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Cambridge Antiquarian Society,

OCTOBER 1921—MAY 1922

WITH

Communications

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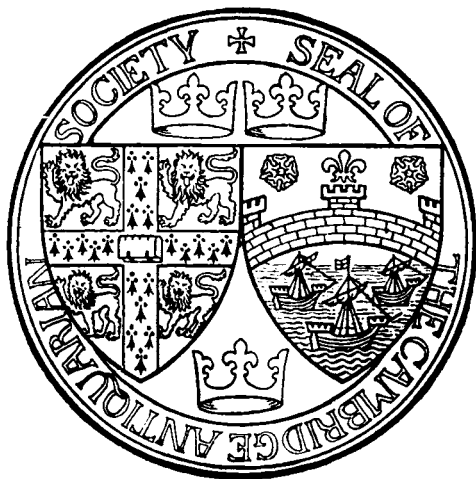
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PROCEEDINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

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Wednesday 22 February, 1922.

Prof. Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, President, in the Chair.

The Rev. Canon JOHN QUINE, M.A. Oxon., Vicar of Lonan, Isle of Man, gave the following communication :

EARLY SCRIBED ROCKS OF THE ISLE OF MAN, WITH NOTES ON THE EARLY POTTERY OF THE ISLAND. Illustrated with lantern views.

This Communication is printed at page 77.

Monday 13 March, 1922.

Prof. Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, President, in the Chair.

Dr CRESSWELL SHEARER, Sc.D., F.R.S., gave a lecture with lantern illustrations on THE CASTLES OF FREDERICK II (HOHENSTAUFEN) IN APULIA. These castles are remarkable not only for their size, but especially for the peculiarity of their architecture; for though built in the 13th century, they contain a number of details imitated from the ancient classical buildings of Italy, and thus they anticipate the Classical Renaissance by several centuries. The combination of Classical and Mediaeval forms is very peculiar, and was well shown in the lecturer's photographs taken by himself.

Monday 8 May, 1922.

Prof. Sir WILLIAM RIDGEWAY, President, in the Chair.

Mr JAMES CURLE, F.S.A. London and Scotland, Honorary Member of our Society, gave a lecture on A ROMAN ROAD ACROSS THE SCOTTISH BORDER, in which he traced the course of the ancient road known in the Middle Ages as the Dere Street from the Tyne to the Tweed, a distance of some fifty miles. The forts and camps situated upon its margin were clear evidence that it served as a highway during the period of the Roman occupation, the troops in the expedition under Agricola must have followed it and it was probable that both in the first and second centuries it formed the main line of communication with Caledonia. In the high uncultivated moerland in Redesdale and across the Scottish Border the mounds of the Roman works were still clearly visible, while lower down where the plough

had erased every trace from the surface—as at Corbridge and Newstead—excavation had brought back to us plans of military works and of buildings, many inscriptions and a wonderful collection of objects which enabled us to visualize the forts with their Roman garrisons. Newstead, the ancient Trimontium, exhibited very clearly the typical plan of a fort. It had its central headquarters building flanked on either side by buttressed granaries, while on the South of these lay the usual Courtyard house, generally assigned as the dwelling of the Commandant. The long lines of Barrack buildings were clearly traced. Beyond the defences of the fort proper lay more or less fortified annexes, in one of which stood a group of buildings identified as the Baths. The occupation clearly began with the Agricolan advance. The changes in the defences revealed abandonments and reoccupations. The final withdrawal must have come in the reign of Commodus. Corbridge the ancient Corstopitum had a much longer history. It was probable that it also had its beginnings in an Agricolan castellum; but with the building of the wall of Hadrian the site was applied to other uses, and it became a place of stores, perhaps a base for the legions marching to the North. It would appear to have been the scene of much activity during the advance of Lollius Urbicus, and to some extent under Severus. As at Trimontium there were signs of many upheavals, more than once it must have been sacked and burned, but its final abandonment did not come till about the end of the fourth century. The buildings at Corbridge had no parallel in this country. Its great store house had been planned on a great scale and its masonry was magnificent. The site had yielded much to its excavators in inscriptions, in pottery, and in its remarkable series of coins. At Newstead the epigraphic material was disappointing, but on the other hand the preservative quality of its many rubbish pits had saved for us a series of objects illustrating the daily life of the occupants of the fort, weapons and tools, buckets from the wells, querns for grinding the corn, wheels of the carts, cooking pots of bronze, vessels of earthenware, leathern garments, shoes of men, women and children, which have suffered little change or decay in the centuries which have passed over them.