

Tyne Mouth

north walke

Gardyn place

Borne yarne

Great barn

The pulre yard

Stables

Stables

Abbey

Chapel

Dort

Olde lodg

closter

Gate

Great Court

Constable lodg

ender court

Gate

warder honse

Gate house

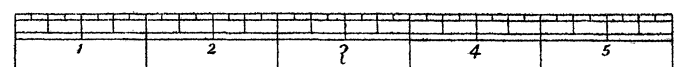
Draw brydge

utter porte

pyrre haven

Tynemouth towne

Olde Fyrhe pownde
non a olde dyke



This platte ys Made After : 160 : Fote to one inche

Some Account of an ancient Plan of Tynemouth, in the County of Northumberland, in a Letter from the Rev. JOHN HODGSON to JOHN ADAMSON, Esq. Secretary.

DEAR SIR,

I VERY readily comply with your request to give some account of the plan of Tynemouth, which the Society has ordered to be published. The Society's attention was drawn to it and another plan of the same place, about two years since, by the Rev. John Smith, Vicar of Newcastle, from the following notices of them in vol. iii. p. 310, of the new edition of the *Monasticon*:—

“ I. What this Priory must have been in its best days may be, in some degree, gathered from a “ *Platte*” or plan of the peninsula on which it stands, made in the time of Queen Elizabeth, “ after 160 fote to one inche,” still preserved in the Cottonian manuscript AUGUSTUS I. vol. ii. art. 6. From this we learn, that, entering from Tinmouth town over a wide moat and “ draw-brydge,” stood “ the Ward House;” with what was called “ the Vtter Forte” to the right; a neck of land projecting from which, and rounding off parallel with that part of the peninsula on which the abbey itself stood, formed “ the Priour's Haven.” A little to the left of the draw-bridge already mentioned was “ the Gate House,” in the way from which to “ the Great Court,” right and left, were the “ *Kylne*” and “ *Constable Lodgyng*,” the “ *Backhouse*,” and “ *Mylne*.” To the left, near the brink of the cliff, was the “ *Gonnors Lodge*” and “ the *Pultre Yard*.” then “ the North Walk,” with two barns, a barn yard, a “ *garner*”, three sets of

stables, and a cow house. In the centre of the area which formed the complete site was the "Abbey kyrke," to the east of which was "the Gardyn place." The west end of the abbey church, somewhat narrower than the main building, as being apparently without ailes, is marked as the "parysh kirk." North of this, apparently fronting to the Great Court already named, was the "Priors Lodgyng." The "Chapter House" and "Dortor," or dormitory, (continuing from which was the edifice named "Lords Lodgyng") adjoined the south side of the choir of the abbey church, forming the east side of the cloister; part of the parish church formed the north, the "Common Aule" the west, and the "Newe Aule" the south sides. South of the common hall were the "Boterye Aule and Ketchyn:" and then "the South Court" occupying the remaining space to the cliffs which overlooked the Prior's haven. North of the buttery hall and kitchen was "the Ender Cowrt," with the "New Lodgyng" and "Bru house." The whole precinct of the abbey was surrounded by a strong wall: that part of the site towards Tinmouth, being unprotected by the sea, appears to have been rendered doubly strong by a wall and ditch. Adjoining the ditch to the south west of the town of Tinmouth were the "olde Fish Pounds; now an olde dyke."

"II. Another "Platte," or Plan of Tinmouth, a kind of bird's eye view, including the Castle, occurs in the same volume of the Cottonian manuscripts, art. 7, but without any explanation of the different parts of the building."

The Society has also been at the expence of procuring a fac-simile of this plan; but as it is more rudely drawn than the other, it has not been thought worthy of publication. It has the admeasurement of places upon it, extends across the Tyne to "Jarrow Abbey;" and appears to have been drawn for the purposes of some engineer, who was probably engaged in fortifying the place. It may be curious for the Society to know that the same volume of the Cottonian Manuscripts contains a large "Plan of Bamborough, 20 foot to the Inche;"

a rude bird's eye view of Newcastle and Gateshead ; and a well executed plan of the course of the Tyne from Newcastle to Tynemouth. This latter is on vellum, and has a "Scale contaynyne : 2 : English Miles." In one corner is written "28 fadom." It is coloured with green, red, and gold, and has a neat border of the same colours. The depth of the river is put down in several places, and this explanation given:—"This River hathe in the Enteringe : 2 : barres or shovlls, and is the proporcione with the depthe figurede at low water. In springe tides it hoyeth : 12 : foote and in nepe tydes : 8 : fotte, veye nedfolle it is that there were at every pointe of sand or Rockes a becone or a boye, for it hoye watter, bothe sands and rockes are under watter, even to the mane lande." The places marked on the south side of it are: "Soothe Shills, Javeltre, Leden hoke, Sainte Jarmans, Newe Balliste Kye, Gateside." On the north side: "Tilmouth (Tynemouth) abby, The pointe of Sparhavck, Muskel scalp, North Shills, Sc .tte Sand, Flatter nesse, Longreche, Hauks Bill, Saint tan-tones, Biker Sand, Saint Lorange, Balliste Kye, Bornne, Stonne Shore, Newcastell uppon Tine."

It may be necessary to remark that the annexed plate is reduced one-third from the original size, and is on a scale of 240 feet to one inch.

I am, dear Sir,

Very truly your's,

JOHN HODGSON.