

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

TRANSACTIONS OF THE ESSEX ARCHÆOLOGICAL SOCIETY. Vol. I.
Colchester: Printed and Published for the Society at the *Essex Gazette* Office.
8vo. 1858.

NEARLY ten years have elapsed since the formation of the Society to whose Transactions we are desirous to invite attention. The *fasciculi* united in the volume under consideration have appeared at intervals since the institution of an Archæological Society for the county of Essex in the winter of 1852. At that period the antiquaries of Colchester, who, with praiseworthy interest in the preservation of the vestiges of *Camulodunum*, had about two years previously formed a local archæological fraternity, consented to unite in a more extended Institution, for the purpose of establishing a Society for the county of Essex. It were needless to remind our readers how favorable a field of investigation presented itself to the archæologist in the ancient territory of the Trinobantes, or how many interesting questions relating to the early history of that district of Britain had been left untouched by the laborious topographers of the last century, which may now be satisfactorily elucidated through the extension of archæological knowledge in recent years.

The purpose of the Society was to furnish facilities to the antiquaries of Essex in the pursuits of archæological science, by establishing a Museum and Library; by meetings for interchange of information; and also to preserve in systematic arrangement all communications, drawings, and topographical materials, with a view to the completion of the history of the county. We hope that, during the ten years of the Society's operations, much may have been effected towards carrying into effect these praiseworthy intentions, and promoting generally a taste for those subjects which are within the scope of our common purpose.

The volume before us, after some preliminary matter and a formula of queries and directions for the assistance of correspondents, essential to the initiation of many willing confederates who require to be instructed—"How to observe," contains a Report of the Inaugural Meeting at Colchester in 1852; the Inaugural Lecture also, delivered on that occasion by the Rev. J. H. Marsden, Disney Professor of Archæology in the University of Cambridge; with the formal record of the establishment of the Society, of which our late venerable friend, Mr. Disney, was elected the President. His name must be held in honored remembrance as associated with the first Professorship of Archæological Science founded in this country. The Memoirs, of which this first instalment of Essex archæology is composed, commence very appropriately with the History and Description of the Walls of Colchester, by Dr. P. M. Duncan; this paper, originally prepared for the Colchester Association, was transferred when the parent Society became merged in that of the county.

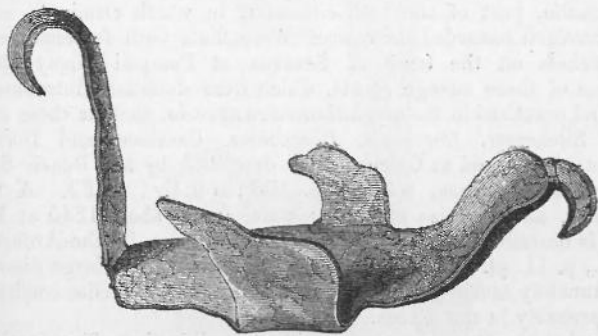
Colchester, as Dr. Duncan has well brought before his readers, is associated with many stirring recollections in early history; the numismatist has here found frequent traces of Cunobeline, whose chief residence appears to have been at *Camulodunum*; his coins disinterred from beneath the relics of Roman colonisation bear testimony to the fact, whilst the occasional occurrence of the well-known gold imitations of the *stater* of Philip of Macedon may serve to indicate a more remote period of British occupation. The capture of the town by Claudius, after the campaign of Aulus Plautius, was a memorable crisis in the establishment of Roman dominion; the importance of the position was recognised by the Proprætor Ostorius; a colony was formed there to aid in keeping in check the turbulent Iceni. With its subsequent fate, the wrongs suffered by Boadicea, the destruction of the colony with the temple dedicated in honour of Claudius, we are familiar through the narrative of Tacitus. The insurgents were speedily crushed; the victory, achieved by Suetonius, A.D. 61, re-established Roman superiority. The return of the Romans to the colony was probably followed by its fortification, and to that period Dr. Duncan is disposed to assign the commencement of the walls, which, with the remaining guard-chamber, gate, and numerous details of construction, are amongst the most remarkable vestiges of the period in this country. We must refer to his memoir for notices of the walls of Colchester at various periods, until they proved the means of resistance in the siege of 1648, and were condemned, but without effect, by Fairfax. Several plates are given, showing their curious construction, the chief material employed being *septaria* obtained from the clay cliffs of the neighbouring coast, bonded together by courses of wall-tiles, the core being composed of rubble. Dr. Duncan has given a detailed survey of the circuit, describing the condition of the remains. The wall was originally of great strength, measuring 8 to 10 feet in width, constructed on a base or footing 11 feet in width; the average height was 14 feet, exclusive of the parapet, which appears to have been not less than 6 feet in height, and 6 feet in width. The parapet may have been crenellated, like that of the walls of Pompeii. The average thickness of the Roman Wall in Northumberland is 8 feet; the thickness of the walls of the Stations, *per lineam valli*, is about 5 ft. 6 in.

Mr. Chancellor contributes a paper on Roman remains found at Chelmsford in 1849, apparently portion of a villa with hypocausts, &c.; he states the opinion that a Station, possibly the *Cæsaromagus* of the Itinerary, may have been situated there. Amongst the usual minor results of such researches,—coins, pottery, painted plaster, &c.,—one relic which claims notice was disinterred, namely, a tile, upon the surface of which were represented in relief wolves attacking stags, and some letters, which have not been interpreted. Mr. Chancellor refers, however, to an exact counterpart of this tile found with other Roman remains in the walls of Ashted church, Surrey, and figured in Brayley's History of that county, vol. iv. p. 396.

The object last mentioned is described as a fragment of a hypocaust; it has been unfortunately lost, and we have been unable to ascertain whether it was portion of a flue-tile; but it is remarkable that such tiles, although mostly concealed from view under the *suspensura*, were occasionally ornamented with care; a curious example, found near Reigate, and elaborately stamped with zigzag patterns, has been figured in this Journal, vol. vi. p. 288. Other specimens found in London, and preserved amongst Mr.

Roach Smith's collections in the British Museum, are figured in his Catalogue, pp. 56, 57.

The volume contains several other communications relating to Roman antiquities in Essex, such as a sketch of a paper by Dr. Bell on the sculptured figure of a sphynx, holding between its forepaws a human head; it was dug up near the Hospital at Colchester. The purpose of the author is the comparison of this relic with two bronze figures of the sphynx, found in Hungary; these have, however, been regarded as of doubtful authenticity. The Rev. E. L. Cutts, secretary of the Society, well-known by his labors in many departments of archæological research, gives an account of remains at Coggeshall, on the Roman road from Colchester to Cambridge, and probably a site of Roman occupation. A sepulchral vault was found there in the seventeenth century, noticed by Weever and Burton, containing, amongst other objects, two Samian dishes, stamped *coccilli m.*, explained by the writer first cited as the name of some governor, still preserved in the name of the town—Coggeshall. It is scarcely necessary to observe that the name is familiar to us in the list of potters by whom Samian ware was produced. Numerous Roman vestiges have been brought to light in recent times, which present evidence in corroboration of the notion that Coggeshall, although it may not be the *Canonium* of the Itinerary, as affirmed by Mr. Drake (*Archæologia*, vol. vi.), was probably a site of some extensive occupation in Roman times. Mr. Cutts gives a list of coins found there, ranging from M. Antoninus to Theodosius. He describes also relics found during the rebuilding of the bridge, about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of Coggeshall, where the Roman road to *Camboricum* is supposed to have crossed the river Blackwater. An etching by Mr. H. W. King gives us an example there discovered of the so-called Roman horse-shoes, of which Mr. C. Roach Smith has figured examples in his *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. iii. p. 128, and in the Catalogue of his Museum, p. 78. They have also been noticed in this Journal, vol. xi., p. 416, where other objects of this singular class are enumerated. For the sake of comparison with that found in Essex, we may here place before our readers a specimen found in



Iron lamp-stand (?). Length 9 in., breadth $4\frac{1}{2}$ in.

London, and belonging to Mr. C. Ainslie. It differs chiefly from that found in the Blackwater in the long hooked projection at one extremity; the example described by Mr. Cutts has only one hook, at the narrower

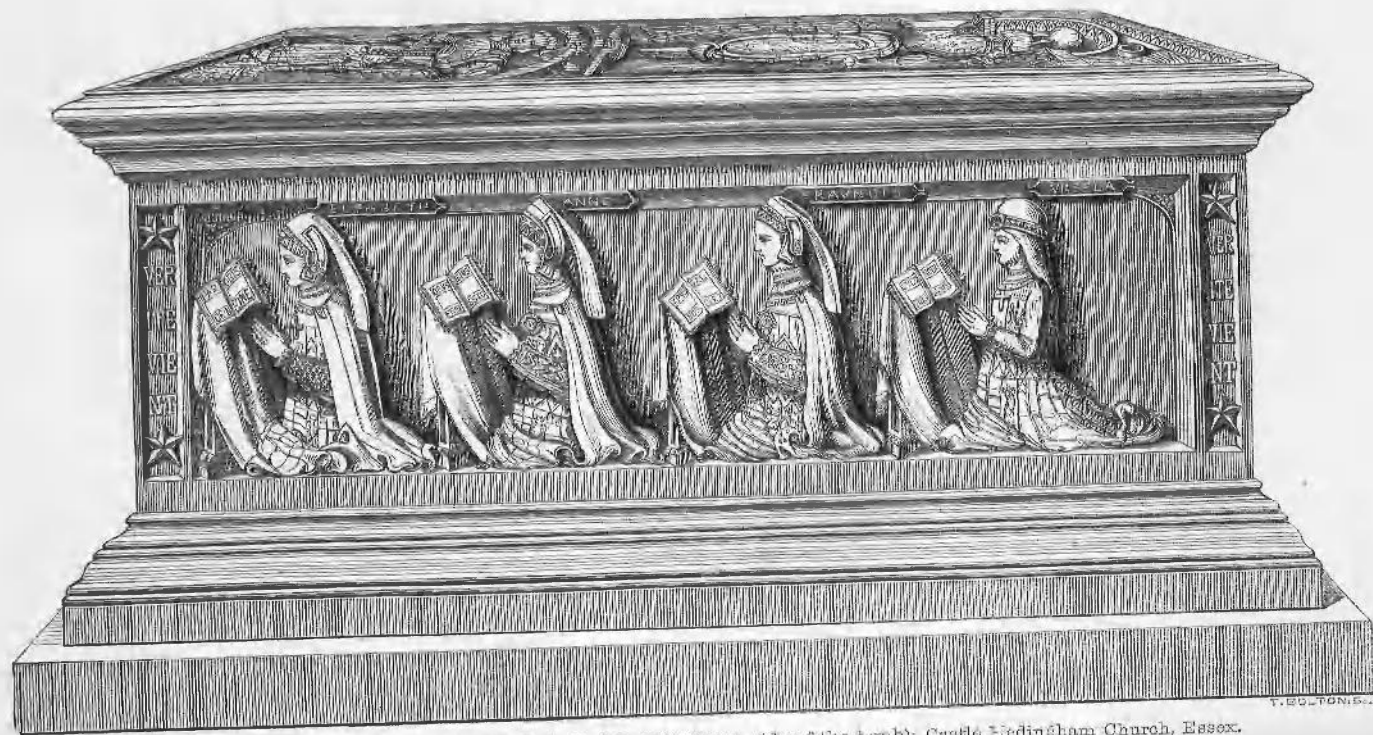
end, probably the fore-part, of the object in question. It is, moreover, peculiar in having a considerable amount of ornamentation, such as parallel beaded bands and impressed circles, wrought with the hammer upon its *under* surface, a feature inconsistent with the supposed use of an object of this description as a protection for the hoof of a horse. It must be admitted that the occurrence of this relic, probably of Roman times, in the bed of a river where a fordable passage may have existed on the line of an undoubted Roman way, is a fact deserving of consideration as regards the conjectural intention of such appliances, the real use of which seems still very questionable. At the same time, those who are familiar with the eccentric conditions under which ancient relics are often brought to light, will find no conclusive incongruity in the discovery of a *lychnuchus pensilis*, or hanging lamp-holder, in the peaty channel of the Blackwater, more especially accompanied, amongst other objects, by a vessel of glass recognised as apparently of Roman date.

The Rev. Barton Lodge communicates a short memoir regarding a remarkable vase found at Colchester at the western extremity of the town, where the *necropolis* appears to have existed in Roman times. This fine specimen of the embossed ware of Castor in Northamptonshire, as we apprehend it to be, may be known to some of our readers who are familiar with the valuable *Collectanea*, in course of publication by Mr. C. Roach Smith. The vase, which measures nine inches in height, is ornamented with subjects of the chase,—stags, a hare and a hound in full cry; with these appear two groups of remarkable character, one of them being a conflict between a *retiarius*, whose trident or *fuscina* lies on the ground, whilst his adversary, the *secutor*, his face closely protected by his helmet and bearing his curved shield on his arm, advances to despatch his antagonist. It may deserve observation that upon the shield may be discerned the *gammadion*, an ornament more commonly occurring on objects of early Christian character, but found upon Roman altars in Northumberland and elsewhere, apparently unconnected with Christian symbolism. The second group consists of two men assailing a bear, one of them with a long whip, the other with a club. It is well known how passionately fond the Romans were of the *venatio*, part of the *ludi circenses*, in which criminals, captives, or hired *bestiarii* hazarded their lives in conflicts with ferocious animals. The bas-reliefs on the tomb of Seaurus at Pompeii supply the best illustrations of those savage sports, which were doubtless introduced into Britain, and practised in the *amphitheatra castrensia*, such as those at Richborough, Silchester, *Corinium*, *Borcovicus*, Caerleon, and Dorchester. The curious vase found at Colchester is described by Mr. Roach Smith in the *Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. iii., p. 196; vol. iv., p. 82. A vase of similar form, and likewise of Castor ware, found about 1845 at Bedford Purlieus, is described by the Rev. C. H. Hartshorne, in the *Archæologia*, vol. xxxii., p. 11. pl. lll. Upon this *cylix*, which is of large dimensions, but unfortunately much broken, are represented in bold relief conflicts with animals, probably in the Circus.

In regard to the Roman period, as illustrated in these Transactions, we must also advert specially to the Notes on Roman Essex, a valuable summary by one who had devoted himself with indefatigable earnestness and intelligence to the investigation of the earlier antiquities of his county, the late Lord Braybrooke. The loss of his cordial encouragement and participation is not less a cause of deep regret to ourselves than to the archæo-



Sepulchral Brass of Sir John Giffard, 1348, Bowers Gifford, Essex.



Monument of John de Veto, Earl of Oxford, died in 1689 (North side of the tomb); Castle Bedingham Church, Essex.

logists of Essex. On the decease of Mr. Disney, in 1857, that lamented nobleman consented to become the President of the Society, a position for which he was so eminently qualified. To his researches the volume before us is indebted for a list of names of potters upon Samian ware, more extended than that formerly given in this Journal, vol. x. p. 233, and compiled from specimens brought to light in the course of the excavations made under his direction principally at Chesterford, and now preserved in the museum which he had founded at Audley End, an enduring memorial of his remarkable appreciation of national antiquities. From the same distinguished antiquary we find also here remarks on the sepulture of infants in Roman times, in the *suggrundaria*, or in spots adjacent to the walls of houses, under the drip of the eaves.

Dr. Duncan, whose investigation of the remains of *Camulodunum* we have already noticed at some length, resumes the subject in a later part of the volume, and records the discovery of a Roman *cloaca* in 1852, a work of unusual character as an example of constructive ingenuity. We must refer to the plan and illustrations which accompany his memoir, in which many interesting details will be found. The discovery of elaborate works of such enduring nature, for purposes which indicate no slight attention to the comforts or sanitary requirements of daily life, suggests how firm a tenure Roman dominion had acquired, and how strong must have been the motive, which we seem at a loss wholly to comprehend, that influenced the policy of the Empire in grasping with so pertinacious a hold the dominion of these remote islands of the Northern Ocean.

The attention of the Essex archæologists has, however, been given to other subjects connected with the history and remains of later periods, which claim our notice. Amongst these are mural paintings in the church of East Ham, described by Mr. Buckler; and the remarks on Round Churches in England, with especial reference to that at Little Maplestead, by the same author. Of the latter church, considered to be the latest in date, as compared with the three other examples noticed,—St. Sepulchre's, Cambridge, the Temple Church, London, and St. Sepulchre's, Northampton, a plan, from careful measurements, with a minute architectural description, is given. The original structure is assigned to the Transition-Norman Period; the general arrangements and proportions seem to recall those of the interesting Round Church, of which the site was revealed to view upon the Western Heights at Dover, a few years since. The remains of that structure, of which no mention is made by Mr. Buckler, are interesting as marking in all probability the scene of the memorable interview between King John and Pandolf, the Legate of Pope Innocent III., in 1213. They were first disinterred, as it has been stated, under the direction of the late Dr. Dibdin, whilst preparing materials for a history of Dover, and they were again cleared of debris by a member of our Society, Col. Fitzherbert Grant, in 1854, when some precautions were taken to ensure their preservation.

Amongst other architectural and miscellaneous contributions, to which the limits of this notice will not admit of our adverting in detail, are,—by the Rev. E. L. Cutts, an account of the remains of Coggeshall Abbey; extracts from a MS. Diary by John Bufton of Coggeshall, in the time of James II. and William and Mary; also a short description of St. Nicholas' Church, Castle Hedingham, and of the memorials of the De Veres existing there. Mr. Almack gives some notes on the family of De Vere, with

extracts from the rich collection of documents relating to the county of Essex, in his possession.

To Mr. H. W. King, one of the Secretaries for the mediæval period, the volume is indebted for notices of wills of inhabitants of Essex ;—of seals found in the county, or pertaining to it, one of them being a beautiful silver matrix of the seal of Robert le Archer, *t.* Edw. III. ; another, the seal of Lucas de Tany, justice of the king's forests south of the Trent, in the same reign ; also a notice of an early monumental brass, of life-size, supposed to be the memorial of Sir John Giffard, A. D. 1348, described by Salmon as existing in the church of Bowers Gifford, Essex. This effigy, unfortunately mutilated, had been given away by the churchwarden some years ago, when the church was rebuilt ; it has recently been recovered through Mr. King's exertions and replaced in the church. A rubbing of this very curious brass was exhibited by Mr. King at one of our meetings in 1856, and it is noticed in this Journal, vol. xiii. p. 189. It will be seen by the woodcut that the costume presents several unusual features, and the figure may be of foreign execution. It was, however, probably produced by the same burin as the well-known brasses at Westley Waterless, Cambridgeshire, and the brass of Sir John D'Aubernoun, 1327, at Stoke Dabernon, Surrey. It is a good example of the jupon worn over mail, without brassarts or greaves of plate, such as occur in those examples, in both of which we find the cyclas, with other garments which do not appear in the effigy of Sir John Giffard. The shell-like *epaulières* deserve notice, and the curious *genouillères*, ornamented with the so-called English rose ; also the sleeve of the hauberk, formed in longitudinal bands, possibly of quilted work ; the bands appear likewise on the thighs. In both the examples before cited the fore-arm is protected apparently by plate.¹

We avail ourselves with pleasure of the courtesy shown by the Council of the Essex Society, in enabling us to place before our readers a representation of this remarkable memorial, rescued through the praiseworthy intervention of Mr. King. We are also permitted to give the interesting illustrations which accompany Mr. Cutts' notice of the fine tomb, at Castle Hedingham, of John, Earl of Oxford, who died in 1539. They have been presented to the Society by Ashurst Majendie, Esq., possessor of the ancient residence of the De Veres ; by his kindness the drawings, executed under his directions by Mr. Parish, of Colchester, were exhibited at one of our meetings in 1855, and they are noticed in this Journal, vol. xii. p. 181.

This remarkable example of monumental sculpture, at a period when all traces of the Gothic style had disappeared, commemorating moreover so eminent a personage in the court of Henry VIII., might claim a more detailed notice than will be found in the Transactions of the Essex archæologists. The design and general character of the tomb are shown in the woodcuts, which represent the sculpture on its upper slab, and the north side. The tomb is of black marble, frequently described in documents as "touch," from a supposed resemblance to the *lapis Lydius* or touch-stone, used by goldsmiths. Weever, whose account of Funeral Monuments was published in 1631, says, under Castle Hedingham, p. 620, "Here lieth interred under a tombe of marble and Tuch, now ruinous, John de Vere, the fifth of that Christian name, Earle of Oxford, Lord Bulbeck, Samford,

* This brass is figured and described in Mr. Haines' recently published *Manual of Monumental Brasses*, p. cliii.



T. BOLTON. sc.

Monument of John de Vere, Earl of Oxford, died in 1530.
Castle Hedingham Church, Essex

and Scales, and Great Chamberlaine of England. Upon which monument I finde nothing engraven but the names of his children which he had by his wife Elizabeth, daughter and heire of Edward Trussell, of Staffordshire, knight banneret, which were 3 sonnes and three daughters," &c. It is difficult to comprehend how the tomb could have been "ruinous" at that period; it is possible that the blocks of marble might have become dis-united, but even at the present time the upper slab is in a sound state, the sides only being partially decayed. We can only suppose that Weever, or his informant, had not examined the tomb, or that he wrote some time after with an imperfect recollection of its condition.

We have received from a friend the following particulars, the result of recent personal examination of the monument. The figures on the south side are four young men, doubtless sons of the Earl, bareheaded, in armour, with tabards of arms, each kneeling with hands joined in an attitude of devotion at a desk, on which lies an open book. Over each is his name. Taking them from east to west the names are as follows:—JOHN—ALBRY—ROBERT and GEFERE. The first was the eldest son, and succeeded to the earldom; the others, no doubt, are in the order of seniority. This side is now much decayed; the other side is in very fair preservation, and on that account doubtless it was selected by Mr. Parish as the subject of his drawing, here reproduced (see woodcut): it had not been exposed to the damp air from the chancel door, which is nearly opposite the monument. The names over the daughters, on this north side, are—ELIZABETH—ANNE—FRANCIS, and VRSELA. In the first name the *i* is deficient, and the *c* in Francis is of square form, so that it has sometimes been taken for an *e*. At each end of the tomb is an escutcheon of arms, probably the quartered coat of the Earl: both are more or less decayed, but that at the east end is far gone. It must be observed that, whilst four sons and four daughters are named and represented on the tomb, the usual genealogical works of reference omit a son and a daughter, viz., Robert and Ursula. Probably they both died young and unmarried. Weever makes the like omission in his description of the monument, and this circumstance might lead us to suppose that his account was not the result of personal inspection. It is remarkable that there is no inscription, nor any casement or cavity apparent on the tomb in which an inscribed plate might have been affixed. Weever observes that he found nothing engraven with the exception of the names of the Earl's children. The kneeling figures of the Earl and Countess respectant are placed under a kind of diminutive dais, from which are suspended curtains, held back by angels, one on either side. Immediately beneath this canopy or dais there is a dove with expanded wings, and nimbbed, and an inscribed scroll, upon which only a few letters may be decyphered SETE DEVS M(?)IERE R s. The disproportionate dimensions of the armorial atchievement, as compared with the figures of the Earl and Countess in the lower compartment, are very singular. The quarterings, with Vere on the dexter side of the escutcheon, are apparently Kilrington, Clare, Sergeaulx, Badlesmere, Sampford, and Bolbec. The arms on the sinister side are Trussell and Mainwaring quarterly. It is remarkable that the quarterings with Vere in the dexter coat are marshaled in the reverse of the usual order; the Earl's mother was the heiress of Kilrington. The supporters are a harpy and an antelope. The atchievement, with its elaborate accessories, is a stately example of the heraldic design of the period.

The canting motto introduced in the long panels at the corners of the tomb must not pass unnoticed, namely,—*VERITE VIENT*, with the Vere mullet above and beneath the inscription.

Some illustrations of the ancient heraldry of the De Veres may be found in a former volume of this Journal (vol. ix. p. 17), where several seals of the Earls of Oxford have been figured in Mr. John Gough Nichols' memoir on the descent of the earldom. Several other seals, of elaborate and interesting character, have subsequently been found by Mr. Ready in the collegiate treasuries at Cambridge, and facsimiles may be obtained from him. A carved bedstead of oak is preserved at Castle Hedingham, attributed to the times of the fifteenth Earl, whose sumptuous monument has been brought under the notice of our readers through the liberality of Mr. Majendie. The armorial decorations on the bedstead are very similar to those upon the tomb; they are described by Mr. Almaek in the volume to which we have sought to invite notice, as an earnest of promising results from the exertions of our fellow-laborers in an interesting locality.

Archaeological Intelligence.

THE Annual Meeting of the Cambrian Archæological Association will take place at Swansea during the week commencing August 26. H. Hussey Vivian, Esq., M.P., has been elected President. Communications may be addressed to G. Grant Francis, Esq., Swansea.

The Annual Meeting of the Sussex Archæological Society will be held at Petworth, early in August; the day has not yet been announced.

The Annual Meeting of the Kent Archæological Society will be held at Maidstone, on July 31.

The publication of the volume announced in 1853, by Mr. W. Hayley Mason, at Chichester (Arch. Journ. vol. x. p. 272), and in which it was proposed to give the principal architectural memoirs read at the meeting of the Institute in that city, has long been deferred through unforeseen causes which Mr. Mason has sought in vain to obviate. It is now his intention to issue the work forthwith; it will comprise the architectural history of Chichester Cathedral, being the Discourse delivered in 1853 by the Rev. Professor Willis, to which will be added a Discourse on the recent fall of the spire and central tower, illustrated by diagrams and plans, &c. With these valuable memoirs will be given the Architectural History of Boxgrove Priory, by the Rev. J. L. Petit. The price of the volume (to subscribers) will be 30s. Royal 4to. With numerous illustrations.

Mr. J. T. Blight, of Penzance, to whose researches and pencil we are indebted for a series of illustrations of wayside and churchyard crosses in Cornwall, and of numerous interesting remains of various periods, has announced a volume entitled "A Week at the Land's End," in which notices will be found of the antiquities of that district, so rich in vestiges of interest to the archæologist. The natural history of that remote district has also been given in this useful manual, by some of the best informed zoologists of the West of England. The work is published by Messrs. Longman.

other precious possessions were for some time preserved, formed appropriate accessories to the exhibition.

By Mrs. GORDON CANNING, of Hartpur Court, Gloucester.—An exquisite pendant reliquary, most elaborately enameled and jeweled; consisting of a cylindrical portion of the arm-bone, probably of some saint, about two inches in length, mounted in a frame-work or *fregio* of gold, set with precious stones, and enriched with translucent enamels of the richest colours. Upon this cylinder is affixed a crucifix with figures of the B. Virgin and St. John, wholly enameled; and to the ends of the cylinder are attached gold chains, uniting in an arched ornament at top, set with brilliants and rubies, and having a ring for suspension. This admirable example of the processes employed in the *lavori di minuteria*, and of details of Art described by Cellini, has been more fully noticed in the Catalogue of the Museum, Gloucester Meeting of the Institute, p. 16. It has also been figured in 1801, *Gent. Mag.*, vol. lxxi., part I, p. 25, and it is there stated that it belonged to Catharine of Braganza, Queen of Charles II., from whom it came into the family of the Comptons, "and is now in the possession of a lady, the immediate descendant of that family." Sir William Compton, of Hartpur, married Catharine, d. of Thomas Bond, Esq., comptroller of the household to the Queen-mother, and in favour with Charles II. It is possible that this alliance may in some manner have led to the gift of so precious an object by the Queen to Lady Compton, or to some person of the family.

By Mr. ASHURST MAJENDIE.—The following series of ancient portraits on panel, from an old mansion in Essex—Louis de Male, Count of Flanders; Philip le Hardi, and his wife, Marguerite, daughter of Louis de Male; Jean Sans-peur, Duke of Burgundy; Marguerite, his wife; the Emperor Maximilian; Joanna of Aragon, wife of Philip le Bel; Philip II., King of Spain, and Albert, Archduke of Austria. The costume is interesting; several of these personages are represented with the Order of the Fleece.

Archæological Publications and Intelligence.

We are desirous to invite attention to the recent publication by Mr. W. Hayley Mason, at Chichester, of the long-expected volume containing the Architectural History of Chichester Cathedral, by Professor Willis: Boxgrove Priory, by the Rev. J. L. Petit; and Shoreham Collegiate Church, by Mr. Edmund Sharpe, with the collective Architectural history of those buildings, as indicated by their mouldings, by Mr. Sharpe. To the discourse on the Cathedral, delivered at the meeting of the Institute in Chichester in 1853, Professor Willis has added an introductory essay on the recent fall of the tower and spire. The volume, in 4to, with numerous diagrams and illustrations, may be obtained from Mr. Hayley Mason, or through any bookseller; price, to subscribers, 30s.

Professor Westwood announces (by subscription) a very important work illustrative of the Miniatures and Ornaments of Anglo-Saxon MSS., with a series of fifty-one plates, from fac-similes by himself. The intimate knowledge of early art, which the talented author has so remarkably shown in frequent communications to the Institute, and in his "*Palæographia Sacra*," must render this, the first chapter of a History of the Arts in this country, from the Roman occupation to the Conquest, an invaluable contribution to archæological literature. Subscribers' names to be forwarded to Professor Westwood, University Museum, Oxford.

Notices of Archaeological Publications.

TEN YEARS' DIGGINGS IN CELTIC AND SAXON GRAVE-HILLS IN THE COUNTIES OF DERBY, STAFFORD, AND YORK, FROM 1848 TO 1858. By THOMAS BATEMAN, F.S.A., &c.; 1 Vol. 8vo., pp. 309. London, 1861: J. R. Smith.

A DIGGER who has opened upwards of four hundred Barrows may well be considered to have exhausted his subject, and when we remember the extensive learning which Mr. Bateman brought to the examination and illustration of his discoveries, we may fairly challenge the world for the production of a work depicting so vividly the life and usages of the Keltic race as the volume before us. "Ten Years' Diggings" is indeed but a portion of the experiences here brought forward. For many years previously to the dates stated in this volume, Mr. Bateman had indefatigably pursued his researches among the cairns and cromlechs of the Midland Moors, and every one who has visited the fine museum at Youghgrave will remember what a vast and varied collection of British relics had rewarded the exertions of the explorer. Though a few Anglo-Saxon sepultures were examined, the large majority of the Derbyshire and Staffordshire graves are those of the Keltic race, and, even where the later people were present, they generally formed secondary interments, the original tenants of the mounds being constantly found in the lower portion of the tumuli. To give an adequate excerpt of this book, and of the previous volume, the "Vestiges of the Antiquities of Derbyshire," would require a much larger space than we have here at command. We must be content to note a few only of the more striking facts, referring our readers (with the most hearty recommendation) to the volumes themselves.

The mystery of the so-called Druids' Circles is here most satisfactorily solved. In order to retain the mound of earth in its place, blocks of stone were set on end around it, and then covered in with soil, so as to leave the barrow in its smooth and rounded form. In process of time this hillock of soil was washed away by the rains, disclosing the ring of stones and, in the centre of it, the bared cromlech or stone grave. (See Diggings, pp. 22, 62, 63, 248, 255; Vestiges, pp. 90, 102.) Now came the antiquary, full of erudition and prepared to account for everything. The wall of blocks was a Druidical Circle, and the cromlech in the midst was a Druids' Altar. Not content with this, the elucidator pointed out that the covering slab of the central structure (which had naturally been more or less disturbed during the lapse of a score of centuries and upwards) had been purposely inclined, in order "to throw off the blood of the victim." Further it was noted that the ring of stones (which had necessarily fallen inwards) was arranged on a radiating plan. This was typical of the rays of Phœbus, plainly indicating the presence of Sun worship. A bronze celt had turned

up in the locality : that was the Sacred Axe for felling the victim. A flint knife had also been found : that was for cutting the throat of said victim—if not for gathering the Sacred Mistletoe from the neighbouring oak ; for, be it observed, the old-fashioned antiquary generally committed *felo-de-se* with an “if not.” As to the miscellaneous assortment of objects of unknown use, they were readily disposed of as “amulets.”

The presence of the vast numbers of rats' bones commonly found in the tumuli is very clearly explained. In his notice of the opening of a barrow near Buxton, Mr. Bateman writes :—“The skeleton was laid upon some flat limestones, placed on the natural ground. It was surrounded with a multitude of rats' bones, the remains of animals which had in former times feasted upon the body of the defunct warrior ; which fact was satisfactorily proved by the gnawed appearance of the various bones, and from the circumstance of several of the smaller bones having been dragged under the large flat stones on which the body lay, and which could not by any other means have got into that situation.” (Vestiges, p. 61.) And at page 95 of the Diggings, in the account of Ringham Low near Monyash, we read :—“The lower part of the gravel and the interstices between the paving-stones abounded with rats' bones ; and on removing a portion of the floor, we found that many human bones had been drawn beneath it by these restless creatures.”

Among the remains of animals which had been interred with the defunct chieftain, those of the horse, the ox, the dog, the stag and the boar were constantly found, and occasionally the beaks of hawks and other birds. But more curious than all these finds is that recorded by Mr. Carrington as having occurred in a barrow at Swinscoe. Here, among other graves in the same tumulus, was disclosed a distinct tomb lined with stone, containing the remains of a “young hog.” Illustration of this singular interment will be remembered in the often-cited verses from Beowulf, and the circumstance of the Boar being dedicated to the divinity Freya. (See Diggings, pp. 33, 135.) In the record of the Yorkshire finds, mention is made of the skull of a wolf and that of a goat (pp. 220, 223).

Some little further light is thrown on the much-discussed Bronze Celt. In a grave on Parwich Moor it was found that the implement had been fixed on its staff in a vertical position. “About the middle of the thigh-bone was placed the bronze celt. The cutting edge was turned towards the upper part of the person, and the instrument itself had been inserted *vertically* into a wooden handle by being driven in for about two inches at the narrow end—at least, the grain of the wood runs in the same direction as the longest dimension of the celt, a fact not unworthy of the notice of any inclined to explain the precise manner of mounting these curious implements.” (Diggings, p. 35.)

In a secondary interment at Steep Low occurred “an iron arrow-head, an article of great rarity in tumuli. It is devoid of socket, and must have been secured in a slit cut in the arrow” (p. 126). Similar iron arrow-heads furnished with tangs were found in the graves opened by Mr. Hillier in the Isle of Wight, examples of which have been placed by the writer of this notice in the Tower Armory. These have portions of the wooden shafts still attached to them.

The finding of iron instruments with bronze objects appears at first glance injurious to the theory of metal sequences, but on closer examination the cause of such mixture will be seen to be merely accidental. Thus, in 1848,

after recovering from a Keltic grave a bronze dagger, "a little above we found an iron knife, of the shape and size usually deposited with Anglo-Saxon interments, which had most likely been thrown in unobserved when the grave was refilled in 1821" (p. 21). Had no record been forthcoming of this former exploration, the mystery would have remained unsolved.

For the encouragement of barrow-diggers, who are apt to be dismayed on finding evidences of former researches, we may note that the cases where the earlier examiners have overlooked the primary interment on meeting with a superposed burial are very numerous; and it is needless to add that the first sepulture is commonly far more interesting than the later ones. It may be further observed that there is a certain degree of perverseness among some of these Keltic sleepers, who refuse to be found after a scientific exploration of a good three-fourths of the mound, and only reveal themselves at last to some village stone-seeker in the most out-of-the-way corner of the premises.

These gatherers of stone for the purposes of building, together with the searchers for buried treasure, are among the worst enemies of the archaeologist. They are as bad as the rats. Another source of the destruction of the graves and their relics is the practice of converting the ancient mound into a lime-kiln. This is effected by digging a hole in the centre of the Low and then running a flue horizontally at its foot. Sad to say, the very stone-cist of the Ancient-Briton has often been appropriated to form this flue-channel. (See *Diggings*, pp. 49, 153, 154, 157.)

In some cases, the mound-builders have taken advantage of a natural protuberance of the rock. Thus, a hillock of imposing proportions is found on examination to consist only of a very thin stratum of soil, and the interment consequently lies very near the surface.

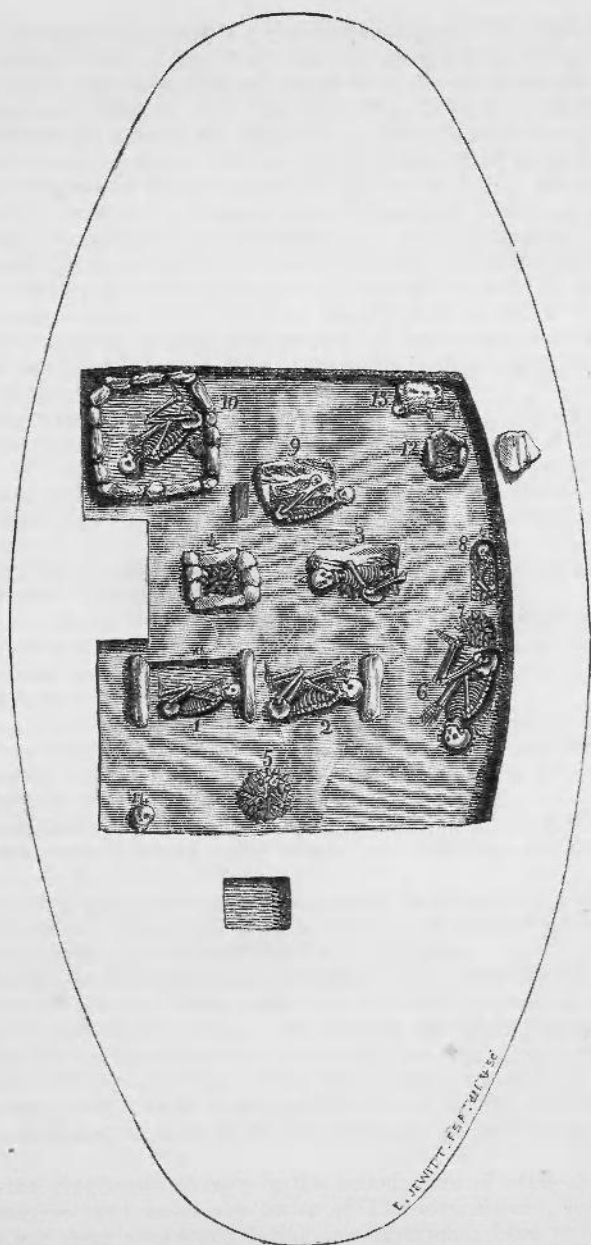
Sometimes, again, a natural fissure in the rock is utilised for burial purposes. Each end of the fissure is filled up with loose stones, the body is deposited in the natural cist, and the barrow raised over it to the desired altitude (p. 142).

In some cases the body is found to have been laid on a bed of fern leaves, a second layer of leaves being strewn over the body, and the soil then heaped over all (p. 35).

The contracted position of the body seems universal among the primeval entombments (p. 27). And it is curious to find in these early burials so large a proportion of the skeletons of young children.

Oliver Cromwell has had many iniquities thrust upon him, but we believe the first instance of his being made responsible for the contents of a Keltic barrow is that here recorded. The tumulus near *Pike Hall* (a spot well remembered by the readers of the *Complete Angler*) was held by the adjacent villagers to be "the burial-place of those who had fallen in Oliver Cromwell's wars," while a bronze relic found among the remains was explained to be "a brass plate from the hat of one of the soldiers" (p. 183).

On the progressive change in the manufacture of arms and modes of sepulture, we read, under the notice of *Throwley Barrow*, page 155:—"The few stone axes found during our researches have uniformly been associated with the brazen daggers, and were replaced at a slightly later period by the plain axe-shaped celt, but in no other instance have they accompanied an interment by cremation. Indeed, the instances in which the brass dagger has been found with burnt bones bear so small a propor-



Plan of Interments in a Barrow, called Top Low, Swinscoe, Staffordshire.

tion to those in which it accompanies the skeleton, that we may conclude there was a marked though gradual change in the mode of burial introduced about the time when the knowledge of metallurgy was acquired. There is, however, evidence that the ancient rite of burial¹ was resumed at a later period, dating but little, if at all, previous to the occupation of the country by the Romans" (p. 155).

Speaking of the mode of depositing the incinerated remains of the Ancient Britons, Mr. Bateman remarks: "From some of the urns (found by Mr. Ruddock, near Whitby) having come into my possession in the state in which they were exhumed, I am enabled to say that they were embedded in charcoal, in an upright position, at an inconsiderable depth below the surface; and that, after the bones were put in the urn, an incense-cup was placed upon the deposit, and that then the pieces of the flint weapons, fractured by the heat of the funeral pyre, were thrown in, sand being lastly heaped over them" (p. 239, and compare the woodcut at page 244: the latter urn from Matlock). We may here take occasion to remark that the numerous woodcuts accompanying the letterpress form one of the most valuable portions of the volume.

By the kindness of Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt, we are enabled to present to our readers a few of the engravings which illustrate Mr. Bateman's last work. The elliptical barrow here represented in plan, is that at Swinscoe, Staffordshire, of which mention has been already made; it was explored in 1849 (Diggings, p. 137). Nos. 1, 2, 3, 6, and 10 are the skeletons of adults, accompanied in some cases with articles of flint and bronze. Nos. 5 and 12 consist of bones; 8 and 13 are the skeletons of children; 9 includes an adult and a very young child; No. 4 contained the skeleton of a young hog, with which was found the tine of a stag's horn. (See plan of this tumulus on the next page.)

In the appendix to the volume under consideration, some valuable observations on Keltic pottery will be found (p. 279): the following general classification is proposed, as the result of the author's long experience in barrow-digging. He states that vessels exhumed from Keltic tumuli may be arranged in four classes:—1. Cinerary or sepulchral urns, such as have either contained, or been inverted over, calcined human bones. 2. Incense-cups, so called, although their real purpose is doubtful; they are diminutive vessels, only found with calcined bones, and frequently enclosed in urns of the first class. 3. Small vases, probably intended to contain food, and usually found with unburnt bodies, but not unfrequently with burnt bones, although never containing them. 4. Drinking cups, tall and highly ornamented vessels, so named by Sir R. C. Hoare, no doubt in true accordance with their use. Of these four divisions numerous characteristic examples are figured in both of Mr. Bateman's works; specimens from various localities have also been given in this Journal. The urns of the first class, it may be observed, are mostly of large dimensions, of coarse paste mixed with gravel, &c.; the ornament is impressed, usually chevrons, or assuming a reticulated appearance. They occasionally contain weapons of flint, and, in rare instances, relics of bronze. These urns present considerable variety in fashion and dimensions. Several remarkable examples of this more ancient class, found in Lincolnshire, are figured in Mr. Trollope's memoir on barrows at Broughton (*Archæological Journal*, vol. viii. pp. 343,

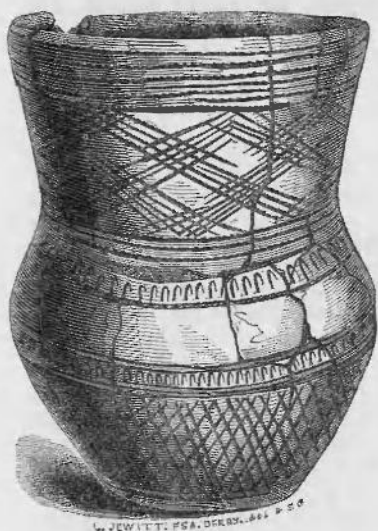
¹ This refers to burial by cremation.

344). The so-called incense-cups vary in height from $1\frac{1}{2}$ inch to about 3 inches; there is reason to suppose that they do not accompany the earliest interments; the ornament is usually incised, but such cups are occasionally quite plain. These little vessels have, in many cases, two perforations at the side, and, although rarely, two at opposite sides, as if for suspension. They are much more plentiful, as Mr. Bateman informs us, in Yorkshire than in other counties; several excellent examples were found, however, by Sir R. C. Hoare, and are figured in his *Ancient Wilts*, vol. i. pp. 103, 114, 119, &c. One found in a "bell barrow," at Beedon, Berks, is figured in this *Journal*, vol. vii., p. 66, with another discovered in Worcestershire, on the heights near Great Malvern; a remarkable specimen, found in a large urn in Dorset, is also given in vol. xii. p. 193. A variety, elaborately fashioned with open work, and disinterred at Bulford, Wilts, appears to be unique, and may be cited as a relic possibly of the ancient skill in producing the *fictilia* termed *bascaudæ*, which were amongst exports from Britain to Rome. The third division, proposed by Mr. Bateman, comprises vessels for food, and includes vases of various fashion and ornament, measuring from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height. Examples occur, especially in the northern counties, highly finished and carefully ornamented with impressed corded lines or punctures, and occasionally a peculiar feature deserves notice,—a groove round the upper part in which are four projections at intervals, sometimes pierced in the direction of the groove as if for a small cord. In a single specimen noticed by Mr. Bateman, these projections form small handles or ears, and he describes another, found in Yorkshire, impressed with a very unusual ornament in form of a cross (*Diggings*, p. 285). It is scarcely needful to remind our readers how interesting a comparison may be made between some of these vessels and those of the "Stone Period" found in Denmark, amongst which specimens occur with ears or lateral perforations, such as have been described, and probably for suspension. See Worsaae, *Afbildninger*, &c., and the *Primeval Antiqu. of Denmark*, transl. by Thoms, p. 21, &c.

The fourth class, designated drinking cups, includes specimens of most skilful workmanship; they occur plentifully in Wilts, in Derbyshire, and the northern counties, although comparatively rare in Yorkshire; in all cases noticed by our author they accompanied skeletons, with flint weapons of superior description and they were placed behind the shoulders. There is evidence that they belong to a period when metal was almost unknown, but in one or two instances a diminutive bronze awl has been noticed with vessels of this class. We are indebted to the courtesy of Mr. Llewellyn Jewitt for the accompanying illustrations (see next page), presenting examples characteristic of these richly ornamented vessels. *

One, here figured, was found in a barrow on Alsop Moor, called Green Low, accompanying a skeleton deposited in a cavity in the rock, serving as a cist. The cup lay behind the shoulders; amongst other relics were, a spherical piece of pyrites, a fine flint dagger, barbed arrow-heads, pins of bone, with instruments made from the ribs of some animal and resembling mesh-rules for netting. The remains of a child lay near the hips of the skeleton, which was that of a man in the prime of life (*Vestiges*, p. 59; *Diggings*, p. 286). The second vessel, of which Mr. Jewitt's woodcut supplies a faithful representation, was found in a cairn or stony tumulus, near Pickering, Yorkshire, and is noticed by Mr. Bateman as unique, having a handle like that of a modern drinking-mug (see woodcuts). It

lay near the skull ; it measures $5\frac{1}{2}$ inches in height ; the ornamentation is peculiar, consisting of angularly pointed cartouches filled with a reticulated pattern. The skeleton in this interment lay in a contracted posture on its left side ; several calcined instruments of flint were found near it ; over the deposit was a layer of lime, charcoal, and burnt bones (Diggings, p. 209). Of this rare type of cup no other example had fallen under the observation of our author ; another specimen, however, found near Ely, and



Found on Alsop Moor.



Found near Pickering.

formed in like fashion with a handle, was lately exhibited in the temporary Museum at the meeting of the Institute in Peterborough. The unusual ornamentation of the vessel above figured resembles that of a specimen found near Horncastle, and figured in this Journal, vol. xiii. p. 86, from a drawing supplied by the kindness of Mr. Trollope. The cartouches in that instance are arranged, however, horizontally, forming a reticulated design of very singular character. The elaborately scored and impressed cups, of which that from Green Low, above figured, is an excellent example, have repeatedly been found in Northumberland and in the South of Scotland ; a good specimen, deposited with a skeleton in a cist at Amble, near the mouth of the river Coquet, has been given in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. xiv. p. 281.

The classification of the pottery of the earlier periods is a subject of such essential interest and importance to the archæologist, and one upon which Mr. Bateman's researches and observations have thrown so much light, that we have thought it desirable to advert somewhat fully to this valuable and instructive portion of the work under consideration. The urns and other fictile relics of the obscure pre-historic ages are inestimable evidence, not only as regards sepulchral usages, but as exemplifying in some degree the arts or conditions of races in the earlier periods.

In a moral point of view, this volume may be looked upon as a continued sermon : many a stern lesson is here read to us on the uncertainty of life and worldly hopes ; but perhaps none so striking as that contained in the few leaves of introduction. On the sixth page of this preface, Mr. Bateman writes : " When completing the text of this book, I received intelligence of the death of Mr. James Ruddock, of Pickering, Yorkshire, to whose labours I am indebted for the Yorkshire portion of the volume." The next page terminates with Mr. Bateman's signature ; and the date is 1861. Long before this year had elapsed, the author himself was numbered among the dead.

He has left behind him many monuments of his learning and industry, but nothing so enduring as the good name by which he will be long remembered by a wide circle of attached friends.

J. HEWITT.

Archaeological Intelligence.

AN appeal has been tendered by SYLVANUS URBAN, inviting the attention of antiquaries to an effort to extend the circulation of the Gentleman's Magazine, at present too limited to be remunerative. It is believed that many persons, especially amongst our archaeological fellow-labourers throughout the country, would see with regret the discontinuance of so valuable an auxiliary to antiquarian and historical literature, after an existence of more than 130 years. The regularity with which reports of proceedings of the Institute and of kindred Societies in all parts of the realm have recently been given, has proved highly acceptable to the scattered members, conveying early intelligence of discoveries or investigations, which they would not otherwise receive until the comparatively tardy issue of Periodical Transactions. The cause of SYLVANUS URBAN may be cordially commended to all who take part in the promotion of Archaeology and the conservation of National Monuments. It is hoped that through increased support the jeopardy may be averted which now threatens with extinction a publication, the earliest through which taste for those special subjects was aroused in England.