

VII.—ROMAN INSCRIPTION, HEXHAM.

The subjoined note, sent by Mr. R. C. Bosanquet, F.S.A., appeared in *Proceedings*, 3rd Ser. Vol. x, p. 324.

'The present owners of the inscribed slab which is the subject of my paper read at the meeting of the society held on the 25th May, 1921, and printed in the *Archaeologia Aeliana* (3 s., XVIII, p. 117), have supplied me with the following statement, from which it appears that the known history of the stone as presented in the first paragraph of my paper is not quite accurate:

"The stone when first known to the present possessors was built into the inside wall of a little pavilion standing at the apex of the most prominent salient of the peninsular plateau on which the house now occupied by Mr. H. F. Lockhart stands in close contiguity to the massive keep now known as the manor office, and the great gate tower now known as the Moothall, and the vaulted basement storey of the large mural tower abutting on the Hallstile, the only portions now remaining (or possibly the only portions ever completed) of the 'Turris de Hexham.' The pavilion was pulled down about 60 years ago, whereupon the stone was placed in the recess of a built-up doorway, where it remained for several years, but on its being found that though sheltered by the projecting cornice of the doorway from straight down rain, it got wet when the wind was from the eastward, and was suffering damage in consequence, it was brought into the house. Considerable building operations took place upon the site in the latter part of the 18th century which must have involved the removal of some part of the remains of the mural tower and it is most probable that the stone was found then and it may be that the pavilion was erected for the purpose of sheltering and displaying it. A photograph of the stone was sent to Dr. Bruce in 1875, and in a letter to Mr. H. F. Lockhart, he says 'I did not know of its existence. If I had seen it before the completion of my late work the *Lapidarium* I would certainly have had it engraved and given in the book. On the first line we have certainly AVGVST on the second S COH I on the third RVM. It is a thousand pities that we have not two or three of the preceding letters of this word and we then should have known the cohort I do hope that the left hand fragment of the slab may be found.' Dr. Bruce never saw the stone and this is probably all he ever said or wrote about it."