

ART. IV.—*A Plea for the Old Names.* By MISS POWLEY,
Langwathby.

Read at Windermere, June 4th, 1878.

AT this first meeting for the season, in a locality so interesting, I venture to say a few words for a class of archæic remains which from various causes seem in some danger of being wasted or lost, and which, though they may not be very prominent or imposing, are incontestible as evidence of ethnological, topographical, and historical changes which have passed over the land. I mean the old local names, which it may be possible for a Society like this, with all the power and scope of a Topographical Society, and the aid of so many local members, and of the old residents wherever it is asked—to preserve; even if the old landmarks are to be obliterated, and the old rights to pass into the hands of strangers. There is no reason to fear for the long-established or celebrated names, as of our British mountains, our Roman stations or their traces, or of the stately castles and venerable churches and ruined abbeys,—they are all so well cared for, and excellently illustrated—as well as the streets of towns, the parish registers, and family records—by members of the Society. It is for the names of lonely and desert places, and of the common fields that I plead. They are often of extreme antiquity; names given long before enclosures and title deeds, and they are often confirmatory of tradition or history. But they are also often intimately connected with our dialect, and thus not likely to be appreciated by strangers, unless we who understand their significance and appropriateness in the past, can by our own care, bespeak for them a more general reverence and acceptance. For instance, I find the name of our most renowned tumulus, Dunmail Raise, lettered on a small county map professing to be based upon the Ordnance Survey,

vey, as "Dumnel Wray's Stone." Traditionally the burial mound of the "last King of Rocky Cumberland," and the division of two counties, this fine old Scandinavian word *Ræs*, Dan. ; *reisa*, v.a. Icelandic, to raise ; *that which is raised* over an illustrious grave,—had no association there. I think the name is found only in these two counties, though there are many mounds of the same character in other English counties with other names. I have not been able to discover from the accounts of Canon Greenwell or Mr. Clifton Ward whether there is any distinction between those Raises and other burial mounds bearing such names as Lodden How or Kempow. They may be only variations of expression by the same people. *Kempe hæi* is the common name of the numerous and well-recognised warrior's graves in Denmark.

There seems to be great dignity in our peculiar old word (Raise), with all its mystery and reticence, for it tells little beyond the fact, *which people gave the name* ; it gives no hint of the tenant of the grave, nor of his race or era. The same mode of burial was so general among Pagan peoples, not only in the north of Europe, but also in some Eastern lands, for the brave and exalted among their warriors, that, as one race succeeded another, by conquest or otherwise, the recognition was universal on coming to such a grave—that there some great and brave leader was laid to his rest by his sorrowing and admiring followers, with all the reverence and honour they could bestow, for his sake and their own. It was indeed the general style of testimonial to honour in death in ages of unsettled Heathenism, and its sign universally intelligible ; commanding the involuntary homage of the brave and earnest of succeeding and alien peoples—even to Christian times. According to the description of a Danish writer, not long ago :* "Let the old grave mounds remain, and disturb them not. They keep the remembrance of great and good men

* Danske Volkskalender, 1872.

who

who strove for honour and country, for something above the meat and drink and the things that perish!" And then the aged speaker told how an advancing host would halt by the grave, and with doffed helms and moistened eyes, would sing the *Song of Roland*. Whether this ever happened before Dunmail Raise we do not know, but it may have been so; and we do know that the Norman warriors the night before the battle of Hastings sang the Song of Roland and Roncevalles. It is significant that where one of these considerable raises is found it seems to be a sort of centre, and of antiquity sufficient to give names to surrounding features of the landscape. Below Dunmail Raise there is, in Nicolson & Burn's map, Raisebeck—R. At Orton, also, there is a Raise, and a Raisebeck, Raisgill and Raisgill Hall. Raisbeck is a family name in Westmorland. When Raise occurs in the fell-side parishes, where northern words often are best preserved, it is usually found in descriptions of boundaries, as in Alston parish—"As heaven water deals from Blakelaw to High Raise." In the parochial boundaries of Penrith is mentioned a White Raise. In those of Addingham are Greenfell Raise and Tod Raise. There is Stone Raise near Wigton, and Raiselands near Penrith, both names of farms; and in Hutchinson's History of Cumberland is said, "There are in the parishes of Edenhall and Lazonby still considerable remains of stones which go by the names of Raises, though many of them have been carried away, and all of them out of their ancient form and order."—Vol. 1., p. 252. Near Great Salkeld Dykes is also a Raise, one near Greystoke, and one at Mellfell. In late days, *cairn* is becoming the general name for these burial mounds and barrows, and it is convenient, as being better understood; though it is a Celtic word not belonging to these counties, nor entering into any old name that I know, and there seems danger of its being introduced by inconsiderate persons where it has no business, to supersede an old word which some years ago was universally prevalent

prevalent in field and other names of obscure places. *Carr*, which our local glossarists and Bosworth said was A.S., a rock; but which I found in our own parish and elsewhere to be a swamp or pool, always low-lying land, often by a river. The light broke in when I found that *Kær* is Danish, a pool; Icelandic, *kiorr*, marsh, morass; and though in Bailey's and other old dictionaries I found afterwards the word, it seems to have been singularly forgotten for many years. Southey says of Potteric *Carr*,* that the derivation of the word is unknown. It must once have been in use as a noun in Cumberland, as in Nicolson and Burn's History, "The manor of Parton extended from Cattbeck to the Carr's Mouth, where Powbeck falls into Wampool," and in the Latin description of boundaries of Wetheral parish, *Carr*. Syke is associated with such names as Sawbeke, Wragmire, &c.; and I see mentioned the *Carn* rivulet thereabouts, which may be an adjectival form or a variation of the word, in this, as in other such parishes, as Carnwath, Blencarn,—always in old history or maps spelt thus,—or Blenkarn. As a family name it is spelt with k, yet this has of late been often written Blencairn; and Cairn-bridge, lately in newspapers, near Cumwhitton, I fear, is over the old Carn or Karn rivulet, as no tumulus has ever been heard of in either locality; indeed, the nature of the ground of both, in those prehistoric times, as indicated by the names bestowed upon them by the Northmen, precluded their being chosen as battle ground, or as a place of desirable sepulture. It seems that the wish to change old names is beyond the question of their significance, if only they can be made like modern English. The labours of the English Dialect Society may make these names better understood. As I said in papers on Fieldlore, some years ago, and all the Northern counties glossarists have confirmed, this word is found underlying the maps of a great portion of England.

* Potteric Carr in "The Doctor," he gives Brockett's definition—flat marshy ground, a pool.

ART. V.—*Troutbeck Church.* By GEORGE BROWNE, ESQ.,
of Troutbeck.

Read at that place, June 4th, 1878.

THE present church was rebuilt in 1736 on the site of the old church, at a cost of £142 5s. od. £100 thereof was a legacy left by George Browne,* of the Townhead, Troutbeck. £40 of the cost of rebuilding it was raised by a rate, and the cost of painting, £2 5s. od., was subscribed by persons not living in the chapelry who held sittings in the church.

From a plan of the church, made about 1707, there appears to have been three windows in the east end of the church, the centre one divided by two mullions and a transom, the other two appear to have been square-headed windows much smaller, with only a single light each. On the north side of the chancel there was only one window, and on the south two; there were five other single-light windows on each side of the church and a smaller one over the chancel door on the south side. There was a door where the present chancel door is, and also one on each side of the church, between the first and second window on the west end. The doors were of the width of three seats from the west wall.

The windows appear from the churchwardens' accounts to have undergone considerable alterations at various times before the above-mentioned plan was made. In 1671-2, there is an entry for two new windows, £2 7s. 8d.; in 1672-3, there is another entry, "3 new windows, lime and walling, £1 1s. od.; iron work, 19s. od.; glazing, 16s. od.; turning

* George Browne also left £200 to the endowment and £5 to buy books for the school; the latter two sums were never paid by the Executors; the inhabitants in trying to recover them incurred costs to the amount of £492 19s. 1d.

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tops for 2 windows, 1s.”; and again, in 1680-1, there is “waller for lime for window and working it, 9s. 2d.; iron work for window, 10s. 6d.; glass, 6s. 2d.; wood for forms and window lintel, 6s. od.” In the following year, 1681-2, there appears a similar entry, viz: — “iron work, 8s. 10d.; waller, 8s.; glazing, 5s.; and wood for windows, 2s.” The last entry for the windows is in 1685-6, “Paid Thomas Birkett for 2 new windows and enlarging an old one, 18s.; paid Robert Gurnall for putting forth two new windows and settling an old one, 17s.; paid for glass, 12s. 6d.” From these items it may be supposed that there had been fewer windows, and that the original ones had been smaller than the new ones.

In 1686-7, the churchwardens paid £5 for painting the church. This looks a very large sum when compared with the cost of other work at that date (and at that time was as much as half the minister’s yearly stipend). From the large amount paid, the church must have been very fully decorated.

In 1708, the pulpit was removed from the place where it is at present placed, and a new pulpit and reading-desk, or lectern, were erected on the west side of the chancel or little door. Previous to this the reading-desk stood in the chancel, near the screen, about two yards from the door. In about a month after it was erected someone broke into the church and cut it down and removed it into the steeple, and when it was put up again it was probably placed where the reading-desk and pulpit are at the present time.

In 1707, the font stood near the west end of the centre aisle or nave, between the ends of the seats on the west of cross aisle.

There is nothing to be found to show what was the size or shape of the old steeple. From the old plan it appears to have been on the west end of the church, and open to the aisle. In 1670-1, the churchwardens paid £5 for liming it, and 2s. 6d. for a cradle. From having to use a
 cradle

cradle to do it, the inference may be drawn that it was considerably higher than the roof of the church. In 1735, the churchwardens represent the steeple to be "so very ruinous and like to fall, that 'twas thought prudent to take the bell down to prevent it being broken in the fall."

The bell has been cast in 1631, and has the following motto: — "Jesvs be ovr speede."

The earliest mention of the church to be found is in the will of George Browne, of Troutbeck, dated March 8, 1558, in which he leaves a very small legacy towards the reparation of the chapel of Troutbeck.

The church appears to have been twice consecrated within a year, viz: — In 1652, July 8th, by the Bishop of Chester (William Downham), and called "Jesus Chapel." Adam Carus was the rector of Windermere at that time. The second consecration was in 1563, April 30th, by the Archbishop of Canterbury (Matthew Parker). In the latter consecration deed there is no mention of the preceding consecration; in this deed it is described as "a church or chapel with a competent churchyard adjoining to the same, anciently seated and decently builded, wherein divine exercises have been accustomed to be done and celebrated." There probably had been some objection to the first consecration, from the following words which occur in the second deed, viz: — "Neither that ye be or may be by any malignant men hereof hindered or restrained."

The gallery was erected when the church was rebuilt in 1736.

When the church was rebuilt in 1736, and again when it was reseated in 1861, there was very little alteration made in the arrangement of the seats; the old seats in the nave were made of oak, with open backs with merely a rail on the back. The seats in the chancel (with one exception) were made of oak and panelled. Up to a very recent date the men and women sat apart in the nave of the church—there were about half-a-dozen free seats in which men sat.

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The rest of the seats were divided into five sittings, and appropriated to as many houses for the women to sit in, for which a small sum was paid, varying from 6d. to 1s. 8d. per sitting, and called a "form salary." It amounts altogether to £4 12s. 3d., being the same amount as was paid 250 years ago. At that time it formed an important item in the minister's salary, when the whole stipend only amounted to £10 per annum.

The old oak communion table was presented to the church by John Philipson, of Causey, in Applethwaite, in 1684.

The registers commence about 1579. The oldest register book has the appearance of having had several leaves torn from the beginning of it. With the exception of a few years—from about 1651 to the restoration of Charles the Second—there are no breaks to be found in them down to the present time.

In 1867, the churchyard was enlarged by adding a piece to it on the west side thereof; at the same time the gateways and yard walls were rebuilt.

The endowment, when the school was rebuilt in 1639, was only £86 13s. 4d. In that year Francis Borwick, of the Bought, in Applethwaite, left a legacy of £10 to it. This legacy does not appear to have been paid to the churchwardens until 1661-2. In 1664-5, the endowment was £109. In 1735 it was £109 17s. 7d., having only increased 17s. 7d., in 70 years. In 1747 it had a grant of £200 from Queen Anne's bounty, and another £200 in 1756 from the same fund. By these two sums an estate was purchased in Dent. In 1773, the Countess Dowager Gower gave £200 to it, which was met by another £200 from Queen Anne's bounty. By these two sums the Marthwaite Foot estate was purchased. About 1826, it had a further grant of £400 from Queen Anne's bounty. In 1861, the Ecclesiastical Commissioners augmented it with the sum of £350 or £459.

In 1872, a vicarage was built, and the endowment was
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further augmented by a grant of £1400 from the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. About the same time Miss Wilson gave the field adjoining the vicarage.

The present stained glass east window was presented to the church in 1873 by J. M. Dunlop, Esq., of Hole Herd. Mr. Dunlop also presented the organ in 1870. The other stained glass memorial windows (five in number) have been put in at various dates by different persons, as may be seen by the inscriptions.

The following is an imperfect list of the Incumbents of Troutbeck:—

- 1558. Sir Edwin Whitelock.
 - 1611. Richard Pearson.
 - 1637. William Robinson.
 - 1647. Christopher Rawlings.
 - 1650. Francis Bainbridge.
 - 1657. Richard Sibson. (He died in 1660—his grave cost 6d. making.)
 - 1660. William Pearson.
 - 1663. Dudley Walker, to 1694.
 - 1694. John Grisdale, to 1722.
 - 1722. William Langhorn.
 - 1735. Christopher Atkinson. (Son of Dr. Miles Atkinson, of Troutbeck Bridge.)
 - 1737. William Thompson. (Drowned in Corfoot Beck, in 1783, July 21st.)
 - 1784. John Brownrigg.
 - 1790. John Fleming, of Rayrigg.
 - 1799. Robert Lambert.
 - 1827. William Sewell. (Died in 1869.)
 - 1870. Joseph Hudson.
 - 1877. C. E. E. Appleyard.
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