

Antiquities

FOUND AT CAISTER, NEAR NORWICH.

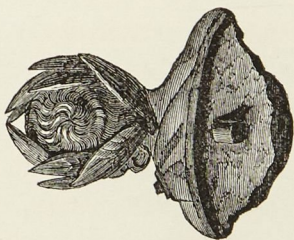
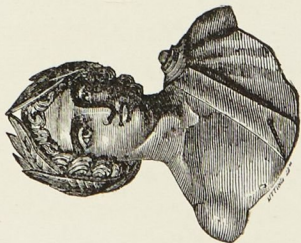
COMMUNICATED

BY ROBERT FITCH, ESQ., F.G.S.

A FEW months since, a labourer, drilling barley in a piece of glebe land of the Rev. John Arthy, in the occupation of Mr. Williams, of Caister, near the rectory, found the small bronze bust figured in the first engraving. The field in which the discovery was made is at some distance from the Camp, and on the opposite side of the road leading to Norwich, and hitherto has been chiefly noted for the large number of oyster-shells turned up by the plough.

An eminent antiquary (Mr. Akerman) is of opinion that this laurel-crowned head represents Geta, from the resemblance it bears to the head on coins of that emperor. Blomefield's list of coins found at Caister includes one of Geta.

The purpose to which this bust was applied is not very apparent: the stump of a pin, by which it was fastened to a flat surface, appears at the back. To whatever object it was fixed, it would seem to have been raised above the rim or edge, the back of the head being finished as carefully as the front. A series of busts, extremely like this, are fixed to a large bronze instrument, or forceps, found in the bed of the Thames in 1840, and engraved in the 30th volume of the *Archæologia*, p. 548. Somewhat similar ornaments



CAISTER ANTIQUITIES.
PLATE I.



CAISTER ANTIQUITIES.

PLATE II.

appear on the rims and handles of vases and pateræ figured in *Montfaucon, Recueil d'Antiquités, &c.*

Not far from the field in which the bronze was discovered, and on land of Mrs. Dashwood, occupied by Mr. Spurrell, the fine terra cotta fragment, figured in the second engraving, was found, under similar circumstances, a few years ago. Few persons can fail to be impressed with the sweetness and dignity of this beautiful work of art, notwithstanding the mutilations it has suffered. A noble head and neck, full of life and animation, with a portion of the drapery of the figure and the end of a bow, are all that remain of this undoubted and admirable specimen of Roman art. It has been recognized by antiquaries as Diana.

These antiquities, now in the cabinet of Mr. Fitch, were found, it will be observed, at a distance from the Camp, the large area of which has not within memory produced anything antique, except a few coins.* This has been the case with other camps, where large excavations have been made. Mr. Roach Smith regretted the paucity of minor works of art produced in his late excavations at Lyme; Mr. Lower expressed himself surprised at a similar deficiency at Pevensey; at Burgh Castle a few trifling coins and fragments of rude urns were alone met with; from Brancaster, Mr. Lee Warner only obtained a few objects of little value.

Under the heat of a summer's sun, the vegetation within the area of the Camp at Caister indicates the presence of considerable foundations a little beneath the surface: an examination of these would probably lead to interesting results, and are well worthy the attention of the Society. If permission could be obtained to excavate, sure we are that the necessary funds would be most readily raised.

* Since the above was written, a small bronze fibula has also been found (August 20, 1853), in a field on the South side of the Camp. It is of the common type of Roman fibulæ, and, excepting the top of the acus, is quite perfect. It will be preserved in the cabinet of Mr. Fitch.

Mr. Goddard Johnson has kindly furnished us with the following account of Coins found at Caister:—

The Roman Coins found at Caister, near Norwich, consist more commonly of Small Brass, many of which, as well as those of the larger size, are in so corroded a state as to be quite illegible, both as regards their type and legend. A few Large and Middle Brass are occasionally picked up, as well as some Silver, and, very rarely, those of the more precious metal, of only one of which I have any account. It is now in the possession of the Rev. James Lee Warner, of Walsingham, and is engraved in the Norwich Volume of the Archæological Institute.

The following is a List of such Coins, found at Caister, as have come under my notice, that are at all legible. First, the GOLD COIN above-mentioned:—

IMP. NERO. CAESAR. AVG. *Reverse*: PONTIF. MAX. TR. P. VII. COS. IIII. P. P. *In the field*: EX—SC. A figure of Rome, standing with its left foot on a bust, holding in its hands a circular shield having circular marks thereon.

COINS OF SILVER.

1. IMP. CAES. DOMIT. AVG. GERM. PM. TR. P. XI. *Reverse*: IMP. XXI. COS. XVI. CENS. P. P.

2. IMP. TRAIANO. AVG. GERM. DAC. P. M. TR. P. *Reverse*: COS. V. PP. S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINC.

3. IMP. CAES. NER. TRAIANO. OPTIMO. AVG. GERM. DAC. *Reverse*: PARTHICO. P. M. TR. P. COS. VI. P. F. S. P. Q. R.

4. IMP. CAESAR. TRAIAN. HADRIANVS. AVG. *Reverse*: PM. TR. P. COS. III. Rome seated, holding a Victory.

5. IMP. CAES. TRAIAN. HADRIANVS. AVG. *Reverse*: P. M. TR. P. COS. III. A galley with sails expanded. Very rare.

6. IMP. CAES. T. AEL. HADR. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. P. P. *Reverse*: TR. POT. XV. COS. IIII. *In the exergue*: PIETAS.

This type, *in silver*, is not noticed by Occo or Akerman. Occo mentions it in *gold*, but does not notice the fawn on its hinder legs licking the hand of the figure, which holds a patera in its right hand, over an altar with fruit thereon.

7. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. P. P. *Reverse*: TR. POT. COS. II. Two right hands joined, holding a caduceus and two ears of corn united therewith.

8. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. P. P. *Reverse*: T. R. POT. COS. IIII. *In the exergue*: LIB. IIII. Figure, standing, holds a tessera in its right hand, and a cornucopia in its left.

9. SEVERUS. PIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: FELICITAS. AVGG.
10. IULIA. AVGVSTA. *Reverse*: VENUS. FELIX.
Julia Severus, Domna, and Pia: she has the three titles.
11. M. AVR. ANTONINVS. AVG. Head to right hand. *Reverse*: SECVRITAS.
PERPETVA. S. C. Pallas armed with spear in left hand, shield in right.
Caracalla.
12. IMP. ANTONINVS. PIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: P. M. TR. P. IIII. COS. III. P. P.
Elagabalus.
13. IULIA. MAESA. AVG. *Reverse*: SAECULI. FELICITAS.
14. IMP. C. M. AVR. SEV. ALEXAND. AVG. *Reverse*: P. M. TR. P. II. COS. P. P.
15. IMP. C. P. LICIN. GALLIENVS. P. F. AVG. VI. *Reverse*: FELICITAS. AUG. VI.
16. SALONINA. AVG. *Reverse*: IVNO. REGINA.
17. DN. VALENTIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: RESTITVTOR. REIP. *Exergue*: CONS.
Very rare.

LARGE BRASS.

1. IMP. CAES. NER. TRAIANO. OPTIMO. GER. DAC. PM. TR. P. COS. V. P. P. *Reverse*: REX. PARTHIS. DATVS. *In the exergue*: S. C.
2. IMP. CAESAR. TRAIAN. HADRIANVS. AVG. *Reverse*: P. M. TR. P. COS. III.
3. HADRIANVS. AVG. COS. II. *Reverse*: SPES. . . . PR. *In the field*: S. C.
4. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. P. P. TR. P. COS. III. *In the exergue*: BRITANNIA.
In the field: S. C.
5. AVRELIVS. CAESAR. AVG. P. II. COS. *Reverse*: PIETAS. AUG. With the
Sacrificial Instruments,—the *praefericulum*, *simpulum*, *aspergillum*,
dolabrum, and *lituus*.
6. IMP. CAES. M. AVREL. ANTONINVS. AVG. P. M. *Reverse*: CONCORD. AVGVSTOR.
TR. P. XVI. *Exergue*: COS. III. Aurelius and Verus joining hands.
7. IMP. C. POSTVMVS. P. F. AVG. Laureated head. *Reverse*: LAETITIA. *In the
exergue*: AVG. A galley with four rowers.
8. IMP. POSTVMVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: FELICITAS. AVG. A trophy with two
captives at the foot.
Very similar to those figured in Pembroke, p. 3, t. 89; Cooke, Pl.
LII., No. 13; and Haym, Vol. I. p. 282: but the legend in all the
above works reads . . . MANCUS. MAX., and this imperfectly.
9. IMP. DIOCLETIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: SACRA. MON. VRB. ET. CAESS. N. N.
In the exergue: R. T. *In the field*: B—F.
10. CONSTANTIVS. NOB. CAES. *Reverse*: SACRA. MON. VRB. AVGG. ET. CAESS. N. N.
In the exergue: R. T.

SECOND BRASS.

1. IMP. CAES. VESPASIAN. AVG. COS. III. *Reverse*: SECVRITAS. AVGVSTI.
2. DOMIT. CAES. IMP. PON. T. R. P. COS. II. CENS. *Reverse*: PAX. AVGVST. *In
the field*: S. C.
3. IMP. CAES. NERVA. TRAIANO. GER. DAC. PM. TR. P. COS. VI. P. P. *Reverse*:
S. P. Q. R. OPTIMO. PRINCIPI. *In the exergue*: ALIM. ITAL.
4. DIVA. AVGVSTA. *Reverse*: AETERNITAS.
5. IMP. MAXIMINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: IOVI. CONSERVATORI. *In the field*:
G. H. *Exergue*: SIS.

THIRD OR SMALL BRASS.

1. IMP. C. PIAV. VICTORINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : FIDES. MILITUM.
2. PIVEV. TETRICUS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : PAX. AVGG. The elder Tetricus.
3. PIVESV. TETRICVS. CAES. *Reverse* : SPES. . . AVGG. The younger Tetricus.
4. DIVO. CLAUDIO. *Reverse* : CONSECRATIO. An eagle : head to the left.
5. IMP. PROBV. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : SALVS. AVG. *Exergue* : X. XI.
6. IMP. C. CARAVSIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : PAX. AVGGG. *Exergue* : ML. XXI.
7. IMP. C. CARAVSIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : FELICITAS. A galley.
8. IMP. ALLECTUS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : TEMPORVM. FELICITAS. *In the field* :
s. A. *Exergue* : M. S. L. Figure, standing, holds a caduceus in right
hand, a cornucopia in left.
9. FL. VAL. CONSTANTIVS. NOB. C. *Reverse* : PROVIDENTIAE. CAES. The Præ-
torian gate.
10. FL. MAX. THEODORA. AVG. *Reverse* : PIETAS. ROMANA.
11. IMP. C. VAL. LIC. LICINIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : IOVI. CONSERVATORI.
12. IMP. CONSTANTINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : PRINCIPI. IVVENTIVS. *In the*
field : s. A. *Exergue* : P. T. S.
13. CONSTANTINVS. MAX. AVG. *Reverse* : GLORIA. EXERCITVS. *Exergue* : s. M.
T. S. A.
14. CONSTANTINVS. AVG. *Reverse* : PROVIDENTIAE. AVGG. Prætorian gate.
15. IMP. CONSTANTINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : SOLI. INVICTO. COMITI. *In the*
field : T. F.
16. CONSTANTINVS. MAX. AVG. *Reverse* : GLORIA. EXERCITVS. *Exergue* : P.
CONST.
17. FAV. CONSTANTINVS. P. F. AVG. Head of Fausta, veiled, second wife of
Constantine the Great. On the *reverse*, she is represented in a quad-
riga going to heaven : the hand of Providence is held out from a
cloud to welcome her. This coin is of considerable rarity.
18. FL. IVL. CRISPVS. NOB. CAES. *Reverse* : BEATA. TRANQUILITAS. *On an*
altar : $\begin{matrix} \text{VOT} \\ \text{IS} \\ \text{XX.} \end{matrix}$ *Exergue* : S. T. R.
19. CONSTANS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : VICTORIE. D. D. AVGG. N. N. *In the field* : D.
Exergue : T. R. S.
20. DN. CONSTANTIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. *Exergue* :
T. R. S.
21. DN. MAGNENTIUS. P. F. AVG. *Rev.* : GLORIA. ROMANORUM. *Ex.* : T. R. S.
22. DN. VALENTIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Rev.* : GLORIA. ROMANORVM. *Ex.* : T. R. S.
23. DN. GRATIANVS. AVGG. AVG. *Reverse* : GLORIA. NOVI. SAECULI. *Exergue* :
T. CON.

A great number, bearing Romulus and Remus with the wolf, are continually being found, as also are those with "CONSTANTINOPOLIS" upon them : so common, indeed, as not to deserve more particular notice.