

candles; two monks are reciting the Office which follows). This Office is the one called "*Placebo*." It contains several Psalms, Antiphons, the Benediction, Dirige and Prayers.

VI. Commendation of Souls (with illumination showing God the Father giving benediction); beneath are two nude human figures, signifying souls borne in a sheet by two angels, underneath are two open graves.

VII. Psalms of the Passion (with illumination figuring the demi-nude figure of Our Lord with instruments of Passion beneath a cross).

VIII. Psalter of S. Jerome, with an illumination of S. Jerome studying in cell.

This little volume is in modern covers.

By the REV. A. POWNALL, F.S.A.: A Papal *Bulla* or Bull of Clement VI. (1342-52). This was of the usual type. On the obverse appeared the conventional heads of SS. Peter and Paul; on the reverse the inscription CLEMENS PP. VI. This (together with the curious little coin next mentioned) was found in Peckleton Churchyard, in this county, during late works of rebuilding and restoration there. Explanatory of the coin Mr. Pownall communicated the following particulars:

STERLING OF MARIE D'ARTOIS.

This silver coin of Marie d'Artois was found last year in the churchyard at Peckleton in this county, during the time the work of restoration was going on at the church. Its appearance is little likely to attract much notice, but I must bespeak attention for it on account of its excessive rarity. On the obverse is seen the crowned head of a female, with the legend MARIA DCI ARTOSN (Maria Domicella Artosiensis) in Lombardic character; while the reverse bears the cross and pellets common to English and foreign money of the middle age, with the words MONETA MERAUD, *i.e.*, money minted at Meraude. This Maria, in whose name the piece was issued, appears to have been widow of a count of Namur, who died in 1331, A.D. In 1342, she purchased from John of Bohemia the Chateau of Poilvache, situate about three leagues from Namur, on the right bank of the Meuse. Here she struck money—sometime between 1342 and 1353, A.D., but it is only within the last few years that a learned French numismatist discovered Poilvache and Meraude to be one and the same place. An article in the "*Numismatic Chronicle*," written by my friend, Mr. Samuel Sharp, F.S.A., describes another of these coins, and he therein condenses a paper, communicated to the "*Revue de la Numismatique Belge*" for 1850, giving an interesting account of the way in which this discovery came out. After having for a long time puzzled continental numismatists, a M. de Lafontaine

was fortunate enough to find mention made in a charter of the fourteenth century of a certain "*Henry Count of Luxembourg, and of his castle of Meraude, commonly known as Poilvache.*" (*Numis: Chronicle, N.S., Vol. II., 1862.*) Under the name of Poilvache, therefore, that other name, which otherwise coins alone have handed down to us, lay concealed. When I add that only two other examples of this rare sterling are known, that which is in the possession of Mr. Sharp, and another which is said to be in the collection of the Count Robiano, at Brussels, it will be acknowledged that the finding of a third in a Leicestershire churchyard should be included in the archæological annals of the Society. The surprise which some might feel on hearing of this coin being found so far from home in a midland English county, need not last long, when it is remembered that these foreign sterlings were counterfeits of the contemporary English silver money, and often circulated concurrently with it. Before it obtained a resting place in the churchyard at Peckleton, the piece exhibited now probably passed through many hands in the fourteenth century, as the penny of one or other of our first three Edwards.

By MR. THOMAS NEVINSON: Photograph of an ancient alms box found in a niche in a cupboard behind pannelling in a building known as the Bede House, Stamford. Some folded linen but no coin was in it.

By MR. GODDARD: An unguent jar, of Roman manufacture, without pattern, $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches high, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches in diameter in the widest part, lately found on the site of the Red Lion Inn, High-cross Street, Leicester, now taken down. Also from the same locality the larger portion of a bowl (6 inches in diameter and 3 inches deep) of Samian ware. Under the rim the frequent ornamentation known as the festoon and tassel, appeared, the other decoration comprised foliage arranged with considerable elegance. The fact of this vessel having been mended by leaden rivets by its early possessors, shows that the Samian ware was an expensive article. Mr. Goddard also produced a *fac simile* of a Tazza, bearing in the bowl, in high relief, a figure of Minerva, the original of which formed part of the famous "find" near Frankfort some years ago.

March 28th, 1870.

THE REV. J. H. HILL in the chair.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Society: Mr. Fletcher of Belvoir Castle, and Mr. Traylin, architect, Leicester.

MR. BELLAIRS exhibited a silver penny, much worn, of one of the English Edwards, probably Edward II., found during the rebuilding of Leicester Frith House.