eminence at Maulette has received the name of *Butte des Cercueils*.

BUTTE DES GARGANS.

This second cemetery is to the north-west of Houdan, on the right of the road thence to the village of St. Lubin de la Haye, on the slope of a very prominent hill, called *Butte des Gargans*.

Here, again, the discovery of the cemetery was accidentally made, on opening a stone quarry. No antiquary, however, was at hand to turn it to account; and the workmen, finding the objects discovered altogether use-

less to them, made no effort to preserve them. Thus the stone continued to be quarried and the tombs destroyed during several years, till the affair attracted the notice of some gentlemen of Houdan. By their means M. Moutié also was rendered aware of what was going on, and his attention was so roused, that he purchased part of the ground on which the cemetery is situate. M. Moutié now commenced the systematic examination to which we owe the following notes. M. Moutié's personal superintendence renders his research exceedingly valuable. He says:—"The particulars I give may be relied on as scrupulously exact, and if I am mistaken in my application of them, still they will serve as data for the use of more experienced antiquaries.

"The extent of the territory on the Butte des Gargans is still undetermined; but, judging from the distance which separates the various points at which bodies have been found, it must amount to several hectares. The search we are about to describe was not over more than twenty-five ares.

"The tombs are in regular rows, closely placed alongside each other, at a depth varying from two to four feet. The surface soil is not more than from twelve to sixteen inches deep, and the graves are excavated, for the most part, in the solid chalk which lies above the limestone bed worked by the quarrymen. They are generally about six feet six inches long by two feet two inches broad. The bodies are regularly deposited upon their backs, with their faces turned toward the east. The head almost always is found lying on a flat stone, and the rest of the body covered with the fragments of a kind of shelly limestone, and the *débris* thrown out in making the grave.*

* In the Fairford graves, explored by Mr. Wylie, similar

These stones are not found here, and must have been brought by the relatives of the deceased, or the parties charged with the interments. The long iron nails usually met with at the angles of the graves, to the number of four or six, lead us to presume the bodies have been deposited in wooden coffins. I have not, however, succeeded in discovering any fragments of wood; but the soil is alternately so dry and so wet, that all vestiges of wood would speedily vanish.*

“ In a great number of these graves, vessels, arms, clasps, fibulæ, buckles, and various other objects we shall proceed to describe, are found with the bodies. It, however, frequently occurs, that the skeletons alone are found, whether it be that the substance of any things deposited has not resisted the natural effect of time, or that no deposit was ever made. A single example was noticed of two bodies being deposited in one grave, side by side. The decomposed condition of the bones did not permit us to ascertain the sexes; but an iron axe and a spear, laid between the two bodies, prove that one, at least, was that of a warrior.

“ Only one tomb of plaster has been found, which contained a skeleton similarly interred, with the head lying on a large fragment of a curve-edged tile.

“ Sometimes among these private interments large graves were met with, containing several bodies regularly interred side by side, with the heads always reposing on

layers of stone, which, however, had been in the fire, were found above the bodies.

* The discoveries at Oberflacht, in Suabia, show us that many wooden implements were deposited in Teutonic graves, which could only be preserved under rare contingencies of soil. See Mr. Wylie's paper in *Archæologia*, vol. xxxvi, p. 129.

a stone, and the rest of the body covered with stones unequally distributed. Such graves never contained pottery or arms, and but rarely a buckle or some *débris* of shapeless iron.

“ The bones found in these different graves are in such a state of decomposition, that the closest examination could not determine the sexes of any. Nothing remains but the bones of the arms and the legs, with the articulations for the most part entirely gone ; some pieces of the skull ; and the jaws, the teeth of which are always remaining.

“ Some of the skulls have been found perfect. These had low narrow foreheads, falling back, and the occiput was greatly developed. The bones are usually very large, and must needs be those of men of a lofty stature. It is only by study of the objects found in each grave that it is possible to determine the sex of the individual interred.

“ It must be remarked, that thus far no graves of children have been found.

“ Private or collective inhumation is not the sole mode of interment employed at the Butte des Gargans. It is certain that cremation was also practised there, and at the same period. This fact is proved by the presence of two graves, about six feet six inches square and three feet three inches deep, in the middle of all the rest, but far apart from each other. They merely contained a mixture of cinder, charcoal, human bones nearly consumed by fire, *débris* of vessels of earthenware and glass, melted bronze, and numerous fragments of shapeless and rusted iron. These were the *ustrina*, or spots devoted to the burning of the bodies.*

* It is probable these may have been the places where the funeral festivities and sacrificial ceremonies were held, and the remains, afterwards, buried.

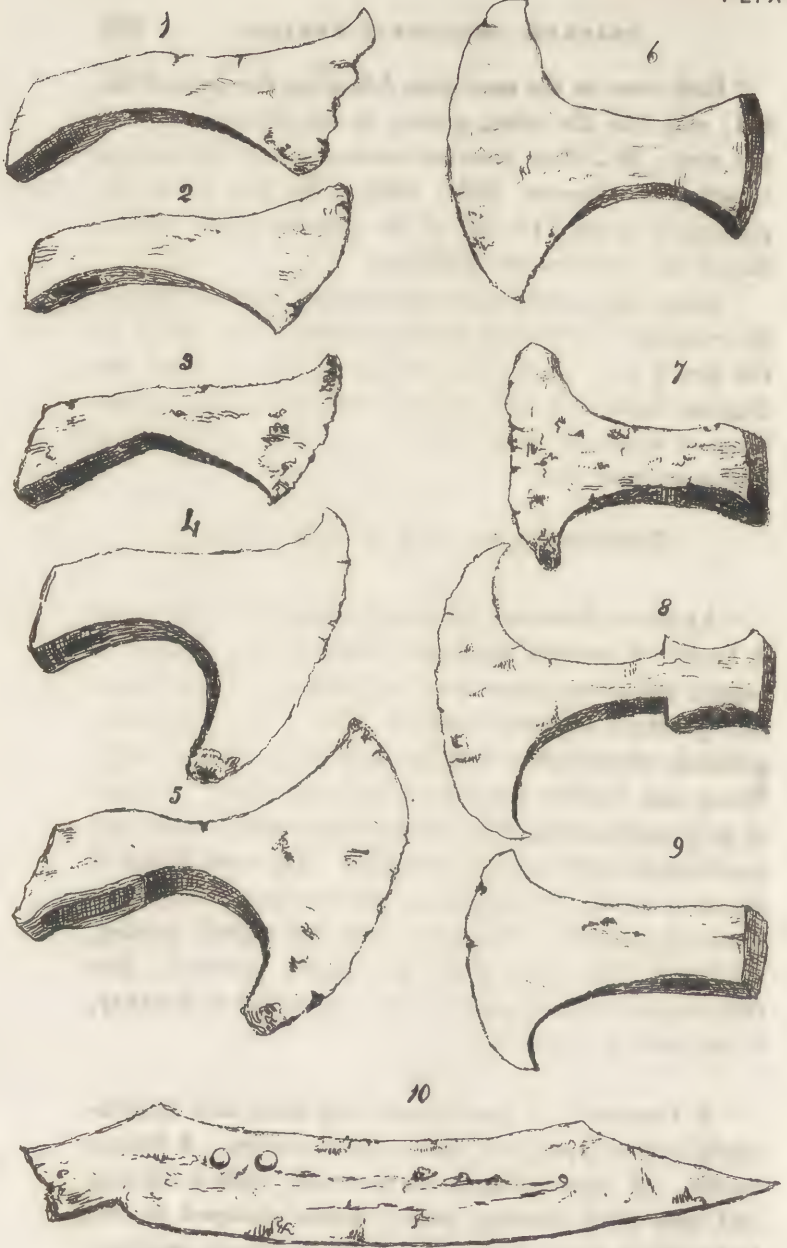
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These... the occupant... very large.

...from each other... of cinder, charcoal... fire, debris of...

...to the...

* It is probable these may have been the remains of the funeral festivities and sacrificial ceremonies which took place...



“Both were on the same line, following the slope of the hill; and, like the other graves, in the direction of east and west. M. Jollois observed similar ones in the ancient cemetery of Gievres, 1824, 1825. He has given the particulars in the 11th vol. of the *Annales* of the Société Royale des Sciences etc. d’Orléans.

“Large alleys, crossing at right angles, appear to divide the cemetery into various compartments. The extent of the part I have explored is too inconsiderable, and the diggings have been made too irregularly, by reason of the heaps of stone and earth from the excavations, to allow of giving an exact plan.”

DESCRIPTION OF SOME OF THE TOMBS.

I.

“An axe or francisca (plate xli) placed near the head. A buckle of metallic amalgam, which seems composed of copper and a vast quantity of tin, forming a white metal like platinum and very brilliant. Nitric acid produces a greenish effervescence, but has very little effect upon it. Many such buckles have been met with here. A vessel of grey earthenware, with border representing birds and quadrupeds, very coarsely executed. The same design is repeated on the circumference, and has been stamped by means of a mould. This vessel had had a black coating, soluble in water, and which had nearly perished. The francisca is the counterpart of the one found at Tournay, in the tomb of Childeric.

“II.

“A francisca. A lance-head, very keen, and double-edged in the upper part, with a round socket. A bronze buckle. A vessel of grey earthenware, with a shining and firm black coating, with a border stamped on the body, which forms a very obtuse angle; large aperture,

narrow base. The spear-head is like the one in the tomb of Childeric.

“ III.

“ Francisca, exactly like the preceding one : iron spear-head. Buckle of bronze like the preceding ; and an earthenware vessel with black coating and a border.

“ This is the tomb that has already been mentioned as containing two bodies lying side by side.

“ IV.

“ A francisca, like the two preceding. A blade of a knife, or *scramasax*, with single edge, and a keen point. It was by the body, about the height of the girdle. A baldric fastening, with the buckle of bronze tinned, engraved, and ornamented with five knobs. This *agraffe* was fixed on the baldric by three shanks soldered underneath, and pierced with holes to receive rivets. A small bronze clasp, with ornamented engraving in relief. A vessel of coarse earthenware, with black coating soluble in water. This vessel resembles in form those of the Gallo-Roman cemeteries at Mantes.

“ V.

“ A francisca ; a bronze buckle ; and an earthenware vessel, much broken.

“ VI.

“ A francisca ; a lance-head ; a square buckle, of the same amalgam as mentioned before ; and an earthenware vessel.

“ Of the franciscas mentioned above, the first and the two last weigh each a kilogramme ; the others only the half.

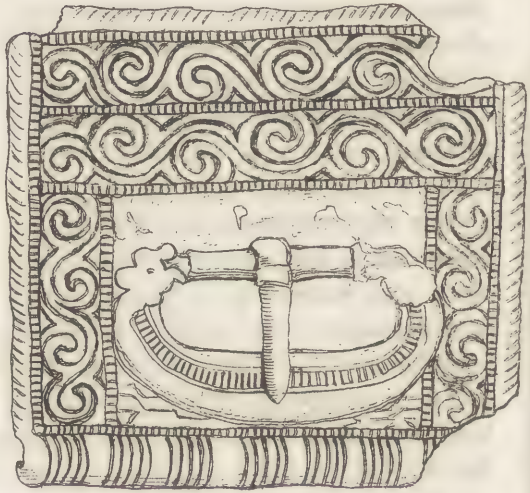
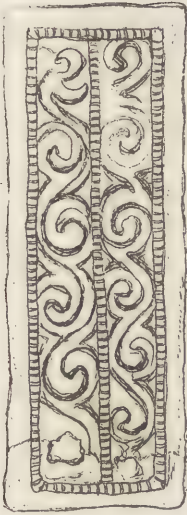
“ VII.

“ A francisca ; sword blade ; fragments of a belt buckle ; and earthen vessel.

“ VIII.

“ Francisca ; arrow head ; bronze buckle ; and a common earthenware vessel.





" IX.

" Francisca; blade of knife like those already described, and also another much smaller.

" A vessel of common pottery, with handle; a small bottle of white glass, transparent and very light; and a glass vessel of a greenish tint.

" Bronze belt-buckle, richly chased in relief, with a scroll pattern (pl. xliii). It is composed of a square plate, pierced in the centre to receive a buckle, which plays on a hinge, with the heads terminating in dolphins' heads. It is analogous to the belt-plate from the tomb of Childeric. It is further ornamented by two other triangular plates with similar ornamentation, forming altogether an elongated hexagon. These different parts were attached to the leather belt by rivets.

" Another square oblong plate with scroll pattern, and furnished with rivets. A lozenge-shaped plate terminating in a hook, which must have been used with the other portion that terminates in a hole to receive it, while the other end is constructed to receive the end of a leather strap. An instrument of bronze, which also appears to have belonged to the baldric. An agraffe, in three pieces, probably used for fastening a cloak. A flat strip of bronze, rolled up spiral-wise, perhaps an earring. A coin of large brass, much worn, on which, however, may be recognized the effigy of the Emperor Hadrian.

" This tomb, from the number of the vessels, the variety of the arms, and nature of the different objects it contained, must be considered the most remarkable of all hitherto discovered.

" X.

" A francisca; a spear-head; bronze buckle; earthen vessel; and a coin of second brass, which seems to be of Constantine, or one of his race.

“The last four franciscas have neither the same form nor character as the preceding. Their weight is less, and the socket for the handle is pierced straight, while in the others it is oblique, so that the blow would chiefly be given by the point, which is generally elongated and often broken.

“ XI.

“A vessel of grey pottery with stamped border, and black coating, which has remained, but is soluble in water. The same form and border are frequently found on vessels of various dimensions. An iron belt-fastening, which seems to have been plated, though but few threads of the silver remain. The tongue of the buckle is of the white metal before alluded to.

“Two bronze objects, with circular ornamentation in form of a cross, the lines of which are filled with enamel. These have little shanks beneath for the purpose of attaching them. Two more ornaments of tinned bronze, also furnished with shanks underneath. An amber bead become opaque, and some glass beads of various colours, which, beyond doubt, formed a necklace. A coin of small brass, with the helmeted effigy of Valens. It is pierced with a hole.

“Another tomb gave a second iron belt-fastening of the same form with the preceding, but of larger dimensions, and with the knobs, or bosses, of bronze.

“ XII.

“A baldric-plate of bronze, tinned, with an interlacing ornamentation on the upper surface. A square ornament, with surface socketed to receive glass of various colours. Sabre blade, with very keen point and single edge. On the upper part two knobs of bronze are visible, being, no doubt, part of the scabbard ornaments (pl. xli, fig. 10). A vessel of coarse pottery without any coating.

“ M. Jollois, in his *Antiquités du Loiret*, pl. xvi, fig. 1, mentions a baldric-plate and pottery, similar to the above, as found in the ancient cemetery of Briare.

“ XIII.

“ A baldric-plate of bronze tinned, and in very perfect condition. It is composed of a round plate, engraved and ornamented with three bosses. On the tongue of the buckle is engraved the barbarous design of a human head. To this also belongs a square plate, similarly turned and engraved, and ornamented with four bosses. The arms and pottery which accompanied this interesting buckle were not preserved, to my great regret.

“ XIV.

“ A vessel with fixed black coating, and a border in relief; a bronze stud; and a gold chased ring, with prominent bezil, set transparent with a red amethyst. This tomb was the deepest of all, being about five feet three inches in depth.

“ XV.

“ A vessel of very fine pottery, with black fixed coating and border, stamped with a rose pattern; a bronze object flattened at one end, which may be considered either a hair-pin, or a stylus for writing. A bronze fibula, which remarkably resembles those found in the ancient cemetery of Conlie (Sarthe). An ear-ring of bronze gilt, set with red and blue glass, in lozenge-shape sockets.

“ XVI.

“ A small copper vessel covered with a beautiful green patina; it has a slight handle: fig. 4, pl. xlv. It is ornamented within and without with circular lines lightly traced. This vessel has only suffered from oxidation in the bottom part. A glass cup of elegant form with a slight stem. A hair-pin, and a fibula of singular form (fig. 2), both found near the head. Another bronze fibula. An ear-ring, with a

blue glass bead set in a regular octagon ; and a bronze ring with double bezil, on one of which a cross is engraved. The objects found in these three last tombs would rather show them to have belonged to women. Others also, less interesting, have contained ear-rings, glass beads, and other ornaments, which never occur in the graves containing arms or belt-plates, with the exception, however, of grave No. xi.

“ xvii.

“ A patera of bronze mixed with silver (pl. xlii, fig. 1). The interior is ornamented by concentric circles, which divide the surface into eight zones or compartments. In the centre is a star with six radii ; the zone next to this is filled with an ornamentation of half-circlets interlaced. The fourth bears an inscription in Roman letters, part of which is destroyed by oxidation. The fifth and seventh zones are narrow bands of zig-zag ornamentation, enclosing the sixth, which is filled with a rich guilloche pattern. The characters on this patera are the only ones that have as yet been found. The same tomb contained a little glass vessel.

“ xviii.

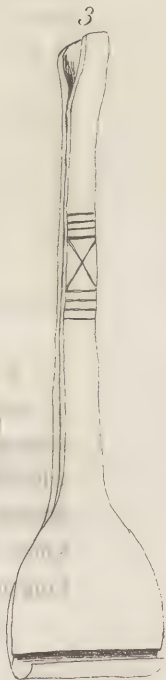
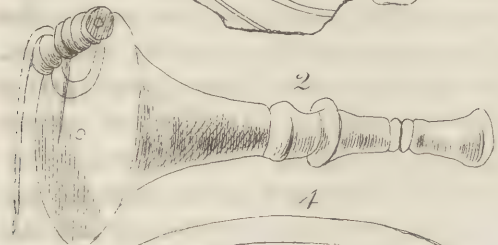
“ Finally, in a last grave, which contained also a vessel of very coarse pottery, we found a pair of shears or scissors, together with several blades of very rusted iron, which might have been razor blades. It need be no matter of surprise if this was the grave of a barber. We know the Franks shaved the face, reserving only their long moustaches.

‘ ... ac vultibus undique rasis

Pro barbâ tenues perarantur pectine cristæ,

are the words of Sidonius Apollinaris describing this people.*

* Panegy. in Majorian.



C. R. Sangnier

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Approximately 1700 A. D. (illegible)

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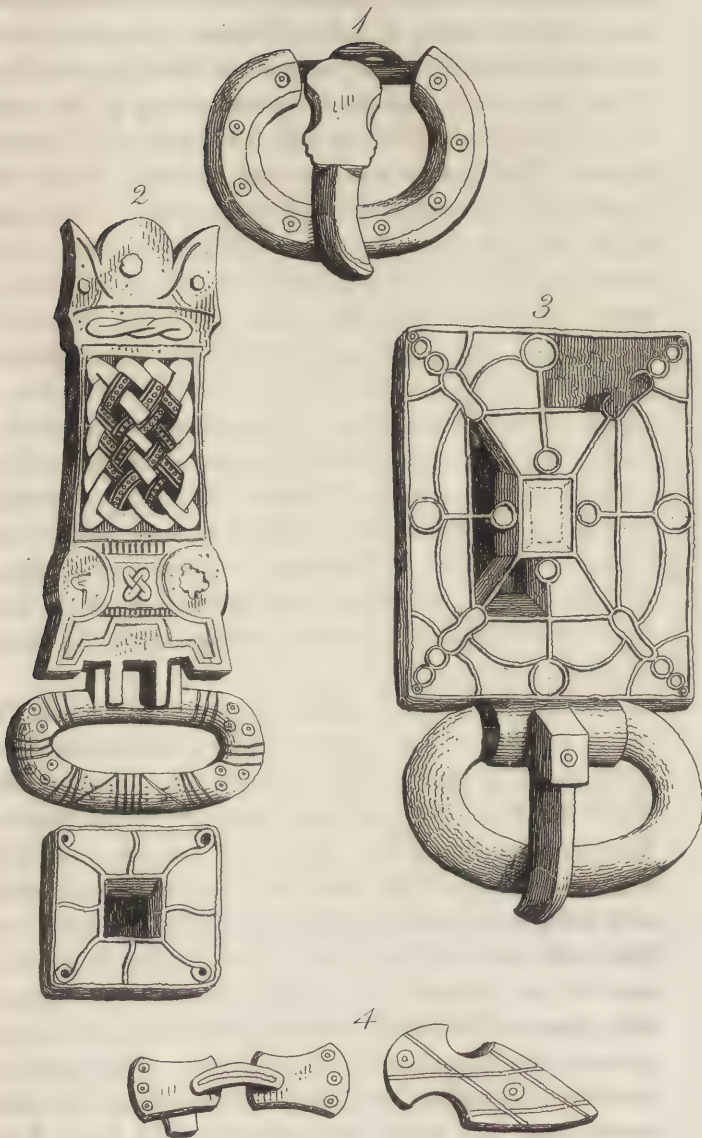
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“ I will terminate this long description, which explains all particulars of the mode of burial practised in that part of the cemetery which I have explored, by enumerating some distinct objects. A quadrangular arrow-head; buckles of various forms, of white metal or bronze; gilt or tinned ornaments; bronze bird with hooked beak, and eye formed by a cut amethyst; vessel of grey pottery with stamped border representing animals; vessel of yellow pottery slightly baked, and very delicate, light, and friable; vessel of common pottery of open form: this vessel, the smallest of all, was enclosed in another of the same form, but much larger. Vessel of black pottery, granulated and very light, and of better manufacture than all the rest. The vessels given in the sketches represent the principal varieties. I have collected more than sixty, which only differ in their sizes. They must be considered as funeral urns rather than vessels of domestic use, for which their black colour would render them unsuited. A vast quantity of fragments of pottery, bronze, and iron has also been found, and among them six more Roman coins; namely, two of Gallienus in billon, and one in small brass; one of Constantine; one of Gratian, also in small brass; and one entirely defaced.

“ It may be as well to give some account of what was found before I begin my investigations. The upper part of the Butte des Gargans, which extends eastward, appears the most ancient; but the arrangement and manner of the tombs corresponds with those in the lower part. But the workmen state the pottery found there was covered with a red colouring, or else with a fine yellow ware with a pattern in red. I have only been able to recover two of these vessels, through Dr. Aulet, who obtained them from a workman. These were not destroyed like the rest, and had, for several years, been

employed for domestic purposes. One is of white earthenware, with a coating of rich red colour; the other is of a material naturally yellow, and coarser than the preceding. It has three circles on the belly and spring of the neck, with the intervals filled up with a running scroll pattern in red. The handle was flat, and striated. These two vessels are evidently of Gallo-Roman make. In this part of the ground also some stone coffins were discovered, narrowing towards the feet, and with lids slightly turned over. They only contained bones, and were all broken up but one, which was used as a trough at a neighbouring farm. Some thin silver plates and ornaments, two of which represented beetles. Three bronze rings with a bezil. One bears the letter X engraved on the bezil,—perhaps the monogram of Christ. The bezil of another had borne a gem, now lost. The four small stones that remain are garnets. Tweezers of bronze gilt, broken by the workmen to ascertain the metal: fig. 3, pl. xlv. A fibula or fastening of bronze, composed of two bosses united by a ring.

“ Lastly, a beautiful baldric fastening of bronze gilt (fig. 3, pl. xlv). It is a plate of oblong rectangular form, divided (by a band of gilt bronze) into compartments which are filled with pieces of glass of various colours. The arrangement of the band is diagonally, vertically, and horizontally. The lines are terminated by round cells filled with beads of blue glass. The other cells are filled with plates of red glass. The central glass ornament is cut in facets. The compartments not supplied with glass are filled with a mastic, very friable, and turned green by the decomposition of the metal. The buckle is attached to the plate by a hinge. The tongue was ornamented also by a round bead, which is now lost. Four rivets at each angle of the plate served to secure it on the



FRANCE.

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baldric.* A spear stroke seems to have pierced the plate through and through. It is to be regretted that the other relics which accompanied this ornament were not preserved, as probably the tomb was that of a person of rank.

“REMARKS.

“The cemetery of the Butte des Gargans appears to have served as the place of burial for several generations. The excavations up to the present time have brought to light a great number of graves, but do not allow of our yet deciding positively at which period its sepulchral application was first commenced, or when it was discontinued. The graves of the upper part, which contained red or painted pottery, seem to go back to the last period of the Roman dominion here.

“The tombs found in the lower part of the ground, of which I have given a circumstantial account, differ from the former, both in the nature of the pottery, which is of a form not usual in Gallo-Roman graves, and also in the iron arms and bronze objects found there. These all belong to one same period, so far as one can judge from the uniformity evident in the mode of burial. The bodies have all the same orientation; are covered with a layer of stones, while the head rests on a flat fragment of stone, and this both in the common as in private graves. The head of the skeleton within the only plaster coffin found here, was resting on a fragment of a curve-edged tile. The pottery noticed in the ustrina were *débris* of

* The coloured drawing from which the etching was made was furnished me, some years since, by M. Dufour, of Amiens. For comparison, I may refer to the beautiful baldric ornament from Germany in the museum of Lord Londesborough, engraved in vol. ii, pl. xxxv.

vessels, such as those found in graves with bodies simply inhumed; and all the tombs were similarly ranged side by side, whether they contained ashes, or bodies inhumed collectively or separately; or had pottery and other objects or not.

“ I have already pointed out the great resemblance between various objects found in these researches and those of the tomb of Childeric, which was discovered at Tournay in 1653. This identity, which a careful comparison with the relics in the *Bibliothèque du Roi* (now in the Louvre) and the engravings in Montfaucon, has verified, allows us to suppose these graves now before us are not of much later date than that of Tournay, and ascend to the first period of the Frankish occupation of Gaul, under the Merovingian kings.

“ This hypothesis is supported by the presence of these tombs in a cemetery which has also served for Gallo-Roman burial. The strongest corroboration, however, will be found in the correspondence of these arms, belt-plates, and buckles, with the accounts given by contemporary historians of the arms and dress of the Franks.

“ In a letter of Sidonius Apollinaris, describing the costume of some Franks he saw at the court of Theodoric, he says: ‘*Penduli ex humero gladii balteis super currentibus strinxerant clausa bullatis latera rhenonibus.*’ All contemporary writers describe their favourite weapon to have been an axe, with single or double blade, and a very short handle, which was chiefly used as a missile. The Frankish warriors ordinarily commenced the combat by hurling their axes at the heads or bucklers of their foe, and rarely missed their aim.

“ Sidonius Apollinaris terms this axe *securis missilis*; Gregory of Tours, *bipennis*; Agathias, *πελεχυσ αμφιστομος*, or double-bladed; and Procopius describes this variety as more commonly used.

“ This weapon obtained the name of francisca from the warriors who bore it. I have given eight varieties of it ; the most common is fig. 3, pl. xli. It is the weapon most commonly found. In the *Bibliothèque du Roi* is an example of one with two blades and a point. Besides this the Franks had the sword or sabre, but single edged ; the angon, a kind of short keen-pointed iron pike, with two sharp barbs ; the short lance ; and the poignard, knife, or *scramasax*, as they called it. The *scramasax* was worn at the belt, and, armed with this, the assassins of Frédégonde slew Sigebert, king of Austrasia. We have found a great many, either perfect or broken.

“ The two only sabres which I have met with in a perfect state, seem to answer to the description Chifflet gives of Childeric ; but there was no trace of scabbard or hilt. The Society of Antiquaries of Picardy, in their museum at Amiens, have many specimens found in graves, or in the great moors along the Somme. Some contemporary writers affirm that the Franks had no missile but the francisca, and knew not the use of the sling or bow. Iron points have been found which resemble those of arrows, but never more than one in a grave. They are very rare, and never accompanied by objects which denote the use of the bow. Perhaps these might rather be classed in the list of *spicula* or *missilia* ?

“ I need not observe that Roman coins cannot fix an anterior epoch to the graves where they occur. The Roman coinage, as is well known, was in use long after the extinction of the Roman power. The first French kings only struck coins of gold and silver. The tomb of Childeric produced about three hundred gold and silver pieces, a part of which bore the effigies of the first Roman emperors ; and some even of those of a contemporary period.

“ Such are the discoveries thus far made at the Butte des Gargans. Other cemeteries, which appear of the same date, have been discovered in the Department de Seine et Oise ; but they have been less examined. In 1823-25, at Poigny, near Rambouillet, some gamekeepers, while destroying rabbit burrows on a sandy hill, found several plaster coffins, at a very shallow depth, which contained human bones and iron weapons. I am informed on good authority these weapons were similar to the ones we have discovered here. This circumstances corroborates the use of plaster coffins, to which some antiquaries assign a less ancient date.

“ Another cemetery also was discovered in May 1841, at St. Martin Bréthencourt, also near Rambouillet, on a little sandy hill called Aigre Mont. The arrangement of the graves corresponded with that at the Butte des Gargans ; but no coffins were found. Some twenty tombs were opened. They contained no pottery, but merely arms and ornaments, which differed very little from those I have discovered.

“ Cemeteries which may be attributed to the Merovingian period, and in which memorials have been met with analogous with those which have just been described, have been discovered in a great many of the Departments of France, as in those of the Oise, the Aisne, the Somme, Calvados, the Sarthe, and Franche Comté. The most remarkable is that of Benouville, in Calvados, where similar arms and pottery have been found, together with Merovingian money.

(Signed) “ AUGUSTE MOUTIÉ.”

Now that the antiquaries of France and England are becoming more awakened to a sense of the importance of the Frankish and Saxon antiquities, heretofore but little understood, M. Moutié's report on the discoveries he has so successfully made, will be received with much interest, and with due acknowledgments of the zeal displayed in the research and the judgment shown in turning the result to archæological account. The Abbé Cochet (who introduced me to M. Moutié) has, as might have been expected, frequently referred for comparison, in his "Normandie Souterraine," to M. Moutié's observations; but a detail of the facts themselves remained unpublished in any form that could be made available to the scientific inquirer. Even now, we still feel the want of a great number of suitable engravings, which could not be prepared from the faint tracings which accompanied the paper. Still, in the copious abstract of the report now printed, the student is placed in possession of the facts; and it may be expected that M. Moutié's labours will now be better appreciated in France; and that means will there be found to engrave his entire collection.

The various types of battle-axes, or *franciscas*, are among the most remarkable of the objects from the *Butte des Gargans*. The fact of the comparatively small number of these weapons found in our Saxon cemeteries, supports the historical evidence that ascribes them especially to the Franks. In observing the number of the battle-axes, we, at the same time, must notice the absence of the short, light spear, the *framea*, which was the Saxon national weapon. Of these, M. Moutié found only two or three specimens.

In the Catalogue of my collection of London Antiquities, p. 106, No. 559, I had classified under the Saxon head, a belt-plate found in Smithfield, which some of my

antiquarian friends considered of Norman origin. I now give an etching of it (pl. xlii) for comparison with one discovered by M. Moutié (pl. xliii), which, from its close resemblance, decides the correctness of my appropriation, and, at the same time, is accompanied by accessory ornaments by which the perfect baldrick, or girdle, may be easily restored. Too much stress cannot be laid on the importance of studying the French and German antiquities conjointly with those of England; and as in the pages of the *Collectanea* this course of archæological study was, I believe, first insisted on, it is gratifying to be continually adding striking proofs in the same work of the soundness of the course I had pursued and recommended. Other girdle buckles from the *Butte des Gargans* have a general resemblance to those frequently found in Frankish cemeteries in Germany and in France; and a very close affinity with one from the valley *de l'Eaulne*, fig. 1, pl. xviii, "Normandie Souterraine," 2^e. edit. The rarer examples are shown in our plate xlv; fig. 2 being that which was found in grave No. xii, together with the square ornament with cells for glass or garnets; and fig. 3, that described in p. 188, which, as I have before remarked, belongs to the class of which an example, from Cologne, is given in vol. ii.

The general forms and ornamentations of the urns may be well comprehended by reference to those in pp. 149 and 207, vol. ii; but some of them are diversified with rude representations of animals and leaves in bands upon the upper part of the vessels. M. Moutié (p. 181) seems to consider that these urns were manufactured for funeral purposes. Nearly, if not quite, all the examples of Frankish pottery have come down to us through the grave; but it is probable they had previously served in a domestic capacity. The black colour seems to be vegeta-



H. W. Rolfe.

LONDON.



ble; and was apparently imparted to the pottery by the means of what we have termed "smother-kilns," which were extensively used by the Romans for making a black kind of ware. Indeed, these vessels, if not made by Romans, were evidently the work of those who attempted to copy Roman models.

The bronze patera found in grave No. xvii, is Roman. Of the inscription, the words *VTERE FELIX* remain; the portion wanting probably contained the name of the person to whom it had been given, and to whom the good wishes of the donor were addressed. It is etched half the actual size.

While the above was in the press, I have received from M. Moutié a report on excavations made at Vicq (Seine-et-Oise), by the Archæological Society of Rambouillet. The site of the researches was an ancient cemetery, which proved to be of Frankish origin. The graves, as is unfortunately often the case, had been mostly violated at some remote period; and the spoliation had been so effectual that but little remained except the tombs themselves, many of which were of plaster. One, engraved by M. Moutié, is formed of fragments of Roman sculptured stones, as were some of the same epoch found at Bayeux by M. Lambert. In the road which skirts the present burial-place of Vicq, among the fragments of sarcophagi of calcareous stone, identical with some from the Frankish cemetery, was one with part of an inscription, which, belonging as it does to the Merovingian period, is worthy of record. The last lines, all that are preserved, are thus given:

.....

TESIM NOMIN.

ADELFIUM ANNOR...

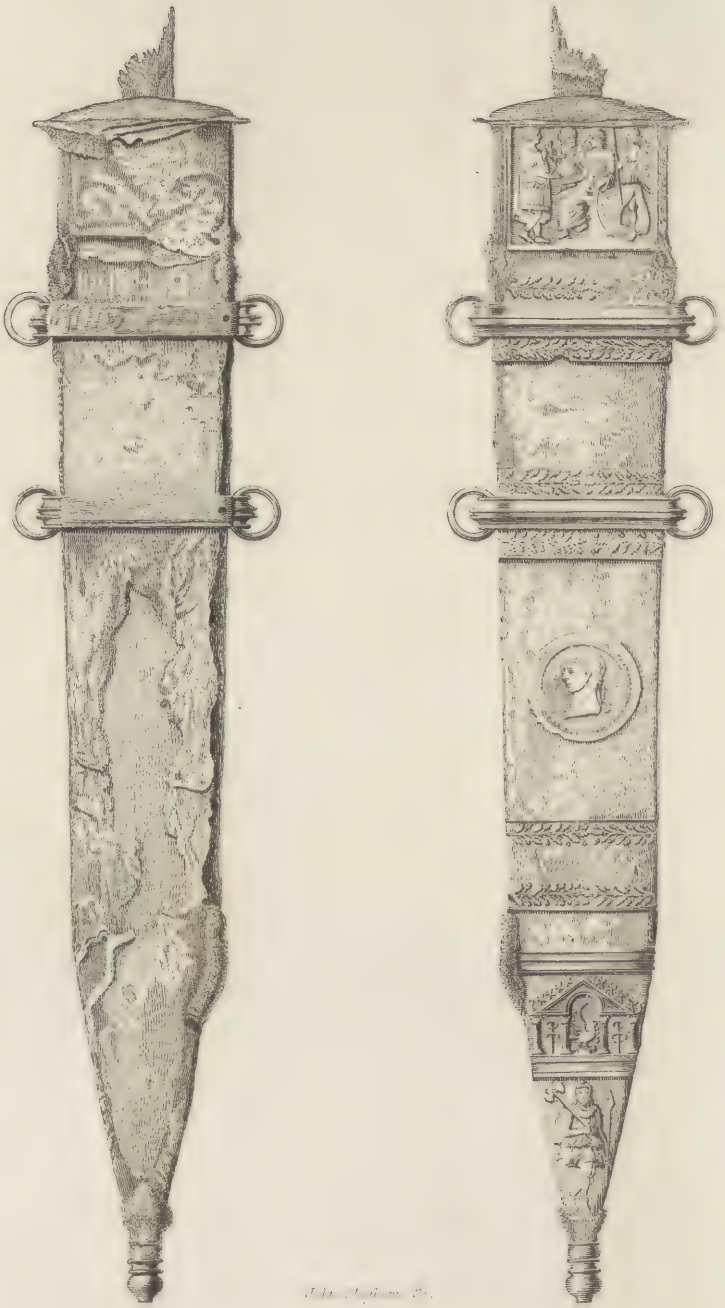
followed by some indistinct numerals denoting the age of

the defunct. The original epitaph, as has been suggested, ran probably in this sense :—

Deposuimus sub hoc titulo fratrem pietissimum nomine Adelfum, annorum. .

But by far the most remarkable object found in the cemetery at Vicq is a small globe in crystal or in glass, of a darkish colour, enclosed in two silver circular bands, arranged cross-ways and united to a small cube, in the same metal, pierced with a hole for a wire for suspension. It is identical with one found at Chatham by Douglas ; and figured in his "Nenia Britannica," pl. iv, fig. 8 ; and with two discovered by Mr. Hillier at Chessell, in the Isle of Wight, and engraved in colours in part ii of his "History and Antiquities of the Isle of Wight." Another, without the setting, is engraved in the "Inventorium Sepulchrale," p. 42, of Bryan Faussett. It was found in a stone tomb which, from its small dimensions and the size of the bones it contained, must have been that of a child. It had rolled to the bottom of the tomb, and so escaped the notice of the plunderers, who had ransacked this and the adjoining graves. M. Moutié considers it either as an ornament of itself for the neck ; or the centre of a necklace of beads. It was probably worn alone, as the rings attached to the Anglo-Saxon examples indicate.





Roman Sword found at Castel, near Mayence.

Antiquities of the Roman Empire, Plate XLV.

ROMAN SWORD FOUND NEAR
MAYENCE.

Plate XLVI.

THERE are certain works of ancient art which, notwithstanding undoubted claims on the consideration of the antiquary, appear from time to time in England, to and remain here to be disregarded, until they are reclaimed by some more discriminating country to take a prominent place in a national museum. Such was the fate of the beautiful bronze statue from Lillebonne (see vol. iii, pl. xxv, *Col. Ant.*), which for many years remained on sale in London; and then was eagerly purchased, at a low price, by the French Government, to adorn one of the principal rooms in the Louvre, and to be justly prized as one of the gems of that national establishment. It can hardly be money that is wanting on such occasions, for we yearly, almost monthly, see large sums expended on objects of inferior importance. Neither can it be want of the *amor habendi*, which is everywhere stirring up individuals and public bodies to collect antiquities at almost any price. This taste for collecting has been fostered by the increased attention paid to archæology. But it has not only grown with the science; it has far outstript its advances, which, too frequently, it embarrasses and obstructs rather than assists. The possibility of apply-

ing antiquities to historical, or to artistic, or to any useful purpose, is too often lost sight of in the eagerness of competition in the race for obtaining possession. Why, in the midst of struggles such as these, valuable objects are sometimes passed by, may be probably explained by the same reason which so often makes the collector of a gallery of paintings entrust the purchase to others, namely, a want of that judgment which is a safeguard against fraud and error. Collectors of antiquities are seldom sufficiently experienced to guard at all times against the clever forger and adapter; and their curators themselves are often puzzled by the appearance of rare and novel works of ancient art with which they are not familiar; and suspicion naturally takes the place of decision.

In 1851 I introduced to the English public, through the pages of the "Gentleman's Magazine," a Roman sword I accidentally saw at Mayence during a tour I was making in the previous year. It had been found near that city; and was then in the hands of Mr. Gold, a dealer, for sale. As the sword possessed more than ordinary claims on the antiquary, I was not a little surprised that in a country such as Germany, which can boast of so many classical archæologists, the peculiar merits of such a relic had not been made known to the Prussian or Austrian government. Some two or three years afterwards I found the same sword in the possession of Mr. Farrer, of Bond Street. Years roll on; and there I find it still; and, upon a second inspection, I am become convinced that it is even more extraordinary as a work of art and as illustrating one of the most eventful passages in the history of Germany, than I had considered it.

As Germany has of late years supplied its share of spurious antiquities to the English market, those who had not seen, or could not confidently judge of the Mayence

sword, might pause or doubt ; but to those who had seen it, it was impossible to create a suspicion of its perfect genuineness : like the Lillebonne statue, it bore such an unequivocal and peculiar stamp of truthfulness, that scepticism could find no resting place for mistrust or suspicion. Some other cause must therefore be assigned to the fact of its not being at present in some national collection ; and this fact does not say much for European archæological taste or for European liberality.

By the kind permission of Mr. J. Gough Nichols, I am enabled to bring this remarkable sword again before the antiquarian world, feeling convinced that among the readers of the *Collectanea* will be found many who, if not yet familiar with it, will be pleased to be made acquainted with it, and probably be glad to examine the sword itself while it is in Mr. Farrer's possession. As upon reflection I see nothing material to alter or to modify, I give the description, with slight additions, I supplied to the "Gentleman's Magazine," for 1851.

One of the most remarkable and interesting objects at Mayence, but which is not yet secured for the museum, is a Roman sword in its sheath, discovered (we were told), a short time since, at Castel, during excavations for the railway terminus. A representation of it is given in our plate ; and it may be thus described :—The sword itself, being of steel, is so oxidized that it cannot with safety be withdrawn from the scabbard ; and only the upper end, where it is united to the hilt (which is unfortunately broken and lost), is visible. The scabbard is twenty-four inches in length ; and, at the widest part, three inches and a quarter in width. It appears to have been made of thin wood, covered with silver plating, which is almost perfect ; but the wood is decayed. It is bound round by two bands, to which are affixed rings for suspending it to a belt. As

this silver coating is the main feature of the sword, and the material in which the subjects and ornamental designs about to be mentioned are stamped, it is especially worthy attention. Except that the silver is thicker, it has precisely the appearance of the plating upon the coins of the time of Claudius and Tiberius, with which every numismatist is familiar, and it was produced in like manner, by striking. Examples of this mode of casing with embossed or stamped silver may be found in continental museums and in our national collection. The coffer found in the Saxon grave at Strood (now in Mr. Mayer's museum), may be conveniently referred to as an analogous instance although much later in date.

On the upper part of the sheath is a group of figures, the object of which is explained fully by two shields; that by the side of the central personage, who is seated, being inscribed FELICITAS TIBERI; the other, VIC. AVG. The principal figure we must therefore consider to be intended to represent the emperor Tiberius himself, who is also indicated in the inscription upon the second shield, *Victoria Augusti*. The youthful military figure standing before the emperor, and presenting to him an image of Victory, can hardly be explained to be other than Germanicus, whose military adventures and successes in Germany are so vividly recorded by Tacitus. The name of the hero does not occur; and this omission is an important evidence towards identifying the figure as that of Germanicus. Upon the monument which he erected to commemorate the vanquishment of the nations between the Rhine and the Elbe his name is supplanted by that of Tiberius, to whom he ever carefully ascribed his victories, without naming himself, being apprehensive of the envy of the tyrant, or because he was satisfied in deserving

praise: "De se nihil addidit, metu invidiæ, an ratus conscientiam factis satis est."*

Behind Tiberius stands a female winged figure holding a *hasta pura*, or pointless spear, and a shield inscribed VIC. AVG. This is the goddess Victory; and the artist seems to have intended to shew by her adoption of the *hasta pura* (the emblem of peace), the termination of the war, while the *victoriola*, which she often is represented as carrying, is transferred to the hands of Germanicus, who presents it to Tiberius. The armed figure in the background may probably be intended for Mars, to whom, in conjunction with Jupiter and Augustus, the monument alluded to above was dedicated.

On the lower part of the sheath are two designs, which also seem capable of being explained. The upper of these, two standards, and an eagle within a temple, probably is intended to refer to the recovery of the lost eagles and standards of Varus, an achievement commemorated by coins and a triumphal arch. The female figure in the lower compartment, armed with a *bipennis*, or double axe, and a light spear, may be considered a personification of Germany, or of those parts of the country in alliance with the Romans during the campaign of Germanicus. Conspicuous among the auxiliary troops on this memorable occasion were the Rhæti and Vindelici, who in after times we find continuing to form a substantial portion of the army. That these nations from an early time used the battle-axe, would seem to be implied by a passage in Horace: †

"Videre Rætis bella sub Alpibus
Drusum gerentum Vindelici; quibus

* Tacit. Ann., lib. ii, c. xxii.

† Lib. iv, Od. 4.

Mos unde deductus per omne
 Tempus Amazonia securi
 Dextras obarmet, quærere distuli;
 Nec scire fas est omnia."

As the Amazonian axe is more commonly represented as doubled-edged, it would seem by this expression that the *bipennis* of Gregory of Tours (the *πελεχυσ αμφιστομος* of Agathias) is intended, not merely as a poetical figure, but to describe a weapon actually in use by the Rhæti and Vindelici; and as the figure carries also what resembles the *framea*, or light spear, universally used by the Germanic nations, there is every reason to consider a personification of Germany is here intended. But in the graves of the ancient Germans, and of their descendants, the Franks and Saxons, the spear is commonly found; as well as the axe, as we have seen in the account of M. Moutié's discoveries, and in other parts of these volumes. It is, however, a single and not a double-bladed axe. Of the latter, the axe of the poet and of the historians, not an example from a Teutonic grave has, I believe, yet been found; and therefore, until in the regions occupied by the Rhæti and Vindelici we discover such weapons, we must consider the German battle-axe to be represented by the numerous types furnished by the graves themselves. In an Anglo-Saxon vocabulary, forming part of a volume of mediæval vocabulary now in the press, edited by Mr. Wright,* the Latin *bipennis* is rendered in the Anglo-Saxon "stan-ex", —a stone axe. Mr. Wright, in a note, remarks that 'the use of this expression, in the explanation of the Latin *bipennis*, is curious, as showing, apparently, either that the Anglo-Saxons did use axes made of stone, or that they believed that the axes of stone, so often found in

* Under the auspices of Mr. Joseph Mayer.

different parts of England, and usually ascribed to the Celtic population of the island, were really the Roman weapons designated by that name.' (p. 84.) These stone-axes may be considered double-edged, though one extremity is often diminished to a blunt point. It would appear that the Anglo-Saxons, when this vocabulary was compiled, knew of no kind of metal double-bladed axe.

Some of the German antiquaries, it appears, have suggested a different interpretation to the group of figures from that which I have ventured to offer. In the sitting personage they recognize Augustus; and in the figure standing opposite to him, Tiberius. Tiberius, it is well known, distinguished himself in Germany, under Augustus, as did Drusus, to whom Horace addressed the ode containing the lines alluding to the Rhæti and Vindelici. But the inscription upon the shield is, I think, as decisive in identifying the person by whose side it is placed and whose hand rests upon it, as the epigraph of a coin is in explaining the portrait it surrounds. The figures themselves also remind us of those of Tiberius and Germanicus upon their coins; and the medallion in the centre of the sheath more resembles Tiberius than Augustus.

RESEARCHES AND DISCOVERIES.

The Graves of the Alemanni at Oberflacht in Suabia.—Among the investigators of the remains of the Teutonic races, Mr. W. M. Wylie has earned our best thanks. Besides his contributions to Anglo-Saxon archæology, he has gone afar into the native lands of the great Teutonic races, and brought back much information of that very peculiar and rare description which is so much valued by the student. The Alemanni (by which title the Suevi of Cæsar and of Tacitus were in later times distinguished) hold a conspicuous position in history; but, until very recently, we were wholly without materials for identifying their remains, such as have been supplied by the Frankish and Anglo-Saxon graves. Mr. Wylie introduces to us* a remarkable discovery made by Captain Von Dürrieh, of the Würtemberg Engineers, in 1846, of which an account was printed in the memoirs of an Antiquarian Society at Stuttgart, not one copy of which, it is likely, has ever reached this country. Oberflacht is a village about two leagues distant from Tutlingen, a small town on the confines of Würtemberg and Baden, near the sources of the Danube at Donaueschingen; and here, while searching for clay, the graves, afterwards systematically opened by Captain Von Dürrieh, were discovered. Mr. Wylie gives the leading peculiarities of the funereal

* Archæologia, vol. xxxvi, p. 129.

practices of the tribe of Alemanni, to whom he attributes the graves, as follows:—

“ We find no traces of cremation. The rite of inhumation was pursued in two ways, both having singular regard to the preservation of the corpse. The more prevailing mode seems to have been, to fell a massive oak, cleave the bole into nearly equal parts, and hollow out the interior for a sarcophagus. After the body and the various accompanying relics were placed in this tree-coffin, the two parts were refitted, and firmly pegged together. In the whole of this process no trace of the saw appears. It was managed with the axe or adze alone; and hence it follows that the stems are frequently found unevenly divided. On the outside the bark was merely removed, and the inequalities smoothed off. On the upper part, or lid, of such coffins as contained the corpses of *men*, the crested forms of snakes are rudely carved on the whole length in full relief. In some cases, the stems of pear-trees have been used, and have always been found in a very decayed state. These tree-coffins were mostly found at a depth of from four to five feet.”

“ The other description of interment was on a couch or crib, the framework of which consisted of four posts, connected by a tastily-carved wooden rail. On one occasion, this death-couch was divided horizontally into two stories; while another, not less than eleven feet and a half in length, was found to be divided into three compartments. Another was furnished with a covering like a gable roof, on the ridge of which the usual guardian snakes were carved. The bodies lay with the heads to the west. The smaller coffins were found merely lying in the clay, and were generally in a state of decay. Those of a better class, however, were protected from the incumbent soil by a covering of massive oaken planks. The richer inter-

ments were completely cased, as though in a chest, with massive oak trees. In several graves the roofing was higher at the extremities of the interments than at the middle, apparently for the purpose of more effectually protecting the serpents' heads carved on the coffin lids. The wood has generally become hard and black like ebony."

The extraordinary preservation of the coffins, as also of the wood relics they contained, is, as Mr. Wylie surmises, to be attributed to the impervious nature of the clay, which entirely shut out the atmospheric air. The coffins of the Anglo-Saxons have invariably perished; and traces of them only are, with some difficulty, to be found; indeed, all kinds of soil, with the exception of clay, which forms a kind of earthenware casing, are fatal to the preservation of wood and all substances acted upon by the atmosphere and moisture.

The more remarkable contents of the graves were,—

1. Stout iron sword, in a wooden scabbard, two feet and a half long; one inch and a quarter broad, and double-edged. (This is the general type of the swords in other graves.) A strong bow, seven feet long, with remains of arrows. Between the legs a gourd, a walnut, and fifteen hazel-nuts. The feet were in handsome leather sandals, (of Roman fashion.)

2. Skeleton of female in leaves and moss. Comb of black horn, neatly ornamented with small circles, in a case of the same material.

3. Death-couch (*totten bettstatt*) of two stories: in the upper, at the feet, a handsome wooden bottle: in the lower, a white, barked, hazel-rod, between the legs; on either side of the head, two wooden shoes, beautifully carved; between the legs, wooden bowls.

4. Bow and arrows: arrows two feet long: the remains

of the cement, with which the feathers had been fastened, was still visible.

5. An iron lance-head; small wooden bowl and earthen jug. On the right of the skeleton a sword; on the left two swords; a horizontal piece of bronze with snakes' heads, whereon probably a pouch (or purse) had hung; bronze tweezers; a bronze stylus; an iron buckle with purple glass studs; two flints; some felt; a little rag of dark cloth; at the feet a wooden bowl.

6. Outside of the coffin, a wooden bowl; inside, a broken bowl of pottery; a large wooden bowl with remains of a dark thick porridge; and upon it a wooden bottle; near it a small wooden bowl; three arrows and a long bow.

6. At the foot a large earthen jug; and a wooden candlestick, like those still in use at Oberflacht: on the right side a bow and three arrows.

7. The head separated from the neck, and placed between the feet. On the right a bow cut into three pieces; three arrows and a long rod.

8. At the feet an earthen jug with a spout; the remains of bow and arrows and two wooden bowls. In the middle of the coffin fifty-eight cherrystones.

9. A boarded roofing, forming, as usual, a long quadrangle, with the corners unusually rounded off. Beneath it lay a smoothed and perfectly round tree-coffin, without the snakes' heads, which contained the remains of a female covered with water, in which seven pears were floating. These were brown and shrivelled; but the rind, the insides and stems, of an inch to one and a half in length, were very distinguishable; fragments of cloth and a piece of fine bordered silk riband.

10. A well-preserved bow, an arrow, a rusted knife, and a small whetstone.

11. A child's couch, resting on pillars; a little black earthen vessel, and a large wooden bowl; over the feet, a wooden stool; a bronze finger-ring, and a stone spindle-twirl; on the neck, seven large beads; on the left, a large, sceptre-formed, piece of wood.

12. A singular pair of leather gloves, strongly laced on the back of the hand, and lined with a soft cloth; a little vessel neatly turned out of a piece of oak; two large and one small wooden bowl.

13. A large black earthen jug upon a wooden platter, in which some thick brown porridge yet remained. A thick bed of well-preserved moss filled the coffin. Upon it was lying a female body; the red hair was in good preservation; a hair-pin was still fastened in it; and close by were the remains of a little leathern hood; twenty small variegated glass beads; a quantity of pears with long stems.

14. On the feet two leathern sandals.

15. A set of weaving implements in perfect preservation. Between two thin boards, sixteen inches long, were eight very thin boards, two spindles or knitting-pins, and a very pretty reed, which closely responds to the measures of a Würtemberg foot; skeleton in straw; near it a handsome wooden bowl.

16. Iron lance-head, fastened with gilt nails, and bound round with a thin leather strap. Remains of an oval wooden shield, covered with some white material, and this again with leather, two feet and a half long, and one foot and a half broad. Below the tree-coffin, two long thin hazel rods; inside a male skeleton (the thigh bone of which measures nineteen inches); and an iron sword (in this instance on the left), in a wooden scabbard covered with leather and bound with birch-bast; two bronze buckles, a wooden bottle; a black jug; hazelnuts, pear-pips, and a cherry-stone.

17. "One of the finer kinds of circular fibulas, very analogous to some of the Kentish Saxon; a bronze buckle and two large beads.

18. "The largest grave met with. At the depth of seven feet it contained a couch eleven feet and a half long, and three and a half broad. Its length was divided into three chambers. In the first, seven feet long, was a male skeleton, with the head bent to the right and reclined upon a handsome iron sword, the double-guard and pommel of which still remained; and a kind of stringed instrument of wood. On the waist a very wide belt-buckle with two broad gilt studs, and a large pointed knife in a superb sheath; a small knife and one hundred and seventy-two hazel nuts. In the second chamber lay an iron horse-bit, with rosettes, also of iron, inlaid with fine silver wire; a number of clasps and buckles of perished straps, all of very skilful workmanship, either embossed, or of iron inlaid with silver wire. The third chamber had two subdivisions: in the left were the remains of a wooden saddle, and a horse-belt of bronze with *escutcheons* (?); in the right, a wooden candlestick, with two flints; a large wooden bowl; and a mystic wooden shoe; close by, outside the chamber, a lance-head.

19. "Necklace of fifty-five glass beads, fragments of leather, hazel-nuts, etc.

20. "Sword with wooden sheath; bow with three arrows; at the feet a well-preserved pail, a wooden jug, and a wooden bowl; in the last a dark mass of spoon-meat; and by it two transparent skins, one giving the idea of a sausage.

21. "Death-couch with a gable roof, upon which were carved two snakes: thirty hazel-nuts; a tall thin glass; a small strap of leather, still elastic; a wooden platter; a wooden bottle; two wooden shoes; some hog's bristles; and a knife."

The foregoing abstract will give a notion of the general character of these graves, about forty of which were examined. The remarkable contents are quite new to the archæologist as regards the constructions, implements, and various objects in wood and in other perishable materials; and they supply most interesting details illustrative of the funereal customs of the Teutonic nations. But with our present circumscribed information, attributing them to the Alemanni in general may be premature; and yet, if further researches in other districts of Suabia should not lead to analogous results, speculation will naturally seek the reason of the local custom; but it must be ever borne in mind in considering these wooden couches and coffins, that it is only in the rarest instances we find in graves more than traces of wood, while indications of coffins and other wooden defences for the body have been frequently noticed. Mr. Wylie remarks:—

“In the Lupfen neighbourhood, the coffins of common use still bear the old appellation of *todten-bäume*—literally, “trees of the dead”. It is even now not unfrequently the custom to inter the dead in their usual attire; and, till very lately, with many a favourite object of their household stuff. So long will old heathen observances linger on in a rustic district! Lastly, the inhabitants of the Black Forest itself, still greatly affect the use of wooden bowls and platters, and maintain their reputation as expert carvers and turners in wood.—The graves present us with an interesting summary of the fruits which flourished in the valley at this early period. The peach was no doubt a rarity, for we find the solitary peach-stone fitted with a shank, and worn with beads on a necklace.—The wooden shoes Dr. Menzel considers as representing the mythological *todtenschuh*, or death-shoe of the

ancient funeral rites. The old northern mythology supposed departed souls had to encounter great difficulties and inconveniences on their way to the spirit-land. In fact, they had to pass through just such an uncomfortable Valley of the Shadow of Death as John Bunyan alone could depict. It was befitting, therefore, to furnish shoes for so disagreeable a journey.* Such shoes were termed in Germany *tottschuhe*, or 'dead men's shoes;' in Scandinavia, *helske*, or shoes for Hela, *i. e.*, Hell, or Hades. A very positive account of this singular custom exists in the Gísla Sursonnar Saga,† and runs thus:— 'On Vestein's death by the hand of Thorgrim, as they were preparing the body for burial, Thorgrim drew near and said, 'It is the custom to furnish men with death-shoes to tread their path to Valhalla—this office I will render to Vestein.' This done, he added, 'I know not how to bind on the death-shoe if these come undone.'"

The interment of sandals was not uncommon among the funereal customs of the ancients: see pl. xlv, vol. i, *Collectanea*; and the beautiful sandals from a Roman tomb at Southfleet preserved in the British Museum. The carving upon the Oberflacht shoes appears to be an imitation of the elaborate ornamentation of some of the Roman sandals, such as we have discovered on the site of Roman London. Mr. Wylie considers these interesting remains to be of the late Carolingian period; and so, it seems, does Herr Lindenschmidt. Dr. Grimm assigns an earlier date to them. There is nothing in the very few illustrations which accompany Mr. Wylie's able paper, to help to

* Grimm, *Deut. Myth.*, p. 795; W. Müller's *Geschichte*, p. 408.

† Keysler, *Antiq.*, Sept., p. 170; Müller's *Sagabibliothek*.

decide this question, which can safely rest undiscussed until further and accumulated evidence be furnished.

Excavations at Caerwent.—Caerwent, the *Venta Silurum*, must be reckoned among the most interesting examples of Roman fortified towns yet extant in this country; and, at the same time, it is but little known. The walls, built of limestone with bonding courses of old red sandstone, and flanked by towers, are well preserved to about one half of their ancient circuit; and might be developed to a greater extent. The course of the principal street is well marked by the high road which ran through the centre of the place, as it does, at the present day, through the humble village which has risen over the ruins of Venta.

There is a small, but active, Antiquarian Society at Caerleon, of which Mr. John Lee and Mr. Octavius Morgan, M.P., are among the directing staff. Mr. Lee has confined his researches more particularly to Caerleon, of which his published account* should be in the hands of every antiquary. Mr. Morgan has chosen Caerwent for exploration, with the co-operation of the Caerleon Society, and that of Mr. Akerman, who personally superintended some excavations made in 1855. A report by Mr. Morgan has been published;† and this is accompanied by a ground-plan and section, and two coloured lithographs of tessellated pavements. The excavations were restricted to the foundations of a large building, apparently connected with one which was imperfectly laid open in the last century. Several rooms were exhumed, two of

* J. Russell Smith, Soho-square.

† *Archæologia*, vol. xxxvi, p. 418.

which were paved with elegant tessellated work, now taken up and removed to the museum of local antiquities at Caerleon. The apartments of the building show the usual excellent arrangements which prevailed in Roman villas of the better kind for securing warmth and cleanliness. The baths are particularly interesting ; because they illustrate a subject of Roman domestic economy on which there was much ignorance. They resemble, in most of the details, the baths in the villa at Hartlip, described in the second volume of *Collectanea* ; such as, indeed, seemed to have been common to all large buildings, though they have not been generally recognized. It is to be hoped, now that an examination of Caerwent has commenced so well, and under such auspices, that means will be found to carry on the excavations fully and effectively. Much more may be done there at a comparatively small expense ; but in such researches legitimate expenses should never be permitted to impede the spade and pickaxe ; the lovers of antiquity will always be liberal where they find energy and determination.

Discovery of a Saxon Cemetery in the Isle of Wight.—

In the Appendix to this volume, a very general reference is made to Mr. Hillier's successful researches at Chessell, in the Isle of Wight. Mr. Hillier has now produced two parts of his "History and Antiquities of the Isle of Wight;" and these parts are illustrated by six plates and several woodcuts of the antiquities exhumed at Chessell ; and other plates are to follow in the next numbers. Some of them are coloured ; and all are executed, by the author himself, with the greatest fidelity and with the very best effect. As the work is in quarto, good scope is allowed for the display of the objects ; and Mr. Hillier's investigations

will be received by every lover of Saxon history and antiquities, as an archæological contribution not inferior to those of Douglas, of Bryan Faussett, or to any of those of the present day. As Bede states that the Jutish Saxons peopled Kent and the Isle of Wight, it was not without much interest we awaited the result of Mr. Hillier's excavations to see how far the general character of the remains correspond with that of Kentish Saxons. In very many particulars they accord in a remarkably striking degree, as on a future occasion I hope to be able to point out in the *Collectanea*. In the meantime, the work Mr. Hillier has undertaken to print is being conducted in the most conscientious and satisfactory manner, and is highly worthy of extensive patronage. It is lamentable to observe in the list of subscribers, the absence of names which would gracefully and worthily have headed such a list. Had a work of so much national, as well as local, importance, been attempted in France, the Government would immediately have encouraged the author by subscribing for a considerable number, probably a hundred, of copies, which would have been presented to provincial libraries.

The Roman Pharos and the Ancient Church at Dover.
—Dover possesses two interesting monuments of the Roman and medieval epochs, situated, side by side, upon the heights, within the precincts of the castle. The Pharos is of the very first importance to the antiquary; but, like most of our more valuable ancient monuments, it is but little known, and is visited chiefly by tourists who go to see old buildings that may be on their line of travel, merely because they are old, and without caring to study their peculiarities and those details which should

form the chief attraction to the archæologist. It is now some years since I made a representation to the Duke of Wellington and to the Board of Ordnance, to protect the Roman building from that bad taste of English tourists which prompts them to chip off pieces of ancient walls, and pick out tesserae from pavements to carry away as trophies. The fine tile-work of the door-way had been seriously mutilated ; and I requested that a sentinel might be stationed near, not to hinder any body from examining the interior, but to stop the pilfering that in time would have materially injured the doorway and the bonding-courses. After many evasions and circumlocutions I moved the Board of Ordnance, or his Grace, with whom I chiefly corresponded ; but not in the direction I had hoped. On revisiting the Pharos I found the doorway, in the worst possible taste and spirit, *blocked up with masonry!* This outrage remains unredressed to the present day, although the land is swarming with archæological societies, affecting, as a primary object of their existence, an anxiety to protect our ancient monuments.

This vandalism being sanctioned by the apathy of the public, the Government has been encouraged to contemplate the destruction of the old church, which had long served as a coalhole for the garrison. The Board of Ordnance had taken very effective measures for its removal ; but, fortunately, the press interposed ; and publicity scared the destructionists from their unholy intentions. The Rev. L. B. Larking roused the Society of Antiquaries into action, and made it conscious of the danger threatened to the church and to its own reputation ; and a letter was sent to Lord Panmure, who, properly, gave ear to the remonstrance. But the Ordnance did not cease wholly from endeavouring to vex the ancient edifice. It was not

allowed to destroy; but surely it might *restore*? A *restoration* was resolved on; which, it need hardly be observed, would be almost as bad as total destruction; but, it is reported, that this contemplated vandalism is abandoned. In the meantime, let the true antiquary be on the watch: neither the Pharos nor the Church is yet out of danger.

Sandwich, Kent.—Mr. Rolfe, of Sandwich, has recently added to his cabinet a coin of extra value, procured in the neighbourhood, and probably found there. It is in brass, and similar to that which Dr. Stukeley erroneously attributed to Oriuna, whom, from misreading the legend, he believed to be the wife of Carausius. This mistake was soon corrected by the more practical and less imaginative eyes of some of his contemporaries; but the coin itself is exceedingly rare: probably Mr. Rolfe's is the only example in this country.

This specimen bears on the obverse the radiated head of Carausius to the right: on the reverse, within a wreath, a head with short curled hair, before which a hand holds a flower; and behind, another hand extends a wreath: around runs FORTVNA AVG, which Stukeley misread as ORIVNA AVG; and, below, the letters RSR.

An etching of the coin will appear in the fifth volume of the *Collectanea*.

Strood, Kent.—A gold British coin, a new variety, has been found between Rochester and Faversham, on the line of the Dover railway: *obv.*, COM. F., within a wreath; *rev.*, a horseman; below the horse, an ornament formed of four ovals and five pellets, arranged crossways; around,

annulets enclosing pellets: weight, seventy-three and a half grains. It resembles one in the collection of Mr. Rolfe, found at Minster, and weighing twenty-one grains, engraved in the "Numismatic Chronicle," vol. xvi, p. 88, which reads, COM. F., within a beaded circle; on the reverse, a horse, above which is EPPI, and below, an ornament, precisely like that on the coin described above, which is in the possession of Mr. Humphrey Wickham.

Plaxtol and Ightham, Kent.—Discoveries have been recently made in these parishes, which give some additional information on the state of Cantium under the Romans. The foundations of a villa have been accidentally penetrated by the workmen engaged in draining. Some of the tiles are covered with inscriptions which, judging from a few fragments, appear to be repetitions of some such word as CARABANTIVS. This, however, until an opportunity is afforded of seeing a perfect tile with the inscription complete, can only be given as conjectural. The importance, sometimes, of stamps upon tiles is evidenced by the examples which are figured in p. 258-9 of the "Antiquities of Richborough, Reculver, and Lymne." These were dug up at Lymne, and are almost the only evidence we possess respecting the military tenants of that station. A bronze statuette of Pallas, of the best style of art, has also been found. At a considerable distance from the locality which has supplied these *indicia*, five or six distinct sepulchral deposits have been excavated. A further investigation is contemplated by Major and Mrs. Luard, to whom we are indebted for the discovery and preservation of these remains, and who will probably be induced to print a detailed and illustrated account of their researches.

Vandalism in France.—One of the most outrageous

and barbarous acts of vandalism ever recorded has lately been perpetrated in France, which, like England, is prolific in archæological societies, and, unlike England, has a minister of public instruction who affects to be conservator of the ancient national monuments.

A few months since, M. Leo Drouyn visited the town of Dax, in the *département des Landes*. He was agreeably surprised to find the walls of the town, almost entirely, of Roman architecture in the best state of preservation, and presenting some curious details not usually met with. They are faced with small squared stones, divided, every six or seven layers, with bonding courses of red tiles, and flanked by about forty semicircular towers, which are solid at the base, but, at a certain height, concave. The gates, until recently, appear to have been in their original state; two have been pulled down: one, of a single arch constructed with large stones, has not yet fallen.

Such, briefly, was the state of Dax, as described by M. Leo Drouyn, and confirmed by M. de Caumont in his "Bulletin Monumental." To the former gentleman belongs the credit of the *discovery*, as to M. Boilleau is due the honour of the discovery of the castrum at Larçay. What may be the state of the walls at the present moment, we can only conjecture, for some of the more influential tradesmen of the town, for their own private benefit, induced the town council (at the head of which is a member of the *Comité des Arts et Monuments*!) to decree, under the usual pretext of improvement, the destruction of the Roman walls. M. Drouyn did all he could to arrest the fatal resolution, by appealing to the *Comité des Arts et Monuments* and to the Government; but, it would seem, with little effect. The Minister of the Interior (M. Mérimée) makes inquiry of the prefect of the department, who sends him a report drawn up by some local architect most probably in the pay of the town council), which

report, he stated, quite sanctioned him in countenancing the demolition of the walls, *because they had been almost entirely reconstructed and repaired in the middle ages and in modern times!* Thus, on the one hand, we have M. Leo Drouyn and M. De Caumont, two of the ablest antiquaries in France, enthusiastically extolling the pure Roman architecture of the walls of Dax; on the other hand, some unknown and mistaken person is brought forward by the ignorant and selfish tradesmen of Dax; and the Minister of the Interior sets aside the evidence of the truthful witnesses, and adopts that of the culprits themselves, who are interested in getting up a false statement to justify their reckless outrage upon one of the most remarkable architectural monuments of France. It is unfortunate M. Leo Drouyn did not lay the matter before the Emperor, who would hardly have knowingly permitted this scandalous vandalism. At the same time, it must be observed, the antiquaries of France themselves are remarkably silent, and do not appear to take much interest in the question, nor to second the praiseworthy efforts of M. Leo Drouyn and M. De Caumont. In England, also, although these walls, now perhaps half overthrown, are of the first consequence for comparison with those of our own *castra*, not so well preserved, we do not find a single antiquary evincing the least concern or interest in the question. The "Northern Daily Express," and the "Gentleman's Magazine" have given publicity in England to the scandalous affair; but it has failed to touch the sympathy of English archæologists, who seem to feel it is no business of theirs.

Researches of the Abbé Cochet. In 1855 the Abbé Cochet published a second edition of "La Normandie Souterraine, ou Notices sur des Cimetières Romains et des Cimetières Francs explorés en Normandie." In the pre-

sent year he has published what may be considered a supplement to the former work, a volume entitled "Sépultures Gauloises, Romaines, Franques et Normandes." Together they embody a large mass of facts of the highest value to the archæological student, because they are collected by the author himself with great industry, care, and perseverance, and given to the world without preconceived theories or prejudices, and with scrupulous regard to truth. At the same time he has brought to aid his task an extensive acquaintance with the labours of antiquaries in other countries, which is turned to excellent account in the comparisons instituted between the sepulchral antiquities of France and those of other countries. Reviews of such books are of little use, because constant reference is required to engravings; and without these only a weak impression could be conveyed of the peculiar value of the Abbé Cochet's works. It may be safely affirmed that no one who would properly understand the subjects on which they treat, or the contemporaneous antiquities of our own country, should be without them.

Rectification.

The remarkable sword etched in plates xxxiii and xxxiv, I am informed by Miss Crosthwaite, was found at Embleton, in *Cumberland*, situated nine miles from Keswick and four from Cockermouth. Miss Crosthwaite adds:—"The schoolmaster was trenching a small piece of unenclosed common for a garden; and at the depth of three feet, he struck his pick into the sheath of the sword. There were found, at the same place, another sword, without its sheath, and three spear-heads much corroded. I may mention, also, that the large circular concave bronze ornament, and the circular enamelled plate (see p. 153 *ante*), were not found along with the sword; and we have no means of ascertaining where they were found."

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APPENDIX.

MUSEUM OF LONDON ANTIQUITIES.

(Continuation from p. 32.)

Extract from the *Proceedings* of the Archæological Institute, at the Annual Meeting, August 14th, Edward Hawkins, Esq., Treasurer, in the Chair.

“It must still be a matter of regret that his Grace’s noble intentions in presenting to the British Museum, through the medium of the Institute, a remarkable assemblage of antiquities discovered on his estates, and thus bestowed with rare generosity, to give an impulse to the important object of forming a suitable Collection of National Antiquities, should have hitherto awakened so little sympathy or interest amongst the rulers of the National Depository. The trustees of the British Museum

Note †, p. 15, requires explanation. It is there stated that the Trustees of the British Museum received an estimate from Mr. Hawkins, which was below the sum proposed by me; and on this they acted in declining. Mr. Hawkins himself never made, or attempted to make, any estimate of the Collection. In passing a valuation to the Trustees, he acted merely in the capacity of chief of the Department of Antiquities. I wish to observe, at the same time, that however this estimate may differ from that of others, I ever believed it to have been made most conscientiously; and I take this opportunity to acknowledge the attention I have always received from Mr. Hawkins and the other officers of the British Museum.

have, it is true, during the past year, acquired, at a lavish expenditure, examples of art-manufactures, the curious wares of Faenza or Urbino, the fragile products of the furnaces of Murano, the enamels of Limoges, and many other foreign examples of mediæval taste, which most appropriately have enriched the instructive collections exhibited at Marlborough House. On the other hand, the loss of the 'Faussett Collections,' which last year caused so bitter a disappointment to English antiquarians, has been followed by the rejection of the collections formed by Mr. Roach Smith, the most remarkable illustration probably ever combined of the history, the manufactures, arts and manners of any locality, and that locality the chief city of the British Islands."

REPLY TO THE MEMORIAL, PAGE 27.

$\frac{14}{756}$.—14.9.

Treasury Chambers,
20th Sept. 1855.

"MY LORD,—I am commanded by the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury, to acquaint you that they have received a communication from the Trustees of the British Museum, stating that they are not prepared to recommend the purchase of Mr. C. R. Smith's Collection of London Antiquities at the price he demands, and I am to inform you that my Lords are disposed to defer to that opinion.

"I am, my Lord, your Lordship's obedient servant,
"C. E. TREVELYAN."

"The Lord Talbot de Malahide."

MEMORIAL FROM KINGSTON-UPON-HULL.

*“ To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of
Her Majesty’s Treasury.*

“ MY LORD,—We, the undersigned officers and members of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Kingston-upon-Hull, and others interested in the study of our national history and antiquities, beg earnestly to call the attention of your lordships to the circumstance, that Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A. (of 5, Liverpool Street, City, London), has resolved to dispose of his valuable and interesting Museum, which is of considerable extent, consisting of antiquities of the Roman period especially; but also of Saxon and mediæval times, found in the course of excavations in the city of London, and which illustrate in a very remarkable manner the condition of the metropolis during the remote periods to which they relate.

“ We are fully impressed with the great value and interest of Mr. Smith’s Collection, and some of us have had occasion to consult it, and can therefore speak from experience of the vast fund of antiquarian instruction which it contains,—instruction which we believe can be found in the same degree in no other collection in this country.

“ The sum at which it is offered by Mr. Smith, viz., £3,000, ought not, we conceive, to be an obstacle in the way of securing the Collection in its present form for the nation, to be placed in the British Museum, the city of London, or elsewhere, where it may be of easy access to all who have need to consult it.

“ We should witness with very great regret the dispersion of this Collection, because it has been made with great knowledge and discrimination; and because, from the circumstances under which it has been made, we believe

there is no probability that such a collection will ever be made again; and in its entire state it forms a monument of the history of our own country, of a unique and important description.

“We should regret also that it should either be carried away from the country, or that it should pass into private hands, where it might not be so generally accessible for the use of antiquaries and historians as it has been while in the possession of Mr. Smith.

“We deeply regret the Trustees of the British Museum have rejected the offer of this Collection; and we beg to press upon the consideration of your Lordships the desirableness of at once securing it for the nation, and thereby avoid its dispersion, which would render it comparatively useless to science, instead of being placed in its collective form where it would be accessible and beneficial to the public.

“F. R. HORNER, M.D., F.R.S.	ANTHONY BANNISTER, Ex-Mayor of Hull
S. D. SOLLITT, Head Master of the Hull Grammar School	HENRY COOPER, Knt., M.D., V.P. of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society
CHARLES FROST, F.S.A., President of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society	OWEN DALE, M.D., V.P. of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society
J. E. BROMLEY, D.D.	J. H. BRIGGS, Treasurer of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society
BETHEL JACOBS, President of the Hull Mechanics Institute	P. J. TERRINGTON, Hon. Sec. of the Hull Literary and Philosophical Society
R. KEMP BAILEY, M.A., Oxon	R. P. LEAKEY, Clerk, Hull
H. W. KEMP, B.A., C.C.C.C.	JOHN P. BELL, M.D.”
THOMAS THOMPSON, Town Clerk, Hull	
W. H. HUFFAM, F.S.A., Secretary of the Hull Dock Company	

“*Kingston-upon-Hull, November 1855.*”

To this memorial a reply, the counterpart of that forwarded to Lord Talbot de Malahide, was returned on Nov. 8th.

MEMORIAL FROM LEICESTER.

“ To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty’s Treasury.

“ MY LORDS,—We the undersigned President, Vice-Presidents, and Council of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society, being interested in the study of the history and antiquities of our country, beg respectfully to draw the serious attention of your Lordships to the present position of the interesting and unique Collection of London Antiquities, the property of Mr. Roach Smith, of 5, Liverpool Street, City, London.

“ This Collection is known throughout Europe, and is prized and consulted by antiquaries of all nations ; but to us in England its value is still greater, for it illustrates the social condition of the metropolis during the Roman period and in the middle ages, in a most remarkable manner.

“ Its value, both in a pecuniary and antiquarian point of view, has been certified by scientific men, by our first antiquaries, and by dealers and auctioneers also ; and your memorialists regret that any other estimate should have been permitted to influence your Lordships to delay securing the Collection for the nation at the very moderate sum suggested by Mr. Roach Smith.

“ When we consider how little has been effected in illustration of our national antiquities ; how often they are rejected for expensive foreign antiquities, comparatively uninteresting to us of England ; and when we reflect on the truly national character of this London Collection ; and, moreover, see that it is the only one that has not yet been dispersed by public auction and lost to all scientific purposes,—we strongly urge upon your Lordships’ consideration the vast arguments for, and the absence of any

arguments against, the peculiar importance of the Collection, and trust that it may be secured, at once, for the nation, and deposited either in London, or in some other important city, where it would be kept entire, safe, and rendered accessible to the public. *

(Signed) "CHARLES CAMILLE CAILLARD, *President.*

" *Vice-Presidents.*

" HOWE
HENRY HALFORD

ALFRED PAGET
THOMAS MARSHALL.

" *Council.*

" THOS. L. WALKER
WM. NAPIER REEVE
WM. PALMER
JOS. HAMES
JOHN MOORE
GEORGE SHAWE, M.D.
ALFRED BURGESS

WILLIAM KELLY
W. C. IRWIN, M.D.
FREDERICK T. MOTT
JOHN FLOWER
GEORGE SHEPHENSON
WM. WILLIAMSON
J. F. HOLLINGS
SAMUEL STONE."

" *Leicester, Nov. 29th, 1855.*"

A memorial, similarly worded, followed from the President, Vice-President, and members of the Leicester-shire Architectural and Archæological Society: it was signed by:—

" HOWE, *President*
FERRERS
A. G. HAZLERIGG, Nosely Hall,
Leicester
T. K. BONNEY, Archdeacon of Leicester
E. B. HARTOP, Dalby Hall, Melton Mowbray
R. BURNABY, Incumbent of St. George's, Leicester
STEVENSON G. BELLAIRS, Narborough Hall, Leicester
GEO. H. NEVINSON, Leicester

THOS. NEVINSON, Leicester
REV. JOHN M. GRESLEY, Seile, Leicester
THOS. INGRAM, Solicitor, Leicester
JAMES THOMPSON, Leicester
MARMADUKE VAVASOUR, Vicar of Ashby-de-la-Zouch
EDWARD FISHER, jun., Solicitor, Ashby-de-la-Zouch
JOHN DENTON, Curate of Ashby-de-la-Zouch
MONTAGU WEBSTER, Curate of Seile, Leicestershire."

A memorial was also presented to the Treasury from Newport, in the Isle of Wight; and, I believe, from one

or two other towns ; or they were in the course of preparation for presentation.

At the same time, my friends did not lose sight of the notion of securing the Collection for the City of London ; and, at their request, it was visited by the Lord Mayor (Alderman Moon) and by Mr. Alderman Salomons. The remarks made by those gentlemen during their visits, which were very brief, indicated (as might have been expected), that they did not consider it of a character to enlist their sympathies on its behalf. The London Antiquities were offered to the City through the Lord Mayor, Alderman Moon ; and they left the City during the mayoralty of Mr. Alderman Salomons ; Mr. A. C. Kirkmann, at the same time, annulling a resolution he had made to present to the City, had my Collection been retained in it, his own valuable local antiquities.*

Others, however, high in position, in education, and in patriotic feeling, were resolved to appeal to a sounder tribunal. From several quarters it was proposed to me that my Collection should be purchased by subscription ; and names, backed by considerable sums, were actually sent me. My committee had fully approved of the idea of making the London Antiquities the nucleus of a Museum of National Antiquities such as is so much needed in this country ; and one of the committee had been requested to draw up an address to the public. But at this stage, and before the address was issued, towards the close of 1855, it was suggested to my friends that if a valuation of the Collection were made by some persons qualified to estimate its pecuniary value, such a valuation might have influence with the Trustees of the British Museum. I had never, for a moment, regarded these antiquities as of that pe-

* Considered to be worth at least £800.

cular stamp which would ensure high prices in an auction-room, or in any disintegrated state. I was fortified in the belief that the sum proposed and countenanced by so many antiquaries and persons eminent in science and in literature, was not an unreasonable price; and, moreover, Lord Londesborough (to whom I alluded in p. 30), had offered me the full £3000: still, I did not object to this recommendation, as the following letter will show.

“3, *Wellington Street, Strand, Dec. 12th, 1855.*

“SIR,—We have inspected Mr. Roach Smith’s Museum of Antiquities illustrative of Roman London; and have no hesitation in stating that we consider it would be very cheap at £3000, as an entire collection.

“We also feel confident that if the objects were dispersed under the hammer, or otherwise, no such museum could again be formed, even if permission were granted to select examples from all the European cabinets.

“The dispersion of so unique a collection would therefore be a national loss; and we strongly recommend that, if possible, it should be purchased in its integrity, for the sum of £3000, which, taking into consideration its high interest and importance, is the smallest value we can place upon it.

“We remain, Sir, your obedient servants,

“SOTHEY & WILKINSON.*

“G. R. Corner, Esq.”

Objections having been raised to the form of the foregoing letter; and doubts having been expressed in regard to its being entertained by the Trustees, on account of the want of details, the Museum was reviewed in connection

* Auctioneers of literary property and works illustrative of the fine arts.

with an interleaved copy of the printed catalogue, made as complete as I well could make it; and the objects were priced individually, or nearly so. This system of valuation yielded a closer approximation to the former than might have been expected:—

“We have carefully examined Mr. Charles Roach Smith’s Museum of London Antiquities, which we value at two thousand, eight hundred and forty-seven pounds (£2847.)

“SOTHEY & WILKINSON.

“3, *Wellington Street, Strand, Feb. 8th, 1856.*”

This valuation having been submitted to the Board of Trustees, the sum of £2000 was then offered. As throughout the negotiations I had placed myself entirely in the hands of my friends, I consulted their opinion and abided by their decision; they, at the same time, placing in my hands a paper of which the subjoined is a copy.

17th March, 1856.

“We, the undersigned friends of Mr. Charles Roach Smith, whom he has consulted, in relation to the disposal of his Collection of Antiquities found in London, advise him to accept the offer of the Trustees of the British Museum, of the sum of two thousand pounds, for the purchase of this Collection, because we are anxious, above all things, that they should be kept together, and lodged as a Collection in our great national establishment; and not because we consider the offer a fair offer, or because we think that Mr. Smith may not obtain a larger sum for them elsewhere.

“GEO. R. CORNER,

“THO. HUGO,

“THOMAS LOTT,

“THOMAS WRIGHT,

“F. W. FAIRHOLT.”

The Collection was then, without loss of time, transferred, together with some other antiquities in my possession, to the British Museum, where, under the direction of Mr. Franks, I have every confidence in their being well classified and located so as to be consulted and examined under the most favourable circumstances.

In the Preface to the printed Catalogue, I have briefly given the history of the formation of the Collection ; when this is perused in connection with the foregoing documents, I trust it will be conceded that my antiquarian labours in the city of London have been brought to a consistent and proper conclusion.

REFUSAL OF THE CITY OF LONDON

TO HAVE A

PUBLIC LIBRARY AND MUSEUM.

On Monday, the 5th of November, 1855, a Public Meeting, convened of all persons rated and assessed to the Consolidated Rate in the city of London, was held in the Mansion House, the Lord Mayor (Alderman Moon) presiding. The object was to determine whether the "Public Libraries' Act" should be adopted in the City.

When we contemplate the enormous population and wealth of the metropolis of England, it would almost seem that the announcement of a proposition for a public library and museum must have been put forth as a joke by some satirical critic; and that it could hardly have been intended to reveal to the world the intellectual nudity of the City. People who have been remiss in the discharge of some important duties, or who have drifted by fortune's fickle gales into positions for which they were never educated or fitted, usually have tact enough to conceal their deficiencies, and to set about, in a quiet way, to make themselves as presentable as possible. The man who is threatened with an indictment for having a public nuisance on his premises, is commonly wise enough to ward off the visitation of justice by amending the grievance; and he naturally avoids making proclamation of his slothful indifference to public decency. But the citizens of London, wallowing in riches and sensual luxury, composedly and without a blush, publish to the world their intellectual poverty and their neglected moral training.

At the same time the pretensions of the corporation of London, a true reflex of its shopocracy, are far beyond those of any city in Europe. It has the adroitness to be sensible of its intrinsic deficiencies; to keep itself in the wake of great public events and to turn them to a marketable account. Originating nothing good, it seizes upon striking situations in public affairs, and floats, as in its own gilded barge, upon the strongest current, assuming to direct when it is only being carried. It is the patron, by turns, of all kinds of prominent personages; the patriot, the tyrant, the warrior, and the philanthropist, all share its favours, provided they have become eminent in the eyes of the world; and latterly, in the person of its mayors, it has even striven to go beyond an annual feed to lords and commons, the law and the clergy, and to patronize science and literature. The alliance between England and France, with which the corporation had no more to do than it had with the invention of printing, afforded a glorious opportunity for distinguishing itself. Ignorant of the French, ignorant of France, of its history, its institutions and its language, the corporation boldly patronized the alliance, and by the aid of interpreters, guides, and assurance, got itself feasted for a week in Paris and paragraphed in newspapers.

Whether it was what it saw in France, or the general progress of education, that induced the corporation to think the citizens of London wanted a public library, is not clear; probably both causes combined. But it was not a matter for a public dinner, or for a journey to court, or for elevating any aspiring alderman or common-councilman; and the corporation set about the matter in a very bungling and insincere manner. The proposition for a public meeting was carried unanimously, in the

Court of Common-council. But very many of the very persons who openly voted for it, immediately ran to their constituents and told them to vote against it! They had no good opinion of public libraries and museums; but they felt there was a certain pressure from without which told them the minds of their constituents must be made clean; and they did not wish to be named individually as despisers of education. They adopted a reasoning with their constituents which they well knew would prevail. They told them they would be taxed *a penny in the pound!* Now the small tradesmen of London, to whom this assertion (not argument) was made, are generally very uneducated, very selfish, and very fond of drink. They mentally cast up the supposed annual amount of the proposed tax for the public library and museum; and saw its equivalent in porter, "half-and-half," and gin: twenty-four pence a year would buy six pots of porter or four glasses of gin: it was a scheme abstracting so much from sensual necessities which they could not part with, to be applied to their own and their children's mental improvement, which they saw no need for; and they rose *en masse* to oppose the innovation.

The Egyptian Hall was crowded. From the first it was obvious how the meeting would terminate. Mr. Ewart, Colonel Sykes, the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Abraham, Mr. Dodd, and Mr. Bennoch, were heard with clamorous impatience, or put down by hissing and hooting; while Deputy Peacock, Mr. Cox, Deputy Bowyer, and Alderman Sidney, leaders of the opposition, appealing to the pockets of their misguided constituents, were cheered on to triumph; and the proposal was rejected by an immense majority.

Among the delusive and fallacious reasonings used by the opponents to a free library, may be cited the state-

ments made by Deputy Peacock, who said his constituents could not support any addition to the rates; that the library in Guildhall was so little cared for, that only seven or eight persons had consulted it during the last twelve months; and that the corporation, had it pleased, might have turned it into a free library! Mr. Cox also said there were twelve thousand volumes in this library, to which any citizen would get access by an order from a common-councilman! Deputy Bowyer said there were several museums and libraries open in the City! Alderman Sidney called upon the rate-payers to preserve their independence and to earn their learning by the sweat of their brow, as he had done; but he did not specify the amount or the quality of his acquirements. Such statements are so many insults to common sense. As Colonel Sykes vainly endeavoured to convince the meeting, the addition to the rates could not amount to more than a penny in the pound; it would probably be only a half-penny; and, not improbably, a farthing. Now, if we survey the rate-payers of the city of London, it is monstrous to suppose they cannot bear this almost nominal tax. Their habits are anything but those of frugal, temperate, and provident persons; and nine out of ten spend upon themselves, in the gratification of low propensities, more in one week than they would be called upon to pay for their children's instruction in a year. It is quite true the corporation of London, had it cared to establish a free library, could have done so out of its enormous funds without trouble; but it is untrue that the Guildhall library is what is required for the home education implied in a free library; and Deputy Bowyer must have counted well upon the ignorance of his audience, when he talked of museums and libraries in the City.

The entire proceedings, so far as the corporation was

concerned in the establishment of a free library, were a mere mockery. The Common-council passed the resolution in terror of public opinion; it had neither the generosity to vote money for carrying it out, nor intelligence to care for the better education of the people; and the decision of this meeting was really a very fair exposition of the state of mind of the majority of the shopocracy of the City, and the natural consequence of the double-dealing of the Common-council, many of the leading members of which did not scruple to canvass and persuade their constituents to oppose strenuously the measure they themselves had proposed! If the sentiments of the industrious artizans, of the clerks, of the apprentices, and of the youth in the City, who are not rate-payers, could have had weight, a free library and museum would have been voted forthwith.



APPENDIX.

C. ROACH SMITH'S

MUSEUM OF LONDON ANTIQUITIES.

As considerable notoriety has been given by the public press to the offer I have made to the Nation and to the City of London, of my Collection of London Antiquities—and, as its ultimate destination is still a question—it may not be thought obtrusive on my part, to make a few brief statements in justification of my wish and efforts to maintain this Collection in its integrity in some Public Institution, where it would be preserved intact, for purposes of scientific inquiry.

It will not be considered, I trust, any reproach to me, that I cannot afford to make a present of it to the Nation, or to any Public Institution; but I wish to explain why I am averse to its dispersion, either by public auction or by private contract. The question is not one of money. The sum proposed I could obtain any day, provided I consent to the dispersion of the Collection—an eventuality I should never be reconciled to. Should the Nation accept my offer, I am not sure the British Museum would be the best place for the deposit of this large assemblage of London Antiquities. There are several large towns which have claims on the consideration of Parliament. The City would be, of course, the most proper receptacle of what may be termed a portion of its own "title-deeds." But it is now upwards of *four months* since G. R. Corner, Esq.,

F.S.A., the Rev. T. Hugo, F.S.A., and Mr. Deputy Lott, F.S.A., brought the subject before the Lord Mayor; and no answer has yet been received.

The history of my Museum, in a few words, is as follows:—It has been made during the last twenty years and upwards, from excavations made in the City of London and its environs; and during the deepening of the river opposite London by means of dredging barges. Some notion of its extent and character may be acquired from the “Archæologia,” the “Archæological Album,” the “Collectanea Antiqua,” an “Illustrated Catalogue,” and other publications. But these works convey an approximate notion only of the claims of the Collection on the attention of the public in relation to its scientific and antiquarian value. As it is more agreeable to me, as the possessor, to refer to the opinions of others, I print a few of those which come nearest to hand, contenting myself with observing:—

1.—That the collection has been gathered under circumstances such as are not likely to occur again.

2.—That it was not formed with any view to sale, or pecuniary remuneration in any way.

3.—That its peculiar value depends on the copious illustration it affords of the social habits and customs, and of the industrial life, of the inhabitants of London in past ages; of the arts, as practised within its walls, as influencing, or influenced by, the character of its inhabitants. Every object speaks, more or less, of the successive generations who have lived and died in the metropolis of Britain, and reveals something of their history which is untold by the pen of the historian. It is in this respect that the Collection stands alone and unrivalled. It does not illustrate Etruscan life or Egyptian. It neither surprises us

with wonders from Nineveh and Babylon, nor captivates us with the finished grace of Greek works of art. Nor is it a rich and costly assemblage of objects which would please the luxurious and rich by rarity or adventitious value. But it relates wholly to England and the English. It brings before us our predecessors upon the ground which we now occupy. It reveals our forefathers in their every-day life; in their villas and in their houses; in the streets of ancient London; it reveals glimpses of them in their homes, in their costume, surrounded by the products of arts which administered to their comfort and to their luxury. Of the thousands of objects which constitute this Museum each tells its tale, and brings us better acquainted with those from whom we have sprung, or from whom we have inherited our institutions, laws, language, and national character.

4.—That, in this country, the National Antiquities have been almost entirely neglected. While every other European nation regards them with veneration and adapts them for public instruction, in England they have not been recognised; or are superseded by collections which have little or no bearing upon the history of our own country.

5.—That in no city or town in England is this fact more obvious than in London, the Corporation of which has resisted, within the last few years, the opportunity of securing several collections of local antiquities which are now scattered and lost.

6.—That scarcely any local collection has ever been preserved, after the death of its owner, in any public or private museum; the only exception being the Kentish Saxon Sepulchral Remains, offered at a low price to the Trustees of the British Museum; rejected by them; and

secured to our country by the liberality and public spirit of Mr. Joseph Mayer, of Liverpool.

C. ROACH SMITH.

OPINIONS ON THE COLLECTION.

1.—“Visited the Museum of Mr. R. Smith, of Liverpool-street, City; and was both surprised and gratified in viewing such a large and truly interesting collection of fragments of antiquities of the Roman and other ancient inhabitants of Londinium. Nothing but zeal, care, and determined perseverance, could have amassed such a valuable collection.

“*Dec. 29, 1843.*

JOHN BRITTON.”

2.—“I have been much surprised and gratified at the extent and value of these relics.

J. S. BOWERBANK.”

3.—“Remember, that the Scandinavian Museum, in Denmark, was begun with seven pieces. You, as a private man, are where we, a Committee, were, after ten years' working. Go on—and prosper.

THOMSEN

“*London, 18th May, 1843.*

(of Copenhagen).”

4.—“Mr. Smith's wonderful collection of Roman Antiquities, found in London, shows how much may be done by individual zeal, when wisely directed. It is said, that the City of London is to have a Museum, which, in judicious hands, would be an important institution. In the British Museum, our native antiquities appear to be held in very little esteem; and, in general, articles sent there are lost to public view. It is discreditable to the government of this country, that we have no Museum of

National Antiquities, which might, under a judicious curator, at a very moderate expense to the nation, become one of the most interesting and popular institutions of the metropolis. In such an institution, a collection like that made by Mr. Smith should be deposited for the advantage of posterity."—*The ARCHÆOLOGICAL ALBUM*, p. 149.

5.—“If the sense of the nation could be taken on the question, your collection would be voted to be bought by an immense majority; £5,000 instead of £3,000 would be deemed a cheap purchase.

“April 10, 1855.

J. SILK BUCKINGHAM.”

6.—“Je ne puis croire que la ville de Londres laisse échapper une collection spéciale pour elle, comme la votre. Bien des villes de province, en France, s'empresseraient en pareil cas des tarifices pour conserver de pareils titres de gloire et d'ancienneté.”—M. LECOINTRE-DUPONT, *President of the Society of Antiquaries of the West, Poitiers*.

7.—“The Museum of Mr. C. Roach Smith has been offered to the British Museum (the nation), and the City of London. Its claims on attention from both are pre-eminent; inasmuch as it is a purely historic gathering of relics, which it is hopeless to expect ever to form again, and precisely what is wanted in our national collections, to exhibit the manners and customs of the early conquerors of our island. As a picture of Roman London, this Museum is unique; and has been collected with that view. Mr. Smith devoted untiring zeal, and a large amount of money, to form it; and, in addition to this, gave up much time, and the long experience of ripe judgment and scholarship, which, we may be permitted to

observe, is one chief ingredient in the formation of such a Museum, and one that would be dearly paid for in the salary of a public officer of any one of our own museums. The price asked for the whole is by no means immoderate; and, as the collection is so peculiarly a London one, and so remarkable a monument of our early history, we trust to seeing it safely deposited for ever in the capital it so ably illustrates."—ART JOURNAL, *April*, 1855.

8.—“But my thanks are especially due to Charles Roach Smith, Esq., F.S.A., who may be said to have devoted a life and a fortune to the collection and preservation of a Museum of London Antiquities, unrivalled for its curiosity and interest. The liberality of this gentleman has enabled me to enrich my pages with some valuable and curious illustrations, and is a laudable example to other collectors.”—*Preface to “Costume in England”* (1846), by F. W. FAIRHOLT, F.S.A.

9.—“We now take our leave of this illustrious London room. We have seen in it what could not be seen elsewhere; for it holds what is best of the little that ages of ignorance and Vandalism have spared of Roman London.”—CHAMBERS’ JOURNAL, *Oct. 21*, 1854.

10.—“Surely it will never be permitted that this fine Museum should share the same fate as the other London collections; and that even the Trustee of the British Museum, who objected to the purchase of the Faussett collection, “because they were not works of *high art!*” would give his aid for the addition of this unique assemblage of *London Antiquities* to the British Museum.”—NORFOLK CHRONICLE, *June 24*, 1854.

11.—“In the course of the last year, an excellent article appeared in the *Art Journal*, under the head of ‘*Our National Antiquities*,’ exhibiting the superior attention paid, in other countries, to that of England relative to the historical application of national monuments. In proof of this, the writer says—‘We have only to set our foot on foreign ground, and enter the first museum in the first town we happen to light upon, to be struck with the respect paid to the antiquities of the locality. This holds good throughout the continent. The museum of every town shows to the visitor more or less of the character of its ancient inhabitants reflected in their works. As these are *classified under their various heads*, he proceeds at once to see and understand them. It is not so with us: our museums, if worthy of the name, are mere collections of odds and ends of all kinds.’ The same article particularly alludes to London, and to the great indifference with which the relics of antiquity, found there, are treated, by those who should be the first to secure and preserve them to future ages.

“How far this remark may be correct, we must leave for the decision of the citizens of the great Metropolis; but we do know that a most valuable Private Museum of London Antiquities has been collected, by years of laborious and expensive research, by Mr. Roach Smith, and that he, about a year ago, published (for Subscribers only) an illustrated Catalogue of the Collection, the interesting contents of which amount to more than a thousand Roman, Saxon, Norman, and Mediæval articles. It appears, also, by the preface to that Catalogue, that during the excavations, etc., in London, from which that Museum was formed, four other large collections of antiquities were also formed—two of which were offered

to the Corporation of London, and refused—and three of them have since been scattered by auction sales, so that, now, they are completely lost, as valuable historical mementoes, to the public of London and to the nation at large.

“Under those circumstances, we are glad to hear that Mr. Roach Smith, who has long directed his mind to Antiquarian research, and has issued forth many distinguished works, connected with that important department of literature, has offered his truly valuable scientific collection to the National Museum, and to the Corporation of London, at a sum, under the cost price—viz., £3,000. This rare opportunity, we expect one of them will readily embrace, for certainly such a collection, so forcibly exhibiting a tangible illustration of the characteristic peculiarities of the varied races of men, who, through a long succession of ages, have inhabited the British Metropolis, ought to be in the possession of a public body; and, if once the opportunity so to secure them be neglected, it, in all probability, may never return. It will naturally be inquired—Why have not the Corporation of London, or the British Museum, secured the whole of the British, Roman, Saxon, Norman, and Mediæval articles, in successive years, as they were discovered in London, for preservation, in a public Museum? The answer is, that public bodies seldom do their duty in this respect, they being, generally, composed of persons of a very mixed character, whose personal interests are often preferred to the public good; secret and irresponsible, they too often remain for years invulnerable to public opinion. The construction of the British Museum management may also be faulty. In the present case it is reported that some of the officers

are advising the money of the nation to be expended on Mr. Bernal's curiosities of Mediæval times, and on a collection of medals, offered to the trustees by Mr. Hawkins, while Mr. Roach Smith's truly national and metropolitan collections are either passed over or undervalued. The antiquities of our own country should certainly stand first in the National Museum. By the present rule, they are placed last, or rather, are altogether ignored by the trustees, if not by the curators and officers. The offer alluded to, however, presents an opportunity, which they surely will readily embrace, and thereby atone for the past, and lay the foundation for future valuable extensions."—YORK HERALD, *March, 24th.*

12.—“Mr. Roach Smith, now wishing to liberate himself from the custody of his collection, to devote himself to similar researches in a wider field, and being moreover desirous that it should pass into the hands of some public body powerful enough to preserve it entire for scientific and antiquarian reference, has offered the whole to the Trustees of the British Museum and the Corporation of London, for £3000. This is a sum far beneath its pecuniary worth.”—NORWICH MERCURY *March 10, 1855.*

13.—“There is no English antiquary, and there are few Continental antiquaries of note who do not know *Mr. Charles Roach Smith's Museum of London Antiquities.* It is, indeed, one of the sights of London; and one much more accessible to the student than many of the professed places, thanks to the frank kindness of its possessor. The things which this Museum contains are just the things in which the National Collection is disgracefully

deficient. There is no lack, we understand, of purchasers; but Mr. Smith knowing, as everybody else knows, who understands anything of such matters, that either the British Museum, or the City of London, ought to possess the collection, has thought it his duty to give them the first offer. We trust that the authorities of the Museum will not repeat their recent blunder, and throw away another opportunity of making, at a very small cost, a very valuable addition to the national department of the Nation's Museum.—THE CRITIC, *March 1, 1855.*

14.—“For many years past Mr. Smith has devoted himself to watching the progress of improvements, and rescuing from destruction the thousands of objects interesting to the antiquary, which the workmen have disinterred in the course of their labours. We look on Mr. Smith as a great benefactor to the City of London, etc.”—THE ATLAS, *June 10th. 1854.*

15.—“We are entitled to hope that the offer which Mr. C. Roach Smith has made, to transfer his invaluable collection of antiquities, formed from excavations in subterranean London, to the Museum, at a price which will barely return to him his money outlay, will be accepted, and some atonement be thereby made for the great errors committed in *not* buying the Faussett collection,* and in wasting more than eighty pounds in the purchase of the Bernal print? We repeat, *Are* we entitled so to hope? We confess we hardly think so?”—GATESHEAD OBSERVER, *March 10th, 1855.*

* For a full account of the extraordinary proceedings connected with its rejection by the Trustees of the British Museum, see “Collectanea Antiqua,” vol. iii. p. 179—192, and p. 266—269.

16.—“Mr. Smith’s museum appears to have been formed at a cost of time and expense very considerable to a private antiquary, though amounting to a sum (three thousand pounds, perhaps) trifling enough to any public body. We believe that the desire of its owner to prevent the ultimate dispersion of its contents, has induced Mr. Smith to seek a home for it, either among the possessions of the London Corporation, or in the British Museum. That a Museum of Antiquities should be thought desirable by citizens of London, who have already a collection of relics at Guildhall, and at the Mansion-house, of which they would be most happy to make a clearance, is not to be supposed. While Gog and Magog are supported as they now are by the Mayor and Corporation, the council-chamber of Guildhall contains more than enough of antiquarian possessions. That the Corporation itself should be of a different opinion, and take kindly to the idea of a Museum which would enter into competition with it, for the public entertainment, is not readily to be supposed. We were on the point of saying, public instruction, but, while Mr. Roach Smith’s Museum does teach something of the uses of history, the Corporation regards history as useless. It has made no use of its teachings, and cannot wish to be thought desirous to assist in their diffusion. We have little doubt, however, that the Trustees of the British Museum, labouring under no such difficulty, will understand that, apart from its living monuments, the antiquities of London have some claim on their space, as well as the antiquities of Nineveh and Egypt.* We hope,

* There is no place for the collection of British Antiquities ; that department being comparatively neglected in the British Museum, and wholly despised, except by Mr. Roach Smith, and some half-

therefore, soon to hear that Mr. C. R. Smith's stores have been secured as an appropriate feature of the national collection."—THE EXAMINER, *March 17th*, 1855.

17.—“ We understand that at Mr. Bernal's sale the other day, three or four China (?) vases fetched about £3,000 ; and that very sum would put the nation in possession of one of the most valuable collections that ever has been, or can by any possibility be formed. Indeed, such a collection could never be made again. We refer to that in the Museum of Mr. Roach Smith. There cannot be two opinions as to the proper depository for such a national collection ; and as Mr. Roach Smith has been induced to consent to dispose of it for the benefit of the public, without profit, and without remuneration for his labours, we most earnestly hope that active measures will at once be adopted for securing a collection which, if once disposed of, could never be replaced.”—BEDFORD TIMES, *March 17th*, 1855.

18.—“ Our City magnates seem hardly aware of the historic value that attaches to ancient fragments of sculpture and bronzes, and to the glass, pottery, tiles, pavements, wall-painting, implements, utensils, personal ornaments, sandals, coins, seals, and tokens of their ancestors.—Mr. Roach Smith appears to have been most enthusiastic and diligent in saving the City Antiquities. The remainder of the collection consists of coins, seals, pilgrims' and other signs, and a variety of miscellaneous articles, all of which testify in a high degree of the untiring zeal of Mr. Smith's labours, and of the depth of

dozen other gentlemen, in this semi-barbarous metropolis.”—THE TIMES, *April 7*, 1849.

his archæological acumen."—LITERARY GAZETTE, *Feb. 24th*. 1855.

19.—“ This invaluable collection of Roman, Saxon, and Mediæval Antiquities, better known and appreciated (we suspect) upon the Continent than in England, has been offered by its proprietor to the Nation. The price named is £3,000. In the opinion of the most competent antiquaries of the day, Mr. Smith’s offer is extremely liberal. We trust, therefore, that it may be secured to the country as the foundation of a Museum of National Antiquities, which has hitherto been more neglected in England than in any country in Europe, as the empty shelves in that department of the British Museum significantly testify. The acquisition of this collection would, no doubt, be speedily followed by numerous smaller private donations, as, we are well informed, would have been the case had the Faussett Collection been purchased. But possessors of British Antiquities wish, naturally enough, to see that the Trustees of the British Museum are in earnest upon the question.”—ESSEX AND WEST SUFFOLK GAZETTE, *March, 16th*, 1855.

20.—“ From the knowledge which I have of the manner in which, and the circumstances under which, this collection has been got together, I have no hesitation in saying, that if the British Museum had itself made the collection, it would have cost it from ten to fifteen thousand pounds, rather than three; and, more than this, that neither the British Museum, nor any individual, is likely to make such a collection again.”—*Extract of a Letter from THOMAS WRIGHT, Esq., M.A., F.S.A., Member of the Institute of France, in Literary Gazette, March 3rd*, 1855.

21.—“I have seen many collections both in England, France, and Italy, in public and private galleries, and I do not hesitate in placing the rare and unique collection of Roach Smith, F.S.A., procured at great cost and nearly twenty years' indefatigable labour and unceasing attention, among the first, if not the first, of those Roman relics of science and art.”—*From a Letter signed “AN ANTI-QUARY,” in Literary Gazette, March, 3rd, 1855.*

22.—“For some years past I have had access to this Museum, and I know well its value. Even a superficial examination of it gives the observer an insight into Roman London which no books can do. I have been accustomed to read in it the peacefulness, the prosperity, and the high cultivation which the south of England enjoyed, as contrasted with the north, during a great part of the period of the Roman occupation. And then, what a vivid impression we derive from the Saxon and English antiquities which it contains, of the falling off that there was in the elegancies and luxuries of life when our Germanic forefathers gained the ascendant.”—*From a Letter by the REV. DR. J. COLLINGWOOD BRUCE, F.S.A., Author of “The Roman Wall,” in the Literary Gazette, March 3rd, 1855.*

23.—“It constitutes the nucleus of a Museum of London Antiquities, which, once collected, as it now is, we trust will never be again scattered as others have been; but, on the contrary, be adopted by the authorities, who have much to answer for already by neglecting to take those measures which might have, ere this time, put them in possession of a collection at least ten times as great as that which they have now in their power to begin with.—Meantime the citizens are deeply indebted to Mr. Smith

for his strenuous exertions and endeavours to make up for the shortcomings of those who ought to have left literally nothing in this direction for him to perform."—THE BUILDER, *June 10th*, 1854.

24.—“ A question has arisen upon the money-value of Mr. Roach Smith's stores, which have been estimated by himself at £3,000;* and those who have known him and them longest and best, give their opinion, that he has fixed the estimate as nearly as possible at their cost price, without taking into account his expence of time and labour. It is rumoured, however, that the Trustees consider that sum excessive,† although they have not given a definite answer.‡ The purchase is also under the con-

* A sum lower than the valuation placed upon it by any one of the seven or eight Antiquaries who were consulted :—a sum, moreover, which a noble lord, who stands at the head of archæology in this country, has avowed himself willing to give any day.

† The Trustees have expressed no such opinion : neither has any antiquary, as far as I am aware, affixed his name to such an exception to the general feeling. Not one of the Trustees, it may be observed, has been to inspect the Museum, although special invitations were sent to those who could be supposed capable of understanding its peculiar value.

‡ A definite answer has since been received, simply declining the purchase. It has transpired, however, that the Trustees received an estimate from Mr. Hawkins (who has never seen the collection), which was below the sum proposed by me ; and on this they acted in declining. When Lord Londesborough, Lord Talbot de Malahide, and Sir John Boileau, kindly undertook to offer, on my part, the London Antiquities to the Nation, I did not contemplate the British Museum only ; but I considered the collection, as a means of public instruction, could be made useful in either of our cities or large towns ; and Liverpool, Glasgow, York, Manchester, etc., are, perhaps, entitled to the consideration of Parliament quite as much as the British Museum ; especially under its present constitution.

sideration of the Guildhall Library Committee, who recently sent a sub-committee to inspect and report upon it. We hope that one or other of these public bodies may secure its possession to the Metropolis, to which it properly belongs."—THE GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE for April, 1855.

25.—"Mr. Smith's collection has been offered to the public on advantageous terms; its interest and great value are undoubted:—were Mr. Smith but a needy adventurer, his splendid collection might be distributed amongst the drawers of a hundred eager connoisseurs, or even again consigned to the obscurity of the river, or the sewer, from which many of its choicest gems were recovered. We desire herein to contribute to the movement now in progress for nationalising Mr. Smith's museum; and we think it will be a national disgrace if this one be added to the number of similar collections, formed by the taste and energy of private individuals, which have been allowed to become valueless by their dispersion."—THE SCARBOROUGH GAZETTE, May 31st, 1855.

26.—"Having had great pleasure in examining the collection, on a few occasions, we can endorse every word of the following description of it:—"Every object speaks," etc. (p. 2.)—The Trustees of the British Museum should not let this collection escape them, as they did the Faussett Collection, etc."—THE LEICESTER CHRONICLE, June 2nd, 1855.

5, LIVERPOOL-STREET, CITY.

June 2nd, 1855.

The Official Reply addressed to me on the part of the Trustees of the British Museum.

“ British Museum, 27th March, 1855.

“ Sir,—The Trustees of the British Museum have had under their consideration letters from Lord Talbot de Malahide to Sir Roderick Murchison, and from Lord Londesborough to the Earl of Ellesmere, with reference to your collection of London Antiquities. The Trustees have also had before them your letters to Sir John Boileau of the 17th January, and to Lord Londesborough of the 18th January, in which you propose the offer of your collections to the British Museum at the price of £3,000; and I am directed to return you the thanks of the Trustees for the offer of your collections, but at the same time to decline their purchase.

“ I have the honour to be, Sir,

“ Your obedient servant,

“ HENRY ELLIS,

Principal Librarian.”

“ ROACH SMITH, Esq.

The following correspondence relates to the offer made to the City of London:—

“ My Lord Mayor,—We take the liberty of addressing your Lordship, very respectfully to state that the valuable and interesting collection of antiquities comprised in the Museum of Charles Roach Smith, Esq., F.S.A., of Liverpool-street, is now to be disposed of, and is, at his request, hereby offered through us to your Lordship and the Corporation of London.

“ The collection alluded to is the result of the expenditure of many years' anxious care, toil, and money, by

our well-known and learned friend, who has gathered the far greater portion within the walls of the city, and principally from the excavations for sewers and other purposes there so constantly made.

“ As memorials and reminiscences of past ages of the City of London, both during its occupation by the Romans, and at other periods of its history, these valuable relics must ever be viewed with the greatest interest by the citizens at large: and we conceive that there can be no place of deposit so appropriate for their reception as the Museum now established at the Guildhall, to the present limited contents of which they would form a most interesting and valuable addition.

“ We venture thus particularly to draw your Lordship’s attention to the subject, as being a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries, to which learned body we also have the honour to belong, and to solicit your Lordship’s kindly interest with the Corporation of which you are the respected head, for the purpose of securing for the Museum of the Corporation this invaluable collection, of which we feel convinced that, as men of intellect, as well as men of business, they will highly prize the possession.

“ We have the honour to be,

“ My Lord Mayor,

“ Your Lordship’s very faithful servants,

“ THOMAS HUGO, F.S.A., 57, Bishopsgate-street
Within.

“ GEO. R. CORNER, F.S.A., 19, Tooley-street.

“ THOMAS LOTT, F.S.A., 43, Bow-lane.

“ 22nd January, 1855.

“ TO THE RIGHT HON. THE LORD MAYOR.”

To this the following answer was returned :—

“ *Mansion House, Feb. 1, 1855.*

“ Dear Sir,—I am requested by the Lord Mayor to acknowledge the receipt of your communication relative to the proposed sale of the antiquities in the Museum of Mr. C. R. Smith, which he has forwarded to the Library Committee at Guildhall, with whom the matter rests for decision.

“ Yours truly,

“ RICH. N. PHILIPPS.

“ THE REV. THOMAS HUGO, F.S.A.”

“ *57, Bishopsgate-street Within, 23rd April, 1855.*

“ My Lord,—As upwards of three months have now elapsed since an offer was made through your Lordship of the Museum of Mr. C. R. Smith to the City of London, to which offer no answer has yet been returned, I beg respectfully to solicit your Lordship’s kind interference; and on Mr. Smith’s behalf beg the favour of knowing the conclusion to which the Corporation has arrived.

“ I cannot conclude without humbly entreating your Lordship to use every available means for securing to the city this unique and most important collection of metropolitan antiquities. It is right to add, that Mr. Smith has received more than one offer for it; but, in the event of their acceptance, the Museum would be taken from Town, and be lost for ever to the citizens of London.

“ I have the honour to be,

“ My Lord,

“ Your Lordship’s very faithful servant,

“ THOS. HUGO.

“ THE LORD MAYOR.”

“ Town Clerk’s Office, Guildhall, 4th June, 1855.

“ Sir,—I am directed by the Library Committee to inform you, with their compliments, that on the 7th May last the committee resolved, that ‘ pending the bill now in Parliament for establishing free libraries and museums in all large towns, and in the absence of information as to the sum required for the purchase, the question should not at present be entertained’ respecting the purchase of Mr. Roach Smith’s Museum.

“ I am, Sir,

“ Your very obedient servant,

“ HENRY R. GOLDSMITH.

“ C. ROACH SMITH, Esq.”

At this stage of negotiations, some of my friends spontaneously prepared a petition to the House of Commons, which was presented by Mr. Gladstone in the month of July ; and about the same time a memorial was forwarded to the Treasury. These documents are so important as regards the opinions of the most eminent antiquaries, and others distinguished in literary and scientific pursuits, that I think it is but due to them, to the public, and to myself, to print the petition and the memorial entire, together with the names of those who signed them.

“ To the Honourable the Commons of the United Kingdom in Parliament assembled, the Humble Petition of the undersigned Gentlemen, conversant with, and interested in, the National Antiquities of this Country, sheweth,

“ That Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A., one of the most eminent antiquaries of the present day, having, during nearly twenty years of his life, by his own great labour

and pains, and at an expenditure of his own money to the amount of about three thousand pounds sterling, collected a very precious museum of articles, found in course of the extensive and various excavations which have been made in different parts of London in that time; illustrating, in a most remarkable manner, the condition of this metropolis under the Romans, and also in the middle ages; and being desirous that, if possible, the whole collection should be kept entire, as an important monument of our national history, has offered the same to the Trustees of the British Museum for the sum of three thousand pounds (the amount of his own outlay), thus giving to the nation gratuitously the whole of his time and labour; but that the Trustees, for considerations with which your petitioners are not acquainted, have decided on rejecting Mr. Roach Smith's offer.

“ That your petitioners are well acquainted with, and are fully convinced of, the great historical value of this collection in its present form, and that they cannot but look forward with the greatest regret to the alternative which seems to be left by the refusal of the Trustees of the British Museum to secure it for that great national establishment, namely, that a public auction will disperse and therefore utterly destroy and cause to be lost to science, a collection of so much national interest, and one which there will be very little hope left of ever forming again.

“ Wherefore your petitioners humbly pray that your honourable House will take into consideration the importance of securing such a collection for the nation, and how impossible it will be to recall the opportunity now offered, if once lost; and that you will in your wisdom devise some means of preserving it from the destruction

with which it is threatened, and placing it where it will be useful to future antiquaries and historians.

“ And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, etc.”

(Signed)

Thomas Wright, M.A., F.S.A., Corresponding Member of the Imperial Institute of France. Albert Way, M.A., F.S.A., London, Scotland, and Newcastle. ¹	W. J. Bohn, Mem. Num. Soc. J. E. Davis, Barrister-at-Law. William Chaffers, Jun., F.S.A. Joseph Mayer, F.S.A. ² Francis Pulszky, F. Rom. Arch. S. ³ Charles Warne. ¹⁰ William Goldsmid. George Hillier. ¹¹ Barrington Tuke, M.D. F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A. ¹² William Harry Rogers. ¹³ John Tissiman, Sec. Scarborough Archæological Society. John Evans, F.S.A., Hon. Sec. Num. Soc. Lon., etc. Sotheby and Wilkinson. ¹⁴ J. W. Pycroft, F.S.A., M.R.A.S., F.R.S.N.A. John M. Jephson, B.A., F.S.A.
W. H. Smyth, V.P.S.A. W. M. Wylie, F.S.A. ² J. Y. Akerman. ³ Francis Hobler. ⁴ G. Roots, F.S.A. Dawson Turner. ⁵ Fortunatus Dwarris, F.R.S. George Gwilt, F.S.A. J. Bathurst Deane, F.S.A. ⁶ Edmund Sheppard, Major, R.A., F.L.S., M.N.S., etc. James M. Rymer. James Yates, M.A., F.R.S. ⁷ James Hunt, M.R.S.L.	

¹ Hon. Sec. of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

² Author of “Fairford Graves.”

³ Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of London, etc.

⁴ Late Hon. Sec. of the Numismatic Society.

⁵ M.A., F.R.S., F.S.A., F.L.S., M.R.I.A., Fellow of the Royal Society of Sciences at Stockholm; author of “Historia Fucorum,” “Outlines in Lithography, from a small collection of Pictures,” “A Tour in Normandy, etc.”

⁶ Author of “The Worship of the Serpent,” etc.

⁷ Author of “Textrinum Antiquorum,” etc.

⁸ The purchaser of the Fausset Collection of Saxon Antiquities, and founder of a Museum of Antiquities at Liverpool.

⁹ The eminent Hungarian Antiquary,

¹⁰ Author of a paper on the Early Antiquities of Dorsetshire.

¹¹ Author of a “History of the Isle of Wight,” etc.

¹² Author of “Costume in England,” etc.

¹³ Author of papers on the Fine Arts.

¹⁴ The well-known auctioneers of literary property, antiquities, and works illustrative of the fine arts.

- Edmund Waterton, F.S.A.
 Frederick Hindmarsh, F.G.S.,
 F.R.G.S., Treasurer of the Eth-
 nological Society.
 Richard Cull, Hon. Sec. Ethno-
 logical Society.
 David King, M.D., F.E.S.
 H. S. Southey, F.R.G.S., F.E.S.
 E. I. Selwyn, M.A., F.E.S.
 Lionald Beale, F.G.S.
 M. Rhode Hawkins.
 Henry Lawes Long, M. Geog. S.
 Charles Edward Long, M.A.
 W. Jerdan, M.R.S.L., Correspond-
 ing Member of the Accademia
 Real of Spain.
 John Timbs, F.S.A., Author of
 "Curiosities of London."
 W. H. Rolfe, Sandwich.¹⁵
 O. F. Routh (Twickenham).
 Thomas King, F.S.A.
 Thomas Faulkner, F.S.A.
 Alfred Burges, F.S.A.
 Henry H. Young.
 J. James, F.S.A.
 Joseph Arden, F.S.A.
 Samuel Wood, F.S.A.
 H. W. King, Sec. for the Mediæval
 Section of the Essex Archæo-
 logical Society.
 Joseph Clarke, F.S.A.
 Thomas Lott, F.S.A., Deputy.
 Edward Pretty (Northampton).
 W. H. Gomonde, F.L.S.
 George Virtue, F.S.A.
- William Burges, Mem. Arch.
 Institute.
 B. Nightingale.
 Morris Moore.
 Talbot Bury, F.I.B.A., M.I.C.E.;
 author of several architectural
 works.
 Joseph Barnard Davis, F.S.A.
 W. Pettit Griffith, F.S.A.,
 F.R.I.B.A., author of "Ancient
 Gothic Churches, their Propor-
 tions," etc.
 J. O. Halliwell, F.R.S., F.S.A.¹⁶
 J. B. Nichols, F.S.A.
 Henry Christmas, M.A., F.R.S.,
 F.S.A., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., Pro-
 fessor of British Archæology in
 the Royal Society of Litera-
 ture.
 John Gough Nichols, F.S.A.¹⁷
 Thomas Hugo, F.S.A., M.R.L.S.¹⁸
 William Webster.¹⁹
 Beale Poste, LL.B.²⁰
 George Godwin, F.R.S.²¹
 H. B. Mackeson, F.G.S.
 David Falcke.²²
 Thomas Eardly Hodges, Capt.,
 H.P.
 R. E. Hodges.
 John Russell Smith.²³
 W. Whincopp,²⁴ Woodbridge.
 Samuel J. Mackie, F.S.A., F.G.S.
 W. H. Brooke, Chichester.²⁵
 William Edwards, Dealer in Coins,
 etc., 140, Aldersgate-street.

¹⁵ The investigator of Richborough and the Saxon Cemeteries of Kent.

¹⁶ Author of a "Dictionary of Archaic Terms;" editor of the folio edition of Shakespeare, etc.

¹⁷ Editor of "The Genealogist," "The Gentleman's Magazine," etc.

¹⁸ Senior Curate of St. Botolph's; Member of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries.

¹⁹ Numismatist, and dealer in coins and medals.

²⁰ Author of "Britannic Researches," and "Coins of the Ancient Britons."

²¹ Editor of "The Builder," etc.

²² Dealer in antiquities, etc.

²³ Publisher, etc., Soho-square.

²⁴ Owner of a collection of antiquities.

²⁵ Artist; illustrator of "Keightley's Mythology, etc."

- A. C. Kirkman.²⁶
 John Virtue.
 William Bell, Phil. Dr. of Königsberg and London.²⁷
 Edwin Keet.²⁸
 Thomas Richards.
 Llewellynn Jewitt, F.S.A., Derby.²⁹
 J. G. Waller.³⁰
 Edward L. Cutts, B.A., Hon. Sec. Essex Archæological Society.
 P. M. Duncan, M.D., London; F.S.A., Scotland, and Foreign Secretary.
 Thomas Bateman, author of "Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire."
 William Fennell, Wakefield.
 Arthur Ashpitel, F.S.A., F.R.A.S., F.R.I.A.,³¹ etc.
 Samuel Tymms, F.S.A., Hon. Sec. Suffolk Institute of Archæology.
 John Hodgson Hinde, Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 John Adamson, Senior Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries, and of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne; Hon. Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Edinburgh and Perth.
 Edward Charlton, M.D., Junior Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- John Collingwood Bruce, LL.D. F.S.A., and one of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 John Clayton, Vice-President of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 William Kell, F.S.A., and Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 W. Hylton Dyer Longstaffe, F.S.A., and Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 Thomas Bell, Member of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 H. G. Potter, F.S.A., F.G.S., F.L.S., Member of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
 John Buchanan, Member of the Faculty of Procurators, Member of the Philosophical Society, Glasgow, Cor. Mem. of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and Secretary to the Western Bank of Scotland, Glasgow.
 William Euing, Secretary to the Association of Underwriters, and Member of the Maitland Club, Glasgow.
 William Ramsey, Member of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland,

²⁶ Possessor of a collection of antiquities, and author of several archæological papers.

²⁷ Author of "Shakespeare's Puck and Folklore," etc.

²⁸ Author of "Letters on a Tour in Egypt," etc.

²⁹ Author of topographical and archæological works.

³⁰ Author of "Monumental Brasses of England."

³¹ Architect; author of papers on Ecclesiastical Architecture, etc.

- Professor of Humanity in the University of Glasgow.
- John Brunton Falconer, Jun., Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Robert White, Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- E. H. Adamson, M.A., Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Thomas Austin, Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Thomas Pigg, F.S.A., Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- John Fenwick, F.S.A., Corresponding Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, and Member of the Council of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- John Clerevaux Fenwick, Member of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.
- Henry M'Lauchlan.³²
- Robert Cole, F.S.A.,³³ London.
- Henry Mogford, F.S.A., ditto.
- George R. Corner, F.S.A.,³⁴ ditto.
- Henry J. Slack, F.G.S., Barrister-at-law, Editor of the Atlas.
- John Wodderspoon,³⁵ Norwich.
- Alfred White, F.L.S.³⁶
- Joseph Warren, Ixworth.
- Charles Collier, B.A., Hon. Sec. of the Sheffield Library, and Second Master of the Sheffield Grammar School.
- J. Barnard Davis, F.S.A.³⁷
- H. Longueville Jones, M.A.,³⁸ H. M. Inspector of Schools.
- Mark Antony Lower, M.A., F.S.A.³⁹
- Charles Hicks, J.P., Alderman of Rye.
- John Auckland, F.S.A.
- William Figg, F.S.A.⁴⁰
- William Harvey, F.S.A.⁴¹
- J. F. Dillon Croker, F.S.A.
- Edgar Blaker, Solicitor.
- E. K. Campbell.
- S. C. Hall, F.S.A.⁴²
- Joshua Butterworth, F.S.A.⁴³
- James Dafforne.
- William Chappell, F.S.A.⁴⁴
- Joseph Marchant, 9, Thayer-street.
- George R. Lewis, Landscape Painter.
- Lennard Lewis, ditto.

³² Surveyor of the Maiden Way, the Roman Wall, etc.

³³ Author of papers in the "Archæologia," etc.

³⁴ Author of papers in the "Archæologia," and in the "Sussex Archæological Collections."

³⁵ Author of "Memorials of the town of Ipswich," etc.

³⁶ Late Librarian and Curator of the Archæological Association.

³⁷ One of the authors of the "Crania Britannica."

³⁸ Founder of the Archæological Society of Wales.

³⁹ One of the founders of the Sussex Archæological Society, and author of various antiquarian and literary works.

⁴⁰ ⁴¹ Founders of the Sussex Archæological Society, etc.

⁴² Editor of the "Art Journal."

⁴³ Of the firm of Messrs. Butterworth and Co., 7, Fleet-street.

⁴⁴ Author and editor of several literary works.

- James Gowland, 52, London-wall.
Charles Lane.⁴⁵
- Francis Horner, Treasurer of the Architectural Society, Liverpool.
- H. P. Horner, Architect, Liverpool.
- Thomas Crook, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Edward Benn, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Joseph Guyton, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Thomas J. Paris, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Edward Heath, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool, etc.
- Peter R. M'Quie, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- W. J. Hammond, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Wm. Bridson, Liverpool.
- John G. Jacob, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Thomas Reay, Liverpool.
- Thomas Brakell, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Robert Gill, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Joseph Hadwen, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Edw. Higgin, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool, and Hon. Member of the Manchester Natural History Society.
- John N. Crosse, F.S.S., and Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- James Vose, M.D.
- T. Bickerton Evans, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Joseph Dickenson, M.D., F.R.S., and President of the Liverpool Literary and Philosophical Society.
- W. M. Fisher, Ph.D. F.R.A.S.
- John Hay, Architect, President of the Liverpool Architectural and Archaeological Society.
- Thomas Moore, M.A., Librarian of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, and Chaplain to the West Derby Union.
- Arthur Ellis, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Morris Charles Jones, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- D. Lamb, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- James A. Picton, F.S.A., Liverpool, Chairman of the Public Library and Museum Committee.
- Thomas L. Hodson, Member of the above Committee.
- Thomas Fleming, Member of the above Committee.
- A. Hume, D.C.L. and LL.D., Hon. Sec. of the Historic Society, Liverpool.⁴⁶
- Joseph Boulton, V.P. of the Liverpool

⁴⁵ Late editor of the "Price Current."

⁴⁶ One of the three founders of the Historic Society; and author of various papers on literature, science, and archaeology.

The foregoing notes are very incomplete, and demand an apology to those whose names are not annotated; but most of them are well known, and generally may be recognised by the initials or description attached.

- pool Architectural and Archæological Society, Member of the Historic Society, etc.
- Edwin P. Adams
- William Lord, Lieut., R.N., Marine Surveyor at the Port of Liverpool.
- Thomas Moore, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- John Picton, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- D. Mather, Merchant, Liverpool.
- John Mather, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- P. Macintyre, M.D., Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Edward Evans, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- J. J. Godfrey, M.R.C.S., London.
- A. Mac Ilveen, Principal of the Liverpool Mechanics' Institution.
- James Lister, Banker, Liverpool
- James Thorneley, Liverpool.
- John Colton, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Thomas Kendall, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Alfred Jones, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- James Reay, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- John Harrison Johnson, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Thomas Wood, B.A., Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Edward Jones, C.E., M.E., and Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Thomas Sanson, A.L.S., F.B.S.E., and Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- James Stonehouse, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- James Smith, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Richard Houghton, Jun., Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- Hugh Neill, F.R.A.S.
- Thomas J. Kilpin, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.
- R. L. Jones, Merchant.
- T. Francis Anderson, Member of the Historic Society, Liverpool.

A Petition to the same effect was presented to the House of Commons, on the 23rd July, by Mr. J. H. Gurney, on the part of the Committee of the Norfolk and Norwich Museum.

At the same time the following memorial was forwarded to the Lords of the Treasury.

“ To the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of Her Majesty's Treasury.

“ My Lords,—We, the undersigned noblemen and gentlemen, interested in the study of our national history and

antiquities, beg earnestly to call the attention of your lordships to the circumstance, that Mr. Charles Roach Smith, F.S.A. (of 5, Liverpool-street, City), a gentleman of great eminence in archæological science, has, by constant and assiduous labour during nearly twenty years, and by an expenditure in money to the amount of about three thousand pounds, collected together and arranged a museum of considerable extent, consisting of antiquities of the Roman period especially, but also of Saxon and Mediæval times, found in the course of excavations in the city of London, which illustrate in a very remarkable manner the condition of the metropolis during the remote periods to which they relate. Mr. Smith having resolved to dispose of this collection, and naturally anxious that it should not be dispersed, offered it to the British Museum for the sum which he has himself expended upon it, namely, three thousand pounds, thus making no account of the labour and time which it had cost him ; but the trustees of that establishment have, without stating any reasons, declined to purchase it.

“ We are well aware of the great value and interest of Mr. Smith’s collection, and many of us have had frequent occasions to consult it, and can therefore speak from experience of the vast fund of antiquarian instruction which it contains—instruction which, we believe, can be found to the same degree in no other collection in this country. We are satisfied also that the sum of three thousand pounds is not a high estimate of its value, and that this ought not to be an obstacle in the way of securing the collection in its present form for the nation ; to be placed either in the British Museum, or elsewhere, where it may be of easy access to all who have need to consult it. We should witness with very great regret, the dispersion of this col-

lection; because it has been made with great knowledge and discrimination, and because, from the circumstances under which it has been made, we believe that there is no probability that such a collection will ever be made again, and in its entire state it forms a monument of the history of our own country of a unique and important description. We should regret also, that it should either be carried away from this country, or that it should pass into private hands, where it might not be so generally accessible for the use of antiquaries and historians, as it has been while in the possession of Mr. Smith. Convinced that the Trustees of the British Museum, in rejecting the offer of this collection, have acted under wrong or imperfect information, we beg to press upon the consideration of your lordships the desirableness of securing it at once for the nation, before it be dispersed, and thus rendered useless to science, and of placing it in its collective form where it may be accessible and useful to the public.

“London, July 20th, 1855.”

(Signed).

Talbot de Malahide. ¹	George Gault, F.S.A.
Londesborough. ²	Thomas Hugo, F.S.A.
Albert Way, F.S.A.	John Britton. ⁴
Charles Tucker, F.S.A. ³	S. C. Hall, F.S.A., Editor of the
John G. Waller, Author of	“Art Journal.”
“Monumental Brasses of Eng-	F. W. Fairholt, F.S.A.
land,” etc.	Thomas Bell, V.P.R.S., P.L.S. ⁵
Dawson Turner, F.S.A.	F. Bennoch, F.S.A.

¹ President of the Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland.

² First President of the British Archæological Association.

³ One of the Honorary Secretaries of the Archæological Institute.

⁴ The veteran antiquarian author; and, he may be called, the father of popular archæology in this country.

⁵ Author of the “History of British Quadrupeds,” etc.

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| Thomas Wright, M.A., F.S.A.,
Corresponding Member of the
Institute of France. | Frederick Hindmarsh, Fellow of
the Geological and Royal Geo-
graphical Societies, and Treas-
urer of the Ethnological
Society of London. |
| John Collingwood Bruce, LL.D.,
F.S.A. | Richard Cull, Hon. Sec. of the
Ethnological Society. |
| Geo. R. Corner, F.S.A. | William Bell, Phil. Dr. of the
University of Königsberg (in
Prussia), and London. |
| Henry Mogford, F.S.A. | W. Petit Griffith, F.S.A., Author
of "Ancient Gothic Churches,
their Proportions," etc. |
| Samuel J. Mackie, F.S.A. | W. D. Haggard, F.S.A., F.R.A.S. ⁷ |
| Charles Warne. | Thomas Lott, F.S.A., ⁸ 43, Bow-
lane, Cheapside. |
| Alfred White, F.L.S., F.R.A.S. | Edward Falkener, ⁹ 21, Blooms-
bury-square. |
| W. H. Rolfe, Sandwich. | Joshua W. Butterworth, F.S.A. |
| J. O. Halliwell, F.R.S., F.S.A. | |
| John Wilkinson. ⁶ | |
| Thomas Richards. | |
| John Timbs, F.S.A., Author of
"Curiosities of London;" Editor
of the "Illustrated London
News." | |
| Charles Mackay, LL.D., F.S.A. | |
| Joseph Durham, F.S.A., Sculptor. | |

In the foregoing lists of names will be found some of the most eminent antiquaries of the kingdom, and many of persons not less distinguished in literature and in science. Among them may be observed the signatures of professional gentlemen, who are, of course, well acquainted with what may be called the money-value, or "market-price," and whose opinion may be placed against that of the one or two valuers, whose views, it is considered, have influenced the trustees. But, it may here be repeated, it is not a question of money. The £3,000 suggested, not as a remunerating price, but as some return for outlay, can be obtained any day, contingent on the dispersion of the col-

⁶ Of the firm of Sotheby and Wilkinson, auctioneers of literary property, etc.

⁷ Of the Bullion Office, Bank; Member of the Council of the Numismatic Society, and author of papers on Numismatics.

⁸ Deputy; author of papers in the "Archæologia," etc.

⁹ Architect; editor of the "Museum of Classical Antiquities."

lection; and this fact would have entirely removed any doubt, had such doubt existed, as to pecuniary worth.

The London Collection was offered by me to the Trustees of the British Museum, not because I considered that establishment the place best calculated for it, or because I had any confident expectation that, under the present Board of Trustees, any offer on my part would be entertained or accepted; but I made the offer because I considered it was my duty so to do; and I am neither surprised nor vexed that my offer has been declined. For the constitution of the Board of Trustees I refer to the third volume of the *Collectanea Antiqua*, where I have printed the names of the present members, in an exposition of their rejection of the Anglo-Saxon antiquities offered to them at my suggestion, by the executors of the late Dr. Faussett. As the Trustees are not generally appointed for antiquarian or scientific qualifications, their judgment, in all matters where archæological ability is required, becomes mere whim or caprice; they are forced, in making purchases, to seek the opinion of others: this was the case with regard to my collection; not one of them attended to see it, although special invitations were sent to most of them. Their appraisers, in the case of the Faussett collection, approved of the price asked, and the Archæological Institute and many eminent antiquaries testified to the low sum required; but still the Trustees would not purchase. In the case of the London Antiquities, it is understood that the gentleman who valued them for the Trustees placed so low an estimate upon them, that the Trustees could not feel themselves sanctioned in ignoring or opposing the opinion of their own prompter. This opinion, I believe, was given conscientiously; but it can, in no point of view, be allowed to weigh against the judg-

ment of TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY persons, such as those whose names publicly attest their conviction.

The offer to the Corporation, it will be noticed, has not been positively declined. The Public Libraries and Museums bill has since passed, and the Mayor and Corporation are now fully empowered, if they please, to establish a Museum of City Antiquities, and thus take away a reproach which has so long attached to the City of London. In reference to the letter received from the Guildhall Library Committee (see p. 20), it may be as well to remark, that when a deputation from the Committee called to inspect my museum, one of the members, in the course of conversation, mentioned the price, about which there was never any doubt or want of information, although the sum is not expressed in the letter addressed to the Lord Mayor by Messrs. Hugo, Corner, and Lott.

5, Liverpool Street, City.

August 23rd, 1855.

PUBLIC DINNER
GIVEN TO
MR. ROACH SMITH, AT NEWPORT,
AND
CONVERSAZIONE, AT RYDE,
ISLE OF WIGHT.

MR. ROACH SMITH having intimated his intention to attend a public exhibition, in the Isle of Wight, of the Anglo-Saxon antiquities discovered by Mr. George Hillier, his friends in the Island determined on inviting him to a Public Dinner at Newport, on Tuesday the 28th of August; and to a Conversazione at Ryde, on the 29th. Mr. Hillier having suspended the excavations on Chessell Down for a short time, resolved on resuming them on this occasion, and on exhibiting at the same time the more portable of the antiquities discovered in the spring of the year. Mr. Roach Smith was accompanied in Newport by a few of his London antiquarian colleagues, with whom he had been long and more immediately associated. These were Mr. Thomas Wright, Mr. Frederick William Fairholt, Mr. William Chaffers, Jun., Mr. George Richard Corner, and Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P.

Chessell Down is situate about seven miles west of Newport, near Brooke and Shalcombe. An ancient road, now seldom used, runs on the top of the long ridge of down land from Carisbrook to Freshwater, divisions of which are known as Bowcombe, Gallibury, Mottiston,

Chessell, Brooke, Compton, and Afton Downs; but the turnpike which leads to Yarmouth and Freshwater, is the only road which a stranger could take with safety. Chessell Down faces that of Shalcombe, from which it is separated by a narrow valley. It is inferior in height to that of Shalcombe, and its slope is more gradual. The sides of these downs opposite each other are each marked with a chalk-pit. Upon the ground above the pit on Chessell Down, and running a little way down its western side, is the cemetery excavated by Mr. Hillier. It must have been formerly of greater extent, as some of the graves are upon the very edge of the pit; and within the memory of man skeletons and weapons have been picked down into the pit by the chalk-diggers. Several of the graves were excavated by the late Mr. Dennett, who, at first, entertained the notion that the bodies here interred were those of persons slain in battle. This very popular and erroneous idea, it is believed, he subsequently abandoned. Mr. Dennett opened a tumulus upon Shalcombe Down; and he records the discovery, a long time since, of the two circular silver gilt fibulæ set with garnets which were in his possession: the grave in which these and other objects had been laid, was undermined by men digging for marl.* Without doubt valuable remains have from time to time been destroyed by persons ignorant of their archæological value; in proof of which we may cite Mr. Dennett's story about the helmet with letters upon it which nobody could read; it was probably a bronze dish inscribed with runes. The downs in this as in other parts of the Island are dotted with tumuli of periods anterior to the Saxon. Many of these have, unfortunately, been rifled, and pro-

* Mr. Hillier thinks that these fibulæ came from Chessell and not from Shalcombe Down.

bably in comparatively recent times. The Rev. Edmund Kell states,* that several barrows (in a group of seven barrows,) upon Brooke Down were opened by a party consisting of Captain Jervis, of the Shropshire Militia, Mr. James Howe, and others; but that no account of the exploration had ever been given to the public.

Previous to the publication of Mr. Dennett's researches (communicated through Mr. Roach Smith to the Congress of the British Archæological Association at Winchester), it does not appear that any notice of similar discoveries had ever been published; it is probable that no such discovery had ever been made; or if made, had not been understood. As the Isle of Wight holds a rather conspicuous place in the scanty annals of the Anglo-Saxon period, the results of the researches of Mr. Dennett, and the more extended investigations of Mr. Hillier, have produced materials highly illustrative of the social condition of the early Saxon Islanders: the people who, as Beda tells us, were, up to the latter half of the seventh century, when Ceadwall and his brother Mull took possession of the Island, entirely given to idolatry; the people whose land to the extent of 300 families out of 1200, the computed measure of the Island, as the same historian tells us, was given by Ceadwall to Bishop Wilfrid, from which period must date the introduction by fire and sword of the faith of peace and goodwill.

Mr. Hillier and Mr. Thomas Wright left Newport at an early hour to superintend and direct the excavations of the day. About noon a considerable number of visitors had arrived; and as three or four graves had been discovered, and were already in part opened, their complete

* Journal of the British Archæological Association, vol. vi. p. 454.

exploration was proceeded with. The cemetery presented the appearance of a newly dug and well-filled churchyard; the earth and chalk with which the numerous graves previously opened had been replenished, marking their outlines clearly and contrasting with the green sward of the down. No mounds had indicated the position of those graves: but a slight irregularity of the ground seemed to the observing eye of Mr. Hillier to shew the boundary of the cemetery. That there had been originally mounds or some other marks over the graves there can be no doubt. Mr. Hillier is of opinion, that stones stood at the head or feet of some. Slabs of Compton-bay stone, brought from the sea-side, were upon the graves of several, and in such positions as to induce him to consider they had been used as the modern head-stones; but they were perfectly uninscribed; no elegy, no name told who were the tenants of those lonely tombs, or gave the brief history of their life and death, such as at the present day is afforded even to the lowliest; and yet some of them must have been of consequence, of wealth, and perhaps of station; witness the five brooches upon the skeleton of the lady; the decorated sword by the side of the warriot. It remained for the archæologist alone to assign these mouldered remains to their proper epoch and nation; to write their epitaph in his description and explanation. To him alone these relics of the grave speak with an intelligible tongue; it is he alone who stands the interpreter between the living and the dead.

The graves laid open this day were not without interest even to the antiquary; while to the numerous visitors a novel and intellectual excitement was supplied in the gradual development of the skeletons, and the weapons and ornaments which for twelve centuries had kept them company. The shield of the warrior had been placed over his

body; his spear by his side; his girdle round his waist to which hung a knife; a woman's finger-bone still retained the faithful wedding-ring, of spiral silver; and upon her waistband was a small silver cross-shaped stud, in form of what is called the Maltese cross. In another grave was an earthen drinking-cup resembling one found in the same cemetery by Mr. Dennett. The process of finding and opening the graves of antiquity, whether they be Celtic, or Roman, or Saxon, is slow, tedious, and uncertain: it is the specific work of the enthusiastic antiquary, who, in wet and cold, in heat and in sunshine, early and late, labours alone, content to be alone. He would not be molested; he would not be misunderstood; neither would he have participators in a failure. He, therefore, who would venture to carry on such researches in the presence of a crowd of spectators must be bold and confident of success. Such an explorer was Mr. Hillier. He never contemplated the possibility of a refusal of the graves to give up their treasures; he dug fearlessly and composedly, and would have regarded a defeat with the same abhorrence as nature regards a vacuum.

But, under any circumstances, the company brought together on this agreeable occasion were ensured rational recreation. Mr. Hillier had ready, in the background of the scene, the ornaments and other smaller objects discovered in the spring of the year; and the Hon. A'Court Holmes, the lord of the land, who, with that liberality which marks the man of mind, had encouraged Mr. Hillier in his researches, had provided a substantial and elegant lunch, spread out upon the grass in the pit below the cemetery. From these happy combinations, aided by a calm, warm, and cloudless day, the attendants at the excavations upon Chessell Down, on August 28th, 1855, en-

joyed the intellectual profit of the lecture-room combined with the innocent hilarity of a "pic-nic." At the termination of the repast, a vote of thanks was given to Mr. Holmes, at the suggestion of Mr. Roach Smith, heartily seconded by the company.* The Saxon remains alluded to were then exhibited, and Mr. Wright, at the request of some of the company, undertook an *extempore* lecture on them, which was listened to with marked attention and gratification.

The company assembled on the Down, included the Hon. A'Court Holmes, Mrs. Holmes, and family; Sir John and Lady Simeon, and family; the Rev. H. W. Wilberforce; Sir Charles and Lady Fellowes; the Rev. Henry Freeman; Mr. J. H. Hearn, Mrs. Hearn, and family; Mr. Barrow, Mr. Cramer, and Mr. Wavell, of Ryde; Mr. J. A. Barton; Mr. John Lock; Mr. and Mrs. Henry Way; Mr. and Mrs. Wright, and Mrs. Foquett; Mr. Fairholt, Mr. Corner, Mr. Chaffers, Mr. Apsley Pellatt, Mr. Roach Smith, Mr. Gissett, and many of the neighbouring gentry.

The Dinner was given at the Bugle Inn, at Newport, at seven o'clock. Sir John Simeon presided, and was supported by the Hon. A'Court Holmes and his son and heir Mr. William Leonard Holmes A'Court; the Mayor of Newport, Mr. C. W. Estcourt, supported by the ex-Mayor, Mr. Francis Pittis, acting as Vice-President. The company included, the guest, Mr. Roach Smith, Mr. George Hillier, Mr. Wright, F.S.A., Mr. Corner, F.S.A., Mr. Apsley Pellatt, M.P., Mr. Fairholt, F.S.A., Mr. Chaffers, F.S.A., Mr. Thomas Faulkner, F.S.A., the Rev. E. D. Scott, (Vicar of Carisbrooke), the Rev. G. H.

* It should be mentioned, that both Mr. Holmes, and Sir John Simeon, had signified their wish to receive the company at their mansions, in the event of unpropitious weather.

Conner, Professor Griffiths, F.G.S. (Brecon), Mr. John Snell, Mr. John White (Cowes), Mr. Robert White (Northwood), Mr. Arthur Sanders (Fern Hill), Mr. John Henry Hearn, Mr. Thomas Dashwood, Jun. (Ryde), Mr. Benjamin Barrow (Ryde), Mr. Cramer (Ryde), Mr. Thomas Robinson, Mr. Richard Tucker, Mr. Benjamin Cotton, Mr. John Wavell (Ryde), Mr. S. Duer (Ravensbourne Park, Lewisham), Mr. Adam Thompson (Bond-street), Mr. J. Alfred Curtiss (12, Great Marlborough Street), Mr. John Roach (Perreton), Mr. Frederick Roach (Arreton), Mr. John Lock (Nodehill), Mr. John Adkins Barton (Barton Village), Mr. Robert Jacobs (Haseley), Mr. William Tucker Stratton, Mr. Edward Wilkins, etc.

After the cloth was removed, the Chairman said he would now lay upon the table numerous letters which had been received from persons of local influence, and from gentlemen well known for their eminence in the science of antiquities and in literature, who, from various engagements, from the short notice afforded them or from other causes, were unable to be present that evening. They all expressed regret, and the letters uniformly breathed the warmest sympathy with the object of the meeting; and, therefore, it might be considered that the writers were with them in spirit though not in person. Among them were Lord Londesborough, Lord Downes, Sir Henry Oglander, Mr. C. W. Martin (Leeds Castle), Mr. Albert Hambrough (SteePhill Castle), Sir John Boileau, Col. Vernon Harcourt, M.P., Mr. G. Atherley, Mr. C. Warne, Mr. Ll. Jewitt, Mr. Bloxam (Rugby), Mr. G. P. Joyce, Rev. E. Mc.All, Mr. Tennyson (the Poet-Laureate), Rev. W. H. Gunner, Mr. J. R. Keele, Mr. R. C. Shedden (Fairlee), Rev. J. N. Coleman, Mr. Bland, Mr. Rolfe, Mr.

Brooke, Mr. Bass, Rev. J. Le Mesurier, Captain A. S. Hammond, Mr. and Mr. W. Jacobs (Haseley), Serjeant Merewether, Deputy Lott, Mr. Cresy, Rev. T. Hugo, F.S.A., Mr. Lower, F.S.A., Mr. J. H. Glover, F.S.A., Mr. Maclean, Mr. Steuart Macnaughten, Mr. Alfred White, Dr. W. Bell, Captain Joseph Henry Jolliffe, R.M., Mr. James Yates, Rev. Dr. Bruce, Mr. James Wyatt, Mr. Waller, Captain Percy Scott, Mr. E. C. Dendy (Rouge Dragon and Earl Marshall's Secretary), Mr. H. Way, Mr. D. Way, etc.

The health of Her Majesty, Prince Albert, and the rest of the Royal Family, was drank.

The Chairman said, on the present occasion, and as the evening was advanced, he should have proposed dispensing with the toasts usually given; but, when it was considered what our fleets and army were endeavouring to achieve for us and for the cause of civilisation and humanity, it was impossible to avoid drinking the health and success of our Army and Navy.

Mr. Richard Tucker claimed leave to respond to this toast; for though he had never belonged to the fighting part of the Army, he had for many years been attached to that department of it the duties of which were of a most responsible and important kind—the Commissariat.

The Chairman then rose and said—Gentlemen, I now beg to call your attention to the toast of the day—to that toast which expresses and concentrates in itself the whole object of our meeting. You all know that we have met for the purpose of shewing our respect for a gentleman who has done credit to us denizens of the Isle of Wight by the honour which he has, by his merits and his labours, conferred upon our island. It has been said, that a prophet has no honour in his own country; but we desire to shew that the Isle of Wight offers an exception,

and to prove that she has always in her hospitable bosom a warm and hearty welcome for her deserving sons. I have said, gentlemen, that our respected guest has conferred honour upon us and upon his native isle; and, to prove my words, I have only to cast my eyes around upon the strangers who are sitting at this board, and who come to pay their tribute of sympathy and approbation to the man whom their own high and varied attainments enable them to appreciate and to value. We see amongst us men whose scientific and literary attainments are of European, nay, of world-wide, fame, assembled here to testify by their presence to the position which our countryman has attained in the world of science and of letters: and it is to ratify their verdict, and to express our proud and gratified concurrence in it, that we are met here this evening.

Blessed as we are, gentlemen, with natural beauties and with a climate which have conferred upon our island the envied title of the 'Garden of England,' we have not contrived to grow such a fertile crop of great men as to enable us to under-value or to make light of any eminent talent or celebrity which we may happen to produce. Our catalogue of warriors, of poets, of statesmen, of those who have, by their deeds or by their writings, shed a lustre upon their age, and written their names in the proudest pages of their country's annals, is small indeed; but, if these are wanting, we have others who have been no less valuable, though less distinguished by the public gaze—men who, proceeding modestly along the quiet and secluded paths of science and of study, have materially assisted in the great work of our national development. Such men, I mean, as Sir John Cheke, of Mottiston, the first promoter of the study of Greek in England; Dr. James, the

first librarian of the great Bodleian collection ; and his no less distinguished nephew, the valuable and valued collaborator of Cotton and Selden ; and, gentlemen, I have no hesitation or misgiving in asserting, that to these names will be added, in future ages, the name of our friend and guest, Mr. Roach Smith.

There is no class of persons, devoted to literary and scientific pursuits, who have been more abused and misunderstood, than the class which devotes itself to the study of Archæology. True it is, that there have always been men, mere collectors of antiquated rubbish, the men

“Wi’ a routh of auld nick nackets,
Rusty airn caps, and jingling jackets,”

scoffed at by Burns, walking lumber-rooms, whose heterogeneous stock of curious but ill-assorted lore, is alike useless to themselves and to their fellow-men. These are the Moths and the Periwinkles, the favourite objects of the ridicule of our early dramatists ; and even the great Magician of the North, fond as he was of all that bore upon or tended to illustrate our early history and antiquities, could not forbear aiming the shafts of his delicate and discriminating satire at them in the person of Monk-barns. Now, gentlemen, this is a class of men who, in my humble opinion, entirely mistake the real purport and object of the study in which they are engaged.

The science of the real antiquary is not of this narrow and limited character. To him every relic, which he picks up or secures, is pregnant with instruction, as bearing upon the history or the social life or habits of some past age. To him Archæology is a species of Comparative Anatomy, which enables him to reconstruct the whole fabric of an extinct civilisation from the waifs and frag-

ments thrown up by the stream of time, much as the geologist reproduces the huge antediluvial animal from its fossil bones and scattered remains. The real antiquary is the man who, in his care for and appreciation of details, never forgets the great general objects for which alone details are valuable; while, on the other hand, the great object in which he is engaged never so far dazzles and blinds him as to induce him to neglect those details, which afford the only means of testing the truth and validity of the theories which they ought to illustrate. In addition to this, and above all, he should be a man of large and liberal mind, ready to distribute from his stores of knowledge, and to utilise them for the general advantage, with no mean envy of the success or jealousy of the discoveries of others; in a word, the honest, large-hearted, free-handed steward of Wisdom, not her grudging, close-fisted, miserly monopolist.

Such, gentlemen, is the man whom it is my pleasing duty to present to you to-day, and whose health I now beg leave to propose. All of you are well aware of the energy, the ability, and perseverance displayed by Mr. Roach Smith in the pursuit of Antiquarian science. I am not unacquainted with his life of toil and anxiety. He has expended a large portion of his life in the collection of a Museum of Antiquities, unrivalled in interest, as bearing largely upon the early history of this country; and his whole conduct in its collection, and in his proposals for the disposal of it, have been marked by a spirit of the noblest independence and liberality. I still trust that that unrivalled collection may form part of our great National Museum, which it is so well calculated to adorn, and that its claims may not be ultimately disregarded.

Be that as it may, gentlemen, we are not the men to

make light of the claims of an old friend and countryman to our respect and sympathy, more especially when we think that those claims have received but a scanty recognition elsewhere; and it is in the fullest assurance that I have only echoed your feelings in the few words which I have now said, that I now give you the health of Mr. Charles Roach Smith, a long and a happy life to him, and good health to pursue his laborious and important career."

This speech was frequently interrupted by applause, and at its conclusion was received with enthusiastic and prolonged cheers.

Mr. Roach Smith, in reply, spoke to the following purport; he said he felt his position on this occasion to be of such uncommon occurrence, and to be marked with a distinction of so rare and flattering a nature, that it would be wrong in him were he not to feel its importance, and to receive the high honour it conveyed with full appreciation and with gratitude. His lot in life had separated him a good deal from his countrymen; a course of toil and anxiety (as their Chairman had feelingly and correctly termed it), had prevented him from visiting the land of his birth, save at long intervals and for brief periods. When, therefore, he stood among them, almost personally a stranger, to receive such a welcome as that which greeted him, he could but feel proud to think he had not been unnoticed by them, and that he had won their approval and such high consideration. And when he looked around him, and perceived there assembled the representatives of the influence, of the wealth, of the intelligence, and of the industry of the Island, he could not mistake the genuineness nor the moral force of the honour conferred upon him. Not upon himself alone would fall all the pleasure they had bestowed; there were others

absent who would share it; and some present whose generous hearts would respond to their kindness to him, colleagues whose friendship had been long tried, who in seeing him honoured would feel themselves honoured also, for to them, and to their regard and sympathy, he owed much of whatever success his efforts had attained in the researches that had been alluded to. When he reflected how much pursuits such as he had devoted the greater part of his life to, were advanced by the energies and cooperation of others, he could but waive all personal pretensions, and regard himself, for the moment, as the impersonation of a science which was making way towards public favour.

The science of archæology has been disregarded in this country; and even now its claims had not been generally allowed, although where history commenced there also it began. It is a science which surpasses all others, as the study of man himself exceeds all other studies. If we take what are accepted as the best histories of our own country, we shall find that they concentrate several centuries into as many pages; centuries from which date so much of the civilization we enjoy, and of the institutions under which we flourish; annalists and historians these centuries may be barren in, but they have left many vast and valuable memorials, passed over by our writers, and disregarded by our Governments, who seek in foreign countries the monuments of foreign people to the exclusion of what most concerns us, the remains of our forefathers. It is the province of the English archæologist to find out, to study, and to explain these and similar remains. He (Mr. Roach Smith) had just left one of, if not the most glorious of, our ancient monuments, to visit the graves of the Saxons upon Chessell Down, and (he might

add) to receive the hospitable reception they had given him. He alluded to the great Roman Wall, which crossed England from Newcastle to Carlisle, and was at one time the barrier of Roman Britain against the barbarians of the north. To the world at large it still remained an unexplored mine of historical materials, which could only be extracted by the labours of the archæologist; materials belonging to the first four centuries of the history of our country. Extend the view for this period over England and Scotland, and survey the net-work of roads, fortresses, and towns, spread over the land by the conquerors of the world; examine what yet is left, and you will be convinced how much that is unwritten may be supplied in the works themselves. But our Governments are ignorant of their value; as ignorant as the Corporation of London has hitherto been of their own special monuments, just referred to by our worthy Chairman.

Not only does archæology assist, correct, and illustrate history, but it gives a clearer insight into the institutions, the habits, the customs, and the arts of our forefathers, than can be obtained by history alone. It is more than a speculative pursuit; it is a science from which the greatest benefits may be derived, not merely in correcting errors and giving sounder views on matters of history, but also in every-day life, in the arts, and in all those industrial professions which administer to our comfort and luxury. There is a history in every object we see around us, and we heighten the pleasure we feel in them when we know their origin, and trace them in various stages down to our own times. In many arts we have retrograded: a knowledge of their former condition is the first step to their recovery or improvement. As an illustration, he would select one suggested by a toast given that evening;

and it would show how great practical advantages would arise from a better study of the wisdom of the past. Our gallant army, as they all knew, had suffered severely from having no road between the camp at Sebastopol and the huts and stores at Balaklava; to this cause has been ascribed the deaths of some thousands of brave men during the inclemencies of last winter. It is obvious that the troops, efficient as they were in other respects, were incompetent to make a road, though it made the difference to them between life and death. The modern soldiers are warriors and nothing more. The Roman soldiers were warriors, masons, carpenters, and road-makers, at the same time. Upon the enemy's territory there were added to their arms axes and spades; and, trained to such work, a road such as our troops needed and could not make, would have been constricted by them out of hand. Here wisdom gained from the experience of the past might have been made the means of saving the lives of thousands of our countrymen.

A great moral lesson is also taught by the study of archæology. The vocation of the antiquary is among the relics of the past. It is impossible to be continually a witness of the decay of the works of man, to see the overthrow of cities and temples, and in the scanty contents of the grave to mark the decay of nations, and the fleeting nature of generation after generation, without reflecting with feelings of humility on our own transitory state; such reflections lower human pride, check jealousies, and generate charity, toleration, and benevolence. If archæology does not lead to our improvement, then it cannot be said to be properly studied or understood.

Returning to himself, he thanked them sincerely for their kindness. They had conferred upon him an honourable

distinction, such as no wealth or worldly influence could command. It was the investiture of a pure and moral Order of Merit, which he should always wear near his heart and cherish among his best affections (cheers).

The Chairman next proposed the health of Lord Haytesbury, the Governor of the Island, which was drank with acclamation.

Mr. A'Court Holmes, in returning thanks for the compliment paid to his father, said, that in all things bearing on the prosperity of the island, as well as in any researches which tended to illustrate its history, no one could take a greater interest than his father; and he thanked them sincerely for shewing him this mark of their regard. Mr. Holmes then proposed the health of their chairman, Sir John Simeon. It was given with a cordial "three times three."

The Chairman having returned thanks, and expressed the gratification he felt in presiding over such a meeting, said, he had now to propose the healths of the gentlemen who had come from London to join them in this demonstration of regard for their guest. They were men eminent in various branches of archæological science, and in literature: with this toast he could not refrain from naming Mr. Thomas Wright. The toast was received with cheers.

Mr. Wright, in thanking the company for the consideration and attention shewn them, observed, that he could answer for his friends, as well as for himself, in assuring them how pleased they felt in being present on this occasion. No one, perhaps, knew Mr. Roach Smith better than he did. He had been associated with him intimately for many years, and, therefore, could confidently speak of him. One cause of this intimacy was the British Archæological Association, which they had

founded, and for the support of which they had for many years conjointly laboured.* Wherever work was to be done, there Mr. Roach Smith was always foremost with energy and good-will; he was backward only in questions of precedence for place and for honours (cheers).

Mr. Apsley Pellatt said, that duty impelled him to say a few words, to express the gratitude they felt to the gentleman who had entertained them so hospitably upon Chessell Down that morning; and who had so liberally countenanced the researches in which they had partaken with so much pleasure and profit. Before, however, they drank the health of Mr. Holmes, he could not refrain from bearing testimony to the obligation the City of London was under to Mr. Roach Smith for the labour and pecuniary outlay he had expended in collecting his valuable Museum; from this Museum he (Mr. Pellatt) had obtained important information; and he hoped that either the nation or the City of London would secure the collection for the public on the liberal terms at which it was offered (cheers). He would now propose, and drink, the health of Mr. A'Court Holmes. The toast was drank with loud applause.

Mr. Holmes returned thanks. He said, that although he did not assume for himself a profound acquaintance with the science of Archæology, yet he was much interested in the discoveries which had been made; he was fully aware of the light they shed on the history of the island, and he was confident that so intelligent and competent a man as Mr. Hillier would not fail to turn these discoveries to the best advantage, and to public benefit, in his forth-coming work, the "History of the Isle of Wight"

* It should be understood, that Mr. Roach Smith and Mr. Wright, as well as others of the conductors of this Society, are no longer members of it.

(cheers). He was pleased to make the acquaintance of the gentlemen from London; pleased in joining to receive Mr. Roach Smith, who had shed lustre and honour on the island of which he was a native (cheers).

The Chairman said, there was a toast he felt bound to propose from the chair. It was with gratification and pride he mentioned the name of his friend, George Hillier; and he felt sure the "History of the Isle of Wight," on which he was engaged, would far surpass all former county histories; that it would correct very many mistakes, and do full justice to the island. He proposed the health of Mr. Hillier; and announced, that Mr. Holmes wished to add the designation of "the future historian of the Isle of Wight." This compliment paid to Mr. Hillier was sanctioned by unanimous and hearty applause.

Mr. Hillier said, he was doubly grateful, both to Mr. Holmes and to Sir John Simeon, for the confidence they had placed in him, in granting, so liberally, permission to prosecute his researches upon their property, and for kindness shewn him at all times. He acknowledged the compliment paid him that evening; and, recognising as he did a zealous local antiquary, then present, who had taken part in the proceedings of the day, and who was always ready to forward the cause of science, he was sure it would be acceptable to the company, if he proposed the health of Mr. Barrow (cheers).

Mr. Barrow replied, that he felt highly flattered at the manner in which, on such an occasion, his health had been proposed and drank. He and his colleagues at Ryde were always desirous of promoting the objects of science; and it was with much delight the Philosophical and Scientific Society looked forward to receive Mr. Roach Smith and his friends, to-morrow evening, at Ryde.

Mr. Leonard Holmes A'Court, with the sanction of the chair, gave the health of the Vice-Chairman, the Mayor of Newport, who had so cordially and promptly concurred in the object of this meeting, and given it the benefit of his official and of his private character (cheers).

Mr. Estcourt having returned thanks, assured the company of the perfect sincerity and pleasure with which he joined them in aiding the object of that meeting.

Mr. Wright rose and said, there was among them a gentleman from whom he and his friends had received much attention during their visit;* a gentleman who had distinguished himself by his acquirements in local literature and antiquities, and who possessed the disposition to communicate his knowledge freely. He begged to propose the health of Mr. John Henry Hearn. The toast was received and drank with much good feeling. Mr. Hearn having responded,

Mr. Roach Smith said he had received the permission of the chair to propose the health and prosperity of the Agriculturists of the Isle of Wight. Himself the son of a farmer, he felt particularly pleased that it had fallen to him, on this occasion, to be associated with them in thus recognising the importance of such a class; and in saying how much he felt the attention of those friends and relatives, who, in the midst of harvest, when time was so precious, had made leisure to be present with him that evening (cheers). He would not trouble them, at so late an hour, with attempting to shew what bearing archæology could have upon agriculture; but he might observe, that,

* On the preceding evening Mr. Hearn had entertained the visitors from London with an exhibition of his own and other unpublished collections, among which were MSS. of great local interest.

even with all the improvements of modern science, something useful might be gained from the past, recorded by ancient writers. How the land was tilled formerly, and what it produced, it could be but beneficial to know; as well as the state of mechanical science applied to agriculture. It would be found, perhaps, that very many supposed modern inventions were but the reproductions of works invented many centuries ago. He would, then, give, "the health and prosperity of the Agriculturists of the Island." The toast was drank with cheers.

Mr. Frederick Roach, on the part of himself and the other agriculturists present, returned thanks. Referring to the remarks made by his cousin, he quite concurred with him in thinking that we should not wholly limit our thoughts to the present and future, but should give a share of our consideration to the past. In an agricultural point of view, it was curious to look back and contemplate the state of the land in past ages; to see what was now down and copse-land had formerly been ploughed and tilled, and *vice versa*. Some of the modern scientific applications for fertilising the land were of a very remote origin, and many supposed inventions were but the revival of old discoveries. Some years since, he and his brother bought, in Suffolk, a drill, which was considered the perfection of that description of agricultural implement, was lauded as a new and clever invention, and sold for £50. When it reached Arreton, his father, having examined it, said he was glad to see that some of the spirit as well as the blood of his grandfather, Edward Roach, had descended to his great-grandchildren, as he, Edward Roach (*circa* 1720 to 1756), who was a great experimentalist in draining and drilling, commonly used precisely such a drill as they had brought home (laughter and cheers). Mr. Roach

made some further observations to the same effect, and then proposed the health of the Clergy, coupled with the name of the Rev. G. H. Conner, who returned thanks.

The health of the Ladies of the Isle of Wight having been drank at the suggestion of Mr. Corner, coffee was served, and the party, about midnight, separated; and thus closed the proceedings of a day which will be long remembered by those who personally shared them.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29.

Most of the London visitors accepted an invitation to breakfast, given them by Mr. Faulkner, of Shide Hill House. They then walked over St. George's Down to Arreton, and inspected the fine old Manor House on the farm belonging to C. Wykeham Martin, Esq., and tenanted by Mr. Frederick Roach. The house is one of the best of the many manorial residences of the sixteenth and early part of the seventeenth centuries which are to be found in the island. Its date, placed over the front entrance, is 1639. Two of the rooms contain some good examples of oak carving. Among a collection of coins which was inspected, are several found in the Isle of Wight, of which the most remarkable are, one of Libius Severus, in gold; and one, also in gold, of Maximian, recently found near Chale. The party having lunched with Mr. Roach, returned to Newport; and, in the evening, departed for the

CONVERSAZIONE AT RYDE.

A Special General Meeting of the Members of the Isle of Wight Philosophical and Scientific Society was held at eight o'clock, at the Masonic Hall, John Street, the Society's apartments being too small for the number assem-

bled. Two hundred and fifty invitations were issued. Among those who attended were:—Col. F. Vernon Harcourt, M.P., Vice-President of the Society, Lord Downes, Sir Augustus Clifford, Sir John Harding (the Queen's Advocate), Sir John Burgoyne, Rev. Edward Scott, Vicar of Carisbrooke, Rev. A. Conner, of Newport, the Mayor of Newport, Mr. J. H. Hearn, Mr. F. Blake, of Newport, Mr. A. J. Hambrough, Mr. R. Popham White, of Wootton, Sir James Caldwell, Mr. J. C. D. Fullarton, Rev. Dr. Ferguson, Mr. W. H. Gillson, Mr. Frederick and Master Reginald Roach, Mr. Cramer, Dr. T. B. Salter, Mr. John Bicknell, Mr. Alexander Bicknell, Mr. John Adkins Barton, of Newport, Mr. John Lock, of Nodehill, Mr. Ernest P. Wilkins, of Newport, Mr. R. W. Bloxam, Rev. C. E. R. Robinson, Mr. G. W. Searle, Mr. Gibson, Mr. Guichet, Mr. Blakeney, Rev. D. J. Heath, Mr. McLachlan, Rev. H. Boyer, Mr. J. Bicknell, Captain Marshall, R.N., Mr. Wheeler, Mr. Knowles, Mr. Meeres, Mr. Oliver, M. Pullen, Mr. Le Marchant Thomas, Mr. Treakell, Rev. A. J. Wade, Mr. Webster, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Phené, Rev. C. Morris, Captain Martin, Mr. Martin, Captain Katon, R.N., Mr. F. Searle, Mr. E. Lecky, Mr. John Wavell, Mr. Eldridge, Mr. Bass, Dr. Mark Brown, Mr. Pittis, Mr. Riley, Rev. C. Danbury, Rev. J. Baines, Mr. C. M. Jones, Rev. Mr. Simpson, Mr. C. Woodward, Rev. W. T. Marsh, Rev. Mr. Dursley, Mr. Swift, M.P., Mr. Hillier, Mr. Wright, Mr. Corner, Mr. Fairholt, Mr. Barrow (Honourary Secretary), etc., etc.

Among the exhibitions were some Celtic urns and other remains discovered in tumuli upon Asheys Down, by Mr. Barrow and other Members of the Society; the Anglo-Saxon antiquities discovered by Mr. Hillier; and proof engravings (executed by Mr. Fairholt) of the Kentish Saxon remains discovered by the Rev. Bryan Faussett,

and now in the museum of Mr. Joseph Mayer, of Liverpool.

The company being seated, Colonel Harcourt, who had taken the chair, rose and said:—I congratulate the Council and Members of the Society, and the Visitors, on the occasion of their assembling this evening. I congratulate you because we are met to receive and render honour to one of the most eminent antiquaries of the day, one who has earned a reputation more than European—Mr. Charles Roach Smith. It is with pleasure I introduce him to you. Although hitherto personally a stranger to many of us, his name and works are not unknown in the Island. The Island may boast of him as a son, and we as a countryman; and well may the Island be proud of one who has laboured so diligently, so perseveringly, in the cause of science and literature, and who has, in the words of a well-known and eminent antiquary, ‘devoted a life and a fortune in the pursuits of archæology,’ the importance of which science in enabling us to comprehend more clearly the habits and manners of our ancestors I need not insist on; it is now all but universally admitted. To one of Mr. Roach Smith’s achievements I must specially allude. Regardless of labour and money, he has saved from destruction, in the City of London, antiquities which, under his care, have justly assumed a character of national importance; the collection is unrivalled, and public opinion and the judgment of the most distinguished antiquaries, concur in certifying its claims to the appreciation of the nation. I feel I can do but little justice to the position I this evening hold. I see upon the table matters of much local interest which will engage your attention, and on which some of the company will favour us with remarks; and Mr. Smith will probably give us some informa-

tion on his own researches. I will, therefore, conclude with introducing to you our visitor Mr. Charles Roach Smith; and I express to him in your name and in my own, that which we all must wish him, a full and ample reward for his years of labour and self-denial; and that he may live long to reap that harvest of peace and happiness which his probity and industry command. (Cheers.)

Mr. Roach Smith replied, that he received the high compliment paid him that evening with a deep sense of the honour it conveyed; he trusted he should appreciate it to the full extent of its importance in every point of view, while he could but be especially flattered by such a testimonial from his countrymen, in the land of his birth. Had he pursued through life a more selfish course, and devoted those energies, for which they had given him so much credit, to the acquirement of worldly power and position, he might, perhaps, have returned to his native land laden with the favours of external fortune; but he should never have earned such priceless honours as they had given him; and were it in his power, with all his experience of the world to enter upon it again, he should again accept the path of toil and difficulty such as he had chosen, and his riches should be what they now are,—the approbation of his countrymen, and their assurance that his life had not been profitless to others. (Cheers.)

Mr. Roach Smith said, it would be quite agreeable to him to do what the President had suggested, and give them some clear notions of the precise nature of his collection of London antiquities; but he feared he should fail in doing so away from his museum, and without that necessary preparation of diagrams and drawings, or an exhibition of types of the objects themselves, which alone rendered a verbal description fully intelligible. He, however,

pointed out a few of its more important features, and observed, that the general disregard shewn by our governments to the national antiquities was instanced by the history of those of London. The people of London had, at least up to the present time, equally neglected them; and although they afforded such remarkable illustrations of the ancient condition of the metropolis and of its inhabitants, they were better understood and appreciated in any part of the kingdom, and, perhaps, in any city in Europe, than in London itself. After referring to some of the more remarkable of our national monuments, he drew attention to the fine Roman architectural remains at Portchester, Pevensey, Lymne, and other places on the south and eastern coasts, as instances of the little regard paid even to such remarkable monuments so close at hand and almost daily before our eyes. These were the bulwarks of Roman Britain, erected to defend the province against the incursions of a people destined to rule the world — the Saxons. These great fortresses, which protected Britain only for a time, are connected with the early history of the people from whom we are descended (at least in part), and to whom we owe so much that is good in our Constitution; the people to whom belonged the beautiful ornaments and other remains from Chessell Down, now upon the table before them. In these remains, the future historian of the Island, Mr. Hillier, would find materials for a new chapter, illustrative of the history of the country at an early and obscure period, hitherto passed over by historians in the most cursory and unsatisfactory manner. The Anglo-Saxon antiquities of the Isle of Wight must be especially studied in connection with those discovered in Kent, as both come from the same origin. The historian Beda states, that the Saxons

of the Isle of Wight and of the opposite coast, and the Saxons of Kent, all came from Jutland. It is an interesting inquiry to ascertain how far the remains from Chessell Down agree in character with those found in other parts of Hampshire, and how far both agree with Kentish Saxon antiquities. He believed it would be found that there would be many striking points of resemblance confirming the assertion of Beda.

But, on such an occasion, he could not monopolise the time of the company. There were, doubtless, several present who would wish to ask questions on the exhibitions. Mr. Wright, who felt as much interest in the subject as himself, would probably desire to make some remarks. On resuming his seat, Mr. Roach Smith again expressed, with much warmth of feeling, his sense of the honour done him by the Isle of Wight Philosophical and Scientific Society.

Mr. Wright, after stating the pleasure he had received in inspecting the Celtic barrows upon the downs, and the Saxon cemetery at Chessell, proceeded at considerable length to point out the leading peculiarities of Saxon antiquities, illustrating his observations by reference to those discovered by Mr. Hillier, and by the engravings of those exhumed in Kent by the Rev. Bryan Faussett.

Mr. Hillier, at the request of the President, made some observations on the position of the graves upon Chessell down; and, in reply to a question put by Mr. Bass, said it would be for Mr. A'Court Holmes and himself to consider the ultimate location of the antiquities he had discovered.

Mr. Webster observed, that although he was almost a stranger to the company there assembled, still he had an interest in the island, for he had lately come to reside at Sandown. He felt unwilling that relics such as these

should be lost to the island; he felt they ought to have a depository wherein they could be safely kept; and he hoped that such an opportunity as the present would not be lost for preserving, intact, objects which went so far to elucidate the history of the island.

Mr. J. H. Hearn could not avoid, after the observations which had fallen from Mr. Webster, saying a few words on a project which he had formed for instituting an Archæological Society, respecting which he had spoken to several landed proprietors in the island, and from whom he had received promises of support. He considered that no more desirable spot than Carisbrooke Castle could be found as a receptacle for all the antiquities found in the island.

Dr. T. Bell Salter was rather astonished at the proposal for establishing another Society, when that which was this evening assembled to do honour to their respected guest, and other visitors, had, for one of its chief objects, Antiquarian pursuits, and the formation of a Museum of Local Antiquities. The thing, therefore, which Mr. Hearn advocated, was already done. Let the proprietary and others of the island gentry and visitors join heart and hand with this Society, and the desired end would doubtless be gained.

The Honorary Secretary said he was sorry that anything of the character of private business should have been discussed at a meeting assembled that evening for the sole purpose of doing honour to their talented visitor and other friends; but his silence might be construed into an approval of the formation of another Society: to this he was quite adverse. Having been, from the commencement of this Society, its official organ, he had found the difficulty of maintaining it in its integrity. It combined

within its sphere many objects—science, natural history, and antiquarian research. And why were these various objects all combined? Simply, for the purpose of meeting, if possible, the tastes of all. The island was too small for a division of interests: there must be some combination or else all must fail. The nucleus of an Antiquarian Society was there—the nucleus of a Museum already existed. Let all jealousy cease; let all unite, and they could not fail to produce what every one admitted to be necessary—a Museum worthy of the island and its rich resources.

The President then proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Roach Smith, and to Mr. Wright, for the descriptive remarks they had made. The proposition having been unanimously accepted,

Mr. Corner, after expressing the delight which he had experienced during his visit, and his concurrence in the view taken by the Honourary Secretary of uniting all interests, passed a high eulogium upon the President's ability and kindness in filling the chair and doing honour to his valued friend, and concluded by proposing a vote of thanks to Colonel Harcourt, which, seconded by Lord Downes, was agreed to with acclamation.

The company then intermixed in the meeting and refreshment rooms; and separated at about eleven o'clock.

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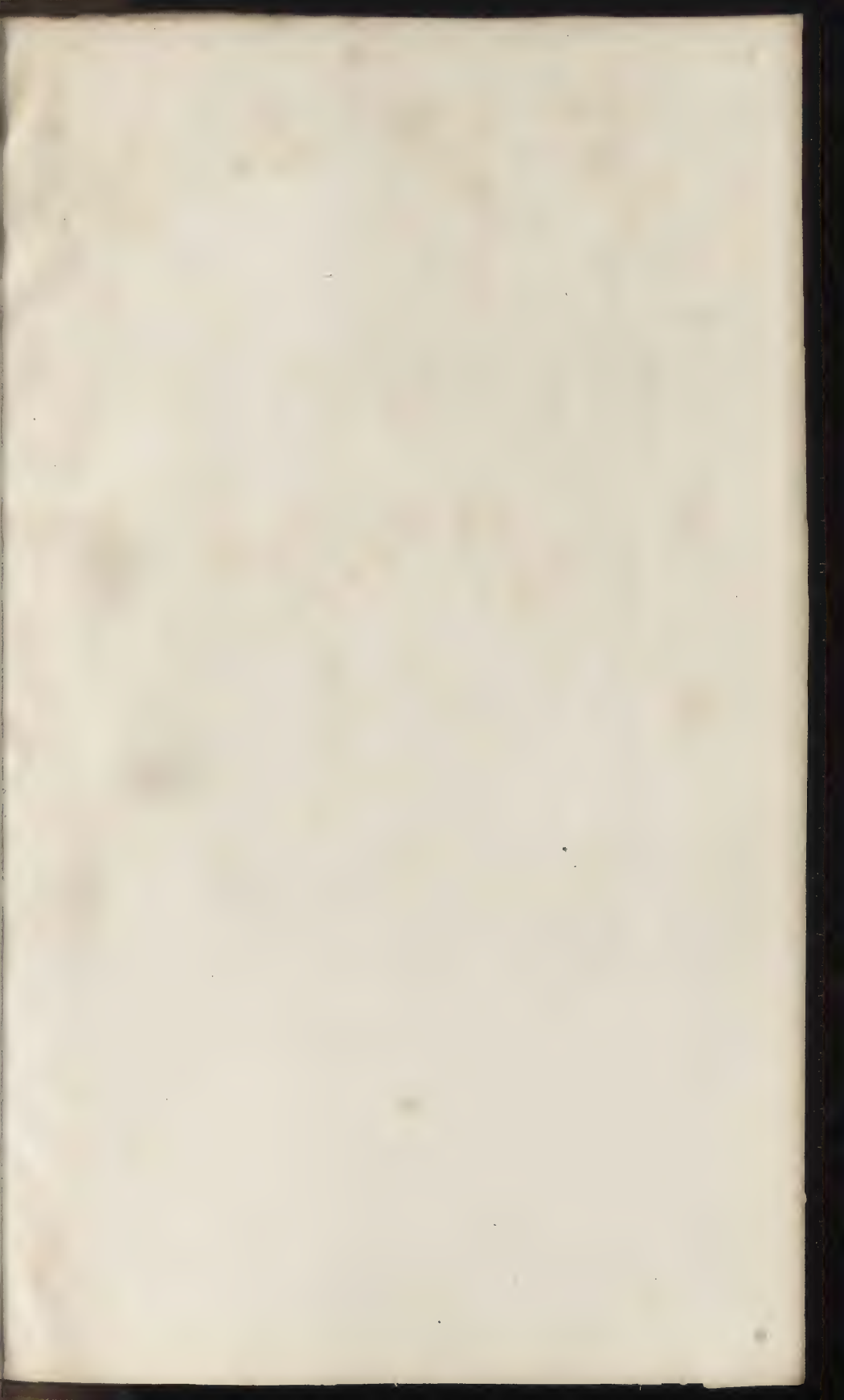
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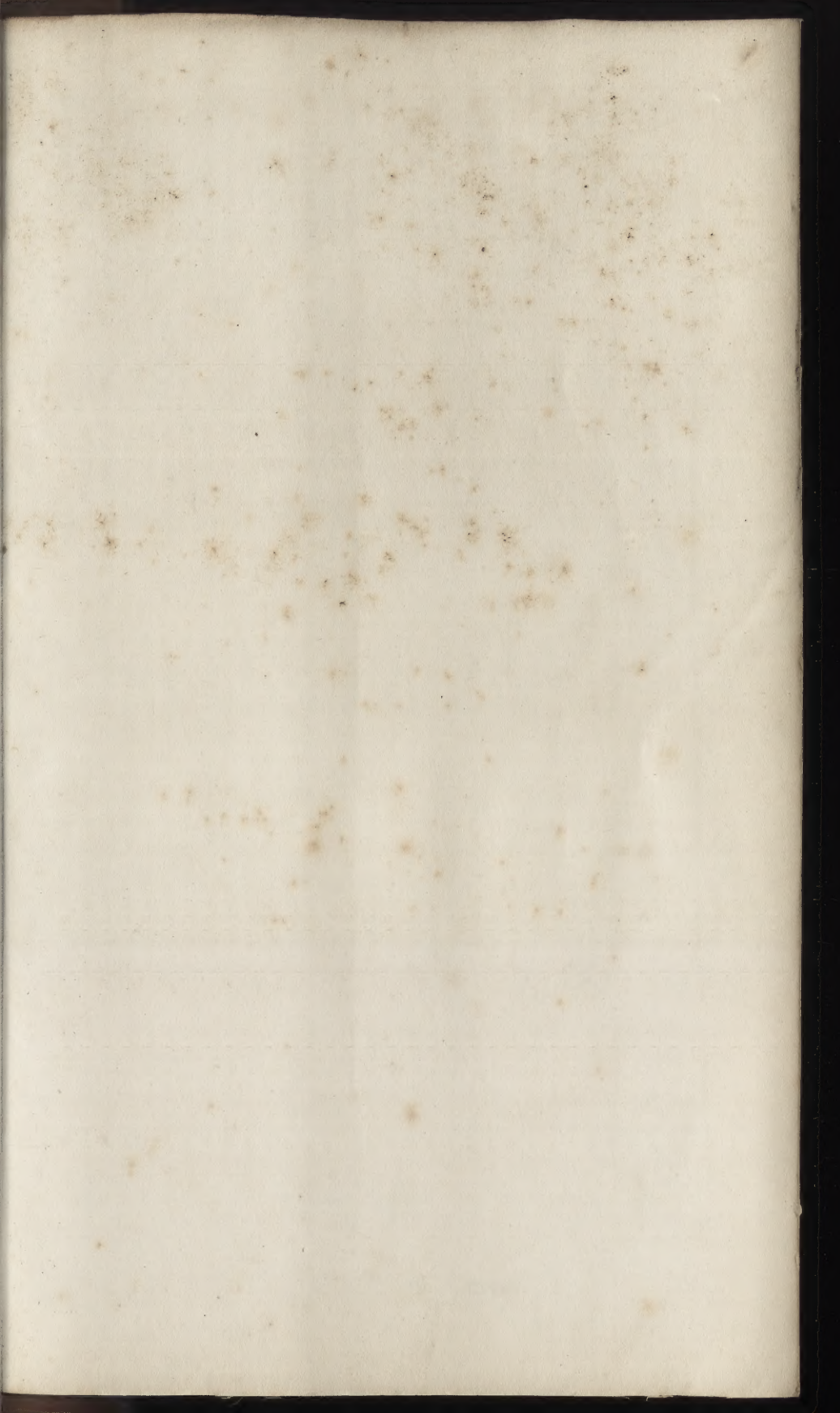
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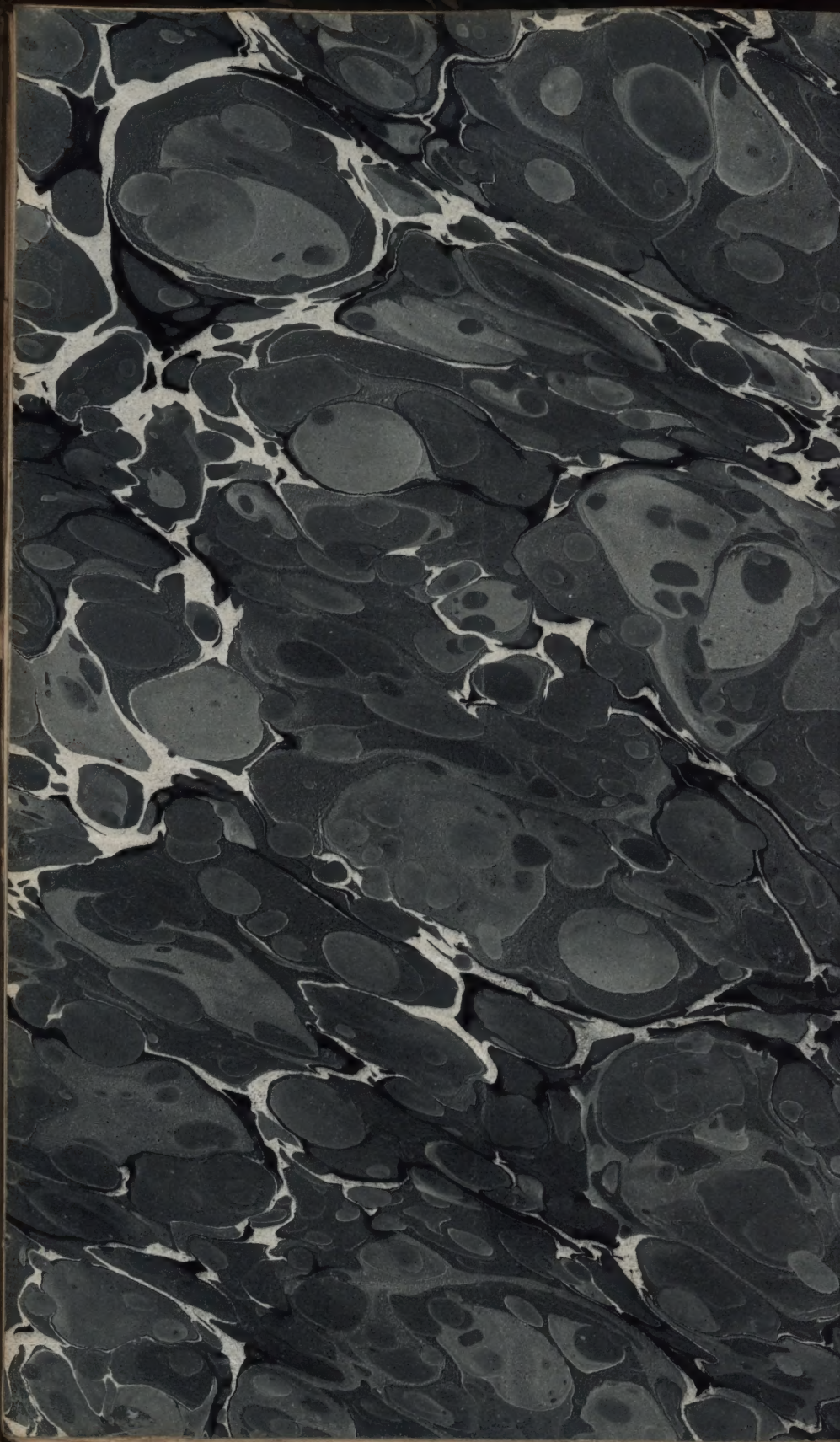
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