

THE PURSGLOVE BRASS AT TIDESWELL.—To the *Athenæum* of October 12th last Dr. Cox contributed an account of the recovery, by the Rev. J. M. J. Fletcher, Vicar of Tideswell, of a small brass plate inscribed to the memory of Lawrence Brierley, Vicar of Tideswell 1662-1680. It is, however, a palimpsest, for upon the back are fragments of the original epitaph formerly placed below the well-known brass to Bishop Pursglove in Tideswell Church, but believed by Dr. Cox to have been removed in 1587-9, "when fierce action was taken against the recusants, who were so strong a body in North Derbyshire." The mutilation and re-use of monumental brasses would seem to have been by no means infrequent; for the writer has two similar examples, one of the fifteenth and the other of the eighteenth century. The Pursglove fragment is worthy of illustration in this Journal, and perhaps Dr. Cox will favour us with a paper upon it.

EXCAVATIONS AT ARBOR LOW.—With the object of ascertaining the age of stone circles, the British Association appointed a Committee, consisting of Dr. J. G. Garson (Chairman), Mr. H. Balfour (Secretary), Sir John Evans, Professors Boyd Dawkins and R. Meldola, Dr. R. Munro, and Messrs. C. H. Read and A. L. Lewis. The Committee, after careful consideration, selected Arbor Low as the most suitable for their exploration, and after obtaining the necessary sanction of the Duke of Rutland and the First Commissioner of Works, accepted the honorary services of Mr. H. St. George Gray to conduct sectional excavation in the ancient monument. A geometrical plan of the whole was first prepared, detailing, with the nicest accuracy, the position, dimensions, and form of every stone visible upon the surface and the contours of the earthworks. Then certain sections were excavated through the fosse and in the plateau, which resulted in the discoveries of various flint implements and of one almost perfect, and several imperfect, human skeletons, but neither Roman vestiges nor pottery were disclosed. It is, however, intended to continue the exploration, and as the subject is one of momentous interest