

*An Account of two Bronze Figures discovered at the Roman Station near the Village of Benwell, in the County of Northumberland, and presented by Mr. JOHN STANTON to the Society.*

EXTRACTS from Mr. Stanton's letter to the Society, which accompanied these figures:—The Priapus “was found by me, August 17th, 1813, when in company with our Treasurer, near the bottom of the inner ditch, on the east side of the station. It was so completely enveloped in verdigrise that no part of the figure was discernible, excepting where the legs were broken off by the stroke of the mattock. We sought for the feet, but without success. The back part of the head was corroded away; and the face was so much eaten with rust, that I did not attempt to recover it. The left hand, which broke off in attempting to clean it, was raised up, and the two first fingers pointed a little higher than the shoulders. The metal of this figure, when wet, was much softer than the coating of rust which enveloped it.

The female Lar (see Plate IV. Fig. 2) was found by a mason in 1812, near the bottom of the outer ditch, in a line due east from the place where the Priapus was found. This figure has been protected from the action of rust by a coat of gilding, a part of which still remains: it is, therefore, less corroded than the former: they were both restored by the graver. The seat upon which I have placed it is ideal, but adapted to its posture. Whether, in its original state, it was placed on something of the same kind, and which of the household deities it was intended to represent, I leave to the conjectures and determination of persons better skilled in these matters than myself.”

JOHN STANTON.