

Archaeological Intelligence.

CAMBRIDGE ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY.—March 3, 1851. The Rev. C. HARDWICK, V.P., in the Chair.

After the announcement of numerous presents, comprising the Transactions of various kindred societies, attention was directed to an interesting specimen of the Bronze period, recently found at Mildenhall, and added to the Museum of the society by purchase. It is a weapon, which had been broken previously to its deposit in the grave. In other respects it had suffered scarcely any injury. It seems evident, from other interments, that although not an invariable practice, the usage existed of breaking the sword or other weapon before casting it into the earth, in token, doubtless, that the career of its owner was ended. This blade measured $12\frac{1}{2}$ in. in length.

Mr. BABINGTON offered some observations on the local tokens, of which the Society possesses a considerable collection, now carefully arranged. He pointed out the information which such objects supply. The series of tokens, issued in Cambridge during the latter years of the Commonwealth and the reign of Charles II., comprises forty-one pieces, including three not recorded in the list formed by the late Mr. Bowtell. The total number known is fifty-seven; and the Society will thankfully receive any additions, to render their collection complete. Mr. Babington observed, that many names occur identical with those of inhabitants of Cambridge at the present time, of whose ancestors these tokens are a record, as also of the occupations followed by them. On the token of Sandis Peyton, the arms of that family appear in an unusual form, possibly to distinguish a junior branch. It bears on the reverse, on a cross engrailed, a mullet, surrounded by a bordure. The arms of the Peytons of Cambridgeshire, are, a cross engrailed, with a mullet in the second quarter.

March 17, 1851.—The Rev. C. HARDWICK, V.P., gave an account of a black-letter volume, probably unique, in the library of Jesus College, containing a metrical "Life of St. Rhadegunde." It was printed by Pynson, rather earlier, as supposed, than 1520. This rare book, exhibited to the members by the kindness of their President, the Master of Jesus College, had been given to the library by Dr. Farmer. The author of this life was Henry Bradshaw, a native of Chester, educated at Gloucester College, Oxford, and subsequently a Benedictine Monk at St. Werburgh's, Chester. His metrical "Life of St. Werburge" has been edited by Mr. Hawkins for the Chetham Society. The substance of this Life of St. Rhadegunde is derived from the "Summa Historialis" of Antonius, Bishop of Florence. She was daughter of Berthaire, King of Thuringia, was taken captive by the Franks, and became the wife of Clothaire, from whom she separated, and followed an ascetic life in Poitou. Bradshaw makes her of African origin.—Mr. Babington read an interesting communication from the Rev. J. J. Smith on "Church and Parochial Libraries," with a view to the examination of many old collections still existing in churches, and their better preservation.—Presents of coins and various antiquities were received

from Mr. Deck. The Rev. John Power presented a collection of pennies of Henry III., found, wrapped in lead, at Framlingham Castle. The Rev. C. Bennet exhibited a curious Roman lamp of iron, 10 inches in length, found in a tumulus near Rougham, called "Eastlowe Hill."

The volume of Anglo-Saxon Legends will speedily be ready for distribution to the members.

BURY AND WEST SUFFOLK ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Third Annual Meeting, March 13.—The report of the Committee announced an increase in the list of members, now amounting to 226. The meetings of the past year had been attended with gratifying results, both in regard to works of restoration, and the stimulus given to archaeological researches. The report adverted to the able restorations of Cheveley Church, and the production of a series of plates illustrative of its architectural details; the excavations on the site of Cheveley castle, of which the cost had been defrayed by the Duke of Rutland, under the direction of Mr. Fairlie; and the proposed publication of a History of Sudbury, by the Rev. C. Badham. In the ensuing year it was proposed to hold meetings at Mildenhall in June, and at Stowmarket in September. A visit to the cathedral church of Ely is also in course of arrangement. The influence of the Society had already aroused such lively interest in matters of antiquity, that the Committee proposed to address an invitation to the Archaeological Institute of Great Britain, to make choice of the ancient town of Bury St. Edmund's as the place of one of their annual meetings. The Fourth part of the "Proceedings" had been issued, and a Fifth is nearly ready. Various antiquities and rubbings of brasses were produced; and the following communications were read.—Notices of Burgate Church, by the Rev. C. Manning; Notes on the Medical and Surgical Archaeology of Suffolk, by the Rev. A. Hollingsworth; and on the ancient seal of Kilkenny, bearing the arms of the de Clare family, by the Rev. J. Graves.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—The second annual meeting was held on January 8, the Mayor, V.P., *ex officio*, presiding. Numerous members were admitted. The report for the previous year was read by the Rev. James Graves, Hon. Sec. It set forth the satisfactory evidences of the advance of public interest in the proceedings of this society; the growth of their library and collections; the establishment of friendly intercourse with other societies; and the satisfaction with which the publication of the first portion of the "Transactions" had been received. The committee had circulated freely an illustrated pamphlet, intended to promote the study and preservation of antiquities; and the good results to be anticipated from this measure had already been evinced by numerous local Reports, received in answer to the queries thus issued.

It was determined that the publication of the Transactions of 1850 should be carried out, in like manner as those of the previous year.

Amongst presents received may be noticed, a curious deed, sent by the Marquis of Ormonde, the President, to which is appended for confirmation the ancient privy seal of the commonalty of Kilkenny, supposed to be of the fourteenth century. The device is an escutcheon, charged with three towers. Dr. Ross presented an ancient specimen of metal casting, an iron vessel, found at a considerable depth in a turf-bog; and a lump of "bog butter," found in a wooden can, cut out of the solid wood of the sawlow, with two ears and a lid. The Rev. Philip Moore contributed a curious document relating to the estates of the Fitzgeralds of Brownsford, accom-

panied by notices of their history. A memoir was read by Mr. Robertson, illustrated by numerous drawings, representing the remains of St. John's Abbey, Kilkenny, the earliest religious establishment in that town, founded by William Marshal, Earl of Pembroke, about 1220. The tower is described, in 1780, as an object of beautiful and picturesque character: it was undermined and fell during the building of the barracks. The east window of the Abbey Church, with great part of the choir, remained, and possessed features of considerable interest; but the greater portion of these ruins had been demolished. The late William Robertson, Esq., had fortunately employed artists to make drawings of every building of antiquarian interest in the county, and thus preserved the memorials exhibited to the meeting. During the destruction of the remains, various sculptured ornaments were found, glazed decorative tiles, tombs, and a *bullæ* of Pope Sixtus IV. Mr. Ferguson, of the Record Department, Four Courts, Dublin, gave an interesting account of a mass of legal documents lately brought to light by the Chief Remembrancer and Commissioners of Inquiry into the Public Records. They had been deposited in damp vaults, totally neglected, and comprised many valuable evidences, commencing with the reign of Henry III. Mr. Ferguson sent some curious extracts relating to the commission, for the purpose of enforcing the Ecclesiastical laws in the times of Elizabeth. A communication was also read from Mr. Prendergast, regarding the proceedings of the assembly of Confederate Catholics in Kilkenny, which, for ten years, from November, 1642, performed the part of a Parliament, raising taxes, making laws, and, in short, exercised sovereign power. Mr. Graves reported the result of his inquiries in quest of the records of their acts, believed to be still extant. Mr. Prim gave some curious illustrations of ancient manners, being sumptuary enactments in the bye-laws of the Corporation of Kilkenny, regarding feasting, especially at christenings, civic repasts, &c. An account of antiquities in the Piltown district was sent by Mr. Blackett, comprising raths, stones of memorial, a remarkable cromlech, the curious sculptured crosses and ruined church at Kilkieran.

At the March Meeting, the Right Hon. W. F. Tighe, Patron of the Society, took the chair. Lord Charles Butler presented a number of coins, and relics, found in the grounds of Kilkenny Castle. Various antiquities of stone and bronze, celts, the impression of a seal of the thirteenth century, found at Roscrea, being that of Galfr. Cornwall, and other curious objects, were given to the museum.

MR. GRAVES read a notice of a supposed Pelasgic Inscription, on a cromlech-shaped monument at Tory Hill, Co. Kilkenny, first noticed by the late Mr. Tighe, in his statistical work on that district, and taken by Vallancey and other writers as their sole basis of theories regarding the Phœnician origin of the early colonists of Ireland. Mr. Windele had called the attention of the Society to this supposed altar of Baal, at a previous meeting; and the Right Hon. W. Tighe, then presiding, had proposed a careful examination of the original stone, existing in his garden at Woodstock. Mr. Graves now stated, that having visited the spot, in company with his brother secretary, they felt convinced that the supposed Pelasgic characters are of recent date. He read a letter from Professor O'Donovan, which conclusively destroys the theories of the Vallancey school, showing the inscription to be merely the name of a well-known mill-stone cutter, named Emond Conic, and the true reading to be—E. CONIC. 1731. This "Phœnician" relic, copied by Gough in his edition of the *Britannia*, is still

cited by some persons as genuine, and it is important to show the total fallacy of the argument.

DR. CANE read a memoir on "ring-money," and produced three specimens found in the Co. Kilkenny or on its borders. These rings weighed 77 grs., 100 grs., and 214 grs. respectively. He gave an interesting summary of the remarks of Sir William Betham, Mr. Lindsay, and Dr. Petrie, on this *vexata quæstio*. Sir William had first advanced the notion that these rings are the money of the Celts, and are all graduated in weight, so as to be multiples of 12 grs. or $\frac{1}{2}$ dwt. ; and he sought to corroborate this opinion by statements regarding the use of gold and iron rings, as money, in Nubia and other parts of Africa. Dr. Cane read the authorities cited by the writers above-mentioned, showing the frequent presents of rings in early times ; and that payments of ransom, rent, or fines, were estimated by weight of gold or silver. Dr. Petrie shows that the precious metals were used thus as a circulating medium, sometimes as ingots, more frequently as rings ; and this appears more distinctly in the "Book of Rights," translated by O'Donovan. Dr. Cane gave also some illustrations of this curious subject from the Sagas, showing the frequent mention of gold rings among the Northmen as marks of distinction and a kingly largess, but not viewed as mere money. He inclined to regard the Irish "ring-money" as having been used in like manner, and to question its having served as a circulating medium for ordinary purposes of traffic or exchange.

Miscellaneous Notices.

IT is proposed to publish a new edition of the MYVRIAN ARCHAIOLOGY of Wales, with English translations, under the auspices of the Welsh MSS. Society. In the original edition, now rarely to be purchased, no translations were given. Nearly the whole of the historical portion, consisting of the Genealogies of the British Saints, the Historical Triads, and various British chronicles, is ready for the press, having been prepared for the late Record Commission, and since placed at the disposal of the society by the Master of the Rolls. The publication will commence, under the direction of Ven. Archdeacon of Cardigan, as soon as a sufficient number of subscribers is obtained to meet the expense. The work will form four or five volumes, to be issued at intervals of about twelve months. Persons who are willing to encourage this important undertaking, which has already received the Royal sanction, should send their names to the publisher, Mr. Rees, Llandovery.

Messrs. Brooke, of Lincoln, have announced the publication of an exact copy of all the monumental inscriptions in Lincoln Cathedral, as they stood in 1641 ; collected by Robert Sanderson, afterwards Bishop of Lincoln, and corrected by Sir W. Dugdale's MS. Survey, now in Lord Winchilsea's Library, at Hartwell, Kent. A transcript of that survey was presented by the Archdeacon of Lincoln to the Chapter Library, with copies of the interesting sketches of monuments and the numerous sepulchral brasses, of which none now remain in the Minster.

Archæological Intelligence.

A VERY interesting Fasciculus has just been produced, in pursuance of a plan which presents great advantages, by the permanent record and circulation of the transactions of several local societies. The present portion, to which we hope to devote a more extended notice hereafter, comprises the Reports and papers read at the meetings of the Architectural Societies of the Archdeaconry of Northampton, the counties of York and Lincoln, and of the Architectural and Archæological Societies of Bedfordshire and St. Albans, during the year 1850. A limited number of copies are reserved for general sale. We cordially commend to our readers this highly useful publication, which brings within their reach the investigations of so many societies, established for a kindred purpose to our own.

KILKENNY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—May 7, 1851. The numerous communications received, with the variety of ancient relics presented to the society, or brought for inspection, afford gratifying evidence of the value of such local Institutions. The Proceedings are full of promise, as encouraging sound and intelligent principles of Archæological investigation, through occasions afforded for friendly discussion, and by drawing forth the stores of curious information, with which Ireland appears to abound. The classification and preservation of such evidences, which without the aid of such a society would be scattered and lost, must conduce to disperse the obscurity which still surrounds various questions of Irish Archæology. On the present occasion, Dr. Graves, of Trinity College, Dublin, in presenting a copy of his valuable dissertation on the Ogham Inscriptions, gave a detailed and critical examination of one, found at Burnfort, near Mallow, and brought under the notice of the society by Mr. Windele. He discussed with friendly candour the views adopted by that antiquary. The question of the period to which these characters are to be assigned, is one of singular moment in regard to Irish antiquities, and it has become also of essential interest in our own country, since examples of the Ogham have been discovered in Wales, which are to be found in the "*Archæologia Cambrensis*," and similar characters have, we believe, been noticed in Cornwall. The question at issue is this,—Mr. Windele, with other Irish Archæologists, insists upon the remote age of the Ogham Alphabet, that it was in use amongst the Irish Druids, long previous to the Christian era; and was related to the cuneiform characters of the East. Dr. Graves, on the other hand, has shown grounds for believing it to have been constructed, in comparatively recent times, by persons acquainted with the Roman and Runic alphabets. These conclusions are supported by the testimony of the Burnfort inscription, and Dr. Graves' argument has the strongest claims to consideration. His memoir will, doubtless, appear in the Transactions of the Kilkenny Society. The Rev. James Mease read a valuable paper on Military Architecture, in Ireland, and the usual construction and arrangements of castles, noticing in detail some characteristic examples. These remains are very numerous in that country, and eleven ancient castles were pointed out within a circuit of twenty miles, to which Mr. Mease limited his present notices. The Dean of Waterford sent an account of the exploration of a

crypt, beneath the Deanery House, with sketches of the architectural details. It is of considerable extent, the arch of the vault is semicircular, whilst the door-ways have pointed arches. The ruins of the Franciscan Abbey are adjacent to the Deanery, and amongst these are some curious sepulchral memorials, which the Dean has endeavoured to rescue from further injuries. On several of the tombs are the sigles,—I.M.R.A., the import of which he had been unable to ascertain. Mr. Prim contributed an enquiry regarding certain missing municipal records of Kilkenny, which had passed out of the town clerk's custody in 1747. One of these volumes had been presented many years since to Sir William Betham, in whose possession it remains; and it is hoped that the remainder may yet be found in other collections. Mr. Windele sent notices of silver ring-money, and of the curious variations in form which the rings of that metal present. One specimen only had hitherto been found with the cup-shaped extremities, resembling those of the gold rings. Mr. Ferguson communicated further extracts from records deposited in Master Lyle's Offices, in Dublin, recently rescued from oblivion. Mr. Cooke gave an account of a sepulchral cross-slab, at the Franciscan monastery, Athlone, with a short inscription in the Irish character. He stated the grounds of his supposition that it was the memorial of Thorpaith, father of Blathmac, Abbot of Clonmacnoise, in the eleventh century; his curious tomb exists there, and is given by Mr. Petrie, in his *Treatise on the Round Towers of Ireland*, (p. 321.) A description of several primeval remains in the Mullinavat district was read by Mr. Cody, comprising "rath-souterreins," or cists formed under cairns, each containing an urn, covered by a slab; especially the cairn of Ballynoony, in which three such deposits were found: a large erect flag-stone stood near it. About 120 feet distant was a Rath, levelled some years since, when a great number of rectangular laminæ were found, of a substance resembling ivory. Near to this, are the remains of a "Leaba," an oblong structure, formed of flags, set edge-wise, in three rows, and covered by large flat stones. This curious group of vestiges of an early period appear to claim careful examination. Mr. Cody sent also plans and accounts of two singular caverns, comprising numerous chambers, and connected with those circular entrenchments called Rathes. They had been as yet only imperfectly explored.

YORKSHIRE ANTIQUARIAN CLUB.—This society was formed in June, 1849, for the very laudable object of promoting research, especially in the examination of the remarkable barrows and earth-works, so abundant in the northern counties. It comprised many active and "working archaeologists," as they are designated in their Annual Report, whose names must be held in honourable remembrance by our society, especially by those members of the Institute who participated in the interesting Meeting at York, in 1846. Their labours have been already productive of valuable results, and some of these, for instance, the explorations of sepulchral remains, attributed to the Danish period, have been brought before the Institute by Dr. Thurnam.

An important feature of the purpose of this club, consists in its being of auxiliary character to the valuable Institution at York, the "Philosophical Society,"—the fruits of all investigations are deposited in their Museum, already one of the most instructive and important of our local collections. We are gratified by the assurance that the Rev. C. Wellbeloved, actually the president of the "Antiquarian Club," has been engaged in compiling the catalogue of that curious assemblage of antiquities; and his memorials

of the facts connected with their discovery will form a highly valuable complement to his "Eburacum." The club contemplates the further investigation of the sepulchral antiquities which have already afforded such curious information regarding the various races, the early occupiers of Britain; and their efforts may justly claim the sympathy and assistance of archaeologists, those especially who have any connexion with the interesting districts adjacent to the Northern Marches. Any communication may be addressed to W. Procter, Esq., the Secretary of the Society at York.

A very interesting congress of the Warwickshire Archaeological Society and the Architectural Society of Northampton, commenced on May 21st, in St. Mary's Hall, at Coventry. The chair was taken by C. H. BRACEBRIDGE, Esq. Mr. BLOXAM, whose intimate acquaintance with the ancient vestiges of his county is well known to our readers, read a memoir on Ancient-British, Roman, and Saxon Remains, not hitherto noticed, especially in reference to discoveries on the property of the Earl Craven, at Coombe Abbey; and the curious collection of relics found at Newton, and now in the possession of Mr. Goodacre, at Lutterworth.

The REV. W. STAUNTON gave notices of the Cathedral and Priory of St. Mary, at Coventry; the basement of one of the western towers of the cathedral remains, an interesting evidence of its site. The REV. G. A. POOLE followed up these memorials with observations on the Churches of Coventry.

The second day was devoted to an excursion to Kenilworth and Warwick Castles, and a discourse was delivered at the former by the REV. C. HARTSHORNE, whose extensive researches and knowledge of the characteristic features of Military Architecture in England contributed also materially to the gratification of the numerous visitors, by his observations on the noble fortress of the Beauchamps, to every part of which access was most kindly permitted by the Earl of Warwick.

Miscellaneous Notices.

SEVERAL important archaeological publications have recently appeared, which we regret to be unable to notice fully in the present *Journal*. The valuable work by Mr. WILSON, Secretary of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, entitled "The Archæology and Prehistoric Annals of Scotland," claims especial mention, and the interest connected with this beautiful volume is not limited to that part of the kingdom to which it is chiefly devoted; it will be consulted with advantage and gratification by all who have a regard for National Antiquities, and for the advancement of Scientific Archæology.

Mr. HENRY SHAW has completed a fresh series of his incomparable reproductions of the relics of Medieval Times, in which so strong an interest is now aroused. He has happily availed himself of opportunities recently afforded by the dispersion of several precious continental collections, chiefly brought to our own country. This beautiful volume—"The Decorative Arts of the Middle Ages, Ecclesiastical and Civil," has brought within the reach of all a well-chosen series of examples, highly valuable for reference,

Archaeological Intelligence.

AMONGST the recent accessions to Archaeological literature, produced under the auspices of the provincial societies, whose activity and usefulness has been rapidly extended during the past year, we must invite attention to the fourth volume of the "SUSSEX ARCHAEOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS." It is very gratifying to observe how fully the promise held out by the Sussex Society has been realised in the increasing interest of their periodical meetings, and of their published transactions. The volume lately published (to be obtained by non-subscribers from Mr. Russell Smith) comprises, amongst various subjects of curious research, several notices of ecclesiastical architecture, especially those of Fletching Church, by the Rev. S. Wilde, the vicar, and the Rev. F. Spurrell; and of the mural paintings, with other remains found at Stedham, by the Rev. L. Vernon Harcourt. Mr. Blaauw contributes a memoir on the "Vessels of the Cinque Ports;" the "Castle of Hurstmonceux and its Lords" have presented to Mr. Venables a subject of more than ordinary interest, to the illustration of which pen and pencil have contributed in a most agreeable manner. The illustrations of ancient manners and expenses, by Mr. Durrant Cooper and Mr. Blencowe, are well deserving of notice; and the volume must be regarded as a contribution to the history of the country, acceptable alike to the general reader as to archaeologists.

We must also advert, with pleasure, to the sequel of the "Proceedings and Papers," published by the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire. The record of their third session comprises, under the former head, detailed notices of every object submitted for examination at the meetings of the society, described with minute accuracy of detail, and accompanied by illustrations. The system adopted in this portion of the transactions well deserves to be adopted by other local societies. Too frequently are objects of singular interest produced for the transient gratification of periodical assemblies, to be conveyed back again to the *arcana* of private collections, without any sufficient record of their character being preserved. The combined produce of a single year's exhibitions, at the numberless meetings of antiquarian *dilettanti*, would go far towards the arrangement of an instructive series in the "British Room," and give in the National Museum those facilities for comparison, so essential to the advancement of archaeological science. Amongst the memoirs in the new *fasciculus* of the Lancashire society, the memoir contributed by its founder, Dr. Hume, on implements of the "Stone Period," claims mention, as also the researches regarding Roman vestiges, by Mr. Just and Mr. Robson. The ancient hall-mansions, so characteristic a feature of domestic architecture in Lancashire and Cheshire, have presented a subject of interesting research to Mr. Mayer and other contributors. We would specially invite notice of the memoir on the Roman and British remains, near the river Wyre, by the Rev. W. Thornber, the curious relics discovered in the mosses of that district, and the remarkable construction of timber, by which they were traversed, an ancient pathway known as the "Danes' Pad."

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES OF SCOTLAND.—Anniversary, Nov. 28. The Report of the Council gave the important intelligence of the successful issue of negotiations long pending with the Treasury. The society has transferred to the crown as national property the important collections of antiquities, formed by them during the last seventy years. This nucleus

of a suitable National Museum for Scotland, such as archaeologists view with so much advantage at Copenhagen, Dublin, and various cities on the continent, will be deposited in the Royal Institution, where the proceedings of the society will also be transacted. For this very desirable arrangement archaeologists are indebted mainly to the persevering exertions of Sir W. Gibson Craig, whose zeal in the cause claims most honourable mention. The Society's Museum is already rich in examples of every period, of which an interesting catalogue has been prepared by the able pen of the secretary, Mr. Daniel Wilson; and having now been placed on the permanent footing of a National Collection, it may be confidently anticipated that many treasures hitherto isolated in private collections, will find therein a secure depository.

Amongst the subjects brought before the meeting were the renowned Dunvegan cup, commemorated in the "Lord of the Isles;" a more correct reading of the inscription upon this remarkable relic was suggested. Two very ancient ecclesiastical bells were produced, of hammered iron, specimens of the curious class, the Irish *skellach*, illustrated by Mr. Westwood in the "Archæologia Cambrensis." A detailed archaeological map of Fifeshire, by Mr. Miller, excited considerable interest, and it is hoped that it may be published, forming the first of a series of antiquarian maps of Scotland.

December 8.—Various donations were made to the Museum, including one of the ancient *skellachs* above noticed, presented by the Rev. J. Haldane, minister of the parish where it was found. Dr. Wilson communicated a memoir on these curious relics, of which not fewer than fifteen had been traced, as connected with the earliest Christian establishments in Scotland. They had ever been regarded in that country, as also in Ireland, with a very singular degree of veneration, attached to no other class of ecclesiastical appliances. One of the most remarkable examples, found in Argyllshire, is preserved in the Society's Museum; and it was exhibited, by the kind permission of the Council, in the Museum formed during the meeting of the Institute at York, in 1846. Dr. Wilson gave some highly curious details illustrative of reverential attachment amongst the lower classes to these primitive vestiges of the introduction of Christianity in North Britain. Professor Munch of Christiania, honorary member, discussed the erroneous application of the name Pomona, as commonly used to designate the mainland of Orkney. He pointed out the fact that no such name appears in any ancient author by whom the Islands are mentioned; and that its use has arisen from a singular misunderstanding of a passage in Solinus.

KILKENNY ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—At the meeting on November 5th, the ranks of the Society were augmented by the accession of thirty-one new members, a gratifying evidence of the growing interest in the proceedings of this efficient institution. The library and museum were enriched by numerous presents, especially a collection of Irish coins by the Archdeacon of Cashel. The Rev. James Graves called attention to a portion of the ancient hangings, formerly in the "Tapestry Chamber," in a tower of Kilkenny Castle, and exhibited on this occasion by the Marquis of Ormonde. It represented the death-conflict of Decius, and formed part of a set of six, presented, according to tradition, to the first Duke of Ormonde, by the States of Holland, t. Charles II. Mr. Graves produced also, by Lord Ormonde's permission, an interesting charter of Richard Strongbow, with his seal appended; no other impression is known. The Rev. Mr. Mease gave a notice of a subterraneous cist, lately

discovered, containing bones of sheep, charred wood, &c., with two wooden objects, known as "Commanair arrows." There seemed no evidence of its sepulchral use, and it was supposed to have been either a cooking-hearth, or a place connected with sacrifices. Mr. Graves read a report of the excavation of a remarkable cairn, undertaken by the society, in which had been found enclosed a central chamber containing human remains, and a small cist-vaen, in which portions of pottery were discovered; showing, seemingly, the more ancient deposit of the corpse, and subsequent interment in the ancient place of burial, after the usage of cremation prevailed. Mr. Byrne contributed a notice of certain pillar stones of memorial, marking the scene of a battle in the Queen's County, which led to the division of Ossory from the kingdom of Leinster. These stones seem to have marked the burial-places of chiefs who fell on that occasion. Under two of them had been found cinerary urns. It is supposed that the conflict occurred about A.D. 35. Amongst other memoirs read, was a notice by Mr. Prim, of the discovery of tombs at Black Friars', Kilkenny, ornamented with floriated crosses, one of them bearing the name of Roberd de Sardeloue, supposed to be of the Shardelow family, of Norfolk:—an account of crypts, resembling those found under raths or forts, discovered near a church in co. Cork; remarks on names of places, by Mr. Mac Gready, with other valuable communications supplying abundant materials for the continuation of the Transactions.

Miscellaneous Notices.

PROFESSOR PHILLIPS, of York, has announced the immediate publication (by subscription) of his observations on the "Rivers, Mountains, and Sea-Coast of Yorkshire," in which will be comprised many interesting details gleaned during distant geological expeditions, and relating not merely to the physical features of that county, or its picturesque scenery, but likewise to the vestiges of its ancient inhabitants, to which his attention has often been attracted in localities rarely visited by the antiquary. He has, moreover, ever taken a leading part in the excavations conducted by the "Yorkshire Antiquarian Club." Persons desirous to receive copies should send their names to the author, St. Mary's Lodge, York.

Mr. Rees, Llandovery, will shortly produce, under the auspices of the Welsh MSS. Society, an important work by the Rev. W. Rees, to whose editorial care archaeologists are indebted for the "*Liber Landavensis*." It comprises the lives of the Cambro-British Saints, from ancient Welsh and Latin MSS., with translations. This volume is published by *Subscription*.

To the readers of the *Journal*, who take interest in medieval seals, intelligence may be acceptable that a periodical publication has commenced in Paris, under the direction of the "*Societe de Sphragistique*," entitled—"Recueil de documents et de mémoires relatifs à l'étude spéciale des Sceaux du moyen âge," &c. The monthly parts, of which five have already appeared, comprise notices with wood-cut illustrations, and they may be obtained at a trifling cost, through any bookseller. Communications are addressed to M. Forgeais, quai des Orfèvres, 56, at Paris, from whom casts in metal of all seals published may be obtained.