

XIXA.—CARVED OAK CHEST AT CHESTERS.

THE annexed reproduction of a photograph by Mr. Gibson, of Hexham, a member of the Society, shows a fine oak chest, four feet nine inches long and two feet nine inches high, apparently of seventeenth century foreign—Italian or Flemish—workmanship. It has probably been a linen chest. The carved front is divided into three compartments vertically and two horizontally, there being a drawer in the lower of these. In the centre of the upper portion is a representation in bold relief of the Sacrifice of Isaac. The piece of furniture was given to Mr. Clayton, in whose possession it now is, some years ago, by Mrs. Colbeck, who then resided at Walwick Grange. An ancestor of Mrs. Colbeck is said to have purchased it on the dispersal of the contents of Dilston Hall, the seat of the unfortunate Earl of Derwentwater, after the ill-fated rebellion of 1715, in which he took so prominent a part. The chest is said by tradition to have been used at the chapel near the Hall for holding the priests' garments.

The Rev. Canon Greenwell, of Durham, has a chest of similar design and workmanship, but smaller and without drawer in the bottom compartment.



J. P. GIBSON, Photo.

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This plate presented by J. Clayton, Esq. V. P.

