

of the person are introduced; the one with an uplifted torch, the other with a hammer to break in pieces, if possible, his reputation. In several instances we have the deceased placed in a reclining position in a funeral car, such as we see on the reverse of some Roman coins. In one case of this kind the horses are yoked like oxen, and they bow their heads as if to show how galling their present task is. One has evidently contained the ashes of a great man. Ten figures are introduced, forming a funeral procession; some carry the volumes in which his historic deeds are registered, others the lictor's rods, one the curule chair, magistrates in their robes of office follow. What is said to be the Rape of Proserpine is in one instance, perhaps more, represented. I suspect the idea intended is simply the forcible removal of the lost one to another sphere. The Rape of Helen is shown upon one urn; her return on another. The Battle of the Centaurs and Lapathæ is frequently introduced. When this is the case, an overturned wine amphora is seen on the ground. No doubt this subject represents Death the destroyer of men. Another common subject is what has been called a human sacrifice. A man kneels with one knee upon a low altar, and either plunges the knife into his bared breast himself, or allows a priestess to do it for him. His good genius stands on one side keeping off those of his friends who would forcibly interfere — his daughter (representing his family) stands on the other in hopeless, helpless grief. This subject occurs so often that I think the sacrifice must be metaphorical and not literal. In our day we have seen men sacrifice themselves for their country as really as if they had bled upon an altar. Several urns represent the scene of the chase.

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### MONTHLY MEETING, 8 JANUARY, 1862.

*Richard Cail, Esq., in the Chair.*

**DONATIONS.**—*From the University of Christiania.* A fine bronze medal, "Academiae Regiae Non. Fridericianae Sacra Semisecularia, D. II. Septbr., M.DCOC.LXI. The following books. On cirklers Beröring, af C. M. Guldberg, 1861. Om Kometbanernes Indbyrdes Beliggenhed, af H. Mohn, 1861. Karlamagnus Saga ok Kappa Hans, udgivet of C. R. Unger, II. 1860. Old Norsk Læsebog, udgiven af P. A. Nunck og C. R. Unger, 1847. Det Kongelige Norske Frederiks Universitets Stiftelse, af M. J. Monrad, 1861. — *From the Canadian Institute.* The Canadian Journal, parts 35 and 36.

**COINS.**—*The Rev. James Everett* exhibits an Egyptian brass coin of Claudius, and *Mr. William Pearson*, of South Shields, presents a third-

## ANNIVERSARY MEETING.



brass coin of Constantine, found on the Law Bank in 1861. Insignificant as a mere coin, the latter is not without its interest in connection with the term of Roman occupation of the station at Shields Law.

RING.—*Sir Walter C. Trevelyan* sends an impression from an antique plain gold ring, recently bought at Malton by a friend, who was assured that it had been dug up at Newcastle. The stone is red, well inserted, and exactly on a level with the surface of the ring. The subject is a Cupid offering grapes to an aged head.

ROMAN ITALY.—*Dr. Bruce* exhibits many photograms of Roman remains in the land which he recently visited.

POTTERY FROM LOWICK.—*Dr. Bruce* exhibits a curious implement of clay, found close to the Devil's Causeway, just behind Lowick. It is incised with crossing lines, branches, and a cross with a radiated circle; resembles Roman pottery, and yet may be of comparatively modern date—indeed, *Dr. Charlton* jocularly insists that it is an old butter-stamp.

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## ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 3 February, 1862.

*The Right Hon. Lord Ravensworth, President, in the Chair.*

OFFICERS AND COUNCIL. — *Patron*: His Grace the Duke of Northumberland, K.G. — *President*: The Right Hon. Lord Ravensworth. — *Vice-Presidents*: Sir Charles M. L. Monck, Bart., Sir Walter Calverley Trevelyan, Bart., John Hodgson Hinde, Esq., and John Clayton, Esq. — *Treasurer*: Matthew Wheatley, Esq. — *Secretaries*: Edward Charlton, Esq., M.D., and the Rev. John Collingwood Bruce, LL.D. — *Council*: The Rev. Edward Hussey Adamson, the Rev. James Raine, and Messrs. Robert Richardson Dees, William Dickson, John Dobson, Martin Dunn, John Fenwick, William Kell, William Hylton Dyer Longstaffe (*Editor*), Edward Spoor, Robert White, and William Woodman. — *Publisher*: Mr. William Dodd. — *Auditors*: Messrs. R. R. Dees, and Robert White.

NEW MEMBERS.—Mr. William Adamson, Cullercoats; Mr. Frederick Shaw, East Parade, Newcastle; Mr George Luckley, Claremont Place, Newcastle.

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Sir W. C. Trevelyan, Bart.* Report of the Lords' Committees to examine precedents of Peers' Proxies, 1817.—*From the Kilkenny Archaeological Society.* Their Papers and Proceedings, No. 34.—*From Mr. J. G. Forster.* Enshrined Hearts of Warriors and Illustrious People, by Emily Sophia Hartshorne, Newcastle, 1861.

BOOKS PURCHASED.—Raine's Extracts from the Records of the Northern Circuit, Surtees Society, 1861.

PROPOSED MUSEUM.—*Resolved*, that the Committee appointed to conduct the purchase of the ground be instructed to complete the purchase without delay; and that, subsequently, an appeal be made to the public to obtain funds for the building.

## FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL REPORT.

THE excellent *resumé* of the Society's proceedings contained in the volume of Transactions precludes the necessity of giving in detail the events of the past twelve months. Many valuable donations of books and of antiquities have been received, and interesting papers have been read at the monthly meetings. Among the latter, the council would especially call attention to the very valuable account of the Roman Bridge over the North Tyne, at the Chesters, contributed by Mr. Clayton, by whose liberal exertions the whole of this important structure has been laid bare, along with a portion of the Wall—the most complete, if not the largest, of any existing along the line of the great barrier. The Council wish to remind the members that at the next Anniversary Meeting, in 1863, the Society will have completed the 50th year of its existence, and the Council would suggest that this event should be marked by some great effort to ameliorate the position of the Society. Nothing, probably, would be more acceptable to the members, or more appreciated by the public, than the completion of the long-wished-for museum, for the ever-increasing collections of the antiquities. The ground for this purpose — being that lying between the Castle and the Black Gate — has been already agreed for, and the purchase money is ready to be paid down; but beyond this, the funds in the hands of the Committee appointed for this purpose do not extend. Indeed, the amount of money subscribed has barely equalled the sum required for the purchase of the ground. It is impossible to look upon the stores accumulated within these walls, and not to feel how disadvantageously they are placed for study and for effect. Roman altars and inscriptions are hidden away in dark corners: the earlier remains of our primitive races, the celts, and runes, so often found in this district, are so crowded in our glass-cases that, with the imperfect side light, it is impossible to distinguish their outline. The great increase of the Society's library, through the liberal donations of Sir Walter Trevelyan and others, renders it necessary that all the space in the library should be allotted to books, as, with the able assistance of Mr. Dodd, one of the members of the Society, it will shortly be in possession of a complete catalogue of all the books, pamphlets, and engravings in its library. The number of new members has not, in the past year, been so great as in the year preceding, but the Society has lost very few by resignation or death. The Council have, moreover, to express their satisfaction with the mode in which the volumes of the Society's Transactions have been edited by Mr. Longstaffe.

## SILVER RELICS OF THE 16TH AND 17TH CENTURIES.

MR. LONGSTAFFE, by permission of the Executors of the late Mr. Joseph Garnett, of Newcastle, exhibits the following articles from their testator's multifarious collections: — I. A couple of Apostle Spoons formerly presented by sponsors at christenings. The present fine examples weigh 4 oz., and have figures of Sts. Peter and Paul; the hall mark is  $\tau$  (1560); the tradesman's mark is some animal; the leopard's head is in the bowl; and the initials of the child to whom they were given, being S. I., with a knot, are pounced on the back of the bowls. "And all this for the hope of a couple of *Apostle Spoons* and a cup to eat caudle in."—(*Ben Jonson.*) — II. Another Apostle Spoon, weighing 2 oz. 17 dwt., rather later, but in still finer preservation. It bears the figure of St. Simon the Zealot, with his saw; the hall mark is *f.* (1623); the tradesman's mark is E. H.; leopard's head in bowl. The endorsed initials are  $\text{E}^A$  pounced. "I'll be a gossip, Beuford. I have an *odd Apostle Spoon.*"—(*Beaumont and Fletcher.*) — III. The figure of an Apostle from an old spoon, affixed to a shank and bowl, reworked or newly-made in 1739, in imitation of one of the older Apostle Spoons; a curious adaptation, weight, 1 oz. 18 dwt. — IV. Two Apostle Spoons composed of brass or "laten," apparently of very considerable antiquity; a rose supplies the place of the leopard's head of the assay office, but there is no attempt to imitate the hall marks of later introduction. — V. Jetton on the marriage of Charles I. (Medallic History, xv. 1.) — VI. Briot's Coronation Medal, *drawn sword* (xv. 11.) — VII. Jettons on the birth and baptism of Charles II., (xiv. 16, 10.) — VIII. Oval Medal, gilt, with portraits of Charles I. and Henrietta, legends engraved, garter encircling.—IX. Beautiful oval Medal, gilt (resembling xiv. 4), finely preserved, all in relief, with rich portrait of the King, and his arms. — X. Oval Medal, portrait of Charles, legend and arms engraved. — XI. Copy of the rare Oxford Crown, with view of Oxford under the King's horse, finely cast and chased. — XII. Royalist's Heart, a box in that form, with engraved inscriptions. Obv. "*Quis temperit a lacrymis, January 30, 1648,*" eye shedding tears; rev. "*I live and dy in loyaltye,*" bleeding heart pierced by two arrows. Interior—Obv. a small portrait of Charles in relief; rev. "*I morne for monerchie.*" — XIII. Simon's Dunbar Medal, with portrait of Cromwell, and representation of a parliament (xxii. 3.) — XIV. Oval Medal, gilt, with "*CAROLUS SECUNDUS—C. R.;*" very young and unusual head of Charles II. — XV. Specimens of the early Massachusetts Shillings.

## MONTHLY MEETING, 5 MARCH, 1862.

*Martin Dunn, Esq., in the Chair.*

DONATION.—*By Mr. George Noble Clark.* A checked linen table-cloth used at the coronation of King George III. It seems to be composed of widths of the material sown together.

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## SHERIFFS OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

By JOHN HODGSON HINDE, Esq.

THOSE who have had occasion to refer for genealogical or other purposes to the Lists of Sheriffs, originally published by Fuller, and copied by our county historians, are well aware how meagre this source of information is as regards Northumberland, compared with other counties.

For a long period, commencing with the reign of Edward IV., the Sheriffs of Northumberland either refrained from tendering their accounts at the Exchequer, or they did so in a very imperfect and irregular form, so that in very many cases no Sheriff's name appears upon the Pipe Rolls, from which almost exclusively Fuller's lists are derived.

This system was checked, though not entirely abolished, in the 3rd of Edward VI., when an Act of Parliament was passed, requiring the Sheriffs of Northumberland to account in the same way as the Sheriffs of other counties.

Although the irregularity is said to have originated at the very commencement of the reign of Edward IV.,<sup>1</sup> we do not immediately discover any blanks in the list of Sheriffs.

In the 14th year the Earl of Northumberland had a grant of the Shrievalty for life,<sup>2</sup> and continued to hold the office till the death of Richard III., when he was superseded by Henry VII., but reinstated the following year. In the meantime the office was held by Sir Robert Manners, Knight. Fuller places this Sheriff by mistake in the 4th of Richard III., the true date of his appointment being the very day of the accession of Henry VII., August 22nd, 1485.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See contemporary statement, Hodgson's Northumberland, Part I., p. 365.

<sup>2</sup> Originalia.

<sup>3</sup> Robertus Maners, miles, vice-comes, ab 22 Augusti, quo die Rex Hen. VII. incepit regnare.—Rot. Pipæ.

During this reign of 24 years, Fuller has only ascertained the names of 7 sheriffs, and only 16 during the 38 years of the succeeding reign of Henry VIII., nor has he always assigned these names to their correct official years. I have now the satisfaction of laying before the Society a complete list during both reigns. These have been compiled from various documents formerly in the Pipe Office, subsidiary to the Great Roll, and from the records of Exchequer proceedings against defaulting Sheriffs. In my investigation I have been materially aided by Mr. Joseph Burt, one of the Assistant Keepers of the Public Records. From the same sources I have supplied the deficiency of three names during the reign of Philip and Mary.

During the reigns of Elizabeth and James I., Fuller's list is complete, but it terminates with the 13th of Charles I., and is moreover deficient as to the names of the Sheriffs appointed in the 3rd, 5th, and 10th years. These names have been supplied, the two former from Sir Thomas Swinburn's Sheriff's Book, the last from Harleian MS. 5171, which contains lists of Sheriffs throughout England, nearly identical with Fuller's.

During the succeeding 47 years, from the 13th of Charles I. to the accession of James II., Hutchinson has only been able to supply the names of *nine* Sheriffs. I have succeeded in completing the series from various sources.

Down to the 18th Charles I., the names are from the Pipe Office Records with the exception of the 16th; with regard to which these documents present a blank suggestive of Fuller's commentary "*Ingratum bello debemus inane.*"

Within the period, however, of this shrievalty a general election occurred, and the Sheriff's name, though wanting where it ought to have been, on the Return for the County of Northumberland, was found, on a further search, appended to the Return for the Borough of Morpeth.

The 19th year is again a blank in the Pipe Records, but in the Commons' Journal of the following year there is a reference by name to the *late* Sheriff of Northumberland, which gives the required information.

In the 20th year, the Parliament, usurping the functions of the Crown, appointed the Sheriffs by an ordinance, and the nine following names are derived from the Journals of the two Houses.

Thenceforward the list is compiled from the newspapers in the British Museum, and the Pepysian Library at Cambridge, and from 1666 from the Gazettes.

From the accession of James II., a perfect list has already been published in Mackenzie's History of Northumberland, to which it was

contributed by the late Thomas Davidson, Esq., Clerk of the Peace, from the County Records.

I propose at a future period to communicate a revised list of the earlier Sheriffs of Northumberland, with which I have made some progress, but it appeared to me desirable in the mean time to offer the present paper, which supplies all blanks in the published series from the reign of Edward IV. to the present time, and supplies upwards of 80 gaps in the existing series.

# COUNTY OF NORTHUMBERLAND.

## LIST OF SHERIFFS.

- Henry VII.* 1 - 2. Robertus Maners, miles  
 2 - 3. Henricus Comes Northumbriæ<sup>4</sup>  
 3 - 4. Idem.  
 4 - 5. Idem.  
 5 - 6. Johannes Middleton, miles  
 6 - 7. Willielmus Tyler, miles  
 7 - 8. Idem.  
 8 - 9. Rogerus Fenewyk, armiger  
 9-10. Johannes Heron de Chipches, armiger  
 10-11. Ricardus Carnaby, armiger  
 11-12. Radulphus Harbottell, miles  
 12-13. Thomas Grey de Horton  
 13-14. Georgius Tailbois, miles  
 14-15. Idem.  
 15-16. Edwardus Radelyf, armiger  
 16-17. Edwardus Radelyf, miles  
 17-18. Idem.  
 18-19. Radulphus Ewre  
 19-20. Thomas Ilderton  
 20-21. Idem.  
 21-22. Humfridus Lysle, miles  
 22-23. Nicholas Rydley, armiger  
 23-24. Idem.  
 24 & 1 *Henry VIII.* Idem.  
*Henry VIII.* 1 - 2. Nicholas Ridley, armiger  
 2 - 3. Rogerus Fenwyk, armiger  
 3 - 4. Edwardus Radelyf, miles  
 4 - 5. Idem.  
 5 - 6. Radulphus Fenwyk  
 6 - 7. Idem.  
 7 - 8. Nicholas Haryngton (Errington.)

<sup>4</sup> The Earl of Northumberland held the office of Sheriff of Northumberland under a grant for life, bearing date 14th of Edward IV. He was dispossessed on the accession of Henry VII., but obtained restitution the following year.

- 8-9. Ricardus Thyrkell, armiger
- 9-10. Idem.
- 10-11. Christopherus Thirkeld
- 11-12. Georgius Shelton, armiger
- 12-13. Christopherus Dakres, miles
- 13-14. Willielmus Ellerker, armiger
- 14-15. Idem.
- 15-16. Willielmus Heron, miles
- 16-17. Willielmus Ellerker, miles
- 17-18. Cuthbertus Ratclyff, armiger
- 18-19. Willielmus Eure—Evers—Ewr
- 19-20. Johannes Delavale, miles
- 20-21. Edwardus Grey, miles
- 21-22. Philippus Dacres, miles
- 22-23. Cuthbertus Ratclyff, armiger
- 23-24. Willielmus Heron, miles
- 24-25. Nicholaus Horseley, armiger
- 25-26. Henricus Comes Northumbriæ
- 26-27. Idem.
- 27-28. Idem.
- 28-29. Idem.
- 29-30. Johannes Horseley, armiger
- 30-31. Idem.
- 31-32. Cuthbertus Ratclyff, miles
- 32-33. Johannes Wetherington, miles
- 33-34. Reginaldus Carnaby, miles
- 34-35. Johannes Delavale, miles
- 35-36. Thomas Hylton, miles
- 36-37. Johannes Collingwood
- 37-38. Thomas Hylton, miles

*Edward VI.* .. 1. Johannes Horseley, armiger

- 2. Johannes Delavale, miles
- 3. Thomas Hylton, miles
- 4. Johannes Forster, miles
- 5. Thomas Grey, miles
- 6. Robertus Collingwood

7 & 1 *Mary.* Johannes Wytheryngton, miles

*Philip and Mary* 1-2. Johannes Delavale, miles

- 2-3. Georgius Heron
- 3-4. Robertus Ellerker, miles
- 4-5. Georgius Ratcliffe, miles
- 5-6. & 1 *Elizabeth.* Johannes Witherington, miles

*Charles I.* 1-2. Cuthbertus Heron, armiger

- 2-3. Francis Brandling, armiger
- 3-4. Thomas Swinburn, miles
- 4-5. Idem.
- 5-6. Thomas Carr de Ford, armiger
- 6-7. Robertus Brandling, armiger
- 7-8. Nicholas Townley, armiger



- 8-9. Nicholas Tempest, miles :
- 9-10. Thomas Middleton, armiger
- 10-11. Radulphus Selby, miles
- 11-12. Willielmus Carnaby, miles
- 12-13. Willielmus Witherington
- 13-14. Robertus Bewick, armiger
- 15-16. Willielmus Orde, armiger
- 16-17. Robertus Mitford, armiger
- 17-18. Willielmus Selby, armiger
- 18-19. Idem.
- 19-20. Gilbertus Swinhoe, armiger
- 20-21. Michaelis Weldon
- 21-22. John Fenwick, baronettus
- 22-23. Robertus Clavinger de Brenkburn
- 23-24. Willielmus Shafto de Bavington
- 24-25. Robertus Lisle de Felton
- 24&1 of *Charles II.*, Idem.

- Charles II.* 1-2. Ralph Delaval, miles
- 2-3. Robertus Mitford, armiger
  - 3-4. Ricardus Forster de Neuham
  - 4-5. Robertus Middleton
  - 5-6. Robertus Shafto de Benwell
  - 6-7. Johannes Ogle de Eggingham
  - 7-8. Lucas Killingworth
  - 8-9. Edwardus Fenwick de Stanton
  - 9-10. Idem.
  - 10-11. Idem.
  - 11-12. Idem.

(*Restoration, May 29, 1660.*)

- 12-13. Ralph Jenison
- 13-14. Mark Milbank
- 14-15. Thomas Bewick
- 15-16. Ralph Selby
- 16-17. Sir Francis Bowes, Knt.
- 17-18. Sir William Middleton, Bart.
- 18-19. Sir William Forster, Knt.
- 19-20. Sir Cuthbert Heron, Bart.
- 20-21. Robert Shafto of Benwell
- 21-22. John Heron of Bockenfield
- 22-23. William Selby
- 23-24. Francis Addison
- 24-25. John Forster
- 25-26. Martin Fenwick
- 26-27. Sir Thomas Loraine, Bart.
- 27-28. John Shafto
- 28-29. Utrect Whitfield
- 29-30. Francis Forster
- 30-31. Mark Milbank, Bart.
- 31-32. Edward Blackett
- 32-33. Henry Ogle of Eggingham

33-34. Edmund Craster of Craster.

34-35. Idem.

35-36. James Howard, Esq.

P.S.—Since writing the above I have had an opportunity of comparing Fuller's list with a Catalogue of Northumbrian Sheriffs compiled by that laborious antiquary, Roger Dodsworth, and comprised in the 45th volume of his stupendous collection, preserved in the Bodleian Library at Oxford. This list is not in its earlier portion so carefully prepared as to supersede the necessity of a reference to the original records, but it enables me to supply with perfect accuracy the very few lacunæ which occur in Fuller during the reigns of Richard II. and his successors, down to the period comprised in my communication above. I append the few additions and corrections which are required during these reigns:—

*Richard II.*—Fuller gives the name of Henry Percy, Earl of Northumberland, as Sheriff in the 15th and 16th years, and again in the 20th and 21st. It appears that he held the office also during the intermediate years, his tenure being, by patent, for life. Dodsworth has collected also some names of "Subvicecomites," or Under-sheriffs, during years when the office was executed by deputy.

Thus, Anno 9. we have Henry de Percy, Sheriff, John Burond cum eo.

10. Idem, Henry de Bingfield cum eo.

11. Idem, Bertram Monboucher cum eo.

22. John de Fenwick, John Montague cum eo.

*Henry IV.*—Fuller has two vacant years, the 5th and the 13th. He assigns Gerard Heron, Knt., and Robert Umfravill, both to the second year, whereas they served respectively in the 2nd and 3rd. This correction refers the name wanting to the 6th instead of the 5th year, and Dodsworth supplies the name of Thomas Rokeby. This is further confirmed by the authority of an independent list already referred to in the Harleian Library. The other names are all correct, but each belongs to a year later than that assigned by Fuller. The correct sequence is as follows:—

Anno 1. Henry de Percy, filius Comitum Northumb.

2. Gerard Heron, miles

3. Robert Umfravill, miles -

4. John Mitford, miles

5. John Clavering, miles

6. Thos. Rokeby

7. Rob. Umfravill, miles, &c., &c.

*Henry V.*—Fuller has again one name too few. He omits Robert Harbottle, who served the broken portion of the 14th of Henry IV. and a portion of the 1st Henry V., com-

mencing with Robert Manners. The corrected list stands thus :—

14 *Henry IV.* and 1 *Henry V.*—Rob. Harbottle

1 - 2 *Henry V.*—Rob. Maners

2 - 3 *Henry V.*—Edw. Hastings, miles, &c., &c.

*Henry VI.*—In this reign Fuller is accurate, except as to a few clerical errors.

Anno 24, he misprints Haring for Hardyng.

Anno 30, „ Heronford for Heron de Ford.

Anno 33, and elsewhere, Mavers for Maners.

The list is now perfect at both ends, the published Pipe-Rolls giving us the early reigns, and leaving only those of the three Edwards, which are very faulty, to be supplied.

I am indebted to my nephew, the Rev. John Richard King, Fellow of Merton College, Oxon, for a copy of Dodsworth's list.

# ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTORY OF THE GOODS OF WILLIAM MORE, ESQ., OF BANK HALL, LANCASHIRE.

FROM SIR W. C. TREVELYAN, BART.

[Of the ancient family from which the deceased gentlemen descended, something may be seen in the Baronetages. "Whereof was Sir William de la More, who was made knight-banneret, by Edward the Black Prince, at the Battle of Poitiers, in France. He was a very considerable man in that time, and wrote the Life and Death of Edward II. and III., which is made much use of by Barnes, and other historians who wrote of those times." "Edward More, of More, and Bank Hall, Esq. (son and heir of Col. John More, of More Hall, who defended Liverpool against King Charles I., by a daughter of Rigby,) was to have been created a baronet, in the year 1660, but the *Recepi* was not signed till March 1, 1661-2, and the patent passed not under the great seal until Nov. 22, 1675."]

A TRUE and lawfull Inventory of all the goodes and cattelles of William Moore, Esquire, of the Bancke Haule, late deceased, veued and valued, easteamed and praiesed, by Mr. Thomas Rinching, Mr. Allexander Rygby, Mr. William Banyster, Mr. Oliver Fairehurst, Thomas Bridge, and Nicholas Rygbie, the xv<sup>th</sup> day of August, 1502. [*read 1602.*]

Greate Chaumber. One standing bedd, one truckle bed, with glasse and siling in the same chamber, 6*l.* 13*s.* 4*d.* Three feather beddes, two boulsters, three pilloes, iiij white blancketes, ij Irish cadnes and fine sea

curtaines, 4*l*. 7*s*. 8*d*. One table, one forme, one chaire with one buffet stoole, and one chist with an ironn grate with j bord, 9*s*. 6*d*.

Littell Chaumber. One standing bedd, one truckle bedd, two feather beddes, ij boulsters, one pilloe, three white blankettes, two cadnes, with one coverlett, and fine curtaines beeloning therunto, 4*s*. 14*s*. One table, one chaire, one forme, one small grate, with one paire of tounges, 6*s*. Some wainscott in the same chamber, with glasse, 40*s*.

Littell Studdie beeloning to the same chamber. One lyttell turnde stoole, one wiskett, and six littell shelves, 1*s*.

Great Parler. One long table, one square table, one forme, one foote stoole, five chaires, fowre ould stooles, one iron grate, one apple grate, one toting forck, one paire of bellows, one smale chist, with one payre of playeing tables, 1*l*. 10*s*. One carpett and fowreteene ould cussinges, 6*s*. Three pictures, 3*s*. 4*d*. Wainscott and glasse in the same parler, 8*l*. 6*s*. 8*d*. Two ould coverings with two pilloes at the stare headd, 10*s*.

Littell Parler. One standing bedd, one truckle bedd, ij fetherbeddes, ij boulsters, iiij blankettes, one coverlett, one covering with fower curtaines, 1*l*. 10*s*. 6*d*. One cubberd, one chist, one hange lock, two paire of gloves, two formes, one still, with one paire of tounges, 5*s*. 10*d*. Wainscott and glasse in the same chamber, 4*l*.

Chaumber over the Butterie. One standing bedd &c., two paire of snuffers, two brushes, one looking glasse, one facet, one iron grate, one standishe.

Greate Closset. Three stone of wooll, 40*s*. One chyst, two bolles, fower hoggeshed, three barrells, two combes, one turnell, a beame of iron and scales to them with six leaden weightes conteyning one hundred and a half weight, two iron casementes, two conie nettes, one payre of yorne wyndinges, one ould clocke, with other odd necessities, as wooden disshes and stone pottes, with trencheares, one littel stoole, with a forme, one wooden beame, and scales, with one wyskett, and a paire of woolen cardes, 30*s*. Certaine clues of yorne, 6*s*. 8*d*.

Maidens Chaumber. — In Linnen. — In the Buttery. — Drie Larder. Two ratten trappes. — Wett Larder. Three salting tubbes, one great cownbe &c., twoe ratten trappes. — Cooling Howse. Three stunnides, one cownbe, one eshen, one mugg, 6*s*. 8*d*. — Brewhouse. One brewing combe, with a cover, &c. — Dey Howse. In treene vessell xxx<sup>tie</sup> peices, 10*s*. — Kittching. ix brasses pottes, v greate and smale, one chafer, one mortar with pestell, ij chafing dishes, ij skillettes, ij candlestickes, &c. — Gatehowse Chamber. — Middle Chaumber. — Chappel Chaumber. One standing bedd, &c. — Outer Parler. Seven chistes, &c. — Chappell. One ould beddsted, v spinning wheelles, one saddle, with furniture for a light horse, one ould couberd, ij bottles, ij paire of yorne windinges and stooles for them, one chist, with other smale tryfles, 21*s*. 6*d*. In grease and talloe, ij stone, 8*s*. — Servinge Menn's Chaumber. One huppe of a bruing combe. — The other next Chaumber. Fower barrels of salte and j leade, 26*s*. 8*d*. — Backe Howse. — Ould Mr. John's Chaumber. In glasse, 1*s*. [nothing else.] — The Oxe Howse. One bedd steade, &c. — Oxe Howse Chaumber. In the kyll, j haire, ij dubble brackes, 24*s*. — The Haule.

Three lounge tables, one rounde table, iiij formes, ij caliviers, ould armour for two menn, and seaven headpeeces, vij pickes, with one hande staff one greate whettstone, two ould tressels, 36s. 6d. In wainescot and glasse, 2l. — Cattell. — Pulleine. — In lyme and limestones, 10s. — Fuell. — Apparrell. — Plate, Rinnges, and Jewelles, vizd. Three dozen and one silver spoones, two gilt saltes, with covers, one greate gilt boule, with a cover, ii lyttell gilt cuppes, one gilt cup, with a cover, one silver boule, one lytle silver porrenger, with a cover, iiij gould ringes, one gilt tablet, ij tagges, one bone picture bownde about with silver, xi peeces of ould broken silver, with cognisenss, 22l. 6s. 8d. — Goodes and catell att Finch Howsse. — In the Gorse Close at Linecker. — In Bootell Mill. — In Corne. — In the Horse Mill. — Inn the Winde Mill at Lewerpoole towne's end. The remander of a lease of the sayd myll, beeing xij yeares and a half, as appeareth by the sayd lease bearing date the xiiij<sup>th</sup> of March 29 Eliz., valor 40l. — Summa, 443l. 9s. 4d.

Debtes which are owing to William More, Esquier, late deceased. Lent Her Majestie, as appeers by the privy seale, 20l., Captaine Malbey, 41l. 12s., Mr. Boulton, 8l., Mr. Reutcham for Sir Edward More, 3l. — Mr. Deverex, 40s., Mr. Suthorth, 20l. — Mr. Roberte More, 32l. 3s. 1d., Mr. Anthony More, 22s. 4d. — Mr. John Crosse, for iron, 20l. 3s. 6d. [other sums for iron.] — Summa totalis, 271l. 15s. 5d. ob.

Reareges of Rennets.—Sir Richard Mollineux for Mr. Robert Mollineux his rent, 56s. 8d. — Mr. Robert More, for Cassehey, 56s. — Mr. Melling, 30s. — [Total, 39l. 18s. 11d.]

Summa totalis, 755l. 3s. 8d.  $\frac{1}{2}$

Debtes which the said William More, Esquier, late deceased, left unpaid.—Hee oweth to Mr. Thomas Mollineux and Mr. Roberte Mollineux for money which the sayd William More kept in his haundes, 178l. 8s. Item unto Edward More, sonn to the sayd William More, which was spente in his sutes, 24l. 13s. 3d. To Sir Robert Cycelles butler, 23l. 6s. 8d. To Mr. Nicholas Moore, 40s. To Thomas Fazakerley, 6l. 10s. Summa, 234l. 17s. 11d.

Exhibitum, &c. 2 Oct. 1602.

## REVERSE OF THE SEAL OF DUNFERMLIN ABBEY.

DR. CHARLTON exhibits a large circular brass matrix, *circa* 1300, for some time in the possession of Mr. John Bell, of Gateshead, and said to have been found in the precincts of the Hospital of S. Edmund Confessor, in that town. From Laing's Scottish Seals, it proves to be the reverse of the Seal of Dunfermlin Abbey, the obverse of which is in the Bodleian Collection of Matrices. The design presents Our Lord Jesus Christ with cruciferous nimbus, blessing with his right hand, holding a

book with his left, seated on a rainbow, his feet on another, within a vesical aureola, borne by four angels. Within the aureola, under the right hand is a estoile, or Star of Bethlehem; above the book in the left is a crescent. Beneath the upper rainbow, under the estoile, is a quatrefoiled, under the book a cinquefoiled, flower. Outside the aureola, between the upper and lower angels, is a star of eight rays on either side. Crisp Early English foliage fills up vacancies. The legend is ✕ MORTIS L' VITE BREVIS — VOX ITE VENITE DICE'T REP'BIS ITE VENITE P'BIS.

Mortis vel vitæ brevis est vox, "Ite," "Venite."  
Dicent reprobis, "Ite;" "Venite," probis.

Of death or life short is the voice, "Go," "Come."  
They will say to the wicked, "Go;" "Come," to the good.

## INSCRIPTION ON THE FONT AT BRIDEKIRK.

By THE REV. W. MONKHOUSE, B.D., F.S.A.

SINCE you did me the favour to insert my paper on the Bridekirk Runes, in the *Æliana*, I have had an opportunity of inspecting the font itself, and I find that the inscription has been most correctly given in Mr. Haigh's copy. The points in the original are all clear and well defined, of the same uniform character, and at equal distances between the words from beginning to end. I am therefore more convinced that those translations are incorrect in which the words are capriciously run together without any regard to the points.

The carving of the sacred subjects on the font is in good preservation, and is clearly of the style of what is called "Early English." It is also evident that the Runes must have been inscribed at the same time as the sacred symbols on the font.

[Bridekirk was given to the convent of Gisburn by Waldie, first lord of Allendale, who gave Kirkbride—another manor with which it is apt to be confounded—to Odard, whose great grandson, Richard de Kirkbride, Mr. Monkhouse is inclined to identify with the Richard of the Bridekirk font. The whole descent may be seen under Wigton and Kirkbride, in Nicholson and Burn, and need not be repeated here; but the font seems of a style earlier than that of this Richard's time; for

his second son Richard did not succeed Robert the eldest until 23 Edward I. In fact, the style of the carving may be termed Transitional.<sup>1]</sup>

In speaking of the word "igrogte," I improperly illustrated the use of the prefix "i" as it is in the original text, by the prefix "y" as employed by Chaucer. Now these two prefixes represent two different periods of our language. If we look back a century earlier than Chaucer, and consult the few specimens of writing which remain to us, we shall find that "i" and not "y" was prefixed to the past tense of the verb. In a proclamation of Henry III., A.D. 1258, we find the word "idon" for "done"—"before iseide," "before-mentioned"—"iseined with ure seel," "signed with our seal," &c., &c.

It would be useless to speculate as to the motive that induced Richard to record an act of piety in characters that were utterly unintelligible to the little Christian congregation of the parish, but we can find a ready answer to the question which has been frequently put—How these Runes, the invention of the Pagan god Woden, the exponents of the black arts, the alphabet of the carmina diabolica, could ever have been blasphemously sculptured on a baptismal font at so late a period as I have assigned to it? However plausible the objection may appear, yet at the same time it has no foundation in truth.<sup>2</sup> Runes are found in Denmark for centuries after its conversion to Christianity. "God help the Soul" of the person on whose monument a Runic epitaph was inscribed was the commonest of all prayers, and the intercession of Our Saviour and the Virgin is entreated in Runic characters on several occasions. These cases are not isolated, occurring now and then only, but abound all over the country during the 12th, 13th, and 14th centuries. In fact, they are so common that it has given rise to a controversy as to whether the Runes were not first introduced by the Christian missionaries, and not indigenous to Scandinavia. And, as a climax to this argument, there are preserved in the museum at Copenhagen, some small slips of polished wood on which are engraved kalendars containing all the fasts and festivals of the Christian year; so that there is no anachronism in my theory, and no want of precedent to show that Runes were employed by Christians into the 13th century for their sepulchral epitaphs, and other purposes of their religion.

<sup>1</sup> It strongly resembles that of the southern doorway of the nave of Durham Cathedral, constructed by Bishop Pudsey in the last days of the Norman style.—*Ed.*

<sup>2</sup> Our readers are familiar with the frequent use in the North of England of Runes on Christian monuments and coins.

In the third line of the note at page 9 of this volume, there is a provoking typographical error, *ome* must be read *me*.—*Ed.*

## MONTHLY MEETING, 2 APRIL, 1862.

*The Right Hon. Lord Ravensworth, President, in the Chair.*

NEW MEMBER.—*The Rev. J. W. Dunn*, Vicar of Warkworth.

ARTICLES EXHIBITED.—*By Dr. Charlton.* A fine noble of Edward III. found on the Borders, of the type giving an extra fleur-de-lis above the first lion on the reverse; the French quarter with three fleurs-de-lis only; and the name misspelled EDWAD. A German powder-flask, in ivory, with a curiously carved representation of the Resurrection, the watchmen being dressed in the civil costumes of James I.'s time.—*From Mrs. King.* A volume of racing lists from 1752 to 1822.

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Mr. C. R. Smith.* Note sur les Ouvrages offerts à la Société d'Emulation, par M. Roach-Smith, membre correspondant, Moulins, 1862. — *From the Duke of Northumberland.* Mr. G. Tate's paper on the Old Celtic Town of Greaves Ash, near Linhope. — *From the Kilkenny Archaeological Society.* Their Transactions, No. 34. — *From the Canadian Institute.* The Canadian Journal, N.S., No. 37.

IMPRESSIONS OF SEALS.—*Mr. Challoner* presents the following—  
SIGILLV' LIBERAE SCHOLAE GRAMITICALIS ELIZABETHAE. REGINAE ANGLIAE  
IN VILLA DE ASHBVERNE IN COMITATV DERBI . . — S. CAPITVL. HOSPITALIS .  
SANCTI . SPIRITVS . IN SAXIO . DE . VRBE .

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SOME NOTICE OF THE CORBRIDGE LANX.

BY THE RIGHT HON. LORD RAVENSWORTH.

MUCH has been written and divers conjectures have been hazarded of the meaning of the mythological group which composes the allegory of the Corbridge Lanx. None of these conjectures have been considered perfectly satisfactory.

A short treatise upon a subject so connected with the antiquities of Northumberland will not be devoid of interest to this Society.

A recent writer in the Archæological Journal, after a correct description of this piece of plate, writes as follows:—

“The signification of this mythological scene has not been satisfactorily explained. The column at the foot of which a female figure is seated, may remind the numismatist of the reverse of certain Roman coins with the legend ‘Securitas,’ and it is observed that this symbol may here possibly suggest the interpretation of the subject, which may be referable to the security of the province of Britain in a period of peace.



"According to another conjecture, the scene may relate to a very different subject, and present a symbolical allusion to the period of the year when the sun passes into the autumnal equinox.

"Another, and a more probable, interpretation has suggested that the group may be intended to represent the apotheosis of a Roman empress, typified by the figure of one of the chief heathen goddesses."

Such is the summary given by the writer in the *Archæological Journal* of different conjectures touching the signification of this allegory.

This writer intimates that the interpretation given by Hodgson, the learned historian of the county of Northumberland, of the allegory and symbols of the Corbridge Lanx is not a probable interpretation. Hodgson considers that this picture presents a symbolical allusion to the period of the year when the sun passes into the autumnal equinox.

Before I had seen either the *Archæological Journal* or Hodgson's account of the Lanx, I came to a similar conclusion, that these figures had some reference to the seasons.

Hodgson's research has led him to attempt an exact specification of the group, and I believe that in the main his interpretation is correct.

I will proceed to notice some further points, all tending in the same direction, and offer my views upon the unexplained portions of the picture. With regard to the deities represented, no doubt can exist as to the identity of three, viz : Apollo, Minerva, and Diana. I believe also that Vesta is rightly named, and that Vesta symbolizes the Earth. The altar, with the sacred flame, below this figure is a sufficient proof of her identity. As to the fifth figure being Juno, I utterly reject the notion. I concur with Hodgson, who cannot perceive in the figure any distinguishing feature or attribute of Juno. Nor does she present any indication whatever of the apotheosis of a Roman empress or any other Roman matron. In every case where an apotheosis is presented to the imagination or the view, whether in poetry or painting, the action clearly indicates the transition from mortality to immortality. The deified body is received into the company of the celestials, and is described as partaking of their enjoyments when enrolled in their society—

"Illum ego lucidas  
Inire sedes, ducere nectaris  
Succos, et adscribi quietis  
Ordinibus patiar deorum."<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Horace 'de Apotheosi Romuli' :—

Here let him sit in Juno's sight,  
And tread the starry halls of light,  
The nectar quaff in cups of gold,  
With gods and demigods enroll'd.

(Lord Ravensworth.)

Again, in another passage of the same ode—

Quos inter Augustus recumbens  
Purpureo bibit ore nectar.<sup>2</sup>

And in every picture of an apotheosis, whether ancient or modern, the actual reception of the deified person is invariably represented. This conjecture, therefore, which the writer in the *Archæological Journal* ventures to say is more probable than Hodgson's interpretation, seems to me quite untenable.

Who is this fifth figure?

May she not represent a vestal virgin attendant upon the goddess? This at least is an easy and natural conjecture, quite sufficient to account for her presence.

In a curious volume entitled *Mythographi Latini*, I find this notice of Vesta:—

“*Vestæ erat templum latum et spatiosum cum arâ in medio, circa quam ex utroque latere erat ignis accensus, qui perpetuo servabatur, quem extinguere nullatenus fas erat. Et ideo ad hujuscemodi mysterium erant multæ Vestales virgines deputatæ, quæ et ipsæ ibidem depictæ ignem fovere videbantur.*”

“*Albrici Philosophi de Deorum imaginibus libello.*”

Here then we may behold the goddess, as it were, presiding over the altar in which the sacred flame is kindled, with one of her attendant virgins by her side. Moreover, the spearlike wand in the left hand of this figure is not unlike a torch, and is one of the attributes of Vesta. I have discovered the exact counterpart of this ‘*Hastile*’ in a work, ‘*De Antiquis Lucernis*,’ which contains the figure of a lamp dedicated to Vesta, who holds in her hand a torch of this description, wattled round the point with combustible materials. On the other hand, the vestal virgins are generally represented with a veil, or ‘*peplum*,’ thrown back from the head, but which would be used to hide their features from the vulgar gaze.

Although, then, plausible grounds may exist for this conjecture, I rather incline to the opinion that this figure may be intended to personate the Goddess Latona, mother of Apollo and Diana.

In the first place, the presence of Latona may probably be looked for in a group of which Apollo and Diana are the principal features. Latona was worshipped as a deity wherever her children were adored—and her presence in this group would serve to explain a mysterious symbol of which no explanation has hitherto been attempted.

<sup>2</sup> Whom now Augustus joins, and sips  
The nectar's bowl with rosy lips.—(*Lord Ravensworth*.)

I allude to that plant springing up between the hound and the prostrate stag, which I have no doubt is intended to represent a palm tree. The straight and naked stem, the fan-shaped leaves, and the corolla of fruit at the base of the fronds, are sufficient indications of the palm.

Now, the fable runs, that Latona being pregnant by Jupiter, became the object of Juno's hatred and vengeance, who sent the serpent Python to persecute her. She was driven from Heaven, and Tellus (the Earth), influenced by Juno, refused to give her a place of rest. At length Neptune, moved with compassion, struck with his trident the floating island of Delos, which became fixed in the Ægean Sea. Hither Latona was conveyed, and here she gave birth to Apollo and Diana, leaning against a palm tree and an olive, clasping their stems with her hands to ease the pangs of child-birth. These two trees were henceforth sacred to Latona. But the olive being originally created by Minerva, in her contest with Neptune as to which deity should create an object most beneficial to the human race, was dedicated to that goddess, and we may therefore reasonably suppose that this is the tree which overshadows Minerva in the group, while the palm tree, sacred to Latona, is figured below to complete the symbolical series.

Concurring as I do with Hodgson, that the whole group is a symbolical allusion to the period of the year when the sun passes the autumnal equinox, I will proceed to point out some supplemental evidence in support of this conjecture. Our historian, however, procuring his conjectures from an inaccurate engraving of the Lanx, has fallen into error in describing the pillar upon which Apollo rests his hand as a pyramid of eight compartments. In the original it is divided into *twelve* compartments, and these may perhaps represent the twelve months into which the year is divided.

The sprig of a bough which Apollo holds in his hand, Hodgson thinks is an emblem of fertility. I will not dispute it, more especially as I find the precise and exact counterpart of this branch in an antique gem, where a like interpretation is given to it, and it is thought to represent a branch of olive. But the following consideration seems to have escaped the notice of Hodgson and of former enquirers, viz. the double character of Diana—who is not merely the Dea Venatrix, but also the Goddess Luna—the ruler of the months, as her brother the Sun is ruler of the year—

“*Damna tamen celeres reparant cœlestia Lunæ.*”—*Hor.*

While, therefore, she meets Minerva as “*Montium custos nemorumque Virgo,*” and seems to invite the Goddess of Arts and Arms to join her

in the pleasures of the chase which the season offers, she is also appropriately placed opposite the Sun to receive the reflection of his radiance, and to mark the lunar months into which the year is divided. And this is further expressed by the fact of Vesta being surmounted by a globe at the summit of a column, which, according to Hodgson, represents "This pillared earth so firm and wide," while the smaller globe upon Diana's altar may with equal reason be supposed to represent the Moon; the Earth being so placed between the Sun and his sister planet as to receive the beams of both.

Lastly, the hound, the attendant of Diana, is represented very naturally in the exact posture of a dog baying the moon.

This mythological allegory may thus then be shortly explained:—

Apollo (or the Sun), standing in the porch of his temple,<sup>3</sup> intimates to Vesta (or the Earth) the approach of Winter, when his vivifying influence will be for a time withdrawn. On the opposite side, Minerva, the mythic personification of Intellect and Valour, seems to welcome the Goddess Diana, as the season of field sports has commenced. In the character of Minerva 'Pacifica,' she has deposited her ægis at the foot of the olive tree, while Diana seems to be offering her the use of her bow.

Perhaps the brave and genial proconsul upon whose table the dish may have shone, might at the time enjoy a period of colonial tranquillity, and indulge his passion for the chase—like many other gallant gentlemen before and after him—and the artificer of this piece of plate may have intended to convey a delicate and refined compliment to his tastes in the effigies of these two deities, while Latona may be supposed to feel a maternal interest in the whole proceeding.

After this brief explanation of the group, I will conclude with a summary of the marginal symbols.

The urn with a stream of water issuing from it may either mean a river (perhaps the Tyne itself, in whose bed the dish was found), or the rainy season of 'Aquarius.' I prefer the former conjecture.

The hound, as it were, baying the moon, is one of Diana's pack.

The palm tree is, as I have explained, sacred to Latona, and the slain stag shews what Cheviot Mountain produced in those days.

The altar with the sacred flame is the attribute of Vesta, and the gryphon is the symbol of Apollo, or the Sun.

<sup>3</sup> Regia Solis erat sublimibus alta columnis  
Clara micante auro, flammæque imitante pyropo  
Cujus ebur nitidum fastigea summa tenebat.

(Ovid, Met.)

The plectrum minus a string indicates, according to Hodgson, the lapse of so much of the year, at least so I understand his notice of it; and the flower with three stalks he conceives to be a sun-flower with folded discs.

Another emblem yet remains, in the form of an eagle perched aloft, in the character of the king of birds, which are seen fluttering around.

“Qualem ministrum fulminis alitem  
Cui Rex Deorum regnum in aves vagas  
Permisit.”

And it may be observed, that as the hound is looking upwards to the moon, so the royal bird is also looking upwards, either gazing at the sun, or where Jove himself may be supposed to be seated on his celestial throne, complacently surveying the group below, which consists of his own progeny, to wit, Minerva, Apollo, and Diana, Latona his spouse, and Vesta his foster-parent.

“Hanc Jovis esse nutricem, et cum suo gremio sustentâsse antiqui dicebant.”

Lastly, as if nothing should be wanting to this allegorical picture, the border of the Lanx is embossed with a rich garniture of matured grapes—indicating the season when the vintage is gathered in, along with all the fruits of the earth, and at the same time holding forth the promise of a good bottle of wine at the hospitable board at which this Lanx has formed a conspicuous ornament.

Such, then, is the explanation which I am enabled to give of an allegorical group of figures and symbols which has exercised the ingenuity of many of my predecessors without any results that have been hitherto considered perfectly satisfactory.

I feel proud and happy to confirm the views of our industrious, learned, and able historiographer, the Rev. John Hodgson, whose friendship I possessed, and whose memory I greatly cherish. I hope to receive the concurrence and approbation of the members of this Society in the explanation I have offered. It is quite certain that some meaning or other must lie hidden beneath the veil of this allegory, and, as in the investigation of a criminal charge, the perfect harmony and concatenation of a great number and variety of links of evidence form a chain of circumstances which becomes irrefragable, so in the present instance it is difficult to refuse credence to a conjecture not in itself forced or unnatural, and which is supported by the whole mass of concurrent evidence which this mythological picture supplies to the careful enquirer.

## MONTHLY MEETING, 7 MAY, 1862.

*J. Hodgson Hinde, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.*

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Mr. George Tate, F.G.S.* Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, in which is contained his Paper on the Celtic Town at Greave's Ash.—*From Sir W. C. Trevelyan.* Charters of the Hospital of Soltre, of Trinity College, Edinburgh, and other Collegiate Churches in Mid-Lothian, Bannatyne Club, 1861. The Chronicle of Man and Sudreys, Royal University of Christiania, 1860. Gell's Geography and Antiquities of Ithaca, 1807.—*From the Sussex Archaeological Society.* Sussex Archaeological Collections, Vol. XIII.—*From the Archaeological Institute.* The Archaeological Journal, No. 71.—*From the Royal University of Christiania.* Norges Mynter i Middelalderen, 1860.—*From the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.* Their Transactions, Vol. I., N.S.

THE LESLEY LETTER TO SIR THOMAS RIDDELL.—*Mr. Clephan* read a paper on the first appearance and various readings of this famous epistle. The subject is continued for enquiries.

## ROMAN FIGURE FROM CARLISLE.

DR. BRUCE has received the following letter from Mr. C. Roach Smith, in reference to a fragment in low relief of a male figure in drapery, of conventional character :—

My Dear Sir,—As a week's examination of the photograph will not advance me, I lose no time in writing to say I doubt if, in this very fragmentary state of the monument, we can say with certainty what it may have been. No doubt the inscription would have explained it. This is to be regretted, as it belongs evidently to that interesting class of monuments which I have given in my Collectanea so many examples of, (and am giving), from France; but which we have so few of in this country.

I suspect the object held in the right hand is the *handle* of some baton or staff of office, terminating in a bird's head. In the left hand the man seems to hold a *nail* or *chisel* and the *plumb*. It is drapery I think

falling from the left shoulder. You will see the folds are subdued by the sculptor to shew the object in the left hand.

You do not say what is the size of the stone.

I infer it represents a *grown* person from the costume. It is the torques round the neck, with a pendant ornament.

I hope Mr. Ferguson will succeed in recovering the other portions and the inscriptions.

### SCARCITY OF COFFEE IN NORTHUMBERLAND.

GEORGE HUTCHINSON SWAIN, Esq., Norton Hall, exhibits the following letter :—“Dear Friend,—By a letter last night I am assured that the Marshall designs to honour me with his company in a day or two, which lays me under the obligation to desire the favour of you, and my friend Lawson, to refer making me happy at Eshet, till the army is past, which I hope will be in a few days. I must intreat you to get me the coffea if possible to morrow ; none I have nor none can I get unless you assist me. Pray send it to me, and I shall pay the messenger, with thanks. Will. Carr joyns with me in compliments to you and your good family, is all from — Your most obliged humble sarvant, WM: CARR. Eshet, Or. 27, 1745. — To Francis Forster Esqr., at Buston.”

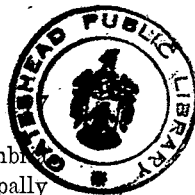
### COUNTRY MEETING, 14 JULY, 1862.

THE Society this day enjoys the liberal hospitality of Prudhoe Castle, and the excellent guidance of the host, Mr. C. Umfreville Laws, over the valuable ruin he is privileged to conserve. The Rev. G. R. Bigge performs the same kind office for the ancient relics in his parish of Ovingham. The inclement weather vanishes to favour our old Society, and the day is one of unmitigated enjoyment in a pleasant district and delightful air.

### PRUDHOE CASTLE.

THE general history of the early possessors of Prudhoe barony has been elaborated by Hodgson under Redesdale, and by Hartshorne under a brief notice of the castle in the Newcastle Congress volumes. For our purposes it is sufficient to remember a few leading events.

The barony of Prudehou was granted to the Umfrevilles by Henry I. The castle was built or largely refashioned by Odinel de Umframvill in the reign of Henry II. A complaining monk of Tynemouth, quoted by



Leland in his *Collectanea* (iii. 115), calls him "potentum de Northumbria potentissimus," and says that he compelled his neighbours, and principally the husbandmen of St. Oswin, "ad castelli sui resartienda tecta." He ordered an irreverend king's satellite "in Colebrigia civitate" (Corbridge), to invade their possessions in Wilum near the castle, and compel them to come "ad ædificationem castelli." Its defenders gallantly baffled the Lion of Scotland in 1174, while Odel first appears on the Pipe Roll in 1165. The visitor will not be far wrong when he expects to find a keep something like that of Richmond, which was built before 1171. It has elsewhere been shown (vol. iv. p. 175) that the settlement of Prudhoe upon Henry Lord Percy (afterwards first Earl of Northumberland) was by Gilbert Umfreville, quite independently of the marriage of his widow with Percy afterwards. The instrument is abstracted in Hodgson's *Northumberland*, part ii. vol. i. p. 45. Little light is shed upon the fabric during the possession of the Umfrevilles. The licence of 28 Edward I. to Gilbert Umfreville, Earl of Angus, to endow a chaplain to celebrate mass in the chapel of St. Mary, in the castle of Prudhoe, and his successors for ever, has indeed been thought to explain the lancet-lighted oriel chapel over the gateway. But 1300 scarcely seems to be the period of this early work, and fortresses generally contained more chapels than one. An obvious explanation—did the document point to a fresh erection at all—would be that it referred to the larger chapel of the castle,<sup>1</sup> and not to the oriel oratory in question; but as it rather indicates the foundation of chantry services in a chapel already existing, we need not to consider it further. More to the subject is the order in 20 Edward II. to Roger de Maudyt, then constable of the castle of Prudhoe, to mend and repair it, as well as to construct a certain pele without the gates of the said castle, spending 20 marks thereon out of the issues of his bailiwick. This is probably connected with the works of the barbican.

There is a sort of double moat at Prudhoe, but the outer member is little more than the original natural ravine, and the inner one breaks off at the north, where the ground, strong throughout, is so precipitous as to render earthworks unnecessary. There is no reason to believe that it was filled with water. At the south-west it is a pleasing feature of Mr. Laws's grounds, and at this point, between it and the outer foss, is "the chapel-garth," in which Buck figures an oblong ruin, with traces of three windows in its sides. "There is," says Stockdale in 1586,

<sup>1</sup> Wallis seems to have been decidedly of this opinion; indeed, he does not qualify his language. "The castle is now in ruins, as is the chapel of Our Lady at the foot of the hill."



"within the site, and without the walls, an elder chapel [he seems to have considered the oriel to be a substitute], which hath been very fair, and covered with slate. In the time divers dwellers were on the demesnes; one dwelled in the said chapel, and made it his dwelling-house and byers for his cattle, and by that means defaced, saving the timber, walls, and great part of slate remaineth. There is also within the precincts of the site a little mill, standing at the castle gate." This mill, which is on the outer foss, is still, in its modern aspect, an agreeable feature of the place.

Stockdale's Survey, after all, is the best guide to the place, and it will bear repetition, with a note here and there thrown in.

"There is an old ruinous castle, walled about, and in form not much unlike a shield with one point upwards, situate upon a high mote of earth, with ditches in some places, all wrought with man's hands as it seemeth, and is, of all the site, with a little garden plat, and the banks, by estimation three acres." Mr. Laws points out some very ingenious severances "by man's hands" to increase the strength of the place. The ground seems to have given way repeatedly under the walls at the north-east corner where the masonry is a fine "higglety-pigglety" mass.

"The said castle hath the entry on the south, where it hath had two gates, the outermost now in decay, and without the same is a little turn-pike; and on the west part a large gate-tower, where there hath been a passage into the lodgings there situated without the castle, as is supposed, or to the chapel there standing." Of this gate-tower only the springers of the arch, which led into the grounds and chapel-garth westward, remain outside of and attached to the barbican gateway. "And between the gates is a strong wall on both sides, and, as it appeareth, hath been a draw-bridge; and, without the same, before it come to the outer gate, a turn-pike for defence of the bridge." Of all this, marked and curious indications present themselves with a couple of small doors, east and west, leading to the outside of the walls. We have now arrived at the gateway itself, to which, as before noticed, the barbican along which we have been proceeding was an addition. It is said that the masons' marks on the barbican are those of the workmen of Dunstanborough and Alnwick (1312-15), but what we see are of a common order, such as may refer to any age.

"The gate is a tower all massy work on both sides to the top of the vault. Above the vault is the chapel, and over the chapel a chamber, which is called the wardrobe. It is covered with lead, but in great ruin, both in lead and timber. It is in length ten yards, and in breath

six yards or thereabouts." The passage of the gateway is divided by an arch in the centre, plain and unchamfered, resting on corbels, each supported by two human heads. Hartshorne notices the classical purity of the mouldings of these corbels. The north or inner face of the gateway has chamfers, and looks like a refacing. We forget to search for other traces of the chapel being an addition, though Hartshorne detected two periods in the stringcourse of the outer or south front. The nave clearly shows in its side walls the position of the floor of the wardrobe above. The chancel, as is well known, is a little oriel apse corbelled out from the gateway, with lancet windows shouldered inside. There are traces of a powdering of red cinquefoils, the famous flowers of the Umfrevilles, over the altar, and there is a curious sink in the floor at the south-east angle, which we suppose served as the piscina, like the small drains at the altars in Jervaux Abbey; though the drain from the Prudhoe example does not enclose the contents to the ground, but allows them to percolate down the wall. There is an aumbry in the chancel arch, and a finial cross lying on the nave floor. In the corbelling of the south front of the apse may be noticed part of an arrow slit, perhaps an insertion in course of repairs.

"There is, opposite to the said gatehouse-tower, joining to the north wall of the said castle, one hall of 18 yards of length, and 9 yards of breadth, or thereabouts, within the walls, covered also with lead; albeit the timber and lead in some decay." The northern curtain wall in connection with this hall deserves attention. The kitchen, it will afterwards be found, stood to the east of the hall.

"Between the said gatehouse and hall, on the left hand at your entry in at the gate, is a house of two house height, of length 24 yards, in breadth 6 yards, or thereabouts, divided into two chambers, covered with slate. The lower house hath a great room to pass out of the court through that house to the great tower; and the south end a chamber, and inner chamber. Out of the outer chamber is a passage to the great tower by a little gallery; on the other side, a passage down to the buttery. Out of the inner chamber is a passage to the chapel, and on the other side a passage to a house called the nursery. On the west part of the said house is another little house, standing east and west, upon the south wall, called the nursery, in length 10 yards, and in breadth 6 yards or thereabouts, of two house height, covered also with slate." The length given will occupy nearly the whole frontage of Mr. Laws's residence, which assumed its present appearance under the guidance of Mr. David Stevenson about 50 years ago. Many of the old arrangements may still be traced. The gabled ends of the inner or southern chamber and

the nursery may be seen in Buck's view,<sup>2</sup> with the passage out of the former to the chapel above the gateway. The elevation is now raised and embattled, but the old windows are still to the fore, wonderfully clean and perfect, with the heads of the lights all in one piece. These windows are square-headed, of late flowing Decorated work, the lights having ogeed arches.

"At the south-west corner is a house standing north and south, called the garner, adjoining to the west wall, in length 10 yards, in breadth 6 yards, of two house height; the under house a stable, the upper house a garner, covered also with slate. At the north-west corner of the said castle is a little tower, called the west tower, of three house height, round on the outside, in length 7 yards, or thereabouts, covered with lead, but in decay both in lead and timber. Joined to the said tower is another house of two house height, in length 9 yards, in breadth 6 yards, or thereabouts, covered with slate, but much in decay." The corner where the garner was situated presents also a projecting circle. The towers have an Edwardian appearance in plan, but Harts-horne illustrates the transitional basement of the keep at Harbottle by the base of one of these circular towers at Prudhoe, and, without giving any opinion, we would remind the reader of the half-moon tower at Newcastle, which was at least of the Early English period.

"In the middle of these houses, by itself standeth the great tower, one way 18 yards, another way 12 yards, north and south, of three storeys only, and of height 15 yards, or thereabouts, besides the battlements. It hath no vault of stone, and it is covered with lead, but in some decay of lead and timber, but necessary to be repaired; and a toofall, or a little house adjoining thereunto, in utter decay." The masonry of the keep is in wonderfully fine condition, and there seems no reason to doubt the originality of the battlements. There was probably a turret at each angle like the one remaining, and in this respect and its flat buttresses it strongly resembles the dungeon of Richmond, but without the large entrance arch which forms so curious a feature there. Dr. Bruce calls attention to the stones used in the keep of Prudhoe as being of the usual Norman character, square in the outer face, and not of greater weight than what a man can comfortably lift. It will be noticed that the buildings which stood on the site of Mr. Laws's house cut the enclosure in two, separating the keep on the west from the gateway and court where stood the hall towards the east, to which we return, noting that the soil is raised by rubbish in the courtyard,

<sup>2</sup> The Society's publisher is the fortunate possessor of the original plate, and is prepared to supply impressions.

and that about the hall the ground sounds hollow, and would probably repay research.

"At the east end of the hall is a kitchen, of one house height, in length 12 yards, in breadth  $6\frac{1}{2}$  yards, or thereabouts, covered with slate." This would be at the north-east corner of the court, and here appears a curious feature, a turning passage within the wall, apparently joining the two apertures which appear at some little interval inside and outside. At the inside it seems to lead from a garderobe.

"In the east end, as it were at the point of the shield, is a little square tower, in length 7 yards, in breadth 5 yards, or thereabouts, covered with lead, but in utter ruin and decay, both in timber and lead. Adjoining to the same is a house, called the brewhouse, in length 8 yards, and in breadth 7 yards, and covered with slate." The "little square tower" contains a snug apartment vaulted with plain unchanfered ribs forming elliptical arches, and now stored with very goodly fitches of bacon. Between it and the entrance-gateway there is a couple of garderobes, one above the other, with separate wells. Their doorways are shoulder-headed.

The chapel and mill outside have already been noticed.

"There is under the mote, on the north side, a barn, two byers, and other such, an old kiln and kiln-house, all which were builded and repaired by Thomas Bates in the 20th year of the Queen's Majesty's reign that now is, and yet now in his late absence decayed. There was an orchard, set all with fruit-trees, now all spoiled; and an old house, wherein the keeper of the orchard did dwell.

"The said castle, town, and manor of Prudhoe is situate in Tindale-Ward, on the south side of the river of Tyne, adjoining to the county palatine of Durham, distant from the great town of Newcastle seven miles, having a great and large demesne adjoining the same, good and fertile, and the tenants thereof very finable." Prudhoe is now considered to be about eleven miles from Newcastle, another example of the difference of ancient measures from modern. The demesnes are now partly stocked by the sacred kine of India, which we view with curious interest. We regret to observe that pseudo-botanists have almost exterminated the black spleenwort on the walls of the castle, which we must not leave without noticing the very curious and early bridge over a little ravine to the south east of the fortress. It has, we believe, hitherto escaped observation by the writers on Prudhoe, and yet it is perhaps one of the earliest bridges in the north. It is composed of plain ribs forming a circular arch, but the end or front arches are pointed, forming a most picturesque assemblage.

## OVINGHAM.

THE cell of Ovingham is said to have been endowed by the last of the Umfrevilles, barons of Prudhoe, for three black canons, and appropriated to Hexham Priory. Stockdale's Survey, as printed, ends by noticing that Prudhoe Castle, "is of the parish of Ovingham, which lieth on the north side of the said river, and opposite to the said castle." By this arrangement the "very finable" tenants and the poorer parishioners on the south side can neither attend the church at any time without toll, and, during storms and floods, at all, nor, under the latter circumstances, bring their dead to be buried. The inconvenience might not be so great before the chapels of the Umfrevilles were suffered to go down. We cannot say that, to "foreigners," the ferry is either commodious or agreeable, especially in conjunction with the assurance that not unfrequently the boat has gone over the dam, along which the windy voyage is made.

Arrived at the village, the memory of the market is kept up by a modern cross. The head was copied from an original one, which was discovered. The latter, after the second copy was made (for the first was *too* bad for erection), was stolen by some unconscious performer of poetical justice in return for the substitution of an uninteresting copy for a venerable and spirited original. Old people can remember the old cross. The present one is understood to mark the site of the Tollbooth.

The church of Ovingham is one of the most interesting in Northumberland. It is cruciform, and the long narrow lancet lights of the transepts and chancel remind us strongly of those in the fronts of the mother priory church. The primary object of interest is the tower, on which Buck's view shews pyramidal capping. It is almost a counterpart of the tower at Billingham in Hartness, and may be assigned to the same date, the latter days of the Saxon dynasty or the first reign of the Norman one. There are the same double lighted belfry windows with rude balusters and through capitals, the same ribbed bordering, and the same circular holes above the lights and within the arched border, as if plate tracery had been almost within the grasp before it eluded architects for another century. Bewick's tomb is reverentially visited, and the rest of the church merits attention. The buttresses dividing the lancets in the south transept are better than those in the north arm, and have interesting peculiarities. In the porch is an old crossed gravestone, and the doorway is very early and good, with square abaci, quite transitional. The nave has once more a north aisle. The old one had

entirely disappeared, leaving its pillars and arches built up and ready for re-opening. The transepts, which have western aisles, exhibit some good corbels. The nail-head ornament betokens early date in the style. The south west capital of the crossing has received late Decorated or Perpendicular foliage. There is a piscina in the centre of the south transept, and a low side-window in the chancel, passing straight and not diagonally through the wall. Two altar-stones lie in the chancel, where there are two early trefoiled sedilia, the new pillars and capitals whereof are absolutely barbarous, and worthy of immediate destruction. Within and without the altar rails are several tombstones. Some are of the Blacketts of Wylam. A modern one has Addison, a chevron between three eagles displayed, impaling a fess between three martlets, under the crest of one of the eagles. But the most interesting bears the following arms:—Quarterly, I. and IV., Three salmons hauriant, one and two; II., Three mullets, one and two; III., Three fleurs-de-lis, one and two. The crest is a bull's head, not a usual bearing of Ord. The inscription, which, however, is reversely placed to the arms, is a curious addition to Northumbrian anthology.

Here lyes the Corps of A Rare Man interd  
 On Whom Both Wit and Learning God Conferd  
 To His Great Good For All His Works did tend  
 To God The Object Of His Acts And End  
 His Abstract Was From A Renowned Race  
 To Which His Proper Vertue Added Grace  
 Was Happie in His Wife his Children Seaven  
 Of Which The Prime Did Follow Him to Heaven  
 A Vertuous Girle Above Her Age was Shee  
 Of Sins Fovle Dregs and Vile Contagion Free  
 With Credit Great While He Lord Percy served  
 Of High of Low of all He Well Deserved  
 He Could Get Welth but Got He Cared Not For It  
 And Thought It Greater Wisdome To Abhore It  
 And To Conclvde He Vsde Things Transitory  
 As Means to Bring Him to Eternall Glory  
 William Ovrđ Esquire Dep'ted This Life  
 The 27 Of Aprill 1630 And Ann His Dav  
 ghter The 2 Of December 1631.

Bewick's pupil Johnson lies in the churchyard, and there are some very unsophisticated monuments.

The bold resistance of "the Maister of Ovingham" to "the king's most dread commandment of dissolution," "in harness with a bow bent

<sup>1</sup>. Vide 1 Surtees' Durham, 194

with arrows," on "the steeple head and leads" of Hexham, is well known, through Mr. Hinde's pages. It is interesting to detect the traces of his dwelling, which comprises the modest schoolroom in which the said historian and the wood engraver of Cherryburn and a host of North-country worthies received their education. There is, in situ to the east, the little square Decorated window of two trefoiled lights which is fairly attributed to the oratory of the successive masters of the cell, and there are interior walls of wicker work filled in with mud. The kitchen possesses a noble fireplace, with wide chamfered arch, on which ornaments like the nail-heads of an earlier period occur at intervals. Upstairs there is a richly moulded cornice of Elizabethan aspect, with the letters I. M. repeated all round, and above the south door is a date 1694—I. A., referring to one of the Addisons, owners of the lay-rectory. In fact, this house is parcel of the lay-rectory, not of the perpetual curacy. The family of the present incumbent possess the tithes. The door has, in lieu of a knocker, the old screw-ring and screw-post, forming the "door-rasp," now nearly extinct in England, the sound whereof may form a worthy accompaniment to pipe-music. On the side of the steps leading from the garden to the river are two memorial stones:—"Height of the Flood, Nov. 17, A.D. 1771," and "Height of the Flood, Dec. 31, A.D. 1815." These bring us into modern times; and we may venture to note the pleasure with which we view Mr. Bigge's admirable specimen of the clocks manufactured by a neighbouring pitman, Isaac Jackson, of Wylam. It is a marvel of accuracy.

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### MONTHLY MEETING, 6 AUGUST, 1862.

*John Clayton, Esq., V.P., in the Chair.*

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From the Author.* Flint Implements in the Drift, by John Evans, F.S.A. F.G.L. — *From the Society of Emulation of Abbeville.* Their Memoirs, 1857-1860. — *From the Author.* An Account of the Colony of South Australia, by Frederick Sinnett.

NEW MEMBER.—*Mr. George Atley Brumell*, Eldon Street, Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

THE BECKERMONT INSCRIPTION.—*Mr. John Dixon*, of 23, Lowther Street, Whitehaven, having volunteered to present to the Society his