PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

Annual Meeting, 1 Feb. 1858.

Lord Ravensworth, V.P., in the Chair.

READ.—The Annual Report of the Council, and the Treasurer's Account as printed, page xiv. A sum of 30*l*. on account of admittances to the Castle was afterwards handed to him.

A letter announcing a donation from M. Bourcher de Perthes, of Abbeville, of upwards of 80 volumes.—Mr. Roach Smith.

A letter acknowledging the compliment of election as honorary member.—The Abbe Cochet, of Dieppe.

The following letter to Mr. Hodgson Hinde, V.P., dated Bewcastle Rectory, Jan. 13, 1858.—The Rev. John Maughan.

"In compliance with my promise, I send you, by this day's post, a rubbing of each of the inscribed stones at Lanercost, and I shall now venture to make a few observations on each of them.

"No. 1 is a rubbing of a stone which was described by Mr. Smith, in 1744, in the Gentleman's Magazine, vol. xiv., p. 369. Mr. Smith says, 'It has escaped the observation of all antiquaries, by its obscure situation: it was discovered by two masons at work there, who informing me of it, I went this day to examine it, and, by the help of a ladder, noted down the characters: 'Jovi Optimo Maximo Cohors prima Ælia Dacorum cui præest Julius Saturninus Tribunus.'' Since Mr. Smith's time the position of this stone appears to have been forgotten, as it has not been noticed by any other antiquarian who has visited the old abbey. My attention having been directed to Mr. Smith's description of it, I made a search through the ruins and rediscovered it a short time since. It is in the clerestory, or open gallery which runs round the upper part of the edifice, in the south-east corner of the choir, and forms a headstone or cover for the arch between the pillar and main wall. It is near the summit of the outer wall, and must have been placed there when the abbey was first built. A better place could not have been selected for its preservation. It has evidently been an altar, and broken down by the masons into a segment of a circle, so as to form a support or centre for the arch above it. It is very interesting to find it now perfectly legible, and probably in as good and perfect a state as it was immediately after its mutilation by the masons in the 12th century. It is a curious link between the early, the middle, and the present ages of the Christian era. I agree with Mr. Smith's rendering

 $^{^{1}}$ Accurate drawings of these stones will doubtless appear in the Lapidarium allud d to in the Annual R port.

of the inscription, namely:—'To Jupiter, the best, the greatest, the first Cohort of the Dacians, styled Ælia, over which is Julius Saturninus, a Tribune" (placed this). The position and roughness of the stone render it difficult to get a very good rubbing, but the following is the accurate reading of it. The lines are rendered imperfect, in consequence of the shape of the stone.

I.O.M CHO.I.AE DAC CVI PR EST IVLIV SATVENIN² TRIEVN

"No. 2 is a rubbing of one of the altars which are preserved in the crypt. It may be read as follows:—

'Deo Sancto Silvano Venatores Banne susceptum (votum) solvunt.'—To the Holy God Silvanus the hunters of Banna pay (this vow) which had been made by them.

DEO SANCTO SILVANO VE NATORES. BANNE³. S. S.

"Banna is generally supposed to have been the name of a Roman This, however, is questionable. The Roman stations were decidedly military garrisons, and it is doubtful whether any of them were the residences of huntsmen. Besides, among the numerous Roman stations mentioned in the Notitia, we do not find the name of Banna. It may have been merely a local name. The old British word 'banau' signified 'high or elevated places.' The 'Venatores Banne' may have been the hunters of the hills or high grounds, which we may suppose to have been covered with woods and forests at that time, as the altar is dedicated to Silvanus, who is generally esteemed the tutelary deity of the woods. Dr. Bruce, in his Roman Wall, p. 395, gives a woodcut of this altar, and, considering the letters s.s. to denote the plural number, reads them-'sacraverunt.' In one of the inscriptions in Camden (Lancashire) I find the same letters, and in a marginal note they are read thus-susceptum (votum) solvunt. The dot between the letters s.s. on the Lanercost altar may perhaps be considered as an intimation that these letters were intended to represent two words.

"No. 3 is a rubbing of another of the crypt altars. I think it ought

to be read thus—

'Deo Cocidio milites Legionis vicesimæ, Valeriæ, Victricis, votum solvunt libenter, merito. Apro et Rufo Consulibus.'—To the god Cocidius the soldiers of the 20th Legion, styled Valerian and Victorious, pay (this) vow willingly, deservedly. Aper and Rufus being Consuls.'

D.E.O COCIDIO MILITES. LEG XX VV V.S.L.M APR.ET⁴.RVF⁴.COS

'Dr. Bruce, p. 380, gives a fac-simile of this altar, and in the fourth line shows the letter x occurring four times, but does not favour us

² The letters NIN are tied.—Ed. ³ NE are tied.—Ed.

The ET and VF are tied letters. -Ed.

with any interpretation of such a reading, which appears to me to have no meaning, and not to be warranted by the vestiges on the stone. After a very careful examination I am satisfied that there are no traces of the cross-bar of the third x. I took four rubbings, and none of them left any indication of it. That which he reads as the fourth x appears to be merely the intersection of the two adjacent limbs of the two letters v, the latter v having been rendered imperfect by a fracture of the edge of the stone. Dr. Bruce tells us that the 20th legion was 'surnamed Valiant and Victorious.' To this statement I venture to demur. Dion Cassius, in his recital of the legions under Augustus, tells us that the 20th legion, which was in Upper Britain, was styled Valeria, Victrix, and that the other legion, which was called the 20th, and which was quartered in Lower Germany, was never styled Valeria. statement we may conclude that the legion referred to on this altar ought to be styled Valeria Victrix, and not Valens Victrix. I would further observe that the statement of Dion Cassius is confirmed by an inscribed stone at Bath, on which the 20th legion is surnamed 'Valeriana.' I know of no authority for saying that it was surnamed Valens Victrix-Valiant and Victorious. The last line seems to be a contraction for 'Apro et Rufo Consulibus.' This reading, however, is attended with a difficulty. Although the names Aper and Rufus frequently occur as Consular names, yet I cannot find them in conjunction, i.e. Consuls in the same year, either in the Fasti Consulares, or the Chronicles of Eusebius or Cassidorus, or in any other list. In A.D. 207, we find Aper and Maximus combined as Consules Ordinarii, and the year was dated from them. Although history does not afford us any authority that I am aware of for assigning Rufus as a cognomen, or second name to Maximus, or for supposing Maximus to have died before the expiration of his year of office, and Rufus to have succeeded him either as Consul Suffectus or Consul Honorarius—yet such an event was by no means impossible, and this altar seems to place such a conjecture within the verge of probability. The consecration of this altar, therefore, may have taken place in the year 207, the year referred to in the Gelt inscription. This, however, is one of those mysterious questions the archæology of which is unfortunately still involved in obscurity.

"No. 4 is a rubbing of two fragments of a small altar in the crypt, which, when placed together, may be read thus:—

'Deo Cocidio milites Legionis secundæ Augustæ, votum solvunt libenter merito.'—To the God Cocidius the soldiers of the second legion, styled Augusta, pay (this) vow willingly, deservedly. D. E. O COĈIDIO MILITES LEG II AVG V S L M

The last line is imperfect, but we have sufficient remains of the letters to show what they have originally been. The base of the altar is gone. I am not aware that this stone has been previously described.

"No. 5 is a rubbing of a centurial stone which I recently found in the east wall of the crypt, about two feet from the ground, near the south-

⁵ Just as our w appears in old books in the form of two v's interlaced,—Ed.

east corner. I believe it had not been discovered before. It may be read thus:—

'Centuria cohortis decimæ piæ fidelis.'—A centurion of the tenth cohort, styled pious, faithful.

"No. 6 is a rubbing of another centurial stone, which has been walled into the east side of the refectory, and faces into the clergyman's garden. Being almost covered with ivy, it has escaped observation until discovered about two years since by the Rev. Mr. Calvert of Norwich. Although this and the preceding rubbing are far from good, in consequence of the roughness of the stone, yet there can be no doubt as to the correct reading of them, as the letters are bold, well cut, and well preserved. This stone may be read thus:—

Centuria Cassi Prisci.—The Century of Cassius Priscus.

The centurial mark is peculiar, but very distinct on the stone. Hutchinson, in his History of Cumberland, makes mention of another centurial stone near Birdoswald, bearing the following inscription:—'Centuria Cassii Prisci cohortis sextæ posuit.' This stone probably commemorates the same person."

An enquiry by Mr. Maughan, as to a votive vase of the Roman era, mentioned by Dr. Glover in his recent work on Mineral Waters, as having been found in the neighbourhood of Gilsland. Dr. Bruce replied that possibly Dr. Glover alluded to the well known Rudge Cup, discovered a century and a half ago in Wiltshire, and, lately ascertained to be in the possession of the Duke of Northumberland, at Syon House, by descent from the Duke of Somerset. On its rim are names of Roman stations near Gilsland, and it was probably dedicated to the nymph of the Spa.

Remarks upon Lord Ravensworth's paper on the inscriptions at Chillingham.—The Rev. Dr. Raine. To be printed.—Lord Ravensworth sail that the chimneypiece was not, as Wallis stated, of marble.

EXHIBITED.—Drawings by Mr. Mossman of Roman remains discovered in sewering Carlisle.—The Rev. Dr. Bruce.

Several of the above remains themselves, comprising a bronze lamp, fibula, hair-pins, &c.; also various coins, amongst them a Greek medallion, and a middle brass coin of Vespasian with IVDAEA CAPTA on the reverse.—Mr. Cartmell, the City Treasurer of Carlisle.

PRESENTED.—An Abstract in MS. of the title of Henry Lord Ravensworth to the Old Castle of Newcastle, submitted for the opinion of John Scott, afterwards Lord Eldon; with his opinion accordingly, approving the title, dated Newcastle, Oct. 3, 1780.—Lord Ravensworth.

PROCEEDINGS OF THE SOCIETY.

The abstract commences with a royal grant, dated 2 July 19436 fifty years from that day, to George Liddell, Esq., of the Castle by same description as that employed in the grant of 19 Nov. Henry Lord Ravensworth, with which the printed abstract of title to the various properties in the Castle precincts commences. The fine paid was 150%, and the rent was 100 chalders of good Newcastle coals delivered in the Pool of the Port of London to the Treasurer of Chelsea The lessee was to repair, not only the demised premises, but also the Moothall and the strong building used for a gaol or prison for the county of Northumberland, which were excepted out of the lease. He was also to deliver into the office of the auditor of the county within one year, and every seventh year during the term, a 'terrar' and particular, describing the premises, with their kinds, boundaries, quantities, qualities, and rents and values. The previous leases are briefly mentioned, viz.:—14 Apr. 17 Jac., to Alexander Stephenson for 50 years at 40s. rent; 13 Aug. 16 Car. II., to Charles Lord Gerrard, afterwards Earl of Macclesfield, for 99 years from the expiration of Stevenson's grant, if the said Charles Lord Gerrard, Charles Gerrard and Fitton Gerrard, his sons, or any of them should so long live; 17 June, 1 Jac. II., to the Mayor and Burgesses of Newcastle from the expiration of Gerrard's grant for a further term of 31 years. The abstract also comprises the will of George Liddell, of Hebburne, Esq., dated 21 Sep. 1740, and recited in the grant of 1777. The abstract concludes with the latter grant.

Counterpart of Assignment of the same grant by Henry Lord Ravensworth and his cestuis que trust to John Chrichloe Turner, Esq., dated 29 Dec. 1780, and comprised in the printed abstract.—Lord Ravensworth.

The exceptions are not set out in the printed abstract, and a note of them may be useful. They are divers leases (for 21 years except where otherwise mentioned) from Lord Ravensworth and others of portions of the premises, all stated to be in the Castle Garth, the rents and reversion of which passed to Turner, viz.: - (30 Nov. 17886), To Jacob Russell of the Castle Garth, gent., messuages, burgages, or tenements, at 401. per annum: To Thomas Swinhoe of Newcastle, gent., messuages. &c., and a raffyard, 441.: To Thomas Maddison and Luke Hardy of Newcastle, bricklayers, and Elizabeth Hardy, of the Castle Garth, widow, a messuage, &c., and messuages or toofalls and little garth, 101. 11s.: To Wm. Davison of Newcastle, minister of the Gospel, and 11 other persons, messuages or tenements and pieces or parcels of ground, 101. 10s.: To Ann Troll of Newcastle, widow, a mess. and smith's shop, 51. 5s.: to Jonathan Wilson of the Castle Garth, clogg maker, a mess. 7l. 10s.: To David Robertson of the Castle Garth, joiner, messuages, &c., 8l. 10s.: To Joseph Langstaffe of Newcastle, gent., messuages, &c., 111: To Isaac Mills of the Castle Garth, breeches maker,

⁶ The dates in brackets apply to the succeeding leases until another date occurs.

messuages and brewhouse, 151.: To James Simpson of Newcastle, breeches maker, messuages, &c., 121. 10s.: To James Anderson of Newcastle, peruke maker, and Ann Hill of Benwell, widow, a mess., 5l.: To Edward Avison of Newcastle, gent., messuages, &c., 361.: To Jasper Harrison of Newcastle, gent., messuages, &c., 101., assigned 29 Dec. 1779, to John Fife of Newcastle; stay maker: (1 Oct. 1778), To Catherine Wilson, of the Castle Garth, widow, messuages, &c., 321.: (29 Nov. 1771), To Thomas Gillman, of Newcastle, innkeeper, messuages, &c., 10l., surrendered 30 Nov. 1778, by Thomas Maddison of Newcastle, bricklayer, to Henry Lord Ravensworth, and demised by him the same day to the said Maddison, 10l: (1 Aug. 1776), To the Rev. Edward Aitkin, of Newcastle, minister of the Gospel, a messuage, 20 years, 5l.: (30 Nov. 1778), To Catherine Aitkin, of Newcastle, widow, the same premises for $13\frac{3}{4}$ years from 12 May, 1786, at 81.: (29 Nov. 1771), To Henry Towns, peruke maker, William Harper, yeoman, and George Bell, cordwainer, all of Newcastle, a mess., 14 years, 4l. 10s.: (30 Nov. 1778), To the said Bell and Eleanor Harper of Newcastle, widow, the same premises, for $14\frac{1}{2}$ years from Lammas Day, 1785, 5l.: To Jonathan Wilson of the Castle Garth, clog maker, messuages, &c., 181. for the first 7 years, and 281. for the remainder of the term of 21 years: To the said Jonathan Wilson, other messuages, &c., 21. 11s. for the first 7 years, and 8l. during the remainder of the term: To William Leighton of the Castle Garth, shoe maker, a messuage, burgage, or tenement, room and cellar, 8l. 18s. 6d. for the first 7 years, and 18l. for the remainder of the term: To Sarah Scotland, of the Castle Garth, widow, executrix of George Scotland, deceased, messuages, &c., 15l. for the first 7 years, and 221. for the remainder of the term: To James King, of Newcastle, gent., messuages, &c., 10l. 10s. for the first 7 years, and 151. for the remainder of the term: To Frances Perrot, of Newcastle, widow, messuages, &c., 30l. for the first $6\frac{1}{2}$ years, and 31l. for the remainder of the term: (1 Mar. 1766), To David Croll, of Newcastle, smith, a messuage, &c., 20 years, 71: (30 Nov. 1778), To the said Jonathan Wilson, the same premises, 14 years from Candlemas Day, 1786, 14l.: (8 Dec. 1768), To John White, of Newcastle, printer, a messuage, &c., and certain parcels of ground, 14 years, from 2 Feb. 1772, 151.: (30 Nov. 1778), To Jonathan Wilson, the same premises for 14 years from Candlemas Day, 1786, 261.

A large cannon ball discovered in the town-wall of Newcastle, on its north face, during the erection of the Unitarian Chapel in New Bridge Street.—Mr. Call.

Two smaller balls, discovered in constructing the Auckland Branch of the North Eastern Railway, and, by a coincidence, near the field of Nevil's Cross.—Mr. Cail.

Numismatic and other Crumbs, by Richard Sainthill of Topsham, Devon.—The Author.

Historical description of altar piece painted in the reign of James III. of Scotland, by David Laing, F.S.A.S.—The Author.

Notes on the History of S. Begu and S. Hild, and on some relics of antiquity discovered in the sites of the religious establishments founded by them, by the Rev. D. Haigh.—The Author.

Archæologia Scotica, or Transactions of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Vol. III., Part IV.—The Society.

Dissertatio de Monumentis quibusdam Romanis in Boreali Magnæ Britanniæ detectis anno M.DCCC.XXXI.—The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland.

RESOLVED.—That the practice of reprinting from the Gateshead Observer its reports of the Society's meetings be discontinued.

Monthly Meeting, 3 March, 1858. John Hodgson Hinde, V.P., in the Chair.

READ.—On Pipes and Pipe Music.—By Mr. J. CLEREVAULX FENWICK. To be printed.—Mr. Reed of North Shields played several airs upon the Northumbrian pipes after the paper. Mr. White remarked that Jamie Allan the piper, when he came to an equivocal word in his vocal accompaniment to his pipes, arrested his tongue, and threw the responsibility of uttering it upon the pipes. The bagpipes were peculiarly Scottish, but the instrument was formerly used in the southern part of the island, being mentioned by Drayton. Chaucer has a piper among his Canterbury pilgrims. Dr. Bruce referred to the occurrence of the pipes in a sculptured relic at Corbridge, a Roman site.

EXHIBITED.—A series of drawings of bosses in Hexham Abbey.—Mr. FAIRLESS.

An early ring, found near Hexham.—Mr. FAIRLESS.

A decade or Bethlehem ring, inscribed i.m.s., discovered in the possession of a lady at Hexham.—Mr. Fairless.

Mr. Fairless drew attention to the discovery of a Roman capital at Corbridge by Mr. Green of Hillbank.

PRESENTED.—A panel from Jarrow church, composed of Baltic fir.—Mr. John Armstrong of South Shields.

Mémoires de la Societé Imperiale d'Émulation d'Abbeville.—The Society.

Antiquités Celtiques et Antédiluvienne, by M. Bourcher de Perthes.— The Author.

The Canadian Journal of Industry and Science.—The Canadian Institute.

The Transactions of the Kilkenny Archæological Society.—The Society.

Buck's Views of Castles, &c., in the English counties.—Lord Ravens-

An inscribed Roman stone, formerly on the premises of Messrs. Mitchell, printers, in St. Nicholas' Church Yard, Newcastle, exhibiting three females sitting under semicircular arches. Below them is the inscription — MATRIBVS TRAMARINIS PATRIS AVRELIVS IVVENALIS. — MR. ROUTLEDGE, Builder.

RESOLVED.—That Mr. Fenwick be requested to communicate with the owners of Chesterholme, as to the propriety of securing the Roman remains gathered thither by the late Rev. A. Hedley from decay by exposure, either by confiding them to the care of the Society, or otherwise.

That application be made to the Vicar of Bellingham for certain Roman remains now at that place. [Request granted.]

That a proposal be made to the Corporation of Newcastle, through Mr. Clayton, for the performance of the duties of Warden of the Castle, by the Society, without charge; the last Warden having recently died.

That the Dean and Chapter of Carlisle be respectfully requested to take measures for the preservation of the Danish inscription in their cathedral, as it is but a foot from the ground. Dr. Charlton, having personally inspected the Runes, stated that their signification is "Tolfihn made these marks on this stone."

ELECTED.—Mr. John Armstrong of South Shields as an ordinary member.

Monthly Meeting, 7 April, 1858. John Hodgson Hinde, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.

READ.—A letter thanking the Society for its suggestion as to the Danish inscription in Carlisle Cathedral, and stating that instructions had been given for its preservation.—The Dean of Carlisle.

A letter acknowledging the receipt of the Society's Illustrated Catalogue of their Roman remains, and suggesting that relics of antediluvian art might be found in the geological formations near Newcastle.—M. BOURCHER DE PERTHES.

Notices of operations in that portion of the Roman station at Benwell which is north of the turnpike road during the formation of a reservoir by the Whittle Dean Water Company.—Dr. Bruce.

About a century ago the place was trenched for planting, and somewhere about forty years ago the trees were levelled and the ground was brought into tillage. The present excavations seem to confirm Mr. Shafto's plan, published in Brand's Newcastle. The northern wall, contrary to the analogy of other stations per lineam valli, seems to have been correctly laid down as further from the eastern gateway than the southern. Roots of buildings have been found in the whole of the area, and where Mr. Shafto places "the appearance of a gateway" several large stones, such as were used in the construction of gateways, have occurred. The northern embankment of the reservoir nearly corresponds with the north rampart of Condercum. Between the supposed north gateway and the north-east corner of the station, what seemed to be two drains leading from the station were cut in upon. The ground here slopes to the north. One of these drains has been traced as far riverward as the excavations go, lying immediately under the made soil. It has a flat stone for its base, two uprights for its sides, and another flat stone for a covering. The buildings in the interior of the station seem to have been placed upon the clay without being deeply imbedded in it. The walls of only one building have been found standing; apparently later Roman, and without the eastern rampart, and if so, the only instance Dr. Bruce is acquainted with of one being so placed north of the Great Wall. Its foundation stones were laid upon puddled clay. On the flagged floor was a mass of wood ashes, the remains probably of internal fittings. A second flooring appeared upon this débris, and it again was covered with a layer of ashes—an additional memento of the Caledonian onslaught. The usual kinds of pottery were found, with coins of Hadrian, Marcus Aurelius, his daughter Lucilla, Faustina wife of Antoninus Pius, and perhaps of other dates.

Dr. Bruce alluded to what "seemed to be a well" in the eyes of Mr. Shafto and others. It is a coal shaft, $7\frac{1}{2}$ feet in diameter, and lined for a few yards down with stones borrowed from the Wall. The coalworkings to which it led are probably of considerable antiquity, though not Roman. Others, now discovered, and still ruder, might possibly be Roman. Horsley speaks of a Benwell tradition of coal-workings in the locality estremed to be Roman.

Extracts from the early books of the Newcastle Custom House, with the sight of which Mr. Kell and Mr. Longstaffe had been favoured by Mr. Whitney, chief clerk of customs at the port, previous to their removal to the Museum of Curiosities of the Customs in London.—Mr. Longstaffe.

The records in question commence in 1663; and comprise Newcastle, and the creeks of Sunderland, Hartlepool, Blyth, Stockton and Whitby.

From Sunderland, Hartlepool, and Blyth, there was frequently little or nothing exported. From Newcastle to London went numerous cases of glass, hogsheads of shurfe or shruffe of 700 and 1000 weight, woollen stockings, dyeing corke, glover's shreeds, and skins. The following are extracts taken much at random:—

"1664. 6 peeces of Canterbury silks and stuffs, two bags, each containing 100li: one fardell of seaventy dogs skins.—1664. 2 horse packs of hairy webs: 1 pack and 2 tras qt 17 fox skins, 18 fitches, 8 deere, 100 calves, 197 goates, 18 doz. rabbettes, 12 doz. haires, 8 doz. dogs, 1 doz. cattes, 40 doz. moles, 38 pounds wt wollen thrums, val. 20 pounds.—1664. 5 hogshead dying cork: 1 bundle of Flanders cloth qt 56 yds.—1664. 2 casks of old shurfe qt 1000 weight.—1665. 6 caskes and 2 matts qt 5600 rabbett skins: 22 dozen of fitch skins: 70 catt skins: 99 fox skins: 13 otter skins: 170 dog skins: 105 lb. wt. of bees wax.—1675. 13 ps black callicoes: 14 ps Engl. huswives cloth: 2 remnants here downe cloth: 20 ps Scotch cloth: 1 ps prunella: 19 callicoe petticoates, 4 goate skins: 1 caske qt 4 hundred lamb skins: 100 dogg skins: 200 conny skins: 2 ps lynen cloth: 3 ps pladden: 6 fox and 2 doz. fitches skins: 1 pack qt 200 goat skins; and 3 caske qt 1 tonn of tallow: 4 casks more qt 28 cwt. tallow.—1675. 4 tuns tallow: 1 box drugs: 80 pound wt maidens haire.

We have mention of "Northern kearses." Among the imports are great numbers of Flanders drinking glasses, "caggs of sturgion," Norway deales and capravens. These capravens were exported with bricks, tiles, and spars and laths, to Holy Island, Stockton, &c. Tobacco pipes and butter were sent to Berwick; salt to Hull, Lynn, and the eastern coast, a state of things reversed in our own days. Besides the great exports from Newcastle, coals were exported from Hartlepool, Stockton, Whitby, and Blyth. Some of the names of ships are curious for their heraldry, such as the Hart of Hartlepool, and the l'elican Lumley of Scarborough; others for their amusing character, as the Abraham's Offering of Copenhagen, the Love's Increase of Lynn, and the Willing Seth of Lynn.

On the original site and progressive extension of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, with an estimate of its population in various periods. To be printed.—The Chairman.

EXHIBITED.—Several objects of Roman date discovered at Benwell.— The Whittle Dean Water Company.

Drawings and plans of the old coal-workings at Benwell, by Mr. Mossman.—Dr. Bruce.

Drawings by Mr. Adam Matheson, Curator of the Jedburgh Museum, of the following objects:—An ancient bronze "cail-pot," of the usual

form, found near the Reedswire.—A small unbaked urn, of a dark coarse incoherent clay, found at the east side of the Watling Street, with the bottom upward. Several of the same kind were crumbled down beside it. It is covered with herring-bone indentations, two lines of them being placed on ridge-like projections.—Another, and still smaller urn, of depressed form, found in the same position, and at the same locality, without the ridges, is ornamented like the former. This urn has been baked, and is formed of green pipe-clay, such as overlies peat. In the centre of the place where it was found was a considerable hole, filled with charred bones, wood, and ashes.—Mr. White.

A vase discovered in 1856 in the field on the south-east margin of the Roman station of Magna (Caervoran). It was covered by a thin flat stone, and contained a few fragments of calcined bones. No barrow was then observable. The vase is scored with intersecting lines, and is of "smother-kiln-ware," coloured by the confined fumes of the kiln. It is slightly bulged in at one or two places, the mouth is oval, and the general form bent to one side. There is abundance of clay of all kinds near Magna, and Mr. Way suggests that such a "flawed" vessel cannot have been imported from a distant locality.—Mr. ROBERT TEASDALE, of Glenwhelt.

A glazed tile from Tangier Castle, Barbary, bearing an Arabic inscription.—Mr. Thomas Grav.

PRESENTED. — Kemble's Codex Diplomaticus Ævi Saxonici, 6 vols. — The Chairman.

Collections made by the late John Sykes on the followings subjects: The Duke of York's Death; Coronation Proceedings; the Shields Suspension Bridge; Wellington's Visit to Newcastle; and Balloon Ascents from Newcastle: 5 vols.—The Chairman.

A lease dated 19 March, 1745, from the Rev. Robert Thomlinson, D.D., and Rector of Whickham, George Gray of Newcastle, Esq., and William Ellison of the same place, Esq. and Alderman, executors and devisees of Anne Davison, late of Newcastle, widow, deceased; to Richard Clutterbuck of Warkworth, gent., son and heir and also executor of John Clutterbuck, late of Newcastle, gent., deceased. The signature of the donor of the Thomlinson Library is "R. Rhomlinson."—Mr. Fenwick.

Hoare's Ancient Wiltshire, 2 vols.—Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan, Bart.

Petition to the Lords, dated 1 Jan. 1858, by "George Henry de Strabolgie Neville Plantagenet Harrison, a General Officer in the armies of Peru, Uruguay, Corrientes, Denmark, and the Germanic Confederation, &c., &c., &c." The prayer is for summons to Parliament as Duke of Lancaster, "with place and precedence as Prince de jure, of the legitimate Blood Royal of England, next after the eldest son and heirapparent of the Sovereign de facto;" for restoration of all the hereditary estates, royalties, and franchises belonging to the Duchy of Lancaster, and all the hereditary estates and honours robbed and plundered "during the usurpation of Elizabeth Tudor, commonly called Queen Elizabeth," from Charles Neville, 6th Earl of Westmoreland, and Thomas Percy, 7th Earl of Northumberland; and for protection from future interference by her Majesty's ministers and ambassadors with the military proceedings of the Petitioner, whereby in times past he has been deprived of great military command and reward.—General Harrison.

Referring the reader to the account of the Duchy of Lancaster in Camden's Britannia, for a brief view of the acts of Henry IV., Henry V., Edward IV., and Henry VII., respecting the estates, and to Sir Harris Nicholas' Synopsis, tit. Dukedoms, for the general nature of the title, we give the allegations of this strange petition in a tabular form. However ill-grounded, they constitute a most curious addition to the many romantic claims which have been urged to the titles and estates of the North. We refrain from the comments which will readily suggest themselves to the historian, the lawyer, and the genealogist.

Henry Plantagenet, Duke of Lancaster.

Blanche Plantagenet, daughter and heiress, seized of the Duchy of Lancaster in her own right, as Duchess of Lancaster, married John of Gant, son of King Edward III., who became Duke of Lancaster, jure oxoris.

Henry Plantagenet, succeeded his father as Duke of Lancaster; and being heir male to his cousin King Richard II., as likewise fin right of his mother) heir of the blood of King Henry III., and of William I., he ascended the throne, de jure, as Henry IV. In the 1st year of his reign an act was passed by Parliament, ordaining that the said duohy and all his hereditary estates, with their royalties and franchises, should remain to the said King Henry IV. and his right heirs for ever, and should descend, be administered and governed, in like manner, as if he had never attained the royal dignity.

Henry V., son and heir, seized of the duchy, as by law ordained, as aforesaid.

Elizabeth Plantagenet, married John-Holland, Duke of Exeter, uterine brother to Richard II., and son of Joan Plantagenet, Countess of Kent, commonly called "The Fair Maid of Kent," heiress of the blood of Llewellyn the Great, last legitimate Prince of Wales.

John Holland, Duke of Exeter, son and heir.

Henry VI., son and heir, seized of the duchy as aforesaid; died without any surviving legitimate issue; whereupon all the issue of the blood of King Henry IV. became and was extinct and ended, and the said duchy, together with all the hereditary estates, with the royalties and franchises thereto appertaining and belonging, became, de jure, vested in the right heir of the blood of King Henry VI.

*** Upon the death of Henry VI. the duchy was usurped by King Edward IV., and subsequently by King Richard III., both of whom died without leaving any legitimate issue.

Upon the death of Richard III. the duchy and all the hereditary estates, with their royalties and franchises, were usurped by one Henry Tudor, the son of Margaret Beaufort, d. and h. of John Beaufort, s. of John Beaufort, who was a bastard son of John of Gaunt: which said Henry Tudor had likewise usurped the throne, and called himself Henry VII.

Henry Holland, sister and heiress, married s. and h., d. s. p. Raby Castle, knight, great-grandson and coheir of the said Joan Plantagenet, the Fair Maid of Kent, and heir of the Dukes of Britanny and Earls of Richmond.

Ralph Neville, 3rd Earl of Westmoreland, s. and h., heir de jure of the whole blood of King Henry VI., and heir de jure to the duchy of Lancaster, &c. according to the statute of 1 Hen. IV.

Ralph Lord Neville, son and heir.

Ralph Neville, 4th Earl of West-moreland.

Henry Neville, 5th Earl of Westmoreland, married Ann, dau of Thomas Manners, Earl of Rutland, grandson of Ann Plantagenet sister to King Edward IV. and King Richard III.

Charles Neville, 6th Earl of Westmoreland.

Margaret Neville, eldest coheiress, married Nicholas Pudsey of Barham House, co. York, esq.

Margaret Pudsey, sole heiress, married John Marley of Eppleby, co. York, Esq.

John Marley, of Barham House and Eppleby, Esq., s. & h., mar. Elizabeth, d. & h. of John Coupland, of Langdale, co. York, Esq., by Elizabeth his wife, dau. of Sir Wm. Neville, of Chebsey, knt., and Elizabeth his wife, dau. of Henry Lord Stafford and Ursula his wife, dau. of Margaret Plantagenet, Countess of Salisbury, sister and heiress to Edward Plantagenet, Earl of Warwick, dau. of George Plantagenet, Duke of Clarence.

Anne Neville, youngest co-heiress, married David Ingleby, of Ripley, co. York, Esq.

Ursula Ingleby, coheiress of her mother, married Robert Widdrington of Widdrington, co. Northumberland, Esq.

Margaret Widdrington, sole heiress, married Francis Woodruffe of Woolley, co. York, Esq., son and heir of Richard Woodruffe and Elizabeth Percy his wife, eldest daw. and coheiress of Thomas Percy, 7th Earl of Northberland.

Peter Marley of Barham House, Eppleby, and Margaret Woodruffe, sole heir-Langdale, son and heir.

John Marley of Eppleby and Langdale, son and heir, married Margaret, sister and heiress to Richard Holmes, of Stub House, co. Durham, Esq.

Peter Marley, sister and heiress, married Cornelius Harrison, Felson and heir, died s. p.

Mary Marley, sister and heiress, married Cornelius Harrison, Fellow of Pembroke College, Cambridge, great-grandson and heir of Sir Richard Harrison of Hurst, co. Berks, knt., heir male of the blood of King Canute the Great; and heir lineal of all the Anglo-Saxon Kings of England, and of all the legitimate Kings of Scotland; as likewise 8th in descent from Isabel Plantagenet, daughter of Richard Plantagenet, Duke of York, and Ann his wife, Duchess of Clarence and Countess of Ulster and March; and 9th in descent from Ann Plantagenet, dau. and h. of Thomas Plantagenet, Duke of Gloucester, youngest son of King Edward III.; as likewise one of the coheirs of Thomas Mowbray, Duke of Norfolk, of James, 9th and last Earl of Douglas, and of David de Strabolgie, 13th and last Earl of Athol.

Cornelius Harrison of Stub House, Esq., son and heir.

Marley Harrison of Whashton, co. York, Esq., son and heir.

Francis Harrison, son and heir, sold his birthright to petitioner, and abdicated all his right of primogeniture, with all the royalties, franchises, estates, titles, and honours, thereto appertaining, in favour, and for the exclusive benefit, of petitioner, whereby petitioner became Duke of Lancaster, de jure, by and in virtue of the lineage and circumstances herein set forth.