

## Miscellaneous Notices.

THE classification of the early antiquities of North Britain has, we rejoice to learn, been undertaken by the talented secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, whose interesting Memorials of Edinburgh in the olden time, we recently commended to the notice of our readers. Mr. Wilson is preparing for immediate publication the "Elements of Scottish Archæology," comprising a systematic elucidation of the antiquities of Scotland, and to attempt to show the legitimate historical and other inferences, deducible from them. Any communication of examples of primitive Scottish antiquities, existing in private collections, or notices of unpublished discoveries will be highly acceptable to Mr. Wilson, in aid of this undertaking, of such essential value to Archæological Science. They may be addressed to him at the Hall of the Antiquaries of Scotland, Great George Street, Edinburgh.

Shortly after the Meeting of the Institute at Lincoln, a proposition was made, in which several influential Members of the Society took a warm interest, to replace the motley display of bright green and blue, which had long disfigured the great East window of Lincoln Cathedral, by a composition in the best style of modern art in painted glass, suitable to that noble fabric. It is proposed to expend the sum of £1200 on this object, and after a year's exertion, in which the Lincolnshire Architectural Society has taken a zealous and efficient part, the sum of £655 has been subscribed. The project will be viewed with interest by many of our readers, who took part in the Meeting of 1848, or who may be solicitous, that so advantageous an occasion for promoting the advance of taste and artistic skill in this branch of decorative design, should not be lost. Subscriptions are received by the Dean of Lincoln, the Rev. Edmund Smyth, Elkington, Louth, or Messrs. Coutts, Bankers of the Institute.

The Author of the "History of Architecture," MR. EDWARD FREEMAN, is preparing for publication, "Remarks on the Architecture of the Cathedral Church of Llandaff, with an Essay towards the History of the Fabric." He likewise, as we are informed, has in contemplation the preparation of a more extended Work on St. David's, embracing all the Antiquities at that interesting place, so rarely visited by Archaeologists. Mr. Freeman has found an able coadjutor, in this undertaking, in the Rev. W. B. Jones, one of the Secretaries of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. The History of St. David's has long been a desideratum; the Society of Antiquaries, as we believe, once contemplated such a Work as an addition to their series of Cathedrals, and a collection of drawings, made for this purpose by John Carter, in his best days, exists in their Collections.

Mr. Freeman will shortly produce the first part of his "Essay on the Origin and Development of Window Tracery in England;" with numerous Illustrations. It will be completed in four Quarterly Parts.

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In the Notice of Antiquities in the Collection of Mr. Greville Chester (*Journal*, vol. vi., p. 404,) a bronze fibula was erroneously given, as found at Lakenheath. It was discovered in East Anglia, but the precise locality is not known.

Edinburgh,—affording additional evidence of Roman occupation at that city. Mr. Wilson, indefatigable in the prosecution of researches which enriched his “Memorials of Edinburgh in the Olden Time,”<sup>1</sup> has given a very curious report of recent excavations on the Castle Hill, and numerous vestiges of successive periods which have there presented themselves in chronological series as the work progressed. Here, however, the present influence of the Scottish law of treasure-trove appears to have defeated nearly all the aims of the archaeologist. After the discovery of numerous coins, fragments of sculpture, and relics of comparatively recent times, a very curious deposit was found under a thick stratum of moss, or decayed animal and vegetable matter, in which occurred a brass coin of the Lower Empire. Beneath this moss lay two oaken coffins, hewn out of the solid trunk of a tree, with a cavity shaped out for the head. No ornaments were found. Large antlers and other relics apparently of the chase were near the spot. Such wooden cists are of rare occurrence. One, found in a Pagan tumulus near Scarborough, is preserved in the Museum there. Those discovered on the Castle Hill lay E. and W., and are probably of a later age.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The first meeting for the current year took place at Eastbourne, May 21, where considerable vestiges of a Roman villa had been disinterred; and various remains found on the spot were laid before the Society by Lady Domville. The memoirs communicated were:—On the traces of a Roman Road from Pevensy to Lewes, by Mr. C. Ade;—On a Dispensation from Leo X. to the incumbent of Arundel, to hold a plurality of benefices:—this document had been found in the parchment binding of a register at Fittleworth, Sussex, by Mr. Blaauw. Mr. Hervey read a notice of Numismatic discoveries at Eastbourne and Pevensy; Mr. Dudeney contributed a notice of the Wheatear, and the mode of capture by the Sussex shepherds,—a subject admissible in consequence of the singular illustration of the estimation of these birds, shown by the clause in leases of former times, that a portion of the rent should be paid in potted wheatears. Mr. Lower read a curious notice of some discoveries at Alfriston; and Mr. Cooper gave an account of the remains of Wilmington Priory. The desire for the establishment of a county museum was generally expressed by the archaeologists of Sussex; and announcement was made of a work on the Churches of Sussex, by Mr. R. Nibbs, nearly ready for publication.

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The REV. J. J. SMITH, late Fellow and Tutor of Caius College, Cambridge, whose researches and contributions to the “Publications of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society” are well known and esteemed by all who feel an interest in the ancient memorials connected with that University, has recently brought to completion his useful undertaking of the “Catalogue of Manuscripts in Gonville and Caius College,” a very curious collection, imperfectly known through the enumeration given in the “Catalogus MSS. Anglie.” He proposes to append (*by subscription*) a series of illustrations, comprising notices of the writers, and of their works; specimens of the

<sup>1</sup> This interesting work was noticed in the *Journal*, vol. v., p. 201. It was published at Edinburgh in 1848, and abounds with curious and valuable details.

texts ; with engravings, autographs and portraits ; and memoirs of eminent members of the college. Subscribers' names are received by Messrs. Deighton, Cambridge ; or Mr. J. Russell Smith. The Cambridge Society had previously produced Catalogues of the MSS. in the libraries of St. Catherine's Hall and St. John's College. We hope that so desirable an aid to archaeological and historical inquiries may lead other antiquaries, who have access to collegiate libraries, to undertake similar catalogues of their long neglected stores of information. We rejoice to learn that, at Oxford, the good work commenced at the Ashmolean by Mr. Black, in the description of the treasures of that library, has been followed up by the sub-librarian of the Bodleian, the REV. H. COXE, who has nearly achieved the important task of a complete catalogue of the MSS. in Collegiate Libraries in the University of Oxford, shortly to be published.

It is proposed to undertake the restoration of the "Round Church," at Little Maplestead, Essex, now in a very dilapidated condition. The conservation of this interesting relic of the Knights of St. John is well deserving of the care of archaeologists. The benefice is of very trifling value ; the whole of the tithes, manorial rights, and upwards of a third part of the parish are held by trustees, for the use and benefit of the "Sabbatarian Dissenters," and they are patrons of the living. Contributions in aid of the preservation of this curious fabric are received by Messrs. Goslings, Bankers, Fleet-street, London, or Mr. James Brewster, Churchwarden, Halstead.

The Architectural Society of the Archdeaconry of Northampton have announced that the publication, commenced with so much spirit and success, and for some time unavoidably discontinued, on account of the heavy outlay requisite for illustrations, will forthwith be resumed, on the terms originally proposed. The only alteration will be in the publication of *one* yearly part, instead of six, but comprising an equal amount of matter and illustration.

MR. HENRY MOODY, of Winchester, Curator of the Hampshire Museum, and author of the "Sketches of Hampshire," announces the publication of a volume of "Notes and Essays" (*by subscription*) relating to the counties of Hants and Wilts. The Institute has, on several occasions, been indebted to his obliging assistance, and it will be remembered that the collections formed during the Salisbury Meeting were enriched by numerous antiquities of interest from the "Hampshire Museum."

A Quarterly Journal of Architecture and the sister branches of classic art has been announced, to be entitled, "The Museum of Classical Antiquities." It will be published by subscription,—£1 entitling the subscriber to four quarterly parts. The prospectus, which may be obtained from Mr. J. W. Parker, West Strand, announces the scope and purpose of this periodical, passing in review the various European publications connected with the subject of archaeology, and pointing out the deficiency of any journal devoted to the history of classic architecture and the arts connected with it. "England," it is observed, "at present devotes, we might say, an exclusive study to the picturesque architecture of a Gothic age." The purpose of the new periodical is to give a fresh impulse and extension to the prosecution of archaeological studies, which cannot fail to produce advantageous results.

The beautiful series of examples of ancient and medieval art, displayed at the apartments of the Society of Arts, has proved one of the most attractive exhibitions ever presented in the metropolis. The warm interest

with which this instructive collection has been viewed, has naturally suggested the production of several publications, to preserve faithful memorials of the precious objects, now first brought together, and so soon to be dispersed. The Honorary Secretary of the Exhibition Committee, Mr. AUGUSTUS FRANKS, is engaged in preparing a detailed description of these works of art: and the value of his publication, to be amply illustrated from the drawings of Mr. Philip Delamotte, will be enhanced by the addition of notices of artistic processes employed, in accordance with a plan so ably carried out by Mons. Labarte, in his Catalogue of the invaluable Debruge Cabinet, forming a Cyclopædia of Medieval Art, which should find a place in the library of every archaeologist. Subscribers to Mr. Franks's work are requested to send their names to Mr. Bell, the publisher.

Another work, which promises to be of a very attractive character, has been announced by Mr. Cundall, and is nearly ready for publication. It comprises a series of sixty "choice examples of Art-workmanship," selected from the Medieval Collection, including several objects exhibited by the gracious permission of HER MAJESTY, the inimitable Lynn cup, and many exquisite specimens of ancient plate. Subscribers' names may be sent to Mr. Delamotte, 14, Queen's Terrace, Bayswater.

Mr. H. ECROYD SMITH, whose spirited undertaking in preserving faithful memorials of the tessellated pavements at Aldborough, we commended to the notice of antiquaries on a former occasion, has just completed another addition to his valuable series of examples of this nature, one of singular beauty and interest,—the pavement discovered in 1830 in Jury Wall Street, Leicester. We are glad to learn that it is his intention to add (*by subscription*) a representation of another remarkable mosaic, of small dimensions, at the same place, the subject of which has hitherto been an enigma. When it is remembered how liable works of this nature are to injury, and how many vestiges of the Romans in Britain have, like the fine mosaics at Stonesfield, on the estates of the Duke of Marlborough, near Oxford, perished through disgraceful neglect, the good services rendered by Mr. Smith in the preservation of most accurate delineations of these remains deserve the warmest encouragement. Communications may be addressed to him at Saffron Walden, Essex.

A work which cannot fail to interest many of our readers, has been announced, comprising specimens of ancient crosses and fonts in Cornwall: a county in which numerous sculptured remains of an early period are to be found, hitherto little known. Antiquaries have been indebted to the Rev. William Haslam for bringing under their notice some of these ancient Christian memorials. It is proposed to give three numbers, of which the first, containing twenty-four crosses, will shortly be ready for delivery. The publisher is Mr. Cleaver, 46, Piccadilly.

The curious churches existing in Sussex, some of which are already known to our readers through the memoir contributed to this Journal by Mr. Petit, have long claimed a greater degree of attention than they had hitherto received. The useful stimulus given to inquiry in that county through the Meetings and Publications of the "Sussex Archæological Society," has, no doubt, encouraged the projected production of a series of examples, to be published by Mr. R. H. Nibbs, Brighton (*by subscription*). The first series will comprise twelve monthly parts, each of six plates.

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SINCE the publication of the last *Journal*, several local meetings of kindred societies have taken place, with results which must materially tend to the promotion of archaeological science. The Cambrian Association held their fourth annual assembly at Dolgelly, commencing on August 26th, under the Presidency of W. W. WYNNE, Esq.; and the varied communications, the collections of antiquities exhibited, as also the investigation of local remains, and general proceedings of the week, were of a very interesting character. The Sussex Archaeological Society held their anniversary at Hurstmonceux, the VEN. ARCHDEACON HARE presiding; and several valuable contributions towards local history were received. The satisfactory announcement was made that arrangements had been concluded for a lease of Lewes Castle, for the purpose of forming a county museum in that very appropriate site. The West Suffolk Archaeological Institute assembled at Sudbury, a locality of considerable antiquarian interest. A full report of the joint meeting of the Architectural Societies of Northampton and Lincolnshire, at Stamford, has been published there; it comprises some valuable Ecclesiological notices by the Rev. G. A. Poole, with a dissertation on the curious subject of "Low-side Windows," by the Rev. F. P. Lowe, which claims attention.<sup>1</sup> The anniversary of the Caerleon Antiquarian Association, on July 17th, under the auspices of Sir Digby Mackworth, was sustained with much interest; and the results of Mr. Lee's efforts, in concert with the archaeologists of Monmouthshire, are of a very promising character. The museum at *Isca* forms an important feature of their proceedings. The Archaeological Society of Somersetshire held their annual meeting at Wells, on September 17th, the Lord Bishop of the diocese presiding. The archaeologists of Norfolk have held their annual Congress, most successfully, at Lynn, under the auspices of SIR JOHN BOILEAU, their President; and ample attractions were afforded by that ancient town, with an excursion to Castle Rising, an object of such singular interest amongst the historical sites of East Anglia. The September meeting of the Kilkenny Archaeological Society was of a very gratifying character, and evinced the rapid growth of an intelligent taste for antiquarian investigation, to which the publication of the Transactions of the Society, now advantageously commenced, must essentially conduce. We have the pleasure to announce, that the first Part of this interesting record has just been issued to the members of the Society.<sup>2</sup> We regret to be unable to report fully the valuable results of these efforts in various parts of the kingdom, to which we have thus briefly adverted.

We must reserve for a future occasion notices of several valuable works, —the attractive volume on "*Corinium*," by Mr. Newmarch and Professor Buckman, completed simultaneously with the Monograph on Richborough and Reculver, by Mr. Roach Smith and Mr. Fairholt; — Mr. Laing's "Catalogue of Scottish Seals," an undertaking of singular interest; — Mr. Freeman's "*Llandaff Cathedral*," with other fruits of archaeological research, recently completed, or in preparation.

<sup>1</sup> Stamford, S. Sharp: Simpkin, London.

<sup>2</sup> The secretaries of the Kilkenny Society, Rev. J. Graves and Mr. Prim, have under-

taken the Architectural History of the Cathedral of St. Canice. It is published, by subscription, by Hodges and Smith, Dublin.

charcoal, with indications of very strong action of fire, as seen upon the stones.

We might, if space permitted, advert with much gratification to the results which have attended the proceedings of various Provincial Societies during the past year. At the third Annual Meeting of the Buckinghamshire Architectural and Archaeological Society, a Memoir on sepulchral monuments was read by the Rev. W. H. Kelke, *Hon. Sec.*, which has since been printed, with illustrations, at the request of the members. It gives a comprehensive outline of the subject, and will be acceptable to many who are unable to obtain Mr. Bloxam's useful Manual (of which a new edition has so long been promised), or who may not be possessed of more costly illustrated works. The author offers some useful suggestions regarding modern monuments. We regret that he had not included in his work a concise catalogue of the monumental antiquities, effigies, brasses, &c., in the county of Bucks, which would have formed a very desirable Appendix to his Memoir.

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A PROPOSITION, which many of our readers will doubtless regard with much interest, has been lately brought before the literary world by Dr. Maitland, entitled "A Plan for a Church-History Society." It comprises many valuable suggestions, in regard to the objects and advantages of such an institution, the legitimate character of its publications, and the means by which its effective operation might best be ensured. The plan, it is understood, has been viewed by many with no ordinary degree of sympathy. Many persons may be cordially disposed to give encouragement to such an undertaking, into whose hands the detailed announcement explanatory of Dr. Maitland's views may not as yet have come; and it will be acceptable to them to be informed, that it may, we believe, be obtained from Messrs. Rivington.

It is gratifying to perceive, by the Report of the late General Meeting of the Spalding Club, on Dec. 21st ult., how encouraging a promise of increasing energy and usefulness is held forth by the valuable Associations of this kind in North Britain. The noble work produced by Mr. Patrick Chalmers has aroused the attention of Scottish antiquaries to appreciate the interest of the sculptured monuments in the North: and the Spalding Club have set the laudable example of appropriating a sum of money to the object of obtaining correct drawings of these remarkable monuments, which will be lithographed. Amongst the valuable works announced as in progress, the following claims especial mention—a new edition of "The Bruce," from the MS. in St. John's College Library, Cambridge. It has found a most able editor in Mr. Cosmo Innes.

The remarkable assemblage of examples of mediæval architecture and decorations, formed by the late Mr. Cottingham, excited much interest during the earlier part of the year. A catalogue of this highly curious collection has just been completed by Mr. Henry Shaw, F.S.A., whose skilful pencil has supplied several very pleasing illustrations. The views



advanced in his Preface claim most serious consideration. Mr. Shaw urges strongly the disadvantage, which few are more competent than himself to appreciate, experienced in England through the want of some extensive means of instruction, such as this museum might supply, if secured as the nucleus of a national collection. The want of such an establishment for the promotion of a more cultivated taste in design is daily more and more felt, as compared with the advantages afforded in other countries, auxiliary not only to artistic but to industrial ingenuity. The collection would form an invaluable adjunct to a Central School of Design.

Mr. Shaw progresses with unrivalled perfection in his "Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages," of which the seventh and eighth parts have lately appeared. His plates, representing the splendid triptych of the work of Limoges, exhibited in the collection formed at the Adelphi, and some gorgeous tissues, well worthy of modern imitation, surpass any of his former works. We must reserve a fuller notice of this publication for a future occasion. Its very moderate price, and the singular beauty of the plates, should render it extensively acceptable to the admirers of ancient art.

Mr. Charles Wickes, of Leicester, announces (by subscription) a Monograph on the Spires and Towers of the Churches of Great Britain; an interesting subject, which has never been treated separately. The first portion is prepared for the press. Such a work must prove attractive to many, and especially to those who, during the proposed meeting of the Institute in the West in the ensuing year, may visit a district so distinguished for the beautiful design of the church-towers, and their striking variety.

A valuable addition to the illustrations of Provincial Dialects, the result of many years' research, is announced for publication (*by subscription*). It is the "Glossary of Northamptonshire Words and Phrases, with Examples of their Colloquial Use. By Anne Elizabeth Baker." Long the companion and coadjutor of her brother in his excursions during the progress of his History of the County, Miss Baker has had unusual facilities for the collection of dialectical expressions. It is greatly to be regretted that the important undertaking contemplated by Mr. Baker should have been only partly achieved for want of sufficient public support. We hope that philologists may prove of more kindly disposition than the patrons of topography; and that Miss Baker may be encouraged to send her work to press without delay. Subscribers' names received by Messrs. Nichols and Mr. J. Russell Smith.

The Rev. J. C. Bruce has brought to a successful termination the interesting investigation of the "ROMAN WALL," which he has pursued with the most indefatigable energy. His work (of which we hope to give a detailed notice in the next *Journal*) has just been announced as ready for delivery; and, numerous as have been the recent contributions to the History of the Romans in Britain, this volume will be found inferior to none, either in the importance of the subject, or the intelligence and earnestness in personal observation, with which Mr. Bruce has achieved his Survey of the Great Northern Barrier. The numerous illustrations comprise many subjects hitherto unknown, and have been prepared with the utmost attention to accuracy, too little considered by previous writers on these remarkable remains.