

cited by some persons as genuine, and it is important to show the total fallacy of the argument.

DR. CANE read a memoir on "ring-money," and produced three specimens found in the Co. Kilkenny or on its borders. These rings weighed 77 grs., 100 grs., and 214 grs. respectively. He gave an interesting summary of the remarks of Sir William Betham, Mr. Lindsay, and Dr. Petrie, on this *vexata quæstio*. Sir William had first advanced the notion that these rings are the money of the Celts, and are all graduated in weight, so as to be multiples of 12 grs. or  $\frac{1}{2}$  dwt. ; and he sought to corroborate this opinion by statements regarding the use of gold and iron rings, as money, in Nubia and other parts of Africa. Dr. Cane read the authorities cited by the writers above-mentioned, showing the frequent presents of rings in early times ; and that payments of ransom, rent, or fines, were estimated by weight of gold or silver. Dr. Petrie shows that the precious metals were used thus as a circulating medium, sometimes as ingots, more frequently as rings ; and this appears more distinctly in the "Book of Rights," translated by O'Donovan. Dr. Cane gave also some illustrations of this curious subject from the Sagas, showing the frequent mention of gold rings among the Northmen as marks of distinction and a kingly largess, but not viewed as mere money. He inclined to regard the Irish "ring-money" as having been used in like manner, and to question its having served as a circulating medium for ordinary purposes of traffic or exchange.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

IT is proposed to publish a new edition of the MYVRIAN ARCHAIOLOGY of Wales, with English translations, under the auspices of the Welsh MSS. Society. In the original edition, now rarely to be purchased, no translations were given. Nearly the whole of the historical portion, consisting of the Genealogies of the British Saints, the Historical Triads, and various British chronicles, is ready for the press, having been prepared for the late Record Commission, and since placed at the disposal of the society by the Master of the Rolls. The publication will commence, under the direction of Ven. Archdeacon of Cardigan, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers is obtained to meet the expense. The work will form four or five volumes, to be issued at intervals of about twelve months. Persons who are willing to encourage this important undertaking, which has already received the Royal sanction, should send their names to the publisher, Mr. Rees, Llandovery.

Messrs. Brooke, of Lincoln, have announced the publication of an exact copy of all the monumental inscriptions in Lincoln Cathedral, as they stood in 1641 ; collected by Robert Sanderson, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, and corrected by Sir W. Dugdale's MS. Survey, now in Lord Winchilsea's Library, at Hartwell, Kent. A transcript of that survey was presented by the Archdeacon of Lincoln to the Chapter Library, with copies of the interesting sketches of monuments and the numerous sepulchral brasses, of which none now remain in the Minster.

A work of great utility to antiquaries and genealogists has been prepared for publication by Mr. John Papworth, entitled "A General Ordinary of British Armorial," in alphabetical arrangement by the charges. The very ingenious plan devised by the author affords singular facility of reference: it will afford the long-desired means of finding at a glance the family by whom any coat has been borne, or to whom it has been attributed. Besides the coats given in Burke's valuable "Armory," of which Mr. Papworth's volume will be the converse, Glover's "Ordinary," all rolls of arms, and accessible authorities have been rendered available: seals, sepulchral brasses, &c. have supplied their share of information. The work is prepared for press, and waits only for sufficient encouragement on the part of subscribers, to meet the cost of the undertaking. Any information will be thankfully received by Mr. Papworth, addressed to 14 A, Great Marlborough Street, London.

The Rev. H. C. Cherrie, Rector of Burghfield, Berks, announces a Genealogical and Heraldic work on the Families of Berkshire, to be published by *subscription*, in parts. It will comprise every particular recorded in the six Visitations of that county, and be illustrated by copies of the trickings of arms in Ashmole's MSS., or from other authorities. It is limited to families whose connexion with Berkshire occurred previously to 1700. Subscribers' names are received by Mr Russell Smith, 4, Old Compton Street, Soho.

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In the Notice of Mr. Freeman's "Remarks on Llandaff Cathedral," in the last volume of the *Journal*, p. 406, an erroneous impression was inadvertently given in regard to the age of some parts of the fabric. The author regards the side doorways of the nave, the rich character of which was shown by one of the Illustrations, as considerably later than the time of Urban (12th cent.) The west doorway, of which also an interesting representation was given, he considers as a pure Early English addition. It has nothing Romanesque, except the lingering vestige of the round arch. The Dean of Llandaff, however, would attribute it to the time of Bishop Saltmarsh (about 1190).

The question whether certain ornamental details, as compared in various districts, were simultaneously adopted, is of considerable interest, especially as connected with the true age of the sculptured crosses of Wales. We would refer our readers to Mr. Freeman's volume for further information.

The author's coadjutor in preparing the promised History of St. David's, is the Rev. W. Basil Jones, one of the secretaries of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, an antiquary well prepared to render efficient aid in that interesting undertaking.

The Fifth Annual Meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association will be held at Tenby, in August, 1851. President, the Earl of Cawdor.

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The ANNUAL MEETING of the INSTITUTE, for the year 1851, to be held in the city of BRISTOL, will commence on Tuesday, July 29. All persons who propose to communicate memoirs are requested to intimate their intention to the Secretaries.

of the facts connected with their discovery will form a highly valuable complement to his "Eburacum." The club contemplates the further investigation of the sepulchral antiquities which have already afforded such curious information regarding the various races, the early occupiers of Britain; and their efforts may justly claim the sympathy and assistance of archaeologists, those especially who have any connexion with the interesting districts adjacent to the Northern Marches. Any communication may be addressed to W. Procter, Esq., the Secretary of the Society at York.

A very interesting congress of the Warwickshire Archaeological Society and the Architectural Society of Northampton, commenced on May 21st, in St. Mary's Hall, at Coventry. The chair was taken by C. H. BRACEBRIDGE, Esq. Mr. BLOXAM, whose intimate acquaintance with the ancient vestiges of his county is well known to our readers, read a memoir on Ancient-British, Roman, and Saxon Remains, not hitherto noticed, especially in reference to discoveries on the property of the Earl Craven, at Coombe Abbey; and the curious collection of relics found at Newton, and now in the possession of Mr. Goodacre, at Lutterworth.

The REV. W. STAUNTON gave notices of the Cathedral and Priory of St. Mary, at Coventry; the basement of one of the western towers of the cathedral remains, an interesting evidence of its site. The REV. G. A. POOLE followed up these memorials with observations on the Churches of Coventry.

The second day was devoted to an excursion to Kenilworth and Warwick Castles, and a discourse was delivered at the former by the REV. C. HARTSHORNE, whose extensive researches and knowledge of the characteristic features of Military Architecture in England contributed also materially to the gratification of the numerous visitors, by his observations on the noble fortress of the Beauchamps, to every part of which access was most kindly permitted by the Earl of Warwick.

### Miscellaneous Notices.

SEVERAL important archaeological publications have recently appeared, which we regret to be unable to notice fully in the present *Journal*. The valuable work by Mr. WILSON, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, entitled "The Archæology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," claims especial mention, and the interest connected with this beautiful volume is not limited to that part of the kingdom to which it is chiefly devoted; it will be consulted with advantage and gratification by all who have a regard for National Antiquities, and for the advancement of Scientific Archæology.

Mr. HENRY SHAW has completed a fresh series of his incomparable reproductions of the relics of Medieval Times, in which so strong an interest is now aroused. He has happily availed himself of opportunities recently afforded by the dispersion of several precious continental collections, chiefly brought to our own country. This beautiful volume—"The Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages, Ecclesiastical and Civil," has brought within the reach of all a well-chosen series of examples, highly valuable for reference,

and designed with the most scrupulous fidelity. Amongst these productions of Mr. Shaw's skilful pencil, will be noticed with pleasure several subjects which, by the liberality of their possessors, have been displayed at the meetings of the Institute; for example,—the remarkable silver thurible recently rescued from Whittlesea Mere, and exhibited by Mr. Wells at the meeting in March (see page 195). We hope to revert to Mr. Shaw's interesting and artistic labours on a future occasion.

We would cordially invite the attention of our readers to the important periodical of which we formerly announced the establishment,<sup>1</sup>—"The Museum of Classical Antiquities." Three quarterly numbers of this work are completed: they comprise memoirs of much interest, accompanied by illustrations which have rarely been equalled in any archaeological publication. The representations of the remarkable paintings at Delphi, by Polygnotus, deserve especial commendation; but independently of these attractions, the periodical has that sterling character, and must prove of such essential utility in promoting a taste for the higher branches of archaeology, that we desire it may meet with extensive encouragement. The notices of publications, English and Continental, form a very acceptable feature of the work.

In the favourite department of architectural research, the valuable labours of Mr. HUDSON TURNER, in his beautiful volume produced by Mr. Parker, "Domestic Architecture in England," claim especial attention. Mr. SHARPE'S "Seven Periods of English Architecture," with Mr. FREEMAN'S Essay on Window Tracery, are works of more than ordinary interest. A desideratum in this branch of Archaeology has at length been supplied by the establishment of an "Architectural Quarterly Review," just commenced by Mr. Bell.

A curious display of ancient municipal pageantry has been produced by Mr. Muskett, of Norwich, entitled "Notices and Illustrations of the Costume, Processions, Pageants, &c., formerly displayed by the Corporation of Norwich." Many readers will remember the curious exhibition of the last relic of old civic state, the "Whiffers," who appeared for their entertainment at the meeting of the Institute in that city, and whose performances figure in this unique volume.

The Antiquaries of Wales are progressing with much activity: Mr. Freeman and the Rev. W. Basil Jones have finally arranged the publication of their "History of St. David's;" and Mr. Morgan's "Memoirs of Owain Glyndwr," are announced; both to be published by Mr. Mason, of Tenby, by whom and by Mr. Pickering subscribers' names are received. The Anniversary of the CAMBRIAN ASSOCIATION at Tenby will commence on August 20. *President*, the Earl of Cawdor.

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In the interesting extracts from the Bursar's Accounts, at Winchester College, communicated by the Rev. William Gunner (see page 82), it was inadvertently stated that Wykeham gave commission to Simon, Bishop of Aghadoe, to consecrate the College Chapel. The suffragan who officiated on this occasion was the Bishop of Achonry,—"*episcopus Accadensis*," in Ireland. He is named in Dr. Cotton's valuable *Fasti*, Connaught, p. 100.

<sup>1</sup> Archaeol. Journal, vol. vii., p. 215. Mr. J. W. Parker is the publisher, West Strand. One guinea annually entitles the

subscriber to the four Quarterly Parts; or by post, 1*l.* 3*s.* per annum.

at Persepolis, in his account of his Voyages in Arabia. Finally, Ker Porter, Morier, and Rich, investigated Babylon and Persepolis, leaving little for subsequent travellers but to confirm their accuracy. While M. Botta, at Khorsabad, and Mr. Layard, at Nimroud, and in its neighbourhood, have succeeded in making excavations, and bringing monuments of Assyrian art and history to light, such as the earlier travellers in those countries had no idea still existed under the soil they had trodden unconsciously.

Our author has drawn from these different sources a complete account of three great cities, at Babylon, Nineveh, and Persepolis ; and has endeavoured to tell the story of the late discoveries in the very words and language of the discoverers themselves. He has appended a full and interesting account of the progress which has been made in the discovery of the interpretation of the Cuneiform characters, in which the national records of Western Asia were kept since the time of Darius Hystaspes, to the establishment of the Sassanian empire, in the third century of our era—together with considerable extracts from papers written by Major Rawlinson, and published in the Journals of the Royal Asiatic and Geographical Societies. He has in this way been enabled to lay before the public much of the history of these discoveries, which had not hitherto been known beyond the few readers of those journals, or the members of those societies ; and has been able to show what a deep debt of gratitude the lovers of Eastern literature owe to that distinguished scholar, for the indefatigable exertions he has made in unravelling the ancient records of the Persian nation.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

We regret to be compelled to defer to a future Journal reports of Proceedings of several kindred societies, to which we had hoped to invite attention. Several recent publications of importance are also unavoidably reserved for notice hereafter.

It is gratifying to learn that the investigation at Cirencester, where such remarkable vestiges of the Roman Period were brought to light, through the active researches of Mr. Newmarch and Professor Buckman, have been resumed, with the fullest promise of success, under their direction. The funds available are inadequate to the undertaking : any contributions in aid of the enterprise will be thankfully received. The object deserves the liberal co-operation of archaeologists.

Amongst the sites of Roman occupation, Aldborough (*Isurium Brigantum*) has presented a field of singular interest, known doubtless to many readers, who may have enriched their collections with the beautiful chromo-lithographs produced through the spirited exertions of Mr. Eeroyd Smith. He has announced the publication (by *subscription*) of the "*Reliquiæ Isurianæ*," amply illustrated, and which will form a valuable monograph. Antiquaries desirous of encouraging the undertaking should address the author, at 20, Old Bond-street, London.

The completion of the TRANSACTIONS of the SALISBURY MEETING has been announced by the publisher, Mr. Bell, 186, Fleet-street. Members of the Institute who desire to continue the series of annual volumes, may now obtain this, the Fifth, comprising some highly interesting Memoirs. It may be obtained through any bookseller.

discovered, containing bones of sheep, charred wood, &c., with two wooden objects, known as "Commanair arrows." There seemed no evidence of its sepulchral use, and it was supposed to have been either a cooking-hearth, or a place connected with sacrifices. Mr. Graves read a report of the excavation of a remarkable cairn, undertaken by the society, in which had been found enclosed a central chamber containing human remains, and a small cist-vaen, in which portions of pottery were discovered; showing, seemingly, the more ancient deposit of the corpse, and subsequent interment in the ancient place of burial, after the usage of cremation prevailed. Mr. Byrne contributed a notice of certain pillar stones of memorial, marking the scene of a battle in the Queen's County, which led to the division of Ossory from the kingdom of Leinster. These stones seem to have marked the burial-places of chiefs who fell on that occasion. Under two of them had been found cinerary urns. It is supposed that the conflict occurred about A.D. 35. Amongst other memoirs read, was a notice by Mr. Prim, of the discovery of tombs at Black Friars', Kilkenny, ornamented with floriated crosses, one of them bearing the name of Roberd de Sardeloue, supposed to be of the Shardelow family, of Norfolk:—an account of crypts, resembling those found under raths or forts, discovered near a church in co. Cork; remarks on names of places, by Mr. Mac Gready, with other valuable communications supplying abundant materials for the continuation of the Transactions.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS, of York, has announced the immediate publication (by subscription) of his observations on the "Rivers, Mountains, and Sea-Coast of Yorkshire," in which will be comprised many interesting details gleaned during distant geological expeditions, and relating not merely to the physical features of that county, or its picturesque scenery, but likewise to the vestiges of its ancient inhabitants, to which his attention has often been attracted in localities rarely visited by the antiquary. He has, moreover, ever taken a leading part in the excavations conducted by the "Yorkshire Antiquarian Club." Persons desirous to receive copies should send their names to the author, St. Mary's Lodge, York.

Mr. Rees, Llandovery, will shortly produce, under the auspices of the Welsh MSS. Society, an important work by the Rev. W. Rees, to whose editorial care archaeologists are indebted for the "*Liber Landavensis*." It comprises the lives of the Cambro-British Saints, from ancient Welsh and Latin MSS., with translations. This volume is published by *Subscription*.

To the readers of the *Journal*, who take interest in medieval seals, intelligence may be acceptable that a periodical publication has commenced in Paris, under the direction of the "*Societe de Sphragistique*," entitled—"Recueil de documents et de mémoires relatifs à l'étude spéciale des Sceaux du moyen âge," &c. The monthly parts, of which five have already appeared, comprise notices with wood-cut illustrations, and they may be obtained at a trifling cost, through any bookseller. Communications are addressed to M. Forgeais, quai des Orfèvres, 56, at Paris, from whom casts in metal of all seals published may be obtained.