

THE PURSGLOVE BRASS AT TIDESWELL.—To the *Athenæum* of October 12th last Dr. Cox contributed an account of the recovery, by the Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher, Vicar of Tideswell, of a small brass plate inscribed to the memory of Lawrence Brierley, Vicar of Tideswell 1662-1680. It is, however, a palimpsest, for upon the back are fragments of the original epitaph formerly placed below the well-known brass to Bishop Pursglove in Tideswell Church, but believed by Dr. Cox to have been removed in 1587-9, "when fierce action was taken against the recusants, who were so strong a body in North Derbyshire." The mutilation and re-use of monumental brasses would seem to have been by no means infrequent; for the writer has two similar examples, one of the fifteenth and the other of the eighteenth century. The Pursglove fragment is worthy of illustration in this Journal, and perhaps Dr. Cox will favour us with a paper upon it.

EXCAVATIONS AT ARBOR LOW.—With the object of ascertaining the age of stone circles, the British Association appointed a Committee, consisting of Dr. J. G. Garson (Chairman), Mr. H. Balfour (Secretary), Sir John Evans, Professors Boyd Dawkins and R. Meldola, Dr. R. Munro, and Messrs. C. H. Read and A. L. Lewis. The Committee, after careful consideration, selected Arbor Low as the most suitable for their exploration, and after obtaining the necessary sanction of the Duke of Rutland and the First Commissioner of Works, accepted the honorary services of Mr. H. St. George Gray to conduct sectional excavation in the ancient monument. A geometrical plan of the whole was first prepared, detailing, with the nicest accuracy, the position, dimensions, and form of every stone visible upon the surface and the contours of the earthworks. Then certain sections were excavated through the fosse and in the plateau, which resulted in the discoveries of various flint implements and of one almost perfect, and several imperfect, human skeletons, but neither Roman vestiges nor pottery were disclosed. It is, however, intended to continue the exploration, and as the subject is one of momentous interest

to Derbyshire archæologists, it is thought advisable to postpone a detailed report of the proceedings until our next year's volume, in which Arbor Low and its mysteries will assume a special prominence. To this end, Mr. St. George Gray has kindly promised to contribute a paper upon his researches, with copies of his diagrams and photographs; Mr. Arnold Bemrose will treat of the geological points of interest; and Mr. Hubbersty will deal with the origin and transit of the great limestone slabs.

THE FIVE WELLS TUMULUS, MILLER'S DALE.—Attention is directed to an account, in *The Reliquary* of October last, by Mr. John Ward, F.S.A., of the exploration of this interesting chambered barrow by Mr. M. Salt, of Buxton, and his sons. "They found that the whole mound, where not disturbed, was built of thinly-bedded *quarried* limestones, rudely coursed, and that the podium was simply the facing of the general construction." The article is replete with interest to the prehistoric antiquary, and the discoveries which have resulted are unusually comprehensive from a single tumulus. Finally, it is with pleasure that we read "I can assure the reader that in our various diggings on the venerable site we did not knowingly disturb a single stone of the original construction."

MEMBERS will greatly assist the objects of our Society if they will kindly forward particulars or newspaper reports of any incidents, apparently important or otherwise, which come under their notice, relating to the archæology or natural history of our county, to

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