

the Interest thereof shall at that time and place be diuided amongst the poorest householders of the sayd parish ; to be nominated by the psons afforsayd in manner afforesayd.

AN EARLY ATTEMPT AT INDEXING PARISH REGISTERS.

At the end of the two earliest Registers of the parish of Little Wittenham, an Index has been begun of the names in the preceding pages, arranged in the alphabetical order of the *Christian* names. These Registers date from 1538 to 1598, and from 1558 to 1669, the identical years being duplicated. A note on the first page calls attention to these Indexes, that in the first volume being as follows :—

“A regester booke for Little witnam begonne in the yere of o^r lord god one thousande five hundred thirte & eight and in the raigne of Kinge Henry the eyght of famous memory xxx^o.

For the more readyer fydinge oute of any name conteyned in this booke : in the latter end thereof you shall finde three several tables one for christnings an other for maryages, & the thirde for buryalls. and at ye ende of everye name ye number of the leafe. And markinge what letter (ye name you looke for) begineth wthhall, tourne straytwaies vnto ye leaf beinge already nombred and you shall finde it. Desiringe all those that shall come after to observe the same order as they see alreadye begonne. By me Thomas Hearde sometime curate of this parrishe.
corrected 1585.”

[Hyrde, Thomas, sup. for B.A. 12 June 1526, Mar. 1527 he is to respond in the New Logic in the second year after this, adm. 8 Apr., disp. 7 Dec. for poverty. *Boase, Register of the Univ. of Oxford*].

Small Bronze Coins of Roman Usurpers.

By William Cozens.

The Roman empire under the emperor Gallienus was in a state of confusion partly caused by the inroads of the barbarians, but chiefly due to usurpation of authority by ambitious men who took advantage of the weakness and laxity of the Imperial Government. The commanders of the army who assumed independent sovereignty

exercised the prerogative of coining money which by reason of the constant intercourse with Gaul found its way into Britain where it was probably equally current with that issued from the Imperial mints. The following examples of small bronze coins struck by order of some of these usurpers were, with one exception, found at Dorchester, Oxfordshire.

Obv. Imp. C Postumus Aug. Radiate bust to righr. Rev. Jovi Victoria, Jupiter standing to r.

Obv. Another with same title. Rev. Loetitia Aug. A galley to left. Found recently.

Obv. Imp. C. Victorinus P F Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Salus Aug. Health to l with serpent and patera.

Obv. similar. Rev. Fides Militum. Faith to l.

Obv. Imp. C Marius P F Aug. Rev. Victoria Aug. Found at Crowmarsh Battle, Oxon, Vide April, Number of Journal.

Obv. Imp. C Tetricus P F Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace with olive branch to l.

Obv. C. P. Tetricus Cæsar. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Spes Augg. Hope to l. holding a flower, and lifting her robe.

Obv. Imp. C Carausius P. F. Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace to l. holding olive branch and spear. Fifth year.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Moneta Aug. Moneta to l. holding scales cornucopiæ. A variation; rare. Found recently.

Obv. Imp C Allectus P. F. Aug. Radiate bust to r. Rev. Moneta Aug. Moneta to l. holding scales and cornucopiæ. Rare, this remarkable type having been discontinued! First year.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Pax Aug. Peace to l. holding olive branch and sceptre.

Obv. Similar. Rev. Virtus Aug. A galley.

The history of these usurpers may be thus briefly stated :— Postumus a native of Gaul was made Governor of that province by the emperor Valerian A.D. 258. Rebelling against Gallienus, he assured, with his colleague Victorinus, independent sovereignty, but was slain by his own soldiers in the revolt of his general Lælianus A.D. 267. Victorinus reigned alone for a short time after the death of Postumus and Lælianus then he also was assassinated in the same year. Marius who by his bravery had risen from obscurity to a high position in the army next received the acclamations of the soldiers, only to share the same fate a few days after. Tetricus was prevailed

upon by the empress Victorina, to whom he was related, to succeed Marius in the government of Gaul and Spain, giving his son Caius Pesuvius Tetricus the title of Cæsar A.D. 267. He maintained his position until the commencement of the reign of Aurelian, but suspecting the fidelity of his army, always ready to revolt, he sent to that emperor requesting assistance, at the same time offering to surrender the provinces. Aurelian accordingly marched into Gaul with the object of attacking the army of Tetricus whose soldiers who on the defection of their chief were compelled to submit to the conqueror: A captive in name Tetricus was made governor of Lucania a short time after. Carausius, said to have been a Menapian pilot, was appointed by the emperor Maximilian for his skill, and bravery to the command of the fleet assembled at Boulogne to repress the piratical practices of the Franks, but ambition prompted him to assume the Imperial purple in Britain: defeating the Roman fleet he contrained Diocletian and Maximilian to acknowledge his title. Although he ruled with a firm hand his servants became disaffected and he was put to death by his chief minister Allectus who was proclaimed Emperor by the legionaries; after a short reign of three years the usurper was defeated and slain by the forces of Constantine Cæsar under the pretorian prefect Asdepiadotus, who effected a landing in the West, A.D. 293; by this victory Britain was again united to the Roman empire. From the evidence of coins of Tetricus, Carausius, Allectus, and other relics found in the Roman boat recently discovered on the site for the new county hall at Westminster competent authorities assign its age to the close of the third century, so that probably the vessel belonged to the navy of Carausius and Allectus.

WM. COZENS,

Benson.

FOOTNOTE.—These coins are commonly called “third brass” and were discovered between 1864-72, being picked up in the fields and gardens in the neighbourhood of Dorchester, many in a field called “Meadside Piece.” Two of the coins mentioned above viz. Postumas with a galley on the reverse, and Carausius were found in a rubbish heap at Dorchester 1912.

DISCOVERY OF ROMAN COINS IN HAMPSHIRE.—Near Canon's Heath at Kingsclere, some Roman coins have recently been found, and they range in date from A.D. 275—375.

FAMILY BIBLES.—This source of family history and pedigree has been too long overlooked. We should be very glad if our readers will send us extracts from family Bibles, and in return we can assist them with additional information about their ancestors. All pedigrees are worth preserving.