

ADDENDA ANTIQUARIA.

A STONE AXE HAMMER FROM THRELKELD.

I obtained the Axe Hammer here illustrated through the kindness of our Member of Council, Dr. W. Goodchild. I understand that it has not been recorded before.

It weighs $3\frac{1}{2}$ lbs., is 6 inches long, $3\frac{3}{4}$ inches broad and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches high.

It has a label on it stating that it was found by T. Taylor, Jun., in October, 1871, behind his N. retaining wall, clear of the foundations and just under the made ground.

O. H. NORTH.

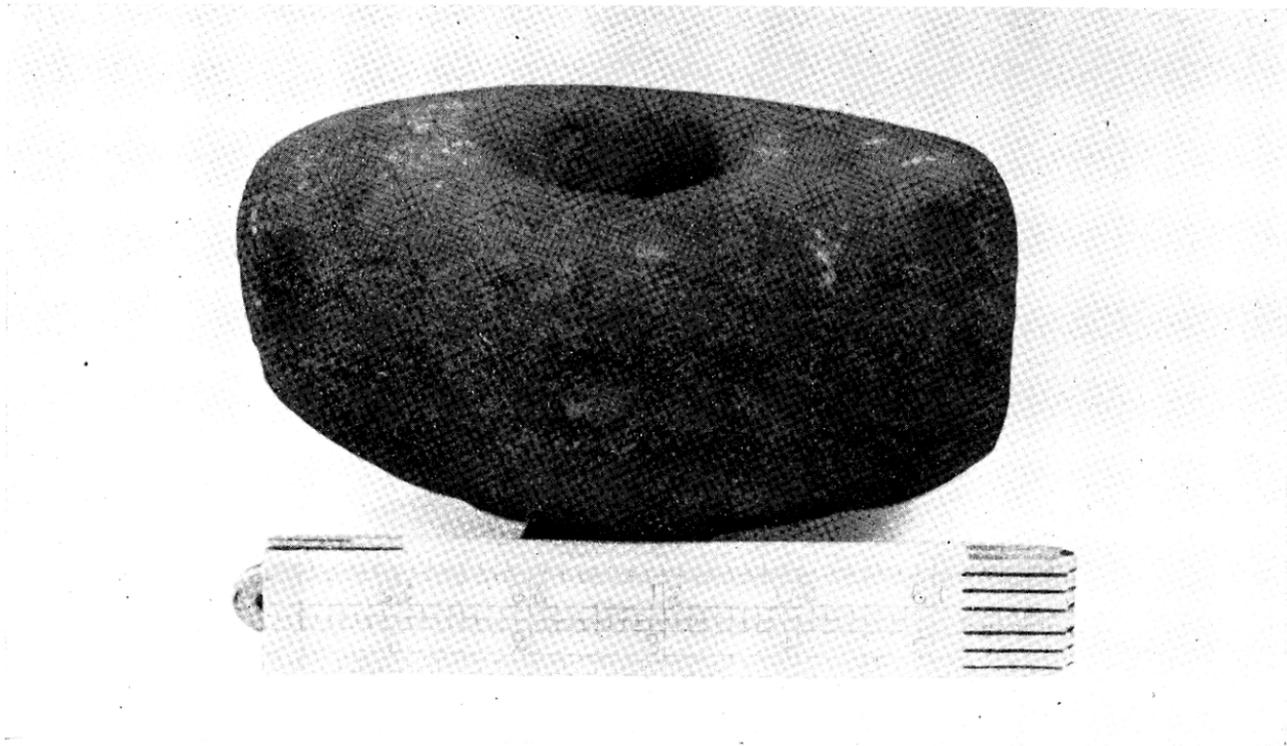
A FRAGMENT OF FORGOTTEN HISTORY. MONK HALL, CROSTHWAITE (KESWICK).

Monk Hall, east of Crosthwaite church, has now disappeared off the map and its name even is almost forgotten, but it was a link with the history of the district, and a brief note may serve to save it from complete oblivion.

The whole vill of Crosthwaite was granted, in the reign of King John to the Abbey of Fountains by Alicia de Romelli II, Lady of Allerdale, with the advowson of the church and other emoluments and privileges. The abbey established its local estate office (if one may so term it), at Monk Hall hard by the bank of a great bend of the river Greta upon which the town of Keswick now stands. Here says Clarke in his "Survey of The Lakes" published in 1789, "the monks had a steward and here the tenants used to pay their rents. It is now a small farm house but there are vestiges of a moat and a square building."

After the Dissolution of the religious houses by Henry VIII, the Monk Hall estate seems to have passed into the possession of a branch of the Radcliff family. According to Nicolson and Burn (Vol. II, p. 92), "among other possessions which had belonged to Fountains Abbey were granted all that messuage called Monk Hall in the tenure of Gavin Radcliff, and the wood containing one acre called the Vicar Ile in the water of Derwent."

The subsequent story of the place is fragmentary, but Sir Daniel le Fleming provides several items. In his Survey of



A STONE AXE HAMMER FROM THREIKELD.

To face p. 200.

Cumberland, (p. 15), he says: "Formerly a religious House of the Cistercian Order, it now belongs to the Flemings of Rydal in Westmorland," From his Memoirs we learn that during the reign of Elizabeth Thomas Fleming of Newfield married Mabel daughter of Edmund Radcliff of Monk Hall. On page 60 he says that John Fleming purchased Monk Hall in 1615 and p. 61 records the conveyance by entail of Monk Hall to Agnes (mother of John, widow of William Fleming). Daniel, and William Fleming, Agnes and John also purchased land near Monk Hall. William Fleming was born at Monk Hall, baptized at Crosthwaite, November 30th, 1636, his mother being Isabel Fleming who died at Skirwith another estate of the Fleming family. Later, we learn that William made Monk Hall habitable and lived there till the death of Isabel his mother at Skirwith (p. 73). The Inventory of Isabel Fleming of Skirwith is published in *Transactions*, n.s., xxviii, 33.

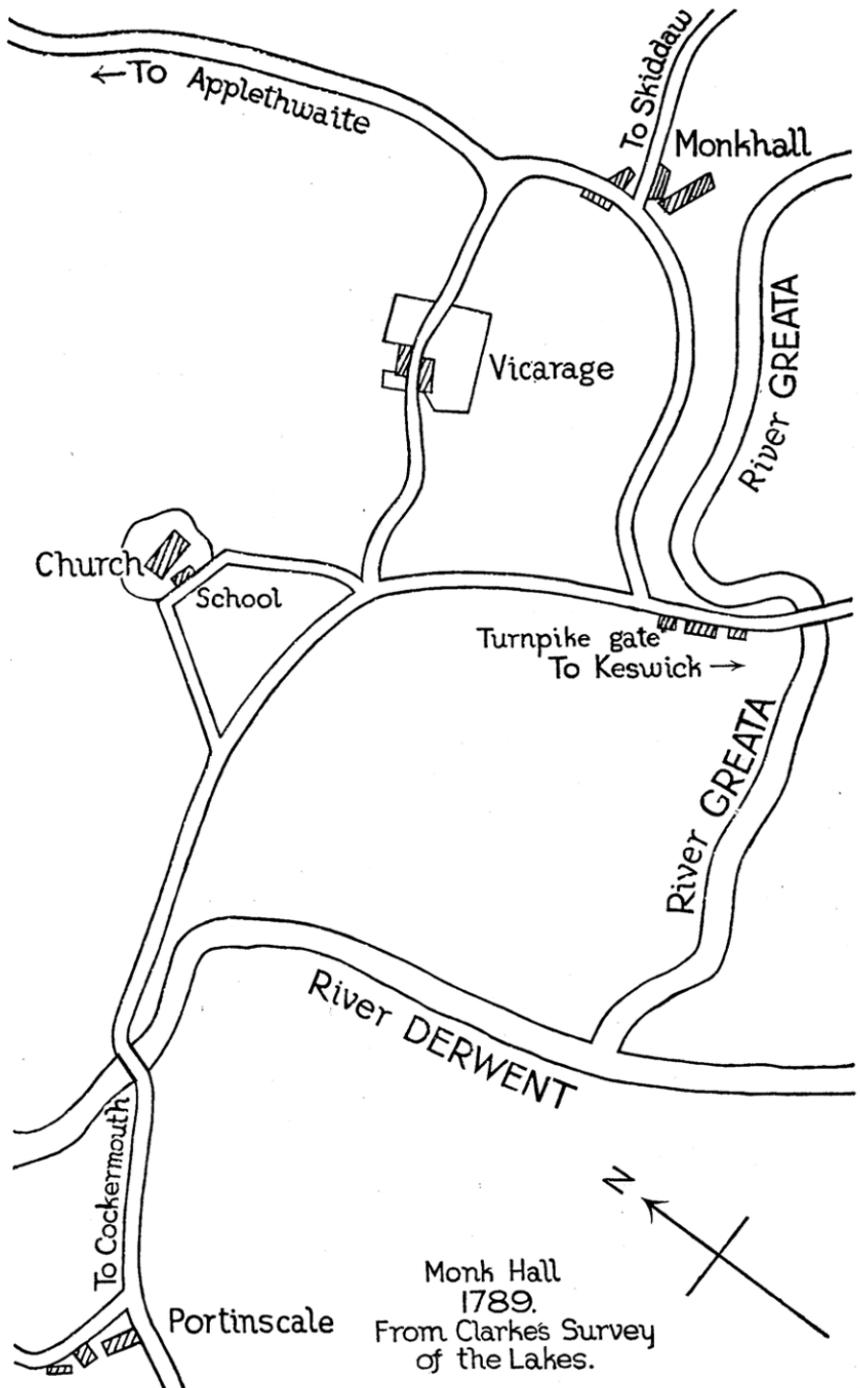
Sir Daniel himself was born at Coniston Hall (son of William Fleming and Alice Kirkby his wife), but the family evidently later lived for a time at Monk Hall for he records (Memoirs, p. 73), that he went to school at Crosthwaite "first unto Mr. Wheelwright afterwards unto Mr. Radcliff" till about 1639 when his father and whole family moved from Monk Hall to Skirwith Hall. After this Monk Hall receives no further mention, and probably lapsed into humbler circumstances as a farm pure and simple.

A friend of my own, a very old gentleman now living in Eskdale who spent much of his youth in Keswick, well remembers Monk Hall Farm at Great Crosthwaite, near to it a tavern called The Pheasant. It was between the Keswick Hotel and the way to Skiddaw. Another venerable gentleman was actually a farm servant at Monk Hall in his youth. Mr. William R. Davey, Curator of the Fitz Park Museum at Keswick informs me that the property was bought by the Hewitson Trust and that the Mary Hewitson Cottage Hospital now stands upon it, an occupation of their land which would surely be approved by the good monks of Fountains.

M. C. FAIR, 1943.

(Acknowledgment. I have to thank very gratefully the Editor of *Transactions* for much generous help in compiling this brief note: also Mr. W. R. Davey, the Rev. W. S. Sykes, and Mr. Benjamin Armstrong for their valuable assistance).

An additional note provided by Canon Bradley, Vicar of Crosthwaite through the kind offices of the Rev. W. S. Sykes.



Monk Hall
1789.
From Clarke's Survey
of the Lakes.

There is no trace of the building (Monk Hall), at Crosthwaite; whatever was there was pulled down when the Cottage Hospital was built.

There is a sort of Causeway which runs from the Cottage Hospital, now partly filled with water, which is supposed to have been the Monks' path to the Church. The path was built below the level of the land so that they could pass to the Church without being seen in warlike times.

The causeway ends at the bridge spanning the junction of the road to the Church and the road to Portinscale.

They say that when the present road was made they found the hard beaten path of the monks running to the Church.

The Lady Alicia de Romelli gave the advowson of Crosthwaite to the Abbey of Fountains in 1198 and the Monks from Fountains took the services.

Some Entries from the old Crosthwaite Registers.

- 1563. Georgious Radclyffe filius Edmundi.
- 1565. Franciscus Radclyffe filius Edmundi de Munchehall.
- 1566. Dorothee d. of Edmund Radclyffe of Munck Hill.
- 1573. Maybell d. of Edmund Radclyffe of Monkhall.
- 1597. Thomas Fleming of Houghton, Mabel Radclyffe of Crosthwaite.
- 1601. William Fleming s. of William and Alice of Monkhall.

MELBOURNE AND THE SEE OF CARLISLE.

The sound of the bells of the fine old Norman church of Melbourne, rung to celebrate our recent victory in Tunisia and broadcast by the B.B.C., may have served to remind some of us of the ancient association of that small Derbyshire town with the bishopric of Carlisle. The church and manor of Melbourne—Maleburn or "the mill stream" of the Pipe Rolls of 1164—was granted to the bishop of Carlisle at the foundation of his bishopric in 1133 and the grant was subsequently confirmed by Henry II. Melbourne became during the troubled years of the 13th century an occasional residence of the bishops of Carlisle, who were thus able to obtain some respite from the trials and dangers of the constant border warfare which distracted their northern diocese. The rectory of the town, now incorporated with the 18th century buildings of Melbourne Hall, served them as a palace, at which on more than one occasion King John was a visitor (see Cox, *Notes on the Churches of Derbyshire*, Vol. III, p. 396).

The tithe-barn of the bishops still stands near the west end of the church. It was from Melbourne that in 1318 Bishop John

Halton addressed a petition to the pope, representing the losses he had incurred owing to the Scottish invasions and asking for the appropriation to his see of the living of Horncastle in Lincolnshire—a grant which eventually was made to his successors (Ferguson, *Diocesan History of Carlisle*, pp. 89-90). Halton's successor, Bishop John Ross, was also a frequent resident at Melbourne and it was from that place that at the instance of Prior William de Hastworth and the chapter of the priory of Carlisle he commissioned the prior of Lanercost and his own official, Adam de Appleby, to appoint a cellarius (or steward of the household) at Carlisle (Nicolson and Burn, II, 302). At the dissolution of the priory of Carlisle, the rectories of "Melbone" and "Chaleston," in Derbyshire are valued at £45 per annum while that of Horncastle with its chapel is assessed at £28. 6s. 8d. (Hutchinson, *Cumberland*, II, 613).

After the reformation the rectory and manor of Melbourne remained in the possession of the see, and we learn that in 1667 Bishop Edward Rainbow "gave £130 for augmenting the vicarage of Melborn in Derbyshire; which was to advance it £10 *per annum* at the present and £20 *per annum* after the life of Lady Hartop" (Nicolson and Burn, II, 291).

Melbourne had already in 1628 been leased for three lives by the bishop of Carlisle to Sir John Coke, and in 1704, by Act of Parliament the lease, in return for an increased endowment to the church, was converted into a freehold in favour of Sir John's descendant Thomas Coke. The Cokes rebuilt the hall and made its famous garden at the beginning of the 18th century and the place though of historical interest in view of its associations with Baxter, Lord Melbourne and Lord Palmerston ceases to have any connection with our local history.

W. T. McINTIRE.

RUGBY SCHOOL HEADMASTERS AND N.W. ENGLAND.

I have been rather struck by the fact that no fewer than four successive Headmasters of Rugby School in the middle of the 18th century were natives of the north-western part of England, three having been born in Cumberland and the other in Westmorland. All of them went to Queen's College, Oxford, as so many boys did from the north, some attracted by the very valuable Hastings Exhibitions.

It is however somewhat less surprising when one finds that two of the four had been Assistant Master to their predecessors—presumably the Usher, though I cannot be sure whether the

Assistant Master at Rugby bore the title usually held at Grammar Schools down to the 19th century.

Only the last of the four held his post for any length of time. The first died just before completing his second year; the next two accepted clerical preferment after seven and four years respectively; the last resigned after 23 years.

Rugby was then practically a purely local school, almost all the boys admitted being natives of Warwickshire and Northamptonshire.

There was an earlier appointment of a native of Cumberland, viz. Robt. Ashbridge in the previous century, who was the first to compile a Register of boys admitted to the School.

One solitary boy from Cumberland went to Rugby, namely George Vaux, son of Robert Vaux of Caldbeck, who went in 1675 with his fellow countryman, the newly appointed Head of Rugby.

I enclose full particulars of the five, though they may be of little interest to anyone else.

1675. ROBERT ASHBRIDGE, son of Robert Ashbridge of Caldbeck, Cumberland. Born about 1646. Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1663, B.A. 1668, M.A. 1672. Instituted the Album Rugbeense or School Register. Resigned on appointment to the Mastership of Courteenhall Free School, Northants., 1681. Buried there 7 September, 1718.

1742. THOMAS CROSFIELD, son of John Crosfield of Kendal, Westmorland; born about 1708. Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1729, B.A. 1733, M.A. 1736. Master at Schools at Daventry, 1733 and afterwards at Preston Cape. Buried at Rugby, 30 April, 1744.

1744. WILLIAM KNAIL, son of William Knail of Whitehaven, Cumberland; b. 1712. Educated at St. Bees Free Grammar School; Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1729, B.A. 1734, M.A. 1737. Elected Fellow 4 June, 1746. Held the living of Clay Coton 1744-46. Resigned Rugby, 1751. B.D., 1759. D.D., 1762. Vicar of Carisbrook-with-Northwood, Isle of Wight, 1762. Died 13 August, 1768.

1751. JOSEPH RICHMOND, son of Richard Richmond of Crosby, Cumberland; born about 1719. Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1737, B.A. 1742, M.A. 1745. Fellow, 1753. Resigned Rugby 1755, and resided in College, 1755-62. Rector of Newnham? Hants., 1762. Died there January, 1816, aet. 97.

1755. STANLEY BURROWS. Born at Drigg, near Ravenglass, Cumberland about 1725, and educated by his father, the

Rev. Edward Burroughs, Minister of Drigg and Irton, who kept a school. Queen's Coll., Oxf., 1744, Taberdar, 1749, B.A., 1749, M.A., 1753. Rector of Cotesbach, 1763-68. Presented to the Rectory of Sapcote in 1778 when he resigned Rugby. Died at Sapcote 12 April, 1807.

N.B. Richmond had been Assistant Master under Knail and Burroughs under Richmond.

C. COLLINSON.

A GRANDFATHER CLOCK, BY BURTON OF KENDAL.

This clock is a beautiful example of its class with a fine case of polished oak handsomely finished. The face is white with a pheasant and sprays of vegetation painted beneath the XII. There are bunches of pears and apples painted in the four corners of the dial. Two hands in finely executed steel fret. No date, name (on dial) Burton, Kendal. It is a 24 hour clock wound by double chain. It strikes the hours and has a calendar index, still working, on dial.

Its owner is Mr. John Hoggarth, 3 Rigg Cottages, Eskdale, who says it has been in the family for many generations.

M. C. FAIR.