Notices of Archaeological Publications.

THE ROMAN WALL: A HISTORICAL, TOPOGRAPHICAL, AND DESCRIPTIVE ACCOUNT OF THE BARRIER OF THE LOWER ISTHMUS, extending from the Tyne to the Solway, deduced from numerous personal Surveys. By the Rev. JOHN COLLINGWOOD BRUCE, M.A. London and Newcastle, 1851. 4to. and 8vo.

IN the History of Nations, through the succession of ages since the hand of man first was raised against his fellow, amongst the continual changes to which power, wealth, dominion, have been subjected, through the ambition or cupidity of some one great family of the human race, aroused against another, there appears no problem so inexplicable as Britain under the sway of Rome. Whether we regard the Empire in the extended range of her greatness, the fair and prosperous lands of her wide dominion, the refinements of arts and luxury, the perfection of public and social institutions, pervading all countries subjected to her rule; or we glance at the cheerless aspect of these remote Islands of the North, how may we understand the policy of Rome in her occupation of Britain?

These considerations irresistibly arrest the thoughts in contemplating that vast monument of bold determination to which the researches of Mr. Bruce relate. The barrier betwixt the Northern Sea and the Solway may rank unequalled amongst the achievements of Roman industry and skill: we seek naturally to comprehend the strong inducement which rendered possession of these remote savage countries an object of such importance. The thirst for victory and military glory seems scarce sufficient, in a struggle with such barbarous tribes: the baser motive of avarice appears inadequate, although Tacitus wrote of the gold and silver, and even the pearls of the British seas, as the "*pretium Victoriæ.*" The degree of attention bestowed upon a territory, trifling in extent, difficult to retain, scarce included in the limits of the habitable earth, appears in the frequent presence of armies and auxiliaries, and the resort hither of wealthy colonists, the vestiges of whose luxurious villas are so frequently disinterred; but more strikingly in the fact that many of the emperors came to Britain, engaged personally in the lengthened struggle for mastery, dwelt even in our island, as if it were a territory of their predilection.

The Roman Wall, too little known, we believe, to the archaeologists of southern counties, has supplied a theme to several writers of note in antiquarian literature. Their treatises are, however, beyond the reach of general readers, being given in voluminous works, costly and of uncommon occurrence. The account related by Horsley, in the "Britannia Romana," describes this great Northern Bulwark as it existed upwards of a century since. His statements have been appropriated by Warburton, who, however, made personally a detailed inspection of these remarkable remains. A later author, of high attainments in topographical research, the historian of Northumberland, has left a detailed dissertation, rich in results of long and careful enquiry, for which his residence at Newcastle afforded him

The Æsarium at Chesters, CILVRNVM.

Crypt of St. Wilfrid's church, at Hexham.

unequalled facilities. The account of the Wall, to which we allude, prepared by the Rev. John Hodgson, was unfortunately produced without his personal care or final revision ; it is replete with interesting details, and evinces a singular degree of patient and acute inquiry.

Following the impulse of a fresh interest in remains of the Roman age recently excited amongst English archaeologists, Mr. Bruce has now supplied a desideratum in antiquarian literature by producing a treatise, in which he has happily combined much of the information gathered by previous writers, with a mass of original and personal observations. The enthusiasm with which he prosecutes his subject, has invested it with a charm to which few readers can be insensible.

The volume commences with an excellent epitome of the History of Roman Occupation in Britain, from the arrival of Cæsar to the eventual abandonment of the island. The evidence of ancient writers, as our readers well know, lies in a narrow compass, but the tale, *decies repetita*, here assumes a fresh interest by the ability with which the author makes all these statements bear upon the one great feature of Roman policy which is his theme. We must, moreover, advert to the skill with which here, as in other portions of his work, the incontrovertible evidence derived from coins has been introduced, and the importance of numismatic science is most strikingly evinced in a period of which the written annals are so deficient.

A general description of the line of the Wall is then presented to the reader, with all the aid that a distinct map of its course, plans of its more striking details, and sections of the various works, can supply. This great barrier, it must be observed, although commonly designated as the Wall, the *gual Sever* of the Britons, comprises not only the construction of masonry, strengthened by a ditch on its northern side, but also a turf wall, or *vallum*, to the south of the Wall proper ; and consisting of three ramparts and a fosse. These lines pursue their straightforward course from sea to sea, for the most part in close companionship, swerving from the direct line only to take in the highest elevations, sinking precipitately into the gaps or ravines, to ascend boldly the opposite acclivity. To these striking features of construction is that imposing and picturesque variety to be attributed, which can only be appreciated by actual pilgrimage along this marvellous work. We must refer to the details of Mr. Bruce's minute descriptions for many curious observations upon these particulars, and especially as regards the evidence which may be adduced as to the original proportions of the works, and the engineering skill with which they were achieved. Between the stone wall and the earthen rampart ran a military way ; at intervals were formed stations, castles, and towers, affording protection to a considerable population, along the entire line ; and their excavated sites have supplied many of the most valuable antiquities of their period existing in Britain. These stations, eighteen in number, according to Horsley, were not at all times mere military posts : traces are not wanting to show that Roman arts and luxury prevailed in these fortresses and their extensive suburbs, a striking contrast to the ignorance and barbarity around them. The list given in the *Notitia*, showing the distribution of various cohorts of auxiliaries, compared with the local evidence of inscriptions found at the various sites, has enabled antiquaries satisfactorily to ascertain, for the most part, the ancient designations of the stations. Mr. Bruce gives several interesting illustrations of the value of inscribed stones in this respect : he states candidly that a remarkable want of resemblance between the

ancient and modern names appears on comparison; but this may be attributed to the total subversion by Pict, and Saxon, and Dane, of the Roman domination in the North, so that the very names have perished. The general examination of the barrier concludes with some valuable observations on the construction, the quarries whence materials were obtained, the employment of native labourers, the durability of the work, the time required for its completion. Mr. Bruce adverts to certain barriers of an analogous nature,[1] one of them the Antonine Wall, or Graham's Dike, by which the upper isthmus of Great Britain was fortified, possibly to be regarded as an advanced work of the more important southern line. The other is a continental entrenchment, a vallum and stone wall, extending from Ratisbon nearly 200 miles towards the sources of the Danube, and bearing much resemblance to that under consideration. It is known as "the Devil's Wall," and a detailed examination of its construction would be highly interesting to the archaeologist.[2]

We must leave our readers to follow their enthusiastic guide in a pilgrimage "*per lineam valli;*" the limits of the present notice allow only a passing mention of his interesting chapter on the "Local Description," commencing from the Eastern Terminus at Wallsend. We are pleased to see that the relics found many years since at Tynemouth Castle, long condemned to be again buried in the vaults at Somerset House, have, as well as other curious inscribed stones in the possession of the Society of Antiquaries, been rescued from their unworthy concealment, and accurate representations for the first time given. These remains should be restored to their true depository, and placed with the valuable series in the Norman keep-tower at Newcastle. A profusion of plans and sections, and pleasing illustrations, aid our progress, in advancing from station to station, or in loitering at the mile-castle, where now the shepherd often seeks shelter for his charge. No site is more interesting, nor has been developed with more intelligent care, than CILVRNVM. Fortunate is the pilgrim who may find a welcome at the Northumbrian Pompeii, and enjoy not only the hospitalities, but the enthusiasm of kindred tastes, with which the possessor of Chesters delights to set forth the striking features of this site. The area contains six acres, and has yielded many remarkable relics, which Mr. Clayton preserves upon the spot. Amongst the vestiges recently exposed to view, the remains of a structure of considerable importance deserve especial notice: it may, perhaps, have been the dwelling of the Prefect of the Astures, here stationed; and the thermal arrangements, shown in Mr. Bruce's plan, remind us how needful must have been such expedients to reconcile the Spaniard to a residence in these wintry climes. There are indications of the imposing architectural character of the buildings at *Cilurnum*, and of their accessory ornaments. The recumbent river-god, possibly the impersonation of the North Tyne, rude as it may be in execution and material, claims mention on account of the great rarity of Roman sculptures, of large dimension, in England. A more interesting and remarkable figure has also been found: it is rather above life-size, and has been supposed to represent Cybele. Mr. Bruce gives a faithful

[1] See on this subject the valuable and more extended notices by Hodgson, Hist. of Northumb. vol. iii., p. 149.

[2] Professor Buchner has published a pamphlet regarding the German Wall, of which an extract will be found in the Archaeologia Æliana, vol. i. A brief notice is given in Murray's South Germany, pp. 84, 96.

notion of this statue. (See his woodcut, p. 189.) It is less correctly figured in Mr. Hodgson's work (p. 181); but we there learn that the bull, on which the Mother of the Gods stands, trampled apparently on a serpent. The curious fragment supposed to have been the pedestal is not noticed by Mr. Bruce. With these sculptured relics may be noticed the fine capital of a column, given at the close of this notice. Several interesting sepulchral tablets were found on the site of the cemetery of the station, and of two of these, now preserved in the "British Museum," formed by the Duke of Northumberland at Alnwick Castle, his Grace has kindly presented engravings, given in the volume before us. One of them represents a horseman of the *ala Secunda Asturum*.

Statue of sandstone, found at Chesters.

Amongst the remains at *Cilurnum* there is one of singular interest: it is a vaulted chamber, or rather the roof is formed of three ribs, the intervals being, in technical language, "stepped over." The stones of each course are made to project inwards a little, until at length one laid on the top completes the junction. This curious specimen of Roman masonry, of which Mr. Bruce has kindly enabled us to give, with several other subjects, the accompanying representation, has been called the *Ærarium* of the station. Several counterfeit *denarii* were found in it. It is highly curious: and we are pleased to be enabled to submit to our readers another early example of vaulting, existing near the Roman Wall, and by some regarded as actually of Roman workmanship. We allude to the ancient crypt at Hexham, (see woodcuts,) in the construction of which there are certainly many fragments of Roman workmanship, as also inscriptions. They may have been brought from Corbridge, when St. Wilfrid built a church at Hexham, *more Romano*, about the year 673. The view of the crypt will be the more acceptable to our readers, since the subject of these curious remains has already been brought under their notice in the *Journal*, through an obliging communication from Mr. Fairless, of Hexham. (Archaeol. Journ., vol. ii., p. 239.)

We have alluded somewhat in detail to the various striking remains presented to the archaeologist at *Cilurnum*, because it is doubtless one of the most interesting sites, as also that which has been examined with the most intelligent taste for antiquarian investigations. It may not, indeed, be cited as a normal type of the stations on the Wall, but it illustrates strikingly the character of these fortress-settlements. *Borcovicus* may not be so important a field of enquiry, but we fully anticipate that Mr. Clayton's keen spirit of research, now addressed to that fresh and interesting station, will be repaid by a rich harvest of curious information. Already may be seen in its gateways, recently excavated, the ruts worn on the threshold-stone by the wheels of the *bigæ*,—the guard-chambers, strewed with remains of animals on which their occupants had fed, and supplied with flues for artificial heat, a precaution which natives of southern climes,

however inured to the hardships of war, must have found indispensable on these inclement heights. Here it was, that, in 1822, the remarkable discovery of Mithraic antiquities occurred, of which a full account may be found in the "Archaeologia Æliana," and in "Hodgson's History," vol. iii., p. 190.

In accompanying our author along the course of the barrier, we are struck with the curious lingering traditions which he has gleaned in his progress. The strange tale, that the Romans held up their broad feet as a protection against the rain, may possibly have gained credence from seeing some vestige or impress of the wide soles of the military *caligæ;* but it may fairly be conjectured, that the ludicrous tale of the *sciopodæ*, related by Pliny, and one of the favourite marvels of medieval times, had reached even this distant frontier.

We must cordially claim for Mr. Bruce, in a track where several able writers on antiquity had preceded him, the merit of contributing much fresh information, which has repaid his assiduous personal examination of the minutest details. Amongst the most important discoveries due to his acuteness in research, may be specially mentioned the conduit by which water was supplied to the station of *Æsica*, an ingenious work, which had escaped the notice of previous authors. Of this achievement of Roman engineering a full report and elaborate plan is given. The length of this curious water-course is about six miles. It is an extraordinary feature of its construction that this aqueduct was on the northern or enemy's side of the barrier. This single fact may tend to show that the country beyond the wall was, for some distance, held in subjection under the influence of that *cordon* of well-appointed fortresses. Many are the points of interest as we look onwards towards the Solway, or scale the Walltown crags and "Nine Nicks of Thirlwall," where we would gladly linger a moment under

Nine Nicks of Thirlwall.

our author's agreeable guidance, or diverge with him to the "supporting stations of the Wall," to which the third section of the work is devoted. In these last, perhaps, the admirable military skill and forethought of the

Romans is evinced, not less than in the greater achievements of their industry. On these sites also have been discovered many most valuable remains and inscriptions, which throw important light upon Roman affairs in Britain. We must refer our readers to the mass of curious information collected by Mr. Bruce, and to the numerous graphic illustrations by which this relation is accompanied.

From these details of facts relating to the actual condition of the Wall, and its accessory outworks, the author proceeds to discuss the difficult question—By whom was it constructed? "Is the barrier the work of one master-mind, or are its several parts the productions of different periods and of different persons?" Upon this inquiry the evidence of ancient writers is meagre and unsatisfactory. Tacitus informs us that Agricola fortified both the Lower and Upper Isthmus. Hence some have conceived that the northern rampart of the *vallum* might be the work of Agricola. But to this theory the parallelism of the lines is considered fatal; for it is highly improbable, as Mr. Bruce affirms, that two engineers at different periods should construct independent works, without crossing each other's ramparts. But, setting aside the notion in regard to Agricola, the inquiry is confined to the relative claims of Hadrian and Severus. The author's argument tends to demonstrate that the *vallum* and the wall are not independent works; that the opinion is without foundation which ascribes the former to Hadrian, and the latter to Severus. "If Severus (Mr. Bruce observes), finding that the earthworks of Hadrian had fallen into decay, or were no longer sufficient to wall out the Caledonians, had determined to erect a more formidable barrier, would he not have mapped out its track without any reference to the former ruinous and inefficient erection? Had he done so, we should find the lines taking independent courses, —sometimes contiguous, occasionally crossing each other; sometimes widely separated, seldom pursuing for any distance a parallel course; but the Wall, as the latest built, uniformly seizing the strongest points, whether previously occupied by the *vallum* or not. This, however, is not the case; the Wall and *vallum*, in crossing the island, pursue precisely the same track from sea to sea; for the most part they are in close companionship, and in no instance does the Wall cut in upon the trenches of the *vallum*." (p. 371.) The merits of this argument, it must be premised, cannot, as we are persuaded, be duly appreciated without actual minute inspection, pursued throughout various portions of the works, and careful consideration of the local conditions by which they were influenced. The question is one of no ordinary interest to the antiquary; and although he will not lightly reject the conclusions of Horsley and others, who have regarded the Wall as the work of Severus, to strengthen Hadrian's barrier, the reasoning advanced by Mr. Bruce, after weighing the conflicting evidence gleaned from ancient writers, and the more positive evidence of existing inscriptions, will, as we believe, lead most readers to the conviction that the whole is one design, the production of one period, and that the credit of this grand conception must be truly assigned to Hadrian.

The closing section of our author's interesting labours relate to miscellaneous antiquities found in the line of the Wall. Of these the greater proportion are now happily preserved together in the Museum of the Antiquaries of Newcastle. The numerous representations of such remains, of which original and accurate drawings have been obtained, add most essentially to the value of the work. From these Mr. Bruce has kindly permitted us to

select several interesting subjects. The relics connected with the introduction of the Roman *cultus*, and the worship of local deities, Viteres and Ilamia, unknown to Rome's Pantheon, are numerous. Mention has already been made of the discovery of objects connected with Mithraic worship; and those which relate to the *Deæ Matres* are not less curious. Remarkable examples of both are preserved in the museum at Alnwick Castle. Of numerous altars dedicated to Jupiter, we present to our readers a fine example from Chesterholm, dedicated by a Prefect of the Gauls, a native of Brescia, and remarkable as associating with Jupiter not only all the immortal gods, but the Genius of the Pretorium. The storks, sculptured on both sides of this altar, are symbols of uncertain import. Mr. Bruce suggests that they may have been emblems of Victory. Usually they import Piety, signifying veneration of the gods, love, and good-will to man.[3] Petronius terms the stork, *pietati-cultrix*.

Another altar, dedicated to the Father of the Gods by the tribune of the first Spanish Cohort, is also here represented (see woodcuts). It is chosen as an example of singularly graceful proportion, and was found at Maryport, in Cumberland, one of the stations described by our author as subsidiary to the great northern barrier.

Capital, centurial stones, and earthen pipe, found at Cilurnum.

It is a singular fact, that amongst all these vestiges of an age when Christianity was certainly spread extensively throughout the world, not a trace of any Christian memorial has occurred. Brand conceived that the cross might be discerned upon an altar from Rutchester, now in the New-

[3] See the series of symbols of Divinities, Montf. tom. i. p. 351.

Altar discovered at Nether Hall, Cumberland.

Altar, discovered at Chesterholm

castle Museum; but this is extremely questionable. A fragment of "Samian," found at *Cataractonium*, and in Sir William Lawson's possession, has been given in the *Journal* as a solitary relic apparently ornamented with the Christian symbol.[4]

We must now take leave of this interesting subject, cordially commending to the attention of our readers the attractive volume presented to them by Mr. Bruce. Many points, obscure and open to discussion, may be found, which will provoke a variance of opinion regarding conclusions here advanced. Such questions may be deferred for discussion on some future occasion. We are content now to accept gratefully the guidance proffered in these pages, desiring to seize an impulse from the enthusiasm with which their author has prosecuted his labours, and hoping that the fresh interest thus aroused in the earlier history of our country may encourage the anticipation that the archaeologists of the Northern Marches will achieve that much-desired work, which they are best prepared to carry out, the production of an extended "Britannia Romana."

THE GEOLOGY AND FOSSILS OF THE TERTIARY AND CRETACEOUS FORMATIONS OF SUSSEX. By Frederic Dixon, Esq., F.G.S. London, 1850. 4to.

It may doubtless strike the readers of an Archaeological Journal with surprise to find in its pages a notice of a publication devoted apparently to the illustration of natural science. There is much, indeed, that might be regarded as partaking of a kindred feeling in the pursuits of the geologist and the antiquary: one addresses himself to what may truly be designated as primeval antiquity; he seeks to comprehend the structure of the earth, and the manifold orders of animal creation by which it has been filled;—the other carries the investigations onwards into historic times, collecting, in scientific order, all those vestiges which distinguish the periods of busy life, amongst a higher order of beings, by whom that earth has been successively occupied. In bringing, however, before our readers a work seemingly unconnected with their ordinary tastes and pursuits, the excuse might be pleaded that it were no intrusion to commend the labours of one, now no more, once known to us not less by his keen appreciation of archaeological researches than by his high attainments in natural science. All who have participated in the agreeable assemblies of the archaeologists of Sussex during the last four years, or perused the Transactions which have recorded their results, know well that the lamented author of the volume under consideration ranked amongst the foremost in promoting an intelligent estimation of ancient vestiges of every class.

These notices may fall into the hands of some whose love of antiquity, like the late Mr. Dixon's, takes a wide range, into periods far beyond the pale of history; and to them the mention of so valuable a monograph of the organic remains of an interesting locality, and of the admirable illustrations by which

[4] Archaeol. Journ., vol. vi. p. 81.

it is accompanied, may not be unwelcome.[1] But in the unassuming title of this volume it is not announced that its pages comprise matter specially interesting to the antiquary, and that herein are preserved memorials of archaeological observations of which Mr. Dixon has left no other record. Had his life been spared, he would doubtless have brought together all the results of his researches of this nature at various times, and would have supplied a valuable contribution to the memorials of the British and Roman periods.

One of the most interesting discoveries in Sussex, connected with the early occupants of these islands, has been related by Mr. Dixon in the "Collections," published by the Archaeological Society of that county (vol. i., p. 55). We allude to the excavation, conducted under his direction, on Storrington Downs, near Petworth, which produced a remarkable urn, measuring not less than 21 inches in height, and 13 in breadth. This striking relic of a rude age excited the admiration of the late Sir Richard Colt Hoare, who pronounced the urn to be one of the finest known to him. No particulars regarding this discovery are found in the volume before us; and we must refer our readers to the brief account in the interesting Transactions above cited. They may also find therein curious notices of objects of the "Bronze Period,"—some of them unique, and wholly collected in Sussex.[2]

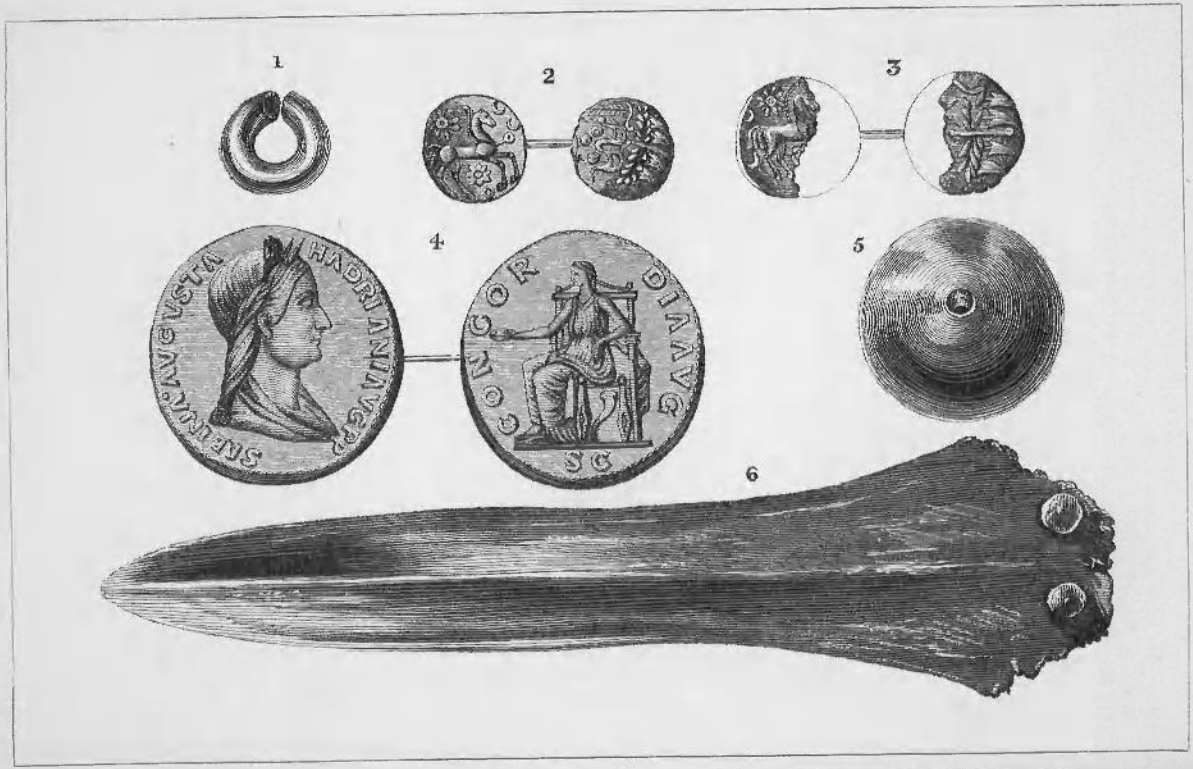
The locality in which Mr. Dixon's observations commence is one interesting alike for its ancient recollections and the features of its geological formation. Selsey, the most southerly point of the county, and visited doubtless in very early times by the inhabitants of the opposite coast, or even by navigators from more remote shores, was occupied by the Romans, and became the site of an ancient Saxon establishment. Few vestiges now remain of those times. The district christianised by St. Wilfrid in the seventh century, and the site of the episcopal see from his days, until its removal to Chichester, not long previously to the Conquest, has been ravaged by the encroachments of the sea, which have progressed rapidly ever since the days when Camden wrote thus of Selsey:—"Antiquæ urbeculæ, in qua Episcopi sederunt, cadaver solummodo jacet, aquis intectum quoties ex alto maris æstus intumescit, cum vero residet, apertum, et conspicuum."[3] From these shores various interesting relics were obtained; and by the kindness of Mrs. Dixon, we are enabled to lay before our readers the accompanying representations. A relic of especial interest is the penannular ring of pure gold. It is of the type frequently described by Irish archaeologists as "ring-money," but of great rarity in England. Two specimens, however, found in Dorsetshire, are described in Mr. Way's memoir on ancient ornaments of gold (*Journal*, vol. vi., p. 56); and it is stated that a fourth has been discovered near Bridgewater. The ring here represented, weighing 104 grains, was found on the shore of Bracklesham Bay, to the north-west of Selsey, on which are often discovered particles of pure gold, some of them impressed with patterns; occasionally also sea-worn British coins, and relics of a Roman age. The blade of a bronze weapon, pro-

[1] This volume contains forty plates, of remarkably skilful execution, the utmost care having been taken to insure minute accuracy. It was not completed at the time of Mr. Dixon's decease, and has only recently been produced, under the care of Professor Owen. It was "printed for the author," who contemplated a limited circulation. Copies may be obtained by application to Mrs. Dixon, Worthing.

[2] Sussex Archaeological Collections, vol. ii., p. 260.

[3] Britannia, p. 220, ed. 1607. Two coffin-lids, described as "Saxon," remain at Selsey Church.

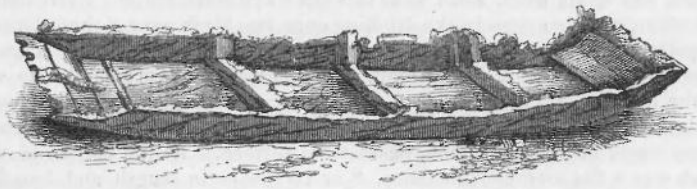
SUSSEX ANTIQUITIES, IN THE COLLECTION OF THE LATE F. DIXON, ESQ.



1. Gold ring-money. Bracklesham. 2. and 3. British gold coins. Selsey. 4. Large brass of Sabina. Selsey.
5 and 6. Bead of Calcedony, (Orig. Size.) and bronze weapon. Both from Bracklesham, (Orig. length 7½ in.)

bably a dagger (see woodcut), was found at Bracklesbam, with a bronze celt, in a bed noted amongst geologists as containing abundance of a large bivalve shell in a fossil state. The blade measures 7¼ inches in length, and it is coated with a black *patina* of tin. "The countryman who found it (as Mr. Dixon relates) told me, with much simplicity, that he thought he had discovered the knife by which the former blockaders opened those large cockles with, as them fish must have been very good to eat."

To the eastward of Selsey, between Pagham and Bognor, discoveries were also made from time to time; and the zealous geologist enriched the choice numismatic series, which from his earliest years he had delighted to collect, with British or Gaulish types and Roman coins. Representations of several are given (pp. 32, 80): some of them were described in the Proceedings of the Numismatic Society for 1841; a large brass of Agrippina senior, with the rare reverse of the *carpentum*, deserves mention. This was found, in 1842, close to the shore, west of Bognor. The notices of this coast, on all parts of which inroads of the sea have taken place, are full of curious observations: coins of pale gold, of the debased charioteer type, have been found, introduced doubtless from Gaul. A representation of an ancient boat, described as British, is given (see p. 36): it was found in 1842, after a storm, and lay in the mud about 200 yards from the beach, opposite Heene Lane, near Worthing. This primitive vessel was formed from the trunk of an oak, without any metal fastening, and it measured 18 feet by 3 feet in width. A boat of similar construction,



British Boat, found in 1842, near Worthing.

found at North Stoke, Sussex, in 1834, was conveyed to the British Museum.

In the neighbourhood of Worthing, several discoveries of Roman remains are recorded to have taken place. Urns, with coins of Diocletian and Constantine, were found in 1826 and 1828. The chief discovery, however, related by Mr. Dixon, occurred during the progress of the railway cuttings, in August, 1845. The spot is in the parish of Broadwater, a little west of Ham Bridge. At about 15 inches beneath the surface, which was not more raised than in other places, 25 or 30 urns and funereal vessels were found,—five of them containing burnt bones; several of the vessels were bottle-shaped, the neck being much contracted; also some fragments of "Samian," and a beautiful little *cylix* of the embossed ware, supposed to have been fabricated at Castor, Northamptonshire. This interesting cup was of a bluish-grey colour; on one side appeared a stag, resembling a red deer, and on the other a large hound. These figures are in relief. Portions of rings, possibly *armillæ*, of wood or shale, were found; and more than 200 short iron nails, which appeared to have been fixed in a circle of 8 or 10 inches in an object much decayed, supposed to have been a buckler. In regard to the mode of interment, it is stated:—"These funereal relics were deposited in irregular order, 3 or 4 feet apart,

and appeared as if placed on different occasions : they ordinarily consisted of a bottle-shaped vase, a Samian dish, and two or three other pieces of pottery placed around the urn containing the bones, which was always uppermost and upright. There were no remains of ashes nor anything to mark that the body was burnt near the spot." (p. 45.)

Well-preserved specimens of this curious embossed ware are rare and highly to be esteemed : Mr. Neville possesses some, found at Chesterford, which have been represented in the Journal (vol. vi., p. 19). A very spirited example of the stag-hunt, thus portrayed, will be found in Mr. Artis' "Durobrivæ," plate 28 ; but incomparably the finest piece of this ware is the large vase, found at Bedford Purlieus, Northamptonshire, given amongst the illustrations of Mr. Hartshorne's Memoir in the Archæologia (vol. xxxii., plate 3). The height of this vase, on which appear human figures with the stag and hound, is 15 inches.

A further discovery of Roman remains took place near Ham Bridge, Aug. 29, 1845, of which the following particulars are related by Mr. Dixon. He obtained, on this occasion, five perfect funereal vessels, and three which were broken ; but the fractures were not recent. "This appeared to have been another grave, about 4 feet from the last ; the contents consisted of two urns—one, 8 inches high, 6 inches at top, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches at bottom, increasing to 8 inches in the centre, containing burnt human bones ; the other, 9 inches high, 3 inches at bottom, 7 inches in the middle, 5 inches at top, containing the bones of a bird, the size of a crow ; and burnt human bones, five or six nails, &c. ; near this urn was a small bottle. Surrounding the other, were two vessels like drinking cups, two black saucer-shaped pieces of pottery, and one beautiful specimen of glass, quite perfect, of a transparent green colour, 2 inches high, with handles, and very similar to one in the museum at Boulogne. A small fragment of glass was also found with the human bones in the large urn : the urns containing the calcined bones were, in every instance, nearest the surface. At the bottom of this tomb was a flat metallic substance, 8 or 10 inches in length and breadth, much broken, having a few iron nails near it, but not more than eight or ten, and larger than those in the prior discovery. Iron is also the principal ingredient of this vessel or shield, but it is not oxidised like the nails, and was originally broken, for I found pieces of it, with two or three nails, in the urn containing the bird's bones, &c., which must have been placed there at the interment." (pp. 45, 46.)

These details are interesting : the little glass *diota* probably served to contain perfumes ; specimens precisely similar may be seen in Montfaucon, tome iii., pl. 79, p. 146, and Dorow (Die Denkmale Römischer Zeit, in den Rheinisch-Wesfalischen Provinzen, Tab. xi., Stuttgart, 1823).

Perfect specimens of glass funereal vessels are, as Mr. Dixon remarks, rare in England : he describes two, discovered at Avisford, near Arundel, in 1817, one of them something similar to those just noticed. He had also seen portions of a very fine glass vase found at Warburton, near Arundel, containing burnt bones, with a coin of Vespasian. We hear with satisfaction that Mr. Figg and Mr. Mark Antony Lower are engaged in collecting all vestiges relative to Roman occupation of this part of Britain, and we hope that all such particulars will be duly detailed, and representations given of these antique remains, for which a suitable place of permanent deposit will at length, we trust, be found, through the well-directed energies of Sussex archaeologists, in the venerable castle of Lewes.

The valuable assemblage of organic remains, described in the work thus

briefly noticed, have happily been recently purchased for the British Museum, and will form an important complement to the Mantell collection. The well-chosen cabinet of Roman large brass and English coins, the result of Mr. Dixon's assiduous research, almost from boyish years, may, as we believe, be purchased; and as an instructive series on a moderate scale, it would form a very desirable acquisition. The British and Gaulish coins are of singular interest.

A DESCRIPTIVE CATALOGUE OF THE ANTIQUITIES FOUND IN THE EXCAVATIONS AT THE NEW ROYAL EXCHANGE, preserved in the Museum of the Corporation of London. Preceded by an Introduction, with particulars relating to Roman London. By WILLIAM TITE, Esq., F.R.S., F.S.A. Printed for the use of Members of the Corporation. 8vo.

DURING the extensive works of embellishment which have been carried out in recent years, in almost every quarter of the ancient metropolis, many have been the disclosures which have told, more impressively than ancient chronicle, of the eventful history of that great city. It is much to be regretted that works of this nature, mostly conducted by contractors, and with the utmost expedition, are found singularly disadvantageous, as regards the careful observation of such discoveries. There is, however, a growing interest in ancient remains, which has extended to almost all classes of society, and no slight thanks are due to those, who, residing in the remote and busy haunts of old London, have availed themselves of their opportunities, and assiduously watched the results of public works around them, or have collected and classified the multiplicity of relics, which every excavation brings to view.

The preservation of such remains, the tangible evidences of what this important city has been, and of the steps by which she has attained to her present high position, is not merely a laudable object of individual gratification, but a matter of public interest and instruction. They have been recognised as such by the citizens of our metropolis; amidst the rapid advances of Archaeological Science, and the establishment of public collections in many great towns throughout the kingdom, it is gratifying to find that the corporation of London has regarded the antiquities discovered in the execution of civic public improvements, as worthy even of a depository near the chief seat of municipal administration.

The occasion when a work of no ordinary magnitude was contemplated, in the erection of a New Royal Exchange, obviously promised unusual advantages for the commencement of such collections, and the civic authorities were not unmindful of this object. In the specification for the works, in 1840, all possible precaution was taken to secure for the Gresham Committee every object of interest which might be disinterred, and remuneration was promised to the finders of such ancient remains, of which a large portion were in consequence faithfully delivered up. It was by this means that the interesting collection was formed, of which the little volume under consideration supplies a classified and descriptive inventory. Without such a guide, a museum is comparatively of slight utility: and the task of arranging and illustrating these antiquities was undertaken, and ably carried out, by Mr. Thomson, one of the librarians of the London Institution.

To this Catalogue an appropriate Introduction has been prefixed, from

the pen of the distinguished architect of the New Royal Exchange, Mr. Tite. It is calculated to stimulate his fellow citizens to appreciate more justly the interest of these ancient remains, and to take a more active care for their preservation. What an attractive Museum, illustrative of ancient arts and manufactures, might that now established at the Guildhall be rendered, even were its contents limited to such discoveries as occur within the precincts of the ancient *Londinium*, if the liberality of private collectors were found ready to second the endeavours of the civic authorities, to encourage and give furtherance to this public object.

The collection, at present existing, comprises almost exclusively remains of the Roman period, and to this the introductory remarks of Mr. Tite are accordingly devoted. He commences his sketch of *Londinium*, from the notice of it by Tacitus, as the peaceful resort of merchants, and noted as a mart of commerce, but not dignified with the name of a colony. The city appears long to have retained this character, and hence it would consist rather, as Mr. Tite remarks, of extensive warehouses than of palaces or temples ; and the improvement of the port, the formation of which has been traditionally attributed to Belinus, would be the care of the inhabitants rather than the erection of stately streets. Some antiquaries indeed, have traced indications of the importance of the port in the course of the principal highway, leading in a direct line from Belingsgate. No vestiges of such stately architectural remains, as those brought to light in other localities occupied by the Romans, are found in London : this may probably be attributed to the disastrous results of two great catastrophes, the conflagration in the twelfth century, and the great fire of 1666 ; and it is remarkable, that although most careful observations were made, during the works under the direction of Sir Christopher Wren, as recorded in a very interesting section of the "Parentalia," no evidence of any important Roman edifice could be adduced.

The author proceeds to state the discoveries made at various times, indicating the care and skill anciently employed upon the haven, and in the construction of quays ;—the importance of the ancient navigable rivers, the Fleet, and the Wall-brook, of which scarcely a trace now exists, besides the names ;—the ancient soil and ground of London, as developed in the course of excavations, especially on the northern side, and curiously illustrating the nature of the original site. From these results of practical observation, during the progress of various public works, Mr. Tite turns to the consideration of the first collections of London antiquities, and the ample evidence supplied by the numerous specimens of Roman arts and manufactures, during the last two centuries, as proving that almost all the conveniences and elegancies of Rome had been introduced. "These relics," he well remarks, "must always possess a considerable intrinsic value as illustrations of society and manners, and also a peculiar local interest as indicating the condition of the place and people where they were found." The Tradescants appear entitled to be regarded as the earliest collectors of natural and artificial curiosities in England. After the great fire, and the discovery probably of numerous remains during the rebuilding of the city, the importance of procuring such relics seems to have begun to be rightly perceived ; and one of the most zealous collectors was Mr. Coniers, an apothecary, whose assemblage of Roman vessels and articles of every kind passed into the Museum of Dr. Woodward.[1] Dr. Harwood, Bagford and

[1] A brief account of Comer's collection is given in Stow's Survey of London, edit. 1720, vol. ii. p. 22.

Kemp, may be added to the list of London collectors of the last century. The notices of their efforts are not without interest, as compared with the rapid advance of antiquarian pursuits in later times, and the formation of many public as well as private collections. One of these, the existence of which may hitherto have been unknown to many readers of the *Journal*, is "the Museum (as described by Mr. Tite) established in connection with the Corporation Library at Guildhall, for the reception of antiquities relating to London, especially such as may be discovered in the execution of civic public improvements, which it is certain cannot rightly belong to any other depository. Many such interesting remains have been accordingly placed at Guildhall by the Commissioners of Sewers, and also by various donors; a descriptive list of which, to the year 1840, is printed at the end of the last edition of the Library Catalogue." (Introd. p. xxxvii.)

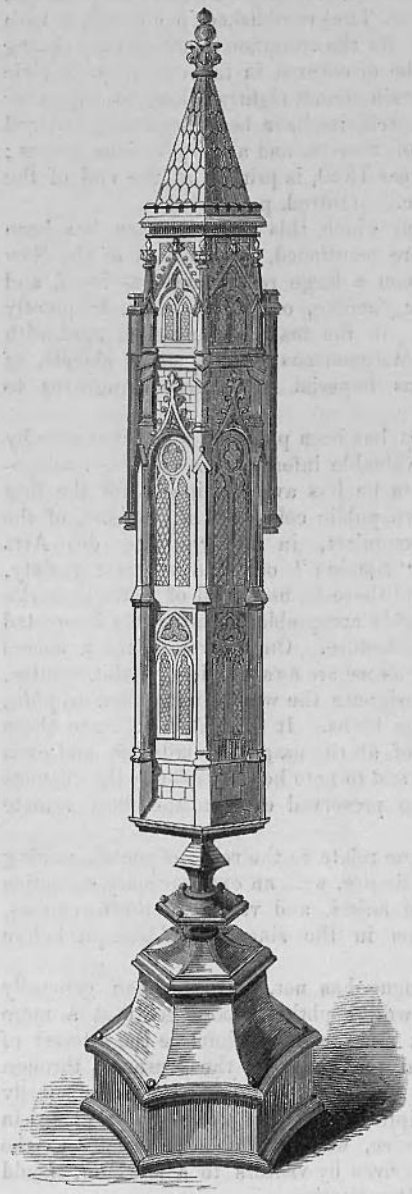
The chief source, however, from which this civic museum has been enriched, was the great work, before mentioned, the erection of the New Royal Exchange. On that occasion a large receptacle was found and cleared out, one of those singular *favissæ*, or rubbish-holes, frequently noticed of late near Roman sites. In the mass of hardened mud with which this pit was filled, lay an heterogeneous assemblage of objects, of the Roman period, with numerous imperial coins, from Augustus to Gratian.

The Catalogue of these antiquities has been prepared with great care by Mr. Thomson, and supplies much valuable information. In the arrangement of the numerous fictile objects he has availed himself, for the first time, as we believe, in any extensive public collection in England, of the classification adopted by M. Brongniart, in his "Traite des Arts Ceramiques." The fragments of "Samian" occurred in great variety, amounting to some thousands; from these an useful list of potters' marks has been compiled, which will be highly acceptable to antiquaries interested in the history of that beautiful manufacture. One impressed mark occurs on the handle of an amphora, as far as we are aware unique in this country. It is EVALER TROPH, explained to designate the weak wine, called *trophin*, mentioned by Martial as used in the baths. It is curious to trace these little evidences of the introduction of all the usages of daily life, and even trivial habits amongst the Romans, and to note how completely the customs and manners of ancient Italy were preserved even in the most remote colonies of the empire.

The other sections of the catalogue relate to the relics of metal, writing implements, glass, articles of domestic use, with an extraordinary collection of soles and sandals, *crepidæ*, and *calcei*, and various leathern remains, discovered in excellent preservation in the singular rubbish-pit before mentioned.

We fear that this useful catalogue has not, as yet, been generally circulated; but the corporation will, doubtless, soon feel that a more general publication of such a work must tend to stimulate the interest of their brother-citizens, and augment the stores of the Museum, through the donations of collectors. The collection itself is very satisfactorily arranged for exhibition; the description of every object is found, placed in the case by its side. This practice, which adds so materially to the gratification and instruction to be derived by visitors to a Museum, should be invariably adopted in all Public Depositories.

CHOICE EXAMPLES OF ART WORKMANSHIP, selected from the Exhibition of Ancient and Medieval Art, at the Society of Arts. Drawn and engraved under the superintendence of Philip De la Motte. London: Cundall and Addey, 1851.



Chrismatory. From the Cabinet of H. Magniac, Esq.

THE interest excited by the temporary museums formed during successive years in the cities visited by the Institute, and the readiness with which precious relics of ancient Art had been contributed, naturally gave rise to the desire that a more extended collection should be submitted to public inspection in the metropolis. The proposition, originated by one of the most zealous members of the Institute, to whom also the Society had been indebted for the first impulse in producing those local museums at their annual meetings, was suggested to the Society of Arts, and met with cordial encouragement. The powerful influence which the display of such a series was calculated to produce upon the taste and manufactures of present times was cordially recognised. It is needless to remind our readers how successful was the result; that the design was honoured with the encouragement of Her most Gracious Majesty, and carried out under the auspices of the Prince Consort, with the distinguished committee of management, over which he consented to preside.

The volume, to which we would invite notice, comprises a selection of examples from that rich series. It will ever be a cause of regret that so important an opportunity was not rendered available for the production of a memorial of the collection, which might have presented, not so much an inventory of its contents, as a manual of the interesting Art-processes of medieval times, illustrated by examples existing in our own country. The valuable volume by M.

The Salt, supposed gift of the Foundress, Christ's College, Cambridge.

FAIENCE OF THE TIME OF HENRY II.

A candlestick, in the collection of Sir Anthony Rothschild, Bart.

Labarte, relating to the Debruge-Dumesnil Cabinet, might have formed an admirable model.

In default of such desirable addition to archaeological literature, our thanks are due to Mr. De la Motte, and to the spirited publisher of the "Choice Examples," for the speedy production of a volume which must conduce to confirm the impression produced by the Exhibition of the past year, before it may be effaced by a more imposing display of art and industry. By many, we are assured, such a memorial, at a cost which must render it extensively acceptable, will be welcome as recalling one of the most attractive exhibitions ever produced in England.

Mr. De la Motte has placed at our disposal specimens of the interesting subjects reproduced by his pencil. Amongst the ancient English plate, drawn forth on this occasion from the stores of colleges and corporate companies, was the curious covered salt, of which a representation accompanies this notice. It is preserved at Christ's College, Cambridge, as one of the gifts of the Foundress. A more elegant production of an earlier period, but of continental workmanship, is the charming *turricula*, from Mr. Magniac's rich collection. (See woodcut.) It is described as having been destined to receive chrism. This adaptation of architectural forms to objects wholly of a different character was employed with the happiest effect by the medieval artificers. Similar attempts, in modern times, have been rarely if ever successful. There is, for the most part, a graceful originality in the design of these ancient objects, even in those of ordinary or trivial uses. See, for instance, the little key of wrought steel, here represented.

The Exhibition was singularly rich in Damascened work, especially displayed on the magnificent shield, sent by Her Majesty's gracious permission from Windsor; in enamels, also, and sculptured ivories, of which last, with some earlier specimens, Mr. De la Motte gives the graceful productions of Fiamingo, of which Mr. Vulliamy is the possessor. The exquisite glass of Murano, and the curious fictile *chefs-d'œuvre* of the sixteenth century have supplied several subjects, the more interesting because fabrications of this nature have been very little known in England, and their history claims special notice in connexion with the growth, from that period, of a taste for elegant, and even artistic, productions of fictile manufacture. The candlestick of "*Faïence fine du temps d'Henri II.*," of which a representation accompanies these notices, is one of the choicest examples of Italian design, introduced by Francis I. It is striking to observe how totally all Gothic elements of decoration had vanished: a slightly Moresque character may even be traced in the interlacements.[1]

Works such as that under consideration must exert an influence, not only in encouraging the prevalent taste for relics of the olden time, but as a valuable aid to Schools of Design, in promoting a refinement of the forms and ornamentation of all our National Manufactures.

[1] See Brongniart's interesting account of this choice fictile fabrication, Traité des Arts Ceram, vol. ii., p. 175.

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

ARCHÆOLOGIA CAMBRENSIS: a Record of the Antiquities of Wales and its Marches, and the Journal of the Cambrian Archaeological Association. New Series, No. VI., April, 1851. Published Quarterly. Vols. I., II., III., IV.; and Vol. I., New Series.

The kindred Society, under whose auspices this journal is produced, may well claim the friendly interest and favour of members of the Archaeological Institute. Its origin, towards the close of the year 1846, may be wholly traced to the beneficial stimulus caused by that publication, now in turn adopted by the Society as its recognised and official organ, and the record of its transactions. This Society has speedily evinced a striking degree of activity, scarcely surpassed by other institutions of maturer growth, and greater resources.

Placed in that quarter of Britain, regarded, whether rightfully or otherwise Archaeology perhaps alone can demonstrate, as the refuge of our ancient religion, customs and races,—whose antiquaries had hitherto passed almost as a byword for exaggeration bordering upon romance, among their Anglican brethren, the Cambrian Archaeological Association has in its sphere already done much to bring to light the unwritten and written annals of the past, and has sent forth into the fastnesses of Wales an industrious little native band, whose love of country, though undiminished, is tempered with more sober judgment, and alive to a more stubborn perception of facts. On the other hand, by offering the hand of fellowship and association to all those Englishmen by whom Welsh antiquities are appreciated as they deserve, it has secured an interchange of ideas and opinions, which cannot fail to inspire confidence and to remove prejudice.

The present number commences with "Remarks on Querns," by Dr. Hume, of Liverpool, in which he suggests what were the different contrivances for grinding food, which eventually introduced the quern; subsequently giving a derivation of the word "quern," an account of its "structure," its history, locality, mode of use, and the laws and customs relating to it. These remarks are followed by the first of a series of contributions "On Architectural Antiquities in Monmouthshire," by Mr. Freeman, in which he compares the churches of that county with those of Pembrokeshire and Gower, and discusses the date of the churches, their outline and ground plan, towers, and other leading and architectural features. With the exception of Chepstow Priory Church, and St. Wollos, at Newport, which exhibit the Norman style on a grand scale, Mr. Freeman finds in the Principality but little Romanesque; of Early English there is much deserving notice; of Decorated, a most perfect example in Tintern Abbey Church; while, in the greater proportion, Perpendicular prevails. He promises a future notice of the peculiar plans of St. Wollos and Christ Church, and he remarks upon the superiority of the Monmouthshire churches over those already compared with them, as being especially manifested in their chancel arches, which are well turned, pointed, and chamfered, differing little from what would be found in any ordinary English church of the like scale and period, and in their doorways. This paper, illustrated

by an engraving, giving the elevations of the churches of Magor, Roggiett, Gwernesney, Caldicott, Caerwent, and Llangwm, is well arranged, and must prove interesting and instructive to students of church architecture. The medieval historian will find much to interest him in the second portion of Mr. Morgan's "Historical and Traditional Notices of Owain Glyndwr;" while, at the same time, the value of this communication is considerably diminished by the almost total absence of reference to the authorities from whence it is culled. The *vexata quæstio* of "the site of the last battle of Caractacus" is next introduced, for the perusal of those who desire to verify early British history; and the Breidden Hill, between Shrewsbury and Welch Pool, is assigned as the most probable spot. In the "Correspondence," at the close of the number, is inserted a letter relative to a tumulus called Banc Benisel, near Kidwelly, in Caermarthenshire, in which a gigantic human skeleton, deposited in a somewhat peculiar cist, was discovered. The cranium was depressed or flat in front, which led the writer to conclude that this tumulus was the grave of Sawyl Benisel, said to have been an early British king, Benisel meaning—"flat-headed."

The Correspondence is preceded by an important communication from the learned author of "the Literature of the Kymry," relative to some early Welsh poems, with respect to which he announces a change of opinion since writing that work, and identifies Cocholyn, a hero mentioned in a poem, entitled "Marwnad Corroy ab Dairy," which he considers as old as the time of Taliesin, with Cuichelm Quichelm, or Kichelm, mentioned in the Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, A.D. 614. Some valuable observations on early inscribed and carved stones in Wales, by the indefatigable and able antiquary, Mr. Westwood, illustrated by two engravings,—one of the stone of Brancuf, the other of the cross of Grutne,—completes the number, which affords a good sample of the publications of this Society. They have already commenced their sixth volume (the second of the New Series), now in the course of publication. Their other five volumes furnish abundant evidence of their industry and success, and contain very valuable historical and antiquarian matter. We may notice especially the "Observations on the stone of St. Cadvan, at Towyn," as not by any means the least important, the joint production of Mr. J. O. Westwood and the Rev. John Williams, of Llanymowddwy. (Vol. i., New Series, p. 90.)

"The stone of St. Cadvan" has been engraved both by Bishop Gibson and Pennant, but so inaccurately, that it is not to be wondered at that it has never yet been deciphered. At the meeting of the Cambrian Archaeological Association, held in 1848, at Caernarvon, casts of the four sides of this stone were presented to the museum by W. W. E. Wynne, Esq. These have enabled Mr. Westwood to present the readers of this journal with representations of the inscriptions, which have been reduced from the originals with the greatest care, by means of the camera lucida. The stone itself is about seven feet long, and about ten inches wide, on the two widest sides, the other two sides being considerably narrower.

This paper is accompanied by an engraving, showing the inscriptions on the four sides of the stone. On the side marked A in the engraving, Mr. Westwood deciphers— + CUNGEN CELEn ⩔ (See Woodcuts.)

On that marked B.— + tengrug c (?) i malte (d) gu
adgan m
a ? . . . tr (or a)

The Stone of St Cadvan, in Towyn Church. Drawn by Mr. Westwood.

(Length 7 ft., greatest width 10 in.)

The third side, marked C, he reads—an ? terunc dubut marciau.
The fourth, marked D, he thinks must be read thus—

molt tricet
clode
tuar nitanam

He considers the inscription to belong to the seventh or eighth century. He remarks, that "supposing the stone to be standing erect (it is now however lying flat on the floor of Towyn Church), the inscription on the side, marked A, is to be read *from* the ground *upwards*,—so also the side, B. The third side, C, which like A is one of the *narrow* sides of the stone, is to be read *downwards* towards the ground; and the fourth side, D, has the inscription arranged downwards in the same manner. Mr. Williams, an eminent Welsh scholar, undertakes the interpretation of this inscription. He decides the inscription to be in the Welsh language, and reading the side A and its opposite, C, together, he interprets them thus:—"The body of Cyngen is on the side between where the marks will be."

The expression, "the marks" (*marciau*—the *c* pronounced hard), he says, must "evidently refer to certain monuments, placed to mark the spot where the deceased lay interred; probably stones, which according to the Welsh laws, were used as marks for various purposes. Such, no doubt, was the stone found in the Isle of Bardsey, bearing the inscription MARC VELIO. There might have been a stone, a *maen hir*, at each end of the grave, as was the case with the grave of Beli, ap Benlli Gawr (see *Hanes' Cymru*, p. 35), and thus the body of Cyngen would in truth be between the marks." The sides B and D he likewise reads together, and thus translates the inscriptions:—"Beneath a similar mound is extended Cadvan, sad that it should enclose the praise of the earth: may he rest without blemish." The last sentence of this inscription, Mr. Williams says is "an expression equivalent to the Latin *requiescat in pace*, or *rest his soul*, which pious ejaculation assumes various shapes in the elegiac compositions of the bards." In interpreting this inscription, he enters into a very learned philological discussion upon ancient and modern Welsh, citing examples in support of his views from early Welsh writings—this we must leave to Welsh scholars. In reference to this monument it only remains to notice the valuable information respecting the individuals whom it commemorates, furnished by Mr. Wakeman (p. 205), and drawn "from Gregory of Tours; Eginard, contemporary of Charlemagne; the fragment of a chronicle, by Ingomar, of uncertain date; the chronicles of the churches of Nantes and Mount St. Michael; and the lives of some of the Breton saints, by contemporaries; and some other historians and chroniclers." Mr. Wakeman refutes the common story, that St. Cadvan was the grandson of Emyr Llydaw, one of the princes of Armorica, and shows that Emyr Llydaw is not a name, but merely a title, signifying "Prince of Llydaw," possibly a contraction of Emmerawd, or Emperor, hence that "son of" (in Welsh *ap*) "Emyr Llydaw," means nothing more than son of *a Prince* of Llydaw. Cadvan he seems to regard as the grandson of an Emyr Llydaw, and nephew of Howel ap Emyr Llydaw, who ruled Armorica in the early part of the sixth century, and was murdered in the year 524. On his death his dominions were divided among his sons, who, in the year 546, going to war with each other, occasioned the immigration of the families of the princes who were slain to Britain. This was the second immigration from Armorica since the commencement of this century. About this time

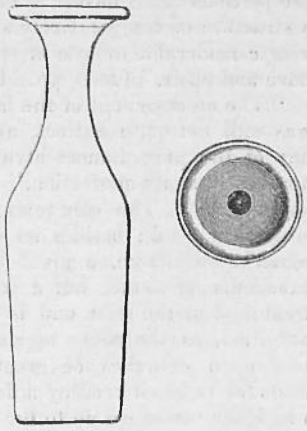
St. Cadwin came over to Britain, most probably with this second immigration. Cyngen, he agrees with Mr. Williams (pp. 100, 212), was very probably Cyngen ap Cadell, prince of Powis, whose era is pretty well established by the recorded death of his son Brochmael, early in the seventh century; he concludes by suggesting that this monument to St. Cadvan belongs to the end of the sixth century. A suggestion historically deduced, which pretty nearly coincides with the age to which Mr. Westwood, judging from its characteristics, assigns this interesting and venerable relic. It is needless to insist upon the value of investigations such as these. In a country where there is now such a dearth of early written records, these carved stones may truly be regarded as "the only unimpeachable proofs of the extent to which religion, literature, and science was cultivated" by our British forefathers, and there is no part of the country where they are so plentiful as in Wales. They cannot therefore be too highly valued, closely examined, and carefully preserved. Well may the Cambrian Association feel indebted to those members, who have been the first to decipher the stone of St. Cadvan, nor less so to Mr. Stephens, who has offered an interpretation somewhat differing from that of Mr. Williams, and many critical observations upon the subject (N. S. vol. ii., p. 58), which should be read in conjunction with the original paper.

Such a highly curious specimen of British Palæography has appeared deserving of this detailed notice, on account of the great rarity of similar remains in other parts of the kingdom, and the important bearing of such evidences, hitherto very imperfectly understood, upon historical inquiries.

In addition to this early inscription, we find, on looking through the other volumes, numerous other inscriptions on early monumental stones, carefully deciphered and recorded—as that of "Wledermat Odeleu," the founder (as the inscription mentions) of *this* church in the time "Ewini Regis," on a stone in the churchyard of Llanfihangel y Traethau. (Vol. iii., p. 224.) Another at Llangian, Caernarvonshire—MELI MEDICI FILI MARTINI, considered to be not later than the fifth century. Some at Llannor, Caernarvonshire (vol. ii., p. 201); the tombstone of Brochmael, said to be earlier than the ninth century (*ibid.* p. 30); of Turpilius, in Brecknockshire (*ibid.* p. 25); with those of Porius (vol. i., p. 424); and Catamanus (*ibid.* 165)—(the former near Dolgelley, Merionethshire, the latter in Anglesea); and an incidental notice of the pillar of Eliseg (*ibid.* pp. 17, 32). Several of these have been noticed by Camden, and others, but few, if any, so clearly deciphered, as they now have been by the keen investigations of the members of this association. Nor have they been less attentive to earlier British antiquities. Among the papers on these antiquities, we may notice, under a title, "Castra Clwydiana," a full account of an examination of three out of six ancient camps on the Clwydian Hills, on the confines of Denbighshire and Flintshire, accompanied by four plates containing plans of each camp (vol. i., *New Series*, 81, 174: and Mr. Longueville Jones's interesting account, illustrated with engravings of British remains in the neighbourhood of Conway and Aber (vol. i., p. 70).

Roman remains are rather scanty in Wales, but at the more important stations some discoveries have been made. At Caerleon, a villa was excavated in the garden of J. Jenkins, Esq., of which an account will be found in vol. iv., p. 73, illustrated by nine plates. Among the relics then found, was a bronze ornament, recognised by the Rev. C. W. King as the precise pattern of ear-rings at present in common use in Tuscany, and portions of

Samian ware, bearing the potters' marks—MERCATOR and COTTO, both well known to antiquaries, as found in London, and GATTIVS MANSINVS, the impress of which was reversed. In North Wales we are told, that numerous discoveries have been made at Segontium (Caernarvon), consisting of a Roman hypocaust and baths (engraved vol. i., p. 177), and four other bildings (*ibid.* p. 285), with a considerable list of coins; which, with tiles, a curious inscribed piece of slate, and other relics, are deposited in the interesting museum established at Caernarvon. Some good specimens of Roman glass, found in a railway cutting near Caerleon, are deserving of notice. (Vol. iii., p. 187.) Two were deposited in stone coffins, with human remains. "Samian" and other Roman ware, a bronze lamp, and other relics were found near the spot. Of the most uncommon type a representation is here given. Another, with one handle, was of square form, not unlike those found in the Bartlow Hills, &c. The third was cylindrical, with one handle. A very singular little relic, described as a "British amulet," is figured (Vol. iii., p. 97), and we gladly avail ourselves of the obliging permission of the publisher to lay before our readers the annexed representation, (orig. size.) hoping that its date or intention may be explained. It was found in Merionethshire, and is of a dingy green compound metal. It has been attributed to the age of British primitive Christianity.



Glass vessel found at Caerleon.

Of Welsh Ecclesiastical and Medieval antiquities, the volumes before us contain a store of information, not to be met with elsewhere. Among the former, relating to existing cathedrals, Mr. Freeman gives "Some remarks on the Architecture of the Cathedral of Llandaff," accompanied by a ground plan, showing the different styles which are found in the building. The outline and plan of the building he considers is its most remarkable point. Its most marked peculiarity is the absence "not only of a central tower, but of transepts in any form. In this respect it is unique among the cathedrals of South Britain, and has but few parallels among churches of equal size, even when not designed as episcopal sees." (Vol i., *New Series.* p. 109.) We learn from a "Memoir on the History and Architecture of the Cathedral of Llandaff" (*ibid.* p. 24), by the Dean, that the original foundation of the see is ascribed to the influence of St. Germanus and Lupus, on their deputation from the council held at Troyes, in the middle of the fifth century; and that Urban, the earliest bishop of this district after the Norman conquest, found there a primitive cathedral, founded by Dubritius, its first bishop, which "consisted rather of a small chapel than a church, its length being only 28 feet, its breadth 15 feet, and height 20 feet. Two small aisles, however, are also mentioned, as also a circular

porch (by which a semicircular apse is probably meant) having a radius of 12 feet; this would, therefore, extend the entire length to 40 feet. On April 14, A.D. 1120, Urban commenced his great work of erecting a suitable cathedral in this ancient see." Of this church, Mr. Freeman thinks the choir, "of which no trace remains, occupied the site of the present Lady Chapel, and that the fragments of early Norman work, retained in the present presbytery, are portions of his nave." The original Norman cathedral must have been a structure of comparatively small size, though, as its remains attest, of a very considerable degree of ornament. It "probably consisted only of a nave and choir." (*Ibid.* pp. 113, 114.)

"The enlargement of the building began while Romanesque architecture was still not quite extinct, and was concluded (for a time) in the earliest day of the pure Lancet style." The western front, in which this style appears "in its perfection," and the arcades, he attributes "to a date about 1220. The character of the Early English part of the church is singularly good; besides its excellent proportions, it combines, in a most remarkable degree, a great lack of ornament, with not only the utmost excellence of detail, but a considerable effect of richness. The internal treatment of the west end is especially excellent, and deserves the more attention, as the mean appearance of a western portal is often a marked blot upon churches of great magnificence. The nave was manifestly intended to be covered by a flat ceiling. This is shown by the roof shafts, which are continued up to the summit of the masonry."

After noticing the division of nave and choir, south aisle of presbytery, and chapter-house, he introduces the Lady Chapel, under the section of "Decorated repairs," which he regards as an example of Early English gradually sinking into Decorated. "It was a complete erection from the ground, and retains no trace of Romanesque work, except the grand arch opening into it from the presbytery." The north-west tower he considers a fine example of Perpendicular. The present fabric, as it now stands, consists of two low western towers, a nave, choir, presbytery, and Lady Chapel—the last without aisles. (See plan, *ibid.* p. 100.) Of the interesting ruined abbeys of the Principality, we find full particulars of Cwmhir, Radnorshire (vol. iv., p. 233), with a plate; of Strata Florida, Cardiganshire (vol. iii., pp. 110, 191); Rhuddlan, Flintshire (*ibid.* p. 46; vol. ii., p. 250); Cymmer, Merionethshire (vol. i., p. 445; vol. ii., p. 327); Llanthony Priory, Monmouthshire (vol. i., p. 201); Basingwerk, Flintshire (*ibid.* pp. 97, 334, 408); and Valle Crucis (*ibid.* pp. 17, 151, 279). Of these, Cwmhir appears to have been the longest building of its class in Wales. It derives its name from being situated in a *long* (hir) *dingle* (cwm), and was founded by a daughter of Blanchland, in the year 1143; or, according to Leland, by Caswallon ap Madoc, then sovereign lord of the district: it seems, however, never to have been finished. The actual length of the nave, within the walls, from careful measurement, appears to be 242 feet. Little more now remains of the edifice than ruinated walls, and traces of foundations. In the notice of Strata Florida, a well executed engraving is given of the west door-way of the nave, which, perhaps, has not a counterpart in the kingdom. It is a round-headed arch, consisting, as the writer describes it, of "co-ordinate arches," five in number, which make up the whole, and are bound together "by three crosiers on either side."

In the series of papers, entitled "Mona Mediæva" (beginning in vol. i., p. 61), and "Arvona Mediæva (beginning in vol. ii., p. 53), will be found

a tolerably complete record of the most remarkable of the architectural antiquities of the counties of Anglesea and Caernarvon ; accompanying the former are plates of several fonts, interesting on account of singularity or elegance of design, and of ancient monuments, as well as many vignettes of architectural details ; to the latter are appended, also, a number of well-engraved illustrations, including one of a fine rood screen at Llanengan church ; and two others of the collegiate church of Clynnog Fawr, with the chapel of St. Beuno attached.

We might notice several valuable contributions of Monastic History, and documentary evidences, as also a few ancient seals. Amongst these medieval relics the seal of the Abbot of Strata Florida is an example of unusually good execution. (See woodcut.) The name of the Abbot to whom it originally belonged appears to have been cut out, affording a singular instance of a personal seal converted into an official one.

Among the numerous contributions of Mr. Westwood, we must not omit to notice his very interesting and valuable series of papers "On certain peculiarities observable in some of the early Monumental Effigies in Wales," which evince great research, and contain a mass of information on this subject, culled from continental sources, in addition to those afforded by our own country. (Vols. ii., pp. 233, 314 ; iii., p. 35.) The same may be said of his still more curious, and we may add unique, papers upon "The ancient portable Hand-bells of the British and Irish Churches." We believe that no other publication contains any such detailed information on this singular subject. (Vols. iii., pp. 230, 301 ; iv., pp. 13, 167.)

The notices of monumental effigies, by Mr. Westwood, comprise one of singular interest to the English archaeologist, the sculptured tomb of the Princess Joan, daughter of King John, and consort of Llewelyn, Prince of North Wales. The bust only is shown on this curious slab, with foliage of elegant design. Its date is about 1240.

The investigation of castles and their history must necessarily often arrest the attention of archaeologists in Cambria : of memoirs of this class, that relating to Caerphilly,[1] a valuable example, which will doubtless attract many visitors on the occasion of the approaching meeting of the Institute at Bristol, affords a good specimen. For this highly interesting memoir, we are indebted to a writer whose ability in this division of archaeological inquiries is already known to the readers of the *Journal*. We allude to Mr. G. T. Clark, whose contribution to the first volume of our publication, supplied so useful an outline of the subject of "Military Architecture."[2] "This castle is reputed to cover, with its outworks and earthworks, about thirty acres, and owes its celebrity to its great extent, and to the peculiar manner in which one of its towers has been thrown out of the perpendicular,

[1] Vol. i, New Series, p. 251.

[2] Archaeological Journal, vol. i., p. 93.

by the forces employed for its destruction. It possesses few associations with historical events.

"Generally, its series of concentric defences, and the general disposition of its constituent parts, resemble those of Conway, Harlech, Beaumaris, and other structures known to have been erected in the reigns of the first or second Edward. Nor is the style of architecture employed at Caerphilly less decisive. The drop arch, the perfectly plain rib, the general absence of decorations and armorial bearings, and plain battlements, and the absence of machicolation, indicate generally the same period. The columns of the hall doorway, the concave moulding of their pedestals, the triple cluster of columns forming the corbels of the roof, their bell capitals, and light cap moulding, are due to the Early English style, from 1189 to 1307. On the other hand, the pomegranate mouldings, the rich, though somewhat stiff, canopies of the door and windows, the little pilasters in the windows with the pentagonal capitals, the ogee arches, and the plain fillet running up the columnar corbels of the roof, are marks all belonging to the Decorated style which prevailed from 1307 to 1377."

He then instances other examples of the mixture of these two styles, in Bristol Cathedral, and Keynsham Church, and proceeds thus:—

"The internal evidence of the building, which would place its date about the end of the reign of Henry III., agrees with the evidence of records cited hereafter, in which the castle is referred to, in the year 1272, as having been lately erected by Gilbert de Clare, Earl of Gloucester and Hertford."

This paper is illustrated by a ground plan which, though not strictly accurate in all its minute details, may be considered, we believe, generally correct, and a view of the restored elevation of the castle.[3]

From the above notices and extracts, our readers may form a notion of the practical working and success of this Association in the examination of the British, Roman, ecclesiastical and medieval antiquities of Wales; and while some of its members are thus active in the field, those who remain at home are not idle. Hence we find throughout these volumes documents, charters, and other ancient evidences with some historical essays. Among the former, we may notice the valuable collections contributed by W. W. E. Wynne, Esq., relating to Harlech (vol. i., 246; vol. iii., 49) and the Bulkeley MSS., published by permission of Sir Richard Williams Bulkeley, relating to the civil war, consisting chiefly of letters addressed by active leaders on either side, to various correspondents; but principally to the representative of the Bulkeley family then living (vol. i., 326, 385); the proceedings before the Commissioners appointed by the lords of the lordship of Bromfield and Yale, and statutes and ordinances made at the great court of that lordship holden at Castle Lleon, An° 7° Edward IV., 1467 (beginning vol. ii., p. 147). Among the latter we notice Mr. Hartshorne's contributions, entitled "Councils and Parliaments of Shrewsbury,"

In conclusion, we congratulate the Association on the result of their labours. There is still a wide field for exertion; and we trust that the value of such a society may every year be more and more appreciated by those who desire to become acquainted with national antiquities and history in every part of the realm; and that, with the rapid growth of public interest in such inquiries, the Society will increase in influence and energy, and receive that support and sympathy both in Wales and the kingdom at large, which it so well merits.

[3] This interesting illustration is given also in Archaeological Journal, vol. i., p. 103.

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

THE SEVEN PERIODS OF ENGLISH ARCHITECTURE DEFINED AND ILLUSTRATED. By EDMUND SHARPE, M.A., Architect. London ; George Bell, 186, Fleet Street.

SEVERAL peculiar features distinguish Mr. Sharpe's interesting work from the many volumes illustrative of the progress of English Ecclesiastical Architecture, which have been published within the last few years. The most important of these peculiarities is, that Mr. Sharpe brings forward a new system of classification for our mediæval buildings ; and expressing the conviction that it is impossible to divide them correctly into distinct styles or orders, he proposes a division into seven "periods,"—namely, Saxon, Norman, Transition, Lancet, Geometrical, Curvilinear, and Rectilinear.

The author's extensive and careful study of mediæval architecture has been so fully evinced by his works previously published, that any proposition of this kind, coming from him, will be received with attention, and obtain the fullest consideration ; it will be only with reluctance and hesitation that we may differ from his conclusions.

We cannot, however, abstain from offering the remark, that the practical difference between a division into styles and into "periods," as understood by Mr. Sharpe, seems to be but very slight. Mr. Sharpe, although he says that a division into periods must be in great measure arbitrary, has not contented himself with the mere arbitrary assumption of a certain term of years for each period, but has divided the existing examples into groups, each characterised by certain peculiar features. Whether these groups are termed periods or styles seems immaterial.

A much more important question, however, presents itself,—whether these "periods" are judiciously devised and defined, and likely to be found useful in practice.

It will be seen that this classification of architectural monuments only differs (except as to names) from that of Rickman, in the addition of two new divisions,—viz. Transition, lasting from 1145 to 1190, and Geometrical, from 1245 to 1315. The former of these, although not ranked by Rickman as a distinct style, is almost recognised as such in his descriptions of churches, and as it undoubtedly possesses a system of mouldings and of ornament as well as of construction and leading forms peculiar to itself, many will probably be disposed to admit the propriety of making it a separate style. If it be difficult to frame the description of the style in a manner quite satisfactory in a scientific point of view, at any rate the use of such a division will be found very convenient in practice. With regard to Mr. Sharpe's other new period, the Geometrical, greater doubt will probably be felt. Mr. Sharpe's researches into the origin and progress of tracery have naturally led to his attaching very great importance to this feature, and his definitions of the three later periods are taken from it. Upon Mr. Sharpe's view of the question,—namely, that a *correct* division

into styles is impossible, it is very reasonable that so marked a feature as tracery should be selected as the criterion of style. We doubt, however, whether it will be found convenient in practice to adopt any arbitrarily chosen criterion; the chief use of these divisions is to enable an observer to convey to others in a succinct form of words a correct idea of the character of those buildings which he may examine; and any system is faulty which groups together buildings dissimilar in many and important points, and really alike only in the one point which has been assumed as the criterion of style. Tried by this test, we think Mr. Sharpe's Geometrical period may be found open to objection; on turning to the list of principal buildings of the Geometrical period, it will be found that it includes the chapter-house of Salisbury and the lady-chapel of Lincoln, the chapter-house of Wells and the nave of York. Certainly, any one who had formed his idea of the style from the two former buildings, and therefore expected to find similar edifices in the two latter, would be much deceived. In the former there is a marked individuality and distinctness of parts; in the latter a strong tendency to their fusion. This is shown in the piers, where a true compound-pier is substituted for the Early-English cluster of shafts, in the arrangement of the triforium, which, in the case of Lincoln, is an independent member of the building, and in that of York is scarcely more than a prolongation of the clerestory-window, and even in the tracery itself, where a number of small divisions is substituted for the great well-marked circles which are so conspicuous in the chapter-house of Salisbury. The same tendency is shown in the mouldings. In the ornamentation, natural foliage in the latter takes the place of the conventional foliage of the former. It cannot be reasonable or practically useful to place under one head buildings constructed on such very different principles. Mr. Sharpe has himself shown that he was aware of the incongruity of the buildings he proposed to group together; since in his description of the style, it will be seen that he repeatedly admits a distinction between the early and the late examples; as when he says—

"The piers have occasionally, in the earlier examples, detached shafts, but they more usually consist of a solid mass of engaged shafts, &c."

"The triforium in the earlier examples commonly contains a pair of double arches," "in the later examples it becomes greatly reduced in size and prominence, and is made entirely subordinate to the clerestory, &c." Thus, in reality, dividing "his period" into two parts.

We are inclined to believe that in practice it will be found, that the three usually received divisions of pointed architecture, with the addition of the term, Early, Middle, or Late, to each style, as may be required, will satisfy all the exigencies of the observer, and rarely fail to convey to the reader a tolerably exact idea of the character of the building treated of.

Mr. Sharpe's nomenclature seems for the most part better than those which have been hitherto proposed, but it will probably be found difficult to supersede by any other that of Rickman, the employment of which has now become so general. It must, however, be admitted, that some of Rickman's terms are occasionally awkward in use; as, for instance, when there is occasion to speak of a late Early English, or a plain Decorated building. Rectilinear seems to be an improvement on Perpendicular. The least satisfactory of Mr. Sharpe's terms is, perhaps, "Lancet," as being founded more on an accidental peculiarity than on anything essential to the style.

All Mr. Sharpe's examples are taken from cathedral churches, and a corresponding portion of the structure is in every instance selected for illustration. In the first point he has in one respect judged wisely; our cathedral and collegiate churches no doubt served as models of style to the builders of our lesser ecclesiastical edifices, and no expenditure either of thought or of labour was grudged in developing their styles into their utmost perfection and beauty. It is, however, perhaps, in consequence of this limitation that several of Mr. Sharpe's examples appear somewhat inappropriately chosen for this purpose. The very peculiar example of "Curvilinear" from the choir of Ely, does not afford a characteristic specimen of the style. The large triforium, the great use of shafts, and the large corbels supporting the vaulting shafts, are all instances of direct imitation of the Early-English presbytery, and of deviation from the usual arrangements of the style. The example given of the Rectilinear period, the nave of Winchester, is likewise one more peculiar than typical, the design being not only modified by the preservation and encrustation of the Norman piers, but also bearing in a marked manner the stamp of the peculiarities of style of the architect.

The plates are very beautifully and effectively engraved, and the illustrations in general appear to have been most carefully and accurately drawn; the whole work is well calculated to bring clearly before the student the characteristic peculiarities of the several styles or "periods" of medieval architecture in England; it must form a valuable addition to Archaeological Literature, highly acceptable to many of our readers, who are already so largely indebted to the tasteful researches of Mr. Sharpe for the elucidation of our architectural antiquities.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE KILKENNY ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Vol. I., Parts I. and II. Printed for the Society. Dublin, 1851. 8vo.

THE success by which the energetic proceedings of this body of antiquaries has been rewarded, claims our cordial congratulations. We have briefly noticed from time to time the valuable communications which it has called forth in the sister kingdom since the first impulse given, three years since, by the Rev. T. Graves. The second portion, lately distributed to the members, comprises Memoirs received in 1850, including Notices of Cromleacs and Primeval Monuments, by Mr. Graves and Mr. Byrne; Mr. Windele's Illustrations of Ogham Inscriptions; collections on "Folk-lore" and popular traditions, with several curious papers on Local history and Medieval objects; on way-side crosses; Bannow, the Irish Herculaneum, buried in drifted sand; the ancient stained glass and sepulchral memorials of Kilkenny Cathedral; a memoir by Dr. O'Donovan on the Tribes and Territories of Ossory; with other subjects to which we invite attention, as an interesting contribution to Irish Archaeology.

Enamelled Crosier of the Bishop of Laon.

In the Collection of H. Magniac, Esq.

Date, Twelfth Century.

THE DECORATIVE ARTS OF THE MIDDLE AGES, ECCLESIASTICAL AND CIVIL. By HENRY SHAW, F.S.A. London: Pickering. Imperial 8vo. 1851.

THERE are many influential causes which, in recent times, — more especially during the past memorable year, have tended to encourage a progressive appreciation of those varied and tasteful productions, which the work before us is destined to illustrate. In a former volume of the *Journal*,[1] the attention of archaeological enquirers was invited to the series, by which Mr. Shaw, with the reproductive power of his skilful pencil, had placed before them the "Dresses and Decorations" of bygone times, in all their rich variety. It seemed well devised, by that selection of instructive examples, to lead the admirers of middle-age works to discern with precision the features of various periods; since a correct knowledge of costume, however trivial it may sometimes appear, must be regarded almost as the key to the chronology of all medieval art;—with the aid, however, so essential to the enquiry, of that distinctive character in the progressive forms of ornament, and their peculiar development in different countries, which stamps the productions of that period.

It is foreign to the present purpose to enter upon the consideration, whether too large a share of popular esteem may have been bestowed of late upon medieval, to the exclusion of classical, art: or to weigh the measure of congeniality with our National dispositions, which may have influenced the predilections of present times. Another, perhaps a more material subject of enquiry, in the actual taste for medieval imitations, must also be here deferred; namely, the legitimate principle, which should regulate these reproductions, and the application of obsolete models, to the requirements of our own age. Whilst, for the present, it may suffice to regard all these works of taste and genius, whether for sacred or domestic uses, as an essential part of the history of social development, as eminently characteristic of the peculiar feelings, of the manners, the daily life of times long past, the appearance of works, such as that under consideration, must be hailed with grateful satisfaction. For, so long as no facilities for study and comparison are afforded in this country, through any National collection of decorative art, it is only by such faithful reproductions of characteristic examples, as those for which we

[1] Archaeological Journal, vol. i., p. 284.

are indebted to Mr. Shaw, that we can approach to that precision and truth in our researches, which gives them their greatest charm. To the artist and the manufacturer, the practical advantages accruing from the possession of such a chosen assemblage of models and authorities, must render this volume of essential utility. Whilst popular favour lends strong encouragement to the reproduction of medieval forms, in the elegant appliances of life, it is to be desired that such reproductions should be accurate in detail, and not less free from anomaly or anachronisms, than from the constraint of mere servile imitation.

The attractive work under consideration presents, in small compass, specimens of those beautiful decorative processes which are admired so much in works of the middle ages. Of these ingenious arts some were almost forgotten in England until recent times, and the profuse importation of numerous masterpieces of ancient skill, owing to the late dispersion of some of the finest continental collections. In this volume we find displayed the brilliant effects produced by enamel, encrusted, translucid and painted; the elaborate beauty of metal-work, and sculpture in wood;—of stained glass, of embroideries, and fictile ware. It deserves especial mention that with very few exceptions, these examples have been selected from private collections in our own country; and that, by the kindness of their possessors, the originals are in many instances already known to the Members of the Institute, having been exhibited at their meetings. Amongst these may be named, the exquisite enamelled Triptych of the twelfth century, in the possession of Lord Shrewsbury, with other costly objects, which enriched our museum at the Oxford Meeting;—the rich hangings of raised velvet on a gold ground, belonging to St. Mary's Church, Oxford, displayed on the same occasion;—the staff of the *Rector chori*;—the silver reliquary from Basle, in form of a human foot; and other objects from Mr. Magniac's rich museum, shown at various times at the Society's meetings in London. Of the choral staff, a curious account by the Rev. Dr. Rock will be found in this *Journal*.—(See p. 203.)—Of another highly curious specimen in Mr. Magniac's museum, the crosier found in a tomb of a Bishop of Laon, we are enabled to place before our readers the annexed representation. It was deposited with the remains of Barthelémy de Vir, who died in 1181. The enamelled tints which enrich the foliated ornament of the volute are of singular beauty. We regret that the dimensions of Mr. Shaw's beautiful woodcuts do not permit of our giving here that which represents the remarkable silver thurible exhibited by Mr. Wells at the March meeting of the Institute (see p. 195, *ante*.) There can be little doubt that this is the work of an English artificer, and it has an additional interest from the circumstance of its preservation, and its discovery during the recent drainage of Whittlesea Mere. Another example of the skill of native metal-workers, in old time, is well shown in the plate representing the iron *clausura* of the tomb of Eleanor, consort of Edward I. This fine screen was fabricated about 1293 by Thomas de Leghtone, a Bedfordshire smith, and having been taken down some years since, it was sold as old metal, but repurchased by the Chapter, on remonstrance being made. It is through the praiseworthy exertions of the Rev. Dr. Buckland that this work has been now restored to its original position.

There are many other subjects of interest to which we might take occasion to advert, in noticing Mr. Shaw's publication. One of the most

TRANSLUCID ENAMEL OF THE FOURTEENTH CENTURY.

A Morse, Ornamented with Incrusted and Translucid Enamel,

In the Collection of Hollingworth Magniac, Esq.

Date, Early Fourteenth Century.

beautiful plates is that which pourtrays a *morse*, a kind of brooch, enriched with translucid enamel; the best specimen probably of that progressive step in the art, existing in our country. This is from Mr. Magniac's collection, as is also another ornament of the same kind, and decorated with a central roundel of the like enamel; both these brooches are of the fourteenth century. Of the latter Mr. Shaw has kindly enabled us to give the annexed illustration; as also the curious little "pricket" candlestick, here shown, one of a set of six, which for convenience of carriage were contrived to fit one within another. It is, moreover, remarkable as an early instance of the use of a lozenge-shaped heraldic escutcheon, of which another example, with the bearings of Dreux and Clermont, was shown by Mr. Hailstone at the April meeting of our society, in the present year.—(See p. 207, *ante*.)

Enamelled Pricket, thirteenth century.

F the beautiful initial letters, introduced with such happy effect by Mr. Shaw in his various publications, he has kindly supplied specimens to accompany this notice. These illustrations of decorative palæography are not the least interesting feature of his labours.

It must be observed, in conclusion, that the greater part of the plates are elaborately coloured; and, beautiful as is the effect of these illustrations in the ordinary copies of the work, their brilliancy and perfection is necessarily far greater in the more highly finished copies, of which a few have been provided of a larger size. In the introductory text will be found an interesting summary of the History of those decorative processes which are so tastefully exemplified in this attractive volume.