

## Archaeological Intelligence.

DISCOVERY OF A ROMAN LEADEN COFFIN AT COLCHESTER.—We are indebted to the Rev. C. L. Acland for the following note:—"In the course of last month, workmen, employed by Mr. Rogers of Colchester, while digging in some ground about sixty yards north of the London Road, not far from St. Mary's Lodge, came, at a depth of about two feet, upon a Roman leaden coffin. It is nearly perfect, and, though much crushed in when found, admits of almost complete restoration. It is rectangular, and measures over all 5ft. 1in. + 1ft. 2in. + 9in. The sides are quite plain; the top is ornamented with a sort of diagonal pattern of raised dots, not hammered up from the back, but impressed upon the mould in which the lead has been cast. The contents were carefully sifted under Mr. Rogers's own superintendence. The coffin was full of gravel, amongst which were found a considerable portion of the upper part of the skull in small pieces, a very few fragments of the larger bones, fourteen of the teeth, and two small gold earrings. These last are of fine wire, which has been passed through the ear and fixed by the two ends, being twisted round the main wire, so that they were obviously not intended to be removed. The fragments of the skull and the teeth shew that the coffin contained the body of a girl of from seventeen to twenty-one years old. In the last number of *Collectanea Antiqua*, Mr. Roach Smith has treated fully of Roman leaden coffins. This is one more for him to add to his list."

ANTIQUARIAN DISCOVERY IN NORWAY.—The following account, which appeared in the *Times* of June 21st, will be read with interest.

"A recent antiquarian discovery of a most remarkable nature has put the scientific world of Scandinavia in commotion, and is attracting the general attention of the Scandinavian nations, fondly attached to their venerable history and ancient folk-lore, and full of devotion for the relics of their great past. In age this discovery cannot cope with the treasure-trove brought forth by Schliemann from Ilian or Grecian soil, nor even with the excavations conducted by German *savans* at Olympia; it only carries us back to a period distant a thousand years from our time, but still it initiates the modern time in the life and customs of bygone ages, and vivifies the cycle of old Northern poems and sagas as fully as the *Iliad* is illustrated by the excavations at Hissarlik or at Mycenæ, or the Pindaric odes by those at Olympia.

"In the south-western part of Christiania Fjord, in Norway, is situate the bathing establishment of Sandefjord, renowned as a resort for rheumatic and nervous patients. The way from this place to the old town of Tonsberg conducts to a small village called Gogstad, near which

is a tumulus or funereal hill, long known in the local traditions under the name of King's-hill (*Kongshaug*). In the flat fields and meadows stretching from the fjord to the foot of the mountains this mole, nearly 150 feet in diameter, rises slowly from the ground, covered with green turf. A mighty king, it was told, had here found his last resting-place, surrounded by his horses and hounds, and with costly treasures near his body, but for centuries superstition and the fear of avenging ghosts had prevented an examination of the supposed grave, until now the spirit of investigation has dared to penetrate into its secrets. The result has been the discovery of a complete vessel of war, a perfect Viking craft, in which the unknown chieftain had been entombed.

"The sons of the peasant on whose ground the tumulus is situate began in January and February this year an excavation; they dug down a well from the top, and soon met with some timber. Happily they suspended their work at this point, and reported the matter to Christiana, where the "Society for the Preservation of Ancient Monuments" took up the task, and sent down Mr. Nicolaysen, an expert and learned antiquary, to conduct the further investigation. Under his able guidance the excavation was carried on in the months of April and May, and brought to a happy conclusion, revealing the whole body of an old Viking vessel, 74 feet long between stem and stern, 16 feet broad amidships, drawing 5 feet, and with twenty ribs. This is by far the largest craft found from the olden times. In 1863 the Danish Professor Engelhardt dug out from the turf-moor at Nydam, in Schlesvig, a vessel 45 feet in length, and in 1867 another was found at Tune, in Norway, 43 feet long; but neither of these can in completeness or appointment be compared with the craft now excavated at Gogstad. The tumulus is now nearly a mile distant from the sea, but it is evident from the nature of the alluvial soil that in olden times the waves washed its base. The vessel had consequently been drawn up immediately from the fjord, and placed upon a layer of fascines or hurdles of hazel branches and moss; the sides had then been covered with stiff clay, and the whole been filled up with earth and sand to form the funereal hill. But the craft is placed with the stem towards the sea. It was the grand imagination of the period that when the great Father of the Universe should call him, the mighty chieftain might start from the funereal hill with his fully appointed vessel out upon the blue ocean.

"In the stem of the ship, first disclosed to the eye, several interesting objects were found. A piece of timber proved to be the stock of the anchor; it was perforated to hold the iron, but of this no more was found than a few remnants. In the bottom the remains of two or three small oaken boats of a very elegant shape were placed over a multitude of oars, some of them for the boats, others, 20 feet long, for the large craft itself. The form of these oars is highly interesting, and very nearly like that still in use in English rowing matches, ending in a small, finely cut blade, some of them with ornamental carvings. The bottom-deals, as well preserved as if they were of yesterday, are ornamented with circular lines. Several pieces of wood had the appearance of having belonged to sledges, and some beams and deals are supposed to have formed compartments dividing the banks of the rowers on each side from a passage or corridor in the middle. In a heap of oaken chips and splinters was found an elegantly-shaped hatchet, a couple of inches long, of the shape

peculiar to the younger Iron Age. Some loose beams ended in roughly-carved dragons' heads, painted in the same colours as the bows and sides of the vessel—to wit, yellow and black. The colours had evidently not been dissolved in water, as they still exist; but, as olive oil or other kinds of vegetable oil were unknown at the time, it is supposed that the colours have been prepared with some sort of fat, perhaps with blubber.

“As the excavation proceeded, the whole length of the vessel was laid bare. All along the sides, nearly from stem to stern, and on the outside, extended a row of circular shields, placed like the scales of a fish; nearly 100 of these are remaining, partly painted in yellow and black, but in many of them the wood had been consumed and only the central iron plate is preserved. From the famous tapestry of Bayeux it is well known that the ancient Viking-vessels had these rows of shields along the freeboard, but it was supposed that they were those used by the warriors in the strife, and only placed there for convenience. It is now clear that they had only an ornamental purpose, being of very thin wood, not thicker than stiff pasteboard, and unable to ward off any serious hit from a sword. In the middle of the vessel a large oaken block, solidly fastened to the bottom, has a square hole for the mast, and several contrivances show that the mast was constructed for being laid down aft. Some pieces of tow and a few shreds of a woollen stuff, probably the mainsail, were found here. In this part of the vessel was built the funeral chamber, formed by strong planks and beams placed obliquely against each other and covering a room nearly 15 feet square. Here, just as expectations were raised to the highest pitch, a bitter disappointment awaited the explorers. Somebody had been there before them. Either in olden times, when the costly weapons of an entombed hero tempted the surviving warriors, or in some more modern period when the greediness for treasure was supreme in men's minds, the funeral hill had been desecrated, its contents pilfered and dispersed, and what has been left is only due to the haste and fear under which the grave-robbers have worked. A few human bones, some shreds of a sort of brocade, several fragments of bridles, saddles, and the like in bronze, silver, and lead, and a couple of metal buttons, one of them with a remarkable representation of a cavalier with lowered lance, are all that has been got together from the heap of earth and peat filling the funeral chamber. On each side of it, however, were discovered the bones of a horse and of two or three hounds. In the forepart of the ship was found a large copper vessel, supposed to be the kitchen caldron of the equipage, hammered out of a sole piece of copper, and giving a most favourable proof of that remote period's handicraft. Another iron vessel with handles, and with the chain for hanging it over the fire, lay close to a number of small wooden drinking-cups. The detailed account of all these objects would claim too much space.

“It was originally the intention to dig out the whole craft from the hill and transport it to the Museum at Christiania. A large proprietor of the neighbourhood, Mr. Treschow, offered to pay the expense. But on closer examination and after consultation with one of the constructors of the navy it was considered unsafe to attempt such a dislocation. It is now the intention to leave the craft where it was found and to protect it against the influence of the weather by building a roof over the hill, only carrying to the museum at Christiania the smaller objects. The Govern-

ment has at once consented to defray the expenses necessary for the purpose."

"As to the time when the tumulus was thrown up, there is no doubt among the antiquaries that it dates from the period termed the "Younger Iron Age," distant from our day nearly a thousand years, or a little more. We shall have to carry our thoughts back to about the year 800, when Charlemagne was crowned emperor at Rome, but when Norway was still divided between the wild chieftains and sea-kings vanquished towards the close of the ninth century by the great Harold the Fair-haired, the founder of the Norwegian state and nation."

**DISCOVERY OF FOUNDATIONS OF EARLY BUTTRESSES ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE CHOIR OF LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL.**—In the month of April this year the Chapter had occasion to lower the ground on the south side of the choir, and in so doing the foundations of the early plinth and portions of the flat buttresses were laid open. It is fortunate that these remains fell under the notice of so acute an observer as Mr. J. T. Irvine, who took careful measurements of what was uncovered, and, although there seemed to be no ready way of even approximating the width of these early buttresses, the discovery is of some importance as bearing upon the history of the building as set forth in Professor Willis's account of the cathedral published in 1861.

**THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. MARY OVERIE.**—For upwards of thirteen years Mr. F. T. Dollman has been making accurately measured sketches and drawings of this interesting church, and collecting memoranda relating to the building, never before published. Mr. Dollman now proposes to publish the results of his labours, and we shall at last have the history of the parish church of St. Saviour properly set forth in a series of more than forty plates containing plans, elevations, sections and details from a most careful and accurate hand. Mr. Dollman will, no doubt, give much information respecting the interesting nave which was destroyed about forty years ago, the chapel of St. Mary Magdalene, abolished in 1822, and the so called "Bishop's chapel" at the extreme east of the church, demolished in 1830. It will be observed that the revival of Gothic took a somewhat peculiar form in Southwark, as in many other places, and the publication now of some of the details of buildings which are gone will cause a feeling of regret that some one was not at work half a century ago. The work will be published in one volume, imperial quarto, price to subscribers, £2 12s. 6d; non-subscribers, £3 3s. Names will be received by the author at 63, Gloucester Crescent, Regent's Park.

**SPECIAL EXHIBITION OF ANCIENT HELMETS AND EXAMPLES OF MAIL.**—The exhibition which was held in the rooms of the Institute from June 3rd to June 17th has been one of unusual interest. A very large and varied collection of Greek Helmets, Mediæval Helms, Helmets, Bascinet, Armets, Salades, Casques, Morions and other varieties of head-pieces, amounting to 160 in number, was brought together by the kind co-operation of the Baron de Cosson, Mr. W. Burges, Mr. M. H. Bloxam, Mr. Bernhard Smith, Sir Noel Paton, Mr. Huyshe, Mr. H. H. Hippisley, Sir R. Wallace, Mr. R. Hillingford, the authorities of the Rotunda Museum at Woolwich, the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, the United Service Institution, and many other contributors.

The examples of Mail comprised a highly valuable collection of European and Oriental examples, besides Jazerine and Brigandine coats.

Among these objects Mr. R. Day's hauberk bearing the silver armorial badge of the O'Neill family; Sir Noel Paton's Sinigaglia coat; Mr. Burges's case containing examples of mail of all kinds—its complete history, in fact; Mr. F. Weekes's beautiful mail sleeve, with each link apparently treble-riveted; Mr. R. H. Wood's standard of mail; and the case devoted to the elucidation of the mystery of the construction of the "Banded Mail," were conspicuous.

It is unnecessary now to do more than call attention generally to this remarkable exhibition, for it has been decided that a permanent record shall be preserved of it in a Critical Catalogue, with illustrations of from upwards of a hundred examples of helmets and specimens of mail and other defence. This Catalogue has been very kindly undertaken by Mr. Burges and the Baron de Cosson, who will deal respectively with the early helmets, the mail, and the Oriental head pieces, and the European helmets, helmets, etc.

In order that the Catalogue may be thus worthily illustrated in the *Journal* a special Subscription List has been opened. Every member subscribing ten shillings will receive an extra and separate copy, bound in cloth. The subscription list is also open to the public. Names must be sent in *without delay* to the Secretary.

MEETING OF THE INSTITUTE IN LINCOLNSHIRE.—The general arrangements for the meeting of the Institute at Lincoln on July 27th, under the presidency of the Bishop of Lincoln, are now completed. The following are the names of the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of Sections: *Antiquities*—President, Sir C. Anderson, Bart.; Vice Presidents, The Rev. J. Collingwood Bruce; J. L. Ffytche, Esq. *History*—The Right Hon. A. J. B. Beresford Hope, M.P.; Vice-Presidents, The Very Rev. the Dean of Ely; E. Peacock, Esq. *Architecture*—President, The Right Rev. the Bishop Suffragan of Nottingham; Vice-Presidents, M. H. Bloxam, Esq.; The Rev. Precentor Venables. The following places will be visited, amongst others, during the week:—Gainsborough, Stow church, Grantham, Sleaford, Heckington, Boston, Tattershall, Southwell, Newark, Navenby, Welbourn, Brant-Broughton, Somerton Castle, &c.

\*.\* All persons who contemplate reading papers during the Meeting are desired to communicate at once with the Secretary.

Members of the Institute are particularly informed that Special Notices of the Monthly meetings will be sent beforehand on payment of one shilling a year.

## Archaeological Intelligence.

ON THE SITE OF TUNNOCELM. We have received the following from Mr. W. Thompson Watkin :—

“The subject of the site of the Roman station *Tunnoceum* being one which is at present exciting considerable interest, I venture to reproduce the substance of a letter which I communicated to a now defunct newspaper, the *South Shields Daily Despatch*, as far back as October, 1875, stating the grounds which seemed to me to form a basis for fixing the site of this station on the Cumberland coast, rather than at the mouth of the Tyne, whilst at the same time I brought forward the ideas of those antiquaries who preferred to place the station on the eastern coast :—

“Neither the Antonine Itinerary, nor the Geography of Ptolemy, name the Roman station *Tunnoceum*. Indeed, by that name it occurs solely in the *Notitia Imperii*, where under the head of *Item per lineam valli* a list of twenty-three stations is given in succession, with the names of their garrisons, which we know were not *all on* the Wall. The 14th, 15th, 16th, 17th, and 18th in the list are respectively *Aballaba*, *Con-gavata*, *Axelodunum*, *Gabrosentæ*, and *Tunnoceum*. In vol. xxviii of the *Archæological Journal*,<sup>1</sup> I shew from the evidence of inscriptions found on the sites, that the three first were now represented by Papcastle, Moresby, and Ellenborough (all in Cumberland). Since then Dr. Bruce, Professor Hübner and Dr. McCaul of Toronto have recognised the correctness of my views as to the first and third of these stations, while on the other they are doubtful. With regard to *Gabrosentæ* and *Tunnoceum*, they are stated by the *Notitia* to have been garrisoned by the second cohort of the Thracians, and the Aelian cohort of marines. Inscriptions by a force of marines (the epithet Aelian is not given) and an inscription by the second cohort of the Thracians have both been found in Cumberland, but none by those forces have been found on the east coast. Combining this with the fact that these two stations are placed by the *Notitia* immediately after *Axelodunum* (as if in the same neighbourhood) we have a *prima facie* hypothesis as to their locality, which is strengthened by other facts. The two inscriptions which bear upon *Tunnoceum* are—

PED  
CL. BRIT

and

PED. CLA  
BRI

From a manuscript in the Cottonian collection in the British Museum we learn that the first of these was found in a vault at Tredermaine Castle.

<sup>1</sup> In an article written in May, 1870.



It was afterwards (during the last century) preserved in a wall at Naworth Castle, but is now unfortunately lost. The second appears to have been found in the neighbourhood of Netherby. At the close of the last century it was preserved at Hoddam Castle, but is now in Sir F. U. Graham's collection at Netherby. The reading of both of these stones is *Pedatura classis Britannicæ, i.e., 'The ground of the British fleet.'*

"Again, an inscription found at Camerino in Italy (Orelli, No. 804) tells us that Marcus Mænius Agrippa, who was a personal friend of the Emperor Hadrian, and commander of the first cohort of the Spaniards at Ellenborough, was also Prefect or Admiral of the British fleet. It was probably through this intimacy of the commander with the Emperor that both the first cohort of the Spaniards and the cohort of Marines adopted the epithet of *Ælia* from the family name of Hadrian. This officer has left several altars bearing his name at Ellenborough.

"I do not think that Netherby could have been *Tunnocelum*, as it is some miles from the sea, but it will be of interest to state that Leland, in his Itinerary compiled in the reign of Henry VIII, says that the river (Esk) came close up to the station, and that men then alive remembered having seen rings and staples in the walls as if for mooring ships. In the Antonine Itinerary, compiled circa A.D. 140, the name of this station is distinctly given as *Castra Exploratorum*, but it is to be remembered that this was before the advance of the Roman armies into Scotland, and as the *Notitia* was compiled two centuries and a half later, it is not likely that at that late period it would still bear the name of 'The camps of the Exploratores.' These 'exploratores' were, as their name implies, a body of light troops acting as scouts, in advance of the main body of the army which was then stationed on the Wall. Yet no other name has been preserved. It is also interesting to note that the other cohort commanded personally by the British Admiral (1st of the Spaniards) was removed to Netherby, subsequently to its assuming the title of *Ælia*, as we find by inscriptions which it has left.

"The anonymous Chorographer of Ravenna gives us in his list three stations in succession, named Cantaventi, Juliocenon, and Gabrosentio. Of these I recognise the first as Congavata, the second as Tunnocelum, and the third as Gabrosentæ. This would at once shew that *Tunnocelum* was near *Congavata*, and no antiquary will deny that the latter was in Cumberland.

"Ptolemy, the geographer, in his description of Britain, gives us the name of a river, which he places north of Morecambe Bay, as *Ituna*. This has generally been supposed to be the Eden or Solway, and if the word 'Ocellum' or 'promontory' be added, we get the words '*Ituna Ocellum*,' or promontory of the Ituna, of which *Tunocellum* or *Tunnocelum* might be a more euphonious pronunciation. The only 'Ocellum' named by Ptolemy is Spurn Head. This completes the evidence as to placing *Tunnoceum* on the west coast of England.

"On the east coast Ptolemy gives us the name of a river called the Tinna, generally supposed, from the position in which he places it, to be the Tyne. On this basis some writers have considered that *Tunnocelum* was a compound of 'Tinna' and 'Ocellum,' and thus placed the station at Tynemouth or South Shields. There was also somewhere in this part of Durham or Northumberland a place called by the Saxons in Bede's time Tanna-cester, but, as the Rev. J. Hodgson in his 'History of

Northumberland,' vol. iii, part 2, p. 228, states, it was named from its abbot Tunna. These facts, with the coincidence of South Shields being a marine station, are all the evidence, so far as I am aware, in favor of *Tunnoceum* being at that place. To antiquaries generally I, at present, leave the task of determining on which side the balance of evidence lies. In the meantime I refrain from naming any particular station as *Tunnoceum*. Further discoveries of inscriptions may at any moment enlighten us, and in fact may prove that it was after all on the east coast. Until then we can only judge by our present knowledge, which is very meagre.

"I may add that Horsley, in his '*Britannia Romana*,' also recognises *Juliocenon* and *Gabrocentio* as the *Tunnoceum* and *Gabrosentae* of the *Notitia*.

"There were several stations which must have been in Durham, of which we do not know the sites, amongst them the *Epiacum* of Ptolemy; possibly South Shields is one of these."

"The excavations to be made at the recently re-discovered *castrum* at Beekfort, on the Cumberland coast, will probably throw further light upon the subject."

Mr. Watkin also writes as follows:—"Another interesting inscription has been found at South Shields. Unfortunately it is not quite complete. It has consisted of three lines, but the commencement and end of each line is broken off. The extant portion is—

. . . . . SANCTE ET NVMIN . . . . .  
 . . . . . DOMITIVS EPICTETV . . . . .  
 . . . . . COMMILITONIBVS TEMPLV . . . . .

As it is evidently dedicated to a goddess and the divinities of the Emperor (or Emperors), I was inclined to read the first line—*DEAE MINERVÆ SANCTE*, &c., or *MINERVÆ SANCTE* simply: but Mr. Blair (to whom I am indebted for the copy of the inscription) thinks that there would not be room for more than the word *DEAE*.<sup>1</sup> The entire inscription has been something like this—*Minervae Sancte et Numinib(us) Augg. Domitius Epictetus cum commilitonibus templum rest(itu)it*, or the last word may be *aedificavit*). Some of the letters are ligulate. Mr. Robinson has also found another altar at Maryport with a nearly obliterated inscription. An inscribed Roman stone has been found at Brough (*Verterae*) in Westmoreland, the first station has been produced; and some others have been found near Blenkinsopp Castle on the line of the Roman Wall. All of these will be embraced in my annual list.

DISCOVERY OF ROMAN LEADEN COFFINS AT SANDY, BEDFORDSHIRE. This place has long been recognised by its large camps as an important Roman station. The 7th volume of the *Archaeologia*, p. 412, and the 8th volume, p. 377-383, contain accounts of Roman pottery, urns, &c. found here, and Lysons alludes to similar remains in his *Magna Britannica*, p. 24. The excavations for the Great Northern Railway through ground below one of the camps known as "Chesterfield," surrendered large quantities of pottery, some of which found a resting place in the Bedford Museum. Within the last year these excavations have been extended, for the purpose of getting sand, into slightly elevated ground, known as "Tower Hill," long used for garden purposes. In 1879 two leaden

<sup>1</sup> I have thought of *Dianae Sancte*, but it does not seem probable.



coffins were uncovered at a depth of three feet. These falling greatly to pieces were not accurately examined, but covered up again. In the spring of the present year a third leaden coffin, five feet eight inches long, quite plain, and slightly tapering to the feet, was found in good preservation. The lid has entirely perished, but fragments of angle irons, apparently connected with an outer wooden casing, were also discovered. There were no bones in these coffins, and this is accounted for by their lying in sand, a destructive agency. They lay east and west.

Many coins, Roman and others, have been found at Sandy and in the neighbourhood, and the fact of such extremely small ones being rescued from the earth is explained by the practice of the local labourers weeding the market gardens, and more particularly the onion fields which abound in these parts, working on their knees, thus nothing in the shape of a coin, however small, escapes such close notice.

It is in contemplation to carry the present excavations entirely through "Tower Hill," and we may hope for some important discoveries. Mr. F. J. Beart, the owner of the ground, has most obligingly given orders that every care shall be taken of the antiquities which the further progress of the digging may reveal, and he has placed the coffins in the hands of an antiquary who, we have good reasons to believe, will deposit them where they will be properly cared for. They will be exhibited at the Monthly Meeting of the Institute on Thursday, November 4th.

**DISCOVERY OF ROMAN REMAINS AT RISEHOW, NEAR FLIMBY.**—In making some extensions for coke ovens at Risehow, at the latter end of last month, the foundations of a building 13 feet 7 inches square inside, with walls 3 feet thick formed of large blocks of grey freestone, were revealed. The floor is paved with cobble stones set in clay, and covered with the same substance. The interior has possibly been used for burials, a fact suggested by the discovery of charcoal, small pieces of bones, pottery, &c., but it seems more likely that the building was originally a watch tower in connection with the Maryport camp, which is visible from this spot, and such a use would account for the presence of charcoal, bones, &c. Among the pottery found was a bottle, apparently for water, with a side handle. Mr. Wilson, the proprietor, will take every care of these remains.

**THE ROMAN VILLA AT SANDOWN, ISLE OF WIGHT.**—The work of uncovering this spacious building is proceeding. An elaborate tessellated pavement has been found containing panels with groups of heads of Perseus and Andromeda, the Seasons, Tritons, &c. Eleven chambers have now been opened.

**ILLUSTRATED CATALOGUE OF ANCIENT HELMETS AND EXAMPLES OF MAIL.** This Catalogue will be published with the *Journal* on December 31st. The subscription list of ten shillings for an extra and separate copy, bound in cloth, will be closed on October 31st. After that date the price to members and the public will be 12s. 6d.; after the date of publication the price to members will be 15s. 6d., and to the public £1 1s. Names of subscribers will be received by the Secretary. For further information, see p. 214.

Members of the Institute are particularly informed that Special Notices of the Monthly Meetings will be sent beforehand, on payment of one shilling a year.

## Archaeological Intelligence.

EXCAVATIONS AT EPHESUS.—The discovery by Mr. J. T. Wood of the site and remains of the celebrated Temple of Diana at Ephesus in 1869, its exploration during five successive years under his direction, and the deposit in the department of the British Museum, which is under the charge of Mr. Newton, of the valuable sculptures found in the course of the excavations, are facts now well known and their interest highly appreciated.

It is much less generally understood, that the exploration had by no means extended to its desirable limits, when the last portion of the Government grant of £12,000 was expended in 1874, and that the works were prematurely suspended for want of further funds.

The area which has been already fully excavated measures 500 feet by 300 feet, and the proposed excavations would extend it to 560 feet by 360 feet, the cost of exploring which, Mr. Wood assures the Committee, would not exceed £5,000, including every expense except the transport of the sculptures to England, which would of course be defrayed by the Government.

A trench was cut through the portico on the south side, and therein were found a beautiful fragment of the cornice of the Temple, some archaic fragments from an earlier temple, and numerous fragments of the columns and superstructure of the portico itself. Mr. Wood fully expects, that if the excavations are extended as proposed, much of the superstructure of the Temple will be found, which must have been precipitated beyond the limits of the present excavations; there might also be discovered portions of the sculptured columns, and other sculptures, in the unexplored ground at the east end, by which the cost and labour would be amply repaid.

It has not hitherto been considered convenient by the Government to continue the excavations with grants from the public treasury; and at the same time it seems highly desirable to press them to completion, while the services of Mr. J. T. Wood, his experience and approved zeal, and peculiar facilities, due to a residence of many years in Asia Minor, are still at command.

It is in consequence now decided to make application to those persons who are interested in Art and Archaeology, for subscriptions towards the excavations; and a Committee has been formed of gentlemen (many of whom visited the site whilst the excavations were going on), and who have consented to exercise control over the application of the fund, and the undertaking generally.

The site of the Temple and the adjacent ground is the property of the British Government, for whom it was purchased by Mr. Wood in 1872; the sanction of Government must therefore be obtained to make the proposed excavations, and all antiquities, selected for the British Museum, would be removed under a Firman from the Sublime Porte.

From the interest in the subject displayed hitherto by the Trustees of the British Museum, as well as by Members of the Government, their sympathetic co-operation may be confidently relied on.

The sum required for the whole of the work would be spent in the

course of two seasons: the first commencing as soon as possible, and terminating in May 1881; the second commencing in October 1881, and terminating in May 1882.

That there may be as little delay as possible in commencing the works, the Committee request that the names of subscribers, and amounts of subscriptions promised, be sent at once to the Honorary Secretary, Professor T. Hayter Lewis, 12, Kensington Gardens Square, W.

ROMAN. EXCAVATIONS AT ROSSBOROUGH.—We are indebted to Lord Talbot de Malahide for the following copies of inscriptions which were brought to Rossborough from Rome, probably from some collection in that city, in the middle of the last century. As they appear to be inedited, it seems desirable that they should be printed in the *Journal*.

FABIA  
RESTITVTA  
VIX. ANN. XXVI.

C. VENELIVS. C.F. POI  
PRISCVS  
DOMO. CARRIO > COH. V. VIG.  
MILIT. LEG. VIII. ANN XX  
EVOCATVS. AN. I > AN IIX  
CONSVMMATIS  
STIPENDIS XXIX  
VIX. AN. L H. S. L

Cist in form of a tomb :

D.M.  
PHILOCALO  
C & S  
VLPIA ATTICLEA  
CONIVGI E. M. F.

Three bulls' heads with garlands :

D.M. S  
I. CALTILI  
SALVTARIS  
CALTILIA POLITICE.  
ET. SABINVS LIB.  
P. B. M. F.

THE ROMAN WALL IN THE CITY.—We are indebted to Mr A. F. Langley, the engineer-in-chief to the Great Eastern Railway, for the following :—"It may interest many of your readers to have an exact description of the piece of old Roman Wall which I have to-day finished taking out while excavating at Fenchurch Street Station. The top of the Wall, which was about nine feet below the surface, was seven feet six inches wide, and was composed of a bed of limestone walling, in concrete mortar about six inches thick ; then two rows of red tiles, extending right through the Wall, and projecting three inches on each side of it ; then six courses of random rubble, in limestone, each course being about six inches thick. At the face, the stones were in beds, six inches deep ; the centre was composed of irregular pieces, but the beds were still maintained. We then came to three more layers of red tiles, also extending through the Wall, the two lower courses projecting again three inches on each side. Below these, another four courses of stone-work. On the west side we found three more layers of tiles, again projecting the three inches, but they only extended eighteen inches into the Wall. There were no tiles in the centre here. On the east side, about the same level, there

was a course of red gritstone blocks, about two feet square, and running along the face of the Wall. Under the tiles on the west, or City, side, there were two layers of the same description of limestone, about nine inches deep each bed. We thus made up a height of about nine feet, and the width of the Wall at the bottom, in consequence of the three inch steps on each side, was nine feet. Under the stonework of the Wall there was a bed, composed of six layers of flint and clay, two feet six inches deep. Between each course of flint and clay, about one inch and a half thick. This was a very curious construction, and was taken three feet into the solid bed of natural gravel. The foundation of the Wall was about thirty feet above sea level. At this place there appears to be about eighteen feet difference between the Roman level and our own. There were no piles or woodwork of any description, such as were found in the foundation of the portion of Wall discovered during the Thames Street excavations some years ago. The tiles, of which I have preserved some, are seventeen inches long, twelve inches broad, and one and a half inch thick. They are very well burnt, and still retain their sharp edges and bright red colour. Many have been carefully washed and examined, but we have not found on them any date or inscription. I have had very accurate dimensions taken, and shall be very happy to show the sections to any one interested in the subject."

It will be observed that the rules laid down by Vitruvius are carried out in this instance as in case of the foundations of the Pharos at Dover.

THE NECROPOLIS OF ANCON IN PERU.—The first part of this valuable series of illustrations of the civilization and industry of the Empire of the Incas has been lately issued. There are indeed many other works which have dealt with the remarkable civilization of Peru, which suddenly came to an end on the arrival of the Europeans, such as Mr. Squiers' "Peru," and Mr. Wiener's "Peru and Bolivia," but it may perhaps be said that the works hitherto published, that of Squiers alone excepted, valuable as they are in some respects, contain little beyond the results of hasty surveys, besides illustrations of some of the most noteworthy discoveries, and the conclusions of historical research. Strange as it may appear, it is nevertheless a fact that in Peru not a single site containing ruins or the graves of the dead has yet been opened up and systematically explored for scientific purposes. Hence those researches are still wanting, which in Europe are regarded as the essential preliminary of scientific labour in the field of prehistoric culture. As a first serious step in this direction Messrs. Reiss and Stübel's Necropolis of Ancon will surely be gladly received. In this sumptuous work they propose to give what is in fact only, a small part, of the results of their years of exploration in South America; and their work is certainly systematically and thoroughly well done. The intelligent excavations in the small watering place to the north of Lima have surrendered the complete evidences of the life and culture of an ancient people. Thanks to a favourable climate and soil, we have laid before us arms, decorations, pottery, implements, toys, fabrics, &c., and finally the mummies of the Incas wrapped in their garments of many coloured cloths and tied up with ropes, in the midst of their personal effects so necessary for their use on their endless journey. The various objects are represented by chromolithographs of the highest possible kind. Such a work as this is monumental indeed, and it is to be hoped that the authors may have strength not only to carry it through, but to publish the results of their collections in

geology, natural history, anthropology, and other sciences. The work is published simultaneously in Germany and in England, Asher & Co., 13, Bedford Street, London W.C.

**THE HISTORY OF THE HUNDRED OF ALSTOE.**—The Rev. J. Harwood Hill announces as now ready for the press this important contribution to County History which is a continuation of Blore's History of Rutland, and gives full details of the manorial and other large estates in each parish—of the tenures by which they are held—also the genealogies of the principal families, extended in many cases to collateral branches—notices of the celebrated persons who have been connected with the division of the county—a history of monastic foundations—the state, endowments and patronage of the churches—and of the foundation as well as endowment of charitable institutions. The work is compiled from the most reliable records, and fully illustrated with etchings of the most interesting architectural remains in the Hundred. Mr. Hill's labours in this particular field are already well known, and we need only add that the work in question is printed for subscribers only, and that the price, in royal folio, is £4 4s. Names of subscribers may be sent to the author, Cranoe Rectory, Market Harborough.

**MONUMENTAL INSCRIPTIONS IN HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.**—The Rev. F. T. Havergal is occupied with the publication of the Inscriptions in Hereford Cathedral. His work will include notes on the brasses which were sold out of the Cathedral as old metal, after the fall of the western tower in 1786. Forty of these brasses were bought by Gough, the antiquary, and were inherited by the late Mr. J. G. Nichols, who desired to restore them to the Cathedral. This subject was brought before the members of the Institute at the Hereford Meeting in 1877, and the brasses have lately been returned to the Cathedral. It is a satisfaction to be able to record such a "restoration" as this. Mr. Havergal's book will be published by Jakeman and Carver, High Town, Hereford, price to subscribers, 10s. 6d.

**MONOGRAPH OF ASTON HALL.**—Mr. W. Niven has published a series of lithographs of this noted house, built by Sir Thomas Holte between 1618 and 1635. Aston Hall fortunately remains in a complete and unaltered state, and is a most important example of the domestic architecture of its period. It is needless to say that Mr. Niven's drawings have the accuracy and the delicacy that distinguish his etched works of the same character, viz : "Old Worcestershire Houses," and "Old Warwickshire Houses." We understand that he now has in hand a series of etchings of "Old Staffordshire Houses," and we hope before he finally closes his labours in this direction he will take up the illustration of old houses in Northamptonshire. Surely Drayton, Kirby, Rushton, Castle Ashby, Burleigh, Canons Ashby, Deene, Lilford, Rockingham, Cottesbrook, and the crowd of little known and out-of-the-way manor houses with which the country teems—such, for instance, as the old house of the Trists at Maidford, the Manor House at King's Sutton, the Cross House at Gayton, and the Houses at Steane, and Stoke Albany,—would make a noble volume. Mr. Niven's "Aston Hall" may be obtained from Rimell & Son, 400 Oxford Street, W.

**RELIEVO MAP OF ATHENS AND THE PEIRAIÆUS.**—It is proposed to publish a Relievo Map of Athens and the Peiraiæus, similar to Mr. Burn's Relievo map of Rome. The subscription price of each copy would be two guineas. Names may be sent to the Rev. R. Burn, Cambridge.