

## MONTHLY MEETING, 6 JANUARY, 1864.

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

CONDERCUM.—*Mr. Robert Eadie*, of Blagdon, has presented a portion of an altar found at this Roman station (Benwell Hill). *Dr. Bruce* thinks it was dedicated for the welfare of a centurion named Justus, and his family.

AGLA.—*The Duke of Northumberland* has exhibited a silver cross, found on the low land near Greaves Ash, sent to him by the Rev. Mr. Parker. It has, in letters of the thirteenth or fourteenth century, the common charm against wounds and fire, AGLA, made up of the initials of four Hebrew words signifying "Thou art strong in the eternal God."

GUTTA PERCHA IMPRESSIONS FROM STONE.—*Dr. Bruce* explains the *modus operandi* of placing on any sculptured stone of flat treatment a thin sheet of gutta percha, upon which is super-imposed a blanket, wrung out of warm water, and pressed upon the gutta percha. The latter very soon takes the impression of the stone, and in the most perfect manner, even to the tool marks.

---

LACUSTRINE SETTLEMENTS IN SCOTLAND.

BY LORD LOVAINE.

DOWALTON LOCH, in which the structures about to be described were discovered, is a sheet of water of very irregular form, about two miles long, and half-a-mile broad, situated in the county of Wigton, on the west coast of Scotland, at the end of a narrow valley five miles in extent, the whole of which is occupied by a moss, part of whose waters flow into the loch, and the remainder into the sea, near Monreith; the elevation of the water-shed, near the middle of the valley, being almost imperceptible.

Sir William Maxwell, of Monreith, has effected the drainage of this loch at his own heavy expense, to the great benefit of his neighbours as well as himself, by a cutting, at its southern extremity no less than 25 feet deep, for a considerable distance through the wall of whinstone and slate that closes the valley. The water having been partially drawn off, the bed of the loch exhibits the appearance of an immense sheet of mud, surrounded by beaches of different elevations, covered with large rolled stones and angular blocks of slate. It contains a few small islets, composed apparently of the same materials as the beaches. Sir William

Fig. 1

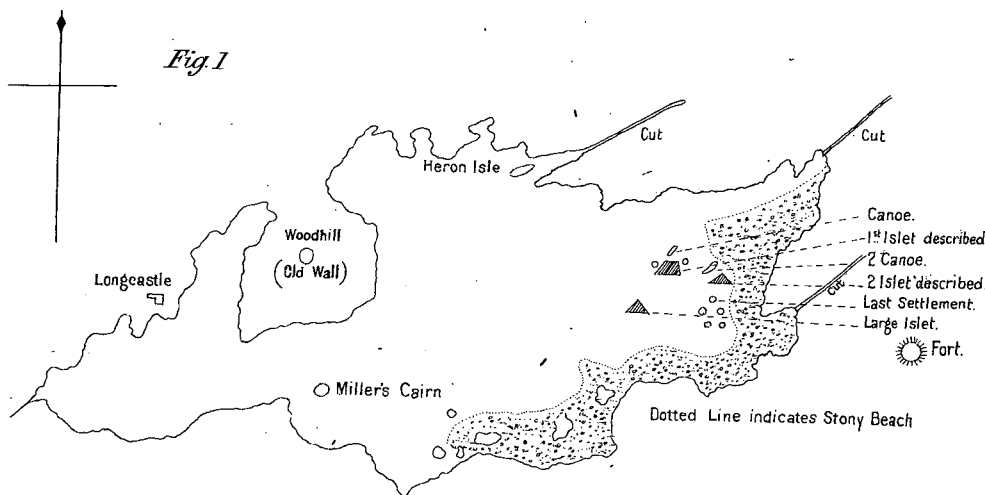


Fig. 2.

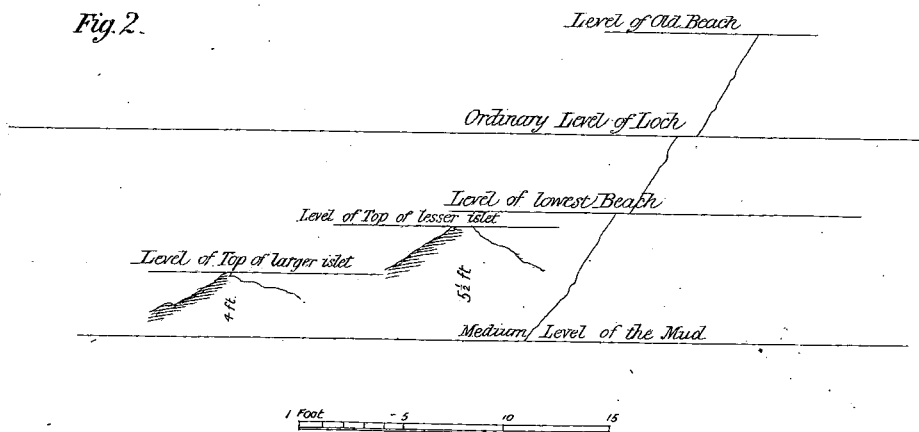
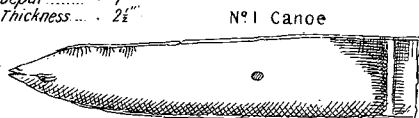


Fig. 5.

Dimensions:—  
Length ..... 24 feet  
Breadth ..... 4 . 2  
Depth ..... 7"  
Thickness ..... 2 1/2"



Lacustrine Settlements. Dowalton Loch.



Fig. 3.

Section of lesser Islet  
(with trench cut thro' it)

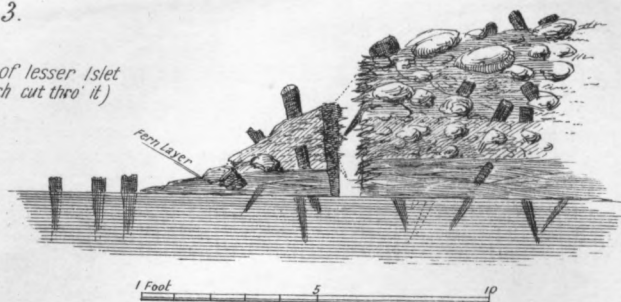


Fig. 4.

Section of larger Islet with Breakwater  
(Trench cut thro' it)

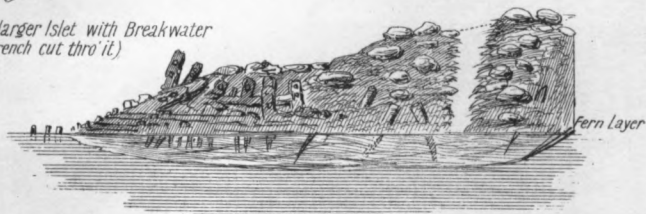


Fig. 6.

Dimensions:  
Length ..... 18.6 feet  
Breadth ..... 2.7  
Depth ..... 2  
Thickness ..... 5

Nº 2 Canoe.



Groove for backboard



Paddle found in a Moss about  
2 Miles from the Loch

Length ..... 2.10  
Breadth ..... 1.4  
Thickness ..... 1



Lacustrine Settlements, Dowalton Loch.



Maxwell having heard that a bronze vessel had been found in the mud near the southern shore, succeeded in obtaining it, but could not trace other articles of the same description reported to have been found near it. On visiting the spot, August 19th, 1863, to obtain further information, I observed some timbers standing on an island near the centre of the loch, and was told that some one had been there in a boat when it first appeared above water, and had found bones, a small granite quern, and piles, and a spot was pointed out to me at the extremity of one of the little promontories where similar piles were observable, which, on inspection, I found to be true. These piles varied from a foot to 18 inches in circumference.

Sir William Maxwell's bailiff, Mr. Chalmers, who displayed great zeal and intelligence throughout these researches, having proceeded to the spot to secure labourers for the next day's search, reported that, though it was not possible to reach the larger island, a smaller one was accessible, and that a canoe lay near it. On reaching the island, over about 40 yards of mud, I found it nearly circular, about 38 yards in circumference and 13 in diameter. It was elevated about  $5\frac{1}{2}$  feet above the mud, and on each side of it were two patches of stone, nearly touching it. On the north side of it lay a canoe of oak, between the two patches, and surrounded by piles, the heads just appearing above the surface of the mud. It was 24 feet long, 4 feet 2 inches broad in the middle, and 7 inches deep, the thickness of the bottom being 2 inches. On removing the stones which covered the surface, several teeth, apparently of swine and oxen, were found; and I proceeded to cut a trench round the islet, and upon coming to the southern end a small quantity of ashes turned up, in which were teeth and burnt bones, a piece of a fine earthenware armlet of a yellow colour, and a large broken earthenware bead, striped blue and white, together with a small metal ornament, apparently gilt. Two other pieces of armlet of the same material, one striped with blue and white, were also found on the surface.

On cutting deeper into the structure (the foregoing objects having been found on the outside, about 2 feet from the top), it proved to be wholly artificial, resting on the soft bottom of the loch. The uppermost layer was a mass of brushwood, about 2 feet thick. Beneath it were large branches and stems of small trees, mostly hazel and birch, mingled with large stones, evidently added to compress the mass. Below that were layers of heather and brushwood intermingled with stones and soil, the whole resting upon a bed of fern about 1 foot thick, which appeared in all the structures examined to form the foundation. The whole mass was pinned together by piles and stakes of oak and

willow (some of them driven  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet into the bottom of the loch), similar to those above mentioned. The islet was surrounded by an immense number of these, extending to a distance of 20 yards around it, and the masses of stone, which apparently were meant to act as breakwaters, were laid amongst them.

The next islet examined stood about 60 yards off, at the extremity of a rocky projection into the loch, but separated from it by the now hardened mud. It was smaller, and the layers not so distinctly marked, and some of the timbers inserted in it, under the first layer of brushwood, were large, and either split or cut to a face. A stake with two holes bored in it about the size of a finger, a thin piece of wood, in which mortices had been cut, and a sort of box, the interior of which was about 6 inches cube, with a ledge to receive the cover, very rudely cut out of a block of wood, were found.

I succeeded, two days afterwards, in reaching the largest islet in a boat. It appeared by measurement to be 3 feet below the level of the other islets, but it was much larger, and several depressions on its surface shewed that it had sunk. Wherever the soil was not covered with stones and silt, teeth were scattered all over it. We found quantities of bones at different depths in the mass, but always below the upper layer of the faggots, and towards the outside. The progress of the excavation was very soon stopped by the oozing in of the water, but a workman, plunging his arm up to the shoulder into the soft material, brought up handfuls of the fern layer, mingled with sticks and hazel nuts, and large bones, believed to be those of oxen. Near the spot lumps of sand and stones fused together were picked up. On the south side of the island extraordinary pains had been taken to secure the structure. Heavy slabs of oak, 5 feet long, 2 feet wide, and 2 inches thick, were laid one upon another in a sloping direction, bolted together by stakes inserted in mortices 8 inches by 10 inches in size, and connected by squared pieces of timber 3 feet 8 inches in length. This arrangement extended to the length of 23 yards, and its base, about 5 yards beyond the surface of the mud, was formed of stems of trees laid horizontally and secured by stakes; in other respects, the foundation resembled that of the other islet, but it was far larger, measuring 100 yards round, by about 36 across. No building of any sort was discovered, but a large plank of oak, 12 feet long, 14 inches broad, and seven inches thick, lay covered with stones on the north side. The sinking of the mud had, by this time, laid bare a second canoe between the islet first examined and the shore; it was  $18\frac{1}{2}$  feet long, 2 feet 7 inches wide, and barely 2 inches deep. A block of wood, cut to fit a hole left probably by a rotten branch, was inserted in the

side, 2 feet long, 7 inches wide, and  $5\frac{1}{2}$  thick, and had there been secured by pegs driven through the side. Across the stern was cut a deep groove to admit a back board. A hole 2 inches in diameter was bored at about one-third of the length of both canoes, in the bottom; this was so rotten that it would not bear my weight without breaking.

The next day, being unable to reach the last-mentioned island, I found, upon the spot which had been indicated to me on my first inquiry, no less than six structures similar to those before described, in a semi-circle. They were, however, much smaller, apparently single dwellings. Though upon some of them charred wood was found, nothing else was discovered except a morticed piece of timber (which might have drifted there), and in one, inserted under the upper layer of brushwood, a large oak timber, measuring 8 feet long by 3 feet in circumference.

Throughout these investigations no tool, nor weapon of any sort, has come to light. In the layers the leaves and nuts were perfectly fresh and distinct, and the bark was as plainly distinguishable on the stems and timbers as the day they were laid down, as were also the heather and the fern.

It is difficult to conjecture the state of the loch when these edifices were formed, and whether they were completed at one period. This finding of the large bones in the lower layer of fern might lead to the belief that they were gradually raised as the waters of the loch increased, and the necessity of strengthening them by breakwaters would seem to prove that the loch must have risen considerably before they were abandoned.

No other sort of building has been discovered on them, but the great number of teeth scattered over the surface of the larger island, and even on the mud surrounding, and the immense expenditure of labour indicated in the shaping and hewing of the large timbers with tools, which must have been, from the work produced, of the rudest description, betoken apparently a considerable population.

The loch must have remained for a considerable period at each of the different levels before mentioned; at one time 6 or 7 feet above its last level (*i. e.* before its drainage was effected), to which it was reduced by three cuts made to feed neighbouring mills, one certainly of great antiquity. At  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet below the ordinary level there are unmistakable appearances of a former beach, with which the top of the first-mentioned islet almost exactly coincides. It is remarkable that, though there are many rocky eminences in the bed of the loch, none bear token of ever having been used for the erection of these dwellings, which seem to have invariably been based upon the soft bottom of the loch where the intervening mud and water may have afforded the inhabitants a greater



security from attacks from the shore. I had not time to examine fully the shores of the loch, but I was assured by Mr. Chalmers that he had examined them carefully without finding traces of other structures. On a hill to the south there are remains of a "Danish fort," *i. e.* a circular intrenchment, and the very ancient ruin called Long Castle is on an adjacent promontory on the north side.

Since writing the above, a very old man, in Sir William Maxwell's service, told me that in clearing out a channel between a small wooded island in Myrton Loch, close to Monreith House and the beach, he remembers there being found layers of timbers, piles, and flat stones laid in circles. I have also obtained, from a farmer living near Ravenstone Moss, a paddle of black oak 3 feet long, 14 inches broad, and 1 inch thick, which, with four or five others, he had found in that moss, lying close to a mass of timbers about 6 feet from the surface. This I have every reason to believe formed part of a structure similar to those described.

I should have mentioned that, though retaining its shape, the timber is for the most part completely decayed, except where it has been protected from the action of the mud.

LOVAINE.

*Monreith,*  
August 27, 1863.

ADDENDUM BY PROF. OWEN.—The bones and teeth from the lake dwellings, submitted to my examination by Lord Lovaine, included parts of the ox, hog, and goat. The ox was of the size of the *Bos longifrons* or Highland kyloe, and was represented by teeth, portions of the lower jaw, and some bones of the limbs and trunk. The remains of the *Sus* were a lower jaw of a sow, of the size of that of the wild boar, and detached teeth. With the remains of the small ruminant, of the size of the sheep, was a portion of cranium with the base of a horn-core, more resembling in shape that of the he-goat. Not any of these remains had lost the animal matter.—R. O.

---

\* \* \* Dowalton Loch lies one mile to the left of the high road, half way between Wigton and Port William. The name of the loch is probably derived from the MacDowals, formerly lords of this part of the country, and possibly of Irish origin; constant communication having taken place, from the earliest time, with the north of Scotland. Sir William Maxwell suggests, as an easy explanation of the different levels found in the loch, that the waters originally discharged themselves into the sea from the western end of the valley, a portion of them only now finding an exit that way, in consequence of the formation of the moss towards the centre of the valley, which compelled the remainder to flow into the loch. In this case the structures must be supposed to have been formed in the early stage of the growth of the moss, whilst the loch was so shallow as to make it easy to raise the mass above its waters, and yet deep enough to float canoes, and afford the desired security from an enemy.

## FIFTIETH ANNUAL REPORT.

THE Society of Antiquaries meet this day on its fifty-first anniversary. The year that has just elapsed has not been distinguished by any great augmentation in the numbers by election, or decrease by death or resignation, of the members of the Society; three members joined the Society during the past year. The monthly meetings have been tolerably well attended, interesting papers have been read, and some remarkable objects of antiquity have been exhibited or placed in the Society's museum. It had been hoped that the jubilee year would not have been allowed to pass without some important celebration of the effect. The meeting of the British Association, however, in Newcastle, during the past summer, so completely absorbed the public attention, that it was deemed undesirable to attempt any such celebration, and the only event to signalize the attainment of the Fiftieth year of the Society's existence has been the publication of a new Catalogue of the Library. The collection of books, almost all of which are of a strictly archæological character, has been greatly increased of late years, both by purchase and by donations. The new catalogue, which has been carefully prepared by Mr. Dodd, shows that the Society now possesses a library of very considerable value, superior, in all probability, to that of any provincial archæological association in the kingdom. The Council regret to state that the object for which subscriptions were raised and ground purchased, namely the erection of a new Museum for the very valuable collection of Roman and other antiquities, has not as yet been attained. The ground, indeed, has been secured, but no funds are forthcoming for the building. It has, therefore, been deemed advisable to wait until the public interest—which has been, and will be, absorbed by the two great meetings of the past and of present year—shall be awakened to the vast importance of having these most interesting antiquities secured in a more accessible locality than that in which they are at present placed. The Council have great pleasure in announcing that plans, drawings, &c., were prepared for the Museum buildings by Mr. Dobson, architect, of this town, and that the cost of these—amounting to upwards of £38.—was generously presented to the Society by that gentlemen. Inquiries have been recently made relative to a catalogue of the British and Mediæval antiquities in the Museum. This catalogue has been long since prepared by the Senior Secretary; but has not been published in consequence of the anticipated removal of the Museum from its present position. The Society's library continues to be further augmented by exchanges with similar institutions, and many valuable works have been thus obtained, both from

English and from foreign, and especially from Scandinavian, sources. The financial condition of the Society will be detailed by the Treasurer. In conclusion, the Council would urge upon the members the necessity of constant exertion to keep up the number of members, and also the importance of their attending regularly the monthly meetings of the Society.

---

### ANNIVERSARY MEETING, 1 FEBRUARY, 1864.

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

**ANNUAL REPORTS.**—The above report was received and adopted, with the Treasurer's statement, which shewed a balance in hand of £35. 10s. 8d.

**ARREARS OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.**—*Resolved*, that members in arrears shall be informed that, in default of payment, their names will be posted.

**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*: Robert White, Esq. — *Secretaries*: Edward Charlton, Esq., M.D., and the Rev. John Collingwood Bruce, LL.D. — *Council*: The Rev. E. Hussey Adamson, the Rev. James Raine, and Messrs. Thomas Baker, Richard Cail, Robert Richardson Dees, William Dickson, Martin Dunn, Wm. Hylton Dyer Longstaffe (*Editor*), J. P. Mulcaster, Wm. Pears, Edward Spoor, and William Woodman.

---

### CHANTRY AT MITFORD.

MR. HENRY TURNER exhibits a copy of a damaged deed originating a chantry in Mitford church. The date, he thinks is circa 1250; the founder, Roger Bertram, he supposes to be the third baron of that name. (see vol. iii., p. 76.) A chaplain was thereby appointed to officiate for ever at the altar of S. John the Baptist, in the church, for the souls of the founder's ancestors and successors, and for the soul of Adam de Northampton, then Rector of Mitford (not in Hodgson's list), and others. The land was bounded by Stanton on the one side and by the Pont on another, and would seem to be in or near Pigdon.

It appears from the certificate of Northumberland Chantries, temp. Edw. VI. (Eccl. Proc., Sur. Soc., vol. xxii., p. lxxxviii), that there were then possessions worth 17s. a year to provide for the salary of one priest in Mitford church. The incumbency of this chantry was vacant, and the churchwardens had received the profits and repaired the church therewith.

## BRANCEPETH CHURCH.

THIS church, rich in the odour of antiquity and unique in the completeness of its post-Reformation fittings, is undergoing the throes of "restoration," which it had so long escaped. Probably there is no architectural drawing of the nave taken before any of the woodwork was removed. The appearance of the chancel may be seen in the plates of Surtees and Billings, and there is an able description of the church in the *Ecclesiologist*, by the Rev. J. T. Fowler. Mr. Salvin is the architect on the occasion. The Early Perpendicular chancel built by the great Earl of Westmerland is of great beauty and interest, and picturesque in its colour and partial decay.

## MONTHLY MEETING, 2 MARCH, 1864.

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

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Publishing Societies.* The Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Session 1861-2. — The Archaeological Journal, No. 79.

OTHER DONATIONS.—*From Mr. Francis Jackson.* Two old stirrup irons covered with brass, and a horseshoe, found about four feet below the surface, 50 or 60 yards to the east of the Morpeth road, a little past Jesmond Terrace, Newcastle. It is understood that there are or were other indications of the line of road having been moved. — *From a policeman.* An old key, the handle being of the common pattern formed by three C's.

## MONTHLY MEETING, 6 APRIL, 1864.

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

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From Publishing Societies.* The Canadian Journal, No. 49. — Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archaeological Society, Vol. ii., Part 5. — Collections of the Surrey Archaeological Society, Vol. ii., Part 3.

RELIQUARY.—*Capt. Robinson* exhibits a silver reliquary, stated to have been found round the neck of a skeleton in the churchyard of St.

Dunstan's in the East, and to have been in the collection of the Dean of St. Patrick's until 1842. It is of Eastern design, perhaps of the 16th century, and is of chased silver. On one side is St. George and the Dragon; on the other St. Helena, with a cross in her right hand, a book in her left.

STYCAŠ. — He also exhibits a fine styca reading *ÆILRED RX* — *EANRED*, and another with *HERETH*.

THE CARR MS. or Armorial Roll of Newcastle Mayors and Sheriffs (vide Bourne, p. 121; and Tonge's Visitation, Surtees Society), is exhibited by *Mr. Longstaffe*.

NEWMINSTER ABBEY.—A spoon of latén from this locality, presenting figures of the Virgin and Child, is exhibited by *Mr. Woodman*, along with a Burgundy groat and a sovereign of Henry VIII.

SAXON WORK AT STAMFORDHAM.—*Dr. Bruce* presents a gutta-percha cast from part of a cross found in Stamfordham Church, exhibiting foliage in character similar to that found in the Hexham crosses.

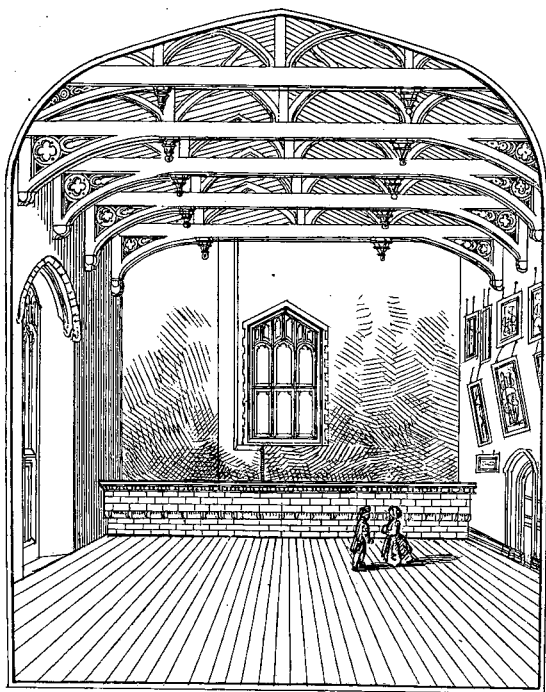
BRAND'S COLLECTION OF SCULPTURED STONES.—*Ordered*, that it be purchased from the Executors of Archdeacon Thorpe for £15. This gathering, which is mentioned in Raine's Life of Hodgson, i. 379, contains numerous Roman antiquities, Saxon stones of high interest, among them the Saxon slab from Jarrow mentioned in 2 Brand, 61, bearing a cross of the form called St. Cuthbert's, and the inscription printed in 2 Brand, 64, and presumed to relate to Abbot Huaetberct. [The collection is now in the Society's museum.]

## THE MINSTRELS' GALLERY, RABY CASTLE.

By THOMAS AUSTIN.

AN impression being current among those interested in the preservation of our local antiquities, that, in course of the alterations now in progress under my directions at Raby Castle, the Minstrels' Gallery, dating from the 15th century, which forms so interesting a feature in the Baron's Hall, is about to be destroyed or otherwise sacrificed, I think it right to lay the facts of the case before this Society and also before the Durham Architectural Society at its next meeting.

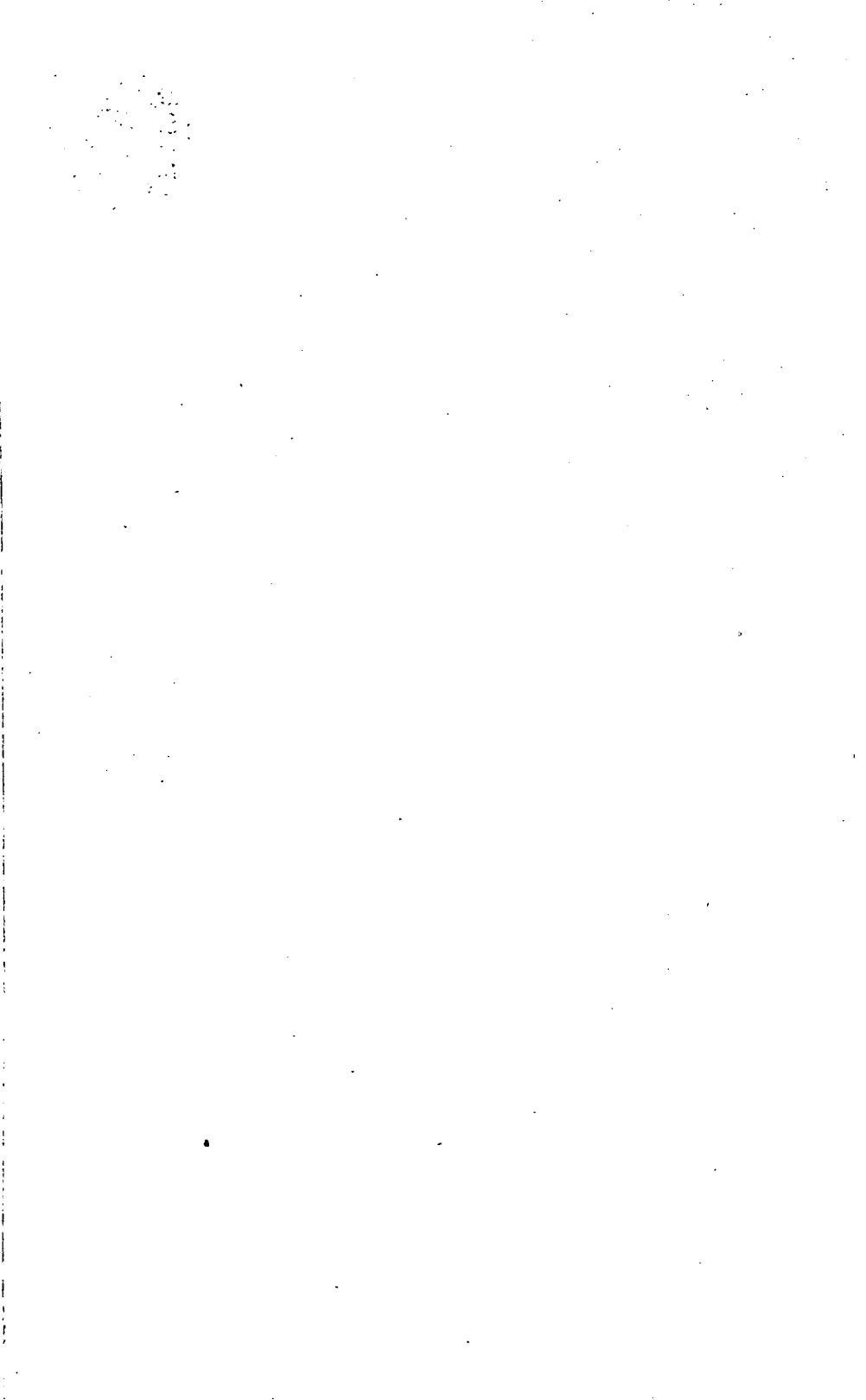
It is now intended to use the Baron's Hall for the general reception and family room, which has not been the case hitherto, and to form a staircase in the empty tower at the north end of the hall to give access from the principal entrance. The other staircases to the Baron's Hall are small and out of the way.

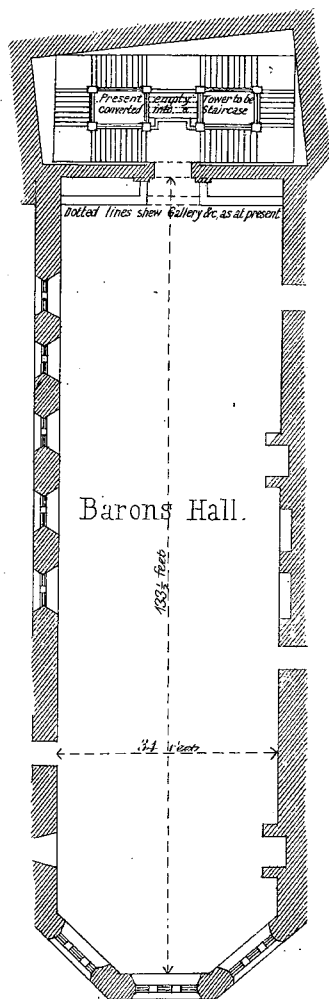


Raby Castle.—View of the North End of the Barons Hall



The Minstrels' Gallery.—Raby Castle.  
View of the North End of the Barons Hall  
Shewing proposed alteration.





Plan shewing proposed Staircase  
at north end of Hall.—Raby Castle.





## TAPESTRY FROM BYKER.



The Minstrels' Gallery occupies the north end of the hall, as will be seen in the accompanying sketch. It is inaccessible but by ladder, the entrance and staircase having been destroyed in the last century alterations. The floor of the Baron's Hall has also been raised so far above the original level that it is impossible to enter the hall below the gallery. It is therefore necessary to pass through the gallery to obtain the required access.

This I propose to effect in the manner shown in the fly-leaf on the sketch, and return the face and cornice of the gallery back to the wall on either side of the proposed entrance door, placing the old cornice removed from the front on these returns, and leave the gallery intact in every other respect.

*New Bridge Street,*

*April 5th, 1864.*

\* \* \* Plans of the Castle are given in "Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages."

---

### MONTHLY MEETING, 4 MAY, 1864.

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

DONATIONS OF BOOKS. — *From Mr. Geo. Tate.* Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, 1863, Vol. v., No. 1. — *From the Canadian Institute.* The Canadian Journal, March 1864.

NEW MEMBER. — *Thomas H. Bates, Wolsingham.*

---

### MONTHLY MEETING, 1 JUNE, 1864.

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

TAPESTRY FROM BYKER. — *Mr. G. A. Brumell* presents some pieces of old tapestry which had been in the house at Byker associated with the Lawsons, now demolished, and which had been secured through the exertions of the Rev. Mr. Green, of Byker. *Mr. Clayton* remarks that there is some very old and curious tapestry in Stella Hall. Leander swimming the Hellespont seems to be the subject of it.

BRASS OBJECT. — *Dr. Bruce* places on the table a plain circular disk of Corinthian brass or bronze, 3 inches in diameter, found in a garden at Haydon Bridge. The poor finder, fancying it to be of inestimable value, had actually walked all the way to Newcastle with it.

INSCRIBED ROCKS AND STONES.—*Dr. Bruce* states that his observations in Northumberland and Argyleshire (where British interments abound) induce him to think that the peculiar symbols which have recently received so much attention mark interments and have a religious character. He postpones an expression of his opinion of their meaning until he shall have carefully put the facts together.

---

### MONTHLY MEETING, 4 JULY, 1864.

*The Rev. Edward Hussey Adamson, in the Chair.*

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.—*From the Society of Antiquaries of London.* Their Proceedings, Vol. i., No 8, Vol. ii., Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4. — *From John Stuart, Esq.* His memoir of Alex. Henry Rhind, of Libster. — *From the Canadian Institute.* The Canadian Journal. — *From the Archæological Institute.* The Archæological Journal, No. 80. — *From Mr. Andrew Reid.* Reid's One Shilling Handbook to Newcastle, by Dr. Bruce.

NEW MEMBER.—*Thomas Young Hall*, 11, Eldon Square, Newcastle.

MEDAL PRESENTED. — *From Mr. Adolph Leitz.* A medal of silver, found in the neighbourhood of Hamburg. *Obverse.* Two figures uniting their hands under the influence of the Holy Spirit. VASGOT ZUSAMNFVG. D. SOLKEIN MENSCH SCHEI: *Reverse.* Christ at the wedding feast of Cana. IESVS CHRISTVS MACHET WASSER ZVWEIN. I: CA: GAL:

THE LONDON FINDS.—*Mr. William Greene, Junior*, presents a bronze dagger purchased from a man who, with one or two more, was offering some Roman coins, pieces of pottery and other matters for sale near some extensive buildings, now going on near London Bridge. The men reported that they had found the articles when excavating. The handle seems to consist of a figure of Venus, holding an apple in her left hand, and covering the pudenda with her right. The hilt is formed of two curves towards the point of the dagger. [The Gentleman's Magazine of July has the following paragraph in reporting the proceedings of the Archæological Institute on 6 May, 1864:—"A bronze dagger, the handle in the form of a figure of Venus, and a bronze spoon, both being described as found recently near Allhallows Pier, in the City, were submitted to the meeting, and gave rise to some discussion in regard to the increasing traffic in fictitious objects cast in brass, to which a simulated aspect of antiquity is given by some exposure to acids, so as to beguile, too frequently, the unwary collector."]

LOCAL CUSTOMS.—*The Rev. James Everett* calls attention to the custom at Alnwick of tinkling a bell before a corpse to keep evil spirits away. The Chairman notices the similar custom in the University of Oxford.

---

COUNTRY MEETING, 14 JULY, 1864.

WARKWORTH AND ALNWICK.

THE usual facilities accorded to learned societies for transit, and inspection of the exterior and interior features of the edifices selected for examination, having been granted, the Society visits on a genial day Warkworth Hermitage, Castle, and Church; Alnwick Castle and Church; Hulne Abbey; and St. Leonard's Hospital. The tourists dine at one of the inns in Alnwick, having at an earlier hour partaken of the hospitality of the Vicar of Warkworth.

The subjects of the day's excursion, ever interesting, have been so often described and have so large a history, that any account of them without excessive detail would be of little utility.

On the subject of Warkworth, the Editor is unable to add much to his essay on the Old Heraldry of the Percys, and to the comprehensive paper by the Rev. J. W. Dunn, the vicar, in the Proceedings of the Berwickshire Naturalists' Club, vol. v., p. 42. On this occasion he is disposed to think that the porch of the church is contemporary with the south aisle, and, with the vicar, greatly to doubt whether the tomb in the Hermitage has any immediate connection with the family of Percy, although there is nothing in the architecture inconsistent with the date of Margaret Nevil's death. The lion on the boss of the vault in the Lion Tower (of the same date as the church porch) is sejant guardant, and must be added to the badges of the Fourth Earl of Northumberland on p. 199 of our vol. iv.

Perhaps the following random extracts from the parish books are worth a place here for the use of the editor of a new Chronicon Mirabile.

Anno 1630. John Heslyhead, vicar, turn'd out in the usurpation time. 1650: Archibald Moor was put in till the Restauration of Kg. Charles the Second, at which time Mr. Heslyhead was restor'd, and liv'd till about the year 1667. His body lies interr'd in Warkworth church under the clerk's pew.

1682. Apr. 28. Sepult. Robertus *Mushums* de Acklington.

1723. Ap. 9. Johannes Lamb (de Warkworth) annos natus 106, et Isabella uxor, annos nata 86, eodem die sepulti. (4 Ant. Rep. 434, where it is added, on the authority of Mr. Wilfrid Lawson, one of the vicars, that Lamb was a husbandman and had a small freehold. The statement succeeds, that two years before his death he had an entire new set of teeth, new hair milk white, and a renewal of his eyesight.)

1725. Rated. John James for 30 farms, 1*l.* 10*s.*: Roger Hudson for 30 farms, 1*l.* 10*s.*: Robert Taylor for 43 farms, 2*l.* 3*s.*: 8 farms of the

demains, 8s. : The Vicar for 12 deals, 12s. : The Chapelry sess. Ralph Mow, 15s. 8d. : Ditto, more, 1l. 9s. 8d. : more for the 12 penny sess., 1l. 8s. 8d.—1727. In full of Chapelry sess at one shill. p. farm, 1l. 11s. 4d. [This extract is in elucidation of the technical use of the word farm in the North as a definite quantity or division of a district.]

1726. Binding a book of the martyrdom of King Charles, 4s.

1726. January 2<sup>d</sup>. was interred in this church, under the vicars pew Elizabeth Morley, aged ninety six years, was born at Durrham ; and was the youngest sister of three who were all alive w<sup>n</sup> she left Durrham to come to this place, about four months agoe. Their maiden name was Kirby. Their father was an attorney at law in Durrham.

1726. Jan. 2. Elizabetha Morley nuper de Durham, annos nata 96. De hac consule plura ad initium sepulchrarum.

1728. Aug. 28. Quinque personæ quorum tres viri et duæ mulieres ad scopulos de Bondicar mersi in cimiterio nostro sepulti. De mulieribus una fuit Anna Mattison de Stamford prope Appleby et generosa, Sep. 5. Georgius Thompson, advena, mersus ad Bondicar.

1728. Holy Bread money to be collected for the year ensuing does beginn at Hauxley for the year 1728.—1738. The Holy bread money ends at Tane Linns in Warkworth.

1728. [The Surplice called] Serplecloth.

1729. To four cheets to the penitents, 8d.—1737. Two penitents, 4d.

1742. Received Mr. Thomas Horsleys Lair *Storm*, Morwick, 3s. [Burials in the church called Lairstone about 1728. In other places the burial is called Lairestall, the placing a stone above one a Lairestone. Probably the fee really was for the privilege of lifting the Lairestone for the purpose of Lairestall.] 1785. Joseph Fawcus for Grave Leave for the late John Grey, Esqr., 10s.

In Warkworth churchyard on the south side, is a flat stone so worn down that great faith is requisite to induce the belief that anything ever existed upon it. But those who are familiar with the rapid pulverization of the effigy in Warkworth Hermitage will not be startled when they are told that “the Huntsman’s Grave,” as it is still called, once was marked by sculptured arms and legend. The following is the evidence in 4 Ant. Rep., Edit. 1808, 436 :—“In looking into the churchyard [of Warkworth] I also found the following epitaph on a flat tombstone, on which were sculptured *three bugle horns*. Below, the inscription here copied, viz :—

“Here lyeth the body of Edward Dodsworth, of East Chivington, *huntsman to King James*, who departed to the mercy of God the 30th of May, Anno Domini 1630.”

Of the authenticity of this legend there can be little doubt. The will of the very man, Edward Dodsworth of Chevington, with whom Dugdale commences his pedigree of Dodsworth of Barton, in Richmond shire, (now represented by R. H. Allan, Esq., F.S.A., of Blackwell and

*Lucas Corbuck*

Barton), was made on 10 Apr., 1630, and was proved the same year, on 27 Oct. In it he desires *to be buried in Warkworth churchyard*, and seals with a chevron between *three bugle horns*. The same coat appears in the will of his son Robert Dodsworth of Barton in 1650, but in the Visitation of 1666 three bezants are placed upon the chevron, as a distinction from other Dodsworths. The huntsman's father was Lawrence Dodsworth, Rector of Gateshead, who mentions in his will as his children—Christopher, the said Edward, and a daughter married to William Bytheman, doubtless William Blythman, the ancestor of the Blythmans of Westoe, and of a member of our Council, the Rev. E. H. Adamson.

It is an interesting coincidence that Ambrose Barnes, the non-conformist alderman of Newcastle, had an "uncle Dodsworth," who "was well known to King Charles I., and *sometimes appeared at the head of the hounds* when his Majesty went to hunt, the gallant old gentleman being always favourably received by his prince. The King making his first progress into Scotland, Mr. Dodsworth, with many gentlemen, and his nephew, Mr. Barnes, waited upon him as he passed through some parts of Yorkshire. He confessed he exceedingly disrelished the court conversation. The King, one day, standing among the nobility and country gentry, pointed to Mr. Dodsworth to come to him. Young Barnes, instead of kissing the King's hand, as a great many did, would not suffer his uncle to mention him to his Majesty, but stood at a greater distance. The whole interview between the King and his uncle passed in talking about some buck-hounds which the King knew Mr. Dodsworth had formerly in his keeping." (Memoir of Barnes, MS., p. 6.) The Dodsworth arms themselves may point to some very early associations with the forests.

Several of the visitors, after seeing the lions of Alnwick (which will, it is hoped, be fully described at such an early period by the local historian, Mr. Tate, as to render any gleanings here out of place and unfitting), take a charming drive through the parks to Hulne Abbey, St. Leonard's Hospital with its remarkable transitional detail, and Alnwick Abbey Gateway, all deserving of more exhaustive treatment than they have received. At an earlier portion of the day considerable interest was excited by the local and other remains preserved by the Duke of Northumberland, in his museum, within the walls of Alnwick Castle, which we need hardly say was thrown open to the Society, of which he is patron.

---

## JOIE SANS FIN.

To the Archæological Institute's meeting of 6 May, 1864, Mr. R. H. Soden Smith is reported to have brought "a motto ring, English, of the fifteenth century, inscribed JOIE SANS FIN."

Referring to our Vol. iii, p. 190, it will be a matter of discussion whether this is again the cheerful motto of the Widdringtons, or whether they only perpetuated what was not originally theirs exclusively.

## MONTHLY MEETING, 7 SEPTEMBER, 1864.

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

DONATIONS OF BOOKS. — *From Publishing Societies.* The Wiltshire Magazine, July 1864: Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London, April 16, November 26, 1863; The Canadian Journal, July, 1864; Transactions of the Historical Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, Vol. xv, Session 1862-3; Sussex Archæological Collections, Vol. xvi; Stjorn. Norsk Bibelhistorie, Christiania, 1853, 1855, 1856, 1860, 1862; Report of the Proceedings of the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West Riding of Yorkshire, 1858-1862; Norske Fornlevninger, af N. Nicolaysen, Christiania, 1863; Det Kongelige Frederiks Universitets Halvhundredaars-fest, September, 1861; Norske Vægtlodder fa Fjortende Aarhundrede, beskrevne af C. A. Holmboe, 1863; Det Kongelige Norske Frederiks Universitets Aarsberetning for 1861; Foreningen til Norske Fortidsmindesmerkers Bevaring, Aarsberetning for 1862; Peter Andreas Munch, Bed Paul Bolten, Hansen, 1863, (with loose portrait); Ordbog over det gamle Norske Sprog af Johan Frikner, 3. Hefte, 1862. — *From Mr. Morris C. Jones.* His Reminiscences connected with old oak pannelling now at Gungrog, privately printed, Welshpool, 1864.

EXCHANGE OF PUBLICATIONS. — *Resolved*, that the Society shall exchange publications with the Geological and Polytechnic Society of the West Riding of Yorkshire.

## MURAL NOTES.

BY THE REV. J. C. BRUCE, LL.D.

SOME matters of mural interest have come under my notice since our last meeting. Mr. Robert Johnson, architect, has called my attention to some things observed in digging the foundations of Mr. Pease's house, on the west side of the station of Condercum. "We have found," says