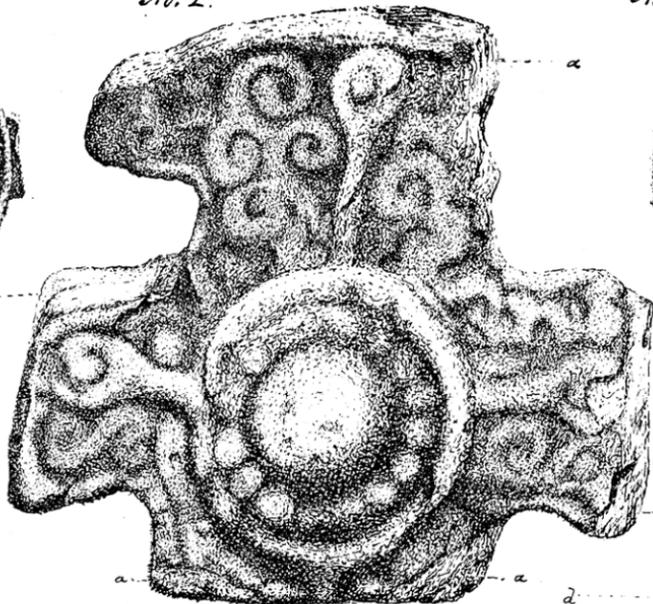


No. II.



II. East Front. Height 45.5 in.

No. I.



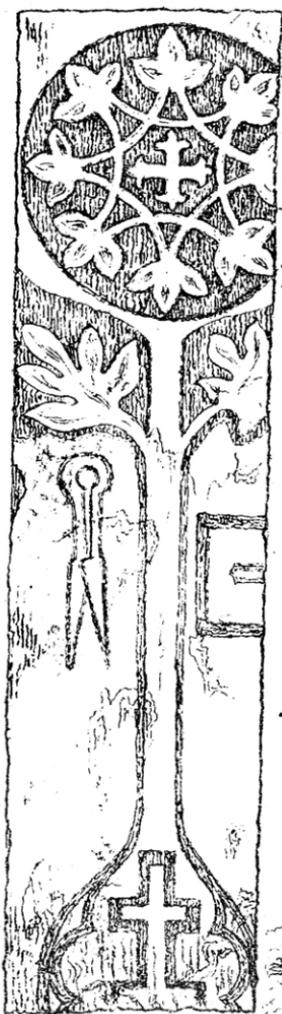
*I. Front. Height 90 in.
Breadth 20 in.*

Ancient Crosses at Dearham Church.

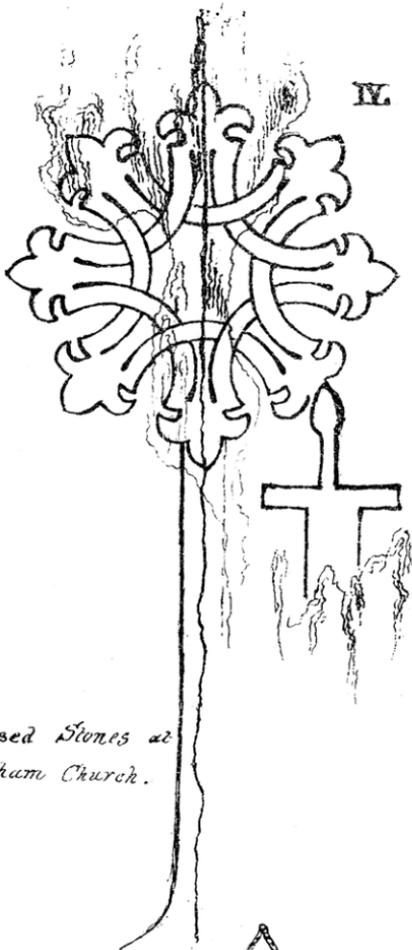
No. II.



II. Back & South side. 45.5 in.

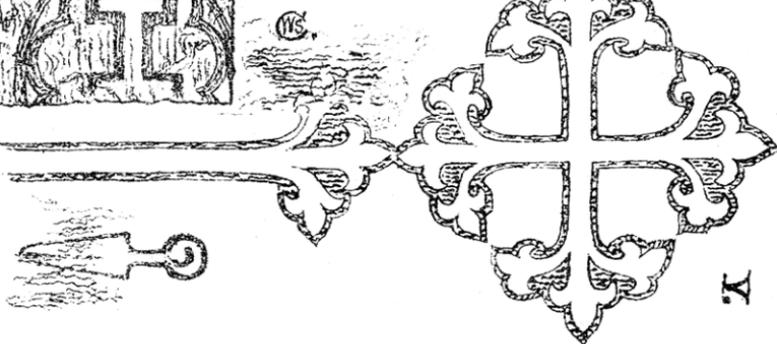


III

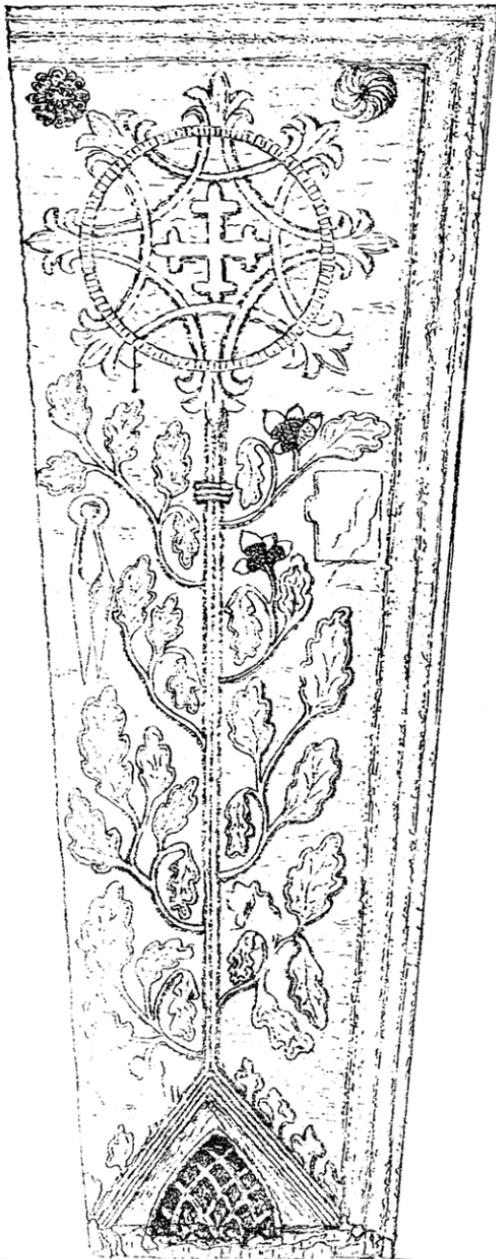


IV

*Incised Stones at
Dearham Church.*



V

 $\frac{1}{12}$

At Dovenby Hall from Dearham Church.

ART. XVIII.—*Notes on Sculptured Stones at Dearham Church. By the Vicar, the REV. W. S. CALVERLEY.*

Read at that place June 17th, 1880.

I BEG to lay before the Society illustrations of sculptured stones found at Dearham.

I. Fragment of early cross. Canon Knowles assigns it to the time "before the devastation of the Norse heathen." It is but lately recovered, having been come upon in placing a tombstone on the north side of the chancel. (a) shews breaks in the stone, which is much weather-worn, but the drawing shews the design as far as it is intelligible.

II. Ancient cross still standing near the entrance to the churchyard.

(a) breaks in the stone.

(b) is the continuation of stem of tree underground. Mr. R. S. Ferguson, F.S.A., in company with myself, uncovered this portion, and found that there had not been a socket. A foundation of bricks and cement has now been placed underground for firmness, but the cross was previously in a tottering condition.

(c) foot-rule set up against cross as scale.

III. is an incised slab with book and shears, at the base a cross and calvary steps with cinquefoil window tracery. The sides and ends have been cut away, and the stone fitted as coping to the east side of porch. See No. VI.

IV. Fragment of slab with sword, split down the centre, cut away at the sides, and made into coping for the vicarage garden wall.

V. Coffin-lid, cross with shears, sides cut away, fitted as flag stone in floor of church at entrance.

VI. Very beautifully worked stone, with book and shears, oak leaves and acorns, small cross in centre of upper

upper part, moulding and window tracery at base, not incised as No. III., but having the decorations in good relief, one side cut away, removed from Dearham Church, and now placed in the front of Dovenby Hall. It is engraved in Lyson's History of Cumberland, pl. 2, p. cxcv., also in Cutts' Sepulchral Slabs, pl. lxiii., Boutell's Church Monuments, p. 93.

There are also three other sepulchral slabs resembling No. III., used as flags in the church floor—a double tombstone with calvary steps and sword is in the porch. A large stone (13th century) in the churchyard is very remarkable: it is double, with cross with calvary steps, shears, and sword, on one side, and with cross with window tracery, and carpenter's square and axe on the other. We have also a fragment of an early holy-water stoup, lately recovered from the vicarage garden wall, which Canon Knowles considers ante Norman.

The ancient and curious square stone font is engraved in Lyson's History, p. cxciv.; as also is a 12th century tombstone, now serving as lintel to one of the windows. It has cross and sword and the inscription, "Kestula Radulphi."

For the following remarks on the fabric of the church I am partly indebted to Mr. C. J. Ferguson, F.S.A. They are extracted from a report prepared by him preparatory to the very necessary work of restoration, for which funds are now being raised. The church Mr. Ferguson found to be in a deplorable condition—the seats and all the wood-work rotten—the pulpit removed as lumber into the vicarage—the floor giving way in many places—one of the lintels fallen from a window—and the plaster and walls much injured by damp. The nave and chancel are late Norman—one of the original Norman windows and an inserted low early English lancet-headed window exist in the chancel. In the nave the north doorway has been partly blocked up and made into a window, the lintel of which consists of an
ancient

ancient sepulchral slab, engraved in Lyson's History of Cumberland, p. cci., and having figures of three human beings—a serpent biting the heel of one of them, a mitre, two thunderbolts and arrows crossed, &c. The south doorway is a circular-headed doorway of transitional Norman work in good preservation. All the windows in the nave are square-headed, probably inserted in the position of the older ones. The old oak roof has been removed, a lightly-timbered modern deal one added, and ceiled in plaster underneath. The porch is an addition of the decorated period. The lower story of the tower consists of a barrel-vaulted chamber, originally enclosed from the church, and entered only by a small and strongly-barred doorway. A similar doorway exists now at Burgh. From this lower chamber the upper floors, three in number, are reached by a circular stair at the south-west corner. The wooden floors have been removed—the windows blocked up—the original battlements have been removed, and modern ones added. From the top of the tower, the direction of the old Roman road, from the Ellenborough Station, past Hayborough, where it is marked by a pillar with Eagle and Latin inscription, and past the Commercial Inn to Papcastle, can easily be seen.

The small vicarage house adjoining the church was built by a former vicar, the Rev. John Whitelock, at a cost of £250. Funds are now in hand to the amount of £900 for the enlargement and improvement thereof.

The parlour chimney-piece of a former vicarage house, built by the Rev. Peter Murthwaite, and only twenty-four feet long, "and equally low as confined," was shewn. It bears the appropriate words, "Fecit q^d potuit." Peter Murthwaite is buried at the east end of the church. His tombstone is of red sandstone, set up against the chancel wall, and bears the words "Infra requiescit corpus Reverendi Petri Murthwaite qui Die Julii 29. A.D. 1736.

Ætatis

Ætatis 71, Inductionis 45, mortalitatem deposuit," with hour-glass, skull, and cross-bones.

The president, the Rev. Canon Simpson, drew attention to the fact that the tower, a very massive one, at the west end of the church, had been one of the old fortified towers peculiar to this district, and that, whilst the parishioners were being besieged, a beacon fire at the top would alarm their friends in the surrounding country. It was remarked that some oak beams still preserved in the tower shew marks of fire, one of them being charred more than half through. At the old vicarage were exhibited about two hundred rubbings of monumental brasses, collected and kindly lent by the Rev. Charles Dowding, curate of Dearham and the Rev. D. Boutflower: drawings of the various crosses and incised sepulchral slabs, to be seen in the church and churchyard, were viewed with considerable interest. Some of the latter have been reproduced for the Transactions of this Society; others are to be found in Lyson's History of Cumberland. The Vicar also exhibited a stone axe, unpolished, found in the Row Hall Estate, Dearham, where also has been found a polished stone axe; also a stone axe found in a peat moss above Porter Thwaite, in Eskdale; also a stone quern, and the nether stone of a similar quern, both found near Craika Farm, Dearham.