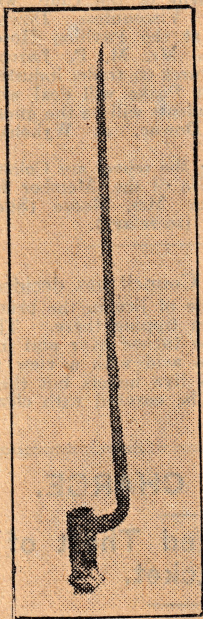


SOT. 27/9/30

ANCIENT BAYONET. !

Discovery on the Site of Sheffield Castle.



While working on the new Castlegate Road, Sheffield, recently, a workman unearthed a bayonet which has lain buried for many years underneath the site of Sheffield Castle.

Of the "socketed" type, it was made to fit the last form of flint-lock issued to the British troops early in the 19th century. This type of flint-lock, which was a gun of very wide bore, could be fired without removing the bayonet — an improvement on an earlier type of gun that had a movable bayonet fitted in the muzzle.

Bayonets such as this — many were made in Sheffield — were issued to the troops which fought at Waterloo.

SDT

SHEFFIELD CASTLE SITE!!!!

20/11/30 24, Wellington Street.

Sir,—Sheffield is proud of its Castles; every directory gives us a short history of them. The Manor Castle is slowly fading before our eyes; but the Sheffield Castle has long since gone, so we don't quite know where it stood. But we have been told three important events happened at the Manor Castle. One was the imprisonment of Mary Queen of Scots, which it seems was an alternate imprisonment between the Manor and the Sheffield Castle. The second event was the visit of Cardinal Wolsey. The third was the death of one of the Earls of Shrewsbury, which was a very important event, and I think is a great help in finding where the Sheffield Castle stood.

It appears his death caused some little discussion. The question arose where should the good Earl be buried from, and it was settled. Although the Manor Castle was a grand place, it was not the ancestral home of the Earl. He must be buried with all the full dignity of his exalted rank, and must be removed and laid out in his ancestral home, the Sheffield Castle. But they said there was another difficulty. The Sheffield Castle was so near the Church, where the vault was, there was not much room for a large procession, especially for mounted mourners. The distance I make out about three or four hundred paces or strides.

The position of the "Sheffield Daily Telegraph" and the "Star," to my mind, fits in better with the account than any other place. Now if the Earl had been laid out in a room where the Brightside Co-operative stands there would have been ample room to form a procession. So I think the distinguished company assembled on the open ground where the present Progressive Party's offices are, and where the Friends' former burial ground was. Thus we find the difficulty was overcome, and the good Earl was buried with all pomp from his ancestral home, the great Sheffield Castle.—Yours, etc.,

LEWIS A. BRAMALL.

SHEFFIELD CASTLE SITE.

S.D.T. 21/11/30

Arundel Street.

Sir,—Your correspondent cannot do better than study Mr. Leslie Armstrong's very able dissertation which appeared in the recently published volume of Hunter Society transactions, if he is interested in the subject of Sheffield Castle.

A large portion of the site, possibly not the whole extent of Castle, was definitely traced therein, from the foundations unearthed during erection of the new Co-operative buildings in 1929. The facts concerning the situation were then indisputably proved.

The Manor could not be described as a Castle, it was never intended for defensive purposes; in this respect the two buildings differed entirely. In 1919 Mr. T. Winder published a history of the Manor Lodge with diagrams and a plan showing what had then survived of this building, which was more in the nature of a country hunting residence.

Whilst on this topic it is at the present time a matter of some concern for Sheffield as to whether the site of the Manor will not be altogether absorbed for building purposes in the near future. Unfortunately we have nothing to show posterity to demonstrate the history of Sheffield Castle. Is a like fate to eventually be shared by the considerable and interesting exposed foundations, and parts of the old building, that are still discernible on the site of Sheffield Manor Lodge?—Yours, etc.,

F. BRADBURY.

Sheffield Castle.

Transactions of the Hunter Archaeological Society may well be considered the most valuable of the efforts of present-day sons of Hallamshire. In the latest issue Mr. James R. Wigfull's article on "Her Majesties' Manor of Ecclesall" is something to be read before one walks about Ecclesall Woods, Dore and Hallam, and to be re-read, with close study, when one returns.

Other contributions, those by Canon Odom and Mr. Leslie Armstrong, show how intimate the research and the chronicling. We realise the worth of the latter writer in his article on Sheffield Castle, and the discoveries made during excavations on the site in recent years.

Plates reproducing photographs of objects found on the Market site, and showing remains of the Castle of 1270, and the remains of the De Lovetot's Castle, and other features drawn by Mr. Armstrong, added to what is termed "Garret Gleanings," by Mr. John B. Wheat, and other reminiscences of Hallamshire make this Part 1 of Volume iv. a genuine labour of love on the part of the citizens who devote time, labour and money to its production.

Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Baldwin have returned from the Continent.

Viscount Chaplin was 53 and the Earl of Mexborough 63 on Saturday.