

# ON SOME RECENTLY DISCOVERED BRITANNO ROMAN INSCRIPTIONS.

By W. THOMPSON WATKIN, Esq.

My last paper on the Roman inscriptions found in Britain leaving completed the list of those discovered previously to the publication of Dr. Hubner's work upon the subject (*Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, vol. vii.) in June, 1873, I now propose to give a list of those found from June, 1873, to the end of the year 1875, in number about fifty.

As usual, the stations on the great Wall of Hadrian have yielded the largest proportion. Proceeding along the course of the Wall from the east end, the first station which has yielded an inscription is Newcastle-on-Tyne. Here in June, 1875, in dredging the river near the new Tyne Bridge, a fine altar was found broken in three parts, but each part was brought to the surface by the dredger. It bore the inscription—

NEPTVNO . LE .	
VI	VI
P .	F

*i.e.*, *Neptuno Legio Sexta Victrix Pia Fidelis*, "To Neptune, the Sixth Legion Valiant and Victorious." On its face, between the commencement and termination of the second and third lines, it is richly sculptured with a trident, having a dolphin twisted round its handle.

This inscription I think extremely interesting, for the question arises, on what possible occasion could *the whole of the Legion* dedicate this altar? As dedications to Neptune were invariably made at the commencement or termination of a sea voyage, the only occasion that seems possible was the arrival of the legion in Britain. This leads us to ask, did it disembark in the Tyne? From this altar we infer that such was the case. The legion came to Britain with

Hadrian *circa* A.D. 120. At or about the same time (as we know from an inscription found at Ferentinum) vexillations, each a thousand strong, of the 7th, 8th, and 22nd legions, came to this island. We find a trace of the vexillation of the 8th in the shield of a soldier of that legion, bearing his name, found at the bar at Tynemouth, where he and others had probably been drowned in disembarking. On the safe disembarkation of the 6th legion, it no doubt set up this altar. Had it landed at Richborough or Dover, the altar would certainly have been set up there, instead of waiting until the march from Kent to Northumberland had been accomplished.

In all probability as the legion came to Britain from Germany, it embarked at a Dutch or North German port, and crossed direct to the Tyne.<sup>1</sup>

At Rutchester (*Vindobala*), the fourth station on the line of the Wall, Dr. Bruce found in January, 1875, two inscriptions recently taken out of old walls. They were—

(1.)	(2.)
▷ ARRI	VE FV
	OGEN . S
	VIT . FELIC

(*Lap. Sept.* Nos. 920, 921)

Of the first, which simply reads *Centuria Arrii*, two other examples have been found, and are now preserved in the Newcastle Museum. Of the second little can be said, as it is only a fragment. In the second line we have probably *Genio Sancto*, and in the third *Vitellii Felicis*. Both of these inscriptions have been removed to the Newcastle Museum. At the same time, Dr. Bruce found a centurial stone built upside down into the wall of the stackyard, close to the ground. (*Lap. Sept.* No. 918). It bore the inscription—

IIIII  
OPEDIOVI

The first line may, as Dr. Bruce suggests, have originally read *Cohortis tertiæ*, and the second *centuria Pediovi*. It is worthy of remark, however, that the o in the second line,

<sup>1</sup> See my letter on this, in the Newcastle *Daily Journal*, July 31st, 1875. The author of the review of the Lapida-

rium Septentrionale, in the Arch. Journ., vol. xxxii. p. 337, adopts my suggestion.

resembles a q in the original. Dr. Bruce also brought under public notice, at the same time, an altar found about 1820, at Stella or Axwell, in the same neighbourhood, and hitherto inedited. It is now preserved at Dunston Hill, the seat of R. Carr Ellison, Esq., but the inscription is hardly visible. The following letters *are said to be* upon it (*Lap. Sept.* p. 464)—

DO . SVIT  
INSTVL  
SILVANV  
SSMGSS

It is impossible from this to extract any meaning.

During the excavation made by Mr. Clayton (the owner) in the forum at Chesters (*Cilurnum*) in February, 1875, there was brought to light a fine slab, bearing the following inscription—

. ALVIS AVGG  
. ELIX ALA II ASTVR  
. . . . . A

VIRTVS  
AVGG

The first letter in each of the two first lines is broken off. The third line has been purposely erased in the Roman period. The reading appears to be *Salvis Augustis felix ala secunda Asturum Antoniniana*, and as Dr. Bruce interprets it, "So long as the Emperors are safe, the second *ala* of the Asturians will be happy." It is uncertain which Emperors were meant. At any rate, one of them has become unpopular, and been slain by the soldiery or populace, as the second g at the end of the first line has been partially erased (evidently with the intention of obliterating it altogether), and the epithet (probably *Antoniniana*) borne by the cohort has been totally obliterated in the third line, with the exception of the last A. This inscription is on a tablet with a moulding round it, and which is supported by a soldier bearing a standard, on which latter is cut the smaller inscription, reading *Virtus Augustorum*. Here also the erasure of the second g in AVGG has been attempted.

At the same time there was also found, "on a stone of one of the pillars near the south-east angle of the Forum," the following inscription—

BVYO

What this may mean is unknown. The second v has a stroke like a tail turning towards the left, making it somewhat similar to the letter y.

At Carrawburgh (*Procolitia*), Mr. Clayton has excavated the remains of a villa on the west side of the station, in the rooms of which were found the following inscribed altar and four sepulchral inscriptions, which are given by Dr. Bruce in the appendix to the *Lapidarium Septentrionale*—

(1.)

DAE . FOR  
VITALIS  
FECIT  
LIB . MER.

(3.)

H . I . BAT  
I . HILARIO  
HEREDES . F . C .

(2.)

D M  
AEL . COMINDO  
ANNORVM XXXII  
NOBILIANVS . DEC V  
CONIVGI . CARISSIM . P

(4.)

M  
S . MILENI  
FERO  
I . BAT

(5.)

D  
LONGI  
BVC . C

No. 1, which is an altar only 14 in. high, had a ring attached to the top of it for the convenience of carrying. Its reading is *D(e)ae For(tunae) Vitalis fecit lib(ens) mer(ito)* (*Lap. Sept.* No. 924.), "To the goddess Fortune, Vitalis made this willingly to a deserving object."

The tombstone (No. 2) which had been used as a flooring stone, is rather interesting from the fact of the *cognomen* of the deceased lady being a masculine one. Though peculiar, this is not exceptional, as several examples occur upon the Continent. Dr. McCaul instances *Aelia Demetrus* and

*Clodia Optatus*. The reading is *Diis Manibus Aeliae Comindo annorum triginta duo Nobilianus decurio conjugii carissimae posuit*, "To the Divine shades. To Aelia Comindus of thirty-two years (of age), Nobilianus a decurion to (his) dearest wife placed (this)" Above the inscription is a representation of the table on which the last feast was spread. This is No. 926. *Lap. Sept.*

Of No. 3 (which is 927 *Lap. Sept.*) little can be made out, the reading of what is left is plainly, *cohortis primae Batavorum . . . . Hilario, Heredes faciendum curaverunt*. It commemorates a soldier of the first cohort of the Batavians, whose heirs (*heredes*), one of whom was named *Hilarius*, caused this monument to be made.

No. 4 is also a fragment of a tombstone of a soldier, probably the standard bearer (*signifer*), of the first cohort of the Batavians. His *cognomen* appears to have been *Milenus*. What remains is to be read (*Diis*) *M(anibus)* . . . . *S Mileni (signi) fero cohortis primae Batavorum*. This is No. 929 *Lap. Sept.*

No. 5 is another fragment of a tombstone, and commemorates a trumpeter (*buccinator*) of probably the same cohort. His name appears to have been *Longinus* (No. 928 *Lap. Sept.*)

In the summer of 1874, an altar was found in the middle of this same station (*Procolitia*), bearing the following inscription—

GENIO  
HVIVSLO  
CI TEXAND  
ET SV . . . .  
VEX COHOR  
II NERVIOR  
VM

The fourth line is at the end very indistinct, but the remaining letters are either AVIS or NVC. Professors Hübner and Mullenhoff read it and the end of the third line as *Texandri et Sunuci*, the names of two tribes who were neighbours of the *Nervii*, and thus suggesting that a detachment of these tribes were serving in the Nervian cohort. The whole would then read—*Genio hujus loci Texand(ri) et Su(nuci) vexillarii cohortis secundae Nerviorum, i. e.*, "To the Genius of this

place the Texandri, and Sunuci, vexillarii of the second cohort of the Nervii." Dr. Bruce thinks that the fourth line is *et Suavis*, and that the altar was erected by two persons named Texander and Suavis, who were *vexillarii*, or standard bearers of the cohort. As the fourth line is so indistinct, either of these readings may be adopted.

Soon afterwards there was discovered at the same station the upper right hand corner of a large inscribed slab. Divested of ligatures, it appears to read

VI  
IANER.

but it is impossible to extract its meaning. (*Lap. Sept.* No. 940).

During the summer of 1875, an altar bearing the inscription

MINERVAE  
QVNAS  
TR. CHICI  
VSLM

was found. This is a puzzling inscription. Dr. Bruce and Mr. Clayton read it as *Minervae Quinias praefectus cohortis primae Civium Romanorum votum solvit libens merito*. No letter I is visible at present in the second line, but in accordance with this reading I think it probable that that letter was ligulate with both the v and n. In the third line the letters t and r are to me plainly ligulate, but Dr. Bruce thinks the ligulate form is PR. Of the remainder of this line I would read it C . H . I CI, and expand it as *cohortis primae Celtiberorum* as the first cohort of the Celtiberi was, as we know from the Sydenham tabula, at one time in Britain. What remains after the last c seems to be simply a perpendicular stroke, and is not sufficient to warrant c . R. when we have previously had no intimation of such a cohort as one composed solely of Roman citizens being in this island. Examples of *cohortes civium Romanorum*, however, occur on the Continent. I would thus read the whole, "To Minerva, Quinias, tribune of the first cohort of the *Celtiberi* willingly performs his vow to a deserving object."<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> From subsequent discoveries at *Pro-coltia* it is probable that instead of the *Celtiberi*, the first cohort of the *Cugerni* is meant.

The whole of these inscriptions found at *Cilurnum* and *Procolitia* are preserved by John Clayton, Esq., in his Museum at Chester.

Proceeding from the wall to its supporting stations there was found on the 22nd December, 1873, by Mr. Humphrey Senhouse, outside the Roman station at Ellenborough, a fine slab inscribed—

IOVI OPTIM. MAXI.  
CAPITOLINO  
PRO SALVT AN  
TONINI AVG  
PII POSTVMI  
VS ACILIANVS  
PRAEF COH. I. DELM.

It was in one of the series of small round pits, where in 1870 seventeen Roman altars were discovered, and was found lying on its face four feet deep. It is 2 ft. 7 in. broad, by 2 ft. in height, and the inscription is flanked by handsome lunette ornaments. This officer (Postumius Acilianus) has left several inscribed altars at the same station. The inscription is of the time of Antoninus Pius, and evidently reads, "*Jovi Optimo Maximo Capitolino pro salute Antonini Augusti Pii, Postumius Acilianus praefectus cohortis primae Delmatorum,*" i.e., "To Capitoline Jove, the best, the greatest, for the safety of Antoninus Augustus the Pious, Postumius Acilianus praefect of the first cohort of the Dalmatians" (erected this). It is the only known dedication to the Capitoline Jupiter found in Britain.

At Brougham in 1874, there were found outside the Roman station there, an inscribed altar and a sepulchral stone, which were at the time communicated to me by Lord Brougham. The altar is engraved by Dr. Bruce in the *Lapidarium Septentrionale* (No. 941, Appendix), but his reading of the inscription upon it, is I think very erroneous. Having been found lying with the inscribed face uppermost, the latter has suffered much from the effects of moisture, and is also much worn. I received a photograph of it from Dr. Bruce, and also a cast from Lord Brougham. Dr. Bruce said that all he and Dr. Hubner could then make out were the first and last lines, but he gave me his guesses at the

remainder. His reading of the whole inscription at this time appears to have been—

“ DEOMARTI  
 . . . . . BOS  
 . . . . IANVARIO  
 . . ISNEOS  
 . . . . . NICIANO  
 DOMV . . . .  
 PRO SE ET SOVIS.”

From careful inspection of the photograph and cast, I read the inscription --

DEOMARTI . S  
 AN DEABVS DIIISQ  
 . . . . . NVMERIV.  
 . . XHIS . . . . .  
 STRATONICIANO  
 . . . . . M  
 PRO SE ET SVIS.

The A and N at the commencement of the second line are ligulate, and the whole of the line seemed to me very clear. What Dr. Bruce takes for an o in the last line in his reading SOVIS seemed to me to be clearly one of the usual leaf stops, as it had a tail like a q. On my forwarding the photograph to Mr. C. Roach Smith he confirmed my reading of the inscription, and suggested that the commencement of the 6th line was ROMA (*norum*).

Subsequently to receiving my reading, Lord Brougham, from the cast and from the altar itself (which is now in his possession) gave the following reading—

“ DEO MARTI  
 N . DEALVCHISQ  
 SRNVMERIV  
 . . HISNTOO  
 . . PATONICIANO  
 ROAM . . . . . M  
 PRO SE ET SQVIS,”

thus partially confirming my reading of the 2nd, 3rd, 4th,



and 5th lines. *Now* Dr. Bruce in the *Lapidarium* gives the reading—

“DEO MARTI

. . . . .

AVR. IANVARIVS

EX. III . . . NEQQ

. . STRATONICIANO

ROMA VM

PRO SE ET SOVIS,”

thus still ignoring the second line (one of the clearest). The third and commencement of the fourth lines as given by Dr. Bruce are different from any other reading, and I think quite wrong. The NEQQ at the end of the third line is, I believe, correct, Lord Brougham having been mistaken in reading them as N. TOO. In the fifth line Dr. Bruce adopts my reading of STRATONICIANO, but leaves a space for other letters before the s, which certainly does not exist on the stone. His adoption of Mr. Roach Smith's ROMA in the sixth line is also erroneous, but his seventh line is correct with the exception of the leaf stop being counted as a letter.

Lately I received another copy of the same photograph of the stone from Dr. Bruce, and by careful observation of it, and the use of a powerful glass, made out that the sixth line is DONAVIT ARAM, and that the whole inscription should read thus, as far as it can be made out :—

DEO MARTI . S

ANDEA(B)VS DIHSQ

. . . NVMERIVS

EX HIS . NEQQ

STRATONICIANO

DONAVITARAM

PRO SE ET SVIS.

In English—A soldier, whose name was Numerius, a Spaniard, and whose regiment appears to have been the *Numerus Equitum Stratonicianorum* gives this altar for himself and his family to the holy god Mars, to the goddesses and gods. The peculiarity of three i's in DIHS will be noticed.

The tombstone which is incomplete is more simple. The

upper portion is lost, as are likewise some of the last letters of the two first lines which remain. As it stands it is this—

PLVM . .  
LVNARI .  
TITVLPOS  
CONIVGI  
CARISI  
M

Dr. Bruce's reading (*Diis Manibus*) *Plumae Lunaris titulum posuit conjugi carissimae*, is certainly wrong. I think that Dr. McCaul is correct when in his review of the *Lapidarium Septentrionale* in the *Canadian Journal*, he states that the first line stands for *Plu(s) M(inus)*, and that the name of the deceased, with the number of years she lived, has preceded it. The husband being uncertain whether the age was stated correctly, has added after the numerals *plus minus* (more or less); the remainder *Lunaris titulum posuit conjugi carissimae*, tells us that Lunaris placed this to his dearest wife. The only other example of the phrase *plus minus* found in England, occurs at this same station, Brougham (*Lap. Sept.* No. 814.)

At South Shields where (at the Lawe) the site of a Roman station was known to exist, great excavations were made during the spring and summer of 1875, with the result of laying bare the walls and gateways of the station and many interesting buildings within it. A large number of miscellaneous articles were discovered, but the only inscriptions brought to light were—

(1.)  
COH. V. G

(2.)  
. . OCVLVS. PP.

(3.)  
A. C

The first of these occurs on a number of tiles. When the first fragment of one of these tiles was found the Secretary of the Excavation Committee sent me a copy of it asking for a reading. The letters given in his copy were HVC. I replied that in my opinion the last letter was G not C, and that the tile when whole was inscribed COH. V. G, i.e., *Cohors quinta Gallorum*. As, however, this gentleman (Mr. Blair) assured me that the letter was C, I concluded that *Cohors quinta Callaecorum* might be intended. Future discoveries,

however, made it plain that my first conjecture was right, several tiles with the inscription COH. V. G having been found, so that the fragment first discovered probably bore an imperfect impression.

This 5th cohort of the Gauls has left an inscribed altar at Cramond near Edinburgh, and which is now preserved in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, in that city.

The second inscription is merely a portion of the last line of an inscribed tablet, the moulding of which runs immediately beneath the letters. Both the commencement and termination of the line are wanting, but I take the remainder to be part of the words (PR)OCVLVS. PP., *i.e.*, *Proculus prae-positus*, the abbreviation FEC. or POS., for *fecit* or *posuit* having probably followed it.

The third inscription, which consists solely of the letters A. C. occurs on several small stones and tiles found at the station. The local antiquaries (with whom I have had considerable correspondence) are very anxious to interpret this as *A(elia) C(lassica)* and thus identify the station with the *Tunnocelum* of the *Notitia*. Were the *Cohors Aelia Classica* meant, I think we should have the abbreviations COH. AEL. CL. or at least AE. CL, and my opinion is, that *at present* the balance of evidence is in favour of *Tunnocelum* having been on the western coast of England rather than the eastern, but until further discoveries occur, the question must remain an open one.

The following *graffiti* inscriptions occur on pieces of "Samian" ware found at this station :—

(1.)	(2.)	(3.)
LINDITI .	REMLI .	NETIPIH .

They are probably the names of the owners of the vessels. Of the third name, I am not sure whether I have given the right reading. The letters TIP in the centre are ligulate, the right hand upper portion of the T is attached to the bow of the P, and the I is formed by a prolongation of the perpendicular stroke upwards.

Leaving the mural neighbourhood, I will now proceed to the site of an ancient Roman town, situated at Charterhouse in Mendip, Somersetshire, where in the autumn of 1873, in gathering together the scorïæ of lead, left on the surface by

the Roman miners, and now smelted by a company formed for the purpose, the following inscribed masses of lead were found. They are described by the Rev. H. M. Scarth in the Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London, 2nd series, vol. vi. p. 188.

(1)

IMP. CAES. ANTONINI. AVG. PII. P. P.

(3)

. . . . NTONINI

. . . . CORVM

(2)

IMP. VESPASIA . . .

(4)

. . . MENIA . . .

The first is an inscription to Antoninus Pius, and is to be expanded—*Imperatoris Caesaris Antonini Augusti Pii Patris Patriae*. The pig on which it occurs is over 18 in. long by 8 in. broad at the bottom, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. on the upper or inscribed surface, and is heavier than any yet found in Britain, its weight being 223 lbs. Two similar pigs bearing exactly the same inscription were found in 1866 on the bank of the river Frome at Bristol, and had evidently come from the same mine. (Archæological Journal, vol. xxiii. p. 277.)

The second inscription is on a portion of another inscribed mass of lead of an entirely different shape. In its present state this mass is 15 in. long,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide, and  $2\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick. It bears the name of *Vespasian*, who reigned A.D. 69-79, is beautifully lettered, and has more the appearance of a thick sheet of lead.

The third inscription is on a portion of a similar mass, which is only 8 in. long,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. wide, and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an in. thick. Its inscription, when entire, has probably been identical with one found at Bruton, in Somersetshire, in the last century, which ran

IMP DVOR AVG ANTONINI

ET VERI ARMENIACORVM

It will be seen that the right-hand portion of this inscription is the same as that recently found. It refers to the Emperors Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus, and its date is between A.D. 164 and A.D. 169.

The fourth inscription is evidently another portion of an identically lettered mass of lead, being part of the word (AR)MENIA(CORVM), but the lead is in this case only  $\frac{1}{2}$  an

in. thick. A block of lead similar to these, but bearing the name of the Emperor Claudius, was found in the sixteenth century at Wookey Hole, near Bruton, Somersetshire, and is described by Leland in his *Collectanea*, vol. v. p. 45, which he considered a "trophy." These recent discoveries, however, settle the question as to the shape and dimensions of the former, which was certainly only an ordinary block bearing the imperial stamp; but it is now lost.

At the same time that these discoveries were made, two fragments of inscriptions on stone were found as follows:—

(1)	(2)
DOMINO	NN
SEPTIMI	RI
	FI

The first is plainly a dedication to the Emperor Septimius Severus, either alone or with his sons, for the first line may be either *Domino* or part of the word *Dominorum*. The second, from the letters NN has probably also been a dedication to some of the conjoint Roman Emperors, but it is too fragmentary for more to be made out of it. I am indebted to the Rev. H. M. Scarth for copies of these inscriptions. Since these were found, Mr. Scarth informs me, that in pulling down an old house in Charterhouse, a portion of an inscribed stone was found, the letters remaining on which were

. M  
AVG  
VO . RES  
ROR FECIT  
IVGENI  
IONOR MA  
ORM IPS  
IC . . R

It will be seen the first half of the lines is wanting. From the M standing alone at the end of the first line, with a leaf stop, the stone is, no doubt, a sepulchral one—this line reading as usual *D(iis) M(anibus)*. The second line is peculiar, and I think may have been misread; if correct, the name of a soldier and MIL . LEG . II . has probably preceded the AVG ( . . . . . *Miles legionis secundae Augustae*),

but I think this would be impossible for want of space. In the third line we may have part of the words (*de s*)*uo res(tituit)* and in the fourth (*So*)*ror fecit*. The fifth, I think, has borne the word *INGENVI*, the *v* being ligulate with the second *n*. In the sixth we have possibly *Honor(ata) Ma(ter)*. In the seventh line the termination is probably part of the word *Ips(ius)*. The last line is too far gone for any attempt at restoration.<sup>3</sup>

At Sea Mills, on the Avon, near Bristol, where there are undoubted traces of a Roman station supposed to be the *Abone* of the 14th Iter of Antoninus, and where numerous remains of buildings, coins, fibulæ, urns, &c., have been found from time to time, there was discovered on the 31st March, 1873, 6 in. below the surface of the ground, an inscribed sepulchral stone bearing the following inscription—

SPES

C . SENTI

There is a leaf stop preceding and following the word *SPES*. Above it is the bust of a female with ear-rings and a rude representation of hair. On the left side of the bust is a well-carved figure of a dog, on the right the figure of a cock. Above the head is a small star of five rays. The bust is surrounded by a semicircular line. The present height of the stone is 1 ft. 10 in., but it is more than doubtful whether it is the whole of the original tombstone. There appears to be a portion broken off at the base. It was first published in the Bristol papers by Mr. I. F. Nicholls of the Bristol City Library. That gentleman sent me in May of the same year a woodcut of the stone, asking for a reading and explanation of the inscription. I gave the opinion that it was erected to a favourite daughter by her father Caius Sentius, who looked upon her as his “hope,” or “joy,” or “delight,” and that the animals carved on each side of the bust were merely representations of her pets. I sent the wood-cut to my friend Mr. H. C. Coote, F.S.A., who had the stone photographed

<sup>3</sup> In the Journal of the British Archaeological Association, vol. xxxii. p. 136, it is said that Dr. Hübner, “with great reserve,” gives the following restoration of the inscription—

(D). M

(C . CORNELIO) . AVO

(TO . FRATRIS)VO RES

TITVTA SO) ROR . FECIT

(MILITI COHORTIS) IV. CENT.

FLAVI(I) HONOR(I) MAXIMI)

“But,” the account adds, “there are many difficulties, and Mr. C. Roach Smith reads it rather as a votive, than a funeral tablet.” I still hold the view that the inscription is sepulchral, but regard Dr. Hübner’s reading as utterly unwarranted.

and pronounced it Mithraic ; the head he considered to be that of Mithras crowned, and the dog and cock Mithraic emblems. This view he subsequently published (see Proc. Soc. of Antiq. vol. vi., 2nd series, p. 68, where also the views of all the other writers named below are given). The Rev. H. M. Scarth considered it to be Christian, and that the dog and cock were Christian emblems. The Cavaliere Visconti took much the same view. Dr. McCaul thought it might be either Pagan or Christian. The Cavaliere de Rossi, Mr. A. W. Franks, and Professor Hübner, took the same view as myself, so far as regards its being a *Pagan* Roman tombstone ; but only the latter agreed with me as to the animals being pets or play-fellows of the deceased, and as to a *daughter* of Caius Sentius being commemorated, whilst Mr. Franks and Mr. Scarth considered it commemorated his *wife*, and that her name was *Spes*. Dr. Hübner also considers *Spes* as a proper name, and in this he may possibly be right, as there are many examples of it. In any case the reading is *Spes C(aii) Senti(i)*.

I recently inspected, at the British Museum, a Roman tile, which bore upon it the inscription—

D . N . VOC .

My friend Mr. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., had previously informed me of its existence. It was found lately in Cannon Street, London. Both Mr. Smith and myself read it as *D(ecuria) N(umeri) Voc(ontiorum)*. An *ala* of the *Vocontii* have left an inscription on an altar at Eildon, in Scotland, and there is apparently a trace of them in a fragmentary inscription in the museum at York.

I also noticed at the same time a fragment of a Roman tile found in London which seems not to have been noticed. Most of the tiles found in the City are inscribed P . P . BRI . LON . but the fragment I refer to bears the letters—

P . BRI . SAN .

Is it probable that these abbreviations represent the words *Britanniae Sanctae* which occur upon an altar found at York in 1740 ? (Gough's Camden, vol. iii., p. 303 ; Wellbeloved's Eburacum, p. 92.)

A few days previously, I had noticed in the City of London

Museum, at the Guildhall, a small white (apparently marble) slab, said to have been found in Basing Lane, London, in 1852, inscribed—

D            M  
 ONESIMO . VIX . AN . XIII  
 DOMITIVS ELAINVS PATER .  
 FILIO . B . M .

*i. e., D(iis) . M(anibus) Onesimo vixit annos xiii Domitius Elainus Pater Filio B(ene) M(erenti).* I am not satisfied, however, that this is a genuine Anglo-Roman inscription. From its size and material, it looks very like one of the numerous inscriptions which occur in the *columbaria* of Italy, and may have been brought thence, like many other similar inscriptions now extant in England.

In a field between Great Horwood and Winslow (co. Bucks), there was found, in 1873, a Roman silver drinking cup, containing several other articles of silver, including two spoons with oval bowls, decorated with a kind of ribbed or feathery pattern. One of the bowls bears the inscription—

VENERIA . VIVAS

(Proc. Soc. of Antiq., vol. vi., 2nd series, p. 81.) Inscriptions of this nature frequently occur. *MISE VIVAS* is on a ring found on the Gog Magog Hills, Cambridgeshire; and *VOLANTI VIVAS* on the back of a large altar found at Ellenborough. Its meaning is simply, in this case, "Veneria, may'st thou live," or "Long life to thee, Veneria."

In September, 1873, at the High Cross in Leicester, some workmen, at about 10 ft. from the surface of the ground, came upon a small piece of drab coloured or bluish lias limestone, about  $2\frac{1}{8}$  in. long, with a quadrangular termination nearly  $1\frac{1}{4}$  in. square, on which is cut a circular medallion, bearing a reversed inscription, like a seal, in two lines, reading—

C . PAL  
 GRACILIS

Underneath this inscription, which appears never to have been finished, as there are lines marked on the stone as if for the purpose of continuing it, is the representation of a gro-



tesque human head. This stone was first noticed by Mr. C. Roach Smith, in the *Builder*, Nov. 15, 1873, and subsequently by Mr. Franks in the *Proc. Soc. of Antiq.*, vol. vi. (2nd series), p. 272. Professor Hübner reads it as *C(aii) Pal(furii) Gracilis*. Roman glass and pottery were found near it. Mr. Franks thinks that it has been intended for an oculist's stamp similar to that found at Wroxeter (*Archæological Journal*, vol. vii., p. 358), and that the name of the drug was intended originally to be engraved, on the parallel lines, but that idea being abandoned, the head was subsequently scratched on it. It is now in the Leicester Museum.

At Leicester, also, in North Bond Street, was found, in 1874, in excavating for the foundations of additional premises for Messrs. Fielding and Johnson, a large quantity of Roman pottery, "Samian" ware, Castor and Upchurch ware, some vessels bearing the potters' names, and three fragments of Roman glass vessels of a bluish green colour, coated in parts with a prismatic incrustation. Two of the fragments are simply ribbed or fluted, but the third is enriched with figures of gladiators (or soldiers) about an inch in height. Only two of these figures are entire; they bear a short sword with a shield, and are helmeted similar to those found on Samian ware, and on glass in London, &c. An inscription has run along the upper margin of the bowl, of which the following portion remains—

— VS SPICVLVS COLVMBVS CALAM —

which probably gave the names of the gladiators beneath it. The figures are in relief, and the vessel, which is 3 in. in diameter, would appear to have been moulded in two portions. This is also, I believe, in the Leicester Museum. That this vessel came from the Continent seems certain from a similar drinking vessel of yellow glass bearing an almost identical inscription (if not exactly similar) having been found at Chavagnes in La Vendée in 1848. It is engraved by M. A. Deville in his "*Histoire de la Verrerie*" (Paris, 1873), pl. xlix. fig. A, and is inscribed SPICVLVS COLVMBVS CALAMVS HOLES PETRAITES PRVDES PROCVLVS COCVMBVS.

Somewhat similar to this is the fragment of another glass cup found at Canterbury, and in the possession of Mr. J. Brent there, embellished with the figure of a *quadriga* being

driven by a charioteer. It also has borne an inscription above the figures, of which only the termination (in relief) of a name is visible as follows :—

— MVS .

(Proc. Soc. Antiq., vol. vi. 2nd series, p. 377.)

At Chester, in June, 1874, in the course of some excavations on the Roodee for a new sewer, outside the walls of the city, a Roman tombstone was found, in fair preservation, about 3 ft. from the surface. It is formed of red sandstone, and bears the inscription—

D . M .

FL . CALLIMOR

PHI . VIX . ANI . XXXXII

ET SERAPIONI . VIX

ANN . III . M . VI . THESA

EVS . FRATRI ET FILIO

F . C .

*i. e., Diis Manibus Flavii Callimorphi vixit annis xxxxii et Serapioni vixit annis iii mensibus vi. Thesaeus fratri et filio faciendum curavit.* “To the divine shades of Flavius Callimorphus, who lived forty-two years, and of Serapion who lived three years and six months, Thesaeus to (his) brother and son caused (this) to be made.” Above the inscription is the representation of a recumbent figure of an adult and a child, and a table on which is a lamp and three urns. The whole is surmounted by a pediment, and, with the exception of this particular feature, is very similar to a tombstone discovered at Chester in 1861, and now preserved at the Water Tower Museum in the same city. (*Collectanea Antiqua*, vol. vi. pl. viii. fig. 1). The recently discovered stone, which is 4 ft. in height, 2 ft. 4 in. broad and 7 in. in thickness, is now preserved in the Museum of the Chester Archæological Society.

At Caerleon, during the year 1874, there was found a stone tablet 18 in. long by 6 in. wide, bearing within an ornamental border an inscription, given by Mr. King in the *Archæological Journal*, vol. xxxii. p. 330, as—

	P	X
COH . II . 7 LIVIANA	F	X
		II
		X

I have not seen the stone itself, but from a squeeze sent to me by Mr. J. E. Lee of Caerleon, I have not the least hesitation in saying that this is an erroneous reading. The commencement is certainly COH . II . 7 FLA ; after this only the upper portion of two or three letters seems visible, and at the end of the word is an inverted A. The letters P . F following, are also inverted, and the numerals at the close are thus arranged—

X

II

X

X

Mr. King's expansion, too, *Liviniana*, seems very singular ; but until the stone is correctly read it would be premature to discuss the point.

At the "ballast hole," near the railway station at Biggleswade (Beds), there was found, at the commencement of 1873, a Roman oculist's stamp. Numerous examples of this class of antiquities have previously been found both in Britain and on the Continent. The present one is described (Proc. Soc. of Antiq., vol. vi. 2nd series, p. 39) as "a piece of quadrilateral steatite, measuring 2 in. by  $1\frac{5}{8}$  in. in surface, and  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. in thickness. The four edges or borders bear each of them two lines of inscriptions in small Roman capitals, incuse and reversed, and consequently reading from right to left. The sides or top and bottom of the stamp have in this case also inscriptions of a graffiti character and reading from left to right. The edges of the stamp are more or less bevelled."

The inscriptions on the edges as they at present exist, and being freed from ligatures, are—

C . VAL . AMANDI  
DIOXVM AD . REVMATIC

C . VAL . AMANDI  
STACTVM AD . CA .

C . VAL . VALENTINI  
DIAGLAVC POST IMP . LIP

C . VAL . VALENTINI  
MIXTVM . AD . CL

"The *graffiti* on the top and bottom, two on each, are merely ready indications to the person using it which stamp he was to take. For example, near inscription 1 are scratched the letters DIOX; near inscription 2 we have STAC. Turning it up the other side we have, near the edge of 3, DIAGLAUC, and near the edge of 4, MIXT."

There appears to be the peculiarity on this stone of two oculists, Caius Valerius Amandus and Caius Valerius Valentinus being named; probably they were relatives.

The first inscription should be expanded—*Caii Valerii Amandi Diorum ad Reumatica*, "The Dioxum of Caius Valerius Amandus for Rheumatica," probably, as Mr. C. Knight Watson observes, meaning "runnings at the eyes." The word DIOXVM enables us to read correctly the inscription on one of these stamps found at Bath in 1731, and of which much has been written both in England and on the Continent, especially by Sir J. Y. Simpson in the *Edinburgh Medical Journal*, March, 1851, and by Dr. McCaul (*Br. Rom. Inscr.*, p. 179).

The inscription No. 2 is to be read, judging from other examples, *Caii Valerii Amandi Stactum ad Caliginem*, "The Stactum of Caius Valerius Amandus for blindness."

No. 3 reads, *Caii Valerii Valentini Diaglaucium post impetum Lippitudinis*, "The Diaglaucium of Caius Valerius Valentinus (to be applied) after a fit of runnings at the eyes." According to Pliny, this Diaglaucium was made from a kind of poppy.

No. 4 reads, *Caii Valerii Valentini Mixtum ad Claritudinem*, "The Mixtum of Caius Valerius Valentinus for clearness of the eyes."

In the years 1872-3-4-5 considerable excavations were made at York for the formation of a new railway station. During their progress a large Roman cemetery, outside the wall of the city, was partially cut through in places. Amongst a vast number of interesting remains discovered, including nearly thirty stone sarcophagi, were nine inscriptions, one of which is given by Dr. Hübner (No. 1343, p. 307), but the remainder were found subsequently to the publication of his work. The first of these to be described is a tombstone, 4 ft. high and circular, with a portion of the face cut away

in front to prepare it for the inscription. Only the three first lines of this are legible, which are,—

HYLLO  
ALVMNO  
CARISSIMO

.....  
.....

It plainly reads, "To Hyllus, the dearest adopted one," and the inscription is very similar to one found at Old Penrith, and now preserved by Lord Lonsdale at Lowther Castle (*Lap. Sept.*, No. 801).

Four other inscriptions found during the same excavations were,—

<p>(1)</p> <p>D . E . O . GENIO LOCI V . S . L . M</p>	<p>(2)</p> <p>MEMORIAE C . BASSAEI . IVLI ..... LICIS . FILI . SVI ... VLCISSI . .</p>
--	--

<p>(3)</p> <p>D . M . VLPIAE . FELICISSIMAE QVAE VIXIT . ANNIS .. MENSES . XI . DIES</p>	<p>(4)<sup>4</sup></p> <p>D . M .</p>
--	---------------------------------------

...  
P . . . . . NT VLPIVS FELIX ET  
ANDRONICA  
..... TES

The first of these occurs upon an altar, three of which were found, but the other two were uninscribed. Its reading is peculiar, *Deo Genio Loci Votum Solvit Libens Merito*, "To the god, the genius of the place, (he) performs his vow willingly to a deserving object." No name is given of the person who dedicated the altar. This is the first occasion in England where the word *Deo* has been found preceding *Genio Loci*. In this case also it has the peculiarity of having a stop between each letter of the word DEO.

The second inscription, which is fragmentary, is on a small tablet within a border, and owing to the latter part of

<sup>4</sup> This occurs on the side of a sarcophagus, and means simply *D(iis) M(anibus)*.

it being lost, its full sense cannot be gathered. What remains seems to read, *Memoriae C(aii) Bassaei Ivli(i) (et Felixis Fili(i) Svi (D)ulcissi(mi)*, "To the memory of Caius Bassaeus Julius and of Felix his sweetest son." The name of the wife and mother probably succeeded, as no doubt she erected the stone.

The third inscription is on an *ossuarium* of lead, 18 in. high, which was found full of burnt bones. Within a border on the side of the vessel is the inscription, which should no doubt read—*D(iis) M(anibus) Ulpiae Felicissimae quae vixit annis . . . menses xi (et) dies . . . P(osueru)nt Ulpius Felix et . . . . . Andronica (paren)tes, i. e.,* "To the divine shades of Ulpia Felicissima, who lived . . . years, eleven months and . . . days, Ulpius Felix and . . . . . Andronica (her) parents placed (this)." This is the first vessel of the kind known to have been found in England. The ashes found in it are apparently, from the inscription, those of a young girl, whose age is unfortunately mostly obliterated. The *ossuarium* has a lid with a sort of cupola surmounting it. The names *Ulpius Felix* and *Ulpia Felicissima* occur in inscriptions found in Italy.

The remaining three inscriptions found at York are all most interesting. They are—

(1)

D

M

 FL . VI BELLATORIS DEC COL EBORACEN<sup>s</sup>

VIXIT ANNIS XXVIII MENS

(2)

DOMINE VICTOR

VINCAS FELIX

. . . . .

(3)

D	VOL . IRE . . . .
	ARIMANI . . . .

The first of these is on the side of a sarcophagus, and gives the first confirmation of the fact of *Eboracum* (or *Eboracum*) having been a Roman *Colonia*. Camden tells us of another sarcophagus having been found at York, mentioning a *sevir* of *Eboracum*, and Dr. Gale (*Antonini Iter Britanniarum*, p. 24), who saw it at Hull, engraves it; so also does Horsley, who saw it at the same place (*Brit. Romana*, Yorkshire, No. 10). The letters *VIR . COL . EBOR*; were perfectly clear to all these authors. Horsley restored

some of the missing letters, reading it IIIIVIR . COL . EBOR ; but succeeding antiquaries have somehow or other looked upon the inscription as doubtfully read. Hence the value of the new discovery, the reading of which appears to be, *D(iis) M(anibus) Fl(a)vi(i) Bellatoris Dec(urionis) Col(oniae) Eboracens(is) vixit annos xxviii menses . . . .* The remainder, including the whole of the last line, is illegible. The D . M . is on the side of the cover. The translation is, "To the divine shades of Flavius Bellator, a decurion of the Eboracensian colony, who lived 29 years . . . months, &c."

No. 2 is a most peculiar inscription. It occurs upon an oblong tessera made of bone, perforated at one end, as if for suspension, which is about 5 inches long and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  inch broad. From the use of the word *Dominus*, I think it probable that the inscription is Mithraic, but it may be read in several ways. Dr. Hübner, who since the publication of his *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum* has treated of this inscription in his *Inscriptiones Britanniae Christianae*, p. 85, (No. 19, Appendix), thinks that *Felix* in this case was the name of a gladiator. He also protests against the inscription being considered Christian, as some antiquaries have thought.

No. 3 is still more puzzling. It is inscribed on the base of a statue which is headless, and holds in its left hand what are apparently two keys. Mithras is frequently represented as holding the same. The termination of both lines of the inscription is wanting, and there has been in all probability a continuation of the inscription below, which is also now lost. In the *York Herald* of the 30th August, 1875, I published a reading of the inscription which, now that I have obtained a photograph of the stone, seems erroneous. It was *D(ecimus) Vol(usius) Ire(naeus) Arimani(o)*. From the photograph it seems that after the last *i* in *Arimani*, is what appears to be the first portion of the letter *v*, so that the word *Arimanius* may have been given in full. The letter *D*, at the commencement, is also outside a line running down the side and over the top of the inscription (as if it were in the form of a tablet). Can the letter *M* have been at the termination of the first line outside of the border, and the inscription thus have been a sepulchral one?

*Arimanius*, who was the same as the Persian god Ahriman, was considered to be the evil deity in opposition to Mithras, who was the good or beneficent deity. If this

be a statue of him, it is the first that has been found in Britain, though several dedications to him have been found on the Continent. (See *Orelli*, No. 1933, vol. i. p. 345 ; also *Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum*, vol. iii., Nos. 3414 and 3415). This inscription was found under part of the old city wall, and the bone tablet in a stone sarcophagus. The whole of these inscriptions found at York are now preserved in the Museum of that city.

At Jedburgh there has been discovered, built into a staircase of the ruined Abbey, a Roman inscription, of which, from the copies I have received, the following seem to be the only extant letters :—

IOM  
 . AT IOR DEO  
 RVM CAESA  
 . . VI  
 SEVER TRIB

The inscription is apparently much defaced, but in the first line the letters IOM are plain, and seem succeeded by v ; then after another obliterated letter, there appears to be the letter E. The first letter of the second line seems to be L. In the fourth line there seem to be two leaf stops or ornaments in succession, preceding the letters VI. It is difficult to give any satisfactory reading of the inscription. *I(ovi) O(ptimo) M(aximo)* in the first line is certain, what follows is uncertain. Can it be, *Conservatori Deorum Caesarum* ? In the fourth and fifth lines I think we have

(1) *VLIUS SEVER(us) TRIB(unus)*.

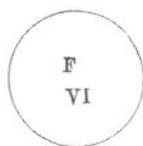
At the meeting of the Institute at Canterbury in July, 1875, there was exhibited a small inscribed Roman altar of white statuary marble 14½ inches high, bearing the following inscription, the last line of which is somewhat obscure.

D . M . (S)  
 CELIE . MAXSI  
 ME . Q . V . AN . X  
 ET . ELIO . ALEX  
 SANDRO . Q . V .  
 AN . IIX . ELIVS . FE  
 LVMINVS . PA  
 T . PIENT . F . L . F . C

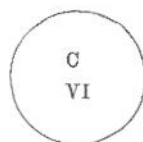
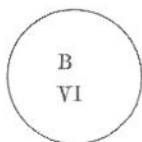
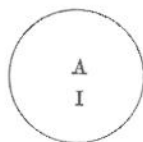


i. e. *D(iis) M(anibus) S(acrum) Celie Maxsime q(uae) v(ixit) an(nos) decem et Elio Alexsandro q(uae) v(ixit) annos octo, Elius Feluminus Pat(er) Pient(issimus) \* \* \* f(aciendum) c(uravit)*. The F. L. in the last line occurring with F. C. after it, I cannot explain, but it may possibly stand for "*Filiis*." This altar is said to have been found at *Petham*, about five miles from Canterbury, in the Stone Street leading to Lymne, *circa* A.D. 1840, but under what circumstances, cannot now be ascertained.<sup>5</sup> I am, however, doubtful whether it is not a Continental example, brought over to England within the last two centuries, though Petham being so near the French coast these altars might be easily imported and afterwards inscribed on arrival. My friend Mr. C. Roach Smith, F.S.A., inclines to the opinion that it is a Continental inscription. Had he thought otherwise, he informs me, that he should have engraved it in his *Collectanea Antiqua*.

To the list of "*Tesseræ*" previously known is to be added one of terra cotta found in Finsbury (London) in August, 1874, with other Roman remains, and now in the possession of the Rev. S. M. Mayhew. (*Vide* "*Journal of the British Archæological Association*," vol. xxxii., pp. 67-8). It is of exactly the same size as that discovered in North Wiltshire (Hübner, *Corpus Insc. Latin.* vol. vii., No. 1265), being 1 inch in diameter and  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick. It bore also the same inscription.



Mr. Mayhew also says in the same article, that he had acquired three others which were found with Roman glass among the effects of a Mr. Lucas, in Staffordshire, but it is not known whence they came, though they were probably found in England. They were inscribed—



<sup>5</sup> See Arch. Journ., vol. xxxiii. p. 263, for account of other discoveries at this place.

I will now, before closing, add a few corrections to Dr. Hübner's work.

The altar found at Dorchester (Oxfordshire), which is his No. 83, and the whereabouts of which he is unable to give, is now preserved at Brome Hall, near Canterbury, the seat of the Oxenden family. I must also add that the Roman altar found at Caermarthen, described by me in the "Archæological Journal," vol. xxxi. p. 344, and which I then concluded to be lost, is now built into the wall of an outhouse at the Vicarage, Caermarthen. I am indebted for this information to Professor Westwood, of Oxford.<sup>6</sup>

With Dr. Hübner's great work, with the two papers which I have previously published containing his omissions, and with this present list of additional inscriptions, the student of Roman epigraphy will have in his hands every inscription known to have been discovered in Britain to the close of the year 1875 unless copies of some others may lie hidden in private (and public) collections of MSS. But as fresh discoveries are almost daily occurring, I hope that with the promised assistance of English antiquaries I may be able to publish an annual list of additional inscriptions found.

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NOTE.—This paper was read on the 3rd June, 1876; but the illness and death of Mr. Burt have delayed its publication. In the meantime (at the very close of 1876) a portion of these inscriptions were published by Professor Hübner, in a paper forming an "Additamenta" to his large work in the *Ephemeris Epigraphica*, vol. iii. pp. 113—155, issued at Rome.

<sup>6</sup> I have also recently rediscovered at Turvey Abbey, near Bedford, the seat of J. L. Higgins, Esq., the altar from Whitley Castle (No. 739 *Lap. Sept.*), which

Dr. Bruce reported as lost. Mr. Higgins says it came into his possession at the sale of the effects of the late Sir Gregory Page Turner at Battlesden in 1824.