

upon his Oath, but may from time to time deliver or send in the same, under his Hand and Seal upon his Honour only.

Prohibited—That if any of the said Titles or Degrees shall not die possessed of a Real or Personal Estate of 1000*l.* value, such Certificates to be Received, Filed, and Registered *Gratis*.

A Penalty of £20 upon the Officers of Arms and their Deputies for default of delivering in, Filing or Registering the Certificates in the Office of Arms according to the act.

A Proviso for excusing such of the country who by the Act are to deliver their certificates at the Sessions from doing it, these in case they shall do it at the Office of Arms, within the time limited for doing it at the Sessions.

ART. V.—*Fragments at St. Bees.* By the REV. CANON KNOWLES, M.A., St Bees.

OUR readers will, I hope, forgive the many faults of my illustrations, which are made from pen and ink sketches, as some of our stones are inaccessible to the photographer, and others are beyond his art, (since their meaning is caught by no single effect of sunlight, but by patient study at different times of the day) while others either have been destroyed, since I sketched them years ago, or are again buried beneath the church by ignorant and unwatched workmen.

I preface my short account with our two effigies of knights (XXXI, XXXII). One, the earlier, bears the shield of an Ireby (?) and is, I think, evidently of the 13th century: the other dates late in the 14th: both are much mutilated, but are preserved from all but the weather, as they lie within railings, on the vault of the Spedding family.

The rest of the fragments range from the eighth century (probably) to the middle of the 14th.

ANTE-NORMAN.

I. The impost of a door of St. Bega's nunnery or chapel is in its shape (at least) Irish.

This venerable stone was built into the south aisle wall of the nave, 1150-1180, and was removed in 1868 to its present

present place opposite the west front, whence I hope to bring it ere long into shelter.

II. The church-yard cross stands, I think, in its original socket, but is headless and shortened;—on the south side it is so much the worse for wear, that after long study, I have set a note of interrogation against my drawing, where the interlaced pattern is most difficult to trace, as I am not satisfied with my result; unfortunately the stone shews signs of recent lamination and decay: I cannot date it later than the 9th century. The triquetra of interlaced work is traceable on it.

III and IV are, or rather were, for they are destroyed or buried again, of the same or an earlier age. I sketched them some twenty years since, and deeply regret their disappearance.

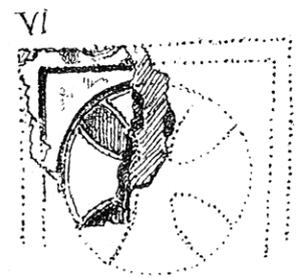
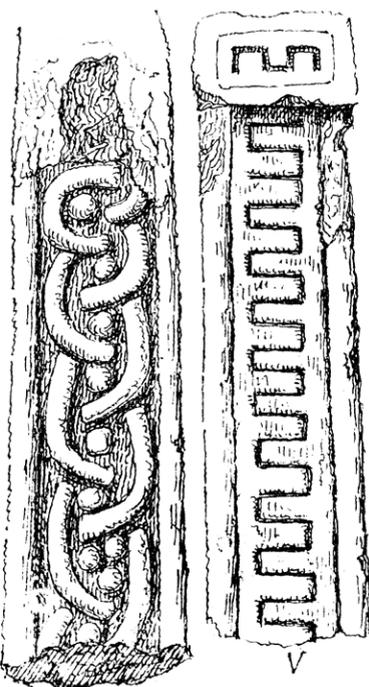
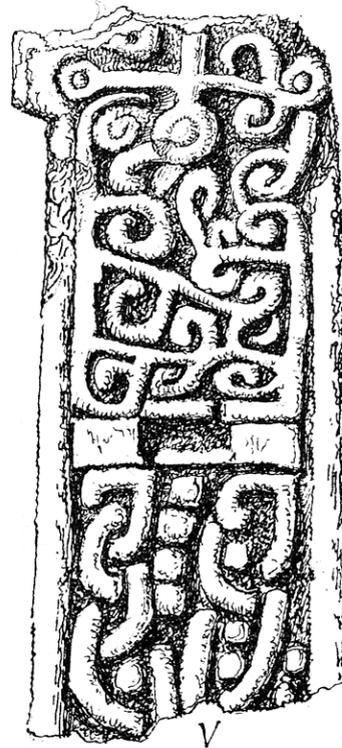
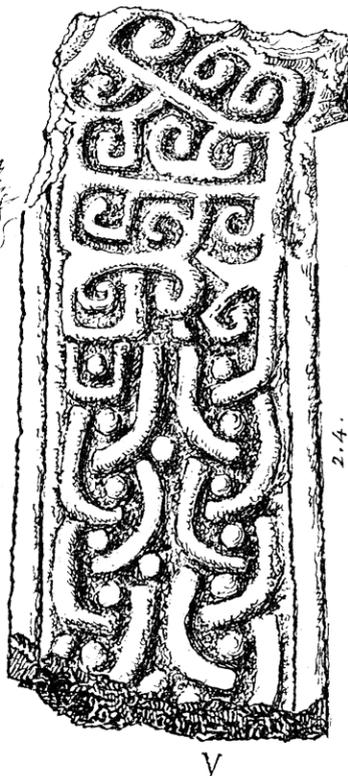
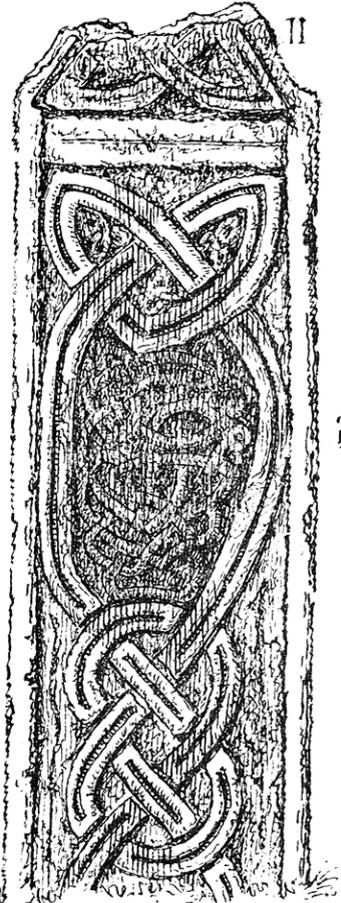
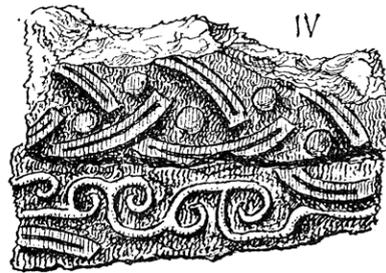
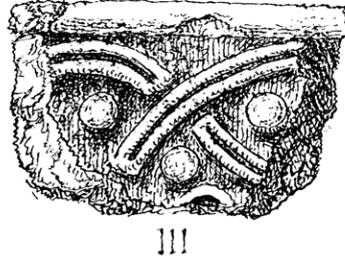
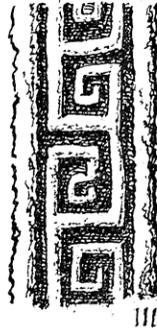
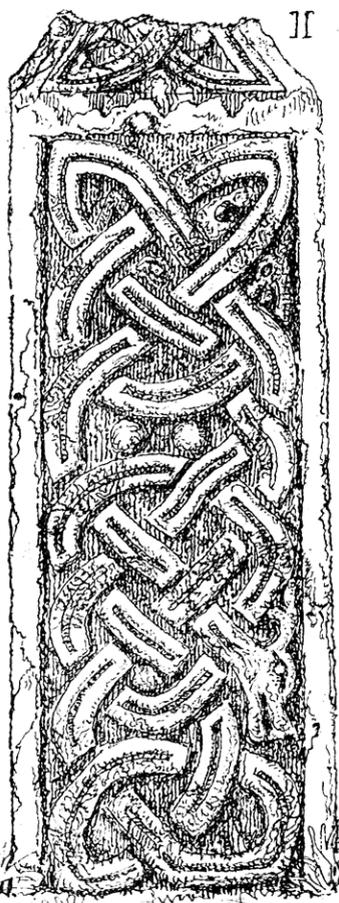
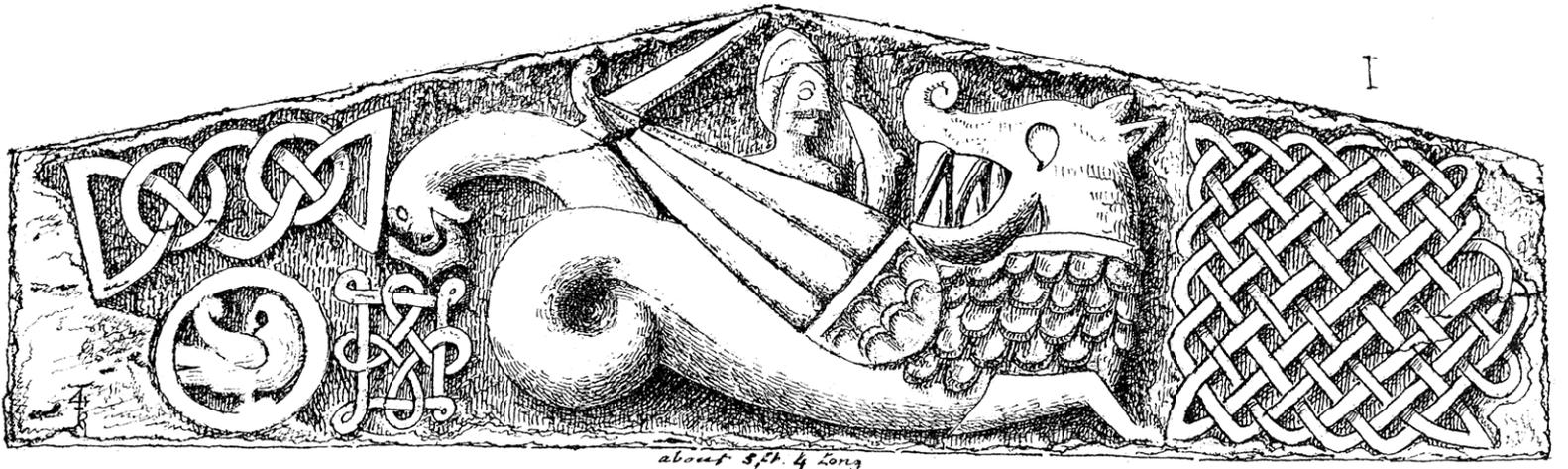
Here I may suggest to our readers, the constant peril to which such interesting fragments are exposed. In 1864 I left Saint Bees for seven years, and on my return, found that many of my ancient favourites had been carried away, and probably used as rubble in the new walls, or in the sub-piers of the floor, viz., nearly the whole of a beautiful transition door-head, (1180), as fine as the west door of Calder Abbey, and several other choice remains.

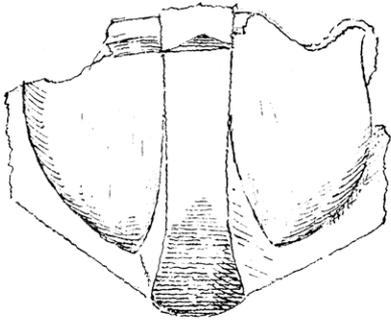
During the work of 1872, the upper part of IV. came again to light, and I eagerly placed it, as I thought, in safety, but business called me away, and within a few hours it was gone. Conservative antiquarians cannot afford to wait.

V. which was found *underneath* the west front, is the rudest and probably the earliest fragment remaining to us; only one shoulder is left, above which, of course, the crosshead stood, as in the old cross found at Lancaster, (10th century or earlier). I am inclined to think that our stone dates from the 8th century.

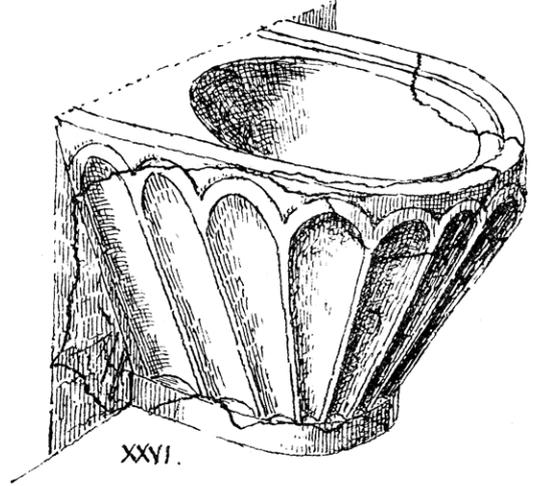
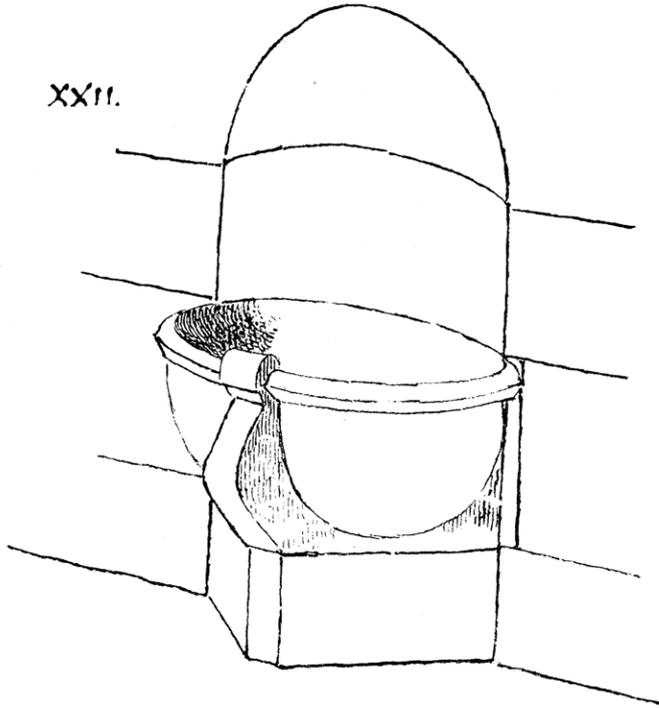
LATE NORMAN, AFTER 1150.

XV and XVII are safe, being fixed to the west wall of the north transept; the latter doubtless is the memorial of some forester of the priory.

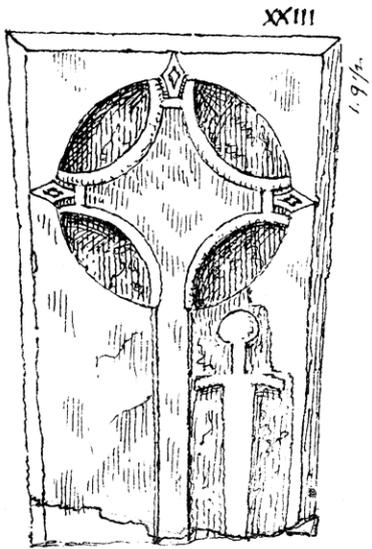




XXII.

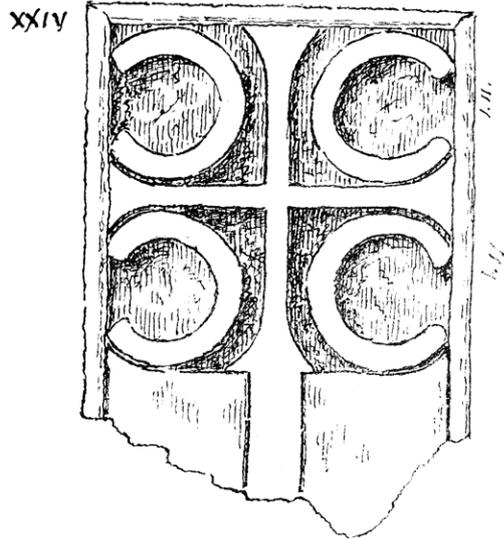


XXVI.



XXIII

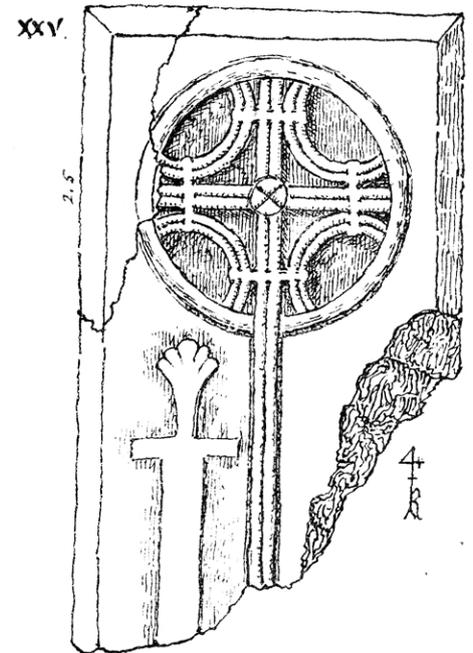
1.9 1/2



XXIV

1.11

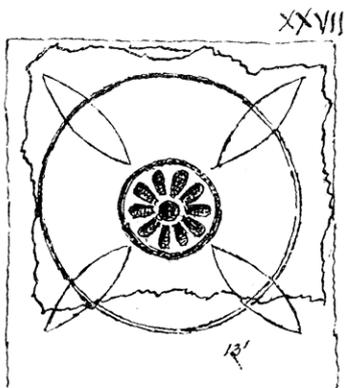
1.17



XXV

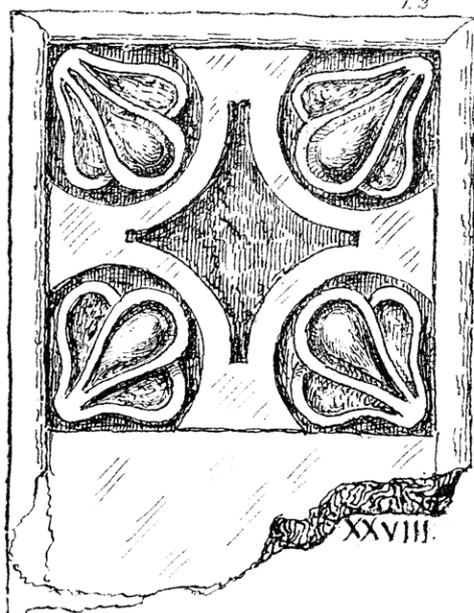
2.5

4
R



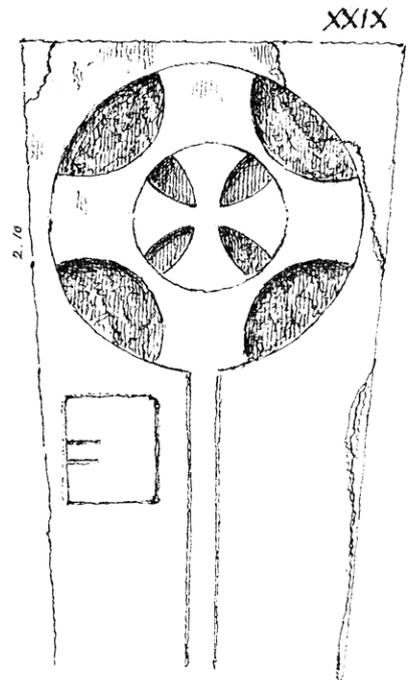
XXVII

1.3



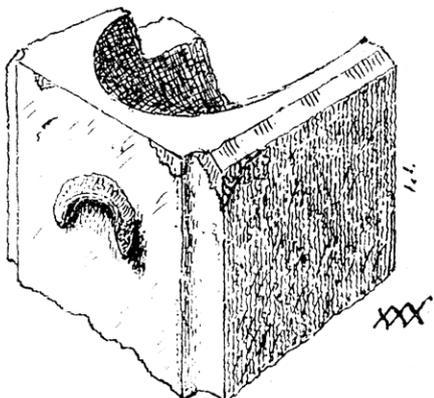
XXVIII

1.3



XXIX

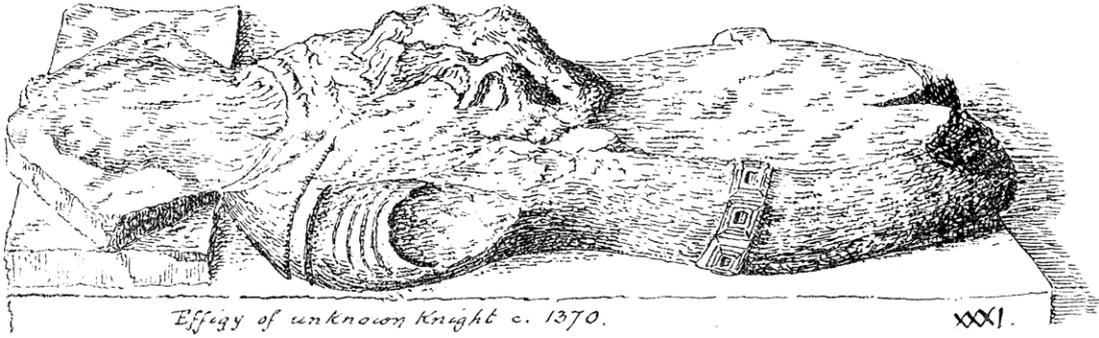
2.10



XXX

Fragments at St. Bees

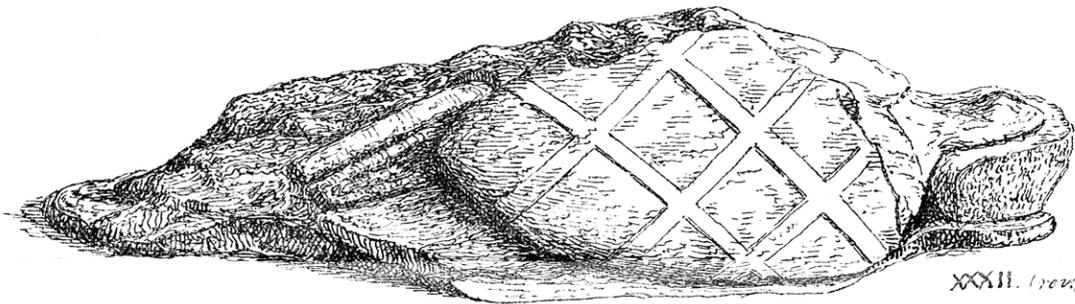
4
R



Effigy of unknown knight c. 1370.

XXXI.

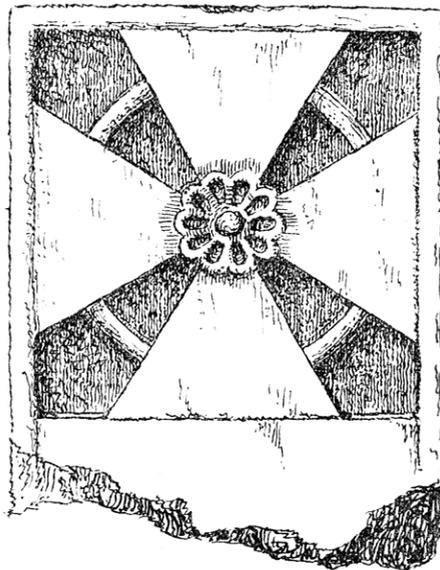
Traces of Epaulières, camail, jupon?,
+ baudric $\frac{4}{11}$



XXXII. (rev.)

Effigy of an Ireby. (?) late 13th Century..

No traces of mail, traces of surcoat, hood,
waist-belt; shield tolerably perfect.
Sword mutilated



XXVIII.

(rev.)

$\times 15\frac{1}{4} > 4$



Incised Stone. Prior Thomas de Celyngham
died. 1300.

3 ins. 1 ft.

4
R

S'v'Boed
1873.

XI is now lost—I sketched it with care many years ago, but without measuring it exactly: it was, I think, intended to lie under the head of the corpse, as it was dug up from a considerable depth in the church-yard.

XX, XXIII, XXIV, XXV, XXVII, XXVIII, XXIX (the last of a deacon) are all probably prior in dates to the 13th century.

13TH CENTURY.

X, XII, XIII, XIV, XIX, XXI, must all be placed early—XIX seems to have been a corpse cross, and possibly stood in a socket, which, as I remember, remained some time ago on two steps, about a mile out of St. Bees, on the low or newer Whitehaven road. It has been recently restored to the church by the kindness of Mr. William Fox, from a hedge-bank where it had lain for many years.

IX is a very valuable example of very early armorial bearings, but I cannot assign to it a date prior to 1250.

VII and VIII both belong to this century (1220-1250). VI is a mere fragment, and XXI must be rather older.

We have but three inscribed stones in our collection, (unless the narrow panel in the south front of II be thought to have been one).

The earliest of these, XVI, records the death of Walter de Hualton, May 1281, and though sadly mutilated, shews on one side traces of early decorated ornament. Prior Cotyngham's stone (represented on a separate page) was found broken into more than seventy pieces, but has been very cleverly restored, and is now safe within the College building.—A better example of the flat incised stone it would be hard to find. Nothing is known about Prior Thomas Cotyngham, but that he died A.D. 1300. The words on the tomb, which are destroyed, may have been BONE MEMORIE.

14TH CENTURY.

XVIII. Lady Johanna Lucy must have been buried here during the reign of Edward the third: her stone is, as
might

might be expected, very inferior in style and work to Prior Cotyngnam's, it is without date, and bears only her "hic jacet," with the then usual prayer.

XXVI is of course a late Norman piscina probably belonging to the altar of the original apse.

XXII is a very curious, and I think, in spite of a doubtful trace of ogee in the profile of the rim, a very early stoup: the second sketch attempts to shew the way in which it stood against the wall; it is shaped like the bluff bow of a vessel, is roughly wrought, and does not resemble any stoup within my knowledge, and I do not venture to give it a date, though I believe that it is Ante-Norman.

XXX puzzles me yet more, its corners are cut with a cavetto, and on this, at the sides, but not in front, comes a chamfer; the crescent-shaped projection has been thought to be the bearing of the Percies, but I believe it to be a handle for lifting, as the inside has certainly been used for a mortar.

In conclusion, I wish to add my hope that the present brief essay may be but the first of many like contributions to our Society's reports. So many most interesting remains are by neglect perishing and passing from us, that it is very important to record, and by photograph or drawing, to give a trustworthy representation of these which yet are left.

ART.