NOTES AND NEWS

A number of ansate brooches, some of which are of caterpillar type, were also found at Domburg on the island of Walcheren, a site which has produced finds extending from the 6th to the 9th century. One has all the characteristics of the earlier brooches common in northern France—tubular shape, transverse bands and ring-and-dot ornament, but the hollow construction has now been replaced by a solid one. Another variant, of which there are a number at Domburg, and one from Noordwijkerhout, is also solid, but cast in leaf-like shapes with trefoil terminals, and this type is sometimes in silver or set with stones. Only one or two show any sign of the earlier transverse banding. A similar bronze brooch, moulded, with trefoil terminals and some transverse ridges on the bow (fig. 60, c) was found with associated objects in grave 81 at Nebel, Amrumer. The accompanying finds of tortoise-brooch and two keys indicate the early 9th century. The coin-dated brooch at Emmen, Drenthe, too, was solid, with trefoil ends, and the side view shows that the earlier transverse moulding was a still-remembered tradition (fig. 60, d).

The caterpillar-brooch has so far been found only in the coastal districts of northern France, Belgium, and later in Holland, in contrast to other types of ansate brooch which extend much further afield. Although the Old Erringham example retains the transverse bands of the earliest French brooches, it belongs to the solid, moulded type with trefoil terminals which has been found so far only in Holland and on the islands of Walcheren and Amrum. These brooches date from the first half of the 9th century, but one would expect a brooch like this, which has not yet abandoned the original design of cross-binding, to be earlier, and to belong to the 8th century. The considerable number found at Domburg might mean that the place of manufacture was near by, and one of these continental products obviously found its way across the Channel to the shores of Sussex.

VERA I. EIVISON

A PITCHER OF FORUM WARE IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM (FIG. 61)

It should be recorded that an example of the newly-identified Forum ware has been in the British Museum for the past 150 years. It is a small globular pitcher in the Towneley collection, purchased by the Museum in 1805. The pot (fig. 61) is only 11.2 cm. (4.4 in.) high and is made of drab grey ware. The whole of the outside, the underneath of the base, and the inside of the neck are covered by glaze. The glaze is yellowy-green with uneven surface, and shows numerous pittings and craters where bubbles of glaze have burst during firing. The pot is a pitcher of type I (a), as defined in Med. Archaeol., ix (1965), 57, with tubular spout above the bulge, and a strap-handle running into the rim. The body is decorated with applied scales in irregular zones; a single row of scales also ran down the back of the handle. The pitcher is described and illustrated in R. L. Hobson's Catalogue, but no provenience for it is recorded.

10 Ibid., pl. xv, 16.
11 Ibid., pl. xvi, 15, pl. xvi, 21-5, 29-30, pl. xvii, 41-6.
12 Ibid., pl. xix, a.
13 Ibid., pl. xvi, 29, pl. xvii, 41.
14 P. La Baume, 'Die Wikingerzeit auf den Nordfrischen Inseln', Jahrbuch des Nordfrisischen Vereins für Heimatkunde und Heimatliebe, xxix (1952/3), 33-5, pl. 7, b. A list of these brooches and a distribution-map (Karte 5) is included in this work. The brooch from Looveen, grave 6, listed, has apparently not been published, although small ansates from Looveen are illustrated in Nieuwe Drentsche Volksalmanak, xlv (1927), pl. 8, 6b, 18a.
15 Now lost—A. Roos, op. cit. in note 20, p. 68, Another similar example, once in the possession of a Dr Heding, was quoted by Pleyte, op. cit. in note 17, p. 24, and one of unknown provenience is quoted by A. Roos, op. cit. in note 20, p. 68, as being in the collection of J. W. Frederiks at The Hague.
NOTES AND NEWS

Charles Towneley (1737–1805) was a celebrated collector of classical antiquities. He visited Rome and Florence in 1765, and made Rome his headquarters until 1772. Whilst there he began to form a collection, and for this purpose carried out excavations in Italy. In 1772 he returned to London, where he lived until about 1780 and added further to his collection.

In 1791 Towneley became a Trustee of the British Museum. On his death in 1805 the bulk of his collection was purchased by the British Museum, and the remainder was acquired by the Museum in 1814.

The probability is, of course, that Towneley acquired this pitcher of Forum ware at Rome during his residence there, but there is a remote possibility that it was found in England. Towneley’s collection also included a fine example of an English medieval jug, which is also in the British Museum. This jug is decorated with applied strips and grilles-stamped pellets, which identify it as a regional type of the eastern midlands in the 13th century. Unfortunately, it is also without location.

G. C. DUNNING

THE ORIGINS OF BOLINGBROKE CASTLE, LINCOLNSHIRE
(PLS. XI–XII; FIGS. 62–64)

Old Bolingbroke (New Bolingbroke is an early 13th-century settlement in the reclaimed fen) is situated 15 miles N. of Boston and 25 miles E. of Lincoln, the village lying at the head of a small valley on the northern edge of the fen. The castle (at TF/349650), mainly celebrated for being the birthplace of King Henry IV, was placed in the guardianship of the Ministry of Public Building and Works by the Duchy of Lancaster in 1949. Only slight traces of masonry were visible through the turf at that time, although the shape of the moat was clear enough. Since May 1965 preparatory work for laying-out the monument has been started on the site under my direction and this note records the very interesting results achieved in six weeks of excavation at the castle in May–July, 1965, and five days on Dewy Hill (TF/348654), some 500 yds. N. of the castle, in October 1965.

An admirable general impression of the features under discussion may be obtained from Dr. St. Joseph’s air-photographic view looking N. (PL. XI, A). In the foreground is a large rectangular area, approximately 200 yds. square, with a bank and ditch on three sides and the castle on the N. side. This contains a curious and very conspicuous moated rectangular pond, omitted by Jared Hill on his map in 1718, but possibly already in existence. The enclosure has been known since at least 1600 as the ‘rout yard’.

...