

XXXVIII.—*Account of a Golden Armlet found near Aspatria in the County of Cumberland, communicated by HENRY HOWARD, Esq., of Corby, to the Secretaries.*

Corby Castle, Carlisle, Sept. 27, 1828.

GENTLEMEN,

AT the suggestion of Mr. Wm. Hamper, I take the liberty to send to you the copy of the drawing of an Armlet lately found near Aspatria, in this county, which Miss Carlyle has sent me to forward to your Society, to which I add the interpretation given by Mr. Hamper, which I conceive to be the truth. From Miss Carlyle's account it appears, that there are some slight traces of a letter or letters effaced, which coincides with Mr. Hamper's opinion.

I remain, GENTLEMEN,

With great respect,

Your obedient humble servant,

HENRY HOWARD.

Copy of a Letter from Mr. Hamper to Mr. Howard.

"The Aspatria Torques or Armlet is a first-rate curiosity, for I do not recollect any previous relique of that kind bearing an inscription.

X + R L I
G E R O T
3 e p p o z

i. e. FABRICAVIT.

I have full confidence that some other letters (at least a monogram) were inscribed upon it denoting the maker's name."

In a subsequent letter to Mr. Adamson, Mr. Hamper says, "that as the characters (if any) that are upon it only form *a single word*, which may be the same in several dialects of the northern tongue, it may seem rather presumptuous to give a decided opinion about it." And, in another letter, he desires it to be stated that he did not see the Armlet itself, but only Miss Carlyle's drawing, because some antiquaries who have examined the original, doubt whether the characters are any thing more than accidental scratches.

The wood-cut is the size of the Armlet. Its weight is five ounces and a half. It is of very pure gold, and was found in the ditch of a hedge, near Aspatria, in 1828.

