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CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE HISTORY OF BRITAIN UNDER THE ROMANS.

ROMAN INSCRIPTIONS AND SEPULCHRAL REMAINS AT LINCOLN.

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In the vicinity of an important Colonial city, such as the Roman LINDUM, the antiquary might be prepared to expect frequent discoveries of memorials of a sepulchral character. In a locality, however, which has undergone so many changes, and has been occupied during so long a period by a large and active population, we might have sought in vain for any remarkable evidences of the funeral usages of a remote age. The occasional notices of sepulchral antiquities, found in and around Lincoln, as recorded by the antiquaries of the last century, and the careful observations of more recent times, have placed before us a considerable amount of information respecting the various modes of interment practised by the Roman colonists, and also of the character of their sepulchral memorials.

It is worthy of remark, that almost every mode of burial in use among the Romans is illustrated by discoveries which have occurred at various times at Lincoln. Here the ashes of the dead, carefully collected from the funeral pile, have been frequently found, sometimes enclosed in large glass bottles or other vessels, but more commonly in earthen vases, varying considerably in their dimensions, of grey, red, or

cream-coloured ware. The cinerary vases of glass, it may be observed, have been usually found deposited in fictile *amphoræ* or in stone cists.

Here also the remains of the more wealthy Romans have been occasionally exposed to view, originally deposited with reverential care in stone sarcophagi, or in extremely thick wooden coffins, as indicated by the discovery of the great iron cramps and nails six or seven inches long, which had originally served to fasten the massive planks together;¹ here also bodies have been found deposited in ranges apparently without coffins, but often accompanied by small earthen vases clearly of Roman ware, and serving to indicate the age and nation to which these interments must be assigned.

The approaches to *Lindum Colonia* from the north-east and south were bordered by cemeteries or detached family tombs, during its occupation by the Romans, and in these the bodies of the dead, when interred without cremation, were usually laid in a north and south direction, at a depth of only two feet below the surface or sometimes even less.

These burial-grounds probably presented nearly the same appearance as those of modern times, abounding as they did with slabs placed upright in the ground, and inscribed with the name, occupation, age, province, or birth-place, of the deceased, to which was occasionally added the name of the mourning relative, or of the heir, by whom such stones were erected. Among these, a few monuments of an architectural character displayed, possibly, some stately forms usually resembling diminutive temples, while a low mound, or a simple rude stone, alone marked the grave of the humble dead.

Near the Newport Arch, as it is now termed, formerly the northern gateway of *Lindum*, a remarkable glass vessel was found in the latter part of the last century. This vase, capable of holding two quarts, had no doubt been used as an *ossuarium*, or cinerary urn; it was first preserved in Dr. Primrose's collection, and afterwards in that of Mr. Martin Folkes.² Probably also from the same spot were

¹ See an account of tombs formed of large slabs of stone, enclosing deposits in thick wooden coffins, found in 1731, in the quarries about a mile east of the Cathedral. Camden's Brit., edit. Gough,

vol. ii. p. 375.

² Camden's Brit., edit. Gough, 1807, vol. ii. p. 375. See notices of glass vessels of this description in this Journal, vol. ii. p. 253.

obtained the two large and very perfect glass bottles now preserved in the Cathedral library, and here figured (see woodcuts, fig. 1); these originally, it is believed, contained burnt bones. Many small fragments of Roman



Fig. 1. Sepulchral Glass Vessels, in the Cathedral Library at Lincoln.
Height, about 10 inches.

glass, probably portions of other cinerary vases, were brought to light in 1855, in excavations for a sewer outside the Newport Arch, on the immediate edge of the Ermine Street; and in Rasen Lane, a little more to the north, a skeleton of a female was found about the same time, having nine bronze bracelets on one of the arm-bones (see woodcuts, fig. 2), besides portions of three bracelets of bone, and a necklace of small deep sapphire-coloured glass beads, all undoubtedly of Roman workmanship.³ Other skeletons, accompanied by nails of large size and traces of decayed wood, were found in levelling the ground for a new cemetery attached to the parishes of St. Margaret and St. Peter's in Eastgate, lying to the north of Lincoln, and further discoveries have occurred at different points on the borders of the great Roman road issuing from the north gate of *Lināum*, and terminating at Winteringham on the Humber.



Fig. 2.

³ See the account of this discovery, given by Mr. Arthur Trollope in this Journal, vol. xiii. p. 85.

I will now proceed to enumerate the inscriptions furnished by this northern quarter. In 1785, when a close was levelled, on the south or inner side of the northern city-wall about 10 ft. from it, and a little to the west of the Newport Arch, a sepulchral slab was found about 4 ft. below the surface, which is now preserved in the Cathedral cloisters, near the stairs leading to the library. (See woodcuts, fig. 3.) No urn or remains were found near it. It is of freestone, 5 ft. long, 2 ft. wide, and 7 in. thick. On a panel, within a raised border, it bears the following inscription :—

D · M
FL · HELIVS · NATI
ONE · GRECVS · VI
XIT · ANNOS · XXXX
FL · INGENVA · CO
NIVGI · POSVIT ·

which may be thus interpreted :—To the divine shades.—Flavius Helius, a Greek by nation, lived forty years. The free-born Flavia erected this stone to her husband. The name Helius, as Gough has observed in his additions to Camden, is of common occurrence in inscriptions given by Gruter, and generally on sepulchral monuments. The expression *natione Grecus* is found only once in that collection.⁴

There are two other Roman sepulchral slabs in the cloisters, which were also probably found in the same locality as the last. One of these, in a bad state of preservation, represents a young man, or a genius, holding a cornucopia ; the other is a portion of a freestone *cippus*, 1 ft. 10 in. wide, sculptured in remembrance of a young female, who is represented with a necklace, apparently of ribbed beads, fitting tightly around her neck ; her hair appears to be carefully arranged and divided over the head. These details are still discernible, although the features have been partially defaced. (See woodcuts, fig. 4.) Mr. Roach Smith gives an account of this sculpture, which is figured in his *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. v. pl. xv.

The Rev. Mr. Sympton, one of the Vicars-choral, collected some observations on the age of the gates and walls of *Lindum*, which have been given among Gough's additions to Camden's *Britannia*. He mentions "an inscription upon a votive tablet lately found in the wall," alluding apparently to the north-west wall, and offers the following reading :—

⁴ Camden's *Brit.*, edit. Gough, 1806, vol. ii. p. 392, where this tablet is figured in plate 12. See the citation from Gruter there given.



Fig. 4. Sculptured fragment preserved in the Cloisters.



Fig. 3. Found near the Northern Gate; now preserved in the Cloisters.

Roman Sepulchral Remains found at Lincoln.

M L AETII
F MAX CT (*sic*)
M I

i.e., Marcus Lælius Ætii filius Maximo et Maximo Jovi. This stone Mr. Sympson supposed to have been inscribed to the Emperor Maximus, who stimulated some soldiers of Ætius to revenge their general's death by the murder of Valentinian III., A.D. 454. It had not been ascertained in what position the tablet was found in the wall.⁵

Two, or possibly three, Roman roads branched off from the eastern side of *Lindum*, and accordingly we find that at various times numerous sepulchral vestiges of the Roman occupants have been discovered in that direction, extending from the limits of the old city wall to a distance of nearly a mile. Stukeley supposed that the Foss-way here diverged from the Ermine Street: "The Foss and Hermen-Street (he observes) entered the city at Stanbow, or the Stoney arch; there they parted: the Hermen-Street went directly up the hill, and so full north through Newport; the Foss, according to its natural direction, ascended it obliquely on the eastern side without the ancient city, and so proceeded to the sea-coast north-east."⁶ If this conjecture be correct, we may conclude that two sepulchral memorials found in 1830, in forming the foundations of houses in the new road opposite the City Gaol, originally were placed on the side of the supposed continuation of the Foss-way towards the coast.⁷ On one of these slabs, being the upper portion of a tablet (measuring 4 ft. 6 in. high, 3 ft. 4 in. wide, 7 in. thick), rather roughly wrought, and now preserved in the Museum of the Mechanics' Institution at Lincoln, the following inscription appears in a recessed panel. (See woodcuts, fig. 5.)

L · SEMPRONI · FLA
VINI · MILITIS · LEG · VIII
Q^{VI}ALAVD I SEVERI
AER VII ANNOR XXX
ISPANICA LERIA
CIV MA

This inscription was found, in 1830, in the foundation of

⁵ Camden's *Britannia*, by Gough. Edit. 1806, vol. ii. p. 364.

⁶ *Itinerarium Curiosum*, Iter v. p. 90.

⁷ Higden, as Dr. Guest observes in his *Memoir on the Four Roman Ways*, says that the Foss-way ended at Lincoln. See *Arch. Journal*, vol. xiv. pp. 101, 106. A

prolongation of the line appears however to have been traced, and it is indicated in the Map of Roman Roads in Britain, by the Rev. T. Leman, *Introd. to Beauties of England and Wales*, p. 133, and in the *Map of Ancient Britain in the Monumenta Historica*.



Fig. 5. Found in 1830 opposite the City Gaol.



Fig. 6. Found in 1830 on the East side of Lincoln, and now at Canwick Hall.

the eastern wall of the lower part of the Roman town, and in excavations made during the building of a house for Mr. J. S. Padley, by whom the discovery was first made known, and the tablet figured, in the Gentleman's Magazine, in 1842.⁸ In the collection of Inscriptions in the Monumenta Historica the reading is given as above,⁹ and also in Henzen's valuable Supplement to the Series of Inscriptions published by Orellius.¹ The following reading *in extenso* may be proposed:—Lucii Sempronii Flavini militis legionis IX. Q[?] Alaudæ Julii [or Junii] Severi aerum VII. annorum XXX. Hispanica Leria civis [or civitate] maximi exempli.—This however presents several points of difficulty. Henzen offers the following observations,—“Legionem credo esse nonam Hispanicam, amisso cognomine; in litteris vero sequentibus latere *sub cura* (vel simile aliquid) *CLAVDI SEVERI*,” and he proposes to read in the last line,—*Maximi exempli*? The letters—ALAVD, which, in the Inscriptions edited by Mr. Newton in the Monumenta Historica, it is proposed to read *Alaudæ*, seem very questionable. The first character in the third line may be the centurial mark, to which it bears resemblance, and the true reading may be—*Claudii Severi*, the name of the commander of the company in which the deceased served. The name *Alauda*, the lark, had been given by Julius Cæsar, as Suetonius informs us, to a legion recruited in Transalpine parts;² it occurs in several inscriptions as a name of the fifth legion, but is not found in connection with the ninth, which was styled Hispanica or Macedonica. Mr. Newton suggests that the name Severus may be referred to one of the proprætors in Britain, either Julius Severus, in the reign of Commodus, or Junius Severus, in that of Hadrian. In the fifth line Henzen seems to recognise *Leria* as a city of the province

⁸ Gent. Mag., vol. xviii. N. S., p. 350. A singular bronze lamp found with the inscription is there also figured; it is now in the Museum of the Mechanics' Institution at Lincoln.

⁹ Excerpta ex Inscriptionibus de Britannia, p. cxii., No. 53 a.

¹ Orellius, Inscript. Lat. select. amplissima collectio, vol. iii., Collectionis Orellianæ Supplementa, &c., ed. G. Henzen; Turici, 1856, 8vo. p. 337, No. 6676.

² Suetonius, I. c. 24. The epithet *Alauda*, to which Mr. Padley first sug-

gested that allusion might be made in this inscription, has been referred to the crest on the helmets of the soldiers, similar to that on the head of a lark, or to the use of a crest in the form of a bird. Cicero uses the term to designate the soldiers themselves—“*accedunt Alaudæ ceterique veterani*.”—Philos. 13, c. 2. See Facciolati, under the word *Alauda*; the commentary on Suetonius by Pitiscus, &c. Compare also inscriptions given by Orellius and Henzen, as above, Nos. 773, 3522, 6675, and 6945.

of Spain called *Tarraconensis*, which however is not found in Dr. Smith's Dictionary of Roman Geography. The following reading has been proposed, with considerable probability,—*Ispani Galeria* (viz. *tribu*).

Lucius Sempronius Flavinius, whose memorial we have thus endeavoured, however imperfectly, to illustrate, a Spaniard, of the *Galeria tribus*, or possibly a native of the city Leria, appears to have died at the age of thirty, after seven years of service. The phrase *æra* for *stipendia*, comparatively unusual, may be found in inscriptions given by Orellius and other writers. It occurs likewise in another inscription at Lincoln. (See fig. 11.) The ninth legion, it may be remarked, came to Britain with Claudius, A.D. 43. Almost annihilated in Boadicea's insurrection, it was recruited from Germany, but suffered again severely from the Caledonians in the campaign of Agricola, and it does not occur subsequently in history. It has even been conjectured that it was incorporated with the sixth legion; mention, however, of the ninth is found in an inscription at York and on legionary tiles at that place assigned to a later period than the time of Agricola.³

The second sepulchral slab, found in 1830 on the east side of the lower Roman town, near the supposed continuation of the Foss-way, came into the possession of the late Colonel Sibthorp, by whom it was exhibited in the Local Museum during the meeting of the Archæological Institute at Lincoln in 1848.⁴ It is now preserved at the seat of Major Sibthorp, Canwick Hall, near Lincoln. This tablet, of which the upper portion had been broken off, was brought to light on the premises of the late Alderman Colton, opposite the City Gaol. The inscription is cut in bolder style than on that last described, but the letters are irregular in size. Leaves, possibly of ivy, are introduced in unusual number.⁵ (See woodcuts, fig. 6.) The slab in its present imperfect state measures

³ Horsley, Brit. Rom. p. 80, Yorkshire Inscriptions, Nos. 8, 9; Wellbeloved's Eburacum, pp. 34, 113, 118. Tiles occur at York stamped—LEG · IX · HIS. or HISP. and LEG · IX · VIC. On a coin of Carausius the ninth legion is styled *Legio Gemina*, a title given to a mixed legion, and this fact has been adduced in support of the supposed incorporation of the ninth with the sixth legion.

⁴ Catalogue of the Museum, p. xxviii.

It is there erroneously stated, according to a note received at the time of the meeting, that this tablet had been found on the side of the river Witham, towards Saxelby. Compare the Catalogue of the Museum of the Mechanics' Institution at Lincoln, p. 92.

⁵ The leaves thus used between words, &c. in Roman inscriptions have been sometimes regarded as allusive to immortality. They frequently occur, how-

3 ft. 9 in. by 2 ft. 7 in. ; the inscription is distinctly legible, and may be thus given *in extenso*.—Diis Manibus Claudiæ Crisidi. Vixit annos lxxxx. Heredes ponendum curaverunt.—To the divine shades of Claudia Crisid. She lived ninety years.⁶ Her heirs have placed (this stone).

A little to the north east of the Pottergate many cinerary urns have been discovered. On both sides of the Horncastle road leading from Lincoln towards the east, there existed numerous Roman tombs, and some of the tumuli remained until the close of the last century ; in more recent times also, where the soil of this locality has been occasionally disturbed, coffins, skeletons, and cinerary vases have come to light, originally deposited at the side of the way leading, as supposed, to the Roman stronghold of *Banovallum*.⁷ Captain Pownall gives the following account of a discovery of this character near Lincoln, in the days of the Gentlemen's Society at Spalding.⁸

"On Friday the 14th of May, 1731, some labourers digging for stone at a quarry in a field about half a mile east from our Cathedral, discovered an ancient sepulchre : what first appeared were two stones, about a foot and a half or two feet beneath the surface of the earth, laid one at the end of the other, about four feet broad, and five long a-piece. These two covered the sepulchre, which was made of four stones set edgeways ; the length of the two side-stones being 9 feet 2 inches, the depth 3 feet 1 inch, the width of the end stones the same. These stones are rough, as if they had been raised out of some neighbouring quarries, and are placed together in the earth without any mortar ; the ends of the tomb pointing north and by west, and south and by east, as near as I can guess. In the north end of it lay a skull of a common size, but of extraordinary thickness, the teeth all gone, and some pieces of the thigh-bones, the rest all consumed. There lay scattered in the sepulchre many

ever, upon legionary stones, and other inscriptions not sepulchral. See numerous remarkable examples of their use in early Christian inscriptions, given by Le Blant, *Inscriptions Chrétiennes de la Gaule*, tome i. Provinces Gallicanes, Paris, 1856.

⁶ It may deserve remark, that rarely has a memorial of the Roman times in Britain occurred commemorating any

person of so advanced an age. A slab at Wigton records the death of *Tancorix mulier*, at the age of sixty.

⁷ The station *Banovallum* of the Geographer of Ravenna has been placed by Stukeley at Horncastle, Lincolnshire, where numerous Roman remains have been found.

⁸ The valuable MS. Collections of this Society are still preserved at Spalding

iron nails or spikes, quite rotten with rust, some I measured full six inches long, and as thick as my little finger ; at the end they are broken, which argues them to have been much longer than they are now, and the corpse to have been encased in some sort of a chest of extraordinary strength and thickness, of which however there are no remains. About the middle of the sepulchre, but towards the west side of it, lay an urn of fine red clay, broken, having a sort of scroll running round it. It was five inches deep, and might have held a quart. Near a yard south from this sepulchre, and about the same depth under the surface, lay an heap of ashes, black, and of a strong smell." The next day they found another sepulchre of the same form, and pointing the same way, but the cover was of one stone, and not so long as the other ; portions of a skeleton were in it.

In 1739 another stone coffin was found in the same locality ; it contained a yellow earthenware bottle and several vases filled with bones.⁹

A similar discovery was made there in the autumn of 1790, as described in the *Archæologia* by Mr. Pownall. A rudely shaped cylindrical cist of stone was found, about 5 inches deep, and about 9 inches in diameter, with a roughly fashioned stone cover, and containing an urn filled with ashes and fragments of burnt bones ; another stone cist of the same kind, rectangular and without a cover, was also then brought to light.¹ About the same time a square glass vase, precisely similar to that figured above (see p. 3), and several earthen urns were disinterred in this eastern Roman cemetery : they are described in the *Archæologia* in a letter from Dr. Gordon to Mr. Pownall, wherein mention is also made of a subterranean chamber or cavity, about 20 feet by 16, that had been disclosed in a stone quarry hard by, bearing evident marks of fire on its walls ; and on its floor, amidst a layer of black ashes, were two skeletons and a stone cist.² This glass vase and several vessels of Roman ware, of rather unusual forms, are figured in the

and a portion was exhibited in the Museum of the Institute at the Lincoln Meeting. The notice above given occurs in the *Diary*, p. 165. See also Stukeley, *Iter v.* p. 91 *note*.

⁹ *Reliquiæ Galeanæ*, p. 184, pl. iv.

¹ *Archæologia*, vol. x. p. 345. The

cist and urn are figured in plate 33. A cylindrical cist of stone, more carefully worked, found at Harpenden, Herts, is figured in this *Journal*, vol. ii. p. 251. It contained vases of glass and Roman ware.

² Vol. x. p. 348, plate 33.

Archæologia. The glass vessel had one handle, and is precisely similar in form and dimensions to that before described, found near the Newport Gate, and formerly in Mr. Folkes' possession. It does not appear to have been satisfactorily ascertained in what precise position the vase now preserved in the Library at Lincoln Cathedral was discovered, but probably it is the same relic which was described by the Rev. Dr. Gordon, in his letter above cited, dated March, 1791.

In February, 1795, further discoveries of a similar nature occurred near the quarry to the east of Lincoln, where the remains before described had been found. They are described by the Rev. John Carter in the *Archæologia*.³ A skeleton was first disinterred, placed east and west, with an urn of Roman ware at the right side, and on the left a square glass vase, in which was a metal spoon; at the head and feet were small vases. Near this interment lay two skeletons, placed north and south; and about three feet distant was found a large globular *amphora*, 18 inches in diameter, the neck and handles having been broken off, and an aperture thus formed sufficiently large to admit a cinerary urn, which was found deposited within it. Similar globular vessels, in some instances enclosing cinerary vases of glass, have been repeatedly found in other parts of England, and are described in this Journal.⁴ Another skeleton, supposed to be that of a female, placed east and west, was accompanied by a fictile one-handled vessel, with a four-sided vase of glass similar in form to those already described, and holding four quarts. In another vessel were pieces of pitch. It deserves observation that the interments found at various times in this locality, with the exceptions above stated, were placed north and south. There is still to be seen in the Cathedral Library a globular *amphora*, measuring 16 inches in diameter, and 28 inches in height; also other objects of Roman ware, a specimen of Samian with the potter's mark DONATVS · F., and various other antiquities.

Among the graves of this locality, in addition to coins of Hadrian, Fausta, &c., a few armillæ, fibulæ, and other Roman ornaments and relics have occasionally been found; Stukeley states that he saw several coins found here by Mr. Pownall with a skeleton.⁵

³ Vol. xi. p. 108, plates 13, 14.

⁴ Arch. Journ. Vol. ii. p. 255.

⁵ Iter v. p. 91.

Of late, the depository of Roman funereal remains occupying the site of Mr. Dudding's premises, adjoining the Nettleham road, has yielded a rich harvest of cinerary vases, accompanied by a great variety of other objects in earthenware, consisting of bottles, cups, or bowls, also a few fragments of coloured glass,—one portion like agate, another, transparent blue flecked with opaque white, and a third, bright green.⁶ Here also enameled fibulæ, buckles, hair-pins, armillæ, rings, bells, styli, &c., have been disinterred with coins of Tiberius, Claudius, Nero, Vespasian, Domitian, Antoninus Pius, Septimius Severus, Julia Mæsa, Valerianus, Victorinus, Claudius Gothicus, Constantius, Constantinus, Constans, and Magnentius. Of the cinerary urns, two specimens in possession of Mr. Dudding are here figured (figs. 7, 8) ;



Fig. 7. Height, 13 in.

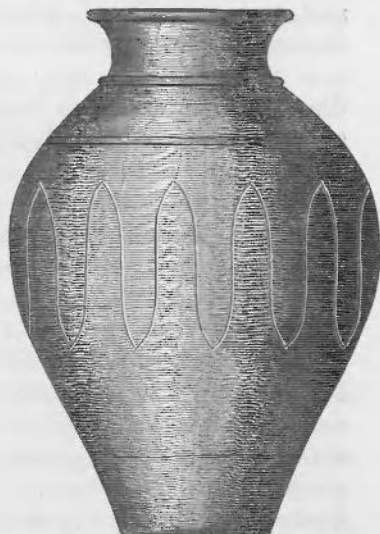


Fig. 8. Height, 12 in.

Sepulchral Urns found at Lincoln.

both of these are of dark grey pottery, very slightly scored ; one is 13 inches high, the other 12. Both of them were filled with fragments of burnt bones.

Let us now re-enter the ancient *Lindum* by the East Gate, passing over the site of the eastern Roman gateway, unfortunately demolished during the last century, and, when

⁶ This discovery has been related in this Journal, vol. xiii. p. 100.

we reach the centre of that once strongly walled and entrenched city, where its four ways met, let us turn down Southgate, and, passing over the site of another Roman gateway now destroyed, descend the steep hill through the midst of the lower Roman city, thence pursuing our way under the mediæval gateway at its southern extremity, issue out upon the old Ermine Street in search of further Roman sepulchral vestiges.

The old paved Roman way now lies two or three feet below the present road, but we are assured of its existence through the evidence offered by any occasional cuttings connected with various requirements of present times. But deep as it now lies beneath the surface, it formerly rose considerably above the level of the Witham valley, over which it was carried by the Romans ; so that, although rows of houses now line the present road at a level with it, we must dig deeply below their foundations before we can discover how their sites were occupied in the time of the Romans. We shall then find that these modern buildings of the living are built upon the resting-places of multitudes of the Roman dead.

Stukeley, describing the addition southward to the Roman *Lindum*, observes : "In this last part of the city, on both sides the Roman road, were many funeral monuments of the Romans ; some of which they now dig up, and doubtless much more when they first built upon this ground. I saw a pit, where they found a stone with an inscription this summer : through age and the workmen's tools it was defaced, only small remains of D.M. and VIX. ANN. XXX., such letters as showed its intent, with carvings of palm trees, and other things : this is behind the house where the lord Hussey was beheaded for rebellion in the time of Henry VIII."⁷ The defaced inscription seen by Stukeley, and found during the summer of 1722, when he visited Lincoln, is noticed likewise by Horsley, in his *Britannia Romana*, published in 1732. He observes : "I saw the stone when I was there myself, but was surprised to find it so much wasted since it was exposed to the weather. There is yet a visible stroke or two of a letter remaining, from whence it appears that the letters of the inscription have been of a prodigious size. This stone was found in a field behind the house where

⁷ Stukeley, *Itinerarium Curiosum*, Iter v. p. 91.

the Lord Hussey was beheaded.”⁸ That building, situated on the east side of the High Street, has been popularly called John of Gaunt’s Stables, being nearly opposite that known as John of Gaunt’s House, but it is probably identical with “the fair guildhall ’longing to St. Ann’s Church,” mentioned by Leland, and it is known at the present time as St. Mary’s Guild. The inscription in question may possibly have been identical with the slab engraved in the *Reliquiæ Galeanæ*, and described in a letter from Maurice Johnson to Roger Gale, dated May, 1737, in which it is said to have been found under the old Town-house by workmen digging for sand, eight feet below the surface ; traces of five lines of an inscription were to be seen upon it.⁹ It appears to have resembled the tomb of Sempronius Flavinus (see woodcuts, fig. 5) ; and the palm trees spoken of were possibly only some of those divisional ornaments so often placed between words by Roman sculptors, like the ivy leaves on the memorial to Claudia Crisis. (See woodcuts, fig. 6.)

In the same locality, doubtless, near the great street leading towards the south, the sepulchral slab was discovered, which may still be seen built into the Norman tower of the church of St. Mary-le-Wigford, on the right hand side of the western doorway, and facing the street. I have been unable to ascertain at what period that memorial was disinterred ; it may have been brought to light and placed in its present position in mediæval times. The upper part of the tablet, which is of pedimental form, bears a Christian inscription in five lines, in characters of early forms, commencing with MARIE ; the symbol of the cross is seen in Maurice Johnson’s copy. Stukeley noticed this inscription on his visit to Lincoln in 1722 ; he gives a copy of the Roman portion, remarking that “there is another obscure inscription upon the upper part of the stone, but has been added since, and is Christian.” Horsley gives the Roman inscription only, with the following observation : “Lincolnshire affords no inscriptions except at Lincoln itself, and only one original is now remaining there which has any legible letters.”¹ Of the

⁸ *Britannia Romana*, p. 319.

⁹ *Bibliotheca Topog. Brit.* vol. iii. p. 70, plate 3, fig. 13. The slab had a pediment, on which was a cinquefoil inscribed in a circle ; a small ornament like a palm-tree appears beneath, with some other object. A considerable number of letters

were then visible (1737) in the three upper lines, and this can scarcely have been the same stone described by Horsley in 1722.

¹ *Britannia Romana*, p. 319, Lincolnshire Inscriptions, No. i. plate 68.

addition in the pediment Gough gave a representation, but no satisfactory explanation has, as I believe, been offered of



Fig. 9. Inscribed Roman Tablet in the Tower of St. Mary's-le-Wigford Church, Lincoln.

this inscription, which is now very indistinct. The Roman inscription, having been somewhat protected from the weather through its being worked within a recessed panel, is in better preservation, but the skill of the antiquary is sorely tried in the attempt to decypher either of these memorials.² The Roman memorial has been thus read :—

DIS MANIBVS
NOMINA (or NOMINII) SACRI
BRVSCI FILI CIVIS
SENONII ET CARISS
IMAE CONIVGIS
EIVS ET QVINTI F.

The slab is broken off just below the last line, and the

² *Itinerarium Curiosum*, Iter v. p. 91, second edition. Compare the engraving of this stone, *Reliquiæ Galeanæ*, Biblioth.

Topog. vol. iii. pl. 3, fig. 12, p. 70; *British Topography*, i. p. 520.

inscription may be imperfect.³ Mr. Ward proposed to read, *CARISS· VANIE CONIVGIS*, and he conjectured that the deceased had been a citizen of the capital city of the *Senones* in Gaul, which is called *Senoni*, as he states, by Eutropius.⁴

I may here also notice the discovery of a mutilated tablet in the Roman wall of the southern part of the city, near its

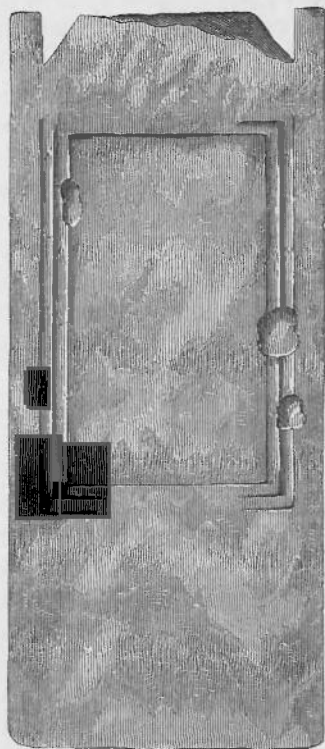


Fig. 10. Found in the South Wall, Lincoln.

south-west angle, and below the part known as the Parks. The inscription is wholly effaced. The slab measures 5 feet 8 inches, by 2 feet 4 inches. It appears to have been formed with a pediment at top, now broken away. This stone is here figured, as it differs in some respects from the other sepulchral tablets found at Lincoln. (See woodcuts, fig. 10.)

In Monson Street, on the East side of the High Street on the south of the city, and adjacent to the church of St. Peter at Gowts and the buildings before mentioned connected with the memory of John of Gaunt, numerous Roman remains have been brought to light. Here were discovered, a few years ago, six or seven skeletons, lying side by side, in a north and south direction, each having a small Roman earthenware vase deposited near the right side. Here, also, in 1856,

were found the fragments of a beautiful little Samian vase, part of which had been apparently subjected to the fire of the funeral pile, whilst the remainder still retained its bright and polished surface. This specimen of Samian ware with ornaments in relief is figured at the close of this memoir, as it appeared in its perfect state.

Under a house occupied by Mr. Smith in this locality, a tessellated pavement was found, in part still preserved,

³ Camden's *Britannia*, edit. Gough, 1806, vol. ii. p. 374; plate vii. at p. 342.

⁴ Horsley, *Brit. Rom.*, as above.

which, as I conceive, may have been connected with a tomb of more than usual pretension, such as may be seen in the street of tombs at Pompeii. From the antipathy the Romans felt to living near the graves of the dead, I can scarcely believe that any ordinary Roman habitation would have been built in the midst of a roadside cemetery, and I am therefore inclined to think that this pavement may have formed an ornamental portion of the tomb of some wealthy Roman. The centre is destroyed; eight rays proceeded from it, forming a star-like figure; around this is a circular guilloche border of dark grey and two shades of red and white tessellæ placed within a square, the angles of which are filled in with shaded heart-shaped figures.⁵

In the course of operations in Monson Street, above mentioned, at a spot which appeared to have been a cemetery in Roman times, further discoveries took place in 1849. There was then brought to light the remarkable memorial now preserved at the British Museum, having been presented to the National Collection by Mr. Arthur Trollope in 1853.⁶ It was found broken in pieces, intentionally as he supposed, and had been thrown into a cavity in the soil, where it lay with other Roman remains at a depth of about 2 feet below the original sandy surface of the Witham valley, as existing probably in times of Roman occupation, and 7 feet below the present surface. This interesting tablet measures 5 feet 1 inch, by 2 feet 3 inches (see woodcuts, fig. 11). It records, as Mr. Franks observes, Julius Valerius Pudens, son of Julius, of the Claudian Tribe, and a native of Savia, a city in Spain; he appears to have been a soldier of the second legion, and of the century of Dossennus Proculus, and to have lived thirty years, two of them as a pensioner.⁷ On the pediment over the inscription a trident is seen between two dolphins. On a sepulchral slab found at Ebchester, two dolphins are

⁵ See the Handbook of Excursions made by the Lincoln Archæol. Soc. in May, 1857; by the Rev. Edward Trollope, F.S.A., Sleaford, W. Fawcett, 8vo., 1857, p. 39. Some other interesting remains of tessellated work have been brought to light at Lincoln, among which the most remarkable is the floor, still to be seen in the Cloister Court of the Cathedral. This mosaic pavement, of elaborate design, was found in 1793, and it is figured by Fowler in his Series of

Roman Pavements.

⁶ See Mr. Franks' Account of the Additions to the National Antiquities in the British Museum, Arch. Journal, vol. xi. p. 25. This inscription had been exhibited in the Temporary Museum at the Meeting of the Institute in Lincoln in 1848, and it is noticed in the Catalogue, Lincoln Volume, p. xxviii.

⁷ For inscriptions of a similar form see Steiner, Codex Inscr. Rheni, Nos. 315 and 432.

likewise introduced ;⁸ they occur more frequently on Roman memorials in foreign parts. Beneath, a remarkable symbol appears, probably the *ascia*, frequently found on tombs in France and other continental countries, with the formula—*sub ascia dedicatus*, or—*ab ascia fecit*, of which so many learned interpretations have been given. The results are brought together in the preliminary remarks by Dr. Comarmond, which accompany his work on Roman Epigraphy as illustrated in the Museum at Lyons.⁹ The *ascia* may probably be regarded as allusive either to digging the grave, or fashioning the memorial stone. We are not aware that it has been noticed on any other sepulchral slab in this country.¹ The following reading of the inscription may be suggested.—Julius (or Titus) Valerius, Julii (or Titi) filius, Claudia (*tribu*) Pudens, Savia,² miles legionis II. Augustæ (or adjutricis) piæ, fidelis, centuriæ Dossenni Proculi, annorum xxx. ærum II. de sua pecunia hoc sibi fecit (or hic situs est).

Three portions of another inscribed slab were found in Monson Street at the same time as that last described. They lay at a depth of about 5 feet, and the memorial had evidently been intentionally broken, as stated by Mr. Arthur Trollope, who carefully watched the progress of the excavations. He has given the following reading of the letters, scarcely to be decyphered, upon these fragments, which are now in the garden of his residence at the north-east angle of the upper Roman city :—

GETA . D . PIV
ONTI . PROCV
LI . E . LICINIVS . F . C
AESARIV . C . A
NNORVM . XX
. . . . LINDII

This memorial measures in its present broken state 24 inches at the widest part, 29 inches in height, and the thickness of the slab is 8 inches.

In April, 1859, two portions of another broken sepulchral stone were brought to light in Monson Street, at about the same depth as the last. Their dimensions when united are

⁸ Horsley, Brit. Rom., Durham Inscriptions, No. iv. p. 287.

⁹ Description du Musée Lapidaire de la Ville de Lyon; par le Dr. Comarmond; Lyon, 1846—54, 4to. p. xxii. The various opinions on the *Ascia* may there be found.

¹ An object somewhat similar is found on Roman altars, such as that figured by Horsley, Brit. Rom., Cumberland, No. lxviii. but probably representing a sacrificial axe.

² A town in Hispania Tarraconensis. Compare Gruter, no. dclvij. 10.

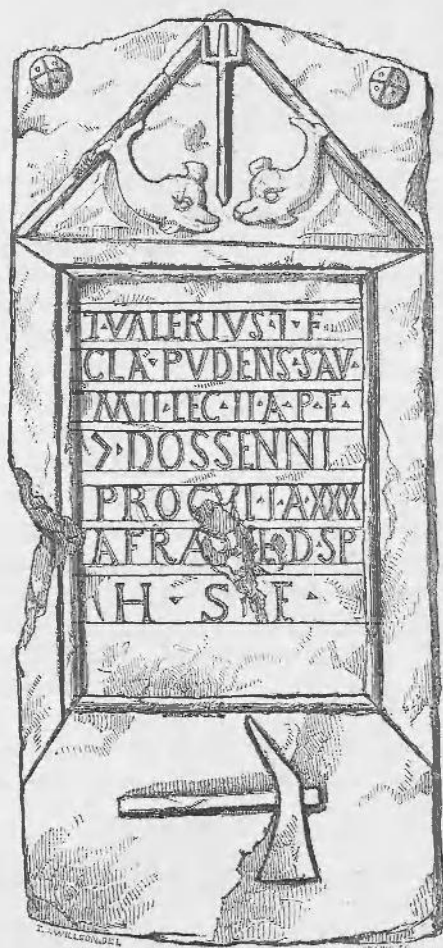


Fig. 11. Inscribed Slab found in Monson Street, Lincoln; now preserved in the British Museum.

32 inches in height, by 18 inches wide, and 8 inches thick. They were found in excavations for Mr. Seely's biscuit factory. The remains of the inscription have been thus read :—

. . . . AELIVS.
 . . . VS . M . AVRE
 . . . VM . ILIB
 . . . CINO.
 . . . XXV.
 . . . ENIVS . VE
 . . . EX . LEG . XIII.
 . . . H E . TEST . P.

The fourteenth legion was one of those brought to Britain by Claudius, and it quitted the country, A.D. 70. The concluding formula, which may be thus explained—Hic ex testamento positus (?)—appears to show that this, as well as all the inscriptions already described, was of a sepulchral character. Many other fragments of inscriptions have been discovered in the same locality: the whole of that district south of Lincoln, known as Wigford, east of the High Street, appears to have been a great cemetery in Roman times.

During the early part of the last year, two inscriptions were found, which are among the most interesting relics of Roman occupation at Lincoln brought to light in recent times. The accompanying woodcuts have been prepared with great care from photographs supplied by Mr. Arthur Trollope, who stated the following particulars in regard to the discovery. The first (woodcuts, fig. 12) was brought to light at the west end of the city, in trenching a piece of land belonging to Mr. Cooper; it lay about 2 feet from the surface; the dimensions are about 24 inches by 30 inches. The inscription, which is perfect, may be thus read,—

DIIS . MANIB
 C . IVLI GAL
 CALEN . F LVC
 VET EX . LEG . VI
 VIC . PF NASEMF

In the second line the last letters appear to be CAL, or more probably GAL, for *Galeria tribu*, a name of a tribe occurring in an inscription found at Caerleon, and now in the British Museum. The person here commemorated, may have been Caius Julius, of the Galerian tribe, son of Calenus, a native of Lucca (?), and a veteran of the sixth legion, styled *victrix*, *pia*, *fidelis* (?). The concluding letters are inaccurately formed, and their import is obscure. *Nepos a*

suo bene merenti fecit, has been proposed, but we confess our inability to offer any satisfactory explanation. The sixth legion, however, it must be observed, was styled *firma* and *ferrata*, which may suggest the more correct reading; it is doubtful whether it was ever styled *pia*, *fidelis*.

The second inscribed stone was found in February, 1859, built into the foundations of the wall of the lower Roman town which extended nearly to the river. It commemorates two females, and their busts are sculptured in high relief on the upper part of the stone. The features are defaced, but the hair, eyes, and the drapery are in fair preservation; part of the inscription on one side had been rubbed down or tooled off in ancient times, and that side is much broken. (see woodcuts, fig. 13). The inscriptions, in parallel columns beneath the busts, may be thus read,—

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| D . M . | D . M . |
| VOLVSI A . | CL . CATIOLA . |
| FAVSTINA . | VIXIT . A . . . |
| C . LIND . V . | N . LX |
| ANN . XXVI . | |
| M . I . D . XXVI . | |
| AVR . SENE | |
| CIO . DEC . OB . | |
| MERITA . C . P . | |

Diis Manibus. Volusia³ Faustina Colonie Lindi (or Lindensis ?) vixit annis xxvi. mense i. diebus xxvi. Aurelius Senecio decurio ob merita conjugi posuit.—Diis Manibus. Claudia Catiola vixit annis lx.³—We look in vain for any indication of the connection which may have subsisted between the aged Claudia Catiola, deceased at the age of 60 or upwards, and the more youthful Volusia, whose sepulchral portraits were here sculptured in such immediate juxtaposition. The latter, deceased at the earlier age of 26, and to whose good qualities this remembrance was inscribed by her husband the *decurio*, may very probably have been the daughter of Catiola. No mention, so far as we are aware, had previously occurred of the *Lindum Colonia*, indicated as it has been supposed in this family memorial, with which we close these notices of relics of Roman Epigraphy brought to light at Lincoln. It is well worthy of remark that no altar, no historical or military record, has been here

³ Volusia is a name of frequent occurrence. See Gruter and other writers on Roman Epigraphy. The name Catiola occurs in inscriptions given by Gruter,

dexlviii. 3, and deccxxiv. 5. Senecio, and also Senicio, is often found both as a *cognomen* and an *agnomen* in Roman inscriptions.



Fig. 12. Found in 1859 on the West side of Lincoln.



Fig. 13. Found in 1859 in the foundations of the Wall of the Lower Roman Town.

Roman Sepulchral Antiquities found at Lincoln.

discovered. A small tablet, much defaced, with the usual representation of the Deæ Matres seated under an arcade is in the British Museum; it was presented by Mr. Joseph Moore in 1856, and was found about 1840 built into a wall in the lower part of the city. The inscribed vestiges however of Roman occupation in Lincoln, interesting as they are, present additions only to the class of sepulchral remains.



Fig. 14. Vessel of Samian Ware, found in Monson Street, Lincoln. See p. 16, diam. $6\frac{3}{4}$ in.

The Central Committee desire to acknowledge the kindness of the Rev. E. Trollope in presenting to the Institute the greater part of the illustrations in the foregoing Memoir.

NOTE ON THE ROMAN ROAD THROUGH LINCOLN; BY THE LATE MR. PHILIP N. BROCKEDON.

The Ermine Street, passing through Lincoln towards the Humber, runs in a straight line almost due north, and it appears to have taken the line of the present main street. In the autumn of 1847, when a sewer was constructed for the station of the Great Northern Railway, the works being carried under the High Street, a good opportunity occurred for examining the structure of the Roman road. The depth to which the excavation was carried was about 9 ft. below the present surface. The upper portion of 4 ft. consisted of the paving of the street with a substratum of rubbish, below which lay a regular road paved with blocks of stone, about 6 in. thick, and 5 or 6 in. square. Under this pavement was a mass of concrete, $2\frac{1}{2}$ ft. thick, so hard that much labour was required in breaking through it. Beneath lay a bed of gravel, &c., about 1 ft. thick, and under this was found what seemed to be another ancient road, having exactly the appearance, as the surface was partly laid bare, of a well-worn Macadamised road, the stones broken small, and with traces of ruts. This way could be traced for a width of about 4 ft., occupying nearly the centre of the present street, and it lay also under the centre of the Roman road, which had been found four feet above it. Its thickness was 8 or 9 in.; it rested on a bed of peaty matter containing drift wood and a few bones of cattle; some beds of sand and clay appeared about $1\frac{1}{2}$ ft. below it. No relics or pottery were found in these excavations.