



From these *Transactions* n.s. i., 84, to illustrate Mr. F. G. Simpson's explorations, p. 462.

ADDENDA ANTIQUARIA.

RECENT EXPLORATION OF CHESTERS.

In *Proc. Soc. Ant. Newcastle*, 3 ser. vol. x, no. 16, 1922, pp. 216—218, Mr. F. Gerald Simpson reports the result of his excavations at Chesters in October, 1921. It has long been observed that Chesters, like some other forts, appears to have been built before, and independently of, Hadrian's Wall: this was remarked in 1867 by Clayton. On the other hand Haverfield in 1900 (these *Trans.* n.s. i, pp. 84—88) found a ditch in line with the Wall ditch underlying the fort, and took this to mean that the fort had been enlarged northward after the building of the Wall. Birdoswald also has been enlarged northward, but *before* the stone Wall was built, and in 1920, at the N.W. corner, Mr. Simpson found evidence that Birdoswald, so enlarged, was planned as a separate work; that is, that Hadrian's stone Wall was an afterthought added when the enlargement had already been carried out. This suggested to Mr. Simpson that the same thing might have happened at Chesters. He therefore dug east and west of the fort at the points where the line of the Wall crosses the line of the ditch of the enlarged fort (plan p. 461): and found proof that this ditch had existed before the Wall. It had been filled up, in order to carry the Wall across it, and this artificial filling being less firm than natural ground had given and allowed the Wall to collapse. Only the south face, however, had so collapsed, because the ditch came to a butt-end underneath the Wall and its north face was founded on the causeway which had given access to the main gates. These, it will be remembered, are immediately north of the line of the Wall. Thus at Birdoswald, Great Chesters, Housesteads and now at Chesters Mr. Simpson has proved that the forts were not merely, as Hodgson and Bruce thought, completed before the Wall was built up to them, but—a further and wholly new point—that they were *designed* by Hadrian's engineers as isolated works, not intended to be connected by a continuous Wall; and that even when they were enlarged the project of a Wall was not yet formed.

RECENT FINDS AT MARYPORT.

Mr. J. B. Bailey reported that the field S.W. of the Roman fort has been built over, and that by watching the progress of the work he has ascertained that whereas a short road left the S.W.

gate and led to the 'Campus Martius,' the main road to the south underlies Camp Road and must have issued from the S.E. gate. He has also located the northward road at a point in Bank End Lane 180 yards from the turn at Chapel Rivings (see map, these *Transactions* N.S. xv, 135), and again beyond the Cemetery. The road running east to Papcastle has also been traced by sounding between the fort and the river, and the pillar which incorrectly marks its site in the Park is to be moved. The work of the Housing Scheme has involved the destruction of Pudding Pie Hill, once believed to be a 'King's Burial Place': it now appears to have been a natural mound of boulder-clay, artificially enlarged into a platform whence military exercises could be watched. The collection at Netherhall has been augmented by a pivot-stone, an unscribed altar 22 by 9 by 7 inches, and the plaster cast of a Maryport altar (C.I.L. vii, 371=*Lap. Sept.* 860 and no. 64 in Mr. Bailey's catalogue, these *Transactions* N.S. xv, 149) which was at Tullie House till the original stone was deposited there in 1907.
