

# ROMAN INSCRIPTIONS DISCOVERED IN BRITAIN IN 1883.

By W. THOMPSON WATKIN.

The number of inscriptions found during the past year is considerable, and in interest they exceed the average.

The first discovery occurred on the 21st of February, when some labourers who were searching for stones to build a field wall in a field called Caegwag (or empty field) on the farm of Rliwian-uchaf, in the parish of Llanfair-fechan, between Bangor and Conway in Carnarvonshire, dug up a Roman *miliarium* or mile stone, six feet seven inches high, and sixteen inches in diameter. It bore the following inscription :—

IMP. CAES. TRAI  
ANVS. HADRIANVS  
AVG. P.M. TR. P.  
P.P. COS. III.  
A. KANOVIO  
M. P. VIII.

*i.e. Imp(erator) Cæs(ar) Trajanus Hadrianus Augustus  
P(ontifex) M(aximus) Tr(ibunitia) P(otestate) P(ater)  
P(atræ) Co(n)s(ul) III. A. Kanovio m(ilia) p(assuum)  
VIII.*

This is the earliest inscription, bearing a date, as yet found in either North or South Wales, and was erected after the third consulate of Hadrian A.D. 119, between that year and the death of the Emperor in A.D. 138, for he was only Consul three times. From the nominative case being used, we may fairly assume that it was set up in A.D. 120, when the Emperor was in Britain. The field in which it was found is high up on the mountain side, and it is uncertain whether the Roman road from *Conovium* (Caerhun) to *Segontium* (Caernarvon) passed close to the site, though it could not be far off. The name of the former station occurs on the stone as *Kanovium*, whilst

the anonymous chorographer Ravennas styles it *Canubium*, and the Antonine Itinerary *Conovium*. The eight miles marked agree well with the distance of the site of the discovery from Caerhun, which is about seven English or eight Roman miles. The owner of the ground, Major Platt of Gorrddinog, has presented the stone to the British Museum. This inscription was first given to the public by the present writer in the *Academy* of March 3, 1883. The letters composing it vary from  $2\frac{1}{4}$  to  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in height. It is the fourth milestone of the reign of Hadrian found in Britain.

In July the upper part of a second *miliarium* dedicated to Severus, Caracalla, and Geta was found about ten yards from the former one. The extant portion of the inscription was:—

IMPP. CAES(S)  
L. SEP. SEVERVS  
P.P. ET. M. AVR.  
ANTONINVS  
AVGG. ET. P.

In the original there is a stop after the first P. in IMPP. which is a palpable error. This *miliary*, like the other, is of gritstone, and of the same diameter (16 inches), but only 1 foot 11 inches in height. The extant portion of the inscription reads: “*Imp(eratores) Cæs(ares) L(ucius) Sep(timius) Severus P(ater) P(atricæ) et M(arcus) Aur(elius) Antoninus Aug(usti) et P(ublius)*,” whilst its continuation has no doubt been “*Sep(timius) Geta Nob(lissimus) Cæs(ar). A Kanovio M(illia) P(assuum) VIII.*” The stone has probably been broken in the attempt to erase the name and titles of Geta from the inscription, after the assassination of that Emperor in A.D. 212. As only two Augusti are named (AVGG) the stone must have been erected between A.D. 198 when Severus created Caracalla joint Augustus, and A.D. 209 when Geta received the same title, probably in A.D. 208, when these Emperors came over to Britain, which seems again confirmed by the nominative case being used. It is most probable that both Hadrian and Severus personally visited this neighbourhood. Like its companion this stone has been deposited in the British Museum.

In April there was discovered at Chester, during some operations for making a new passage through the walls, a

portion of a highly ornamented tombstone, which in its present state is a cube of two feet, of which thickness it has originally been, though its height and width cannot exactly be determined. The right side is sculptured with a wreath extending between two fluted columns, the back is also sculptured, the right side has been broken off, whilst the portion of the front remaining bears the following inscription:—

D.     M.  
M. APRO  
M. F. FA

which I would read as *D(iis) M(anibus). M(arcus) Apro(nius) . . . . . M(arci) F(ilius) Fa(bia[tribu])*, or translated, “To the Divine Shades. Marcus Apronius . . . . . the son of Marcus, of the Fabian family.” The *cognomen* of Apronius is unfortunately on the lost portion of the stone. It is possible that the letters FA. may be the commencement of it, and that it was some such name as FA(CILIS), but I prefer to take those letters as the commencement of the name of the *tribus* as they are in the normal position. The letters are very fine and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches high, the stops are triangular.<sup>1</sup>

I also found in the Chester Museum the upper portion of a fine altar, and two centurial stones, which had remained undescribed until I noticed them in the *Academy*.<sup>2</sup> The former is at present 2 feet 2 inches high, by 1 foot 3 inches broad, and bears the following inscription:—

DEO  
MARTI  
CONSERV  
. . . . . VS.

The commencement of the third line is worn off owing to the soft nature of the stone, and there have probably been two lines on the lower and lost portion. There is on the right side of the altar, a representation of a head eared and horned, on the left a *præfericulum*, and it has a large focus for the offering. The altar was found about 1875 at the foot of Newgate Street, close to its junction with Pepper Street, and just inside the city walls, on the premises of Mr. Storrar, a veterinary surgeon, when he was

<sup>1</sup> See my letter in *Academy*, May 5, 1883.

<sup>2</sup> See *Academy*, May 5 and Sep. 1, 1883.

levelling some raised ground in his yard, which was full of ancient *debris*. It remained lying about this yard for several years until noticed by Mr. Frederick Potts of Chester, who obtained it, and has presented it to the Museum. The reading is undoubtedly *Deo Marti Conservatori*, "To the god Mars, the preserver," followed by the name of the dedicator, &c. It is the first altar to *Mars Conservator* found in Britain, and they are comparatively rare in the Roman Empire.

The centurial stones are inscribed as follows :—

(1.)  
> Q. MAX.

(2.)  
O. Q. TERN.

No. 1 reads *Centuria Q(uintii) Max(imi)*. No. 2 is apparently *Centuria Q(uinti) Teren(tii)*. The *ε* in this last stone is ligulate with the *R*.

On the fragment of a large *amphora* found near St. John's Church, Chester, by Mr. Potts, in a heap of rubbish, and now in the Museum, is the *graffiti* inscription :—

#### CELERIC.

The name, probably *Celericus*, has a decidedly Saxon sound.

The station at South Shields has produced three inscriptions. The first is on a walling stone two feet square and six inches thick, and is the mark of the Sixth Legion—

#### LEG. VI.

*i.e.*, *Legionis Sextae*. The letters are within a moulding with *ansæ* at each end. The second inscription is somewhat similar, but is upon a tile and reads —

#### LE. VI. V.

*i.e.*, *Legionis Sextae Victricis*. The letters are in relief and very rude. These are the first traces of the Sixth Legion at South Shields. The third inscription is also on a tile, and in what is called a "cursive style." Drs. Hübner and Zangemeister thus read it :—

#### CALVI FILIA.X.

They translate it as meaning that the daughter of Calvus credited the owner with a pint (*sextarius*) of wine or some other liquor.

A *graffiti* inscription upon a fragment of an *amphora* has also been found. It is simply—

VICTORI . . .

and probably when complete was VICTORINVS.

I am indebted to the Rev. R. E. Hooppell, LL.D., for particulars of several inscribed stones found in recent years at Ebchester (*Vindomora*) but which have been overlooked by antiquaries. They are:—

(1.) LEG.VI.V.	(2.) I. O. M.	(3.) L. M.
	. . . . .	
	. . . . .	
	V. S. L. M.	
(4.) DIA. VAIA . . DVB . . IRITI   X. R. .	(5.) NVMINIBVS AVGVSTORVM. . . . . .	(6.) I. O. M. ET. GENIO EQVITVM. . . . . .

Of these, No. 1 occurs on two tiles, one preserved at the Vicarage, Ebchester, and the other by John Clayton, Esq., at Chesters. No traces of the Sixth Legion had been previously found at the station.

No. 2 is on an altar three feet high, discovered in the foundations of the west end of the church, on its restoration in 1876, and now cemented to the pavement on the left hand of the path from the rectory to the church. According to Dr. Hooppell it bore an inscription of five lines, now almost entirely obliterated, but traces of the first and last lines, as above, may be distinguished. The altar has one side sculptured with the representation of an eagle and above it the "*culter*?" the other side bears the "*patra*" and "*præfericulum*."

No. 3 is on the lower portion of an altar built up into the western wall of the porch of the church. Only traces of the upper line are visible, of the lower the letters L.M. part of the usual *formula* V.S.L.M. may be detected.

No. 4 is a much worn and nearly illegible inscription on two stones which fit each other, also built up into the wall of the church porch. It is possible that at the end of the first and commencement of the second lines we have (abbreviated) *Vixit A(nnum)* I., *M(enses)* \* *D(ies)* V. In that case the opening letters of the inscription would

be the name of the child commemorated, and after *Dies V.* would be the name of the parent who erected it. He was probably either in the first or fourth cohort of the Brittones, traces of both of which have been found at the station. I infer this from the \*RIT. of the third line.

Nos. 5 and 6 are on two altars found at Ebchester many years since, and now preserved at Minsteracres, the seat of H. C. Silvertop, Esq. about five miles from Ebchester. They are engraved by Dr. Bruce in the *Lapidarium Septentrionale* (Nos. 667 and 668) who, however, says that they are "uninscribed." Such is, however, not the case, though the inscriptions are almost obliterated, but the carvings on the sides of the altars are, most singularly, almost intact. The readings, of what remains of the inscriptions, are those of Dr. Hoopell. No. 5 should be translated "To the divinities of the Emperors," &c.; whilst No. 6 is *I(ovi) O(ptimo) Maximo et Genio Equitum*, "To Jupiter the best and greatest, and the Genius of the Cavalry," &c.

At Corbridge (*Corstopitum*) four inscriptions have occurred, as follows:—

(1.)	(2.)	(3.)	(4.)
LEG. II	LEG. II. AVG	D. M.	CE
AVG	COH . . .	MILES	G
COH. III. F.		LEG . . .	==

Nos. 1 and 2, which are each about one foot square, are ordinary centurial stones, the first which has, above the lettering, the figures of a Pegasus and sea-goat, should be expanded *Leg(ionis) Secundae Aug(ustae) Coh(ors) tertia fecit*; No. 2 reads *Leg(ionis) Secundae Aug(ustae) Cohors* . . . . The number of the cohort is lost by obliteration. No. 3 is the upper part of a tombstone, and is unique in Britain, as giving the occupation of the deceased previously to giving his name, though there are instances on the Continent. It reads *D(iis) M(anibus) Miles Leg(ionis)* . . . . The number of the Legion is lost, but it was probably like the two previous inscriptions—II. AVG., though two walling stones and tiles of the Sixth Legion have been found here. The name of the individual commemorated was on the lost lower portion of the stone. The letters D. M. are within a pedi-

ment. No. 4 is probably the sole remnant of a long and important inscription of which it formed the lower right hand corner. The moulding containing the inscription appears to have been flanked with ornaments. All of these inscriptions are now in the Newcastle Museum.

During some repairs at the church of Hale (or Haile) in the west portion of the county of Cumberland, there was found an altar bearing the following inscription:—

DIBVS  
HERCVLI  
E.T  
SILVANO .  
FL. E.  
PRIMVS. CVAR.  
PRO. SE. ET  
VEXLATIONE  
V. S. L. M.

When publishing this inscription in *Academy* (Sept. 1, 1883), I gave the fifth line as F. E. (it being thus in the copy of the inscription I first received), and expanded it as *Felicius*. M. Robert Mowat in an article in the *Bulletin Epigraphique de la Gaule* (vol. iii, p. 246), however, raised the question whether the letters were not F. L. I accordingly obtained a more correct copy, and found that the first letter was FL ligulate, with a stop after it, and then the letter E. In the sixth line the letters which I have given as cv. are ligulate, and I think are meant for qv. In the seventh line it is doubtful whether the fourth letter is meant for I or L, but the word is undoubtedly meant for VEXI(LL)ATTONE. The letters CVAR. or QVAR. I expanded as QVARIAS, thinking the dedication was of the tribe of the *Quariates*, a people of Gallia Narbonensis. M. Mowat, however, prefers to read *Quar*-(*quernus*), considering the dedicator to be of the tribe of the *Quarquerni* (or *Querquerni*) a people of Lusitania, neighbours to the Astures, and in this he may probably be right. There are many instances of cv. and qv. being synonymous in inscriptions. M. Mowat quotes a well-known one. The full expansion of the inscription would therefore be: *Dibus Herculi et Silvano Fl(avius) E(nnius) Primus Quar(quernus) pro se et vexi(ll)atione V(otum) S(olvit) L(ibens) M(eritis)*. “To the gods Hercules and Silvanus, Flavius Ennius Primus a Quarquernian for himself and the vexillation performs his vow willingly

to deserving objects." The stop between E and T in the third line is singular, though we have similar instances. The name of Ennius Primus in full, occurs upon an inscription at Llanio in Cardiganshire. I am indebted to Mr. R. S. Ferguson, F.S.A., for the copy of this inscription.

On the wall itself there has been found, built up in its southern face, near to an exploratory turret at Greenhead, a centurial stone, of which only the first line is legible. It reads:—

COH. III.

\* \* \*

At Over Denton another centurial stone has been found, for a copy of the inscription on which I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. Hooppell. It is now preserved in the vicarage garden. The inscription is, according to Dr. Hooppell:—

COH. I  
>OFSILL

With the exception of the centurion's name all is plain, (i.e., *Cohortis primae, centuria* . . .) but the name is puzzling.

At Birdoswald (*Amboglanna*) Dr. Hooppell informs me that a fragment which he saw, still preserved there, is inscribed:—

AI  
QQV  
OCLI

but unless QQ are part of the abbreviation EQQ for *Equites*, nothing can be made of it.

But the greatest discovery of the year in this neighbourhood took place on the 17th of November at Housesteads (*Borcovicus*). On a slight eminence on the south side of this station, amongst the ruins of the suburban buildings, about a quarter of a mile distant, may be traced the foundations of a temple. On the northern slope of this eminence were dug out two large altars and the half of a sculptured stone which, when entire, had been semi-circular, as if forming the head of a gateway. The altars bore the following inscriptions:—



(No. 1.)  
 DEO  
 MARTI  
 THINCISO  
 ETDVABVS  
 ALAESIAGIS  
 BEDEETFI  
 MMILENE  
 ETNAVGGER  
 MCIVESTV  
 IHANTI  
 VSLM.

(No. 2.)  
 DEO  
 MARTIETDVABVS  
 ALAISIAGISETNAV  
 GERCIVESTVIHANTI  
 CVNEIFRISIORVM  
 VER.SER.ALEXAND  
 RIANIVOTVM  
 SOLVERV . .  
 LIBENT . . . .

In my paper on these altars, recently communicated to the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries, I stated that the T. in THINCISO was doubtful, and that the form which seems two M's conjoined at the commencement of the seventh line of the same inscription might possibly be NM or MIN. I am, however, assured that the latter is plainly MM and that T is clearly visible before HINCISO. Such being the case, I would expand No. 1 altar thus:—*Deo Marti Thincso et Duabus Alaesiagis Bed(a) et Fimmilen(a)e et N(umini) Aug(usti) Germ(ani) Cives Tuihanti V(otum) S(olverunt) L(ibentes) M(eritis)*, the translation being, "To the god Mars Thincsus and to the two Alaesiagae, Beda and Fimmilena and to the divinity of the Emperor, the Germans (who are) Tuihantian citizens perform their vow willingly to deserving objects."

No. 2 should be expanded *Deo Marti et Duabus Alaisiagis et N(umini) Aug(usti) Germani Cives Tuihanti Cunei Frisiorum Ver(lutionensium) Se(ve)r(iani) Alexandriani Votum Solverunt Libentes (Meritis)*. "To the god Mars and to the two Alaisiagae, and to the divinity of the Emperor, the Germans (who are) Tuihantian citizens, of the Cuneus of Frisians, (styled) the Verlutionensian, and Severianus Alexandrianus, perform their vow willingly to deserving objects." The epithet of *Thincsus*, or *Hincsus*, has, I believe, occurred previously upon a Roman inscription found in Holland, but I must admit I cannot at the moment find the authority. The altars are both dedicated to "the two Alaisiagae." In No. 1 the names of the deities are given, "Beda and Fimmilena." They were, I apprehend, local goddesses of Continental *pagi*. The first named probably took her name from a *vicus* bearing the name of *Beda* which

<sup>1</sup> Or as in No. 1, *Alacsiagae*.

occurs in the Itinerary of Antoninus between Treves and Cologne, being now represented by the modern Bidburg. When in A.D. 870 the territories of Lothaire were divided, this neighbourhood was styled "Pagus Bedensis," and was probably in Roman times within the territories of the Tungri, the first cohort of which people occupied the station at Housesteads. These *Tungri* originally bore the name of *Germani*. So Tacitus, *Germania* (c. 2), informs us. I understand the phrase "Tuihantian citizens" as being introduced, to point out which particular branch of the *Germani*, the dedicators belonged to.<sup>1</sup> I have expanded VER. in the second inscription as VER(*lutionensium*) from the fact that the anonymous chorographer Ravennas, apparently gives us the name of the station at Housesteads as VELVRTION(E), but his orthography has been proved so incorrect with regard to the neighbouring stations; e.g., he gives *Serduno* for *Segeduno*, *Onno* for *Hunno*, *Celunno* for *Cilurno*, &c., that I have little doubt *Velurtion(e)* should be *Verlution(e)* especially as we have a Roman station in Wiltshire bearing a similar name. I at one time thought the R in VER might be TR ligulate, and the abbreviation be that for VET(E)R (ANORVM), but inspection of photographs of the stone convinced me such was not the case. The dedicators of No. 1 altar may not have been in the *Cuneus* (for that *corps* is not mentioned) but possibly in the Tungrian cohort. It is hardly necessary to say that there are many instances in inscriptions of bodies of men of one nationality serving in a corps bearing the name of another nationality. This is the third instance of a *cuneus* of Frisians being named in inscriptions found in the north of England. At Papcastle (*Aballava*) we have a "Cuneus Frisionum Aballevensium," and at Binchester (*Vinovium*) a "Cuneus Frisiorum Vinoviensium" (see *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxviii, p. 131). The former was at Papcastle in the reign of Gordian (A.D. 241), whilst the newly discovered inscription, from bearing the name of Alexander Severus, would seem to be of that Emperor's reign (A.D. 222-235). I think we have a trace of the *Alaisiagae* in an imperfect inscription now preserved in the Newcastle Museum which also came from *Borcovicus*

<sup>1</sup> They may be the same tribe as the Ptolemy, and Valerius. Tubattii, Tubantii, or Tubantes of Tacitus,

or *Verlutio* (for the station bore apparently the two names). It is Dr. Hübner's No. 654. If so, they are conjoined with a goddess whose name commences NEM . . . We have a male deity of the name of *Bedaius* in two Continental inscriptions (Orelli 1964 and Henzen 5614), but he probably derived his name from *Bedarum*, a town of Noricum. I cannot find any trace of the name of "Alsatia" occurring in a classical author, but may we not in the name of these deities have its germ?

The altar No. 1 is over six feet high, and upon its right side bears the representation of a robed female figure, standing with outstretched right hand.

No. 2 altar has the *culter* and *securis* engraved upon the left side. It is four feet two inches in height.<sup>1</sup>

At Leicester, at the very close of the year (28 December), there was found, at a depth of ten feet in excavating in the grounds of Wigston's School, High Cross street, a Roman flue tile, of the usual shape, seventeen inches in length, which bore upon its side the words—

PRIMVS  
FECIT

in what may be called "fluted" letters. Other Roman remains, including a large *mortarium* bearing the stamp CENNI . F . (four times repeated), were found at the same time. They are all in the Leicester Museum.

The only other inscription to be noticed as recently discovered is the word—

DVBITI

scratched upon a fragment of "Samian" ware, found at Sittingbourne in Kent, and preserved in the collection of Mr. George Payne, which has been recently purchased by the British Museum.

During the year also, an altar of the same dimensions and bearing the same inscription as Horsley's No. 67 Northumberland (found at Caervorran) was discovered among a heap of stones in a field at Shotton near Castle Eden, co. Durham. It is probably the same altar as that named by Horsley, which was in his possession.

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Hübner also communicated a paper on these altars to the Newcastle Society of Antiquaries, two months sub-

sequent to mine. In the main he agrees with me.

Hutchinson in his *History of Cumberland* states that it was preserved at Netherby by the Graham family. How it got to the place of its rediscovery is singular.

At the meeting of the Institute, 1 November, 1883, Mr. J. T. Irvine made a communication on the subject of a Roman tile inscribed LEG. IX. MRS. "found near Barnack," which had been recently presented to the Peterborough Museum. Upon enquiry I find that it is the identical tile which I described in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxi, p. 356, found in 1867 at "Hilly Wood," two miles east of Woodcroft, Northants.

A few inscriptions overlooked by Dr. Hübner when publishing vol. vii of the *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* have to be added.

In Ward's copy of Horsley's *Britannia Romana*, in the British Museum (806. i. I), a number of inscriptions found subsequently to the publication of that work, are given on the fly sheets and on added leaves. Amongst them are two which do not appear to have been published. The first is:—

MATRI  
BVSTP  
MAP

It is described in a letter dated December 28, 1748, from Richard Gilpen, Esq. of Scaleby, in Cumberland, and was found at Walton House Station, "*Casteeds*," a short time previously. It occurred on the upper half of a small portable altar, the bottom of which had been broken off before discovery. Its height was twelve inches by nine; and the end of the second line, instead of TP, has been no doubt TRA (the last letter being worn or broken off); whilst the P of the third line has been R, followed by IN, the whole forming the dedication, *Matribus Tramarin(is)*, several similar examples having been found in England.

The second inscription was found at Barhill, on the Wall of Antoninus Pius, on an altar bearing on one side a sculpture of the sacrificing knife, and on the other of the *patera*. Only the commencement was visible, which ran—

DEO. MARTI  
CAMILLVS. C

It is *possible* it may be the same as Dr. Hübner's No. 1103, but this hardly seems probable. Added to the de-

scription of it, as a note, "See Daily Advertiser, Sept. 7, 1736."

In the second edition of Dr. Stukeley's "Itinerarium Curiosum" (1776), he says at p. 45 of the "Iter Boreale," that on the stone built up into the house, at Clifton Hall, near Brougham (*Lap. Sept.*, No 816. Hübner in *Eph. Epig.*, vol. iii, p. 126, No. 88), the words

IMPER. LEGAT. AVG. IN. AFRICA.

were visible. On the same page he also gives the inscription on a bronze vessel, found near Clifton, as

TALIOF.

On the peak of a helmet found at St. Alban's some years since, and now preserved in the Colchester Museum is the name

PAPIRIVS.

In the Rawlinson MSS., C. 907, preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford there is a collection of 103 Roman inscriptions made by Samuel Woodford of Wadham College about 1658. With the exception of four they are all given by Horsley or other writers. Two of these inscriptions read:—

No. 1.  
I. O. M  
PRO. SALVTE  
IMP. CAES. DOMITIANI  
AVG  
C. SALLVSTIVS. LVCVLLVS  
LEG. AVG  
PR. PR. PROV. BRITANNIAE  
POSVIT  
V. S. L. M.

(No. 2.)  
I. O. M.  
TARAMI  
BELATUCABRO (*sic*)  
MOGVNTO  
MOVNO  
DEABVS MATRIBVS  
DEAE. SVRIAE  
FORTVNAE  
CETERISQ. BRITANNORVM  
DIS. DEABVSQ  
C. VERIVS. FORTIS  
TRIB. COH. I. AEL. BRITONN.  
V. S.

No place of discovery is named for either of the inscriptions. No. 1 is on fo. 4, No. 2 on fo. 4b. They were both communicated to Woodford by "Henry Babington," but this latter individual I cannot trace. At first sight they appear to be forgeries, for the reason that as regards No. 2 it is on the same folio (4) as the inscription I. O. M. TANARO found at Chester in 1653, and the whole of the other deities named in it are given by Camden in the 1607 edition of his *Britannia*, as having been found on inscriptions previously discovered in Britain. With regard

to No. 1, Sallustius Lucullus was we know put to death by Domitian, whilst he was legate of Britain, for allowing some lances to be named after him "Lucullean," but we are quite ignorant of the date of his tenure of office. He is generally supposed to have succeeded Agricola. But there is no other instance, in Britain at least, of an imperial legate having erected or dedicated an altar. On the other hand, it is improbable that a forger could have had information as to the existence of a *Cohors I. Aelia Brittonum*, no trace of which has been elsewhere found in this country.<sup>1</sup>

That there was such a cohort is certain from inscriptions found on the Continent. It is difficult to decide how far these inscriptions of Woodford's are genuine. That they have at least a basis of fact is probable, that they are accurate copies is *possible*, though, so far, we have nothing like them in Britain.

Another inscription, No. 79, in the same list reads:—

COH. IV. BRE  
LEG. II. AVG  
FECIT.

There is more probability in this, for we have a COH. III. BRE. occurring on tiles at Slack (*Cambodunum*), whilst the *Legio Secunda Augusta*, as is well known, has left memorials of its presence, all over Britain. *Fecit* instead of *Fecerunt* at the close is puzzling, if both the auxiliary cohort and the legion erected the stone. Perhaps the explanation is, that the stone was not entire, and that some individual who was an officer of the legion and at the same time commander of the cohort, erected it.

The last inscription in this list, which seems to be unpublished, is No. 60, and reads, though it is but a fragment:—

M. AVRELIO . ANTONINO . PIO  
FEL . AVG . GERMANICO . P.M.  
TR . POT . X . IMP . . . COS . IIII . P . . .  
PRO . PIETATE . AED . . . . .

At first I concluded that this was a portion of the well

<sup>1</sup> In a short Latin preface to the collection, Woodford says that the copies of all the inscriptions are exact, and that he will mark both the places where the inscriptions were found, and the persons in whose possession they were, but he fails to do this. However, all of them,

except the four I have given, can be identified, and this identification of ninety-nine out of a total of 103, coupled with the fact I have mentioned of the occurrence of the *Cohors I. Aelia Brittonum*, speaks strongly in favour of the other four inscriptions being genuine,

known inscription found at Whitley Castle, and given by Dr. Hübner, No 310 (Horsley, *Cumberland* cxiii), but I find that inscription is given entire by Woodford, No. 54. It is evidently part of an inscription to Caracalla, but like the others, its place of discovery is uncertain.

In addition to these inscriptions, Woodford's MSS. give *variae lectiones* of many other well known inscriptions from all parts of Britain, but as these would extend this paper to a much greater length, I at present forbear to give them. Dr. Hübner does not seem to have been aware of this collection.

In Murray's "Handbook for South Wales," p. 29, it said that near Margam, Glamorganshire, a Roman mile stone exists, or existed, bearing the inscription: SENATVS POPVLVSQVE ROMANVS VEROMANVS DVO. TITO. DIVI VESPASIANI. F. VESPASIANO. AVGVSTO.

If a mile stone with an inscription, anything approaching to this, ever existed near Margam, it would be the earliest in date found in Britain, for it would appear to be dedicated to the Emperor Titus, *circa* A.D. 81. But to make any sense of the inscription (which, as will be seen, is given very erroneously) it is necessary to eliminate VEROMANVS., which I take to be simply an accidental repetition of the letters following q in POPVLVSQ(VE), made by the copyist, and the word DVO should be altered to DIVO. The inscription would then run, translated, "The Roman Senate and People, to the deified Titus Vespasianus Augustus, son of the deified Vespasianus." But I think it highly improbable that an inscription, to Titus worded as above, would be found in Britain.

A few corrections, &c., of published inscriptions, will be necessary before closing this list. Dr. Hübner's No. 833 is, owing to being copied from the engraving in the *Lapidarium Septentrionale*, No. 386, deficient of two remarkable *sigla*, at the commencement of the second line. I am indebted to the Rev. Dr. Hooppell for the correct reading of the line. It is remarkable that Dr. Bruce has not represented these *sigla* in his engraving. The inscription is, divested of ligatures—

VBCVR  
 ≠≠MAX  
 RDO  
 MP.D

Zell in his *Delectus*, p. 53, gives example of the sign z as standing for *centurio*. I should, therefore, opine that in this instance two centurions, whose *cognomina* were Maximus and Sacerdos, are named in the shattered inscription.

At p. 73, vol. xxxv of the *Archæological Journal*, I gave a copy of a much worn inscription (No. 1), found at Chester. From recent close inspection of the stone, in different lights, I have not only been able to correct the reading of one or two letters, but to add others. I find it should be read—

IVS . CV  
VL SECV  
ND . HE

The last letters HE are ligulate, and probably stand for *Heres*, they are evidently preceded by *Jul(ius) Secund(us)*.

In the list of inscriptions for 1881, *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxix, p. 362, the inscription on the tile found at Lincoln (c. VIB. EXO.), is expanded by M. Robert Mowat, the celebrated French archæologist, in a recent communication to me, as *C(aii) Vib(ii) Exo(rati)*. This seems the most correct reading yet proposed.

Another inscription has to be added to the list of those found and lost again, before they could be copied. In the *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle*, vol. i, p. 28, is an account of a large Roman inscribed slab, four feet long, found lying, face upwards, in the wall of Haydon Church, Northumberland, during the restoration of the building. It was ascertained that it could not be extracted without much expense and injury to the wall, so was left *in situ*, the wall being built up again around it. As the nearest Roman station was Housesteads (*Borcovicus*) it probably came from that site.

P.S.—The tile bearing the inscription ALSB, given by Dr. Hübner, No. 1240, and of the place of discovery of which he was unaware, was one of a series similarly stamped, and forming a remarkable tile tomb found at Lancaster in 1752, and described in a letter from Samuel Peele of that town to Dr. Stukeley (shortly to be published). Its reading is undoubtedly *Al(ae) S(e)b(osianae)*.