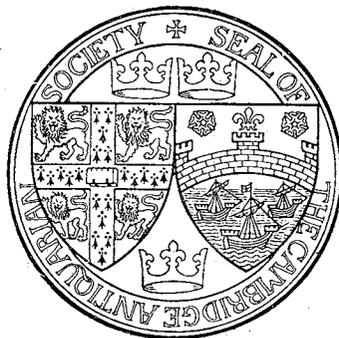


PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
Cambridge Antiquarian Society
WITH
COMMUNICATIONS
MADE TO THE SOCIETY

VOL. XXX



1927—1928

CAMBRIDGE:

PRINTED FOR THE CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.

SOLD BY BOWES & BOWES.

1929

PRINTED IN GREAT BRITAIN

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Cambridge Antiquarian Society

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE YEAR 1927.

Adopted at the Annual Meeting, 5 March, 1928.

Twenty-three Ordinary Members, one Associate Member, and one Subscribing Institution have been elected during the year. Seven Ordinary Members and one Associate have been removed by death. Seven Ordinary Members and one Associate have resigned, or have failed to pay their subscription.

The numbers for 1926 and 1927 are as follows:

	Dec. 1926	Dec. 1927
Honorary Members	8	8
Ordinary „	307	316
Associate „	16	15
Subscribing Institutions	6	7
	<u>337</u>	<u>346</u>

Eleven Ordinary Meetings were held, at which the average attendance was 55.

In addition, a Meeting was held on the afternoon of March 10 at the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, by invitation of the Curator, Mr Clarke, who with the assistance of the Staff demonstrated objects of special interest in the Collection.

At the Ordinary Meetings the following communications were given:

- E. A. B. Barnard, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., "A XVI century Dole Gate from Denny Abbey." January 24.
Kenneth Brown, "The Story of a Derelict Railway (being the History of the Newmarket and Chesterford Railway)." November 14.
M. C. Burkitt, F.S.A., "A little-known Art found in Rock Shelters in Southern Spain." February 21.

- L. Cobbett, M.D., F.R.C.S., "Some XVIII Alterations to Ickleton Church." January 24.
- L. Cobbett, M.D., F.R.C.S., F. J. Allen, M.D., and A. H. Lloyd, F.S.A., "Croydon Church, Cambridgeshire." April 25.
- O. G. S. Crawford, M.A., F.S.A., "Air Photographs and Archaeology." November 28.
- Miss E. S. Fegan, "Advertisements in XVII century Newspapers." April 25.
- G. F. Hill, F.B.A., "Medals of the Italian Renaissance." February 7.
- T. C. Lethbridge, F.S.A., "Further Excavations at Burwell and Little Wilbraham." May 30.
- E. Morley, "The Origin of the Domestic Clock, and its Characteristic Forms." May 9.
- W. M. Palmer, M.D., F.S.A., "One hundred Pictures for the Photographic Record." March 7.
- C.R. Peers, C.B.E., M.A., "The Care of Ancient Monuments." October 17.
- J. Reid Moir, F.R.A.I. "Ancient Man at Hoxne, Suffolk." October 31.
- Miss M. O'Reilly, "Notes on some Recent Acquisitions to the Archaeological Museum." April 25.
- Rev. T. C. Spurgin, M.A., "Some Recent Discoveries at Girton Church." January 24.

EXCURSIONS.

A visit was made to a group of villages in the south-west of Cambridgeshire on the afternoon of the 2nd of June. The chief object of the excursion was the quaint but dangerously dilapidated church of Croydon. Other places visited were Orwell church, which has, among other interesting features, fine if repainted heraldry in the chancel, and a remarkable Early English carving in the south aisle; old houses in Orwell; the picturesque site of the vanished village, manor house, and church of Clopton; the churches of Arrington and Tadlow; and Whaddon with its two early

XVI century manor houses and fine church. Tea was served in the garden of the "Hardwicke Arms," the old coaching inn at Arrington.

On the 28th of July a whole day excursion was made, conjointly with the Royal Archaeological Institute, to Lavenham and Long Melford. Chars-à-bancs left the Senate House at 9.45 a.m., and arrived at Lavenham church about 11.30, where the party was met by the Rector, the Rev. G. H. Lenox-Conyngham, who described and demonstrated the chief features of the church. A walk was then taken through the town to inspect the ancient buildings, and lunch was served at the "Swan Hotel." The party then proceeded to Long Melford, visiting en route, by permission of Major and Mrs G. C. Nevile, the Old Moated Mansion, Kentwell Hall. At Long Melford church the Rector, the Rev. H. R. S. Bree, conducted the party round the building, and showed its most interesting points. The Rectory was then visited, and tea was served in the huts belonging to the Women's Institute. After tea a visit was made to Long Melford Hall, by kind invitation of the Rev. Sir William Hyde Parker, Bart.; and on the way home a short halt was made at Clare to inspect the church and ancient houses.

EXCAVATIONS.

In the spring of this, as of the two preceding years, excavations were carried out in the Anglo-Saxon Cemetery at Burwell. The work lasted for eight weeks, and 29 graves were found. One grave was well furnished with a fine bronze work-box, keys, rings, beads, a cowrie shell, etc. Another contained a scramasax, which is the first weapon to be found in the cemetery. Other interesting bronzes were also recovered.

The Society again owes its thanks to Dr Charles Lucas of Burwell, the owner of the land, who does all in his power to help us.

Owing to the generosity of one of our members, Dr Palmer and I were enabled to carry out a very full investigation of

the Bran or Heydon Ditch. Four months and more were occupied in this excavation, which clearly showed that the Dyke was constructed in the Saxon period. In addition to this, evidence was obtained pointing to two separate periods of construction; and more than fifty skeletons were found, under circumstances which suggested a massacre at the ditch in Saxon times.

The thanks of the Society are due to Messrs Petter and Jackson, farmers on either side of the ditch, who were a great help to us.

T. C. LETHBRIDGE.

LIBRARY.

The Society desires to express its thanks to the following for kindly giving books or pamphlets to the Library: Mr E. A. B. Barnard, Miss Edleston, Mr R. Griffin, Lady Hope, Mr N. T. Porter, the Royal Society of Arts, and the Curator.

Donations of photographs are mentioned under the Report of the Photographic Record Committee.

E. S. FEGAN.

PUBLICATION.

The following publication has been issued during the year: *Proceedings and Communications*, vol. XXVIII, for the year 1925-6.

NEW MEMBERS ELECTED IN 1927.

- Jan. 10. Miss E. M. Hampson.
 Mar. 7. Terence Gray.
 May 9. R. B. Whitehead, M.A., H. W. Law, M.A., Mrs H. F. Bird (Associate).
 May 30. Miss J. P. Strachey, J. Gladstone, E. Morley, Aldm. J. S. Conder, J. R. Garrod, M.D., N. E. Goldsworthy, M.B., Ch.M.
 Oct. 10. H. S. Robinson, Miss M. Vickers.
 Oct. 31. Miss M. Clover, Miss Kelchner, Mrs L. Luddington, Miss Pepper, Miss F. Kensington, R. U. Sayce, P. R. Pyne, C. F. Ryder.
 Nov. 28. T. A. G. Strickland, B.A., E. Fornachon, V. Robinson.

SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 1927.

CURRENT ACCOUNT.

Receipts.		Expenditure.	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward from 1926	189	7	7
Subscriptions:			
Current	271	8	0
Associate	10	1	0
Arrears	2	2	0
Advance	2	6	0
Excavation Fund	285	17	0
Interest on £420 L.N.E.R. 4 per cent. Debenture Stock	1	11	6
Interest on £118.4s.10d. New Zealand 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock	13	8	10
Interest on £39.6s.8d. Bank of England Stock	4	2	8
Interest on £350 5 per cent. War Loan	3	15	6
Interest on £400 4½ per cent. War Loan	14	0	0
Interest on £127.14s.9d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan	14	8	0
Sale of Publications:	4	9	4
Messrs Bowes and Bowes	20	8	4
Deighton, Bell and Co.	3	3	4
Sundry Sales and Charges	15	8	0
Income Tax refunded (1925).	38	19	8
	11	10	1
	54	4	4
By Miscellaneous Printing			
Publication Vol. L.	34	8	0
Index to Proceedings Vols. IX-XXIV	153	7	7
Proceedings Vol. XXVIII	43	5	0
On Account of Proceedings Vol. XXIX	151	6	0
Books and Stationery	15	10	0
Subscriptions and Donations:	397	16	7
Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology			17
Archaeological Congress.	25	0	0
Archaeological Congress.	1	0	0
Clerical Assistance, etc.:	26	0	0
Secretary	50	0	0
Attendants	9	0	0
Custodian of Cellarer's Checker	1	6	0
Care of Stock-room (2 years).	1	1	0
Postage, Carriage and Sundries	61	7	0
Insurance	9	10	7
Subscription refunded	12	0	0
	1	1	0
Balance as per Pass Book	497	4	2
	84	6	0
	581	10	2

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

<i>Receipts.</i>		<i>Expenditure.</i>	
£	s. d.	£	s. d.
To Balance brought forward from 1926	465 11 6	By Balance as per Pass Book	498 10 4
„ Life Members	21 0 0		
„ Interest	11 18 10		
	<u>£498 10 4</u>		<u>£498 10 4</u>

EXCAVATION ACCOUNT.

To Balance brought forward from 1926	56 5 4	By Excavations	14 0 0
„ Subscriptions	11 0 0	„ Balance as per Pass Book	53 5 4
	<u>£67 5 4</u>		<u>£67 5 4</u>

EXCAVATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT.

To Balance brought forward from 1926	21 13 11	By Balance as per Pass Book	22 4 5
„ Interest	10 6		
	<u>£22 4 5</u>		<u>£22 4 5</u>

The Capital of the Society consists of the following securities, viz.:

£420 L. & N.E.R. 4 per cent. Debenture Stock.
 £118. 4s. 10d. New Zealand 3½ per cent. Inscribed Stock.
 £39. 6s. 8d. Bank of England Stock.
 £350 5 per cent. War Loan.
 £400 4½ per cent. War Loan.
 £127. 14s. 9d. 3½ per cent. Conversion Loan.

Audited and found to agree with the Bank Books and Vouchers, showing Balances as follows, viz.:

	£	s.	d.
On Current Account	84	6	0
„ Deposit Account	498	10	4
„ Excavation Account	53	5	4
„ Excavation Deposit Account	22	4	5
	<u>£658</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1</u>

There is a liability on the Current Account estimated at £117 to meet the cost of Publications now in hand.

January 14, 1928.

G. B. BOWES
 H. H. BRINDLEY }
 Auditors.

ORDINARY MEETINGS WITH COMMUNICATIONS.

MICHAELMAS TERM, 1927, AND LENT
AND EASTER TERMS, 1928.

Monday, 17 October, 1927.

Mr L. C. G. CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mr C. R. PEERS, C.B.E., Director of the Society of Antiquaries and Chief Inspector of Ancient Monuments, gave a paper with lantern illustrations on THE CARE OF ANCIENT MONUMENTS.

Monday, 31 October, 1927.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mr J. REID MOIR, F.R.A.I., gave a lecture with lantern illustrations on ANCIENT MAN AT HOXNE, SUFFOLK, of which the following is a précis. A full account is published in *Proceedings of Prehistoric Society of East Anglia*, Vol. v, Pt II, pp. 137-166.

The first palaeolithic implements found at Hoxne were recorded by John Frere in 1797, and since that date various excavations have been carried out at this place. The latest were undertaken, in 1924 and 1926, on behalf of the British Association for the Advancement of Science, and showed that the implementiferous deposits at Hoxne rest in a hollow in Kimmeridgian Boulder Clay, a product of the Second Glacial Period of East Anglia. It is evident that a lake existed at Hoxne in remote times, and this became silted up with accumulations of different kinds, and under differing climatic conditions. Enumerating these deposits in ascending order, we have

(a) TEMPERATE. Lacustrine Mud with temperate organic remains.

(b) COLD. Lacustrine Silt with abundant remains of the Arctic Willow.

(c) COLD. Two seams of gravel in which have been found flint implements of Late Acheulean type associated with

bones of *Elephas primigenius* and *Rangifer tarandus*. It was no doubt at this horizon that Frere made his discovery in 1797.

(d) TEMPERATE. Brickearth with a Floor of Early Mousterian Age at the base, associated with peat containing temperate plants and the bones of *Castor Europaeus*, *Cervus elaphus* and *Equus*.

(e) GLACIAL. Glacial deposit laid down during the Third Glacial Period of East Anglia.

The Hoxne implements are thus seen to be of Inter-Glacial age.

Monday, 14 November, 1927.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mr KENNETH BROWN read a paper entitled THE STORY OF A DERELICT RAILWAY (the Newmarket and Chesterford Line), with lantern illustrations.

Mr Brown began by saying that the Newmarket and Chesterford Railway was unique in this country, for nowhere else is there eleven miles of main railway line left derelict. He sketched the history of the line, which had been largely promoted by the Jockey Club. It was opened in 1848, had a difficult career, and was finally pulled together by Councillor Fane, who succeeded in getting the branch line to Cambridge opened. This then became the more important and paying part, and the Chesterford Section was closed in 1858.

Monday, 28 November, 1927.

Mr M. C. BURKITT in the Chair.

Mr O. G. S. CRAWFORD, F.S.A., gave a lecture on AIR-PHOTOGRAPHS AND ARCHAEOLOGY, in which he described some of the discoveries which have been somewhat unexpectedly made by means of this method of surveying. Earthworks and buildings which have been destroyed, levelled, and ploughed over, may still affect the vegetation which grows above them, and by differences in the colour or freedom of growth the outlines are revealed when the ground is seen from an aeroplane. Also slight unevennesses of the ground, which show no characteristic form when seen on the level, may be recognised in an air-photograph as definite structures.

Monday, 23 January, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mr E. A. B. BARNARD, F.S.A., F.R.Hist.S., opened a discussion by reading a paper on THE PRESENT TRAFFIC IN OLD DOCUMENTS.

The paper was of peculiar interest, and also valuable, describing the experiences of the author and others in their endeavours to rescue collections of old documents from loss by sale as waste paper, or even from thoughtless destruction by burning. From such threatened collections they had saved records of extreme interest, including a sixteenth-century parish register. Mr Barnard showed two cheap tambourines made of old parchment deeds, and common books, including a "bridge" scoring book, bound in such parchment, their surface gay with the flourishes of antique caligraphy.

The paper had been broadcasted by Mr Barnard, and had brought him fully a hundred letters from interested persons in most parts of the country. It has been printed in full in the Report of the Thirty-Fifth Congress of Archaeological Societies, recently issued.

A discussion followed, in which several members took part. Dr Palmer showed a large Elizabethan money-bag, which had been saved from destruction with old documents; also a tambourine whose parchment was marked with the official stamp of the Public Record Office, indicating that the disregard of old documents was, at one time, not absent even from high places.

Monday, 6 February, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mrs FLORENCE AYSCOUGH, D.Litt., gave a lecture on COURT LIFE IN CHINA DURING THE T'ANG DYNASTY, AS ILLUSTRATED BY THE POEMS OF TU FU. The lecture included some translations of the poems, and was illustrated with fine tinted lantern views of Chinese scenery, buildings, and social life.

Monday, 20 February, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Dr CYRIL FOX, Ph.D., F.S.A., Director of the National Museum of Wales at Cardiff, gave a lecture, with lantern illustrations, on THE EARLY IRON AGE IN ENGLAND AND WALES, of which a summary is given at page 52.

Monday, 5 March, 1928.

EIGHTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

The Report of the Council, and the Treasurer's Balance Sheet for the year 1927, were approved and adopted.

The new Officers and Members of Council for 1928-9, nominated by the Council, were elected (see list on page 14).

The following communications were given:

By Mr ARTHUR GRAY, Master of Jesus College, A VISITATION OF THE RELIGIOUS HOUSES OF THE DIOCESE OF ELY IN A.D. 1373. (Printed at page 54.)

By Dr W. M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A., A WALL-DECORATION AT LINTON. (Printed at page 60.)

By Dr L. COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S., THE TYMPANUM AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH, DUXFORD. (Printed at page 63.)

Monday, 30 April, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

The following communications were given:

By Mr T. C. LETHBRIDGE, F.S.A., Director of Excavations, EXCAVATIONS IN THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE DYKES: VITH REPORT, BRAN- OR HEYDON-DITCH. (Printed at page 78.)

By Dr W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D., REPORT ON SKELETONS FOUND AT THE ABOVE EXCAVATIONS. (Printed at page 94.)

Monday, 14 May, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Mr A. F. KENDRICK gave a lecture on GRAECO-ROMAN TEXTILE FABRICS FROM EGYPT, of which the following is an abstract:

The stuffs from the burying-grounds of Egypt are almost all we have of the textiles of Greek and Roman times. Their preservation is due to the dry sandy soil chosen for burials, between the fertile land inundated by the Nile and the neighbouring hills. The stuffs are of the late Graeco-Roman period, and probably very few indeed are earlier than the 3rd century A.D. But there is abundant evidence that the stuffs of the centuries immediately preceding were similar, and often identical, in pattern. The mummy-cases, the painted canvas wrappings and the painted bust-portraits of those times show garments with ornament similar in arrangement, in nature and in colour.

There is little in the way of precise data for determining the period of these stuffs. They belong to the period when mummification was almost entirely abandoned, and bodies were buried in the garments, often patched and mended, worn during life-time. Sir Flinders Petrie found at Hawârah, together with stuffs having purple tapestry-ornamentation, a new coin of one of the sons of Constantine (c. 340 A.D.), and M. Gayet excavated at Antinoë a grave containing a fine hanging with two woven portrait-busts, together with some documents dated 454 to 456 A.D.

That stuffs similar in ornamentation to those found in Egypt were used elsewhere in the Graeco-Roman world is shown by a few examples in the cathedral of Monza, and others found in 1903 in the Cappella Sancta Sanctorum in Rome, as well as by mosaics in the churches of S. Apollinare Nuovo and S. Vitale at Ravenna. Late in the 4th century bishop Ausonius of Amaseia speaks of the wild animals and hunting scenes, as well as the figures of Christ and the Apostles and scenes from the Gospels, to be seen in the dress of his day. This statement is borne out by the stuffs found in Egypt. Christian stuffs of the 4th and 5th centuries are very similar in style to those showing figures of Apollo, Hermes or Vulcan, and other pagan subjects. In the 6th century, the influence of imported Persian (Sassanian) silks is plainly seen in the native tapestry-work.

In the subsequent discussion Prof. Minns referred to the ancient Greek stuffs found in the Crimea, and to stuffs of

the beginning of the Christian era lately found by Col. Kozloff in the desert region of Mongolia. Dr Cook pointed out that a roundel with a figure of ΓH in the Hermitage at Leningrad, shown on the screen, was a beautiful work of art besides being of archaeological interest. Mr Quibell said that some stuffs had been found in the monastery of Apa Jeremias at Saqqara, and removed, shortly before he worked there. Mr Green thought that the dominating foreign influence in the art of Egypt began with the Persian conquest in the 6th century B.C. The President referred to the nature of the dyes used.

Monday, 4 June, 1928.

Mr CLARKE, President, in the Chair.

Dr W. M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A., gave a paper entitled TWO CAMBRIDGESHIRE ANTIQUARIES, JOHN LAYER OF SHEPRETH, AND "CARDINAL" COLE OF MILTON. The paper will be published by the Society in due course.

NEW OFFICERS FOR THE YEAR 1928-29.

ELECTED 5 MARCH, 1928.

PRESIDENT.

LOUIS C. G. CLARKE, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity Hall, *Curator of
Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.*

VICE-PRESIDENT.

WILLIAM, M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A., *Linton, Cambridgeshire.*

ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

Miss CATHERINE E. PARSONS, *Horseheath.*
Lady GOWLAND HOPKINS, *Saxmeadham, Grange Road.*
G. P. HAWKINS, M.A., J.P., *Gresham House.*

TREASURER.

HERBERT F. BIRD, M.A., 30, *Panton Street.*

SECRETARY AND EDITOR OF PUBLICATIONS.

FRANK J. ALLEN, M.D., St John's College, 8, *Halifax Road.*

DIRECTOR OF EXCAVATIONS.

T. C. LETHBRIDGE, B.A., F.S.A., *Mount Blow, Gt Shelford.*

LIST OF OFFICERS, 1928-29.

PRESIDENT.

LOUIS C. G. CLARKE, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity Hall, *Curator of Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.*

VICE-PRESIDENTS.

ARTHUR GRAY, M.A., Master of Jesus College.

LOUIS COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S., Trinity College.

WILLIAM M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A., *Linton, Cambridgeshire.*

ORDINARY MEMBERS OF COUNCIL.

ALBERT H. LLOYD, Ph.D., F.S.A., 73, *Grange Road.*

ALFRED C. HADDON, Sc.D., F.R.S., Christ's College.

Prof. ELLIS H. MINNS, Litt.D., F.B.A., F.S.A., Pembroke College.

JOHN ARCHIBALD VENN, M.A., Queens' College.

MILES C. BURKITT, M.A., F.S.A., Trinity College.

Rev. H. P. STOKES, LL.D., Litt.D., F.S.A., Corpus Christi College.

Rev. A. C. MOULE, M.A., Trinity College, *Vicar of Trumpington.*

G. B. BOWES, M.A., Emmanuel College.

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SEAL MATRICES IN THE UNIVERSITY MUSEUM OF
ARCHAEOLOGY AND ETHNOLOGY, CAMBRIDGE.

By H. S. KINGSFORD, M.A. Oxon.
Assistant Secretary to the Society of Antiquaries.

(Read 30 November, 1925.)

INTRODUCTION.

But little is needed by way of introduction to the Catalogue which follows. There are in the Museum thirty-two matrices¹, and by the kindness of Mr Louis Clarke, F.S.A., the curator, I have had the great privilege of examining these at my leisure at Burlington House, where they were entrusted to my custody. The specimens range from the 13th to the 17th century, with a preponderance of early examples, and although none is of exceptional merit, yet all well repay study and serve to exhibit in a fairly representative way the progress of the art of seal engraving in this country.

The outstanding example is the seal of the Staple of Lincoln (no. 1). This is a heavy bronze matrix, which must date from the enactment of the Ordinance of the Staples in 1353, and is therefore the original seal procured in accordance with the statute. The staple was established for fiscal reasons connected with the sale and export of wool, leather and lead, and its place was constantly being changed. Originally set up in Flanders, it was moved to these islands in 1353, when ten towns in England, including Lincoln, four in Ireland and one in Wales were made staple towns. On 1st March, 1362/3, the staple was established in Calais, but it was brought back again in 1369, although not always to the same towns as in 1353. Thus in 1369 Lincoln ceased to be a staple. Later, during the reign of Richard II, the English staples were once more abolished and the staple fixed permanently at Calais.

¹ Now (1928) thirty-five.

The staple was governed by a mayor and constables and in 1353 it was enacted that the seal of the mayor should be affixed to every sack and sarpler of wools coming to the staple, to which, by the Ordinance of 1369, the seals of one or both of the constables had to be added. In spite of this enactment it will be observed that the word mayor does not occur on the legend of the Lincoln example, although it does in the majority of the other seals that have survived. Probably the omission of the word has no significance, as although the statute ordered that the seal should be that of the mayor, it did not order that it should be so stated in the legend.

It might be supposed that when the English staples were abolished the mayor would have nothing left to do and would have been abolished with them. But as a matter of fact, in addition to his other duties, the mayor was empowered to take recognisances for debt as under the *De Mercatoribus* statute of 1283. This duty he continued to perform, and there is evidence of his taking such recognisances at Westminster well into the 16th century.

The only other official seal is that of North Stowe hundred, Cambridgeshire (no. 2), used for sealing passes under the Statute of Labourers of 1388. This matrix is of very poor workmanship and it seems certain that the legend was engraved locally. Several of these seals are known and with the exception of three, Lothingland, Wangford, and Erpingham, are all of similar inferior workmanship. One specimen, that of Flaxwell, Lincolnshire, adds the words *pro servis* to the legend, to make it quite clear for what purpose it was intended, a fact that otherwise would not be evident from the inscription.

The collection contains at least two matrices of religious houses, those of the Guardian of the Grey Friars, Chichester (no. 3) and of the Warden of Bethlem Hospital, London, commonly known as Bedlam (no. 4). Some of the others (nos. 5-8 and 23) may be those of officers of a religious house or possibly of a religious house itself, but there is no means of identifying them short of finding impressions attached to deeds, as the legends give no clue whatever. The best designed

of these is no. 23. The others have no great merit, and two (nos. 7 and 8) were almost certainly made by the same unskilled workman.

There are only two armorial seals in the collection. One of these (no. 10) exhibits considerable excellence as a work of art and compares favourably with some of the finest specimens of its period. The other (no. 11) is much later and is a poor example of engraving.

The greater part of the remaining specimens belongs to a large class which it is difficult to date closely, but which appears to be of the late 13th or early 14th century, although some, especially those with floral devices, may be as early as the middle of the 13th. These seals are very crudely designed and of rough and unskilled workmanship. From a technical point of view they might be of almost any date, but the legends are all in so-called Lombardic capitals of a kind, a style which more or less went out of fashion towards the end of the 14th century, and it is unlikely that the artist would have continued to employ this script long after it had virtually been abandoned elsewhere. On the whole therefore it seems safe to date these seals about 1300. The designs on most of them are a beast, bird, fish or flower, generally bearing but slight resemblance to the original. The legends as often as not do not give the name of the owner, but consist of a motto, invocation or similar sentence.

Two of the seals (nos. 29 and 30) have a merchant's mark for the device. The second (no. 30) is of peculiar interest, as it is a double seal in the sense that there is a matrix at either end of the handle. Lastly, three (nos. 21, 26 and 27) are made of lead. Matrices of this material are not uncommon, but they are invariably of very poor execution and it is more than probable that, in spite of their survival to the present day, they were made for some particular occasion and were not intended for permanent use.

I have to express my cordial thanks to Mr Clarke, Miss O'Reilly, and the staff of the Museum for much help, and especially for the trouble and pains they have taken in preparing the photographs used to illustrate this paper.



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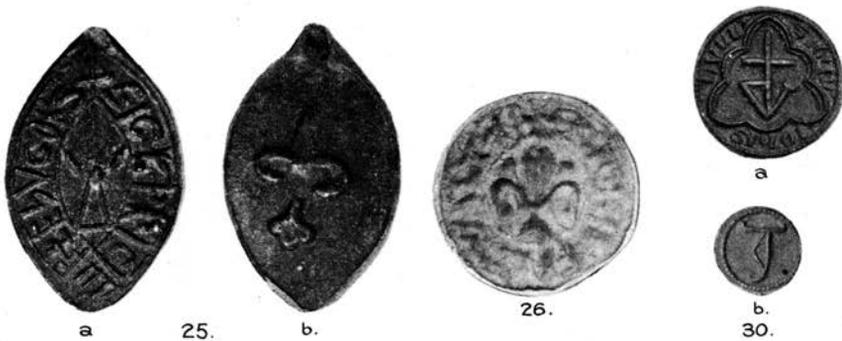
11.



28.

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PLATE I. SEALS IN MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE.



John Bale Sons & Danielsson, Ltd

PLATE II. SEALS IN MUSEUM, CAMBRIDGE.

CATALOGUE.

(The numbers of the illustrations correspond with those of the following descriptions.)

1. STAPLE OF THE CITY OF LINCOLN, 1353. (1920. 805.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 40 mm.; conical six-sided handle with trefoil top; height 53 mm.

Within a traceried opening formed of two interlacing sexfoils a fleur de lis between two rampant leopards facing each other; in base a woolpack.

* SIGILLVM STAPULE CIVITATIS LINCOLNIE *

The date of this seal must be 1353, when by the Ordinance of the Staples (27 Ed. III, Stat. 2, cap. 1), Lincoln was made a staple town. It cannot be earlier as there were no staples in these islands before that date; neither can it be later, as Lincoln ceased to be a staple town in 1362/3 and did not again become one when the staples were re-established in 1369¹.

Two points should be noted in the design: first the fleur de lis and leopards, adapted from the Royal arms, and secondly the woolpack, showing at a glance for what purpose the seal was to be used.

2. SEAL FOR LABOURERS' PASSES OF NORTH STOWE HUNDRED, CAMBRIDGESHIRE, 1388. (83. C.A.S. 586.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 26 mm.; conical six-sided handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 32 mm.

Across centre RORSE/OWE, between a sprig above and below. :S: COM: CANTEBRYGG

This seal was provided for the purpose of sealing passes under the Statute of Labourers of 1388 (12 Ric. II, cap. 3), and it is interesting to observe how the so-called Lombardic style of lettering persisted to this late date. The matrix is of good workmanship, but the lettering is very bad and it seems probable that the matrices were frequently provided in blank and engraved locally with the necessary legend. It should be noted how exactly the design complies with the statute, which provided: "& qento^r le dit seal soit escript le noun de Countee, & atravers du dit seal le noun del dit Hundred Rope Wapentak Citee ou Burgh" (Stat. Realm, ii, 56).

See *Proc. Soc. Ant.* vi, 262; *Arch. Journ.* vii, 106; xi, 378.

¹ Another seal of the Lincoln staple is known, which must be of the same date. The design consists of a figure of the Virgin and Child under a canopy; the legend is

S' OFFICII STAPVLE CIVITAT' LINCOLN'

(*Brit. Mus. Catalogue of Seals*, no. 5065).

3. GUARDIAN OF THE GREY FRIARS, CHICHESTER; used by Hugh, guardian in 1253. (83. C.A.M. 596. Found in St Neots road, Cambridge.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 35 × 23 mm., with loop on back.

Under a canopy the Virgin seated on a high platform, the Child on her left knee. On left St Peter holding his keys, standing in profile; on right St Paul, bearded, similarly standing. Each saint stands on a corbel represented as a human face. In base, under an arch the guardian, half length, in prayer to left.

̄M̄E FŌIE P̄ĀLE DŌCE P̄IA VIRGO PETRE RESOLV̄E

The letters marked — are ligatured.

An impression of this seal is attached to Harl. ch. 83 C. 32 dated 1253 in the British Museum (*Cat. of Seals*, no. 2950). The matrix is probably a little earlier and may indeed date from the foundation of the house in about 1225.

The matrix is much worn and has somewhat the appearance of being a cast, but on the whole it would seem to be genuine.

4. WARDEN OF BETHLEM HOSPITAL, LONDON; late 15th or early 16th century (R. 93. 38. Given by F. J. H. Jenkinson.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped; 80 × 45 mm.

Under a canopy of four arches without side-shafts, the Adoration of the Kings. The Virgin, crowned, is seated on a high backed chair on the left, the Child on her lap. Before them kneels one of the kings offering a cup, his crown on the ground beside him. Behind him stand the other two kings, crowned and holding their offerings. In the field above the kneeling king's head is a six-pointed star, the star which they saw in the East. The figures are on a plinth supported by a rudely designed arcade. Above the canopy is a rayed circle enclosing a cross formy. Below the arcade are the heads of the ox and the ass upside down.

̄S̄igillu ̄Wardones ̄(sic) beati ̄(sic) marie ̄de bethlem

See O'Donoghue, *Story of Bethlehem Hospital*, 101-2 and plate facing p. 102.

5. UNKNOWN, c. 1325. (A. 1910. 39. Ixworth, Suffolk.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 20 mm. with loop for suspension on back.

Under a double canopy with pinnacles, the Virgin seated on the right, the Child on her right knee. On the left a votary kneeling in adoration to the right.

AVE MARIA GRACIA PLENA

6. SIMON, c. 1300. (A. 1904. 14. Given by J. N. O. Jennings, Fordham, Cambs.)

Bronze; oval 24 × 20 mm.; six-sided conical handle with quatrefoil top; height 24 mm.

Within an oval opening of ten cusps, the Virgin crowned, standing on a corbel, an apple in her right hand and the Child on her left arm. Before her on the right, the half figure of the owner—Simon—wearing his habit.

* VIRGO · TVVM · MATV · PRO · SIMON · POSCE · BEAT'

7. UNKNOWN, late 13th century. (1916. 56. From Bottisham Fen.)

Bronze; oval 25 × 20 mm.; six-sided conical handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 27 mm.

St Laurence standing on a plinth, holding his gridiron in his left hand. * SAVRTTE LAVRENCII

On the original label this seal was ascribed to Anglesey priory, Cambs., on what evidence was not stated. As however that house was dedicated to SS. Mary and Nicholas the ascription seems improbable.

8. UNKNOWN, late 13th century. (A. 1906. 4. From Eriswell, Suffolk.)

Bronze; oval 25 × 19 mm.; conical six-sided handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 28 mm.

St Margaret, crowned, issuing from the dragon, which she pierces in the mouth with the end of a cross held in her left hand. * SAVIICA MARGORETA

These two matrices (7 and 8) are so alike in size, shape and design, and it may be added in illiteracy, that it may be supposed that they were the work of the same far from skilled craftsman.

9. WALTER DE MICHIFELD, late 13th century. (From Undley, Suffolk; W. K. Foster bequest.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 33 × 21 mm., with loop for suspension on back.

St Peter in mass vestments, seated on a bench. His right hand is raised in blessing and in his left he holds his two keys.

* S' WALTERI DE MICHIFELD

Michifeld is probably to be identified with Mickfield, a village a few miles north east of Stowmarket in Suffolk.

10. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Cambridge 1880; Evans Collection 1913.)

Silver; circular, diam. 19 mm.; conical six-sided handle with pierced quatrefoil top; height 21 mm.

A shield of arms rounded at the bottom and bearing three griffins; the shield is surrounded by three wyverns.

No legend.

In the absence of a legend and of tinctures it has unfortunately been impossible to identify the coat of arms. The seal may be compared with several on the Barons' Letter (1301), notably with those of William Leyburn, John St John of Halnaker; Hugh de Vere and Robert FitzWalter.

The reason for placing wyverns or other beasts or objects round the shield was originally an artistic one, to fill up the awkward blank spaces caused by putting a roughly triangular figure within a circle. It is probable that the use of beasts in this way was at least one of the origins of the adoption of supporters to the shield.

11. A MEMBER OF THE DARCY FAMILY, 17th century. (22. 769.)

Silver; oval 19 × 17 mm.; conical eight-sided handle with globular top; height 21 mm.

A shield of arms: I, Party fess wise, i, crusilly and 3 cinquefoils, ii, a maunch, impaling II, a fess between in chief 2 pellets and in base a martlet. Crest on a helmet with wreath and mantling, a tilting spear in 3 pieces, the head erect and the other parts in saltire, all bound together with a ribbon.

No legend.

It has so far not been possible to identify the owner of the seal with absolute certainty. The first coat is with but little doubt Darcy—azure crusilly & 3 cinquefoils silver. If this ascription be correct the second coat must almost certainly be Conyers—azure, a maunch gold. The impaled coat

seems clearly to be Leigh—silver a fess between in chief 2 pellets & in base a martlet sable—granted in 1593 to Robert Leigh who became Lord Mayor of London in 1602. The crest is that of Darcy lord Darcy of Aston, and Darcy of Kiltulla, co. Galway.

There can therefore be little doubt that the seal was made for a Darcy who married a Leigh. The only such marriage however that so far I have been able to find is that of Sir Francis Darcy, died 1641, with Catherine daughter of Sir Edward Leigh; but she was a Leigh of Rushall, a family which should not bear the arms impaled on this seal.

12. RICHARD CHAPMAN OF LAKENHEATH, c. 1300. (22. 767.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 33 × 20 mm., with a loop at the back.

A ramping griffin to the right.

* S' RIĠ CHAPMĀ DE LAKENGETHE

The letters EN are ligatured.

13. ROBERT SON OF WILLIAM, c. 1300. (83. C.A.M. 595.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 23 × 18 mm. with a loop on the back.

A griffin to the left.

* S' ROBERTI FILII WILLI

14. G. DE MAIOT, c. 1300. (83. C.A.S. 592.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 25 mm., handle broken off.

A fish swimming to the left; the water represented by three wavy lines above and below.

* S' G · DEMAIOT

15. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Inskip Coll. From Shefford, Beds. 53. C.A.S. 594.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 19 mm. A six-sided conical handle has been broken off.

A deer walking to the left.

ALIAS BOWLES

The legend is clearly intended to be spoken by the stag, but I am uncertain as to the exact meaning of the last word. It has however been suggested to me that it may mean pity or mercy, and if this interpretation be correct it would be an appropriate ejaculation for a hunted stag. There is a parallel

among the Durham seals (Greenwell and Blair, no. 1046) where the figure of a stag is surrounded by the legend **ALAS EDOVLIC**. The word edoulc seems clearly to be from **ME. dolc** a wound, and the legend here would therefore mean Alas wounded or sore stricken, again an appropriate ejaculation for a wounded stag¹. See also no. 34 below.

16. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (From Fordham, Cambs., given by John Jennings. A. 04. 15.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 19 mm. Six-sided conical handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 19 mm.

A bird walking to the right; its head is turned back over its body and it pecks at a sprig issuing from the rim on the left.

IE SV POL CONV

17. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (From Barton Road, Cambridge. A. 96. 173.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 20 mm. Six-sided conical handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 25 mm.

A cock walking to the left.

*** CROV ME DAI ↓**

18. JAQUET FORNEC, c. 1300. (From Shelford, Cambs. 1850. 83. C.A.M. 584.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 25 mm. Six-sided conical handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 22 mm.

The Agnus Dei to the right.

*** S IAQVIRIFORNEC**

As there are no clear divisions between the words, the name is not certainly ascertainable.

19. JOHN PROVOST (or the Provost), c. 1300. (From Cambridge. Presented by Prof. T. McK. Hughes. A. 1910. 42.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 26 mm. with loop on the back.

The Agnus Dei to the right, with three pellets in the field above its head.

S' IOHIS: PROVOSTI

The 15th century date suggested on the original label is much too late.

¹ For these suggestions I am indebted to Mr Herbert Chitty, F.S.A.

20. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (From Stourbridge, 1844. 83. C.A.M. 583.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 16 mm. Six-sided conical handle, with circular pierced top; height 20 mm.

The Agnus Dei to the left.

PRIVE SV

This seal, as is shown by the legend, which may be translated I am the secret; was intended, primarily at least, for use as a secret or private seal.

21. EMMA MAWIS, c. 1300. (From Mildenhall, Suffolk. 1895. 176.)

Lead; circular, diam. 27 mm., with ring on the back.

A cross with rays at the intersection of the arms.

S EMME · MAWIS ·

22. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Inskip Coll. From Shefford, Beds. 83. C.A.M. 585.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 19 mm. Six-sided conical handle with trefoil top of one piercing; height 28 mm.

The letters *INC* under an elaborate contraction mark.

* *EST AMOR ME*, in continuation of the monogram in the centre.

23. UNKNOWN, late 13th century. (From Lakenheath. C.A.S. 1911-15/8/12, no. 49.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 29 × 19 mm., with a loop on the back.

A pelican in her piety, the nest resting on a conventional but well designed leaf support. In the field on the right are a star and a crescent.

* SIMILIS FACTVS SVM PELICANO DEI

This is a beautiful example of the art of seal engraving. The legend is an adaptation of the well known verse of the 102nd (Vulgate 101st) psalm: *Similis factus sum pelicano solitudinis.*

24. UNKNOWN, late 13th century. (22. 768.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, 29 × 19 mm. The handle has been filed off the back and the edges bevelled, possibly for insertion in a ring.

The tonsured head of an ecclesiastic to the right, with an unapparelled amice round his neck.

* MISERERE MEI · DEVS :

25. PRICE, DAUGHTER OF HUGH, last half of 13th century.
(From Lakenheath Warren. 1904. 202.)

Bronze; vesica-shaped, with broken loop at the end,
37 × 23 mm. A rude fleur de lis is incised on the back.

A floral device.

* SIGL' PRICE FLE HVGORS

26. JOHN, SON OF WALTER, late 13th century. (Evans Coll.
Cambridge, 1880.)

Lead; circular, diam. 25 mm., with loop on the back.

A fleur de lis.

* S · IOHIS · FIL' · WALTER :

27. FULC DE QUAPLODE, late 13th or early 14th century.
(83. C.A.S. 593.)

Lead; circular, diam. 30 mm. with loop on back.

An eight petalled flower.

* S' FVLCON' D' QVAPLODE

The place may presumably be identified with Whaplode in Lincolnshire.

28. BARTHOLOMEW PACIFICUS, early 14th century (?). (Evans
Coll. 1913, bought in Cambridge.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 19 mm. Six-sided conical handle
with knop and trefoil top; height 25 mm.

A sexfoil.

* 2 BARTOLOMEI · PACIFIC

The S is reversed and the letters *TR* ligatured. Possibly
of foreign workmanship.

29. JOHN DE LEKE, first half of 14th century. (Evans Coll.
1913. Cambridge, 1868.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 17 mm. Six-sided conical handle
with quatrefoil top; height 23 mm.

A merchant's mark, consisting of a shield charged with the
capital letter I (the initial of the owner's Christian name) and

a chief party with two crosses formy thereon. Above the shield a cross staff with three streamers.

S' IOHANNIS DE LERE

For a similar form of merchant's mark, compare the seal of Henry le Callere in the British Museum, illustrated in *Antiq. Journ.* iv, 254.

30. JOHN HULL, probably 14th century. (83. C.A.S. 587.)

Bronze; the matrix consists of a six-sided conical shaft pierced in the centre and engraved at each end. Diam. of larger end 20 mm., of smaller end 12 mm.; length 25 mm.

Larger end: a cusped triangle containing a merchant's mark.

SIGILLI IOHIS HVLLI

Smaller end: a capital letter **J**, the initial of the owner's Christian name.

31. UNKNOWN, late 17th century. (1911-90 Gamlingay. C.A.S. 1911. Bt. Lea 1911.)

Bronze; oval, 16 × 14 mm. Conical handle pierced and expanding at top, broken; height 24 mm.

A heart pierced by two arrows in saltire; above it an eye (?). No legend.

32. UNKNOWN. (A. 1910. 40. Ixworth.)

Bronze (?); circular, diam. 21 mm. Conical handle with circular top; height 29 mm.

The matrix is so corroded as to be practically indecipherable, but the device may have been a fleur de lis.

APPENDIX.

The three following matrices have been acquired since the paper was read, but are added to make the catalogue complete.

33. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Ridgeway bequest; found near Cambridge.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 18 mm. Conical handle, height 19 mm.

The Agnus Dei to left.

ECCE AGNVS DEI

34. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Purchased 1926; no provenance.)

Bronze; circular, diam. 19 mm. Six-sided conical handle with pierced trefoil top; height 22 mm.

A hawk preying on a duck.

*ALAS IE SV PRIS ↓

Here the legend is to be understood as being spoken by the duck. Compare no. 15 above.

35. UNKNOWN, c. 1300. (Presented by Rev. J. W. E. Conybeare. From Barrington, Cambs.)

Bronze; circular, 22 mm. in diam., with loop at back.

An eagle to left, looking backwards.

*CREDEI MEHI (*sic*)



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PLATE I. ICKLETON CHURCH FROM N.W., CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

ICKLETON CHURCH IN THE XVIIITH CENTURY.

By LOUIS COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S.

(From a short account read 24 January, 1927.)

In 1926 a builder's plan and estimate for some alterations to the north side of Ickleton Church, undated, but belonging apparently to the latter part of the XVIIIth Century, were discovered by Dr Palmer among his papers; and, as I was then studying the church, he very kindly placed them at my service. These documents, together with some photographic copies of such sheets of Cole's manuscript¹ as concern Ickleton, make it possible to give an account of the church as it was in the reign of George II, to judge of the changes which have since taken place, and to explain certain structural features which were formerly obscure, particularly the two blocked archways in the north wall of the chancel, and that part of the wall of the north aisle which is built of clunch.

Cole's notes on Ickleton are dated 1742. They give in quaint language and curious spelling a minute picture of the church. The latter is said by Cole to have been "in good repair" but this we must understand in a comparative sense, the country churches being then mostly ruinous; and indeed by Cole's own showing parts of Ickleton were no better, for "the North Cross Isle was half stopped up and useless," and the south wall of the chancel was "forced to be supported by 2 or 3 large Brick Butteresses by reason of its great age."

The church, he says, is "built in the form of a Cross, with 2 side Isles, & as many Cross Isles, with several Chantries, or private Chapels, annexed; with a Tower in the middle betwⁿ Nave and Chancel, & on it a large Spire, covered over wth Lead, on the top of w^{ch} × × × was a large leaden Cross wh^{ch} the Rebels in Oliver's time obliged the Parish to take down, or threatened to set fire to the Church, w^{ch} to prevent was perform'd accordingly. But they could not so easily take

¹ Now in the British Museum.

down, or perhaps they would not have escaped, 2 neat large Crosses *Patonce* of black Flint on the outside of the Tower over the S and E window." "The spire," he adds, "has 2 Bells under a sort of Penthouses on the outside of it. There are 6 Bells in it, one of w^{ch} is the Saint's Bell."

The crosses *patonce* are still *in situ*, worked in black split flint flush with the rubble of the tower, each arm expanded into three points, like a *fleur de lis*, just as Cole figures them in his rough but detailed sketch.

Only one of the two exterior bells now remains, hanging high up on the S.W. face of the leaded spire. The other, which was a little lower down, is shown in Cole's sketch as if suspended from the south face. Its place is perhaps indicated today by a rectangular patch in the lead, now a shutter, made to open, and from which on festive occasions a flag is wont to be hung out¹.

Cole has much more to say, and I shall quote him again freely in the sequel.

Since he so minutely described it in 1742 the church has undergone many alterations. The chancel—to mention only some of the more important—has been rebuilt; the north transept, ruinous in Cole's time, has been swept away; and two chapels or chantries, one quite a large one, which then still stood on the north side of the chancel, have vanished. For a time a large irregular building, about which I shall have a good deal to say, took their place. This in its turn has disappeared, and the north aisle, which had undergone grievous damage, has been restored to its original shape. But the two chantries have never been rebuilt; and in the place of the great north transept there is only a modern vestry which occupies little more than a third of the ground the transept once covered.

¹ There were, until a short time after this was written in March 1927, still six bells within the tower, but the largest of them lay broken into several pieces, having fallen on the floor of the belfry in consequence of the collapse of the wooden framing from which it was suspended. The bells have been recast, and there are now eight of them, but the old "sacring bell" is still hanging on the outside of the tower.

THE CHANCEL.

The present chancel, which was rebuilt from the ground in 1882-1883, retains in its walls such portions of the older structure as seemed to the restorers to be worth preserving.

Still in its proper position in the south wall is the ancient piscina; that "hole for holy water" as Cole rudely and ignorantly called it; but its existence, since Cole saw it in a similar position in the old chancel, has not been a static one, for it was found, not long ago, turned out into the church yard, and only returned when the new chancel was built.

Close by the piscina are sedilia like those aptly described by Cole as "three stone benches, arched, and one above the other." But alas, they have been restored very thoroughly, and only here and there a piece of worn stone shows where part of the old work has been retained as evidence of the faithful reproduction of the original design.

The windows too are restorations; and they too show, or most of them do¹, fragments of ancient mullion, sill or tracery which testify to the pious care taken by the restorers to copy closely the old work.

On the side opposite to the sedilia and piscina, namely in the north wall, the two medieval archways already mentioned have been rebuilt, their old stones incorporated in the modern wall.

¹ There are no old stones in the window over the sedilia, or in the chancel doorway, which are, nevertheless, today very much as they appear in Cole's sketch. On the other hand it may be pointed out that even the actual presence of old stone does not prove absolutely that a window or door is not an entirely new structure, though it does show that its form is based upon an old model; for there are in this church, namely in the window just to the west of the chancel door, two large pieces of unmistakable old stone worked into the jambs, showing that these latter conform exactly to the jambs of some old window; but they are not from the jambs of an older edition of this one, for, if we can trust Cole's sketch, and I think we can, there was no window in this position in his time. I think the stones in question may have come from the old window over the sedilia which was just on the other side of the chancel door.

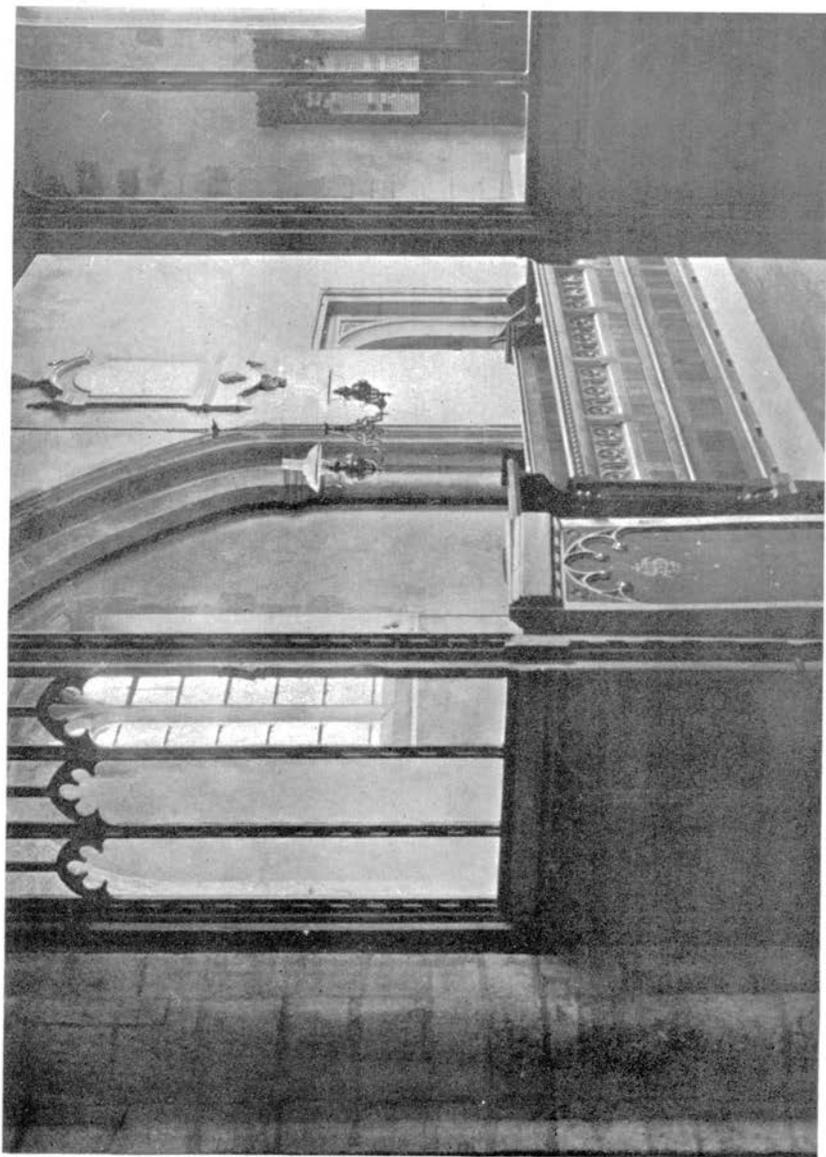
THE BLOCKED ARCHWAYS IN THE N. WALL
OF THE CHANCEL.

These two ancient archways now lead nowhere. The chambers to which they once gave access have, as we have said, vanished, and outside the church no trace of them is to be seen, save that a slight projection of the surface shows where the larger of them has been closed by a wall built up against it. The eastern quoins of this wall are just visible in the accompanying photograph (Plate I). All that we know of the chapels, other than what these archways tell us, is derived from Cole.

The archways (see Plate II) are very unequal in size, the westernmost, one end of which is close to the central tower, measures 14 ft. 6 ins. in width between the jambs; the other, which stands to the east of it above the first of the steps which lead up to the altar, is only a doorway. In the larger archway the rather slim shafts in mid-wall position attached to the jambs and the depressed Tudor arch above them point to its having been built in the Perpendicular period. The doorway is of similar date, and consists of a pointed arch within a moulded rectangular frame with geometrical carving in the spandrels.

What were the chambers into which these archways once opened? The smaller one Cole speaks of as a "private chantry," and says it was used as a vestry in his time; but he gives no description of it. The larger one, however, being more important, he describes minutely. It was open to the church, not only through the arch into the chancel, but into the north transept as well, through "a very large arch of the same bigness as the other." The transeptal archway however alone gave access to the chapel in Cole's time, for the one on the side of the chancel was "partly blocked by the backs of the stalls, and partly by a wooden screen, but was open above."

This chantry chapel seems to have been nearly square. Two of its sides were, as we have seen, formed by archways, the other two contained windows. In the north side the window



John Bale, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd.

PLATE II: ICKLETON CHURCH.
NORTH WALL OF CHANCEL.

was large, but the one in the east wall was narrow, and near to the N.E. corner; for it was necessarily limited to that part of the wall which projected beyond the smaller chantry to the east of it.

In the corner between the two windows was "a head in stone coming out of the wall," and on it "a neat square flat stone" which Cole says, though on what authority he does not mention, "formerly supported some Image, & probably that to whose memory this Chapel was dedicated," and he adds that "on the S. side of ye E. window & abt ye same height as the other stone projecting from the wall, & as I fancy, directly over where ye Alter formerly stood (was another stone) very likely to support the Image of the B. Virgin." Such was Cole's opinion, and it may be that these projections were so used; but it seems probable that originally they were corbels, and once supported the upright principals of the timber roof, as we see similar corbels doing today at the "Leper Chapel" at Barnwell. The Gothic roof had no doubt disappeared before Cole's visit, and the one then in existence was probably low-pitched; for we know from his account that it was covered with lead. The corbels, so many as remained of them, may then perhaps have been put to another use than that for which they were originally intended, but if they ever bore figures of benefactors or the Virgin, these had not escaped the zeal of the Puritans, for there was nothing on them in Cole's time.

This chantry recalls in position the ornate and beautiful one at St John's, Duxford, which was similarly situated with respect to the chancel. But the Duxford example was built in the XIVth Century, while the Ickleton one belongs, as we have seen, to the XVth Century. The former, like the latter, is open widely on two sides—to the chancel through two large arches, and to the end of the north aisle, which there usurps the place of a transept and extends eastward on the north side of the central tower, by a third arch in its west wall.

Like its sister at Duxford the Ickleton chantry was no doubt once ornate and beautiful, and fulfilled an important function in the religious life of its day. But the faith of the people had in the meantime changed fundamentally; they

no longer had any use for chantry chapels and superfluous priests to sing masses for the souls of those whose worldly goods were sufficient to afford such aids to salvation, and the chantry chapel was allowed to decay. With it perished, no doubt, one of the many exquisite examples of that art which the Middle Ages so delighted to lavish on religious objects.

By 1742 it had fallen far from its original splendour. It was then "almost without a floor," so decayed had its pavement become, and although in both its windows there still were "remains of very neat painted glass," the latter was "for the most part so shattered and broken that there was no making anything particular out of them." We shall probably never know the name of the pious founder, though it may have been one of the rich squires of Ickleton who occupied the great house in the XVth C.; for "there were no monuments in it," Cole says, except "a large escutcheon," presumably of stained glass, "in the E. window, viz Gules, a Cross Argent, impaling another which is broke."

The adjoining transept was in even worse condition. It is described as "half stopped up being useless" and Cole leaves it at that. We hear nothing about its north window or its monuments if any, but we are told that its gable was surmounted by "a very ancient worked cross, but much decayed"; and this ornament is a conspicuous feature in Cole's sketch. The church indeed as a whole had "the appearance, too much indeed, of great antiquity"; but this seems to have been the worst side of it.

It is curious to learn that the north "cross isle," as Cole calls the transept, was longer than the southern one, and to this point we shall refer again.

The south transept seems to have been in a much better state. It was "roofed with wainscoat, arched and painted and gilt." In the panels in the south window were coats of arms. In the east window was "a pretty deal of painted glass, but much abused." "A pretty large arch for the reception of some saint" refers no doubt to the canopied niche still to be seen on this side of the transept. "Close by was a place run up for the singers to set in." "The pulpit and the desk stood

against the south west pillar of the tower" and were of old wainscot painted. Near them stood "a small old oaken Desk to read the Litany or 1st and 2nd Lessons on." It was "of some antiquity, being formerly painted, and standing on the backs of four couchant lions."

It is not quite certain where these things stood, whether in the nave or the transept; but the latter seems to be meant, for the passage in which they are mentioned follows immediately on the description of this part of the church, and nothing has so far been said of the nave. And if it should seem strange that pulpit and desk should have been in the transept, instead of in the nave where they are usually found, we must remember that in this church the south aisle is a very important part of the whole, and wider than the nave itself. Moreover the aisle opens into the transept through a very large arch so that the latter forms a sort of chancel to the former, and the two together afford perhaps a more convenient place for service than the nave and chancel proper, which are separated from one another by the dark space under the tower. Moreover, as we shall see, the chancel seems to have been regarded mainly as a mortuary chapel for the Hanchetts, the rich Squires of Ickleton in the XVIIIth C.

The pulpit and desk could hardly have stood under the tower for there the floor was boarded with deal planks for the ringers to stand on, and the bell ropes hung down into the church, as they do today¹.

At the east end of this belfry, over the screen, which then, as now, separated the tower from the chancel, were "wrote

¹ This has not been so without interruption since Cole's time; for the present Vicar, the Rev. P. H. Cooke, tells me that there used to be a ringing chamber under the arches of the tower, with its floor supported on the tops of the Norman columns. This he says survived until 1880 when it was cleared away. When it was built is not known, but it must have been after Cole's visit.

The Vicar adds that part of the existing ceiling of wood, carved and fretted and painted, which is now fixed just above the crowns of the tower arches, once formed the west wall of this chamber, being placed vertically against the east wall of the nave across the top of the tower-nave arch. It was probably a piece of mediæval work re-used for this purpose. The rest of the ceiling the vicar thinks was copied from this, when the latter was placed in its present position in 1880.

the Creed, L^{ds} Prayer & 10 Com^{mts}; and on each side of them
 this R.S. 1689.”
 W.D.

Thus we see that while the north transept and large chantry chapel were neglected and falling into ruin, the south transept was well cared for according to the taste of the day. The chancel, though much of it was probably, as we shall see, structurally precarious, participated in this prosperity. Cole indeed says “it is in good repair as is the rest of the church.” But we have seen what this may mean in the case of the chantry and north transept. Doubtless the *furnishing* of the chancel was well cared for at this time. Its roof, we read, like that of the south transept, was “arched and wainscoated” and there were a great many monuments, “Chiefly for the Hanchett family.” The east wall had recently been rebuilt with a modern window without any painted glass, and Cole’s sketch shows a large round-headed window with two mullions and a transom, very much like one of the windows in the Trinity College Library. It has now given way to one in the Perpendicular style. The south wall seems to have been even then in a precarious condition, for “it was forced to be supported by 2 or 3 large Brick Butteresses by reason of its great age¹.”

Let us return to the chancel. On either side of the “pretty

¹ Yet it seems to have survived until well on into the XIXth C.; for a drawing in Maynard’s manuscript (in Saffron Walden Museum), signed J. Clarke and dated 1886, shows this wall apparently an ancient structure. But the buttresses had gone, or rather there is nothing in the picture to represent them, unless indeed an uncertain smudge between the central door and the transept be meant for a buttress; but it may equally be intended to represent the low side window. Indeed I don’t think this sketch can be trusted for detail, for it shows two lean-to buttresses of brick one at each angle of the transept, and in the place of one of them there is to this day a mediaeval stone buttress which looks as if it had never been moved.

Cole’s own sketch shows in the S. wall of the chancel only one buttress which looks as if it was made of brick, namely a simple lean-to affair, like that at Duxford; at the east end of the wall. Two other buttresses are shown, one on either side of the round headed door, these are sloped at the top and have a set off like a mediaeval buttress; on the other hand there are no buttresses on the corners of the S. transept.

lofty door" in the "Lattice screen" were "several oak stalls in the nature of a Choir." Just within the screen in the middle of the choir lay "a blewish marble Slab with an Inlet for a Priest & Inscription, but the brass is gone." It was "wrong turned" that is, I suppose, with its feet to the west. What is evidently the same stone, a slab of slate with a rather small excavation for a brass, representing, apparently, a priest standing on a rectangular space, the latter doubtless for the inscription, now lies "wrong turned" just as Cole saw it, with its feet to the west, and in the same spot.

He adds that "tradition says that this belong'd to some one of the Religious house formerly in this Parish. But as that was a Nunnery & at some distance from this Church¹ it is more than probable that it was designed for one of the Vicars of this Church."

Two other matrices which had lost their brasses, and which have now disappeared entirely, are mentioned by Cole, one lay between the northern piers of the tower and the other "with a round inlet" close to it within the transept.

The monuments to the Hanchett family mentioned by Cole are still in their places; the chancel is paved with them. They cover not only the space between the choir stalls, but extend under them, so that some can be seen only partially. I counted eleven of them, all to Hanchetts, except one to "Thomas Crude, single man"—five slabs of freestone and six of black slate. Two others more recent, also to Hanchetts, are in the nave, one of which is under the font.

In the extreme N.E. corner of the chancel, beside the altar, is a black slab marking the grave of Zachary Brooke, once Vicar of the Parish and Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity.

The pavement of that part of the chancel which was above the steps met with Cole's special approval. "It was," he says, "laid with neat square bricks, glazed and painted and laid

¹ The nunnery stood about a third of a mile west of the church at the corner of the cross roads where is now the Abbey Farm. Irregularities of the surface of the grass in the field at the N.E. corner of the crossing probably indicate its foundations. It is said to have been founded by Aubrey de Vere, third Earl of Oxford (Leyland), but Cole, quoting Mille's *Catalogue of Honour* (p. 676), states that the original founder was Sir William de Cantelupe, whose daughter was married to the first Earl of Oxford.

in a very pretty taste, so as to make various squares, in the manner as most of our Cathedrals are paved at this present, with black and white marble," on some of the tiles were coats of arms. The pavement today in this part is of blue and red tiles, but not old ones, with here and there one ornamented with a pattern in biscuit colour. The outlying corners of the Chancel are paved with ordinary brick, as also is the south transept.

In Cole's time there was "in the N.E. pillar of the Tower a stairway to get at the bells." No trace of it can now be seen, nor does the pier look capable of having contained one. To get at the bells today you must mount a giddy spiral stair of iron which ascends from the vestry, and appears on the outside above its roof, encased in a little turret applied to the north face of the tower.

The rest of the church is described by Cole quite shortly. Of the important south aisle he only says that it is much broader than the northern one. The nave, he tells us, was divided from the aisles by three stone pillars on each side, against the bottom one on the south side was, as now, the stone font. The west door, that fine monument of early Norman work which some even have thought to be Saxon, is quaintly described as being "built in a very Gothic taste." But no doubt Cole uses the word Gothic as synonymous with primitive or rude.

The Church was regularly "pewed with very old oak pews with odd figures at the end of each of them" and some Gothic letters which he says he could not make out. No one has made them out to this day. It is not certain that all of them are letters, and it is quite possible that the order of the pews has been altered and so confused the rebus, if such ever existed. It would have been interesting to learn how many of the "odd figures" there were in his day; now there are but four remaining, and those extensively, though reverently, restored. There were "over the Pillars in the middle window of the Nave 2 Coats [of arms] on the S. side; but being so high and moreover a good deal disfigured with Dust, that, at least one of them, I can't make out who they belong to."

"Over the second Arch of the N. side of the Nave fr. y^e E."

hung "in a frame the King's Arms, and over them, G. II. On the walls" were "painted several Texts of Scripture."

Cole has a good deal more to say about the coats of arms on windows and tiles, which for want of space I must omit.

"In the entrance to the South Porch" lay "a very antique black marble Coffin stone, but much shattered and broke. Near the Door of the Church, in the same Porch," lay "another very old Sussex marble of the same Conical figure." The expression "conical" probably means wedge-shaped, and thus applied explains a reference to the chancel which otherwise would be obscure. "Under the window of its south wall" we are told, lay "a very old free-stone of a conical figure," leaning against the wall. This must of course be another coffin lid. These three stones doubtless belong to the early history of the church, they can hardly be later than the XIVth C. and are very probably much earlier. Perhaps they covered the coffins of some Prioresses of the nunnery, for it is said by Cole that at one time the church belonged to this institution. But it is by no means certain that Cole really knew anything about it.

The arched tomb in the wall of the south aisle has no inscription. It is coeval with the aisle itself and probably shelters the remains of its XVth C. founder. Cole makes no mention of it.

Such was the church about the middle of the XVIIIth C. I purpose now to trace the history of the north transept, and of the two chapels or chantries which lay to the east of it and on the north side of the chancel.

The blocked archways, by means of which these chapels once communicated with the chancel, are shown in the photograph (Plate II) taken from just within the south transept and looking at the N.E. corner of the choir through the screen. The stone column on the left is part of the N.E. pier of the tower, and the opening into the north transept was just to the left of this.

Considerable light on the fate of these chapels and of the north transept is shed by the papers discovered by Dr Palmer and mentioned at the beginning of this article. They consist of a combined plan and elevation illustrating some alterations

which it was proposed to carry out to this part of the church and to part of the north side of the nave, together with a detailed estimate of their cost. (Plates III and IV.)

The documents are not dated; but, as we shall see, they may be attributed with considerable probability to the year 1791. From the handwriting and paper¹ they have been thought by good judges of such things to belong to the latter half of the XVIIIth C. They must be considerably later than Cole's visit in 1742, because the chantry and transept were then standing, and the plan shows that when it was drawn, not only had these structures virtually vanished, but another building occupied their place, and this in its turn was already ripe to be swept away.

Painted on the east wall of the nave, on the plain space above the arch, in very large letters and, to emphasize them still more, surrounded by a bold circle, is a legend which says that "This Church was repaired 1820 by HENRY CHAMBERS and JOHN HILL, CHURCHWARDENS." Whatever this reparation which demanded so conspicuous a record may have been, it is hardly likely to be one with which we are now concerned.

Dr Palmer has searched the Faculty Books at Ely and sent me two entries more or less pertinent to our enquiry. The first is dated 1748, and grants a faculty to Zachariah Brooke, B.D.², to remove a building which stood in the churchyard on the north side of the church, with no connection with the latter and the use of which was unknown. It obviously does not refer to our building; the measurements do not correspond; the latter had wide access to the church, and moreover could not have come into existence and become ruinous within the six years which followed Cole's visit.

The second entry concerns us much more closely. It is dated 1791. It permits of alterations "so as to lay out a piece of ground now an aisle into the Churchyard, to fill up

¹ The water mark on the paper on which the plan is drawn is similar to that on an engraving of boys bathing by Bartolozzi (1728-1813) after a painting by Cipriani (1728-1785). I have however not been able to learn the date of publication of the engraving.

² See note at end.

the arch in the tower on the north with bricks and the old material, to make a new window on the north, and to make a new door through one of the arches." Nothing is said of the archway into the chancel; yet it can hardly be doubted that this faculty refers to the same alteration as the plan and estimate found by Dr Palmer, and we may therefore conclude that the latter were drawn up in 1791.

It has already been pointed out that at the time the plan was drawn the transept and the large chantry had virtually disappeared and given place to another building which it was then proposed to demolish. This building is shown on the plan. It was large, but probably not very substantially built, and of no great height. It was, as we shall see, very irregular in outline, and it is difficult to imagine what its roof was like. The smaller chapel is shown where Cole describes it, and was still the vestry. The new building seems to have appropriated the E. and N. walls of the large chantry, and to have included all the ground upon which this building and the neighbouring transept once stood. But the walls of the latter have vanished; and even that part of the new wall which is more or less on the site of the end wall of the transept is not exactly in the same line, or even parallel to it, but slopes obliquely when seen in plan. In addition the new building includes a large triangular space to the north of the eastern half of the aisle, extending westward almost to the door in its middle.

The estimate, Plate III, which is signed by Stephen Robinson, provides for pulling down an old wall 70 feet long together with the roof above it, for rebuilding the part of wall from the north door to the tower, making a new window glazed with crown glass, blocking up the two arches into chancel and tower respectively, making a door through one of them, plastering and finishing, the whole, exclusive of carriage of brick and lead to and from Walden, to cost £15.

One is astonished at the cheapness of the work; but the words "carriage of brick and lead to and from Walden" suggests that the builder may have claimed the lead, which must have been considerable in amount to roof so large a surface, as his perquisite. The new work does not seem to

have been carried out in brick after all, but rather, as we shall see, in clunch.

Plate IV is a photograph from the plan (now much discoloured) above referred to. The writing on the plan, which does not come out very clearly in the photograph, is as follows:

Chancel Arch to be fill ^d up	Belfry Arch to be fill ^d up	new window	old window
vestry	plan of the new wall 32 feet	North door	
plan of the old wall to come down 70 feet			

Let us now trace the wall of the building which was to be removed. Starting from the N.W. corner of the little chantry, or vestry as it then was, it at first runs northward for eight feet, then turns through a right angle, continuing westward for 20 feet in a line strictly parallel with the axis of the chancel. So far this wall seems to have corresponded with the E. and N. walls of the larger chantry, and either to be identical with them, or at least to have stood on their foundations.

But with the continuation of the wall westward it is different. It does not stand on an old foundation. That portion where it seems to correspond more or less with the end wall of the transept is, as I have said, curiously oblique, receding slowly further from the church as it goes westward, until it reaches what I think is the site of the N.W. corner of the transept, which probably extended northward beyond the chantry by about 3 feet. The obliquity of this part of the wall I attribute to the slovenliness of the builders, who, I suppose did not trouble to make an angle where the N.E. corner of the transept once was, but carried their wall straight from the N.W. corner of the chantry to the N.W. corner of the transept.

From what was probably the N.W. corner of the transept the wall ran diagonally, or rather at an angle of about 40° with the wall of the north aisle, until it joined the latter just to the east of the north door.

It is just this diagonal wall which is most puzzling. What was it for? Let us see: The plan shows that it was proposed

Estimate of the whole Expence of the proposed
Alteration at Ickleton Church

To take down the old walls and the Roof from the north Door
to the Vestry, and to rebuild Part of D., which is from the
north Door to the Closer according to the plan given in, to take
all the old Materials & to use what is good, and to make up with
New, to make a new Window & Glaze it with Crown Glass to
brick up the two Arches as the outside walls, & plaster over the
inside of D., with hair mortar answerable to the inside of the
Church, & to make a new Door through one of the Arches if
required. The above work to be completed, exclusive of the
conveyance of Brick & Lead, to & from Walden, for the Sum of
fifty Pounds. by me

Stephen Robinson

L. L. D.
15 " 0 " 0



to construct a new wall, 32 feet long, which should extend from the north door in the aisle to the tower. This new wall is shown to be exactly on the line of the wall of the eastern half of the aisle. Why was it necessary to build a new wall here? The only possible answer is that the old wall was ruinous or had actually disappeared. I think it more probable that it had been removed altogether, otherwise what possible use could there be for the triangular space between it and the new wall. Improbable then as it may appear, this large and irregular adjunct seems to have been widely open to the church—not to the chancel and tower only, through large Gothic arches, but to the nave itself through a gap which must have included at least a third of the wall of the north aisle.

Why was there this gap? One cannot believe that it was made intentionally, and can only surmise that the west wall of the transept, which we have seen to have been probably ruinous in 1742, fell and involved a great part of the wall of the aisle.

The use of the irregular building is obscure. I can find no reference to it; Dr Palmer has suggested that it may have been used as a school, and indeed we are told by Cole that the Duxford Chantry was so used in his time.

The new wall projected in Robinson's plan explains what was for a long time a puzzle to me, namely that the present wall of the north aisle corresponding to its easternmost bay, and extending from the door near its centre to the modern vestry, which now occupies the southern part of the north transept, should differ from the rest and be built, as no other part of the church is built, of large squared blocks of clunch.

It looks now by no means a modern wall (see Plate I), and indeed it has an appearance of venerable age. It is more or less covered with plaster, but here and there this is broken away and shows the blocks of clunch underneath. In the middle of the wall is a modern window, built in the style of the XIVth C. It is obviously copied from the windows of the opposite aisle, which have been restored within my own recollection; but unlike them contains no fragments of old work. It was built, as an inscription shows, in 1885.

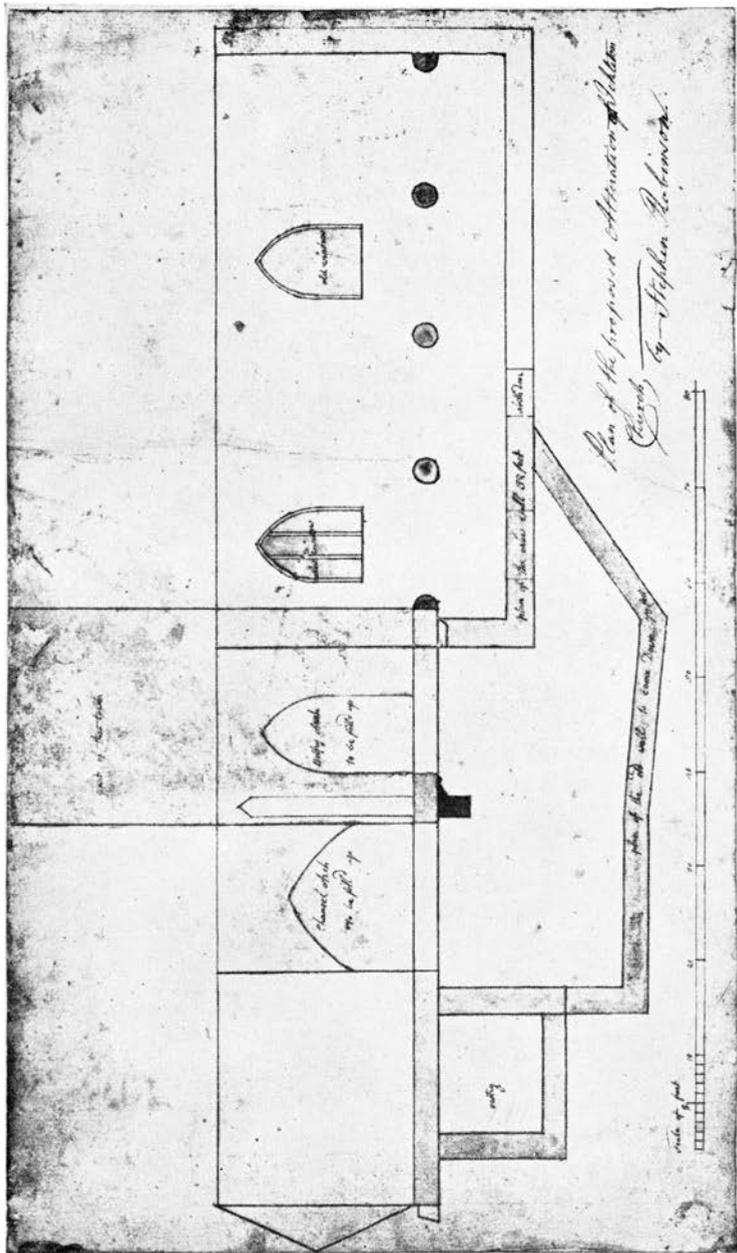


Plate IV

This clunch wall is without doubt the one built in accordance with Robinson's plan. Where it has turned round the corner and forms part of the east wall of the aisle, it joins on to what seems to be a remnant of the old west wall of the XVth C. transept abutting on the tower. It is curious to find the more recent wall much thicker than the earlier one.

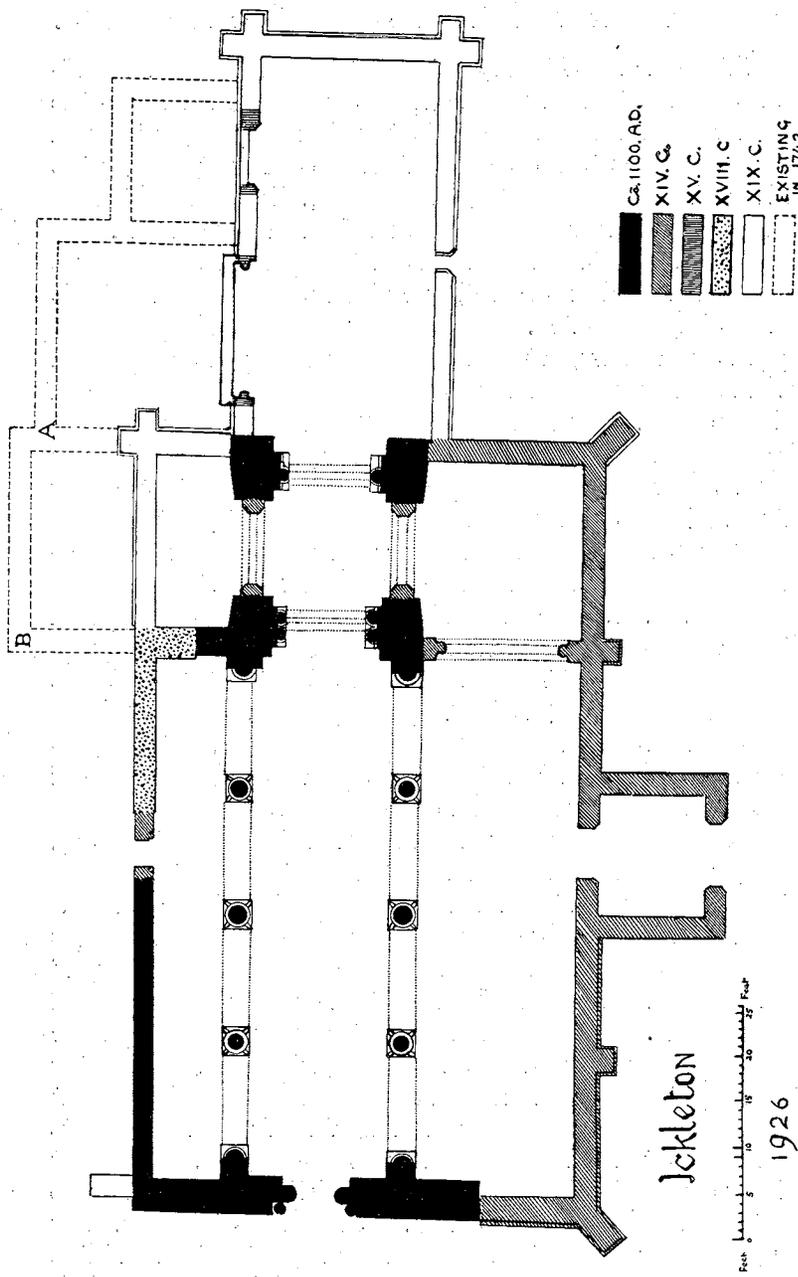
High up on the interior side of this part of the wall is a mediaeval head of an angel, very likely the one seen by Cole in the larger chantry.

The plan shows, in the proposed new wall where the modern window now is, another which was to be built in the Georgian Gothic style. It is represented as a pointed window of ample breadth with two mullions running without a break—not even a transom—straight up to the arched head of the window itself. Such a window was undoubtedly built, or one very much like it, but with a transom; for a window of this type with the addition mentioned is shown in a sketch made by the Rev. G. N. Maynard and preserved with manuscripts in the Museum at Saffron Walden.

Such then were the alterations carried out to the north side of Ickleton Church in the XVIIIth Century.

Robinson's plan enables me to reconstruct, with a considerable degree of confidence, the plan of the north side of the church as it was before the Reformation, and I have accordingly added to my ground plan of the church (Plate V), which is based upon my own measurements, the outline of the two chantries and the north transept which no longer exists.

In doing this I have assumed that the east and north walls of the large chantry from the chancel to the point marked "A" on the plan corresponded, in position at least, with parts of the walls which Robinson proposed to remove. I have further assumed that the transept projected further than the chantry and that the position of its end wall is indicated by the point where the oblique wall shown in Robinson's plan reaches its furthest extension from the rest of the church. This point I have marked "B" on my plan and, as I have said, I believe it to correspond with the N.W. corner of the transept. This is the largest assumption made in my reconstruction and it is based on the obliquity of part of the XVIIIth C. wall as



- Ca. 1100. AD.
- XIV. C.
- XV. C.
- XVIII. C.
- XIX. C.
- EXISTING IN 1742.

Jeklebon

0 5 10 15 20 25 27 Feet

1926
L. COBBETT

Plate V

already explained. It would make this transept some three or four feet longer than the other which is consistent with what Cole said of it.

Why was this transept longer than the other? The transepts formed no original part of the church, and were probably added in the XIVth C. The pointed arches by which they communicate with the tower have been cut through its Norman walls, and correspond in style with the work of this century. The windows of the south transept and the niche in its east wall are in this style, as is also the arch by which it communicates with the south aisle. We know from the Ely Register that the church was re-dedicated in 1351, and there can be little doubt but that the occasion of this dedication was the completion of the aisles and transepts, the architecture of which, as I have said, corresponds very closely with this date.

The chantries were built, as we have seen, in the Perpendicular style; and as there was another re-dedication of the church in 1452 it is probable that this was the date of their completion. They are therefore 100 years later than the south transept. The north transept may have been built at the same time as the chantries, but if, as seems more likely, it was built in 1351, is it unreasonable to suppose that it was elongated in accordance with the view that it ought to extend visibly beyond the larger chantry?

NOTE ON THE REV. ZACHARY BROOKE, D.D.,
VICAR OF ICKLETON, 1743-1768.

Cole has something to say about Zachary Brooke; Fellow of St John's, Chaplain to the King and Lady Margaret Professor of Divinity in this University, and whose son married the sister of Henry Gunning, the great gossip. Cole tells us that "he was empowered by a Dispensation of the Great Seal about November 1764, to hold the rectory of Fornset (sic) St. Mary and Fornset (sic) St. Peter, in Norfolk, to which he was lately presented by St. John's College, together with this vicarage." "I suppose," Cole goes on to say, "the Reason he chose to keep Ickleton is the design, long in hand,

to marry the late Mr. Hanchett's Daughter." "Dr. Brook," he says, "is now a candidate with Dr. Law Mr. of Peter House for the Lady —," unfortunately my copy of the MSS. at this point becomes almost illegible, and we can only guess at the result of the courtship. Further attempts to unravel the secret have only resulted in the unromantic discovery that "the Lady" for whom the Vicar of Ickleton and the Master of Peter House were rivals was the Lady Margaret Professorship of Divinity vacated recently by the resignation of Dr Newcome "Mr." of St. John's, who had held it no less than 38 years. Accordingly we read in Cole, "on Saturday at two o'clock in the Afternoon, came on in the Senate House of this University, the Election of a new Margaret Professor. The Electors present were 86 & after being solemnly sworn, they delivered in their Votes to the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Long senior Proctor, & Mr. Unwin senior Bachelor of Divinity standing in scrutiny, who upon examining the papers, found them

For the rev Dr. Brooke 49

For the rev Dr. Law 37

Whereupon Dr. Brooke was declared duly elected and admitted in the usual Forms, Margaret Professor of Divinity in this University." His name appears in the University Calendar under the date 1765.

He might, perhaps, a few days later, have become Master of St John's also, had it not been that he was unpopular in the University and belonged to the party of the Earl of Sandwich in opposition to that of the Duke of Newcastle (Winstanley).

He held the professorship twenty-three years, and died in 1788. He was buried, as we have seen, in the chancel of Ickleton Church beside the altar. On his tombstone is inscribed

Hic depositum quod mortale erat Zachariae Brooke S.T.P. Margaretæ apud Cantabrigienses lectoris atque hujus Parochiæ Vicarii. Diem obiit supremum augusti 7^{mo} die A.D. 1788 Aetatis Suae 75.

The inscription occupies only half the slab, as though the rest had been left for an inscription to his wife.

He was married to Miss Hanchett on Jan. 25, 1766 in the year following his election to the professorship.

His widow survived him twenty-four years, and died on April 12, 1812, and was buried at Ickleton at the age of 75. So she was twenty-four years younger than he. There is no inscription to her memory on her husband's tombstone, though, as we have seen, space had been left for it; but on the wall above is a circular memorial plaque commemorative of both him and her, but not saying where she was buried.

The Rectory of Forncett St Peter is a good house, pleasantly situated on high ground overlooking a marshy stream. The church is of unusual interest possessing a fine Saxon round tower with a very remarkable tall and narrow arch (16 ft. 6 ins. × 5 ft. 6 ins.) between tower and nave, and other Saxon features together with fine medieval oak benches.

Whether these things influenced the choice of Zachary Brooke, I do not know; but I am informed by his great-great-grandson the present Mr Zachary Brooke, Fellow of Gonville and Caius, that the Professor died at Forncett, where he seems to have resided for part of his time, for I am told by the present Rector, the Rev. T. J. Bentley of St John's College, that he signed the register in each of the twenty-four years that he held the living, and that there is a tradition there that he used to drive about in a high gig painted yellow.

THE EARLY IRON AGE IN ENGLAND AND WALES.

By CYRIL FOX, Ph.D., F.S.A.

(Summary of paper read 19 February, 1928.)

The discovery of a La Tène I brooch in a settlement site of the Early Iron Age in South Glamorgan, formed the starting point of a study of the distribution and typology of these brooches in Britain during the period 450–250 B.C.

The majority were found to be derived from southern England (chiefly Dorset and Wilts.), and they extended northwards as far as the East Riding of Yorkshire.

Findings in the Cambridge district pointed to movements of these brooch users into the Fens, while a group in the London area probably represented trade from the Continent rather than settlement.

The (typologically) earliest forms occurred, significantly enough, in the southern area, and it is probable that the occupation of Britain by Iron-using people, which commenced in the closing phase of the Hallstatt period, was mainly due to immigrants who landed at south coast ports and estuaries, and who gradually spread northwards to central England (Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire). The occupation of eastern Yorkshire may *possibly* have resulted from direct oversea invasion from Gaul.

The brooch distribution provided evidence of a hitherto unrecognised trade and culture route from the head waters of the Thames to the East Riding of Yorkshire along a well-defined geological zone, marked by Jurassic rocks, which extends from North Somerset and North Wiltshire, through Gloucestershire, Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire, Grantham and Lincoln to the Humber. The distribution not only of highly specialized La Tène II brooches but also of fine works of art of this and later phases of the La Tène period was shown to support this conclusion, and to emphasize the dominant importance of the route in question.

The investigations have thrown light on the causes of the marked cultural division between east and west in the period 100 B.C.-50 A.D. (La Tène III and IV) of the Early Iron Age in Britain. These cultural contrasts were illustrated on the screen, and the conclusion arrived at was that the newcomers, the Belgic peoples, did not to any great extent drive out and destroy an earlier La Tène civilization, but entered (in the first century B.C.) an area of Britain (East Anglia and Kent) in which this civilization had not been intensely developed: and that, furthermore, the La Tène I culture extending from Dorset and Wiltshire to Yorkshire in the manner indicated, retained and developed its characteristics in La Tène III and IV, being but little affected by the Belgic invasions. The traffic route along the Jurassic zone may then have been important as a convenient lateral communication along the whole eastern-facing front of what was, in the last century of independence, the older culture of the Iron Age in Britain, and may thus have materially contributed to the homogeneity observable in certain aspects of its art.

A VISITATION OF THE RELIGIOUS HOUSES
OF THE DIOCESE OF ELY IN A.D. 1373.

By ARTHUR GRAY, M.A.,
Master of Jesus College.

(Read 5 March, 1928.)

The facts relating to this visitation are given at length in the Register of Archbishop Wittlesey in Lambeth Library, pp. 152 following.

John de Barnet, Bishop of Ely, died June 7, 1373. Thomas de Arundel, afterwards Archbishop of Canterbury, was consecrated Bishop of Ely, April 9, 1374, but was not enthroned at Ely until April 20, 1376. During the vacancy of the see Archbishop Wittlesey issued a commission appointing Thomas de Wormenhale, LL.D., who was rector of Terrington, Norfolk, canon of Salisbury, prebendary of Chichester and next year (1374) became Master of Peterhouse, as his Official and Vicar in spirituals to visit and report on all benefices in the diocese including Religious Houses and Hospitals. The commission is given from Otford, Kent, and in the Register is erroneously dated June 5, i.e. two days before the Bishop's death.

A century before this, in November 1277, when Hugh Balsham was Bishop of Ely, the Archbishop, Robert Kilwardby, notified the Archdeacon of Ely of his intention of visiting the diocese in person. The visitation was actually carried out in the following December and January. Kilwardby was extraordinarily energetic in visiting the various dioceses of his province, and in the preceding year had personally visited the vast diocese of Lincoln. His itinerary from day to day is given in the *Vetus Liber* of the Archdeacon of Ely. Starting from Elsworth, a manor of the Bishop of Ely, on Dec. 11, in nine days he held visitations in nine different places. From December 20 to 30 he remained at Ely with the Bishop, and while he was there he visited Ely monastery and the Deaneries of Ely and Wisbech. From Dec. 31 to Jan. 3 he

lodged with the canons of Barnwell and inspected their house and that of the nuns of St Radegund. Between Jan. 4 and 7 he returned to his rounds in rural Cambridgeshire. A surprising programme for an old man to undertake in the depth of winter and in the miry roads of rural Cambridgeshire.

In the Introduction to his edition of the *Vetus Liber* Dr Feltoe follows the track of an energetic Archdeacon in a visitation which happened soon after that of Archbishop Kilwardby. Each day's itinerary is noted, and the starting place was evidently Cambridge. On the first day nine churches were inspected, and eight on the next: the total for seven days was 51 churches. The Archdeacon's business was mainly to report on church property and furniture, tithes, subsidies, etc. He visited no religious houses and had not the Archbishop's tedious business of listening to complaints of defective diet, gossip of petty scandals and irregularities, etc.

Archbishop Wittlesey's Commissary, Thomas de Wormenhale, carried out his duties in a more leisurely fashion, and if we may judge from the *comperta*, or evidence, which he collected, his investigations were not of a penetrating kind, nor do they throw much light on the conditions prevailing in the religious households of the time. It has to be remembered that the years about 1373 made a gloomy period in English history. Two years before this, in 1371, the Black Prince returned to England, a broken and dying man, and the long and costly war ended in 1374 in the final clearance of the English from all but a few places in France. Naturally the monasteries made grievous moan over the exactions to which they were subjected in those last years of the war.

Wormenhale began his investigations with the monastic and cathedral church of Ely on Saturday next following the Translation of St Thomas, Archbishop (July 7) and continued the examination until the next Tuesday. At all the religious houses each member was separately and privately questioned. It was alleged that the sacrist, John of Ely, did not attend to his duties, neglected to repair the church, and by his bad management had incurred debts amounting to £100. But John, and the Prior and others denied the article, and John was dismissed without reproof.

On Thursday and Friday in the same week there were visitations of parish churches in the city and Deanery of Ely, on the former day in the church of St Mary, Ely, on the latter in Sutton church.

After an interval the Benedictine nunnery of Chatteris was visited on Tuesday and Wednesday next after the feast of St James (July 25). Margaret Hotot was Abbess. Certain five of the nuns were charged with disobedience and with leaving the chapter house without the permission of the Abbess before the business of the chapter was ended. It was complained that the Abbess did not consult the sisterhood on important business and relied too much on the advice of a certain Edward Grengre: to which the Abbess replied that she did not fail to consult the wishes of the convent, and that the said Edward was an expert man of business whom she was glad to consult on matters that did not concern the convent. To a further allegation that she "subtracted" an annual sum of 10s. provided for the clothing of the sisters she made answer that the house was so burdened with tithes, subsidies, etc., that she could not help it, but hoped some day to make up the 10s. Too little bread and beer was another complaint: in future things should be better, said the Abbess.

On the following Friday the Hospital of St John, Cambridge was visited. William Deer was Master. It was found that the buildings from lack of repair were suffering "great ruin": also that the brethren did not make confession to the Master, as they were bound to do. These matters, the visitor pointed out, must be better attended to.

Next day the Nunnery of St Radegund was visited. Margaret Clanyle was Prioress. There was a long list of *comperta*. First it was alleged that the Prioress made her subordinate officials discharge payments beyond what was required by the custom of their offices and without assigning any reason. This the Prioress denied, but she was cautioned in future to explain to the officials the reasons for all expenditure required of them. Next she was charged with not finding priests to celebrate for various benefactors: she answered that the means of the house were not sufficient to sustain the said burdens. She was instructed to discharge these obligations

as soon as the fortunes of the house enabled her to do so. Then it was complained that she suffered the Refectory to remain without cover, so that in rainy weather the nuns were not able to take their meals there in common, as by rule they were bound to do. The Prioress replied that the Nunnery was so burdened with debts and taxation in these times that she had been unable to carry out repairs, but that she would do so as soon as possible. It was further alleged that she did not correct sister Elizabeth de Cambridge for withdrawing herself from divine service, and allowed friars of different orders, as well as seculars, to visit her at inopportune times and to converse with her, to the scandal of religion. The Prioress said that she had frequently corrected her. She was ordered in future strictly to correct her and chastise her for the faults alleged. It was also said that the Prioress was too easily persuaded to give permission to the Nuns to go outside the cloister. Furthermore sister Elizabeth de Cambridge was reported for making discord among the sisters and murmuring against correction and that she did not trouble to get up to attend mattins, as she was bound to do—a fault, I might observe, which 5½ centuries have failed to correct in attendance at St Radegund's church. Elizabeth denied the fact, but rather weakly added that, supposing she had done so, she had been corrected by the Prioress. She was warned to cease from murmuring and provoking discord, and to get up for mattins whenever she could. The severity of the visitor's judgment was no doubt tempered by the consideration that Elizabeth's father was that important local dignitary, Sir Thomas de Cambridge.

On the Wednesday following the day of St Peter ad Vincula (August 1) the Augustinian house of Anglesey was visited. William of Quy was Prior. There were no *comperta*.

Next day the Benedictine Nunnery of Swaffham was visited. Eva Wasteneys was Prioress. The only disorder noted was concerned with the Church services. From the time of their foundation the nuns had been used to follow the rule of St Benedict, as observed by the monks of Ely, in their day and night offices. Certain of the present and former nuns had introduced antiphons, verses and collects of various

saints in the services, with the result that the due and accustomed order was either negligently performed or sometimes omitted. Direction was given that in the ordinary services the Benedictine rule should be restored, and that in future the observances which had been introduced should be left to private devotions.

The visitation of the Augustinian canons of Barnwell took place next day (Friday). Ralf de Norton was Prior. Here and at the Benedictine nunnery of Icklington, which was examined on the following Monday, there were no *comperta*.

After the Icklington visit the Commissary did not resume his task until the last week in September. Then on the Monday after St Matthew's day (Sept. 21) he examined the Benedictine house at Thorney, of which John de Depyng was Abbot. Apart from a complaint that the Abbot was lax in discipline and given to favouritism the grievances were of the usual financial and administrative kind. The Abbot was said to have "subtracted" the rent of the conventual manor of Whittlesea, and he urged in reply the usual reason that the burden of tithes, subsidies, etc. prevented payment and said that he was ready to pay in future. Also it was alleged that he neglected to repair the hall of *minucio*, i.e. the place where the monks underwent blood-letting at stated intervals; to which the Abbot replied that though that was no business of his, yet for the sake of peace and mutual goodwill he was willing to do the repairs at his own charges. The visitor decreed that such repairs were not rightly chargeable to the Abbot, and were only to be done by him as an act of grace.

On the Thursday after the Thorney visit the Commissary began an investigation, prolonged for several days following, about a poor and obscure sisterhood at Long Stow. The evidence was taken in St Mary's church outside Trumpington Gates. In 1278, when king Edward I made the general inquisition known as the Hundred Rolls, there existed at Stow an almshouse or hospital, called the New Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary, for the relief of the poor. It had been established by a certain Walter, vicar of Stow, and endowed with no more than two acres of land next Ermine Street. The sisterhood of the foundation were clothed in russet, i.e.

not in the black Benedictine habit. The foundation lapsed before the Reformation and hardly anything is known of it. Joan of Whaplode, dwelling in the household, was charged before the Commissary with having assumed without authority the Benedictine habit, with usurping the title of Prioress of the house without canonical election; with taking on herself the administration of the goods of the house and dissipating them by her careless control. Joan admitted that she had assumed the Benedictine habit without authority, but alleged that she had been duly elected Prioress by her sisters, and that by the privileges of the house the election required no confirmation. She further stated that, so far from dissipating the household goods, she had increased them, so that their value was £120. At a later interview she produced certain documents with seals attached, which however did not satisfy the Commissary, who remained convinced of her "naughtiness," *malicia*, and committed the administration of the household effects to John, vicar of Bourn. The report ends with a statement that the punishment of Joan would be considered on a later day. Joan, if her word is to be taken, seems to have been a practically-minded woman capable of making a little go a long way, but intolerant of clerical supervision and just as ignorant of canon law as a sensible housekeeper would be likely to be.

A WALL DECORATION AT LINTON.

By W. M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A.

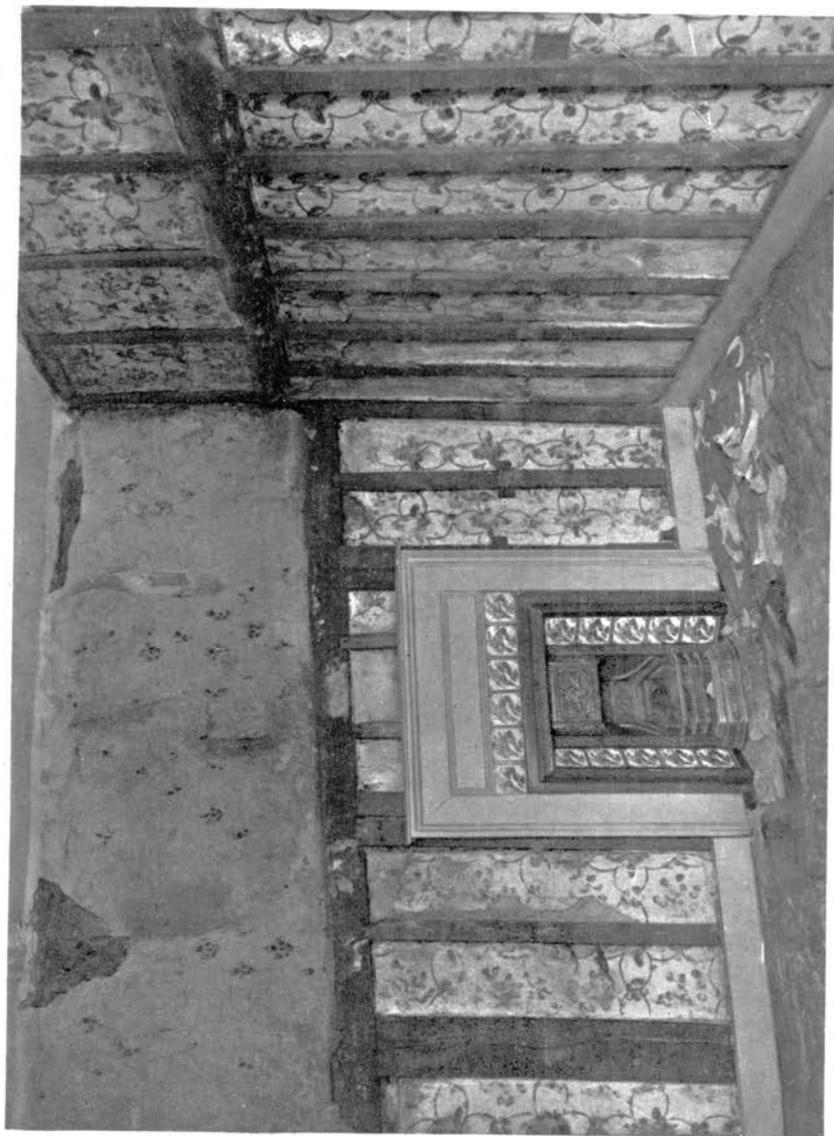
(Read 5 March, 1928.)

The wall-painting here illustrated was uncovered for a few hours in April 1926. No examination of it was made by an expert, as there was only time for these two photographs to be taken before the walls were repapered. The decoration consists of a conventional design painted with a brush on the plaster alone, no portion of it extending to the beams or wall-posts. The rough studs were added later to support canvas and wall-paper. And the decoration still exists under the modern wall-paper, as seen in the photographs. The house, in which the decoration occurs, belongs to Mr Septimus Holttum, and is now a private house attached to a grocer and draper's shop. It forms part of a messuage known in the seventeenth century as the "Griffin," and in the following century as the "Crown." The greater part of the messuage stands on the site of the medieval market-place of Linton, and the part of the house containing the decoration is marked on a plan of Linton made in 1600.

The photographs have been seen by several antiquaries who have made a study of wall decoration, and by one of these the work has been dated as of the first half of the seventeenth century; but the opinion of Professor Tristram and Mr Martin Hardie of the Victoria and Albert Museum was that it belonged to the eighteenth century.

Two valuable papers on this kind of wall decoration appear in the *Transactions of the Essex Arch. Soc.* N.S. Vols. XII, p. 23 and XVII, p. 221.

Traces of similar decoration have been seen in other parts of the house; so when further stripping of successive layers of wall-papers takes place in other rooms, more discoveries may be made.



John Bak, Sons & Danielsson, Ltd.

PLATE I. AT "THE GRIFFIN", LINTON, CAMBS.

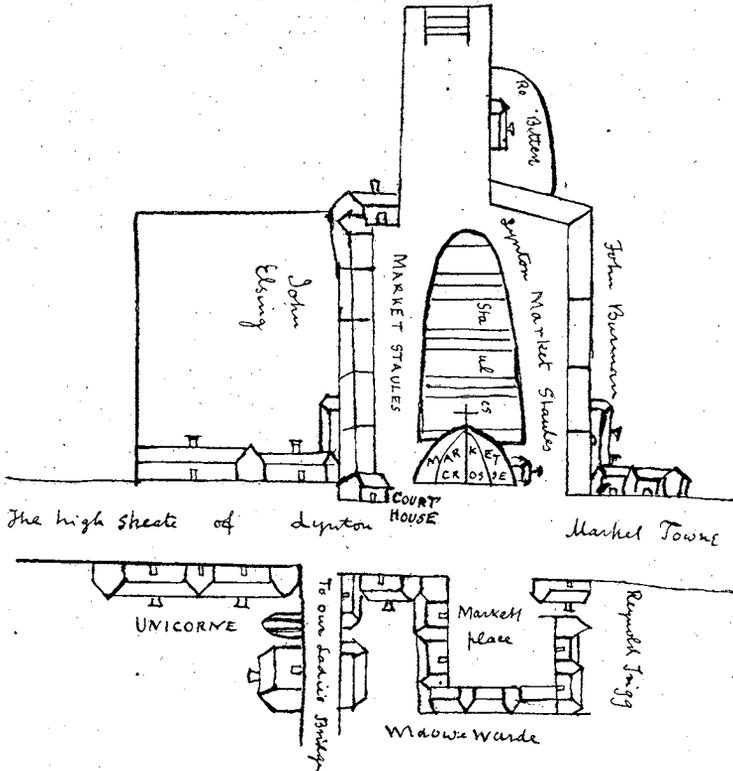


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PLATE II. AT "THE GRIFFIN", LINTON, CAMBS.

PLAN OF LINTON MARKET PLACE.

The wall decoration is in the part of John Burman's house, which abuts on the High street opposite the word "Market." That part of the house which stands at right angles to the High street is still existing. The plan is copied from a map now in Pembroke college treasury, entitled "Lynton town

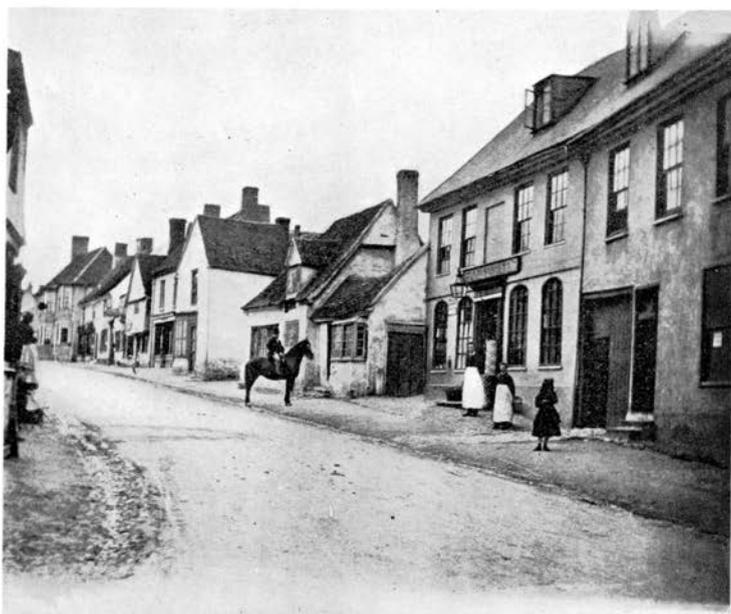


Plan of the Market Place at Linton, about 1660

mapp, 20^o Maii 1600, and 42^o Eliz. Reg., with the whole manour of Bergham alias Berkham in the said towne of Lynton, contained in five sheet or leaves of paper on both sides as hereafter you may perceive in manner following; per R. M. ar. domini dicti manerii."

Robert Millicent's map is a mixture of the two maps he mentions, and is bound up with a survey of the manor of Barham. The two maps are on different scales, Linton being on the larger scale. Both the originals are now lost, but William Cole saw the Linton map in 1769. There are field books to this and later maps of the unenclosed parish of Linton in Pembroke treasury, but the maps cannot be found.

The street views, Plate III, show the old Crown, *olim* Griffin, as it appeared, *A* about 1874, and *B* about 1880. The wall decoration is on the first floor, in a room lighted by a window, only a portion of which is shown, on the extreme right of *A*. This room being above one on the ground floor which has an oblong white patch in it, probably a notice "To Let." Beyond the door of this house, is the entrance to the courtyard of the inn. Further on are the four round-headed windows of the grocer's shop. Again to the left are two cottages which stand out into the road beyond the line of the Crown. The nearer of these cottages was occupied in 1874 by a cobbler named Scrivener, and the further and larger one by Mrs Reeves who kept a children's school. These cottages seem to stand on the site of the "Market Cross" in the plan. Beyond them runs Market Lane, on the other side of which a house projects further into the road than the two cottages. This was called the old manor house until it was pulled down about 1880. It is shown on the plan as projecting beyond the line of the other houses. Continuing up the street a shop front is seen and a projecting gable, with a cottage on the far side; these two latter have been rebuilt, but the other houses shown still remain.



A



B

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PLATE III. THE OLD CROWN, & MANOR
COURT HOUSE, LINTON.

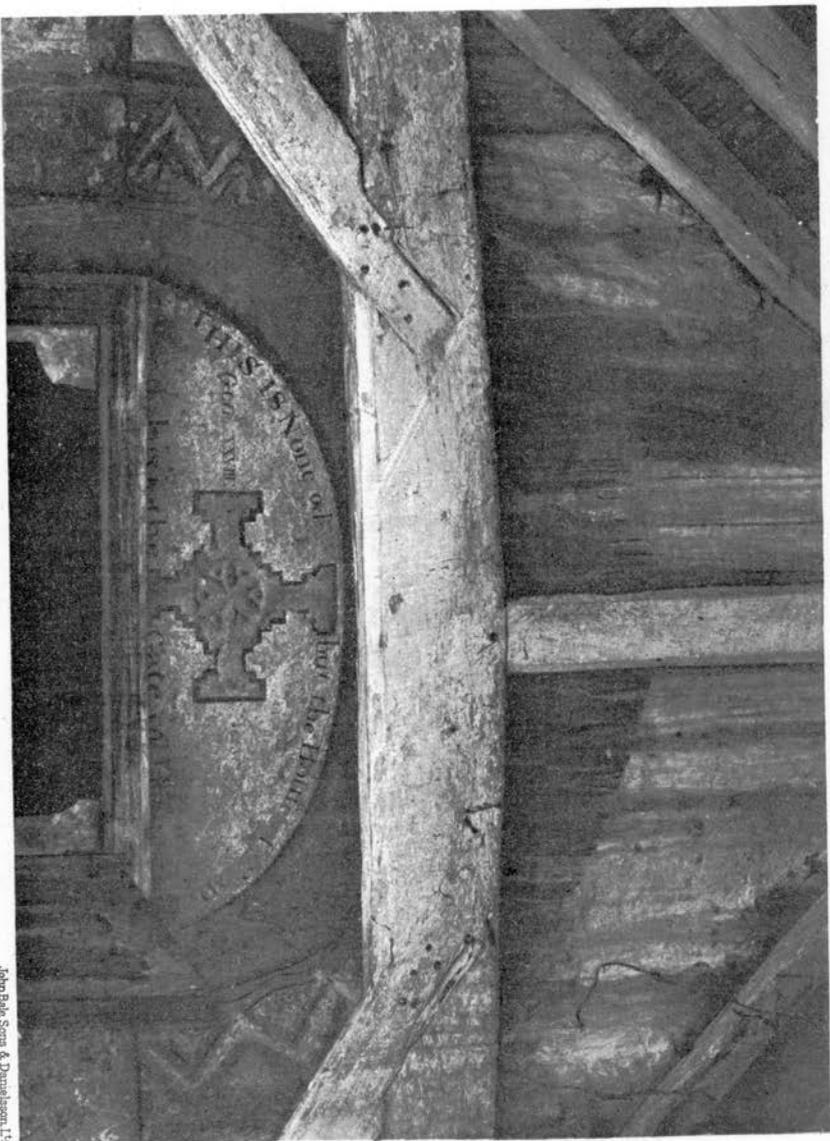


PLATE I. THE TYMPANUM IN THE NORMAN DOORWAY,
ST JOHN'S CHURCH, DUXFORD, CAMBS.

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THE TYMPANUM AT ST JOHN'S CHURCH,
DUXFORD, CAMBS.

By LOUIS COBBETT, M.D., F.R.C.S.

(Read 5 March, 1928.)

The tympanum in the south doorway of St John's Church, Duxford, is of unusual design, and shows, I think, affinities with the art of the Anglo-Celtic Church of Northumbria which flourished in the VIIth and VIIIth centuries. It is figured in Keyser's book of Norman tympana, a work which does not exclude pre-Conquest examples.

The church itself is partly Norman, and the tympanum is set in an arch of the XIIth century. It does not, however, fit that arch, and though round above, only partially fills the semicircular space in which it lies. Moreover, it is composed of a different stone; for while the archway is made of clunch, the tympanum is of some oölite, said by Mr King of the Sedgwick Museum to resemble Barnack. It is clear therefore that it was not made for the arch under which it now rests, and is probably older than the XIIth century.

A text beginning "THIS IS None other but the House of GOD" has been painted, probably in the XVIIIth century, round the margin of the stone. At the same time, no doubt, a broad black outline was painted round the cross. Otherwise it is plain. The cross occupies nearly the whole width of the stone from top to bottom. It is in low relief, raised perhaps $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ of an inch above the rest of the surface.

The most notable thing about it is its pronounced rectangularity. Its equal arms end in T-shaped extremities, in each of the re-entrant angles of which is a little square step, and in the angles made by the junction of the arms of the cross in the middle is a set of four similar steps. The cross is rudely drawn; its outline is defective in symmetry. It is not surrounded by any sort of frame.

In the centre is a circular rosette of six radiating leaves,

with pellets between their pointed extremities. This is well and accurately cut.

I think it will be conceded that the cross itself has a very un-Norman appearance. You may look in vain in Keyser's book, or in other books which deal with Norman architecture, without finding a parallel to it. I refer to the cross as defined by its outline.

As to the rosette at its centre—that, I admit at once, looks Norman enough. Similar rosettes are common on XIth and XIIth-century tympana, as at Bredwardine (Hereford) and Sturmer (Essex), where there are pellets between the leaves, Broadwell (Gloucester), Downe St Mary (Devon) and the Monk's doorway at Ely. Surrounded by serpents with two heads six-leaved rosettes occur on no less than nine fonts in Cornwall, including Altarnon and Launceston, and at Bratton in Devon. Without serpents they are found on the fonts at Mēvagissy (Cornwall), Bickington (Devon) and Newenden (Kent), a more elaborate example may be seen on the font at Toftrees (Norfolk)¹. At Great Washbourn in Gloucestershire is a tympanum with no less than five six-leaved rosettes with pellets between the leaves². Six-leaved rosettes with pellets also occur on a window shaft, and on the capital of a pillar that once supported the vaulting of the chancel of St Mary Magdalene's Chapel on Stourbridge Common, Cambridge.

With examples so common in Norman work, then, and several of them close at hand, the rosette in the middle of the Duxford Cross might be held to stamp it as XIIth-century work, and stress might be laid on the pellets as strengthening this view. I do not feel certain that the cross is not Norman, but there are other possibilities, as we shall see.

That a rosette of this kind is not conclusive evidence of Norman date is shown by its presence in much earlier work. Rosettes, without pellets indeed, but similar in other respects to the Duxford example, occur in Anglo-Saxon art, where they were probably copied from Roman originals. Examples

¹ F. Bond, *Fonts and Font Covers*. Illustrations of all these fonts mentioned, except Newenden, may be seen in this book.

² Keyser's *Norman Tympana*, Fig. 13.



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PLATE II. FROM THE TYMPANUM, DUXFORD.

may be seen, associated with interlaced ornament, on the base of the West Cross at Kilkieran, Ireland¹ (Fig. 1).

Another, with elaboration of detail between the ends of the petals, occurs on a cross at Cladh, Bhile, Ellam, near Ardri-shaig, in Scotland. They occur on several of the cross slabs in the Isle of Man and are figured in Kermodé's *Manx Crosses*. One of these, shown

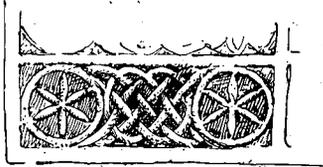


Fig. 1. Kilkieran, Ireland

in his Plates X and LXVI, is accompanied by Hiberno-Saxon lettering which he attributes to the VIIIth or IXth century. Rosettes with six, or a larger number of petals, occur in the centre of several of the Northumbrian crosses figured in Collingwood's book², as at Thornhill (Dumfriesshire), Hexham, Lastingham, Dearham, etc. Other Northumbrian crosses have pellets at their centres, as at Heysham and Lancaster, but none has pellets between the leaves of a rosette. On a bronze latchet from Newry, Ireland, is a six-leaved rosette with groups of three pellets between the leaves³.

Rosettes without pellets are rather common on Roman altars in Britain (e.g. Birrens and Rutcheste) and tombstones (Lincoln). An eight-leaved variety is found stamped on a piece of silver from the Coleraine hoard which is associated approximately with coins of 400-408 A.D.

But after all, rosettes of this kind are almost universal. Are they not the first kind of ornament to be made by anyone who becomes possessed of a pair of compasses? One such design has even been found at Hissarlik and another recently on a seal in the prehistoric Indian city of Mohenjo-Daro.

Pellets are of course common objects in Norman art. But they are not infrequent in Saxon work. There are rows of them on the Acca Cross, and, as Baldwin Brown points out, pellets are "common in Irish ornamentation and occur carved

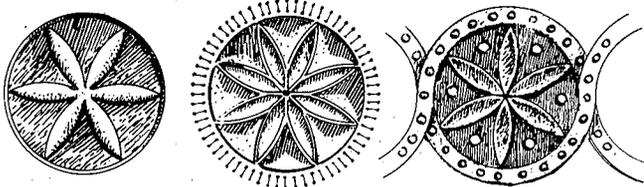
¹ Champney's *Irish Ecclesiastical Architecture*, p. 89.

² *Northumbrian Crosses of the pre-Norman age*. W. G. Collingwood, 1927.

³ *Brit. Mus. Gd. to Anglo-Saxon Antiquities*, p. 132.

in stone where no Norman influence can be traced¹." He gives several examples in Irish churches. They occur also on scaettas.

But after all it is pellets placed between the arms of a six-rayed star, or the leaves of a rosette, that now concern us, and it must be confessed that examples are rare outside Norman work, where they are very common. They occur however in the East. Examples may be found in early Palestinian ossuaries, now in the British Museum, and on the Epitaph of Anoup which belongs to the early Coptic school of Egypt. There is one such pelleted rose in a church at Behiok in Syria which Cattaneo attributes to the VIIIth century² (Fig. 2).



Roman Tombstone,
Lincoln

Coleraine
Horde, Ireland

Behiok, Syria

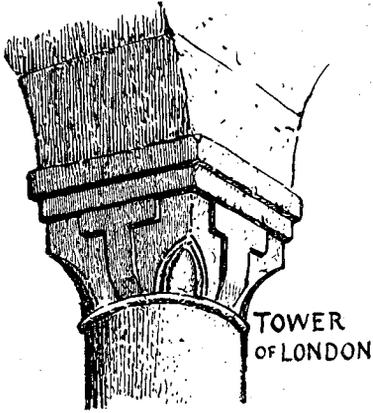
Fig. 2

Let us now consider the cross apart from the rosette at its centre. Its chief characteristic, as we have seen, is its rectangularity, and, particularly, the employment of little square steps, one or more in each of its re-entrant angles.

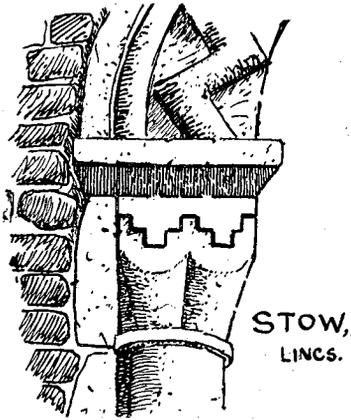
We have said that the cross does not look Norman. The Normans did, indeed, at first use elementary ornament, much of which was rectangular, consisting of billets, and the like; and not infrequently a rude sort of fret may be seen round an arch; there is one on the rim of a font at Hereford, and another round the restored west doorway of the Round Church, Cambridge. There is even, at Willersley, Herefordshire, a lintel on which is a design of four concentric squares,

¹ *The Arts of Early England*, Vol. v, p. 172.

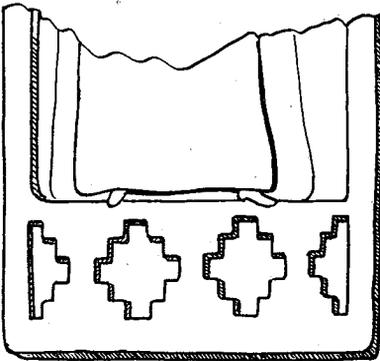
² *Architecture in Italy from the Sixth to the Eleventh Century*, p. 88.



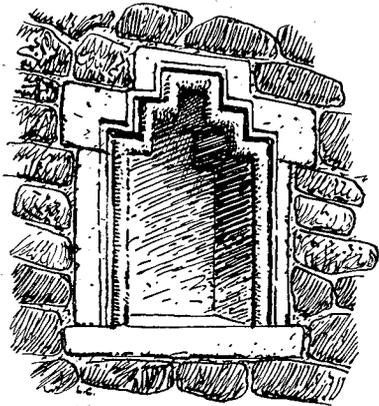
TOWER
of LONDON



STOW,
Lincs.



DEERHURST, GLOS.



KILKENNY

associated with an eight-petalled rose¹. In early days they employed the Tau on some of their capitals as in the chapel in the Tower of London (Plate III).

There is a double Tau on the caps of the angle shafts of the doorway of Stow in Lincolnshire, which Professor Baldwin Brown considers to be post-Conquest in date though built partially in the Saxon manner (Plate III).

On the other hand stepped ornament, while rare in Norman work, occurs, as Baldwin Brown points out, in various connections in Saxon work of all periods. It may be seen at Deerhurst (Gloucester) in a church showing Danish influence and attributed to the early part of the Xth century. There it occurs, both in the cap of the jambs and pier of the famous double angular-headed opening in the west wall of the nave, and in the lower part of the border of a bas relief of the Virgin built into the middle wall of the tower and visible to one entering the latter through the west doorway (Plate III). In the early Saxon Church at Bradford-on-Avon is preserved a large stone, believed to have been part of an altar, or the reveal of a doorway, and on it is a pattern in part composed of spirals like a reduced version of that on the well-known font at Deerhurst, and in part of numbers of little Greek crosses, each enclosed in a diamond-shaped recess with four steps on each of its sides².

The love of angularity in ornament, as exhibited in steps, key patterns or frets is, however, more particularly characteristic of the Celtic Church of Ireland and Scotland. In Romilly Allen's great work on *The Early Christian monuments of Scotland* are innumerable examples from grave slabs and crosses³. It is used to a lesser extent in Anglian Art.

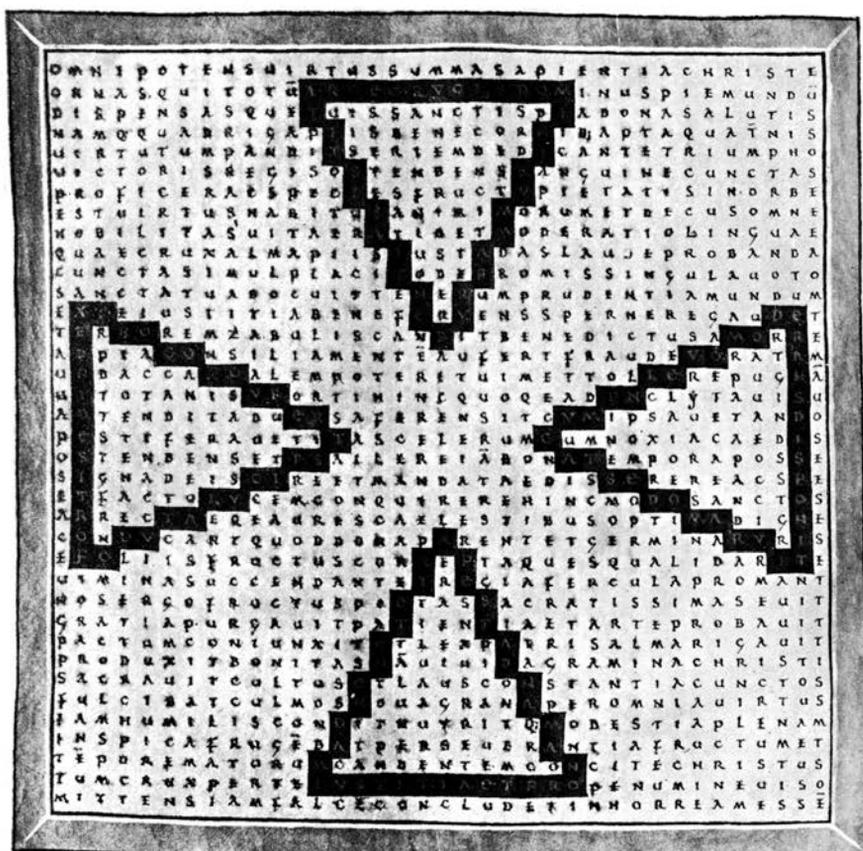
In the Book of Kells elaborated rectangular spacing is freely used for dividing up the pages into panels, and in one instance this framework takes the form of a cross with T-shaped extremities⁴. A similar use of this kind of cross occurs

¹ Keyser's *Norman Tympana*, Fig. 27 b.

² Illustrated in G. F. Browne's *Theodore and Wilfrith*, p. 270.

³ See Part I, pp. 308-62, particularly p. 324.

⁴ Fol. 129 v.



John Bale Sons & Darvellson, Ltd

PLATE IV. FROM RABANUS, "DE LAUDE CRUCIS".

in the Lindisfarne Gospels¹. In both books step ornament is not infrequent, in the latter a central panel is entirely filled with it, and it is freely used in a Durham psalter of the late VIIth century.

My attention has been called by Professor Minns to a Saxon MSS. in the Trinity College Library², attributed by Dr M. R. James to the Xth century, on the pages of which are many different forms of cross painted over the whole page of writing. One of these crosses, without a centre but with many-stepped arms, is shown in Plate IV.

The Irish very early showed a love of angular ornament, witness the rude key pattern on the pre-Christian stone at Turoe and that on the somewhat similar object found in the churchyard at Conwal. The standing stone at Glencolumbkille near the west coast of Donegal is another example. On it is carved a sort of triple cross, in outline reminding one somewhat of one of the Saxon grave slabs at Peterborough³ and consisting of three squares, divided into rectangular panels, joined by a vertical shaft⁴.

The Duxford Cross is no doubt derived from that type, the arms of which end in a transverse bar like a crutch, sometimes called the Cross Potent. Crosses of this kind are not infrequent on Merovingian coins of Gaul. They are then often placed over a globe. Of such crosses surmounting a globe Cabrol says that wherever they are found they are evidence of great antiquity, and he assigns them to the latter part of the VIth or the beginning of the VIIth century⁵. One such cross, but without the globe, occurs on an Anglo-Saxon gold coin⁶.

Crosses of this shape are found carved on early Irish stones. There are two in the vicinity of the primitive oratory on the island of Cruach Mac Dara, off the west coast of Ireland. The

¹ Fol. 138 v.

² Rabanus, "De Laude Crucis." Lib. ref. no. B. 16, 3.

³ C. F. Fox, *Proc. C.A.S. N.S.* No. 23, Pl. III.

⁴ Champney's *Irish Ecclesiastical Architecture*, Pls. 30 and 35.

⁵ *Dict. d'Archéol. Chrét. etc.* col. 3157.

⁶ Figured by Baldwin Brown in *The Arts of Early England*, Vol. III, No. 8, opp. p. 69. There are others also. On one piece the six-petalled rosette occurs. *L.c.* Pl. II, p. 65.

centre of one of these is a square and includes a circular boss. In upper quarters of both these crosses are pellets and in the lower are representations of serpents¹.

A simple modification of this type of cross is one which has square extremities and often a square at the centre as well. It is very common in Scotland and the North of England.

Romilly Allen figures a wheel-cross with arms of this shape carved on a small beach pebble which is preserved in the church at Iona². A good example occurs at St Andrews on an altar tomb covered with figure sculpture and interlaced ornament³, and this author enumerates no less than twelve examples in Scotland of this type of cross mounted on a shaft⁴. Some of these have a circular ornament within the square centre.

There is a grave slab at Jarrow⁵ with a raised cross of this kind, and another was found under the floor of the porch at Monkwearmouth, with an inscription showing that it marked the grave of a priest named Hereberecht, and which Baldwin Brown thinks may belong to a period near that of the founding of the Monastery⁶. Collingwood however believes them to be later.

At Kirkdale Church, near Kirby Moorside, in what was once Deira, was found some years ago a stone slab with a raised cross of the type we are now considering carved on it. In the panels between the arms is very beautiful spiral ornament⁷. Bishop Browne tells us that when it was first dug up there were runes visible in the four angles of the cross, and that they read "Kununc Oithilwalde," i.e. "to King Ethelwald." The runes have now all but disappeared, but careful drawings of them were made at the time. This Ethelwald was presumably

¹ F. J. Bigger, *Journ. Roy. Soc. of Antiquaries of Ireland*, Vol. vi, 5th Series, pp. 109, 110. 1896.

² *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, Part III, p. 405.

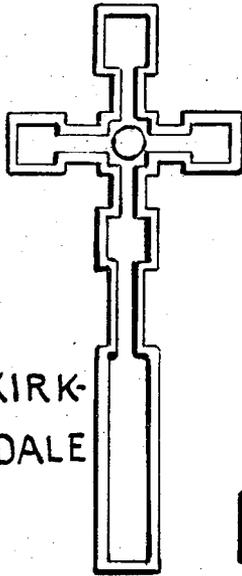
³ *Ibid.* Pl. XXII, opp. p. 352.

⁴ *Ibid.* Part II, p. 49.

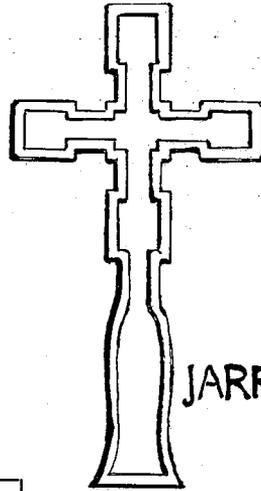
⁵ Bp G. F. Browne, *The Conversion of the Heptarchy*, p. 207.

⁶ G. Baldwin Brown, *The Arts in Early England*, Vol. v, p. 70 and Pl. VIII, opp. p. 69.

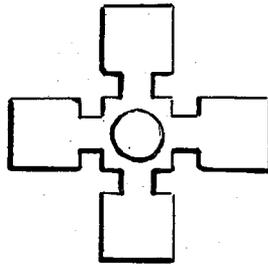
⁷ Bp G. F. Browne, *l.c.* opp. p. 151. Collingwood (*Northumbrian Crosses*, 1927, p. 17) thinks the slab "popularly ascribed to Cedd" "at least three hundred years later than the bishop," and the Ethelwald stone "with its late Anglian scrolls" "a hundred years later than the King."



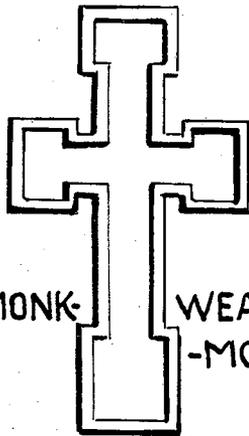
KIRK-
DALE



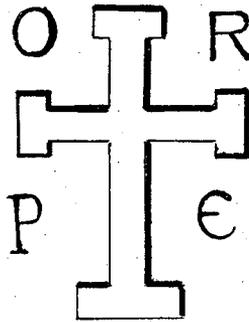
JARROW



S^t ANDREWS



MONK-
WEAR
-MOUTH



O R
P E
BIRTLEY

the last King of Deira, 651–655, son of Oswald and patron of Cedd. For him Cedd founded a monastery at Lastingau, which is thought to be the modern Lastingham, not far from Kirby Moorside. Browne has suggested that another slab found at Kirkdale may mark the grave of Cedd, who is known to have died at Lastingham, but its interlaced ornament is very different from the spiral pattern on the Ethelwald stone (see Plate V).

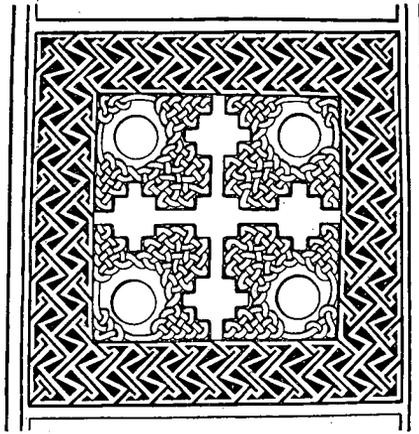


Fig. 3. Rosemarkie

Copied by permission from *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*

Still another cross of this type, but cut into the stone, is to be found at Birtley, North Tyne¹. A cross with hammer-shaped ends, the upper limb of which terminates in what looks like a bishop's crook, but which is no doubt intended for the letter Rho, may be seen on an early Christian tombstone of great antiquity at St Just in West Cornwall².

There is a stepped cross rather like the Duxford example on a panel on the back of the Cross No. 1 at Rosemarkie, Scotland³ (Fig. 3).

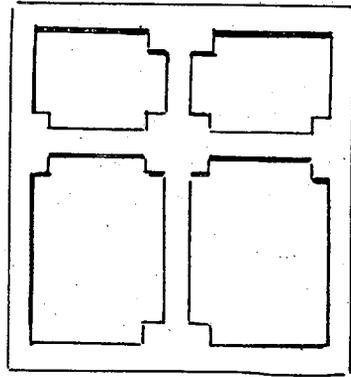
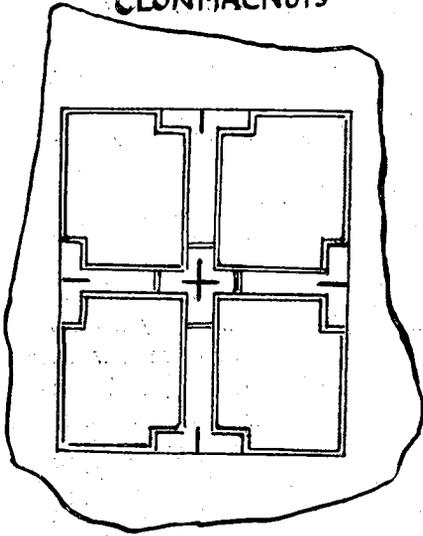
But the closest parallel to our Duxford cross is to be found on some grave slabs which were dug up at Hartlepool in 1833. A monastery was founded there in 640 under the influence

¹ G. B. Brown, *l.c.* opp. p. 69.

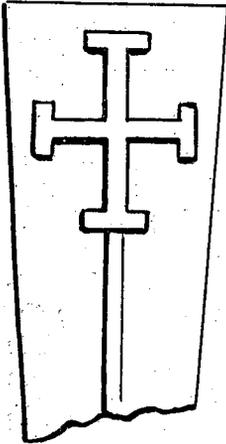
² *Ibid.* Part III, opp. p. 36.

³ *The Early Christian Monuments of Scotland*, Part III, p. 66 and Pl. VII, opp. p. 64.

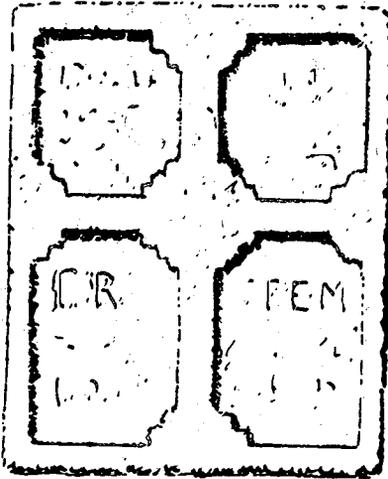
CLONMACNOIS



HARTLEPOOL LOST STONE



COFFIN LID
OAKINGTON, CAMBS
XIII. C.



HARTLEPOOL No 5

of Aidan, and had as its first abbess Heiu, a native of Ireland, and it was from Hartlepool that Hild went to Whitby. It was abandoned as an abbey in 800.

The stones, which are quite small, no bigger than a good-sized book, were found, some flat, under the heads of bodies which lay north and south, and others, with crosses and inscriptions, over their heads.

The inscriptions are between the arms, written in Runic and Hiberno-Saxon letters, and consist of "Orate pro" followed by various names.

Two of the figures shown in the illustration represent the Hartlepool crosses. One is now lost, and known only from a drawing. The other is worked in relief, and is so much worn away that it is difficult to make out its outline precisely; enough, however, remains in places to show that the centre and ends of the cross are stepped like those of the Duxford example, but unlike the latter the lower limb of the cross is a little longer than the others, and the cross itself is enclosed in a rectangular frame. On the panels between the arms is an inscription. A faithful photograph of this stone is given by Baldwin Brown¹, and from this the drawing shown in Plate VI was made. In the *British Museum Guide to Anglo-Saxon Antiquities* (p. 122) is an outline drawing of this stone which shows a cross with stepping exactly like that in the Duxford example, and, in the panels between the arms of the cross, the Latin inscription in Hiberno-Saxon lettering—Orate pro Ediluini, Orate pro Uermund et Torhtsuid.

Several of the Hartlepool slabs show crosses set in rectangular frames, very like No. 5, but with a circle for the centre and semicircular extremities at the ends of their unequal arms. Crosses similar to the above, but carved on slabs rounded above and doubtless intended to be set upright, have been found at Aidan's Church at Lindisfarne²; and also at Clonmacnois in Ireland³.

¹ *The Arts in Early England*, Vol. v, Pl. VII.

² C. R. Peers, "The Inscribed and Sculptured Stones of Lindisfarne," *Archaeologia*, No. 74.

³ See Champney's *l.c.* Pls. 33 and 34. Prof. G. B. Brown gives illustrations of these and similar crosses found in Ireland. *l.c.* Pl. VII, opp. p. 67 and p. 80. He considers this type of cross to be Teutonic in origin.

Collingwood questions whether these and the Hartlepool "pillar stones" really belong to the monks and nuns of St Hilda's Abbey. He points out that at Hexham, which was destroyed by the Danes in 875, there are several crosses which "cannot possibly be pre-Danish," and he regards them as "Memorials of burial on a ruined site simply because it was hallowed by association, and not because there was a church in working order" on the spot at the time. He thinks that the Lindisfarne and Hartlepool slabs may be of this kind; and he would assign them to some time in the IXth century, when there were Danish or Norse kings both in York and Ireland¹.

However this may be, and I am not able to judge, our Duxford tympanum has Northumbrian or Celtic affinities. Its type may be traced to Hartlepool, and thence with some probability to Ireland. It stands alone, so far as I know, in this part of England. It is possible therefore that it is a stone, dating from the VIIth, VIIIth or perhaps early IXth century, re-used, and that it once belonged to some old Celtic church which looked for its artistic inspiration to the North rather than to Canterbury. Improbable as this may seem we must recognise that the influence of the Celtic Church was not confined to Northumbria, but penetrated to Mercia and East Anglia.

From Lindisfarne came Chad and Cedd, two brothers. The former founded the Bishopric of Lichfield, and the latter was for a time bishop of Essex. Meanwhile the Irishman Fursey had come to East Anglia and had built a Christian monastery within the deserted walls of a Roman fortress, believed by some to be Burgh Castle in Suffolk, "thus bringing the Irish Element into the Christianising of that region."

And though the Celtic Church of Northumbria lasted but thirty years, namely from the battle of Heavensfield in 634, when Oswald defeated Cadwella the ally of Penda the heathen King of Mercia, to the Synod of Whitby, 664, when Wilfred and his friends handed the infant Church, which had hitherto looked to Iona for its inspiration, over to Rome and Colman the bishop and many of his clergy went back to Ireland,

¹ Collingwood, *l.c.* p. 10 et seq.

Celtic art was not thereby extinguished in the north but continued to flourish until it was modified by the Danes in the IXth and Xth centuries.

There is nothing improbable then in the suggestion that the Church of Northumbria in the VIIIth or early IXth century may have extended its influence even to Duxford, and the possibility of the tympanum belonging to this period is not excluded.

Against an XIth century origin the objections raised against a Norman date apply with almost equal force. As to the intermediate period between the IXth century and the XIth, the unsettled era of the Danish Wars, we know so little of its architectural history that it is hardly possible to form an opinion of the probability of our cross belonging to these times. We have, however, examples of step ornament of this period at Deerhurst, where Danish influence has been recognised.

Step ornament, out of fashion in Norman times, revived again somewhat in the XIIIth and XIVth centuries. At least we find crosses with stepped bases carved on stone coffin lids of these periods. There is indeed one at Duxford itself, lying beneath one of the arches which stand between the XIVth-century Chantry and the Chancel. At Oakington, Cambs., is a cross with T-shaped ends on a coffin lid which probably belongs to the XIIIth century, as is shown by the so-called double Omega which also appears on it. These examples are however obviously much later than our cross.

It has already been pointed out that the rosette in the centre of the cross and the outline of the latter are not quite in harmony with one another. If one were to judge from the rosette alone one would have no hesitation in assigning the work to the Norman period; but if one were to limit one's attention to the form of the cross one would regard it as much earlier. It has been suggested that the rose may have been carved later than the cross, and added indeed in the Norman period. Though I would rather like to believe this I do not think it is true. The absence of the rose would leave an uncomfortable bare space in the middle of the cross.

I have tried to put the evidence bearing on the date of the

Duxford tympanum as fairly as possible. Such as is in favour of a Norman origin I have set out in full, and, on the other hand, I have collected together such examples of early Anglian art as show affinities with the Duxford example. After due consideration I am inclined to think it may belong to the VIIIth or early IXth century, but I do not feel sure.

It may be objected that the Angles were wont to cover every part of their monumental stones with ornament, whereas the Duxford stone is unadorned except for the cross, also that the Anglo-Saxons did not love tympana, but preferred to leave their arches unobstructed (probably with the aim of leaving more room for their banners when carried in procession) and that our stone, if Saxon, could not have been a tympanum; What then, was it? It may have been a grave cover, and if this were so it must have been rounded above in Norman times, to make it conform, though not to fit, the XIIth-century arch in which it now reposes.

EXCAVATIONS IN THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE DYKES.

VI. BRAN DITCH. SECOND REPORT¹.

By T. C. LETHBRIDGE, F.S.A. and
W. M. PALMER, M.D., F.S.A.

(Read 30 April, 1928.)

At the end of his report on the preliminary exploration of the Bran Ditch Dr Cyril Fox suggested that excavation at the crossing point of the ditch by the Icknield Way might yield valuable information. He also stressed the importance of further excavation at Black Peak. As no sections of the ditch had been made anywhere near the crossing we decided to begin there first. In the summer of 1925, therefore, we dug a section of the fosse beside the drift road which is the supposed line of the Icknield Way. At this point a road from Heydon Grange, raised some 4 ft. to 6 ft. above the surrounding country, is supposed to mark the site of the vallum and in fact to run along the top of it. Two sections were cut into this bank as far as the edge of the gravelled road.

The result of this excavation showed that the ditch was considerably larger here than at any point previously tested (8 ft. 10 in. deep with a flat floor, 6 ft. broad and an overall width of 33 ft.). (Fig. 1, A.) Horse-shoe nails and part of a horse-shoe, boot cleats, a hearth and a thin layer of gravel metalling at different depths in the filling showed that a track had crossed the ditch here. Although we cut far into the driftway we found no trace of the solid chalk causeway described by Beldam (*Archaeological Journal*, Vol. xxv, p. 36), and we came to the conclusion that he had been misled by the slight bend in the ditch here, and had dug down on to the solid ground off the alignment of the ditch. No pottery was found in the lower levels of the filling, with the exception of a very small abraded fragment which was too minute for

¹ The First Report (*Proc. C.A.S.* xxvii, 16) should be consulted, as this paper is not intended to be complete in itself.

identification. In the upper levels fragments of modern tiles were common. The step in the scarp which occurred in Dr Fox's sections A, B, E and F, and was constant in the Fleam Dyke, was found here also (*Proc. C.A.S.* xxvii, 16 *et seq.*).

The sections into the supposed vallum showed a chalk rubble capping above two layers of soil (Fig. 1, B and C). The probability is therefore that the bank is actually the original

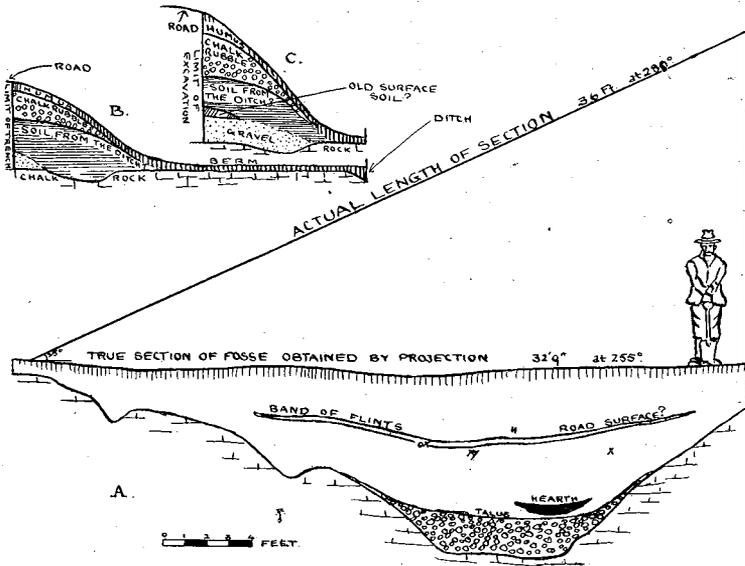


Fig. 1. A. Section of Bran Ditch Fosse at Icknield Way.
 B and C. Partial sections of Bran Ditch Vallum between Icknield Way and Heydon Grange.

vallum. A space of 11 ft. separates the bank from the lip of the fosse, forming a wide berm. This berm was afterwards demonstrated near section D.

The 1925 excavations were a little disappointing and led us to question whether this was the crossing of the Icknield Way at all. A well-marked trackway can be seen in the corn some 200 yards nearer Heydon.

1927 EXCAVATIONS.

I. *At Black Peak.* The generosity of one of our members, who wishes to remain anonymous, led to a continuous six months' effort in the summer of 1927. Again following the suggestion of Dr Cyril Fox we began at Black Peak. After a month's work examining the filling of the fosse at his section A we came to the conclusion that the Romano-British potsherds, which occurred sparingly on the floor, were due to the dyke being dug through the debris of settlement of that period and had not been dropped there by the builders of the dyke or its defenders. The potsherds were almost invariably abraded and seemed to be, as often as not, vertical in a sticky dark chalky deposit which we took to be rainwash from the newly dug sides of the ditch. It was also discovered that the ditch ran right down to the edge of the present watercress beds and had probably been dug into boggy ground, which may account for the blackness of the floor deposit near section A.

Having come to the conclusion that digging at Black Peak was unlikely to yield much more information, we decided that our best hope of success was to try to solve the riddle of the human burials found by Dr Fox in sections C and D. It seemed that it was little short of miraculous that he should have stumbled on these skeletons in his two narrow trenches unless there were numerous others there also. The theory that these two men had been hanged and then buried more than three hundred yards apart did not seem very convincing either. Since hunting for skeletons in the filling of the ditch at section C was likely to prove a laborious and expensive process, we turned our attention to section D, near the known crossing of the ditch by pre-enclosure trackways, including the "Fowlmere Path."

II. *At Section D.* Dr Fox had made repeated attempts to find the chalk vallum between Black Peak and Heydon Grange, and his failure to do so had given rise to much speculation. It is known that levelling has been done in recent times; but as there was no trace of the rubble in the

filling of the ditch, it was obvious that it had not been thrown back into it. A few yards to the south-east of section D there is every appearance of a bank parallel to the present hedge and running as far as the Cambridge-Royston road. The state of the crops had not allowed Dr Fox to test this. The plough clearly shows the top of this bank to be composed of chalk rubble, and in spite of pessimistic comments from several friends we were almost certain that this was the missing vallum. Supposing it to be the vallum it was clear that any skeletons on its line must have either been there before its construction or have been buried in graves cut through it. In the latter event we felt sure that they would be visible when the surface of the rubble was exposed. We therefore dug several short trenches between the crest of the bank and the hedge, 3 ft. apart and parallel to the hedge. They ran for some 5 or 6 yards from the south-east toward section D, which terminated them. Each trench showed the chalk rubble to be hard, white and so closely compacted that no one would have guessed that it was other than undisturbed chalk rock. It was now clear, therefore, that if any skeletons occurred beneath the rubble they had been put there before the vallum was thrown up.

We next opened up Dr Fox's old trench (section D) and proceeded to remove the soil and rubble on either side of his skeleton No. 2 down to chalk rock. Skeletons were at once found on either side of it in shallow graves in the chalk rock. It was clear that two at least on either side of skeleton 2 were either wholly or in part under the chalk vallum. After that, however, as a glance at the plan will show, the vallum swung out a little from the hedge as if to avoid them.

It was clearly of the greatest importance to try to fix a date for these burials. While it was certain that they were older than the vallum, yet their presence seemed to be known to the builders, who had apparently tried to avoid them. Although two sections were cut through the vallum (Plate I) to give us the overall dimensions of the work, our main object henceforward was to try to learn as much as we could about the skeletons. To this end we followed them in a southerly direction between the vallum and the hedge; only two were

found to the north of Dr Fox's skeleton 2 (Plate II). We estimate that we found about fifty bodies in all. It was, however, a matter of the greatest difficulty to decide what comprised one body; for while many were wanting their heads, numerous skulls and loose bones occurred also. It was discovered that on either side of the skeletons who, with two exceptions, were carefully oriented with their feet to the east, were ditches running more or less parallel with the main fosse. These two ditches, which were each about 6 ft. wide, were apparently continuous for a considerable distance. They are obviously earlier than the main ditch, for the outer one, called on the plan Back Ditch, is beneath the vallum. Since the inner (Mid Ditch) is rather erratic in its course, lengths of its western lip are frequently removed by the main fosse, and in extreme cases the step frequently noticed in the scarp of the latter is thus formed. Some 12 ft. to the north-west of the first skeleton in the row (No. 4) is a large pit 6 ft. deep, which extends from the eastern lip of the Mid Ditch to the middle of the Back Ditch. It was found impossible either to clear this out or to form a proper estimate of its size, but it extends for at least 40 ft. in a northerly direction and is probably responsible for the change in the course of the main ditch hereabouts.

Evidence obtained from the burials.

1. Only one of the skeletons had apparently been clothed at the time of burial. At its right hip was an iron knife of typical Anglo-Saxon shape (Plate III and Plate IV, No. 1); under the left femur and near the head of it was a small iron clip* (Plate IV, No. 2). The body (No. 7) had in fact been buried with its belt on. All the others had, it seems, been stripped before burial.

2. Fragments of Anglo-Saxon pottery occurred in the filling of several of the graves; one fragment is of interest as it has thumb-nail ornamentation on the lip, a survival of Early Iron Age decoration; in one place the perforated "bung" foot of a late Romano-British beaker was found under the chalk rubble.

* See note at end, p. 93.

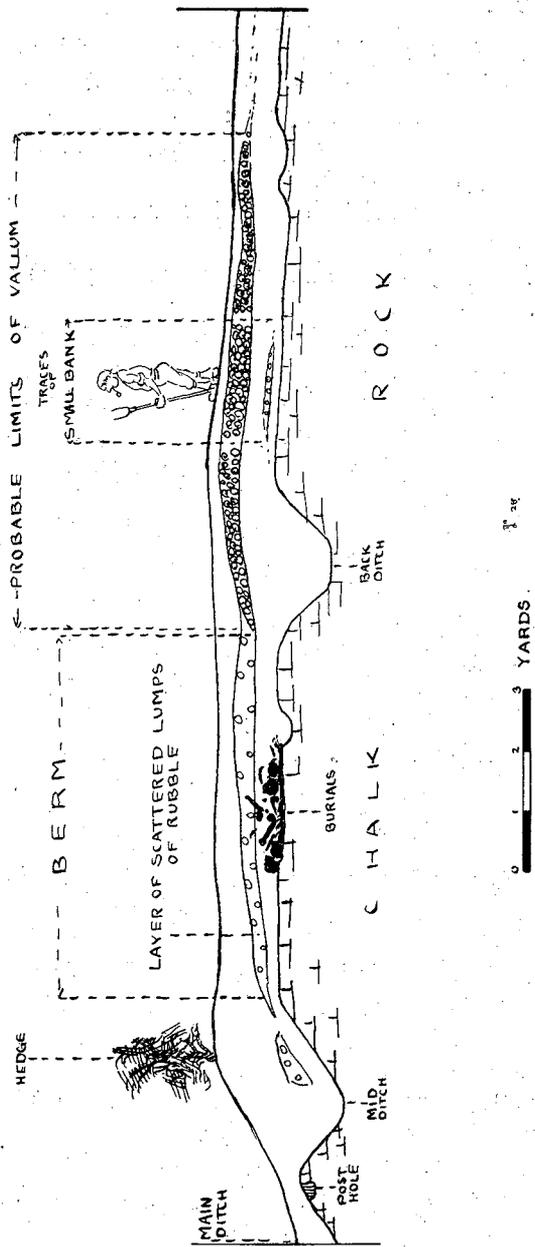


Plate I. Section of Bran Ditch Vallum 6 yards to south-east of Fox's section D.

3. There was in our opinion unmistakable evidence that many of the bodies had been decapitated, while others suggest violent death in different forms, e.g.:

No. 4. Body carefully arranged but head bent back at an angle suggesting a cut throat.

No. 7. Body much twisted, head thrown back and both hands clasping neck.

No. 13. No skull, and no room for skull against end of chalk grave.

No. 14. No skull, but two loose skulls and necks in same grave (Nos. 15 and 16).

No. 19. No skull, neck ends at 5th vertebra (Plate III). Loose bones and three skulls with it. Skull 21, which was placed against 19's right tibia, had three neck vertebrae still with it. The third vertebra had been cut through horizontally and a slice had been sheared off the bottom of the right ramus of the lower jaw. This skull had apparently been buried with the flesh on it at the same time as skeleton 19. Most of the other skulls and bones in the grave must have been put in without flesh, except skull 17 which, though loose and above the body, had some of the neck vertebrae with it. The face of this skull was entirely smashed; a blow from some sharp instrument had shorn off all the teeth on the right side of the lower jaw and possibly the top of the left ramus also.

No. 26. Loose skull (possibly belonging to 29); base cut away.

No. 29. Body curiously hunched and twisted. No head. Last vertebra on column (4th cervical) cut through horizontally.

No. 30. Vertebrae missing from lower dorsals upwards. Skull arranged at place where head should be has two vertebrae attached and is upside down with no lower jaw.

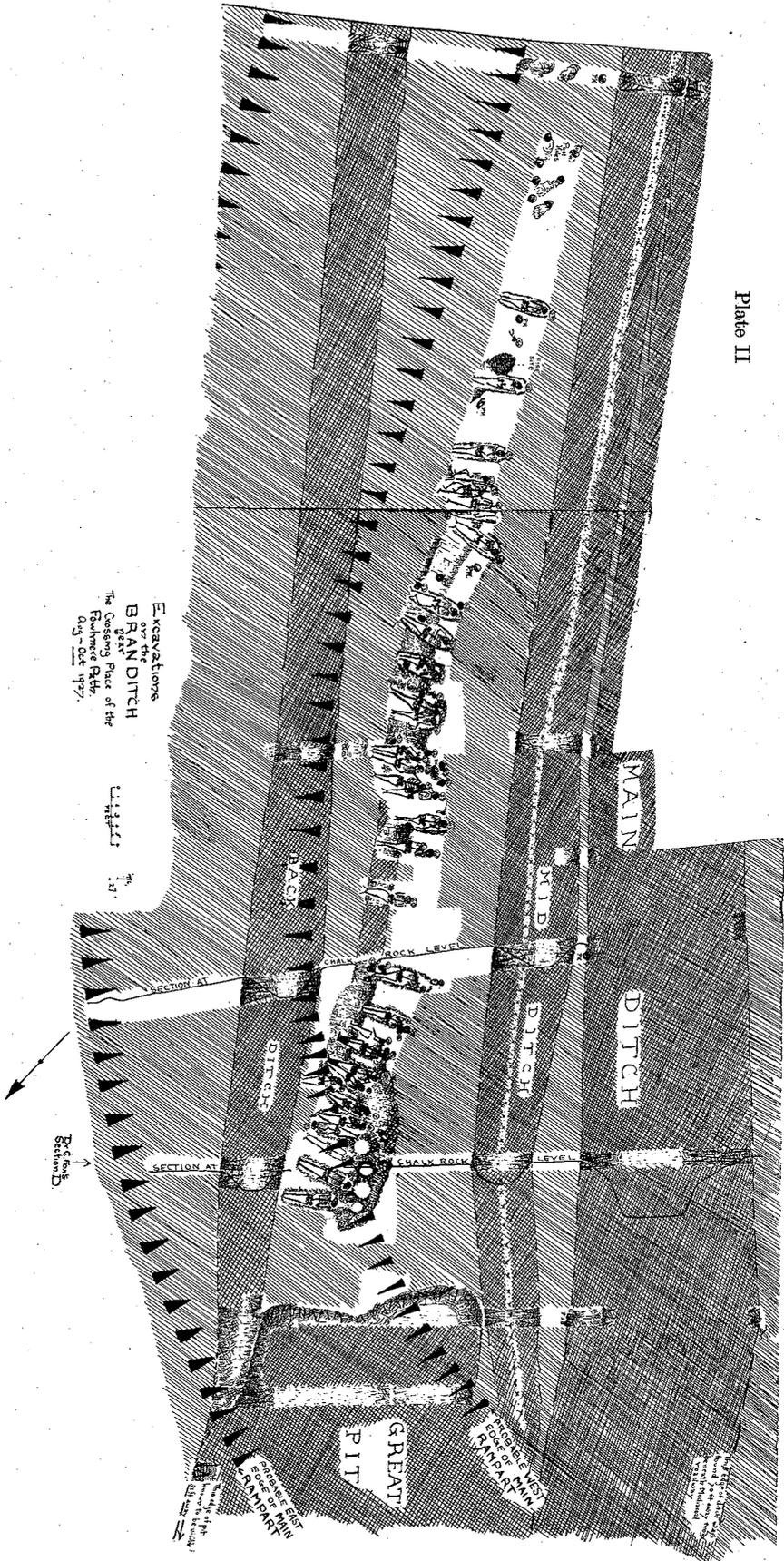
No. 31. Body apparently normal until taken up when there seemed to be 8 neck vertebrae, one of which was cut through horizontally and only half remained.

No. 32. A skull with stump of neck attached.

No. 36. Body carefully straightened (Plate III). Head separated from vertebral column by cut on 4th cervical.

No. 38. Head apparently severed at 2nd cervical and

Plate II



Excavations
of the
BRAN DITCH
The Great Pit of the
Bran Ditch
of 1841

CLIFF

Pit Retained

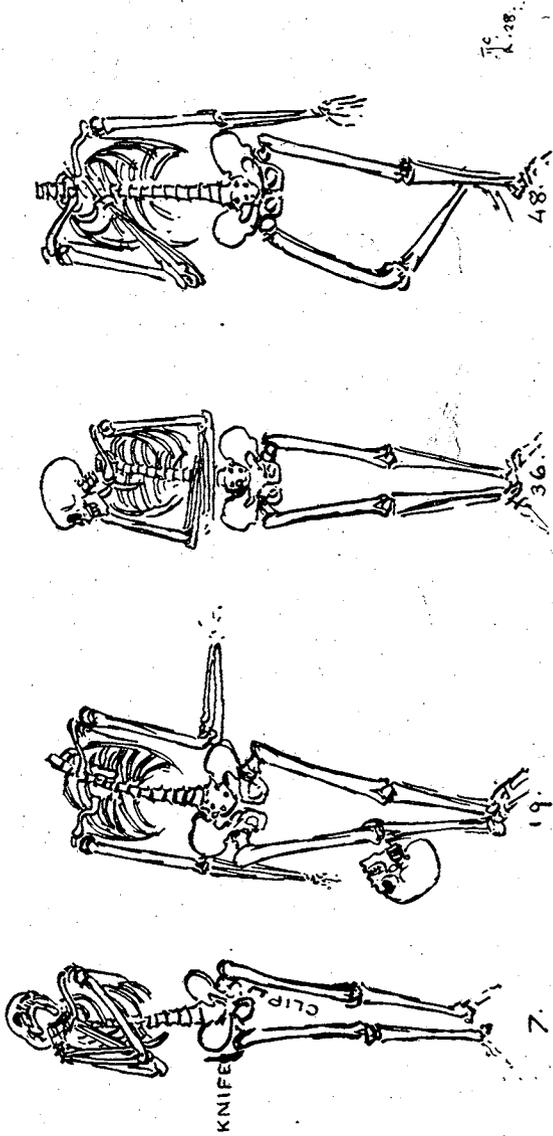
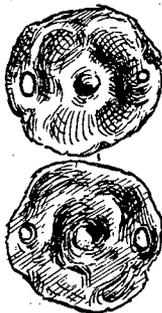
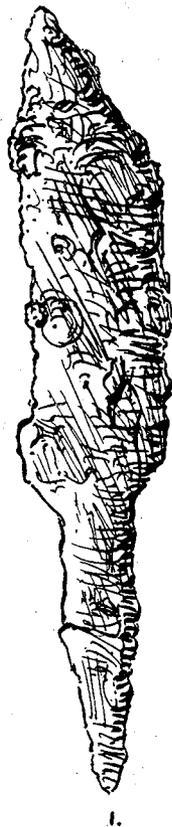
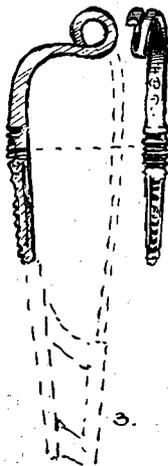


Plate III. Diagram of Skeletons.
 No. 7 with associated objects. Nos. 19, 36 and 48 decapitated.



4.

2.

1.

7c. 28.

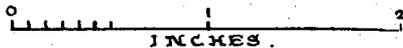


Plate IV

1, Iron Knife, and 2, Iron Clip. from Grave 7: 3 and 4, Bronze Brooches from Great Pit. 5, Bronze Ornament from Mediaeval Roadway in Fosse.

replaced on trunk at burial. Loose skull (39) and loose lower jaw (? 39) with deep cut from the back on left ramus.

No. 41. Head apparently cut off at 6th cervical and replaced with trunk at burial.

No. 45. Projection of axis vertebra cut off, doubtful if head was completely severed from trunk.

No. 47. Headless. Vertebral column ends with half of 4th cervical, which is cut through.

No. 48. Headless (Plate III). Vertebral column ends with a cut fragment of the 3rd cervical.

No. 50. Back of skull smashed and driven in. Possibly due to pressure. Vertebral column much curved and dislocated in the middle.

4. Most of the skeletons appeared to be those of men. Some were, however, young persons of 12 years of age or so upwards. The occurrence of a foetus or newly-born child at the south end of the row may not have any connection with the others, and may be a foundation sacrifice, as it was beside a post-hole.

5. Many of the bodies had been buried when decomposition was far advanced. Above the remains of 19 were the bones of a young and also of an old man, and four skulls. These could not have been displaced from a single grave cut in the chalk and must have been collected off the down in a disintegrated state and put in with the more complete body. This was noticed in several other places. The bodies seem often to have come apart at the waist (? when being carried). Nos. 9, 13, 30 and 33 (perhaps top and bottom halves of the same body), 46, 50 and 51 are instances of this. The last was evidently so decayed that the left tibia, right fibula, and all the bones of the feet, seem to have fallen off as it was being buried. The tibia was replaced wrong way up, the fibula was in the right place but had slid down behind the heel, some of the toes were on or near the pelvis. All the vertebrae are missing from the lumbar upwards, although ribs, clavicles, scapulae, etc., are in their right places. There cannot have been any disturbance by a subsequent burial, for the nearest grave is 4 feet away. This remarkable absence of vertebrae seems difficult to account for: it occurs in Nos. 30 and 46 also. One wonders

whether a "blood-eagled" Viking captive would lose these vertebrae if he were left lying out for some time and then picked up for burial.

6. At the head of graves 2, 3 and 4 and at the foot of 5 the chalk rock had been moulded into round bosses some 2 ft. or less in diameter. We can do no more than note this, for we know of no explanation nor of any other case of the practice.

To sum up, then, we have in our opinion evidence of a massacre, probably of the defenders of the barrier formed by the two little ditches. The victims, it seems, were either Anglo-Saxons or perhaps Danes. At a date some months (?) after the massacre the corpses were collected and given such decent (conceivably Christian) burial as was possible. We rather fancy that the Sextons were unable to decide with certainty in many cases which head belonged to which body. It is also likely that some of the bodies were not found and brought in until long after the others. Perhaps there were only one or two men on the job and they did not hurry themselves. Later still the whole work was reconstructed with one wide ditch, a berm, and a single bank. The berm was wider at the burial ground, presumably so that the graves should not be obscured by the vallum. Through carelessness, however, those at the north end were wholly or partially covered by it. The reconstruction probably took place within a generation or so of the massacre, otherwise no one would have noticed or troubled about the graves.

Dimensions and character of the Dyke.

(See Fig. 1 and Plate I.)

At the southern end of the grave-yard a section was cut through the bank as far as the lip of the main fosse. The vallum was found to be 28 ft. broad and 2 ft. 3 in. above the original ground level at its thickest. (It is doubtful whether it was ever much higher than this.) Under the centre of the vallum at this point was the Back Ditch, 6 ft. broad, with a filling of loam. Between the inner edge of the vallum and the lip of the main fosse was a berm some 16 ft. wide, in which were several holes apparently for posts. The Mid Ditch had had part of its south-west side cut off by the construction of

the main fosse. Assuming that this main fosse was about 18 ft. broad, which is in agreement with the results obtained by Dr Fox at sections D and E, we have an overall width of over 60 ft. This is consistent with Beldam's statement that the work was 80 ft. broad at the Icknield Way crossing, for there the fosse is considerably larger. A vestige of the vallum of the Mid Ditch still remained on the berm but had been levelled off. From the fact that some of the post-holes were covered by the main vallum, it was assumed that they once held palisading forming part of the original work, i.e. the two little ditches, and had no connection with the remodelled fortifications. Certain trial holes on the lip of the main fosse on the north-west side (scarp) showed that post-holes existed here also. The main work, therefore, consisted of a ditch some 18 ft. broad and 7 ft. deep, with palisading to hinder people climbing out of it, while the berm, 16 ft. broad, enabled the defenders on the vallum to throw spears at the attackers as they climbed up, without being within such short range of other enemies on the far bank. It is very unlikely that any of the main vallum had been carted away from here, whatever may have occurred on the Black Peak sector, the wastage in height of the bank being certainly due to the plough, which touches the chalk rubble all along it from here to the Cambridge road. There can be no doubt that the step, observed in some of Dr Fox's sections on the scarp, is just the floor of the Mid Ditch cut into by the main fosse, and is no evidence of Roman influence.

The Great Pit.

This was and still is a puzzle. Such limited investigation as we were able to make showed that it was some 6 ft. deep with a flat floor 18 ft. and more broad at a section near its southern end, where it had an overall breadth of 25 ft. The lip was found in a trial hole 40 ft. away to the northward. It had been in part filled in with loamy soil, probably by human agency. The vallum ran over this filling, which therefore antedated it. Under the vallum brooches were found at two points (Plate IV, Nos. 3 and 4), one being Romano-British, the other belonging to the last phase of the Early Iron Age. Potsherds were very scarce and of Romano-British types.

A piece of imitation Samian ware was noted. An iron knife with parallel sides but with point missing was found on the floor; it may be Anglo-Saxon.

The vallum cannot have been a very satisfactory obstacle at this point, as the pit was by no means completely filled when it was thrown up. We were unable to determine whether the pit was later than the small ditches or not. Judging by the lack of evidences of occupation on the floor and by the large size of the pit we all inclined to think that the pit has no warlike significance and may be regarded as an ancient chalk-pit and nothing more. On the whole it seems probable that it was dug in the Roman Period; at any rate it was in existence before the main vallum was constructed, and was probably filled in then. The weight of the vallum on the loose filling would cause settlement and form a gap in the bank visible at a distance. This accounts for the spot being chosen as a crossing point for mediaeval trackways.

Section of Fosse at crossing point of Fowlmere Path.

A section was made of the filling of the fosse at the meeting of the three hedges 45 yards from section D. This was the traditional point of crossing of the united trackways forming the Fowlmere Path. The section showed a hard gravel metalling 3 in. thick just under the surface of the ground (part of a late mediaeval jug rim and a bronze disc (Plate IV, No. 5) were beneath this); numerous horse-shoe nails were found in this stratum, which was clearly a road. Beneath the metalling the filling was uniformly barren right down to the floor of the ditch. The path was in fact of no great antiquity.

Saxon Pottery in the Fosse.

A few trial holes were sunk in the fosse in the neighbourhood of Dr Fox's section C. In one of these large fragments of a pot similar in paste and form to unornamented examples from the local pagan Anglo-Saxon cemeteries, and from the Anglo-Saxon huts at Waterbeach (see *Antiquaries' Journal*, Vol. VII, No. 2) were found. These sherds, which were unabraded, had been left in the filling of the ditch 1 ft. above the floor and 7 ft. from the surface. It is probable therefore that the ditch was silted up to that level when they were dropped there.

Summary.

We have now obtained more information about the Bran Ditch (and in fact about all the ditches) than could have been believed possible a few years ago. We have seen that the feeble boundary of two small ditches with palisading between was superseded by a work on a much larger and more elaborate scale. At a time when men were wearing knives of Anglo-Saxon form and when pots herds of Anglo-Saxon and late Romano-British types were lying on the surface of the ground there was a massacre at the little ditches. A few weeks or months later the plundered corpses of the victims were collected and buried, some being so decayed that they fell to pieces in the process. Later, when the graves were still remembered, the vallum of the new work was apparently bent slightly so that they should not be covered up and forgotten. It seems that the skeletons were those of defenders of the barrier; but it seems equally sure that many of them must have been beheaded in cold blood and not buried for some considerable time after the barrier was carried by the enemy. The whole evidence of the massacre reminds one forcibly of the treatment of the captured Jomsburg Vikings by Earl Hakon, as described in the *Jomsvikingasaga* and the *Heimskringla*. A quotation from the former as translated by du Chaillu may not be out of place:

... Then the jarl had Vagn and his men led up on land, and their hands were tied behind their backs, and they were bound with one rope, one at the other's side, not loosely. The jarl and his men took their food, and sat down to eat; he wanted to have them all beheaded leisurely and in no hurry that day.

Before they sat down to eat, the ships and property of the Jomsvikings were taken ashore, and carried to the poles. Hakon and his men divided among themselves all the property and the weapons; they thought they had won a great victory as they had got all the property captured from the Jomsvikings, and they boasted very much. When they had eaten enough, they walked out of the war-booths to the captives, and it is said that Thorkel Leira was appointed to behead them all. First they talked to the Jomsvikings, and asked whether they were as hardy men as was said; but it is not told that the Jomsvikings gave them any answer.

It is next stated that some sorely wounded men were untied from the rope; Skopti Kark and other thralls had hold of it and guarded them. When they were untied the thralls twisted sticks in their hair; first three wounded men were led forward in that way, and Thorkel went to them and cut off

each head; then he asked his own companions if they had seen him shudder at the work, "for it is told," said he, "that any man shudders if he beholds three men one after the other." Hakon answered, "We do not see that thou hast shuddered at this, though it seemed so to me before thou didst it."

The fourth man was led out of the rope, and a stick twisted in his hair, and he was led to where Thorkel beheaded them; he was much wounded. When he came Thorkel asked, before he struck, how he thought of his death. He answered, "Well think I of my death; it will be with me as with my father; I shall die." Thereupon Thorkel cut off that man's head, and thus his life ended. The fifth was untied from the rope and led thither; when he came, Thorkel said, "How likest thou to die?" He said, "I remember not the laws of the Jomsvikings if I am afraid of my death or speak a word of fear; once every man must die." Thorkel struck him. They wanted to ask every man before he was slain, and try whether they were as fearless as was told, and if no man spoke a word of fear they thought it proved. The sixth was led forward, and a stick twisted in his hair. Thorkel asked the same as before; the man said he liked well to die with a good fame, "while thou, Thorkel, wilt live with shame." He struck the blow. Then the seventh was led thither, and Thorkel asked the same. The man said, "I like very much to die, but strike me quickly; I have a belt knife in my hand. We Jomsvikings have often talked of whether a man knew anything after his head had been cut off very quickly; it shall be a sign that I will stretch forth the knife if I know anything, else it will fall down." Thorkel struck; the head flew off, but the knife fell down. The eighth was taken, and Thorkel asked the same. He said he liked it well, and when the death-blow was coming, he said: "Ram!" Thorkel stopped the blow, and asked why he said this. He answered: "There will not be too many rams for the ewes which you, the jarl's men, named yesterday when you got wounded." "Thou art the greatest wretch," said Thorkel, and dealt him the blow. The ninth was untied, Thorkel asked the same. He said: "I like well my death, as do all my companions; but I do not want to be beheaded like a sheep, and I will sit for the blow; strike me face to face, and look carefully whether I wince in any way, for we have often talked of that." This was done; he sat with his face to Thorkel, who walked to him and smote in his face; he did not wince, except that his eyelids sank down when death came over him. The tenth was led forward. Thorkel asked him the same. He said: "I should like thee to wait while I arrange my breeches." "I grant thee that," said Thorkel. When he had done, he said: "Many things do not go as one hoped; I thought I should get into the bed of Thora, Skagi's daughter, the jarl's wife." Hakon jarl said: "Behead that man as quickly as thou canst; he has long had bad intentions." Thorkel cut him....

We have also seen that the unabraded pottery of Anglo-Saxon type was left in the filling of the fosse when the ditch was by no means new. Thus it seems that the whole history of the dyke as a military work lies within the Anglo-Saxon Period. As Dr Fox stated in the IVth Report, when dealing

with the Fleam Dyke, we know that the Dykes were in existence in 905, for they are mentioned in the *Anglo-Saxon Chronicle* as being the limit of Edward the Elder's ravages. We must therefore look for a situation in the Period between the Anglo-Saxon Conquest and 905 which would cause dyke-building, massacre, renovation of dykes and so forth. There can be little doubt that the wars between East Anglia and Mercia in the VIIth century answer the purpose admirably. Twice the Mercian king, Penda, succeeded in routing the East Anglians and killing their king. The East Anglians are described as "finding themselves inferior to the Mercians in military affairs" (Bede, *Ecclesiastical History*, chapt. XVIII), which would account for their anxiety to protect their frontier with such formidable obstacles as they could devise.

The evidence of the other two dykes is similar to that of the Bran Ditch. Romano-British debris is found under both, and weapons of the Anglo-Saxon Period are said to have been found in each. Could we find the spot in either dyke where these weapons (and skeletons, in the case of Fleam) were found we should no doubt unearth the bodies of Penda's men, killed while fighting on the winning side and therefore buried with all their arms and gear, instead of the plundered and mutilated corpses of his unfortunate East Anglian foes.

We are happy to take this opportunity of thanking the following:—Lord Braybrooke, Messrs Mailer, Jackson and Pepper, the owners and tenants of the land; Dr W. L. H. Duckworth, not only for his kindness in examining and reporting on the human remains but also for his taking the trouble to bicycle out to the site and uncover some of the bodies himself; and Dr Garrod, Messrs Louis C. G. Clarke, R. W. Hutchinson, C. F. Tebbutt and others whose occasional visits were encouraging and helpful.

Note to p. 82. Four clips of this form were found in Anglo-Saxon graves and urns at Little Wilbraham recently (*C.A.S. Proc.* vol. XXIX, p. 102, etc.): One of these was of iron and the rest bronze. Ten of bronze have already been recovered from graves in the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Mildenhall, which is being excavated at present.

NOTES ON THE HUMAN REMAINS FROM
MR LETHBRIDGE'S EXCAVATIONS OF
THE BRAN DITCH IN 1927.

BY W. L. H. DUCKWORTH, M.D., Sc.D., M.A.,
Jesus College.

Nearly fifty individuals were represented by the bones collected in the course of the excavations in 1927. At the present time fifteen skulls and a dozen skeletons have been cleaned and repaired. They represent about half the amount of the remains actually received at the Anatomy School.

Certain bones bear marks testifying convincingly to the infliction of lethal wounds on living individuals. The male skeletons (out of those examined so far) stand almost alone in providing this evidence though one female may have to be included. The latter exhibits a lower jaw severely injured by a sword-cut or by a blow from an axe. Juvenile individuals are not represented in this category. And the freedom of all limb-bones from wounds suggests that these were inflicted on passive captives rather than active combatants.

If the skull from "Section C" be included, sixteen examples are now available for study and comparisons. Of these skulls, ten (including that from "Section C") are of the male sex, and fully adult. Of the others, three are young but still over 12 years of age and if boys of 15 might even have taken part in combats. Uncertainty exists as to the sex of the four remaining skulls. Two (namely No. 34 and a skull with an undecipherable mark) are almost certainly female, and the other two (No. 19/21 and an edentulous skull) are quite possibly of that sex.

In most of the skulls the teeth are of good quality and they are well-preserved. A point that attracts notice is the preponderance of individuals with small teeth, but the significance of this has yet to be discovered.

The bones are fragile and in their texture resemble those from the Saxon cemetery at Burwell so closely that they may be of similar antiquity. *Comparison with the bones*

from Burwell shows no essential difference in point of dimensions. The accompanying Table I of the lengths of the thigh-bones illustrates this similarity. Attention is directed to the relatively small number of the Bran Ditch bones available at present. And in consequence of the smallness of the number, the long thigh-bone of Bran Ditch No. 1 (Section C) has an exaggerated influence upon the average value.

In form the skulls tend to be ovoid and in *most of their dimensions they present no marked contrast with the Burwell group or with other collections from interments of the Saxon period.* Two exceptions to this general statement will be mentioned, but in view of the small number of the Bran Ditch skulls, not much importance is to be attached to them.

Reference is made first to a slight tendency to a relatively small vertical diameter (orbital height) of the orbital opening. Such an occurrence is not unknown in undoubted Saxon skulls, but is not the rule. The other reference affects the vertical diameter of the skulls. The average value of this dimension in six of the Bran Ditch male skulls is 138.1 mm., whereas in 31 Saxon male crania the corresponding average value was found by Dr Morant¹ to be 136 mm. Attention should be paid to this detail in future studies of the Bran Ditch skulls. For it would appear to furnish a means of distinction, inasmuch as skulls of the Saxon period seem to adhere closely to an average value of the amount mentioned (136 mm.). The skulls from older settlements in the Roman period seem to provide an average value of 133 mm., so that in this particular detail the Bran Ditch skulls do not resemble these pre-Saxon people either.

In conclusion, a reminder is given of the fact that these notes relate to about one-half of the available material, of which the remnant is being gradually cleaned and restored. Of the four Tables, that representing the lengths of thigh-bones has been already mentioned, while the remainder illustrate the regularity of grading when the skull-measurements of the Bran Ditch specimens are ranked with those of the Burwell skulls.

¹ *Biometrika*, Vol. xviii, Parts I and II, p. 82.

[All measurements are in millimeters.]

TABLE I. Length of Femur (oblique position).

<i>Bran Ditch</i> 1 (Section C)	512	
Burwell 22	504	Corresponding stature approximately 6 ft. 1 in.
Burwell 11	500	
Burwell 64	492	
Burwell 67	480	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 5	473	
Burwell 56	473	
Burwell 26	471	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 22	469	
Burwell 16	461	Corresponding stature approximately 5 ft. 7½ in.
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 31	456	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 45	455	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 19	453	
Burwell 27	453	
Burwell 47	452	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 28	450	
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 29	449	
Burwell 31	445	

TABLE II. Length (Glabello-occipital) of Cranium.

Burwell 10	205.5
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 45	200.5
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 25	199.5
Burwell 22	199.0
Burwell 283	198.0
Burwell 67	197.0
Burwell 58	197.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 35	197.0
Burwell 64	195.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 37	195.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 26	195.0
Burwell 11	194.0
Burwell 4473	194.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 41	193.5
Burwell 62	192.0

TABLE III. Maximum width of Cranium.

Burwell 62	152.0
Burwell 284	151.5
Burwell 4473	146.5
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 25	146.0
Burwell 58	145.0
Burwell 64	144.0
Burwell 23	144.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 45	144.0
Burwell 31	141.5
Burwell 54	141.0
Burwell 285	141.0
Burwell 283	140.0
Burwell x_5	140.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 41	140.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 37	139.5
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 35	139.0
Burwell 11	131.0
Burwell 16	130.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 26	128.0

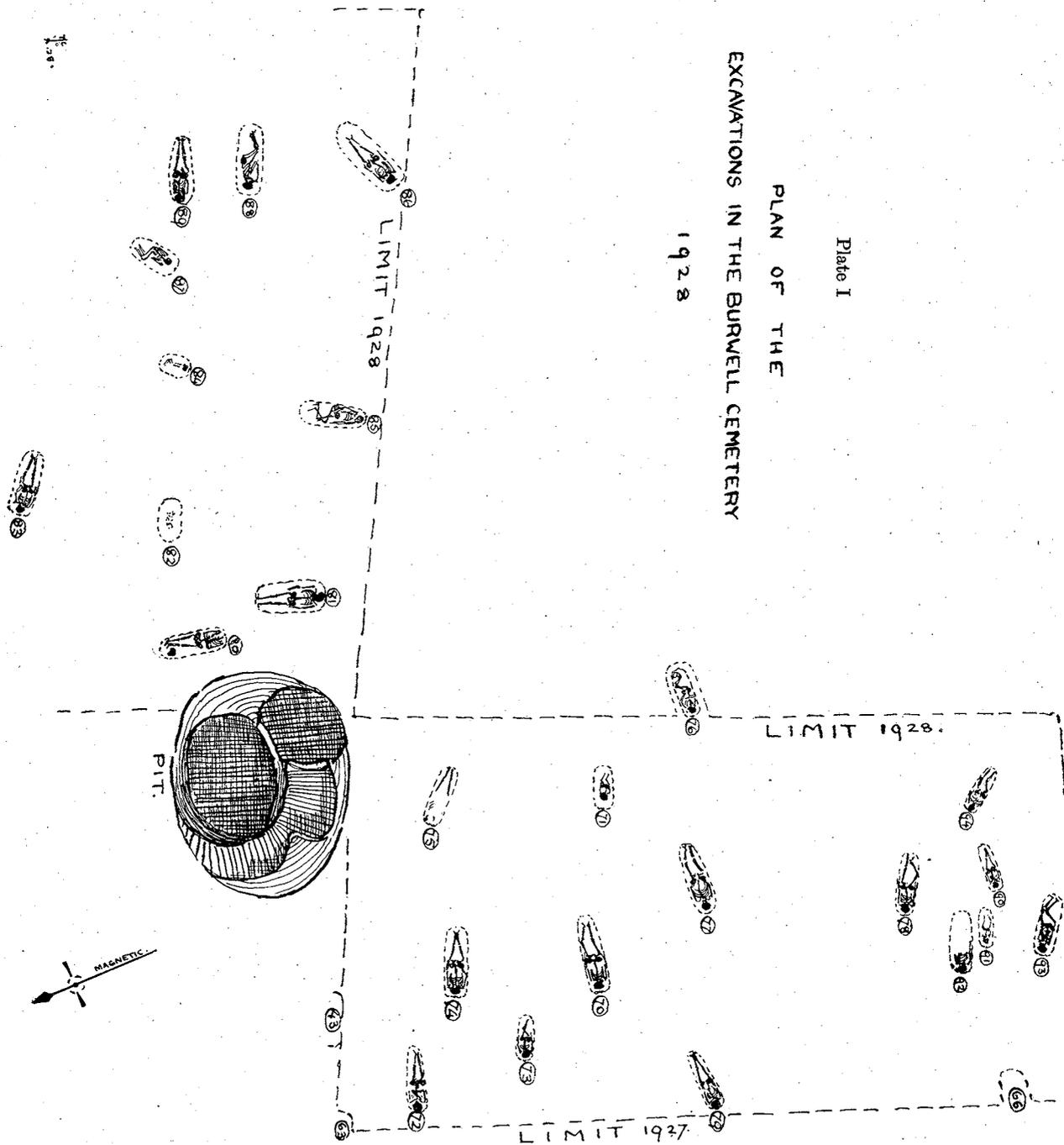
TABLE IV. Height (Basi-Bregmatic) of Cranium.

<i>Bran Ditch</i> 35	147.0
Burwell 284	144.5
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 41	144.0
Burwell 4473	142.0
Burwell 31	141.0
Burwell 22	139.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 37	136.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 45	135.0
Burwell 54	133.0
<i>Bran Ditch</i> 25	131.0
Burwell 16	130.5

PLATE I
EXCAVATIONS IN THE BURWELL CEMETERY

Plate I

1928



THE ANGLO-SAXON CEMETERY,
BURWELL, CAMBS. PART IV.

By T. C. LETHBRIDGE, F.S.A.

The fourth season's work at Burwell lasted for eight weeks in March and April, 1928. On the whole, graves were more numerous this year than in any previous season, for although only 25 were found yet nearly three weeks of the time was spent in clearing out the circular pit mentioned in last year's report (*C.A.S. Communications*, Vol. XXIX, p. 84, Pl. I). The grouping of the graves differed in no way from that noticed in previous reports, but it is perhaps significant that no burial occurred over or near the pit. Eight skeletons at least were those of immature persons or children (Plate I).

The Circular Pit.

As mentioned last year, this pit, when cleared of filling, appeared at first sight to be some 18-22 ft. in diameter and some 5 ft. 6 in. in depth. The floor was a hemispherical depression covered all over by a stratum some 6 in. thick containing fragments of Romano-British pottery, hypocaust and roof tiles, burnt stones, animal bones and traces of wood and charcoal. Two fragments of bone combs, part of a chalk whorl and a small fragment of cut bone were unfortunately too indefinite to fix the date of the deposit. It seemed probable, however, that the occupation must have taken place either in the Roman Period or very soon afterwards. No Saxon pottery was found, and there is no reason to connect the pit in any way with the cemetery. When the floor beneath the occupation layer was tested it was found to our surprise that it was composed of loose chalk rubble which had certainly been shifted and replaced prior to the occupation of the hollow. Although it would interfere with the ordinary work in the cemetery it was felt necessary to investigate the pit further. Accordingly the rubble was removed and the bottom of firm chalk rock was found at a depth of 12 ft. from the surface of

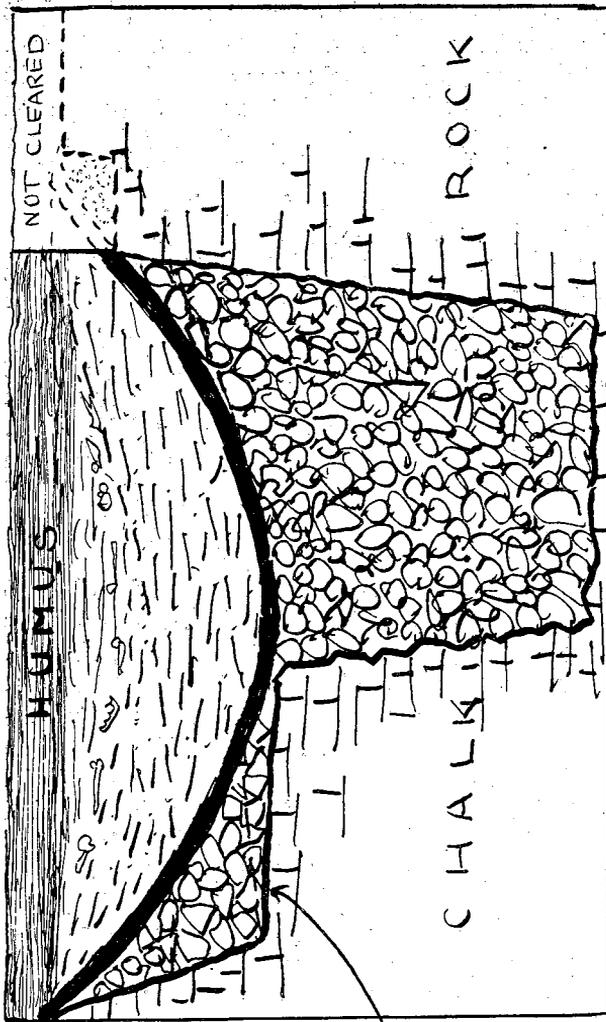
the ground. The floor in the centre of the pit was a comparatively flat, roughly elliptical area some 11 ft. long by 9 ft. broad. A smooth ledge or pathway, 2 ft. broad, ran down from the surface of the unmoved chalk on the north edge of the pit in a counter-clockwise manner till it reached a point almost due south of the pit. Here there was a bay or alcove some 5 ft. square which had probably been used either as a shovelling platform or for convenience in filling barrows when the pit was originally dug. The flat floor of this bay was some 5 ft. 3 in. below the surface of the ground. At its north edge it ended sharply in a little cliff at the base of which was the main floor of the pit. At its western side, however, it dropped in a step 2 ft. 3 in. deep to the uneven floor of another alcove some 7 ft. 8 in. long by 4 ft. 6 in. broad, which in its turn also abutted on the floor of the main pit. The north and east walls of the main pit were smooth, well-cut, and nearly perpendicular (see section, Plate II).

Nothing was found in the filling save two fragments of Romano-British pottery of uncertain character, a flint scraper, and one or two fragments of bone. The chalk rubble had the appearance of having been replaced soon after it had been dug out. There was no flint of any kind in the rubble save the one scraper, and a few tiny chips, so the chance of the pit being an ancient flint-mine is ruled out. The only possibility which has as yet occurred to me is, that it may have been dug to provide clunch building stone for some Romano-British building as yet undiscovered. Romano-British sherds are not unfrequently found in the trenches here.

Detailed description of those graves which had objects associated with the bodies, or were of abnormal type.

All heads to the west unless otherwise stated.

No. 72. At the left hip of this skeleton, which may have been that of a young woman, was a bronze buckle (Plate III, No. 1). Ornamentation is supplied by the clipping out of small circles of metal from the chape in the manner in which holes are punched in leather straps, or railway tickets ornamented by the ticket collector. I have not as yet been able



 = Occupation layer
  = Chalk rubble
  = Earth filling



Plate II. Section of Pit

to find an exact parallel to this unusual buckle. The belt which it had secured seems to have been of woven material of which faint traces remained inside the chape (doubtless it was brightly coloured and showed through the punched ornament of the chape), but the tongue had certainly been of leather and a fair-sized portion remained on the pin of the buckle. Behind the neck lay a small iron knife.

No. 73. Iron knife at left hip.

No. 75. This skeleton seems to have been disturbed during agricultural operations; only legs, ribs and part of the skull being still in place.

No. 76. I guess this skeleton to have been that of a young girl (Plate IV, A). At the feet were the iron fittings of a wooden casket similar to that found with No. 42 last year (*ibid.* p. 84). This box, judging by the space available, must have been some 8 in. by 6 in. The only traces remaining of its original contents were a whorl of the usual type and two minute scraps of thin bronze plate.

Beside and partly under the skull were the remains of what must have been either a chatelaine or satchel. Some objects of iron, probably keys, lay uppermost (Plate V, No. 5), beneath these was a cast bronze ring with an iron pin (*ibid.* No. 4). Although this is apparently an annular brooch it probably served some other purpose here. Close beside these were rings of bronze and iron and an openwork bone disc (*ibid.* No. 6) ornamented with "ring and dot" pattern and suspended from an iron ring by an iron clasp. On this was lying a flat pear-shaped piece of bronze plate (*ibid.* No. 1) with a square central perforation and a circular one at its narrower end. It lay on the bone ring and beneath two fragmentary rings of iron wire, but I could not see that either passed through it. Beneath the skull lay an iron key and a knife (*ibid.* No. 3). Traces of woven material were clearly visible on all the iron objects of this group and it seems probable that some were enclosed in a bag while others formed its frame and ornamentation. Against the mastoid was a small ear-ring of silver wire (*ibid.* No. 2), carefully incised to give a beaded appearance, and joined by thread to a small, flat, thin bronze disc which has a rude pattern punched out of its centre.

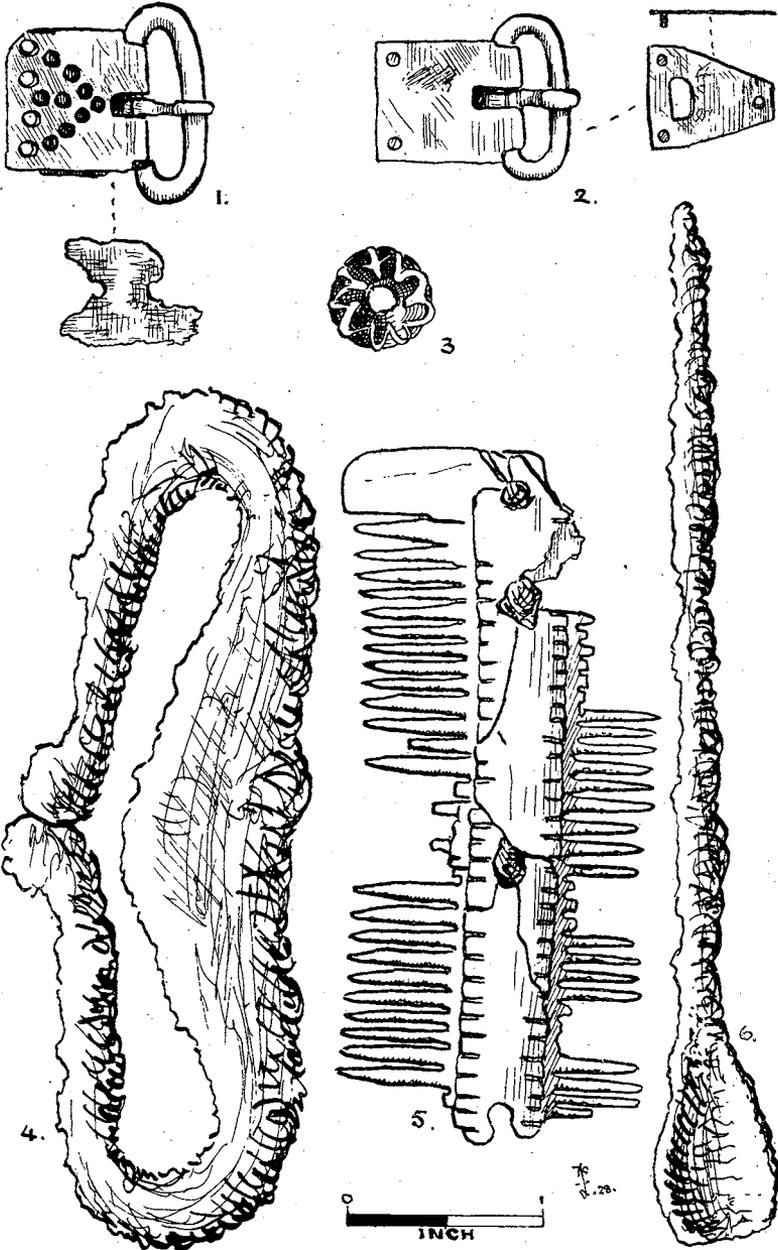


Plate III. From Graves 72, 92, 84, 90 and 79.

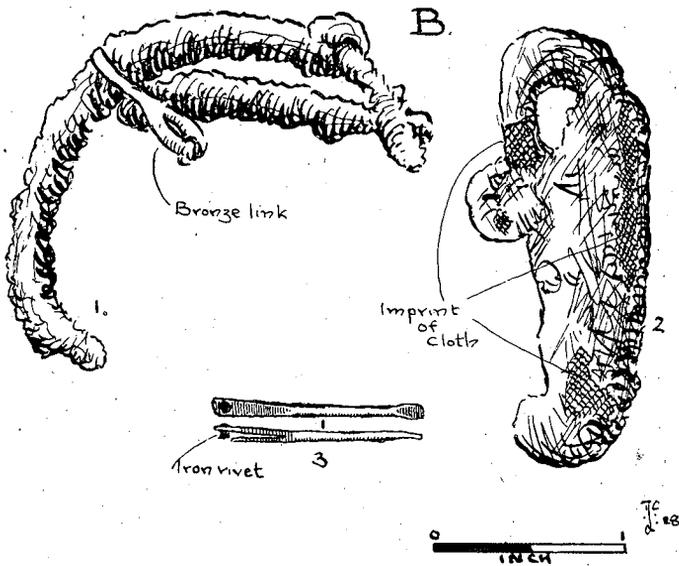
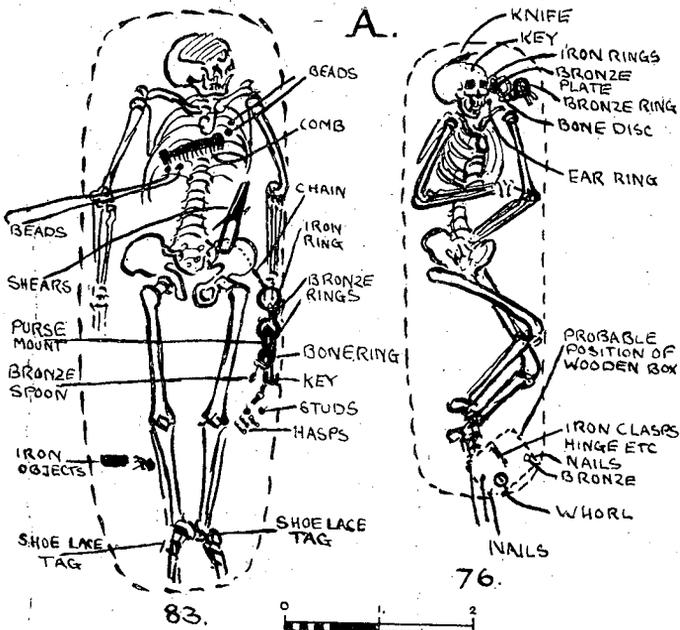


Plate IV. A. Diagrams of Graves 83 and 76.
 B. Objects from Grave 83.

The grave was of rather more than average depth, being 3 ft. 1 in.

No. 77. Iron knife at left hip. Remains of iron buckle at right hip. A large male skeleton. (Cut noted on left humerus but possibly modern.)

No. 78. Iron knife on left pelvis and fragmentary iron buckle on left pelvis.

No. 79. A large iron hook or key was at the left side and under the arm of this old woman(?) Beside it was an iron knife and opposite the crook of the left elbow lay a double-sided bone comb (Plate III, No. 5) of a type common in Saxon and mediaeval times.

No. 80. This grave was beautifully cut and 3 ft. 10 in. deep. The feet of the enclosed male skeleton were at the north end and by them lay the skull. The headless body seemed to have been decently arranged with arms folded across the chest. The skull, however, showed numerous signs of mutilation. The point of the chin had been cut off, as had also the hinder parts of both rami of the lower jaw, and one cut seems to have passed through the lower part of the face more or less removing the upper jaw. The injuries suggest the wanton mutilation of the body of a fallen foe.

No. 83. A shallow grave rather roughly dug. The enclosed skeleton was scarcely in the chalk. There was, however, plenty of room for the skeleton, which was apparently that of a middle-aged woman. Between the right tibia and the side of the grave were some fragments of iron, one of which bore some resemblance to the binding of an iron-bound chest. It is possible that there had been another of the little chests here, such as were found with Nos. 42 and 76. On the left side of the body, above the pelvis, was a pair of iron shears (Plate IV, A) and an awl-like object. Below these and extending from the pelvis to the knee was the remains of an elaborate chatelaine. The upper part of this was composed of alternate lengths of bronze and iron chain. The iron links appear to have been straight lengths of iron wire some 2 in. in length with a loop at either end. These loops passed through those of the bronze links which were castings of figure-of-eight form some $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long. There must have been about 8 in. of this chain

before it was fastened to a large iron wire ring 2 in. in diameter (Plate IV, B 1). The decayed condition of the iron made correct observation of the position of the objects very difficult, but apparently one object was threaded directly on this iron ring, namely a large iron key (Plate VI, No. 2) 7 in. long, with a movable cast bronze ring head showing many signs of wear. A flat bronze ring $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter (*ibid.* No. 3) which closely resembles certain annular brooches, lay above this key, and it is possible that it was strung on the iron ring also. (This interesting object should be compared with one figured on p. 30 of Fausset's *Inventorium Sepulchrale*.) Some more links of chain fastened the iron ring to one of similar size made of bronze wire (*ibid.* No. 1). (The hook-and-eye fastening of this and the iron ring should be compared with Fausset, *op. cit.* Pl. XVI, No. 11.) Threaded on this bronze ring was an iron spoon $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. long with a movable bronze ring-head, and above it lay one of the iron objects variously known as "strike-a-lights" and "purse-mounts." The one found with No. 42 last year was then described as a purse-mount, and I shall retain the name, although the correctness of the term is much open to doubt. The present specimen is $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. long (Plate IV, B 2), and lacks the bronze ring of that found with No. 42.

Probably not attached to the bronze ring was a flat disc of bone $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. in diameter (Plate VI, No. 4); it is ornamented with ring and dot patterns and has a central circular perforation. There are several holes round its circumference, most of which show signs of much wear. In one hole there still remains a bronze wire ring of the elastic type. When found the bowl of a tiny bronze spoon (*ibid.* No. 5) 3 in. long was jammed through this ring. The head of the spoon is strung on another wire ring of elastic type, which may possibly have been forced out of the broken hole at the other side of the bone disc. The bronze clasp which provided the loop for the suspension of the bone disc is ornamented with minute criss-cross scratches. It had almost certainly been attached to a figure-of-eight link of bronze which lay near it, and we must imagine the bone disc hanging independently from the chatelaine and with numerous little objects dangling from it.

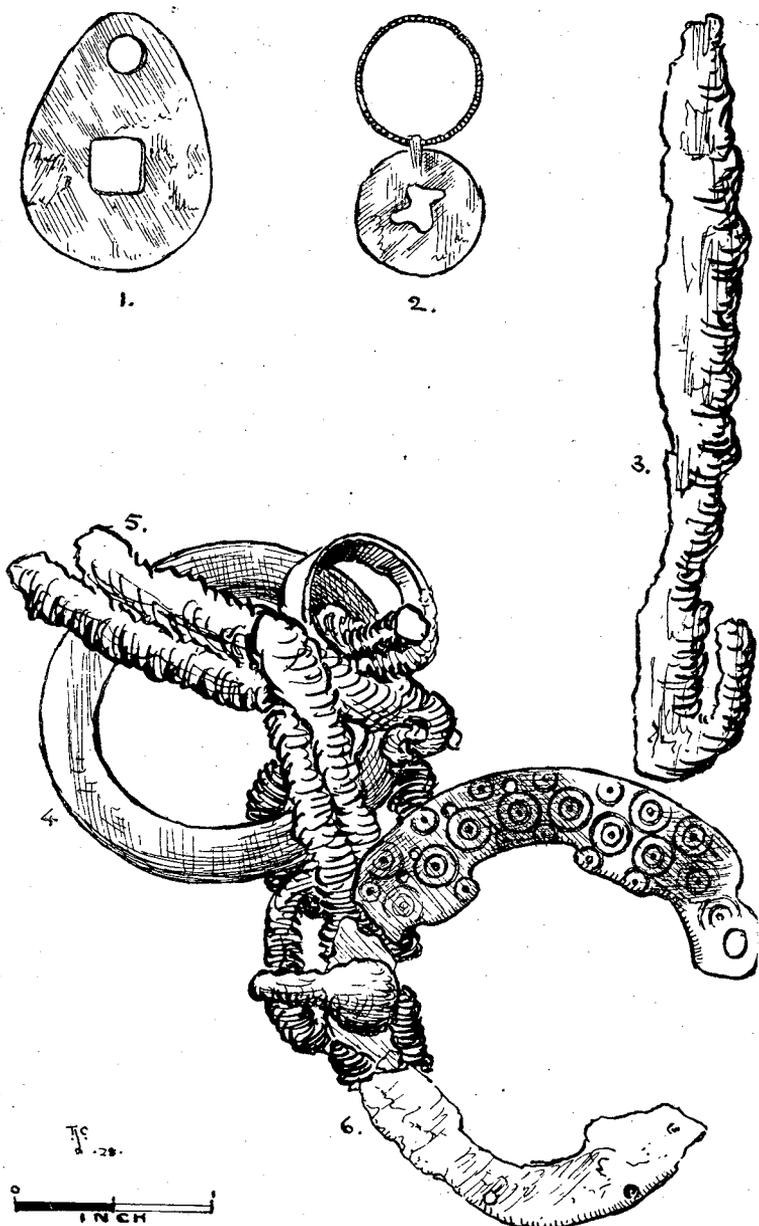


Plate V. Objects from Grave 76.

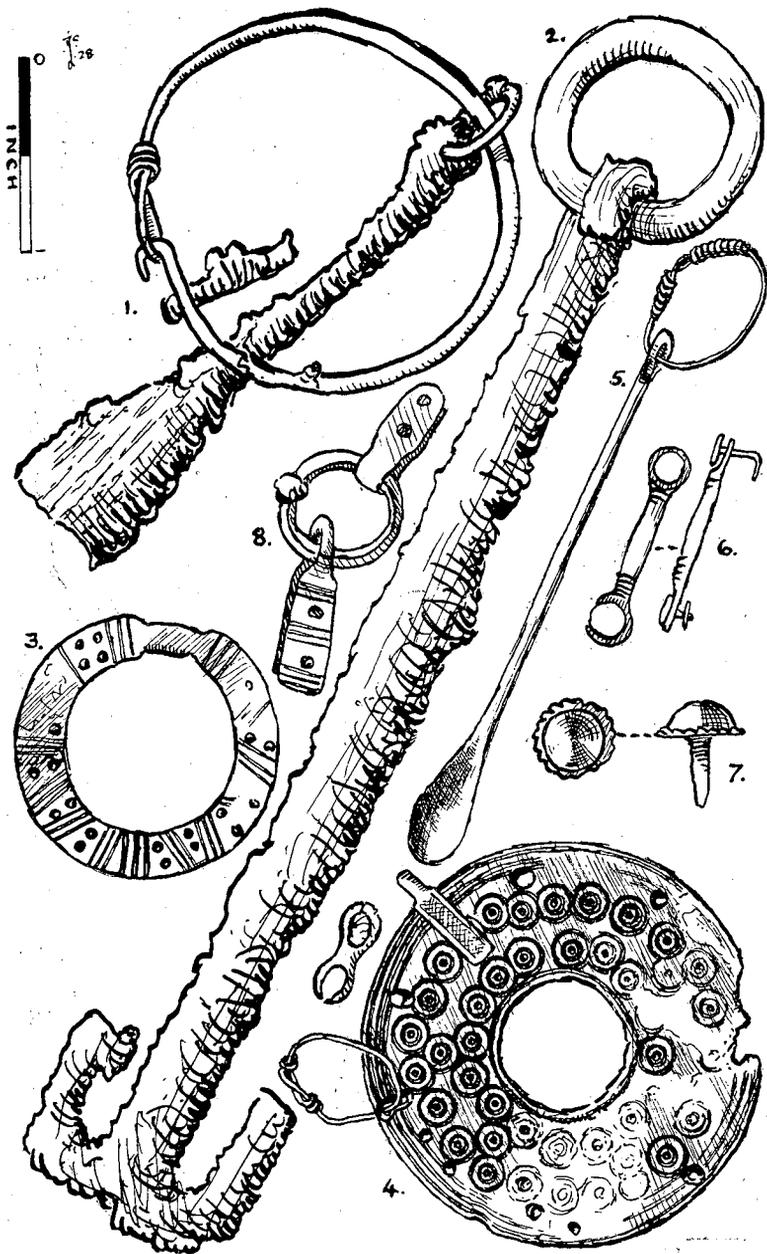


Plate VI. Objects from Grave 83.

The bone disc was, in fact, a "girdle-hanger" swinging loose among keys, spoons, etc., from the chain. We are then, I think, quite safe in assuming that the bone disc found with No. 76 and the silvered bronze disc found last year with No. 55 (*C.A.S. ibid.* Fig. 3, No. 1) were worn in the same manner.

Lastly, a pair of clasps on a bronze ring (Plate VI, No. 8), three hasps (*ibid.* No. 6) like those found with Nos. 3 and 6 in the first year's work (*C.A.S. Communications*, Vol. XXVII, p. 77, Figs. 3 and 6), and two bronze studs (Plate VI, No. 7) with milled edges, appear to have formed the fittings of some small wood or, probably, leather case. Fausset, *op. cit.*, p. 152, figures a piece of openwork doubled leather from Beakesbourn, now in the Liverpool Museum; one similar hasp is still attached to this and we may, I think, be certain that our Burwell specimens were attached to something of a like nature.

On the chest of the skeleton was a very fine bone comb 8 in. long (Plate VII) ornamented with incised lines, circles, etc. The back is cut in a manner recalling the hogging of a horse's mane. The holes at either end were obviously for the attachment of a cord which went round the neck of the wearer. This is borne out by the presence of a green and red bead at both ends of the comb which were evidently strung on this cord also. This comb is an elaborate example of the type of which a specimen was found with No. 32.

On the ankle bones of each leg was a minute bronze object $1\frac{1}{4}$ in. long. These little things are formed of a cylinder of thin bronze plate flattened to a chisel point at one end and left open and split at the other. They are obviously the tags of shoe-laces or garters and were kept on the lace by a minute iron rivet (Plate IV, B 3). I have not yet succeeded in finding a parallel to these interesting and modern-looking objects among the Saxon objects published or preserved in museums.

With the exception of No. 42 this is by far the most interesting grave so far discovered at Burwell.

No. 84. Young child. Head to south. Black bead with white inlay (Plate III, No. 3) at throat. This is the fourth example of this practice of a young child wearing a single bead round its neck (cf. Nos. 35, 46 and 48).

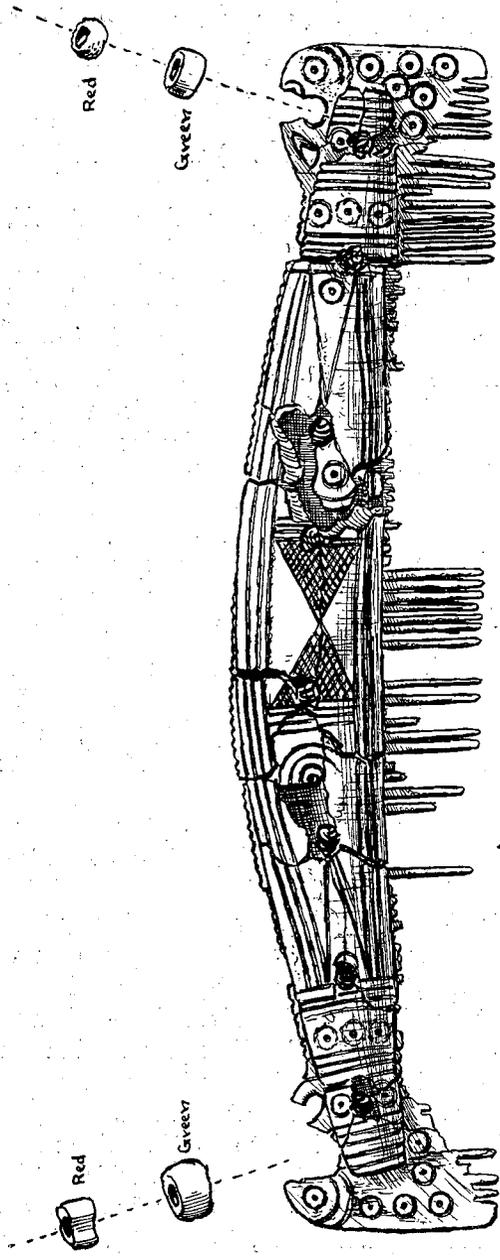


Plate VII. Bone Comb and Beads from Grave 83.

No. 85. Old male. Head to south. Crouched position. Knife at left hip.

No. 90. A young person. Beside the left hip was a large iron "purse-mount" (Plate III, No. 4) and an iron spoon (*ibid.* No. 6).

No. 92. All this skeleton, save the head, shoulders and right arm had been dug away, probably during agricultural operations. By good fortune the bronze buckle and counter-plate (*ibid.* No. 2) and an iron knife had been lying against the right arm and escaped destruction. Back plates similar to this one are not uncommon in the Kentish cemeteries (Fausset, *op. cit.* p. 153, No. 6, p. 61, No. 1, etc.).

No. 94. Head to north-west. Child. Fragments of small shears or knives on left arm. Fragmentary iron buckle on left clavicle.

Summary.

It seems unnecessary to stress each year the abnormal character of this cemetery and its resemblance to those of Kent. But when every important burial conforms to the common Kentish type and differs greatly from local customs this abnormality cannot be overlooked. The chatelaines found this and other years are as common in Kent as they are rare locally. The little wooden chests are Kentish. When an ornamented object, such as the buckle with No. 72, occurs it is not a local form. These instances are only a few taken at random from the many available, and we must hope that further work will explain the whole problem. It may, however, be not out of place to suggest that this is possibly a cemetery later in date than the normal run of pagan burials and represents an obstinate pagan community in, say, the end of the VIIth century when Kentish and Continental fashions may have displaced the old local usage.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL NOTES.

Stone Age. A small, roughly triangular, polished axe with pointed butt and roughly squared sides, made of what appears to be hardened Mudstone, was found some years ago on a field north-east of the Bran Ditch and between the Newmarket-Royston and Fowlmere-Royston roads. It has recently been acquired by the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology.

Bronze Age. A dagger (length 7.4 in.) of Middle Bronze Age type was ploughed out on the surface of a gravel ridge in Burwell Fen between the "Lake" and Running Water Field. The blade is narrow, with a broad, flat midrib; the hilt is imperfect, but was probably of the type with two rivet-holes and two notches, not unlike that from the Thames at Mortlake figured in the *British Museum Bronze Age Guide*, Fig. 11. The interest of this specimen lies in the fact that it is only one of a series of Bronze Age implements which have from time to time been ploughed off this gravel ridge, and we must assume that there was some trackway along here in Bronze Age times. A very fine palstave of Middle Bronze Age type was found here some years ago, and numerous other specimens are known.

The only other Bronze Age specimen which has come to light during the year is a Middle Bronze Age palstave of early type which was found during hoeing at Swaffham Prior.

Increasing activity recently on the part of the dredgers in the Fen rivers has produced many objects of archaeological interest, and we are indebted to the officials and workmen for the preservation of some important antiquities. Among these are a bronze bowl of the Early Iron Age and several mediaeval weapons.

In the early Spring of 1928 a bronze bowl (Pl. I, Fig. 2) was dredged from the bed of the River Wissey opposite Heringay Hill, near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk. It is an unusually fine example of a type originating in the La Tène Period in this country. It is hemispherical in shape, with an omphalos base; and is made of thin bronze, finished on the lathe, the rim being thickened and at the same time ornamented by being hammered from the top. This beautiful bowl is so well pre-



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PLATE I.

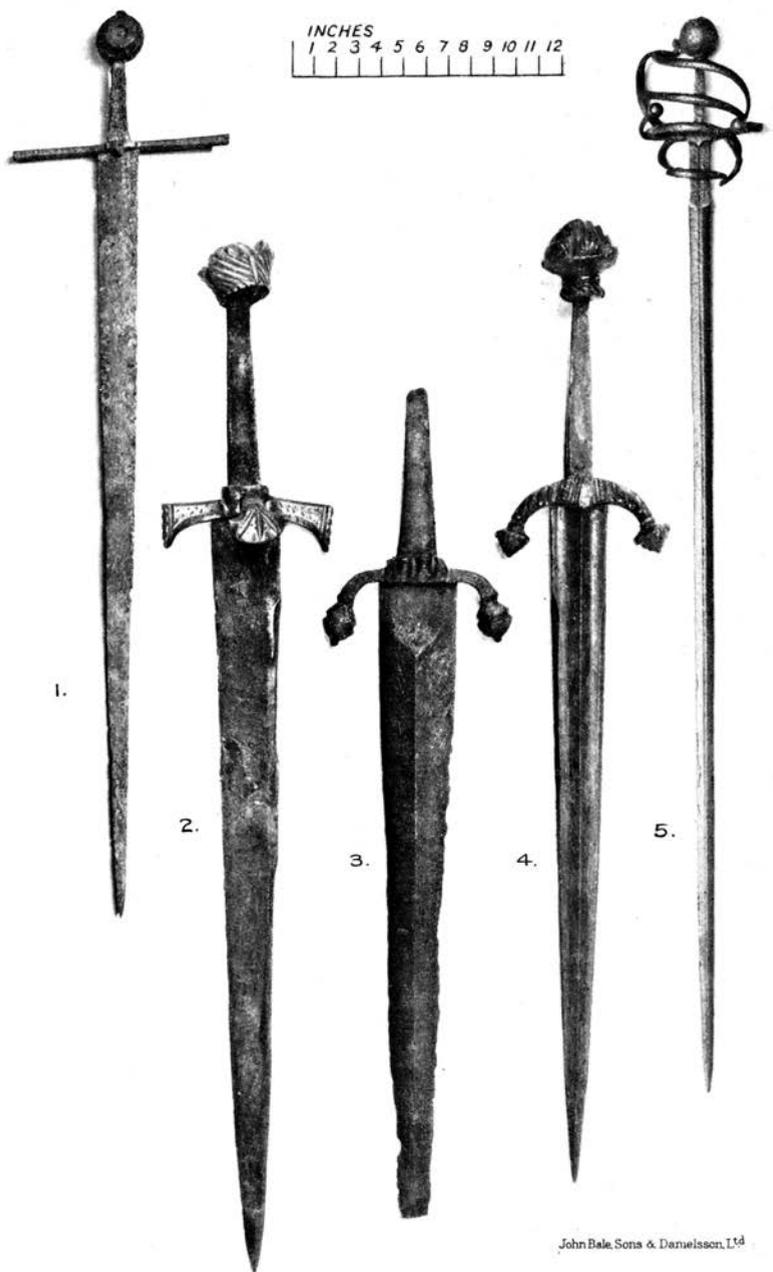


PLATE II.

served that the original golden colour of the metal is almost unspoiled.

A fragmentary iron sword, lacking the hilt, was found in the Old West River, a short distance downstream from Aldreth High Bridge. Without the hilt it is impossible to date it with any accuracy, but the broad central "blood-groove" of the blade suggests a date in the Viking or Early Mediaeval Periods.

A mediaeval sword (Pl. II, Fig. 1), later in date than the last specimen, was dredged from the River Ouse under the bridge at Ten Mile Bank, near Southery, Norfolk. This is the finest mediaeval sword in the Museum collection. Its tapering blade is without rib or groove; the guard is straight and unusually wide; the pommel is of the wheel form and has on both sides a circular countersinking which probably contained originally an enamel setting keyed by the little sunken boss. Comparison with monumental effigies and brasses suggests a XIVth century date for this sword.

A stoppage in the working of the suction dredger while deepening the Cam opposite the Cambridge Gasworks was found to be caused by a beautifully preserved mediaeval dagger having jammed in the wall of the pipe (Pl. II, Fig. 2). This dagger is a fine example of a well-known type of which there are already two specimens in the Museum. The blade is single-edged, the back being chamfered in two places and the point thickened for piercing chain-mail. The pommel and guard are of brass; the pommel being shaped like a crown, the straight guard having a spur at either end directed towards the point and a shell-shaped projection in the middle for fixing the dagger in the belt. A smith's mark in copper is let into the blade. This dagger probably belongs to the Plantagenet Period. The Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology is much indebted to Mr G. P. Hawkins and the Cam Conservancy Board, by whom it was presented.

A mediaeval dagger of much the same period as the last specimen was dredged up, three or four years ago, from the River Cam, by the Plough Inn, Fen Ditton, where it was found by Mr L. D. Pratt, who has now very kindly presented it to the Museum (Pl. II, Fig. 3). It is double-edged, with a

midrib so pronounced that the blade is of diamond cross-section. The pommel and point are unfortunately wanting; but the quillons are well preserved and are of drooping form with bulbous terminals filed into grooves and notches. The only other specimen of this type in the Museum (Pl. II, Fig. 4), of unknown provenance, but almost certainly from the Fens, shows that the pommel was not unlike the terminals of the quillons, but larger and more ornate.

Elizabethan swords are not so common that the recent acquisition by the Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology of a very fine rapier of that period and of local provenance can be overlooked (Pl. II, Fig. 5). It is very long (4 ft. 1 in.); the blade has a central "blood-groove"; the pommel and quillons appear to have been at one time painted. The type has affinities with Spanish weapons of the period, but there is no reason to assume that it is of any but English manufacture. It was found in the river locally; the exact locality is uncertain, but the late owner believed it to have been dredged up from the Cam at Dimmock's Cote, near Upware. It was for many years in the possession of the Wiles family at Waterbeach.

A Pyx (Pl. I, Fig. 1) was found by Mr Edward Chamberlain when cleaning out the bottom of Offa's Brook between Newton and Fowlmere. It is made of brass, but must originally have been at least partially gilded, as in the Roman Catholic Church no metal but gold may come into contact with the consecrated Elements. No trace of gilding is now visible. The conical finial of the lid has a cup-shaped depression on the top which is now empty; but Mr Chamberlain states that when he found the Pyx in the mud an object resembling a marble fell from it and could not be recovered. This was possibly a jewel. The Pyx is undecorated save for some groups of incised lines encircling the body. It is probably of XIVth or XVth century date. The extreme rarity of Pyxes of English origin makes this a very important acquisition.

All the above objects have been acquired by the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, having been, with the exception of the two mediaeval daggers, purchased out of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society's grant.

T. C. L.
M. O'R.

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