

ceiling of the choir was groined, the screens renewed, and the whole structure beautified, according to one writer; but the same work is thus referred to by another:—"A great amount of ancient work was destroyed, the fine oak ceiling was broken up, and plaster groining inserted below it, and the exquisite screens between the choir piers, together with the ancient Bishop's throne were removed, and replaced by modern work of very coarse and inappropriate design." In 1856, the present excellent restoration was completed by Mr. Christian, and now one feels and says as our ancestors did a hundred years ago, "the whole structure has been improved and beautified." Some future antiquary may mourn over our ruthless barbarity, but I trust he will deal tenderly, and say, as we should say of church restorers of a hundred years ago, their intentions were good if their taste was execrable.

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ART. IV.—*Roman Remains, recently found in Carlisle.* By Dr. Bruce.

*Read in the Fraternity, Carlisle, November 7th, 1866.*

I HAVE been asked to give some account of the Roman remains recently found in Carlisle. Before doing so, allow me to congratulate you upon the formation of this Society. As Englishmen, we must be interested in the past history of our country. Unhappily a large part of the earliest history of Britain is mainly dependent upon the researches of the antiquary: it must be dug out of the ground by the spade and the pickaxe. Even in cases where the historian does come to our aid, the researches of the antiquary are often necessary in order to correct his chronology and rectify many of his statements. For example, the statements of Gildas, the first British historian, as he is called, can only receive full credence when they have been sifted and rectified by the Roman inscriptions, and the hordes of coins which are turned up from time to time. Even in cases where we have to deal with historians of undoubted credit, the researches of the antiquary lend additional interest to the pictures of the annalist. Tacitus, for example, tells us that Agricola commenced the battle of the Grampians by ordering forward some Tungrian and Batavian cohorts. How interesting it is to find buried in some of  
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the wildest parts of the North of England, where they must have lain undisturbed since the days of Roman occupation, slabs and altars carved by Roman hands, which mention both Batavian and Tungrian cohorts. The stone gives vitality to the lettered page.

In Cumberland a vast field opens itself to the labours of an archæological society. The ancient roads of this part of the country are yet to be accurately traced. In Northumberland much has been done in this matter, and that almost entirely through the agency of one honoured individual—the late Duke of Northumberland. At his request, Mr. Lauchlan not only surveyed the Roman Wall, but the Watling Street from the Scottish border to the Tees, the Devil's Causeway, and the various branch roads communicating with these. He also surveyed the ancient British and the Saxon and Danish encampments in large districts of that county. He is now laying down the combined results of all his investigations in a map of ancient Northumberland. It is, perhaps, not too late to undertake a similar work for Cumberland. It may be that some large-hearted nobleman, with ample means, will resolve that it shall be done. But if it be thought too great a task for individual enterprise, the combined efforts of a society like this, might accomplish much. The facilities for doing it are greater now than they ever were. The sheet plans of the ordnance survey form an excellent ground-work for such a map. No doubt, where the ancient roads are still to be seen, they will be laid down by the ordnance surveyors, but in the majority of instances these roads have been ploughed up, and their former existence can only be ascertained from the testimony of old men, and the records of the local historians of the last century. There is no time to be lost; each winter makes sad havoc amongst those who were plough-boys in 1801. I am more anxious upon this subject, for I feel sure that important results would appear.

It seems to me that the Romans took a firmer grasp of Cumberland than of any other part of the North of England. Besides the stations on the wall, including Burdoswald and Bowness and all between, a chain of forts, the chief of which was Maryport, has extended along the coast. These have evidently been intended to prevent the enemy, whether from Scotland or Ireland, landing within the wall. A road has connected these coast defences. Besides all this, several stations, many of them at some distance from the wall and the sea coast, have been planted in the interior with the view of sustaining the

the garrisons that would have to bear the first brunt of hostile aggression. Such were Old Carlisle, Plumpton, Papcastle, and others. A net work of roads has evidently connected all these camps together.

How desirable it is that all these stations, and fortlets, and roads should be clearly set down in a map of ancient Cumberland. And besides, every ancient British barrow and camp, every Danish camp, every Border tower and Peel house ought to be carefully marked.

There is another matter connected with Roman antiquities that some members of this society might undertake. I refer to the formation of accurate catalogues of Roman coins that have been found in any particular locality. Such catalogues would be of historic importance. Coins give us an approximate idea of the time during which any station has been occupied by Roman troops. On examining a list of coins you can form some idea of the degree of activity which has prevailed at different times in the station in which they were found. I had the advantage of examining last week the coins at Nether Hall, which have been found in the neighbouring station of Maryport. They have been carefully arranged by Mr. Senhouse, of the last generation. I am disposed to think that the station was first occupied by Hadrian, and that Marcus Mænius Agrippa, the personal friend of his father, whose name occurs on some of the altars found, was the engineer employed in its construction. At the time Hadrian visited England, A.D. 120, the coins of his predecessor, Trajan, would constitute the larger part of the currency of the empire. It would be mingled also with some of the coins of previous reigns, and a few pieces of the republican era. After the time of Antoninus the coins diminish in number. It is remarkable that the only coins of the time of Severus are one of his wife, and one of his youngest son. From evidence akin to this, I am disposed to think that Severus chiefly expended his energies in the central part of the line—the path that he chose for his advance into Scotland, and by which he probably retreated. At all events, a carefully constructed catalogue of all the coins found in the various localities occupied by the Romans in Northumberland and Cumberland would throw light upon the subject. To revert once more to the collection of coins at Netherhall, I notice that the number increases during the reigns of what are called the “thirty tyrants,” several of them being supposed to have assumed the purple in Britain and Gaul. The number belonging to Constantine the  
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great is considerable, thirteen. The usurpation of Carausius and Allectus had been put down, and Britain, in common with the rest of the world, enjoyed peace. The intercourse with Rome must have been considerable. The station must have been in a state of poverty towards the close of the series. Of Valentinian I., who died in 375, there is only one coin; of Theodosius who died in 395, there is only one; and the same is the case with the last reign, of which there is an example, that of Honorius. The date of this last coin I take to be A.D. 417. In a year or two after that time the station was probably abandoned. Objections will, I know, be brought against any conclusions derived from a single collection of coins. Accidental circumstances may influence it. That is true, but if we have a numerous body of catalogues to reason upon, we may build our conclusions with safety, for in this case the law of averages comes to our aid. Amongst the coins at Netherhall are several pewter denarü. As they were dug out of the camp there is no doubt that they are ancient forgeries. As early as the period of Claudius, false coins were imported into Britain.

I have been speaking of Roman coins—a collection of English coins would have a corresponding value. If all the coins of the fourteenth century that have been found in Cumberland had been carefully catalogued, we should have been able to trace with greater accuracy than at present the marches of the three first Edwards to and from Scotland.

One thing I wish much this society would undertake, and that is the preparation of an accurate map of Roman Carlisle. I am persuaded that Carlisle has been a place of great importance in the Roman period. It was the seat of comfort and luxury, and hence, also, probably of commerce. The ornaments and vessels found in it are much superior to those found in the stations of the Wall. If all that are still in existence could be collected in one place, it would be found to what an extent the elegancies and luxuries of life were enjoyed in it. A map might surely be prepared, marking the course of the wall which probably surrounded it, its gates, its principal streets, the spots where the most important remains have been found, its wells, its burying ground, and other details. A memoir of Roman Carlisle, after the model of Mr. C. Roach Smith's Roman London, would be an effort worthy of this Society.

Another point of great importance which may be accomplished by this Society is the preservation of the sculptured and inscribed stones in which this neighbourhood abounds. In the  
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south of England there is an almost total absence of these memorials of an era long past. We are rich in them. On us devolves the responsibility of taking care of them and rendering them easily accessible to all who wish to study them. An individual digs up an altar, he is pleased with it at first, but when the novelty is worn off, he ceases to care about it, and gives it away. It is soon lost sight of, and then is destroyed. And then again, great labour and expense is imposed upon those who study Roman antiquities by the wide diffusion of the remains of even a single station. In the course of my own investigation of the antiquities of the Wall, I have often had to undertake a whole day's travel to see a single altar; and to save myself a journey and voyage to the Isle of Man, I had to have sent me the cast of an altar which had been taken from Maryport to Castleton. It is important that the antiquities found in this neighbourhood should, as much as possible, be concentrated together. If a museum could be formed in Carlisle, upon a permanent basis, much good might result; if it cannot be formed, I would recommend that the inscriptions that are at present scattered about should be sent to museums that are already established, and of whose permanence there can be no doubt. I have to apologize for my boldness in making these suggestions. I pray you give them only so much attention as they may be found worth. My interest in the subject and my desire for your prosperity have influenced me in saying thus much.

Having read so far, Dr. Bruce said that circumstances had prevented him writing more, and he proceeded to describe *ex-tempore* a number of Roman altars recently discovered in Cumberland, illustrations of which were placed in the hands of the visitors. When he was recently examining some antiquities at Netherby an intelligent farmer had expressed his surprise that "the Romans had copied so famously our English letters." Children at school were little aware from what source they derived the very first elements of knowledge—the Romans were their first schoolmasters. Among the altars which Dr. Bruce proceeded to describe were some found during the excavations in Carlisle for the sewerage works, and for the offices of the *Carlisle Journal*, one found at Maryport, (now in the possession of Lord Lonsdale) and one discovered the other day at Silloth. With respect to the altar found at Silloth, Dr. Bruce said it was about ten inches high. At Skinburness there had been an ancient harbour or creek before the year 1301, and there was a thriving borough or port; but

but a great eruption of the sea carried away the harbour and greatly damaged the town. The making of a harbour at Silloth recently had changed the sweep of the sea, which had exposed a quantity of boulder stones upon the shore, and this altar had been found. The conclusion he drew from it was that the Romans had had a little fortress at Skinburness. The altar bore the inscription "Matribus Parcis." Dr. Bruce also described a Roman coin of which there was an illustration upon the sheet in the hands of the members. Those Roman coins, he remarked, were wonderful productions, and it was important to have contemporary portraits of the rulers of the earth in those days. They could be perfectly certain as to their accurateness. Unlike the portraits of the Queen upon our coins—which were always the same—we frequently found their growth from youth to age. Nero, he had found on many of the coins, as a chubby-cheeked innocent-looking youth, and at last as a bloated sensualist. Commenting upon the names found upon some of the altars, Dr. Bruce said they showed that Spaniards, people from Languedoc or elsewhere, had been among us, and they proved how vigorous were the efforts made by the Romans to subdue England and to keep it in their possession. He had no doubt that the discipline which the people of this country underwent in those times had been of the greatest service in forming the English character.

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ART. V.—*Lanercost, a Roman Station.* By the Rev. J. Maughan, Rector of Bewcastle.

Read at Penrith, July 11th, 1867.

IN entering upon a discussion of this question I would observe that in the "Notitia Imperii" we find a list of twenty-three stations, which is headed "Item per lineam valli." This list gives us the name by which each of the stations was designated at the time when the book was written, and it also informs us by what body of soldiers each of the stations was guarded at that time. From the expression "*per lineam valli*;" i.e. "along the line of the wall," we may assume that these stations were either connected with the Roman Wall, or in its immediate vicinity. The words certainly appear to imply this much, and to bear this definite application. In their