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Archæological Intelligence.

THE proposed formation of an "ESSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY," noticed in a former *Journal*, has been carried into effect, with the fullest promise of local encouragement. A considerable number of members have been already enrolled; and Mr. Disney, well known to our readers, through the friendly part he has constantly taken in the proceedings of the Institute, has been elected President. The rules and statement of the objects of the Society, in which the formation of a Museum at Colchester is included, may be obtained from the Secretary, the Rev. E. L. Cutts, Coggeshall. Mr. C. G. Round, proprietor of Colchester Castle, has consented to grant to the Society a long lease of the eastern court, as an appropriate site for their Museum. The spot is now occupied by small tenements; and their removal, for so desirable an object, will present a very satisfactory pledge of the influence which this Society may exercise, in a county abounding in objects of archæological interest.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY. Feb. 14, 1853. The Rev. J. Fenwick in the chair.—Mr. C. H. Cooper communicated extracts from the Kerrich MSS., now in the British Museum, concerning the stone coffins found near Cambridge Castle, in 1785, and in one of which a brass plate with an unintelligible inscription, is stated to have been found. The coffins were of the ordinary form, with a separate hollow made to receive the head.

The Rev. C. Hardwick made some remarks concerning an inedited matrix of a seal bearing the legend,—

Sigillum indulgentie plenarie cōcessæ in subsidium civitatis rhodi.

and the device of a hand holding a cross, having two horizontal bars, the extremities being of the Maltese form, and above it the keys of St. Peter. He knew of no record of these indulgences; and therefore this seal is of especial interest. Date of the seal 1522.

Mr. C. H. Newmarch read a paper, to show that the cause of the fresco painting in some of the Roman houses at Cirencester, was their liability to floods, requiring the original floors to be raised.

Feb. 28, 1853. The Rev. C. Hardwick in the chair. Some current Spanish coins were presented by the Rev. T. Field, from which it would appear that the pieces struck by the titular Charles III. (Archduke) were so altered by erasure, as to present the semblance of those of Charles II. The only alteration was the removal of one of the figures to convert III. into II.

A cast from an impression of the recently discovered seal of the dissolved Hospital of St. John, at Cambridge, was exhibited, from the Society's collection. The original matrix appears to have been a work of the twelfth century.

Mr. John Rigg read a paper upon the Orientation of King's College Chapel, tending to prove that but little confidence is to be placed in that theory of the Ecclesiologists.

Mr. C. C. Babington read a description of a Roman wooden causeway

discovered in Cambridge, in 1822. This will shortly appear as part of his "Ancient Cambridgeshire."

Mr. C. H. Cooper offered some observations, proving from ancient deeds that the street, called Petty Cury, in Cambridge, derived its name from the old Latin name of *Parva Cokeria*.—*C. C. B.*

CAMBRIAN ARCHÆOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting for 1853 will be held at Brecon, commencing Monday, September 12. Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart., M.P., *President*. All communications should be addressed to the Rev. W. Basil Jones, University College, Oxford.

KILKENNY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—March 16, 1853.—It is proposed to give extension to the efforts of this Society, by including a larger district within the range of its operations. It will be henceforth designated as the "Kilkenny and South-East of Ireland Archæological Society." It was determined at this meeting, that 100 subscribers of ten shillings annually being found, a volume should be produced each year, comprising historical and antiquarian matter, to the publication of which the existing small contribution of members (five shillings per annum) is wholly inadequate. The numerous memoirs communicated to the Society will thus be preserved and rendered available for general information.

The Rev. J. Graves read a notice of silver "ring money," of which an example had been added to the Museum; part of a hoard found in the cuttings for the Waterford and Kilkenny Railway, but unfortunately dispersed or lost, with the exception of this ring. A considerable quantity of silver, a collection apparently similar to that found at Cuerdale, described in this *Journal*, had been deposited on the rock, and covered by a stone. There were numerous small ingots and pieces flattened, possibly for coining. The silver had become so black by oxydation that it attracted little notice. Mr. Hitchcock gave an account of a singular sculpture at Annagh, co. Kerry, representing a mounted warrior; it is regarded with certain superstitious notions by the people near the spot, but no tradition of its history has been traced. Mr. Prim read a Memoir on the Olden Popular Pastimes in Kilkenny, especially the Mysteries, or religious plays; and the exciting, though barbarous amusement of the Bull-ring, which from an early period was much in vogue in that part of Ireland. The sports of the Kilkenny *arena* were under the special control of the municipal authorities, and directed by the "Grand Council of Bull-ring," the chief-constable being styled "Lord of Bull-ring," a similar designation being also retained by the mayor, subsequently to the charter of James I. in 1609. Mr. Prim gave some curious details regarding this and other diversions, as illustrated by the Corporation Records. Mr. Hitchcock read a Memoir upon the Round Towers of co. Kerry, giving a minute account of all particulars relating to the examples existing, or recorded as having existed, in that district. He invited the aid of Irish Archæologists, to compile a complete description of these remarkable structures throughout Ireland, observing that the best list hitherto published is that given with the Map of Ireland, produced in 1845, by the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge.

A numerous accession of members was announced, and several interesting antiquities, as also antiquarian publications, were presented to the Society. Those who may feel desirous to aid its proceedings, or to be enrolled amongst the subscribers to the proposed annual volume, may communicate with the Rev. J. Graves, Secretary, Kilkenny.

that Mr. Westwood may be encouraged to undertake a task, for which he is so eminently qualified.

In conclusion, we would cordially commend to our readers this interesting record of the proceedings of a kindred Society, which is well entitled to



more generous sympathy and encouragement than it has hitherto enjoyed. We hope that their Seventh Annual Meeting, to be held in the week commencing September 12th, under the Presidency of Sir Joseph Bailey, Bart., at Brecon, a locality replete with archaeological attractions, may be signally successful.

Archaeological Intelligence.

Among the numerous recently formed Provincial Societies for the promotion of Archaeological pursuits, the establishment of one for the county of Surrey, in the course of the last year, claims notice. It is proposed to hold periodical meetings, both in London and in the county; to publish a quarterly journal; and to establish a Library and Reading-room. The field of research which this district presents promises an ample harvest to the antiquarian student; and scarcely any county includes sites of deeper historical interest. Any communication regarding the objects of this Society may be addressed to Mr. G. B. Webb, 46, Addison Road North.

A county Library and Museum of Antiquities and Natural History has been formed in Wiltshire, under the patronage of the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Bishop of Salisbury, Mr. Poulett Scrope, Mr. Neeld, and other influential persons. The first step in carrying out this desirable purpose has been the purchase of Mr. Britton's extensive Wiltshire Collections, books, MSS., original drawings, and documents.

The first part of Mr. O'Neill's curious Illustrations of Irish sculptured Crosses has appeared, comprising six large lithographic prints. This important work may be obtained from the author, 66, Upper Seymour Street, Euston Square, or from Mr. Bell, 186, Fleet Street.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—May 18. The Transactions of the Society for the year 1851 were announced to be ready for delivery. The Rev. J. Graves reported that a considerable sum had been collected for the repair and preservation of Jerpont Abbey, but the fund was still inadequate to meet the requisite outlay, and it was proposed to bring this object more generally before the public. He announced a large accession of members, and numerous presents to the museum and library. Mr. Graves read a memoir on a sepulchral tumulus in the Queen's County. Mr. Hackett communicated an interesting memoir on popular antiquities and superstitions; and among other subjects brought before the Meeting were, an account of the ancient cross of Banagher, King's County, by Mr. Cooke; on ancient Dials, by the Rev. James Mease; and, on the old formalities attending the swearing-in of the Lord Mayor of Dublin, by Sir Erasmus D. Borrowes, Bart.

Archaeological Intelligence.

THE interesting object, originated by our noble President, — the assemblage of an extensive series of relics of Ancient Art in the Great Industrial Exhibition at Dublin, and brought before the Society by Lord Talbot at the February Meeting (see p. 77 *ante*). has been most successfully realised under his direction. The collection is unrivalled as an instructive display of the peculiar Irish types, of the earlier periods, upon the true appreciation of which so much probably depends, as regards the perplexing investigation of the first races settled in Ireland. Many valuable objects have also been sent from England and Scotland for purposes of comparison. It is highly gratifying to see that HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN, has been pleased to send the unique gold torc, exhibited by her gracious permission at our Lincoln Meeting. The assemblage of those marvellous works in chased and inlaid metals,—shrines, crosiers, hallowed bells, cases for the Gospels, and other examples of the *Opus Hibernicum* (?) is highly deserving of attention, no occasion having hitherto been afforded for the comparison of these productions of ancient Irish skill. In the next *Journal* it may be hoped that some Report will be given, regarding these collections and the success of the undertaking so satisfactorily carried out by Lord Talbot de Malahide, which must produce influential results in the promotion of Archaeological science. Mr. Fairholt is engaged on the preparation of an Illustrated Catalogue of the Collection; and his skilful pencil will be well occupied in preserving a faithful memorial of such a treasure of ancient art. We hope that his labours must receive the encouragement which they deserve. Subscribers are requested to send their names to him without delay. Address 11, Montpelier Square, Brompton.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Sept. 7, 1853. The Marquis of Ormonde, Patron, in the Chair, presented on the part of his brother-in-law, Mr. Paget, a collection of rubbings from sepulchral brasses and slabs. Numerous presents were received from Mr. Evelyn Shirley, Mr. Wakeman, and other members, including decorative pavement tiles from the Abbeys of Mellifont and Jerpoint, and St. Patrick's Cathedral, relics of comparatively rare occurrence in Ireland. Communications were read on Ogham Inscriptions, on Sepulchral Brasses, and on a curious Monument at Holy Cross Abbey, described in the recently completed volume of the Society's Transactions, and upon which the Rev. A. Rowan of Tralee offered some new observations. Mr. O'Daly gave an account of a poetical treatise on the origin of armorial bearings, being a translation from the Irish poem in the library of the R. I. Academy. Mr. Hackett contributed the continuation of his Essay on Irish Folk Lore, and discussed certain traditional legends which appear to present some analogy with the fables of the Hindoo mythology. They relate to popular notions regarding supernatural and mysterious cattle, vestiges possibly of some system of worship prevalent in Ireland in Pagan times. Mr. Dunne communicated notices relating to the existence of certain timber constructions within the ancient Mounds, known as Rathes.

ESSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY. July 21. The third meeting took place in the ancient hall of Hedingham Castle, with the cordial concurrence of the possessor, Mr. Majendie. The President, John Disney, Esq., took the chair. Excavations had been made for the occasion, to trace certain buildings which once surrounded the castle, and vestiges appeared sufficing to fix the position of the chapel, and of the great hall where Henry VII. held his court. Several documents relating to the county were brought by Mr. Almack, from his extensive and valuable collections. Numerous impressions of brasses, drawings, ancient portraits on panel, &c., were exhibited. A Memoir on the History of Hedingham Castle was read by Mr. Majendie, and Mr. Harrod explained the purposes with which the late excavations had been directed, and their actual results. The Hon. Richard Neville communicated "Remarks on Roman Sepulture," and detailed many interesting facts elicited in the course of his explorations in Essex and on the borders of Cambridgeshire. Professor Marsden produced the curious MS. Diary of Sir Simon D'Ewes. Mr. Almack gave a Memoir on the history of the De Veres; and a treatise on the Round Churches, relics of the Templars in England, was read by Mr. Buckler. Several other papers were prepared, which were postponed for want of time. It may be hoped that the Society will receive encouragement to commence forthwith the publication of these Memoirs in their transactions.

NORFOLK AND NORWICH ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The Annual Meeting took place at Fakenham, on August 17 and 18, Sir T. B. Beevor, Bart., presiding. The church at that place, with its sculptured font, the curious church of Little Snoring, the fine remains of Binham Abbey, Walsingham, its Church and Abbey, the "Wishing Wells," and the Friary, formed the chief objects of the first day's pilgrimage. Excavations had been made at Walsingham, and considerable vestiges of the Abbey buildings traced, which were explained by the Rev. J. Lee Warner, who gave a detailed account of this highly interesting site. The second day was occupied in an excursion to Houghton, East Barsham, Pensthorpe, and other places in the neighbourhood. A Museum was formed, containing many curious relics, chiefly connected with the county or discovered in it. The memoirs communicated comprised, the History of Binham Abbey, by Mr. Harrod; the Fakenham Charters, by Mr. Carthew; the Legend of Walsingham Abbey, by the Rev. J. Lee Warner.

A Society has been formed at Bath, during the last year, under the auspices of Mr. MARKLAND,—so long known for his valuable services to Literature. It is entitled "The Bath Literary Club," and amongst the first results of this Institution has been the republication of that valuable Memoir—the outline of the *Athenæ Badonienses*, by the Rev. Joseph Hunter, "on the Connexion of Bath with the Literature and Science of England." It was read by him, in 1826, before the Literary and Philosophical Association of that city, and a few copies were printed for private distribution. This interesting monograph may be known to some of our readers, through the large extracts which were given in the Gentleman's Magazine. The author has now added memorials and notes, illustrative of the growth of Literary and Archaeological pursuits in Bath, and the formation of the local Museum, which have added largely to the value of this Memoir. It may be obtained from Mr. Parker, 377, Strand.

of the Society; and many of our members will remember the precious relics of ancient art with which, through his friendly liberality, the Museum of the Institute was enriched at the Norwich Meeting. Of two of his most recent acquisitions Mr. Fitch's kindness permits us to present the accompanying representations. (See *woodcuts*, orig. size.) One is a miniature bronze bust, laureated and supposed to represent Geta; the workmanship and preservation of this relic are equally to be admired; its purpose is uncertain; but it appears intended to be fixed to some flat surface, as shown by the pin at the back, and a series of very similar busts appear on the bronze forceps in Mr. Roach Smith's Museum, found in the Thames. (*Archaeologia*, vol. xxx., p. 548.) This little object was found at Caister, near Norwich, but at some distance from the Roman Camp. Another beautiful production of Roman Art, of a very rare class, from the same locality, and now in Mr. Fitch's cabinet, is described in the recent publication of the Norfolk Society: it is a terra-cotta fragment, portraying Diana.

We cannot close this brief notice without adverting specially to the valuable services rendered to the Society, and to Archaeology in general, by their energetic and able secretary, Mr. Harrod. To his indefatigable research the portion of their publications, now under consideration, is not less indebted than the preceding volumes. To his elucidation of a remarkable official seal, found at Marsham in Norfolk, allusion has been made in a previous page, and we would renew our acknowledgment of his kindness, in placing at our disposal the woodcut representation there given. Mr. Harrod has commenced an undertaking of high value to the Norfolk antiquary, and scarcely less interesting or useful to all who are engaged in Archaeological inquiries. We allude to the detailed Catalogue of the Antiquities in the Norwich Museum; of which a portion is given in the publication before us. It is needless to assert how indispensable to the full utility of any public museum is the production of such a descriptive record; and Mr. Harrod's praiseworthy zeal in providing a faithful memorial of a collection, singularly rich in local antiquities, may well claim cordial commendation.

We regret the necessity of deferring to a future occasion notices of other Archaeological Publications very recently produced; especially the beautiful "Illustrations of Ancient Art, selected from objects discovered at Pompeii and Herculaneum," by the Rev. E. Trollope. (Published by Mr. Bell, 1 vol. 4to.) It comprises a great variety of examples of the arms and armour, personal ornaments, vases, furniture and domestic appliances of the Romans.

Archaeological Intelligence.

During the recent Exhibition of Antiquities at Dublin a selection from the more striking and characteristic examples of early Irish Art, chiefly as shown in metal-work, the shrines, crosses, reliquaries, and other marvellous productions of artistic skill, were admirably portrayed by the aid of Photography, by Mr. Philip Delamotte. It is proposed speedily to publish these highly curious subjects in numbers, each number containing about four plates; and Mr. Cundall in producing this memorial of the Exhibition,

formed through the exertions of our President, Lord Talbot, has fortunately secured the valuable assistance of the Rev. Dr. Graves, who is engaged in the preparation of the descriptive text of the work.

The Abbe Cochet, the indefatigable investigator of the earlier antiquities of Normandy, has prepared for the press a summary of the results of ten years' exploration. It is entitled—"La Normandie Souterraine, ou Notices sur des cimetières Romaines et des cimetières Francs, explorés en Normandie." The numerous relics discovered have been chiefly deposited in the Museum at Rouen, and their interest is considerable, as affording means of comparison with objects found in England, especially in the researches prosecuted by the Hon. R. Neville, Mr. Wylie, Mr. Akerman, and other Archaeologists. Those persons who regard favourably the Abbe Cochet's object in this useful Manual should send their names as subscribers, to Mr. Marcus, 8, Oxford Street, London.

In an early volume of the *Journal* (vol. ii., p. 75), notices were given of certain sculptured crosses in the Isle of Man, bearing Runes; others exist hitherto undescribed. The Rev. Vice-Principal of King William's College, Castletown, has directed casts of the most important examples to be taken, and by application to him, duplicates of these facsimiles of very early Christian monuments may be obtained at a moderate cost.

Mr. C. J. Palmer has recently issued the history of Great Yarmouth, compiled by Henry Manship, town clerk in the reign of Elizabeth, a valuable addition to Norfolk local history, which has been edited with much care. Mr. Palmer has given numerous illustrations; shewing the state of Yarmouth in ancient times, the municipal insignia, including the massive silver oar presented by Elizabeth, the curious seals, &c. The original materials brought under his notice in the course of his editorial labours are of such ample interest that he announces the intention of issuing (to subscribers only) a volume of documents and evidences which have been placed at his disposal, illustrative not only of the history of the town itself, but of commercial enterprise and the results of frequent intercourse between the east Anglian coast and the adjacent parts of the continent, which exerted a powerful influence upon the arts, as shown in the numerous church decorations and other remains in that district of England. Subscribers should send their names to Mr. Meall, Great Yarmouth.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the Meeting on November 3, forty new members were elected; the library and museum were enriched by numerous presents. Mr. Graves reported progress in the works for the preservation of the remains of Jerpoint Abbey, and produced a number of decorative pavement tiles found there; he described the disastrous effects of the storm of December 24, 1852, by which the south arcade of Dunbrody Abbey had been destroyed. Its fall might have been prevented by the judicious outlay of a trifling sum: the fine west window had perished a few years previously. Mr. Prim read a memoir on the old market cross at Kilkenny, erected in 1335, and on the historical associations connected with it, the performance of religious shows or "mysteries" there, &c. The cross was removed in 1771, but several representations have been preserved. Mr. Dunlevy gave an account of an inscribed stone, found in a bog near Dingle. The Rev. J. S. Faber sent a notice of the seal of William de Broc, found at Long Newton, Durham. The Marquis of Ormonde communicated some documents from the evidence chamber, Kilkenny Castle. Mr. Ferguson, keeper of the Exchequer Records, Dublin, sent part of an

original Roll of the Reign of Edward III., regarding the charge brought by Avelina, widow of John de Bermingham, against certain persons in co. Louth, the supposed murderers of her husband : this curious roll formed part of a collection of Irish records which had come into the possession of the Baron de Lassberg, resident near the Lake of Constance. Mr. Ferguson, having through the Rev. H. Ellacombe ascertained the existence of these national evidences, proceeded to Switzerland, and succeeded recently in recovering them. Mr. Albert Way sent a curious letter from David, bishop of Emly, to the Prior of Christ's Church, Canterbury, about 1280. Mr. Hitchcock read a detailed notice of the collections in the Archaeological Court, at the Dublin Exhibition ; and a memoir on Irish Rathes was contributed by the Rev. James Graves.

The Fifth Annual Meeting took place on Jan. 18, when the Report for the previous year was read, and numerous new members elected. In addition to the ordinary Transactions, of which the last part completes the first volume, another part being also nearly ready for delivery, an Annual Volume of Original Documents, to be published by subscription, is in preparation, and has received full encouragement through the liberal patronage of the Marquis of Ormonde. A permanent museum and library has been opened. The works at Jerpoint Abbey, for the conservation of that remarkable ruin, have progressed satisfactorily, but more ample funds are requisite for the repairs. The Rev. J. Irwin presented a portion of a MS. service-book, with illuminations, brought by him from Devonshire. It had been recently found in the wall of an old house at Ashprington, near Totnes, where it may have been concealed at the Reformation. Mr. Dunne made a communication regarding the Irish bards, and certain ancient traditions with relics of popular metrical tales preserved through them. Mr. Edward Hoare, of Cork, gave a description of a silver penannular brooch in his collection, found near Galway, and described as being ornamented with amber and devices resembling wolves' heads. Dr. Keating presented a whetstone found in a cairn, and believed to have been used for sharpening weapons or implements of bronze : it was discovered in a locality once a famous hunting-ground. He noticed also the discovery of numerous iron weapons at Callan, once a place strongly fortified, and where some deadly conflict appears to have taken place. The Rev. James Graves gave an account of the excavations on Ballon Hill, co. Carlow, by Mr. Richardson Smith, when a very large deposit of highly ornamented sepulchral urns has been discovered : some of these elaborately wrought vases were shown in the Archaeological Court at Dublin, and they attracted much attention by the singularity of their forms and decoration.

It will gratify the collector of mediæval seals to be informed, that through the facilities liberally granted to Mr. Ready at Cambridge, he has been enabled to mould many valuable seals preserved in several of the collegiate muniment-rooms, and almost wholly unknown to collectors. At Caius College alone, where he has just completed his work, upwards of five hundred seals have been obtained, comprising especially a number of personal seals with heraldry, of great interest, chiefly connected with Cambridgeshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, and Essex. Impressions in sulphur or gutta percha may easily be obtained at a moderate cost, on application to Mr. R. Ready, 2, St. Botolph's Lane, Cambridge. It is hoped that a descriptive catalogue of these seals may be produced under the auspices of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.