

(3.) ROMAN AMPULLA.

THIS piece of pottery stands $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. high, is narrow at the top and base, being respectively $\frac{7}{8}$ in. and $1\frac{1}{8}$ in. in diameter. It bulges out to $2\frac{1}{4}$ in. at thickest part. Part of the neck has been filed down. It is ornamented at the widest part and beneath the neck with scrolls and other figuring. It is of Castor ware, and was probably used as a lachrymatory or unguentaria.

Fragments of other vases were also discovered, and among them one piece of plain Samian.

(4.) TILES.

SEVERAL remains of tiles were discovered, used for wall and roof-covering. Some pieces had diamond-marks one piece thus marked had remains of the "flange" or "return" by which it was suspended to the wall. This kind was used for covering walls of hot-bath (calidarium) rooms or sweating (sudatorium) rooms. Another piece of tile showed the hole through which the nail was driven, by which it was fixed to the wall.

COLONEL BELLAIRS read the following account of the visit of the Members of the Royal Archæological Institute of Great Britain to Leicester on the 14th of August:—

On *Tuesday the 14th August* the Royal Archæological Institute visited *Leicester* and were guided to the various Antiquities by Colonel G. C. Bellairs, Honorary Secretary of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society. The Meeting took place in the Old Hall of the Castle of Leicester. Amongst those present were J. T. Micklethwaite, Esq., F.S.A., G. E. Fox, Esq., F.S.A., the Rev. F. Hirst, (Ratcliffe College,) W. Kelly, Esq., F.S.A., H. Gosselin, Esq., Secretary R. A. Institute, F. Morley, Esq., J. Goddard, Esq., W. Jackson, Esq., Capt. W. J. Freer, and other Members of the Royal Archæological Institute, London, and the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society.

Colonel Bellairs opened the proceedings by a short address, welcoming the Institute and mentioning the various antiquities of Leicester. He remarked that the most ancient remains were probably the Earth Works called "The Raw Dykes," consisting of a foss and vallum about twenty feet high, which was probably a part of the British Oppidum. Of the Roman period there was the piece of masonry called the Jewry Wall which was considered by many antiquarians, including Dr. Stukeley and others, to have been the West Gate of the Roman Military Camp, the area and boundaries of which is clearly defined by the remains of the mediæval walls which were built on the Roman foundations.

The position of this Camp is singularly like the Roman Military Camp at York. There was also the Roman tessellated pavement in *situ*, and other pavements and Roman remains in the Museum. Of the Saxon period there was the Castle Mound of the Castle of Ethelfleda, and perhaps some part of St. Nicholas' Church. After a brief description of *the Castle*, particularly of the Hall, an original drawing of which as it appeared in 1821 by the late Mr. H. Goddard (formerly one of the Committee of this Society) was exhibited, the party then proceeded to the vault known as John of Gaunt's Cellar, by some supposed to have been a dungeon for the confinement of criminals awaiting judgment in the Castle Hall, for which purpose it is possible it may have been used in later days, but the general opinion seemed to be that it was the cellar usually found adjacent to the Halls of the period, and frequently forming the basement. The visitors then inspected the Castle Mound and site of the Castle House, in the garden of Miss Browne's house.

The party then proceeded to *St. Mary's Church*, when Col. Bellairs read a description of the various antiquarian features from the paper of the late Rev. G. Ayliffe Poole (published in the first vol. of the *Transactions* of this Society page 4), and Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite remarked that he agreed generally with the paper just read, but he considered the original Norman Church to have consisted of a nave only, without aisles or transepts, and surrounded inside by an arcade, some remains of which exist at the west end of the nave of the present Church; that there was no indication of a Norman nave arch, but he thought they might afterwards have been added, and after this the present early English arcade and clerestory was inserted. The vestry door with its furniture of the Decorative period, and the fine roof of the Church, of the Perpendicular period, were much admired. The company were a long time in the Church, and were much interested. After luncheon the party reassembled at the *Church of St. Nicholas*, where they were met by the Rev. T. W. Owen, the vicar of the parish. The Saxon and Norman remains were pointed out by him and critically examined; in the Church were placed some very fine architectural drawings of the Jewry Wall (belonging to the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society), which created great interest. *The Jewry Wall* itself was afterwards inspected, and many remarks were made upon it, and from thence the party proceeded to the *Tessellated Pavement*, the particulars relating to which were explained by Mr. William Jackson, F.R.I.B.A. Afterwards the *Old Town Hall*, formerly the Hall of the Guild of Corpus Christi, was visited: first the hall itself, of the fifteenth century, with its ancient roof, the Mayor's Parlour, and other buildings of the sixteenth century. It has been said that in the early days of Queen Elizabeth this

hall was first opened as a Town Hall, on the occasion of a banquet to celebrate the defeat of the Spanish Armada, in 1588; and in the hall formerly existed a representation of the royal arms, with the Queen's motto of "semper eadem." The Mayor's Parlour, with its ancient wainscot and stained glass, and fine Jacobean chimney-piece, were very interesting. The old Library with its curious collection of ancient books, was next inspected and examined with great interest. From thence the party went to the fine *Church of St. Martin*; this Church has been greatly altered in late years. The fourteenth century wooden porch at the north entrance was much admired. Afterwards the party proceeded to *All Saints' Church*, where the Norman west door, the Early English font, and the Decorated nave, and the roofs and doors, and other interesting objects were commented on. *St. Margaret's* fine Church was much praised. The south porch with its parvise, the monument to Bishop Penny, and the very early ironwork on the north door, were most admired.

The party then retraced their steps and were conducted by Col. Bellairs back to the *Newarke*, where the *Trinity Hospital* was visited, and much pleased the party, especially the very fine fourteenth century bell-metal cauldron. The original plan and remains of the Hospital with its alterations, were explained by Col. Bellairs, who combined with it a short history of the Collegiate Establishment of the *Newarke*, quoting Leland's description of the Church of *St. Mary of the Newarke*, which was founded by, and in which were buried so many of the royal house of Lancaster. Some of the party afterwards were conducted over the interior of the grand *Gateway* of the *Newarke*, which being in very good preservation, was greatly interesting. It comprised the usual porter's lodge on the ground floor, and over this were the apartments of the commander of the garrison, perhaps used occasionally as a prison, and over this and the gateway were two large apartments, apparently used as a guard-room and dormitory for the guard, from which a passage in the thickness of the wall over the inner arch of the gateway leads to a small door, opening on to the north wall, and in which, opposite the window, was what remains of a beautifully ornamented niche for a statue. The rampart of the south wall was entered from the newel stairs, which went up to the top of the building, though much injured by exterior restoration and re-casing; the original plan and intention of this building, and the internal arrangements are very clear, it was remarked that the road through this building had evidently been raised from two to three feet above the original road, and if this should be again excavated, would restore the arch to its fine proportions. The Members of the Royal Architectural Institute afterwards dined together at the Bell Hotel, and in the evening proceeded to the *Museum*, where they were met by the Curator

and Committee who conducted them through the building. The Natural History part was very much admired; the rich remains of Roman Pottery, &c., were minutely examined, but great disappointment was felt that the antiquities in the Annexe could not be seen, as there was no means of lighting it, as gas would injure the plants, very incongruously placed there.

On Wednesday the 15th August,

The Members proceeded by rail to *Melton Mowbray*, where they viewed the Church, which elicited very great admiration; they were conducted over this Church by the Rev. Doctor Colles, the Vicar, who explained the monuments and other parts of interest. A paper on this Church by the late V. Wing, Esq., is published in the first volume of the *Transactions* of the Leicestershire Architectural and Archæological Society (page 92), which is a very good history of this Church. A few of the members visited the old hospital called the "Maison Dieu," in which is a small but interesting museum.

The party proceeded in carriages to *Burton Lazars*, and visited the Church, a small twelfth century building, with curious bell-turret at the west end. There are now no remains of the Lazars Hospital, founded by Roger de Mowbray in 1135, which was destroyed at the dissolution of monasteries.

The party then proceeded to *Burrow Hill Camp*, where they were met by Captain and Mrs. Chaplin, of Burrow Hill House. Here the following remarks were read:—This camp consists of a small tract of level tableland, hemmed in by embankments on every side, and has been erroneously supposed to be the site of the Roman Station of Vernometum of Antoninus. Leland says: "Barow Hills is double ditched and containeth within the ditch to my estimation nine acres, the soile of it beareth very good corne. First I took hit for a camp of menne of warre, but after I plaine perceived that hit had been worked about with stone, and to be sure pulled out some stones at the entering of hit, where hath been a great gate, and then found lyme betwixt the stones." Though Leland and Stukeley speak very decisively of walls here, the Rev. G. Ashby doubts the existence of any masonry having been used in this fortification. Mr. J. Tailby in a letter to Nichols, says: "it is an encampment in a great measure formed by nature and shaped by art. The hill consists of a loose open jointed rock of soft reddish stone, covered with a shallow soil. In the rock some fossil shells appear, some indented, some plain, but mostly of the cockle kind. The joints of the rock appear at first sight as if formed by art, as a wall is, for between the joints is a white substance which resembles lime. The figure of the entrenchment is irregular,

“ though nearly square, and at the base of the hill are numerous “ springs.” Mr. J. F. Hollings F.S.A., was of opinion that this was once a great British stronghold, and the scene of the signal defeat of the Iceni by Ostorius ; so closely does its admirable military position appear to coincide in its precipitous escarpment on three sides, its vallum of piled stones, its one accessible face, and its single entrance. This supposition would seem to be favoured by the fact of a passage over a small brook, close to the village of Gaddesby, having borne from time immemorial the name of Osterford. But many other camps have been suggested as the site of that decisive battle, with more or less probability.

Some excavations were made in the year 1853 in the camp, when positive signs of Celtic occupation were thought to present themselves in fragments of pottery of the rudest workmanship, a flint arrow head and the remains of a human skeleton, buried in a crouching position in the vallum at the north west corner of the encampment. Roman coins are said however to have been found here, and a dagger and spear head, the metal of which has not been stated.

The members were entertained at tea by Captain and Mrs. Chaplin, and afterwards proceeded to *Ashby Folville*, a pretty rural village, the Church being a fine building and in good preservation; it consists of a nave, north and south aisles, chancel, mortuary chapel, and western tower, the latter of the fifteenth century, the tower arch and west window about a century older, the arches of the nave, clerestory, and roof of the nave are fifteenth century. The font is Norman, the Church contains several interesting monuments, a recumbent effigy in armour, of Sir Eustace de Folville, very much injured, who appears in a conical bascinet and camail or tippet of mail, his head supported by angels, he wears a jupon escalloped at the edge of the skirt, and the lower armour of plate, a piece of rusty shapeless iron sticks in the breast, and is supposed to represent the point of the lance which caused his death, which occurred in a fight with his neighbour Roger de Bellars, of Kirkby, who was also slain in this engagement. The effigy is of the latter part of the fourteenth century. There are also some well preserved and interesting effigies of the Carington family of the seventeenth century, and an incised slab representing a shrouded figure of the sixteenth century.

The party next proceeded to *Gaddesby Church*, which the late Mr. M. H. Bloxam so much admired, and whose remarks thereon—which were read to the company by Col. Bellairs—will be found in the fourth volume of the *Transactions* of this Society (page 301). This Church is in a good state of preservation, and as yet unrestored, and was much admired, and it was hoped that when the repairs were undertaken great care would be used in preserving all the original architecture.

The party then proceeded through Rearsby to *Ratcliffe College* at the especial invitation of the Rev. Father Hirst, the Principal, who entertained the company with tea and other refreshments of a stronger and more substantial nature. The Museum of the College, which is a fine large hall, containing a very extensive collection of specimens, relating to and illustrating the various sciences, including Archæology and Architecture was shown to the Societies, and any explanation given by the masters and professors and attendants. The party were also shown over the building, including the chapel and the fine vestments and decorations, the refectory, and other apartments containing some valuable pictures by the old Masters. After thanking the Rev. Principal and Fathers for their kindness and hospitality, the party, somewhat late in the evening, returned to Leicester, where the meeting terminated.

October 29th, 1888. Evening Meeting.

No meeting was held, there not being a sufficient number of Members present to form a quorum.

November 26th, 1888. Bi-monthly Meeting.

ALDERMAN G. STEVENSON in the chair.

An apology was made for COL. BELLAIRS, who was absent on account of his health; and a letter from Mr. A. T. DRAPER was read, stating that the plans directed to be prepared at the last Meeting were nearly completed.

The following objects of interest were then exhibited:—

By MR. J. YOUNG: An almost complete set of Charles I. Oxford minted silver coins (1642-4), consisting of pound and half-pound pieces, crown and half-crown, shilling, sixpence, groat, threepence, and twopence. The pound piece weighs nearly four troy ounces, and the others in proportion; all having on the reverse the King's Declaration (more or less abbreviated), "RELIGIO PROTESTANS, LEGES ANGLIÆ, LIBERTAS PARLEMENTARIÆ," in conformity with his Nottingham Proclamation that he would "preserve the Protestant religion, the laws and liberties of his subjects, and privileges of Parliament." This is the only reign in which silver pieces of 20s. and 10s. were ever struck.

By MR. S. KNIGHT: A two mark piece of the late Emperor Frederick of Germany. Obverse: Bust of Emperor, and legend,