

ART. XII.—*Roman Inscriptions from Cumberland.** By
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THE following inscriptions are either new discoveries since 1938 or fresh readings of stones already known. They all come from the line of the Wall, and, with one exception, are building-records in a sector which has produced comparatively few inscriptions of this kind. Further east, between Birdoswald and Chesters, the harvest has been rich enough to give a partial picture of the way in which the task of building was allotted to the separate cohorts and centuries. Conditions were different in Cumberland and so far the records are too few to admit of such a sketch, but we can already see some activity by the fourth cohort of one, or perhaps two, of the legions. One characteristic of this particular unit is an emphasis on the order of precedence of the six centuries within the cohort (see Nos. 4 and 10). All of these inscriptions, except No. 11, have been seen and drawn by the present writer.

1. *Carlisle*. Bottom of an altar,† 14 by 12½ ins., found in 1939 in trenching beneath the north rampart-wall of Carlisle Castle, and now lent by H.M. Office of Works to Tullie House Museum; it reads:—

. .] DICAUIT
ETARAMETAE
DICVLAMDD

* The following abbreviations are used: CIL. Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum; CW. Cumberland and Westmorland A. and A. Society's *Transactions*; EE. *Ephemeris Epigraphica*; JRS. *Journal of Roman Studies*; LS. Bruce, *Lapidarium Septentrionale*; PSAN. *Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle-upon-Tyne*. When measurements are given, the width precedes the height.

† JRS. xxx 182.

. .] *dicavit* | *et aram et ae* | *diculam d(ono) d(edit)*. The name of the person or group responsible for dedicating the altar and shrine is lost, but a fragmentary letter, probably *v*, precedes *dicavit* and may be the end of *LEG XXVV*, which would thus be the unit to which the dedicator belonged.

2. *Birdoswald*. Two additions may be made to the Severan dedication-slab* found in 1929; it reads:

1. 5 HOR
R[EV] M . REST[IT] . C[OH]H I. AEL
DAC . ET . I . THRAC[V]M . C. R. SVB

The last three letters of line 5 were not erased along with the names of Geta, as was previously thought, but form part of the word *HOR* | *REVM*. The structure which was restored was therefore a granary and not the commandant's house, *P[RAE]T[ORIVM]*. The second of the units responsible is now seen to be *coh(ors) I Thracum c(ivium) R(omanorum)* and not an otherwise unrecorded *n(umerus) Ac(. . .)*. The title *C.R.* is not elsewhere recorded for one of the First Cohorts of Thracians and the presence in the same fort of two cohorts of which one was milliary seems surprising, but the reading† of l. 7 was made, in the main, by Mr. R. G. Collingwood in 1930 and confirmed by Mr. I. A. Richmond and the writer in 1940.

3. *Lanercost*. A building-stone,‡ 13 by 8 ins., which appears to have passed unnoticed because covered till recently by creeper, has been found built upside down in the north face of the Edwardian Tower at Lanercost Vicarage at a height of 17 feet:

* JRS. xix, 214, xxxi, 140; CW² xxx, 199. Mr. Eric Birley kindly suggested the possibility that *horreum* might be the reading.

† First propounded by Mr. Richmond in a letter to Mr. Collingwood, 13th September, 1929.

‡ JRS. xxxii (forthcoming). The vicar, the Rev. W. N. R. Naylor, kindly pointed it out. It is matched by CIL. vii 843, LS 393, now in the crypt there, but is not identical with CIL. vii, 845, LS. 392, which Bruce looked for in vain.

LEG . VI [. VIC]

PIA . FID[. F]

Leg(io) VI [Vic(trix)] | Pia Fid(elis) [f(ecit)].

4. *Carlisle*. A building-stone* once about 13 by 8½ ins., was found in 1939 built upside down in the north-west corner of the east compartment of the ground floor of the Keep at Carlisle Castle; the corners are filled with chip-carving:—

COH

III

ASTA

cohors | IIII | (centuria h)asta(ti). The *hastati* ranked as fifth and sixth centurions in a cohort. Presumably this was *hastatus prior*, as we have the *hastatus posterior* already in No. 10 (below).

5. *Lanercost*. Building stone,* 16 by 9 ins., noticed in the lowest course of the south face of the wall which bounds the Priory churchyard on the north, 38 yards from the east end of the wall:

COH . IIII . >

AVRVNCVLI

coh(ors) IIII c(enturia) | Auruncul(e)i.

6. *Birdoswald*. The stone† at the back of the farmhouse on which Haverfield read *o DECI SA | . . .* proves to read:

o DECI SAX

COH I DAC

C(enturia) Deci Sax(ae) | coh(ors) I Dac(orum). The First Cohort of Dacians was in garrison at Birdoswald in the third and fourth centuries.

7. *Willowford*. Building-stone,§ 11½ by 8 ins., found

* JRS. xxx, 183. Noticed by Mr. J. R. McLennon, the Custodian; information kindly given by Mr. T. Gray. See No. 10.

† JRS. xxxii (forthcoming); pointed out by Mr. Naylor.

‡ EE. ix, 1214a; CW¹ xv, 200.

§ PSAN⁴. ix, 165, JRS. xxx, 184. Mr. F. G. Simpson, who directed the excavation for H.M. Office of Works, kindly gave notice of the find.

in 1940 among fallen stones 16 yards east of the secondary guard-chamber attached to the east abutment of Willowford Bridge, and thus just west of turret 48*b*:—

○ FERRON
VEGETI
COH III

The century of Ferronius Vegetus is recorded on another recent inscription, which was found in the Walltown sector, milecastle 45 to turret 45*b*.

8. *High House*. A second building-stone,* 14 by 11 ins., has been found at High House, west of milecastle 50, built in the north face of the south wall of the stable at the north-west corner of the farmyard; it is heavily weathered and reads:—

○ FLORIANI
C[OH] III
LEG [V] I

The number of the cohort may have been IIII.

9. *Harrow's Scar*. A building-stone,† 12 by 9 ins., was found in 1939 by Mr. F. G. Simpson in stones fallen from the Wall between the edge of the cliff and milecastle 49. It reads:—

○ PROBI
ANA

The *centuria Probiana* is already known (a) from a stone‡ found *in situ* in the Wall 10 yards west of Birdoswald fort, (b) from a fragment§ found at Chesterholm.

10. *Castlesteads*. A new reading can now be advanced for the missing parts of the stone|| which reads:—

COH IIII
[. . .] TA . POS
[. . .] CIANA

* JRS. xxxii (forthcoming).

† JRS. xxx, 184. Now in Tullie House Museum.

‡ CIL. vii, 848.

§ CIL. vii, 719.

|| CIL. vii, 901, LS. 460, CW² xxii, 212, JRS. xxxii (forthcoming).

The second line seems to give the rank within the cohort (see p. 154) and may be read:—

[HAS]TA . POS

[>MAR]CIANA

Coh(ors) IIII | [*has*]ta(ti) pos(terioris) | [*c*(enturia) Mar]-
ciana. The *hastatus posterior* was the last of the six
centurions in the cohort. The fifth centurion, (*h*)*astatus*
prior, is mentioned on No. 4 (above), and the fourth,
pr(inceps) pos(terior) on CIL. vii 918, LS. 459.

II. *Appletree*. A building-stone* was found in 1934
upside down in the east face of the field-wall which runs
north from a point lying just east of milecastle 51 on the
Birdoswald-Banks road; the inscription was 327 paces
north of the road; it reads:

o [.] I[.] DIDI

C(enturia [.] i [.] didi.

* Recorded by Mr. I. A. Richmond; sought in vain in 1941 by the present
writer. JRS. xxxii (forthcoming).