

## Notices of Archaeological Publications.

THE PURSUIVANT OF ARMS ; or Heraldry founded upon Facts. By  
J. R. PLANCHE, F.S.A. WRIGHT.

WE welcome this volume as one among many signs of an extending conviction of the practical utility of an acquaintance with early heraldry. It is an attempt to separate the chaff from the wheat, and to arrive at a knowledge of the usage of armorials from facts only ; discarding not only the fancies and puerile conceits of Gerard Legh, and those of the same school both in past and present times, but also such as are found in the Book of St. Albans and the less imaginative treatises of Upton and De Bado Aureo. An excellent design is this, and well worthy of being fully carried into execution. Little has hitherto been done for the subject after this fashion. The thin quarto of Mr. Montague, published in 1840, was a work of promise and utility, and perhaps the best introduction to the heraldry of mediæval times, but owing to its price it has not become known nearly so extensively as it deserves. The present is also a small volume. It is a slender octavo, widely printed, and illustrated with numerous appropriate cuts in the text ; and therefore it is unnecessary to say that it still leaves much to be desired. Judging from the work itself, we infer the investigation of the subject had not engaged the author's attention till a comparatively recent period ; yet some of his previous publications show no small amount of reading in quarters calculated to prepare him for the task. It has probably grown out of a paper, published in the Winchester volume of the British Archaeological Association, on early armorial bearings, in which he endeavoured to show the ordinaries were derived from pieces of metal or other substances used to strengthen or ornament the actual shield of war. This view of the matter he reproduces with much ingenuity, and a few additional examples, and he extends it to some of the subordinaries, but we think the ground too narrow for his superstructure ; yet, if the argument do not altogether carry conviction, it certainly has in several instances such an air of probability as entitles it to a creditable place among the various attempts that have been made to account for the early use of these peculiar forms.

For his facts, the author has drawn largely on the rich stores contained in the Rolls of Arms published by the late Sir Harris Nicolas, particularly that which is designated in this volume "Glover's Roll," being the one better known as the Roll of Arms, temp. Henry III., and compiled, as Nicolas has shown good reason to believe, between 1240 and 1245. It is well to notice this, as by some inadvertence Mr. Planché has omitted to mention that it has been published, and the reader might suppose it to exist only in manuscript, and consequently not to be readily accessible : an omission the more remarkable, as the publication of the others is mentioned. Seals and sculptures have also furnished, if not their quota, yet a considerable number of important facts. We do not suppose the former have been underrated, but presume the examples were found too scattered to be easily available.

Having discussed the ordinaries and subordinaries, the author proceeds to treat of the natural and artificial objects used as charges, and points out an allusive significance in many instances where the majority of readers would have been wholly unprepared to expect it ; the allusion being, in almost every case, to the surname of the bearer. If such charges were chosen for the play upon the names, the use of the surnames must of course

have preceded the coats; and this the author considers to have been the fact, without however meaning to contend that in no instance was a name derived from the arms. The various examples of these "armes parlantes" which are noticed by the author are, no doubt, as he gives us to understand, a very small portion of what might be collected. Fresh instances will be continually occurring to the heraldic student as his acquaintance with the history, manners, and language of those times increases. It is remarkable that charges of this kind should be so full of meaning, while none can be satisfactorily attributed to the generality of the ordinaries and subordinaries; a difference between the two classes of charges which somewhat countenances the author's supposition as to the origin of the latter. When on the subject of birds he takes occasion to suggest (as indeed Spelman had done in his *Aspilogia*) that the well-known coat invented for Edward the Confessor, viz., azure, a cross patonce between four, or more commonly five, martlets or, was derived from one of that king's coins, which had on it a cross between four birds; but which birds, like those in the early example of this coat in Westminster Abbey, have beaks and feet, and Mr. Planche takes them to have been meant for doves. He is probably right; for Froissart, when relating the expedition of Richard II. into Ireland, as he heard it from an English esquire, mentions the arms and banner of the Confessor, and calls the birds doves. The passage is not remarkable for accuracy, yet familiar as that chronicler was with martlets, he is not likely to have called them doves without some reason. Like most heraldic writers, the author assumes the mullet to be a spur rowel. If so, it occurs much earlier than any well authenticated instance of a rowelled spur that we can call to mind.

Marks of cadency are next investigated. Here the author seems to have attached more importance to the statements contained in the treatises of De Bado Aureo and Upton, and the Book of St. Albans than they deserve, and has been a little perplexed to reconcile them with his facts. The discrepancy is remarkable, and not easily accounted for, unless those writers are to be understood as recommending a practice which never prevailed. We should like to have seen Mr. Planche's opinion as to the origin of the label. We presume that it must have occupied his attention, and that no satisfactory result was obtained. It is in vain, as he found, to distinguish examples of it by the number of their points or pendants till after the middle of the 14th century. He observes that in none of the fifteen instances in Glover's Roll is any mention made of the number of points; nor is there, he might have added, in the much larger number of examples that are to be found in the valuable Roll temp. Edward II., published by Sir H. Nicolas. We are rather surprised the author has not noticed the manner in which the arms of the seven sons of Thomas Earl of Warwick, who died in 1396, were differenced in the windows of St. Mary's Church, Warwick, as six of the modern marks of cadency occurred there, though not applied in the same order in which they are now used. It is evident there was no settled usage on the subject; nor is it practicable perhaps, however desirable, to distinguish the cases of mere cadets from those in which younger sons by the acquisition of large estates became the founders of new houses: for in some instances the latter were content with such slight variations in the paternal coat as mere cadets also bore.

Marks of illegitimacy are then considered, and various examples given to show the absence of any uniform practice. When mentioning the coat first borne by John of Beaufort, son of John of Ghent by Katherine Swinford, Mr. Planche has inadvertently misdescribed it as per pale argent

and azure, on a bend gules the arms of his father, viz., the three lions of England with a label of three points azure, each charged with as many fleurs-de-lis or. The arms on the bend were not those of John of Ghent. He bore France and England quarterly with a label ermine both before and after he was Duke of Lancaster. They were the coat of the previous Earls and Duke of Lancaster, whose heiress John of Ghent had married; and they may have been regarded as those of the earldom and duchy. The description of the example, taken from Mr. Montague's book, of a mode of distinguishing the arms of a base son of a noble lady, gives us, we think, the name of an article of ladies' attire, to the sideless peculiarity of which Mr. Planche, in his useful little book on costume, was, perhaps, the first to call attention, and to which, when speaking of flanches in the present work, he adverts, and says the name of it has not yet been ascertained. We refer to the garment so frequently found on effigies and in paintings of ladies of rank in the 14th and 15th centuries, giving their bodies the appearance of a shield with flanches. This, in the extract that Mr. Montague furnishes from a MS. in the Cotton Collection, is called a *surcote*; which we may take to have been its name at that time, whatever may have been its designation when first introduced.

After treating of blazon the author proceeds to the subject of marshalling. We hoped to have his opinion as to the origin of quartering, but on this he is silent. He considers the paternal arms of Eleanor of Castile, which are sculptured on her tomb, the earliest example of two coats regularly quartered on one shield yet discovered in England. He adds that "the arms of England and Ponthieu are also similarly quartered on the same monument, and also on the crosses erected to her memory." We apprehend this is a mistake, both as regards the monument and the crosses. Impaling simply and by dimidiation, as well as quartering, he refers to the reign of Edward I. His description of dimidiation is not quite correct. This term, he says, signifies the division of one or both coats by a perpendicular line, so as to give the appearance of one being covered by the other, the right or dexter side being appropriated to the husband, and the left or sinister to the wife. This confounds two different modes of associating the arms of husband and wife. When one coat appears to cover the other, the whole of one coat is seen, and part of the other; instances of which are occasionally found, though chiefly in foreign heraldry. Dimidiation properly signifies the impalement of one-half of each coat, but there was often a little accommodation in order that the distinctive characters of neither coat might be wholly destroyed. This practice was not confined to the arms of husband and wife. Examples are met with of other coats so treated, and to it are to be attributed the extraordinary arms of some of the sea-ports, where we see monsters half lions and half ships. Mr. Planche ascribes to it the double-headed eagle of the German empire. The origin of that bearing, and the time of its introduction, have been discussed by German and French writers with great diversity of opinion. It has been supposed however that it may have arisen from some two eagles having been made into one, though the writers are not well agreed as to what two eagles they were, or on what occasion or about what period this took place. According to Heineccius, examples occurred in the eastern empire before any trustworthy instance appears in the western. If Mr. Planche have met with anything to warrant his statement of the double-headed eagle having been produced by dimidiation, as a matter of fact, it would have been an acceptable piece of evidence on what has been a very speculative point.

A few words follow on crests and supporters, and lastly we have twelve pages on badges and the like.

We have thus glanced at the contents of this volume. It is undoubtedly a useful introduction to the study of heraldic antiquities, and will render essential service to the genealogist and local historian in acquiring a critical knowledge of an important, and indeed indispensable, branch of their studies. The modern herald will find it hardly less useful in removing much of the obscurity that has been thrown over the subject of his pursuit. It is neither a system nor a manual of heraldry, but we will not find fault with the author for not performing what he does not profess to have undertaken. And if we have adverted in passing to a few particulars which we think require reconsideration, we have done so under a conviction that this is not merely a book for the day, but is destined to appear again in an improved and more complete form.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

THE unavoidable omission of the "Architectural History of Lincoln Minster," in the volume published by the Institute, has been a cause of frequent regret, more especially to those who listened to the admirable discourse delivered by Professor Willis on the occasion of our meeting in Lincoln. They will, however, be gratified to learn that Mr. Willson, long held in honourable estimation through the researches which he has so successfully devoted to architectural antiquities, especially of the interesting city in which he resides, and of its incomparable cathedral, has united with his son, Mr. T. Willson, in a work (now in readiness for publication, by *subscription*) entitled, "Illustrations of the Choir of Lincoln Minster." The plates will be produced by the skilful pencil of the latter, and the accompanying historical account will comprise the results of many years' investigations, under advantages which few have enjoyed. We hope that it may meet with such ample encouragement as to draw forth, in a more complete manner, that *desideratum* in our Cathedral Histories which none are better qualified than Mr. Willson to supply.

Mr. FRANKLIN HUDSON, of Braunston, announces for publication (by subscription) fac-similes of the brasses of Northamptonshire, consisting of about eighty plates, in tinted lithography. The work will form a quarto volume, and will comprise floriated crosses as well as effigies, with descriptive letter-press. Scarcely any county presents so large and varied a series of incised sepulchral memorials. Subscribers' names may be sent to the author, 26, Haymarket, London.

Mr. AKERMAN, Sec. S.A., author of the "Archæological Index," and of numerous works on numismatics known to many of our readers, has in preparation a series of examples of a period most interesting to the archaeologist, and hitherto most deficient in scientific classification. The publication is entitled, "Remains of Pagan Saxondom, principally from Tumuli in England." It will be produced (by subscription) as soon as the author may receive sufficient encouragement. Subscribers' names are received by Mr. J. Russell Smith, 36, Soho Square.

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FAIRFORD GRAVES. A Record of Researches in an Anglo-Saxon Burial-place in Gloucestershire. By WILLIAM MICHAEL WYLIE, B.A., F.S.A. Oxford: J. H. Parker, 4to. Thirteen lithographic plates.

THE remarkable discoveries related in this volume may be partially known already to many readers of the Journal. The detailed record, for which we are indebted to Mr. Wylie, fully realises the anticipation of the singular interest of his researches which have been adverted to from time to time in various publications of the day. The recent labours of several able antiquaries have been successfully addressed to the elucidation of a most difficult, and at the same time very interesting, chapter of National Archaeology; whilst the increasing facilities for comparison of the scattered vestiges of the Teutonic races in these islands, and in other lands, have caused the subject, on which Mr. Wylie's exertions have thrown so important a light, to be deservedly regarded with greater interest. The tumular burial-places in Kent have repeatedly afforded a harvest of curious facts relating to this enquiry; and much valuable information has been collected in the remote wilds of Derbyshire by the indefatigable researches of Mr. Bateman. In the volume before us, however, a locality hitherto almost untouched has contributed a mass of evidence, surpassing in its varied interest that produced in any publication since the appearance of the "Nenia."

It is only by such a circumstantial record, copiously illustrated, that any satisfactory conclusions can be established as regards the obscure period subsequent to that of the occupation of these islands by the Romans; or that we may hope at length to institute a scientific comparison of such relics as our own country affords, with those of similar character throughout Europe. We rejoice, therefore, to learn that Mr. Neville contemplates the production of a complete Monograph illustrative of his recent discoveries in another remarkable Anglo-Saxon Necropolis, at Little Wilbraham, the last of his achievements in the cause of Archaeological science.

The volume before us might form the theme of a lengthened notice. We must, however, on the present occasion, be content to commend it cordially to the attention of our readers. Fairford, heretofore a name familiar to the antiquary through that remarkable display of painted glass preserved in its church, has now assumed a most honourable position in the annals of Archaeology, as the depository of an almost unequalled assemblage of curious ornaments, weapons, objects of domestic use, and personal appliances of various kinds, bearing the peculiar impress of the period of the Anglo-Saxon settlement in Britain. Amongst these we must specially call attention to the curious little brass-bound vessel of wood, resembling in character that which was brought under the notice of the Institute by Mr. Deck, but of smaller dimensions; as also to the remains of others of larger size.<sup>1</sup> Mr. Wylie, we may observe, considers the specimen found at Fairford to be a drinking-cup; at one time, indeed, he had entertained the same notion which had suggested itself to Mr. Deck in regard to the specimen found in Cambridgeshire, namely that it had served as a kind of headress.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Fairford Graves, plates 8 and 12.

<sup>2</sup> Archaeol. Journal, vol. viii. p. 172.



Mr. Roach Smith, in his "Collectanea Antiqua," has designated these curious objects as buckets; and Mr. Wright, in his recent History of the Early Inhabitants of Britain, suggests with much probability that they served at the deep potations in which the Anglo-Saxons indulged. The larger specimens, he observes, may be the "wondrous vats," such as are mentioned in "Beowulf," from which the cup-bearers dispensed the wine.<sup>3</sup> Our readers will not fail to notice, amongst the personal ornaments disinterred at Fairford, the superb specimens of fibulæ, of the type of which a remarkable illustration is given in this volume of the Journal (see page 179, *ante*), the place of discovery in that instance being Warwickshire, not very remote from the scene of Mr. Wylie's labours. The examples of the *scyphate* type of brooch are perhaps even more interesting and strikingly varied. This form is familiar to our readers through the fine examples exhibited by Mr. Neville, and that preserved in the Museum of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, represented in a former volume.<sup>4</sup>

How much were it to be desired that such an instructive assemblage of examples as has been rescued from the "Fairford graves," by the zeal and intelligence of Mr. Wylie, could be deposited in a National Collection, and afford the means of public instruction, so much to be desired. The subject of these discoveries, as the author truly remarks, "is not merely interesting to us alone as a national one, but intimately concerns all who claim to belong to the great and noble Teutonic family."

Livonia has recently contributed the spoils of her ancient tombs to enrich our National Museum.<sup>5</sup> Whilst the foreign archaeologist, however, who may visit our shores will contemplate with high gratification that unique display of relics from the shores of the Baltic, and will doubtless desire to compare with them the vestiges of the same period and class—the tangible evidences relating to Teutonic settlements in Britain—he will in vain seek for that well-classified series at the British Museum, which would prove so valuable an auxiliary both to the historian and the antiquary.

THE MONUMENTAL EFFIGIES AND TOMBS IN ELFORD CHURCH, STAFFORDSHIRE, with a Memoir and Pedigree of the Lords of Elford. By EDWARD RICHARDSON, Sculptor. London: G. Bell, fol. 1852. Thirteen plates etched by the author.

It were needless, in the present state of antiquarian investigation, to insist upon the value of sepulchral portraiture, whether produced by the sculptor's or the engraver's art. The interest with which these memorials are regarded, even by persons wholly uninitiated in the *arcana* of costume and heraldry, or other points of curious inquiry connected with monumental antiquities, is doubtless to be attributed to their authentic originality, to the stirring thoughts which they tend to inspire, as contemporaneous portraiture of the worthies of olden time. We recognise an essential truthfulness of character, so to speak, not aided, it may be in many instances, by the highest powers of art, a truth of expression, however, sustained with as much perfection as the limited skill of the period

<sup>3</sup> The Celt, the Roman, and the Saxon, p. 429.

<sup>4</sup> Archæol. Journal, vol. vii. p. 71.

<sup>5</sup> The extensive collection of ornaments, weapons, &c., described and figured in

the work entitled "Die Gräber der Liven," by Professor Bahr (Dresden, 1850) has lately been purchased by the trustees of the British Museum.

might permit. In regard to these memorials, it may be said as truly as of vestiges of more important character—"Quis est, quem non moveat *certissimis* monumentis testata, consignataque antiquitas?"<sup>1</sup>

England presents, possibly, as complete and varied a series of Mediæval Monuments, as may be found in any country. The character of art, progressively shown in these productions, during times when the examples of painting are to be sought alone in illuminated MSS., has been set forth most fully and attractively, in ably-illustrated works such as those produced by Stothard and Blore, by Hollis, also, and Waller. For the most part, it is in vain that we seek on the continent for that conscientious representation of sepulchral effigies, so essential in publications of this nature. Some exceptions might indeed be cited, and above all the admirable plates of De Hefner's "*Trachten*."<sup>2</sup>

The author of the work before us is already known, not only by his abilities as a sculptor, but by his contribution to the "*History of Monumental Antiquities*,"—the illustrations of the tombs, restored by his hands, in the Temple church.<sup>3</sup> Mr. Richardson has now produced a Monograph, representing a series of effigies, of a much later period, but less known to antiquaries, of great interest also as illustrations of costume, and as elaborate productions of the sculptor's art in the fifteenth century. The tombs at Elford, previously known only through the feeble engravings given in Shaw's "*History of Staffordshire*," (vol. i., p. 384,) comprise some of the finest examples of their age. Such are the effigies of Sir Thomas de Arderne, one of the heroes of Poitiers, and his wife, the heiress of Clifton Campville: he died about 1400. Next in order is the figure of Sir John, son of Thomas Stanley, who espoused the granddaughter of Sir Thomas, heiress of Elford and the Arderne estates. Sir John founded a chantry there in 1474, as inscribed upon the tomb, whereon rests an effigy, presenting the characteristic features of the earliest part of that century, an anachronism which we cannot pretend to explain. The head-piece of this fine example of military costume is, as far as we are aware, unique in form; and were not the sculptor's scrupulous attention to details well known, we should have suspected this very peculiar contour *might* be the result of that well-intentioned fashion of "*restoration*," which leaves the student of mediæval art so deplorably at a loss to discriminate between what is original, and what is conjectural, between the touches of the chisel in the fifteenth, and the scraper of the nineteenth century! We are, moreover, informed that the basinet in question was "*much worn in transverse channels, as though produced by the constant dripping of water*." We are next brought to the effigy of a child, of the same distinguished race, as appears by a little scutcheon of the Stanley arms, with this touching inscription—*Ubi dolor ibi digitus*. The right hand is raised to the side of the face, and in the left there is a ball, supposed traditionally to have caused premature death. Elford presents also an example of a curious but ungraceful fashion in monumental memorials, namely, an effigy, represented as if the upper and the lower portion of the coffin lid were removed, so that the head and arms are seen,

<sup>1</sup> Cicero, de Divinatione, lib. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Costume du Moyen Âge, d'après des Monumens contemporains. Par J. de Hefner, Manheim, 4to. This valuable

work, published in numbers, was noticed in a former volume. *Archæol. Journal*, vol. ii. p. 212. It is now near completion.

<sup>3</sup> Noticed, *Journal*, vol. ii. p. 416.

and the feet below, the central part of the tomb being closed over. This tomb, it is supposed, commemorated William Staunton, who married one of the coheirresses of John Stanley of Elford, sister of the boy, who was killed in infancy. The date of this "semi-effigial" tomb is about 1500; last in this interesting series, we are presented with the figures of Sir William Smythe (*circa* 1526) and his two wives, the second recumbent at his right hand, and wearing a coronet over her flowing hair. She was a daughter of John Neville, Marquis of Montacute, and her sister was the spouse of the gallant Brandon. Although inferior in artistic perfection to memorials of earlier date, these figures, and the table tomb whereon they repose, formed of alabaster quarried, probably, in the adjacent county of Derbyshire, present one of the richest examples known, in the elaborate execution of the tabernacle work and other decorative accessories.

The student of mediæval costume will find, in the "Elford Tombs," many interesting and instructive details, well deserving of his notice. These memorials will, no doubt, now present a more comely and attractive aspect to the visitor, to whom the undeniable evidence which they had previously afforded in their less seemly condition, may be a matter of minor consideration. If our acknowledgment is due to the talented sculptor for the contribution to the History of Mediæval Art, which the publication before us supplies, still more should we esteem the record, which he has very properly preserved, of the actual condition in which these monuments were found, when committed to his hands. We respect the feelings of pious veneration which cling to the memories of bygone generations; and we cordially sympathise with the impulse which would cause a tender solicitude for the conservation of all ancestral memorials. At the same time, we cannot refrain from an expression of regret, at the increasing taste for "restoration" of mediæval monuments; of regret, also, that the skill of talented artists should, through such well-intentioned esteem for that which is seemly, in preference to that which is truthful, be so fatally misapplied. Some amends for the injury might, indeed, be found, if, as Mr. Richardson informs us was practised in the present instance, casts were carefully taken previously to the destruction of that authentic originality, which constitutes the essential value and interest of sepulchral sculptures; provided, moreover, that some national depository existed, where the undeniable evidence which such casts would afford might be preserved, and become *publici juris*. It is high time that the injuries caused through the mistaken plea of "restoration" should cease, and our veneration for the monuments of past generations be shown, in a more intelligent and truly conservative appreciation of their value.

SPECIMENS OF TILE PAVEMENTS, DRAWN FROM EXISTING AUTHORITIES. By HENRY SHAW, F.S.A. London: Pickering. 4to. Nos. I. and II.

At the meeting of the Institute in Bristol, last year, considerable interest was occasioned amongst those who take an interest in such decorations, by the inspection of a pavement of armorial and decorative tiles, of the close of the fifteenth century, existing in an ancient dwelling in Redcliffe street, supposed to have been the residence of William Canynge. This pavement exists in its original arrangement, a feature of rare occurrence in the



examples of such ancient decorations ; and few remains of this kind are to be found in domestic buildings of the fifteenth century, although commonly to be noticed in ecclesiastical structures. Many members of the Society availed themselves of the obliging permission of Mr. Jefferies, now residing in Canynges' house, to examine this pavement. It occurred, in consequence, to Mr. Shaw that a faithful reproduction of the design of the pavement in Bristol, and of other examples both of general arrangement and of any remarkable designs, would not only be acceptable to the antiquary, but might prove available for practical purposes as suggestive of improvements in the actual use of such pavements, more especially as regards the mode in which the varied patterns may be most effectively disposed.

Mr. Shaw has accordingly commenced this new undertaking, and the two numbers which have appeared display that beauty of execution, and accurate reproduction of details, which characterise his beautiful publications. The work is printed in colours, and the effect is admirable. The first number is devoted to the pavement first mentioned, including a representation of the entire floor, with separate patterns on a larger scale. The second number contains several portions of the remarkable pavements formerly at Jervaulx Abbey, now destroyed. They are of the thirteenth century. Drawings had been preserved, taken by direction of the Marquis of Aylesbury ; and of these, some readers may remember, copies of the full size were exhibited, by the kindness of the Rev. John Ward, in the hall of the County Courts, at the Winchester Meeting. Examples are also given from Worcester Cathedral, Oxford, and Great Malvern. Hitherto, no illustrations of the kind have been executed with such perfection, and we hope that Mr. Shaw's labours will receive the liberal encouragement which they deserve.

In adverting to this new work by Mr. Shaw, we must also invite attention to his exquisite series of Historical Portraits, coloured with the most elaborate care, and presenting perfect fac-similes of the drawings which on several occasions have been so much admired at the meetings of the Institute. They may be purchased singly. The portrait of Mary Queen of Scots, from the celebrated painting in the possession of the late P. Fraser Tytler, Esq., is that which will probably be most admired ; but the reproduction of Janet's equestrian portrait of François I., now in Mr. Magniac's collection, is a subject of singular interest. Mr. Shaw has directed appropriate frames to be prepared for these portraits, richly emblazoned with suitable devices. Five of the series have been completed, and may be seen on application to him at 37, Southampton-row.

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### Miscellaneous Notices.

THE interesting character of the Anglo-Saxon relics found at Stow Heath, in raising gravel, has encouraged the Committee of the West Suffolk Archaeological Institute to undertake excavations under proper direction ; and they have obtained permission from the proprietor to examine the portion of the Anglo-Saxon cemetery which remains undisturbed. It is proposed to carry out this investigation by aid of a small subscription amongst the members, and the aid of antiquaries in other parts of the

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TOUR IN SWEDEN. By SAMUEL LAING, Esq. 8vo. London, 1839.

LONG as the above-named volume has been before the public, it may not be altogether superfluous to direct attention to it, for the sake of noticing a portion of the contents which may prove interesting, more especially to the readers of the *Archaeological Journal*. The tour appears to have been undertaken neither for the mere purpose of employing time, which otherwise would have hung heavy on the author's hands, nor for the gratification of an idle curiosity. On the contrary, the general character of the work must be commended for the industry with which Mr. Laing has striven to inform himself of the actual condition of the country wherein he was travelling: and the reflections with which he sums up the results of his observations are frequently of a nature to excite very serious consideration, however the reader may or may not coincide with the writer's conclusions.

The particular passage now in view, as of antiquarian value, is the account of a visit to the island of Gothland, which lies off the eastern coast of the mainland of Sweden, in the northern arm of the Baltic sea. Wisby, the chief town of this island, was the commercial emporium of the north of Europe long before Christianity was introduced into that region, and 200 years before the institution of the Hanseatic League, A.D. 1241. The mercantile laws of Wisby "were regarded as the most perfect, and they were transferred to France by St. Louis, whose code of the Isle of Oleron was copied from the constitutions of Wisby; and these contain the principles of maritime, mercantile, and international law as now adopted in all civilised countries. Wisby had a population of 12,000 burgesses, besides labourers, tradesmen, women, and children, in the XIIIth century. The foreigners in the XIth century were so numerous, that each nation had its own church and house of assembly."

The following are extracts, occasionally condensed, from Mr. Laing's descriptions of the architectural vestiges still visible among the skeleton-like remains of the decayed town:—

"Ancient streets, well paved, cross each other in all directions; two or three bands, or stripes, of larger paving-stones run lengthwise through the streets. I have seen such paving about some cathedral in England." The wall, with 45 towers, "square, octagonal, and round, as they stood in the XIIIth century, and with very little demolition," is entire, mostly above 30 feet high. The place is reported to have contained 18 churches; ruins of twelve now exist. "Holy Ghost's Church," built A.D. 1046, "is a very curious small structure: it is an octagonal prism, about 100 feet high, and 52 feet in length within the walls, divided into two stories." In the lower "four massive octagonal pillars, about 14 feet high, support the vault, which is in twelve compartments." In the middle of this vault is a large octagonal opening, edged with "carved" stone. Two newel stairs in the thickness of the wall meet at the top in a wide entrance to the upper story. Here also four (round) pillars, over those below, support another vault partially fallen in. The choir is common (open?) to both churches. This

is a rectangle, about 32 feet long by 25 feet broad, but the interior of the east-end is semicircular. In each corner (of the east end? or of the chancel generally?) are three small vaulted cells or recesses, one above another, with stairs of communication. The main entrance and the windows are round-headed. Mr. Laing proposes a conjecture, whether this edifice may not originally have been a heathen temple? St. Laurence, also built A.D. 1046, is a cross church, wherein round and pointed arches are used indiscriminately. St. Drotten's was built A.D. 1086, "in the Saxon style"—that is, apparently, with round arches. St. Nicholas, erected A.D. 1097, is large, having long windows, "and all the arches, which are very beautiful, pointed. It is evident," continues our author, "that the different style of the arches does not denote a different age in these buildings; and these are older than any in Britain of a known date. They deserve the consideration of the English antiquary who takes an interest in the ecclesiastical architecture of the early ages. . . . In the front of St. Nicholas' Church, two ornamental roseworks, or circles, are shown, in the centres of which were two carbuncles, it was said, of which the light would be seen far off, and was of use in guiding mariners at sea. It is possible that some glittering spar may have been inserted in these circles, which are constructed of brick upon the stone front." Very many gravestones were observed, applied to uses of all kinds; "some with dates of the XVth. and XVIIth centuries, had evidently been much older tombstones, and the original inscription erased to make room for the later." "On many there appeared a sort of hieroglyphic, or runic character—a stroke, with other strokes crossing or meeting it in various shapes and angles, of which I could make nothing. It was not possible that a runic character, which it most resembled, could be in use in Wisby on tombstones of dates between 1500 and 1600. I applied to a young lawyer, a native of the place, whose acquaintance I had made, to solve me the puzzle; his solution was ingenious, and, I doubt not, correct. When writing was not an ordinary accomplishment among the most wealthy burgesses of Wisby or the Hans Towns, every merchant had his own particular mark or scratch, known to his customers or correspondents, as well as if it had been his signature in letters; and this mark was hereditary, and transmitted in his family, and was their countersign by which their wares were known, or their communications recognised, by all who dealt with or knew them; and this mark or hieroglyphic was inscribed on their tombstones to distinguish them, dead or alive, from others. This is the tradition of the place with regard to these marks." Pp. 302—312.

Although it is manifest that Mr. Laing is not very conversant with the subject of ancient architecture, the descriptive remarks above cited may well attract the attention of our archaeological readers. The entire remains, both ecclesiastic and civil, of the mouldering town of Wisby seem likely to repay the curiosity of an antiquarian traveller, if any such should be tempted to visit those hitherto unexplored regions. On the mainland of Sweden, indeed, our author expressly declares the churches generally to be the reverse of interesting; it may, however, be mentioned, upon other authority, that the churches of the ancient town of Lubeck, on the eastern side of the Baltic, are stated to be extremely deserving of inspection.

On taking leave of the "Tour in Sweden" it may be added, that Mr. Laing has subsequently (*viz.*, in 1844) published a more decidedly archaeological work—namely a translation of the Sagas of Snorro Storleson, under the

title of *The Heimskringla*, or *Chronicle of the Kings of Norway*, in three volumes, 8vo. These contain much relating to the manners and customs in early times, wherein a British antiquary must necessarily feel concerned ; for, though the history is professedly that of another people, occasionally it narrates or alludes to events, which occurred in the British islands ; and besides, from the known intimate connection, during a long period, of the Northmen with Britain, it may well be assumed that whatever illustrates the mode of life and the practices of the ancient Scandinavians may likewise afford some idea respecting those of our own ancestors : and a peculiarity of the Icelandic Sagas is, that they comprise biographies of conspicuous individuals, kings or others, rather than strictly national records.

We have been desirous to recall attention to the architectural monuments of the North, first noticed by Mr. Laing, in the hope that increased facilities of communication may encourage a more detailed investigation of those interesting remains. It is gratifying to learn that a distinguished member of the Institute, long known by his taste for architectural researches, Sir Charles Anderson, has devoted the past summer to a tour in Norway, and we hope that the results of his explorations, lately brought before the Lincolnshire Architectural Society, may at length call the notice of antiquaries to the singular character and remote antiquity of the curious wooden structures existing in Scandinavia.

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REMAINS OF PAGAN SAXONDOM, PRINCIPALLY FROM TUMULI IN ENGLAND. Described and Illustrated by JOHN YONGE AKERMAN, Sec. Soc. Ant. London : J. Russell Smith, 1852. 4to. Parts I. and II. (By subscription).

On a former occasion we invited the notice of Archaeologists to the announcement of a work which may justly claim their cordial encouragement. The period which it is specially destined to illustrate is one of considerable obscurity, although numerous materials exist in private collections sufficing to present a series of examples unequalled, probably, by any European museum. Mr. Akerman has undertaken the publication of the most remarkable relics of that important period, displayed with the greatest possible accuracy and artistic skill. The attractive coloured plates in the two parts already produced, present the assurance that this valuable work will supply a *desideratum* in archaeological literature, with a degree of perfection and beauty of execution unequalled even by the admirable publication ("Abbildungen von Mainzer Alterthümern") recently commenced in Germany by the brothers Lindenschmidt of Mayence. We hope to notice more fully on a future occasion the praiseworthy labours of Mr. Akerman. The parts already before us comprise several jewelled ornaments from Wiltshire and Suffolk ; a glass vase, of most singular fashion, from Reculver ; the exquisite fibula found near Abingdon, exhibited in the museum of the Institute, at Bristol, through the kindness of the President of Trinity College, and now in the British Museum ; and, lastly, a fictile urn—likewise in the National Collection, recently enriched by many valuable relics. We hope that Mr. Akerman will meet with that warm encouragement to which his spirited project is so fully entitled, and we regret to learn that the number of subscribers is hitherto wholly inadequate to meet the risks of so costly an enterprise.

## Notices of Archaeological Publications.

ITINERARIUM ANTONINI AUGUSTI ET HIEROSOLYMITANUM EX  
LIBRIS MANUSCRIPTIS Ediderunt G. Parthey et M. Pinder. Berolini,  
1848, 8vo. ; with a general Map, and plate of facsimiles of the various MSS.

WE owe a new edition of the so-called Itinerary of Antoninus to the labours of two learned scholars at Berlin, Dr. Parthey and Dr. Pinder, whose merits have hitherto been known very little beyond the city in which they reside. The first is, perhaps, the most distinguished example of what the Germans call a *Privatgelehrter*. There is scarcely a branch of classical and oriental antiquity with which he is not perfectly conversant: he combines the soundest knowledge of languages, of geography and history, with good taste and a sincere love for everything that is great and beautiful. Free from ambition, he has never held any public appointment, nor is he even a member of any academy or other public learned body; but Parthey had travelled up the Nile at a time, when neither Rosellini, Wilkinson, nor Lepsius had visited Egypt, and when the study of hieroglyphics was still in its infancy. His dissertation upon the once famous Museum of Alexandria was crowned with the highest prize the Royal Academy of Berlin can bestow.<sup>1</sup> His works and maps illustrative of the Geography of ancient Sicily have acquired a standard reputation, and in order to show the variety of his studies, it may be mentioned, that he has recently published a voluminous catalogue of Hollar's prints, the first complete list, probably, of the works of that celebrated artist.

Dr. Pinder is, perhaps, a little more known. Besides being a member of the Royal Academy of Sciences, he is one of the editors of that important collection of Byzantine historians, the publication of which was begun and superintended by Niebuhr, at Bonn. He is at present at the head of the numismatical branch of the Royal Museum, and one of the Librarians of the Royal Library, at Berlin. Under his care an excellent catalogue has recently been completed, systematically arranged according to subjects, which in every great national collection of books is indispensable for the furtherance of scientific researches.

These two distinguished scholars, being great friends, and intimately connected by the same ardent curiosity for whatever is left to us of the sciences and arts of the ancients, resolved to republish the Roman Itinerary. Three or four years were employed in collating the MSS. in France, England, and Germany, in collecting information about MSS. in other countries, revising the text and arranging the critical apparatus, till at last a volume has been prepared, which at once superseded the laborious and bulky publication of Wesseling, and the far inferior editions that have appeared before and after his time.

It is scarcely necessary to offer any observation regarding the nature or the value of the Itinerary of Antoninus. Yet, before describing the

<sup>1</sup> G. Parthey, das Alexandrinische Museum. Berlin, 1837.



merits of the new edition, it is of consequence to know the present state of inquiry about the supposed origin of the work.<sup>2</sup> The period at which it was composed is still uncertain; but internal evidence will enable us to form a conjecture.

For a long time it was almost generally received that a statement of Aethicus<sup>3</sup> referred to this work. The preface to the remarkable book on ancient geography which bears this author's name says, that in the consulship of Julius Cæsar and Mark Antony, four persons began to measure the whole of the known world; Nicodoxus, the East; Didymus, the West; Theodotus, the North; and Polycleetus, the South; a work which they finished in thirty-two years. That something of the kind was done at that time is evident from the extracts from M. Vipsanius Agrippa's Commentaries, which Pliny has preserved in his Natural History, III. 2. They refer, however, merely to measurements of the length and extent of the various provinces of the Roman Empire.

The object and the origin of our Itinerary was very different, and no Greek surveyors were required to compile it.

Wherever the Romans went and conquered, they never omitted to erect castles at measured distances, and set mile-stones between the various places. Lines of these milliaries ran along the principal roads from the far north-west to the south-eastern extremity of the Empire. It can scarcely be doubted, that a guide of this systematic network of postal communication was kept in the capital at an early time. Our document must have sprung from such an official source. There being, however, no evidence of its existence in the days of Agrippa or Augustus, it is only fair to conjecture, from the title it bears in all the MSS., that it was written under the Emperor Antoninus Pius, who, if we may believe his historian Julius Capitolinus,<sup>4</sup> took a very praiseworthy care for the roads of his vast Empire.

There is, however, another Antoninus, whose title seems better—Caracalla, whose father Septimius Severus, as it has been supposed, erected that wall, which we trace across the North of England, from the Solway Frith to the shore of the German Ocean; and from which in the Itinerary all the great roads and highways through Britain start. A Roman inscription, now preserved at Vienna, states that both Severus and Caracalla had given orders to erect new mile-stones, where they had been broken or decayed.<sup>5</sup>

At the time of these Emperors therefore something like the Itinerary must have existed. Yet our most ancient MSS. contain indications of a period, as recent as that of Diocletian: for instance, the town of Diocletianopolis and the substitution of Heraclea, for Perinthus. On the other hand we find only in the more recent MSS., the name of Constantinopolis added to Byzantium; and here the proofs increase in number, that the Itinerary was completed before the reign of Constantine the Great.

It is, therefore, an erroneous opinion of Mannert, in his preface to the

<sup>2</sup> Præfatio, i.—ix.

<sup>3</sup> The *Cosmographia Aethici* is found in many MSS., together with the Itinerary. A critical elucidation of this singular book has never been undertaken as yet; but we believe that Dr. Pertz, the learned editor of the *Monumenta Historiæ Germanicæ*, has collected during his travels through Europe all the

materials necessary for a perfect edition. We soon hope to see the first-fruits of a young scholar who has taken up the subject, and who has also made use of two excellent MSS. in the British Museum amongst the Cottonian and Harleian MSS.

<sup>4</sup> Vita M. Aurelii Antonini, c. 11.

<sup>5</sup> Scipio Maffei, *Museum Veronense*, p. 241.

Map of Peutinger, p. 7, that the Itinerary had not been produced before the year B. C. 364, when Mesopotamia was lost to the Persians, because that country did not occur in the document. We may suppose, that it was left out afterwards, in consequence of that loss, or by a mere accident in an early transcript, as there are other blanks in Asia Minor, Gaul, and elsewhere.

Such a work of course could not have been compiled by one man. Traces of its having been the work of various hands may be noticed throughout. Sometimes the distances are summed up, sometimes not. In certain passages the places are more minutely described, whereas in general the list is as meagre as possible.<sup>6</sup>

In the more ancient manuscript copies of this postal description of the *Orbis Romanus*, there occurs generally a maritime Itinerary, which seems to be of somewhat different plan and origin. The first part (Wessel. pp. 487—497), containing the distances of the various cities on the sea-coast, agrees very well with the Itinerary of Antoninus; the second part (pp. 497—508) has the object of giving a list of all the sea-ports and the distances between them; the third part (pp. 508—529) sums up the islands of all the branches of the Mediterranean, adding, instead of their geographical position and distance, a few short fabulous and poetical accounts, by which it is proved sufficiently that this part, at least, cannot have been derived from an official source.

One portion of the work contains the "*Itinerarium Hierosolymitanum sive Burdigalense*," which appears to have been written in the year 333, by a Christian, for the use of those who travelled as pilgrims from the South of France to Jerusalem, where Constantine the Great had just begun to build his churches (p. xxxv.)

In order to make their work as complete as possible, our editors have used collations of more than forty MSS., many more than were known to Wesseling. Each MS. is described minutely. They have also succeeded (p. xxxii. ff.) in arranging them in four classes, the distinctive differences of which may be traced up to the eighth century.

1. MS. Vindob., sæc. viii.

MS. Vatic., sæc. xiv.

MS. Remens., a. 1417.

2. MS. Scorial., sæc. viii. (Escorial.)

3. MS. Paris, sæc. x.

4. MS. Dresden, which seems to be very similar to an ancient MS. of Speyer, now lost, but of which there are left numerous copies, extending in age from the year 1427 until 1551.

The reason may justly be asked, why this document has been transcribed so frequently in early times, and even so recently as the sixteenth century. The important position of Rome during the middle ages has saved this relic of the imperial period. The monks, who were unable to appreciate Aristotle and Plato, Livy and Tacitus, in the original, and were happy to take Boethius and Orosius instead, had a notion of the practical usefulness of the Itinerary, while they could not avail themselves of Strabo and Ptolemy. The principal roads and stations had remained the same, and were destined to become once more the highways of the Legions of Papal Rome.

<sup>6</sup> For instance, in Britain, and sometimes in Gaul, the stations of the legions have been carefully marked.

Drs. Parthey and Pinder have made a very extensive, and the soundest critical use of this copious store of MSS. The restoration of the original reading was their main object, and they have reached it as far as is possible in a work which merely consists of lists of names and numbers. It has been their special care to remove all the difficulties which occur in the separate distances and their sums, in which the errors of the scribes have naturally been very frequent. The best MSS. of course have been followed throughout, but occasionally the assistance of another passage in the same Itinerary, or a statement of the ancient geographers, has been adopted.

To those who are accustomed to Wesseling's Edition,<sup>7</sup> every page in that under consideration will exhibit important variations, as it has been thought necessary to restore from the most ancient copies the reading *mpm.* (*milia plus minus*) instead of *mp.*; and *Item* instead of *Iter*, the abbreviation—*IT* having been mistaken for the latter. Besides, names and sums have undergone numberless corrections. For this reason the editors have judiciously printed in the margin the pages of Wesseling's edition.

To show the important alterations of the text made in the new edition, we annex a comparative list of the readings of the two editions we have mentioned, in the *Iter Britanniarum*, which forms the conclusion of the Itinerary.

WESSELING.	PARTHEY AND PINDER.
p. 466. Delgovitia.	p. 222. Delgovicia.
p. 467. Blatobulgio.	p. 223. Blato Bulgio.
p. 468. Cataractoni.	Cataractone.
p. 469. Deva Leug. XX. Victrix.	Deva leg. xx. vict.
Uroconio.	p. 224. Uriconio.
p. 470. Manduessedo.	Manduesedo.
Bennavenna.	Bannaventa.
p. 473. Iter ad portum Lemanis.	p. 225. Item a Londinio ad portum Lemanis.
p. 474. Luguvallio.	p. 226. Luguvalio.
Icianos.	Icinos.
p. 476. Cataractoni.	Cataractone.
Verteris, mp. xiii.	p. 227. Verteris, mpm. xiii.
Luguvallio.	Luguvalio.
p. 477. Isannavatia.	Isannavantia.
Vennonis.	Venonis.
Ratis.	Ratas.
Margiduno mp. xiii.	Margiduno, mpm. xii.
Crococalano.	Crococalana.
p. 478. Attrebatum.	p. 228. Atrebatum.
Crococalano.	Crococalana.
p. 479. Vennonis.	p. 229. Venonis.
Bannavanto.	Bannavento.
Icenorum.	Icinorum.
p. 480. Camuloduno.	p. 230. Camoloduno.
p. 481. Galacum.	Calacum.
p. 482. Mediolano, mp. xviii.	p. 230. Mediolano, mpm. xviii.
Segoncio.	p. 231. Segontio.

<sup>7</sup> Amsterdam, 1735. 4to.

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| Varis, mp. xviii.                             | Varis, mpm. xviii.                       |
| Iter per Muridonum Viroconium, mp. cc.lxxxvi. | Item a Muriduno Viroconium mpm. clxxxvi. |
| p. 483. Sorbioduni, mp. viii.                 | Sorvioduni, mpm. viii.                   |
| Durnovaria.                                   | Durnonovaria.                            |
| p. 484. Bravinnio.                            | p. 232. Bravonio.                        |
| p. 486. Abone, mp. viii.                      | p. 233. Abone, mpm. xiii.                |
| Sorbioduni.                                   | p. 234. Sorbiodoni.                      |

It will be observed, that in Wesseling's edition, <sup>a</sup> p. 483, and p. 486, the eight stages from Vindomi to Isea Dumnuniorum occur twice.

These eight stages ought to be removed altogether from the first place in which they occur, as the error is owing to the inadvertence of a scribe, and the number of Roman miles must be reduced from 286 to 186.

The commentary at the foot of the pages is strictly critical, in order to show the reason why the reading in the text has been adopted. Though many may regret the absence of a geographical commentary, the editors justly appeal to the inconvenience of Wesseling's cumbrous notes. Instead of a commentary, they have given at the end of their volume (p. 291), an alphabetical list of all the Iters, and (p. 297) a complete alphabetical index of all the names that occur in the book, together with their various modern equivalents. To enable the student to refer to the authorities for the latter, a list of all modern writers and works upon the geography of the *Orbis Romanus* and its ancient provinces will be found very useful (Præf. p. xxxvi.) The friends of palæography and chartography are also indebted to the editors for a table of facsimiles of the more important MSS., and for a map drawn by Dr. Parthey, showing the principal roads over the Roman Empire.

These careful corrections must essentially facilitate the use of this important Itinerary; and we are sure that English Archaeologists will appreciate the labour and research which characterise this edition.

R. PAULI.

#### SAXON ANTIQUITIES, DISCOVERED BY THE HON. R. NEVILLE.

The achievement of an undertaking, of more than ordinary importance to the Archaeologist, amongst the results of daily growing interest in National Antiquities, has claimed, whilst this *Journal* is actually in the press, a brief expression of gratification. The publication of Mr. Neville's "SAXON OBSEQUIES," the record of the most successful, perhaps, of his numerous explorations,—the display of the *Spolia Opima* of his autumn campaign at Little Wilbraham, in 1851, presents, in most attractive form, the most copious and authentic evidence regarding Anglo-Saxon times, hitherto presented to the Antiquary. We hope speedily to offer a more ample notice of this beautiful volume.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Whose text has been adopted also in extracts in the *Monumenta Hist. Brit.*, vol. 1, p. 20. 1848.

<sup>9</sup> *Saxon Obsequies, Illustrated by Ornaments and Weapons, discovered by*

the Hon. R. C. Neville, in a cemetery near Little Wilbraham, Cambridgeshire. With forty coloured Lithographic Plates. London. John Murray. 1852.