

and the detour by which he smuggled himself into England was of no consequence compared with the chance of being again tossed about for a fortnight on the North Sea. The high mountain from which the river he crossed seemed to spread out (*fluvius . . . ex alto monte diffusus*, see also Aen. Sylv. *De Vir. Clar.* XXXII.) was no doubt the Criffel; there is no mountain that occupies such a position in regard to the Tweed. The account of the Scots making a foray at low water is wholly inapplicable to a river, on which there were no less than seven or eight ordinary fords between Berwick and Norham; while there was no large town with a priest between those two castles, and if there had been, its male population would have taken refuge in one of them and not in a distant tower. On the other hand Camden tells us that on the Solway as far west as Bowness 'every ebbe the water is so low, that the Borderers and beast-stealers may easily wade over.' There seems every probability that the future Pope passed this eventful night at Bowness itself.

The descriptions left by early antiquaries of the wild state of the country along the Roman Wall, and the mention in Roger North's account of Lord Guilford's journey from Newcastle to Carlisle as Judge of Assize, in 1676, of 'the *hideous* road along by the Tyne, for the many sharp turnings, and perpetual precipices, for a coach, not sustained, by main force, impassable,' make it not at all surprising that Æneas Sylvius should be delighted to reach Newcastle after passing through such a country in winter. He was no doubt told that the keep of Newcastle was the work of Julius Cæsar, who was (it seems difficult now to believe) supposed to have built the White Tower at London, and the Keep of Kenilworth. The intellectual vigour of Æneas Sylvius in an age of ignorance appears conspicuous in his visit to Durham, where he mentions Bede with the greatest respect but is wholly silent as to St. Cuthbert.

(E.)

Note, p. 30.—BARMKIN.

Murray's *New English Dictionary* has 'BARMKIN, *north. arch.* Forms: barmekin, barmekynch, barmekyn, barmekine,' with, as instances of its early use, A.D. 1340 *Alexander* (Stev.) 1301: 'Balaam in the barmeken sa bitterly fightis,' A.D. 1440 *Sir Degrev.* 375 'At the barnekynch he abad, And lordelych doune lyght.' It has been seen that in the Scottish Statute of 1535 (*ante* p. 60) every owner of land on the Border worth a hundred pounds a year was to build a *barmkin* of stone and lime containing sixty square feet, an ell (a Scottish Ell = 34½ English inches) thick, and six ells high, and if he thought it expedient he might erect a tower for himself within this statutory *barmkin*. This shows that a *barmkin* might be a perfectly independent fortification by itself without any tower, and seems fatal to the suggestion of its being derived from *barbican*, a word with a relative meaning, since barbicans were always the *antemuralia* or outworks of a fortress and could not stand alone. The words 'Castells Towers Barmekyns and other Fortresses' in the Border View of 1541 (*ante* p. 41) show that *barmkin*

could be used in the same sense in Northumberland. This View tells us that the outermost of the three wards of Wark Castle served for a *barmkein* (*ante* p. 30) and recommended that *barmkins* for the 'savegarde' of cattle should be erected round every tower (*ante* p. 36). In the same way Sir Robert Bowes in 1550 was of the opinion that a strong tower with stables beneath and lodgings above should be built at Mindrum, and 'in circuite about it a large barmekyn or fortylage for savegarde of cattle' (*ante* p. 51). It seems impossible to explain satisfactorily the origin of the word.

## (F.)

Note, p. 33.—BASTLE.

Till the end of the 13th century, according to Viollet-le-Duc, *Dictionnaire de l'Architecture Française* II. p. 166, the word *bastide* was principally used to designate a temporary work for the protection of an encampment; after that period *bastide* or *bastille* came to mean a detached work of defence forming part of a general scheme of fortification, and by extension an isolated house built beyond the walls of a town. The several *bastilles* of Paris were originally independent towers in front of the walls, of these that of St. Antoine became celebrated as the Bastille *par excellence*. The older form of the word was applied to country-houses in the south of France, e.g. *London Gaz.* No. 6073/2 in 1721 'The *Bastides* and Farm-Houses in that Neighbourhood'.—Murray's *New English Dictionary*.

In England the word seems to have been first employed in the beginning of the 15th century. e.g. 'Square bastiles and bulwarkes to make'.—Lydgate (1430) *Bochas*. II. xvii. Among the 'Townes Brent by my lorde of Glocester in Scotland' in 20 Ed. IV. we meet with the entries 'Mordington & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Browmhyll & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Dunslawe & y<sup>e</sup> Bastile wonn', 'Mikel Swinton & the Bastell won', and 'Litell Swinton & the Bastell won', while 'my lorde of Northomberlande' descending on Yetholm, won the Bastiles of Primside and Longhouses.—*MS.* at Alnwick Castle. The *Statistical Account of Scotland* mentions Kello-bastel in Edrom parish, Foulden-bastel, etc. In Northumberland the very interesting ruin at Hebburn in Chillingham Park is, as has been said, still called the 'bastle'. Even a building of the size of Bellister is called a 'bastell-house' in the View of 1541. The great tower at Burrowden in Coquetdale was termed a 'bassel-house' by old people who remembered it (*ex inform.* D. D. Dixon), and the same appellation was given to the *Old Walls* at Newton Underwood, near Mitford, in Hodgson's time (*Northd.* II. ii, p. 72).

## (G.)

Note, p. 54.—ACT OF PARLIAMENT, 23 ELIZ. CAP. IV.

In consequence, probably, of the arrest of Morton, and the ascendancy of Lennox and Arran in the affairs of Scotland, the English lords framed in the beginning of 1581, 'An Acte for fortifeng of the Borders towardes Scotland.