

NOTICE OF

Roman Coins and Antiquities,

FOUND AT CAISTOR NEXT YARMOUTH,

BY

THE LATE REV. E. S. TAYLOR.

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COMMUNICATED BY

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THE Roman Camp at Caistor next Yarmouth was probably situated on the top of the hill at the north-west side of the church, which is the highest ground in the neighbourhood, and was therefore selected for the site of the Service Reservoir of the Great Yarmouth Waterworks. There are not any remains of either masonry or earthworks, and if it were not for the name, the former existence of a camp would not be suspected.

When the ground was excavated to form the reservoir, in 1855, great quantities of broken pottery were found—some of the common earth, and some of Samian ware—but no specimens in a perfect state; a small bronze head, apparently that of a Faun, very similar in size and general appearance to the head supposed to be that of Geta, discovered at Caister next Norwich, and now in the cabinet of R. Fitch, Esq.;<sup>1</sup> a bronze pin, and numerous coins, chiefly Third Brass.

<sup>1</sup> Figured in the *Norfolk Archaeology*, vol. iv., p. 232.

From the quantity of oyster-shells and bones found mixed with the broken pottery, the spot would seem to have been a rubbish-hole for the camp.

Roman remains are known to have been found in this neighbourhood for a long period. Sir Thomas Browne, in his *Hydriotaphia*, written in 1658, observes that the most frequent discovery of urns and coins in Norfolk "is made at the two Castors by Norwich and Yarmouth, at Burgh Castle, and Brancaster."

In a field at the north-west of the church, and near the side of the Norwich road, a bricked pit, eleven feet long, seven feet wide, and about four feet in depth, was discovered in 1837: it contained bones of the ox and pig, mixed with fragments of Roman pottery and oyster-shells. This was fully described by the Rev. Thomas Clowes in the *Gentleman's Magazine*, vol. viii., New Series, p. 518. In 1851, a Roman kiln, containing two mutilated urns, was also brought to light in this locality.<sup>2</sup>

Many skeletons have been found in the field in which the pit was discovered, and also in one south of the church, called East Bloody Burgh Furlong.

The Rev. John Gunn also has in his possession a perfect urn, which was found in a clay-pit near the church; it was buried about two feet below the surface, the mouth covered with a tile, and it contained bones and earth; he also has a fragment of Samian ware with figures representing the hunting of the hare.

Coins are very frequently turned up by the plough in the fields in the vicinity of the reservoir, and having collected all that could be obtained from the labourers in the neighbourhood, I gave them to the late Mr. Taylor, who examined and described them, and also all those in two or three private collections. He prepared the following list, intending to offer

<sup>2</sup> *Norfolk Archaeology*, iv., 352.

it to our Society for publication, but omitted to do so; and after his untimely death, thinking it would form an interesting companion list to those of the coins found at Caister near Norwich, (published in vol. iv., p. 234, and vol. v., p. 203, of the *Norfolk Archaeology*) I procured it from his family, and now bring it before the Society, that his intention may be carried out.

The date of the coins identified and described extend over a period of two hundred and sixty-five years, viz., from about A.D. 80 to A.D. 370. Mr. Taylor observed that, "There are also numberless small brass coins, probably Romano-British, found in this as in other Roman stations in England. They are frequently very minute, and are extremely barbarous imitations of the coins of the Lower Empire. The greater part attempt to depict a head with radiated crown, and a very clumsy imitation of a Roman reverse. There is scarcely any legend,—a letter or two only perhaps, and those scarcely recognisable. They were probably struck in the interval between the Roman evacuation and the Saxon invasion. The earlier Kentish Sceattas of the latter people are often equally rude attempts at the Roman type."

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1. Antoninus Pius, AR. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. P. P. TR. P. XII. *Reverse*: cos. III. Figure standing, heaping ears of corn in a modius; a plough in her left hand.

(Also an illegible coin of Ant. Pius in Middle Brass.)

2. Marcus Aurelius, Æ. i. M. ANTONINVS. AVG. TR. P. XXV. *Reverse*: IMP. VI. COS. III. A Victory, elate, supporting a shield on a fir tree. *On the shield*: VIC. GER.

This coin commemorates the victory over the Marcomanni in his third consulship.—Cooke's *Medallic History of Imperial Rome*.

3. Lucius Verus, Æ. i. L. AVREL. VERVS. AVG. ARMENIAC. *Reverse*: cos. III. Figure standing; a balance in right hand, a cornucopiæ in left.
4. Commodus, Æ. i. M. COMMODVS. ANTONINVS. AVG. PIVS. *Reverse*: ANN. AVG. TR. P. VIII. COS. III. P. P. A female figure holding a Victory

with laurel branch in her right hand; a cornucopiæ in her left. At her side is a vase filled with ears of corn; on her left, a portion of a ship, in which are three infants.

Cooke describes a similar *reverse* thus: The emperor, with a cornucopiæ in his left hand, and the figure of Ceres in his right; at his feet is a measure of wheat, and behind him, a ship with rowers. *Legend*: ANN. AVG. TR. P. VIII. IMP. VI. COS. . . . Commemorating the establishment of a fleet by which regular supplies of corn were imported into Africa from Rome.

5. Septimus Severus, AR. SEVER . . . RT. MAX. *Reverse*: VIRTVS. AVGG. Valour armed; a Victory in his right hand, a lance in left, leaning on a shield.
6. Caracalla, AR. ANTONINVS. PIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: PART. MAX. PONT. TR. P. IIII. The Parthian Trophy, with two captives.
7. Elagabalus, AR. IMP. ANTONINVS. PIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: SYMMVS. SACERDOS. AVG. The Emperor sacrificing as Priest of the Sun, which appears over head; Patera in his right hand, laurel branch in his left.  
The Phœnician name of the Sun is אל כבל El Gabal, Deus Creator; hence Elagabalus. *Cooke*.
8. Julia Paula, AR. IVLIA. PAVLA. AVG. *Reverse*: CONCORDIA. The Empress, sitting: in her right hand a patera; below, a star, or perhaps the sun. This coin is said to commemorate her marriage with Elagabalus.
9. Severus Alexander, AR. IMP. C. M. AVR. SEV. ALEXANDER. AVG. *Reverse*: P. M. TR. P. IIII. COS. II. P. P. A soldier: a spear in his right hand, a shield in his left.
10. Julia Mamaea, AR. IVLIA. MAMAEA. AVG. *Reverse*: IVNO. CONSERVATRIX. The goddess standing: a patera in her right hand, a lance in her left, her peacock at her feet.
11. Gordian III., AR. IMP. C. GORDIANVS. PIVS. FEL. AVG. *Reverse*: LAETITIA. AVG. N. Figure of Joy: a garland in her right hand; in her left, an anchor (or perhaps the *hasta pura*).
12. Valerian, AR. IMP. C. P. LIC. VALERIANVS. AVG. Head of Valerian, with radiated crown. *Reverse*: FIDES. MILITVM. A female figure with a standard in either hand: probably those of the 30th and 6th legions, Ulpia and Pia Fidelis, which were particularly attached to Valerian.
13. Gallienus, Æ. iii. GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: LAETITIA. AVG. Much resembling No. 11.
14. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: LIBERO. P. CONS. AVG. A panther.
15. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: DIANA. CONS. AVG. A she-goat.
16. — IMP. GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: IOVI. CONS. AVG. A she-goat.

17. Gallienus, Æ. iii. GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: FORTVNA. REDVX. Female standing: a ship's rudder in her right, a cornucopiæ in her left hand.
18. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: ABVNDANTIA. AVG. Plenty pouring riches from a cornucopiæ. *In the field*: on the left, s.
19. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: MARTI. PACIFERO. Mars holding aloft an olive branch, and touching a spear and shield with his left hand.
20. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: APOLLINI. CONS. AVG. The flying gryphon.
21. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: DIANAE. CONS. AVG. A stag.
22. — GALLIENVS. AVG. *Reverse*: A consecration type. An eagle displayed.
23. Gallienus, AR. (base). GALLIENVS. P. F. AVG. Armed bust of the Emperor: a lance on his right shoulder, a shield in his left hand. *Reverse*: GERMANICVS. MAXV. A trophy between two captives sitting, their hands bound behind their backs.
- This coin is by no means of usual occurrence. The title of Germanicus Maximus was given to Gallienus when, having been appointed his father's colleague, he was sent into Gaul to repel the attacks of the Germans. These he thoroughly vanquished. Gruter gives an inscription in which he is called Dacicus and Germanicus Maximus, p. 275.
24. Salonina, Æ. iii. SALONINA. AVG. *Reverse*: PVDCITIA. A female figure veiling her face with her right hand, a spear held horizontally in the other.
25. Postumus, AR. IMP. C. POSTVMVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: IOVI. PROPVG-NATORI. Jupiter, hurling lightning with his right hand, and holding his eagle with left.
26. Postumus (jun?) Æ. iij. IMP. C. POSTVMVS. P. F. AVG. *Rev.*: VICTORIA. AVG. Victory: in her right hand a crown, in her left a palm, her right foot on a sitting captive.
27. Victorinus, Æ. iij. Several types, barbaric and illegible.
28. — Æ. iij. IMP. C. VICTORINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: OIC . . .
- This coin, especially on the *reverse*, which bears a rude figure blowing a trumpet, is of the rudest fabric, and is probably of barbarian workmanship. Bandini gives several examples of similarly inexplicable legends.
29. Tetricus, Æ. iij. IMP. C. TETRICVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: PAX. AVG. Peace, with olive branch and spear.  
Several varieties, all rude.

30. Tetricus, Æ. iij. IMP. C. TETRICVS. P. F. AVG. *Rev.*: FIDES. MILITVM.  
Type as Valerian.  
Several examples of this type, and others, illegible.
31. — Æ. iij. IMP. TETRICVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: LAETITIA. AVG. N.  
Type as No. 12.
32. Tetricus, jun., Æ. iij. C. PE. TETRICVS. CAES. *Reverse*: PIETAS. AVGG.  
The sacrificial instruments.
33. — Æ. iij. PIVESV. TETRICVS. CAES. *Reverse*: obliterated.
34. Claudius II. } Æ. iij. IMP. C. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: MARS. VLTOR.  
(Gothicus.) }  
Mars, nude, helmeted, with spear and shield.
35. — Æ. iij. IMP. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: GENIVS. AVG.  
A nude figure, with the modius on his head,  
standing by an altar and holding a patera.
36. — Æ. iij. IMP. C. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: ÆQVITAS. AVG.  
Equity, standing, with balance in her right and  
cornucopiæ in her left hand.
37. — Æ. iij. IMP. C. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: FIDES. EXERC.  
A figure, standing, a standard erect in her  
right, another held transversely in her left  
hand.
38. — Æ. iij. IMP. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: FELICITAS. AVG.  
A figure standing, a caduceus in her right,  
cornucopiæ in left hand.
39. — Æ. iij. IMP. CLAVDIVS. AVG. *Reverse*: FORTVNA. REDVX.  
Type as No. 17.
40. — Æ. iij. DIVO. CLAVDIO. *Reverse*: CONSECRATIO. A  
blazing altar.
41. — Æ. iij. DIVO. CLAVDIO. *Reverse*: CONSECRATIO. An  
eagle displayed.
42. — Æ. iij. A similar type, but the eagle holds a thunderbolt.
43. Aurelian, Æ. iij. IMP. AVRELIANVS. AVG. *Reverse*: DACIA. FELIX. A female  
figure holding a staff surmounted by an ass's head.
44. Diocletian, Æ. ii. IMP. C. DIOCLETIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: GENIO.  
POPVLI. ROMANI. Type resembling No. 35.
45. Galerius Maximianus, Æ. ii. MAXIMIANVS. NOBIL. C. *Reverse*: resem-  
bling preceding, on one side s., on the other f. *Exergue*: I. TR.  
i. e., Mint No. 1 of the Treviri (Treves.)
46. Carausius, Æ. iij. IMP. C. CARAVSIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: PAX. AVG.  
Type as No. 29, lance held transversely. *Exergue*: M. L.  
(Moneta Londinensis.)
47. — Æ. iij. A similar type, but the figure leans on the lance. No  
letters in *exergue*.

48. Carausius, Æ. iij. IMP. CARAVSIVS. P. AVG. *Reverse* : LAETITIA AVG.  
Type as No. 11.
49. — Æ. iij. Carausius [Valerian, Tacitus, or Florianus]. *Reverse* :  
PROVID. AVG. A female figure, a small staff held transversely  
in right hand, cornucopiæ in left. *In the field* : s. c. (See  
Akerman.)
50. Allectus, Æ. iij. IMP. C. ALLECTVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : PAX. AVG. <sup>S. A.</sup>  
S.
51. — Æ. iij. IMP. C. ALLECTVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : VIRTVS AVG. A  
ship, with the pilot at the stern and five rowers : it has mast and  
stays, but no sailyard. *Ex.* : qc.
52. Constantius I, Æ. ii. CONSTANTIVS. NOB. C. *Reverse* : GENIO POPVLI  
(Chlorus) ROMANI. Type resembling Nos. 35, 44, and 45.
53. — Æ. ii. A similar type, but *in the field* B. T. *Exergue* : TR.
54. Theodora, Æ. iij. FL. MAX. THEODORA. AVG. *Reverse* : PIETAS. ROMANA.  
The Empress standing, an infant in her arms. *Exergue* : TR. P.
55. Constantine I. Æ. ii. FL. VAL. CONSTANTINVS. NOB. C. *Reverse* : resembling  
(Magnus) those of Diocletian, Maximian, and Constantius Chlorus.
56. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. MAX. AVG. *Rev.* : VICTORIAE LAETAE.  
PRINC. PERP. Two Victories holding a shield, on which is  
inscribed VOT. PR. over a cylindrical altar. *Ex.* : P. TR.
57. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. MAX. AVG. *Reverse* : two soldiers,  
with lances and shields, hold each a labarum. *Exergue* :  
TR. S.
58. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. AVG. *Reverse* : SARMATIA. DEVICTA.  
Victory walking, a trophy in her right hand, and a palm  
branch in her left; with her left foot she tramples on a  
captive. *Exergue* : P. LON.
59. — Æ. iij. IMP. CONSTANTINVS. AVG. *Reverse* : SOLI. INVICTO.  
COMITI. The Sun as a male figure, his right hand extended,  
his left holding a globe. *In the field* : A. S. *Ex.* : P. L. C.
60. — Æ. iij. As preceding; a star to the right. *Exergue* : P. L. N.
61. — Æ. iij. IMP. CONSTANTINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : as pre-  
ceding. *In the field* : T. F. *Exergue* : P. L. C.
62. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse* : similar.  
*Exergue* : P. TR.
63. — Æ. iij. IMP. CONSTANTINVS. AVG. Bust of Constantine in  
armour and crested helm, a spear on his right shoulder.  
*Reverse* : . . . ., similar to No. 56, but the altar is square;  
on its front, a cross on a laurel garland. *Exergue* : P. L. N.
64. Crispus, Æ. iij. IVL. CRISPVS. NOB. C. The Cæsar with laureated head,  
mailed, a dart in his right, a shield in his left hand. *Reverse* :  
BEATA. TRANQVILLITAS. A square altar : on its front is inscribed  
VOTIS. XX; above it, a globe and three stars. *Exergue* : S. TR.

65. Crispus, Æ. iij. CRISPVS. NOB. CAES. *Reverse*: VIRTVS. EXERCIT. Between two sitting captives a labarum, on which is VOT. XX. *Exergue*: P. L. N.
66. Delmatus, Æ. iij. FL. DELMATIVS. NOB. C. *Reverse*: GLORIA. EXERCITVS. Two soldiers with spears and shields holding standards, between which is an olive branch. *Exergue*: P. CONST.
67. Constantinople, Æ. iij. The small coin struck on the occasion of the building of Constantinople; of these there was a great variety.  
CONSTANTINOPOLIS. A youthful head helmed and laureated, mailed, and holding a sceptre. *Reverse*: no legend. A Victory, with right foot on the prow of a ship, armed with spear and shield. *Exergue*: TR. P. Others with P. L. C. and a star, TR. S., &c.
68. The City of Rome, Æ. iij. A similar one for the ancient capital.  
VRBS. ROMA. Head similar to the last. *Reverse*: Romulus and Remus suckled by a wolf, above two stars. *Exergue*: same varieties as preceding. Both are exceedingly common.
69. Constantine II., Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. IVN. NOB. C. *Reverse*: GLORIA. EXERCITVS. Type as Delmatus, but without olive branch. *Exergue*: P. L. C.
70. — Æ. iij. As preceding, but a labarum between the soldiers on which is the sacred monogram of Christ.
71. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTINVS. IVN. N. C. *Reverse*: similar to that of Crispus, No. 64, but with a single star. *Exergue*: P. LON.
72. Constans, Æ. iij. CONSTANS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: VICTORIE. D. D. AVGG. Q. NN. Two Victories, stepping, hold garlands, a palm branch in the left hand of each. *In the field*: D. *Exergue*: TR. P.  
Other varieties of this type from Caistor have *in the field*: P. R. *Exergue*: P. LC. A kind of plant between the Victories, and TR. S. in the *Exergue*. Or the letter C. *in the field*; and *Exergue*, S. ARL. (i. e. signata Arelate. Arles.) This type however is generally rare.
73. Constantius II., Æ. iij. CONSTANTIVS. P. F. AVG. Head of Constantius with a diadem of gems. *Reverse*: GLORIA. EXERCITVS. Type as No. 70, but on the labarum I. *Exergue*: TR. P. and a star. Another has M. *Exergue*: idem.
74. — Æ. iij. CONSTANTIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: FEL. TEMP. REPARATIO. The Emperor in armour is striking an enemy from his horse with a spear; a shield is on his left arm and broken weapons at his feet. An exceedingly common type.
75. Magnentius, Æ. ii. D. N. MAGNENTIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: VICTORIAE. DD. NN. AVG. ET. CAES. Two Victories hold a garland, in which is VOT. V. MVLT. X., with the sacred monogram above. *Exergue*: AMB. and a palm branch.

76. Magnentius, Æ. iij. D. N. MAGNENTIVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: FELICITAS. REIPVBLICE (*sic*). The Emperor, holding in his right hand a Victory, standing on a globe; with his left he leans on the labarum, on which is the sacred monogram.
77. Magnus Maximus (?) Æ. ii. Legend illegible. Portrait resembling Magnentius or Magnus Maximus. *Reverse*: FELICITAS PVBLICA. The Emperor holding a Victory, which is in the act of crowning him. Banduri gives this reverse on a coin of Magnus Maximus from the Museum Mediobarb, which he calls "nummus rarissimus."
78. Valentinian I., Æ. iij. D. N. VALENTINIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: SECVRITAS PVBLICA. Victory walking, a laurel crown in her right, a palm branch in her left hand. *Exergue*: R. PRIMA.
79. Valens, Æ. iii. D. N. VALENS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: SECVRITAS. REIPVBLICAE. Type resembling that of Valentinian. *Exergue*: T. CON.
80. — Æ. iij. As preceding. *Exergue*: S. CON.
81. — Æ. iij. Ditto. But *in the field*: OF. I. *Exergue*: LVG. P. (Lyons.)
82. — Æ. iij. As No. 79. *Exergue*: S. M. AQ. B. (Aquilaia Mint, No. 2.) The coins of Valens and Gratian are numerous at Caistor.
83. Gratian, Æ. iij. D. N. GRATIANVS. P. F. AVG. *Reverse*: GLORIA. ROMANORVM. The Emperor with his right hand seizes the head of a kneeling captive, whose hands are tied behind his back; with the other he holds the labarum with the sacred monogram. *In the field*: II. and O. Another specimen has F. II.
84. — Æ. iii. D. N. GRATIANVS. AVGG. AVG. *Reverse*: GLORIA. NOVI. SAECVLI. The Emperor holds a labarum, on which is the sacred monogram, and supports a shield with his left hand. *In the field* is N. *Exergue*: T. CON. Another specimen wants the letter in the field.