

the Rev. W. G. DIMOCK FLETCHER, F.S.A., Hon. Secretary. This Lay Subsidy Roll and Introduction are printed in the *Associated Societies' Reports and Papers*, vol. xix., 1887-8. The thanks of the meeting were given to Mr. Fletcher for his paper.

The Hon. Secretary (Col. Bellairs), also informed the meeting that the Royal Archæological Institute had intimated that it was the intention of some of their members to visit Leicester for one day after their meeting at Leamington, and had communicated with him, asking him to act as their guide in viewing the antiquities of the town; and they would proceed thence to Melton Mowbray, Burton Lazars, Burrough Hill, Ashby Folville, and Gaddesby, and also to Ratcliffe College to inspect the Museum there under the guidance of the Rev. F. Hirst.

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*August 27th*, 1888. Evening Meeting.

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

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*September 24th*, 1888. Bi-monthly Meeting.

THE REV. W. R. MANGAN in the chair.

COLONEL BELLAIRS and MR. W. J. FREER were appointed to represent this Society at the approaching Conference of Archæological Societies, to be held at Burlington House, on November 15th, 1888.

The question of altering the hour of meeting was discussed, and it was decided to postpone the matter until the Annual Meeting in January.

The sum of £2 2s. was voted from the Society's funds towards the much needed restoration of Crowland Abbey.

Mr. A. T. Draper was appointed to prepare plans and drawings of Trinity Hospital, and of the Newarke Gateway.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Members of the Society:—Mr. Montagu Browne, F.Z.S., Curator of the Leicester Museum, and Mr. A. W. Tunbridge, of Leicester.

THE REV. T. W. OWEN, Vicar of St. Nicholas', Leicester, exhibited some interesting Roman antiquities, and gave an account of Roman remains found in St. Nicholas' churchyard, during the excavations for new north transept, in August, 1888.

Among others the following discoveries were made :

(1.) TWO REMAINS OF WALLS.

ONE ran at right angles, north and south, distance from the buttress supporting the tower at the east end of north aisle about 8 ft., and 4 ft. 4 in. beneath the level of the churchyard. Thickness of wall 2 ft. 6 in. The foundation of the wall lay below the excavation, which itself was continued 8 ft. to 12 ft.

It was close to this wall that some coins and a small Roman ampulla, of Castor manufacture, were discovered.

The other wall at the distance of 3 ft. 4 in., which was thought to be such at the time, turned out to be a block of Roman masonry, which had belonged at some time to another structure. The stones, tiles and mortar composing it, lay edge-wise, forming one solid mass closely wedged together. The discovery of this masonry possessed some interest, as giving countenance to the theory that St. Nicholas' Church stands on the foundation of an ancient building, viz., a British or Roman Temple.

The wall already mentioned seemed to be an inner wall of some more or less pretentious building.

(2.) COINS.

ONE is a bronze coin of Licinius, of the size of our shilling, in an excellent state of preservation, the gloss still remaining. *Obverse side* : the Emperor's head, facing the right hand. It is crowned with a jewelled (?) fillet. The bust is in armour. Around are the letters IMP LICINIUS PF AUG (Imperator Licinius Pacis Fundator Augustus). *Reverse side* : "Genius standing with the modus on his head, holding a patera, cornucopia and chlamys." Around are the letters GENIO POP ROM. In the exergue the letters PTR, and on either side the figure T.F.

The writing on the "reverse," as well as the letters, are different to anything mentioned in the *Record of Roman Coins*, by Francis Hobler; and also to coins noted in Ackerman's *Roman Coins*.

Licinius was associated with Constantius in empire (A.D. 307-324).

The other is a bronze coin of Delmatius, about the size of our threepenny piece. This is discoloured to a yellow-greenish hue, although the gloss still remains. *Obverse* : Head of Emperor, looking to right, crowned with jewelled fillet. Inscription, FL DELMATI US NOB CAES. (Flavius Delmatius Nobilis Cæsar.) *Reverse* : Two military figures, standing, with spears and bucklers. Between them a standard bearing monogram of Christ. This is very interesting to note. Letters round border, [GLORIA ?] EXERCITUS. In the exergue, CONST. Delmatius was created Cæsar by Constantine A.D. 335.

## (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.