

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

OCTOBER 29, 1888, TO MAY 27, 1889.

WITH

Communications

MADE TO THE SOCIETY.

No. XXXI.

BEING No. 1 OF THE SEVENTH VOLUME.



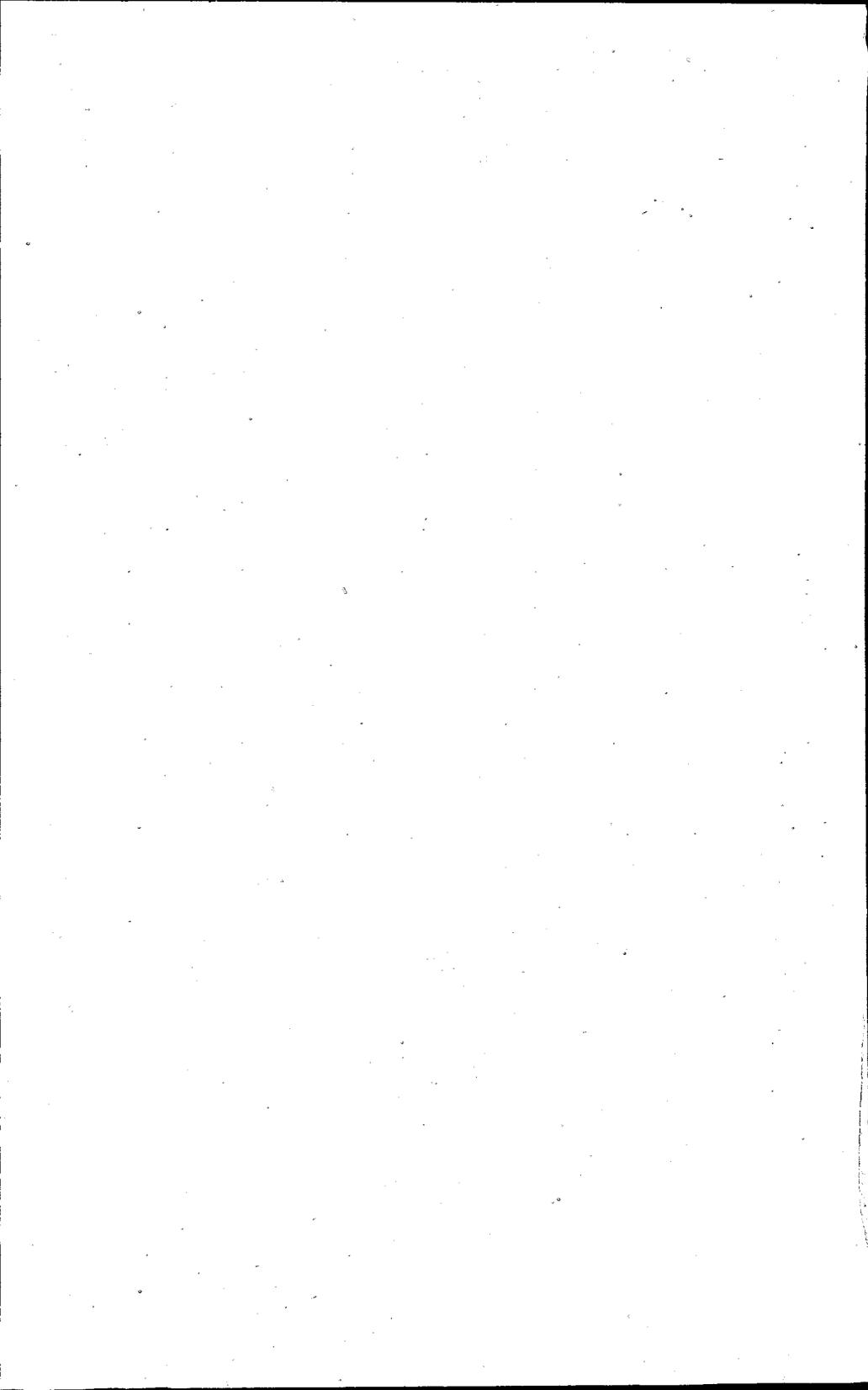
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covered with unusually rich work, presented to the Museum by Mr Browne.

Mr WACE exhibited a holograph will dated November, 1781, of General Benedict Arnold, whose name is well known in the history of the revolutionary war in America in connection with the execution of Major André on December 2, 1780. In it he leaves the bulk of his property, consisting of money in the British Funds, houses, tenements, lands, plate, servants, &c., to his wife and children, providing for the education of the latter. The executors named are his wife, his father, and Robert Bayard, Esq., who was Judge of the Admiralty Court of New York. It was probably left in charge of Mr Bayard in that capacity, and was brought to England by him with many other official papers at the conclusion of the war. The will was never proved, having probably been revoked, as General Arnold lived to 1801.

Mr MAGNUSSON made the following communication :

ON THE STONE OF JÆLLINGE, ON THE EAST COAST OF
JUTLAND.

It is characteristic of Scandinavian runic monuments that, generally speaking, they contribute practically nothing to our knowledge of the history of the North. The *Jællinge* group, especially the so-called smaller and larger *Jællinge* stones, forms a signal exception in this respect. These monuments not only commemorate the death of a famous king and queen of Denmark, whose historical existence is perfectly well ascertained, though a halo of legend has settled round certain events of their lives, but refer also to the important events in the reign of their son, his conquest of Norway, and the conversion of his people to Christianity.

The larger *Jællinge* stone stands in a relation to the smaller one, to which it might be of interest to allude. The inscription on the smaller stone runs to this effect: "King Gorm made this how (*sépulchral mound*) after Thyra his wife, the Daneboon." This stone, before its removal to its present site, the churchyard, stood on the southernmost of the so-called king's hows at *Jællinge*. This how was thoroughly explored in 1861 under experienced archæologists, and the exploration left no doubt that it had never served as a repository of any human remains. Queen Thyra's body, therefore, had never rested in the place to which the inscription on the stone had always been supposed to refer. There was another difficulty attaching to the inscription. According to the historical tradition King Gorm died before his wife. That tradition, however, as much else concerning his life, might be a legend, seeing that apparently he was only once married, that he wedded Thyra as a young man, and was reputed to have ruled over Denmark for the incredibly long period of some 95 years. If Thyra's memorial stone had stood on Thyra's mound from the beginning, the supposition of some Danish antiquarians that the stone might have been raised in her lifetime, seeing that the mound itself was a cenotaph, seemed probable.

But, whatever the true story of Thyra's memorial stone may be, the fact remains indisputable that King Harald Blue-tooth built the northern mound of *Jællinge*, and caused the stone monument now under consideration to be placed on it, in memory of his parents. The mound was explored in 1821, and a spacious grave-chamber was found there, but, as is almost always the case with conspicuous grave-mounds, it had been broken into before, no one knew when or how, and but few things of interest (a small cup and cross of silver) were found in it. The stone is about eight feet high, in the form of a triangular cone-shaped pyramid (Plate III.). On one side is a human figure, undoubtedly meant for an image of Christ, as



TWO SIDES OF THE JELLINGE STONE

the glory with a cross proves; on the other is a crested leonine griffin entwined in the coils of a serpent. This side of the stone may represent the arms, or perhaps the war-standard, of the commemorated monarch.

The third, or broadest, side contains the main body of the inscription. But one line of it runs along the base of the figured planes, and to me it is perfectly clear that this line is so placed by design, and not by exigency, because there was ample space on the hypotenuse plane of the cone for the whole of the inscription. This line is so arranged that the conquest of Norway is recorded beneath the griffin, the Christianisation of Denmark beneath the effigy of the Saviour.

The runes run as follows:

*†R††R: YN†NYH: B†B: Y†NRN†
 YNB†: B†NHI: †F†: YNRΦ: F†BDR: 4IT
 †NY: †F†: B†NRN†: ΦNBDR: 4IT: 4†:
 *†R††R. I†4: 4†L. N††: ††Φ†NR†

beneath the griffin:

†††: †NY: †NRN†††: [††††]

beneath the effigy:

†NY: ††† [†: *IR: †††] YRI4†††

Transliterated the inscription reads:

haraltr : kunukr : baþ : kaurua
 kubl : þausi : aft : kurm : faþur : sin
 auk : aft : þaurui : muþur : sina : sa
 haraltr. ias : saR. uan : tanmaurk—

beneath the griffin :

ala : auk : nuruiak—

beneath the effigy :

auk : tan[a : hir : lit] kristna.

After nuruiak some interpreters suppose there may have stood the word 'alan,' whereof there now is no trace seen on the stone. In the last line there is an evident lacuna, which can only be filled in by conjecture. Professor Wimmer of Copenhagen, the renowned author of the origin of the Runic alphabet, has himself examined the inscription, and conjectures:

↑↑↑[↑: Φ∩∨: ∩↑:] i.e. tan[a : muk : lit.]. He consequently regards the space of the lacuna long enough to contain seven characters and three dividing stops. For this the lacuna as represented on the model is too short. Professor Wimmer's conjecture: tan[a muk lit] = Dan[a múg lét] means: "the Danes' crowd or multitude let." But múgr = Engl. mow, a heap, in its derivative sense, a crowd, Lat. turba, seems chiefly to imply a multitude or concourse of people without organisation, occasioned by some adventitious commotion, rather than population, people, folk, or inhabitants generally. It strikes me as somewhat too limited and special a term for the thing meant. Other conjectures, such as kun = kin for múg, Professor Wimmer regards with no particular favour. I have, instead of "múg" suggested "her," army, multitude, population, citizens, a term which appears to be especially appropriate here, seeing that the Christianisation of Denmark was enforced at the point of Otto the Red's (II.'s) sword, and Harald's men-at-arms must have been the first to embrace at their king's command the new faith. The appropriateness of this term lies especially in the point that "her" comprises the whole population, high and low alike, and presupposes an organised state of society, while "múgr" particularly points to the "masses," to the exclusion of the "classes," of the population. Granted, that this is a hap-

hazard conjecture, but on the supposition that the lacuna allows of seven characters and three word-stops, I do not see what word in the old northern language could more appropriately fill the place of "múg" than "her."

In the ordinary Norse idiom the inscription runs:

Haraldr konungr bað gørva (gøra) kumbl þessi eftir Gorm fõður sinn ok eftir þyri móður sína, sá Haraldr es sér vaun Danmørk alla ok Norveg (allan) ok Dana her lét kristna, i.e.: "King Harald bade be done this mound after Gorm his father and after Thyra his mother, that Harald who for himself won Denmark all and Norway (all) and had the Dane-host christianized."

Gorm, in youth called the Foolish, in manhood the Mighty, in old age and to this day, the "Ancient," says the story, wooed for himself Thyra, daughter of a Holstein Earl, Klak-Harald (Saxo, of Ethelread, an English king). She would consent "to walk with him" if, sleeping the first three nights of winter in a house built where no house had ever stood, he should have dreams to record to her; had he no dreams, he need not come again on wooing errands. Gorm did as he was bid, and he had his three dreams, which are Pharaoh's dreams repeated in folklore fashion. Thyra, at the bridals, unravelled the dreams Joseph-fashion, and took precautions against the threatened famine in her husband's dominions. In return she received, even in her lifetime, the surname of "Daneboon" from her grateful people. They had two sons, Knut, the "Dane-Darling," and Harald Bluetooth, whose ambition and cruelty eventually led him to the murder of his brother. King Gorm had vowed that anyone who ever should tell him of Knut's death, should lose nothing less than his life for the news. Harald, not daring to tell the father the story, got his mother to undertake the task. So one night, when the hall was empty of the daily revellers, she had it all covered with black hangings. Taking his seat the next day, the king said to his queen: "Dead thou

tellest me Knut now." "So you say," was the guarded answer, and Gorm fell back in his seat and was dead. During his long reign Gorm seems, like his great contemporary Harald Fairhair of Norway, to have been chiefly engaged in breaking down the system of small sovereignties, and consolidating the sole sovereignty system in Denmark.

Where the father left off, the son continued, and accomplished the consolidation of the realm under one head. His conquest of Norway was effected by the aid of the wily fugitive Earl of Hlaðir, Hakon Sigurdsson, by whose instrumentality King Harald Greyfell of Norway was betrayed and slain, and, as the story goes, his mother the Queen regent Gunnhild afterwards, whereupon, aided by Harald Gormsson, Earl Hakon obtained possession of Norway, and ruled it pretty much like an independent sovereign to his death, 895, even without paying tribute to his suzerain.

The conversion of Denmark to Christianity was the glory of Harald Gormsson's reign, though it was accomplished at the cost of much bloodshed, under the compulsion of the victorious arms of the Emperor Otto II., and not till within the last ten years of Harald's life.

These, in the briefest possible outline, are the traditional and historical events that stand in immediate connexion with the splendid royal monument of *Jællinge*, the earliest Christian monument of Scandinavia.

A good deal of ingenious discussion has been expended on the question, whether Harald caused this monument to be erected in his lifetime, or whether it was, at his behest, executed after his death. The only record to go by is the inscription itself; and the wording of it leaves either assumption about equally plausible. There, probably, that matter will rest for the future.

Professor BROWNE said that he had long used this stone as an argument against the Danish origin of the sculpture on Anglian crosses.

One monument, known to be Danish, had been found near St Paul's in London, and it closely resembled the work on this stone, so that Danes in England could put up a Danish monument; but no other stone in England was of this character. Mr Browne remarked on the fact that one side of the stone has a Crucifixion without a cross, the Figure with arms extended standing among interlacing bands; and he mentioned an example in England at Chester-le-street. He called attention to the modification of the first *u* in the queen's name, which he read Tiurui, and mentioned that the modern representative of the name, Thyra, is still pronounced as if *y* were *ü*.

MONDAY, *May 13th*, 1889.

Professor Macalister, M.D., President, in the chair.

The following new members were elected:

George Edward Cory, B.A., King's College.

Rev. Edward William Doyle, B.A., Trinity Coll. Dubl.

Edward Henry Parker, M.A., King's College.

Arthur Henry Williams, M.A., M.B., St John's College.

Professor HUGHES made the following communication:

ON SOME ANTIQUITIES FOUND NEAR HAUXTON,
CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE tributary of the Cam which drains the country about Chesterford and Whittlesford, follows a northerly course as far as Shelford, and then turns west. At Hauxton Mill it again changes its character and course, and winds its way in a northerly direction to the principal branch of the river, nearly opposite Cantaloupe Farm. Hauxton Mill stands by the easiest crossing of the tributary for people travelling down the east bank of the main stream from Meldreth, Shepreth, Foxton, Harston, &c., a country thickly covered with Roman remains. There would very likely have been an artificial ford here, which in the lapse of ages would modify the character of the stream

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