

Archaeological Intelligence.

It is gratifying to announce that, notwithstanding the calamitous and disturbed state of the Sister Island, an increasing interest is shown in the promotion of Archaeological pursuits in that country. We have been favoured by the Rev. J. Graves, (local secretary at Kilkenny,) with a report of the successful inauguration of the "Kilkenny Archaeological Society," whose first meeting took place early in February, the Dean of Ossory, President, in the chair. The various preliminary arrangements were adopted, and the desire of the meeting was expressed in a resolution, "That the Society be placed in connexion with the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland." After some admirable suggestions for the conservation of all remains of antiquity, and the circulation of queries, several interesting subjects of investigation were brought forward, and antiquities exhibited, especially some from the museum of the Mayor of Kilkenny; a series of Irish seals, a class of antiquities scarcely known in this country; a processional banner, several gold ornaments; and two interesting communications on primeval remains were read, evincing much promise of valuable results from the establishment of this local institution.

THE ARUNDEL SOCIETY, recently founded for promoting the knowledge of art, under the auspices of the Marquis of Lansdowne, the Right Honourable Sidney Herbert, Major-General Fox, and other noblemen and gentlemen of well-known taste, has issued the prospectus of a project which appears to promise many advantages. We are happy to learn that this undertaking, the importance of which must be universally admitted, has been favoured at the outset with royal approbation and support. The plan appears to be devised for the extension of knowledge of art, on a system similar to that already adopted so advantageously by the Camden, and other Societies, for the production of rare and instructive works, at a very moderate cost to the subscriber. It is also proposed to issue engravings from important examples of architecture, sculpture and painting; amongst which we are happy to perceive that Medieval Art will meet with due attention. The existence of this attractive institution will commence with the works of Vasari, and illustrations of the Cathedral of Orvieto. The annual contribution is one guinea, and any information may be obtained at the office of the Society, 13, Pall Mall, East.

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The Third Annual Meeting will be held this year about the beginning of September, at Cardiff—a place peculiarly well adapted to such a purpose. Independently of the castle and other remains in that town, there are in its immediate neighbourhood the following important remains:—Caerleon, the ISCA SILURUM of the Romans; the Cromlechs and other British remains near St. Nicholas, and on the hills; Llandaff Cathedral and ancient Episcopal Palace; Ewenny Priory, with a multitude of highly interesting churches and ancient houses. No ordinary attraction is presented by the important castles of Caerphilly and St. Donat's, within easy reach of Cardiff. The communications with

Gloucester and Bristol are very convenient; and it is readily approachable from all parts of Wales, as well as by the Great Western Railroad from London. The local preparations for the meeting are already begun. Letters for the Secretaries of the Association should be addressed to "Mr. Pickering, 177, Piccadilly, the publisher of its Journal; or to the local Secretary, G. Grant Francis, Esq., Swansea."

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, DEC. 4, 1848.—At this meeting, the Rev. C. HARDWICK read a dissertation on a satirical poem, the date of which, from the language and historical allusions, appears to be about 1320. It is preserved in a volume of sermons by Rad. Acton, presented to St. Peter's College by Thomas Beaufort, half-brother of Henry IV. The poem is in rhyme, the versification very peculiar. It is an indiscriminate and unsparing attack upon all orders of society above the peasantry; of high interest as an illustration of manners, and the state of the country at the time. Mr. Wright printed a fragment of this curious poem in his "Political Songs," from an MS. in the Advocates' Library.

Mr. A. W. FRANKS communicated a copy of the grant of arms to King's College, from the original amongst the college muniments, dated 27th of Henry VI., much anterior to the grants made to other colleges, in the reign of Elizabeth. It specifies the reasons for which the charges were granted. Mr. Franks exhibited a cast from an impression of the College Seal, appended to a deed dated 27th of Henry VI., on which different bearings appear; and he showed that in all probability the seal now used is the same matrix, but the present shield of arms had been substituted for the original scutcheon.

Mr. C. C. BABINGTON, and the Rev. J. J. SMITH, gave an account of the vestiges of buildings brought to light by the exertions of the Hon. R. C. Neville, at Ickleton, as related in a previous part of this Journal. They questioned, however, the correctness of the notion that these remains are to be regarded as Roman, alleging that the mere foundations afford no architectural data; and they regarded the antiquities found as insufficient to prove the Roman age of the building. It was observed that the use of Roman bricks, and the continuation of the apparatus for warming houses, introduced by the Romans, is not a decisive evidence of Roman origin, as both were certainly used at times long after the departure of that people from Britain. Adjoining to these foundations are remains of another building, which had given rise to considerable discussion, being an oblong room, apparently divided lengthwise by two rows of pillars, and called a Temple, Basilica, or Church, by different persons. The inspection of its plan appeared to negative the first supposition, and the absence of an apse, so frequently found in early churches, was regarded as rendering the last improbable. From examinations of the work, rude and deficient in regularity, and in the relative distances and size of the supposed bases of the pillars, it was conceived that this also is of later times than the Roman age, and that the bases might have been the supports of wooden props to the roof, such as existed in the Sextry Barn at Ely, described by Professor Willis.¹

¹ Whatever opinion may be entertained in regard to the supposed columnar arrangements of this building, we must conclude that

the learned antiquaries of the University would scarcely have refused to recognise the strong probability that these remains are

Mr. DECK exhibited a collection of keys of very early date, found at the base of the walls of St. Martin's Priory, Dover, and a portion of one of the pillars of the Conventual Church, formed of stalactitic carbonate of lime, a kind of stone not to be obtained in this part of Europe. Its origin is, indeed, unknown, unless it were derived from Sicily. Professor Willis stated that the pavement of Canterbury Cathedral, prior to the fire in 1174, was formed of the same stone.

Amongst various presents to the Museum, was a relic of early British times, a fresh example of the Archaeological treasures concealed in the Cambridgeshire fens. It is a bronze sword, presented by J. T. Martin, Esq., and found in Qui Fen. It resembles one found in the Thames, (Akerman's *Archaeol. Index*, p. 53; the specimen of largest size).—C. C. B.

BURY AND WEST SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—The first annual meeting of this Society was held on March 8th, at the Guildhall, Bury, the Rev. Sir T. G. Cullum presiding. The report of the committee gave a most favourable statement of the progress of the Society, and promise of increasing advantages from this energetic effort to give extension to Archaeological research in East Anglia. Three quarterly meetings, held at Bury and Clare, had been attended with full success, and the curious information communicated on these occasions, recorded in the first portion of a periodical publication of Transactions. During the present year it is proposed to hold similar meetings—at Ixworth in June, and at Thetford in September.

At the meeting purposed to be held at Thetford, the Society anticipate a fraternal participation in their proceedings, on the part of the Antiquaries of Norfolk; the Society of that county, whose meetings and publications have already contributed so much to Archaeology in East Anglia, having cordially responded to the invitation.

Various donations and accessions to the Library and Museum were announced. Numerous antiquities and drawings were exhibited by Mr. Tymms, the Rev. J. W. Donaldson, the Rev. H. Creed, and other gentlemen. A History of Clare, the result, in some measure, of the meeting which had been there held, was announced as preparing for publication, by the Rev. Dr. Wightman. The first part of the Proceedings of the Society, published in January last, includes an interesting Memoir on the County of Clare, the origin of the Duchy of Clarence and Clarenceux King-at-Arms, by Mr. Donaldson. Mr. Tymms has appropriately added the history of one of the most distinguished ladies connected with the Honour of Clare, Joanna of Acre, daughter of Edward I. The Number comprises also, an useful summary on the subject of Baptismal Fonts, by Mr. H. Porteous Oakes.

The HISTORIC SOCIETY of LANCASHIRE and CHESHIRE, established during the last year only, at Liverpool, by the exertions of Mr. Mayer, the Rev. Dr. Hume, and other persons distinguished by literary or antiquarian attainments, has already commenced the publication of the results of their proceedings. The formation of such an Institution is full of promise for

Roman, had they been more fully informed as to the objects discovered amongst the ruins, apparently without any exception, of

Roman character. We are not aware where any hypocaust of an age later than Roman times exists.—Ed.

the extension of Historical and Archaeological research in the two important counties to which its energies are chiefly devoted. The valuable researches of Dr. Hume, in reference to Local Antiquities, are already known to many of our readers, in his curious Monograph on the Antiquities discovered in an alluvial deposit at Hoylake, on the northern coast of Cheshire.

Miscellaneous Notices.

Mr. George Grant Francis, F. S. A., whose Archaeological Illustrations of South Wales have been noticed in previous volumes of this Journal, promises a valuable addition in the History of Swansea, the result of many years of research. Subscriptions received by Messrs. Longman.

The recent restoration of Caernarvon Castle, under the able direction of Mr. Salvin, by government authority, promises, in connection with the researches of the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, results highly interesting to Archaeologists. Many of our readers are aware that the fruits of their labours formed a subject of leading interest at the Cambrian Archaeological Congress, held at Caernarvon in September last. It is proposed to publish, by subscription, a Monograph of this remarkable example of military architecture, comprising the curious details, now for the first time made public, through Mr. Hartshorne's investigation of ancient records.

It is gratifying to observe the activity in the pursuit of Archaeological inquiries evinced in the Principality. The exertions of the Society of Caerleon have been attended with full success; and the committee of the Neath Philosophical Institution, encouraged by the interest excited during the meeting of the British Association at Swansea, in the last year, have excavated the remains of Neath Abbey, and propose to publish (by subscription) various interesting plates, and details hitherto unknown. Subscribers' names are received by the Librarian, Neath Museum, or Mr. Pickering, Piccadilly.

Mr. William Hylton Longstaffe, of Darlington, who contributed so many interesting objects to the Museum at the Lincoln meeting, announces the Annals of Darlington, its Ancient Trades and Antiquities. The work will shortly appear in Numbers; and archaeologists disposed to render support to this undertaking in a county, hitherto insufficiently illustrated, will forward their names as subscribers, to the author, at Darlington.

At a late meeting of the Institute in London, a coloured representation was produced of a mosaic pavement discovered at Aldborough, Yorkshire, on the estate of Mr. Lawson, and faithfully depicted under the direction of Mr. H. E. Smith, of Parliament-street, York. The approval with which this admirable fac-simile has been welcomed, encourages Mr. Smith to publish several other valuable examples in Yorkshire, forming three plates, at a very moderate price to subscribers. This undertaking claims our cordial commendation, and so spirited an endeavour to preserve memorials of very perishable specimens of ancient art, will doubtless meet with ready

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THE SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND have recently circulated the following appeal for contributions to their museum, already well stored with objects of great interest, and of which, in great part, a catalogue has been published :

"The council, being exceedingly desirous of completing a systematic arrangement of the society's collection of antiquities, earnestly invite the clergy, landed proprietors, gentlemen in the direction of Scottish railways, and all who are friendly to the object of establishing a national museum of Archæology in the Scottish capital, to contribute such objects as are best calculated to forward this desirable end. The museum is open to the public without any charge, and has been visited during the past year by 5380 persons. The first aim of the society is to render its collection as complete as possible in examples of British, and more especially of Scottish antiquities of all periods." The general enumeration of desiderata comprises—1. Celtic period. Stone celts, arrow-heads, and hammers; objects of bronze and bone; of amber, &c., moulds of bronze celts, and cinerary urns. 2. Romano-British period. Altars and inscriptions; pottery and glass; tessellated pavements, &c.; ornaments and weapons. 3. Anglo-Saxon period. Pottery and glass vessels; ornaments found in tumuli; bronze and iron implements. 4. Medieval period. Pottery and domestic utensils; arms and armour; wood carvings; furniture; painted glass; ornamental tiles, and rubbings of sepulchral brasses, &c. 5. Miscellaneous. Objects illustrative of obsolete manners, including domestic and personal appliances, with ornaments of every kind; topographical illustrations; portraits; coins and medals; rare books, unpublished poetry and music, autographs and historical MSS.

We hope that many who possess objects, trivial as single curiosities, invaluable as links in a chain of evidence, will contribute them for so good a purpose; that many also, in these times of discovery and excavation, will keep careful watch, and preserve what may be brought to light for national instruction.

In Ireland, it is satisfactory to learn that the precious collection of the Royal Academy, so speedily brought together and arranged by the efforts of a few energetic antiquaries, has received an accession which will greatly augment its value, for the purposes of scientific comparison. An arrangement of friendly exchange and correspondence has been very advantageously effected with the society of Northern antiquaries, and a series of examples, duplicates from the valuable collection at Copenhagen, have been transferred to Dublin, a collection of Irish antiquities being sent in return to the Danish Museum. The advantages of such facilities afforded to science are most important: the only means of attaining to sure conclusions in regard to the obscure vestiges of the earlier periods, is through careful comparison of numerous approximate types.

The antiquarians of Newcastle have projected a pilgrimage of no ordinary interest to the friends of Archæology. They have arranged an

excursion along the site of the Roman wall, extending from Wallsend to the Solway, to take place at the close of the month of June, and invite the attendance of antiquarians from the south. We hope that this interesting expedition will be productive not only of gratification to those who may have the good fortune to participate in it, but excite a more lively interest in the preservation of the numerous Roman remains in that district, and possibly lead to the deposit of the more important of these vestiges, and of private collections, in the ancient fortress of Newcastle, a place worthy to receive such a museum as might readily be formed in the northern borders, and to which the collections of the society have recently, through the liberal assistance of the Duke of Northumberland, and other donors, been removed. The generous encouragement of His Grace is ever freely afforded to the prosecution of intelligent research into the history and antiquities of the northern counties; and the voice of their patron will, we are assured, not be wanting to stimulate the antiquarians of Newcastle to seize so favourable an occasion for collecting and recording the evidence regarding Roman occupation in the north. How valuable a chapter of an extended "Britannia Romana," so long a desideratum, might be concerted in this interesting pilgrimage. We hope to lay before our readers a report of its results.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, Feb. 19, 1849. MR. C. C. BABINGTON called the attention of the society to a singular specimen of fictile manufacture, a small vase, found on the site of the Roman villa at Comberton, and recently purchased for the society. It is rudely formed of common clay and coated with a red substance resembling a paste formed of pounded "Samian" ware. PROFESSOR CORRIE read an interesting account of the changes in costume in the university at different periods, and the edicts issued against its excess.

MARCH 5. DR. THACKERAY exhibited a cast of one side of the fine seal of Pilton Priory, Devon; it exhibits three tabernacles; in the central niche appears King Athelstan, by whom the lordship was given to the Abbey of Malmsbury, of which Pilton was a cell. On the dexter side is a scutcheon charged with a dragon displayed (or an eagle?) on the sinister side, the supposed bearing of Mercia and Wessex. Legend,—*Hoc Athelstanus ago quod presens signat imago*. This seal had been erroneously assigned to the monastery of Middleton; this error is corrected in the last edition of the *Monasticon*, and an engraving of the seal given (vol. iv., pl. 24) as also in Dr. Oliver's *Monasticon Dioc. Exon.* p. 245. MR. BABINGTON exhibited a specimen of the satirical medallions, bearing, on one side, the head of a pope, which, when inverted, presents a diabolic head, surrounded by the words—*Ecclesia perversa tenet faciem diaboli*. On the reverse are similarly shown the heads of a cardinal and a fool,—*Sapientes stulti aliquando*. It was found at Burwell, and is attached to a tobacco-stopper. A similar medallion is in the society's museum, and the Rev. E. Ventris stated that he was in possession of another. PROFESSOR CORRIE exhibited a rare volume of sermons from his own library. They were preached in the University by Stephen Baron, last head of the Franciscan Order in Cambridge (he died, 1520), and are curious as illustrating the state of the Church and University in temp. Henry VIII., just previous to the Reformation.

The REV. W. R. COLLETT exhibited a drawing of mural frescoes lately found, and now destroyed, in the north aisle, Stoke Church, Suffolk. They represent two female saints, one, probably St. Lucy, holding a palm branch in her right hand, and a singular vessel or lamp in her left; the other is St. Ursula, crowned; a number of small figures, representing the 11,000 virgins, sheltered under her robe. Professor Corrie and the Rev. E. Ventris made some observations upon the costume of students and others in the university at different periods.

May 14.—*Anniversary.* The election of the officers and council for the ensuing year took place. The Rev. George E. Corrie, B.D., Norrisian Professor of Divinity, was elected President; Mr. C. C. Babington, M.A., *Treasurer*, and the Rev. W. R. Collett, M.A., *Secretary*. The Annual Report was read, in which the following statements were made.

"The museum has continued to increase both by donations and the purchase of numerous valuable specimens of antiquities, most of which have been found within the County of Cambridge; and it may now be confidently referred to as creditable to the society. As its existence and value become more generally known, it will doubtless receive still more numerous donations, and thus attain the station of a county museum of antiquities, in which nearly all the Archaeological specimens found in this neighbourhood will be deposited. The additions by purchase are necessarily very limited, owing to the small funds at the disposal of the council.

"Another Part of the publications of the society (No. XV.) has recently appeared, which it is confidently believed cannot fail to give satisfaction to the members, and to confer great honour upon its author, the Rev. C. Hardwick, who has ably endeavoured to show to what extent St. Catherine of Alexandria may be considered as an historical personage, and how far the accounts of her are purely legendary. He has annexed to this dissertation a semi-Saxon legend of St. Catherine, previously nearly unknown, and almost inaccessible to the students of the early forms and progress of the English language. It is greatly to be wished that the society had it in its power to undertake the publication of other mediæval manuscripts of great interest, which exist in our university and collegiate libraries."

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A very interesting publication, illustrative of the progress of Monumental Art, has been announced, consisting of the most remarkable of the ancient tombs at Iona. The curious sculptured memorials of the western islands are almost unknown, except by the few specimens of which Pennant gave representations in his "Tour in Scotland." This class of antiquities is highly deserving of attention; the sepulchral remains at Iona and Colonsay include examples of great interest and beautiful design. It is proposed to publish fifty lithographic plates, by subscription, at a very moderate price. Those who may wish to encourage so desirable an undertaking will send their names to JOHN GRAHAM, Esq., the Hall, Clapham Common.

Mr. Westwood has undertaken a new series of examples of the Art of

The explanation of monumental symbols is of singular interest, and hitherto most vaguely regarded by antiquarian writers and archaeological collectors. Had Mr. Cutts supplied us only with an illustrated enumeration of those, already noticed in the *Journal*, by the able pen of Dr. Charlton, our thanks would have been heartily rendered; but much valuable information will be found in his interesting pages, which our present limits will not permit us to notice. The chapter of archaeology, upon which he has successfully adventured, was previously merged in obscurity: much may, perhaps, be built upon the foundation now first laid; and Mr. Cutts will thankfully receive the contribution of unnoticed examples, which may fall under the notice of the readers of the *Journal*,

* * We regret that the press of matter in the present number prevents our noticing several highly important publications, recently received. We allude especially to those of the "Celtic Society" of Dublin, of the most essential interest—to the "Pilgrimage to Walsingham," a little volume replete with agreeable information and learned research, and to the valuable addition of North-country Topography, the History of Darlington, by Mr. Hylton Longstaffe, of which the first part, full of curious matter, has just been issued.²

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WEST SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE. — The second number of the proceedings printed for circulation amongst the members, has been published, and forms an interesting record of the extension of Archæological taste in the eastern counties. It comprises a Memoir by the Rev. Lord Arthur Hervey, on Ickworth Manor House; some curious "Notes towards a Medical History of Bury," by Mr. Tymms, and a notice of the White Swan, the sign of an ancient hostelry at Clare, by Mr. Almack, who considers it to be allusive to the lords of Clare. The reports of the quarterly meetings contain many notes and facts of interest, and numerous contributions have been made to the library and museum.

The investigation of the ground-plan of the Abbey of Bury St. Edmund's has been undertaken by the Society, and various remains of interest already brought to light. The work commenced in August at the S.E. angle of the close, near the present junction of the streams known as the Lark and the Linnet. This excavation promises curious information in regard to monastic arrangements, and may justly claim the aid of archæologists, whose contributions will be thankfully received by Mr. Tymms, Secretary of the Institute. The recent explorations of this nature, by direction of the Earl de Grey, at Fountains and Sawley Abbeys, have been attended with very interesting results; showing how much may yet be ascertained by vestiges of this nature, in illustration not less of domestic architecture, than of monastic usages.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—May 1. The successful progress of this institution is very satisfactory. At this meeting a considerable accession of members was announced, and various memoirs communicated, chiefly relating to the sepulchral and early antiquities of Ireland. A dis-

² The names of any persons disposed to lend encouragement to this spirited undertaking will be thankfully received by the author, at Darlington.

cussion took place on the various modes of interment, and a proposal made for the investigation of a remarkable tumulus, supposed by some to be connected with the noted conflict of Maghailbhe, in the tenth century. Mr. Graves, however, adduced various arguments against that notion. Mr. Dunn reported the destruction of another tumulus in the barony of Kells, in which a cromlech had been found. No scientific observation of the discovery had been made: it is to be hoped that the influence of the society will hereafter be beneficially shown in a careful record of all facts connected with these remains, forming so important a class of evidences in regard to the earliest times of Irish history. The Rev. P. Moore gave an account of a quadrangular rath on Brandon Hill, and of other similar remains in the barony of Ida, in which vestiges of chambers and buildings of solid masonry might be traced, contrary to the received opinion that the ancient Irish formed merely wattled dwellings within the raths. Mr. Jekylle sent a notice of a stone cist discovered on his lands, containing a cinerary urn, which unfortunately could not be preserved. Mr. Prim read a memoir on "Sedilia," illustrated by various Irish examples, and communications on primeval remains were received from Dr. Anderson and other members of the society. Various antiquities, seals, &c. were exhibited.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The annual meeting has been held at Arundel, and was eminently successful, several memoirs of much interest were read, and the exhibitions were exceedingly curious. We regret to be unable here to give a full report of the proceedings, or to notice, as they deserve, the value of the communications comprised in the second volume of the "Sussex Archaeological Collections," just completed. It forms a most agreeable accession to our Archaeological literature. A few copies are reserved for sale to the public, and may be obtained from Mr. Russell Smith.

The establishment of another local institution for the encouragement of Archaeological pursuits has been organised, entitled,—The Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Its objects are to collect information, and form a library and museum, illustrative more especially of the history and antiquities of the county of Somerset.

A society has likewise been founded in the ancient city of Chester, with similar purposes in view; and at the close of the late Meeting of the Institute at Salisbury, a proposition was put forth by Mr. Britton, to form a "Wiltshire Archaeological and Natural History Institute." We hope that this may shortly be carried into effect, and that the establishment of a County Museum in a locality where so instructive a collection might be readily formed, will form a leading feature of this commendable project.

Discoveries of Roman remains of highly interesting character have been made in the principal street, Cirencester, comprising tessellated pavements of unusual perfection in design and execution, ornaments, pottery, and various antiquities, of which representations are in preparation for a future Journal. The excavation was made with the concurrence of the Right Hon. Earl Bathurst, who kindly invited the co-operation of the Institute, and the difficult task of removing one pavement, which, on account of its position in the street, must otherwise have been re-buried, has been successfully conducted, at his Lordship's desire, by Mr. Bowyer Lane. It is most gratifying to learn that Lord Bathurst proposes forthwith to erect a

Museum for the suitable preservation of these and other vestiges of antiquity found in that part of Gloucestershire. The remains of Roman art found on the site of CORINIUM are considerable, and a publication is announced (by subscription), with the view of collecting, at a moderate price, drawings and descriptions of the antiquities of Cirencester. Subscribers' names are received by Messrs. Baily and Jones, Cirencester.

Shortly after the conclusion of the SALISBURY MEETING, seven other barrows, at Bulford, were examined, under the directions of Mr. Bowyer Lane, and with successful results in all. In three were found human skeletons placed in the contracted position not unusual in similar interments. Another contained a large British urn, in which were fragments of human bones. In others, amongst burnt human remains, were found part of a bronze spear of fine workmanship, a curious thin stone,¹ pierced with a hole at either end, supposed to have been worn as a charm, and various other minor objects. The most interesting products, however, of the Bulford barrows are, a British urn, now in the museum of the Hon. R. C. Neville, at Audley End, and the unique vessel of fine Terra Cotta, of which we give a representation. (See woodcut.) In this last were found two bronze pins, and several portions of small beads of a white coral-line substance: the perforations in the sides of this elegant little vessel, seem to suggest that it may possibly have been a Thurible, and is probably of Romano-British manufacture. It is deposited in the cabinet of Albert Way, Esq.



Half the size of the original.

Extensive excavations are now in progress in a meadow near St. Michael's Church, at St. Albans; the foundations of a Roman house have been discovered; the walls of three apartments, and a good tessellated pavement, 20 feet by 10 feet, have been already laid open. Carefully drawn plans are in preparation, which, with a particular account of these, and the further discoveries, will be laid before the Meeting of the Institute, on Friday, the 2nd of November next.

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ALL lovers of Archaeology will we think be obliged to us for calling their attention to a beautifully executed and most intelligent French periodical, entitled "*Melanges d'Archeologie, d'Histoire et de Litterature*," par Les R. R. Charles Cahier et Arthur Martin. Five numbers have already been issued from the press; each containing many admirable lithographic plates, illuminated where required, and accompanied by memoirs evincing much industry and research, as well as good taste in the selection of the objects described. "*La Monographie de la Cathedrale*

¹ A similar stone is engraved in Sir Richard Hoare's *Antient Wiltshire*.

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CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY, DEC. 3, 1849. The Rev. Professor CORRIE, President, in the Chair.

A letter was read from Mr. A. W. FRANKS, upon Medieval Seals formed of Roman intaglios, with a modern inscription or motto surrounding them. He especially noticed a seal of the Church of Durham, set with a fine head of Jupiter, bearing the inscription—CAPUT SANCTI OSWALDI REGIS, and having on the reverse a cross and the surrounding legend, SIGILLVM CUDBERHTI PRESVLIS SC'I.¹ Also, the seal of Boniface Archbishop of Canterbury, A.D. 1244, on which four small intaglios were placed, two on each side of the figure. Also, several others of minor interest.

Mr. C. C. BABINGTON exhibited a sketch of a Saracenic arch, separating the nave from the chancel of Garway Church, Herefordshire, and called attention to the fact that this church was built by the Knights Templars, and thus accounted for the introduction of so oriental a feature into an English Church.

Professor WILLIS remarked that he did not remember a similar instance in England; that he believed the arch to be truly of Saracenic type, and that it was not to be found except in places where that people had had influence.

Mr. BABINGTON also directed attention to some recently uncovered sculptures on the chancel arch and east wall of the nave of Rollestone Church, Herefordshire, resembling in some respects those of Kilpeck Church, in that county. He suggested that the appearance of a cross patée in the hands of two of the figures might lead to the idea that this church had been erected under the influence of the Templars of the neighbouring Preceptory at Garway, such a cross being the badge of that order of knights. Drawings of these sculptures have been made for the Archaeological Institute, and will be immediately forwarded to that society.

We are informed that Mr. Babington's researches, aided by Mr. Arthur Taylor, have been successful in determining the site of the Roman station at Grantchester, which had not been accurately ascertained. He proposes shortly to bring the subject before the Society.

SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At a meeting held at Brighton, Dec. 6, several interesting communications were received; comprising a memoir on the Lewknor family, by Mr. Durrant Cooper; an account of the church and ancient rectory house at West Dean, near East Bourne, by the Rev. G. M. Cooper; views and memorials of Amberley castle, and the "Queen's Room," by Miss Bradford and the Rev. G. Clarkson; memoirs on testamentary evidences, relating to Sussex families, by Mr. Lower; and on the curious services rendered by the customary tenants

¹ An impression is appended to a deed in the Augmentation Office, dated 1418. See an engraving of this seal in the new editions of the *Monasticon*, vol. i., pl. 3.

of Southase to the lord of that manor, by Mr. Figg. Hurstmonceaux was fixed as the scene of the next annual meeting of the society.

We doubt not that the attention of Mr. Blaauw, and of the energetic Archaeologists of Sussex, will be directed to the prosecution of researches at the remarkable site of Roman occupation at Balmer, near Lewes, first noticed, we believe, through the vigilance of Mr. Figg. The discoveries there made during the past summer were of unusual interest, and we hope that the society's funds may enable them to continue the excavations, and preserve a detailed survey of that curious locality.

CAMBRIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.—The Annual Meeting for the ensuing year will be held in Merionethshire, a district rich in vestiges of the earlier periods. The precise locality has not been fixed; either Barmouth or Dolgelley have been considered suitable. The meeting will take place under the presidency of WILLIAM W. E. WYNNE, Esq., of Sion. It is proposed to continue the publication of the "*Archaeologia Cambrensis*" on a new arrangement. It will be delivered gratuitously to subscribing members, as also an annual volume, and ticket of admission to the Meetings. Archaeologists desirous of giving support to this interesting periodical are requested to send their names to the *Secretaries*, Rev. J. Williams, Llany-mowddwy, Mallwyd, and Rev. W. B. Jones, Queen's College, Oxford.

The Proceedings of the KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY appear to be sustained with much spirit, and to stimulate inquiry in a most satisfactory manner. The formation of a Museum and Library has commenced, and will prove the means of rescuing from destruction many of the curious vestiges of ancient times found almost daily in the localities, to which the attention of the members of this promising institution is now directed. We regret that our limits do not permit of our noticing fully the valuable contributions to Archaeology received at their meetings; but we hope that the Society will soon be in a position to preserve a permanent record by the publication of their Transactions. At the meeting on November the 7th, Mr. GRAVES communicated most interesting notices of further discoveries of the singular submerged timbered structures, which appear, like many other vestiges of antiquity in Ireland, to be peculiar to the sister kingdom. Our readers will recal to mind the remarkable Irish construction of timber, apparently sepulchral, brought before the notice of the Institute by Mr. Talbot, (see page 101 of this volume.) Mr. Prim, one of the Secretaries of the Kilkenny Society, has devoted his researches to another very curious class of funereal repositories, "the Giant's Graves, or Kists," of great size, the burial-places of families, possibly of tribes. It is remarkable, that in these early tombs the bones of birds and animals, as also shells, are frequently found; and it is a very interesting fact, in connexion with the supposition stated in Mr. Stanley's memoir on the Tumulus in Holyhead Island, that the interment there might be assigned to the Irish invaders of Wales, that it would appear to have been customary amongst the ancient Irish, to bury the favourite dog with the deceased. It is stated, that in the interment of a female of rank at the Royal Cemetery at Brugh, her "small hound, called *Dobilla*," was deposited with her. It will be remembered, that Mr. Quekett pointed out the bone of a small dog amongst the remains in an urn described by Mr. Stanley. (See p. 233 of this vol.)