

IX. *An Account of some Roman Remains discovered on the Coast of Durham, in the Year 1816, by W. C. TREVELYAN, Esq. of Wallington, communicated to the Society.—See Plate I. Fig. 5.*

IN the summer of 1816, as I was examining the hills on the coast, about half way between Seaton and Hartlepool, in the county of Durham, near a farm called the Blue Houses, I observed a spot under the sand where the earth seemed to have been burnt, and some fragments of bones appeared; and on further examination I found a fragment of the fine red Roman earthen-ware, another of coarser brown, and a third of a red tile, together with some cinders and burnt bones. In the annexed sketch, the shaded parts shew the masses of earth formerly at the surface, but now only exposed by the washing of the sea. At the spot marked A I found a bone and a piece of tile; at B the earth for some space appeared burnt, and several vertebral bones of some animal were lying on it. At C were the fragments of earthenware, and near it two flat stones in an upright position, and a third lying near them. At this spot, the depth of the soil which contains these remains is four feet, the sand has now accumulated 24 feet above it, and below it is a clay.

The Rev. Mr. Leman, of Bath, to whom I sent the above account says, that it is evidently some Roman villa, or station, and suggests the probability of there being some road or communication between it and Pierse Bridge (Ad Tisam), or Binchester (Vinovium), or Chester-le-Street; but this I have not yet had an opportunity of ascertaining.

In the present year (1822), Mr. Pease, of Darlington, picked up, on the same spot, a large fragment of the red earthenware, which induced him to examine further, and he found an iron spear head, a brass coin of Domitian and a small brass fibula.