

XXII.—*Account of an old Inscription at Lanercost, Cumberland. In a Letter from the REV. J. HODGSON, Sec., to J. ADAMSON, Esq. Sec.*



*Whelpington, 15th July, 1825.*

MY DEAR SIR,

I was at Carlisle with Mr. Raine last week; and in our way thither, we called at Lanercost, where we found in the walls of a barn, the

annexed fragment of an inscription, which is not published either in Burn and Nicholson, or in Hutchinson's *History of Cumberland*.

It is upon a part of the shaft of the Cross of that place, the pedestal and lower part of which are still remaining in their original situation on the north side of the Priory Church there. The angles of the shaft are neatly and skilfully carved; but I had not time to make a drawing of the remains of the Cross in the Priory Yard or of the fragment of it in the barn. The name of William of Scotland is lost by the stone being broken in two, at the place where it occurred.

A thin plate of stone has been broken off the upper part of the shaft by a natural bed, by which the beginning of the inscription has been lost, but the new surface has been occupied by an epitaph in wretched characters, which I was not at the pains to copy. The inscription translated into modern characters should stand thus:—

. . . . . Alemannia Othone regnante, in Francia Phillippo, Johanne in Anglia, Willielmo in Scotia, facta est hæc crux: and in English thus:—*When Otho reigned in Germany, Philip in France, John in England, and William in Scotland, this cross was made.* Otho died in 1218, Philip in 1223, John 1216, and William in 1214.

I am, MY DEAR SIR,

Very faithfully your's,

JOHN HODGSON.