

III. — MONUMENTS IN THE ATHOL CHANTRY, ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

BY JOHN ROBINSON.

[Read on the 29th May, 1895.]

THE restoration,¹ under the supervision of Mr. W. S. Hicks, a member of this society, of the Holy Trinity chantry in St. Andrew's church, and the uncovering of monuments to famous burgesses of Newcastle, is a subject deserving the attention of the Society of Antiquaries.

Some of the best known local benefactors, poets, painters, musicians, mathematicians, and men of letters have their names recorded in the registers of the church. The names of de Athol, lord of Jesmond, and of the family of Mrs. Barrett-Browning are sufficient in themselves to give prestige to any parish. But when we find that the centuries which intervene between the periods represented by these two names have been made famous in the town's history by the lives of such inhabitants as sir William Blackett, sir Mark Milbanke, sir Ralph Jenison, sir Francis Anderson, Edward Delaval, the Brandlings, Isaacsons, Collingwoods, Ellisons, Claverings, Surtees, Scotts (lords Eldon and Stowell), Stotes, Ogles, Ords, and Armstrongs, the majority of whom have been, from time to time, members of the ancient vestry or four-and-twenty of St. Andrew's; when science, art, and literature are represented by Charles Avison, Henry Atkinson, John Forster, T. M. Richardson, Perlee Parker, Carmichael, Ewbank, Winch, Chicken, Richard Grainger, the Fairbairns, and Dr. Bruce; when amongst its curates are the revs. John and Nathaniel Ellison and John Brand, enough has been recorded to prove the many associations gathered round the ancient fabric.

The Trinity chantry was the burial place of several members of the old Newcastle trade guilds, for many names upon its monu-

¹ Amongst other alterations the floor of the chantry, which originally was at least a foot above the level of the church, has been lowered to the same level, necessitating the disturbance of the ledger stones and the Athol slab. In the process all the remains found, including those of Adam de Athol and his wife, were, it is said, mixed together and buried in one place. A few glazed tiles discovered during the work have been set diamond-wise into the centre of a sandstone slab.—ED.

ments are associated with them, and their armorial bearings are to be seen sculptured upon the stones. For generations these slabs have been hidden from sight by the erection of the organ in the chantry. A plan of the chantry, which measures twenty feet from east to west by twenty-eight feet from north to south, similar to that here given (plate IX.) by the courtesy of Mr. Hicks, the architect, will be placed among the parish records, so that the exact spot will be known where each particular monument is to be found.

The recent restoration has demonstrated the fact that the same burial space, and even the same sepulchral monument, has been more than once used, regardless of family relationship; and in some instances the last monument has been placed on the top of an earlier one.

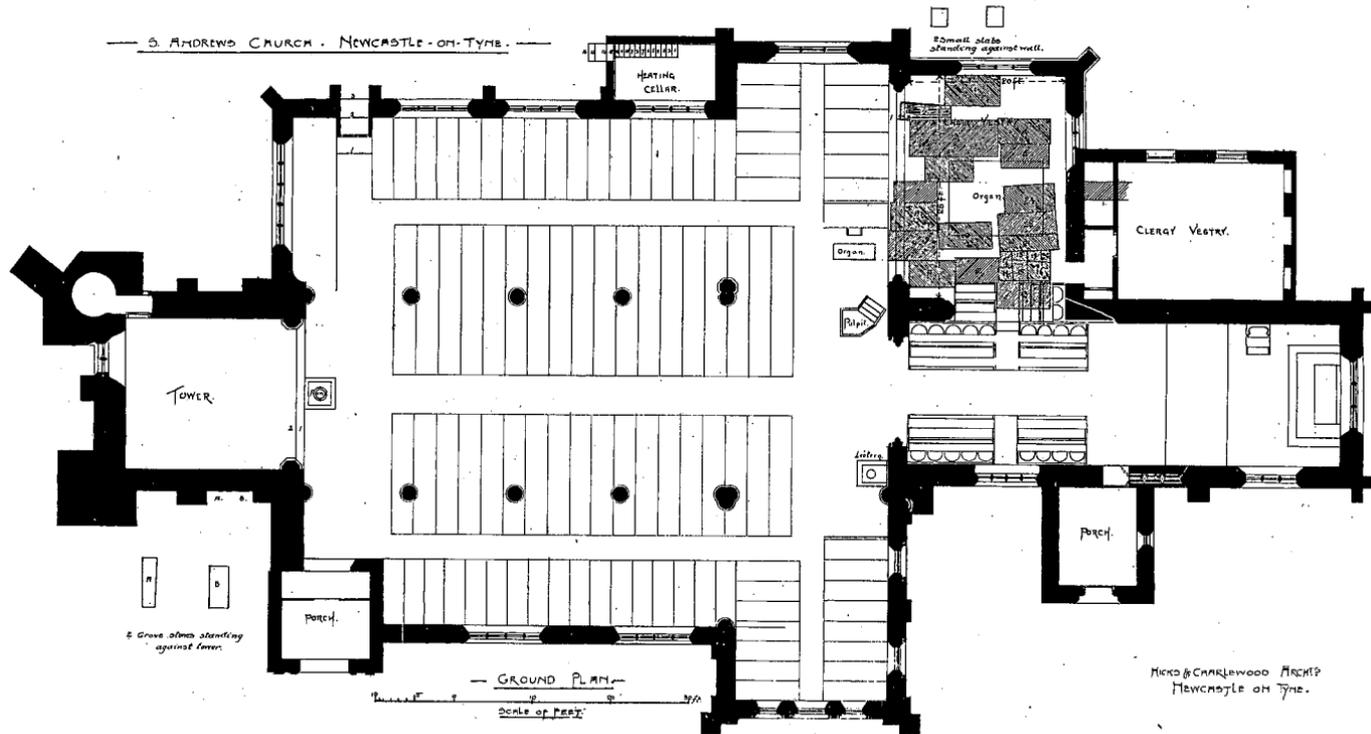
The custom of purchasing ground inside the church for the purposes of a pew for the living, and a burial place for the dead, is illustrated by the following entry in the churchwardens' accounts of St. Andrew's in the seventeenth century:—

1680. Pews No. 21, 22 and 23. These three pews above mentioned let to Mr. Richard Lambert, together with a Burial place granted him, the length of the said Pews, and two yards in breadth.

The same family had previously buried their dead in the interior of the church, as may be seen from the records of 1644, where it is stated that among 'sums received fore Larestones for the year 1644' there was paid by 'Thomas Lambert, son of Mr. Richard Lambert, 00:01:08.' For centuries it was the custom of wealthy families to have their burial places inside the church; and as we have seen from the above extract from the church records in numerous instances the family pew was above the family burial place.

The chantry was founded by sir Aymer de Athol; who was lord of Jesmond, and in 1381 high sheriff of Northumberland.² He buried his wife Mary in it, and erected an altar to the Holy Trinity at the foot of her grave. So great had been his charity that the church twice granted indulgences of forty days to all who should offer up prayers in the chantry he founded, or should contribute to its proper ornamentation. The chief object of interest in the chantry is the large slab of

² Welford, *Newcastle*, i. p. 198; see also pp. 205, 208, 215.



freestone bearing the matrices of the brazen effigies of the founder and his wife. Of this slab the dimensions are fourteen feet four inches in length by four feet ten inches in breadth, and six inches thick, and weighs about three tons.³ The grain of the stone is very hard, and on the underside full of large pebbles. The local masons state that they have never seen a stone of the same grit, and they do not believe it was from any local quarry.

Inlaid round the verge of the stone ran an inscription on brass, of which Richardson⁴ informs us some portion remained in 1768. This he gives as 'Hic jacent Dominus Adamarus de Atholl, miles, et Dna Maria uxor ejus quæ obiit quarto decimo die Mensis Anno Domini Millessimo tricesimo animarum propitiatur.'

Some of the brass nails, by which the brasses were attached to the stone, are still to be seen.

Not a single fragment of the brasses remains on the stones, piece by piece they disappeared, and, in the memory of some now living, the last remnant was torn from its place. This represented the knight's feet resting on a leopard, and was rescued from the melting pot, and presented to this society by Monseigneur Eyre (now Roman Catholic archbishop of Glasgow), and is in the museum at the Black Gate.⁵

Between the Athol monument and the north window of the chantry is the Rutter monument (No. 1 on plan), on which is inscribed the following:—

The Burial Place of | CHRISTOPHER RUTTER | Baker and Brewer And Ann
his | Wife and their Children she | Departed this life the 20th day of April An
Dom: 1704 | He departed the 17th day of March An: | Dom: 1714 In the 52nd
year of his | Age And left four Children (Viz:) Iacob, Christopher, Iane |
Ivlia. | JACOB RUTTER Died April The 25th 1759 Aged 24 years Elizabeth
his Daughter Died March the 30th | 1757 Aged 10 weeks.

The Rutters were one of the leading mercantile houses in Newcastle in the beginning of the last century. They had their own pew in St. Andrew's, which is thus recorded in the churchwardens' books:—

October 19th, 1707.—Agreed and Let to Mr. Christopher Rutter, Beer Brewer, Two New Pews, built by himself at the west and next to Number six in the middle Isle, North Side, For which he pays two shillings and sixpence in hand, and to pay yearly, every year at Whitsuntide one shilling.

³ See reproduction of this, from a rubbing made by Mr. O. J. Charlton, at p. 49.

⁴ *Table Book*, Hist. ii. p. 174. ⁵ See *Proc.* vi. p. 169 *et seq.*

In 1720 Jacob Rutter was sheriff of Newcastle. On May 4th, 1749, the marriage of Miss Rutter with Mr. Clayton is announced to the world in the following quaint style in the *Newcastle Courant* :—

Mr. William Clayton, an eminent Merchant in Newcastle, and son of Alderman Clayton, to Miss Mary Rutter, daughter of Mr. Rutter, Brewer, in Newcastle, a Lady of fine accomplishments and a great fortune.

In 1762 the widow of Mr. Christopher Rutter was married to lieutenant John Graham, of the Yorkshire East Riding Grenadier Company of Militia ; his regiment was at the time stationed in Newcastle. After his marriage, he succeeded to the business in Pilgrim Street, and the firm of John Graham became one of the most extensive traders with the West Indies, for which purpose he built and fitted out a fleet of vessels, which traded between the Tyne and Jamaica. In 1771 Mrs. Graham died, without issue, and Mr. Graham married for his second wife, in 1780, Miss Arabella Altham of Islington, sister to Mrs. Aubone Surtees of the Sandhill, Newcastle, whose husband's sister, Bessy Surtees, eloped with John Scott, afterwards lord Eldon. The issue of the marriage of John Graham with Miss Altham was Mary, afterwards Mrs. Barrett, mother of Mrs. Barrett-Browning, the gifted poetess. Mr. Graham some years afterwards, in 1786, assumed, by royal licence, the arms and name of Clarke. The Rutter family mansion, in which Mr. Graham lived from his marriage to his first wife until the building of his larger mansion next door, was in Pilgrim Street. The old house, in which Mrs. Barrett-Browning's mother was born, is now the Bible house. After John Graham Clarke had removed into his new mansion, the old residence was occupied for many years by the maiden sisters of lord Collingwood. The family vault and monument to the Rutter family and their old family mansion in Pilgrim street possess, therefore, historical associations of more than usual interest.

To the west of the Rutter monument is a long, narrow ledger stone, wider at the top than at the bottom (No. 2 on plan). The inscription round the edges reads :—‘ HEAR LYETH THE | BODYE OF RODGER HADDOCK BLACKSMYTH | AND . . . | . . . WHO | DYED THE 5 OF MARCH, 1638, WHO MARIED ISABEL REA | .’ In the centre the inscription is continued thus ; ‘ DAUGHTER OF REA OF FENNUM,’

and below is a shield with the blacksmiths' arms (quarterly, 1 and 4 a chevron between three hammers, 2 three horse shoes (2 and 1), 3 is blank). The name of Haddock frequently appears in the records of the parish of St. Andrew in the seventeenth century and early part of the eighteenth. A Miss Annie Reay was one of the largest ratepayers according to the book of rates for 1738. Henry Reay was sheriff in 1707 and mayor in the years 1712 and 1729. There was an altar tomb of blue marble in the graveyard of Tynemouth prior to the memory of 'Henry Reay, Esqr., Merchant, Alderman, and twice Mayor of Newcastle.'

On the south side of the Athol monument is the grave cover of a member of the tanners' guild, and from the date on the stone it is a record of the last interment in the chantry (No. 6 on plan). The inscription reads:—

The Burial place of | IOSHVA TWIZELL | *Tanner* | and CATHERINE his Wife |
and their Children He | departed this life June | the 23 1718 | JOS GREENWELL |
obit 29 Augst 1797 Æt 56 | MARY GREENWELL | died July 19th 1810 Aged 70

Of Joshua Twizell there is little evidence in the parish records, but the Greenwell family are an influential branch of old Newcastle worthies. In 1591 William Greenwell was sheriff, as was also, in 1738, another member of the same family of the same name. In removing the above-named Twizell monument, during the lowering of the floor of the chantry, an important discovery was made, which has set at rest any doubt about the Athol vault having been used for later date burials. In the *Local Historian's Table Book*⁶ for October 18th, 1768, it is stated that:—

The remains of William Wilkinson, Esq., were deposited in the Chantry of the Holy Trinity, in St. Andrew's Church, Newcastle. The body was interred in the burial place of Sir Adamarus de Athol, the large stone of which it was supposed had not been removed since his death, as, upon opening his grave only two skulls were found, and there appeared the flag work in which the bodies of Sir Adam and his wife had been deposited about 400 years before.

The recent alterations in the chantry have proved this record to be an error. The Athol remains had not been disturbed; the south wall of the vault had been partly removed to allow of a burial alongside the Athol grave, when the old chronicler of the last century

⁶ *Table Book*, Hist. ii. p. 174.

may have looked into the famous sepulchre; but the remains of the great benefactor of Newcastle and those of his wife were found to be undisturbed in 1894; no other burial could possibly have taken place in the same vault. The remains of Athol lay on the north and his wife on the south side of the grave. The skulls were in a wonderful state of preservation, the teeth of the lady being perfect. Athol's head had been large, and high, and well developed; that of the lady rather small, and gave evidence of being much younger than that of the knight. They had evidently been buried in oak coffins, three or four inches thick, held together at the ends by iron clasps. The vault was once more built up, the large monumental stone lowered into its original position, not again, we hope, to be disturbed.

To the west of Twizell the tanner's grave, is the older monument of Samuel Twizell (No. 7 on plan). The central portion of the slab is worn smooth, but round its edges can be deciphered the inscription:—'Samuel Twizell, Master & mariner & Marie, his wife. She DeParted the 11th day of APRill, 1696.'

There is a fitness in this being the resting place of a member of the 'Guild or Fraternity of the Blessed Trinity;' and it completes the gathering together of all the various trade guilds which have made Newcastle what it is to-day, of which not the least honourable is that of the Trinity house, or master and mariners of the town and port of Newcastle.

Close to the western arch of the chantry, alongside that of the sailor's grave, is the upper portion of a memorial stone (No. 8 on plan) which records 'The Buriall place of | STEPHEN BOND M^r & | Mariner & Isabella his . . .' Here the stone is broken off, and the end fixed to that of another monument which reads, after five lines, which are illegible:—'JOHN MAKEPEACE | Baker And Brewer And | Elizabeth his wife And | their Children. She Departed | this Life the 11th (?) of July, 1710.'

Of the Bond family we have no records in the parish registers, but the Makepeace family name is well known as that of goldsmiths at the beginning of the last century. The communion plate of numerous churches in Northumberland and Durham bear the name of Robert Makepeace, probably a relative.

At the foot of the Makepeace monument are two fragments of grave covers which were found underneath a larger monument, near the doorway of the north vestry, which vestry was according to the churchwardens' accounts of 1714, 'let to Mr. Sanderson for a (Beer) Cellar for £01 : 00 : 00.' The first fragment bears the initials, R^{WE} cut very deep into the stone. The other fragment bears the modest epitaph :—'The Burial place | of RALPH WATSON | Weaver, 1718.' The quiet life and modesty of the Newcastle weaver has left no record in the history of the parish. But an ancestor of his, John Watson, was sheriff in 1658.

The following epitaph is the only one in the chantry where poetic fancy has been allowed to soar above the usual plain matter of fact records on the sculptured monuments. On the east of the weaver's monument is a large stone with the inscription :—

The Burial place of | ANTHONY DRUMMOND | Mary Mitchell Died April | the 3rd 1763 Aged 82 years. | Elizabeth Brown Died January | the 12th 1770 Aged 5 years.

Go Spotles honer andun Sullied truth
 Go Smiling Inocence and Blooming youth
 Go Female Sweetnes Joined with manly Sence
 Go Winning Wit that never Gave offence
 Go Soft humanity that blest the Poor
 Go Saint ey'd Patience from affliction door
 Go modesty that never wore a frown
 Go vertue and Receive thy heavenly crown

ANTHONY DRUMMOND died | July the 31th 1777 Aged 42 years.

On the south side of this poetical memorial are the fragments of several monuments joined together, but the inscriptions are unfortunately illegible. Time, and we must add neglect, have removed all identity.

To the west of these fragments is a fine slab ledger stone of blue marble (No. 12 on plan), at the top of it being a coat of arms bearing a chevron bearing 3 escallops, between 3 goats' heads erased, surmounted by a crest and helmet, and surrounded by rich mantling. Below the arms the inscription (No. 12 on plan) :—

The Burial Place of | WILLIAM NEWTON and his Family | Underneath this Stone | Lieth Interred the Remains of | DOROTHY | The beloved Wife of William Newton | who departed this life January 5th 1789 | much lamented. by her FAMILY and FRIENDS | aged 49 Years. | WILLIAM NEWTON | died April 29th 1798 aged 69 years.

This William Newton would be the architect, designer of the Assembly rooms, in Westgate road, also of Howick hall, the seat of earl Grey ; and he also was the co-despoiler of the ancient monuments in St. Nicholas's church at the restoration of 1788.

At the foot of the Newton memorial are eight fragments of monumental stones (Nos. 14-21 on plan), which have been placed side by side to form one large square. Each fragment has traces of inscriptions, but time has erased all evidence of the records ; only on one fragment has part of the brewers' coat of arms, a shield, on which are a cask, and below it a circle with the letters E C at either side, survived the ravages of neglect and wilful destruction of times past.

To the west of these fragments of monuments to unknown citizens of Newcastle are two monuments deserving the attention of all who admire honour and worth. On the first is inscribed :—

The Buriall place of | JOHN DAWSON, Taylor, and | Martha his wife and their Children. She departed this life the 9th day of December, 1710. Barbara, Wife of Michael Dawson departed this life 9th of January, 1724. Michael Dawson, son of the above said John Dawson, departed this life August the 6th, 1757. Aged 66 years.

The Dawsons were important members of the Newcastle community in the seventeenth century. From the years 1646 to 1692 the office of mayor was occupied six times by members of the family, and twice the office of sheriff was filled by a Dawson. There is also an interesting connecting link between admiral lord Collingwood and the Dawson family, whose monument has been brought to light in the Athol chantry. Mr. Cuthbert Collingwood, father to admiral Collingwood, was bound apprentice for ten years to Mr. Christopher Dawson, merchant adventurer and boothman, and took up his freedom in 1737, having then one month and ten days yet to serve as apprentice. Mr. John Clayton, commenting on this fact in his valuable 'Notes on Lord Collingwood,'⁷ says, 'The Company of Merchant Adventurers comprised three ancient companies, the Mercers, the Drapers, and the Boothmen otherwise merchants of corn.' Lord Collingwood was therefore a freeman of Newcastle by patrimony, through a relative of the John Dawson whose monument has been discovered in the chantry of the Holy Trinity, St. Andrew's.

⁷ *Arch. Ael.* vol. xiii. p. 167.

To the east of the Dawson monument is the fragment of a monument with the brief inscription: 'The Burial place of Thomas Davison.'

In the year 1611 we find Alexander Davison sheriff of Newcastle in 1626, and again in 1638 he was elected mayor. During the second year of his mayoralty king Charles I. visited Newcastle, and was entertained by the mayor with more than usual magnificence, in return for which he received the honour of knighthood. During the siege of Newcastle in 1644 he was one of the defenders of the town against the Scottish invaders. On the mural tablet to his memory in St. Nicholas's church it is recorded that 'during the siege of this Town of Newcastle, while fighting courageously the attacking Army of the Scotch rebels (almost eighty years of age), he bravely breathed his last.'

Thomas Davison in 1633, sir Alexander Davison in 1644, and sir Thomas Davison in 1666, gave handsome legacies to the poor of St. Andrew's parish. Nor were the descendants of these worthy Tynesiders less benevolent than their ancestors. Mrs. Ann Davison founded a hospital for six widows of 'protestant clergymen, merchants, and freemen of Newcastle;' and Thomas Davison, with his sister, founded another hospital for six unmarried women, under the same roof with those intended for the widows, and also for 'six unmarried men, poor and decayed burgesses of Newcastle,' founded by their relative, sir Walter Blackett. These charities are yet known as the Davison hospital, in the Manors.

The following record of purchase of grave space, taken from the parish register, is of interest:—

Sold to Mr. Thomas Davison a Burial place in St. Andrew's Church in Newcastle upon Tyne, in the North Porch, containing in length Eight foott, and in breadth five foott and a half, to the East of John Dawson's Burial Place.

Rec^d for part Acc^t 00 : 10 : 09.

March 25th, 1711.

It will be seen that the position of the two burial places of Mr. Thomas Davison and John Dawson in the chantry corresponds with the terms of this official agreement. To the south of the Davison monument, and close to the chancel, on a fragment of stone is sculptured in delicately-cut Italian letters, an inscription, almost illegible, in memory of ' . . . Wright. Ann, his wife, departed

the . . . ye 11th day of May, 1697.' The name reminds the present generation of a former inhabitant of the parish in 1664, who is recorded in the churchwardens' books to have paid for 'A house in ye Hooksters Boothe in the possession of Ralph Wright, 00 : 02 : 08.'

Alongside of this fragment of Wright's monument is a large smooth slab ; on the upper part are two distinct crosses, and on the lower end has been rudely carved the letters J. D. Conjecture as to the original use of this large stone is useless; the inscription, if there ever was one, is now past deciphering. It may have been the original altar slab of the chantry in pre-Reformation times, used subsequently as the gravestone of a Novocastrian.⁸

The next monument is in excellent preservation, and in clear-cut letters we read: 'The Burial Place of John Langlands, Goldsmith.' No date is given, but we know that he was admitted a member of the Goldsmiths' company in 1754, and was in business in 1795. The communion cups of the church were made by him. The churchwardens' books inform us that, 'In 1686 then was Paid to Mr. Ramsey for mending the Silver Cup, 00 : 07 : 00.' Again, in 1687, the same expence is recorded, 'Mr. Ramsey for mending the silver cup, 0 : 7 : 0.'⁹

These two names belonging to the Goldsmiths' guild of Newcastle found associated with St. Andrew's church, are more frequently seen on the communion plate of the Northumberland and Durham churches than is that of any other Newcastle goldsmith. The communion vessels of many churches in our northern counties bear the mark of William Ramsey, with dates from 1681 to 1687, while the mark of John Langlands may be seen on many others bearing dates from 1754 to 1792.

The other monuments did not belong originally to the chantry, but were discovered in 1844, when extensive alterations took place in the south transept. Under the east window of the chantry, on a portion raised a few inches above the level of the floor, are six old gravestones, which are of special interest. At this spot the original altar stood ; no burials took place under it. The slabs, placed where

⁸ Altar slabs have often been used in this second-hand way.

⁹ These entries cannot possibly refer to either of the present cups, which some would have us to believe, but to one which preceded them. It must have been in very bad condition to need so much repair.—ED. See *Proc.* vii. p. 122.

the new side altar will stand, could not have found a more fitting position.

The first monument to the north has no date upon it. The inscription reads:—

This the Buriall place of | ANTHONY YOUNGER | *Tanner* and alice his wife | and their Children | W. Younger.

It would be a relative of this Anthony Younger who, at a meeting of the guild in the year 1644, had a serious charge to make against a brother freeman:—

Roger Younger complains against Cha. Clarke for abusing him in the Spittle in calling him dissembling knave, and he would prove it.

The adjoining grave cover has been of the usual seventeenth-century pattern—the inscription running round the edges of the monument, and the arms of the guild, or private family, in the middle of the stone. It appears to read round the verge:— ‘ [Cross-bones] This is [skull] The Bu [cross-bones] | Riall Place of Thomas Burne Miller who De [cross-bones] | parted the 16 day [cross-bones] | of August 1681 and his daughter;’ the inscription is continued in the centre: ‘ who deParted | This Life the 26 | day of January An^o | 1680.’

The next monument is in excellent preservation, and is embellished with a beautifully executed design of the tanners’ coat of arms (a bull’s face between two fountains in chief, a tree in base). The inscription reads:—

The Buriall place of | THOMAS WINSHIP tanner | & IANE his wife and their | Children | She departed the | 13 of febr: Anno 1689. | He departed the 2^d of Septem^b | Anno 1695.

Next to it, is the following:—

The Burial place of | NICKHOLAS FENWICK | *Merchant* who departed | this life the 14th of december, | Anno 1725 aged 62 years | SARAH his wife departed | this life March the 26th day | Anno 1732 Aged 60 years | Hannah Fenwick, spinster | Ob: 3th July 1780 Eta: 48 | Anne Wife of Tho^s Fenwick Esq^r | of EABSDON died 11 July 17 . . |

The Winship family have not left any distinct impression upon the history of the parish. It is different with the Fenwick family.

To the north of the Winship and Fenwick monument is a well-known gravestone, on which is sculptured round the verge:—

HEARE LYETH THE | BODY OF RAPH ROWMAYNE TANNER AND | |
 ROWMAYN TANNER AND THERE WIVES |

which is continued in the centre :—

AND CHILDRY | RAPH DEPTED | THE 16 OF DE | CEMBER 1587 | RICHARD
 ROMAYNE DEPTED THE 30 OF | MARCH 1629 ALSO | THOMAS ROW | MAYN
 CORDENER | SOVN TO RICHARD | HE DEPTED THE 1 | OF DECEMBER | 1639.

The inscription is followed by the tanners' arms. At the bottom of the stone are 'The Burial place of | MARGARET OLIVER' and 'The Burial place of Wm. Procter.'

This monument of the Rowmaynes stood for fifty years against the outside of the church tower, and interested all visitors by its quaint lettering. The names of the first proprietors of the monument, the Rowmaynes, are graven round the edges of the stone; the other names are given in the middle, with the tanners' coat of arms at the foot of the stone. The names of Margaret Oliver and Wm. Procter are given below the tanners' arms. The Rowmayne family were influential citizens of Newcastle; they stood fourth in the rate books of the parish in 1691, when they paid £3 10s. for rates. Whether Margaret Oliver and Wm. Procter were relatives of the family is perhaps difficult to prove, yet the importance of each family can be easily verified. In 1691 William Oliver was rated in the church books to the sum of £5 for 'House and Mill.' In 1684 William Procter was sheriff, and in 1714 Thomas Procter 'built a Pew on the South Isle at the west,' for which 'he paid yearly and every year one shilling at Whitsuntide.'

The next gravestone is of great interest, and carries the mind back to the twelfth and thirteenth century. No name or date appears, a plain incised cross, with a mason's or carpenter's square, is all that is given to indicate the religious faith and worldly occupation of the old Newcastle worthy. This stone also stood outside of the church tower for fifty years. Its present position is more fitting for its preservation and association with its original use.



Scale 0

3 Feet.

W. GRIGGS, PHOTO-LITH.

FROM A RUBBING BY O. J. CHARLTON, FEB. 1895

Sir Hymer de Athol and wife Mary, 1387.
ST. ANDREW'S, NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE.

III A.—NOTE ON THE ATHOL MATRIX IN ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH,
NEWCASTLE. BY MR. O. J. CHARLTON.

IN May, 1894, during alterations in the chantry of the Holy Trinity, St. Andrew's, Newcastle, there was brought to light the slab bearing the matrix of the once magnificent brass of sir Aymer de Athol, by whom the chantry was probably founded towards the close of the fourteenth century. The slab, which lies nearly in the centre of the chantry floor, has fortunately been left uncovered. It is of great size, measuring eleven feet three inches in length by four feet eight inches in breadth and seven inches in thickness. From the indents on it the following particulars can be made out. The brasses of the knight and his wife occupied the centre of the slab, hers being on the dexter side. Beneath their feet was an inscription plate, from the ends of which rose the shafts of a fine double canopy with one centre and two outside pinnacles. There were two shields of arms above the canopy, and two below the foot inscription. A border fillet, with rose-shaped evangelistic symbols in the angles, surrounded the whole. The knight wore a pointed bascinet, a misericorde at the dexter hip, and a sword on the sinister side. His feet, in sharply pointed collerets of seven lames, with rowelled spurs and gussets of mail showing at the instep, rested on a spotted leopard. The lady was attired in a long gown, and her head reposed on two tasselled cushions set crosswise. The matrix is in fair preservation, with many of the brass rivets remaining.

The only portion of the brass now left, the feet of the knight, with the leopard below, is preserved in the Society's museum in the Black gate. The loss of the rest is particularly to be deplored; the whole composition was of quite the finest period, and was a large and splendid example of that class of monument which, unfortunately, is all too uncommon in these northern counties.