

## The Roman Stations of Derbyshire.

BY W. THOMPSON WATKIN.



LIKE the counties of Oxfordshire, Rutland, and Cornwall, Derbyshire, and the Roman Roads and Stations it contained, finds no place either in the Itinerary of Antoninus, the Geography of Ptolemy, or the *Notitia Imperii*. The Pentingerian Tables (or rather the fragments of them we possess) do not extend so far into the country, and consequently the only guide we have as to the position Derbyshire held during the epoch of the Roman occupation of Britain, is the anonymous work generally called the Chorography of Ravennas, written, as far as can be gathered, in the sixth century of the Christian era.

In the present paper, I propose to treat only of the five chief Roman Stations in the county, reserving the temporary camps, details of the roads, discoveries of hoards of coins, and miscellaneous articles, until some future occasion.

Until the year 1777, no clue had with any certainty been found as to the names of any of these Stations, though it was strongly suspected that the *castrum* existing at Little Chester, represented the *Derbentio* of Ravennas. But between that year and 1783 three pigs of lead were found, two on Matlock Moor, and a third on Cromford Moor, bearing Roman inscriptions. In these inscriptions the abbreviations LVT., MET. LVT., and METAL. LVTVD., occurred, which at once threw light upon the approximate situation of the station named *Lutudae* by

Ravennas, confirmed by his placing *Derbentio* next to it on his list.

But the plainest way of stating the case is to let Ravennas speak for himself. After naming *Deva* (Chester) he gives the names of the following stations between that city and *Ratae* (Leicester):—*Veratino*, *Lutudarum*, *Derbentione*, *Salinis*, *Condante*. Again, between *Lindum Colonia* (Lincoln) and *Mantio* (Manchester) he names this other list of stations, *Bannovallum*, *Navione*, *Aquis*, *Arnezeza*, *Zerdotalia*. Taking the first series, *Salinae* and *Condante* appear to be respectively at Castle Northwich, and Kinderton, in Cheshire, whilst *Veratinum*, though its site is at present doubtful, was probably at Wilderspool, near Warrington. There then remain *Lutudae* and *Derbentio*. The antiquaries of the early part of this century, amongst them the Rev. D. Lysons, Sir H. Ellis, Mr. Bateman, and Mr. Albert May, concluded from the inscriptions on the pigs of lead that *Lutudae* was at Chesterfield.

But that Chesterfield is the site of this station seems to me more than doubtful. No traces of Roman circumvallation or of buildings have been found there. True that Dr. Pegge in a private letter to Major Rooke states that two Roman urns were found in 1790, in excavating for foundations of buildings on the south side of the Market Place.\* True that the same author had a second brass coin of Claudius found there in 1720, and that Mr. Hardy, of Nottingham, had a third brass of Valerian also found there.† It seems likewise certain that in 1820, a third brass of the *Constantinopolis* type was found in an old garden near High Street; that in 1822, a second brass of Trajan was found in digging a grave in the churchyard; that in 1832, a silver coin of Trajan was found whilst repairing gas-pipes in the High Street; and that in 1836, a second brass of Maximianus was found in a garden at the bottom of Lord's Mill Street; ‡ but these do not indicate the long continued

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\* Bateman "Vestiges Antiq. of Derbyshire," p. 164.

† "Bib. Top. Brit.," Pt. XXIV. p. 29.

‡ Bateman "Vestiges Antiq. of Derbyshire," p. 161.

residence of a Roman population, and especially of a mining one. They are just what might be expected to be found in the vicinity of a Roman Road, and the Ryknield Street has been traced to the neighbourhood of Tapton (or Tupton) Hill, near which the town is situated. In Leland's "Collectanea" (Vol I., p. 276), it is said that in 1266, Robert de Ferrars was taken prisoner *apud castrum de Chesterfelde*, and in the Chesterfield Parish Register of A.D., 1605, *Tupton Castle* is mentioned. It is therefore quite possible that some future discovery may be made of a Roman Station on Tapton Hill. It has been pointed out by Mr. Pegge, that the oldest parts of the town are "about the Church, Tapton Lanehead, and Holywell Street," also that the present Market Place is styled in the old Chartulary of Beauchief Abbey, *the New Market Place*.

So far as the present evidence goes, the site of *Lutudae* would seem to be nearer Wirksworth. Let us first take the inscribed pigs of lead found, and consider the purport of their epigraphic evidence. In April, 1777, on Cromford Nether Moor, in the parish of Wirksworth, a pig of lead was found, described in the "Archæologia" (Vol. V., p. 369), by Dr. Pegge, and which is now in the British Museum. It is 22 inches in length,  $5\frac{1}{8}$  inches in width, and weighs 127 lbs. The inscription is

IMP . CAES . HADRIANI . AVG . MET . LVT.

The second pig found in Derbyshire, also described in the first instance by Pegge, was discovered shortly before October, 1783, in "ridding" some ground near Matlock Bank, on Matlock Moor, during the inclosure of some common land. It lay at the depth of a few inches only, and was covered by a large stone. Like the other, it is now in the British Museum. Whilst  $21\frac{1}{2}$  inches long, and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, it is by no means so thick as the first named pig, and weighs only 83 lbs. Its inscription is

L . ARVCONI . VERECVNDI . METAL . LVTVD.

Close to where this pig was found, the remains of a smelting

hearth, with heaps of rubbish, were discovered, as if the pig had been cast on the spot.

The third of the Derbyshire inscribed pigs was found in April, 1787, near Matlock, and was described by Pegge in the "Archæologia" (Vol. IX., p. 45). Whilst the one last described appeared to have been cast in nine or ten layers, this one was said to consist of about thirty layers, "as if smelted at so many different times." It weighed 173 lbs., was  $17\frac{1}{2}$  inches long on the inscribed side, and 20 inches on the other,  $6\frac{1}{2}$  inches wide, and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  in thickness. Its inscription was—

TI . CL . TR . LVT . BR . EX . ARG.

After a vast amount of discussion of these inscriptions by antiquaries, the opinions of Dr. McCaul (author of "Britanno Roman Inscriptions"), and Professor Hübner, of Berlin, are those which are generally recognised as yielding the correct translation. In the main these two antiquaries agree, though there are some slight differences of construction.

The first inscription is expanded by Dr. McCaul—*Imp(eratoris) Caes(aris) Hadriani Aug(usti) Met(allis) Lut(udensibus)*. Dr. Hübner reads the two last words as *Met(allorum) Lut(udensium)*. He gives the last word with a query. The sense in either case, as far as the translation is concerned, is that the pig belonged to the Emperor Hadrian, and that it was of Lutudensian metal. The mines may either have been worked by the Roman government, or if leased to private individuals, a certain amount of the lead produced was held as tribute for the Emperor, in which case this block would be a portion of the said tribute.

The second inscription Dr. McCaul expands *L(ucii) Aruconi(i) Verecundi Metal(lis) Lutud(ensibus)*, thus agreeing with his construction of MET . LVT. in the first inscription. Dr. Hübner's reading is the same, with the exception that he also adheres to his construction of MET . LVT. in the first-named inscription, again expanding it as *Metal(lorum) Lutud(ensium)*. This pig was from a private mine, its owner being Lucius Aruconius Verecundus.

The third inscription is read by Dr. McCaul *Ti(berii) Cl(audii)*



*Tr*(ophimi) (or *Traiani*) *Lut*( . . .) *Br*(itannicum) *ex. arg*(entaria) ; by Dr. Hübner *Ti*(berii) *Cl*(audii) *Tr*(ophimi?) *Lut*(udense?) *Br*(itannicum) *ex arg*(ento).

This shows that the pig was like the last-named, from a private mine belonging to Tiberius Claudius Trophimus. Dr. McCaul leaves the expansion of the proper adjective in abeyance, as he admits he cannot give the correct version of the Latinised form. Dr. Hübner expands it doubtfully as *Lutudense*. Both agree that it was from the British *Lutudae*, but whilst Dr. McCaul avers that *ex. argentaria*, which he renders as meaning that the lead contained silver, is the proper expansion of *ex arg.*, Dr. Hübner asserts that *ex argento*, meaning that the silver had been extracted from it, is correct.

But whatever may be the correct reading, it is certain that all of these pigs of lead found between Matlock and Wirksworth bear in an abbreviated form the name of *Lutudae*. Mr. Bateman also tells us (p. 135) that "besides these inscribed pigs of lead, others of a similar form, without the important accompaniment of a legend, have been discovered in the neighbourhood of Wirksworth. From the similarity of shape, the presumption is strongly in favour of their Roman origin;" and at p. 159, when speaking of Oker Hill, Darley in the Dale, where he says 3rd brass coins of Gallienus, Postumus, Tetricus, Claudius Gothicus, etc., besides other Roman remains were found, he adds that, "In 1846, a pig of lead, of the Roman shape, was dug up near some ancient mineral works on the hill."

We have also the evidence of Roman interments, with a portion of an important inscription (hereafter to be described) found in the last century at Hopton, which is only one and three quarter miles from Wirksworth, that a station of some kind must have existed in the neighbourhood; and I think there can be no doubt that it bore the name of *Lutudae*. We have no such evidence at Chesterfield, and should the remains of a station ever be brought to light there, they will probably be those of some other town named by Ravennas.

The station *Derbentio*, named next in the list by Ravennas, is

so plainly the Roman *castrum* on the eastern bank of the Derwent, about half-a-mile from Derby, and from which that town took its name, that little or no doubt has ever been expressed on the subject. It is now much obliterated, but in 1721, Dr. Stukeley "traced the track of the wall all round, and in some places saw underground the foundations of it in the pastures, and some vaults along the sides." He describes it as being "of a square form, and the castrum five hundred feet by six hundred." (This would be a parallelogram, with an area of close upon seven acres.—W. T. W.) "Within the walls are foundations of houses, and in the fields round the castle may be seen tracts of streets laid with gravel." By 1829, when Mr. Glover wrote his "History and Gazetteer of Derbyshire," these streets had disappeared, though he says that a way laid with gravel still divided the station into nearly two equal parts, running east and west, whilst a second ran from the north-east corner in a direct line across the pastures towards Breadsall. He adds in a note (vol. i. p. 293), "When Darley Grove was broken up in the year 1820, skeletons, coins, and various Roman relics were discovered." The site of the station appears to be called *Cestre* in Domesday, and in the Ashmole MSS. in the Bodleian Library, fo. 201 b., there is (in a MS. "Historie of Darbyshire," by Philip Kinder, written *circa* 1663), the following passage: "Little Chester . . . by ye Roman monies there found seems to be a colonie of ye Roman souldjers, for soe ye name may import from Castrum." Formerly (if not now) the remains of the piers of a bridge across the Derwent, might, it was said, be seen, when the water was clear, but I have not been able to ascertain its exact position. The station is placed between the Derwent and the Ryknield Street (which latter runs nearly north and south through the county), whilst another road from Rocester, in Staffordshire, comes to it on the west; another leads from it east into Notts.; and another leads north-west to Buxton.\*

This station has been very prolific of coins—Mr. Glover

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\* Dr. Pegge states that a fragment of the wall of the station, 5 feet thick, was remaining in 1759, and that a Roman road ran from E. to W., just outside the northern wall.

(vol. i., p. 293), says that coins of Vespasian, Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Marcus Aurelius, Crispina, Gordian, Gallienus, Postumus, Victorinus, Tetricus, and Carausius, had been found before he wrote, which he does not describe, though he says they were reported to be of silver, the copper ones being too much defaced to be made out. He then adds a list of a number found, which he had seen (and Mr. Bateman repeats the list.) They were 2 of Septimius Severus of silver, 1 of Severus Alexander of silver, 1 of Maximinus of silver, 3 of Philip of silver, 1 of Theodora 3rd brass, 3 of Carausius 3rd brass, 18 of the Constantine family (1 of 2nd brass, 17 of 3rd brass), 1 Constantinopolis, 1 Urbs Roma, and 3 of Magnentius.\*

Mr. Llewellynn Jewitt, in the *Intellectual Observer* (Dec. 1867, p. 347), says—"At Little Chester, some (coins) in connection with human remains, and others scattered about in different parts of the station some hundreds of Roman coins have at various times been found. In my own possession are considerably more than a hundred examples from that locality, ranging from Vespasian to Arcadius, and including Vespasian, Titus, Nerva, Trajan, Hadrian, Antoninus Pius, Faustina senior, Marcus Aurelius, Faustina junior, Commodus, Gordianus III, Philippus senior, Volusianus, Gallienus, Salonina, Postumus senior, Victorinus senior, Tetricus senior and junior, Claudius Gothicus, Carausius, Allectus, Constantius Chlorus, Helena, Licinius senior, Constantinus, Maximus, Constantinus II., Constans, Constantius II., Family of Constantine, Magnentius, Valens, Arcadius, etc., etc." From this it would appear that the station was occupied during nearly the whole period of the Roman sway in Britain. In the same volume (pp. 345-6), Mr. Jewitt also engraves a fibula, and an iron spear head found at the station.

In the winter of 1873-4, the Rev. S. B. Brasher, late Vicar of St. Paul's, Derby, the vicarage of which is at Little Chester, made

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\* Gough, in his 1806 edition of Camden's "Britannia," says (vol. ii., p. 419), "Mr. Degg showed the Society of Antiquaries, 1721, a coin of Antoninus, *rev.* two hands joined holding a caduceus, COS . III., thrown up by a mole, at *Derventio*, and in 1726, several coins of the Lower Empire."

some excavations in a raised bank, which runs along one side of the vicarage garden, and which he says was originally more than one hundred yards long. I have every reason to think this bank is, from the nature of the discoveries made by Mr. Brasher, the remains of a large *botontinus* which has been nearly destroyed. Mr. Brasher only dug into it to the bottom for about 7 or 8 yards in length. He found it composed of undulating layers of gravelly soil, a reddish clay brought from the adjacent hills, and black and brown ashes; also an enormous quantity of all kinds of Roman pottery broken into pieces, mostly small, quantities of animal bones, some horns, and a few flints, the last of which must have been brought from some distance. After speaking of the great variety of ware found, Mr. Brasher, says—\* “What surprises me much is the great number of odd pieces, both of the better and the more common ware, especially of the former . . . The only complete vessel that I have found, is a conical Samian cup, about 2 inches high, and 3½ inches in diameter, it was found in three pieces.”†

Amongst the fragments was the bottom of a “Samian” ware vessel, stamped with the maker’s name, SAMOGENI. The only previous occurrence of this stamp in England had been at Cirencester. Another fragment was the rim of a vase, covered with a rich brown vitreous glaze. Glazed pottery of the Roman period is rare, both in England and on the Continent.

The whole nature of the bank or mound—the layers of gravel, clay, and ashes, different to the soil around—the pottery all *purposely* broken into fragments, the deposit of bones placed there, and the flints *purposely* brought from a distance, all mark the “find” as being that of a *botontinus*, or land mark,‡ which seems further confirmed by Mr. Brasher informing me that he

\* Proc. Soc. of Antiq., vol. vi., 2nd series, p. 120.

† With regard to the horns, etc., found, Gough (1806 edit. of Camden’s “Britannia,” vol. ii., p. 419), says, “Coins, earthen pipes, brass rings, human bones, and stags’ horns have been dug up, and the foundations of a bridge may be felt in the river, crossing to Darley Hill, which overhangs the town.”

‡ See Mr. Coote’s description of these *botontini*, in his paper on the “Centuriation of Roman Britain,” in “Archæologia,” vol. xlii., p. 143, also in his work “The Romans of Britain.”

came upon what he considered a Roman well beneath the bank. He says that he opened it to a depth of twelve feet, found it built of rough and approximately square or rectangular slabs placed edgeways one above another, thus making the "well" square, and not round in form.

I take this well to be a shaft forming an *arca finalis*, or Roman subterannean landmark, of which numbers have been found. Had Mr. Brasher excavated it to the bottom, he would have probably found layers of pottery, bones, charcoal, etc., in succession. A very similar instance of a *botontinus* superimposed upon an *arca finalis* occurs at the "Mote Hill," Warrington, which I have described at length in "Roman Lancashire," p. 224-5.

In 1875 a railway was carried through the village of Little Chester, it does not invade the camp itself, but sweeps round the south-east angle. As it is carried on an embankment, the latter has probably precluded us from reaching part of the cemeteries of the station which will lie buried beneath it. The only excavations necessary during the railway works were for the foundation of the piers of a bridge over the road in the village, and they yielded a few coins and some pottery, but I have been unable to trace the former.

Mr. Glover tells us that on 16th Sept., 1824, the workpeople of Mr. Harrison, digging for the foundation of a wall upon the green at Little Chester, found fifteen inches below the surface a skeleton, which had around it a thin stratum of an ochre yellow colour, as if formed by a decomposed suit of armour, and amongst it several rivets were found. Mr. Glover, Mr. Bateman, and Mr. Jewitt, all speak of this as a Roman interment—which, however, seems to me impossible. There is not, so far as I am aware, another instance (in Britain at least) of a Roman soldier having been buried in armour. It seems totally at variance with the Roman custom, and the slight depth at which the remains were found is another (and conclusive) proof that the interment is at least no older than the Saxon period, when it was customary to bury a soldier with his arms, etc.

Proceeding now to the second list of stations which I have

given, (that between Lincoln and Manchester), *Bannovallum* is most likely in West Lincolnshire or South Yorkshire, I have sometimes thought that Templeborough represented it (if that place be not *Morbium*). *Navio* and *Aquae* I will now deal with.

In June, 1862, there was found in a garden, in the occupation of Mr. Matthew Lees, near the Silverlands in Higher Buxton,\* the lower part of an inscribed Roman milestone, formed "of the flinty gritstone of the neighbourhood, being similar to the rock at the summit of Corbar." From the fact of the commencement of the inscription being on the lost portion of the stone, we are unable to say which of the Roman emperors was named, but the remainder is—

(TR)IB . POT . CoS . I (I)

I P . P . AN ~~AV~~ IONE

MP . X<sup>—</sup>

I have supplied the TR in the first line, as traces of letters are visible at the commencement, which could be no other than TR. I have also supplied an I, which is not visible, at the end of the line, for COS . I would be contrary to precedent. When an emperor had only been consul once, COS without any numeral was the usual *formula*. Mr. Jewitt reads the line as COS II., and possibly when first found the numerals may have been visible on the stone. The letter which seems like an I at the beginning of the second line is puzzling, it may possibly be part of an ornamental stop, but putting it on one side, the inscription should be read—*Tribunitiae potestatis . Co(n)s(ul) . ii . P(ater) † P(atricie) A . Navione M . P . X*\*\*. In the last line no numeral is visible but the X, though there is an elevated horizontal line after it (as in most cases where numerals are used), which would seem to infer from the space covered, that  $\overline{\text{II}}$  followed, making the line read M . P . XII. This stone, marking, as will be seen, twelve miles from the station *Navio*, has lately been re-discovered (after many

\* "Reliquary," vol. iii., p. 207, and "Archæological Journal," vol. xxxiii., pp. 49—55, where I have described the stone and inscription at length.

† This is assuming the name of the emperor is in the nominative case, as it occasionally is.

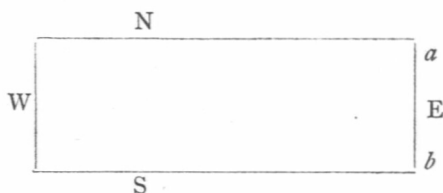
years search for it by the author) in the possession of Mr. Beresford Wright, of Wootton Court, Warwick, who has generously presented it to the Derbyshire Archæological Society.

The question now arises, where was this station *Navio*, or (as it would no doubt be pronounced in Roman times) *Nauio*, which was twelve Roman miles from Buxton. Twelve Roman miles would be equivalent to about eleven English miles. The place where the stone was found is in the angle between the Roman roads leading from Buxton to the station at Brough, near Hope, and from Buxton to the station at Little Chester. Taking the line of the former, we find that Brough is about eleven English miles from the spot where the stone was found, and that one of the streams adjoining it is called the Noe (probably a corruption of *Nauio*). There is thus a *prima facie* case that Brough and *Nauio* are one and the same, which seems confirmed by the other evidence I shall adduce.

The station at Brough is a parallelogram of 310 feet north and south, by 270 feet east to west. It lies as usual on a *lingula*, or tongue of land, embracing two fields called the upper and lower Halsteads, between two streams called the Bradwal (or Bradwell) and the Noe. The latter I have already mentioned, but Bradwell (probably originally Broadwall) is a name that occurs on many Roman sites.

Dr Pegge, in his essay on the Coritani (*Bib. Top. Brit.*, part xxiv pp. 39, 40), was the first who described any discoveries made on the site. He visited it in 1761, "in company with John Mander of Bakewell, Esq.," when he was shown "a rude bust of Apollo, and of another deity in stone, found in the fields there. There had also been a coarse pavement composed of pieces of tiles and cement discovered, as also urns, bricks, tiles, in short every species of Roman antiquities but coins, of which we could not hear that any had been found. However, I saw a very fair gold coin (in) 1783, which had been found at Brough Mill. It was of Vespasian, and bore in the *rev.* COS . III . FORT . RED. *Ig.* stans. dextra globum, sinistra caduceum . . . . In the upper one" (the field called the Upper Halsteads) "innumerable

foundations of hewn stone had been ploughed up, and in the lower, very near the angle made by the two brooks, are the apparent marks of an oblong square building., the angles of which were of hewn grit-stone, but in the other parts, as between *a* and *b*, for



example, you find fragments of bricks and tiles. At this place the pavement above-mentioned was found, and is now there mixed with the other rubbish." He adds, there was no doubt that this was a Roman building, for among the many baskets full of bricks and tiles which he dug up, there was one stamped COH. (This he engraves, but it is only the left-hand portion of a tile.

Whitaker, the historian of Manchester, tells us ("History of Manchester," vol. i., p. 197), after describing a stone in the belfry of the church at Ilkley—"And at Brough, in Derbyshire, which was equally a town of the Romans, in 1767 I saw a stone exhibiting a somewhat similar figure. It was large and rough, had been discovered in a field a little distant from the Gritstone water, and then lay in one of the hedges. And in the bending hollow of one side is presented the half-length of a woman, crossing her hands on her breast, and wearing a large peaked bonnet on her head," etc.; and at p. 251, in a note, he says that the *prætorium* at Brough "was upon one side, and along the lofty margin of the river bank."

According to Mr. Bateman (p. 153), "In 1773, a tessellated pavement, of which the prevailing colours were red and white, was discovered at the Halsteads, also many inscribed bricks."

From Mr. W. Bray's "Tour in Derbyshire," pp. 211, 212 (pub. 1783), and Gough's 1806 edition of Camden's "Britannia" (vol. ii. p. 430), we gather that "many foundations and bricks had been ploughed up" in the station, and that urns had been found



"on the other side" of the river. The pavements, etc., named by Pegge are also noticed; and then we have the statement, "Here also was found a fragment of a Roman pavement" (perhaps that named by Mr. Bateman) "and also a fragment of tile inscribed OH., part of the word *Cohors*, a brick 8 inches by  $7\frac{3}{4}$  and  $1\frac{3}{4}$  thick, with CH fair in the middle, and a broken one with C. Mr. Wilson, of Broomhead Hall, Sheffield, has a piece of an urn" (another account says part of the rim) "found here inscribed

VI T

VIV

TR.

and part of a fine red patera. In a field at the conflux of the two streams a double row of pillars is remembered to have crossed the point of land, but they have been entirely destroyed some time. On the left of a gate by the road side, near the mill, is a base and part of a column of grit stone, and on the ground by the gate lay a base or plinth with part of a column on it, and a torus moulding to a pedestal now serves to cover a well. Two large well-preserved urns, full of ashes, were found, and a third two years ago.\* The half length figure of a woman with arms folded across her breast, described by Whitaker, is then alluded to by both authors, but Bray adds that it was sold to a gentleman near Bakewell. (Can this gentleman be the Mr. John Mander previously alluded to—W. T. W.?) Bray also says "that pieces of swords, spears, bridle bits, and coins have also been found here." He seems to read the first line of the above fragmentary inscription as VIT. Others have read it as VIX, and still others as VIA. To me the word seems plainly to be VITA, the T and A being ligulate, but as the original appears to be lost (as are also the tiles), nothing can be said with certainty. All agree that the TR in the third line was in smaller letters than the other portion.

Mr. Bateman, who wrote as late as 1850, says: "Foundations of various buildings, one of considerable size, are to be observed";

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\* Another account says they were of the usual globular shape.

but if so, they have during the last thirty-five years been removed from the surface, and can only be found underground. He also says (page 152): "Three of the 'sides' (of the *castrum*) remain nearly perfect." Though far from perfect, the earthen rampart, upon which stood the stone wall, is still plainly visible on the three sides named. Mr. Bateman, on the same page, says that "the fences of the surrounding fields are built of squared sand-stone, pieces of tiles," etc. These still remain much the same, and were the walls searched, it is far from improbable that altars and other inscribed stones might be found, perhaps with the inscribed face built inwards. But to continue Mr. Bateman's account:—"Very recently a bust of coarse sculpture and the base of a column, with a moulding running round it, were to be observed built up in the walls, whilst a small well in the village is covered by a moulded slab of stone." In April, 1882, the base of a circular pillar still remained built up in the wall of the farmyard on the spot, and I had word sent to me that a few years previously the man who built the house ploughed up stones morticed, or grooved, to fit into each other. In 1872 a quantity of pottery was found on the site in cutting a trench, which passed into the hands of N. H. Ashton, Esq., of Castleton, but so far I have been unable to ascertain if any potter's stamps have been found. One Roman road (Doctor Gate) is plainly traceable, connecting this station with that at Melandra Castle, and a second (Batham Gate) connects it with Buxton.

It is most unfortunate that no complete specimen of the inscribed tiles made at the station has been discovered, or, if discovered, preserved, as it renders us ignorant of the name of the cohort that garrisoned the station. My own idea is that it was a cohort of the Brittones, a people of Belgic Gaul. But as I shall no doubt be asked to give my reasons for such a statement, I must enter shortly into the subject. At Fuligno (the ancient *Fulginium*) in Central Italy, there was discovered an interesting inscription, which is now preserved in the Palazzo Comunale of the town. It is fragmentary, but the remaining portion is as follows:—

. . . . . O. PRAE  
 . . HORTIS. TRIB. MILI . . .  
 .RAEF. EQVIT. CENSITO . .  
 BRITTONVM. ANAVION . .  
 PROC. AVG. ARMENIAE. MA.

As I have previously stated (*Archæological Journal*, Vol. XLI., p. 255) the fourth line of this inscription has puzzled many antiquaries, who considered it to refer to a subordinate tribe of the Brittones styled *Anavionenses*. I would read the remaining part of the inscription thus:—*Prae (fecto) (Co) hortis, Trib(uno) Mil(itum), Praef(ecto) Equit(um) Censito(ri) Brittonum, A Navione, Proc(uratori) Aug(usti) Armeniae Ma(joris)*. The person who was named at the commencement of this inscription would thus be (amongst the other various offices named) Censitor of the Brittones stationed at *Navio*. Now, that there was a cohort of the Brittones in Derbyshire, we ascertain from the inscription I have before alluded to, found at Hopton by Major Rooke in the last century (*Archæologia*, Vol. XII., pp. 1 to 5). It was discovered in a barrow called "Abbot's Lowe," covering the top of an urn, which was full of burnt bones and ashes. The urn was four feet three inches in circumference, and made of coarse baked earth. The stone was two feet six inches by one foot eight inches, and about nine inches thick, and was a soft yellowish freestone much worn, and the inscription consequently much defaced. From Major Rooke's drawing the inscription was—

. . . . .  
 G E L L . .  
 P R A E C O I I I  
 L V . B R I T .

All that can be made out of this is that a person of the name of Gellius who was a praefect of a cohort of Brittones is named. The letters LV before BRIT are most puzzling, but they are doubtfully given by Major Rooke. If they were there, it would almost seem that the cohort bore the name of Lutudensian, but in that case we should look for the abbreviation to follow instead of

preceding the nationality.\* It may, however, be a variation from the rule. This inscription like the pigs of lead, was found close to Wirksworth, near which *Lutudae* must have been. To my mind it seems to confirm the idea that the Brittones of *Navio* were stationed at Brough, and thus the Derbyshire and the Continental inscriptions throw light upon each other.

The next station in the second series, *Aquae*, can from its name, hardly be elsewhere than at Buxton. To no other site in this part of the kingdom would the name "The Waters" apply. Three Roman roads met there, and various discoveries have been made of Roman remains. Whitaker, in his "History of Manchester" (2nd edit. 1773), p. 201, thus speaks of the Roman baths there, "The Roman bagnio at this place was plainly discernible by its ruins within the present century. The dimensions were then traceable by the eye. And the wall of it was brick, still rising about a yard in height upon three sides, and covered with a red coat of Roman cement, hard as brick and resembling tile. The bason was floored with stone, and supplied not by any of the springs which feed the present bath immediately above, but by that finer source of water which is now denominated St. Anne's Well, and was then inclosed within it. And thus continued the very curious, and only remains of the Roman baths in the kingdom, so late as the year 1709, when Sir Thomas Delves, with a gothick generosity of spirit destroyed the whole, in order to cover the spring with the stone alcove that is over it at present. But about fifty yards to the east of this, on driving a level from the present bath to the river in 1697, was found an appendage probably to the Roman bagnio, a bason about four yards square, but made with sheets of lead that were spread upon large beams of timber, and broken ledges all along the borders. This additional bath was replenished from another spring which is about fourteen yards to the south of it, and called Bingham well. And both the springs and all the others of Buxton are only of a blood warm heat, and

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\* I have tried for many years to trace the present whereabouts of this stone, but without success.

must, therefore, have been more congenial to the state, and more friendly to the health of the human frame . . . than the boiling waters of the sun at Bath."

In 1781, when the foundations of the houses in the Crescent were being dug, another bath was discovered, thirty feet in length from east to west, and fifteen broad from north to south. It was supplied by a spring which rose at its western end, and there was an outlet for the water at the opposite or eastern end, which had a "floodgate" attached. It was lined with a concrete formed of lime and pounded tile, and at one end was a deep cavity. No trace of the station is visible above ground, but it is generally supposed to have been on the "Stane Cliffe," a hill rising above the Hall, for occasionally Roman remains have been discovered there. Major Rooke, in 1787, found what he considered to be the ruins of a temple, but unfortunately very little has been published of the discoveries made between 1781 and 1787.\*

Mr. Bateman (p. 151) says that "Roman coins are frequently discovered at Buxton or in the neighbourhood, and that the late Dr. Buxton (*sic*) possessed several of 3rd brass of Constantine, found in the vicinity in 1811."

There still remain two other stations in this second series to be noticed, *Arnameza* and *Zerdotalia*. The first I hardly think is in Derbyshire (though it may be); I am inclined to place it at the well marked Roman station at Toot Hill, above Forest Chapel in Cheshire. The other is very probably the *castrum*, now called "Melandra Castle." Ravennas gives the names of many of the stations in a very corrupt form. Taking for instance some of those on the Roman Wall (of which we know the names from the *Notitia*), instead of *Segeduno* he gives *Serduno*, instead of *Conderco* he gives *Condecor*, instead of *Hunno* he gives *Onno*, and instead of *Cilurno* he gives *Celunno*, and there are many other instances of incorrect orthography in his work. I am, therefore of opinion, that instead of *Zerdotalia* he should have written *Zedrotalia*, for the following reason. The river Mersey, in its upper portion,

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\* See "Archæologia," vol. ix., p. 137, etc.

above Stockport, is known, as Mr. Watson first remarked \* by the name of "the Edrow," now softened into Etherow by the same process of euphony by which *Nid(um)* in Glamorganshire is styled Neath, and *Caer Maridun(um)*, Caermarthen. This "Edrow," as the natives of the locality still term it, runs immediately under Melandra Castle, and the river seems to have derived its name from the Station, in the same way that the name of the *Noe* † was derived from the Station of *Nauio*.

Melandra Castle, now to be described, was first brought into notice as a Roman Station, by the Rev. John Watson, F.S.A., in a communication he made to the Society of Antiquaries, Dec. 10, 1772. It is situated on a commanding site, at the junction of the Edrow with Dinting Brook (as usual with most Roman Stations on a *lingula*,) and is a parallelogram of about 122 yards by 112, its angles facing the cardinal points. The ramparts are still very visible all round, being about 6 to 7 feet high, and about 9 feet in thickness, with considerable quantities of hewn stones remaining in them. In Watson's time, the ditches on the S.E. and S.W. sides were fairly traceable, but during several visits to the spot during the last ten years, I have found them, though faint at first, growing still fainter. The two other sides, being protected by the streams, do not seem to have had a fosse. Watson also says, "on the north east side, between the station and the water, great numbers of worked stones lie promiscuously both above and under ground; there is also a subterraneous stream of water here, and a large bank of earth which runs from the station to the river. It seems very plain that on this and on the north west sides have been many buildings, and these are the only places where they could safely stand, because of the declivity between them and the two rivers." As far as the stones named as being above ground are concerned, they are now removed. The writer remembers seeing several small heaps of them which had been collected and were subsequently carried away. All four of the gateways of the

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\* "Archæologia," vol. 3, p. 236.

† It is also called by the country people the *Nooa* and *Nooe*.

station are visible, one in the centre of each side, and the foundation of a building about twenty-five yards square (unless very recently removed), is visible in the area in the south-western half of the station.

Just outside the east angle of the *castrum*, a few years before Watson described it, there was found an inscribed centurial stone, the face of which is sixteen inches by twelve. It is now built up over the doorway of the house of the person who farms the land (Booth), and the inscription, which has *ansae* on each side, and a moulding round it, is—

CHO . I  
FRISIAVO  
C VAL . VIT  
ALIS.

*i.e.*, *C(o)ho(rtis) I. Frisiavo(num) centuria Val(erii) Vitalis*. The reversed C is the usual symbol for *centuria*. The interpretation is simply "The century (or company) of Valerius Vitalis, of the first cohort of the Frisians" (made this), thus showing that the same cohort which at one time garrisoned Manchester, was at another time stationed here, and built the *castrum*. Some time prior to 1851, "Captain de Hollingworth, Mr. Dearden, and Mr. Shaw," who were making an examination of the site, found the upper left-hand corner of what had been a large inscribed tablet ; \* probably one of those put up over the arches of the gateways. The only letters remaining were—

I M P .

the abbreviation of *Imperator*, usually commencing these inscriptions, which were dedicated to the reigning Emperor. This fragment was preserved by Captain de Hollingworth at his residence, Hollingworth Hall, according to information given to me, on the site, of the *castrum* in 1874.

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\* Vol. 7, "Journal of Brit. Archaeological Association," p. 17.

"In the N.E. gable of the pile of buildings in Hadfield, of which the Spinner's Arms is a part, are some stones with what appears to have been an ornamented design of an elaborate character in relief." (These have apparently been removed from the station). "A few years since some men were employed in an exploration of the rampart, but as soon as they discovered sufficient evidence of a building having stood here, they were ordered to desist. During the spring of 1875, the farmer who owns (? rents—W. T. W.) the field, in digging up some fifty yards of the soil, came upon the foundation of the wall, towards the south-east, and took out a large quantity of unhewn stone. He discovered the remains of an entrance to the station." It "was arched over as the stones clearly indicate, and was probably the main entrance; it was at least the same end as the *prætorium* . . . ." Two (of the stones) "with bevelled edges, one having also a recess cut into it, seem to have been pedestals on which the pilasters were supported, others the parts of the pilasters; there are also three arched stones, one apparently the key stone. They are all in an excellent state of preservation, their angles as sharp as if newly cut."\*

A fine first brass of Domitian was found in the station a few years since.† and a quantity of tiles and pottery. An urn found here is preserved in the Warrington Museum, with a drawing of a second. Some tiles and concrete from Melandra are also preserved there, and casts of nine coins of the following Emperors—from within or near the area of the *castrum*—Domitian, Marcus Aurelius (2), Alexander Severus (3), Julia Maesa (2), and another, of which only the reverse FELICITAS . AVG. is visible.

From these various accounts it will be seen that excavation might reveal much, both within the area, and amongst the suburban buildings, which, as at other Roman stations, surrounded it. The walls of the internal building, supposed to be the *prætorium*, were found to be four-and-half feet thick. The area of the station

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\* "Antiquary," Sept., 1882.

† Vol. 7, "Journal of Brit. Archaeological Association," p. 18.



bears the name of "The Castle Yard," and eleven fields surrounding it, are called in old deeds "The Castle Carrs."

Roman roads from this station run to Brough, to Buxton, towards Stockport, and one northwards to "Doctor Lane Head," on the border of Lancashire and Yorkshire, where it falls into the Roman road from Manchester to Slack (*Cambodunum*).

The Edrow is a little over a furlong from the steep hill on which the *castrum* stands, and the latter is within the township of Gamesley and parish of Glossop.

These are the whole of the known permanent and fortified Roman stations in the county. There have been small settlements at other places, which I hope to describe in a future paper, but before closing, in order to embrace the whole of the inscriptions, I must mention the altar found near Bakewell, of which an account was first published by Bishop Gibson, in his edition of Camden's "Britannia," at the commencement of the last century, and since then many authors have written upon it. All, however, have been wrong as to the fourth line, which they have read OSITTIVS, whereas it is, as Professor Hübner ("Corpus Inscr. Latin.," vol. vii., No. 176) was the first to point out, in 1873, Q. SITTIVS. The whole inscription is—

D E O  
M A R T I  
B R A C I A C A E  
Q . S I T T I V S  
C A E C I L I A N  
P R A E F . C O H  
I . A Q V I T A N O  
V . S

*i.e.*, *Deo Marti Braciacae. Q(uintus) Sittius Caecilian(us), Praef(ectus) Coh(ortis) I. Aquitano(rum) V(otum) S(olvit)*, or translated "To the god Mars Braciaca, Quintus Sittius Caecilianus, Praefect of the first cohort of the Aquitani, performs his vow." The only obscure part of the inscription is the epithet *Braciaca* given to Mars, but so numerous are the titles given to some of the

classical deities it need not cause much discussion. We learn, however, that the first cohort of the Aquitani were at some period in this neighbourhood. They were a French people, the Aquitaine of later times representing their country. From the Rivington *tabula* of Hadrian, we know they were in Britain in A. D. 124, and they have left an inscription, the date of which is uncertain, at *Procolitia*, on the Wall of Hadrian in Northumberland.

The altar has been preserved for nearly two centuries at Haddon Hall, and was lately, if not now, in the porch between the outer and second court-yards of that building. I unfortunately did not myself take its dimensions, and now find there is a conflict of evidence on the point. Lysons' "*Magna Britannia*" (Vol. V., p. 205) says it is 2 feet 11 inches high; whilst in the *Reliquary* (Vol. XII. for 1871), it is stated to be "4 feet in height, 15½ inches across the lettering, and 12 inches in thickness." Perhaps some of the members of the Society can get the correct dimensions.\*

It is singular that nothing approaching to a villa, or a tessellated pavement (unless the small and rude fragment found at Brough be counted) has been discovered in Derbyshire.

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\* Mr. Sleight has kindly supplied the following measurements of this altar, which still stands in the inner porch of Haddon Hall. Full height 3 ft. 10 in.; width of the capital and base 1 ft. 7 in.; width of the plinth 1 ft. 4 in.; thickness of the capital and base 1 ft.; thickness of the plinth 9 in.—ED.