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THE MAIDEN WAY.

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY FROM BIRDOSWALD, THE STATION AMBOGLANNA,
ON THE ROMAN WALL, NORTHWARD INTO SCOTLAND; WITH A SHORT
DESCRIPTION OF SOME REMARKABLE OBJECTS IN THE DISTRICT.

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SECTION I.—*Survey of the Maiden Way through the Parish of
Lanercost.*

THERE is a natural craving in the human mind to pry into and to master the secrets of the remote past; to deal with records of a period prior to written annals, and to supply the want of ancient historical details by inferences drawn from its reliques, such as votive tablets, sacrificial altars, sepulchral memorials and other vestiges, and thus to be made acquainted with a state of society, and a class of enterprises which the world once saw, but which it will never see again. To gratify such a feeling of inquisitiveness this investigation of the Maiden Way was undertaken.

Mr. Bainbridge, in his account of the Maiden Way on the south side of the Roman wall, says that it came from Kirkby Thore, in Westmoreland, to the Carvorran Station.¹ I think it, however, very possible that there may have been a branch from it direct to the Birdoswald Station. I have examined the ground very closely, and although I could not find any remains of an unquestionable character, I found some traces on the south side of the river Irthing. These pass on the east side of the Bushnook and Shawfield farmhouses, and on

¹ *Archæologia Æliana*, vol. iv. p. 36. He states that it is called in old Boundary Rolls "Mayden Gate—Via Puellarum."

the west side of the Reagarth, and are in the same straight line as the Maiden Way on the north side of the wall. After passing the Reagarth about a quarter of a mile, they then turn a little more to the east across the Reagarth ground, and enter upon Hartleyburn Fell, nearly direct south of an old building called the "Colonel's Lodge." Here the trace becomes entirely obliterated, in consequence of the soft spongy nature of the ground and the thick herbage, but it is aiming direct for Ulpham, (query, from the Welsh, *Gwylfa*, a Watch-tower?) The trace which I found may be about two miles in length, and another mile would enable it to form a junction with the main line leading to the north east, or to Carvorran. This branch, if it ever existed, would reduce the distance to Birdoswald about seven miles, which would be of great importance to troops passing from England into Scotland.

There has hitherto been a doubt as to the point where the Maiden Way started from the Roman Wall, and also as to the line of its progress to the north. Mr. Hutchinson, in his History of Cumberland, Vol. i. p. 63, says that "it passes through Carvorran, and extends along the northern parts of this county, over the heights, to the east of Bewcastle, in a direction almost duly north, and enters Scotland near Lamyford, where it crosses the river Kirksop." It is very possible, however, that Mr. Hutchinson's statement may have been made without due examination, as I cannot hear of any place bearing the name of the "Maiden Way" on the north side of Carvorran, or in the direction of Lamyford. There is no place bearing the name of Lamyford known on the Kershope river at the present day. I find it mentioned, however, in Denton's MS. as one of the boundaries of Cumberland; "Christianbury-Crag unto Lamyford where Cumberland makes a narrow point northwards. There the river Liddal, on the north-west side, runs down between Scotland and Cumberland." So that the Lamyford must have been somewhere near the junction of the rivers Liddal and Kershope. I find two roads branching from the Maiden Way to the north-west; the one from the station at Bewcastle, and the other from the Crew. I have traced each of these roads for some distance, and if they continued their courses onwards they would unite, and enter into Scotland somewhere near this ancient Lamyford. The

Maiden Way, however, crosses the Kershope a few miles farther to the east. The branch road from the Crew was formerly called "the Wheel-Causeway," and hence, probably, arose Mr. Hutchinson's error.

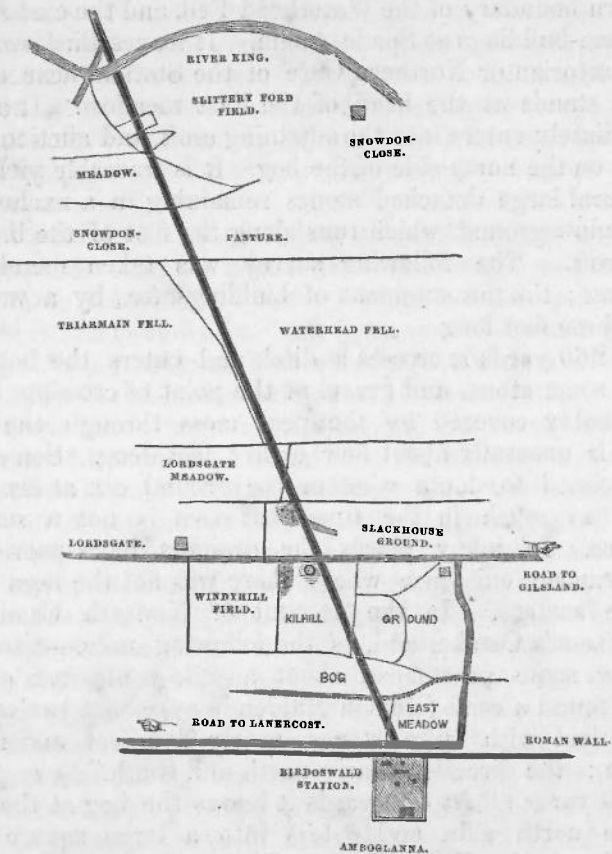
There is a part of an old road on the Side Fell, about two miles south of Bewcastle, to which tradition has always assigned the name of the Maiden Way, and this remnant of the road is graced with a remarkable specimen of the ruins of a Roman watch-tower. In the spring of 1852 the Rev. J. Collingwood Bruce, the author of "The Roman Wall," accompanied by a friend, was on a visit of inspection of the remains of the Roman Station at Bewcastle, and I conducted them to this relic on the Side Fell. While seated on the greensward which now covers the Roman fortlet, a question arose whether the road proceeded northwards from Carvorran, according to the generally received opinion as to its route, or whether it did not proceed from Birdoswald, as the road on the Side Fell seemed to be aiming direct to the latter station. Having heard the same question discussed but not decided on former occasions, my curiosity was excited, and I was induced to pursue the track of this road, and thus in some measure to test the accuracy of Mr. Hutchinson's statement. I experienced very little difficulty in tracing it to Birdoswald, but could not discover any point where it showed the least tendency to diverge towards Carvorran. I experienced considerable difficulty, however, in tracing it northwards from Bewcastle. The trace was not so distinct and well defined, and I had consequently to examine in several places a large tract of land on each side of it, before I could feel satisfied that I was not off the line. This caused a vast amount of labour, and often required the greatest perseverance, but I have no doubt that my efforts have been successful in recovering a road which was all but lost.

Gibbon, speaking of the union and internal prosperity of the Roman Empire in the age of the Antonines, says, "All these cities were connected with each other, and with the capital, by the public highways, which, issuing from the Forum of Rome, traversed Italy, pervaded the provinces, and were terminated only by the frontiers of the Empire. If we carefully trace the distance from the Wall of Antoninus to Rome, and thence to Jerusalem, it will be found that the great chain of communication from the north-west to the

south-east point of the empire, was drawn out to the length of 4080 Roman miles. The public roads were accurately divided by milestones, and ran in a direct line from one city to another, and with very little respect for the obstacles either of nature or private property. Mountains were perforated, and bold arches thrown over the broadest and most rapid streams. The middle part of the road was raised into a terrace, which commanded the adjacent country, consisted of several strata of sand, gravel and cement, and was paved with large stones, or, in some places, near the capital, with granite. Such was the solid construction of the Roman highways, whose firmness has not entirely yielded to the effort of fifteen centuries." We have no reason, however, to suppose that the Maiden Way was constructed on so extended or so expensive a scale, although we must look upon it as forming part of that great chain or network of roads which extended from the Wall of Antoninus, between the Firths of Forth and Clyde, to Jerusalem.

The surface of the country through which the line passes northwards from Birdoswald is, in general, exceedingly irregular, and yet finely diversified. A large portion of it is mountainous, and much of the land barren, or at least only covered with heather, and yet it exhibits many scenes that are beautiful and romantic. In some places the hills rise in wild confusion, begirt with vast ranges of huge rocks towering up in rude and fantastical shapes, in the midst of which are torrents thundering down deep and narrow glens, and forming beautiful cascades as they are precipitated over the impending rocks. In other places, the prospect is enlivened with the cheering diversity of gently rising hills and winding vales, which are termed in the dialect of the district fells and gills (or ghylls), presenting a most delightful landscape of verdant plains and rural beauty. The ridge of hills by which the country is traversed is of considerable elevation, being sometimes styled the British Alps, or Apennines, and forming the backbone of England. These hills are mostly composed of white freestone, interspersed with numerous thick beds of limestone and ironstone, and small seams of coal. There are several veins of lead, some of which are lying almost close to the surface. The district also abounds with sulphureous, chalybeate, and petrifying springs.

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



I.—FROM BIRDOSWALD STATION ON THE ROMAN WALL TO THE RIVER KING.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

The Maiden Way passes in a perfectly straight line to the north-west from Birdoswald to the Little Beacon Tower, which from Birdoswald appears on a favourable day like a small nipple on the summit of the ridge of hills running to the east from the Beacon, and which may be readily discovered by taking a sight along the stone fence which forms the western boundary of the Waterhead Fell, and the east side of the farm-buildings at Spade Adam. It leaves Birdoswald at the Prætorian or Northern Gate of the Station, near a tree which stands at the head of the East meadow. It almost immediately enters into the adjoining croft, and aims towards a gate on the north side of the bog. It is traceable by means of several large detached stones remaining in a narrow slip of meadow ground, which runs along the foot of the brow in the croft. The following survey was taken merely by stepping; the measurement of buildings, &c., by a walking stick three feet long.

At 260 yards it crosses a ditch and enters the bog. It shows some stones and gravel at the point of crossing, but it is probably covered by the peat moss through the bog, which is generally about four or five feet deep. Some may feel inclined to doubt whether the ground can really have grown so much in the time, but this is not a solitary instance. In many places the drainers have proved its subterranean existence where there was not the least trace on the surface. In the account of Naworth Castle, in Hutchinson's Cumberland, is the following note.—“On improving some peat moss, about a mile south-east of the castle, found a road (Roman Maiden Way) about twelve feet broad, laid with large stones, nearly five feet under the surface; the direction nearly north and south.”

(190 yards.)² At 450 yards it leaves the bog at the gate on the north side, and enters into a large square field belonging to the Kilhill Farm. The road seems to remain undisturbed at this gate. In passing through this field it crosses a piece of meadow which has been drained. Some of the drains cut through the buried road, leaving little doubt as to its line. There is a heap of stones lying at present which have been gathered from the drains. Detached

² In order to facilitate the examination of the line by any antiquary, who may visit the localities here noticed, it has been

thought desirable to state the distances between the successive stations described in this survey.

stones still appear on the surface of the ground. On the north side of this field it passes on the east side of a small mound, which has been partly carted away, and which may have been the site of a small watch-tower.

(400 yards.) At 850 yards it crosses the public road to Gilsland. Here it enters the Slack-house ground, where a gateway has been left in the stone fence. It passes along the east side of a small plantation, where it is now used for the cart-road. It appears to have been undisturbed. It then enters the corner of another field belonging to the Slack-house Farm, where it has been raised considerably above the adjoining ground, leaving unquestionable traces of its progress.

(400 yards.) At 1250 yards it enters Lordsgate meadow, and passes through the north-east corner, which was drained about three years since. Several of the drains intersected the Way, and produced a large quantity of stones. These drains, showing such manifest traces of the Way, are decisive against Mr. Hutchinson's statement as to its passing to the north from Carvorran, unless we admit that there have been two lines of Roman road each called the Maiden Way.

(180 yards.) At 1430 yards it enters the Waterhead Fell, at the south-west corner, and runs for several hundred yards on the east side of the stone wall, which forms the western boundary of the Fell. The Way here is considerably raised above the adjoining ground, and in some places shows a ditch on the east side. It passes over the summit of a barren and mossy ridge about the middle of this Fell. I have thought it necessary to be thus explicit at starting, to show the nature of the evidence on which I maintain that it has proceeded to the north from Birdoswald. The general aspect of this Fell is singularly bleak and wild, with little to arrest the attention, except now and then the whirring of a startled brood of grouse, the melancholy whistle of the plover, or the solitary scream of the curlew.

From the south-west corner of this Fell, a ditch, or syke, proceeds up the hill on the east side of the Maiden Way, and aims to the north-east. This ditch appears to accompany the Maiden Way as far as the Scottish border. It often crosses it, being sometimes on the east side, and at other times on the west of it. It generally has a low rampart, probably formed by the earth cast out of the ditch, on the

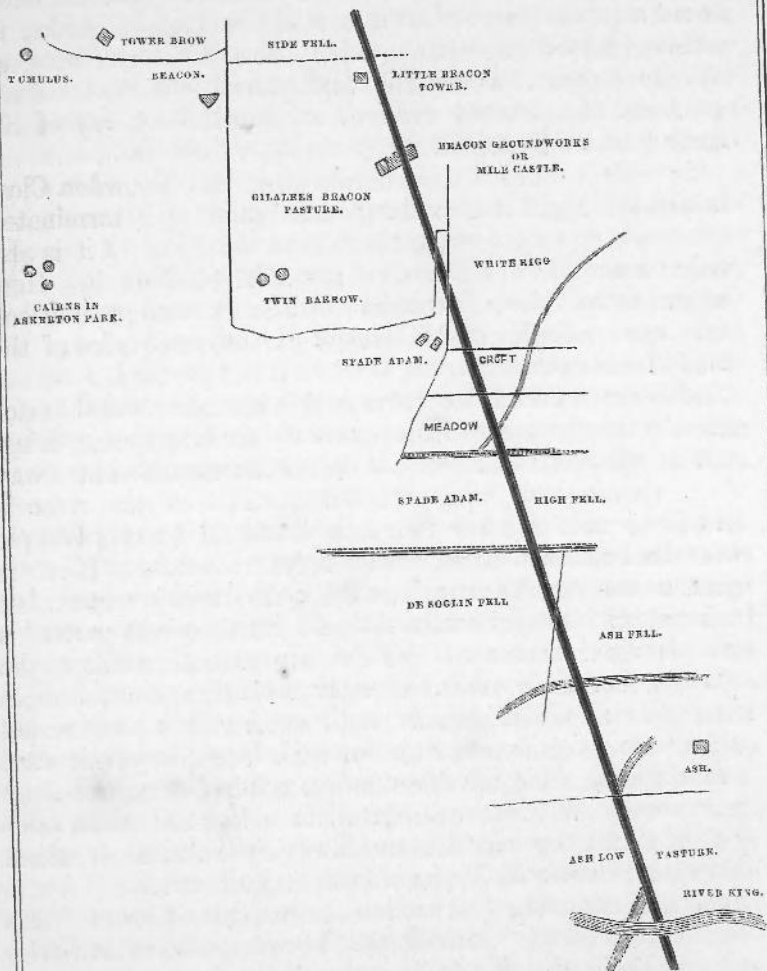
one side of it, and in some places it appears to have had a rampart on each side. Near the place where this ditch crosses the river Kirkbeck I lately found an ancient stone weapon, resembling a large chisel, about a foot long. This ditch may possibly have been a line of defence at some early period, and the Romans may have followed it as a guide ; or it may have formed an ancient boundary line between the counties of Cumberland and Northumberland. As it occurs so often in this survey, I shall call it, by way of distinction, the "Ancient Ditch."

(900 yards.) At 2330 yards it enters the Snowdon Close out-pasture at the point where the stone wall terminates, and where the rail fence commences. In this field it is also raised, and has had a ditch on the west side of it. Here we escape from the bleakness of the Fell range, and look down upon the green meadows and woodland glades of the vale of the river King.

(860 yards.) Pursuing its way through some small enclosures, at 3190 yards, it arrives at the rapid river King, rattling along down its rocky ravine, and crosses it a short way above the Slittery ford. The north bank of the river is very steep at the point of crossing, and would afford ample scope for the engineering powers of the Romans. There is an immense quantity of stones lying on the north bank, but it is difficult to say whether they have formed part of a bridge or not, as a large bed of freestone rock crosses the river at the same place. I could find no traces of Roman masonry, and yet the general appearance of the place would lead one to suppose that there must have been a bridge. Here the Maiden Way enters into the Ash low-pasture, and the cart-road joins it immediately on the bank and passes along it. The northern bank of the river is covered with small bushes, and winds around the Slittery Ford field.

(550 yards.) At 3740 yards it enters the Ash Fell. The way is very distinct just within the gate on the north side, and shows a row of edging-stones on each side. The row on the west side is about 16 yards long. The road here has been 15 feet wide. The stones have been placed so as to form an incline from the crown to the side, many of them being raised at the end nearest the centre, and resting upon the ends of those that are nearer the crown of the road. These would undoubtedly be the foundation stones of the

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



II.—FROM THE RIVER KING NORTHWARD TOWARDS BEWCASTLE.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

road, and would be covered with gravel or broken stones. Here the road has been decidedly only 15 feet wide. From Hutchinson, it appears that in the parish of Melmerby it is "uniformly 21 feet wide, and the road is laid with large stones so as to be difficult for horses to pass it." And in the parish of Kirkland it is said to be "in many places of the breadth of 8 yards." Can it have been wider on the south side of the Roman wall than on the north? There are several good traces in the Ash ground. It has been intersected in different places by the drains which have been lately made.

In pursuing its course over Spade Adam High Fell it also leaves some good traces in crossing the drains on the north side. The track of the way across this Fell may be distinctly seen from the Little Beacon Tower, being about 2000 yards from it. In Spade Adam Meadow also the drainers cut through it in several places, finding the bed of stones thickest where the peat moss was deepest and softest. It crosses a deep ditch, or beck, in this meadow, near a drain mouth, and shows a section of the road, on the edge of the ditch.

(2260 yards.) It passes along on the east side of Spade Adam (Speir Adam or Speir Edom) farm-house, and at 6000 yards enters a field called "The Nursery." A notion that the name may preserve the tradition of its use for rearing trees by the Romans is wholly conjectural. Cæsar, in his description of Britain, says that there is timber of every kind which is found in Gaul except beech and fir, and there are some aged beeches now standing in it. It is situated on gently rising ground with the slope facing to the south, or the full power of the mid-day sun. We have every reason to believe that the Roman soldier was not only employed in constructing military works, but was also engaged in various useful occupations, so that he became the instructor as well as the conqueror of the Britons. Nuts, acorns, and crabs, were almost all the variety of vegetable food indigenous to our island. It is said that cherries were introduced into Britain by the Romans, A.D. 55. Gibbon says, "that it would be almost impossible to enumerate all the articles, either of the animal or vegetable reign, which were successively imported into Europe from the East, and that almost all the flowers, the herbs, and the fruits that grow in our

European gardens are of foreign extraction." He mentions the apple, the apricot, and the peach. He speaks also of the naturalisation of the vine, the flax, and the artificial grasses, and of the gradual introduction of them into the western countries of Europe, and the encouragement given to the natives of the provinces to improve them.

(190 yards.) At 6190 yards it enters the pasture called "the Gilalees Beacon,"³ near an old quarry, and is traced in many of the drains as it passes up the side of the hill.

(500 yards.) At 6690 yards it approaches some ground-works, being its first introduction to what may be considered as classic ground. They are now almost level with the surrounding surface, but remarkably distinguished from it by the fresh green tint of the herbage. On the east side of the road are the foundations of a rectangular building 21 yards long, and 16 yards broad. It appears to have been protected on the east side by the "Ancient Ditch" which crosses the Maiden Way here, and by a slack or small ravine on the north and west sides. On the west side of the road there is a small enclosure with ramparts of earth and stone, which is divided into two parts. Here probably a body of Roman soldiers would be placed to supply a succession of sentinels to man the watch-towers in this district. It is rather remarkable that there seems to be a line of what may be called Mile Castles on the Maiden Way, such as we find on the Roman wall, and this is the first which I have been able to trace distinctly, although others may have been passed, whose foundations from various causes may have entirely disappeared. The foot road across the wastes from Gilsland passes along the Maiden Way here.

The road has been traversing rising ground since it crossed the river King, and has now attained a considerable elevation. The surface of the country consequently begins to be more open, and the views to the south and west are more enlarged. The vales disclose their interesting beauties, and every object exhibits a lively and pleasing aspect. Even here, dreary and weather-worn as are these heathy uplands, some herbs of grace are found to breathe of loveliness,

³ Gilalees may be derived from the Celtic, *gill*, water, which often denotes a brook in a narrow valley, or sometimes the valley itself, and *leagh*, a field, dale, or lee. This derivation accords well with the appearance of the country.

whilst they overlay the cold bare scalp with flowers. Here we have the lowly *Tormentilla reptans* shedding the light of its yellow stars, with its delicately pencilled petals peeping out, no taller than the turf on which it grows. And here we have the wild thyme also breathing its aromatic odour through the fresh breezes which sweep around the hills, and make each respiration rich with new draughts of life. Here is an inexhaustible field for the botanist, but especially among the mosses, of which there is a great variety of the most beautiful specimens.

In the south-west corner of this pasture are two large conical tumuli, very much resembling the "Twin Barrow" described by Sir R. C. Hoare in his account of his Antiquarian researches among the Barrows in Wiltshire. They are about thirty-five yards distant from each other. The one is larger than the other, and there are traces of a fosse surrounding them, although it has been nearly filled up by the moss. The larger or western one is about thirty-five yards in the slope on the south side, which is the steepest and best defined, and about 150 yards around the base, being apparently full of stones, some of which appear to be of large dimensions. The eastern or smaller tumulus is about twenty-four yards in the slope, on the south-west side, and about 130 yards round the base. No stones are visible in it. The soil of which they are formed is of a peaty nature, and covered with stunted heather.

The evidences which we possess of the national character and habits, and of the various degrees of civilisation of the aborigines of Great Britain, are derived from their ancient dwellings and sepulchres; from cromlechs, barrows, cairns, and tumuli; from their weapons, ornaments and pottery; and from the remains of their agricultural implements; all of which afford abundant indications of the barbarism as well as the civilisation which surrounded the homes of our forefathers. The raising of mounds of earth or stone over the remains of the dead is a practice which may be traced in all countries to the remotest times. The simplest idea that can be suggested to account for its origin is, that as the little heap of earth displaced by the interment of the body would become the earliest monument by which the survivors were reminded of departed friends; so the increase of this by artificial means into the form of the gigantic barrow would naturally suggest

itself as the first mark of distinction to the honoured dead. To this simplest construction the term barrow should be exclusively reserved, while the tumulus is distinguished by its circular form. Sir R. C. Hoare has distinguished fourteen different kinds of barrows in his "Ancient Wiltshire."⁴

If these two mounds were examined they would probably be found to consist internally chiefly of an artificial structure of stone—a cairn, in fact, covered over with earth. On reaching the centre a cromlech or a kistvaen, *i. e.* a coffin formed of separate slabs of stone, might be found with its usual sepulchral contents, and most probably accompanied with relics of importance corresponding with the magnitude of the superincumbent earth-pyramid.

The earliest tumuli, *i. e.*, the tumuli of the "stone period," generally contain hammers of stone, hatchets, chisels, knives, fish-hooks, horses' teeth, and bones of dogs, stags, elks, and wild boars; spear and arrow heads of flint or bone; personal ornaments made of amber, pierced shells, stones, beads made of horn or bone, such as are now found among the Tahitians, the New Zealanders, the Red Indians of America, and the modern Esquimaux. The long barrow, formed like a gigantic grave, appears from its most common contents to be the sepulchral memorial belonging to this era. It is destitute of weapons belonging to the bronze period.

The tumuli of the "bronze period," besides the above contents, often contain a sort of semicircular knife, resembling a sickle; double-edged swords, daggers, shields; diadems, hair-pins, combs, armlets, brooches; small vases of gold, silver goblets; small figures of birds; scissors, in their form like those of the present day; rings or circlets of various dimensions and designs, some having evidently served to encircle the waist or the head, others the neck, the arm and the finger; and various other articles exhibiting considerable skill in the manufacture, and a peculiar taste in ornamental designs, serving to distinguish them from those of a succeeding age.

Whenever a sepulchral urn is found, it must be regarded as in itself a proof of some degree of progress. The earliest of these however are of the rudest possible description. They are fashioned with the hand, of coarse clay, by workmen

⁴ Introduction to vol. i. page 20.

ignorant of the turning-lathe or wheel of the potter. They are generally extremely unsymmetrical, merely dried in the sun, without any attempt at design, and devoid of ornament. But at a later period, the urn is found neatly fashioned into various and graceful forms, and ornamented with different patterns of lines, traced by some instrument on the soft clay, after which the vessel has been baked with fire.

The sepulchral monuments of the earliest periods, with their accompanying weapons and implements, are not peculiar to Britain; nor indeed are they at all so common in England as on many parts of the continent of Europe. They are of frequent occurrence on the coasts of the Baltic, and along the shores of the German Ocean. They are found in Holland, Brittany, and Portugal, and on the islands and coasts of the mainland bordering on the Mediterranean. They are, in fact, the monuments of a rude and thinly scattered people, who subsisted by hunting and fishing, and whose imperfect implements totally incapacitated them from penetrating into the interior of those countries, encumbered as they were then by vast forests, which bade defiance to their imperfect implements and simple arts; and they are scarcely ever discovered far inland, unless in the vicinity of some large river or lake. Those, however, in this district have this distinguishing feature, that they are situated nearly midway between the east and west seas, and occupy a position almost on the very backbone of this part of Britain.

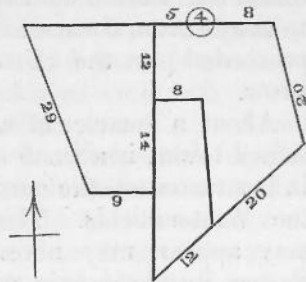
About a mile westward from these tumuli are three large cairns, in Askerton Park, near the eastern end of the Mollen Wood. They are situated near each other, and are constructed of large stones. The cairn is only another and more artificial form of tumulus, and is frequently found in combination with the latter. The tumulus may be considered a mound of earth, while the cairn is a mound of stones. Pennant, in his voyage to the Hebrides, speaking of cairns, says, "These piles may be justly supposed to have been proportioned in size to the rank of the person, or to his popularity; the people of a whole district assembled to show their respect to the deceased, and by an active honouring of his memory, soon accumulated heaps equal to those that astonish us at this time. But these honours were not merely those of the day; as long as the memory of the deceased existed, not a passenger went by

without adding a stone to the heap ; they supposed it would be an honour to the dead, and acceptable to his *manes*. To this moment there is a proverbial expression among the Highlanders allusive to the old practice ; a suppliant will tell his patron, *curri mi cloch er do charne* (I will add a stone to your cairn), meaning, when you are no more I will do all possible honour to your memory." The tops of cairns were also possibly used as high places of sacrifice. Monuments like these cannot fail to arrest the attention and impress the mind no less by their intrinsic interest as the creations of human genius, than by the remote antiquity with which they are associated, and as their long-buried mysteries present themselves so frequently in the course of this survey, I trust this digression may be readily pardoned.

(400 yards.) Returning to the Maiden Way we find that at 7090 yards it arrives at the Little Beacon Tower, leaving an excellent track over all this hilly ground. There can be no doubt that this tower was the work of the Romans. It has evidently been a mountain post for a body of Roman sentinels. It is placed on the western side of the road. It has been 18 feet square on the outside, and the walls have been 3 feet thick. The entrance has been on the north side. The lower part of the walls (about 6 feet high) is still standing, but it is surrounded by the stones which have fallen down from the higher part of the tower. The Roman ashlar are numerous. The situation of this tower has probably been a forest at some former period, as appears from the many large trunks of trees which are dug out of the adjacent peaty ground. Gibbon says, "the spirit of improvement had passed the Alps, and been felt even in the woods of Britain, which were gradually cleared away to open a free space for convenient and elegant habitations." It is now an almost barren moor, of a very forbidding aspect, and seemingly protected by its natural barriers from the encroachment of hostile armies. The prospect from this tower is very extensive. It might exchange signals with most of the stations on the western part of the Roman Wall, and with many points on the Maiden Way to the south of Birdoswald, and also with nearly all the detached Roman stations and encampments in Cumberland.

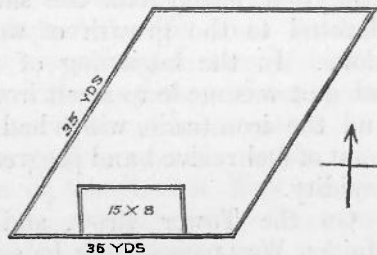
About a quarter of a mile on the west side of this tower, at the extreme point of this high ridge of land, are some

traces of foundations, which are generally called "The Beacon." When the office of Lord Warden of the Marches was appointed, A.D. 1296, beacons were ordered to be raised in different parts of the country. This was then called "Spade Adam Top." These foundations are very irregular, as may be seen by the annexed plan, the measurements being in yards. (Scale 30 yards to an inch.) They are full of stones which are covered with turf. On the north wall is a small mound of stones about 4 yards in diameter,



which appears to have been the foundation of a tower. From this summit, one of the grandest and most extensive prospects comes under the eye, including a large part of both kingdoms, and signals might be exchanged to a vast distance. All the lower parts of Cumberland appear like a vast table beneath, stretched out over several hundred square miles. Innumerable rivulets roll their streams through the fertile vales, while the rich profusion of hill and dale, and swelling eminences, add beauty to this charming prospect.

About a quarter of a mile to the north-west of "The Beacon" are the foundations of a tower, from which this part of the hill is called "The Tower Brow." It has been a building with very thick walls, and was taken down a few years since to build the adjoining fences. It was 15 yards long and 8 yards broad, and situated within the south side of an enclosure or stone rampart of the shape of a rhomboid 35 yards on each side. (See



plan, scale 30 yards to an inch.) It appears to have had a *pistrina*, i. e. a kiln for drying corn, on the north side. A stone with some rude tracings or mouldings upon it, and which may possibly have been part of a door or window, was taken from this tower, and placed in the stone wall on the side of the road near the Wintershields, where it may still be seen.

The "Ancient Ditch" passed the groundworks, or Mile

Castle, on the side of the Beacon pasture below the Little Beacon Tower ; it then turned down the hill towards the tumuli, being in some places several yards wide ; it passed round the tumuli on the south side, then ascended the hill to the Beacon, thence to the tower on the Tower Brow ; and proceeded past the cairn on the north side of the Tower Brow.

About a quarter of a mile westward from the last-mentioned tower, is a small conical green mound like a tumulus. It is situated on the north side of the syke, nearly opposite the Wintershields. This mound, however insignificant it may appear, may nevertheless contain the relics of some Tower Brow chieftain whose bones are now crumbled into dust.

About two miles to the north-west from the Tower Brow, near a place called "the Birkbush," are some small mounds full of black slag, where the smelting of iron has been carried on at some former period. Whether these mounds are of Roman construction is certainly doubtful, but at all events they point to a period after the discovery of the art of smelting ores, and the consequent substitution of metallic implements and weapons for those of stone. The ore has been smelted with charcoal, and the slag is therefore very heavy, a great part of the iron being left in it. If it was necessary to use charcoal now, so great is the demand for iron, that nearly half the surface of our island must be devoted to the growth of wood for our iron manufacture alone. In the beginning of the seventeenth century an attempt was made to smelt iron with coal, which succeeded, and the iron trade, which had been almost extinguished for want of fuel, revived, and progressed with the most astonishing rapidity.

On the Tower Brow, and other hills over which the Maiden Way passes, may be seen a great number of small circular holes or pits. They are generally in groups, and range in a continuous line. Can they have been the dwellings of some ancient inhabitants of this district ? Sir R. C. Hoare, in his valuable work on "Ancient Wiltshire," describes these earlier habitations as pits or slight excavations in the ground, covered and protected from the inclemency of the weather by boughs of trees and sods of turf ; and he says that occasionally flint arrow-heads are found, mixed with

bones and other refuse, indicating their connection with the earliest races whose weapons are known to us.⁵

On leaving the Little Beacon Tower, the Maiden Way continues in the same straight line forwards to the north-west across the moor, the footpath from Gilsland passing along it, and at the distance of about 150 yards it crosses a road to the peat moss, which is thickly covered with stones at the point of crossing, but on no other part of it. About 90 yards farther onwards it crosses the ditch which divides the Gilalees Beacon pasture from the undivided common called "the Side Fell." This ditch appears to have been crossed by a small arch, or a large conduit, as there is a great number of large stones, both flagstones and ashlers, and on the south side there is an appearance of a wall. On the north side of this ditch the way is very distinctly marked for about fifty yards, being raised about two feet, and being about twelve feet wide. The edging stones seem to have been removed. On clearing away the rubbish in several places, I could find no edging stones, except in one place on the east side, where I found three large stones like edging stones, one of them being about three feet long.

(390 yards.) At 7480 yards it passes two rows of stones lying on the west side of the Way, one row adjoining the end of the other. Each is six feet long and two feet broad. They appear as if they might have been the graves of two common soldiers, and the rows of stones laid to show the spot where the corpse was deposited. To some readers these minute observations may appear undeserving of notice. In tracing the vestiges of ancient occupation, however, the smallest facts may supply evidence, and claim attention.

The ground about this place is very soft, mossy, and broken, and the large stones of the Maiden Way answer very well for stepping-stones for foot-passengers. The most western source of the river King is about this place.

(440 yards.) At 7920 yards it arrives at the corner of the stone wall which divides the Side Fell from the High-house farm. From this point, which is the summit of the ridge, it begins to descend into the vale of Bewcastle. About eighty yards on the east side of the corner of the stone wall

⁵ See the account of Pen Pits, Ancient Wilts, vol. i. p. 35. Pits supposed to have been British habitations occur in

Berkshire, *Archæologia*, vol. vii. p. 236. See also Young's *Hist. of Whitby*, vol. ii. p. 666.

is a small green knowe, easily distinguished by its fresh greensward from the adjoining heath, with the ruins of a small circular watch-tower, three yards in diameter. By being thus placed it commands a view of the Little Beacon Tower and the Braes Tower, but it could not exchange signals with the Station at Bewcastle.

Another Way branches off here, taking a course a little more to the east, and aiming for the Braes Tower, which stands on the rising ground on the opposite side of the valley. It passes a ruin at a place called "the Side;" a *pistrina* in Robert Calvert's meadow; the Cold Well at the foot of the Breckony-brow; on the east side of the High Oakstock; on the east side of the Bush Farm buildings; and joins the Maiden Way again at the Dollerline.

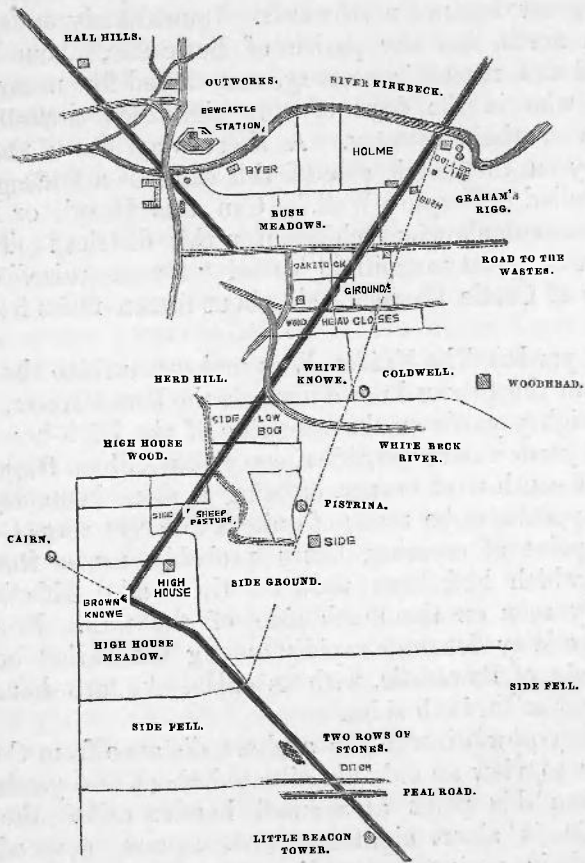
(130 yards.) At 8050 yards the Maiden Way enters the corner of the High-house Meadow, the boundary wall being built upon it for the last 130 yards. Here it makes a bend a little more to the west, and makes a direct aim towards the cairn on the north side of the Tower Brow. The wall, which is the boundary of the Side Fell, here makes a sharp turn to the east.

(160 yards.) At 8210 yards it enters the High-house pasture, crossing the fence about fifty yards from the Side ground. Here the footpath across the wastes from Gilsland leaves the Maiden Way. At the point where the Way crosses the fence, there appears to be a section of the road still left in the middle of the hedge, which is visible on the northern side. There is a watercourse running along it, eight inches square, and paved at the bottom. The stones are thickly coated with grey and brown crust; and it has the appearance of having been the work of the Romans.

(200 yards.) At 8410 yards it reaches the summit of a Brown knowe, a little to the south-west of the High-house Farm buildings. This knowe is covered with short stunted heather, very uneven, and abounds with large grey stones. From this knowe the Maiden Way makes a turn to the north-east, aiming direct for the Braes Tower, and through the Bush buildings, between the Barn and the Byers. There is also an appearance of the Way being continued straight forwards from this knowe to the cairn on the top of the Tower Brow, which is distant about 300 yards.

This cairn is a circular heap of stones about twenty yards

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



III.—FROM THE LITTLE BEACON TOWER TO BEWCASTLE.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

in diameter. The greater part of the stones has been carted away to build the adjoining fences. The prospect from this cairn is very extensive, being bounded by the silvery Solway on the west, and on the north by the bonnie blue hills which form a barrier between England and Scotland about fifty miles long. A sentinel placed near this cairn would command a view of the enemy's movements to a very great distance northwards. Immediately underneath, on the north, lies the parish of Bewcastle, abounding in pastoral and romantic scenery, and famed for many brave heroes who in the days of yore signalised themselves in defence of their country. A short way down the steep declivity on the north side of this cairn is a fine spring of water called "Hespie's Well." Can this Hespie or Hespéc have been some ancient chieftain in this district? There is a cairn of great magnitude called "Hespéc-raise," on the summit of Castle Carrock Fell, about fifteen miles from this place.

(260 yards.) The Maiden Way makes a turn to the north-east from the Brown knowe towards the Braes Tower, passes about eighty yards on the west-side of the High-house, and at 8670 yards enters the Side sheep pasture, about forty yards from the south-west corner, crossing a stone boundary wall, which appears to be made of quite a different sort of stones at the point of crossing, being probably made from the stones which had been used for the road. This is very evidently seen on the north side of the wall. From this point the Way descends rapidly among the varied beauties of the vale of Bewcastle, with its chalet-like farm-houses far up the slopes on both sides.

We may now diverge for a short distance from the line, in order to view an old ruin situated about 200 yards eastward from this point at a small hamlet called the Side. This ruin is about eighteen yards square, covered with turf, and in no part exceeding two feet in height. It is on the east-side of the branch Maiden Way, which passes close to it. It may have been a Mile castle. The old building was taken down about twenty years since, and the stones were used in the newly erected dwelling-house and barn. Many of these stones have an antique appearance. It had remarkably thick walls, and was two storied, the entrance being from the north. Some strong iron chains were found

by the masons, with links about two feet long. It is situated on the slope of a steep and high hill, and would be a good place for a watch-tower, as there is a defile on the south-east side which it would guard. It would command an extensive view to the north, being in full view of the station at Bewcastle, but not visible from the Little Beacon Tower.

About a hundred yards below the Side, on the edge of a small ravine, in Robert Calvert's meadow, are the ruins of an ancient *pistrina*. Here the attention of the antiquary must be arrested by one of the most beautiful phenomena of vegetable development—the evolution of the circinate fronds of the fern—a plant in every respect associated with elegance and beauty of form, and which grows very luxuriantly in this ravine.

Skirting past the south-east corner of the High-house wood, the Maiden Way crosses the Whitebeck rivulet, about forty yards below the gate leading out of the Herdhill; it leaves a plot of stones near the middle of the White Knowe, and a larger quantity may serve to mark the track in the sod fence, where it enters into the Wood-head closes.

(1400 yards.) At 10,070 yards it crosses a road leading to the wastes, at the distance of ninety yards from the north-east corner of the Oakstock ground. This road to the wastes is merely a cart-track, never having been covered with stones to the east; but to the west there is a branch Maiden Way from this point to the station at Bewcastle, and as far as the waste road follows the track of this branch (nearly 500 yards) it is thickly covered with stones of every shape and size, which have never been broken small.

(280 yards.) At 10,350 yards it arrives at a farm-house called "the Bush," which appears to bear the marks of great antiquity about it, but it is impossible to form any certain conclusion as to what it may have been, as the garden and farm-buildings have been placed on its site. There appears to have been a rampart on the south side of the garden, about fifty yards long, from east to west, with a small round tower at the west end. The stones have been removed, and the occupier stated that on digging the garden he finds a great quantity of bones. About two years since, he added a small piece of ground to his garden, and it was so full of stones, that he was obliged to remove many cart-loads before he could dig it properly. As the Romans were not in the

habit of burying their dead within their cities or stations, this may probably have been the cemetery for the station at Bewcastle, and the adjacent towers and fortlets. About 60 yards on the south-west side of the Bush are the remains of a *pistrina*, three feet in diameter and three feet six inches in the highest part, the stones showing strong traces of the fire. There is also a well of excellent water on the west side.

(300 yards.) At 10,650 yards it reaches another remarkable ruin, called "the Dollerline," which may possibly have been another Mile castle. The foundations show it to have been a place about twelve yards long and eleven yards broad. They are now covered with turf, and not more than four feet in the highest part. It seems to have been protected by an outer rampart on the east, west, and north sides, with a *pistrina* adjoining the outer rampart on the north side. The river Kirkbeck, a purely pastoral stream, flows close to the east and north sides, and must have been crossed here by the Maiden Way, but there are no traces of a bridge. This place has probably been a fortress to defend the passage of the river. The other way, which branched off on the summit of the Side Fell, joins here again; hence, possibly, the name—*de altera linea*—Dollerline. It is about 700 yards above the station at Bewcastle. On the east side of the way, between the Bush and the Dollerline, are three small mounds of stones, which may have been either the foundations of small towers, or burial-places.

The Bush and Dollerline are situated at the head of an extensive plain which would be well adapted for the different sorts of martial exercise of the Roman warriors, or a grand review. At the head of the plain is a pretty little waterfall, and farther up the river, in a rather secluded corner, is one of nature's softer scenes—the union of two lovely winding glens, through which the rivers Kirkbeck and Greensburn pursue their whimpering course—now straying round a rocky scaur, now hiding underneath the grassy brows, and now playing o'er the white freestone linns, till at last they unite their murmuring waters. The rugged and precipitate banks on each side are covered with the hazel and coppice, and when gladdened by the singing birds form a sweet and peaceful scene of rural beauty.

(To be continued.)

THE MAIDEN WAY,

BY THE REV. JOHN MAUGHAN, B.A., Rector of Bewcastle, Cumberland.

SECTION II.—*The Branch Way and Roman Station at Bewcastle.**

At the point where the Maiden Way crossed the road to the Wastes (see the map, p. 18, *ante*) another Way branches off to the West, and proceeds down the side of the hedge to a young ash tree, at the distance of 477 yards, following thus far the line of the Waste Road. Here it turns to the North-west down the hill, across the meadow, in a direct line to the Ford. Several detached stones may still be seen on the side of the hill. This bog was drained about three years since, and the drains intersected the Way in different places. It was cut through by a drain close against the garden behind the Public House.

At 877 yards, it passes a mound of stones in front of the Rectory House; about seventy yards farther, it enters the bed of the river Kirkbeck, close under the station, and would, probably, lead to an entrance into the station on the West side.

This branch appears to be continued straight forwards past the station to the North-west, through the Hallsyke; over the Hallhills, where it is considerably raised; into the Peels-hill ground, near the gate above the quarry; through the Park ground, close past the Langriggknow; and it aims for Tinnieshill in Scotland, where there has been an ancient encampment, and where it would probably unite with the old Roman road, leading between Netherby and *Trimon-tium* or Eildon, in Scotland. "The Wheel Causeway" from Crew, would, probably, either join it or cross it somewhere on the North side of the parish of Bewcastle.

The Roman Station at Bewcastle.

Bewcastle, from its shape, has been considered by some to have been a Pictish encampment before it was occupied by the Romans. Horsley thinks, that the ancient name of this

* Continued from page 22.

station was *Apiatorium*. Mr. Hodgson, in his History of Northumberland, supposes that it may have been *Banna*. But as neither of these writers appears to have any very strong grounds for their suppositions, I may venture to suggest that if Whitley Castle be the *Alionis*, then, in all probability, Bewcastle will be the *Galava* of the Tenth Iter of the Itinerary.

The word *Galava* may be derived from more than one etymon, but each appears to correspond with the general features of the place. If we derive it from the Celtic word, *gallt*, a rock, and by a commutation of letters from the Celtic Welsh, *afon*, or the Celtic Gaelic and Irish, *abhan*, a river, we have an allusion at once to the little rocky river Kirkbeck, which flows close past the Station. Or if we derive it from the word *cald* or *kalt*, cold; it may refer to the cold exposed situation of the fortress, or to the peculiar nature of the river, which is generally cold in summer, and hence *caldafon* or *kaltafon*, and by corruption *Galava*, may mean the Station at the cold river. Or if we suppose *gal* to be a corruption of the old word *keld*, a well; this also agrees with the situation of the place, as there is a river on the South side, and a celebrated well on the South-east side of the Station. It may also allude to the river itself, which is formed by the waters flowing from several copious wells in the immediate neighbourhood. Tradition also seems to support my view, that Bewcastle is the *Galava* of the ancients. There is a large district in the North side of the parish of Lanercost (immediately South of Bewcastle), which was formerly called *Wuleva* or *Wulyevva*. Here is a remarkable resemblance to the word *Galava*. The old people in the neighbourhood, say that this district was always called *Wuleva* Quarter in their young days, and that the Cairn on the Tower-brow was called the Cairn of *Wulyevva*, and sometimes the Pikes of *Wulyevva*. *Wulyevva* Quarter is now more generally called *Askerton* Quarter or Township.

The Station at Bewcastle has been placed on the nearly level surface of an irregularly-shaped eminence; its form being hexagonal, but its sides are unequal. Their respective lengths are as follows:—South-west side, 108 yards; South, 78 yards; South-east, 95 yards; North-east, 125 yards; North, 146 yards; and North-west, 83 yards. The station,

therefore, would occupy about six acres of ground. The outer wall of the Station appears to have been of considerable thickness, but it is now in ruins, and covered with turf. In some places it is nearly level with the ground, but it still shows distinctly the site of the wall. It appears to have been protected by an outer rampart and a fosse on the East, South-east, and South-west sides. The South side would be defended by the steep bank of the river Kirkbeck. On the North side of the station there are some traces of ramparts at a small distance from it, which appear to have been a *procestrium* or advanced post of defence. The South-east side has declined a little from its original elevation, the river having made encroachments here at different times, and washed away the bottom of the bank, which is a sort of quicksand. There is a spring of excellent water on this side. On the Western side the *pistrina* has been placed at the distance of sixty yards. Within the Southern side, and nearly upon the Southern wall, the New Rectory House and garden are placed, and on the North side of these are the church and churchyard. Within the Northern side, and on the Northern station wall, a large, rude, and irregularly built border castle (about eighty-seven feet square) has been erected, partly, at least, constructed of stones of the station, and it has been surrounded by a deep and wide ditch. There is no date known of the erection of this castle, but the cement shows it to have been of ancient construction. The entrance has been on the West side, and has been considered by some to have been added at a later period. Within the Northern side are also the Manor House, farm-buildings, and garden. The remainder of the Station is an excellent pasture. It shows several traces of foundations of buildings, proving it to have been a place of considerable importance. Almost every grave that is made cuts through foundation walls. There are also several traces of pavements. On the top of the hill, to the North-west, are some groundworks, which are said to have been a hall occupied by one of the younger branches of the family settled at Bewcastle,—hence the place is called the Hallhills. They appear to have been connected with the Station by a road, which has been raised above the adjoining ground. From a stratum of ashes which is often found in the graves, about three feet below the surface, we may infer that the place had been destroyed

by fire at some period. About 400 yards above the station, on the margin of the river, is a place called "the cannon-holes," where Oliver Cromwell is said to have planted his cannon when he destroyed the castle.

This Station is not destitute of its memorials and evidences of ancient occupation. Several Roman coins, rings, urns, millstones, pieces of "Samian" pottery both plain and figured, vases, tiles, bricks, glass, votive tablets, and inscribed altars have been found at different periods. About eight years since, a gold ring set with a brilliant in it, was found in the garden hedge of the Manor House, and taken possession of by the farmer's daughter. In the year 1840, a brass coin of Antoninus Pius was found about five or six feet beneath the surface. Several other coins were found at the bottom of a grave about twenty years ago. A stone, with a broad sword cut upon it, was dug out of the same grave, and now forms part of the door of one of the offices of the Rectory House. In the same grave was also found part of an old grate, which the blacksmith pronounced to be made of the best iron that ever passed under his hammer. I have also a silver coin of the Emperor Nerva. Many other coins have been found at different periods, but they have not been preserved. I recently found a piece of yellow-coloured pottery, about six inches long, having apparently been part of the handle of an amphora. Such fragments have, I understand, been rarely found in Britain.

Camden says that he saw a stone in the churchyard, made use of for a gravestone, with this inscription—

LEG. II. AVG.

FECIT.

Horsley thinks that he afterwards saw the same stone in Naworth Garden. May we not infer from this stone that the second legion was engaged in the erection of this station?

Horsley mentions an inscribed stone which was found at the bottom of a grave, but which was set upright on edge at the head of a grave when he visited the station. He considered it to have been an honorary monument erected to Hadrian by the Legio Secunda Augusta and the Legio Vicesima. The stone was much defaced, but the following reading has been proposed—

IMP. CAES. TRAIAN
 HADRIANO AVG.
 LEG. II. AVG. ET XX V V
 SVB. LICINIO PRISCO
 LEG. AVG. P.R.P.R.

Imperatori Cæsari Trajano Hadriano Augusto Legiones Secunda Augusta et Vicesima valens victrix sub Licinio Prisco Legato Augustali Proprætore. If we follow the mode of interpreting inscribed stones adopted by some writers, we might infer from this stone that Hadrian was the builder of this station. But a more legitimate inference would be, that the station was in existence at the time of Hadrian, and visited by him; and that it was probably one of the forts built by Agricola.

Hutchinson, in his "History of Cumberland." vol. i., p. 93, also mentions a stone which he found over the channel of the gate of the public-house yard, bearing the following inscription—

I. O. M.
 COH. I. DAC
 ATL T CENTVR
 . . FECIT

None of the above-mentioned stones are to be found at Bewcastle at the present day.

Hutchinson also mentions an altar which he says "was found lately, and is in the possession of the Rev. J. D. Carlyle," who was afterwards Chancellor of the Diocese of Carlisle. An account of it was communicated by him to the Society of Antiquaries in 1792, which was published with a representation of the altar, in the "Archæologia," vol. xi., pl. vi., p. 69. He stated that it had been sent to him a few months previously, having been found in the bed of a rivulet at Bewcastle, and he gave the following reading of the inscription—

SANCTO CO
 CIDEO T AVRUNC
 FELICISSI
 MVS. TRIBVN
 EX EVOCATO
 V. S. L. M.

Mr. Carlyle supposed this altar to have been dedicated to

Cocideus, a local deity, by Titus Auruncus, promoted to the rank of tribune, having been an *evocatus*, or volunteer, continuing to serve after the usual time of military service had been completed. This stone, being dedicated to the god Cocideus,¹ rather strengthens my suggestion respecting the Maiden Way and the Tenth Iter, for this deity is supposed to have been in some way connected with the important station *Coccium*, which is given as one of the stations of this Iter.

An aged neighbour informs me that a stone covered with letters, was found about sixty years since on the edge of the water near the Byer Cottage, and stood for a long time at the door of the Rev. Mr. Messenger. It was afterwards carted away by this man's father, but he cannot say where it was taken. A stone with some sculpture in relief was found about thirty years since, near the same place, and is now in the wall in the Bewcastle Barn.



In the Spring of 1852, I found the upper part of a Roman altar. It appears to have been dedicated on the erection of a Temple (probably by the Roman workers in iron) *a solo*—from the foundation; *pro salute*—for the safety of some person whose name may have been inscribed on the part of the stone now broken off, as there appear to be letters in the fifth line underneath: or the concluding words may have been, *pro se ac suis*, for himself and his family. It has been dedicated—*JOM OPTIMO MAXIMO IMMORTALI DOLICHENO*. To Jupiter Dolichenus, the best, the greatest, the immortal. Jupiter was sometimes styled Dolichenus, from Doliche, a district in Macedonia, famous for its iron. As there have been only two altars previously found in Britain, so dedicated, this relic must be regarded as claiming especial notice. It is now placed in the stone wall between the north-west corner of the churchyard, and the Manor

¹ This appears to have been the local name of Mars, since an altar found at Lancaster bears the inscription—"Deo Sancto Marti Cocidio." *Archæologia*, vol

xiii., p. 401. Seven altars dedicated to Cocidius have occurred in Cumberland, and the inscriptions are given by Lysons, "*History of Cumberland*," pp. cliii, cxlviii.

House garden. I furnished Dr. Bruce with a sketch of it which has been engraved for his second edition of "The Roman Wall."² Horsley mentions a stone with the word *Templum* upon it, but says that it was then broken and destroyed; this is probably the same stone.

In the churchyard the Monolithic Obelisk, or shaft of an ancient cross, is still standing, but remains unexplained. I have recently cleared the inscribed parts from the moss with which they were thickly coated, but have not been able to decypher the characters in a satisfactory manner. The letters appear to be Anglo-Saxon Runes, and much the same as those on the Ruthwell monument in Dumfriesshire. On



a fillet on the north side the following letters are very legible. In the year 1685 these characters were somewhat differently read by Bishop Nicholson, and expounded by him to mean, "Rynburn, the burial of the Runæ," or "Ryeburn, Cemeterium, or Cadaverum Sepulchrum." In the year 1742, an article appeared in the Gentleman's Magazine communicated by Mr. Smith, who read it "Kuniburuk, Sepulchrum Regis." As however these interpretations appear to be based on an incorrect copying of the letters, I would suggest another reading. I suppose the second letter to be a Runic Y; and the penultimate letter to be a compound of OU; and I would propose to read Kyneburoug. The word Cyne or Kin of the Saxons was synonymous with nation or people; and the Anglo-Saxon byrig, byrg, burh, burg, buroug, &c., was the generic term for any place, large or small, which was fortified by walls or mounds. The fortifications of the continental Saxons, before their inroads on the Roman Empire, were mere earthworks, for in their half-nomadic state they had neither means nor motive for constructing any other. But their conquest and colonisation of the greater part of Roman Britain put them in possession of a more solid class of fortifications, such as this at Bewcastle. I would suggest, therefore, that these Runes may signify the burgh or fortified town of the nation or people who occupied this district. It is probable that this was in early times a place of some importance. In the reign

² "Roman Wall," p. 378. We are indebted to the kindness of Dr. Bruce for the use of the woodcut given above.

The lower part of an I, it should be observed, may be discerned after the letters I. O. M.

of Edward I., 1279, John Swinburne obtained a fair and market to be held here.

On a fillet on the south side appear to be the following characters. What the first three may mean is doubtful, but the subsequent letters appear to be the



word DANEGELT. This term was first applied to a tribute of 30,000, or according to some writers, 36,000 pounds (A. Sax.), raised in the year 1007 during the reign of Ethelred the Unready, to purchase a precarious peace from the Danes. It was also sometimes used to designate taxes imposed on other extraordinary occasions.

On the western side are three figures, which, as Bishop Nicholson says, "evidently enough manifest the monument to be Christian."³ The highest may be, as the learned prelate suggested, the Blessed Virgin with the Babe in her arms.⁴ The next is that of our Saviour with the glory round his head. In a compartment underneath this is the principal inscription, consisting of nine lines; and underneath this is the figure of a man with a bird upon his hand, and in front of him a perch, which, in the absence of a better explanation, may possibly have been intended to represent Odin, or some Danish chieftain, and his dreaded raven: and we may suppose that he was placed at the bottom of the group to typify his conversion and subjection to the Redeemer, who was descended from the Blessed Virgin. The inscription appears to be as follows, so far as I have been able to trace the letters (see woodcut, p. 132). The eighth and ninth lines are quite illegible.

In the first line the three characters at the commencement probably form the monogram I H S, and being placed

³ "Camden's Britannia," ed. by Gibson, vol. ii., p. 1028.

⁴ It must be admitted that this supposition is somewhat countenanced by the fact that the Church of Bewcastle is dedicated to the Virgin. The representation, however, of these weather-worn sculptures, given by Lysons in his "History of Cumberland," p. cxcix, suggests the notion, that what has been supposed to be the Infant Saviour, may be the Agnus Dei, and it is so described by him. If this be correct, the figure must represent the Baptist, and the two lines of characters, now defaced, under its feet, as shown in Lysons' plate, possibly com-

prised some mention of St. John. The figure at the base, as some have thought, most probably portrayed some person of note by whom this remarkable Christian monument was erected. The bird which he has taken off its perch, appears to be a hawk, introduced, possibly, to mark his noble rank. In examining Lysons' plate, the best representation of the sculptures, hitherto published, attention is arrested by the introduction of a vertical dial on the south side, resembling those at Kirkdale and Bishopstone, described in this volume of the Journal, p. 60, the only examples of so early a date hitherto noticed.—Ed.

immediately under the figure of our Saviour, show that the monument is of a Christian character ; the last letter being evidently the Runic S, and not an inverted Z, as supposed by Mr. Smith. The third line begins with the letters PATR : but it appears uncertain whether they are intended for *pater*,



or part of some such word as *patria*, Patrick, &c. ; or whether the first letter is not W, in which case the word will probably be WAETRO, the plural of waeter. In the sixth line we find the word SUENO, which, taken in connection with the word Danegelt, on the south side, may indicate the period, as well as the object, of the erection of the monument. In the reign of Ethelred the Unready, a terrible deed was done in England. With a view of providing against the treachery of those numerous Danish families (especially such as had been permitted by Alfred the Great to settle in Northumberland and East Anglia), who upon any threatened invasion, were ready to join their countrymen against those among whom they were allowed to reside, Ethelred, with a policy incident to weak princes, adopted the resolution of putting them to the sword throughout his dominions. On the 13th of Nov. 1002, in pursuance of secret instructions sent by the king over the country, the inhabitants of every town and city rose, and murdered all the Danes, who were their neighbours, young and old, men, women, and children. Every Dane was killed, even to

Gunilda, the sister of the King of Denmark, who had been married to Earl Paling, a nobleman, and had embraced Christianity: she was first obliged to witness the murder of her husband and child, and then was killed herself. When Sueno, or Sweyn, the King of Denmark, sometimes styled the King of the Sea Kings, heard of this deed of blood, he swore he would have a great revenge. He raised an army and a mightier fleet of ships than ever yet sailed to England, and landing on the western coasts, near Exeter, went forward, laying England waste. Wheresoever the invaders came, they made the Saxons prepare for them great feasts; and when they had satisfied their appetite, and had drunk a curse to England, with wild rejoicings, they drew their swords, killed their Saxon entertainers, and continued their march. For several years they carried on this war; burning the crops, farm-houses, barns, mills, granaries, killing the labourers, causing famine and starvation, and leaving heaps of ruin and smoking ashes, where they had found thriving towns, hunting out every corner which had not been previously ransacked. Ethelred overwhelmed with such calamities, at length in the year 1007, agreed to pay the Danegelt to which I have before alluded. In the absence of accurate information, we may not unreasonably suppose this obelisk to have been raised in commemoration of some of the important events of this period. Sweyn was afterwards welcomed by the English people as their Sovereign, but died suddenly in little more than a month after he was proclaimed King of England. Can this have been his burial-place? ⁵

The first letter in the second line is distinctly legible, and undoubtedly U. I sometimes fancy, that by taking the last imperfect letter of the preceding line, we may possibly obtain the word DUNSTANO. Dunstan, however, was dead before the time already mentioned, and though he lived to place the crown upon the head of Ethelred, and may without impropriety be classed among the contemporaries of that period, yet as he died in 988, he cannot have taken any part in the events above mentioned.

⁵ I may mention that a friend to whom I gave a copy of my reading of the inscription, suggests that in the second line is "the word *kisle*, one of the cases of *kisil*, gravel." It is difficult to conceive

however, why such an immense stone should be brought from so great a distance and covered with the most elaborate sculpture, for the purpose of making any record about gravel.

The tradition of the district says that a king was buried here, and also points out the locality from which this stone was procured. On White Lyne Common, about five miles from Bewcastle, is a long ridge of rocks, called the Langbar. About the centre of this ridge a stone is now lying, about fifteen feet in length, the very counterpart of the Bewcastle Obelisk. This stone has evidently been cut into two parts at some period, as the wedge marks distinctly appear, and the western is much fresher than the other sides. The obelisk is of a peculiar rock, a very hard white freestone, thickly marked with spots of grey, precisely such as is found at the Langbar and the adjacent rocks on the south side of the White Lyne River, but in no other part of the country. It is a sandstone of a sharp rough gritty nature, and as a material for sharpening scythes is much in use.

Uncertainty as to the forms of the other letters, prevents me from attempting further explanation of the inscription at present, but I am not without hope that in time I may become better satisfied as to the proper reading.

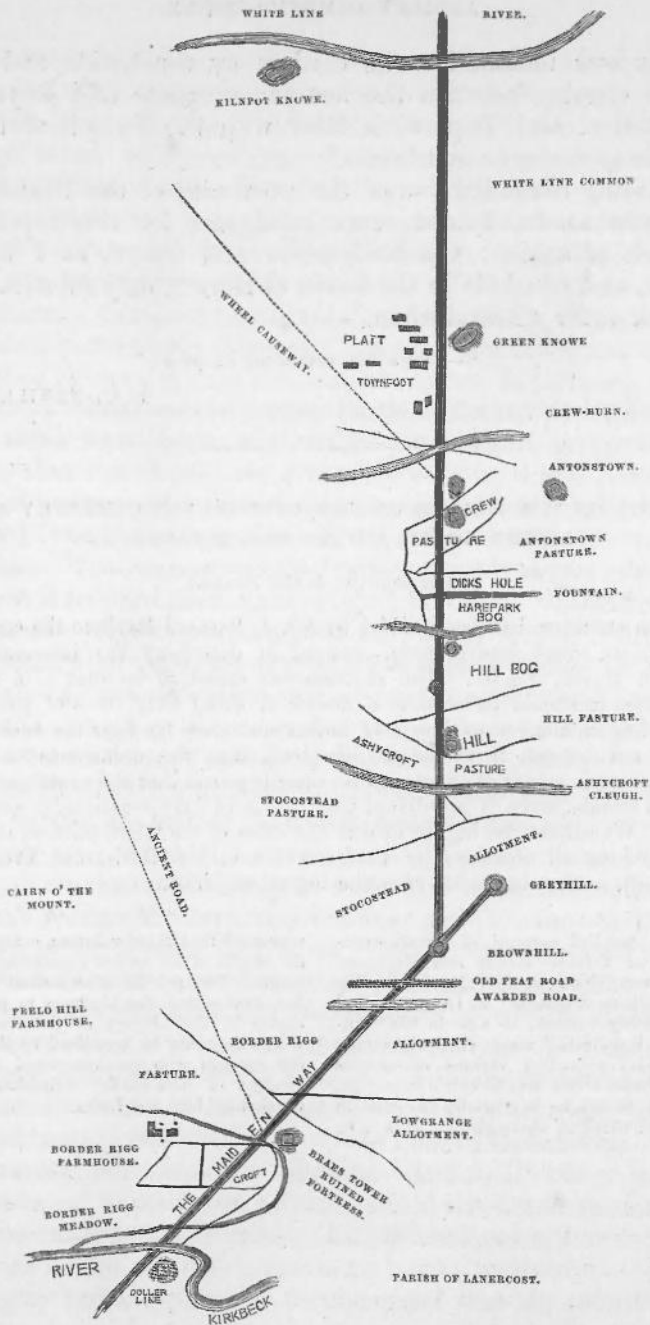
The inquiry will naturally occur to the reader, what was the origin of the term "Maiden Way," and, before proceeding to another Section, it may be desirable to advert to various conjectures of those who have indulged in etymological speculations on this subject.

Some have supposed that it has had its source in the Saxon *macan* or *machen*, to make, and that by a commutation of letters it became *ge magden waeg*, i.e., a made road, and since well-made roads would probably be very scarce at that period in Britain, this may have been the first road made by the Romans after their arrival in this district, and consequently named, by way of distinction, *the made road*, which name it afterwards retained. The adoption and permanent retention of the Saxon word *waeg* certainly gives some countenance to this supposition. Others are of opinion that it has arisen from the Saxon words *maeden*, *maegden*, maid or maiden, and give it the Latin appellation, "Via puellarum," a term which has been found in some old Boundary Rolls. There is a tradition in the district that it was made by women carrying the stones in their aprons, but the mere mention of such a legend is enough. Others assign it to a date more ancient than the Saxons, and would derive it from some word cognate with

the Welsh *midian*, an area, an enclosure, considering that ancient ways were trenched or enclosed on the sides, and that the term "Maiden Way" is expressive of an enclosed road, as some have supposed that the Watling Street was so called from being fenced on the sides with wattles, the Saxon name for long rods or saplings. In my researches, however, I have not found traces of such enclosure. Lysons, in his "History of Cumberland," says, "Among the moors on the east borders of the county a third road is evidently to be traced under the name of the Maiden Way, a term familiar to all persons conversant in these matters of antiquity, and supposed by Warton to be corrupted from the British word *Madan*, fair." Another suggestion has been made as to the Celtic origin of this term by the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, who, in his "Salopia Antiqua," adopts the Celtic etymon *Mad* and *Madien*, an eminence or elevation. "It derived this appellation (Maiden Way) either because it was a raised road, or else, which seems more likely, from its passing by Maiden Castle in Westmoreland, and by a small fort called Maidenhold, between Crackenthorp and Kirkby Thore. In either case Maiden Way is synonymous with Highway." A close inspection of the road leads me to conclude that this is the most probable origin of the name. For the most part it traverses moors and mosses, and may have been formed at first by the Celts or British, who possibly, by digging two parallel ditches, and casting the earth between them, raised the way, and called it the *Madien* road. The Romans, on their arrival, may have found it convenient to complete this line. In the Slack-house ground, on the Waterhead Fell, the Snowden-close Pasture, and the Side Fell, the road retains a considerable elevation. In these places the adjacent ground is of a stiff clayey nature, and has prevented the road from sinking to the level of the surrounding surface, or subsiding under it.

(To be continued.)

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



IV.—FROM THE RIVER KIRKBECK TO THE WHITE LYNE RIVER.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

THE MAIDEN WAY,

BY THE REV. JOHN MAUGHAN, B.A., Rector of Bewcastle, Cumberland.

SECTION III.—*Survey of the Maiden Way through the Parish of Bewcastle.**

ON crossing the river Kirkbeck at the Dollerline the Maiden Way quits the parish of Lanercost and the feudal region of the Barony of Gilsland, and breaks ground in the parish of Bewcastle, continuing forwards in the same straight line, which characterises its Roman origin. It then passes through the Borderrigg Meadow, about the middle of the field, where the track is very distinct, being visible from the summit of the Side Ground and the Tower Brow, when the grass is short. The stones show themselves in abundance to the great annoyance of the mowers, who generally remove some of them in each succeeding year. Thus in course of time the track will probably disappear here as in other places. This track is constantly pointed out as the Maiden Way, and known as such by the people in the district.

Before the ascent over the Greyfell Common the Maiden Way passes (at 530 yds.) the solitary ruins of the Braes Tower, another of the camp-forts, or ancient strongholds. This encampment measured about 70 yards from north to south, 60 yards from east to west, and covers nearly an acre of ground. It has been protected by a ditch (or perhaps a covered way) on the west, south, and part of the east side, and there has been a stone rampart on the outside of the ditch on the south side. A kiln for drying corn has been on the north-east side about 60 yards distant. This fortress appears to have been a place of considerable importance. Several of the stones used in the erection of the adjoining farm-houses at the Borderrigg and Lowgrange have an appearance of Roman origin, and have probably been brought from this fortress. The stones and mouldings of an old door at

* Continued from page 135.

Lowgrange afford undoubted proofs that they had been worked for some previous purpose.

From some point near the Braes Tower, an old road branches off to the north-west, which has strong appearances of having been a Roman road or branch of the Maiden Way. It passes out at the north-west corner of the Border-rigg pasture; over the Parkhead Knowes near an old thorn tree; near Hobbie Noble's well; on the east side of the Parknook farm-buildings; over the Bothrigg Hill, where the public road now follows part of the line, and where it shows the ancient pavement about 15 feet wide; past the Row, the Brock Knowes, and Foggethill gate, up to Lynesteads where it turns to the north-east, and soon afterwards falls into the ancient Wheel Causeway from the Crew, which will be described hereafter. At Lynesteads are the foundations of a small tower, apparently Roman, which has been 9 yards square. By a little excavation at the north-east corner, I ascertained that the wall was *in situ*, about 3 feet high, and $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick. I also found two thin stones of a diamond shape, hard, heavy, and apparently of an iron nature, resembling those used in ancient ornamental paving. On the east side of this turret has been a rectangular building, about 9 yards long, and 4 yards broad; and on the south side there has been a kiln for drying corn. The view from this place is extensive and very picturesque. At a place called Crosshill near Lynesteads is a fragment of a cross. On the one side there have been some letters; only O G N and part of an M (?) are now legible; on the other side are the figures 1123. A stone axe was found at the Crosshill a few years ago, which was taken away by Mr. Weir, Surgeon, of Cannobie.

The Maiden Way leaves the Braes ruin at the west end, and proceeds directly up a slack¹ to the north-east, continuing the line from the High-house Knowe through the Bush buildings. After passing the Braes Tower the trace is not so distinct. When I examined it, I had the advantage of an unusually dry spring which had stript the ground of almost every blade of grass. I found, however, throughout the whole of my track a constant supply of stones of a peculiar aspect, peeping through the surface, sometimes

¹ In the Northern dialect this term designates an opening between two hills, a valley, or small shallow dell. Brockett.

detached and only appearing at intervals, and at other places lying in quantities together. These stones were covered with the same grey coating which I had before noticed on the stones between Birdoswald and Bewcastle, and appeared worn as if by attrition from passage over them. Following what I conceived to be the right track, I came also to the remains of singular structures, which would have been considered Roman if they had been found contiguous to the Roman Wall. These circumstances, aided by local tradition, that the Maiden Way passed over certain places on this line, render it probable that my researches have been in the right place. There is an old tradition in Bewcastle, that the Maiden Way was never completed through this district; that it was made only through the wet and soft and not over the dry spots of ground. I found, however, a continuous line of stone, through both wet and dry places, of such a character as to lead me to think that this tradition is not correct.

About half way across the Borderrigg allotment of the Greyfell Common it crosses the "Ancient Ditch," and about a dozen yards further it passes a small circular mound or groundwork about 3 yards in diameter. This may have been a watch-tower, or possibly a place of solitary sepulture. It is in a straight line with the east chimney of the Bush and the High-house.

(740 yards.) At 1270 yards it crosses the newly-made Awarded road, where it is seen in the ditch of the fence, and then enters the Stocostead allotment.

About a mile westward from this point is an old thick-walled farm-house, called the Peelohill, probably a contraction from Peel on the hill, the word "peel" meaning a Border tower.² At the foot of the Peelohill wood is another of those venerable remains, whose interest and value impress us as the only vestiges probably of a race, a faith, and a state of social conditions, extinct ages ago. This memorial of the dead is a large, green, oval-shaped earthen mound, and called the "Cairn o' the Mount," and is of a different character from any which I have met with before. It is about 80 yards long, and about 8 yards broad, on the top of the ridge,

² Or it may be a pleonasm for Peellaw, the word "law" meaning a hill, Sax. pleaw, and the word Peellaw meaning the Tower

on the hill, in which case the word hill would be superfluous.

and runs almost to a point at each end, being considerably broadest near the eastern end. Its slopes vary from 12 to 27 yards, and it is surrounded by a terrace 6 yards broad, and about 6 feet high, which is fringed with brushwood. It resembles the ship-mounds which are numerous in Sweden, and are so called from their being meant, as it has been conjectured, to imitate the form of inverted ships, and supposed to have been reared over the remains of those bold Vikings, whose deeds of depredation and daring spread the name of the Northmen far and wide.³ It is situated in a secluded corner, and nearly surrounded with woods.

(100 yards.) At 1370 yards the line crosses an old peat road, which, as on the Side Fell, is thickly covered with stones at the point of crossing, but on no other part of it.

(100 yards.) At 1470 yards a longitudinal section of the Way is seen, about 10 yards long, on the summit called the Brownhill. A transverse section about 20 yards further forward shows the Way to have been 10 yards broad. At this point the Way appears to turn towards the Crew, taking a direction almost due north, and striking along the edge of the back-bone of England, where the varied scenery of hill and dale, rocky precipices, and foaming rivulets, alternately adorn the prospect. The stones have been dug out to a considerable extent at this point, and carted away for making the neighbouring fences on the recent division of the Common. This sort of spoliation has rendered the trace of the Way much more difficult and unsatisfactory. The Mile Castle (if there was one) would be about this place, but it is not now traceable.

Pursuing its course straight forwards about 300 yards, the Maiden Way reaches the remains of a small Beacon Tower, about 5 yards in diameter, on the Greyhill, which is the summit of this part of the Greyfell. This Beacon commands a view of the summit of the Side Fell, of the Cairn on the Tower Brow, and of the Beacons through Knaresdale to the south, and a very extensive prospect to the north. From the Brown Knowe on the south-west side of the High-house to this Beacon is one continued straight line about 4000 yards in length.

It seems to be generally understood by the people here,

³ There is a place in Dorsetshire called Shipton, as it has been said, from a large barrow there, in form of a ship.

that the Maiden Way passed over the Greyfell, but the proper track appears to have been lost. One person pointed out to me the "Ancient Ditch," which I have found so closely accompanying the road, as the Maiden Way. That there were different Roman roads through the district is not at all improbable. Gibbon says, "the primary object of these roads was to facilitate the march of the legions, nor was any country considered as completely subdued till it had been rendered, in all its parts, pervious to the arms and authority of the Emperor."

From the Brownhill the Maiden Way turns and aims nearly due north; it passes out of the north corner of the Stocostead allotment, and enters into the Stocostead pasture.

(590 yards.) At 2060 yards it traverses the Ashcroft Cleugh, almost at the head of the Stocostead pasture, where there must necessarily have been an embankment, and an arch which has disappeared. At the bottom of the Cleugh runs an old stone fence, with a part of it, on the north side of the Beck, jutting out with some large stones, which may have been the foundations of an arch. The situation of this deep and solitary ravine is of the boldest character. The banks on each side rise abruptly—in some places almost perpendicularly—and are studded with rugged crags, so that the gulph has a very grand and awful appearance. Farther down this serpentine and sequestered glen the cliffs are crowned with brushwood; and to complete the enchanting scene, the streamlet breaks in foam over the points of the rocks, and forms several small cascades. I was informed by more than one person that the Maiden Way passed through the Ashcroft ground, to the Crew, but no one could point out the exact locality.

(120 yards.) At 2180 yards it enters the Hill pasture, near a bend in the stone wall. Here it passes near the vestiges, it may be, of another military domicile of the Romans, situated on the west side of the Farm-house called the Hill. The ground-works are about 22 yards square, covered with turf, and not above 3 feet high, presenting the appearance of having been one of the ancient camp-fortlets. There is also a kiln for drying corn, 3 yards in diameter, and nearly filled with loose stones, with traces of ancient mortar. It appears to have been placed at the end of a building (or perhaps within it) 14 yards long, and 5 yards

broad, which is now in ruins. The sides of the adjacent hills are torn and deeply furrowed by the heavy torrents that fall frequently from the high grounds above.

It enters the Hill bog near the gate, and passes a small mound of stones about half way down the edge of the hill, and a large mound of stones near the bottom of the field, as if the stones of the Maiden Way had been all gathered in this field and carted down to the bottom of the hill.

(900 yards.) At 3080 yards it approaches the groundworks of the Crew Tower or Mile Castle. These are 70 yards broad from north to south, and 40 yards from east to west. On the north side are the remains of a strong tower, standing as sturdy as a border trooper; it measures 8 yards long and $5\frac{1}{2}$ yards broad internally. The remaining walls are 10 feet high above the rubbish in the inside, about $5\frac{1}{2}$ feet thick, and have been constructed with cement apparently ancient. At the height of about 7 feet the wall is reduced to $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in thickness, leaving a projection as if to support the joists of the floor above. There is a port-hole on the south and west sides, narrowing to a circular opening, about 4 inches in diameter, in the centre of the wall, and splaying on each side. In the interior of the tower there is an old knocking trough.⁴ The entrance has been on the north side, and the tower has had a corresponding door on the south side. The west side of the north door is nearly perfect. This door has been 3 feet wide. From the appearance of the stones used in the construction of this tower, it has probably been a Border Keep, which may have been erected on a Roman site. It is likewise celebrated for its associations with local history, being usually considered as the birth-place of Hobbie Noble, one of the most noted freebooters. At a little distance northwards from this tower is another building, now partly in ruins, which has probably been an ancient fortress. The cement with which this fort has been erected contains charcoal and pieces of burnt clay, and several of the stones resemble those used in Roman masonry.

About 400 yards to the north-east of the Crew is another

⁴ This term is used in the North to designate a stone mortar, called also a creeing-trough, used formerly for creeing or taking off the husks of barley or wheat,

previously to boiling them for broth or frumenty. The operation was performed by aid of a wooden pestle or a round ball of stone.

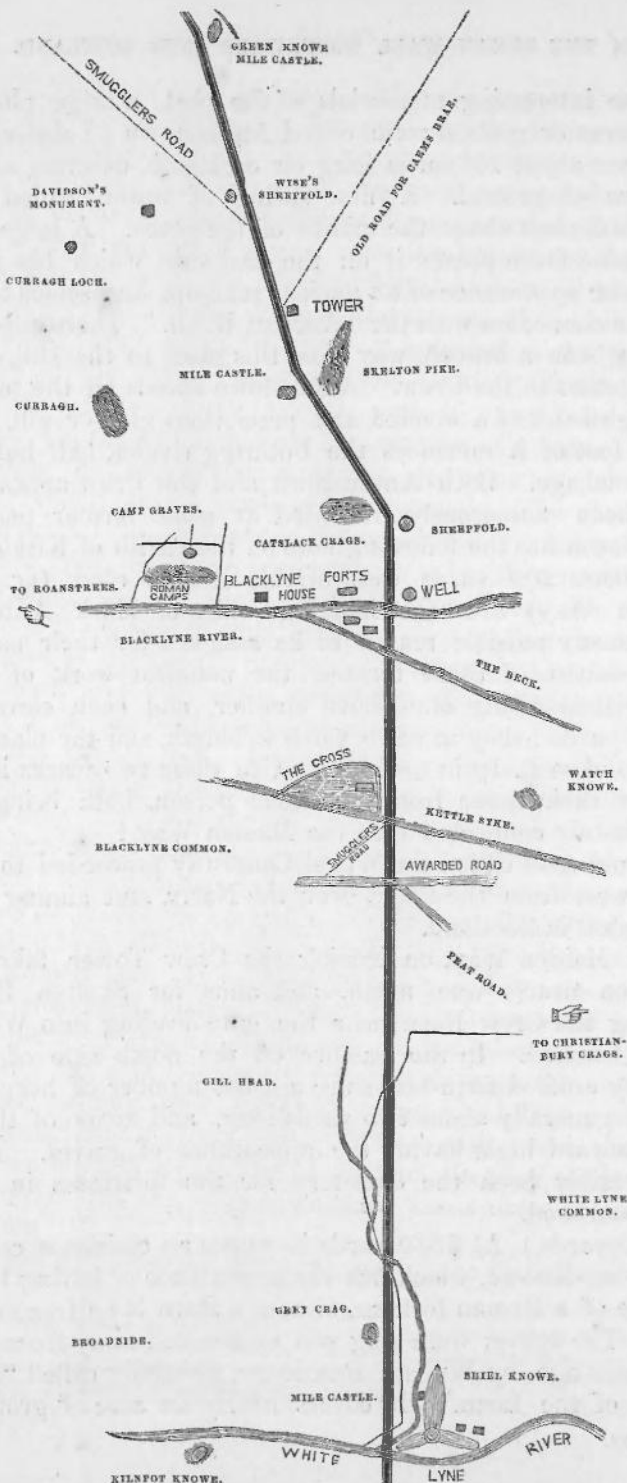
of those interesting memorials of the past, a large plot of enclosures or groundworks called Antonstown (? *Antonini*). They are about 70 yards long on each side, covering about an acre of ground. A fine spring of water, called the Fountain, rises about the middle of the place. A large sod and stone fence passes it on the east side, which has very much the appearance of an ancient rampart, and seems to be in close connexion with the "Ancient Ditch." There appears to have been a branch way from this place to the Hill, and also another to the Crew. Antonstown stands on the top of the high bank of a wooded and precipitous glen or gill, and at the foot of it murmurs the Bothrigg rivulet, half hidden by the foliage. Both Antonstown and the Crew appear to have been numerous inhabited at some former period. Hutchinson has the following note on the parish of Kirkland.—"About 200 yards east of this Roman road, (*i.e.* the Maiden Way) are the hanging walls of Mark Antony, without any possible reason to be assigned for their name. They consist of three terraces, the manifest work of art, immediately rising one above another, and each elevated 4 or 5 yards; they are 200 yards in length, and the plain at the top of each, 10 in breadth." Can these two places have derived their name from the same person, both being so immediately connected with the Maiden Way?

An old road called the Wheel Causeway proceeded to the north-west from the Crew, over the Narrs, and aiming for Tinnieshill in Scotland.

The Maiden Way, on leaving the Crew Tower, takes a direction nearly due north, and aims for Skelton Pike, crossing the Crew Burn near the gate leading into White Lyne Common. In the pasture on the north side of the recently erected farm-house are a great number of heaps of stones, generally about two yards long, and some of them about a yard high, having the appearance of graves. This has possibly been the cemetery for the fortresses in the neighbourhood.

(750 yards.) At 3830 yards it passes an eminence called the Green Knowe, which has the appearance of having been the site of a Roman fortress, although there is no trace of it now. The stones were dug out and carted away from it a few years ago by William Routledge, generally called "Old Willie of the Loan." It covers nearly an acre of ground,

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



V.—FROM THE WHITE LYNE RIVER TO GREEN KNOWE.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

and commands a view of several slacks and defiles. About a quarter of a mile on the west side is the hamlet called the Flatt, where Sir James Graham has a shooting lodge.

(1200 yards.) At 5030 yards the Maiden Way crosses the limpid waters of a lovely stream called the White Lyne⁵ or Leven, making a small divergence to the east; a heap of stones at this spot deserves notice, being apparently the remains of a strong abutment of a bridge. About a quarter of a mile further down the river is a small green hill on the south bank, near the foot-bridge, called the Kilnpot Knowe, which has the appearance of having been a cairn or barrow, with a slight trace of foundations on its summit. On the north bank of the Lyne, and on the east side of the Maiden Way is a curious place called the Shiel Knowe. It has probably been so called from two shiels which have once stood near it, and are now in ruins. These shiels were generally a sort of temporary huts or hovels, erected most commonly during the border wars, often built of sods or turfs, and sometimes of stones, on commons, for the shelter of the shepherds. In Scotland they are often called Beelds; and in some parts of Cumberland they are termed Skells, scales, or skales, from the Saxon or perhaps Gothic word "Skalga," a shell, husk, or cover.⁶ The Shiel Knowe appears to have been a very extensive cairn, rising to a considerable height in the centre, and having three ridges or barrows running from it at smaller elevations, and diverging towards different points. The centre cairn is 22 yards on the slope on the north-west side, and the ridges or barrows about one-half of that height. The ridge or barrow running to the south-west is about 100 yards long; the ridge to the south-east is about 140 yards long; and the ridge to the north about 380 yards long. They are now covered with the green turf and heather, but stones show themselves in abundance. On the summit of the centre cairn there appears to have been a small building, about four yards long, and three yards broad. It may have been a watch-tower, or possibly it marks the site of the altar on which sacrifice may have been offered. This place may have been the burial-ground of a large tribe located in this district,

⁵ Lyne, possibly from Sax. Hlyнна, a torrent. Isl. lind, a cascade. Compare Gaelic and Irish, Linn; Welsh, llyn, a lake.

⁶ Or from Sceald, a cover, shell, &c. Scyld, a defence, a shealing.

possibly for a considerable period, the centre cairn being the grave of the chieftain. Between the north and east ridges is a deep peat moss, which a few years ago was covered with water. It appears to have been a sort of loch, and to have burst its barrier, and escaped into the Lyne. A considerable way along the western side of the northern barrow is a rectangular enclosure, which may have been the ground-works of a Mile Castle, as this would be about the usual distance. The "Ancient Ditch" passes near it, and skirts along the edge of the hill. The prospect from this Knowe is striking and romantic; nature having combined the charms of streams, rocks, and hills covered with the sweetly-scented heather; the mountain sides being fissured by the streams which fashion them into panellings crested with ranges of rugged and shaggy crags, with torrents thundering down the narrow glens, and forming numerous picturesque "strumlets" or cascades.

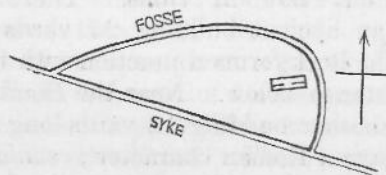
There are several heaps of stones resembling cairns further up the banks of the river. This district indeed abounds in reliques of that nature. These ancient monuments present to us traces of tribes to whom we must assign a very remote date. They form an important link in the chain of those remains which are connected with one of the early races of the human family, and which may be termed the unwritten history of man, bringing to light some faint traces of our earliest ancestry. To what particular period of our history they are to be assigned it is impossible to say, without an examination of their contents. From their contiguity to the Maiden Way they might be supposed to be of Roman construction; but they are more probably vestiges which might tend to illustrate the character and habits, and the amount of civilisation of the inhabitants of the British Isles, many centuries before the Romans carried the arts of peace in the train of their conquering legions. What a curious page of ancient history might be revealed by the opening of these burial-places! They would probably contribute their share to the history of Britain during a period computed to be removed from ours by not less than thirty centuries.

(400 yards.) At 5430 yards the Maiden Way passes on the east side of a large grey crag in Broadside. An old man named John Storey, of Coldslop, a stone-mason, and a

person of observant habits, used to say that the Maiden Way passed up this part of Broadside. Although we cannot find any decided traces of the Way in this locality, I think we are warranted both by tradition and by general appearances in supposing that the road continues forwards in a straight line, past Skelton Pike, and with slight divergences onwards into Scotland, the ancient name of Maiden Way having been converted in places, into names of a modern character. Another old man informs me, that in his youth he was very much in the habit of travelling across these hills into Scotland, and that he had followed the Maiden Way scores of times all the way into Scotland. On minute inquiry I found that he alluded to the "Ancient Ditch," which he had always heard called the Maiden Way. It appears from this, however, that up to the commencement of the present century, there had been a tradition of the Maiden Way passing over these hills in this direction.

(1950 yards.) At 7380 yards it crosses the Awarded road on Blacklyne Common at the point where the peat road turns up the hill. There is an appearance of an ancient conduit here. This is on the east side of the cottage called Kettlehall, where Sir James Graham's game-watcher lives.

(270 yards.) At 7650 yards it crosses the Kettle Syke.⁷ A footpath called the Smuggler's road joins it here and passes along it. Thus an ancient right of road is preserved, although the name is lost. From this syke the ground rises at first rather abruptly, and then assumes a gently-



The Cross; an ancient fortress near the Maiden Way.

sloping ascent for 300 yards, passing over a hill called the Cross, which has undoubtedly at some period been a place of considerable strength. The form is here shown. It has been protected by the deep and rugged syke on the south-

⁷ Syke, a ditch, a brook that dries up in summer. Brit. sych, dry.

west side, and by a fosse and vallum on the other sides, the "Ancient Ditch" passing along the eastern edge of it. It will cover about six acres of ground. There are some traces of foundations in the eastern part of it, but these together with the ditch and rampart are now nearly level with the ground. These foundations may mark the site of the Prætorium, if it was once a Roman station. There is a rude pile of stones called the Cross on the north side, about five feet high, and five feet square at the bottom, and there are two smaller similar piles on the north side. There is a great number of small heaps of stones, similar to those at the Crew, and bearing the appearance of having been places of sepulture. Their number formerly was much greater, but several have been carted away. This place commands a view of most of the defiles in the adjacent hills.

About half a mile on the east side of the Cross is a small green eminence terminating in an artificial mound called the Watch Knowe, where a sentinel could easily discover the approach of an enemy from any of the surrounding defiles. The stones have now been carted away for building the fence. It seems to have been placed here for the special purpose of commanding the defiles called the Blind Slack on the east side, and the Beck Slack on the west side of it, both of which are rather hidden from the Cross.

(700 yards.) At 8350 yards it crosses a small stream called the Beck. On the north side is a quantity of stones, possibly part of a bridge. There are also the remains of a small cottage called the Beckfoot, formerly a noted resort for smugglers, but now in ruins. There are also the foundations of an ancient building 25 yards long, and 14 yards broad. The Beck forms a junction with the Black Lyne river, a little distance below. Near the Black Lyne are the foundations of another building 12 yards long and five yards broad. They have a Roman character; some of the stones used in their construction still point to the days of Roman dominion. They appear to have been small forts to defend the passage of the river.

(100 yards.) At 8450 yards it crosses the Black Lyne river. There are apparently the remains of a strong buttress of a bridge on the south side. There are the foundations of another building on the north side of the river, which has been seven yards square. The walls have been

above three feet thick, but are now covered over with turf.

Here then are the ruins of three *castella*, or fortresses, nestling amid mountain glens and streams, in quick succession, within the short distance of 100 yards. Two of them occupy a position within the forks of the rivers, and impress on the mind an idea of the strength of their position and of their antiquity. This place would be about the proper distance for a Mile Castle. Gibbon, speaking of the Roman roads, says, "The advantage of receiving the earliest intelligence, and of conveying their orders with celerity, induced the Emperors to establish, throughout their extensive dominions, the regular institutions of posts. Houses were everywhere erected at the distance of only five or six miles; each of them was constantly provided with forty horses, and by the help of these relays, it was easy to travel an hundred miles in a day along the Roman roads." Hence this place, or the Cross, might not only be the site of a Mile Castle, but also one of those stations for the speedy conveyance of despatches, being about six miles from the station at Bewcastle. Here may fancy wander back to scenes of other days. It may well excite our wonder that the Roman warrior should have been induced to quit the warm and delicious breezes of Italy for the conquest and permanent occupation of a country, where the seasons are so cold and variable, and whose climate is either saturated with humidity during a great part of the year, or exposed to cutting and boisterous winds, and anything but soothing to the respiratory organs!

About half a mile westward from this place is an allotment of Common called the Clint,⁸ situated on sloping ground rising from the Black Lyne river. About the middle of this allotment is a large quantity of stones generally known by the name of Roman Camps. The stones are laid in rows, and are of different shapes. There appears to be one principal row from east to west, and several other rows in connection with it, some forming rectangular, and some forming circular figures, with an entrance on the north and south sides. Some of them may have been the foundations of buildings, while others appear to resemble resting-places

⁸ Clint, a rock. Brockett explains bare lime-stone rocks. Possibly a modification of Sax. *Clif*, *clivus*, a rocky steep.

for the dead. Some are about the length of two graves, and two or three feet high, while others form, as it were, a long series of graves. Great quantities of the stones have been carted away to build the fences.

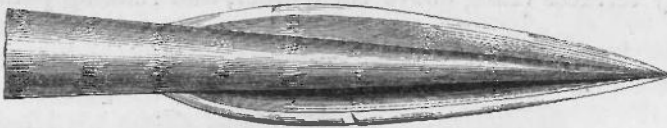
At the head of a rushy syke, on the north side of this Allotment, and near the stone wall, is a knowe called the Camp Graves, now grown over with rushes, but formerly a large cairn.⁹ It has been entirely carted away to build the fence. It was opened about sixty years since by the Rev. Mr. Lauder, presbyterian minister in Bewcastle, and Mr. John Dodgson of Roanstrees, who is yet living, and who informs me that it was a circular cairn, or heap of stones piled up without observing any regular order, about 12 yards in diameter and about six feet high. It was found to contain two graves, each about six feet long, and two feet broad, one at the end of the other, and ranging east to west, formed by large thin stones set upon edge perpendicularly, covered with slabs, and having a thin stone across the middle, forming a division between them. Each grave contained an urn with black coloured ashes in it. There were bones in the graves, and also about thirty Roman silver coins. One of these was about the size of a sixpence, and appeared to be a coin of Hadrian, the rest have been lost; a sharp-pointed two-edged sword of iron, about 30 inches in length, and a bronze pint jug, were also found. This cairn, consequently, may have been of Roman construction, whatever opinions may be entertained as to the origin of the other tumuli in this district. From some drains which have been lately cut along the edge of the hill, there appears to have been a stone road leading between the Roman Camps and the Camp Graves. From a note in Hutchinson, we find it stated that the Maiden Way passed this place at the distance of about half a mile, which agrees very nearly with the distance of the track which I have surveyed, and so far corroborates my investigations. A bronze spear-head was found a few years ago in a peat moss near the Camp Graves. It measures $10\frac{1}{2}$ inches in length, and is in good preservation. It is in the possession of Mr. George Routledge of Bankhead. (See woodcut.)

At a place called Roanstrees, about three miles west from

⁹ This place is sometimes called the Kemp Graves, or the Kempies Graves. In some parts of the North, Kempers is a

term used to signify competitors. Sax. Cempa, a warrior; Dutch, kemper.

the Camp Graves, was another similar Cairn, but rather larger, which was opened about forty years ago by Mr. Dodgson. It contained two graves similar to the Camp



Bronze spear-head, found near the Camp Graves. Length, 10½ in.

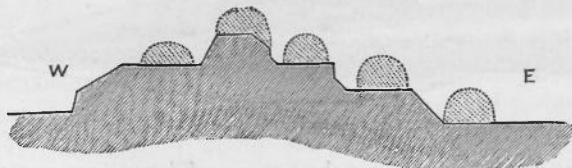
Graves, and one urn in each grave. There was a quantity of bones and pieces of human skulls, but no coins. The place, when it is ploughed over, is still white with bones. Roanstrees is delightfully situated between the rivers Black Lyne and Bailie Water, which form a junction just below it, having their banks graced with stately trees and swelling hills, nature having with liberal hand scattered some of her choicest ornaments to embellish the landscape, and to increase our affections for "the land we live in." Roanstrees is near the line of road leading between Bewcastle and Tinnieshill, and might be a station, similar to the Black Lyne, or Cross, for the maintenance of a number of horses. It is about five miles from the station at Bewcastle.

In a field about a quarter of a mile east from Roanstrees, called the Langcraig, are three mounds called the Fairy Knowes. Two of them appear to have been connected with the smelting of iron, as they abound with pieces of slag; and the other has probably been a charcoal heap, as it seems full of small pieces of that material. They were formerly much larger, but have been levelled as much as possible for ploughing.

Close to Roanstrees, on the east side, is an eminence called the Kiln Knowe, which has also been much levelled for agricultural convenience. A man who was ploughing here found a piece of copper like the half of a bridle bit, and an instrument of iron about a foot long, thickly covered with rust. In one part of this knowe are traces of the walls of a building, where were found the appearances of a fireplace, and hearthstones. This knowe is naturally a good situation for an encampment, and is well supplied with water. There has been a kiln for drying corn on the south-west side.

At a place called the Nook, near to Roanstrees, is a field which is generally known by the name of the Cairns. In it

were five ridges of stones or barrows, averaging about 150 yards in length, and about a yard deep. They were composed of loose stones, and have the appearance of so many terraces rising above each other, and running parallel



The Cairns. Transverse Section, from W. to E.

from north to south. They have been carted away for the plough. At this place there was formerly an old building with very thick walls, and portholes like those in the tower at the Crew.

The Maiden Way, on leaving the Black Lyne river, passes on the west side of a petrifying spring, rising up through a large deposit of limestone tufa, with a quantity of stones lying round it, as if it had been walled at some former period. The situation of this place may be described as a land of mists and drifting sleet, and baleful vapours. It is a scene of solemn desolation, and yet it is such as may perhaps raise the thoughts to Him that walketh on the wings of the wind, and watches over even the lowest provinces of man's existence.

(500 yards.) At 8950 yards the line is continued along the east side of the Catslack Crag. The road here has swerved a little to the east to avoid a deep and extensive morass. The ancient ditch is still to be traced accompanying the Way.

(600 yards.) It then skirts along the edge of the morass, and at 9550 yards passes an extensive enclosure strongly fortified, in which are the foundations, possibly, of another Mile Castle about 15 yards square, and standing about three feet above the ground, now covered with turf. The building appears to have been divided into two apartments. It is placed at the foot of the hill immediately underneath Skelton Pike, a rude pile of stones perched on the western point of a long rocky ridge of land.¹ The Way turns again

¹ Skelton: possibly derived from Sax., Sceald, a defence, a shieling, and Ton, a town,—a collection of skulls, as shepherds'

huts are still termed in some parts of Cumberland. Or from the Celtic, sceile, a jagged rock.

here, and aims for Wise's Sheepfold and the Green Knowe at the head of the Craigy Cleugh. The view from Skelton Pike is very extensive.

About half a mile south-west of Skelton Pike, are the remains of a large cairn, called the Curragh. It has been rectangular, about 45 yards long, 20 broad, and about 10 feet high. A great part of the stones were carted away to build the adjoining fences, about the year 1813. It was computed to contain 10,000 cart-loads of stones. A person named William Smith, who was carting stones from it, dug about six feet below the bottom of it in one place, and found nothing but sand. There was no appearance of any graves in it so far as he could ascertain; no coins, bones, or inscriptions were found. Parts of the eastern and northern sides are remaining. The last person who carted stones from the Curragh, thought he was coming to stones or slabs set on edge, one evening, but, when he returned to his work on the following morning, a large quantity of stones had fallen down upon it, and, as his contract was just ended, he made no farther search, but took the stones which were most convenient for his purpose. This vast structure would appear to have been a place of burial, and the kistvaen with its mouldering contents is probably still undisturbed. It may also have been erected for some other purpose. The word Curragh or Currack, by contraction becomes Kirk, and by corruption, Church, and hence we might infer that it may have been a place of worship. Pennant, in his voyage to the Hebrides, says, "The learned assigned other causes for these heaps of stones; have supposed them to have been, in times of inauguration, the places where the chieftain elect stood to show himself to the best advantage to the people; or the place from whence judgment was pronounced; or to have been erected on the road side in honour of Mercury; or to have been formed in memory of some solemn compact." From the fact of their requiring such an amount of labour, they must have been erected by a settled and not a nomad race.

Some historical enquirers believe in the existence of a native population in Britain at a very early period. It has been conjectured that the Celts passed to the western part of the world 2100 years B.C., and that the Celtic Druids reached Britain about 1600 years B.C. About the time, therefore,

when the patriarch Jacob was journeying into Egypt to behold his long-lost son, the nomadic Celts were crossing the English Channel, disputing territorial rights with the wolf and the wild boar, and peopling the savage coasts of the British Isles. May we not, therefore, without any very unreasonable stretch of the imagination, fancy that we see the British Druids raising their ponderous altars at the same time that the great Jewish law-giver was setting up the tabernacle by divine direction, and delivering the commandments to the twelve tribes in the wilderness of Sinai?

About half way between Skelton Mile Castle and Wise's Fold, it passes the groundwork of a small building about four yards square, on the edge of a hill, which may have been a small fort. Somewhere near this place another road has branched off to the north-east; it crossed the Kershope river at the Caems Brae, aiming for the head of the Queen Syke, the Flight Ground, Dinlabyre Fell, and Whitleygyll Head.

(800 yards.) At 10,350 yards, it passes on the east side of Wise's Fold, where there may have been buildings at some period. A little to the west of this place stands the monument (11 feet high) erected in memory of Thomas Davidson, a game-watcher to Sir James Graham; he was murdered on this spot, November 8, 1849.

The smuggler's road quits the Maiden Way here, and turns more to the west.

A little to the west from the monument is a pond called the Curragh Loch, which was formerly much more extensive, but is now nearly grown up with moss. The traditions of the district inform us that a chest of gold was deposited in it, in some great emergency, and that it can only be removed by "twae twin lads, twae twin yads (horses), and twae twin oxen," all pulling together.

(700 yards.) At 11,050 yards it passes on the west side of the Green Knowe at the head of the Craigy Cleugh. Here are the traces of the foundations of two buildings, which may mark the position of a Mile Castle, which would here command the deep defile.

(600 yards.) At 11,650 yards it reaches the waters of Kershope river, and then enters into the "Land of Burns." On the south side of the river we find the remains of another of those old and hoary memorials of bygone days, 33 feet

long, and 18 feet broad, with walls three feet thick. The position is suited for a fort to defend the passage of the river. If the Romans were at the trouble of making bridges at these fords, it is only reasonable to suppose that they would also erect forts, and station garrisons to prevent them from being destroyed. The river Kershope runs at the bottom of a deep gorge, and the ground rises very abruptly from it for more than a quarter of a mile on each side.² It tumbles over a series of rough shapeless stones till it loses itself in the Liddal. It forms the boundary line between England and Scotland the whole length of its course. On its banks in former times the contending nations frequently held their councils for regulating the affairs of the Border. The scenery of Kershope Pass is of a wild, naked, and romantic character.

² The name Kershope may be derived from the Saxon Carre or Carse, a plain, a pasture, and Hope, Sax., heafod, Teut. haupt, a head; the head or most eastern part of the cattle pasture. The farm

called Kershope is a celebrated grazing farm at this day. On the eastern side of Kershope there was formerly a very large tract of woodland which reached from Roanstrees to the Cheviot Hills.

(To be continued.)

THE MAIDEN WAY,

BY THE REV. JOHN MAUGHAN, B.A., Rector of Bewcastle, Cumberland.

SECTION IV.—*Survey of the Maiden Way to Castleton in Scotland.**

THE Maiden Way leaving the Kershope river, and proceeding forwards about 600 yards, reaches the summit of Tweeden Rigg¹ and the Langknowe Cairn. This is a long stone barrow, 55 yards long, and from 5 to 6 yards broad. It ranges from north to south. It has been opened in two places, showing a Kistvaen, or grave, in each, with the stones set up on edge, but without the usual sepulchral contents. It appears to be composed of a series of graves adjoining each other, placed across it, and ranging east and west. A person named William Davidson, residing at Bruntshield, opened the two graves about five years ago. He found nothing in them, but did not make any particular search. The view from this place takes in its range nearly the whole of Liddisdale. On the top of the ridge of Fells, on the north-east of the Hermitage Castle, are two small conical hills called the Maiden Paps, bearing a strong resemblance to the nipples of the female breast, but possibly deriving their name from their connection with the Maiden Way, which appears to be aiming partly in that direction.

In taking a general review of the tumuli, or barrows, described in the preceding survey, one cannot fail to be struck with the uniform characteristics which are found to belong to the human race in the primitive stages of society. For although the camp graves appear to give us proofs of their Roman origin,² yet there can be no doubt that the greater number of these monumental remains ought to be ascribed to an earlier period. Vestiges of this description attributed to the Celtic age have been found on the extensive plains of Wiltshire, on the Yorkshire moors, on

* Continued from page 235.

¹ Rigg: Anglo-Saxon *Hrig*, a "back," and figuratively a hill, ridge or rising ground.

² See page 230, *ante*.

the Sussex downs, on the cultivated hills of Surrey, as well as in Aberdeenshire, Morayshire, the Shetland, and the Orkney Islands. They are situated on the banks of the Boyne, as well as on the banks of the Nile; they are seen in the neighbourhood of the Black Sea, as well as scattered over the vast plains of Central Asia; and they accompany the mythology of the Norsemen of Europe. Whether they are found, therefore, in Egypt, on the banks of the Euxine, along the shores of the Mediterranean, or throughout the whole northern regions of Europe, if they do not furnish an argument in favour of the Asiatic origin of the early northern races, they at least afford evidences of a primitive state of society, through which the races occupying those different localities have passed to higher grades of civilisation.

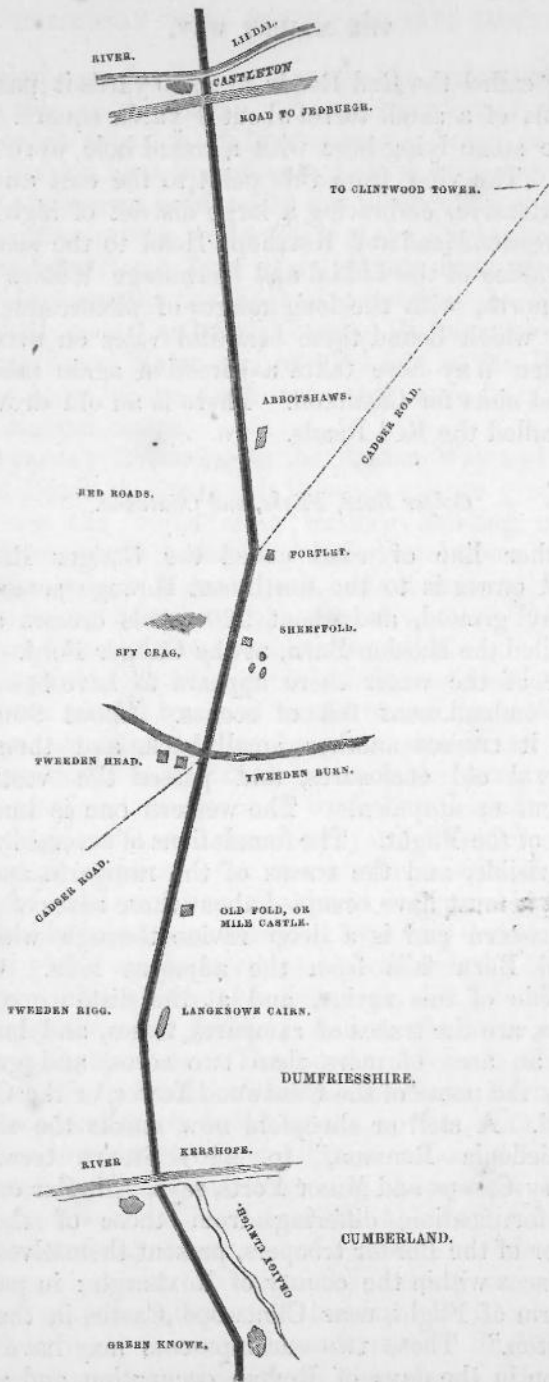
(520 yards.) From the Langknowe Cairn the Maiden Way aims a little more to the north-east in a direct line towards the Shepherd's cottage, called Tweeden-head, and passing down the side of Tweeden Rigg, it arrives at about 1120 yards at the remains of an ancient building, called the Old Fold, which may have been another Mile Castle. The foundations of the outer wall show that it has been 41 yards long, and 37 yards broad; and there are the traces of three smaller buildings within it. The outer wall is merely a row of loose stones, generally of small size, as all the principal stones have been removed, and used in the erection of the cottage and out-buildings at Tweeden-head.

(700 yards.) At 1820 yards it crosses the Tweeden Burn on the east side of Tweeden-head Cottage, and some large stones appear on the south side of the Burn, as if an embankment had been made for crossing it. Several stones, exhibiting the appearance of Roman masonry, may be seen both in the old and the new buildings. An old road, called the Cadger Road, here joins it and passes along it for a short distance.

(550 yards.) Proceeding straight onwards up the hill from Tweeden Burn, at 2370 yards it passes an old stell, or sheepfold, near some large rocks called the Spy Crag, from which a very extensive view may be obtained. There are three small mounds of stones near it which may have been graves.

(350 yards.) Advancing forwards, across the end of a Rigg,

SURVEY OF THE MAIDEN WAY.



VI.—FROM THE GREEN KNOWE, ACROSS THE SCOTTISH BORDER, TO THE RIVER LIDDEL.

Scale, 800 yards to an inch.

generally called the Red Roads, at 2720 yards it passes the foundations of a small turret about 9 yards square. There is a large stone lying here with a round hole worn in it by the door. The view from this point to the east and north is very extensive, embracing a large district of high ground called Tweeden Head and Kershope Head to the south-east, and the vallies of the Liddal and Hermitage Waters on the east and north, with the long ranges of picturesque mountain land which bound these beautiful vales on every side. The Maiden Way here takes a direction again nearly due north, and aims for Castleton. There is an old drove road along it called the Red Roads.

Cadger Road, Flight, and Clintwood.

The other line of road called the Cadger Road has proceeded onwards to the north-east through some broken and mossy ground, and about 960 yards crosses a small rivulet called the Harden Burn, at the Cadger Ford. On the west side of the water there appears to have been a considerable embankment full of stones. About 900 yards forwards it crosses another small beck, and then enters into several old enclosures, and passes the vestiges of two ancient encampments. The western one is known by the name of the Flight. The foundations of several buildings are still visible, and the traces of the ramparts and fosses show that it must have occupied about three acres of ground. At the eastern end is a deep ravine through which the Clintwood Burn falls from the adjacent hills. On the eastern side of this ravine, and at the distance of about 300 yards, are the traces of ramparts, fosses, and buildings, covering an area of more than two acres, and generally known by the name of the Clintwood Tower, or the Castle of Clintwood. A stall or sheepfold now marks the site. In the "*Caledonia Romana*," (p. 240) Stuart, treating of Temporary Camps and Minor Forts, says, "Similar examples of field fortification, differing from those of the early Britons, or of the Border troopers, present themselves in one or two places within the county of Roxburgh: in particular on the farm of Flight, near Clintwood Castle, in the parish of Castleton." These two encampments may have formed one station in the days of Roman occupation, and at some

subsequent period a border fortress has probably been built on each side of the ravine. A small portion of the wall of each border tower is still remaining. Some weapons of curious fashion have been found at these encampments.

Another ancient road, called the Blackgate, passes through the enclosures on the western side of the Flight encampment. It comes from North Tyne in a direction from north-east to south-west; crosses the Boghall ground at the Flight, and the Liddal near Castleton; carries its name over Coom's Edge into Ewes' Water, and into Eskdale, in the direction of Sowerby-hass, where there are, as I have been informed, several Roman camps.

(500 yards.) Returning to the Maiden Way and following the Red Roads, at 3220 yards it passes a large green knowe, where are the ruins of a modern building called the Abbotshaws, in which may be traced several stones resembling such as are seen in Roman work. As it is about the proper distance it may have been the site of another Mile Castle. There are traces of some enclosures near it.

(1500 yards.) At 4720 yards it arrives at Castleton, where we may see several traces of ramparts and fosses which have the appearance of having been the site of an extensive Roman station. It is difficult to trace the exact position of this encampment, as the road to Jedburgh passes through the south side of it, and the churchyard of Castleton occupies the western portion. On the northern side the ancient castle of Liddal stood on an almost impregnable post. On the east side it has been defended by a very deep and narrow gorge or glen; on the north and north-west by a steep and rocky precipice above 100 feet high, the foot of which is washed by the river Liddal; and on the south and south-west by a double fosse. The northern fosse is about 20 ft. deep and 20 ft. broad, while the southern fosse is about 24 ft. deep, and 33 ft. broad at the bottom, with a rampart or earthen breastwork, about 10 ft. broad and 6 ft. high. In the immediate vicinity of this camp there must have been formerly a town or village of considerable importance, as the foundations of a great number of buildings have been dug up at different periods. Neither the extent, nor the exact situation of this village are known. It is said to have suffered severely from the inroads of the English, and to have been burned by them more than once. The buildings

at the farmhouse at Castleton, which stands on the east side of the station, show stones resembling those found in Roman masonry, and two Roman roads cross each other at this point, namely, the Maiden Way, and the road called the Blackgate.

The Maiden Way crosses the Liddal on the east side of the Castle of Liddal, and appears to pursue its course nearly due north over the moor to the valley of the Hermitage river. Rising out of this vale it follows the course of the Thief Syke, through the Hartsgarth Farm, aiming for the ruins of the Hartsgarth Tower. Here it is usually called the Thief Road. Somewhere in the vicinity of the Hartsgarth or Gorenbury Towers, it would fall into the ancient Roman road, which is supposed to have run between Netherby and Trimontium, or Eildon.

Before taking leave of the Maiden Way, I would again suggest that if Whitley Castle be the Alionis, then Bewcastle will be the Galava, and Castleton the Glanaventa, of the Tenth Iter of the Itinerary. I am quite aware that these stations have been differently placed; that Ambleside has been considered by some as Alionis, Keswick as Galava, and Ellenborough as Glanaventa; whether on sufficient grounds or not appears doubtful. So far as the etymology of the words is of any authority, Castleton appears to have a decided preference over Ellenborough. The old word Glanna means a glen, and while there is nothing deserving the name to be seen at Ellenborough, Castleton is defended by two such glens as are seldom found in such close connection with each other.

In the map of Ancient Britain, published by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, Glanaventa is placed at Ellenborough, Galava at Keswick, and Alionis at Ambleside, and this appears to be on the authority of Ptolemy and the Itinerary of Antonine.³ In this map, however, the road is only laid down from Ellenborough to Papcastle, while the country between Papcastle and Ambleside is without any trace of a road. The position, therefore, assigned to this Iter on this map, cannot have been made on sufficient evidence. Besides, while Keswick has been supposed by some to be a Roman Station, others are of opinion that they

³ Compare also Mr. Hughes' map of *Historica Britannica*, produced under the direction of the Record Commission.

are not able to trace either Romans or Saxons in these parts. Camden certainly does not mention it as a Roman Station, and there is nothing conclusive in Horsley respecting it. Again, why should Keswick be mentioned as one of the stations of this Iter, where there are few or no decided traces of the Romans, and why should Papcastle not be mentioned where there is every indication of a station of the largest class? Again, Alionis is mentioned as one of the stations, "per lineam Valli," but Ambleside being at so great a distance from the Roman Wall, can scarcely be classed among such stations. Whitley Castle being only a few miles from the Roman Wall, appears on that account, at least, to have a better claim. Antiquaries also disagree as to the station at Ellenborough; Camden supposes it to be the Arbeia, and that it was formerly called Volantum. By Horsley, Warburton, and Hutchinson, it is considered to be the Virosidum of the Notitia. By others it is supposed to be Olenacum. Its claim, therefore, to the name of Glanaventa only rests on very uncertain grounds. To this claim to locate the Tenth Iter in this district, and to connect it with the Maiden Way, an objection may be made that the distances do not correspond with those given in the Itinerary. The same objection, however, may be made against its western position, and in fact is not of much weight, for, so far from errors in the numbers of miles being of rare occurrence in the Itinerary, they are the chief drawback from the value of the work. Horsley conjectured that the Maiden Way was the Tenth Iter, but he probably fell into an error by making it terminate at its northern extremity at Lanchester, instead of Castleton.

In treating upon the ancient name of the station at Bewcastle,⁴ I stated, that on the north side of the parish of Lanercost, which is now in the Barony of Gilsland, and on the south side of Bewcastle which is now in the Barony of Liddle, there is a large district, formerly called *Wulyevva*, which may be only a corruption of the word *Galava*. Denton says, "I read of one Beueth, a Cumberland man, about the time of the Conquest; he built Buecastle, and was Lord of Buecastle Dale; his son, Gilles Beueth, had, or pretended a right to all, or part, of the Barony of Gilsland, at least to that part thereof which adjoineth to Buecastle." Beueth was a

⁴ Section II, see p. 125, *ante*.

follower of Gospatric the Great, and he and his son Gilles opposed Hubert de Vallibus, to whom the Barony of Gilsland had been given by Randolph de Meschines, who was Lord of Cumberland by a grant from the Conqueror. Denton proceeds to state that, "Attempting something afterwards for the recovery of his ancient right, of which it seems he was dispossessed, he was banished into Scotland. In King Stephen's time, when the Scots were let into Cumberland, he took that opportunity to incite as many as he could, to assist him to recover his estate in Gilsland from Hubert de Vallibus ; and it seems, notwithstanding the alliances and other obligations which Hubert had laid upon the inhabitants to bind them to him, they took part with Gilles Beueth as the right heir." After the death of Hubert de Vallibus, his son Robert entered into the Barony of Gilsland, and enjoyed the same, but yet not so, but that Gilles Beueth still continued to give him disturbance, by making frequent incursions into his ancient patrimony, and wasting that part of the country in revenge, whereupon a meeting for agreement was appointed between them under trust and mutual assurance of safety to each other, at which conference Robert de Vallibus basely assassinated the unarmed Gilles Beueth, thus settling all claims to his ill-gotten lands, which, however, were not permitted to descend to his posterity, for his only child died before him. It appears from this, that the Lords of Bewcastle claimed at least a part of the Barony of Gilsland, and we may not be greatly in error if we presume that this said part so claimed was this district, which has so long retained the name of Wuleva, and which may have originally belonged to the ancient station of Galava.⁶

⁶ The recent discovery at Bewcastle of part of an altar to Jupiter Dolichenus has been mentioned as claiming the attention of archaeologists. Horsley gave an altar thus inscribed, found at Benwell on the Roman Wall, and another is noticed by Hodgson, found at Risingham. Mr. Roach Smith gives some account of this title of Jupiter, in his notice of a Gallo-Roman altar, now a baptismal font in the church of Halinghen, Pas de Calais. (*Collectanea Antiqua*. vol. i. p. 13.) To those anti-

quaries who may desire further evidence on this curious subject of Roman mythology, it may be acceptable to be informed, that a detailed memoir on the *cultus* of Dolichenus has been given by M. Seidl, in the last volume of the *Transactions of the Imperial Academy of Vienna* (Division of History, &c., vol. xii). The author gives six plates of altars, and enumerates sixty-eight monuments, vases, &c., bearing the name of Dolichenus.