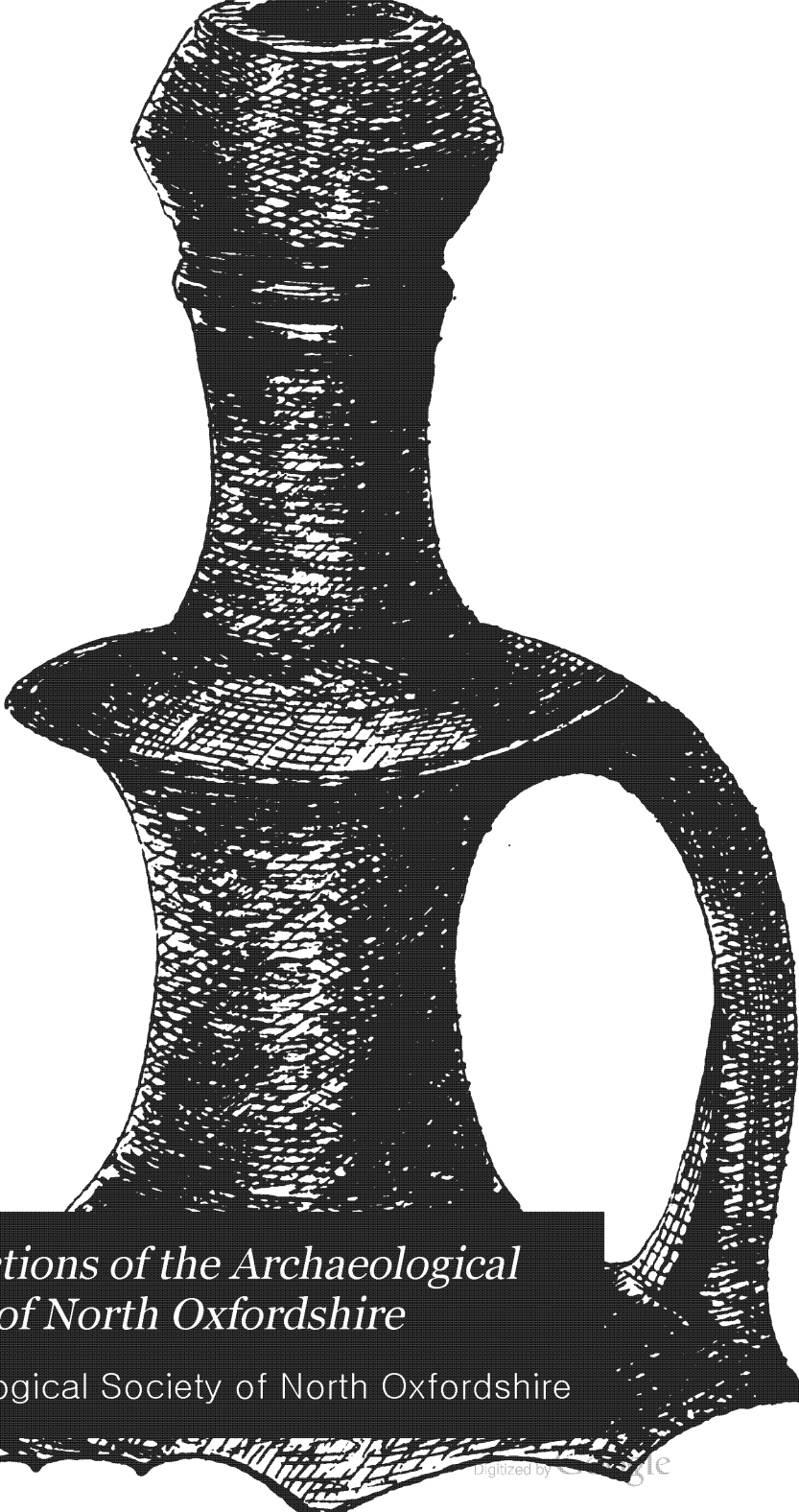


HS
11



*Transactions of the Archaeological
Society of North Oxfordshire*

Archaeological Society of North Oxfordshire

CONTENTS.

	Page.
Preface	v
Officers and Members	vii
On Some Uses of Archæology. By the Rev. P. HOOKINS	1
On Roman Remains in the Neighbourhood of Banbury. By Mr. THOS. BEESLEY. 15 ✓	
Catalogue of Coins found at Evenley. By Mr. T. BEESLEY.....	23
Notes on the Civil War and the Siege of Banbury. By LORD ALWYNE COMPTON. 25 ✓	
A Paper on the Execution of Charles I. By the Rev. EDW. PAYNE	37
The Camp of Madmarston, and its Ancient Town. By Mr. A. B. RYE.....	51 ✓
Catalogue of Coins found at Madmarston. By Mr. THOS. BEESLEY	56 ✓
The Rollright Stones. By Mr. T. BEESLEY	61 ✓
Cold Norton Priory. By Mr. W. WING	75 ✓
Notes on the above. By the Rev. P. HOOKINS	79 ✓
On Paving Tiles, a Monumentarium, &c. By the Rev. J. W. HEWETT	89
Brief History of Parish Registers. By Mr. C. FAULKNER	101
Antiquities exhibited at various Meetings of the Society.....	113

In presenting this first volume of the *Transactions of the Archæological Society of North Oxfordshire* to the subscribers, the Editorial Committee feel that some few words of apology or explanation are due for the delay in its appearance. Apology perhaps is better than explanation, for the latter, if full, would require a volume almost as large as the present, and when done would be honourable to few, satisfactory probably to none. Suffice it to say, that of the many delays which have occurred, some were unavoidable, and some unforeseen. The difficulties, however, are now overcome. The volume is in your hands, and the Committee appeal with some confidence to the forbearance of the members. So much for the past and present. What shall they say about the future? Is the present volume to be followed by others? or, is this the last effort of an expiring Society? The answer is yours. It certainly does not appear probable that the work can be carried on as heretofore, but there are many ways of shifting the burden from the shoulders which are too heavily laden. Some of these may be worthy of consideration, one may be found for adoption. It seems a pity that the promise given by the present volume should turn out futile.

July 1, 1856.

Patron.

THE RIGHT REV. THE LORD BISHOP OF OXFORD.

President.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL NORTH, M.P.

Vice-Presidents.

REV. LORD A. COMPTON.
REV. C. BARTER.
E. GUEST, ESQ., D.C.L.
REV. J. W. LOCKWOOD.
REV. G. M. NELSON.
REV. E. PAYNE.

REV. W. C. RISLEY.
J. M. SEVERNE, ESQ.
REV. W. WILSON, D.D.
THE MAYOR OF BANBURY.
THE VICAR OF BANBURY.

Treasurer.

MR. T. E. COBB,
BUCKS AND OXON UNION BANK, HIGH STREET, BANBURY.

Auditors.

MR. R. H. ROLLS. | MR. W. POTTS, JUN.

General Secretaries.

REV. PH. HOOKINS, MILCOMB, NEAR BANBURY.
REV. W. S. MILLER, SIBFORD GOWER, NEAR BANBURY.

Local Secretaries.

BANBURY,..... MR. T. BEESLEY.
CHIPPING NORTON,.. MR. H. WILKINS.
DEDDINGTON, MR. C. FAULKNER.
WOODSTOCK, MR. W. WING.

Committee.

REV. T. W. D. BROOKS.
MR. T. CLARKE.
MR. J. FORTESCUE.
REV. J. W. HEWETT.
REV. R. P. HUMFREY.
MR. W. W. HYDE.
REV. T. PEARSE.

REV. W. J. PINWILL.
MR. W. POTTS.
MR. W. RUSHER.
MR. A. B. RYE.
MR. H. STONE.
REV. J. WILLIAMS.
DR. R. S. WISE.

THE OFFICERS, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE AUDITORS, ARE EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE.

Ordinary Members.

Alcock, Rev. C., Vicar of Adderbury.

Barter, Rev. C., Sarsden.
 Beere, Mr. G., Banbury.
 Beesley, Mr. T., Banbury.
 Birch, W., Esq., Pudlicot House.
 Bowles, Rev. G. D., Farthingho.
 Bowyer, H. A., Esq., Steeple Aston.
 Brooks, Rev. T. W. D., Overthorp.
 Bruton, Mr. E. G., Oxford.
 Buckler, Mr., Oxford.

Compton, Rev. Lord A., Castle Ashby.
 Campbell, Rev. J. J., Great Tew.
 Carter, Rev. W. E. D., Shipton-under-
 Wychwood.

Chesterman, Mr. S., Banbury.
 Churchill, Mr. H., Deddington.
 Clarke, Mr. T., Banbury.
 Clarke, Rev. J. A., Wootton.
 Cobb, Mr. E., Lewes.
 Cobb, Mr. T. E., Banbury.
 Cooke, Mr. G., Banbury.
 Croome, Mr. J., Middleton Cheney.
 Currie, Rev. M. W., Saltwood.

Davis, Mr. R., Banbury.
 Dell, Mr. T. W., Aylesbury.
 Draper, Mr. T., Banbury.

Faulkner, Mr. C., Deddington.
 Flint, Rev. C. R., Great Rollright.
 Fortescue, Mr. J., Banbury.

Giles, Rev. J. A., D.C.L., Bampton.
 Goffe, Mr. R., Banbury.
 Guest, E., Esq., D.C.L., Sandford Park.

Harman, Mr. J. N., Bloxham.
 Harman, Mrs., Bloxham.
 Hedley, Mr. T. A., Banbury.
 Hewett, Rev. J. W., Bloxham.
 Hill, Mr. S., Banbury.
 Hippialey, Rev. R. W., Stow-on-the-
 Wold.
 Hodgson, Rev. J., Bloxham.
 Holbech, Rev. C. W., Farnborough.
 Hookins, Rev. P., Milcomb.
 Humfrey, Rev. R. P., Thorp Mand-
 ville.

Hyde, Mr. W. W., Bloxham.

Joyce, Rev. J. G., Burford.

Lockwood, Rev. J. W., Kingham.

Marshall, Rev. J., Sandford.
 Millard, Rev. J. W., Cropredy.
 Miller, Rev. W. S., Sibford Gower.
 Mitchell, —, Esq.
 Murray, Rev. J., Wroxton.

Nelson, Rev. G. M., Boddicott Grange.
 North, Lieut.-Colonel, M.P., Wroxton
 Abbey.

Oxford, Right Rev. Lord Bishop of,
 Cuddesden Palace.

Paul, Rev. C. K., Eton.
 Payne, Rev. E., Swalcliffe.
 Pearse, Rev. T., Hanwell.
 Pinwill, Rev. W. J., Horley.
 Potter, Rev. R., Broadwell.
 Potts, Mr. W., Banbury.
 Potts, Mr. W., Jun., Neithrop.

Risley, Rev. W. C., Deddington.
 Rolls, Mr. R. H., Banbury.
 Royce, Rev. D., Cowley.
 Rusher, Mr. J. G., Banbury.
 Rusher, Mr. W., Banbury.
 Rye, Mr. A. B., Banbury.

Samuelson, Mr. B., Redcar.
 Sanders, Rev. W. S., Adderbury.
 Scriven, Mr. G., Castle Ashby.
 Severne, J. M., Esq., Thenford House.

Talmage, Rev. M., Fifield.
 Tandy, Rev. W., D.D., Banbury.
 Temple, Rev. G. W., Canterbury.

Wiggin, Rev. W., Oddington.
 Wilkins, Mr. H., Chipping Norton.
 Williams, Rev. J., Wigginton.
 Wilson, Rev. W., D.D., Worton.
 Wilson, Rev. W., Banbury.
 Wing, Mr. W., Steeple Aston.
 Wise, R. S., M.D., Banbury.

ON SOME USES OF ARCHÆOLOGY:

A PAPER,

READ BY THE REV. PHILIP HOOKINS,

AT THE FIRST MEETING OF THE SOCIETY,

ON THE 6TH OF DECEMBER, 1853.

THERE is a use in searching out beauty of form and colour and expression, and in drawing the same from oblivion. Those who work in stone or metal, in wood or pottery, in paper, or even in silk or cloth or leather, will not deny this. And, taking up the last named as a subject for test, may we not appeal to the wood cuts, given in the Art Union some two years ago, of all sorts of ancient sandals and shoes and boots. Let any one look over those same wood cuts, and he will see, not only that the shoemakers of this time may make handsomer shoes than with a slit in the centre, flanked with holes for a tie of ribbon, but also, that they may make them more comfortable. He will see that the old cordwainers knew not only what was best to look at, but also what was best to fit; and that they had learned something of the form of a man's foot, its bones and muscles, veins and arteries, and covering of skin, and that they had also kind hearts, and, in one word, some mercy; and did not inflict on their customers terrible corns as well as bunions, and galled heels, and distorted toes.

And again. Is there no use in displaying from Missals, and the like, how men dressed in former times? I for one think there is, although the use is not realized. We look at the vestments of old, and then at our own. We

B

compare the coat and hat of the present with the corresponding articles of the past. How gracefully sits the vest of the past, with its cloak taking the lines of the figure; showing the ample chest, nor leaving it unbalanced, and giving the muscles of the arms their full play; and how, as gracefully, the cap and plume rest on the head. Turn then and look at the coat, waistcoat, and superfine hat of the present. What meaning is there in the collar of one's coat, so soon getting greasy? or in the two tails clinging to one's legs, like that of a dog in disgrace? or in the front turned back with buttons never to be used; and divided, and lapelled, and cut off at bottom at right angles in a long chamfer? And, in the name of wonder, how is it we wear such hats; culinary pots with rims to them, ever banging against door-heads and the rafters of rooms, making one feel, of a hot day, how uncomfortable it is to perspire, and of a wet day, that it is not a bit more comfortable to taste the rain-wash of this same hat, or find it in one's eyes?

And, as there is a use in looking over the dress of past times, so is there in examining the dwelling. And here the builder may say, "Take care! for there is no question about the superiority of modern houses." I reply, I am a plain man, and don't boast of more than common sense, and an average knowledge of things past, as well as present, and yet am not afraid to proceed. Well then, I assert first of all, that, if you want warmth in winter, and coolness in summer, you must have thick walls, and thick roofing, and small windows. I also assert, that, if you want fresh air at all times, you must have halls, or unoccupied spaces, in your houses. And I add, that the ancients had these, and that the moderns are not allowed to have them; the builders not choosing to afford such. Nor can I help suggesting, that, in the less, as well as in the more essential particulars, are the builders wanting. Take for instance what is called a chimney piece of this day, and compare it with its like in old time. Can anything be more absurd than the non-descript piers, and overhanging slabs, to which we have been so long accustomed? Why is the slab put up, but for the house-maid, when she has done

cleaning the grate, to hit her head against; or for the young hopefuls of the house, rising four years old, to tilt at; or for the dust, and all the rubbish of the family, to lodge upon? And then, why of marble or Welsh slate? I told one of the fraternity to fit up a house of mine in the Isle of Wight, about six weeks ago. Sure enough he has given me three of these, and all in marble; I begging and entreating, but in vain, and proving unable to have my own way. I longed to have, but was unable to get it, some French stone, plain and flat against the wall, meeting quietly the paper on one side, and losing itself with a depressed arch in the grate on the other. And then you must have cornices to your rooms, and wherefore I never could tell; except it was for finish, which word always sounded to me very uncomfortably. "You must have it, sir! or it," meaning you, "wont be finished." And then again the skirtings; why should they be four inches from the ground, and not a simple bead, or else drawn up to some height, so as to take the rubbing of the furniture? And yet again, the windows and ceilings, Why may we not, now that glass is cheap, have unbroken widths and lengths, and thus get back, at least in semblance, to the healthy days when there was no glass? And why may we not paint our ceilings? Heaven is painted, as well as Earth; and why, I repeat, should not our ceilings, as well as floors, take colour? I could show you, if you were to go with me to the Museo Borbonico at Naples, or to Pompeii, or to the admirable reproductions at the Sydenham Palace,—suggestions such as these realized; and that before our fathers had better houses than a wig-wam.

Rising in our subject, we come to show that something may be learnt from studying the principles, whether of art or science, developed in the work of ancient times. Take for instance a Grecian Temple, or a Gothic Cathedral; and we will take the latter rather than the former, in order to avoid commenting on the fact, that the gentlemen of this town, a while ago, proved themselves either very unskilful heathens, or very sorry Christians. Look at the stately Cathedral raised in former times, and say

if the Architects thereof had not learnt, and were not thoroughly deferential to what we may call the genius of their profession; and say if they have not tasked science to the very utmost in expressing what they knew and loved; and say if they have not symbolized in stone the Eternal and Infinite. And is there nothing to be gained here? May not the men of this day strive to enter into the same spirit, and to master the same science? And, if they did so, would not ours be the gain? And may not the Sculptor go and study with profit among our old buildings, (Flaxman thought so); and may he not learn, and learn much, from masterly statues such as those on the glorious front of Wells Cathedral? And may not the Painter gain something from the storied windows of this or that Church, (Tewkesbury for instance)? And if he does, (as he will if he attempts), let him pass to any neighbouring house of GOD, (as that at Kemerton: and I mention this, because so near the one just named, and because really very good, and done at much expense), and he shall see, comparing the two, how much in colour, in form, and in expression, the old surpasses the modern. Surely, if it does, there is something to learn. And something, (and not very little), the window painters of this day have to learn. They, in their vocation, must do as gentlemen did in architecture; go and copy bit by bit, and bit for bit, before they will much improve. And I almost suspect that gentlemen must take up this subject likewise, and work at this as they did at that.

Again. Is there no use in searching the records of a nation, and, (setting with a greater a less subject because in the same category), the pedigrees of families and of estates? And, if there is a use in so doing, can we be blamed for looking up and examining, in the one instance, coins, and sculptured or incised stones, and manuscripts, and charters, and registers, and calendars, and strange customs, and uncouth forms of speech, and quaint proverbs; and, in the other instance, seals of deeds, and sepulchral brasses, and tombs, and old legends, and the like. See,—to compare our lowly work with that so mighty,—see how much is learnt of the ancient Assyrians,

from the stones brought and deposited in the British Museum, marked with arrow-head letters, or cut in basso-relievo, the one assisting the other, and now read, and understood, and rendering, in the record they give up, a further testimony to the truth of Scripture. I have often thought, how satisfactory, if not complete, would prove the history formed from coins and monuments and documents, &c., of this realm; introducing as secondary so much of custom and manner and tradition as at the time of writing was traceable, and in order to explain this and that, these and those, into harmony. And I have been, (and early in life), made sure, (and from personal experience), that marvellous is the result of such method, and altogether unlike, and in some instances the sheer contrary of, that wrought out by Hume and Lingard. The History of our Country remains to be written. And very glad should I be, for one, if family records were more frequently published. I do not mean memoirs, lauding and fulsome, smelling of die-away epitaphs, and tasting of cold-meat legacies; but simple stories, such as children would like to read, and such as the Bible gives us.

It is of use, surely, is it not? through the records just mentioned, and through the costume and armour, household furniture, and implements of labour, of each age, to ascertain more closely and more fully the manners and customs of each age. Nor does the use which is obvious end here. As he who knows the past, knows in part the future,

“And old experience doth attain
To something like prophetic strain;”

so he who has learnt from varying habits of life, through varying periods, that there is a growth in a nation's life, has learnt also to forecast, from the neglecting of certain arts, and the exclusive adoption of others, and from the adopting of certain customs, and rejection of others, progress, or decay, or approaching downfall. We read of youth and manhood, and declining years and old age, and death, in reading the past history of nations. “It was thus,” we say, “with Greece and Rome, and it must

needs prove thus with our own country." And we read again, and anxiously, to ascertain what is our present state, and whether we are *surgent* still or tottering to destruction.

And it is from this point we pass, and easily, to the higher use proposed. We would, having touched on the desirableness of truth of history, show, through the proofs of history, that the faculties of man may be roused into appropriate action, as well as directed to fitting objects; and that the habits, intellectual and moral, may, in a study such as this of which we treat, be formed into the good and true. And, in approaching this part of the subject, we do not forget that they of Greece proposed to themselves as an object worth all service, that which, seen from one point, they called the beautiful, and from the other the good. Nor do we forget that ours is a still higher, as well as more inclusive object. And the learning of which we speak may be represented in that of the young, seeking knowledge of past events; and may be realized also in the case of an adult, ignorant and enquiring. The teacher giving either to know what of importance has happened in this neighbourhood during the last few ages, gives what may and should not only become embodied in attainment, but also a strengthener of power.

And see how this may take place. Suppose that we teach one, utterly unversed in history, of the old Britons. How shall we begin and prosecute our task? Shall we tell him, as we sit at home, the story of his forefathers? Shall we read to him passages of history? Shall we set him to pore over this and that book? Or shall we not take him to Rollrich, or Enstone, to Crouch Hill, or Nadbury, or Madmarston, or Tadmarton, or Ilbury? or walk from Rollrich toward Nadbury by the Trackway, or follow the Saltway or the Portway, and now and then stopping by the Temple, or in the camp, or among tumuli, with celts before us, or earthen urns, or drinking cups of black pottery, or skeletons lying with their heads towards the east, and their knees gathered towards their chests, there, in either place, speak of the occupation appropriate to the

place, and of the men, whether priests, or soldiers, or travellers, and what proved their language, and the like? Within the area at Rollrich we might, with mistletoe in hand, tell of Druids and of their sweeping vestments, and long processions, and shouted-out services, and terrific and revolting sacrifices. Or, standing within Madmarston Camp, show how fearful battle-axes of old were wielded, and then speak of how bravely these old defenders fought, and how at last they were destroyed or driven away to the fastnesses of Wales or Cornwall. Or, walking along those roads, the Trackway, or Saltway, or Portway, leading from Temple to Camp, or from Camp to Town, speak of the heavy, quaint chariots and the like. Or, stopping by a tumulus, and many a one is to be met with in this neighbourhood, tell of the modes of sepulture. The teacher, thus performing his part, makes the learner not only to know, but to be sure of the facts of early history, of the existence for instance of men called Britons, and how living they acted, and how dying they were buried, and in what faith. He feels that he is, perchance, of the blood of these of old; in his own life influenced by what they in their life did; and (one sees this in comparing the living with portraits of long-past ancestry), is a likeness, a repetition in person or character, of the very chief whose tumulus stands hard by.

And the *task* of teaching lessens as we descend, and the learner more wholly enters into the work, heart and soul, when we take him to the Roman Amphitheatre in the upper part of this town, and tell him how the spectators sat on terrace over terrace, and how the gladiatorial and other combats, and other shows, proceeded in the area below; or to the Roman burial vault at Great Tew, and relate how in these sepulchral receptacles the human remains were laid, with near them a little milk, honey, water, and wine, together with olives and flowers; or to the field in Hanwell, where some years since was found an urn brimful of silver coins of early date, and thereupon launch out and tell of the Roman Generals and Emperors, and of their invasion, and of their building villas, baths and temples, towns and roads, and of their enacting laws, and

making this, which they found a savage state, a seat of civilization.

Is it not to him, the listener, a subject of interest, and of quickening interest, that these same Romans, the masters of the world, came and lived among his forefathers, and tempered rudeness into gentleness, leaving the impress of mighty spirit, not only in roads which to this day are used, and in massive walls, but also in languages and law? Does it not make him feel that he, too, through others, has had his part in the struggles of that wonderful empire in its decline and fall—the last of the great ones of this world, the last preceding that of Christianity? And with this, comes not another feeling, when he is led in imagination to Palestine, and mingles among the soldiery, and sees the crucifixion of Him who is the Head of the succeeding Empire, and not to be overthrown,—the feeling that he and his Teacher are the undying subjects of the same? And, rising out of the proofs of the existence of Britons and Romans, and of their works, will not the learner receive the more readily, (as we do), the strong probability, as a belief, that the brave Caractacus, detained seven years in Rome, during two of which S. Paul also was there, a prisoner, returned to this his native land a Christian, and that S. Paul accompanied him, and that Caractacus and his family avowed their faith, and S. Paul preached it here during his eight years' absence from Rome, and founded here a Christian Church? Will not the learner also receive as possible, that Lucius, third in descent from Caractacus, living A. D. 176, promoted greatly the cause of Christianity, and that the See of Caerleon, afterwards represented at the Council of Arles, was then established, and that he, the King and founder, was called by Bishop Eleutherius "God's Vicar in His Kingdom?" And then coming down to A. D. 303, will he not the more readily believe Gildas, our oldest Church Historian, telling us of the Diocletian persecution extending to this Kingdom? "The Churches of Britain," says he, "were overthrown, all the copies of the holy Scriptures which could be found were burnt in the streets, and the chosen pastors of God's Church butchered, together with

their innocent sheep, in order that not a vestige if possible might remain in some provinces of CHRIST's religion. What disgraceful scenes then took place, what slaughter and deaths were inflicted, by way of punishment, in divers shapes; what dreadful apostacies from religion then occurred; and, on the contrary, what glorious crowns of martyrdom were then won." And again, will he not more cheerfully receive as authentic the account of S. Alban, whose martyrdom stands first on our historical records, and in that city which afterwards took and still bears his name? And again, the further testimony of Gildas, who says, of the times immediately subsequent of Constantine, "CHRIST's young disciples, after so long and wintry a night, began to behold a genial light of Heaven. They rebuilt the Churches which had been levelled to the ground; CHRIST's sons rejoiced as it were in the fostering bosom of a mother." And here, too, should we introduce the proofs of the existence of S. Brenwold at Bampton, of S. Hycrith at Chiselhampton, and of S. Donanverdh at Beckley. And is not this a subject rousing the heart and quickening its pulsations? And is not this, (we being made sure,) something to gladden, that the Church, which we call that of England, is the Church in succession from the earliest times of Christianity? And that though it has been helped by such men as the enterprising and excellent Augustine, and subsequently invaded and tampered with by the Bishops of Rome, and last of all, most cruelly mauled by that wife-murdering as well as monastery-destroying King Henry the Eighth, still continues the same—its Creeds and Sacraments the same, its Mission and Unction the same, its Liturgy so similar as almost to enable us to repeat the same? yes, that the Church of this day, the Church in England, and of England, is the Church of CHRIST and His Apostles; the Church planted in primitive times by primitive men, and among the primitive Britons?

And then, again descending, does not the learner become still more interested, when we seek and make supposition as to the field of battle called that of Banbury, and, (with the history of Henry of Huntingdon in our hands,) set in array, army against army; the Britons deserted by their

friends and allies on the one side, and the Saxons led on by Cerdic and Cynric on the other? "And when," (says the old historian), they (the Britons) had formed nine battalions, (which is the best number for war), placing three in front, and three in the centre, and three in the rear, with commanders posted conveniently in the same, and archers and javelin men and cavalry disposed after the Roman fashion, the Saxons, compacted together in one battalion, rushed stoutly upon them all, and, the standards being dashed in pieces, and the lances flung down or broken, they fought on well with their swords, till when the day drew towards evening the victory still remained undecided." "Brave men and staunch," we exclaim, "those old stand up and steady Britons, and daring fellows those invading Saxons." And we are afterwards made sure of the truth of the exclamation, while we learn that the former held their fortified places in this county for fifteen or twenty years later, till A.D. 571 or 580, when the latter, as persevering as daring, and greatly strengthened by the arrival of the Angles, succeeded at last and made most of this country subject to their will.

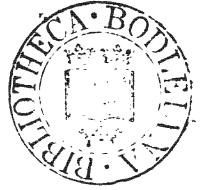
And it is here, (reminded by the date), that we should speak of the mission to this country of Augustine the Monk, in the year 596, and then of the Liturgy of the old Britons which he attempted to bring into correspondence with that of Rome,—a Liturgy which is closely similar to that of S. John, and which his disciple, Ignatius, handed on to Polycarp, and Polycarp to Irenæus, Bishop of Lyons, who with his co-adjutors used it in Gaul and Spain; and then, too, of the dispute about Easter, the old British Church holding to one day, and that of Rome to another. And it is here we should also show, as a corroboration, the instructions sent by the Great Gregory to the holy missionary on these subjects. Nor should we overlook, as falling in between the times just mentioned of Augustine and Roman rule in this Kingdom, or rather as occurring just as that era drew to its close, the case of Pelagius, brought up in a monastery at Bangor, and how two Bishops of Gaul visited this country and combated the fearful errors promulgated by the Pelagians, and

that successfully. And, speaking of the holy missionary, might we not at the same time speak of him, the gallant chief, the princely Arthur. The two at the same time, in different ways, battled with the same idolatrous Saxons and Angles. And while speaking of the latter, and sketching from recollection his round table, or perhaps the counterpart still to be seen in the fine old city of Winchester, may we not make mention of him who there was buried, perhaps born in this neighbourhood, and who flourished ages after the earnest missionary and chivalrous Prince, whose motto was, and you know his name from his motto, "Manners makyth man." And while sketching and gossiping, we might also tell, and as characteristic of the celebrated Arthur, that his table was so made, "teaching heroic minds were not to stand upon place but merit." Still keeping within reach of this town, and still pursuing the course of history, we take our learner to Hook Norton, and quoting from the Saxon Chronicle, and the History by Florence of Worcester, note how in the year 914 the Danes called Pagans invaded these lands. I will quote the words. "After Easter an army of the Pagans, from Northampton and from Leicester, plundered in the county of Oxford and slew a great number of persons in the royal Town of Hook Norton, and in many other Towns." And one might, in leading our companion to Hook Norton by the ancient way, called Banbury Lane, tell as we travelled how the inhabitants of that town fled from the Danes along that road and formed a camp at the end of their journey, and there met the slaughter mentioned by the Chroniclers. And such slaughter, and attendant desolation, we have to add, were repeated elsewhere in Oxfordshire, till Edward the Elder raised an army, and then another, and fought, and at last conquered, and forced the Danes to render him allegiance. And there, too, at Hook Norton, might we show a coin found in its churchyard some twenty-five years ago, of Ethelred, who lived much of his reign (it lasted thirty-eight years) in this county, and who died in 1016, and who during his life was constantly worried by the Danes. His son Edward, called the Confessor, born at Islip in this county, and dying in 1066,

was succeeded by Harold, who, at the battle of Hastings, made way for William the Conqueror. Sketching thus, and briefly enough, we observe to our companion how distracted was this Kingdom during the last mentioned period; three Danish Kings ruling between Edmund Ironside, the son of Ethelred, and Edward the half-brother of Edmund, and who at last succeeded to the throne, and how that, in all probability, during this period many places in these parts were totally destroyed. Nor forget we to note that amidst desolation the holy cause triumphed at Dorchester; and that Banbury, (which had been given to the See), doubtlessly participated in the blessing. We remind him that this See, established under Birinus in 636, was strengthened from Bishop to Bishop, and show him that in the period to which we have just referred it was filled by men of eminence, one dying on the field of battle while saying mass, and another proving a frequent councillor of King Canute, often admitted to his private council. And, having said this, gladly methinks will the learner visit that Church, once metropolitan, where the holy Birinus so faithfully served. He will mark, that though 1200 years have elapsed since this holy man served, and so faithfully, still there, on the spot where he baptised and preached, where he ministered the bread of life, and gave his blessing, stands a noble Church. It stands, having in early times borne many a fiery assault, and often been plundered, and in later times (those of the Commonwealth) been cruelly used, and in still later times shamefully neglected. It stands in strength and in beauty, nobly restored, as not only a witness of its noble founder and of a successional faith, but also as a proof that though we are fallen on evil times there is still left with us some of the zeal and ardour and self-sacrificing service such as the founder displayed.

He who thus takes up the proofs of History set before him in order, and learns the truth,—from a locality in the one instance, coins in another, implements of war in another, household utensils, old customs, and legends and traditions in another and another, surely becomes more and more reverential, and is strengthened in holy faith,

and kindles into high and holy hope. He, feeling that he belongs to the past, as well as present, even as the past and present belong to him, feeling that what he is, and has, alike, are of the past, feels also that he is interested in the future and the future in him. He, at every step of investigation in the series of historic facts, cannot but prove interested, (and his interest proves akin to that we experience when we hear the words repeated and deeds narrated of a beloved father), and he cannot but experience in that interest those alternations of love and fear that prove elements of veneration, a veneration like unto that confessedly ours in reading the dealings of GOD with man, and he cannot but become sure in all this that his faith gains strength in humanity as well as in the Divine, and that his hope springs up and assures him in its beauty, as event after event, like wave over wave, has borne on to the present time, and as, too, the present time spreads itself widely and deeply, so onward, river-like, shall we pass till we meet with and mingle in the hushed depths, and glad, of Eternity. And the powers of the mind, thus exercised, and the passions and feelings of the heart, thus roused, and thus directed, and all formed into habit alien from that which is really beneath a man, gain we not something? And is not that something more wholly our own than the things of use we mentioned, and which mentioning we did not disparage? We, disavowing hatred and rashness, disbelief and contemptuous pride, and despair of all good; and on the other hand declaring, as we believe, that in former times lived as noble beings, firm and gentle of heart, and profound of mind; and from age to age, as now; and that others shall come after us, as graceful and majestic; gain that which sets us at one with the best men, not only of the time present, but also of the past, and also of the future; and we with them are embodied, and we with them form a brotherhood, and we with them amidst distraction and discord are at peace,—even as we are with them in unity.



ON ROMAN REMAINS
IN THE
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF BANBURY;
AND
ON THE LATE REMARKABLE DISCOVERY OF COINS AT EVENLEY:
BY MR. THOMAS BEESLEY, F.C.S.,
READ DECEMBER 6TH, 1853.

UPON this, the first occasion of our meeting together for the intercommunication of antiquarian knowledge, it seems desirable that some of the objects should be pointed out to which our attention should be particularly directed; and I know of none more worthy of our study than the remains of that mighty people who, 1800 years ago, fixed their grasp so firmly and enduringly upon our land; to whom we are indebted for no small share of our present civilization, and for many of those institutions which, modified by the manly and self-dependent spirit of the Germanic race, form the groundwork of our social polity: I allude to the Romans. Led away by the superior attractions of the beautiful works of the mediæval architects and craftsmen, so often hallowed by the services of religion or the sentiment of chivalry, we are apt to despise the comparatively insignificant remains of an earlier period, or to forget that the onward march of modern improvement is fast obliterating them for ever, or bringing them to light but to scatter or destroy them. In the words of an old antiquary, * "It is time to observe occurrences, and let nothing remarkable escape us. The supinity of elder days hath left so much in silence, or time hath so martyred the

* Sir Thomas Browne: Hydriotaphia, or Urn Burial.

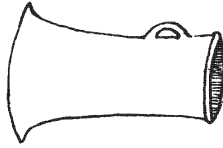
records, that the most industrious heads do find no easy work to erect a new Britannia."

It is the peculiar province of societies like ours to search out and record these things: not looking with contempt upon the smallest potsherd cast upon the surface of some ancient site; but in the humble and trusting spirit of the sincere lover of truth, having a faith that the least fact, honestly recorded, may add a stone to the edifice which historians are erecting upon the ruins of the legends which once bore the name of the early history of Britain.

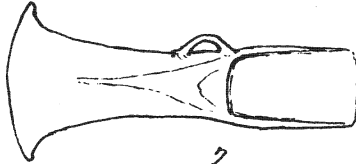
I beg your attention for a few minutes whilst I point out to you what we *already know*, and *how* and *where* we may look for further discoveries of the traces of the Romans, in the neighbourhood of this town. Time will not allow me to do more than skim the surface of my subject. Fuller details may be given hereafter.

The Romans held our island for little less than 400 years. The subjugated Britons, as well as the foreigners who composed the armies of occupation and the military colonies, adopted for the most part the customs of the ruling nation. We know that the country was exceedingly populous; that great roads stretched across it in every direction; that cities adorned with splendid temples, basilicas, and columns, arose in the land, enough to excite the admiration of the inhabitants of imperial Rome. How little of all this remains! What precious treasures of labour and skill have passed away all but unrecorded!

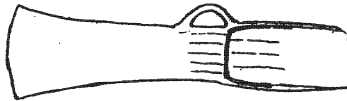
I regret that I cannot congratulate you upon the former existence in this neighbourhood, of any of these more important works. The country around us was evidently well peopled; but then, as now, there were here none of the great centres of government, commerce, or military defence. The only station, near here, the name of which has been preserved to us, is BRINAVIS, which undoubtedly occupied the spot now called Black Grounds, at Chipping Wardon. This site has been most ably explored by the Rev. Mr. Walford, the rector of the parish; and has furnished an abundant and interesting harvest of pottery and coins, as well as the foundations, floors, and hypocausts of a small Roman house. Other military posts with their



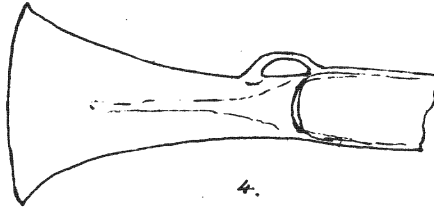
1.



2.



3.



4.



5.

Bronze belt, Saalstab, and Spear-head.

$\frac{1}{3}$ size.

TB

attendant villages are Rainsborough Camp, near Charlton ; Madmarston Camp, near Swalcliff Lea ; and Tadmarton Camp. These camps are circular, and are defended by several lines of vallum and ditch. They are commonly described as of British origin, but adopted and improved by the Romans. All have furnished extensive remains. Camps of the usual Roman form occur near Hook Norton Lodge, and between Wroxton and Shutford ; but these were evidently constructed for a temporary purpose, as no coins have been found. Quite lately they have been nearly or entirely obliterated by the plough.

Remains of Roman villages, or of detached villas or farm-houses, occur near King's Sutton, about a mile north of the village, and just above Twyford Mill, where immense quantities of coins and other remains have been found ; at Newbottle Spinney, and at Walton Grounds, east and south of Sutton ; at Aynho ; at Evenley, near Brackley ; at Blackgrove Farm, a mile east of the Barfords ; at Wigginton, where still lie buried the tessellated pavements and hypocausts of a rich and extensive villa, waiting for our mattocks and spades ; at Milcomb ; at Adderbury, in the village, as well as in a field called "the Ridgway" on the west of the village, and on the west side of the Banbury Road, about a mile north of Adderbury ; at Bloxham Grove ; at Wickham, where within the last two years, interesting and unexpected remains have come to light ; at Warkworth ; between Hanwell and Horley, at a spot where the Horley Lane joins the turnpike-road ; at Drayton, where coins and the tessellated pavement of a villa were found near the church. Extensive remains have been discovered at Thenford. At Hempton, near Deddington, many interments, sepulchral urns, and ornaments have been found. A bronze axe-head, or paalstab (*fig.*), accompanied by a lump of copper, occurred near Wardington ; and single specimens of coins have been found at other places.

The few tumuli which still exist around us, are, I think, of Roman or Romano-British origin. Many of them have been considered as exploratory mounts or beacons, rather than as sepulchral mounds, but probably without

sufficient reason,—one at least of these so-called exploratory tumuli, Ploughley Hill, near Souldern, having been found, on its removal a few years ago, to contain interments. Such occur at Buston Farm, between Warkworth and Astrop; near Milton, close to the horse-road, and just half-way between that village and Bloxham; there are some near Madmarston and Tadmarton Camps; and some are or were near the Brailes Road, where it crosses the ancient trackway running from the Rollright Stones to Epwell Heath and Edgehill; but the finest tumulus is Barrow Hill, on the Banbury Lane, a little beyond Culworth.

Most of our present roads probably existed as trackways in the times of which we are speaking; but the only artificially formed road with distinctive Roman features, is the Portway, which, crossing the Akeman Street near Kirtlington, remains tolerably perfect between that village and Souldern: beyond this it is lost; but it clearly ran by Aynho, Newbottle, Thenford, and BRINAVIS, and crossed the Watling Street beyond Daventry.

Hitherto I have not mentioned BANBURY as the site of Roman remains. Roman coins have undoubtedly been found here; but in the absence of any recorded cases of this sort until the last few years, it is doubtful whether they indicate anything more than a well-frequented road. I shall, perhaps, on some future occasion, give reasons for doubting the Roman character of the so-called Amphitheatre, or Bear Garden, at the south-west corner of the town; as well as of the old Altar-stone, which was formerly used as a sign to the Altar-stone Inn. An opportunity of throwing light upon this question will, however, soon occur. New sewers and drains are about to be made in every part of the town; and, in the name of the Society, I express a hope that the Local Board of Health will direct their servants to communicate to us, and give us facilities for the investigation of any remains that may be found. As your Secretary for Banbury, I shall be ready at all times to receive communications, or make observations upon the subject. I do hope that a good and

possibly last chance of acquiring information may not be carelessly thrown away.*

Having indicated the spots where vestiges of Roman occupation have been, and still may be found, I shall offer a few hints for the further prosecution of discoveries. With regard to known sites, the method is obvious enough; but there is probably hardly a parish in which traces of this people may not be detected, if our members will only make diligent inquiry of the labourers for little bits of ancient money, or odd pieces of pottery like those which I have placed here for your inspection, and will carefully examine the fields where they are picked up. Human skeletons, too, are generally found near the sites of even insignificant Roman buildings; but never accompanied by weapons, which are distinctive marks of Saxon or Danish interments. Frequently burnt bones and rude sepulchral urns are associated with complete skeletons; and great quantities of the bones of oxen and sheep often occur.

As to situation, it will generally be found that the Romans in this country selected for their houses the sunny side of a valley, sloping considerably to some gently running brook. Here they were out of reach of the floods, which, at a time when the country was much more wooded and marshy than now, were doubtless of serious inconvenience. Mostly, too, they seem to have preferred a dry and porous soil.

Occasionally the *name* of a spot may direct us in our search. You know how often the odd name of "Cold Harbour" occurs in the ordnance maps:—this is almost always indicative of Roman occupation. To give an instance:—I had predicted from this circumstance and the situation of the spot, that remains would be found at *Cold Harbour Farm*, between Deddington and North Aston: this was verified shortly after by the discovery at Dane Hill, close by, of a bronze celt (*fig.*), or socketted chisel, now in the museum of Mr. Faulkner, our Secretary for Deddington. Spots having the word "*Church*" as part of their names, have also frequently furnished Roman anti-

* A considerable part of these works, and that in the oldest part of the town, has already been executed; but no Roman remains of any kind have been found.

quities: and where "*Black*" is used, as in Blackland, Black Grounds, Blackgrove,* you may be sure of extensive remains. The names of fields as given in old writings will often indicate probable spots. In such it is not at all uncommon to find the termination "*low*," the Anglo-Saxon word for *tumulus*.

Having given you a very slight outline of the subject of Roman occupation in this neighbourhood, which you have doubtless found sufficiently dry and unsatisfactory—the *husk*, so to speak, of the matter,—I will now, with your permission, go more particularly into *one* discovery which has very lately been made.

Evenley, near Brackley, has been mentioned as a place where Roman remains have been found. In the year 1826, many hundred coins of Nero, Domitian, Alexander Severus, Probus, Carausius, Constantinus, and other emperors, were dug up in Addington's Meadow, near the river Ouse, in this parish. Coins have also been found at Astwick, south-west of Evenley.

On the 11th of November last [1853], in a field in the occupation of Mr. Joseph Boughton, of Evenley, about a quarter of a mile south-east of the village, one of the horses drawing a seed-presser, stepped upon and crushed an earthen vase, which was thinly covered with soil in a furrow, and scattered about a quantity of copper coins. Mr. Boughton carefully collected the coins, and removed the vase, the lower part of which was unbroken. It stood upon the limestone rock which, *there*, is but little below the surface. Nothing had previously been found upon this spot; but scattered coins had occasionally been picked up on the other side of the field. On visiting the place with Mr. Boughton a few days afterwards, I could detect

* The blackness of the soil, which has led to the name, is commonly supposed to have its origin in the destruction of the settlements by fire: it may, however, have arisen from the infiltration and gradual decay of animal matter. That the latter is the true source seems probable from the very intimate mixture of the black particles with the soil, and the absence of pieces of charcoal. Again, in the *black* soil from the field called Blakeland, at Madmarston, whilst the amount of organic matter does not materially differ from that in the *red* soil of the adjacent field (Stanthill), its proportion of nitrogen is much higher, being in Blakeland .607 and in Stanthill .368 per cent. This is exactly what would be likely to occur if the colour arose from the decay of organic matter; whilst, on the first suggestion, an inverse proportion might be expected to obtain.

nothing unusual in the aspect of the ground; and only on the exact spot where the coins were found did I notice any fragments of pottery. Here one or two of a black colour were mingled with a few of the neglected fragments of the vase.

As soon as the news of the discovery reached here, which was not until the 16th, I repaired to Evenley;—and I am indebted to the politeness of the fortunate finder for an opportunity of inspecting the coins, and sketching the urn, which is of the ordinary globular form, about ten inches in diameter, and of a buff colour. No portion of the upper lip was found, nor any cover; so that it is most likely that these were scraped off in a previous ploughing. The immense number of the coins—they exceeded 3000—precluded anything like a complete examination at my visit; but Mr. Boughton with great liberality offered them to me for exhibition at this meeting, and for the subsequent preparation of a catalogue for publication in our Journal. Unfortunately, his kind intentions as to the latter have been frustrated within these few days,—the Solicitor to the Treasury having given him notice to forward them at once to London as treasure trove.

The majority of the coins are of the thin *second brass*, washed with tin, about the size of a modern halfpenny, called "*folles*," which was introduced by Diocletian, and adopted by his coadjutors and successors. There are a great many of this emperor, chiefly with the common reverse of the *Genius of Rome standing*, with the legend GENIO POPULI ROMANI. There are also a great number of Maximianus Hercules, Constantius Chlorus, and Galerius Maximianus, mostly with the same reverse. A few of Constantius have on the obverse, or head side, DIVO CONSTANTIO PIO; on the reverse, an altar with fire between two eagles, and the legend MEMORIA FELIX. The letters PLN in the exergue, probably mark them as the product of the London mint; and they were doubtless struck after the death of Constantius, which took place at York in the year of our Lord 306. There are also a few of the same size of Maximinus Daza and Valerius Severus; and many of Constantinus Magnus, entirely, I believe, of an early type.

Of the *small brass* coins, which do not form a fourth of the hoard, there are many of Gallienus, his wife Salonia, and Claudius Gothicus; some of Quintillus, whose money is considered scarce; many of Aurelianus; three of Probus; and one or two of Tacitus. Most are of common, but some are of rare, and possibly of new types.

As regards date,—Gallienus obtained the empire A.D. 253, and Constantine died A.D. 337; but the periods of their coinage are probably all comprised within a space of 50 or 60 years. The smaller coins, which are the earliest, are somewhat worn by use; but the larger were evidently in fine condition when deposited, and the oxidation they have undergone has probably occurred since the removal of the cover.

The most remarkable circumstance connected with this hoard, is the absence, so far as yet known, of any coins of the *usurpers* who ruled in Britain and Gaul during part of this period, and whose money is elsewhere very common. I allude to Postumus, Victorinus, Tetricus, Carausius, and Allectus. Was it an importation from Rome, or some other place where these rulers were not recognized, and where their coins had no currency? or was it the property of some government official who would not receive or pay illegitimate money? We need not be astonished at its being found buried in the earth, as this appears to have been the ordinary means of disposing of surplus cash amongst the Romans; and often when the owner died, there was no clue to the spot where he had hidden his money.

NOTE.

After having been detained for some months at the British Museum, where they were classified, the Evenley coins, with the exception of a few specimens, were returned to Mr. Boughton, who then entrusted them to me for further examination and exhibition at a meeting of the Society. The spot where they were found has also been again explored by Mr. Boughton and myself, when it was found to be one of the rubbish pits so common on Roman sites, affording the usual bones and broken pottery, as well as the half of an *armilla* of plain bronze wire. A faint line of embankment runs along the eastern side of the field, which is joined about the middle by another line running east. No traces of buildings have as yet been found.

On referring to the subjoined catalogue, it will be seen that the remark as to the absence of coins of the usurpers in Gaul and Britain, is not fully borne out,—a very few of Victorinus and the Tetrici having been detected. The small number of these exceedingly common coins, and the entire absence of those of Carausius and Allectus, whose rule in Britain must have but lately ceased when the greater part of the coins was minted, and whose money is of frequent occurrence about here, is still very extraordinary.

CATALOGUE OF COINS FOUND IN A VASE AT EVENLEY,
NOVEMBER 11, 1853.

			Number.
GALLIENUS	A.D. 253—268	<i>3rd Brass.</i>	328
SALONINA	A.D. 253—268	"	19
VICTORINUS	A.D. 265—267	"	7
TETRICUS, SENIOR.	A.D. 267—273	"	4
TETRICUS, JUNIOR.	A.D. 267—273	"	2
CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS	A.D. 268—270	"	287
QUINTILLUS	A.D. 270—270	"	20
AURELIANUS	A.D. 270—275	"	15
TACITUS	A.D. 275—276	"	2
PROBUS	A.D. 276—282	"	10

DIOCLETIANUS. A.D. 284—305.

			No.
<i>2nd Brass.</i>	<i>REV.</i>	SAC MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN	1
"	"	SACRA MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN .	3
"	"	SACRA MONETA AUGG ET CAESS NOSTR	27
"	"	M SACRA AUGG ET CAESS NN	16
"	"	MONETA S AUGG ET CAESS NN	12
"	"	MONETA SACRA AUGG ET CAESS NN ..	6
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	351
"	"	FORTUNÆ REDUCI CAESS NN	1
"	"	FELIX ADVENT AUGG NN	5
"	"	QUIES AUGG	22
"	"	QUIES AUGUSTORUM	5
"	"	PROVIDENTIA DEORUM QUIES AUGG ..	37
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS FEL KART	12
"	"	<i>Blank.</i>	1
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	1
<i>3rd Brass</i>		1
			—501

MAXIMIANUS HERCULES. A.D. 286—305.

			No.
<i>2nd Brass.</i>	<i>REV.</i>	SAC MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN	4
"	"	SACRA MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN .	5
"	"	SACRA MONET AUGG ET CAESS NOSTR	19
"	"	MONETA S AUGG ET CAESS NN	3
"	"	GENIO POP ROM	138
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	320
"	"	FELIX ADVENT AUGG NN	4
"	"	PROVIDENTIA DEORUM QUIES AUGG ..	32
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS FEL KART	10
<i>3rd Brass</i>		1
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	7
			—543

CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS. A.D. 292—306.

			No.
<i>2nd Brass.</i>	<i>REV.</i>	SAC MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN	3
"	"	SACRA MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN .	3
"	"	SACRA MONETA AUGG ET CAESS NOSTR	12
"	"	M SACRA AUGG ET CAESS NN	1
"	"	MONETA S AUGG ET CAESS NN	1
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	435
			—455
			2193

			No.
			2193
			455
2nd Brass.	REV.	FELIX ADVENT AUGG NN.....	10
"	"	FIDES MILITUM	3
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS FEL KART....	12
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS AUCTA KART.	1
"	"	MEMORIA FELIX	8
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	6
			—495
GALERIUS MAXIMIANUS. A.D. 292—311.			
			No.
2nd Brass.	REV.	SAC MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN....	4
"	"	SACRA MON URB AUGG ET CAESS NN .	4
"	"	SACRA MONET AUGG ET CAESS NOSTR.	16
"	"	M SACRA AUGG ET CAESS NN	9
"	"	MONETA S AUGG ET CAESS NN	9
"	"	GENIO POP ROM	27
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	386
"	"	FELIX ADVENT AUGG NN	3
"	"	FIDES MILITUM	2
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS FEL KART....	1
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	15
			—476
FLAVIUS VALERIUS SEVERUS. A.D. 305—307.			
			No.
2nd Brass.	REV.	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	66
"	"	SALVIS AUGG ET CAESS FEL KART....	1
"	"	VIRTUS AUGG ET CAESS NN	1
			— 68
MAXIMINUS DAZA. A.D. 305—313.			
			No.
2nd Brass.	REV.	GENIO POP ROM.....	30
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	43
"	"	VIRTUS AUGG ET CAESS NN	2
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	1
			— 76
CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS. A.D. 306—337.			
			No.
2nd Brass.	REV.	GENIO POP ROM.....	153
"	"	GENIO POPULI ROMANI	43
"	"	MARTI PATRI CONSERVATORI.....	4
"	"	MARTI PATRI PROPUG.....	1
"	"	MARTI PATRI PROPUGNATORI.....	7
"	"	PRINCIPI JUVENTUTIS	10
"	"	<i>At British Museum</i>	1
			—219
2nd Brass.	"	<i>Illegible</i>	5
TOTAL			3077



NOTES ON THE CIVIL WAR AND THE SIEGE OF BANBURY:

A PAPER,

GIVEN BY THE HON. AND REV. LORD ALWYNE COMPTON,

ON THE 4TH OF APRIL, 1854.

I SUPPOSE every member of the North Oxfordshire Archæological Society is well acquainted with Mr. Beesley's "History of Banbury." His account of the Civil War, so far as it affected this neighbourhood, is exceedingly interesting: not perhaps the less so, because it is so frequently given in the precise words of the Pamphlets, Newspapers, and Letters of the time. In looking over the Family Papers at Castle Ashby, I found a very few documents of this character: and these I propose to lay before you, though I hardly know whether you will feel the same interest in hearing them read, as I felt when I routed them, all dusty and moth-eaten, out of an old drawer. You must, therefore, kindly look upon them as a sort of supplement to that Chapter of Mr. Beesley's work to which I have referred, and be prepared to find them as dull as supplements generally are.

The first of these papers in respect of date, informs us what became of the cannon that were taken from Banbury by Lord Northampton at the beginning of the war, as is described in the "History of Banbury," pages 301, 302.

No. 1. The Earl of Northampton's foot Company, consisting of 100 men at the least, from the time his Lordship went to fetch the ordnance from

Banbury, being the 8th of August 1642, till they were left at Killingworth Castle, being 15 days.

	£
For the said men for the time aforesaid, } at vi ^s per week..... }	64 3 4
For the Captain	
For the Lieutenant	
For the Ensign	
For two Serjeants	
For three Corporals	
For two drummers	

Of course the 100 men here mentioned must have been merely the Earl's own Company as Colonel. He was authorized by his commission to raise a Regiment of 1000 foot.

There are a good many pecuniary letters, if I may use the term, to Lord Northampton, sometimes referring to the loyal, sometimes to the disaffected. War must always be expensive: and the following papers show how the expense was met in those days.

CHARLES R.

No. 2. Right trusty and well-beloved Cosen, and
Warrant to seize contributions from the disaffected. trusty and well-beloved, We greet you well, and do hereby give you full power and authority for us, and in our name, within our county of Northampton and City of Peterborough, to search for, seize upon, and take into your custody all such money, plate, arms, ammuniti^on, and horses, as you shall receive information or find to be remaining in the custody of any person or persons who have contributed any money, plate, arms, horses, or other provision towards the maintaining the war against us: leaving with or for such person or persons, from whom or out of whose custody you shall take away any such arms, plate, money, or horses, a particular, under your hand or hands, of the sum or quantity so seized by you for our use. And likewise that you from time to time give us an apart account of what you have seized, that so we may give speedy order for the disposal thereof. Straitly charging you not to take from or seize

on any the goods herein specified, but of or from such person or persons only as have contributed to the war against us, and not to take from such persons any other their goods, or household stuffs, but of such kind as are herein mentioned: nor to take or suffer any rewards to be taken to hinder or prevent the full execution hereof. Of which we require your just and true account, and for your so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given at our Court at Reading, this 25th of November 1642.

To our right trusty and well-beloved cousin, Spenser Earl of Northampton, and to our trusty and well-beloved, Sir Christopher Hatton, Knt., of the honbl. order of the Bath, and to Philip Willoughby, Esq., all or any of them.

The next refers to the King's loyal subjects.

CHARLES R.

No. 3.
Warrant to receive contributions from the loyal.

Right trusty, &c. Whereas in this time of so general distraction, we are forced to expect the support and supplies of our subjects towards the maintenance of their Religion, Laws, Liberties, and Peace: And whereas we have appointed you our governor of our town of Banbury, and have remitted to your care the defence and securing both of that place and the country adjoining: We do hereby further require you to use your utmost industry with our well affected subjects in our counties of Northampton and Warwick to persuade them to contribute horses, arms, ammunition, plate, or money, to us for our assistance and defence: And we do hereby authorize you by yourself or such fit persons as you shall appoint on that behalf, to receive the same from them, giving them your acquittance. And to return to us a list of their names and contributions, that we may make them satisfaction when God shall enable us, and remember it upon all occasions for their advantage.

* * * * *

Given at our Court at Oxford, this eighth day of December 1642.

The following is a letter to divers gentlemen round Northampton and Warwick for assistance.

No. 4.
Letter to the
loyal, desiring con-
tributions (given by
Beesley, p. 330).

Trusty and Wellbeloved, We greet you well. Whereas we have constituted our right trusty and right wellbeloved cousin Spenser, Earl of Northampton, our Governor and Commander in chief of our forces placed in our town of Banbury for the safety and security of our said Town and the counties adjacent; and have required him to move you to contribute what in you lies to our assistance and the defence and preservation of our kingdom: We do also hereby desire you forthwith to furnish us with such Horse, Arms, Ammunition, Plate, Money, or other Provisions, as your love to us and your country shall persuade you to: and to deliver the same to our said Cousin, whom we have intrusted to receive it of you; and to persuade all your neighbours, tenants, and friends to the like contribution. And we promise you in the word of a King to repay the same as soon as God shall enable us. And of this service we cannot doubt, since if you should refuse to give us this testimony of your affection, you will give us great cause to suspect your duty and inclination both to our person, and to the Public Peace. Given at our Court at Oxford, this 9 of December 1642.

We have now come to the Defence of Banbury. In the paper just read, the King speaks of his having appointed Lord Northampton governor of Banbury. In the following he authorizes various measures for strengthening the place and preparing it to stand a siege.

CHARLES R.

No. 5.
Order to fortify
and victual Ban-
bury.

Right trusty and right wellbeloved Cousin, We greet you well. Whereas we understand that the works for the strengthening and defence of our town of Banbury are much foreslowed by the great neglect and backwardness

of the Mayor thereof, forbearing to summon in a sufficient number of Labourers for that purpose: and that likewise many other necessary duties and supplies for our Garrison there are either wilfully omitted by the said Mayor and his subordinate officers or otherwise not furthered and attended in such sort and manner as is requisite for the advancement of our service, and for the security, defence, and supply of our said Town and Garrison: Our pleasure and command therefore is, that you forthwith call for the said Mayor and his subordinate officers, to whom you shall declare our will and command to be that they immediately summon and cause to come in such a number of sufficient labourers with shovels, mattocks, and other tools as you shall appoint, and find requisite to go in hand with and to perform and finish the works requisite for defence of our said Town. And that the said Mayor and his other officers fail not from time to time to fulfil and perform their respective duties, and to cause such supplies of all kinds to be brought and furthered in unto our said Garrison as shall be needful, and to be in all things conducing to our service and the good of our said Town, aiding, obedient, and readily assisting to your directions. Whereof you are to charge the said Mayor and all other the officers and other Inhabitants to take notice and to be duly observant henceforth, as they and every of them tender our displeasure, and our calling of them to an account for their neglect and contempt, for their defaults aforesaid, as well as such as shall be hereafter discovered against them. And for so doing this shall be your sufficient warrant. Given at our Court at Oxford the 20th day of December 1642.

I desire you to victual the Castle with all expedition, and for this service, if the country will not fetch it in you must make your horse do it. C. R.

This Postscript, if I may call it so, is in the King's own handwriting. A few days later follows another letter relative to victualling the Castle and preparing it to stand a siege.

CHARLES R.

No. 6.
Order to victual
Banbury.

Right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin, we greet you well, and do hereby signify unto you our pleasure that you with all possible diligence furnish and put into the Castle of Banbury good quantities of all manner of provision of victuals, as likewise bedding and firewood which our further pleasure is that you take either out of the town or where else you shall think fit, that so that place may be fully provided against any attempt of the Rebels; and if you shall not conceive your stay there to be of absolute necessity, we require you to give order to your lieutenant colonel in your absence to keep and defend the Castle against any force that shall come against it until we shall relieve the same. Our further pleasure is that you forthwith send back to their quarters at Woodstock the 200 musketeers of the Lord Lieutenant General's regiment: so we bid you heartily farewell from our court at Oxford the 25 of December 1642.

CHARLES R.

No. 7.
Order to pull
down houses, &c.,
impeding the de-
fence of Banbury.

Right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin, we greet you well. Whereas we understand that there are divers houses, buildings, and other obstacles in and near our town of Banbury, which do hinder that our Ordnance from the Castle of Banbury cannot do the service requisite for the defence thereof and for repelling such forces as may come into the said town. Our will and command therefore is, that you forthwith cause all such Houses, Buildings and other Obstacles to be with all diligence pulled down and removed, whereby you may better defend our said Castle, and prevent such attempts as may be made against it. And we further hereby require you to command the Mayor, Aldermen, and all other officers in our town of Banbury and the liberties thereof in our name to be aiding, assisting, and obedient unto you in all such things as you shall think fit for the security of our said town and the advancement of our service there. Wherein if any of them shall fail or

be negligent we require you to send them hither to us in safe custody to be proceeded against according to his or their demerit. For all which this shall be your warrant. Given at our court at Oxford 27 Decembris 1642.

It would not be difficult from this paper to see which party the town of Banbury had espoused, even if we had not learnt it from Mr. Beesley's work.

I do not know what may have been the result of the military operations referred to in the following letter.

CHARLES R.

No. 8.

Letter concerning certain military operations — also concerning persons having received protections.

Right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin, We greet you well. Upon the advertisement we have received from you of the Rebels late moving towards Leicestershire, we have appointed Colonel Wentworth to attend you, to advise with you concerning something to be attempted upon Daventry, or such other place as you with advice with him shall think fit: to which purpose we have given order to our Lieutenant General to command two hundred musketeers which are at Woodstock to repair to you with all expedition. We know well your affection and industry, and shall leave the ordering of this expedition to yourself according to such intelligence as you have, or shall receive, not doubting but you will in a service of this importance take the advice of Colonel Wentworth, whom we have sent to be employed in chief therein, if you go not yourself in person.

We understand that divers inhabitants in the country near you, who have obtained from us protections, pretend thereby to be exempt from allowing any provisions or contributions for support of our Army. Wherefore we will you to let them know that the protections given them are to preserve them from plundering, not to exempt them from allowing the Army such provisions and contributions as others do towards the maintaining of our Horse and foot in a requisite and fitting Proportion. And therefore you are not to spare any of them upon any such pretence: but

where you shall be denied any fitting provisions or contributions to be allowed you, we require you to send some to take such provisions, and to punish those that are refractory. For which these our letters shall be your warrant. Given at our Court at Oxford, the 10th day of January 1642.

Of course this was dated according to the Old Style, and would now be called 10th of January, 1643. A few days after this the garrison of Banbury was strengthened by an additional regiment of foot, as appears from the following letter.

CHARLES R.

No. 9.
Concerning Col.
Herbert's Regi-
ment.

Right trusty and right well beloved Cousin, we greet you well. We having for the better security of that our garrison sent one regiment of foot under the command of Colonel Herbert to quarter there, and understanding that they are in some want for provisions, our pleasure is that you equally take care of them with the rest of that Garrison, and give them such allowance and accommodation for the present both of victuals and lodging as you shall be able to afford them for the present, We intending speedily to give order for their payment equally with the rest of the garrison there. And if your store of ammunition will afford it, our further pleasure is that you supply them with a convenient proportion to exercise withall. So leaving each particular to your best care, we bid you heartily farewell. From our Court at Oxford this 16th of January 1642.

Soon after this, Spenser Lord Northampton was killed at Hopton Heath. His son James succeeded to his title, and was appointed Governor of Banbury, which position he held till the beginning of 1644. The following orders made at Councils of War during this period are only of interest as giving the names of the officers then in Banbury.

July 24, 1643.

No. 10. Council of War. It is this day ordered by a council of War convened at Banbury that his highness the Prince of Wales his Regiment, and also the two Regiments of the Right Honble. James Earl of Northampton shall each of them receive two hundred pounds out of the contribution of Warwickshire.

PRESENT.

James Earl of Northampton,	Green, Lieut. Colonel
Colonel General	Will. Compton, Serjeant
Charles Compton, Lieut.	Major
Colonel	Captain Spenser Compton
Thos. Daniel, Serjeant Major	Captain Hugh Vaughan
John Knottesford, Serjeant	Captain Charles Waldron
Major	Captain Henry Rainsford
Captain Samuel Thornton	Captain William Tirwhitt
Capt. Lt. Will. Danvers	Capt. Lt. Michael Poulteney.
Cornet Richard Bulstrode.	

December 19, 1643.

No. 11. Ditto. At a council of War held at Banbury.

President—the Earl of Northampton.

PRESENT, OFFICERS OF THE HORSE.	PRESENT, OFFICERS OF THE FOOT.
Sir Ch. Compton, Lieut.	Lt. Coll. Green
Colonel	Sr. William Compton, Ser-
Philip Honeywood, Serjeant	jeant Major
Major	Sr. Spenser Compton, Captain
Capt. Matthew Clarke	Captain Charles Waldron
Sr. William Farmor, Capt.	Captain Thomas Willoughby
Captain George Rawleigh	Captain Michael Poulteney.

1. It is ordered that the Earl of Northampton shall have the contribution of Banbury at his disposal for the extraordinary uses of himself and the Castle.

2. It is ordered that the full sum of the Contribution allotted to my Lord's foot and horse shall be equally divided into two parts. And each regiment to have one part; provided that if either the regiment of foot or the

regiment of horse be not of strength & number proportionate to that half part of Contribution, the surplusage of that money shall remain in Bank in my Lord's hand to be disposed of as he shall think fit at the next council of war.

3. It is further ordered that each regiment both of foot and horse shall from time (to time) give the Earl of Northampton upon their reputation a true and perfect of their numbers respectively.

You may observe that there is no mention made of any payment to "the Prince of Wales his Regiment," which may perhaps have given occasion to the following letter from the King, of which only a copy is preserved.

No. 12.
Letter concerning
the pay of the
Prince of Wales'
Regiment.

Right trusty and right well-beloved Cousin,
We greet you well. Whereas we have lately by warrant under our sign manual granted unto you this contribution of the Town and Parish of Banbury which was formerly assigned by our dear Nephew Prince Rupert towards the payment of the Regiment of horse of our dearest son Prince Charles; Our will and pleasure therefore is out of such contributions as you shall raise in the counties of Warwick or Northampton that you henceforward weekly pay unto the said regiments so much money as the contribution of the said town and parish of Banbury doth amount unto, or assign unto that Regiment such a proportion in either of those counties nearest to their quarters where they may levy the same. And likewise that you speedily give order for the payment of the arrears due unto them out of the said town and parish or not to interrupt them in the least kind in levying thereof. And for your so doing this shall be your warrant. Given under our sign manual at our court at Oxford this 21st January 1643.

Lord Northampton having given up his command of Banbury, was succeeded by his brother, Lord William Compton, to whom the following order for round shot is addressed.

CHARLES R.

No. 13. Right trusty and wellbeloved, We greet
 Order for Round you well. Whereas we have given you
 Shot for Banbury. directions with some of our forces under
 your command to convoy a good proportion of Iron shot
 from Evesham to this our city of Oxford: And under-
 standing that there will need some round shot of nine
 pound weight for the service of our Garrison at Banbury:
 our will and pleasure is that out of the said proportion
 which is to come from Evesham you take for the use of
 that garrison fifty round of nine pound bullet of iron. And
 for so doing these letters shall be your warrant. Given at
 our court at Oxon the 18th of April 1644.

By his Majesty's Command,

EDW. NICHOLAS.

To our trusty and well beloved
 S. William Compton, Knt.

With this letter I will conclude my contribution of scraps towards the History of Banbury, for I think I have inflicted enough upon the Society without adding the more personal papers which remain in the bundle I have been extracting from—such as “Lord Northampton's protection from Oliver Cromwell;” “A note of goods formerly plundered from Compton,” by Colonel Purefoy and others; or a paper endorsed as follows, “A particular of Newham Abbey, sold by James Earl of Northampton, to pay his composition in the cursed Rebellion.”



A PAPER, COMPARING THE STATEMENTS OF AN ORIGINAL AND UNPUBLISHED LETTER, WRITTEN IN LONDON ON THE DAY OF KING CHARLES THE FIRST'S EXECUTION, AND DESCRIPTIVE OF THAT EVENT, WITH THE ACCOUNTS OF PUBLISHED HISTORY: READ BY THE REV. EDWARD PAYNE, ON THE 4TH OF APRIL, 1854.

THE town and neighbourhood of Banbury are so rich in historical associations connected with the unfortunate career of Charles the First, that the Members of a Society engaged in Antiquarian researches, and having that town and neighbourhood for their head-quarters, may fairly be presumed interested in the sight of any thing which ever belonged to that ill-fated Monarch, or in the hearing of any thing illustrative of the closing scene of his life. Trusting to your possession of such an interest, I have placed upon the table for your inspection to-day, a pair of Gloves, which once were owned by King Charles the First; a sleeve which belonged to the individual to whom his Majesty gave the gloves; and an original, unpublished Letter, written in London on the day of his execution, to the owner of the sleeve and recipient of the gloves. If it pleases you, I will briefly state the circumstances, which prove that the articles before you really are what they purport to be, and then, after having read the letter, compare it with accounts which we have in published history of the scene it describes.

But before entering on this statement, I would, as becomes the greenest griffin in antiquarian research, deprecate the discontent of those mighty professors of archæology around me, at my venturing to produce before them articles which are little more than two hundred years old. I do not expect that the eyes of those who love to unkennel the buried mysteries of former millenniums, will condescend to rest on these things of yesterday. I do not suppose, for

instance, that my friend, who in his opening paper on the "Uses of Archæology" referred with such zest and taste to the improvements which we might make in modern dress by studying the cut, colour, and combination of our forefathers' habiliments, had in his mind's eye any apparel of such recent date as the gloves and sleeve upon the table. He was, doubtless, comparing in all the luxuriance of his imagination the best specimens of modern dress, the coats, for instance, from St. James' Street, or the boots from Piccadilly, in which he himself delights to expatiate, if not with the somewhat scanty clothing of Pict, Celt, and Saxon, yet with the flowing robes of Greece and Rome, or the graver attire of Nineveh and ancient Egypt. I do not suppose for a moment that he would condescend to take a hint for his gloves and sleeves from such juvenile antiquities as these. But in behalf of all such tyros as myself, now in the very commencement of our archæological training, I would suggest to our Society, for a time at least, the adoption of a rule analogous to that which obtains in her Majesty's Cavalry, that the pace of the slowest horse be the pace of the whole regiment: I would suggest that our faster brethren in these pursuits should for a while indulge us, the slow coaches, the awkward squad of the Society, in our self-satisfying delusion, that, when we are looking at, or talking about, things of only two hundred years ago, we are concerned with what are really antique. It is solely in anticipation of this indulgence, that I brought here to-day the letter, the gloves, and the sleeve, of which I will now speak.

The letter was written in London on the day of King Charles' execution, by a gentleman, named Scott, of the family of the Scotts of Escrick, a parish in the East Riding, about six miles south by east from York. The letter is so far imperfect, that it has lost both its address and signature; but the evidence belonging to it establishes with tolerable certainty the fact that it was written by a Mr. Scott to a relative of the same name in Yorkshire, who in his office of Lord Mayor of York had entertained the King when he visited that city on his last journey into Scotland, in August, 1641. According to a note on the back of it, the

letter was found in the year 1733 by one Rokeby Scott amongst the papers of his Uncle Zachary, and supposed by him to have been written by the Grandfather of the said Zachary.

The gloves were given by King Charles to the above-mentioned Lord Mayor of York in memorial of the hospitality with which Mr. Scott had received him; they descended as heir-looms from him to the aforesaid Zachary Scott; from him to the Grandfather of the Mistress Mary Scott, of the Close, Winchester, who is now their owner, and who has kindly lent them to me for your inspection to-day. With one exception, when they were sent to the late Sir Walter Scott, they have never been out of her custody, until I brought them away for our present purpose.

The gloves, if you will take the trouble of examining them at the conclusion of this paper, you will find beautifully embroidered about the wrists, after the fashion of their day, in gold tissue and silk upon white satin. There does not appear to be anything heraldic or emblematic in the pattern of the embroidery; it is simply composed of wreaths of leaves and flowers. Nor is there anything remarkable in the shape of the gloves, except the well-known characteristic of the royal hand, the great length of its fingers. The sewing, as I am given to understand, is not effected by the stitch now in use. The gloves themselves, considering their age, are in good condition; the only rent in them is said to have been caused by a curious and aspiring, but awkward old maid, who vainly attempted the insertion of her fat fingers.

The sleeve has no further general interest attaching to it, than belongs to any article of clothing of the same age, to which we can assign the name of the individual wearer. But this interest is not very slight. Do you not think, that, if the boots, in which I happen to be invested to-day, survive by any chance to A.D. 2054, and can then be identified as the very pair in which I had the honour of presiding over the Second Quarterly Meeting of the Banbury Archæological Society, they will then be a most interesting relic of the year 1854? So it has been with this sleeve. It seems to have been preserved from motives of family affection for

the *quondam* Lord Mayor of York, and associated with those more valuable relics, the King's gloves and his kinsman's letter.

But, after all, the letter is far more interesting and valuable than its companions. It runs thus (I am reading for the sake of legibility from a copy of the original, which, together with another copy, in itself not very juvenile, lies on the table):—

“ This day his Maies^t dyed upon a Scaffold at w^t hall,
 “ his children weare with him last nyght, to the Duke of
 “ Gloster he gave his George, to the Ladye his ring of his
 “ finger—tould them his subjects had manie things to give
 “ there cheldren, but that was all he had to give them.
 “ this daie aboute one a Clocke he came from S^t Jamesis
 “ in a long blacke Cloke and gray stockings. y^e Palsgrave
 “ came through y^e Parke with him, he was faint, and soe
 “ forced to sit down and rest him in the Parke, he went
 “ into w^t hall the usuall way, oute of the Parke, and soe
 “ came out of the banquetting house upon planks made
 “ purposely to the Scaffold—he was not long there, and
 “ what he spake was to the 2 bishops, D^r Juxon and
 “ D^r Morton—to D^r Juxon he gave his hatt and cloke, he
 “ prayed with them, walked twise or thrise about the
 “ skaffold, and held up his Hands to the people—his
 “ last words as I am informed were, to youre powre I
 “ must submit, but your authority I deny: pulled his
 “ doublett of himselfe, and kneled down to the blokk him-
 “ self, when some officer offered to helpe him to unbutton
 “ him, or some suche like thing, he thrust him from him ;
 “ two men in vizards, false haire weare, were apointed to
 “ be his Executioners, who they weare is knot knowne,
 “ some say he that did it was the com: hangman, others
 “ that it was one Capton Foxley and that the hangman
 “ refused. The 2 bishops of Loondon hath beene con-
 “ stantly with him sence sentence was given; sence he
 “ dyed they have made proclamation that no man upon
 “ paine of I know not what shall presume to proclame his
 “ Sonne prince Charles K. of England; this is all I have
 “ yett heard of this sad day work.”

The letter, after at once announcing the King's death,

speaks of his children being with him the night before, and then names first "the Duke of Gloster," his youngest son, to whom he gave "his George," and secondly "the Ladye," meaning his second daughter the Princess Elizabeth, to whom he gave "his ring of his finger." His only children at that time in England were, as you probably know, these two; the others, in one way or another, had escaped to the Continent. Half-a-dozen lines will give you, what may not be without interest, the subsequent history of these two children. After their father's death, they were first removed, with a curtailed allowance, to Penshurst in Kent, where their former guardian or jailor, the Countess of Leicester, was specially enjoined not to give them any titles, but in all respects to treat them precisely as the other children of the family. But they did not remain long at Penshurst: by a refinement of cruelty, or else a singular coincidence, which seems to have had a fatal effect on the Lady Elizabeth, they were removed to Carisbrook Castle, where the Royal Duke was familiarly known by the name of Mr. Harry, and where his sister died on the 8th of September, 1650. Clarendon says: the Lady Elizabeth "was a lady of excellent parts, great observation, and an early understanding." We are told in Peck's "*Desiderata Curiosa*," that "she was a lady of incomparable abilities and admirable virtues; but being by order of the regicides sent to the tedious prison of her royal father, and more sensible of his murder than the loss of her own liberty, she wasted away, and expired with the extremity of melancholy in the fifteenth year of her age." (See Note A in Appendix.) Her brother, Mr. Harry, who is said to have combined the best without the bad qualities of Charles the 2nd and James the 2nd, was permitted to escape to Holland in 1652, but died of small pox about eight years afterwards, at the age of 20.

"The George," said to have been given by his Majesty to the Duke of Gloster, was, as many of you are doubtless aware, the Medal or Medallion attached to the Order of the Garter: it is so called from bearing upon it, worked frequently in diamonds, the George and Dragon. But the statement of the letter, that the ornament in question was

given the night before his execution to the Duke of Gloster, does not tally with some published accounts, or with the prevalent idea that it was given on the scaffold to Bishop Juxon (see Note B in Appendix); nor yet, again, do either of them tally with another and probably more correct version, that the King gave it to Mr. Ashburnham, an ancestor of the present Lord Ashburnham, in whose possession the very George itself is at present to be found.

The Palsgrave, who is said in the letter, but not in our common histories, to have accompanied the King through the Park, was the Elector Palatine, Charles Lewis, Prince Rupert's elder brother. He died in 1689.

After relating the King's sad progress from St. James's to Whitehall (see Note C in Appendix), and his appearance on the scaffold, the letter states, that "he was not long there, and what he spake was to the 2 bishops, Dr. Juxon and Dr. Morton." Hume gives rather a different account; he says, that the King first spoke to the few people about him, and particularly to Colonel Tomlinson, in whose custody he had been; that he apparently wished to address the people, but found himself unable to do so by reason of the soldiers surrounding the scaffold; and this seems to be confirmed by the statement in the letter, that "he walked twice or thrice about the scaffold, and held up his hands to the people." For, the short and formal protest, "to your power I must submit, but your authority I deny," in which, as Mr. Scott was informed, his last words were embodied, were probably spoken afterwards, immediately before he pulled off his doublet, and knelt down to the block, but yet before the very last word "remember," which he is said to have addressed to Bishop Juxon, as or after he laid his head upon the block. Hume gives, not only the substance of his speech to those near him, but the well-known conversation which he afterwards held with Bishop Juxon, the Bishop reminding him of "the one stage more he had to go, turbulent and troublesome but very short, and carrying him a great way, even from earth to heaven, to his crown of glory," and the King answering him a few words in the same strain—a strain which certainly does not justify the sneering remark

of Burnet, that "Bishop Juxon did the duty of his function honestly, but with a dry coldness, that could not raise the King's thoughts." Bishop Burnet was too much of a Dutchman in heart to deal fairly with the character of a prelate, who had been faithful to a Stuart in his last and sorest need, and who, in receiving from the King's own hands his hat and cloke, had been distinguished by that Stuart above his companion, Dr. Morton. Dr. Morton's presence, I should observe, is not mentioned either by Hume, Burnet, Clarendon, or Rapin, nor is it portrayed in the frontispiece to the 21st book of Rapin's History, which professes to represent the scene upon the scaffold; nor is it, so far as I have been yet able to ascertain, either represented in any of the prints, or alluded to in any of the documents relating to this subject in the British Museum. (See Note D in Appendix.) A reconciliation of this assertion, that two Bishops were present on the scaffold, repeated as it is at the close of the letter with a curious variety of expression, "the 2 Bishops of Loondon," has been suggested in a proposal that for Dr. Morton we should read Dr. Morley, who, I believe, was at this time Chaplain to the King, and subsequently became Bishop of Winchester. But there is an accuracy throughout the letter which makes it unlikely that the one name should have been written in error for the other; and, further, the writer's informant must have been a greater ecclesiastical booby than I take him to have been, if he mistook the Chaplain for a second Bishop. If the writer is correct in his fact, there can be no doubt that the second Bishop was the Dr. Morton, who held successively the Sees of Chester, Lichfield and Coventry, and Durham; because he is known to have been a staunch Royalist, and to have been residing at this very time at Exeter House in the Strand, having been forced to leave Durham House a short time previously, as he had been previously to that again deprived of his Bishoprick by the Parliament.

It may not be without local interest to add, in this place, what became of Bishop Juxon after his Royal Master's death. He retired in the following year to his estate at Little Compton, a small village just below the Rollright

Stones, and about thirteen miles from hence, where his house is still well known. "Here he passed his days," (I am quoting from the Biographical Dictionary,) "in a private and devout condition; and now and then for health's sake rode a hunting with some of the neighbouring and loyal gentry. He took much delight in that diversion, and kept a pack of good hounds, and had them so well ordered and hunted, chiefly by his own skill and direction, that they exceeded all other hounds in England, for the pleasure and orderly hunting of them." He is said, indeed, and apparently it is no small praise—his example is possibly worthy the attention of masters of hounds generally, whose tempers are sometimes sorely tried—he is said "to have had as much command of himself as of his hounds." Let me forestall the idea that, in enjoying this degree of happiness during the Commonwealth, Bishop Juxon was in any wise unmindful of his episcopal character, or is chargeable with anything in the least degree unseemly, by reminding you of the fact, that at the Restoration he was, to the satisfaction of the whole kingdom, placed at the head of the Church in the See of Canterbury.

But, to return to Bishop Juxon's character, in reference more especially to the manner in which he discharged his sad office on King Charles's scaffold. Lord Falkland's saying, though I enter a caveat against being supposed to agree in its insinuation against the Episcopal Bench in general, gives a fairer portrait of him than the remark of Burnet already quoted: Lord Falkland declares "he was the only person he had ever known, who was not spoiled by a pair of lawn sleeves." But the Bishop of Sarum, hard as he is on his brother prelate, and resolved to let fly another of his "bitter words," is compelled to acknowledge the King's calm and dignified demeanour, and so corroborates the statement of the letter, that the King quietly prepared himself for the block, and thrust from him an officer who tendered his assistance. Burnet says, "the King shewed a calm and composed firmness," but he adds, sarcastically, "which amazed all people, and so much the more, because it was not natural to him." Rapin, too, says that "he suffered death with great constancy,

and without shewing the least signs of weakness and amazement."

Upon the number and disguise of the executioners present on the scaffold, the statements of the letter are in strict accordance with published history. "Two men in vizards, false haire weare," that is, wearing false hair, or masks made of false hair, were appointed to be his executioners: Rapin writes in almost the same words, "two men in disguises, in vizors, stood on the scaffold for executioners." Hume says that "one man in a vizor performed the office of executioner; and another in like disguise held up to the spectators the head, streaming with blood, and cried aloud, this is the head of a traitor." But, who these two men were, or which of the two struck the fatal blow, was not certainly known to the writer of this letter, nor, as it would seem, to any of our historians, nor is it, so far as I am aware, known to us. "Some say," I quote from the letter, "he that did it was the common hangman;" a report preserved, but apparently not credited, by Rapin (see Note E in Appendix); "others that it was one Capton Foxley, and that the hangman refused." Who this Capton Foxley was, I have not been able to discover; and whether the common hangman was the man of honourable feeling that he is in the letter described to be, is very doubtful; for in the trial and condemnation of a person named William Hulet for having been one of the two appointed executioners, it is stated that the King's head was cut off by the common hangman, Brandon. There is, however, yet another name competing for the dishonour of this crime; and, judging from his antecedents, this last candidate is almost as likely as the common hangman to have been the actual executioner. In a note to Rapin's History there is this remark; "others say, it was Colonel Joyce." Now this Colonel Joyce, if, as scarcely can be doubted, we are to identify him with a Cornet Joyce of the preceding year, seems to have been one of those daring, unscrupulous characters, who are always thrown upon the surface of troublous times. He had been originally a tailor, and employed two or three years before in some menial capacity by Mr. Denzil Hollis. But tailor Joyce, opining that

cold steel was in many points of view preferable to hot iron—that, for instance, it was more honourable to wield a dragoon's sword than a tailor's goose—and if the worst came to the worst, more glorious to bleed on the battlefield of the patriot than singe himself on his own board—procured a Cornet's commission in one of the rebel regiments. Here he became “one of the agitators in the army,” distinguishing himself, not only by most independent action, but by most impudent defiance of superior authority. For whilst enjoying the not very exalted or responsible rank of Cornet, he went with fifty troopers on the 3rd of June, 1649, without the slightest direction from any one, to Holmby in Lincolnshire, where the King had been since the end of January a *quasi* prisoner in his own house. Arriving about daybreak, he forced his way into the house through the guard of soldiers, ushered himself in a very unceremonious manner into the King's bedchamber, and, presenting a pistol at his Majesty's head, bade him immediately dress and return with him to Newmarket. (See Note F in Appendix.) The Parliament Committee,* who were living in the house, and responsible for the King's personal safety, remonstrated; but, the fighting tailor giving them the same option of his pistol that he had the King, they yielded, and Cornet Joyce rode off with his troopers and his prize. That he did not discharge his self-imposed duty, or even present his pistol with the grace of an accomplished highwayman—much less with the courtesy of an officer obliged to discharge an unpleasant office—but that he acted like a rough, ferocious desperado, is indicated by the conviction wrought in the King's mind, that Joyce was taking him away from Holmby to murder him. Nor does the King's fear of this dashing and unscrupulous tailor seem to have evaporated during the journey; for Clarendon says, that “at Newmarket the King was freed from any subjection to Mr. Joyce, which was no small satisfaction to him; and they who were about him appeared men of better breeding than the former.” Still, let even the devil have

* This was the Committee, one of whom was Major General Brown, who had been appointed by the Parliament to receive Charles nearly a year before from the treacherous Scots. (Clarendon 3. 69.)

his due: Clarendon adds, "Joyce, saving the bluntness and positiveness of the few words he spoke, behaved himself not rudely." The eloquent historian's idea of rudeness is somewhat different from that which prevails now. To us, as doubtless to King Charles, it does seem something more than rude, to burst into a royal residence at daybreak—insist on instant admission to the King's bedchamber—enter it with several troopers—hold up pistols as their authority—and command the King to accompany them forthwith. And yet, if the following statement in Rushworth's Collections be true, Cornet Joyce must have been a shrewd, subtle fellow, to have overcome, as quickly and completely as he did, the King's very natural repugnance to him. "The King is still at Newmarket, very pleasant and cheerful, and takes his recreation daily at tennis. His Majesty seems much to delight in the company and discourse of Cornet Joyce, who brought him from Holmby; and sent a messenger to St. Alban's on purpose for Cornet Joyce to come to Newmarket."

From these traits in the Cornet's character, he seems to have been just the man to volunteer for the executioner's office, when the common hangman refused; and I have little doubt that the Capton Foxley, mentioned in this letter, if it was not an assumed name, was innocent, and that Rapin hit the right nail on the head when he laid the charge at Colonel Joyce's door.

The only point in the letter remaining to be noticed, is one which should not in fairness be overlooked—that the letter does not profess to be the record of an eye-witness of King Charles's execution; for its concluding words are, "this is all I have yet heard of this sad day work;" and yet the testimony which it renders in all material circumstances to the accuracy of our historians, and which it has been the purpose of the foregoing remarks to bring out, is scarcely less valuable, written as it was in the very place and on the very day of the execution, and founded, as from internal evidence it must have been, on the witness of persons who were either upon or very close to the scaffold.

Perhaps I cannot form a more appropriate conclusion to this paper, than by quoting from a foot-note in Rapin's

History, Dr. Welwood's sketch of Charles the First's personal appearance and acquirements. By those to whom it is already known, I am sure that it will be welcomed as an old friend; whilst it will impart to those to whom it is new, a more definite idea of his person and mind than possibly they at present possess. "He was a prince of comely presence, of a sweet, grave, but melancholy aspect. His face was regular, handsome, and well-complexioned; his body strong, healthy, and well-made; and though of a low stature, was capable to endure the greatest fatigues. He had a good taste of learning, and a more than ordinary skill in the liberal arts, especially painting, sculpture, architecture, and medals; he acquired the noblest collection of any prince in his time; and more than all the Kings of England before him. He spoke several languages very well, and with a singular good grace; though now and then, when he was warm in his discourse, he was inclinable to stammer. He writ a tolerable hand for a King; but his sense was strong, and his style laconick."



BISHOP JUXON'S HOUSE AND HOUNDS.

LITTLE COMPTON.

Juxon, (William,) Archbishop of Canterbury, was born at Chichester, in 1582, and educated at Merchant Tailors' School and at St. John's College, Oxford, of which he became Fellow in 1592. He took orders in 1609. He was presented to the living of St. Giles, Oxford, in 1614. He succeeded Laud, as President of St. John's, in 1621. He was appointed by Charles I., one of his Chaplains in Ordinary, and collated to the Deanery of Worcester in 1627. He was sworn in Clerk of the Closet, July 10th, 1632. He was elected Bishop of Hereford in 1633; but before Consecration, removed to the Bishopric of London, in the room of Laud, now Archbishop of Canterbury, and was also sworn of the Privy Council. He was promoted to the office of Lord High Treasurer in 1635. He, in these promotions, was greatly indebted to Archbishop Laud. He resigned his office May 17, 1641, just after the execution of the Earl of Strafford, in consequence of the King's passing the Bill of Attainder, contrary to Juxon's express and earnest advice. He then retired to his Palace at Fulham. He attended his Majesty at the Treaty in the Isle of Wight in 1648, by the consent of the Parliament. He was in attendance on the King during the whole of his trial. He attended his royal master also at the scaffold. The Bishop, soon after the establishment of the Commonwealth, was deprived of his Bishopric, and retired to his private estate—the Manor of Little Compton, in Gloucestershire—the house and church of which are still standing, as represented. At the Restoration, he was nominated Archbishop of Canterbury, and at the Coronation, placed the Crown on the head of Charles II. He repaired Lambeth and Croydon Palaces, expending nearly £15,000. He died June 4, 1663, in his 81st year, and was buried in the Chapel of St. John's College, Oxford, near the remains of Archbishop Laud. He bequeathed to his College £7,000. There is but one Sermon of his extant, entitled "The Subject's Sorrow; or, Lamentations upon the Death of Britain's Josiah, King Charles, 1649." 4to.

APPENDIX.

GENERAL NOTE.

For the additional information contained in the following Notes, the Author is indebted to the kindness of the Rev. Dr. Bandinel, who permitted free access to his vast collection of Tracts and Prints, illustrative of the history of Charles the 1st.

NOTE A.

The King's parting address to the Lady Elizabeth, said to have been taken down from her own hand, was, with the prayers used by the King during his sufferings, &c., printed at London in 1649. It contains no such sentence as that in the Letter, relating to his own poverty and his subjects' abundance; but it recommends her to read the following Works: Bp. Andrews's Sermons, Hooker's Ecclesiastical Polity, and Bp. Laud's Book against Fisher, to ground her against Popery.

In a tract, entituled "The Bloody Court, or the Fatal Tribunal, &c.," there is the following simple and touching account of the King's parting with his two children. "It would have drawn water out of a rocke heart to have seen the sad parting of this solitary, condemned, imprisoned King, and his dear children. The poor Lady went away weeping, not only tears, but blood, and blood in great abundance, so that the physicians feared she would bleed to death."

NOTE B.

A Narrative of King Charles' Speech on the scaffold, &c., &c., professing to be printed by Peter Cole at the sign of the Printing Press in Cornhill near the Royal Exchange, 1649, and supposed to be the most faithful cotemporary account, alleges that the King gave the George to Dr. Juxon on the scaffold, saying "Remember." The same pamphlet corroborates the statement of the Letter, that the King put off his own doublett.

NOTE C.

Much diversity of opinion exists as to the hour at which the King left St. James'. Some accounts tally with the Letter, especially that in a Sermon preached at Breda, by the Bishop of Downe, on the 3rd (13th) of June, 1649, wherein a comparison of very questionable propriety is drawn between Charles the First and our LORD, as in some other points, so as to the exact time of their deaths.

NOTE D.

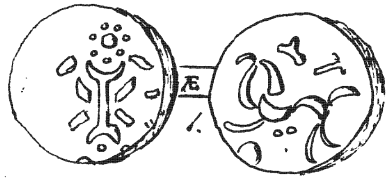
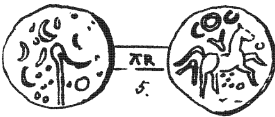
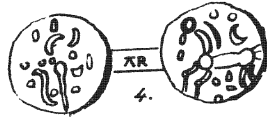
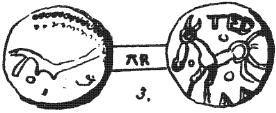
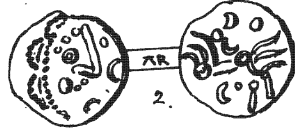
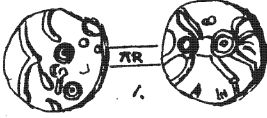
To the negative evidence already produced against the statement of the Letter, that two Bishops were present on the scaffold, the Author is now enabled to add the testimony of Dr. Bandinel's whole collection of tracts and prints; for he failed to discover in either one or the other the slightest trace of any Bishop but Dr. Juxon.

NOTE E.

A very curious tract is in Dr. Bandinel's collection, which, if it be what it purports to be, would decide the point against the common hangman. Its title is, "The Confession of Richard Brandon, the hangman, upon his death bed, concerning his beheading his late Majesty Charles the 1st, &c., &c.," and "printed in the year of the hangman's downfall 1649." Brandon is there stated to have died on June 20th, 1649, conscience-stricken for his guilt in beheading the King: but his confession puts the guilt, not so much on the execution *per se*, as on his having done it in contradiction of a solemn vow made during the King's trial, that he never would. His confession states further, that in half an hour after the execution he received for his hire £30, all in half-crown pieces. The second executioner is there said to have been one Ralph Jones, a ragman, living in Rosemary Lane. But there is a sentence in the tract which throws some suspicion on the genuineness of this confession. The tract professes to have been printed in order to stop the calumnies "dayly spit from the mouth of envy against divers persons of great worth and excellency." It may be that the dead hangman was thus intended to be the scape-goat of these worthy and excellent persons.

NOTE F.

In Dr. Bandinel's collection are two prints of the seizure of King Charles by Joyce and his troopers. Both represent the act, much as it is related by Clarendon—in both, Cornet Joyce has his pistol in his hand; but in neither is it levelled at the King's head. The more recent print by Bowyer attributes to Joyce a very dark and ferocious countenance: the earlier print represents him with a pleasant and dignified aspect.



British boins found at Madmarston.

B.



THE CAMP OF MADMARSTON, AND ITS ANCIENT TOWN:

A PAPER,

READ BY MR. ARTHUR BRISLEY RYE, F.R.C.S.,

ON THE 4TH OF APRIL, 1854.

A VALUABLE and interesting collection of British and Roman Coins, turned up from time to time on the site of the ancient Town of Madmarston, having been lent to us for exhibition at our meeting, by Mr. J. Painter, of Swalcliffe, I have undertaken the task of offering a few brief remarks upon presenting them to your notice. We are much indebted to the intelligence of this gentleman for the preservation of these relics of a past age; although viewing them as I often have done, it has been a matter of regret that a proper arrangement of them had never been attempted. This has now been done; and we have the satisfaction of knowing, that amongst the earliest doings arising out of our yet infant Archæological Society, is the formation of a proper catalogue of this interesting collection.*

Any one might imagine that the Romans amused themselves by throwing their money away, for coins are spread over all these Roman sites, and the plough never goes over the ground without turning them up. It must prove that there was no want of money in Roman Britain; and Madmarston is no exception to this rule. Upwards of 500 have been collected by Mr. Painter alone: amongst them are nine British coins—one of brass and eight of silver—with their characteristic rude and mysterious symbols, most

* See page 56.

probably belonging to the *Dobuni*, who inhabited this part of the country; for as certain types have been found to be peculiar to certain districts, we may infer that these belonged to the British tribe there located. These coins are convex on one side and concave on the other; and, like most British coins, the die has been cut clumsily and larger than the piece of metal which was to receive the impression; hence, only a part of the subject is represented.*

Madmarston is one of those monuments of a remote period, the earthworks and intrenchments of which still crown many a hill-top, and is indubitably to be ascribed to the British period. At the foot of this Camp are the remains of the ancient Town, of which there is not a vestige above ground. An ordinary passer-by might not notice this curious site; he might walk over its broken surfaces without any emotion of curiosity or interest: but the archæologist, knowing from History that the country has witnessed many "a bloody broil," and that populous hamlets have been razed to the ground in times of civil war or feudal contest, sees evidence of former occupancy, and traces the existence of buildings long since destroyed.

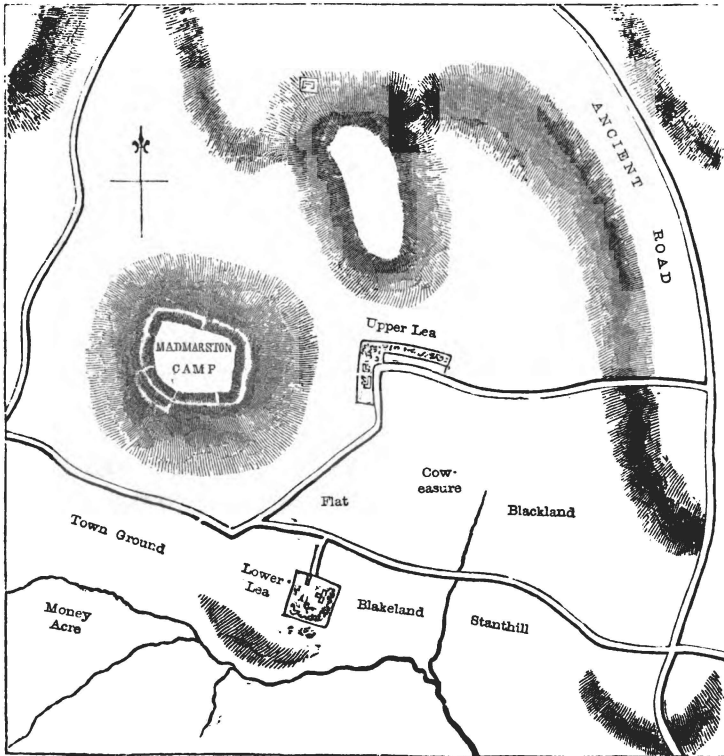
Madmarston Camp is one of several situated about Banbury, forming a series of communications across the intersecting valleys. The Historian of Banbury, with his usual accuracy of detail, well describes the present appearance and character of the hill.†

Gough, in his *Camden*, says—"In Swalcliffe parish, but nearer Tadmarton, is a Roman Town, which seems to have extended itself round the foot of a hill. At the bottom, to the west, is a field, part of which is called Money Acre, from a pot of money found there 100 years since, and which by those pieces of Roman Pottery, and the richness of the soil, was certainly part of the old Town. This end points to Swalcliffe, and the people who live there think it reached no further than some out closes of the Farm called (Lower) Ley, somewhat nearer on this side towards

* These British coins, which are represented in the drawing by the anastatic process, and a fine silver denarius of Augustus, are of especial interest. The coins are now in the possession of Mr. Painter, of Swalcliffe, properly arranged and named, and will repay the trouble of a visit.

† Beesley's *History of Banbury*, p. 10.

Tadmarton, where considerable ruins are dug up to mend highways, but no stone or inscription could be found. From this Farm-house the Town seems to have extended to another, also called the Ley (the Upper Ley), about a quarter of a mile off, on the north-east side of the hill, and between these two a good way east into Tadmarton field, in which is a sign of a Roman bank, and on the south side beyond the brook in Swalcliffe field is a considerable barrow, called Rowbarrow, which probably stood just without the Town. The blackness of the soil for three feet deep shows that the town was destroyed by fire."



Scale, Four inches to a Mile.

The plan shows the extent of these remains. Within this space, foundations have been from time to time discovered; quantities of stones have been dug up, for farm

and building purposes, and for mending the roads; some of them are squared, but I could not discover that any had been found inscribed; many present the red burned appearance as if from a conflagration having occurred there at an early period, when the habitations and defences were chiefly constructed of wood. The black soil extends for nearly half a mile, is of the depth of several feet, and possesses organic matter in large quantity; it is of wonderful fertility. Sir Richard Colt Hoare, an authority upon these matters, states that the sites of these villages are always marked by irregularities of ground, and by a black soil. An attempt has been made to account for this peculiar character of the soil, by supposing it the result of the vast quantities of forage and litter which would be required for a cavalry station, at some period when the adjacent Camp was occupied.*

The field marked Blakeland is remarkable for the quantity of coins which have been found; and, upon walking over it, pieces of pottery are seen in all directions. On the Tadmarton side of the brook, in the field called Blackland, the ploughshare, in the spring of 1836, struck on what proved to be an interment place: the remains had been deposited entire, and at full length, in a rude stone cistvaen of British character, formed of rough slab stones, such as are quarried in the parish of Tadmarton. In the spring of 1840 and 1841, similar interments were disturbed in the same ground; but in these cases the cistvaens were formed of smooth white flag stones, cut out for the purpose, which might have been brought from a pit situated a mile or two from the spot. Each contained a human skeleton lying at full length, with its face downwards. Very little attention seems to have been paid by the present owner of the property to any discoveries beyond the coins, of which he seems to have had especial care; but it appears that other interesting matters have been found. An urn in a perfect state was found in the garden; and something, probably a horse bell, which cannot be traced, was found in the brook.

The Rev. Thomas Lea, the Incumbent of Tadmarton, found a very curious model hammer, about three inches long, and a friend who accompanied him picked up almost

* History of Banbury, p. 19.

at the same time what appears to have been a spoon, called a "Ligula." Unfortunately, he took it away. The little hammer is very curious; and the question naturally arises as to its use. A miniature bronze cultrum, or chopper, was found at Kenchester, near Hereford, three inches long; and a bronze axe was found in the Villa of Woodchester, Gloucestershire. They have been considered by some, and with great probability, to be toys—children's toys; although it is the fashion, I believe, to call them votive offerings: so, that if we adopt the latter theory, we must infer that some carpenter wished to propitiate his tutelary Deity, possibly for success in his craft.

A short distance from the site of the Town, and on the opposite side of the brook, looking towards Swalcliffe, is a well-defined Tumulus. This is a very conspicuous object from the turnpike road, and is, no doubt, the Rowbarrow of Gough, in his Camden (the field in which it is situated is called Money Acre). Its circumference is about 100 yards; and from the lowest ground surrounding it, it is 12 or 14 feet high. Being so well-defined and perfect, there can be no doubt as to its true character. Now, as the contents of these sepulchral mounds of a people in a rude state of civilization are always instructive, it would be a matter of extreme interest could we obtain permission of the owner of the property to open this.*

I have, so far, fulfilled my purpose of directing your attention to this interesting locality. The plough will soon go over it again, and further remains may be brought to light. The existence of an Archæological Society in this neighbourhood will be a happy and useful means of making us acquainted with any objects of interest which may be discovered; and when we make our excursions, this will be one of the many spots replete with interest which we may hope to visit.

* A few gentlemen, immediately after the meeting, subscribed a sum of money to effect this; which was subsequently done by digging a trench to the base of the Tumulus. It soon became evident that it had been previously opened. Bones and burnt fragments of wood, &c., mixed with earth and stones, were found in all directions. The latter probably formed the roof and floor of the sepulchral chamber, in which the body had been imbedded in sand, a quantity of which was also found.

NOTE.—Since the reading of this paper, several coins have been turned up; and within the last few weeks, a well was accidentally opened in the Town Ground; it is of the usual character of Roman wells, and about two feet in circumference.—JAN., 1856.

CATALOGUE OF COINS,

COLLECTED BY MR. J. PAINTER, AT MADMARSTON, CHIEFLY FROM THE FIELD CALLED
BLAKELAND; WITH NOTICES OF THE PRINCIPAL REVERSES, ETC.,

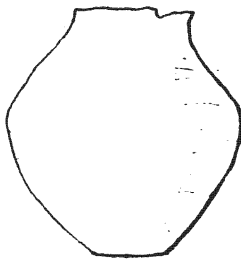
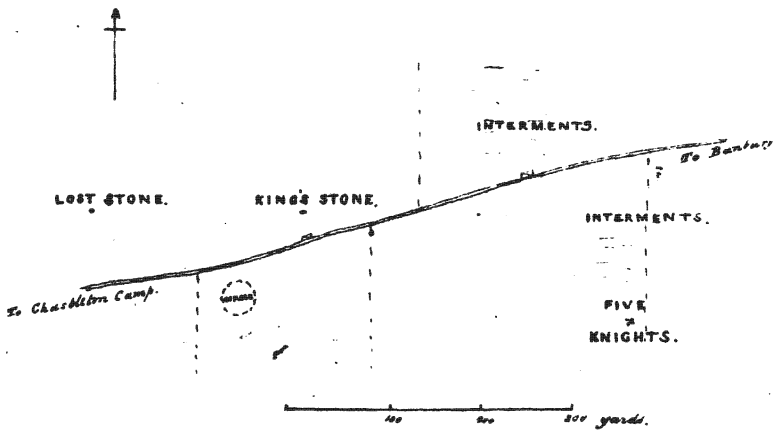
BY MR. THOMAS BEESLEY.

ROMAN.		No.
AUGUSTUS. <i>Silver.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> CAESAR AUGUSTUS DIVI F. PATER PATRIAE.		
<i>REV.</i> C. L. CAESARES AUGUSTI F. COS. DESIG. PRINC. IUVENT.		
Caius and Lucius standing; two bucklers and pontifical instruments.		
CLAUDIUS. <i>2nd Brass. Illegible.</i>		1
VESPASIAN. <i>2nd Brass.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN. AUG. COS. III.		
<i>REV.</i> A woman seated.		
TRAJAN.		4
<i>Silver.</i>		
<i>OBV.</i> IMP. CAES. NERVA TRAIAN. AUG. GERM.		
<i>REV.</i> P. M. TR. P. COS. IIII. P. P. Victory standing. R.		
<i>1st Brass.</i>		
<i>REV.</i> S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO PRINCIPI. Peace standing.		
<i>REV.</i> The emperor standing, crowned by Victory.		
<i>REV.</i> <i>Illegible.</i>		
HADRIAN. <i>2nd Brass.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> IMP. CAESAR TRAIANUS HADRIANUS AUG. P. M. TR. P.		
COS. III.		
<i>REV.</i> SALUS PUBLICA. S. C. Salus standing. <i>Very fine.</i>		
ANTONINUS PIUS.		2
<i>Silver.</i>		
<i>REV.</i> LIBERALITAS AUG. II. Liberty standing.		
<i>2nd Brass.</i>		
<i>REV.</i> <i>Illegible.</i>		
FAUSTINA SENIOR. <i>Silver.</i>		2
<i>OBV.</i> DIVA FAUSTINA.		
<i>REV.</i> AUGUSTA. A female standing by an altar.		
<i>REV.</i> AETERNITAS. Eternity standing, holding a globe.		
AURELIUS.		3
<i>1st Brass.</i>		
<i>REV.</i> TR. POT. XII. A figure standing, holding caduceus and hasta.		
<i>2nd Brass.</i>		
<i>REV.</i> TR. POT. VIII. Salus sacrificing at an altar, from which a serpent is rising.		
..... A figure sacrificing.		
FAUSTINA JUNIOR. <i>1st Brass.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> DIVA FAUSTINA.		
<i>REV.</i> CONSECRATIO. Throne of Juno, sceptre, and peacock.		
SEVERUS. <i>Silver.</i>		1
<i>REV.</i> PART. MAX. P. M. TR. P. VIII. Two captives bound, seated at foot of trophy.		
CARACALLA. <i>Silver.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> ANTONINUS PIUS AUG. Youthful head.		
<i>REV.</i> PART. MAX. PONT. TR. P. IIII. Captives and trophy.		
GETA. <i>Silver.</i>		1
<i>OBV.</i> P. SEPT. GETA CAESAR.		
<i>REV.</i> P. M. TR. P. VII. COS. II. P. P. Victory marching.		

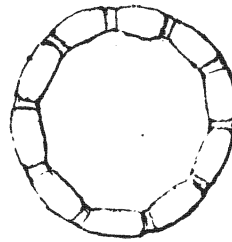
	No.
ELAGABALUS. <i>Silver</i>	19
<i>OBV.</i> IMP. ANTONINUS PIUS AUG.	1
<i>REV.</i> P. M. TR. P. IIII. COS. III. P. P. The sun marching; a star in the field.	
JULIA MAESA. <i>Silver</i>	1
<i>OBV.</i> JULIA MAESA AUG.	
<i>REV.</i> JUNO. The Goddess standing.	
VALERIANUS. <i>Base Silver</i>	3
<i>OBV.</i> IMP. C. P. LIC. VALERIANUS AUG.	
<i>REV.</i> SALUS AUG. Salus sacrificing.	
VICTORIA AUGG. Victory standing.	
LIBERALITAS AUG. Liberality standing.	
GALLIENUS.....	13
1 <i>Base Silver</i> .	
<i>REV.</i> LAETITIA AUG. Lætitia standing.	
3 <i>rd Brass</i> .	
<i>REV.</i> SALUS AUG. Salus feeding serpent on altar.	
LIBERO P. CONS. AUG. A panther walking.	
GERMANIS REDUX. Captives beneath trophy.	
LAETITIA AUG. N. Lætitia standing.	
DIANAE CONS. AUG. A stag.	
SALONINA. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	1
POSTUMUS.....	4
2 <i>Base Silver</i> .	
<i>REV.</i> P. M. TR. P. COS..... The emperor standing.	
3 <i>rd Brass</i> .	
<i>REV.</i> CONCORDIA AUG.	
VICTORINUS. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	19
<i>REV.</i> VIRTUS AUG. A female standing.	
VIRTUS AUG. A military figure.	
SALUS AUG. Salus sacrificing; a serpent rising from altar.	
INVICTUS. The sun marching. R.	
TETRICUS PATER. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	44
<i>REV.</i> PAX AUG. Peace.	
SPES AUG. Hope. R.	
HILARITAS AUGG. Hilarity.	
IV..... A figure marching.	
COMES AUG. Victory holding a garland. R.	
VIRTUS AUGG. Military figure holding hasta, and resting one hand on a buckler.	
LAETITIA AUG. Lætitia. R.	
SALUS AUG. Salus.	
TETRICUS FILIUS. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	13
<i>REV.</i> PIETAS AUG. Pontifical vases. R.	
PRINC. JUVEN. Tetricus standing, holding ensign and truncheon. R.	
CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	21
<i>REV.</i> P. M. TR. P. COS. P. P. The emperor standing.	
GENIUS AUG. The genius standing.	
AEQUITAS AUG. Equity standing.	
SPES PUBLICA. Hope.	
PROVIDENTIA. Providence.	
<i>OBV.</i> DIVO CLAUDIO.	
<i>REV.</i> CONSECRATIO. Altar with fire. R.	
<i>OBV.</i> DIVO CLAUDIO.	
<i>REV.</i> CONSECRATIO. The eagle.	
QUINTILLUS. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	2
<i>REV.</i> LAETITIA AUG. Lætitia standing.	
TACITUS. 3 <i>rd Brass</i>	1
<i>OBV.</i> IMP C. L. TACITUS AUG.	
<i>REV.</i> TEMPORUM FELICITAS. Felicity standing; in field DA.	

	No.
PROBUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	142
REV. COMES AUG. Minerva holding the olive and hasta. R. TEMPORUM FELICITAS. A figure standing.	2
CARAUSIUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	14
REV. PAX AUG. Female holding a victory on a globe, and the hasta transversely; in field SP; in ex. IXXI.	
PAX AUG. Female holding an olive branch, and the hasta trans- versely; in field S C; in ex. ML.	
PROVID. AUG. Female holding the hasta and cornucopia; in field S C.	
ALLECTUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	6
REV. VIRTUS AUG. A galley; in ex. QC.	
PROVID. AUG. Female holding a globe and cornucopia.	
PAX AUG. Peace holding the hasta and a flower; in field S C; in ex. ML.	
MAXIMIANUS HERCULES. <i>2nd Brass.</i> ¹	1
REV. GENIO. POP. ROM. In ex. PLN.	
HELENA. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	4
REV. PAX PUBLICA. Female standing, holding the hasta transversely. PIETAS AUGUST. Female holding an infant.	
GALERIUS.	3
2. <i>2nd Brass.</i>	
REV. GENIO POPULI ROMANI. In field SF; in ex. PTR. in ex. PC.	
3. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	
REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS. Usual type.	
LICINIUS SENIOR. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	1
REV. GENIO POP. ROM.	
LICINIUS JUNIOR. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	2
REV. VIRTUS EXERCIT. Captives beneath a standard inscribed VOT XX; TF in field.	
CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	22
SOLI INVICTO COMITI. The sun standing; TF. in field; in ex. PLN.	
SOLI INVICTO. The sun standing.	
D. N. CONSTANTINI MAX. AUG. VOT in wreath. xx	
PROVIDENTIA AUGG. Pretorian gate; in ex. P LON.	
BEAT. TRANQLITAS (<i>sic.</i>) Globe and stars on cippus inscribed VOTIS XX; in ex. P LON. R.	
BEATA TRANQUILLITAS. The same; in ex. P TR.	
VICTORIA LAETA PRINC. PERP. Two Victories holding a shield inscribed ^{VT} _M on a cippus.	
VIRTUS EXERCIT. Captives below standard inscribed VOT XX; in ex. P LON.	
SARMATIA DEVINCTA. Victory marching; on the ground a captive.	
GLORIA EXERCITUS. Two military figures with standards.	
CRISPUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	5
REV. VIRTUS EXERCIT. Captives beneath standard inscribed VOT XX; in ex. P LON.	
BEAT. TRANQUILLITAS. A globe charged with three stars, placed on a cippus inscribed VOTIS XX; in field FB; in ex. P LON.	
CAESARUM NOSTRORUM ^{VOT} _x ; in ex. P LON.	
CONSTANTINUS II. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	32
REV. BEATA TRANQUILLITAS. Globe and stars on cippus inscribed VOTIS XX; in ex. P LON.	
VIRTUS EXERCIT. Captives beneath trophy; in ex. STR.	
GLORIA EXERCITUS. Two soldiers and standards.	
PROVIDENTIA AUG. Pretorian gate.	

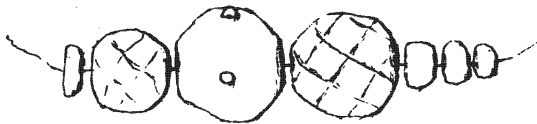
	No.
CONSTANS.	28
2. <i>2nd Brass.</i>	
REV. FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. Emperor in galley,	
<i>3rd Brass.</i>	
REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS. Usual type.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. Phoenix on her nest, with head in flames.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. The emperor piercing a mounted enemy.	
VICTORIAE DD. AUG. CON. N. Two Victories.	
CONSTANTIUS II. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	22
REV. GLORIA EXERCITUS. Usual type.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. The emperor piercing an enemy.	
VICTORIAE DD. AUG. CON. N. Two Victories.	
URBS ROMA. <i>3rd Brass.</i> Usual type.....	8
CONSTANTINOPOLIS. <i>3rd Brass.</i> Usual type.	17
POPULUS ROMANUS., <i>3rd Brass.</i> Usual type. <i>Very fine</i>	1
A <i>3rd Brass.</i> , having the obverse of Urbs Roma, and reverse of Constantinopolis ..	1
MAGNENTIUS.	6
1. <i>2nd Brass.</i>	
REV. VICTORIA ROMANORUM. The emperor on horseback despatching an enemy.	
<i>3rd Brass.</i>	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. Two Victories holding a shield in- scribed VOT V MVLTV X.	
Same legend. The emperor holding labarum and laurel branch.	
DECENTIUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	1
REV. Two Victories holding shield on stand inscribed VOT V MVLTV X.	
VALENTINIANUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	22
REV. SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE. Victory marching.	
GLORIA ROMANORUM. The emperor holding labarum, and dragging captive by his hair.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. The emperor spearing an enemy.	
VALENS.	23
1. <i>Silver.</i>	
REV. URBS ROMA. Roma Victrix seated.	
<i>3rd Brass.</i>	
REV. SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE. As above.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. As above.	
GLORIA ROMANORUM. As above.	
GRATIAN. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	16
REV. GLORIA NOVI SAECULI. A military figure holding the labarum in one hand, and resting the other on a buckler; in ex. T CON.	
SECURITAS REIPUBLICAE. As above.	
FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. As above.	
GLORIA ROMANORUM. As above.	
THEODOSIUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	1
REV. SALUS REIPUBLICAE.	
ARCADIUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	1
HONORIUS. <i>3rd Brass.</i>	1
<i>Indecipherable.</i>	100
BRITISH.	
<i>Base Silver.</i>	8
3. On obverse, or convex side, a rude profile; on reverse, or concave side, a three-tailed horse and symbols. Weights, 17.8, 17, and 13.4 grains. (Fig. 2.)	
5. With indescribable symbols on convex side, and a similar horse on concave side. Weights, 16.9, 16.7, 16.6, 15.5, and 13.3 grains. (Figs. 1, 4, 5.) The one weighing 16.9 grains has something like TED above the horse. (Fig. 3.)	
<i>Brass.</i>	1
Device apparently representing a flower on convex, and rude disjointed horse on concave side. Weight, 73.5 grains. (Fig. 6.)	



1.



2.



3.

Rollright Stones : Plan and Remains.



THE ROLLRIGHT STONES:

BY MR. THOMAS BEESLEY.

READ AT THE MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL, CHIPPING NORTON,

ON THE 18TH OF JULY, 1854.

IF, standing on the brow of the hill upon the slope of which this town (Chipping Norton) is built, you look in a north-westerly direction across the valley, you will see, at a distance of three miles, on the very highest point of the opposite range of hills, a small clump of fir-trees, and, circling it, a belt of old grey stones. A little to the right, another and a larger stone lifts its upper half above a hedgerow in the rear; and still further to the right, you will notice several of gigantic size thrown into a confused heap. These are the Rollright or Rollrich Stones, the subject of my paper this evening. Often as I have seen them from this spot, brought into apparent proximity by the telescope, and cut off from surrounding objects by the narrow circle of the field of view,—and as I have watched the shadows of the wind-driven clouds pass rapidly over them, bringing them out into strange and fitful contrast to the dark foliage within and around them, I have longed for a glance back into the times when these old stones were first torn from their native bed, ere the thickening gloom of centuries had gathered round them, and shrouded in mystery their original form and purpose. Some of this mystery I hope to dispel this evening, by bringing them into comparison with similar objects of ascertained form and use, and studying them by the light of their accompanying remains.

Let us now approach them, as some of us have done to-day.

An old trackway runs in a southerly direction along the ridge of the Edgehills towards Chipping Norton. Its antiquity is proved by the tumuli upon its sides; and it is said to have formed part of the boundary between the British tribes of the *Dobuni* and *Carnabii*, the former of which occupied these parts. At Otley Hill it is joined by the Banbury Lane, the ancient road leading through Tadmarton Camp and Banbury, to the Camp on Hunsborough Hill, near Northampton. Near Great Rollright it divides into two branches, one continuing the direct line towards Chipping Norton, whilst the other inclines to the west, along the edge of the oolitic escarpment, in the direction of Chastleton Camp. On this latter branch, north-east from Little Rollright, are situated the remains we are studying.

Those who for the first time visited the spot this morning, were doubtless struck by the extreme beauty of the view from this elevated site. Beneath and before us lay a great extent of country clad in the unparalleled verdure of an English summer,—not flat and tame as is so often the case in extended prospects, but broken by bold hills and gentle undulations, sprinkled with church-towers and “villages embosomed soft in trees,” and diversified by masses of dark wood in the numerous parks, or, here and there, a remnant of the primeval forest; the whole backed by the lofty Broadway, Ilmington, and Meon Hills, through a gap in which is dimly seen the serrated ridge of the Bromsgrove Lickey.

How different must the scene have been when these grey stones still bore the native hue of the quarry! Dense and sombre forests spread a monotonous gloom over the valley at our feet,—the summits of the hills rising like islands amidst the dark ocean of leaves, and the lowly huts of the aborigines marked only by thin white smoke rising slowly through the trees. The high ground about us was heathy and bare; and the trackway marked only by a few indentations of hoofs and wheels; and in the midst stood the stone circles and the earth-mounds in all their rude and solitary grandeur.

If we thus in imagination throw ourselves back upon those primitive times, and try to picture to ourselves the aspect of the country as it then existed, we shall see little reason to think that advancing civilization, whilst it has given to us greater riches and power, and all the charms and comforts of life, has diminished even the *picturesque* beauties of our land. Who would prefer the dark savagery of Salvator Rosa to the sunny beauties of Turner or of Claude!

The ancient trackway of which I was speaking divides, in this part, the counties of Oxford and Warwick. The Circle stands within a few yards of the road, on the southern or Oxfordshire side. Its diameter from north to south is 107 feet, and from east to west 104 feet. The number of stones is about 60; but many of these are almost entirely covered by the soil, and some are but fragments which have fallen from the neighbouring ones. Such I conjecture to be the origin of most of those which appear to have been set within the Circle, and which have sometimes been described as the remains of an inner one. There is a vulgar notion that owing to some charm, the stones cannot be counted; and certain it is, but easily explicable, that those who attempt it seldom agree in their estimations. There is a story that a certain curious individual, bent upon the successful accomplishment of the feat, marked the first stone by leaving his basket upon it; but on his return, he found that a certain unmentionable gentleman, or rather perhaps some one at his instigation, had spirited it away, and the poor wight lost his labour and his basket together. Regardless of the warning, a worthy officer of the Society and myself tried the experiment, leaving an umbrella upon the starting stone; but whether we counted wrongly, as I rather suspect, or our umbrella was not worth carrying off, we found it safe enough on the completion of our circuit.

There are other legends connected with the spot, which you may see in No. 168 of "Notes and Queries."

At present 28 stones only rise more than a foot above the soil, and of these but 10 exceed 4 feet in height. The highest, marked (*a*) in the plan, is 7 feet 4 inches in height, and 3 feet 2 inches in breadth. The average thickness of

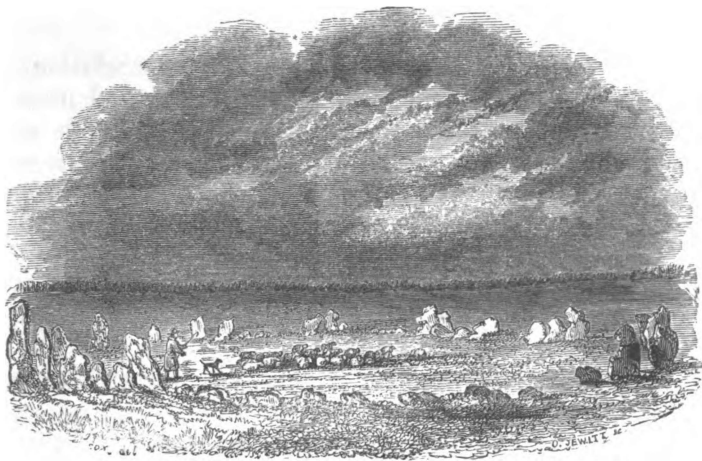
the stones is about 15 inches. Their shapes, relative size, and general arrangement, will be best understood from the little perspective view and ground plan. There is every appearance of their having once formed a continuous wall.

On the north or Warwickshire side of the road, 83 yards distant from the Circle in a north-easterly direction (*b-b*), is a single upright stone called the King's Stone, now 8 feet 6 inches in height, and 5 feet 3 inches in breadth. Many years ago, another single stone stood on a bank or mound, 141 yards west of the Circle (*d-d*).

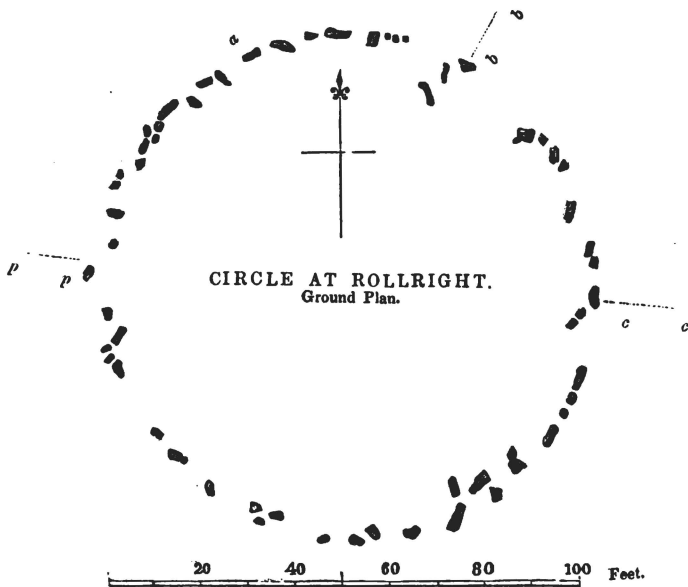
Returning to the Oxfordshire side, we find at a distance of 390 yards nearly due east of the Circle, five large stones standing together and leaning towards each other with an opening to the west. The largest is 10 feet 10 inches in height. They are usually called the Five Knights. The view and ground plan will give a better notion of them than any verbal description.

There can be no doubt that the stones have diminished greatly from the effect, not only of time, but of wanton depredation, within a comparatively recent period. More than a century ago, Dr. Stukeley wrote—"There is a tradition that a farmer once carried away one of the large stones to make a bridge, but that experiencing remorse he brought it back again." The story amongst the villagers is, that it would not lie quiet where it was laid; and that a *single* horse easily drew it back again up the hill, whilst *many* had hardly been able to draw it down. The engraving in Camden's "Britannia," published in 1607, has been referred to as giving a faithful representation of them in a less imperfect state: but an inspection of it will hardly confirm this opinion.

In mineralogical character, the stones exactly agree with the oolitic boulders which are scattered about the neighbourhood, although here as elsewhere is a notion that they have been brought from a distance. To their calcareous nature and loose structure, their great degradation, and grotesque, weather-worn forms are in a great measure owing. Dr. Stukeley long ago described them as being "corroded like worm-eaten wood by the harsh jaws of time, and that much more than Stonehenge." Whilst the



ROLLRIGHT STONES. W.



latter, formed of a fine compact sandstone, have weathered unscathed the storms of centuries, every rain-drop that has fallen upon those of Rollright has dissolved away some portion of their substance, until they have been drilled, and excavated, and rounded, into the strange forms under which we now see them

“Tardily sinking by their proper weight
Deep into patient earth from whose smooth breast they came.”

Stukeley describes tumuli about the stones—one, in particular, which he calls a Druid's Barrow, close to the King's Stone, measuring 60 feet by 20, and flat on the top: but his barrows, even at the time, were suspected to be mere heaps of rubbish from stone-pits. I have little doubt that tumuli once existed; but the ground has been so disturbed that none can now be recognized.

The earliest notice of these remains, that I know of, occurs in one of those strange collections of wonders, entitled “*De Mirabilibus Britanniae*,” which date from a very early period, and which appear to have been often added to by succeeding copyists. The one in question was printed by Hearne in the appendix to “*Robert of Gloucester*;” and the notice respecting Rollright is the last in the series. It is as follows:—“*Sunt magni lapides in Oxenfordiensi pago, manu hominum quasi sub quadam connexionione dispositi, set a quo tempore, vel a qua gente, vel ad quid memorandum vel signandum factum fuerit, ignoratur. Ab incolis autem vocatur locus ille, Rollendrych.*” (There are great stones in Oxfordshire seemingly placed by the hand of man in a certain connected order, but at what time it was done, or by what people, or what it was intended to record or signify, is not known. By the people there, the place is called Rollendrych.) It is said that in a manuscript in the library of Bene't College, Cambridge, ascribed, no doubt falsely, to Bede, it is called the second wonder of the kingdom. The extract, probably dating back 500 or 600 years, which I have just read, is important as showing, that even then there was nothing in the appearance of the remains to indicate their original purpose.

The next reference occurs in Camden's “*Britannia*,” where

they are called—" an ancient monument, a number of huge stones placed in a circle, called by the vulgar, Rollrich Stones, and fancied to have been once men, changed by a strange metamorphosis into stones. They are shapeless, unequal, and by length of time much eaten and consumed. The highest of them, standing out of the circle and facing the east, is called the King, because they fancy if that had once seen Long Compton, it would have been King of England. Five others adjoining are said to have been Knights, and the rest common soldiers. I am apt to think it a memorial of some victory, perhaps erected by Rollo, who afterwards obtained the sovereignty of Normandy."

We have here the first mention of the well-known legend, applied, *mutatis mutandis*, to other similar remains, which has given rise to the couplet —

" If Long Compton I can see,
King of England I shall be."

The presumption that it was erected by the Viking Rollo or Rolf, the conqueror of Normandy, evidently rests upon similarity of name alone. The whole character of the monument, and what is known of the relics found about similar structures, directly contradict the supposed origin and object. It is, however, not at all unlikely that the name Rollrich or Rollendrych, is derived from some Saxon or Danish proprietor, named Rolf or Roland, thus Rolf's or Roland's *ric*, country, or estate. Upon this supposition, the name would have no direct reference to the monument.

Sir Thomas Browne, in his "Urn-burial," when speaking of the Danes and Norwegians, says—" Nor were they confused or careless in disposing of the nobler sort, while they placed large stones in circle about the urns or bodies which they interred, somewhat answerable unto the monument of Rollrich Stones in England, or sepulchral monument probably erected by Rollo, who after conquered Normandy; where it is not improbable somewhat might be discovered."

Dr. Plot, in his "Natural History of Oxfordshire," treats at some length of this piece of antiquity. He considers it a place erected by the Northmen, for the election and inauguration of a king; and cites Olaus Wormius and Saxo

Grammaticus to show that circles of stone were sometimes used by the Scandinavians for such a purpose. But Plot, and perhaps his authorities, did not know that the circles were of much more ancient date than the practice; and were probably chosen as remarkable and well-known objects.

Dr. Stukeley proved to his own satisfaction that the measures of this and similar circles were all referable to the Phœnician cubit; and that consequently they were temples of the Druids, whom he looked upon as the direct descendants of the Phœnician priests of Baal or the sun. The Cromlech was the sepulchre of an Arch-Druid; the King's Stone, the remains of an avenue of approach. In the present case he had an additional argument. By means of that peculiar species of etymological torture which antiquaries are so much in the habit of applying, and through which, like the inquisitors and Crown lawyers of the good old times, they can generally obtain what confession they please, he showed that *Rollrich* is derived from *Rholdrwyg*, the *Wheel* or *Circle of the Druids*, or from *Roilig*, old Irish for the *Church* or *Temple of the Druids*. Such was the authority of this clever but extravagant enthusiast, that his opinion was almost universally adopted; and modifications of it, some of them still more preposterous, hold their ground even to the present day. The Circle is variously described as the temple devoted to the worship of the sun, of the sun and serpent, or of the sun and Noah's Ark, that helio-arkite superstition to which we are informed the Druids were particularly addicted. The Cromlech was the altar of sacrifice; and although a few, with their master, looked upon it as a cistvaen or sepulchral chamber, they generally made amends by transferring the former title to the King's Stone—an absurdity, if possible, still greater.* As

* "Is it not (the name *Rollrich*) a term compounded by the Saxons in reference to the ancient appropriation of the structure? and does not *Rollrich* imply, *Rhol*, the circle or circular temple, *Ric*, of the region or kingdom? It must not be forgotten that a detached rude obelical stone is called the King's Stone to this day. This stone was surely the altar; the five stones, called the Five Knights, a sepulchral cromlech." —Review of "Beesley's History of Banbury," in *Gentleman's Magazine*, January, 1841.

Those who hold the opinion that the Circle was an astronomical observatory of the Druids, and that the King's Stone marked the position of the sun when rising at the summer solstice, as seen from its centre, may be reminded, that whilst the stone stands 30° east of the north point the extreme northern position of the sun in this latitude is 49° 30' from the north

a proof of the prevalence of some shade or other of this hypothesis, I may mention, that such rude stone monuments, with many others that are merely the handiwork of nature, are, in ordinary language, almost universally called *Druidical* stones to this day.

Yet, notwithstanding all this, I think I am fully justified in telling you, that in the whole collection of notices respecting the Druids and their worship, which have come down to us, there is not one word which in any way countenances this opinion: on the contrary, they are by implication opposed to it; for in speaking of the seats of the *Druidical* rites, they describe them as being amongst the lofty trees and hidden recesses of the forest—

“ ————— nemora alta remotis
Incolitis lucis,” (Lucan.)

whilst the stone circles and cromlechs are usually, and manifestly in the present case, situated on elevated and exposed places, rising lone and bare above the primeval forest, and in the immediate neighbourhood of a principal road.

But it is hardly necessary to criticize more at length this very untenable opinion. I shall, therefore, with your permission, proceed to develop the theory which is now admitted by all archæologists who have carefully compared our British monuments with their analogues in other countries, or have looked at them by the light of the remains found about them; and endeavour to apply it to the case before us. When thus studied their purpose becomes so obvious, that I should have hesitated to appear before you this evening to explain it, had I not found that within the narrow circle of my own archæological acquaintance, the old leaven of *Druidism* still leaveneth the lump. Instances will at once occur to those who have attended the *Archæological Meetings* at *Banbury*.

Erections of stone similar to those of *Rollright* are not confined to *England*. They occur in *Scotland*, *Ireland*, the *Channel Islands*, *France*, *Spain*, *Portugal*, *Holland*, *North Germany*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and *Norway*,—countries, many of them at least, never suspected to have been the

seats of Druidism. In their most complete or typical form, they consist of a tumulus or mound of earth surrounded by a circular wall of upright slabs of stone. Completely buried in the mound is a large chamber, the walls formed of four or more upright slabs, the roof of a single large stone resting upon the side walls, and covering the whole chamber. On the floor are usually found urns, the larger ones containing burnt bones and ashes; and with these, often arranged in some order, occur the bones, teeth, or horns of oxen, deer, horses, pigs, hares, rabbits, and birds,—bone instruments, celts or axe-heads of stone, and arrow-heads of flint. Unburnt human skeletons are sometimes found, (Cromlech at L'Ancrese in Guernsey.)

These chambers appear to have been the vaults of particular families or tribes; and when in process of time the central one became filled, others were added, until in some instances, the exterior of the mound was reached. A remarkable instance of this sort occurred in the Cromlech du Tûs, in Guernsey. The usual deposits were found in the larger chambers; but in the smallest and evidently most recent one, two skeletons kneeling side by side were discovered.

Such was the typical form; but there were many varieties dictated by caprice, by the nature of the materials at hand, or by other causes now hopeless to discover. Sometimes the stone circle was wanting; at others it surrounded a tumulus which had no chamber, the urns or bodies having been deposited at once in the earth. But still greater variations have been produced by the effects of time, and by the hand of man. The light earth of the tumulus has been washed down or carried away, until the cromlech has been partially or wholly exposed, and, deprived of its support, has fallen into a confused heap. Stones have been carried off; and to the antiquary more annoying than all, the sepulchral deposits have been removed, often centuries ago, by treasure-seekers. A thousand years ago the piratical Northmen were accused of opening tumuli, evidently for other objects than the study of antiquity; and in the middle ages, the Sovereigns granted licenses for this purpose. There is still extant on the Patent Roll of the

17 Edward II. a permission to Robert Beaupele, "dilectum et fidelem nostrum," to search six barrows and some other places in Devonshire for hidden treasure.

If we now study the stones of Rollright by the help of the description I have just given, we shall have little difficulty in recognizing in the Circle the boundary wall of a large tumulus or grave-hill, the light earth of which has centuries ago been levelled by the winds and the rains of this exposed spot,* or possibly carted away by the farmer to spread upon his thin-soiled fields. Whether a cromlech existed in the centre or not, it is now impossible to determine. The appearance of stones set within the Circle may, at first sight, induce us to think that a series of chambers had reached the wall in these parts: but this is hardly likely. The Five Knights are clearly the remains of a sepulchral chamber, once inclosed in a tumulus, but without boundary stones. Stukeley describes them as standing on a round tumulus. The single stones marked the site of interments; and were most likely erected upon or at the end of tumuli, like our modern gravestones.

It may be objected, that if the purpose of the stones were sepulchral, some traces of interments would still remain. We are told that in the 17th century, Ralph Sheldon, Esquire, of Weston, caused the area of the Circle to be dug to a considerable depth without finding any remains. But Mr. Sheldon, like most of the antiquaries of his day, probably made his observations carelessly; or, with great expectations, he might hardly notice the little bits of burnt bone, or the fragments of pottery or chipped flint, which would now be carefully sifted from the soil by the judicious explorer. We must remember, too, that the remains were interred above the level of the present soil; and had very likely been previously removed by some

* That the great circle of stones in Derbyshire, called Arbor Low, the area of which is now level like that of Rollright, must once have had a different form, is evident from the word *low*, the Anglo-Saxon word for tumulus.—Wright's "Celt, Roman, and Saxon."—Again, a similar object in Cornwall has a Celtic name meaning the *old men's graves*. Very lately, interments both in urns and cists have been discovered within a small stone circle at Tynrich, in Scotland.

The Buddhist *Topes* of India are nothing more than sepulchral chambered tumuli, built of stone in an artistic manner. They are often surrounded by a stone railing or circle of the Stonehenge type.

ancient barrow-digger. It is by no means unlikely that under the Cromlech something may yet be found: I believe fragments of pottery have been extracted from below it. At any rate, under the precisely similar one at Enstone, known as the Enstone Stones, Sir Henry Dryden and Mr. Lukis found fragments of pottery, and the bones of deer, cows, pigs, hares or rabbits, and birds.

But if nothing of a decidedly sepulchral character has yet been found below or within the stones, it has not been wanting in their neighbourhood. About 200 yards east from the King's Stone, on the same side of the road, and near the gate of the next field, many remains of this sort have been discovered. There is a bank here running north and south; the upper layers of stone have been removed; and the soil, which is of a slightly darker colour than that around, covers many bones of men and horses. Burnt stones, and a very few fragments of pottery, are scattered about. East of this, about twelve skeletons were found not long ago,—the head of the one particularly noticed, pointing to the west. In the year 1836, an urn of black clay, 6 inches high and broad, and evidently made by hand alone, was dug up here (*fig.*) It contained bits of burnt bone and ashes, and what the labourers called the blade of an old razor, but probably an Anglo-Saxon knife. This "sad and sepulchral pitcher," as old Sir Thomas Browne would have called it, has, by the kindness of Mr. Murton, of Weston Park Farm, into whose hands it has fallen, been brought here to-day, together with some other remains which I shall presently describe, found at the same time and place; and I take this opportunity of expressing to him my best thanks, and those of the Society with which I have the honour to be connected,—and I think I may venture to add, those of this meeting also,—for the liberality he has shown to us.

The other remains are:—A bronze ring fibula, or brooch, rather more than an inch in diameter, the pin being gone (*fig.*) It lay upon the angle of the jaw of one of the skeletons, and had stained it green. From its position, it probably fastened the cloak over the shoulder. A ring of the same size as the fibula; and seven beads of glass (*fig.*)

Three of these beads are about the size of peas, and of a blue colour; another about the same size is flat, and of a red colour; the other three are of opaque white glass with a very faint tinge of green, and of the size of ordinary marbles: one has four little projecting spots of red upon it; the other two are ornamented with rudely cut diagonally crossing grooves. The labourers say that round flattish pieces of brass, slightly hollowed, have been found. These are, perhaps, the common dish-shaped fibulæ. Skeletons have also been found on the other side of the road, towards the Five Knights.*

We see, then, that both analogy and observation point to the exclusively sepulchral character of the remains at Rollright; and their extent would seem to mark the spot as the necropolis of a considerable district.

There is, however, a supplementary question to which it is not so easy to supply a satisfactory answer—At what date and by what people were these stones erected? It is the commonly received opinion amongst archaeologists, that monuments of this sort are to be attributed to the Celts, who, more than 2000 years ago, are believed to have inhabited the countries where such are now found; and who, at any rate, in the time of Julius Cæsar, possessed the greater part of this island. But there is some evidence to show that they were at least *used* in later times. Sir Henry Dryden considers the fragments of pottery from Enstone as decidedly Roman; and I have little hesitation in classing the urn and beads, found at Rollright, as Anglo-Saxon. On the whole, the likeliest opinion seems to be, that the spot was occupied as a place of sepulture from the Celtic or ancient British times, 2000 years ago, to that of the Pagan Saxons,—the stone-works having been erected in the former period. But a positive answer can only be given when the remains still buried in the soil shall have been exhumed and studied. In the

* A few weeks before this paper was read, a skeleton was found near the western hedge of the field east of the Five Knights, and not far from the road. It lay with its head to the west; and by the side of it was a large stone, 10 feet in length, lying on its edge. Roman coins are occasionally found. One of *Constantinus magnus*, 3rd brass, with the common reverse, "*Soli invicto comiti*," in very fair condition, was shown to us.

labours of the quarry, in the operations of agriculture, how many objects must have been found which, if we now possessed them, would throw the clearest light upon the history of our subject. Let us hope that a better day is dawning; that archæologists in the neighbourhood, men of common sense, may direct their attention to the spot, and secure the preservation of the objects that the spade or the plough may by chance turn up, or, may I hopefully say, which excavations undertaken for discovery, may bring to light. Should the imperfect essay I have just read, contribute in any way to so desirable a result, it will add to the pleasure I have derived from your kind attention this evening; and looking to the interests of archæology, as well as to my own personal feelings, I would say with the poet,

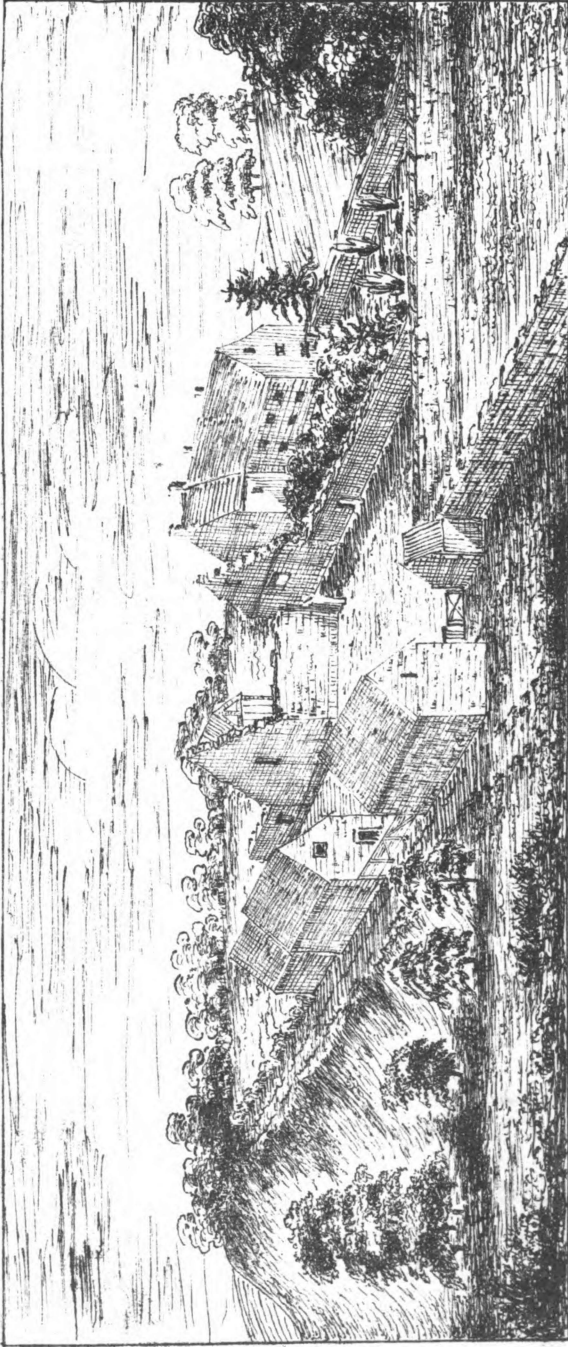
“ Hunc . . . diem numera meliore lapillo.”



THE FIVE KNIGHTS.

Ground Plan





SOUTH WEST PROSPECT OF COLD NORTON PRIORY
AS TAKEN IN 1729 BY SVT. BUCK - H.



COLD NORTON PRIORY:

A PAPER,

READ BY MR. W. WING, OF STEEPLE ASTON,

AT THE MEETING AT THE TOWN HALL, CHIPPING NORTON,
ON THE 18TH OF JULY, 1854.

THE Religious Houses of the Middle Ages appear to me to have done much good service. They fostered the germs of Divine truth. They guarded safely, and handed down carefully, the Holy Scriptures. They cultivated the arts of life, the learning of Greece and Rome, and the theology of the earlier Church. They were also the Agricultural Societies of the time. One of them in this neighbourhood—useful while existent—proved, in suppression, an organ of further benefit. It rose again, Phoenix-like, in the excellence and beauty of Brasenose College.

The remains of the Priory to which I refer, (that of Cold Norton), were more easily ascertained some years since than they are now. Ascertained they were in the year 1729, and sketched by S. and W. Buck (see Plate). Since then they have disappeared, the neighbouring farm-house still standing. It is by comparing what stands with the representation in the plate, that we are enabled to fix the site. The site in question is not that of Chapel House, as Skelton and I at one time, years ago, thought; but that of the Priory Farm, as the late Mr. Alfred Beesley* ascertained, and pointed out. It is situated, according to his description, "half a mile east from Chapel House and one mile and a half from Chipping Norton. It is marked in the Ordnance Map E.N.E. of Chipping Norton and near one of the sources of the small river Glyme, which flows south-eastward towards its confluence with the Evenlode.

* See letter of Mr. Alfred Beesley, in *Gentleman's Magazine*, dated Sept. 25, 1845.

One mile and a quarter north from Priory Farm is the Priory Mill, a small building still used as a mill, and known as having been formerly part of the possessions of the Prior and Canons of Cold Norton. This mill stands upon the infant stream of the river Swere, which rises at a short distance southward of it, and after passing the mill turns eastward on its course to the Cherwell. There are yet traces, near the Priory Farm Homestead, of fish-ponds and half-levelled mounds" (see Plate). I may add, that very lately a tile and stone were dug up, close to the farm-house; the former very rude and defaced, the latter proving a fragment of the foliations of a window. Both appear to belong to a period known in architecture as the Decorated, and to the latter, or flowing, rather than to the former, or geometrical, half of the same.

The Priory was founded in the reign of King Henry the Second, (about 1170,) by William Fitzalan, "to the honor of God, S. Mary, S. John the Evangelist, and S. Giles." A regular establishment seems at once to have been formed. The title of the Prior and Canons was, in 1201, confirmed by Charter from Reginald Dammartin, Earl of Boulogne. This Charter speaks of the "*House and Canons*," not the Prior and Canons. It speaks also of the Manor and Manor House, and 348½ acres of land, given to the House and Canons by the ancestors of the Earl, for the benefit of their souls. It reserves the right of appointing the Prior. It may be, that Reginald enforced this Charter upon the community, in order to establish his asserted right to the advowson, or privilege of appointing the Prior. This Charter, with the concessions of many other benefactors, was confirmed at Woodstock by King Henry the Third, in the thirteenth year of his reign.

The Priory grew rich from other important grants. One Richard de Abberbury (Adderbury), who had, in 1339, been presented to the living of Finimere, by the Abbot and Convent of S. Augustine at Bristol, granted, in 1362, to Robert, by Divine permission, Prior of Cold Norton, four acres of land in Steeple Aston, and the advowson of the parish Church. Thomas de Abberbury, lord of Steepleaston, at the same time granted, or joined

in the grant. The Institution at Cold Norton, in return, engaged to find four Canons, to pray for the soul of Thomas Abberbury, clerk. A Patent-roll of the same date, "pro ecclesia de Stepleaston approprianda," is extant, though the benefice was not actually appropriated till the 25th of May, 1377. This delay of thirteen years may, perhaps, be accounted for from the necessity of awaiting the avoidance of the living, occurring on the death of the Incumbent, William de Tuite (Tew). One of the Canons of Cold Norton, or else a secular priest, subsequently officiated as Curate in this Incumbency of Steeple Aston. The old books of Institutions to Church livings, in the Registry of the diocese of Lincoln (anciently comprising the County of Oxford), have been searched from the year 1280 to 1549. They do not clear up the difficulty. They do not give us any institution to the living in question.

A general Chapter of the Order of S. Augustine was held in the summer of 1345, at Leicester. Among its prelates, and the governors of its religious houses within this county, we find, the Abbot of Oseney, the Prior of Brideswide, the Prior of Bicester, and the Prior of Colde Norton. One of the last recorded acts of this Society appears to have been that of 1476, when John Staunton, Prior of Cold Norton, and the Convent, granted a lease of Stepelaston, with manse of the Rectory for £13 per annum. He was succeeded by John Wotton, the last Prior, who died on the Sunday before Palm Sunday, in 1496. The vacancy in the headship of the House was not filled up. The Crown, in all probability, withheld its licence to elect, and did so on the allegation of no *professed* Canon existing at Wotton's death.* But, whether there were professed Canons or not, at the death of Wotton, the Priory without Prior existed during eleven years. Then, if not previously, a plausible reason was found for the suppression—"want of Canons to elect a new Prior."

Hugh Croft, being seized of the patronage or advowson of the Priory, (a right reserved, at the foundation of the House, by Reginald Dammartin, if not by William Fitz-

* The Nunnery of Davington, near Faversham, Kent, similarly escheated to the Crown before the general dissolution.

alan,) executed, most probably, a quit claim upon compulsion. He was of the Croft family resident at Sutton-under-Brailes; once (says Leland) lords of Chipping Norton. An altar tomb, in its Church, makes mention of Richard Croft, who died October 3rd, 1502.

An Inquisition, on the 22nd of April, 1507, was held at Dorchester, Oxfordshire, before William Yong, escheator. It recites the death of John Wotton, the late Prior, and enumerates the possessions of the Priory. The lands, worth £50 per annum, were at once seized by the Crown as an escheat. They were, in the next year, *given* to the Convent of S. Stephen, Westminster. But (as Archdeacon Churton observes) "what Henry gave in '*free, pure, and perpetual alms,*' as the phrase ran, was not always gratuitous; for it appears by two acquittances, one of them under his Majesty's own hand, that he received, for his benefaction, the sum of 700 marks" (£233 6s. 8d.) The Convent of S. Stephen, not over fondly attached to their new acquaintance, sold it, soon after, to William Smyth, Bishop of Lincoln, one of the co-founders of Brasenose College, for 1150 marks (£383 6s. 8d.) This sale was effected in order to terminate disputes that had arisen, notwithstanding the grant by Royal Patent.

The Bishop of Lincoln, made owner of the Priory of Cold Norton, presented it with its manors, estates, and advowsons in Oxfordshire and Northamptonshire, to Brasenose College. His splendid gift continues the property of that Society.

Without ceasing to deplore the fate of Cold Norton Priory, and the injustice inflicted on the tenants of its lands, in 1507, or to execrate the avarice of King Henry the Seventh, I venture to state that, in my judgment, the change effected in his reign was for the best. Had it been effected later, (in the reign, for instance, of his son and successor,) inconvenience or injury might have occurred, such as did occur in this very neighbourhood. The parish of Steeple Barton, on the suppression of the Augustine Priory at Oseney by Henry the Eighth, lost its great tithes and resident Incumbent. Its present Vicar is the first, since the Reformation, to live among his people—resuscitating, in himself, the use of Oseney, as Brasenose College, in itself, and most bravely, that of Cold Norton Priory.

THE FOLLOWING NOTES AND ACCOMPANYING ILLUSTRATIONS
ARE CONTRIBUTED BY THE REV. PH. HOOKINS.

Derivations of Chipping and Over. There are four places in this neighbourhood bearing the name of Norton, and distinguished, the one from the other, by the prefixes—Chipping, Over, Hook, and Cold. The first and second refer us, the former to its market, the latter to its locality, and are, say the etymologists, easily disposed of; the third and fourth concealing more closely their meaning, if meaning they possess, challenge from us a few guesses.

Derivation of Hook. It is spelt, according to the authorities quoted by the Historian of Banbury, in many ways. Hocnera-tune (*Saxon Chronicle*), Hokenertune (*Florence of Worcester*), Hocheneretune (*Henry of Huntingdon*), Hochemeretune (*Brompton's Chronicle*), Hogenorte (*Robert of Gloucester*), Hoehenartone (*Domesday Survey*), Hognorthon (*Charter, Henry III.*), Hokenorton (*Calend Rot. Chart*), Hoggenorton (*Charter, Henry VI.*), Hokenorton (*Conveyance, Edward VI.*) These we may throw into five classes—setting in the first, Hocnera-tune, Hokenertune, Hocheneretune, Hochemeretune, and Hogenorte; in the second, Hoehenartone; in the third, Hognorthon and Hokenorton; in the fourth, Hoggenorton; and in the fifth, Hokenorton. We find that the prefix, in the year 914 or thereabouts, was, Hoc, Hoke, Hoch, Hoche, or Hoge; in the Conqueror's time, Hoche; in the later times of Henry III. and Edward I., Hog and Hoke; in the reign of Henry VI., Hogge; and in that of Edward VI., Hoke. We cannot but observe the tendency downward and struggle upward of the name. It approached through Hoc, Hoke, Hoch, Hoche, and Hoge—the term into which it afterwards degenerated. It then rose and asserted its original dignity in Hoche. It afterwards fell and grovelled in Hoke and Hog. It grunted, grubbed, gormandized. It again struggled upward, in a change which minds us of our Greek Grammar—ὄγχι, ἠγχι, τὸγχι. It was known affectionately and patronizingly as Hoggé. It last of all, in a fit, perhaps, of ill humour, threw aside all that could mind the world of pigs and affection, and announced itself to be Hoke. Why it did not then rest satisfied, I know not; I only know that it now calls itself Hook.

I have sought information from others on this interesting subject, stating my own notion to have been, that Hook in this instance derived from, or was a corruption of Hoke or Hock, and that such opinion was grounded, as might be seen in the old spelling of the name. I also suggested that the original prefixes might have been taken from the names of days commemorative of the great slaughter of the Danes in the year 1002, when the women enacted a part reminding us of Amazonians, or rather of female "Hogs" defending their little darling piggies. (I use this collocation of words in deference to a worthy she Wesleyan of my neighbour-

hood, who, on one occasion, blushing told me of the wickedness of a certain male cow.) They might also commemorate the final extinction of Danish power in 1042. I added that on Hoke-day or Hock Tuesday, in some counties, women still stop passengers with ropes, and exact money to spend in conviviality; and that leases, reserving rent payable ad duos anni terminos, scil: ad le Hoke-day et ad festum Sancti Michaelis, are spoken to. I begged of one, who is very able in these matters, and who is a Fellow of S. Mary Magdalen College, Oxford, to let me know whether, in the accounts of his College, there is (as I have read) yearly an allowance pro mulieribus, Hockantibus of some manors of theirs, in Hampshire, where the men hock the women on Mondays, and the women hock the men on Tuesdays. I also wrote to the worthy Incumbent of Hook Norton, requesting him to say whether the men of his parish hocked the women, and vice versa, on legitimate days and in orthodox manner; "and if not," as lawyers inquire, "why not."

The answer of the former was to the effect, that he had looked carefully through Brand, Camden, and Grose, for the interpretation of Hoke, or Hook, or Hock Norton. "My own impression," he adds, "is that (a battle between the Danes and Saxons having been fought there) the name probably arose from the Icelandic Hogg, signifying cædes; but being thoroughly diffident of my own opinion, I have written to a learned Anglo-Saxon scholar, and will forward his opinion when received. We have in this College two customs connected with the word, though apparently in the German sense of Hocken, i.e., to bind. The mode of arranging our Fellowship divisions into classes of six each, is called arranging by Hoggs; so many being bound up, as it were, in one class. The other custom has evidently reference to the Hocktide custom of stopping or binding persons after Easter. At Stockbridge, in Hampshire, I have been more than once on a Bursarial Progress; and when our carriage arrived at the Bridge, a young girl suddenly appeared from some neighbouring house and presented the Bursar with ale, cake, and apples, which we stopped to partake of: a fee was given her in return, and the carriage passed on."

The interesting letter of the latter informant I give at full length. It is dated Hook Norton Parsonage, February 6, 1856, and signed—John Richard Rushton. "I have made inquiries as to the existence in this place of the custom you refer to in your note, but can discover no traces of it whatever. In my boyhood a custom was in full force in the county town of Westmoreland, where I was brought up; that on St. Stephen's Day (called, from the practice, Stanging-day) a large party of men went about with a "stang" (or piece of wood like the shaft of a cart, for which the Westmoreland name is Stang), and hoisted upon it astride every man they met with—gentleman or common fellow—and carried him on their shoulders to the nearest public-house, where he was compelled to treat them for their kindness in giving him his not very comfortable ride. At the same time, another party went about with a large swill or basket, in which they conveyed as many females as they met to the same place. The privilege expired at 12 o'clock at noon. The major part of the victims used to fork out some money as soon as they fell into

the hands of the Philistines, and dispensed with the equitation. This little bit of Saturnalia was in full force when I left the North, and it was a white day in regard to fun for us boys who used to join in the chase of the flying subjects for the Stang with infinite gusto. I believe some check has recently been given to the custom—the law having been appealed to by some people who did not choose either to pay black mail or ride astride of a stick. The above has nothing to do with the “Hock” you inquire about; but your inquiry brought the Stanging-day of my boyhood to my recollection, and, as Secretary of an Archæological Society, you may not be unwilling to hear of such a relic of the yule of olden times. I repeat that I can discover no traces at Hook Norton of the custom to which your inquiry refers.”

I am very glad to subjoin the opinion of the Rev. Dr. White, to whom Dr. Bloxam (whose name I am permitted to use) refers.

“ Rectory, Slymbridge, Stonehouse,
Gloucestershire, April 4th, 1856.

“ Dear Sir,

“ For many reasons, of which a variation in spelling is not the least important, the etymology of local names is often merely conjectural. I take the etymology of Hook in Hooknorton to be of this number. It may be a corruption from some name now lost, or as little discoverable in its present form as Sawbridgeworth is in Sapporth, or Halesworth in Holser. Even if we identify Hooknorton in Oxfordshire and not Hockerton in Nottinghamshire with the Hocnera-tun of the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, I should still doubt its connexion with “Högg, Icelandic, cædes,” as it is scarcely probable that the Anglo-Saxons should perpetuate the memory of a defeat by adopting a name from the language of their enemy. The German verb, *hocken*, to bind, does not seem to throw light on the subject, although I readily admit the aptness of my friend Dr. Bloxam’s suggestion that this verb may serve to explain both the entry “pro mulieribus hocantibus” as found in the Bursarial records at Magdalen College, Oxford, and also the term *Hogs* as applied in the sense quoted from Dr. Bloxam’s letter. We do not appear to have any word now in use as allied to *hocken*, unless it be the substantive *shock*, when used to designate a range or pile of corn-stalks bound into sheaves, the word *hocke* bearing the same meaning in German, and hence apparently transferred to our tongue with the sibilant letter as an initial. Another example of this process occurs to me in “scar” as found in the name Scarborough, from carr, carrock, a rock; O. Nor. skér; Dan. skær. I should doubt also the admissibility of Hog, *porcus*, as aiding us in discovering the origin of “Hook;” *hog* or *hock* being the British, and not the Anglo-Saxon form for the Greek *ἵς*, a sow. It is indeed possible that *hwch* may have been the British term for the locality, and that the Anglo-Saxons finding it there, may have added their own word *tun*, when they occupied it. If connected at all with Hog, *porcus*, it may be through another channel, as we may take Hog with the hard *g* as a corruption of Hok, the old form for oak, the fruit of which tree, as well as of the beech, under the name of mast, was, we know, a favourite food of swine.

The belief in such an origin of the name, whether from Hog or Hok, was no doubt sufficiently strong to give rise to the proverb, spoken of a clown used to good society—"I think thou wast born at Hogsnorton where piggs play upon the organs:" v. Howell's "English Proverbs," p. 56, quoted in Halliwell's "Archæological Dictionary," ad v. Hogs Norton. I do not forget also that there is a parish or hamlet, I believe in Dorsetshire, called Toller porcorum, so named, I suppose, from the swine kept there in the olden time. Notwithstanding such evidence, I still doubt whether we must not look elsewhere for the derivation of the word Hook. I do not know whether we ought to lay any stress on the occurrence of Hoke as a proper name in Beowulf, where we find, at l. 2146, Hoke's daughter lamenting the death of her sons. Can we connect the word with Hoker, mocking, or Hoke, an old English verb, to play? Or rather, may not the situation of the village, which I believe is built on a hill, determine the source of the name? Halliwell, in his 'Archæological Dictionary,' gives *hoh* as an Anglo-Saxon word, meaning *high*; but he quotes no authority. It is found in that sense in the High-German dialect of Otfred (A.D. 840-870), and in the Old English of Havelok the Dane.* We also find, 'by hurstes and by hoes'—by *woods* and by *hills*, in the 'Anturs of Arther,' st. 5, v. 5. The Normans might have softened a guttural *h* into *ch*, as was their custom with other letters, and hence the form Hoche in the "Doomsday Survey." In the time of Henry III. and later, the hard *g* might have prevailed, and to Hog and Hoke its connexion with the animal may hence be traced. I will add, that if the situation suggested the name originally, it would find a numerous fraternity of places on the Continent, where, in Germany especially, the prefix "Hohen" is of frequent occurrence. With these conjectures and queries, I must leave, I fear, the origin of the name, as it is, still *sub judice*. At the same time, if you think there is nothing unreasonable in my remarks, I beg you will use them, either *in extenso* or abridged.

"In a note which, since writing the above, I have received from Mr. B. Thorpe, he asks, in reference to this subject, 'whether there may not be two words, one composed of *Hook* and *Norton*, the other of *Hocnera* and *tún*? If so, the former might have been originally so called from its locality, like Overnorton. The latter is, I have no doubt, composed of the genitive plural, *hocnera*, from an apparently lost nominative, *hocnere*, synonymous probably with the Netherlandish *hoecker*, Dan. *høker*, *huckster*. I conclude, from analogy with Old English and from other dialects, that *hoh* means *high*, though not aware of its occurrence in that sense in Anglo-Saxon.' I am happy in having Mr. Thorpe's permission to send you the above extract from his note.

"I am, dear Sir,

"Yours very faithfully,

"R. M. WHITE.

"P.S.—May I be allowed to doubt whether, as the slaughter of the Danes, to which you allude, took place in 1002, and the defeat at

* "For the hoh milce (*pity*) of you,
Have merci of me, Loverd, now!"

Hav. 1361.

Hocneratun is given in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle as occurring in 917, the name of the place would have connexion with the massacre.

“ To the Rev. Philip Hookins, Milcombe.”

Derivation of Cold. I have also made some inquiries respecting the origin of the epithet Cold. Some, I find, suppose it a prefix of the word Harbour, and others very ingeniously derive it from Coluber. The places, say they, bearing the name Cold were situated on or near the old Roman roads—not only in the occasional and forced deviations of the main viaria, but also in those which were made for forming diverticulæ, or cross communications. They add that, as the windings of the road reminded the makers of them—the McAdams of the time—of the tortuosities of the snake, so the name of Coluber passed to the place built upon or near them. Others following in this supposition show that Serpentine Green, about a mile and a half north of Yaxley, was once Cold Harbour Green. Others also remind us of the *an dit* contained in the immemorial folk verses—

“ Some say the Devil's dead,
And buried in Cold Harbour.”

We, in conclusion, may perhaps be allowed to suggest the propriety of ascertaining, at Serpentine Green, whether there is a smell of sulphur in the neighbourhood.

Another theory finds a derivation in Kohle (carbo), but unfortunately does not find any coal;—and another in the signification of exposure from loftiness of position;—and, with equal bad luck, finds the places thus named, very often, very low—as low, indeed, as the marshes near Kingston-upon-Hull and the valley of the Thames.

Nor do all the guesses, whose name is legion, end here. One suggests from the Anglo-Saxon *Cól* that the entire expression (Cold Harbour) designated a cool summer residence by a river's side or an eminence. Another deriving from Cul-arbhar, pronounced Col-arvar, shows that the places so named were places of safety for grain. Another deriving from the Celtic elaborately proves “ that the first syllable is from *Clo*, cocked or shut in. *Llai* is less from *le-is* or *es*, the lower place. *Ber*, the final particle *er*, water, to which the letter *b*, signifying life, motion, &c., being prefixed, makes *ber* spring water: thus hypothetically rendering, for an explanation of the syllabic combination, what it certainly is geographically, a town or an enclosure near the spring water in the lower place.”

We have been obliged, in the midst of these perplexities, to go with the theory, which we thought the best, of Coluber—like an Indian juggler with dancing snake—to Sir Thomas Phillipps, and ask permission to exhibit, and request him to say what he thinks of it. He says, in a note dated Middle Hill, 14th December, 1855—“ I send you my opinion of *Coluber*. It is a corruption of the Latin term of ‘*Colonizæ Herbergeria*.’ In some places it is called Colnarber, and in others Cold Harbour. The first is the nearest approximation to its origin, ‘Colon. Herber.’ The second has the *d* in Cold merely because in quickly pronouncing ‘*Col*.

Herber.' the sound of a *d* is perceptible. It has, undoubtedly, (supposing this opinion to be right,) existed from the time of the Romans. The places were inns or stations, where Roman soldiers were lodged, both for purposes of relief to Roman soldiers, travelling singly or in companies along the road, as well as for speedy communication from one point to another. You will see that your *Coluber* is only a very rapid pronunciation of the above two words."

We would add, that Sir R. C. Hoare observed that these Harbours were generally near some Roman road, or Roman settlement; and that Horsley, in his "*Britannia Romana*," has pronounced them Roman inns or stations.

Charter granted by K. John 1. 2. An. MCC. Reginald Earl of Boulogne and Dammartin, procured from the King a charter for a fair once a year at his Village of Norton (now Cold Norton) for three days, viz. on the feast of S. Simon and S. Jude and two days following. See Bp. Kennett. *Par Antiq.* Vol. 1. p. 225, and *Dodsw.* 67. f. 1.

Copy of Charter from Reginald, Count of Boulogne, and Ida his wife, to Cold Norton Priory. Reginaldus comes Boloniæ et Ida ejus uxor Boloniæ comitissa ad quos præsens scriptum pervenerit salutem. Sciatis nos concessisse et hac præsentî carta confirmasse domui hospital, de Northona et canonicis ibidem Deo servientibus et S. Mariæ Virgini et beato Johanni Evangelistæ atque S. Egidio pro animabus parentum et antecessorum nostrorum videlicet comitis Matthei et Mariæ comitissæ et Alberici comitis Dammartini et Matildis comitissæ ejusdem uxori et pro animabus nostris et hæredum nostrorum in puram et perpetuam elemosinam trecentas acras et quadraginta octo et dimidiam terræ quas inde dictæ domui et canonicis ibi Deo servientibus nostri dederunt antecessores. Et etiam manerium domus sicut sedet et constitutum est. Licet autem tot acras terræ cum manerio sæpe dictis domui et canonicis nostri non dedissent antecessores, nos domui et canonicis manerium et predictas acras terræ ex dono nostro dedimus et concessimus et carta nostra confirmavimus. Ut hæc autem donatio stabilis et firma permaneat præsentem paginam sigillis nostris dignam duximus roborari. Non hoc autem prætermittendum est quod domus illa de nostra donatione est et nos ibi priorem apponere debemus. Actum An Domini MCC1. Hiis testibus; Radulpho fratre nostro, Radulpho de Claro Monte, Nevilone de Senlio, Engeramo de Hesdino, Rogero de Oeli, Willielmo de Bray, Rogero de Burtona et pluribus aliis.*

This charter, says Bp. Kennett, with the concessions of many other benefactors, was confirmed at Woodstock by King Henry III. in the 13th of his reign.

An Improved List of the Priors of Cold Norton. See Churton's Lives of Founders, &c. Bishop Grossteste, visiting the monasteries of his diocese, deposed, among others, the Prior of Cold Norton (name unknown), and substituted in his stead, I. *W. de Wilton*, a canon of Dunstaple, 1236. *Annal Dunst.*, Vol. I., p. 230. Browne Willis calls him Walter de Wilton, el. 1235. *Mitred Abbies Add.*, p. 333.

* *Registr. Coll. Æn. Nas. Oxon MS.*, p. 17, et *Mon. Ang. tom.* 3, p. 1, p. 55, b.

2. *Simon*, 1264. Yate, p. 45. Willis has *Simon de Fallesham*, a Canon of the house. Prior, 8. Id. Dec. 1268. *Mitred Abbies*, Vol. II., p. 174. S. Prior de Norton, temp. 1. *Abbatis de Bruern et H. Prioris de Kennilwell*. White Kennett, MS. in Dugd. Mon. ii. 264. penes R. Gough Armig. perhaps this Prior *Simon* is meant.

3. *Adam de Woodford*, admitted 1283. Willis. Richard, Abbat of Oseney, grants half a hide of land in great "Rollenderith" to Adam Prior of Cold Norton. No date. Yate, p. 50.

4. *Peter de Waddington*; 1284. Willis.

5. *Walter*, resigned in 1292. Willis. *Walter*, Prior of "Northon," is witness to a deed, sine dat. Yate, p. 29.

6. *Robert de Ravensby*, canon of *Esseby* (Canon's Ashby, in Northamptonshire) promoted hither by the Bishop of Lincoln, with consent of the Convent, 1292. Willis.

7. *William de Tywe* (i.e., *Tew*), canon, elected "non. Oct. 1297," resigned in 1321. Willis.

8. *John de Wotton*, admitted cal. Mar. 1321, dying about 1330, a *Conge d'elire* was granted by the patron of this Priory; and the monks chose,

9. *John de Thenford*, on the 8th of the calends of May, 1330. Willis.

10. *William de Stogenorton* (read *Hogesnorton*, *Hoggesnorton*, *Hokenorton*, &c., according to the variations in spelling), deprived in 1343. Willis.

11. *William de Teukesbury*, 17 cal. Oct. 1343. Willis. *William Lynham*, Abbat of Bruern and the Convent granted to *Will. de Tewkesbury* Prior of Cold Norton, "18 acras terræ cum semine ruscorum seminat," in exchange for land of the Priory in *Pynkewell*, on the vigil of S. James, 31 Edw. III. (1357.) Yate, p. 25. *Baldewinus de Parles* and *Juliana* his wife gave to the Priory 15 acres of land in *Rollendria* (i.e., *Rollwright*) cum pastura 200 ovium et 6 boum et 2 vaccarum et 20 porcorum." Yate, p. 51, which seems to have been confirmed by a royal charter, 22 Edw. III., see. *Not. Mon.*

12. *Robert* occurs 1356 [q. ? see above] and 1361. Willis, in *Tanner. Ricardus de Abberbury* [*Adderbury*] *Chivaler* granted to "Robert by Divine permission prior of Coldnorton," &c., four acres of land in *Stepelaston* and the advowson of the Church, 36 Edw. III. (1362), and *Thomas de Abberbury*, lord of *Stepelaston*, granted the same at the same time; the Convent engaging to find four canons to pray for the soul of *Thomas Abberbury*, clerk. Yate, p. 56. The living was appropriated to the Convent, May 25, 1377, *ib.* 57. *Robert* occurs also, 39 and 40 Edw. III. *ib.* p. 40, 45.

13. *Thomas Bradlegh*, 1399. Willis, *ibid.* A "Fullingmulle" (at *Stanlake*) granted to him, 20 Apr. 1 Henry IV. (1400.) Yate, p. 46.

14. *William Dedington*, 1405, 1429. Willis, *ibid.* *William Dadyn-ton*, 20 Apr., 6 Henry IV. (1405.) Yate, p. 46. *William*, 8 Henry VI (1429), *ib.* p. 45.

15. *Richard*, 1462. Willis, *ibid.* Prior *Richard* and the Convent let their moiety of *Thenford* to *John Page*, rector of the other moiety, for

four marks; 19 Henry VI. (1440.) Yate, p. 60 They had been in possession of the moiety a century or more. Ib. p. 59.

16. *John Huseley*, in the time of John Chedworth, Bishop of Lincoln, inter 1452-1471. Willis. Mitr. Abb. I suppose a mistake in the name; for John Haseley occurs May 1, 1452, Yate, p. 23; and again the same year in an agreement with Eustachius Barnard, rector of Thenford, ib., p. 60; and in a lease to John Staunton, canon of the house, July 8, 37 Henry VI. (1459) ib. p. 20.*

17. *John Staunton*, 1474. 16 Edw. IV. Willis. He and the convent granted a lease of Stepelaston, with the Manse of the Rectory, for 13 l. per ann., 16 Edw. IV. (1476.) Yate, p. 57. A rent charge in Over and Nether Chalford was given to John Staunton, Prior of Cold Norton, and the convent, by Richard Chock, one of the Justices of the Common Pleas, and Thomas Cornysh, clerk. Yate, p. 36, no date. Richard Choke is Chief Justice of C. Pleas, 1462. Sir Richard Choke, Kn., J. C. Pl., 1471, 1472, and 1484. Dugd. Chron. Ser. Thomas Cornish, suffragan, Bishop of Tyne, was Provost of Oriel in 1493, and died 1513. Wood's Colleges, p. 127.

18. *John Wotton*, the last Prior. Willis. He died on the Saturday before Palm Sunday, 11 Henry VII. (1495); and for want of canons to elect, the Priory escheated to the Crown. Yate, p. 9.

Extracts from *Decanatus de Wodestok.*
the taxation of *Porti* de Colde Norton h't in Middel Aston ejusd'
spirituals made *PORTI* in redd', 8s. 0d.
19 Edw. I. (1291.)

Decanatus de Wyttenege.
Prior de Colde Norton h't in Stanlak in redd', £2 0s. 0d.

Decanatus de Norton.
Prior Sce Fritheswyde h't in Rollendrit de Priore de Colde Norton in redd', £1 6s. 8d.

Decanatus de Aston.
Prior de Norton h't ibid' de redd', 8d.

Decanatus, Oxonia.
Prior de Colde Norton h't ibid' de redd', 5s. 0d.

Decanatus de Dadington.
Prior de Colde Norton h't ibidem in p'tis, £1 0s. 0d.

Decanatus de Wodestok.
Porcio Prior' de Colde Northon in ead', 13s. 4d.

Decanatus de Brackele.
Porcio Prioris de Colde Northon in Eclia de Thenford indecimali, £3 6s. 8d.

Taxatio ecclesiastica P. Nicholai, circa A.D. 1291.

* A pond is mentioned in this lease "unum stangnum—prope stangnum conventuale."
The rent named is "unam lagenam vini"—payable at Christmas.

Extract from Inquest (Dorchester, April 24, 1507). Possessions of the Priory.

Banbury, Sewell alias Sercewell, Little Tew, Shipton, Deddington, and Thame.

Description of the Priory.

Priory, Monastery, House, and Church, with 6 messuages, 200 acres of land, 1000 acres of meadow, 20 of woodland, and 40s. of rent, in Colde Norton—40 messuages, 4 mills, 40 acres of land, 2000 acres of pasture, 100 acres of meadow, 60 of woodland, and £9 13s. 4d. of rent, at Chipping Norton, &c.

Muniments of Brasenose College.

A deed, apparently very old, but certainly not later than the beginning of the 14th century, remaining among the archives of Brasenose College, ("Cold Norton, C. 2, Box, D. 2,") describes land given to the Priory as lying in "Stockwellstreet." The donor, Richard Wine, charges it with a quit rent of 13d. to the Knights Templars, who were suppressed by the Council of Vienne, A.D. 1312. Tanner's Not. Pref., p. xv. "Luke of Oseney" (perhaps the Abbat) and "Peter, Clerk of the Hospital," who acted as Secretary on the occasion, are two of the witnesses. The quit rent was afterwards paid to the Hospitalars to whom the estates of the Templars were granted. See Rott., 21-23 H. VIII., the first of which says it was payable "de tenement. vocat. Baker's House," and the next, "de terr. vocat. Baker's house," the house having, perhaps, in the mean time been taken down.

EXPLANATION OF THE ACCOMPANYING PLATES.

No. 1.

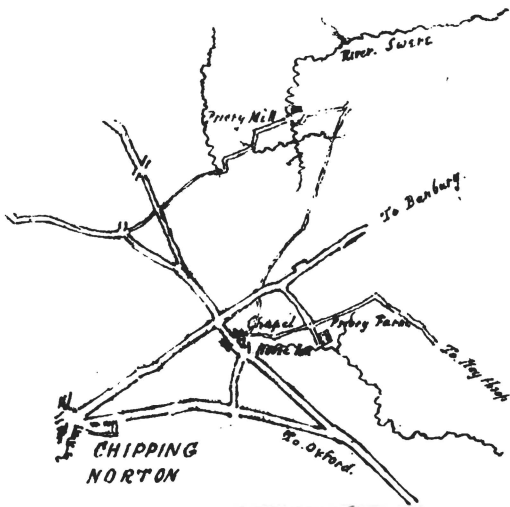
The original drawing, scarce and very curious, is $13\frac{3}{4}$ inches by $5\frac{3}{4}$ inches in length and width, and entitled, "The South-West view of Cold-Norton Priory, in the county of Oxford." It is inscribed to the Principal and Fellows of Brazen-Nose College, in Oxford, by Samuel and Nathaniel Buck. "This priory," they add, "of Black Canons was founded by W^m. Fitz-Alan in the Reign of King Hen. 2nd, dedicated to S^t. John y^e Evangelist & S^t. Giles and by him endow'd with divers lands: Reginald E. of Bolon and Ida his wife confirmed the donations of their Ancestors Anno 1201. K. Hen. 3^d and Ralph E. of Stafford were benefactors to this house. In the reign of K. Hen. 7th it came into the possession of the Crown from thence to the Dean and Chapter of S^t. Stephens Westminst^r of whom B^p Smith bought it and in y^e 5th of Hen. 8th gave it to Brazen-Nose College, Oxford." The arms of the College are displayed, and the names added,—S. & N. Buck, delin et sculp^t 1729.

No. 2.

The first is a tracing from so much of the Ordnance Map as represents Cold Norton and its neighbourhood. It will be seen that the farm-house—built on the site of the old Priory—is set in the angle between the roads from Chipping Norton to Banbury and Oxford. The two streams that rise near it—the Glym and the Swere—and flow in different directions, show how high the ground is on which it stands. We may add, it is not very far from the Rollright Stones.

The second is a copy of the seal of the Priory, much mutilated. It is not worth our while, under these circumstances, to speculate on the spelling—whether "Cold" or "Colln."

The third is the cipher of William Smith, Bishop of Lincoln. The head or volute of the crozier is distinguished by a rose; the Bishop bearing for arms, A. a chevron S. between 3 roses G. seeded Or. bearded V., and which arms now form a part of those of Brasenose College.





ON PAVING TILES, A MONUMENTARIUM, BIBLIOTHECA OXONIENSIS, AND EXTRACTS FROM PARISH REGISTERS: A LETTER READ BY THE REV. W. S. MILLER, ONE OF THE SECRETARIES, ON THE 24TH OF APRIL, 1855.

*Bloxham, Monday,
April 23rd, 1855.*

MY DEAR HOOKINS,

Having by mistake set down the meeting of the North Oxfordshire for Thursday next instead of to-morrow, I find myself, on being set right as to the date, obliged hastily to throw together in the form of a letter to you some of the remarks which I had intended to make at greater length in person. I regret that I cannot come to the meeting, but I have to act just now in so many capacities that it is not easy for me at all to leave home. May I beg of your kindness to read to the members the following pages, or so much of them as you shall think convenient. Pray enliven them, as you go on, with your own extemporaneous sallies—a running commentary of wit and humour—for my own lucubrations will be found very dull, and I will readily forgive you for raising a laugh, even if it be at my expense.

In fact, what I have to bring forward is matter rather for a committee than a general meeting. My subjects are of a dry, practical character, and I know not how to invest them with that attractiveness which will earn for them a welcome reception. So, as I said, I must trust to you to help them, and to make their introduction pass off agreeably to all parties.

N

Before I address myself to this grave business, will you kindly pass round the room, the tracings of tiles which are sent herewith. They are mostly from the North Oxfordshire district, or from Sussex. Those from our own neighbourhood will afford several examples worthy of being engraved in our volume. They are chiefly from Broughton Castle and Church, Chalcombe Priory, and Bloxham Church—the latter recently discovered in removing some puses. The patterns seem, for the more part, peculiar to the district; but not having time for much reference to other examples, I hesitate to speak positively as to this, or to offer at present any attempt at the classification of their styles. I hope that other members, who may have specimens or tracings from this neighbourhood, will communicate them to the Society, in order that we may be able in time to publish a complete collection. This would be not only interesting from the variety and fancy of the patterns, but also of use in our adornment of new or old Churches; for it seems reasonable to preserve, as far as possible, the patterns peculiar to each locality.

I believe that no traces of the original arrangement of tile-paving remain here about. Generally, the genuine examples of this are rare; and through neglect of the few which we have, many modern pavements present a most unsatisfactory appearance. It may be sufficient here to observe, that bands of plain tiles parallel to the wall, and smaller bands set diagonally between these, sometimes crossing one another, sometimes in zigzag, sometimes only parallel, (the colours being green, black, and yellow,) are not sufficiently introduced in decorated work; and large lozenge-shaped groups conjoined with smaller lozenges at the angles, and having the intervening spaces filled with plain tiles, are too little remembered as the distinguishing feature of the Perpendicular style. When the tiles are set square, and all have patterns, the effect produced is that of floor-cloth.

Now, to proceed with one of the topics which I have to bring before the Society. I am anxious that we should compile a complete Monumentarium, from the Churches and Churchyards which lie within the district of our

Society. I had once hoped that a national attempt would have been made to accomplish this work throughout the length and breadth of the land. During one long vacation of my Cambridge course, I had prepared with great labour a transcript of all the monumental inscriptions in Exeter Cathedral. These were thought worthy of publication by the Diocesan Architectural Society, and attracted much attention at the time. Among other notices, may I, without vanity, quote from "Notes and Queries" the following:—"By this work good service has been done to all genealogists, local and general historians, &c., and we know no greater benefit than could be conferred on this branch of literature, than that some of our now superabundant brass-rubbers should follow the example, and note with accuracy all the inscriptions, monuments, coats of arms, &c., preserved in the Churches in their respective neighbourhoods. They may then hand them over for publication to the nearest Archæological Society, or the Archæological Institute, or the Society of Antiquaries, or transmit a copy of them to the MS. department of the British Museum." For a time the Editor of "Notes and Queries" received several important communications on this subject, and devoted to it a leading place in his journal: a Society was proposed, and various other plans suggested, for obtaining manuscript copies of all the Monumental Inscriptions in the kingdom; but the subject dropped, and there is now no prospect of any general movement in this direction. As your unworthy correspondent has caused the discussion of a general Monumentarium, which seems to have failed from its very magnitude; may he not now venture to propose to the North Oxfordshire Society, that it shall take the lead in a work, which, if too great for one effort, is not beyond the reach of divided labour. We can, at least, prepare a complete Monumentarium of our own district, and by so doing I believe we shall incite the generous rivalry of other similar bodies.

Let me now proceed to offer some explanations of my plan. It is that we should find some member or other to undertake one or more of the Churches in our district,

* Vol. III., p. 14.

until all are provided for. The member appointed must make a faithful copy in full of every inscription in the Church, with the blazon of all the coats of arms, and note the exact position of each monument, and the character of the memorial, whether high tomb, brass, slab, or mural tablet, whether with or without effigy. When his copy is complete, let him examine it again with the originals, in the presence of the Vicar, Churchwardens, or other suitable persons, who with himself shall attest, in writing, the accuracy of the transcripts. Let him then transmit his work to our Secretaries, who will preserve it carefully for its documentary evidence, and prepare an index to all the similar copies they shall receive, for publication in our annual volume. A correspondent of "Notes and Queries" thus attests the value of the task when so accomplished:—"As an instance of the practical use of such a collection, let me inform your readers that in 1847, being engaged in an ejectment case on the Home Circuit, it became most important to show the identity of a young lady in the pedigree, the Parish Register of S. Christopher-le-Stocks only giving the name and date of burial. I found that when S. Christopher's was pulled down for the enlargement of the Bank of England, some kind antiquary had copied all the monuments. The book was found at the Herald's College; it contained an inscription proving the identity, and a verdict was obtained."

It need not be feared that the work of copying will be to him who undertakes it a mere dry, mechanical operation. He cannot but find abundant matter of interest in thus studying the memorials of the departed. At times he will come upon names famous in history, often upon names of those whose lives have had an important local influence. Constantly, he will be engaged upon the earthly memorials of those who have a more enduring record in heaven; the prayer for acceptance, the thanksgiving for mercies, the warning voice, will all have a touching and humanizing influence with one who looks at this matter aright. And in a lower point of view, the very style and spelling of the better class of inscriptions will afford an interesting study.

* Vol. III, p. 314.

So much has already been written on the subject of Monumental Inscriptions, that I need not enlarge on this head. Most thoughtful Christians and most learned antiquaries have not grudged the time or trouble of preserving them; the value in which their labours are held gives promise that the task which I propose will be neither unentertaining nor unfruitful.

A few inscriptions from this neighbourhood were privately printed by Sir Thomas Phillipps, in 1825, from the MSS. of Antony Wood, Dr. Hutton, and Mr. Hinton. But they extend only as far as the letter E—from Adderbury to Eynsham,—and, by the way, Bloxham and several other Churches are altogether passed over. They will, of course, be useful for collation, and the supplying of some epitaphs now lost, as will, also, those preserved by Weever, Gough, and others. It is probable, too, that many transcripts are in private hands, and it is earnestly to be hoped that these may be communicated to the Society. Unhappily true it is, that “Monuments themselves memorials need;” almost every day one or other of these interesting and pious records disappears. But little scruple has been felt by many guardians of our Church fabrics in permitting this devastation. In the court-yard of the Vicarage at Bloxham, I have already found some half-dozen inscribed stones brought from the neighbouring Churchyard for pavement. I need not add that they are no longer desecrated.

While speaking of these abstracted memorials, I may mention two others which I found in a heap of coals and rubbish, in the Tower of Bloxham Church. They are diminutive Monumental Slabs,—one of them being, probably, the smallest ever discovered. Its extreme length is only 15 inches; it measures in breadth, at the head 9 inches, at the foot $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and its thickness is 7 inches. The other is 22 inches long, and tapers from 11 to $7\frac{1}{2}$ inches in breadth, the thickness being $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches. Of these slabs the larger was found in the South Aisle, and the smaller, on a similar occasion, in the North Aisle.

In point of size, there comes between these two a slab a few years since discovered in the Churchyard of New Shoreham, Sussex, represented in the annexed cut. Its

length is 21 inches, its greatest width $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches, and its thickness 3 inches. The rounded head is very remarkable.

It is not easy to assign the dates of these slabs with accuracy, but that from Shoreham is probably of the early part of the 12th century, and those from Bloxham about 200 years later.

To return now to the subject of the Monumentarium. It is proper to say that, hard as the task may appear, it would be well to collect inscriptions from, not the interior only, but the exterior also of our Churches. Many records in our Cemeteries are as important as those in our Chancels or Chantry Aisles. Only the number, the extent of ground covered, the open-air work, and the difficulty of decyphering a grave-stone of a century old, deter most of our collectors from an attempt to copy them. In this matter a sound discretion must be exercised by our coadjutors, so that all may be preserved which shall appear in any way likely to be of use. "We do not, perhaps, want the ten thousand 'afflictions sore,' which ten thousand John Smiths are stated to have 'long time bore'" —*borne* for the grammar, but the rhyme were spoilt.

Another subject which I should wish you to bring before the notice of the Society, is that of preparing a complete Catalogue of the Printed Books and Manuscripts which relate to the County of Oxford. A similar work has been effected in Devonshire, and several other counties, by private research and industry; but it is obvious that a Society like ours possesses greater opportunities for the successful accomplishment of such a task than any individual would meet with. And I think the importance of the undertaking cannot be denied. It must be of assistance to one who would conduct a research into county, parochial, or family history, to know at once what sources of information exist, and where they may be found.

Rare and important matter lurks in many a small and insignificant library; the older families cherish genealogical and historical documents; the Colleges of Oxford, and the Bodleian, are rich in the antiquities of the County. It would not be a hard task, acting on our principle of dividing labour, to collect notices of these scattered

treasures, and to arrange them either chronologically, or according to parishes. Let every one of our members who feels an interest in the attempt, first report any works on the County which he may himself possess, and then others which he can find upon the shelves of his friends. Some will, doubtless, undertake to examine the public libraries also; and then, from time to time, portions of the Catalogue may appear in our yearly volume. Only let no one describe a book at second-hand, but examine personally all that he reports. It will not be necessary to copy every title-page at full; just sufficient must be given to prevent confusion with any other work; the size, the place and date of publication, the entire number of pages, and generally the number of plates, will be required. In some cases, an outline of the contents will be of use; in others, notices of the avowed or inferred author, of the circumstances which led to publication, and of the results. Our work need noways be a mere dry matter of making a list of books; alike to those who shall assist in it, and to those who shall receive the printed pages, it may be full of interest and instruction.

I had hoped to have sent to the meeting notices of some rarer volumes from the Bodleian Library, but an opportunity of going thither has not lately occurred. At a future day I shall hope to do so; meanwhile I forward the titles of a few of the rarer tracts and pamphlets which I have myself. There are about fifty, which I have picked up since my coming into this neighbourhood; some are very scarce and of interest, others will not call for much attention. Having mistaken the day of meeting, I am not able to add to the titles any explanatory remarks, but this shall be done if the Society considers that my proposition can be usefully carried out. Will you add, that I shall be glad to purchase, and still more pleased to receive as a gift, any books, tracts, or manuscripts, such as I have been writing about. They will be placed in the School Library at Bloxham; and as the Trustees of the School are empowered, when that Library is of sufficient importance, to make arrangements for throwing it open to others besides the members of the School who may be desirous

to avail themselves of it, they will not only be preserved in a permanent collection, but also be as accessible as circumstances will allow. I am here naturally led to think of the beautiful buildings which Mr. Street has designed for the School at large; and I think the members of our Society may be pleased to see the sketch which he has printed off so effectively by the anastatic process. I send a copy which you may hand round, and afterwards put into the North Oxfordshire portfolio. Whatever may be thought of the School as an Institution, I am pretty sure that its buildings must be considered to form one of the most graceful modern specimens of Collegiate accommodation in the purest style of Gothic Architecture. If you deem this the place to suggest it, I would say that Mr. Street, who thus proposes to enrich our neighbourhood, might very gracefully be elected an honorary member of our Society; and I am sure that by such an attention he would be highly pleased.

I would go on to recommend that the Society should take steps for a careful examination of all the Registers of the Parishes which lie within the field of its operations. If each member would undertake to look through, or cause to be looked through, the Registers of his own Parish, and those of any Parish adjacent to his own in which we may not at present be happy enough to have a resident member, and would communicate the most striking contents to our Secretaries, we should soon be in possession of a mass of curious and valuable matter, connected not only with the families of the neighbourhood, but also with parochial and county history, and even more generally with important religious, political, and social movements and changes. The mere looking up of these Registers would probably save many from perishing, some which are now lying at the bottom of damp and mouldy chests and vestries; others which have been carried up to some dry garret at the parson's house, there to lie among the soap which the prudent housekeeper has cut up to harden, the seeds spread out to ripen, the strings of onions, and all that miscellaneous mess and fodder which, some way or other, one attic at least in every house does seem to attract to

itself. Too often are the Parish Registers in one or other of these cases—all honour to those good Incumbents and Churchwardens who see to their due care and preservation. Many a wrong may be averted, many a right established, by their heed and watchfulness. But still more service would be rendered by carefully extracting out of every volume the more interesting details which it contains. Sometimes an honest Vicar records his grumbling discontent at some new service book, or hails a change of dynasty or principle, or notes some striking matter of the day, or some homely subject of village interest, some personal trial or encouragement in the discharge of his holy functions. At other times the Churchwardens try their hand, and set down their comments, more irrelevant, but not less interesting when we take them for illustration of by-gone habits and modes of thought and feeling.

What steps the Society may think it well to take to carry out this and the other recommendations of my letter I cannot tell. Whether a Committee should be appointed to take the whole into consideration, or separate Committees to report upon the several suggestions, is not for me to say. I have written enough upon subjects which can furnish but dull entertainment for a general meeting, though I believe them to be worthy of practical attention as intimately connected with the work marked out for us to do.

If you read all this epistle, and the meeting hears it with patience, I shall be infinitely obliged to both it and you.

Ever very sincerely yours,

J. W. HEWETT.

NOTES.

I. ANCIENT PAVING TILES.

Our wood engraving (very carefully executed by Mr. Utting, 34, College Street, North, Camden Town) represents twenty-four of the most remarkable patterns of Ancient Paving Tiles found in the neighbourhood of Banbury. They are: from Broughton Castle, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 9, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 23; from Broughton Church, No. 7; from Chalcombe Priory, Nos. 5, 8, 11, 20; from Bloxham Church, Nos. 4, 6, 12; from Great Barford Church, No. 10; from Northleigh, No. 16; and from Chipping Norton, Nos. 22, 24. These patterns seem mostly peculiar to the district, and should be imitated in new Churches, as well as in the restoration of old Churches, in this neighbourhood.

No traces remain, in the places named above, of the original arrangement of the tiles. Generally, the genuine examples of this are rare; and, through neglect of the few which we have, most modern pavements present a very unsatisfactory appearance. As a hint to Church Builders and Restorers, it may be said, that, in 'Decorated' work, the square figured tiles should be relieved by bands of narrow plain tiles running parallel to the breadth of the area covered; and by other bands set between these, sometimes in the line which heralds call 'indented,' sometimes crossing one another 'fretwise.' The colours of these plain tiles may be green, yellow, and black. And, if the area be large, the principal bands may be strengthened by a double line of green tiles, with square yellow tiles set diamondwise between, the corners being fragments of black tiles. In 'Perpendicular' work, large lozenge-shaped groups of tiles are to be conjoined at their angles with smaller lozenges; the intervening spaces being filled with plain tiles. There are to be no bands in this style.

II. BOOKS AND TRACTS RELATING TO OXFORDSHIRE.

A Speech of the Honorable Nathanael Fiennes, concerning Bishops and the City of Londons petition. 1641. 4to., pp. 30.

A Second Speech of the Honorable Nathanael Fiennes, touching the Subjects Liberty against the late Canons, and the New Oath. 1641. 4to., pp. 22.

Tragi-Comœdia Oxoniensis. 4to., pp. 8. [In pencil on the cover, "Littleton (Osborn) Tragi Comoedia, 1648. A curious Poem on the Parliamentary Visitors by whom he was deprived of his Studentship of Christ Church, Oxford." Very scarce.]

Tragi-Comœdia. Being a brief relation of the strange and wonderfull hand of GOD, discovered at Wituey, in the Comedy acted there February 3rd, where there were some slaine, many hurt. Together with what was preached in three sermons on that occasion. By John Rowe of C.C.C. in Oxford, Lecturer in the Towne of Witney. Oxford, 1653. 4to., pp. 102.

The Speech of the Right Honourable the Lord Fiennes, made before his Highness and both Houses of Parliament, Jan. 20, 1657, being the first day of their sitting. London, 1657. 4to., pp. 28.

The Servitour: a Poem. Written by a Servitour. London, 1709. Pp. 16.

1

2

3

4



ANCIENT PAVING TILES.

The Carpenter of Oxford, or the Miller's Tale, from Chaucer. Attempted in Modern English, by Samuel Cobb, M.A. To which are added Two Imitations of Chaucer, by Matthew Prior, Esq. London, 1712. 8vo., pp. 48.

An Account of a Roman Pavement lately found at Stunsfield in Oxfordshire. By John Pointer, M.A. Oxford, 1713. 8vo., pp. 46, with "The Out lines of the Chief Figures on ye Pavement."

The Several Depositions concerning the late Riot in Oxford. London, 1716. 8vo., pp. 38.

A Catalogue of All Graduates in the University of Oxford between Oct. 10, 1659, and Oct. 10, 1726 (includes to Oct. 10, 1727). Oxford, 1727. 8vo., pp. 264.

The Catalogue continued from Oct. 10, 1727, to Oct. 10, 1735. 8vo., pp. 32.

The Catalogue continued from Oct. 10, 1735, to Oct. 10, 1747. 8vo., pp. 44.

The Annals of University Colledge. By William Smith, Rector of Melsonby. Newcastle upon Tyne, 1728. 8vo., pp. 408.

Associatio Ciceroniana, sive cohortatio ad rempub. tuendam. Oxonii, 1745. 8vo., pp. 8.

M. T. Ciceronis sententia dux de iis honore augendis qui periculum vitæ adierunt reipub. causa. Oxonii, 1746. 8vo., pp. 16.

A Letter to a Young Gentleman. By a Tutor and Fellow of a College in Oxford. 1748. 8vo., pp. 32.

A Proposal for a Poetical Translation, both in Latin and English, of Mr. Bentham's Letter to a Young Gentleman. London, 1748. 8vo., pp. 32.

Epistolæ altera Peregrinantis, altera Rusticantis. Oxonii, 1748. 8vo., pp. 36.

A Letter to a Fellow of a College; being the sequel of a Letter to a Young Gentleman of Oxford. By Edward Bentham, B.D., Fellow of Oriel College. 1749. 8vo., pp. 74.

Remarks on Dr. K——'s Speech at the Dedication of Dr. R——'s Library, April 13, 1749. 8vo. 1750. Pp. 46.

A Translation of a late celebrated Oration. Occasioned by a Libel, entitled Remarks on Dr. K——'s Speech. London, 1750. 8vo., pp. 54.

Epistola Critica Græcæ conscripta ad Joh. Gul. Thompson. Accedit Eulogium M. S. Johan. Rogers, S.T.P. Item Epistola ad Edw. Bentham, S.T.P. A Johanne Burton, S.T.B. Londini, 1750. 8vo., together pp. 60.

Elogium famæ inserviens Jacci Etonensis, sive Gigantis, or the Praises of Jack of Eton, collected into Latin and English Metre. To which is added a Dissertation on the Burtonic Style. Oxford, 1750. 8vo., pp. 104.

A Funeral Sermon preached in the Chapel of Dalkeith, May 6, 1750, on the Rt. Hon. Francis late Earl of Dalkeith, who died at Adderbury, April 1st. and was interred at Dalkeith May 5. By the Rev. Charles Roberts, M.A. Edinburgh, 1750. 8vo., pp. 24.

A Serious Inquiry into some late Proceedings in Vindication of the Honour, Credit, and Reputation of the University of Ox——d, relative to an Offence of a certain Member of the same. London, 1751. 8vo., pp. 56.

An Answer to the Serious Inquiry. London, n.d. 8vo., pp. 56.

A View of the Disagreements between the Affidavits of John Ludford, Esq. and Sir Roger Newdigate, Bart. c. 1753. 8vo., pp. 60.

The Oxfordshire Contest. London, 1753. 8vo., pp. 64.

The Old and New Interest; or a Sequel to the Oxfordshire Contest. London, 1753. 8vo., pp. 72.

The New Interest Displayed; a Dialogue. London, 1753. 8vo., pp. 22.

The New Interest Displayed; a Second Dialogue. 1753. 8vo., pp. 22.

A Letter to the Printer, with a Letter to the Freeholders of Oxfordshire. 1753. 8vo., pp. 20.

Oxfordshire in an uproar; or the Election Magazine. Oxford, n.d. 8vo., pp. 74.

The Christian's New Warning Piece. London, 1753. 8vo., pp. 14.

The Curate and Cobler; a Third Dialogue. London, 1754. 8vo., pp. 32.

Serious Reflections on the dangerous tendency of Card-playing, especially of All Fours, as it hath been lately at Oxford, 1754. London. 8vo., pp. 24.

A Defence of the Rector and Fellows of Exeter College, from the accusations of Dr. Huddesford, Vice-Chancellor. London, 1754. 8vo., pp. 66.

An Address to Dr. Huddesford on his reply to the Defence. London, 1755. 8vo., pp. 40.

Mr. Boots's Apology for the conduct of the late H—g Sh—ff, in answer to an infamous libel, intitled the Blackest of all Black Jokes. London. 8vo., pp. 24.

A Letter from a Member of the University of Oxford, containing an Account of a Watch-Plot lately discovered there. 1755. 8vo., pp. 22.

The Spy, or Pasquin at Oxford. London, 1755. 8vo., pp. 48.

The Case of a Gentleman unjustly deprived of his vote at the election of a Chancellor. London, 1759. 8vo., pp. 32.

A Letter to a late Member of the University with respect to the two Explanatory Statutes proposed to the C———n. 8vo., pp. 48.

Wm. Wickham. Aug. 19, 1762. pp. 16.

A Letter to J. X——, M.D. with an account of the case of Mr. T——n, of Oxford. To which are subjoined observations on Ulcered Sore Throat. By J. S——, M.D. Oxford, 1765. 8vo., pp. 50.

Memoirs of Osney Abbey. By John Swaine, Esq. London, 1769. 8vo., pp. 44.

A Translation of the Record called Domesday, so far as relates to the County of Oxford. By the Rev. Wm. Bawden. Doncaster, 1812. 4to., pp. 66.

The History and Antiquities of Kiddington. By Rev. Thos. Warton, B.D. 3rd Ed. London, 1815. 4to., pp. 94, plate.

Oxfordshire Monumental Inscriptions, from the MSS. of Antony & Wood, Dr. Hutton, and Mr. Hinton. Evesham, 1825. Fol., pp. 102.

III. DIMINUTIVE SLABS AND MONUMENTS.

Rokey, Oxfordshire. Length, 27 inches, by about 10 inches in breadth.

Tadcaster, Yorkshire. Length, 29½ inches, by 11 inches at the head, and 8 inches at the foot.

Fletching, Sussex. Same length.

Bakewell, Derbyshire. Length, 3 feet.

Lymply Stoke, Wilts. Same length.

Bredon, Worcestershire.

S. Michael's, Lichfield.

Chichester Cathedral. This is incised with two hands holding a heart, and with trefoil label, whereon may yet be traced ICI GIST LE COVER MAVD DE

Salisbury Cathedral. Effigy. "The Boy-Bishop."

Moor Monkton, Yorkshire. Effigy.

Narborough, Norfolk. Effigy. The hands hold a heart.

Hacombe, Devonshire. Effigy, 27 inches long. The proportions and dress are those of an adult.

Dartington, Devonshire. Effigy of an Ecclesiastic, 23 inches long.

Horsted Keynes, Sussex. Effigy of a cross-legged knight, 27 inches long, including the lion at its feet.

Mapouder, Dorsetshire. Cross-legged effigy, 2 feet long.

Tenbury, Gloucestershire. Cross-legged effigy, in mail armour, holding a heart, 4 feet long.

Gayton, Northamptonshire. Effigy of a female, 2 feet long.

Ayot S. Lawrence, Herts. Effigy, supposed to have held a heart, 2 feet 3 inches long.

Bottesford, Leicestershire. Effigy, 1 feet 10 inches long.

Little Easton, Essex.

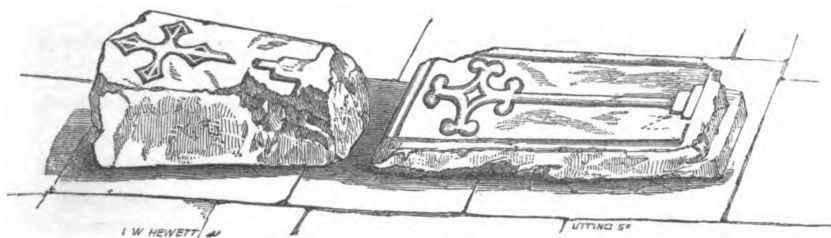
Cobburly, Gloucestershire.

Anstey, Herts.

Long Wittenham, Berks.

Abbey Church of S. Denis, near Paris. Effigy of Blanche d'Cortois, 2 feet long.

It is generally supposed that memorials of the size we are now dealing with have covered the remains of children; but, in the case of most of the effigies mentioned above, this cannot have been the case. Another, and more probable, opinion makes them mark the site where a heart has been buried apart from the other relics of mortality. It is not unlikely that in the case of effigies, at least, the diminutive examples were erected to commemorate those whose remains rested apart from their homes and their friends.



DIMINUTIVE MONUMENTAL SLABS, FOUND IN BLOXHAM CHURCH.



Ch. 11

A BRIEF HISTORY OF PARISH REGISTERS,

WITH REMARKS ON

A FEW OF THE REGISTERS IN THE NORTH OF OXFORDSHIRE:

A PAPER, READ BY MR. CHARLES FAULKNER, F.G.S.,

MEMBER OF THE BRITISH ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, ETC.,

ON THE 24TH OF APRIL, 1855.

IN commencing this paper, I will first state that I am indebted for much of the information which it contains to a very useful work, published in the year 1829, by a professional gentleman, Mr. John Southerden Burn; and also to a Parliamentary Report, ordered, by the House of Commons, to be printed, the 15th of August, 1833. Both the above-named works are well worth the reading of any gentleman who may wish to study this important subject.

Parish Registers have afforded the chief evidence of titles to peerage and property, and have in a large number of cases been, more or less, referred to. The Lord Chief Justice Best, in the case of the Attorney-General *v.* Oldham, observed, "All the property in this country, or a large part of it, depends on Registers." This fact, then, being admitted, and the importance, in an historical point of view, of the entries made on the fly-leaves, and in other parts of many of the older volumes, I trust will be deemed a sufficient reason for bringing this subject before the members of our Association: a subject which may be usefully followed up by every clergyman in the sphere of our operations.

I need not remark that we have the very highest authority, the authority of Scripture, for keeping genealogies or pedigrees. At Athens and Rome Registers were kept, in which were inserted, as soon as they were born, the names of such children as were to be brought up. In

France there appear to have been Registers as early as 1308. In Spain they seem to have been instituted in 1497. In England the precise period when they were first kept is not fully known. Most of the religious houses, before the Reformation, kept Registers, and many of the Colleges in Oxford. These recorded public as well as private transactions, and were called, "the Chartulary," "Leiger Book," "Necrology or Obituary," "Register," "Chronicle," &c. The monks, in those times, were the principal Registrars, and were almost the only persons acquainted with the art of writing. Every great abbey had a room called the scriptorium; where several were employed in transcribing books for the library, and writing the missals, and other books used in Divine service, as well as the records just referred to.

With these provisions for producing MSS., it may very naturally excite surprise, in those who are not versed in the history of those times, that so few of these in many respects important works have been handed down to us; but the following oft-quoted quotation from John Bale's declaration upon Leland's Journal, anno 1549, will sufficiently explain the reason. He thus sets forth, and justly laments, the barbarous ravages committed on the libraries of the monks:—"A number of them which purchased those superstitious mansions, reserved of those library books, some to serve their jakes, some to scour the candlesticks, and some to rub their boots; some they sold to the grocer and soap seller; and some they sent over sea, to the book-binders, not in small numbers; but, at times, whole ships full: yea, the Universities of this realm are not at all clear in this detestable fact. I know (says he) a merchantman that bought the contents of two noble libraries for 40s. price: a shame it is to be spoken! This stuff hath he occupied instead of grey paper, by the space of more than these ten years, and yet he hath store enough for as many years to come: a prodigious example is this, and to be abhorred by all men, which loved their nation as they should do. Our posterity may well curse this wicked fact of our age; this unreasonable spoil of England's most noble antiquities."

The book-binders are mentioned as having had some of these valuable treasures transferred to them. I may here state that I have sometimes discovered some very early and curious specimens of printing, by carefully separating the cast off bindings of old folios, after damping them. In looking over the South Newington Registers, which I shall refer to presently, I found the first of the series sewed up in part of a finely-written MS., on vellum, no doubt one which had shared in the desecration above referred to.

After this quaint description of the wholesale destruction of the National Records, which must ever stand as a blot on the English Reformation, it is not to be wondered at that authors differ as to the precise period of our Registers being introduced. Mr. Cole, in his MSS. in the British Museum, mentions having read that they commenced in 1501 (17 Hen. VII.); Nicholls, in his "History of Leicester," states their commencement to have taken place in 1521 (13 Hen. VIII.); Whittaker, in his "History of Sheffield," states them to have been kept in 1534 (26 Hen. VIII.); and the "Annals of Shrewsbury" mentions an earlier period than either of the above, 1499 (15 Hen. VII.) But Dr. Prideaux, the Bishop of Worcester, in his "Directions to Churchwardens," says, "Parish Registers were first ordered by the Lord Vicegerent Cromwell, in the 30th year of King Hen. the Eighth, 1538, and from thence all Parish Registers have their beginning." Bishop Burnett, Bishop Kennett, Bishop Nicolson, Stow, and many other authors agree in this date.

The Select Committee appointed by the House of Commons, March 28, 1833, to consider and report on the general state of Parochial Registers, and the laws relating to them, after examining various persons, papers, and records, commence their Report by stating that "in September, 1538, an injunction was issued by Thomas Lord Cromwell, which directed a Book and Coffer, with two locks, to be provided in each parish, and ordered the parson, weekly, before the wardens, to write and record in the Book all the Weddings, Christenings, and Burials made the week before, and subjected him for neglect to a

fine of 3s. 4d., to be employed in the repairs of the Church. In 1547 a similar injunction was issued by Edward VI., only directing the penalty to be employed towards the poor-man's box of the parish. In 1559 a nearly similar injunction was issued, only that the penalty was directed to be equally divided between the poor-box and the repair of the Church. In 1562-3 Parliament first interfered."

I might give the dates of all the Mandates and Acts of Parliament on this subject, as they are carefully traced through the successive reigns of our Sovereigns in this interesting Report, but this would extend this first part of my paper beyond the limit it is requisite to assign to it. But I will quote the opinion of the Committee on the matter here brought before you, fully confirming that which I have given of Lord Chief Justice Best:—"Your Committee have arrived at the conclusion that the subject involves matters of great public and national interest, as well as individual satisfaction, and rights and claims to property; and deserves the attention of the humblest artisan, as well as of the most philosophical and statesmanlike inquirer."

It is rather a curious coincidence that the Minutes of Evidence were commenced being taken before the Select Committee on Parochial Registration, on the 24th day of April, 1833; just 22 years from the time we are now assembled. Mr. John Southerden Burn, solicitor, too, was the first witness examined; and, in answer to the question, "I think there are records by which it appears that Registers began as early as 1538?" says, "It appears by the churchwardens' account of St. Margaret's, that they paid 2d. for a registry-book in 1538, pursuant to Lord Cromwell's directions: they followed immediately on the dissolution of the monasteries, the monks being previously the registrars for the parishes." In answer to a further question, as to whether this injunction was the origin of the present system of the Parochial Register, Mr. Burn said that he had no doubt of it, as, in addition to other evidence, "a letter had lately been discovered in the State Paper Office, from Sir Pierce Edgecumbe, of Cornwall, to Lord Cromwell, stating that the origin of this register-book had caused great discontent in the shires of Devon and

Cornwall, the people supposing it was the beginning of new taxes, which they should have to pay for these marriages, burials, and christenings."

Few of these early Registers, it is to be feared, are to be found in the North of Oxfordshire; nevertheless, it is most desirable that information respecting them should, from time to time, be brought before our meetings, whatever their dates may be. The little village of South Newington possesses nearly a complete series of Registers, commencing with the year in which Lord Cromwell's injunction was issued, and continuing, with a short omission, to the present time. The Register of 1538 is the one I have before referred to as having the beautiful MS. cover. The Rev. H. D. Harington, Vicar of South Newington, who so readily lent us his antique embroidered Communion Table cover, for exhibition at the Chipping Norton meeting, and who has now obligingly placed before this meeting his valuable parochial document, will, I trust, kindly furnish our Association with the titles and dates of all his Registers, together with any interesting extracts or notes which they may contain.

The Register of Over Worton does not commence till the year 1628, and, I believe, that, or the Register of Nether Worton, contains the entries in one volume till the year 1812, when the Act of Parliament was passed, commonly called Sir George Rose's Act, which required the Registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials, to be kept in separate books. I have a note of "Francis Osborn, a considerable author in Oliver Cromwell's time," having "died at Nether Worton, near Deddington, 11 Feb'y, 1658-9, in the house of William Draper, Esq., (an Oliverean Colonel,) whose sister he had married, and was buried in the Church." We must look to our friend, the Vicar of Banbury, to supply us with further information from these records.

The Register for Glympton, like that for Worton, is kept in one book, but commences thirty-nine years later, June 25, 1667. It contains many curious and interesting entries, which I have fully extracted.

The first Register for the parish of Deddington has been lost, probably more than two hundred years since, as the

first entries, in each department of the earliest Register remaining, appear to have been copied from another MS.; as the "Chrisnings" commence "1631 May the 8th"; the "Weddings 1631 July y^e 27th": and the "Burials 1631 March the 25th,"—the book itself not having been bought till three years later, which is shown from the following memoranda, made on the first fly-leaf:—"A Register Booke for the parrish of Dadington bought by James Appletrie and Robert Poulton Churchwardens. William Brudenell Vicar 1634" (10 Ch. I.). On the other side of the leaf is written—"This Booke was Baute y^e yere w^{ch} the tower fell 1634." This date is 96 years after that of the South Newington Register, and three years after that of Worton; and it is not likely that Deddington, a market town, would have been later in keeping such a record than those villages.

I will defer giving extracts from the baptisms, &c., of the principal families who have resided in Deddington, or which are otherwise deserving of notice, for a future paper, or rather as a continuance of this, when I hope to give extracts from the Adderbury Registers, the earliest of which commences April 1, 1598 (41 Eliz.), and will now only produce a few other items which are recorded here. The following are copied from a long list of collections made under briefs, &c.:—

"1660 Gathered for James Melvill Esq^r of Irland
february y^e 24 0 6 6

"1663 Gathered for Wythoam in Sussex for a Church
w^{ch} was burnt by Lightning february y^e 7th 0 5 0

"1664 August y^e 14th Colected for a breife for y^e
ministers in Jarminy 0 3 0

"1665 August y^e 2th Colected towards the poore
which are vissited wth y^e pestilence 0 10 4

"1665. September y^e 6th Colected for the poore w^{ch}
are vissited wth y^e pestilence 0 10 8

" October y^e 4th (Do.) 0 6 0 December
y^e 6 (Do.) 0 6 0 January y^e 3 (Do.) 0 6 0
february y^e 7th (Do.) 0 3 11 March y^e 6th (Do.)
0 3 8" These entries show that this pestilence, prob-
ably the small-pox, continued eight months.

" 1666 October y^e 10th Colected for y^e sad fire w^{ch} hapened y^e 2th day of September 1666 at London 1 16 8

" 1668 December Colected for y^e Redeming of y^e Slaves in Turkie 0 5 2

" 1670 May y^e 15 Colected for a breife for to Redeeme Slaves 0 8 4

" 1670 November the 21th Colected towards the Redeeming of our English from Slavery 4 1 7 Jasper Cann minister."

The name of William Brudenell, having occurred as Vicar, in 1634 (10 Ch. I.), I will add, towards making out a list of Vicars, the following items:—

" William Hall Vicar of this parish * * * Feb: y^e 5 164 $\frac{3}{4}$ " (19 Ch. I.) " William Hall was buried May y^e 16th 1654" (6 Com. W., or Ch. II.)

Mr. Wier baptized a child April 7, 1660 (12 Ch. II.), and " Hannah Wyre daughter of Mr. James W^yer w^h was Minister of this towne. when Charles y^e Sec^d came whome into England was Buried June y^e 13th 1670."

" Clifton Stone our Minister of this Pish went to live at Marston March y^e 26th 1667" (19 Ch. II.)

" Jasper Cann Minister of Dadington," occurs October 29, 1669 (21 Ch. II.), and, as mentioned above, in 1670.

" Jeremiah Wheate came to be Minister at Dedington April y^e 29 1673" (25 Ch. II.)

The following from the list of Baptisms are introduced on account of the circumstances recorded with them:—

" 1663 John Barret the Sonne of Charles Barret was Baptized May the 6th and was borne Aprill the 3 day before and it was the greatest Raine that day that the like flood was never knowne upon y^e Charell when he was baptized and it drovee downe severell Mills."

" John West the Sonne of Samuel and Sarah was Baptized March the Sixth being the first y^t was baptized in y^e vante. 1663."

(Hutt, of Cambridge, in 1843, published a pretty model of this font, and describes the style of it as late Perpendicular.)

It is not improbable that the old font had been destroyed by some of the myrmidons of Oliver Cromwell, as the

present one was put up three years after the Restoration, and the pillar of it was placed upside down, in which position it remained till within the last few years.

Edward Kempster, who was (I quote from his own items) "chosen Register of the Parish by the Inhabitants and Sworn to execute the said Registers office by Tho. Apletre 15th day of August 1654 (6 Com. W.) by Act touching Marriages and Registering thereof, dated the 24 of August 1653" and who "began to be Clarke of This Pish September the 29th 1658" (10 Com. W.) and for whom "The School house was made in the Church february ye 15th 1672 (24 Ch. II.) for him to teach there" and who "was Buried August ye 6th 1676" has left in his Register the following memoranda, among others, recording the stirring events and reports of his time. "October ye 23.—1642 was Edghill ffight." Then follows an account of the termination of that glorious interval of "Civil and Religious Liberty" (when every man might with impunity cut his own throat or that of his neighbour, whichever was most agreeable to his taste or inclination), and we are told that "His Majestie Charles ye Second came into London ye 29th of May 1660 wch was ye 12th yeare of his Reigne wch was Brought in wthout Blood Shedd & his ffather was put to Death ye 30th of January 1648—by the tyrannicall powers of Oliver Cromwell who Dyed September ye 3—1658 & was Taken up after he had bin buried 2 years & above & was hanged at tiborne and his head was sett up at Westminster & his body was Buried under neath Tyburne 1661 wch Oliver did governe heare Some years in England."

The Act of Parliament referred to by Edward Kempster was one passed in the 5th year of the Commonwealth, entitled, "An Act how Marriages shall be solemnized and registered, and also for a Register of Births and Burials." It treated marriage as a civil contract, to be solemnized before a Justice of the Peace; and came into operation the 29th day of September, 1653. The persons intending to be married having "come before some justice of the peace, within and of the same county, city or town corporate, where the publication of their intended marriage shall

have been made":—The man to be married, taking his intended by the hand, was "plainly and distinctly to pronounce these words":—

"I, A. B., do here, in the presence of God, the searcher of all hearts, take thee, C. D., for my wedded wife; and do also in the presence of God, and before these witnesses, promise to be unto thee a loving and faithful husband."

The woman then went through a similar ordeal; and when Edward Kempster, who, as "register," was required to be present, with two or more witnesses, had duly recorded the publication of the marriage, and "the solemnization thereof," for a fee of 12d. each; and the justice had declared the man and woman husband and wife, this businesslike transaction was completed.

The following extracts are specimens of these Commonwealth performances:—

"Mr. Richard ffarmer of Tusmor And Mrs. M ffancis Brooke of North aston weare published three Markett Days in y^e Markett place in Dadington y^t is to Say—one 26th day of July & y^e 2th & y^e 9th days of August 1656 And Weare Married By Thomas Apletree Esq^r of Dadington afore s^d y^e 18th Day of August 1656."

"Alexander Hawtin & Mary prentice weare married y^e 29 Day of December 1657 by Thomas Rayer Justice of y^e peace for y^e Burrow of New Woodstock & by Mr. Jones Minister of Woodstock afores^d & weare published by me three marktett Dayes in y^e marktett place in Dadington y^t is to Say on y^e 12th and on y^e 19th & on y^e 26th days being all in December afores^d 1657."

In this Commonwealth Act it was left optional with the parties whether they would have their intended marriage published "three separate Lord's-days then next following, at the close of the morning exercise, in the public meeting-place commonly called the church or chapel (or what some of our more critical "Friends" of the present day call a church or chapel,—whether with or without a spire,—"*the steeple-house*"), or in the market-place next to the said church or chapel, on the market days in three several weeks next following, between the hours of eleven & two."

The lady whose name prominently appears in the next entry, was probably a companion of Miss Alice Lee's of Ditchley, and might have been taught by old Sir Henry Lee (whose reverence for the Church and its services has been so graphically described by Sir Walter Scott, in "Woodstock") not to submit to these market-place publications. Accordingly, we find her marriage recorded thus:—

" Thomas Higgins gent of this p^rish & Mrs. Jone Raules y^e daughter of George Raules Gent of Dichly in the p^rish of Enston Being Both of this County of Oxon weare Published by me three Lordes Dayes at y^e Close of y^e morning Exercise in this p^rish Church of Daddington that is to Say on y^e 17th & on y^e 24th & on y^e 31th Dayes Being all in January 1657 Edw Kempster Register & weare married y^e 18th Day of ffebruary 1657 by Thomas Apletree Esq^r & weare published three Lordes Dayes afores^d in y^e p^rish Church of Enston afores^d by ffrancis Smith 1657."

The Vicar of Enstone, at this eventful period, like his neighbour, " Dr. Rochecliffe, Rector of Woodstock," it is presumed, had been ejected from his living; and Mrs. Jone Raules, now Mrs. Higgins, not having any taste for another " minister," was not like Mary Prentice, in the preceding extract, married twice, but very possibly, under the circumstances, considered, with her husband, that one of these marriages was enough.

I will, at a future period, be happy to give further extracts from the Deddington Registers, and from those of Adderbury and Glympton.

* * At the request of our Secretary, the Rev. P. Hookins, the following is added, in order to introduce a curious document which has been lent to the Association by J. Griffin, M.D., now of Banbury.

The family of Griffin has, for nearly two centuries, been well known in Deddington for "the practice of Physic and Surgery." The following extract, from the early Register, shows their introduction here, and gives another specimen of a Commonwealth marriage:—

"William Griffin, of Tingwick in ye County of Bucks and Mary Trantham of Wielligon (?) in this County weare published by me three market dayes in this markt place in may and June 1658 and weare married ye 11th of June Instant by Lewis Jones Minister of Caversfield 1658"

In the Register of Burials the profession is entered, thus:—

"William Griffin Curiurgon was Buried the 23th day of July 1666"

There are many subsequent entries relative to the family, but having given the above I will copy the document referred to. C. F.

"William by Divine Providence Archbishop of Canterbury Primate of all England and Metropolitan. To our beloved in Christ William Griffin of Daddington in the county of Oxon Diocese of Oxon and of our Province of Canterbury Health and Grace. Whereas We have been credibly informed that you have for some time past been conversant in the practice of Physick and Surgery and by God's assistance have cured many who have been desperately sick and wounded and have received a laudable Testimonial from several practitioners of your experience fidelity diligence and industry in performing the Cures which you have undertaken in these arts of Physick and Surgery We do for the causes aforesaid and others justly moving us in this behalf as far as in us lyes and we can by the statutes of this Realm and not otherwise nor in any other manner admit and approve of you and do by these presents give and grant to you our Licence (as long as you shall behave yourself well and laudably) to practice the said arts of Physick and Surgery in and through our whole Province of Canterbury the places in the Act of Parliament mentioned being excepted you having first taken the Oaths of fidelity and allegiance to his Majesty King George and of renouncing all foreign Jurisdiction power authority and superiority according to an Act of Parliament of this Kingdom made and provided in this behalf. In Witness whereof we have caused the seal which we use in this behalf to be hereunto put this Third day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and thirty four and in the nineteenth year of our Translation.

Three five shillings stamps

John Haynes Register

Seal of Canterbury. Around it, "The seal of the Vicar General to his Grace of Canterbury"

A CATALOGUE OF ANTIQUITIES,
EXHIBITED AT THE COMMITTEE AND GENERAL MEETINGS OF THE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH OXFORDSHIRE.

Committee Meeting, January 3, 1854.

Mr. WILLIAM WING, of Steeple Aston, exhibited and presented 118 coins. Some of them deserve mention.

No.

- 5 Greek coins.
- 18 Carthaginian coins. 14 with Horse and Palm-tree; 4 with Horse's head.
- 4 Uncertain early coins.

ROMAN SILVER COINS (DENARIJ).

- 1 GALBA?
- 1 COMMODUS. *RE.* LIB.AVG.VIII.P.M.TR.P.XVIL.COS.VII.P.P. Liberty standing.
- 1 SEVERUS. *RE.* FORTVNAE AVG. Fortune, standing.

ROMAN BRASS COINS.

- 1 VESPASIAN. *Middle Brass.*
OB. IMP. CAESAR VESPASIAN. AVG. COS. IIII.
RE. AEQVITAS AVGVST. Equity standing. S. C.
- 1 This coin, with another of the same size too much worn to be appropriated, was found beneath the foundations of the Church at Steeple Barton, Oxon.
- 2 GALLIENUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 VICTORINUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 TACITUS. *3rd Brass.*
OB. IMP. CL. TACITVS. AVG.
RE. MARS. VICTOR. In the field, B. A.
This, which is in fine condition, was found with skeleton, remains of hypocausts, &c., at Steeple Aston, Oxon.
- 2 ALLECTUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 CONSTANTIUS CHLORUS. *3rd Brass.*
OB. DIVO. CONSTANTIO. PIO. PRINCIP. Veiled head of Constantius.
RE. REQVIES. OPTIMOR. MERIT. A figure seated in the curule chair.
- 1 GALERIUS MAXIMIANUS. *2nd Brass.*
- 5 CONSTANTINUS MAXIMUS. *3rd Brass.*
1 *RE.* CONSTANTIANA DAFNE. A woman trampling on a captive, and holding in each hand a palm-branch; on one side a trophy. In the field, B. In exergue, CONS✕
- 2 URBS ROMA. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 CRISPUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 8 CONSTANTINUS II. *3rd Brass.*
- 4 CONSTANS. *3rd Brass.*
- 8 CONSTANTIUS II. *3rd Brass.*
- 9 VALENTINIANUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 THEODOSIUS MAGNUS. *3rd Brass.*
- 1 CONSTANTINUS IV. ? *3rd Brass.*

ENGLISH COINS.

Silver.

- 1 WILLIAM II. (RUFUS.) Penny. Moneyer and Mint unknown.
- 2 EDWARD III. London penny and London half-groat.
- 1 HENRY VII. Groat.

- 1 HENRY VIII. Canterbury half-groat.
 1 MARY. Groat.
 3 ELIZABETH. 2 sixpences, 1579, 1592; 1 threepence, 1570.
 2 CHARLES II. Shilling, 1663; groat, 1673.
 2 WILLIAM III. Shilling, 1696; sixpence, 1697.
 2 ANNE. Half-crown, Edinburgh, 1707; sixpence, 1705.
 3 GEORGE III. Shilling, 1787; Bank-token for three shillings (counterfeit); Bank-token for tenpence, 1805.

Copper.

- 1 JAMES II. Gun-money shilling, Aug., 1689.
 1 WILLIAM III. Halfpenny.

- 1 Brass Revolution Jubilee Medal, 1788.
 3 Nuremburg Counters. "Ave maris stella dei mater," on each side of one of them.
 2 Sicilian, 1 Venetian, and another foreign coin.

Mr. WING also presented, at the same time, a Proclamation of the Succession of James I. to the Crown of England, "Imprinted at London by Robert Barker, Printer to our late Soueraigne Lady Queene Elizabeth. March 24. Anno Dom. 1602."—See Lingard, anno 1603. Also, a Proclamation by King George II. of a General Fast, on the occasion of war with Spain. Dec. 24. 1740. These were both found at Glympton House.

The Rev. EDWARD GIBBS WALFORD, Rector of Chipping Wardon, sent a gutta-percha impression of a brass seal, found on the site of Bradenstoke Priory, Wilts. The device has a ram lying beneath a tree, and behind him a monk; and is surrounded by an inscription reading—* WILLE BE STILLE AND OFTE MITE YOV HAVE THEY WILLE.—It is supposed to be of the 14th century.

The Rev. C. WALTERS, of Wardington, presented a rubbing of the inscription of a brass from his Church, which reads:

"Hic jacet Henricus Frebody, gentilman qui obiit V° die Januarii A° dni M°CCCC°XLIIII° cujus ale ppicietur deus Amen."

Committee Meeting, February 7, 1854.

The Rev. MOSES MITCHELL presented to the Society several coins and other antiquities. Some of the former were found on the site of a Roman villa at Wood Eaton, situated (Hussey's Roman Road, p. 37) on the hill just above the turning from the Islip Road to the village of Wood Eaton. Many Roman coins and other antiquities have been found there, during the last 50 years. Traces of buildings are scattered upon the surface. Mr. Hussey considers the remains rather those of a military station than of a private dwelling-house.

LIST OF COINS.

- 1 CARACALLA. Base denarius of plated copper.
OB. ANTONINVS AVGVSTVS.
RE. PONTIF. TR. P. VIII. COS. II. A military figure naked, holding a laurel-branch and the hasta; his right foot on a helmet.
 1 TRAJANUS DECIUS. Base denarius.
OB. IMP. C. M. Q. TRAIANVS DECIVS AVG.
RE. DACIA. The province standing, holding a spear surmounted by the head of an ass. *Rare type.*
 1 POSTUMUS. Base denarius.
RE. FELICITAS AVG.

- 3 VICTORINUS. 3rd Brass.
 1 TETRICUS SENIOR. 3rd Brass.
 1 CLAUDIUS GOTHICUS. 3rd Brass.
 2 CONSTANTINUS MAGNUS. 3rd Brass.
 2 "URBS ROMA." 3rd Brass.
 1 CONSTANTINUS II. 3rd Brass.
 3 CONSTANS. 3rd Brass.
 2 CONSTANTIUS II. 3rd Brass. (One very fine.)
 1 MAGNENTIUS or DECENTIUS? 3rd Brass.
 1 VALENS. 3rd Brass.
 1 JAMES I. of Great Britain. A farthing token, called a "Harrington." See Ruding.

21

The other antiquities are—a Roman buckle; a ring; and a thin piece of metal marked by crossed diagonal scorings, believed to have been worn on the dress: these are of bronze. There is also a thin circular piece of brass or bronze, marked with a single dot, which Mr. Mitchell believes to have been found with Roman remains at Wood Eaton. Its weight is 3.3 grains, and it is doubtless a *carat* weight of no great antiquity.

W. WILLES, Esq., of Astrop House, sent for exhibition two third brass Roman coins lately found on his estate at Sutton Lodge. One, of Constantine the Great, in very fine preservation, has on the obverse CONSTANTINVS AVG., and on the reverse DN. CONSTANTINO MAX. AVG., ^{YOT} within a garland, and PT. in the exergue. It has been washed with tin. The other is of Claudius Gothicus, of the common *consecratio* type.

Mr. WM. MORGAN, of King's Sutton, sent for exhibition an iron *cultrum* or chopper, another iron instrument, and the bottom of an earthen colander or drainer, found at "Blackland," on the same estate. He also sent some curious bronze objects found imbedded in a mass of ironstone, close to the Great Western Railway, about a quarter of a mile west of Trafford Bridge. They were—an *armilla* or bracelet (*fig. 1*), the bowl of a spoon (*fig. 2*), the bottom of a cylindrical box (*fig. 3*), a solid bell-shaped piece of metal (use unknown) (*fig. 4*), and some cuttings and decayed fragments of leaf bronze.

The Rev. P. HOOKINS presented the following coins:—

- 3rd Brass of GRATIAN, from Great Barford Church, found during its restoration.
 EDWARD IV. York penny.
 JAMES I. Twopence.
 JAMES II. Twopence.
 1 Counter.
 GEORGE II. Farthing.
 LOUIS XIII. Sou.

Committee Meeting, March 7, 1854.

Mr. BEESLEY, of Banbury, exhibited and presented Roman pottery, found in a sort of pit, at Blackland, King's Sutton; also, three casts of Roman vases, found at Borough Hill, near Daventry.

The Rev. W. MILLER exhibited two spoons of base metal, of quaint form, and of the dates of Charles II. and of William and Mary. He also presented the following silver coins:—

- 1 CHARLES II. Threepence, 1673.
 2 WILLIAM & MARY. Groats, 1689-91.
 1 ANNE. Sixpence, 1717.
 1 GEORGE I. Shilling, 1720.
 2 GEORGE II. Shilling, 1758; sixpence, 1757.

Mr. MORGAN presented the objects found by him at Blackland, King's Sutton, and exhibited at the last meeting.

W. WILLES, Esq., exhibited the neck of a globular vase lately found on his estate at Sutton Lodge.

Mr. RYE exhibited some valuable coins lent by Mr. Painter. The rarest of these mentioned in his paper on Madmarston Camp, are catalogued in the appendix given by Mr. Beesley.

Committee Meeting, May 16, 1854.

The Rev. W. C. RISLEY, of Deddington, presented Skelton's "Oxonia Antiqua restaurata." 2 vols. 1823. Russia, gilt.

The Rev. E. PAYNE, of Swalcliffe, presented 12 coins, as follows:—

- 6 pennies of WILLIAM I., from the hoard at Beauworth, Hants. (v. Ruding.)
 2 Lifwold on Win,
 2 Iestan on Win, and
 2 others, Moneyer and Mintmarks illegible.
 1 AURELIANUS. 3rd Brass.
 RE. PROVID DEOR. Providence and the sun standing; in exergue, PXXT.
 1 ELIZABETH. Sixpence, 1563.
 1 WILLIAM III. Sixpence, 1696.
 1 Nuremburg Counter.
 1 Lira Regno d'Italie. NAPOLEONE.
 1 Lira Regno due Sicilie. GIACHIMO NAPOLEONE (MURAT).

Mr. CHARLES GOODMAN, of North Aston, presented a silver coin of Julianus II., found in a garden near Steeple Aston Church.

OB. D. N. Julianus P. F. Aug.

VOTIS

RE. MVLTVIS within a garland; in ex, T CON.

Mr. WM. WING, of Steeple Aston, presented a partizan of the time of the Great Rebellion.

The Rev. E. G. WALFORD, of Chipping Wardon, presented a Banbury Tradesman's Token.

Benjamin Hibberdine, Apothecary, Banbury ^{H.B}_A (Date about 1660.)

Mr. A. B. RYE presented two Tradesmen's Tokens.

- 1 Henry Smith in Banbury Ironmonger, 1656.
 1 Thomas Norris in Aynho upon the Hill, his halfpeny.

Mr. G. COOKE, of Banbury, presented drawings of the bronze antiquities and neck of jar, found at King's Sutton.

Committee Meeting, June 17, 1854.

Col. MILLER presented the two spoons exhibited at the last meeting.

Miss MILLER presented a coin—a Dublin penny (Edward 1st.)

Mr. GOODWIN sent for inspection a knife (perhaps table knife) of the date 1550. One very similar is represented in the Journal of the British Archæological Association.

Committee Meeting, August 15, 1854.

The Rev. W. MILLER presented a Banbury Token of Mathew Ansley.

Mr. WING, a sixpence of Elizabeth, found near Woodstock; date of coinage, 1654.

The Rev. T. W. D. BROOKS, fragments of pottery, from Blackland, King's Sutton: one a piece of an embossed Samian bowl.

Mr. G. COOKE, rubbings of brasses:—

1. A priest, from Souldern.
2. Thomas Dormer, from Newbottle.
3. Lady Amabilia Strange, from Warkworth.
4. John Chetwode, from Warkworth.

Mr. BEESLEY presented 2 casts from Roman vases, found in a well on Borough Hill, Daventry, 1853; a cast from a cup found in a flue beneath a tessellated pavement at the same spot, in 1823; and a token—"Thomas Nutt of Dadington, Mercer, 1653."

The Subscribers to the tumulus-opening presented the bits of pottery, bones, and bead, &c., found in Rowbarrow.

W. WILLES, Esq., of Astrop, exhibited, through Mr. Beesley, a bronze spear-head, found at Hinton, near Brackley. Its length is $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches; that of the leaf-shaped blade, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches by 9-10ths of an inch in its widest part, with a strong ridge. Three-quarters of an inch below the blade are two loops or ears, which, from a failure in the casting, are imperforate; below this the socket expands to $\frac{3}{4}$ inch in diameter: weight, 2 ounces. In addition to the defective loops, there are flaws in the casting, which make it likely that this spear has never been used, but was thrown aside as waste metal. It is not improbable that if the spot where it was found were searched, other pieces of metal might come to light. These spear-heads, which are not common in England, although plentiful in Ireland, have been almost universally attributed to the ancient Celtic inhabitants. Looking, however, to the excellence both of their material and form, it seems more likely that they are the work of the Romans.

Committee Meeting, January 8, 1855.

Mr. W. S. OWEN presented a bronze figure found at Warkworth, supposed to form part of a cross, and to represent the body of our Lord Christ. Also, a tradesman's token (heart-shaped) "1669, James Baunell"; and a shilling of Charles 1st (mint-mark, a triangle).

The Rev. E. PAYNE presented three Nuremberg counters found in the chancel of Swalcliffe Church.

Dr. WISE presented a Nuremberg counter.

Mr. GOODMAN, of Steeple Aston, presented a silver coin of Julian II. found at Steeple Aston, and third brass of Constans found at Hendon Hall.

Committee Meeting, February 27, 1855.

Mr. RYE presented an impression of a seal found near Oxford, and relating to Chester; also pottery from Madmarston, and a large brass coin of Faustina from King's Sutton.

Mrs. D. H. WEBB, of Wickham Park, sent some ancient bridle-bits and spurs found on her estate.

General Meeting, December 6, 1853.

Mr. T. BEESLEY, of Banbury, exhibited a number of specimens of Roman pottery, most of which had been discovered on the sites mentioned in his paper.

Mr. C. FAULKNER, of Deddington, exhibited a collection of Roman remains, from his Museum, among which were the following:—A bronze head, probably of Venus, the weight of a statera or steelyard, discovered, with a coin of Constantinus, in a field on the north-east of Adderbury turnpike; a bronze celt, found at Dean Hill, near North Aston; part of a gold chain, of Roman workmanship, found in a field near Barford St. Michael's; fragment of a fictile vessel, dug up during the excavation of the hypocaust, at Wigginton, A.D. 1824; fragments of the tessellated pavements, painted plaster, flues, charred wheat and vetches, &c., from the Roman villa, near Stonesfield; bronze lamp for suspending from the ceiling, fibulæ, stylus, dog, dove, mermaid, and a female head (similar to the one discovered at Adderbury) used as a weight for a small balance: most of these are in a high state of preservation, and were discovered, with other remains, at Kingsholme, near Gloucester.

Mr. BOUGHTON, of Evenley, near Brackley, also exhibited the coins found on his farm, described by Mr. Beesley in his paper.

General Meeting, April 4, 1854.

Mr. PAINTER, of Lower Swalcliffe Leys, exhibited a large collection of Roman silver and brass coins, and some ranging from the time of Augustus, three years before Christ, to Arcadius, A.D. 400; and nine British coins, some of them in fine preservation. They were found at Madmarston.

Coins were presented by the Rev. M. MITCHELL, of Wroxton, found at Wood Eaton, Oxon; by Mr. W. WING, of Steeple Aston, at Steeple Aston and Barton; and by Mr. A. B. RYE, of Banbury, at King's Sutton.

The Rev. W. C. RISLEY, of Deddington, presented ancient keys of Boddicott and Tingewick Churches.

The Rev. E. PAYNE, of Swalcliffe, exhibited the gloves presented by Charles I. to the Lord Mayor of York; a letter relating to the execution of that Monarch; and a slashed sleeve of the same period.

Mr. FAULKNER, of Deddington, exhibited a miniature of Charles I. set for a bracelet; and the fragment of a bomb shell said to have been fired at Banbury Castle during the civil wars.

The Rev. J. W. HEWETT, of Bloxham, exhibited a silver crucifix, *said* to have been worn by Charles I., and a richly embroidered bag which held his great seal.

Mr. T. BEESLEY, of Banbury, exhibited an original warrant of Sir William Compton, the governor of Banbury Castle, to the constables of Boddicott, commanding them upon pain of death to bring all the masons, carpenters, and sawyers within their township to the castle, there to be employed in His Majesty's service.

The Rev. G. WARRINER, of Bloxham Grove, exhibited a leaden bulla or seal of Pope Alexander IV., of the date of the 13th century, found in Boddicott churchyard.

Annual Meeting, July 17 and 18, 1854.

The Rev. Mr. BURROWS exhibited an antependium, from Steeple Aston Church.

The Rev. H. D. HARINGTON exhibited vestments, from South Newington Church.

Sir GEORGE PHILLIPS, of Weston Park, exhibited gold British coins, found at Shipton.

The Rev. W. J. PINWILL, of Horley, exhibited ancient paintings on copper, ivory carvings of the 15th century, holy wafer box, silver crucifix, and early bronze Greek cross.

Mr. FAULKNER, of Deddington, exhibited a processional cross, &c.

Mr. MURTON, of Weston Park Farm, exhibited an urn, beads, fibula, and ring, found near the Rollright Stones, and Anglo-Saxon spear-heads &c., from Long Compton and Woolford.

Mr. QUATERMAINE, Chipping Norton, exhibited a crucifix, ancient keys and bronze celt found at Hook Norton, and wood carving from Chipping Norton and Spelsbury Churches.

Mr. BEESLEY, of Banbury, exhibited an Anglo-Saxon spear-head, knife, &c., found at Spelsbury.

The Rev. J. JORDAN, of Enstone, exhibited many ancient deeds, found in the parish chest belonging to Enstone: some dated as far back as 1339.

General Meeting, January 20, 1855.

The Rev. W. WILSON presented portions of a globular earthen flask found, with skeletons, in the Vicarage Yard, Banbury.

Mr. BOUGHTON, of Evenley, Northamptonshire, again exhibited the Roman urn, with upwards of 3,000 coins, found at Evenley, November 11th, 1853.

Mr. BEESLEY exhibited a valuable collection of Greek, Roman, British, Saxon, and English coins; tradesmen's tokens of the 17th century, including tokens issued at that time in Banbury, Adderbury, King's Sutton, Aynhoe, Deddington, Wardington, Hook Norton, Great Tew, Brackley, Kineton, Chipping Norton, Southam, Buckingham, Oxford, Burford, and Bampton; also a paalstab or celt, found at Aynhoe, a cast of another found at Wardington, and a piece of sculpture in alabaster from the site of Banbury Castle.

The Rev. W. J. PINWILL exhibited two leaves of an ivory diptych of the 15th century, and a copper triptych of the 16th century. That of ivory represented the Assumption of the Virgin and the Marriage in Cana of Galilee, and that of copper the Crucifixion and the Annunciation and the Flight into Egypt; also two curious paintings on wood, which once formed the leaves of a diptych, painted by Schwartz.

The Rev. E. G. WALFORD exhibited a Paalstab, found at Aston-le-Walls.

There were shown casts of Roman vases found at the Borough Hill (the ancient Bennaventa), near Daventry; and an engraving, by F. Bromley, of Landseer's painting of "Charles I. on the eve of the battle of Edgehill."

The walls were also adorned with several pieces of ancient tapestry, lent by the Rev. P. HOOKINS.

Colonel NORTH sent 12 ancient family papers, which he intended to have read to the Meeting. Mr. WING read some of these. The youngest of them, he said, was 150 years old. The first was dated the 16th of June, 1621, and was a licence to Sir William Pope, Knight and Baronet, to travel to "ye Spaw in Germain" (the Spa in Germany) for six months, provided that he did not presume to repair unto the city of Rome. The second paper was the complaint of a prisoner in the Bocardo, in 1643. He was there in default of the payment of £200. With respect to the Bocardo, the following notice of it was quoted from a work by James Ingram, D.D., President of Trinity College, Oxford:—

"At the end of North-gate Street, and nearly adjoining the tower of St. Michael's Church, stood the celebrated Bocardo, the principal north gate of the city, which was more strongly fortified than any other of the gates, having no river before it to assist in the defence. When the fortifications fell into disuse, the room over the gateway, which had in early times served as a muniment room, was applied to the purpose of a common prison, principally for debtors."

The third paper was the appointment of Thomas Manley to the degree of barrister, by Charles II., on the 18th of September, 1672. The fourth paper was a royal proclamation of the same reign, in December, 1679, against petitions. This document stated that His Majesty taking notice of the frequent signing of petitions, ordered the Attorney-General to take steps for punishing those who were drawn in to sign those petitions. The next paper, dated the 30th of November, 1682, contained orders for conveying five prisoners, condemned for high treason as Popish priests, to Scilly, there to continue close prisoners during His Majesty's pleasure. Another paper was the passport or free passage, signed by Sir T. Fairfax, through those parts of the kingdom held by the Commonwealth, in February, 1648, in favour of Sir John Saltonstall. This passport gave liberty to him "freely to roam and quietly to pass unto the city of London." The next document was an oath of fidelity to the Commonwealth, taken in 1652, by Sir John Saltonstall, of South Abington, Essex.

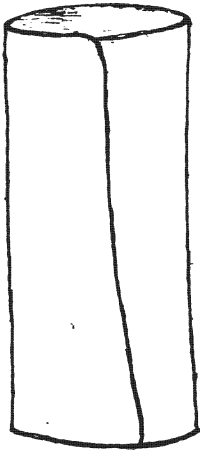
Mr. FAULKNER exhibited and read the deed of manumission of a villein of the time of Edward III. It was found at Enstone by the Rev. J. Jordan.

General Meeting, April 24, 1855.

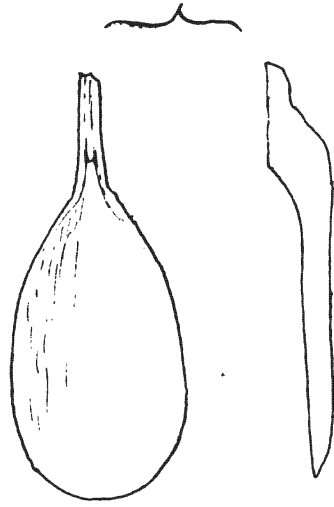
The Rev. J. W. HEWETT exhibited a bird's-eye view of the New Schools to be erected at Bloxham, and numerous drawings of the most scarce encaustic tiles of the neighbourhood.

The Rev. T. W. D. BROOKS exhibited a series of rubbings, and an engraving of the beautiful brass at St. Albans.

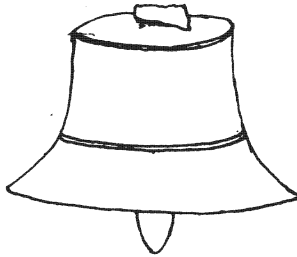
A Black Jack, formerly in the Hall of the Duke of Buccleugh, at Adderbury, was also exhibited.



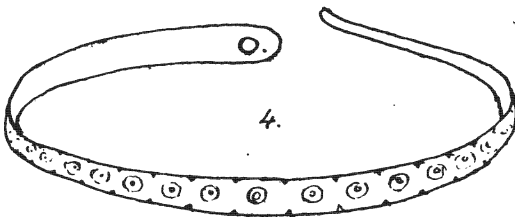
1.



2.



3.



4.

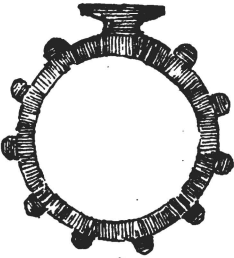
*Bronze Articles found in Ironstone, near Twyford
Bridge, King's Sutton, Northamptonshire. Real size.*



II



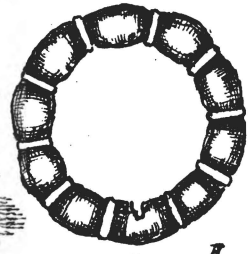
I



I



II



IV

B

ARTICLES OF BRONZE, FOUND IMBEDDED IN BOG IRON ORE, NEAR
TWYFORD BRIDGE, KING'S SUTTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

1. Part of cylindrical box.
2. Bowl of spoon.
3. Solid bell-shaped object, with remains of iron handle (pommel of sword?)
4. Bracelet.

BRONZE CELT, PAALSTABS, AND SPEAR-HEAD.

1. Celt, from Dane Hill, near Deddington, Oxon (v. p. 19).
2. Paalstab, from Aynho, Northamptonshire.
3. ——— from Wardington, Oxon (v. p. 17).
4. ——— from Aston-le-Walls, Northamptonshire.
5. Spear-head, from Hinton, near Brackley, Northamptonshire.

THE UNDERMENTIONED ARTICLES, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE FIRST, ARE FROM THE
COLLECTION OF THE LATE MR. MURTON.

No. I. Neck of a jar, sent for exhibition by W. Willes, Esq., of Astrop House, found
on his estate.

II. A small jug of dark brown coloured ware.

III. Its full height.

IV. A ring-fibula of beaded type.

V. A silver decade ring (full size) with ten square knobs and an oval facet. It has been supposed (see *Archæological Journal*, Vol. V. p. 68) that the rings of this sort were worn by some classes of religious during the hours of repose, so that on awaking during the night they might repeat a certain number of prayers, marking them by the beads or knobs of the rings. The ten bosses, beads, or knobs indicated ten aves. If worn on a finger, and not on the thumb at any other periods of time than those of repose, it must have been as a sort of penance; and perhaps the rings were sometimes so used.

I have given this with the other for companionship sake. They were in juxtaposition in the same collection. They both originally belonged to Rome—the one Pagan, the other Papistic. They together, that with its ten beads, and this with its ten knobs, offered illustration,—so the late Dr. Conyers Middleton would have said—and with great gravity—of the connection between Paganism and Papistry and how the former was the veritable Papa.

VI. The facet of the same.

