

ART. XXV.—*On some Armour at Great Salkeld Church, Cumberland.* By the RIGHT HON. VISCOUNT DILLON, M.A., P.S.A.

Communicated in a letter to the Rector (the Rev. Arthur Loftie, M.A.)

The Armouries,
Tower of London, 2/1/98.

Dear Sir,

The armour of which you send a photo is of the 17th century, and I think you are right in attributing it to a soldier's equipment, though I should put it down to the time of the great Civil War. The pott was such as the pikeman of that period would wear. It is like head pieces of after 1600, made of two pieces, the edge of one lapped over the other. The breast and back are of the same equipment, and so is the gorget. These with, in some cases, large tassets or thigh pieces would be all the armour worn of soldiers of that period, whilst many wore less. The sword also agrees well with the idea. A backsword with basket hilt would be worn by pikemen and those carrying fire arms. The sword grip might have been originally of buckhorn or wood. Such arms and armour would be produced at the annual musters and is often found painted black to preserve it from rust and also to make it less visible at a distance.

Yours faithfully,
DILLON.

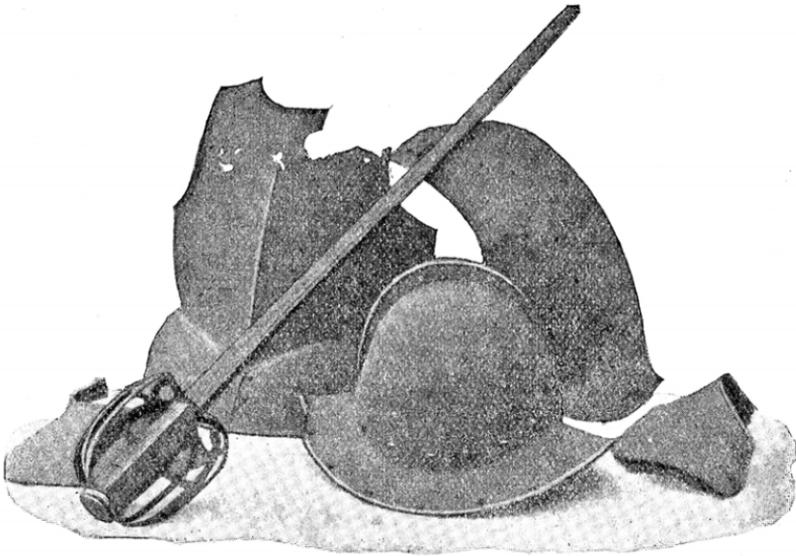
I hope you will allow me to keep the photo if you can spare it. Representations and examples of arms and armour in original condition, if found under natural circumstances, are always of interest.

The Rev. Arthur Loftie.

NOTE

NOTE BY THE EDITOR.—Lord Dillon in a subsequent note to me, says of this suit—“The wearer of the suit evidently got a shrewd blow on the shoulder, more than the accolade.”

There is some similar armour at Langwathby: and in Tullie House, Carlisle, is some which formerly came from Caldbeck Church. As I write, a rumour reaches me that some armour has been found in the churchyard of Ormeshed, near Appleby.



ARMOUR AT GREAT SALKELD CHURCH.