

Archæological Intelligence.

THE GRAMMAR OF THE LOTUS.—Mr. Wm. H. Goodyear announces the publication of this important work which will, in fact, be a new History of Classic Ornament as a development of Sun Worship. The general title of "GRAMMAR OF THE LOTUS" indicates the argument of the work, which proves the plant to have been the basis of most of the ornamental patterns of Greek and later times, after demonstrating the solar symbolism of the lotus flower in Egypt and its importance as a fetich of immemorial antiquity, by appeal to many known and also hitherto unknown facts.

"The conclusions of Mr. Goodyear's book as to pattern ornament, though in the main absolutely novel, have to some extent been independently reached by other workers in the same field, and especially by Mr. Percy E. Newberry, whose standing as a botanist and whose position on the staff of the Egypt Exploration Fund give his opinion much weight. This concurrence includes Mr. Goodyear's view of the Ionic form as derived from curling lotus sepals, of the Rosette as derived from the ovary stigma, of the Egg-and-Dart moulding as a lotus border, of the 'Honeysuckle' or 'Palmette' as a lotus derivative, and of the Mycenæ spirals as derived from lotus scrolls.

"Due credit will also be given to the important announcements regarding the lotus in Greek patterns which have been made by Messrs. John Pennethorne, W. M. Flinders Petrie, Colonna-Ceccaldi, and Marcel Dieulafoy.

"The original portions of Mr. Goodyear's book, including his demonstration that the papyrus does not occur in Egyptian ornament, and that the so-called papyrus forms of Egyptian ornament are all conventional lotuses, will speak for themselves. It may be said briefly that the work compels a revision of many existing views in archæology of many departments—Egyptian, Assyrian, Phenician, Greek, Italian, Prehistoric North-European, Hindu, and Ancient American—and that it also substantially augments the fund of science in all these various departments of knowledge."

We have extracted thus much from Mr. Goodyear's prospectus of his *magnum opus* in order to indicate how large a field his patient researches will cover. We need hardly add that it is to an American savant that we shall be indebted, since the author's name is conspicuous among the gifted men who come to us from across the Atlantic and share so learnedly and so genially in our pursuits.

Names of subscribers to the Grammar of the Lotus should be sent to Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston & Co., St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, price of subscription, £3 3s.

THE BLAZON OF ENGLISH, SCOTTISH, AND IRISH EPISCOPACY, by the

Rev. W. K. Riland Bedford. This work, first published in 1858, has been of the greatest assistance not only to Heralds and persons interested in genealogy, but to authors of all sorts. It has long been scarce and we are very glad to hear that Mr. Bedford proposes to re-issue it in an amended and more complete form, to bring it down to the present day, and to add to it the blazon of the Scottish and Irish episcopacy. The addition of an Ordinary of the Arms of the Bishops is an almost indispensable adjunct to a list of such items and the author will certainly have the gratitude of all students for taking upon himself this extra labour.

This is, perhaps, hardly the occasion,—we may not have another opportunity—to suggest a new work to Mr. Bedford before he has quite got the old one off his hands, but a **BLAZON OF DEANS** is really wanted; no doubt in the researches for the **Blazon of Episcopacy**, the Deans have not been passed unheeded by, and possibly Mr. Bedford may already have a work of this kind in contemplation. Let us hope this is the case. Names of subscribers to the **Blazon of English, Scottish, and Irish Episcopacy**, price £1 4s., should be sent at once to Messrs. Kegan Paul, Trench and Co., Paternoster House, Charing Cross Road, London.

SIX MONTHS IN THE APENNINES, or a Pilgrimage in search of Vestiges of the Irish Saints in Italy. By Margaret Stokes. The name of the accomplished authoress is sufficient guarantee that this work, which is intended to illustrate an important chapter in the history of the British Islands, that of the early Missions of the Scotie or Irish Church in the Dark Ages, will be ably treated.

The fact that the native schools of Ireland sent forth teachers who enriched even distant kingdoms on the Continent with the fruits of their learning and zeal has long been known to historians, and it has also been established that the monasteries founded by these missionaries continued to be fed from their native sources for many centuries. But it has not hitherto been recognized that, in the remote recesses of the Apennines and the Alps, in the Tyrol and along the Danube, there still exist material remains and personal relics of these devoted men.

The journey was undertaken by the authoress in search of such vestiges as might still be found in Italy, and especially in those parts which were the scenes of the labours of Columbanus and his followers, at Bobio, A.D. 540 to 615; of Finnian (A.D. 565) and Sillan, at Lucca; of Dungal, at Pavia; of Donatus, Andrew and Brigid, at Fiesole; of Cathaldus, at Taranto; and of others of lesser fame. Cathedrals and monasteries were visited where the memories of their Irish founders are still preserved, libraries in which their ancient books may still be seen, sacristies and crypts where their tombs are still revered.

The book will contain numerous illustrations from photographs and drawings made by the author from the objects and scenes themselves, including works in fresco, painting, sculpture and architecture, connected with the history of these early travellers, as well as representations of their personal relics, where such may be found.

The price of the volume will be 15s., but it will be sent post free to subscribers for 10s. Bell and Sons, York Street, Covent Garden, London.

THE TOMBS OF THE KINGS OF ENGLAND.—Mr. J. Charles Wall announces the forthcoming publication of which should be a very

picturesque and attractive volume. From the prospectus that has fallen into our hands, we gather that the woodcuts will be of a high order of merit, and altogether unlike the tricky spotty pictures that have lately come into fashion. The book will be brought out by Messrs. Sampson, Low, Marston and Co., St. Dunstan's House, Fetter Lane, London, price £1 1s.

THE EXCAVATIONS IN THE NORTH CITY WALL AT CHESTER.—In the course of last year an effort was made to continue the excavations made in 1887 in the North City Wall of Chester. An appeal was put forth, signed by Dr. Evans, Professor H. F. Pelham, Mr. F. Haverfield, Professor Middleton, Bishop Wordsworth and others, and backed by Bishop Stubbs and Professor Mommsen, and early in December, with the consent of the Mayor and Corporation and the co-operation of the Chester Archæological and Historic Society, work was commenced at a point suggested by the City Surveyor, a little to the west of the Northgate. The proceeding was stopped by the great frost in January, but was otherwise carried on continuously till the middle of June, when a second pause was made. In September the work was resumed, with the additional assistance of Mr. E. F. Benson, Scholar of King's College, Cambridge, to whom the Craven Trustees had made a grant of £40 for this purpose. The results up to the date of writing have been most satisfactory. Some forty inscribed stones (including fragments) have been taken out of the wall, and the inscriptions, which will in due course be published by Mr. Haverfield in this *Journal*, are by no means unimportant. All but one appear to be gravestones of soldiers quartered at Chester, or of their "belongings;" the one exception being a centurial stone. The two most important finds are (1) an inscription recording the drowning of an *optio*, which, besides its obvious interest, contains an important technical phrase; and (2) a series of stones recording the soldiers of the *Legio II adiutrix*, which is believed to have been in Britain about the time of Agricola, that is about 80 A.D. This discovery completely overthrows several current theories, including that advanced by Professor Hübner as to the quarters of the legion in question. It is to be hoped that subscriptions will be forthcoming to enable the work to be continued. The Society of Antiquaries has furnished £10, the University of Oxford £25, the University of Cambridge, through the Craven Trustees, £40, and Gen. Pitt Rivers and other archæologists have subscribed liberally. But the work is as expensive as it is important, and it is highly desirable that all who care for the early history of our island should send contributions to carry on the explorations. It must be remembered that the reconstruction of Roman Britain has to be based very largely on inscriptions, and that, as a fact, one inscription is worth tons of pseudo Arretine (or Samian) ware. At Chester, the North City wall is demonstrably full of inscriptions, and, as Canon Raine has said, it is mere vandalism to leave them there. It may be added that the discoveries are not limited to inscriptions. There has issued from the wall a large quantity of carved and sepulchral stone, some of it of great interest and likely to supply us with material for forming some notions about the buildings of Deva. And, lastly, an opening has been made in the East Wall, which promises, not inscriptions, but important evidence as to the construction of the whole Roman wall.

THE O NEIL BADGE.—Mr. Robert Day has communicated the

following note to "The Journal of the Royal Society of Antiquaries of Ireland," No. 4, Vol. 1, Fifth Series. Last Quarter, 1890., which will not be without interest to the members of the Institute.

"In the volume of the Society's *Journal* for 1876-8, and at p. 498, I described and illustrated an inverted shield-shaped armorial badge of bronze, overlaid with silver, bearing upon it the arms and supporters of the O'Neill family. This, as I explained, came to me with a hauberk of chain-mail that was found in the Phoenix Park by workmen when making the extensive line of railway that connects Kingsbridge with the North Wall. The hauberk was purchased from the navy who found it, and the badge, as I understood at the time, was got with it. The age of both were in harmony, and the seven laps upon the badge strengthened the belief that they were used for securing it to the chain-rings of which the hauberk was made. Both were exhibited in the loan collection of helmets and armour which was held under the auspices of 'The Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland,' and were fully described by more able hands than mine in the valuable catalogue published by the Institute ("Ancient Helmets and Examples of Mail"—London, 1881). Both have remained together until now, and would have so continued but for the following circumstances. A short time since in a letter from the learned Librarian of Trinity College, Dublin, he informed me that on comparing my illustration of the badge with an old drawing of the historical harp in the library of the College, he had discovered a remarkable resemblance both in outline, size, and detail between it and an ornament which had been upon the harp when the drawing was made, but had for some years been lost; and the only other evidence of its former existence was the empty space in which it had at one time fitted. Upon the return of my son to College after the Easter Recess, he took the badge with him, and in company with the librarian, compared it with the drawing, and found that it exactly resembled it, and fitted into its niche upon the harp, so that it was unquestionably the original ornament that had helped to give the instrument its family history. Upon hearing this I presented the badge to the Provost and Fellows of Trinity College. The regret I have in impoverishing my hauberk by parting with this interesting historical relic is more than compensated by the pleasure it affords me of having it in my power to enrich the harp by restoring the badge to its original position, where I trust it may long be preserved. I feel it my duty to give the same publicity to this as I did when, in the first instance, I believed that the badge was associated with the coat of chain-mail—the one reminding us of war, and strife, and tumult, and the other with what is at once the standard and the armorial ensign of our country, and the symbol of poetry, harmony, tranquility, and peace."

* * * As a note to his paper on "Our Lady of Pity," printed at page 111, Mr. Peacock informs us that there is a much mutilated figure of this subject over the outer doorway of the south porch of the church of Welwick in Holderness. It is rudely figured in Poulson's Holderness, vol. ii, p. 509, and appears to have been identical in character with the Glentham example.