The "Norris Collection" IN TAUNTON CASTLE MUSEUM.

BY H. ST. GEORGE GRAY,
Assistant-Secretary and Curator.

I. Mr. Hugh Norris, and Family Biographical Notes.[1]

MR. HUGH NORRIS, of South Petherton, has been well-known as a Somersetshire antiquary for nearly half a century. As early as 1882 he came to the forefront of local archæologists when he published his book on "South Petherton in the Olden Time" (printed by Wheatley and Munford, of Crewkerne). In 1890 he became the first editor for Somerset of *Somerset and Dorset Notes and Queries*, and although he retired from that position two years later, he has not deprived the magazine of his cultivated pen even up to the present day. His contributions have been numerous and varied, and of important historical and local interest. He has contributed many papers and notes to the *Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological Society*; amongst which the following should be mentioned:—(1) On the Discovery of a Leaden Heart-Case in Merriott Church in 1862 (Vol. xvii, i, 74); (2) The Camp on Hamdon Hill (Vol. xxx, ii, 138); (3) Saint Whyte and Saint Reyne (Vol. xxxvii, ii, 44); (4) The Place-Name 'Frome' (Vol. xxxix, ii, 31); (5)

1. Portions of this biographical sketch have been derived from information gathered together by Mr. Chas. Tite for the occasion of the opening of the "Norris Collection" in April last.

The Battle of Langport (Vol. XL, ii, 123); (6) The Siege of Sherborne Castle in 1645 (Vol. XLII, ii, 6).

Mr. Hugh Norris became a member of the Somersetshire Archæological Society as early as 1863, and in 1881 he was elected a Local Secretary for South Petherton. The same year represents the date when he was made one of the Local Secretaries for Somerset of the Society of Antiquaries of London, a post he has filled for twenty-four years. He still occupies the former position; and in recognition of his generosity in presenting his collection to Taunton Castle Museum in the autumn of 1904, he was created an Honorary Life Member of the Society. His interest in the Museum was brought into prominence long before this, when in 1890 he presented a collection of Coins, brought together by his grandfather, father, and himself. This collection, which at present occupies a large cabinet (and which is not described in the following pages), embraces a good series of Roman Consular and Imperial Coins, English silver coins from Saxon times to Queen Victoria; copper coinage of Great Britain and the colonies; tokens of the XVII and XVIII Centuries, etc.

The Norris family, as is well known, have had a long and honourable connection with Taunton and the immediate neighbourhood. A few centuries ago the Norrises came over from Glamorgan and settled down in Devon. About the middle of the XVI Century they were to be found at Milverton and at West Monkton. In 1554, John Norris, a burgess of Taunton, was one of the representatives of the town in Parliament, and in 1561, Hugh Norris was Clerk of the Castle, whilst his two sons were Bailiffs of Taunton. During the Civil War, a member of the family raised a troop of horse for the King, and was taken prisoner at Dunster Castle when it was captured by Robert Blake. He again became prisoner when Oxford fell, and had to compound for what was then left of his estates. Thus the family came upon evil days and their fortunes suffered. After a time they were found in business in

Taunton as booksellers and printers for many years, and one of them started the first Taunton newspaper in the spring of 1725. A copy of this paper hangs in the Norman Keep of the Castle (Norris's "Taunton Journal," June 2nd, 1727).

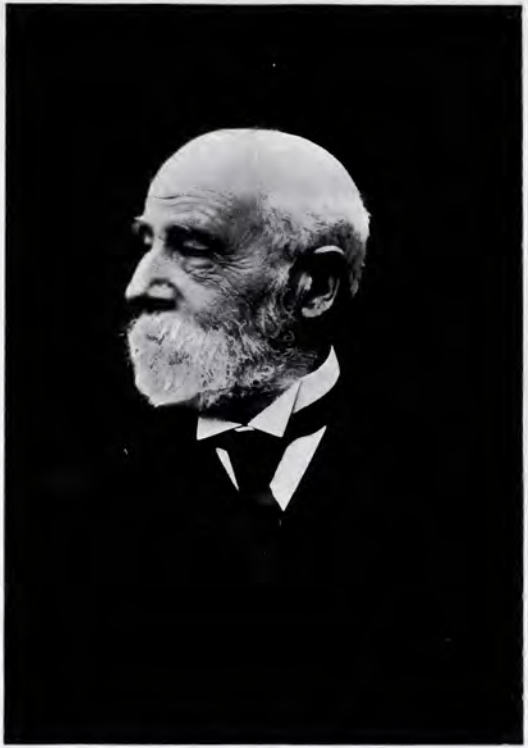
Mr. Hugh Norris's grandfather, Henry Norris, who kept a classical school in Canon Street, Taunton, was born at Taunton, on May 30th, 1752, and died at his son Henry's house at South Petherton, on April 6th, 1823. He was buried in the family vault within St. James's Church, Taunton, where it is recorded on the tablet erected to his memory that he was proficient in twenty-four languages, etc. Such was his fame as a scholar and a linguist that pupils came to him from Spain, Portugal, and France, as well as from all parts of Britain. He had many distinguished pupils, but the most eminent was his own nephew, Edwin Norris, the great philologist and Assyriologist, who was born at Taunton on October 24th, 1795. He died at Brompton, London, on December 10th, 1872. Dr. Connop Thirlwall, Bishop of St. David's, in a paper he read before the Royal Society of Literature, in 1873, said, Edwin Norris "was unquestionably the greatest linguist England has yet produced, and a scholar whose range of knowledge and variety of attainments were altogether unique. There is no record of anyone else who has acquired such a thorough philological knowledge of so wide a range of human speech."

Henry Norris, F.R.C.S., father of the donor of the "Norris Collection," of whom a portrait is given in the accompanying illustration, was one of the earlier students of the Somerset dialect, and it is to him we are largely indebted for the *Glossary*[1] published at the end of the Society's *Proceedings* for 1872 (Vol. XVIII). Mr. Halliwell made much use of Henry Norris's manuscript on West Country Dialect in compiling his "Dictionary of Archaic Words," published in 1846 and

1. An error occurs in the preface to this *Glossary*; "Edward Norris" should read "Henry Norris,"—the father of Hugh Norris.



HENRY NORRIS, F.R.C.S.,
Philologist and Archæologist;
Father of Hugh Norris of S. Petherton



HUGH NORRIS, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (*Edinburgh*).
Donor of the "Norris Collection" in
Taunton Castle Museum.

reaching a tenth edition in 1881. Henry Norris, junior, was born at Taunton on September 17th, 1789, and having practised as a surgeon at South Petherton for many years, he died at Charmouth, Dorset, on March 20th, 1870, in his eighty-first year. Some of the best and rarest of the archæological remains in the "Norris Collection" were collected by Mr. Hugh Norris's father, and he exhibited several of his specimens, over fifty years ago, before the Royal Archæological Institute, of which he was a very early Fellow. His name, too, appears on the first list of Annual Associates of the British Archæological Association.

Mr. Hugh Norris, the donor of the collection, was born at South Petherton on April 25th, 1821, and, until his retirement from the profession a few years ago, practised as a surgeon in the place of his birth for a number of years, his medical degrees being L.R.C.P. and L.R.C.S. (Edinburgh), and L.S.A. (London). He took an early interest in local history and in archæology generally, and on the death of his father inherited the archæological and ethnographical collection, which he has added to considerably as opportunities have occurred. It is this collection which the Somersetshire Archæological Society now happily possesses, and which is exhibited in contiguity to the archæological remains in the "Walter Collection" in the upper large room of the Castle. No more appropriate addition to this room could possibly have been made; for not only were Dr. W. W. Walter and Dr. Hugh Norris brothers-in-law, but the relationship between the "Walter Collection" and the "Norris Collection" is, from an archæological point-of-view, as close as the relationship between the two munificent donors themselves. Both collections contain extreme rarities from Ham Hill and from other parts of South Somerset. Both collections have been formed during the same period of time. Both were commenced by the doctors' fathers. Both have had a considerable local reputation, and not only have portions of them been exhibited in London, but they have, for many

years, been regarded by distinguished antiquaries—some dead, some living—as containing invaluable material for contributing towards building up what is a slow and complex but deeply interesting and profound subject, viz., the state of civilization and the condition of mankind in Southern Britain during the prehistoric and Roman periods. Both collections, too, have been gathered together by men well equipped for the task of obtaining notable local specimens; and both collections have been developed—and many opportunities present themselves to medical men—by constant watchfulness, tact, diplomacy and discrimination.

The "Norris Collection" was opened by the then President of the Society, Mr. T. H. M. Bailward, on April 6th, 1905, when a general meeting of the Society was held at Taunton Castle for the purpose.

One of the illustrations to this paper is a good portrait of Dr. Norris in his eighty-fourth year, photographed by his niece, Miss E. Bowen, in 1904.

II.—Sub-Divisions of the Collection.

As in the case of the "Walter Collection," the "Norris Collection," although marked by its heterogeneousness, contains many objects, archæological and ethnological, of great interest. South Somerset is not only represented by several choice relics of antiquity, but by others which are of extremely rare type, including the small bronze Roman lamp from Ham Hill and the double-looped bronze palstave found in the parish of South Petherton. Several of the objects are illustrated in one of the plates, but many of the best relics have been excluded as they have been previously figured in the *Proceedings* of the Society, references to which are given in their proper places.

In the following descriptions, it is the writer's intention not only to give a catalogue, but to introduce material which will

render it useful and interesting as a guide book to the Collection.

For this purpose, it has been thought desirable to sub-divide the collection into the following series: (*a*) Archæological Remains, South Petherton and neighbourhood; (*b*) Archæological Remains, Ham Hill, South Somerset; (*c*) Archæological Remains from other parts of Somerset; (*d*) Miscellaneous Antiquities, Great Britain and Ireland; (*e*) Antiquities without recorded localities and from foreign parts; (*f*) Coins from South Petherton, etc.; (*g*) Famous Dish, probably made at Crock Street; (*h*) Ethnographical Specimens.

III. Archæological Remains, South Petherton and Neighbourhood.

Stone Implements:—

Flint flake (? Palæolithic), found by the donor (1883-4) on Stoodham, N.E. of "Mere Lynches," South Petherton.

A tray of ochreous flints, from the old margin of the River Parret at Stoodham, South Petherton. (Some have only natural flakings).

A discoidal chipped flint scraper, Stoodham.

A tray of rough flint flakes, some showing traces of secondary chipping. South Petherton, chiefly from Stoodham.

A chipped flint scraper, of somewhat rectangular shape, South Petherton.

Bronze Age Implements:—

Bronze palstave, provided with a loop on either side; figured in the Plate of relics, fig. 2 ($\frac{1}{2}$ linear). Found in a field in the parish of South Petherton in 1842. It is $6\frac{1}{2}$ inches long and $1\frac{5}{8}$ inch in width across the loops; weight $17\frac{3}{4}$ ozs. (avoirdupois). The flanges taper from the stop-ridge upwards; on both faces of the implement a well-defined, tongue-shaped ridge protrudes from the stop in the direction of the cutting-edge. The palstave was never finished off, after having been

cast in the mould, and not only is the 'business-end' quite blunt, but the fin down the centre of the two sides, caused by the molten bronze pushing its way into the joints of the mould, have not been entirely removed. The smooth patination of the surface is much chipped, the implement presenting a somewhat pitted appearance.

This example of a double-looped palstave is one of a very few specimens known to have been found in the British Isles. For the purposes of comparison, the Curator has placed beside the South Petherton specimen, a cast of a double-looped socketed celt, taken from a Bronze Age mould of syenite found at Bulford, near Amesbury, and now in the Pitt-Rivers Museum at Farnham, N. Dorset.

A double-looped palstave[1] was found with a bronze torc, a portion of a bronze bracelet, and another bronze celt, at West Buckland, 4 miles s.w. of Taunton, about 100 yards below the G.W.R. bridge which crosses the River Tone, and about 40 yards from the river. They were found, with a small quantity of charcoal and burnt bone, in digging a drain about 4 feet below the surface. There were no signs of a tumulus. This hoard was in the possession of the late Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford, of Nynehead Court, for many years, and has been inherited by his son, Colonel E. C. A. Sanford, C.M.G. Mr. Sanford informed the Archæological Institute in 1880 that two other celts of the same character (?) as those found at West Buckland were discovered some years ago on the top of a low hill called "Burrows," in the parish of Nynehead, where there are slight indications of earthworks,—about 1½ mile from the site of the Buckland hoard.[2]

The British Museum contains two examples of double-looped palstaves from Britain. One was given by Mr. W. Edkins in 1876, and was found in 1868, at Cheddar, in making the

1. Figured in Evans's "Bronze Implements," 1881, p. 96, fig. 87; and *Arch. Journ.*, plate facing p. 107, Vol. XXXVII.

2. *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. XXXVII, p. 107.

G.W.R. line.[1] The other was found in 1871, at Penvores, near Mawgan-in-Meneage, Cornwall, and was given by Mr. J. J. Rogers in 1873.[2] Both are a good deal corroded. Another, with imperfect loops, has been found in Cornwall.[3]

From these few records of the discovery of double-looped palstaves in England, it will be safe to observe that if this form of celt cannot be called a Somerset type, it is certainly a South-Western type.

Two examples are known from Ireland, both of which were exhibited at the rooms of the Society of Antiquaries of London in 1873;[4] one by the Royal Irish Academy, the other by the Rev. Thos. Hugo, F.S.A. The former. 6¼ins. long, was presented to the Academy by Lord Talbot de Malahide. That originally belonging to Mr. Hugo, 6⅜ins. long, is now in the collection of Sir John Evans, F.R.S., and was found in 1854 at Ballincollig, Co. Cork.[5] It closely resembles the Penvores specimen.

Palstaves with two loops are not uncommon in Spain, and they closely resemble those that have been found in Somerset.[6]

Bronze palstave, much corroded, length 6½ins.; corrosion has reduced the size of the flanges. A central midrib extends from the stop-ridge to near the cutting-edge on both faces. The single loop is now deficient, and the edge is much blunted. Found at Wigborough, near South Petherton.[7]

Bronze palstave, somewhat corroded, length 6¼ins., with a single loop. It is illustrated in the Plate of relics, fig. 3. The

1. Evans's "Bronze Implements," p. 96.

2. Figured in Evans, p. 96; and *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Lond.*, 2nd ser., Vol. V, plate facing p. 398.

3. *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Lond.*, 2nd ser., Vol. V, p. 430.

4. *Proc. Soc. Antiq. Lond.*, 2nd ser., Vol. V, pp. 398, 422, 428.

5. Evans, p. 104. The other Irish specimen is figured in the Bristol vol. (1851) of the Archæological Institute, p. lxiv.

6. Bronze Age Guide, British Museum, 1904, pp. 80, 132.

7. It would appear from the statement in the *Arch. Journ.*, Vol. X, p. 247, that two other bronze celts were found with this one.

flanges on both faces form angular projections, the greatest lateral breadth being $1\frac{9}{16}$in. The implement has an expanded and bevelled cutting-edge of the usual crescentic form, width $2\frac{3}{8}$ ins. The faces of the blade are flat, owing to the absence of a midrib; below the stop-ridge there is a short protuberant ridge of triangular form. Found "near Ham Hill," South Somerset.

Plain bronze ring, ext. diam. 26 mm.; perhaps late Bronze Age. Found at South Petherton.

Mediæval Relics:—

Bronze seal, of oval form, of Hugh de Pencriz, a Canon of Wells in the early XIV Century. *Inscription:*—S'HVGONIS DE PENCRIZ=St. Michael treading on the dragon. Found in the donor's garden at South Petherton, in April, 1853. Pencriz was deprived of his stall at Wells, and his goods were sequestrated, Dec., 1320.[1]

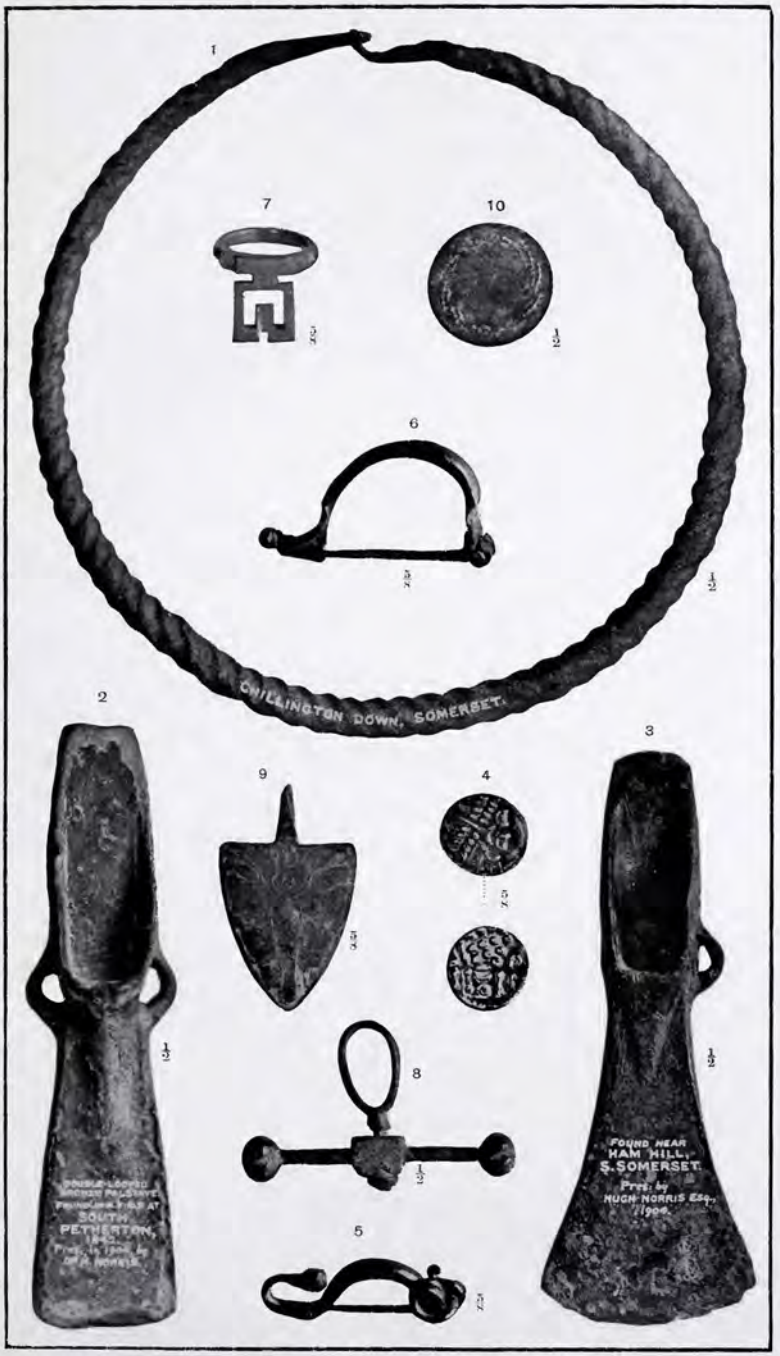
Enamelled bronze shield-shaped horse's head-ornament, bearing the gilded "butterfly badge" of the Audleys. Figured in the Plate of relics ($\frac{5}{8}$ linear), fig. 9. Found in a well at Over Stratton, South Petherton.

One complete encaustic tile, and the greater part of two others; XIII Century; found during restoration-work in South Petherton Church. The arms of Richard Plantagenet, King of the Romans, second son of King John, are represented on the complete tile; a similar tile was found by Mr. W. W. Walter in St. Nicholas's Chapel at Stoke-under-Ham. Another tile is decorated with a griffin, and a third with two dogs standing on their hind legs and facing each other.

Iron Horse-Shoes, South Petherton.

Two found from $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 2 feet deep, in draining the Little Petherton road, in Nov., 1887; two found at a depth of $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet in the chip-sand in the streets, Nov., 1887, whilst drain-

1. See Drokensford's Register (S.R.S., Vol. I, pp. 48, 57-9, 70, 72, 86, 185).



SOMERSETSHIRE ANTIQUITIES IN THE "NORRIS COLLECTION."

(NOT PREVIOUSLY FIGURED.)

From Photographs by H. St. George Gray.

ing[1]; one given to the donor by S. Dodge, blacksmith, 1890; two found in draining South Street, in 1887, depth 3 feet; two found 1 foot deep in North Street, 1888; a pony's shoe.

Miscellaneous:—

Iron band-lock for gate; early XIX Century. South Petherton.

Portion of a red-deer antler found at South Petherton.

Two portions of antler of red-deer (*Cervus elaphus*), and a horn of *Bos longifrons;* from a 'bone cave' at Ham's Field, South Petherton.

Split bone, found by the donor, in G. Vaux's Quarry, Ham's Field, South Petherton.

IV. Archæological Remains, Ham Hill, South Somerset.

Bronze:—

Two bronze objects, which have usually been described as probably caps or bosses which were fitted to axles of chariot-wheels of the Early Iron Age. Both were found on Ham Hill, *circa* 1823. The complete example is 2½ins. in length; diam. at the larger end, 2⅝ins.; at the smaller, 1¾in. The flat disc at the larger end has a raised concentric ridge on both sides, that on the outer face enclosing a depression from which a cylindrical hole or bore extends to the smaller end of the object. It is figured in *Archæologia*, Vol. xxi, Pl. vi, upper right hand top corner; and in the *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. xxxii, pt. i, p. 82, Pl. i, fig. 6. The damaged specimen is probably portion of the larger axle-cap from Ham Hill represented as perfect in *Archæologia*, Vol. xxi, Pl. vi, upper left hand corner. This drawing was made in 1827. Its max. diam. is 2⅞ins.; in design the two objects are similar. These objects have rarely been discovered in Britain. There are, however, three objects of this kind in the British Museum;

1. Probably *temp.* Charles I. Similar specimen in the Ashmolean Museum.

one found in the Thames at Putney in 1863; a second from the Thames at Goring, Oxon.; the other from Burwell Fens, Cambridge, 1871.[1] Another example, found in the Thames at Hammersmith, is to be seen in the Guildhall Museum.[2]

Small bronze lamp, Roman; max. length, 78 mm.; weight, 1 oz. 12 dwt. (Troy). The bottom is ornamented with concentric rings. Figured in *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. XXXII, pt. i, Pl. II, fig. 2.[3] Roman bronze lamps have been rarely found in Britain. A large lamp of this kind, with crescentic handle, was found at Westhall, near Wangford, Suffolk; another has been found in London; and a third at South Shields; all these are in the British Museum. A bronze lamp (? Roman), with two spouts, found in London, is exhibited in the Guildhall Museum.

Six conjoined scales belonging to the same Roman *lorica*, of which there are 26 scales in the "Walter Collection." This *lorica*, or cuirass, is fully described in *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. XLVIII, pt. ii, p. 31, and figured in Vol. XXXII, pt. i, Pl. I, fig. 9. Found on the south side of Ham Hill, Nov., 1885.

Bronze fibula, Roman, figured in the Plate of relics, fig. 6; length, 51 mm.; bow-shaped, with exceptionally deep curve; the bow is of quadrangular section; the tail-end terminates in a knob; the pin is of the hinged variety. Found on Ham Hill; and similar to another subsequently found there and preserved in the "Walter Collection."

A finely-patinated and well-preserved T-shaped fibula; length, 50·5 mm.; of Roman Provincial type. The brooch is made in two distinct parts; at the base of the head a transverse cross-bar is fixed forming a semi-cylindrical cover or protection for the spring, and an ornamental hook (not a complete

1. These do not appear to be mentioned in the Early Iron Age Guide Book, British Museum, 1905.
2. Catalogue of the Museum, 1903, p. 12, No. 125.
3. Also figured and described in "The Connoisseur," Jan. 1906, Vol. XIII, p. 49.

eye) projects from the back of the head of the fibula securing the straight piece of wire which connects the bilateral coils (nine coils on each side), and thus increasing the tension of the spring. These coils are strengthened and kept in position by a metal axis which occupies the cylindrical space enclosed by the coils.[1] The harp-shaped bow is of sexagonal cross-section; and the thin triangular catch-plate has been perforated by a triangular hole. On one side of this plate, a continuous row of 'claw-shaped' ornament has been faintly incised. Found on Ham Hill; and figured in the *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. XXXII, pt. i, Pl. II, fig. 6.

Iron:—

Much corroded and bent iron spear-head (? Romano-British period). The socket has been formed by hammering the metal round the pointed end of a circular wooden shaft, and is known as the split socket.[2] From Ham Hill.

Iron spear-head, with split socket, length, 6¼ins. (? Romano-British period). Found on Ham Hill; and figured in the *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. XXXII, pt. i, Pl. II, fig. 8.

Iron spear-head with leaf-shaped blade (? Romano-British period); length, 4⅝ins.; split socket, as those above. From Ham Hill.

Iron spear-head, of narrow leaf-shaped form, with entire socket; length, 4⅞ins.; greatest width of blade ⅝in. Perhaps of the Early Iron Age. From Ham Hill.

Iron knife, length, 6⅞ins.; probably Romano-British. Found on Ham Hill, Nov., 1885.

Iron pick-axe, of doubtful age.

Bone:—

Worked bone implement, length 4⅞ins., which has every appearance of having been used as a spear-head. From the

1. Somewhat similar fibulæ are mentioned in the British Museum Guide to the Early Iron Age, p. 102.

2. A characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon period; whereas the entire socket is typical of the Early Iron Age.

base it tapers to a flattened point, the tip now being deficient. A hole for securing the spear-head to the wooden shaft by means of a rivet is seen at the extreme base. Found on Ham Hill.

Human femur, found at a depth of 12 feet, on Ham Hill.

Earthenware:—

Spindle-whorl of unusual form; probably of British manufacture. It has an almost flat base with a diam. of $1\frac{7}{16}$in.; height, $1\frac{3}{16}$in.; diam. at top, $1\frac{1}{8}$in.; the sides are concave, and at the top there is a rather deep and uncommon depression. Found on Ham Hill.

Handle of a Roman amphora; found on Ham Hill, depth 15 feet. 1886.

Fragment of thin, cream-coloured Roman pottery. Ham Hill, 1885.

Stone:—

Rude core formed from a seashore pebble; Ham Hill, Nov., 1885. Figured in the *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. XXXII, pt. i, Pl. I. fig. 1.

Flint fabricator, of rough workmanship, but showing signs of prolonged use.

Whetstone. Found on Ham Hill, depth 11 feet, Nov., 1885.

Whetstone showing evidence of long use. Ham Hill, depth 20 feet, Feb. 1886.

A flat, smooth, oval, stone burnisher.

V. Archæological Remains, from other parts of Somerset.

Prehistoric:—

Small bronze Egyptian figure of Osiris; said to have been *found* at Chillington, near Crewkerne, in a smith's scrap-heap.

Twisted or funicular torc of the late Bronze Age; max. ext. diam., $7\frac{5}{8}$ins.; max. thickness, 10·5 mm.; weight, $10\frac{1}{2}$ ozs. (avoirdupois). It is illustrated in the Plate of relics, fig. 1.

It tapers both ways from the front to the back, where the ends are hooked over so as to interlock and form a strong fastening. Although perfect, the surface of the bronze is somewhat corroded. Found whilst draining in a field called "Summerleaze," on Chillington Down, about 3½ miles due west of Crewkerne, and close to Chillington and Cudworth.

Taunton Museum already possesses a very fine Somerset torc, discovered in a shop at Taunton, where it had been used for many years for stringing on discs of leather used in umbrella-making; another, complete, but smaller, from the Taunton Union Workhouse hoard; a third from Edington Burtle,—not, however, quite complete;[1] and a portion of a fourth found near the Pen Pits.[2]

From the records of the finding of bronze torcs of this character, it would appear that as a type they have been found more frequently in Somerset than in any other county. Three were found near Heath House, Wedmore;[3] one with the well-known West Buckland hoard;[4] and two (8¾ins. diam.) on the Quantock Hills, in 1794.[5] A few examples have been found in the neighbouring counties of Wilts, Dorset and Hants.

Bronze fibula of the Early Iron Age, length 45 mm.; figured (⅝ linear) in the Plate of relics, fig. 5. Found at Melbury, near Somerton. This brooch, which is of early La Tène type, is composed of one piece of metal; the tail-end has been extended and bent backwards so as to form an S-shaped curve with the bow. This retroflected end terminates in a flattened knob barely touching the bow. The spiral spring has sustained a fracture, but two turns of the wire are observable on either side of the head. The bow, which is of plano-convex section, is decorated on the top by a zigzag design. It very

1. Figured in *Proc. Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. V, pt. i, p. 92, fig. 6.
2. *Op. cit.*, Vol. VII, pt. i, p. 27, fig. 1.
3. Evans, figs. 466, 467, and 469.
4. Evans, fig. 468.
5. One figured in *Archæologia*, Vol. XIV, p. 94, Pl. xxxiii.

closely resembles both in form and decoration a fibula found by General Pitt-Rivers at Rotherley.[1] Brooches of similar type have been found at Avebury (Wilts), Blandford (Dorset), Hunsbury (Northants), Cowlam (Yorks), Thames at London, Water Eaton (Oxon.), etc.;[2] and there are others in the Ashmolean Museum, and the museums at Reading and Devizes.

Large flake of black flint with well-defined bulb of percussion and two longitudinal dorsal ridges. Two of the sides have been worked to scraper-like bevelled edges. Found with several other flint implements at Herne Hill, Ilminster, 1886.

Roman:—

Fragment of a leaden coffin, measuring 2¾ins. by 1⅝in., and ornamented with a plaited herring-bone design. Found at Northover near Ilchester, close to the river. Records of portions of leaden coffins from Somerset are rare, the only localities known to the writer being Ilchester, Tintinhull (Bearley Farm), Wiveliscombe (on the line of the railway), Bath (Sydney Buildings), and Wemberham (Yatton).

Three *tesseræ* from Roman tesselated pavement, found in the garden of Ivel House at Northover, near Ilchester, 1888.[3]

Nine *tesseræ* from the site of a Roman villa near Littleton, Somerton.

Mediæval, etc.:—

One complete encaustic tile and portions of three others from St. Nicholas's Chapel, Stoke-under-Ham, 1889.

Handle of a knife of morse-ivory, late XV Century. The steel blade appears to have been added recently, and is still quite sharp. Three figures, probably representing Faith, Hope and Justice, are arranged longitudinally around the handle, the heads being surmounted by a couchant lion. Faith

1. Pitt-Rivers's "Excavations," Vol. I, Pl. XCVII, fig. 5.

2. Guide to Early Iron Age, British Museum, 1905, pp. 100, 110; Pitt-Rivers's "Excavations," Vol. II, p. 117.

3. See *Som. and Dor. Notes and Queries*, Vol. I, p. 26.

is represented with a staff; Hope with an anchor and a bird; and Justice with a sword and a pair of scales. Found on the site of Taunton Priory, *circa* 1812. Figured in the Rev. Thos. Hugo's paper on "Taunton Priory," *Proc., Som. Arch. Soc.*, Vol. IX, pt. 2, p. 81.

Three bronze buckles, and a fragment of ornamental bronze bordering. Date uncertain, probably mediæval. Found at Melbury, near Somerton.

Bronze cross-bar and swivel of a gipciere, or purse, worn suspended from the girdle. Figured in the Plate of relics, fig. 8. The bar is ornamented with grooved spherical ends. XIV-XV Century. Found at Somerton.

Iron pyrites from Castle Neroche.

VI.—Miscellaneous Antiquities, Great Britain and Ireland.

Stone Implements:—

Ovate, Palæolithic implement of chert. Broome Gravels, near Axminster.

Polished stone celt, of Neolithic form, having convex faces and squared sides. Found at the Giant's Causeway, N. Ireland.

Leaf-shaped chipped flint arrow-head, Neolithic; marked as having been found at the Lake Dwellings, Spey sides, Scotland.

Small spherical stone rubber; found at Ilkley Camp, Yorks, Aug. 1886.

Roman:—

Roman key-ring, found at Cheltenham; figured in the Plate of relics, fig. 7. When it came into the possession of Dr. Norris, the bronze of which it is composed bore traces of having been gilt, and he had it regilded. Mr. Hodder-Westrop in "The Antiquary" states that these rings were given by husbands to their brides as tokens of delegated authority in their houses.

Five *tesseræ* from a Roman pavement at Llantwit Major, 1888.

Three pieces of red Samian pottery (two decorated), and a fragment of a rim of a mortarium. Found at Lancaster.

Mediæval, etc. :—

Iron pike-head, length 12 ins., from the bed of the Lyme stream at Lyme Regis.

Merchant's silver signet-ring, with seal representing a Catherine wheel. Dug up near Chippenham, *circa* 1835.

Bronze merchant's seal,—THOS. NUCE,—of leaf-shaped form ; dug up in Lyme Regis Churchyard.

Cast of seal,—Essex. *Inscription* :—Sig'. Comme . Monasterii . Beate . Marie . de . Tilteye.

VII.—ANTIQUITIES WITHOUT RECORDED LOCALITIES, AND FROM FOREIGN PARTS.

Stone Implements :—

Three roughly-worked chert knives, (? late Palæolithic.) From La Madelaine, Dordogne, France, 1863.

Polished stone celt, Neolithic, length 3½ins. No locality recorded.

Nineteen flint and other implements with no recorded localities, including :—1 borer ; 6 thin knives ; 1 spear-head ; 1 arrow-head of fatty quartz of N. American type ; 8 arrow-heads of various forms; and 2 arrow-heads with large serrations along cutting-edges (probably forgeries).

Egyptian Antiquities :—

Ushabti figure of earthenware, height 7⅛ins. Used for depositing in the tomb to do the field labours in the nether world, decreed by the god Osiris, judge of the dead.

A small Ushabti figure.

Small stone seal, in form of a bead. Found at Nineveh.

Mummified ape's hand, from Upper Egypt.

Roman Lamps :—

Small terra-cotta lamp, length 2½ins. From Pompeii.

Greater part of a terra-cotta lamp, from Scipio's tomb, Rome.

Heavy, pottery lamp.

Spurious bronze lamp of Roman design.

Light yellowish-grey pottery pedestal with shallow circular depression at top; height 8¼ins. Probably a Roman lamp, or candlelabrum.

Earthenware :—

Two small vases, of graceful form, one having two handles. Both are composed of a light reddish-brown earthenware, and they are extremely thin. The handled vase is decorated to a certain extent by raised dots of the same sort of clay. Roman, and perhaps from the Rhine.

A roughly-painted Roman patera, diam. 4⅝ins. From Pompeii.

A small "olpe" of Greek form; height to top of handle, 3¼ins. Probably made in Italy.

Miscellaneous :—

Modern bronze statuette, height 3⅝ins.; probably a good replica of a Roman bronze, and perhaps representing the Emperor Hadrian.

Forgeries of two small Roman spoons (*ligulæ*) of similar design. Locality of originals unknown. Forgeries of similar objects are known to exist elsewhere.

Carved stone head, Cyprus.

Circular bronze mediæval seal of one of the Lords of Picardy.

VIII. Coins from South Petherton, etc.

Early British :—

A well-preserved uninscribed silver British coin of the degenerated horse type. Figured in the Plate of relics, two

views, fig. 4. Dug up on "Stoodham" in the parish of South Petherton.

Roman Coins:—

Second brass coin of Constantius II, 337-361. Found in Feb. 1889, near Fowts, Seavington, in a field abutting on the British road to Hurcot, etc.

The following coins from South Petherton:

Billon (base silver) coin of Salonina, wife of Gallienus (died *circa* 268); "Venus Felix" type.

Third brass coins:—1 of Postumus, 258-267; 1 of Tetricus senior, 268-273; 1 (tinned) of Constantine I, 306-337; 1 of Constantine period; 1 of Constantinopolis; 1 of Gratianus, 375-383; and 1 of Valentinianus II, 375-392.

English Coins:—

Silver penny of Elizabeth.

Half groat of Henry VIII, found at South Petherton.

IX. Famous Dish, probably made at Crock Street.

A dish of *sgrafiato* ware, diam. 13½ inches; probably made at Crock Street, near Ilminster, and composed of pitcher clay, covered with a yellow glaze now chipped off in several places round the rim. The dish has a hole for suspension, as so many of the plaques of this period have. The chief interest of the dish centres in the decoration, which consists of a rude device simply scratched through the surface of the clay, the incisions being partly filled up by a yellowish-brown glaze.

This dish was undoubtedly made to commemorate the birth of a double female child at Ile Brewers, near Langport, on May 19th, 1680, which was held as a portent of the Monmouth Rebellion troubles. The date, 1680, is seen across the middle of the bodies, with the initials "IO" on one side of them and "SD" on the other side. A rude, partially floral decoration forms the side device.

The dish is figured in Hodgkin's "Examples of Early English Pottery," 1891, p. 58, No. 207, commemorating the same event as the plaque figured as a frontispiece to the volume, and again on p. 109, No. 404.

The dish is referred to in the following works:—Robert's "Life of Monmouth," Vol. I, p. 217; Hodgkin's "Early English Pottery," p. 186; "The Western Antiquary," Vol. VII, Oct. 1887, pp. 111-2; Norris's "South Petherton in the Olden Time," 1882, pp. 97-8: "Daily News," 30 March, 1892; Whiting's "Persecution Expos'd," London, 1715, p. 99; "Som. & Dor. Notes and Queries," Vol. I, p. 24; "The Antiquary," Nov. 1904, Vol. XL, p. 324.

X. Ethnographical Specimens.

Somerset, and other British:—

Ivory wedge-shaped object, with short, perforated, projection of circular section at the thicker end. Probably the handle of a tobacco-stopper; late XVII or early XVIII Century. The wedge is inscribed as follows (half the inscription on one side, half on the other):—

NOW MAN WITH MAN IS SO UNJUST,
THAT ONE SCARCE TELL WHO TO TRUST.

XVII Century cyphering-book with marginal decorations in colour throughout the book. The title-page bears the following inscription:— "This Booke of Arithmetick belongeth unto William Forte of Southpetherton 1642." It contains the autograph of George Lisle, said by Sir Clements Markham in his "Life of Fairfax" to be the officer who was shot at Colchester with Sir Chas. Lucas, but which Dr. Norris found, after much research, was not the right Sir George Lisle, but the then representative of the Lisles of "Wilbraham-Lisle," near Cambridge,—an ancestor of whom was in Edward III's time one of the first members of the order of the Garter.

Sword of the Lieut.-Colonel commanding the Somerset Regiment in the early part of the XIX Century. Made by Knubley & Co., 7, Charing Cross, London. The decorated blade is inscribed "Somerset Regiment, Hy. Norris, Taunton."

Sword in leather sheath. *Temp.* George III, (*circa* 1805).

Long, narrow, double-edged sword or rapier with basket hilt and straight quillons ending in spirals turned downwards This form came into use at the end of the XVI Century. It was used at the Battle of Worcester, 1651, by a South Petherton man.

Iron spur of Spanish type; XVII Century. The rowel has 22 points. Found, about 1870, near Peckenbridge, a small hamlet N. of South Petherton, in which parish it stands.

Pistol tinder-box, with plain wooden handle; XVIII Century. The body of the instrument and the muzzle are composed of brass; stamped with maker's name, "Parkhouse, Taunton."

Nickel-plated pocket tinder-box; *circa* 1885.

Gun-flint, probably belonging to a XVII Century pistol. Sedgmoor.

A circular, flat, bronze button; diam 1⅛in.; from Sedgmoor. Figured in the Plate of relics, fig. 10.

Two early XVII Century bowls of clay tobacco-pipes, and three of the late XVII Century. From Sedgmoor.

Nine clay tobacco-pipe-bowls, XVII and XVIII Centuries; one marked I D; another D on heel.

Two pairs of iron snuffers, of no particular interest.

Bead-work tobacco-pouch of the XVII Century; closed by means of a drawing-string, now deficient; the glass beads are of various colours,—brown, red, white, green, blue and yellow. Round the top a motto has been worked with white beads, "Love me, for I am thine, 1631."

Wooden pounce-box containing fine sand, formerly used to sprinkle over freshly-written paper to prevent blotting. Middle of the XIX Century.

Pair of spectacles, composed of glasses, horn, and nickel-plated steel. Old English.

Circular 'slicking-stone,' diam. 22ins., composed of blue-black bottle-glass; used for smoothing the surface of dowlas whilst in the loom, South Petherton. Dowlas-weaving was a South Petherton industry in the XVIII Century. These smoothers, although not common, may be seen in various museums, such as the Guildhall, and Horniman's (with handle); there are some in the National Museum at Edinburgh, one with a handle being figured in the Catalogue, 1892, p. 326.[1]

Early form of an infant's glass feeding-bottle.

A green glass phial, height 3⅛ins., in the form of an XVIII Century wine bottle.

Iron shoe for a horse with a short leg.

A circular, flat, oak box, diam. 3½ins., made from "Part of the 'Royal George,' sunk off Spithead, on Aug. 29, 1782; recovered Oct. 1839."

Foreign:—

Bobbin from the Gobelins tapestry factory, Paris.

Mediæval brass pendant, Russian.

Brass ornament in the form of a flaming orb, and a brass eagle with outstretched wings; picked up on the field of Waterloo.

A syrinx, or Pandean pipes, consisting of twenty cane pipes of varying lengths.

A bag of pentagonal form, composed of hundreds of flat brown seeds, a few red seeds, and small white and green glass beads.

A pair of circular, brass, openwork armlets; ext. diam. 3⅛ins.; int. diam. 1¾in. From Sind, India.

Wooden comb, length 7⅛ins., of biconvex plan—more rounded at the back than on the dentated side. The comb is

1. Pieces of solid glass were sometimes used for rubbing floors to give them a glossy appearance. (*English Dialect Dictionary*, Vol. V, p. 516).

very finely 'toothed,' having no less than 84 slender teeth. The back is finely carved with a conventionalized ornament. From Sind, Bombay Presidency, India.

Bone snuff-spoon, Kaffir, South Africa.

Horn snuff-box, with two long projecting 'quills' to enable the box to be carried in the hair. Kaffir.

Bronze *manilla*, or ring-money, resembling an armlet, and used as currency in West Africa. This specimen was brought from Cape Palmas, and was obtained from the cook of a Bristol trading ship, hailing from the Guinea coast.

Torc, of oval form, made from a flat, thin, band of brass, the ends being finished off by tapering spirals. One face of this penannular torc is ornamented by a row of incised chevrons filled with crossed lines parallel to the sides of the chevron. From West or Central Africa.

Two carved wooden Jekri paddles, length 5ft. 6ins. and 5ft. 7ins. respectively; from the neighbourhood of Benin City, West Africa; probably made by Ibos; modern. Some of these paddles are far more ornately carved, many having pierced blades.[1]

Earthenware stamp for decorating pottery. Ancient Mexican.

Two grotesque earthenware figures, one representing a woman holding a baby; also two human heads in pottery, broken off larger figures. Ancient Mexican.

Twelve poisoned darts (in mahogany box) used with the blow-pipe, or *sumpan*, on the Upper Amazon River, South America. The poison is the *urari*.

A bundle of darts for blow-pipe, from the same locality as the last.

Basket-work cradle, length 26ins.; Chinese. Round the sides of the head, English military buttons, glass beads and

1. See those figured in "Works of Art from Benin City," by Genl. Pitt-Rivers, Plate XXXIII, figs. 256 and 257; also *Journ. Anthrop. Inst.*, Vol. XXVIII, 1899, p. 126, Plate VI.

a thimble are suspended by means of tags of leather; thus affording not only decoration for the cradle, but jingling playthings for the child.

A black, wooden measure, the divisions of space being indicated by rows of inlaid brass pins. Chinese.

Modern Chinese tobacco-pipe; brought from Australia.

An ornate case containing chop-sticks, fork, knives, nail-file, tooth-pick, etc. Chinese.

Brass padlock, ornamented with a floral design. Chinese.

A wooden printing-block. Chinese.

Circular hat, composed of rush and cane. Chinese.

Three pieces of bronze 'knife-cash,' and three other pieces of old Chinese currency.

Three pins, native Australian; two composed of bone (? cassowary); one of wood. These pins were used for a variety of purposes; sometimes as hair-pins.

Wooden pick-shaped club, or *malga*. Australian.

Wooden knobbed club, with shaft of octagonal section. Victoria, Australia.

Two breast ornaments of pearl shell. From Vate Island, New Hebrides.

Cannibal fork, with five prongs; carved from one piece of wood. Fiji Islands.

A Fiji club, the knob consisting of the trimmed root of a small tree. The handle is carved with parallel rows of zig-zags.

Pawa shell, New Zealand.