

The character employed, as well as the language, are both nearly contemporaneous with the period when the events recorded took place. We may assume that some follower of Gillesbueh recorded on this wild crag the murder of his master. Few in those days would remember the Danish Runes, and fewer still would seek for a memorial of the deed in this desolate spot.

That so fine and remarkable an inscription should have been so recklessly injured must be deeply regretted by all archæologists.

DEEDS FROM THE REV. JAMES EVERETT.

A BUNDLE of documents not of the highest interest. Among them is Lord Eldon's autograph as chancellor. One or two notes are given below.

YORK CITY. MAYOR'S SEAL AND POWERS.—16 Jul. 21 Eliz. 1589. Noveritis nos Johannes Dobson de Novo Castro super Tinam mr. mariner et Margareta uxor ejus relaxasse et quietum clamasse Nicholao Dicconson, de civitate Ebor., roper, in sua plena et pacifica possessione et seisina die confeccionis presentium existen., totum jus in uno mesuagio extra Walmegaite Barre in parochia Sancti Laurentii extra Walmegaite Barre in suburbiis civitatis Ebor. "Quia sigilla nostra pluribus sunt incognita, sigillum officii maioratus civitatis Ebor. huic dictæ cartæ nostræ apponi procuravimus. Et ego Robertus Criplinge Maior civitatis Ebor. ad instantiam et specialem requisicionem dictorum Johannis Dobson et Margarete uxoris ejus, et precipue pro eo quod prefata Margareta per me examinata confessa fuit coram me prefato maiore dictam cartam esse factam suam propriam libere et spontanie, et absque aliqua compuncione sive cohercione dicti Johannis Dobson viri sui: ideo in verum testimonium premissorum sigillum mei officii maioris civitatis predictæ presentibus apposui."—Two small effaced seals.—*Sigillum. secretum. officii. maioratus. civitat. Eboraci.* The city arms, between two ostrich feathers, engraved in Boyne's Yorkshire Tokens.

STERNE.—Arms sealed by *Elizabeth Sterne of York, widow*, on a bond of 17 Mar. 1769 to Stephen Croft of York, Esq., securing £200 to her daughter Lidia Sterne of York, spinster. Quarterly. 1 and 4, At the base are waves, from which rises a tower at the sinister. There is a chief charged with a crescent between two mullets, and below this at the dexter side a sun from which proceed beams in the direction of the tower. 2 and 3, A bend charged with three owls? Witnessed by "A. Ricard, A. Ricard Jun."

BYRON.—Seal of arms used by parties to a deed concerning property in the Market Street Lane, Manchester, 26. Dec. 1720, witnessed by

"*Jo: Byron., Chr. Byron.* Quarterly, 1 and 4, The three bendlets of Byron, but not enhanced. 2 and 3, On a bend three annulets, in sinister chief a cross patee (fitchee?) *Crest.*—A Mermaid.

BARTON IN THE WILLOWES.—A property conveyed in 1668 as a "messuage *burgage* or tenement—within the *lordshipp* of Barton aforesaid." In a previous description of 1654, the word 'burgage' is omitted.

THE FIVE SITTING STATUES, OF ROMAN DATE, IN THE MUSEUM OF THE SOCIETY.

BY W. H. BLACK, F.S.A.

WHEN I was at Newcastle, and spent day after day in the examination of the precious collection of Roman antiquities collected by the Society of Antiquaries there, I was particularly struck by the appearance of the *five sitting statues*, which were brought from one of the stations along the line of the Roman Wall. They agree in general appearance with the other mutilated statues which have been found elsewhere in *threes*, except that yours have not baskets in their laps, as the others have. I promised a note in explanation of my view of their design, and now I fulfil my promise.

The group of three sitting female figures, preserved in the Guildhall Library, was found in London, and has been hitherto supposed to represent certain mythological personages, under the title of *Deæ Matres*, as you may see in our friend Mr. C. R. Smith's "Illustrations of Roman London," and elsewhere. But, if goddesses, why bearing baskets? That accompaniment to a female figure always denotes, in the "Notitia Utriusque Imperii," of Alciatus, Pancirollus, Gronovius, and Bocking, and especially in the finely illuminated MS. of that instructive record, contained in the Imperial Library at Paris, *the revenues of a port or province*, metaphorically its fruits. I have therefore explained, but not until now in writing, those figures as representing *the three oldest provinces of Roman Britain*, bearing their *vectigal* in baskets. In the "Notitia," a standing figure represents a tributary or taxpaying region; a sitting figure, one of great dignity, as "Roma" and "Campania," in that book. The three standing figures of "Asia, Insulæ, Hellespontus," bearing baskets, were produced with much force by Selden, in his famous work the "Mare Clausum," to prove that the Romans drew revenues from their sovereignty over the narrow seas of the Mediterranean; and