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EDITED BY WILLIAM PAGE, F.S.A.

A HISTORY OF  
LEICESTERSHIRE

IN FOUR VOLUMES

VOLUME I





OF THE COUNTIES  
OF ENGLAND  
LEICESTERSHIRE



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INSCRIBED  
TO THE MEMORY OF  
HER LATE MAJESTY  
**QUEEN VICTORIA**  
WHO GRACIOUSLY GAVE  
THE TITLE TO AND  
ACCEPTED THE  
DEDICATION OF  
THIS HISTORY





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## GENERAL ADVERTISEMENT

The VICTORIA HISTORY of the Counties of England is a National Historic Survey which, under the direction of a large staff comprising the foremost students in science, history, and archæology, is designed to record the history of every county of England in detail. This work was, by gracious permission, dedicated to Her late Majesty Queen Victoria, who gave it her own name. It is the endeavour of all who are associated with the undertaking to make it a worthy and permanent monument to her memory.

Rich as every county of England is in materials for local history, there has hitherto been no attempt made to bring all these materials together into a coherent form.

Although from the seventeenth century down to quite recent times numerous county histories have been issued, they are very unequal in merit; the best of them are very rare and costly; most of them are imperfect and many are now out of date. Moreover, they were the work of one or two isolated scholars, who, however scholarly, could not possibly deal adequately with all the varied subjects which go to the making of a county history.

welcome to the man of culture.

## THE SCOPE OF THE WORK

The history of each county is complete in itself, and in each case its story is told from the earliest times, commencing with the natural features and the flora and fauna. Thereafter follow the antiquities, pre-Roman, Roman, and post-Roman; ancient earthworks; a new translation and critical study of the Domesday Survey; articles on political, ecclesiastical, social, and economic history; architecture, arts, industries, sport, etc.; and topography. The greater part of each history is devoted to a detailed description and history of each parish, containing an account of the land and its owners from the Conquest to the present day. These manorial histories are compiled from original documents in the national collections and from private papers. A special feature is the wealth of illustrations afforded, for not only are buildings of interest pictured, but the coats of arms of past and present landowners are given

## HISTORICAL RESEARCH

It has always been, and still is, a reproach that England, with a collection of public records greatly exceeding in extent and interest those of any other country in Europe, is yet far behind her neighbours in the study of the genesis and growth of her national and local institutions. Few Englishmen are probably aware that the national and local archives contain for a period of 800 years in an almost unbroken chain of evidence, not only the political, ecclesiastical, and constitutional history of the kingdom, but every detail of its financial and social progress and the history of the land and its successive owners from generation to generation. The neglect of our public and local records is no doubt largely due to the fact that their interest and value is known to but a small number of people, and this again is directly attributable to the absence in this country of any endowment for historical research. The government of this country has too often left to private enterprise work which our continental neighbours entrust to a government department. It is not surprising, therefore, to find that although an immense amount of work has been done by individual effort, the entire absence of organization among the workers and the lack of intelligent direction has hitherto robbed the results of much of their value.

In the VICTORIA HISTORY, for the first time, a serious attempt is made to utilize our national and local muniments to the best advantage by carefully organizing and supervising the researches required. Under the direction of the Records Committee a large staff of experts has been engaged at the Public Record Office in calendaring those classes of records which are fruitful in material for local history, and by a system of interchange of communication among workers under the direct supervision of the general editor and sub-editors a mass of information is sorted and assigned to its correct place, which would otherwise be impossible.

## THE RECORDS COMMITTEE

increasing pursuit both in America and in England,' and that it can render the historian most useful service.

## CARTOGRAPHY

In addition to a general map in several sections, each History contains Geological, Orographical, Botanical, Archæological, and Domesday maps; also maps illustrating the articles on Ecclesiastical and Political Histories, and the sections dealing with Topography. The Series contains many hundreds of maps in all.

## ARCHITECTURE

A special feature in connexion with the Architecture is a series of ground plans, many of them coloured, showing the architectural history of castles, cathedrals, abbeys, and other monastic foundations.

In order to secure the greatest possible accuracy, the descriptions of the Architecture, ecclesiastical, military, and domestic, are under the supervision of Mr. C. R. PEERS, M.A., F.S.A., and a committee has been formed of the following students of architectural history who are referred to as may be required concerning this department of the work :—

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Shooting } By Various Authorities  
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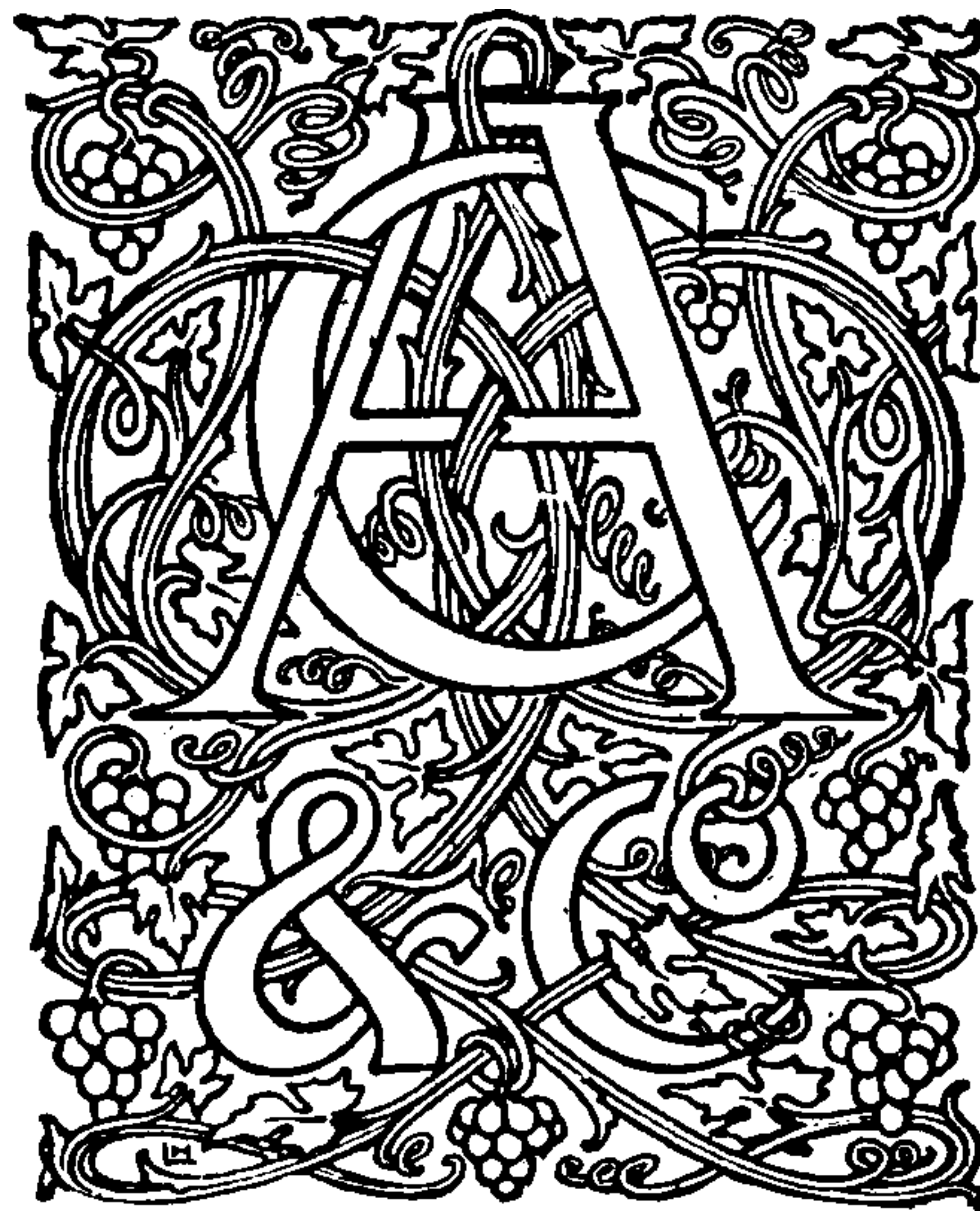
*The Valley of the Soar near Leicester.*



THE  
VICTORIA HISTORY  
OF THE COUNTY OF

EDITED BY  
WILLIAM PAGE, F.S.A.

VOLUME ONE



ARCHIBALD CONSTABLE  
AND COMPANY LIMITED

1907

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# PREFACE

THE first historian of Leicestershire was William Burton, B.A., who began his work as early as 1597, but his *Description of Leicestershire containing matters of antiquitye, historye, armorye, and genealogy*, was not published till 1622. A second and revised edition was prepared, but owing to the Civil War and the death of Burton in 1645 it was not printed. In 1777 an enlarged and corrected edition was published, but the editing was carelessly performed and consequently the work shows little improvement upon the original edition.

John Throsby, parish clerk of St. Martin's Church, Leicester, a good draughtsman and a careful collector of antiquarian notes, published in 1777 his *Memoirs of the Town and County of Leicester* in six volumes. This was followed in 1789 by a volume entitled *Select Views in Leicestershire from original drawings*, and in the next year by a *Supplementary Volume to the Leicestershire Views containing a Series of Excursions to the Villages and places of Note in that County*. In 1791 he published *The History and Antiquities of the Ancient Town of Leicester*. He died in 1803.

It is, however, to John Nichols, F.S.A., that we may well assign the title of the historian of Leicestershire. Nichols was the son of Edward Nichols, a baker of Islington, and was apprenticed to William Bowyer, the printer whose partner and biographer he afterwards became. He developed tastes for antiquarian research at an early age, but it was probably in consequence of his marriage with his second wife, Martha, daughter of William Green of Hinckley, in 1778, that led to his interest in the county of Leicester. In 1795 he published the first two parts of *The History and Antiquities of the Town and County of Leicester*; the second part of the fourth and last volume of his history was not completed till 1811. His work, as is stated on the title page, includes Burton's description of the county published in 1622, and the later collections of Thomas Staveley, Rev. Samuel Carte, Mr. Peck, and Sir Thomas Cave. He was assisted by Richard Gough and many local helpers, his acknowledgements to whom fill several pages of his preface. Nichols was a most careful and accurate compiler, and in genealogy and heraldry there are few county historians to compare to him; in archaeology and architecture, however, we cannot expect a standard higher than was set at the time. His work will always stand high among the best of the English county histories.



## PREFACE

The Editor wishes to express his thanks to Mr. J. H. Round, M.A., LL.D., for revising the articles on the Domesday Survey and Leicestershire Survey; to Mr. G. E. Fox, Hon. M.A. Oxon., F.S.A., and to Major W. J. Freer, V.D., F.S.A., for assistance on the article on the Roman Remains of the county; to Mr. A. R. Horwood, acting curator of the Leicester Museum, for information as to the collections under his charge, and for many notes and additions to the articles on Molluscs and Botany; to Mr. I. Chalkley Gould, F.S.A., for revising the article on Earthworks; to Mr. J. T. Biggs and the Committee of the Leicester Corporation Museum for permission to photograph objects in the Museum; to Mr. W. B. Worthington, engineer-in-chief of the Midland Railway, Derby, for permission to photograph the Anglo-Saxon objects found at Saxby in his charge; and to the Society of Antiquaries, the Archaeological Institute, the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society, the Associated Architectural and Archaeological Societies, and the *Illustrated London News* for illustrations.

Abbreviatio Placitorum (Record Commission)	Chartul. . . . .	Chartulary
Acts of Privy Council	Chas. . . . .	Charles
Additional	Ches. . . . .	Cheshire
Additional Charters	Chest. . . . .	Chester
Admiralty	Ch. Gds. (Exch. K.R.)	Church Goods (Exchequer King's Remembrancer)
Agarde's Indices	Chich. . . . .	Chichester
Ancient Correspondence	Chron. . . . .	Chronicle, Chronica, etc.
Ancient Deeds (Public Record Office) A 2420	Close . . . . .	Close Roll
Annales Monastici	Co. . . . .	County
Antiquarian or Antiquaries	Colch. . . . .	Colchester
Appendix	Coll. . . . .	Collections
Archæologia or Archæological	Com. . . . .	Commission
Archæologia Cantiana	Com. Pleas . . . . .	Common Pleas
Archdeacons' Records	Conf. R. . . . .	Confirmation Rolls
Architectural	Co. Plac. . . . .	County Placita
Assize Rolls	Cornw. . . . .	Cornwall
Audit Office	Corp. . . . .	Corporation
Augmentation Office	Cott. . . . .	Cotton or Cottonian
Ayloff's Calendars	Ct. R. . . . .	Court Rolls
	Ct. of Wards . . . . .	Court of Wards
	Cumb. . . . .	Cumberland
	Cur. Reg. . . . .	Curia Regis
Bedford		
Bedfordshire		
Berkshire	D. . . . .	Deed or Deeds
Bundle	D. and C. . . . .	Dean and Chapter
British Museum	De Banc. R. . . . .	De Banco Rolls
Bodley's Library	Dec. and Ord . . . . .	Decrees and Orders
Borough	Dep. Keeper's Rep.	Deputy Keeper's Reports
Brevia Regia	Derb. . . . .	Derbyshire or Derby
Britain, British, Britannia, etc.	Devon . . . . .	Devonshire
Buckingham	Dioc. . . . .	Diocese
Buckinghamshire	Doc. . . . .	Documents
	Dods. MSS. . . . .	Dodsworth MSS
Calendar	Dom. Bk. . . . .	Domesday Book
Cambridgeshire or Cambridge	Dors. . . . .	Dorsetshire
Cambria, Cambrian, Cambrensis, etc.	Duchy of Lanc. . . . .	Duchy of Lancaster
Campbell Charters	Dur. . . . .	Durham
Canterbury		
Chapter	East. . . . .	Easter Term
Carlisle	Eccl. . . . .	Ecclesiastical
Cartæ Antiquæ Rolls	Eccl. Com. . . . .	Ecclesiastical Commission
Corpus Christi College, Cam-	Edw. . . . .	Edward
	Eliz . . . . .	Elizabeth

## TABLE OF ABBREVIATIONS

Exch. of Pleas, Plea R.	Exchequer of Pleas, Plea Roll	Memo. R. . . . .	Memoranda Rolls
Exch. of Receipt	Exchequer of Receipt	Mich. . . . .	Michaelmas Term
Exch. Spec. Com.	Exchequer Special Commissions	Midd. . . . .	Middlesex
		Mins. Accts. . . . .	Ministers' Accounts
Feet of F. . . . .	Feet of Fines	Misc. Bks. (Exch. K.R., Exch. T.R. or Aug. Off.)	Miscellaneous Books (Exchequer King's Remembrancer, Exchequer Treasury of Receipt or Augmentation Office)
Feod. Accts. (Ct. of Wards)	Feodaries Accounts (Court of Wards)	Mon. . . . .	Monastery, Monasticon
Feod. Surv. (Ct. of Wards)	Feodaries Surveys (Court of Wards)	Monm. . . . .	Monmouth
Feud. Aids . . . . .	Feudal Aids	Mun. . . . .	Muniments or Munimenta
fol. . . . .	Folio	Mus. . . . .	Museum
Foreign R. . . . .	Foreign Rolls		
Forest Proc. . . . .	Forest Proceedings	N. and Q. . . . .	Notes and Queries
		Norf. . . . .	Norfolk
Gaz. . . . .	Gazette or Gazetteer	Northampt. . . . .	Northampton
Gen. . . . .	Genealogical, Genealogica, etc.	Northants . . . . .	Northamptonshire
Geo. . . . .	George	Northumb. . . . .	Northumberland
Glouc. . . . .	Gloucestershire or Gloucester	Norw. . . . .	Norwich
Guild Certif. (Chan.) Ric. II.	Guild Certificates (Chancery) Richard II.	Nott. . . . .	Nottinghamshire or Nottingham
		N.S. . . . .	New Style
Hants . . . . .	Hampshire	Off. . . . .	Office
Harl. . . . .	Harley or Harleian	Orig. R. . . . .	Originalia Rolls
Hen. . . . .	Henry	O.S. . . . .	Ordnance Survey
Heref. . . . .	Herefordshire or Hereford	Oxf. . . . .	Oxfordshire or Oxford
Hertf. . . . .	Hertford		
Herts . . . . .	Hertfordshire	p. . . . .	Page
Hil. . . . .	Hilary Term	Palmer's Ind. . . . .	Palmer's Indices
Hist. . . . .	History, Historical, Historian, Historia, etc.	Pal. of Chest. . . . .	Palatinate of Chester
Hist. MSS. Com. . . . .	Historical MSS. Commission	Pal. of Dur. . . . .	Palatinate of Durham
Hosp. . . . .	Hospital	Pal. of Lanc. . . . .	Palatinate of Lancaster
Hund. R. . . . .	Hundred Rolls	Par. . . . .	Parish, parochial, etc.
Hunt. . . . .	Huntingdon	Parl. . . . .	Parliament or Parliamentary
Hunts . . . . .	Huntingdonshire	Parl. R. . . . .	Parliament Rolls
		Parl. Surv. . . . .	Parliamentary Surveys
Inq. a.q.d. . . . .	Inquisitions ad quod damnum	Partic. for Gts. . . . .	Particulars for Grants
Inq. p.m. . . . .	Inquisitions post mortem	Pat. . . . .	Patent Roll or Letters Patent
Inst. . . . .	Institute or Institution	P.C.C. . . . .	Prerogative Court of Canterbury
Invent. . . . .	Inventory or Inventories		
Ips. . . . .	Ipswich	Pet. . . . .	Petition
Itin. . . . .	Itinerary	Peterb. . . . .	Peterborough
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Jas. . . . .	James	Pipe R. . . . .	Pipe Roll
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Lansd. . . . .	Lansdowne	Proc. Soc. Antiq. . . . .	Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries
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m. . . . .	Membrane	Rep. . . . .	Report
Mem. . . . .	Memorials	Rev. . . . .	Review
		Ric. . . . .	Richard

Star Chamb. Proc.	Star Chamber Proceedings	Warw. . . . .	Warwickshire or Warwick
Stat. . . . .	Statute	Westm. . . . .	Westminster
Steph. . . . .	Stephen	Westmld. . . . .	Westmorland
Subs. R. . . . .	Subsidy Rolls	Will. . . . .	William
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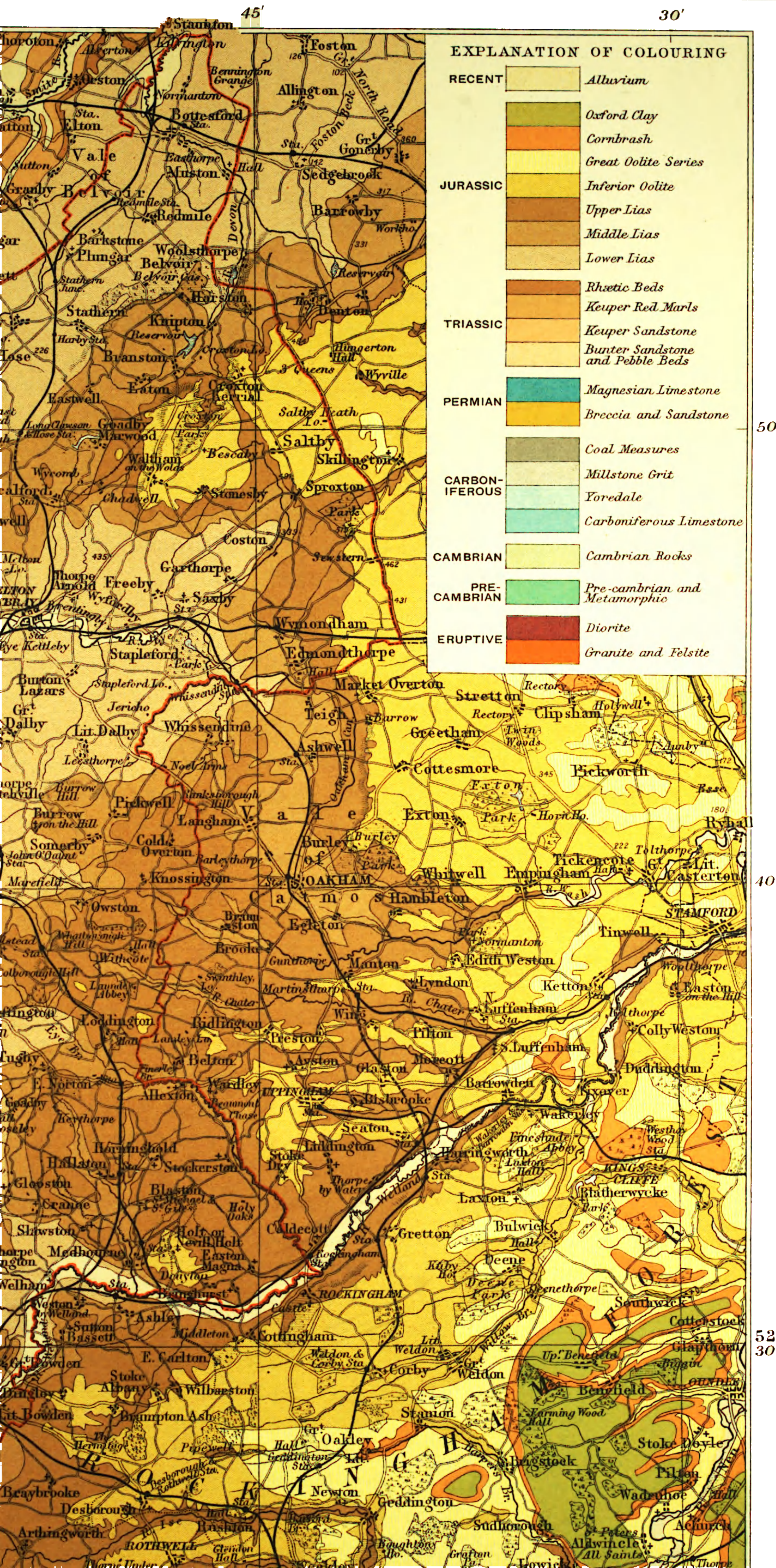
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# GEOLOGY

ONE of the most striking features in the general geology of England is the fact that the outcrop of the geological formations forms a series of roughly parallel bands crossing the country in a south-west and north-east direction from the Channel to the North Sea. This regular succession of parallel bands is due to the general inclination of the strata to the south-east, but it is interrupted to a certain extent by two great anticlinal movements, one in the north and the other in the south-east, which have brought up lower strata and caused the outcrop of those above to divide into two arms, thus destroying the general symmetry of the arrangement. Where the two arms unite the breadth of the outcrop is much increased, and the widest spread of the covering formation occurs.

The anticline in the south-east is that of the Weald, which ranges in an easterly and westerly direction, and has split the Upper Cretaceous rocks into two arms known as the North and South Downs. These unite to the west in Hampshire and Wiltshire, and form the great spread of Chalk country extending over the wide expanse of Salisbury Plain.

The second anticline, which is the more important, and the one that affects the district with which we are now concerned, is the great range of the Pennine Hills, which runs from the borders of Scotland to the immediate neighbourhood of the county of Leicester. The main effect of this anticline is to separate the outcrop of the Trias into two branches, one of which extends north across the counties of Nottingham and York, while the other strikes to the north-west through Cheshire and Lancashire. At the bifurcation south of the Pennine Range the Trias attains its widest extension and produces the undulating country so characteristic of the Midlands.

The county of Leicester, situated nearly in the centre of England, includes a large part of the great central plateau formed by the Trias and Lower Lias in this part of the country. The county in fact is nearly equally divided between these two formations, the western half being mainly covered by the Trias with small patches of older rocks protruding here and there, while the Lias occupies with a few exceptions the whole of the eastern half. It consists on the whole of a more or less undulating plain, which is over-spread in places with beds of clay and gravel. In the north-western part of the county this plain is broken by the elevated ground of Charnwood Forest, which rises in a somewhat miniature mountain range to the height of 912 ft., and forms the culminating point of the district, and the principal elevation in this part of the Midlands. To the west of this the Coal Measures are brought in, at first beneath a thick covering of Trias, but further west on the borders of South Derbyshire they come to the surface. On the eastern side some of the hills rise to a height of 600 ft., and are outliers of the great Oolitic escarpment which extends from the Cotteswold Hills to the Humber. This escarpment just enters the northern portion of the county, and forms the

Leicestershire and South Derbyshire Coalfield; (3) the Permian and Trias, lapping round them and covering a large plain; (4) the Jurassic rocks, comprising the three divisions of the Oolite capping the eastern hills; and (5) the superficial clays and gravels that overlies the other formations indiscriminately.

The following are the subdivisions of the rocks that are exposed on the surface:—

Period	Formation	Character of the Strata
Recent . . . . .	Alluvium . . . . .	Silt, clay, peat and gravel . . . . .
Pleistocene . . . . .	River terraces . . . . .	Gravel and loam . . . . .
	Boulder-clay, sand and gravel . . . . .	Stony clay, sand and gravel . . . . .
Jurassic . . . . .	Inferior Oolite {	Lincolnshire Limestone . . . . .
		Northampton Sand . . . . .
	Lias . . . . .	Upper . . . . .
		Middle . . . . .
		Lower . . . . .
Triassic . . . . .	Rhaetic . . . . .	
	Keuper {	Marl . . . . .
		Sandstone . . . . .
	Bunter . . . . .	
Permian . . . . .	Permian (?) . . . . .	
Carboniferous . . . . .	Coal measures . . . . .	
	Millstone Grit . . . . .	
	Carboniferous Limestone . . . . .	
Pre-Cambrian or Archaean	Charnian . . . . .	

Slates, hornstones and agglomerates with intrusive igneous rocks . . . . .



## GEOLOGY

more detailed work has been accomplished which gives us a fuller insight into its geological structure and history.

During the eighteenth century several notices occur as to the minerals, fossils, soil, &c., but these early writers had no connected view of the structure of the country, or of the nature of the rocks. The first to acquire a knowledge of the stratification of England was William Smith, who in 1815 published his 'Map of the Strata of England and Wales,' followed in 1821 by a 'New Map of Leicestershire,' coloured geologically. In the following year the Rev. W. D. Conybeare and W. Phillips published the *Outlines of the Geology of England and Wales*, which contains some valuable notes on the Ashby Coalfield. This coalfield was further described in 1834 in the elaborate work of E. Mammatt, which, although giving many interesting facts and observations, is somewhat marred by the crude theories propounded. In 1838 Professor J. B. Jukes gave a *Popular Sketch of the Geology of the County of Leicester*, which is the earliest general description of the geology of the county. In 1846 another 'Sketch of the Geology of Leicestershire,' by the Rev. W. Coleman, appeared in White's *History of Leicestershire and Rutland*, a second edition of which was published in 1863; this latter is one of the best accounts of the general geology of the county that we possess. Previous to this, however, more minute details had been given in two of the memoirs of the Geological Survey relating to this district which were published in 1860.<sup>1</sup> In 1866 Professor Ansted gave an account of the *Physical Geography and Geology of the County of Leicester*. In 1869 two important descriptions of the district were written. One, a Geological Survey memoir by E. Hull, on *The Triassic and Permian Rocks of the Midland Counties of England*; the other by W. Molyneux, on *Burton-on-Trent, its History, its Waters, and its Breweries*. In later years many papers relating to the rocks in different parts of the district were published; but, except the very detailed *Sketch of the Geology of Leicestershire and Rutland*, given by W. J. Harrison in 1877, no general account of its geology appeared. In 1889 the resurvey of the district was commenced by the Geological Survey, and all the maps, with the exception of the southern and north-eastern portions of the county, have been issued, together with a series of memoirs, giving a detailed account of its geology.

### PRE-CAMBRIAN OR ARCHAEOAN

The geology of Charnwood Forest has been studied for many years, but owing to the obscurity of its strata and the paucity of exposures, it has not attracted the attention of geologists to the same extent as many other areas. Among the earliest writers on these rocks were Professor Sedgwick (1834),<sup>2</sup> Professor Jukes (1842),<sup>3</sup> Professor Ansted (1863),<sup>4</sup> Rev. W. H. Coleman (1863),<sup>5</sup> and others; but it was not until 1877 that the first

<sup>1</sup> W. T. Aveline and H. H. Howell, *The Geology of Part of Leicestershire*, Expl. of Sheet 63; E. Hull, *The Geology of the Leicestershire Coalfield and the Country around Ashby-de-la-Zouch*.

<sup>2</sup> *Phil. Mag.* (Ser. 3), iv, 68, 69.

<sup>3</sup> Appendix to the Geology, Botany, and Ornithology of the District, in Potter's *Hist. and Antiq. of Charnwood Forest*.

<sup>4</sup> *Geologist*, vi, 371.

<sup>5</sup> 'Geology of Leicestershire'; in White's *Hist. Gaz. and Direct. of the Counties of Leic. and Rut.*



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

systematic study of these rocks was undertaken. In this year the first of the well-known papers by Professor Bonney and the Rev. E. Hill was published, followed in 1878, 1880, and 1891 by further accounts of this district.<sup>1</sup> These were supplemented in 1896 by Professor Watts, who proved the general succession of the rocks, and worked out their physical structure in such a manner as to allow the various sub-divisions to be represented on a geological map.<sup>2</sup>

Charnwood Forest is composed of a series of craggy hills and ridges standing out from a fairly uniform surface. These hills are uncultivated and usually devoted to plantations; while the spaces between, which are thickly covered with angular detritus, are generally enclosed and cultivated.

Professor Watts has shown that these rocks existed as islands in the Triassic and Carboniferous seas, and most probably stood up as mountains on the land in Old Red Sandstone times. Their features are not those of the present day, but date back partly to the subaerial denudation of Old Red Sandstone and probably earlier times, and partly to the aqueous denudation of Carboniferous and Triassic times. Present day denudation by clearing out the Triassic débris has done little more than expose to-day a pre-Triassic landscape.<sup>3</sup>

The rocks of Charnwood Forest are the oldest known in the Midlands. They consist of a thick mass of clastic volcanic rocks with overlying grits and shales; they are intruded upon in places by several types of igneous masses, and the whole of them are of pre-Cambrian age. They have been classified by Professor Watts in the following sub-divisions<sup>4</sup> :—

The Brand Series	{	Swithland and Groby Slates. Conglomerate, Grit and Quartzite. Purple and Green Beds.
The Maplewell Series	{	Olive Hornstones of Bradgate. Woodhouse Beds: Hornstones and Volcanic Grits. Slate Agglomerate of Roecliffe. Hornstones of Beacon Hill. Felsitic Agglomerate.
The Blackbrook Series	{	Hornstones and Volcanic Grits.

The succession is clearest in the eastern part of the district, but it becomes much more confused in the north-west from the fact that this region appears to have been the focus of volcanic activity, and consequently the rocks are here much disturbed and faulted.

The rocks consist to a large extent of volcanic ingredients, even the fine hornstones and slates being made of volcanic dust often interleaved with tuffs and breccias. No traces of organic remains have been found in any of these rocks with the exception of a worm burrow discovered by Professor Lapworth in the slates low down in the Brand Series, and a few other examples since obtained by Mr. Rhodes.

The igneous rocks of Charnwood Forest are extensively quarried for road-metal and paving setts; a large trade is also carried on in artificial flagstones made from the ground-up rock mixed with cement.

<sup>1</sup> *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xxxiii, 758-89; xxxiv, 199-239; xxxvi, 337-50; xlii, 78-100.

<sup>2</sup> *Geol. Mag.* dec. iv, vol. iii, 485-7; *Rep. Brit. Assoc. for 1896*, pp. 795-7.

<sup>3</sup> *The Geograph. Journ.* June, 1903.

<sup>4</sup> *Geol. Mag.* dec. iv, vol. iii, 485; *Rep. Brit. Assoc. for 1896*, p. 795; *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Geology of the Country between Atherstone and Charnwood Forest,' 4.



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tions at no very great depth in the district to the north of Grace Dieu between Ticknall and Breedon. In this area the beds are bent into a flat arch on the western side, while on the eastern side they are turned up nearly vertically by a large fault which appears to be a continuation of one of the Charnwood fractures. To the south the limestone becomes much thinner, and although it probably underlies most of the coalfield, it thins out further south. In a boring at Desford only a little over twenty feet were found.\*

Overlying the limestone there are some dark shales with thin beds of sandstone and limestone, which become more sandy in the upper part before they are succeeded by the massive grits above. These beds are exposed over the limestone at Dimminsdale and Ticknall; they vary considerably in thickness, but at the former place are from thirty to forty feet thick. They are also seen at Calke, under the railway at Worthington, and at Grace Dieu, but at Breedon, Breedon Cloud, and Osgathorpe are hidden by overlying beds of Trias.

#### MILLSTONE GRIT

Although there is a considerable area covered by Millstone Grit just beyond the north-west border of the county very little of this formation is seen within the county itself. The principal outcrop is that surrounding the limestone at Dimminsdale, which is the southern portion of the larger mass beyond the county boundary extending to the Trent at Stanton-by-Bridge. Another small inlier of this rock comes up at Thringstone, and it also occurs at the foot of the Keuper escarpment at Castle Donington, but the beds are very obscurely seen, and it is doubtful to what age they should be assigned.

The Millstone Grit of this area is but a very poor representative of this rock as it occurs in the northern part of Derbyshire. It consists of a series of sandstones and grits, which are coarse and conglomeratic in the lower part, but fine-grained and thin-bedded towards the top. Some of the beds are very massive, and have been extensively worked as a building-stone, but the beds are too soft to form the striking features that they do further north beyond Derby.

# GEOLOGY

## COAL MEASURES

The Leicester Coalfield occupies that part of the county west of the Charnwood Hills. It extends also into South Derbyshire, but the two are so intimately connected together that it will be necessary in describing this coalfield to include the whole area.

The formation is composed of a series of sandstones and shales with many seams of coal and ironstone. The coal seams vary in thickness from a maximum of 15 ft., but the majority of workable seams are from 7 ft. to 8 ft. or less.

The strata are bent into a flat arch having its axis running in a north-westerly and south-easterly direction parallel with that of Charnwood Forest, so that the seams on the east dip to the east, while those on the west dip in the main to the west, although there are several minor disturbances which alter this general arrangement. The effect of this is that the coalfield is separated into three areas, the western or Moira Coalfield, the eastern or Whitwick Coalfield, and the central region of lower unproductive measures. The coal seams on either side of the anticline have not as yet been correlated with one another; there is considerable difference in the nature of the measures on the two sides of the coalfield, and until further advance has been made in the palaeontology of these rocks it is not possible to compare the seams with any certainty.

The following is a list of the principal seams on the two sides of the coalfield :—

MOIRA OR WESTERN COALFIELD			WHITWICK OR EASTERN COALFIELD		
Name of Coal Seam	Average Thickness		Name of Coal Seam	Average Thickness	
	ft.	in.		ft.	in.
Ell . . . . .	3	6	Stone Smut Rider . . . . .	3	8
Dickey Gobler . . . . .	3	6	Stone Smut . . . . .	3	0
Jack Dennis, Block or Watson . . . . .	4	0			
Little or Five Feet . . . . .	5	0	Swannington . . . . .	4	0
Main . . . . .	14	0	Soft or Three Quarters . . . . .	2	0
Toad or Little Woodfield . . . . .	4	0	Slate Coal Rider . . . . .	1	0
Slate . . . . .	3	8	Slate . . . . .	5	0
Woodfield . . . . .	6	0	Yard . . . . .	4	0
Stockings . . . . .	7	0	Rattlejack . . . . .	3	0
Eureka . . . . .	4	6	Stinking or Sulphurous . . . . .	3	0
Stanhope . . . . .	4	6	Main . . . . .	6	0
Kilburn . . . . .	4	6	Smoile . . . . .	3	6
			Upper Lount . . . . .	3	0
			Middle Lount . . . . .	5	6
			Nether Lount . . . . .	6	0
			Roaster . . . . .	3	0

Associated with some of these seams are beds of fireclay which are of much importance, especially about Moira and Swadlincote, where they are employed for the manufacture of firebricks, saggars, &c. The clays in the upper part of the measures are also extensively used for sanitary pipes, &c.

In the south-eastern part of the coalfield the seams are worked beneath a thick covering of Keuper Marl and Sandstone, the Coal Measures themselves, except at Heather, being entirely hidden by this formation.

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

At Whitwick Colliery and as far south as Ellistown the Coal Measures are overlaid by a sheet of basalt, which was poured out in a molten state, and has charred the measures with which it came in contact.

Although the Coal Measures were probably originally laid down over the country to the east of the Charnwood Hills they were swept away in pre-Triassic times; and there is evidence, from several boreholes that have been made, that the red measures rest directly upon highly inclined beds of a much older date.<sup>1</sup>

The physical history of the Carboniferous period is clearer than that of those that went before, from the fact that the record of this epoch is more complete, and there are more reliable data to work upon. During the early part of this period it is probable that an inland sea existed to the north, extending along what is now the western borders of Derbyshire and Yorkshire, to the south of Scotland. In this depression was deposited the thick mass of limestone that covers this district; while in the extreme north and south, where the old land surfaces seem to have principally existed, a greater amount of muddy or sandy matter was brought in. From the small thickness of limestone that occurs in this part of the area it is probable that it was near the southern margin of this sea; while further proof that the water was comparatively shallow is afforded by the dolomitic character of much of the limestone. After a time a change took place and deposits of mud and sand, which had at first been confined to the neighbourhood of the shore, extended themselves over nearly the whole of this marine basin, and formed the shales, sandstones, and grits that overlie the limestone. Later the sea became converted into a freshwater lake or large estuary, while the further filling up of the water or the elevation of the land gradually produced low swampy flats intersected with land surfaces, on which vegetation quickly sprang up, and furnished the material for beds of coal. During this later period constant oscillation of level took place, producing the frequent alternations of shale and sandstone, latterly with coal seams, which characterize the Coal Measures.

### PERMIAN

In this district there is a marked unconformity between the Coal Measures and the succeeding deposits of Red rocks, the lowest of which have been classed as Permian. These rocks belong to a special series of strata, which has been distinguished by Professor Hull as the 'Salopian type' of British Permian.<sup>2</sup> There is, however, no proof that they are of Permian age; they may represent the commencement of the Trias epoch, and it is very doubtful whether the separation should be maintained. They are composed of coarse angular breccia with occasional beds of marl and sandstone. The breccia is usually angular, especially towards the south, and is composed of fragments of Carboniferous rocks, volcanic ash and other igneous rocks, slates, feldspathic grits and quartzites, embedded in a sandy calcareous matrix.<sup>3</sup> The fragments do not appear to have come from any distance, and most of

<sup>1</sup> Details of these borings are given in the *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Geology of the Country near Leicester.'

<sup>2</sup> *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Triassic and Permian Rocks of the Midland Counties of England,' 11.

<sup>3</sup> H. T. Brown, 'The Permian Rocks of the Leicestershire Coalfield,' *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xlv, 24.

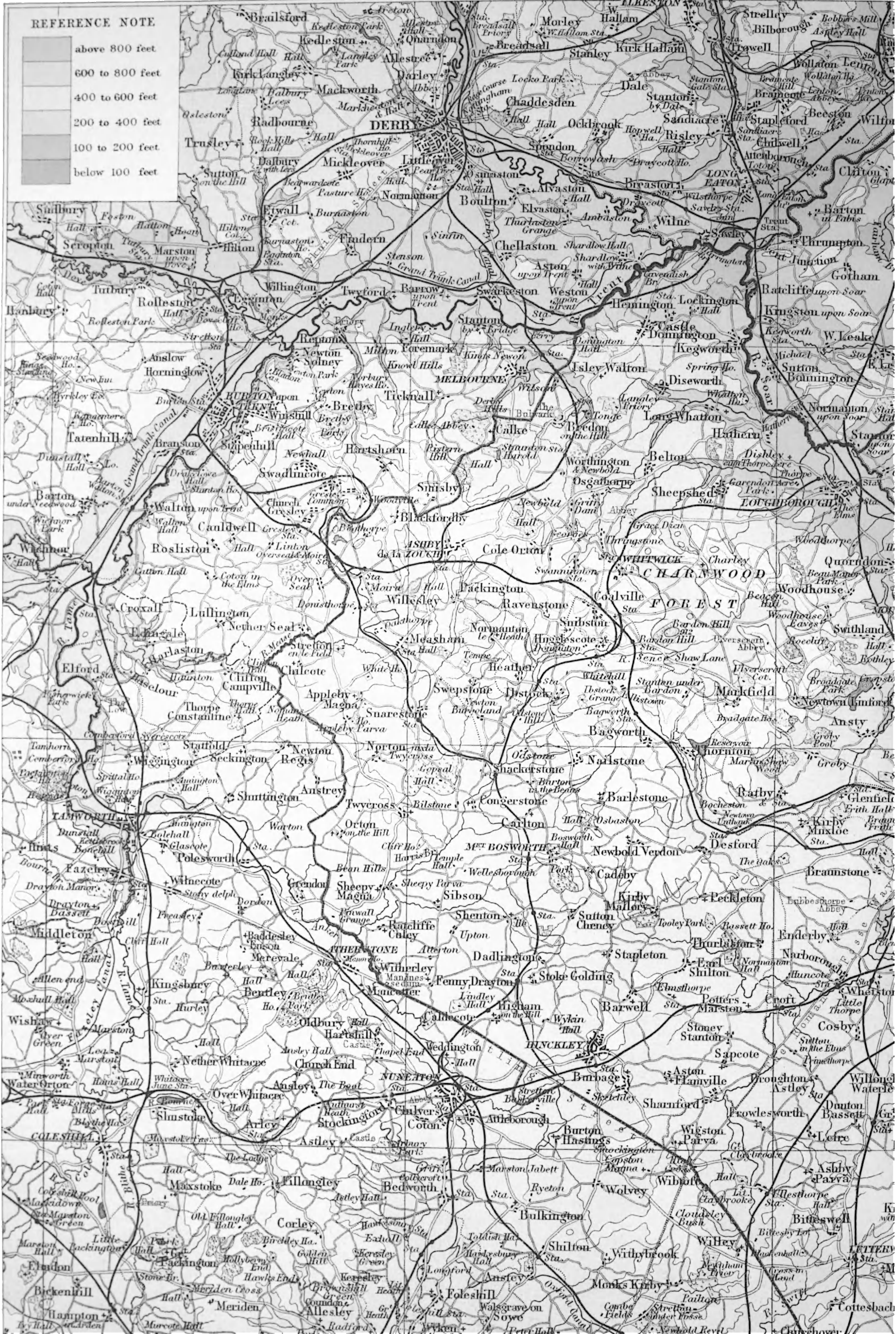




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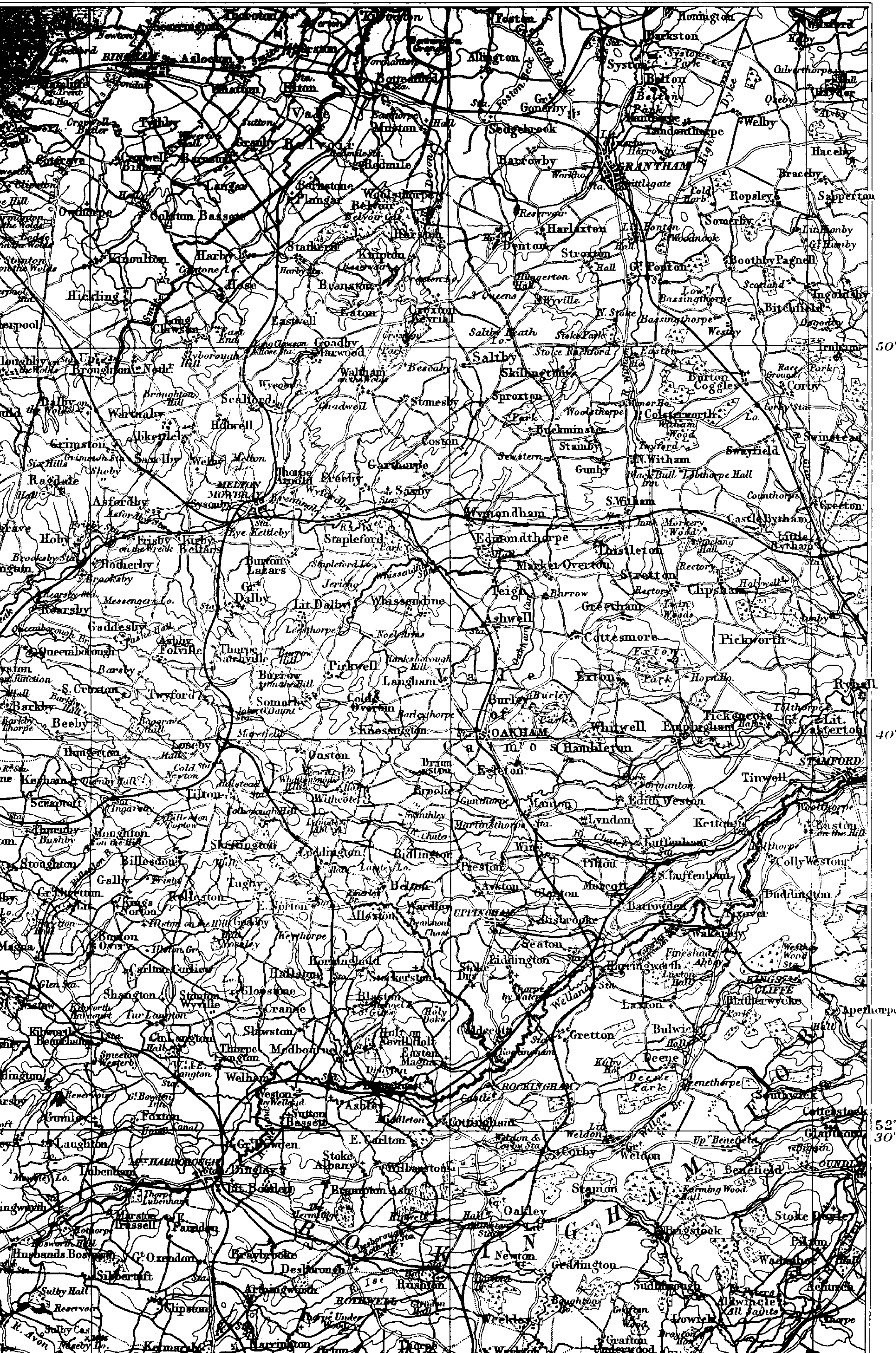
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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

maximum thickness to the west of the county of about 1,000 ft., but they thin out very rapidly eastwards, and are not present at Ashby-de-la-Zouch or anywhere to the east of that town. They are most strongly developed about Measham and Donisthorpe; there is also an outcrop at Boothorpe and on the banks of the Trent at Castle Donington.

When a sufficiently large area of these beds is exposed they form a dry but rather poor soil disposed in rounded gravelly knolls, which considerably add to the beauty of the scenery.

### KEUPER SANDSTONE

The Keuper Sandstone has an average thickness of about 100 ft., but it passes so gradually into the marls above that it is difficult to separate the one from the other. It consists of massive beds of soft sandstone, sometimes white, but usually stained red or brown. These sandstones are split up by numerous beds of marl; they are generally false-bedded and frequently ripple-marked. In the neighbourhood of the Charnwood Hills, about Thringstone, and also at Heather and other places, the base of the sandstone contains many quartz pebbles and angular fragments, and occasionally hard beds of conglomerate. Near Castle Donington footprints of *Labyrinthodon* have been found in these beds, but fossils are extremely rare.<sup>1</sup>

The sandstones have been used as a building-stone to some extent, but the rock is too soft in this district to be of much value. The Keuper Sandstone is a valuable water-bearing stratum, and large supplies are obtained from it at Coalville, Ellistown, and other places.

The outcrop of the rock extends along the western portion of the county from Appleby by Measham and Normanton to Ashby-de-la-Zouch. North of this it spreads out, covering Pistern Hill and most of the high ground between Woodville and Coleorton. At Thringstone it is thrown down by the large fault bounding the Coalfield, along the north side of which it forms a conspicuous escarpment as far as Staunton Harold, where striking to the north the escarpment is continued to Melbourne, and along the bank of the Trent to Castle Donington.

The Keuper Sandstone usually forms a light and dry soil, but the outcrop in this district, when free from Drift, is too narrow to have much effect on the land.

### KEUPER MARL

The Keuper Marl covers the whole of that part of the county west of Leicester with the exception of the small areas of older rocks which have been previously mentioned. It forms an undulating plain mostly under cultivation, of which the greater part is arable land well suited to the growing of corn. The strata consist of red and mottled marls with thin beds of grey and white sandstone, known as 'skerry.' Thin beds of gypsum occur at intervals throughout these marls, especially in the upper part, where one bed has a thickness of from 6 ft. to 12 ft. The sandstones are frequently ripple-marked, and contain pseudomorphous crystals of salt. Near Leicester a thick bed of soft white sandstone occurs in the upper part of the marl, but

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Leicestershire Coalfield,' 62.



this is very exceptional; the bed, which is quite local, thins out in all directions, and only covers a very small area.

Water from these rocks is very hard owing to the presence of gypsum, and consequently unsuitable for general purposes, although much appreciated for brewing.

The Keuper Marl overlaps unconformably the rocks beneath; and although along its junction with the Keuper Sandstone it succeeds that formation quite regularly, in fact the one passes into the other by almost insensible gradations, still, where the oldest rocks come to the surface, as around Charnwood Forest, and at Enderby, Croft, Narborough, Sapcote, and Mountsorrel, it abuts directly against them without any intervening beds of Keuper Sandstone, showing that these older rocks must have stood up as islands in Triassic times.

Various opinions have been advanced by geologists as to the mode of origin of the Triassic rocks. Ramsay considered that all the Red Sandstones of the Midlands, including both the Trias and Permian, were deposited under continental conditions,<sup>1</sup> and this is the view, with slight modifications, generally adopted at the present day. There can be no doubt that the rocky floor of this region upon which the Trias rests was most irregular in form. It was probably broken by tracts of high land in the neighbourhood of the Pennine Chain, the Welsh Hills, the Lickey Hills, the hills of North Warwickshire, the Charnwood Hills, and others, from which the material was derived, and which enclosed basins and lagoons in which beds of salt and gypsum were deposited; while the surrounding land was desert, producing the ever-shifting sands that have formed the false-bedded sandstones, and the remarkable eroded surfaces that have been found on the granite at Mountsorrel.<sup>2</sup>

#### RHAETIC

At the top of the Keuper Marl there are a series of beds which, although they are classed with the Trias, are in mineral character more closely allied to the overlying Lias. They rest on beds of tea-green marl at the top of the Keuper, which was at one time included with them, but there is a sharp line of division which is usually occupied by a thin band of conglomerate or coarse sandstone, having a peculiarly gritty feel, known as the Bone-bed. This bed, although sometimes absent, generally varies in thickness from  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. to 2 in., or rather more. When met with at a little distance from the surface it is very hard and pyritic, but nearer the outcrop it becomes decomposed and much more brittle. It is a highly pyritous and impure sandstone, full of the fragmentary remains of saurians and fish, the teeth and scales of *Colobodus*, scales of *Gyrolepis alberti*, teeth of *Saurichthys acuminatus*, *Acrodus minimus* and *Hybodus cloacinus*, together with fragments of Triassic sandstones, pebbles, and coprolites. The Bone-bed is succeeded by a thickness of about 17 ft. of dark, finely laminated shales, containing *Avicula contorta*, *Protocardium phillipianum*, and other bivalves in considerable abundance. These beds pass up into a series of bluish or grey shales which

<sup>1</sup> *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xxvii, 195.

<sup>2</sup> These were first described by Professor Watts, *Brit. Assoc. Rep. for 1899*, p. 747; *Proc. Geol. Assoc.* xvii, 379.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

have a thickness of 20 ft., and which are not unlike the tea-green marls below. The Rhaetic Beds, which thus altogether have a thickness of about 40 ft., form a narrow band at the foot of the Lias. South of Wigston the outcrop has not as yet been traced, but there is no doubt that it occurs some distance to the west of Lutterworth, although the ground here is deeply covered by Drift gravels, which entirely conceal the rocks beneath. In the neighbourhood of Leicester the outcrop is fairly clear, but becomes very much obscured again where it crosses the valley of the Wreak. North of Barrow-on-Soar it becomes clearer, and these shales, together with the lowest beds of the Lias, form a conspicuous group of hills near West Leake in the next county. Throughout this extended outcrop the only clear exposure of the Rhaetic Beds is that in the brickyard at Glen Parva near Leicester.

In the physical history of the earth the Rhaetic Beds show a transition from the continental and lacustrine conditions of the Trias to the open sea in which the Lias was laid down. They are of special interest as they mark the time when the great Triassic lake was invaded by the sea. The stunted character of the Mollusca shows that the conditions of this sea were not suitable for vigorous growth; while the character of the Bone-bed, with its fragments of bones, scales, and teeth, testifies to the sudden irruption of the water which exterminated the saurians and fish previously existing.

## LIAS

The Lias occupies almost the whole of the eastern half of the county, but it is so much covered over by Glacial beds that it is not exposed over a large part of this area. It forms heavy clay land which is mostly in permanent pasture, affording one of the most renowned hunting grounds in England.

The formation is separable, from its petrological character, and the nature of its organic remains, into three distinct horizons, Lower, Middle, and Upper, each of which is further divisible into zones characterized by particular assemblages of fossils.

### LOWER LIAS

This division consists of a series of thin argillaceous limestone bands and shales in the lower part, and a thick series of clays or shale in the upper. It occupies a large stretch of country extending from Lutterworth across the low ground east of Leicester to Melton Mowbray, having a breadth of six or seven miles. In the northern part of the county the Lower Lias covers a large area extending into Nottinghamshire. Over a large part of this district the beds are completely hidden by Boulder-clay; it is therefore chiefly along the numerous streams, and on the steeper slopes at the foot of the Middle Lias escarpment, that exposures of these beds are met with. These sections show that the Lower Lias may be separated into the following subdivisions or zones characterized by species of Ammonites:—*Ammonites (Psiloceras) planorbis*, *Ammonites (Schlotheimia) angulatus*, *Ammonites (Arietites) Bucklandi*, *Ammonites (Arietites) semicostatus*, *Ammonites (Oxynoticeras) oxynotus*, *Ammonites (Aegoceras) Jamesoni*, and *Ammonites (Aegoceras) capricornus*. The two highest



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of these zones, that of *Am. capricornus* and *Am. Jamesoni*, have by some authors been included with the Middle Lias, but it is better to class them with the Lower Lias, as the line of the higher horizon is the only one that can be drawn in the field.<sup>1</sup> The best exposures of the lower part of these beds is undoubtedly in the lime pits at Barrow; the higher zones can only be made out from obscure sections, mostly along the stream courses. The bands of limestone in the lower part are burnt for lime at Kilby Bridge, Barrow-on-Soar, and Normanton Hills, that from Barrow making a noted hydraulic cement.

### MIDDLE LIAS

The Middle Lias consists of two divisions; the upper part is a rock bed of ferruginous and sandy limestone, having at Tilton a thickness of about 18 ft., while below this are sandy shales and clays occupying another 100 ft. or more. These correspond to the two palaeontological zones of *Ammonites (Amaltheus) margaritatus*, and *Ammonites (Amaltheus) spinatus*, and are easily recognized wherever the rock crops out free of Drift. The thickness of the Rock Bed, however, varies considerably in its passage across the county, reaching its maximum development along the western escarpment about Billesdon and Burrow-on-the-Hill; while it nearly thins away altogether at several points towards the eastern part of its outcrop.

Where the Rock Bed is best developed it forms a fine escarpment overlooking the Lower Lias plain, as at Life Hill near Billesdon and at Burrow-on-the-Hill, at both of which places it rises to an elevation of 690 ft. above the sea.

North of Melton Mowbray the Middle Lias also forms a bold escarpment running from Ab Kettleby by Harby Hill to Belvoir Castle.

The Rock Bed is extensively worked for ironstone at Holwell, Eastwell, and Eaton, and was formerly used for roadstone and as a building material.

The Rock Bed being a very open porous rock, springs are frequently thrown out at its base, but the water is usually very ferruginous. Where the rock is free of Drift it gives rise to a red soil, which is very productive, and nearly always under the plough, forming a marked contrast to the clay land above and below, which is always in pasture.

### UPPER LIAS

The Upper Lias of this district has been separated by Professor Judd into the following five divisions<sup>2</sup> :—

5. 'Leda ovum Beds.' Clays with numerous bands of septaria (many fossils).
4. Highly pyritous clays, with much jet in places (few fossils).
3. 'Communis Beds.' Laminated blue clays with bands containing numerous small fossils.
2. 'Serpentinus Beds.' Clays with nodules of limestone, sometimes ferruginous (ammonites abundant).
1. 'Paper shales with Fish and Insect Limestones.'

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Jurassic Rocks of Britain,' i, 28; iii, 187.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*: 'The Geology of Rutland,' 89.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The thickness of these shales is about 200 ft., but it varies somewhat in different places. Exposures in them are very rare, and consequently it is only from artificial excavations that the above classification can be made out.

The Upper Lias usually rises in a steep bank above the terrace formed by the Rock Bed; and produces an undulating district, much covered by Drift, which extends along the eastern side of the county from Market Harborough to Pickwell. North of Edmondthorpe the outcrop is much narrower, and the ground being covered with a thick deposit of Drift these beds are but obscurely seen.

The dark shales of the Lias have been mistaken for Coal Measures, which sometimes led in former times to fruitless trials for coal, as was the case at Billesdon Coplow.<sup>1</sup>

That the Lias has been laid down in seas of varying depth is indicated by its fossil contents. The passage from the Rhaetic with fragmentary remains to the lower beds of Lias with Ammonites, Saurians, and Fish shows a gradual change from shallow lagoons to an open sea. The sandy beds of the Middle Lias and the basement portion of the Upper Lias indicate the oncoming of shallower water, which again deepened when the main mass of the Upper Lias clay with its abundant Ammonites was laid down.

### INFERIOR OOLITE

The Inferior Oolite, which makes such a fine escarpment just beyond the eastern boundary of the county, is but poorly represented in Leicestershire. Small patches, however, of the rock are found capping hills at Nevill Holt, Loddington, Robin-a-Tiptoes, and Whatborough. North of Melton Mowbray a projecting spur of the main outcrop comes within the district about Waltham-on-the-Wolds and Croxton Kerrial. It comprises two divisions, the Northampton Sand and the Lincolnshire Limestone. The first of these is further sub-divided into the two horizons of the Northamptonshire Ironstone and the Lower Estuarine Series.

### THE NORTHAMPTON SAND

The Northamptonshire Ironstone is usually a rich ironstone which, when not altered by the percolation of water, is a hard and compact rock of a blue or green colour composed of carbonate and silicate of iron. Under the microscope it is seen to consist of rounded oolitic grains. The rock, when it occurs near the surface and has been exposed to atmospheric influences, exhibits a peculiar cellular structure resembling a collection of oblong boxes. This has been produced by the concentration of hydrated peroxide of iron along the bedding planes and joints, which has split up the rock into roughly rectangular blocks.<sup>2</sup>

This ironstone passes up into brown sands, which are succeeded by white sands with occasional layers of clay and lignite. To these upper beds the name Lower Estuarine Series has been given. The total thickness

<sup>1</sup> *Life and Letters of J. B. Jukes*, 1871, p. 467.

<sup>2</sup> *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Geology of Rutland,' 118, 134.



# GEOLOGY

of the group is variable, but Mr. A. J. Jukes Browne states that it does not exceed 40 ft. in this district.<sup>1</sup>

## THE LINCOLNSHIRE LIMESTONE

The Lincolnshire Limestone is rather variable in character; in some places it forms beds of valuable freestone, but in others it is a coarse shelly ragstone interstratified with soft marly or oolitic limestone. Professor Judd has pointed out that the Lincolnshire Oolite presents two aspects which may be specially characterized.<sup>2</sup> A 'coralline facies' which is characterized by beds of slightly argillaceous limestone, of compact, subcrystalline, or but slightly oolitic texture, abounding with corals, which are usually converted into masses of finely crystalline carbonate of lime. These limestones afford evidence of having been true coral reefs; they contain shells which are particularly characteristic of this facies. The other variety has been termed the 'shelly facies.' It consists almost wholly of small shells or fragments of shells, sometimes waterworn and sometimes encrusted with carbonate of lime. Small gasteropods are abundant, but are usually waterworn; the bivalves occur usually as single valves, and are frequently eroded and broken. These beds were evidently banks of dead shells accumulated near the coral bed, under the influence of varying currents.

The ferruginous beds of the Northampton Sand form a rich red soil, which is specially adapted for the growth of crops, while the soil over the Lincolnshire Limestone is also mostly in arable land; but the outcrop in this district is so limited and so frequently covered by Boulder-clay that the underlying rock has not much effect on the character of the soil.

## GLACIAL DRIFT, VALLEY DEPOSITS, AND ALLUVIUM

After the deposition of the Oolites an immense break takes place in the series of beds that are found in this part of the Midlands. Although higher beds of Oolite and the Cretaceous Rocks come on in regular succession further to the east and probably at one time covered most of this district, they have now been completely removed by denudation, and there is no trace left of any of these rocks or of the Tertiary strata which play so important a part in the eastern counties and around London. Great changes took place during this period in which the present surface was first mapped out, although it has been subsequently much modified by the action of moving masses of ice, rain, and rivers. After this long period the first evidence of fresh deposition in this district is that afforded by the boulder-clays and gravels, which irregularly overlie the older beds, and are found over the greater part of the area. These beds may be conveniently divided under the separate heads of Glacial Drift, Valley Drift, and Alluvium.

## GLACIAL DRIFT

The glacial beds which occur in this district are of considerable interest from the fact that they illustrate the character of these beds over a large

<sup>1</sup> *Memoirs of the Geol. Surv.*: 'The Geology of the South-west part of Lincolnshire,' 45.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* 'The Geology of Rutland,' 139.

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portion of the great Trent basin. The nature of the Pleistocene succession in this area has been described by Mr. R. M. Deeley, who separated the beds into no less than eight sub-divisions<sup>1</sup> in the following order :—

*Newer Pleistocene Epoch.*

Later Pennine Boulder-clay.  
Interglacial River-gravel.

*Middle Pleistocene Epoch.*

Chalky Gravel.  
Great Chalky Boulder-clay.  
Melton Sand.

*Older Pleistocene Epoch.*

Middle Pennine Boulder-clay.  
Quartzose Sand.  
Early Pennine Boulder-clay.

Mr. Deeley drew his conclusions from a large number of isolated sections ; but the detailed mapping of the ground, which has since been undertaken, does not entirely bear out these ideas. The main fact drawn from the study of the Drifts is that they are of two distinct ages ; a lower one having its included fragments, consisting principally of quartzite pebbles and fragments derived from the west or north, and an upper one containing detritus of the Chalk and Oolites derived from the east. These occupy the relatively higher ground throughout the district, and appear to have formed one vast sheet rising gradually to the watershed, and falling equally gradually on the other side. This sheet, which seldom has a thickness of more than 100 ft., is cut through by all the principal streams of the district ; so that the solid strata are exposed in nearly all the valleys, while the Drift is found capping all the ridges between them.

The greater part of this Drift is composed of Boulder-clay, but there are also large quantities of sand and gravel, which occur at various horizons in the clay, although principally between the two clays mentioned above, and also associated with the Chalky clay. The thickest deposits of gravel are in the southern part of the county around Lutterworth, in the neighbourhood of Market Bosworth, and on the higher ground about Tilton and Skeffington.

The greatest elevation at which the Drift is found is on the Charnwood Hills, where it occurs slightly above the 600 contour line, and on Life Hill near Billesdon, where it rises to 730 ft., which is the highest ground in the neighbourhood, so that there is no evidence as to what its maximum elevation may have been. The Boulder-clay is thickest in the country to the south of Leicester ; it is also of considerable importance as far north as the high ground about Six Hills, but thins out to the north of the Charnwood Hills, and along the valley of the Trent, beyond which it soon disappears.

The Drift occasionally contains large transported masses of Oolite, Chalk, and Marlstone, which appear to be the result of coast ice acting along the shore at a period when the country was partially submerged. One of these occurs to the north-west of Melton Mowbray. It is a mass of oolitic limestone ; and as far as can be made out from old quarries, and the fragments

<sup>1</sup> *Quart. Journ. Geol. Soc.* xlii, 437.



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# PALAEONTOLOGY

THE task of drawing up a list of the fossil vertebrates of Leicestershire, at least so far as known up to the year 1889, is rendered easy by Mr. Montagu Browne's excellent account of the *Vertebrate Animals of Leicestershire and Rutland*. The writer is further indebted to Mr. Browne, who formerly had charge of the Town Museum at Leicester, for information with regard to additions to the fossil vertebrate fauna of the county since the date of publication of that work. Commencing with the mammals of the superficial formations, it may be noted that all these belong to the ordinary species, and are consequently in the main of no special interest or importance. An exception in this respect has, however, to be made with regard to two specimens of elephants—a skull and a skeleton—noticed below, of which unfortunately only fragments were saved.

Among the species most numerous represented in the county is the mammoth or extinct Siberian elephant (*Elephas primigenius*), a near relative of the existing Asiatic elephant (*E. maximus*), but distinguished by the narrower and more numerous vertical plates of the molar teeth, as well as by the thick and abundant coat of bristly hair and woolly under-fur which clothed the skin. A molar of this species was discovered in the valley of the Soar in 1849, and a tusk in a gravel-pit at Belgrave about 1861; while a remarkably fine tusk, originally measuring 11 ft. in length, was disinterred in the autumn of 1861 in the gravel of Sydney Street, Belgrave Road, Leicester. A portion of this tusk, as well as the two preceding specimens, is preserved in the Leicester Museum, which also possesses part of a larger but more slender tusk, apparently dug up in Sydney Street in 1867. In 1874 the Leicester Museum received portions of a mammoth molar from a pit by the side of the Midland Railway near Thurmaston, from which large quantities of gravel were dug for ballast. According to information obtained on the spot by Mr. W. J. Harrison, it appears probable that the workmen dug up a whole skull of this mammoth, which, with the exception of the aforesaid molar, was broken up and carted away in a ballast-truck.<sup>1</sup> Such a piece of vandalism is a matter for much regret. Mammoth teeth are also recorded from Keyworth and Kettering; while a well-preserved specimen was dug up in Wood Street, Belgrave Road, Leicester, in 1883, and examples have been obtained from the Abbey Meadow, near Leicester, and from other localities in the valley of the Soar. In excavating for a gasometer at Loughborough in 1888 a mammoth molar was discovered, and there are several other records of such finds in the county. Special mention must be made of a fine last upper molar from Kirby Park, Melton Mowbray, preserved in the Sedgwick (Woodwardian) Museum at Cambridge, on account of its being described

<sup>1</sup> Browne, op. cit. 27.



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and figured by the late Dr. Leith Adams in his monograph on 'British Fossil Elephants,' published by the Palaeontographical Society of London, between 1877 and 1881; the figures of this particular specimen being given in plate 13. A second regrettable instance of the destruction of unusually well-preserved elephant remains appears to have taken place in the county in 1858, in which year a skeleton of one of these monsters was discovered in the gravel overlying the Lias of Barrow on Soar. According to a contemporary account given by Mr. James Plant<sup>9</sup> :—

The animal, which measured about 11 ft. in length, was lying on its side, nearly two yards below the surface, and only a few inches above the bed of blue marl which constitutes the uppermost member of the Lower Lias at Barrow. So perfect was it when just discovered that the integuments were plainly discoverable. In a short time, however, exposure to the atmosphere produced its wonted effects, and of the whole skeleton it was only possible to preserve portions of the tusks, four teeth, part of a femur, and a large fragment of the scapula; some of these remains have been deposited in the Museum of the Literary and Philosophical Society.

The sole remains of the Barrow specimen, now extant, appear to be one perfect molar and a portion of a second, preserved in the Leicester Museum. Together with a molar in the same collection from Thorpe Arnold, these specimens are referred in Mr. Browne's book to the straight-tusked elephant (*E. antiquus*), a species differing from the mammoth by the somewhat thicker and less numerous plates of the molars. If this identification be trustworthy, it would appear that the Barrow find is the only instance of the discovery of a complete skeleton of *Elephas antiquus* in this country. The statement as to the preservation of the integuments in that specimen is a little difficult to credit.

Of rhinoceros molars the Leicester Town Museum in 1889 was in possession of thirteen specimens from the upper and eleven from the lower jaw collected at various dates from the Belgrave gravels, in addition to one upper molar presented in 1881, five lower ones found in 1886, and a metacarpal bone of the fore-foot dug up in 1876. There are also teeth known from Thurmaston, one of which is in the Museum. The Belgrave teeth, at any rate, are referred in Mr. Browne's book to the narrow-nosed species, *Rhinoceros leptorhinus*, and not to the common woolly rhinoceros (*R. antiquitatis*), of which the molars are of a different type. The latter species is, however, recorded by Messrs. Woodward and Sherborn in their *Catalogue of British Fossil Vertebrata* from Market Harborough. In the same work mention is made of remains of the horse, probably the wild *Equus caballus fossilis*, from the neighbourhood of Leicester.

Certain remains from the gravels of various districts in the county are referable to the Pleistocene bison, *Bos (Bison) priscus*, often mis-called the fossil aurochs. Of the true aurochs, or extinct wild ox (*Bos taurus primigenius*), the Leicester Museum, in addition to other remains, is in possession of a fine skull discovered in 1880 in the gravels of Abbey Meadow near Leicester. The domesticated breed of cattle known as the Celtic shorthorn (often incorrectly regarded as a distinct species, under the name of *Bos longifrons*) is represented by various remains from superficial deposits in and near Leicester, some of which belong to the Bronze Age. From similar

<sup>9</sup> See Browne, op. cit. 27.



## PALAEONTOLOGY

deposits, both at Leicester and Barrow, have been obtained remains referable to the domesticated sheep or goat.

Of the red deer (*Cervus elaphus*) antlers and bones have been discovered in refuse-heaps at Barrow on Soar and other localities in the county, which are probably of Prehistoric age. Other antlers in the Leicester Museum, one of which is from the Abbey Meadow, and a second from North Bridge, were dug up at considerable depths below the surface, apparently in the gravel, and indicate stags of large size. Certain remains from the gravels of the county which were referred to the fallow deer and roebuck<sup>3</sup> appear to have been wrongly identified. On the other hand, a small number of antlers and bones from the Belgrave and other gravels in the county are certainly referable to the reindeer (*Rangifer tarandus*). The finest antler of this species obtained up to the date of publication of Mr. Browne's book is one found in excavating the pit for a gasometer in river-gravel near Aylestone in 1888, at a depth of between 10 ft. and 11 ft. below the surface.

Tusks of the wild boar (*Sus scrofa ferus*) have been dug up in deposits of Prehistoric age in several localities in the county, several of these having been bored and used as ornaments by early man. A pair of tusks of the same species was dug up in Friar Lane, Leicester, in 1867, and a smaller pair in Abbey Street, but the formation in which they occurred is not mentioned. From the alluvium at Bede House Meadows were obtained in 1888 certain remains which it is suggested may belong to a breed very similar to the so-called *Sus palustris*, the domesticated swine of the Prehistoric Swiss lake-dwellers.

Passing on to the fossil reptiles of the county, it has to be noted that nearly all these are from the Lower Lias of Barrow on Soar, and belong to the two great marine orders Ichthyopterygia, or Ichthyosauria, and Sauropterygia, or Plesiosauria. Some of the Barrow specimens of the former group are, however, of more than ordinary interest on account of showing the outline and impression of the integument of the paddles preserved in the fine Lias mud. The Ichthyopterygia, or 'fish-lizards,' it may be observed, are characterized by the short neck, large head (with a ring of bones in the sclerotic, or 'white' of the eye), paddles composed of a number of polygonal bones arranged in pavement-like fashion, and by the short double-cupped discs formed by the bodies of the vertebrae, which are quite separable from the arches, or portion enclosing the spinal marrow. In the Sauropterygia, on the other hand, the neck is typically long and the head small and without a ring of bones in the eye, while the bones of the paddles are elongated and not articulated to form a pavement-like structure, and the bodies of the vertebrae are more or less elongated, only slightly cupped, and firmly articulated with the arches. The members of both groups were marine, and some of them attained a length of as much as 30 ft. They were, in fact, the whales of the Secondary period. Of the Barrow ichthyosaurs, the most abundant species seems to be the typical *Ichthyosaurus communis*, characterized by its broad, many-rowed paddles; the Dublin Museum of Science and Art containing no less than thirteen Leicestershire skeletons assigned to this species. One of the earliest known specimens from Barrow is a skull preserved in the museum of the Philosophical Institution at Birmingham,

<sup>3</sup> Plant, *Rep. Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* (1874), 37.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

and described by the late Sir R. Owen in the *Report of the British Association* for 1839. Of greater interest is a slab showing the impressions of the bones and integument, together with some of the bones themselves, of an imperfect hind-paddle from Barrow, presented in 1855 to the British Museum by the late Sir P. de Malpas Grey-Egerton, where it bears the register number 29672.<sup>4</sup> This species has also been obtained from the Lias of the vale of Belvoir, and likewise from a pit between Barrow and Sileby. Of the closely allied *Ichthyosaurus intermedius* the Dublin and the Leicester Museums possess several more or less incomplete skeletons from the Barrow Lias. By far the most interesting of these specimens is a split nodule in the last-named collection exhibiting the skeleton of the fore part of the body and of one front-paddle. In this specimen the outline of the soft parts of the paddle is clearly displayed; the posterior border showing fine parallel streaks which are considered to represent the impressions of muscular fibres. A figure of this paddle is given by the present writer in the *Geological Magazine* for 1889. The best half of the nodule is in the Leicester Museum, and the counterpart in the British Museum. To a third species of the same group of the genus, namely *Ichthyosaurus conybeari*, typified by a skeleton from Somerset, not improbably belongs an ichthyosaurian skeleton from Barrow preserved in the Sedgwick, or Woodwardian, Museum at Cambridge.

The remaining fish-lizards from Barrow belong to a group characterized by the narrowness of the paddles, which contain fewer longitudinal rows of bones than in the typical section. Of the species *Ichthyosaurus tenuirostris* the Leicester Museum possesses a slab of Barrow Lias showing a skeleton about nine feet long. Another long-jawed and narrow-paddled fish-lizard has received the name of *Ichthyosaurus latifrons*, although it is doubtful whether it is really specifically distinct from the last. The type specimen, which is believed to be from Barrow on Soar, is in the British Museum (No. R. 1122), and was figured so far back as 1825 by König in *Icones Fossilium Sectiles* (pl. xix), and later on by Owen in his 'Monograph of the Reptiles of the Lias,' published by the Palaeontographical Society. A second skeleton in the same collection (No. 36182) is certainly from Barrow; it was made the type of a distinct species by Owen, under the name of *I. longirostris*, but is not distinct from *I. latifrons*, whether or no the latter be separable from *I. tenuirostris*. Impressions of the skin of the creature are noticeable on this slab. Here brief reference may be made to a very interesting but specifically undetermined ichthyosaurian skeleton from Barrow now preserved in the museum at Oxford. This specimen, which is about five feet long, is mentioned by Potter in his *History and Antiquities of Charnwood Forest*,<sup>5</sup> and is described and figured in Dean Buckland's *Geology and Mineralogy*,<sup>6</sup> where mention is made of the fact that impressions of portions of the skin are displayed in the matrix. An ichthyosaurian vertebra in the Leicester Museum was obtained from the Middle Lias, or Marlstone, of Tilton-on-the-Hill.

It should be added that there is some doubt whether the great smooth-toothed fish-lizard, *Ichthyosaurus*, or *Temnodontosaurus platyodon*, is represented

<sup>4</sup> This interesting specimen has been several times figured, once by Owen in *Trans. Geol. Soc. Lond.* vol. vi, pl. xx, and again in his *Liassic Reptilia* (Palaeontographical Soc.), pl. xxviii, fig. 3; also by Kiprijanoff in the *Memoirs of the Imperial Academy of St. Petersburg*, vol. xxviii, art. 8, pl. ix, fig. 12 (1881).

<sup>5</sup> *Hist. and Antiq. of Charnwood Forest*, 64.

<sup>6</sup> Vol. ii, 22, pl. x.



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in the Barrow Lias, as at the date when Mr. Browne's book was published no Leicestershire specimens of this species were contained in either the British or the Leicester Museum. It is, however, recorded from Barrow in D. T. Ansted's *Physical Geography and Geology of the County of Leicester*.

Plesiosaurian remains, as in other localities, appear to be much less abundant in the Leicestershire Lias than are the skulls and skeletons of the fish-lizards. The Leicester Museum is, however, in possession of a magnificent specimen, measuring 17 ft. across the paddles, of the skeleton of the large species known as *Plesiosaurus megacephalus*, which was obtained from the *Ammonites planorbis* zone of the Barrow Lias some time previous to the year 1851. The species is stated also to have been obtained from the pit between Barrow and Sileby. A large plesiosaur skeleton from Barrow preserved in the Dublin Museum, measuring 13 ft. in length, has been assigned both to this species and to the very distinct *Thaumatosaurus megacephalus*.

Of other plesiosaurian specimens, it must suffice to mention that the British Museum possesses a split slab of Lower Lias from Bennington<sup>7</sup> showing part of the skeleton of a small specimen of *Plesiosaurus hawkinsi*, and also three imperfect cervical vertebrae from Barrow, in the original matrix, which it has been suggested may be referable to a species first described from the Lias of Belgium under the name of *P. dewalquii*.

Plesiosaurian remains are likewise recorded from the Rhaetic bone-bed in the Spinney Hills.<sup>8</sup> The latter formation has also yielded a bone which is probably part of the lower jaw of a species of primaeval salamander, or labyrinthodont, although its condition is too imperfect to admit of accurate identification. Undescribed specimens from the Rhaetic of Wigston preserved in the Museum of the Geological Survey, Jermyn Street, appear also to pertain to labyrinthodont amphibians.<sup>9</sup>

The fossil fishes of Leicestershire seem to be confined to three horizons, namely the Lower Lias, the Rhaetic, and the Coal Measures. By far the most important and interesting are those from the Lower Lias, chiefly at Barrow on Soar and its neighbourhood, since they include several types at present unknown elsewhere. Commencing with these Barrow fishes, the first on the list is *Undina* (?) *barroviensis*, an imperfectly known member of the group of fringe-finned ganoids (for the most part extinct), belonging to the family *Coelacanthidae*. Its reference to the genus *Undina*—of which a species occurs in the corresponding formation of Lyme Regis, Dorset—is only provisional, Dr. A. Smith Woodward<sup>10</sup> stating that the single known specimen, which is in the British Museum and was obtained at Barrow not later than 1847, is too imperfect for definite determination. The second Barrow fish, now called *Oxygnathus egertoni*, although at first described as *Cosmolepis*, belongs on the other hand to the fan-finned group (Actinopterygii), and is included among the sturgeon-like ganoids (Chondrostei). It is classed in the *Palaeoniscidae*, a family characterized by the complete scaling of the body. Down to the year 1891, at any rate, this species was known only by three somewhat imperfect specimens in the collection of the British Museum.<sup>11</sup>

Another family of the same group—the *Belonorbynchidae*—is represented by a jaw from near Barrow in the Leicester Museum assigned to *Belonorbynchus*

<sup>7</sup> Mentioned in Nichols' *Hist. of Leicestershire*, i, 205.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* 182.

<sup>10</sup> *Cat. Foss. Fish. Brit. Mus.* ii, 413.

<sup>9</sup> Browne, *op. cit.* 180.

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.* 520.



*acutus*<sup>13</sup> of the Lias of Dorset and Yorkshire. This specimen was discovered in 1874. It should be mentioned that Leicestershire is not given as one of the localities of this species by Dr. Smith Woodward.<sup>13</sup> To this same family (in which scales are usually wanting) undoubtedly belongs a small imperfect fish from Barrow in the Leicester Museum which has been made the type of a genus and species under the name of *Browneichthys ornatus*, the somewhat unclassical generic title having been bestowed in honour of Mr. M. Browne, while the specific name refers to the enamelled plates investing the head. Dr. Woodward<sup>14</sup> believes this fish to be related to *Belonorhynchus* and *Saurichthys*, from both of which it differs by the presence of scales on the fore part of the body. At present this singular fish is known only by the type specimen. A third family of Chondrostei—the typical *Chondrosteidae*—is represented in the Barrow Lias by *Chondrosteus acipenseroides*, a large sturgeon-like fish measuring about a yard in length. The Barrow specimen<sup>15</sup> is preserved in the Leicester Town Museum.

Turning to ganoids, or enamel-scaled fan-finned fishes of another group (Protospondyli), we find in the family *Semionotidae* the species *Dapedius dorsalis* fairly common in the Barrow Lias, from which formation the British Museum possesses a considerable number of specimens. *Dapedius*, it may be observed, is one of the deep-bodied group of ganoids, and is represented by many species from the Mesozoic formations. Some of the specimens now assigned to *D. dorsalis* were at one time regarded as indicating distinct species, under the names of *D. (Tetragonolepis) monilifer* and *D. striolatus*, one half of a split nodule from Barrow containing one of these fishes in the British Museum being labelled in the handwriting of the great ichthyologist Agassiz with the former name, while the opposite half bears the latter designation.<sup>16</sup> There is, however, a second well-defined species of the genus from Barrow, characterized by its remarkably rounded outline, and hence named *D. orbis*. At present it is unknown from any other county. Specimens are preserved in the British, Dublin, Leicester, Derby, and Warwick Museums. A fish from Barrow in the British Museum typifies a species of the genus *Mesodon*, which belongs to another family of the same group of ganoids, known as the *Pycnodontidae*, and taking its name from the numerous button-like teeth on the vomer and the opposing portion of the lower jaw. The Leicester species, *Mesodon liassicus*, is common to the Lower Lias of Somerset and Gloucestershire. Yet another family—the *Eugnathidae*—of this group of ganoids has several representatives in the Barrow Lias. The first of these is *Eugnathus hastingiae*, a species belonging to a genus numerous represented during the Mesozoic epoch; this particular species was first described from Barrow, although it has been subsequently recorded from the Warwickshire Lias. On the other hand, the second Leicestershire member of the family appears to be at present unrecorded from any other locality but Barrow. It is mentioned in Mr. Browne's volume as *Pholidophorus hastingiae*, but its proper title is *Heterolepidotus serrulatus*, although it has been confounded with another member of the same family bearing the name *Eugnathus serrulatus*. The genus *Heterolepidotus* includes several other species from the Mesozoic formations. Of the Barrow species the British Museum possesses a consider-

<sup>13</sup> Browne, op. cit. 197.

<sup>13</sup> Op. cit. iii, 21.

<sup>14</sup> Op. cit. iii, 23.

<sup>15</sup> See Browne in *Trans. Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* 1889, p. 16.

<sup>16</sup> Woodward, op. cit. 139.



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*P. nitidus*, which have been obtained from the so-called paper-shales of the Wigston Rhaetics, since this species is known only from that locality and Aust Cliff. The Leicestershire specimens have been described by Dr. Woodward in the paper already cited. The genus *Pholidophorus* is the typical representative of the family *Pholidophoridae*.

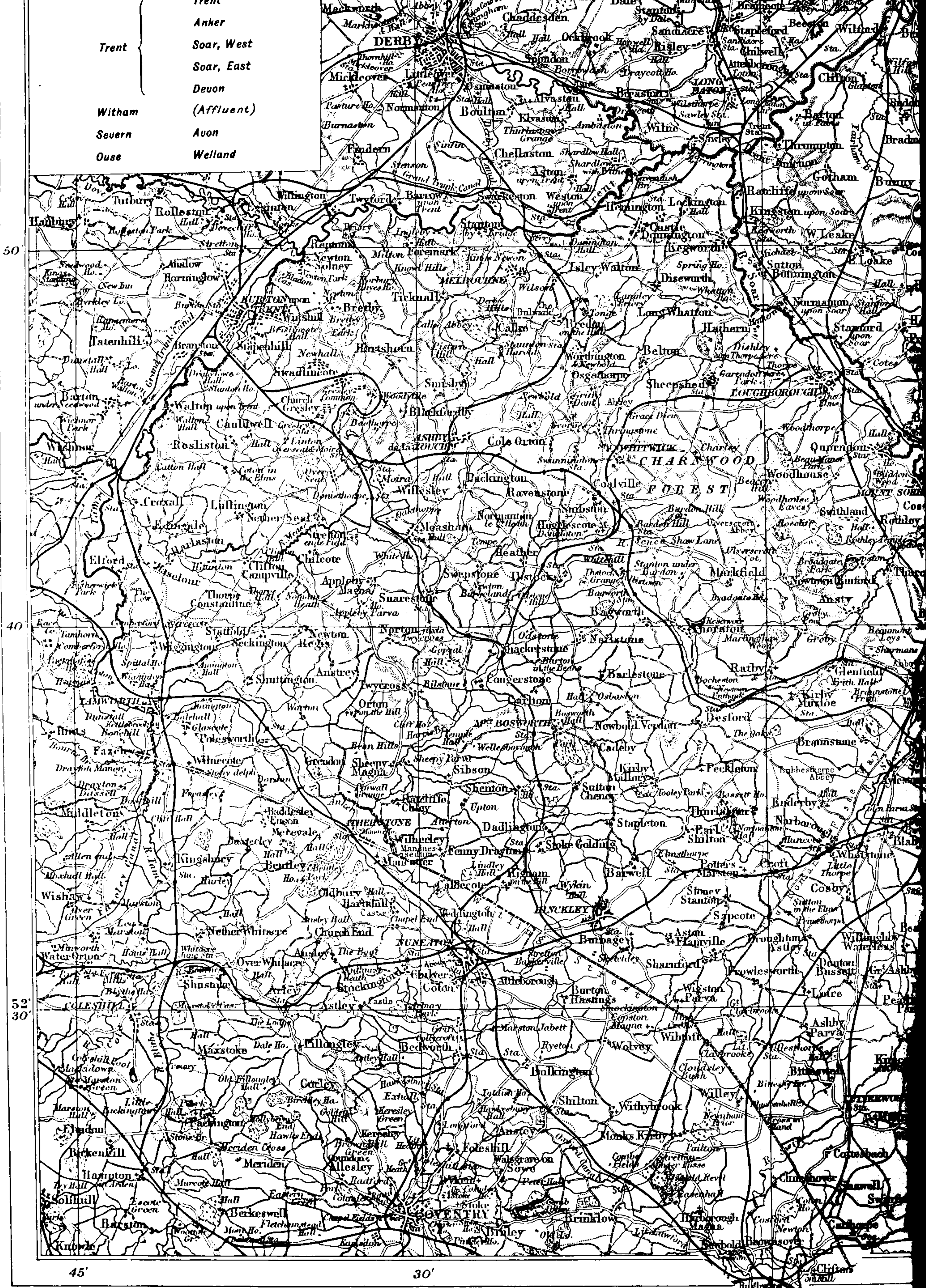
The fish-remains from the Coal Measures of the county do not appear to be of any special importance, and have not yet been fully worked out. Teeth of the type of those of the imperfectly known cestraciant *Sphenacanthus* are recorded from Ashby de la Zouch coalfield by Mr. Browne, who also mentions other teeth from the same field referred to *Pleuroplax attheyi* and *P. rankinei*, members of a genus belonging to the family *Cochliodontidae*, a Palaeozoic forerunner of the *Cestraciantidae*. Another common Coal Measure cochliodont, *Helodus simplex*, has likewise been recorded from the Ashby field, which has also yielded other teeth respectively assigned to two common representatives of the more ray-like Palaeozoic family *Petalodontidae*, namely, *Ctenoptychius apicalis* and *Fanassa linguae-formis* (= *Climaxodus*, sp.). Among ganoid types, the common fringe-finned *Coelacanthus lepturus* has been stated to occur in the Leicestershire Coal Measures, where teeth of other widely-spread Carboniferous species, such as *Megalichthys bibberti*, may very probably also have been found.







Trent	Anker
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	Soar, East
	Devon
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Severn	Avon
Ouse	Welland

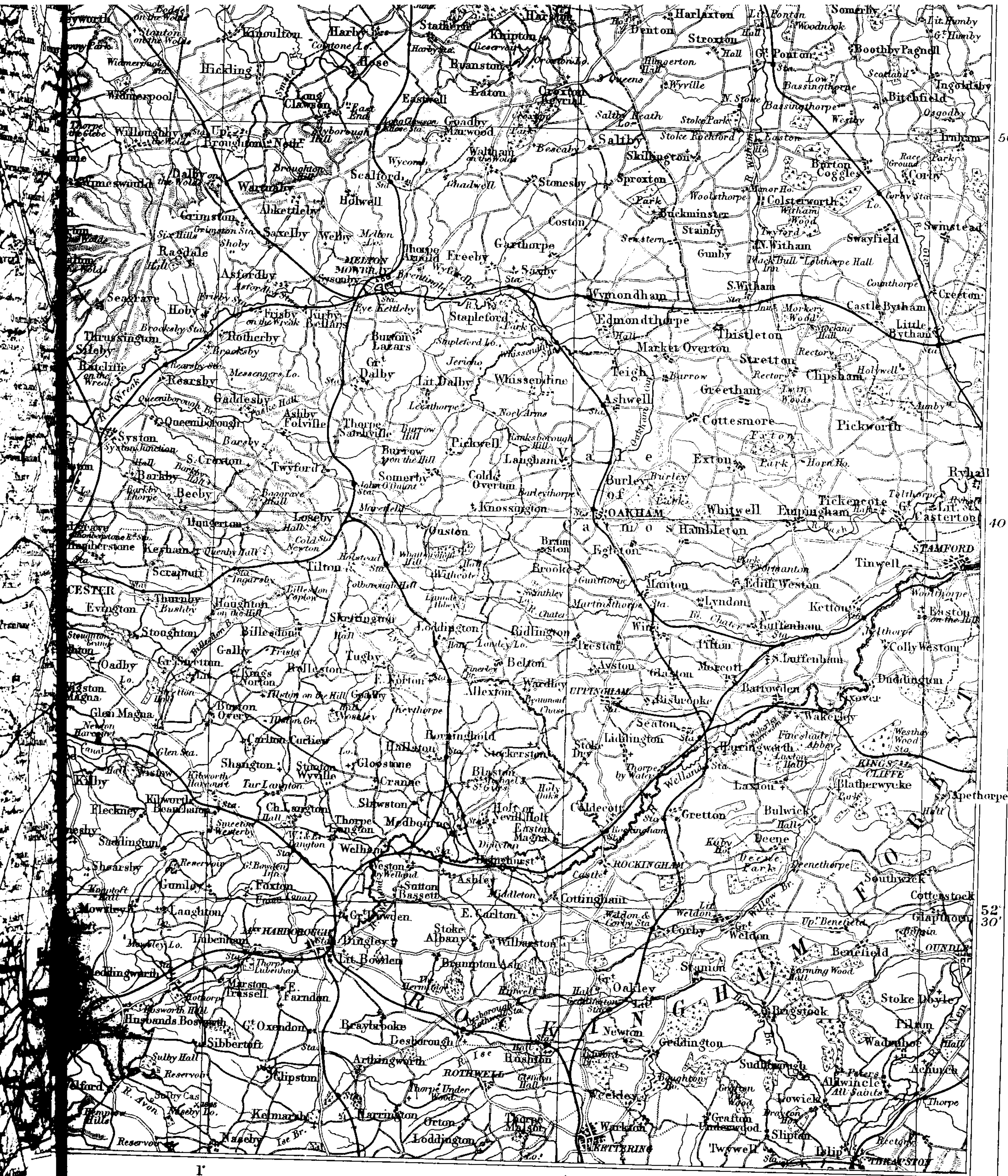


The Edinburgh Geographical Institute



THE VICTORIA HISTORY





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# BOTANY

**T**HE earliest account of Leicestershire plants is the MS. catalogue of plants near Loughborough, by R. Pulteney, in the year 1747. Another MS. catalogue by the same author is dated 1749. The former is in the Leicester Museum, the latter in the library of the Linnean Society. A list of plants, also by Pulteney, appeared in 1759 in *Philosophical Transactions*, xlix.

Richard Pulteney was born at Loughborough in this county in the year 1730. He practised medicine and surgery at Leicester, was elected F.R.S. in 1762, M.D. Edin. 1764, in which year he removed to Blandford, Dorset. Ten years later he contributed the article on natural history and botany to Hutchin's *History of Dorset*, followed in 1803 by a fuller account in the second edition, which was completed in 1814. This second article did not appear until after his death, which took place on 13 October, 1801. A biography of this distinguished naturalist, by Dr. Maton, was published in the above-mentioned history. Camden's *Britannia*, 1789, contains a list of plants by Gough. The Rev. George Crabbe, the poet, contributed with Dr. Pulteney the 'Lists of rarer Plants' in Nichols's *History of Leicestershire*, 1796.

Crabbe spent some years of his life in the neighbourhood of Belvoir, where he made himself acquainted with many of the wild plants within walking distance of the castle, at which he acted as chaplain for nearly eighteen months (1783-5); he then 'wisely' accepted the vacant curacy of Stathern, which he held for four years. He was then presented to the two livings of Muston and Allington, the latter just over the boundary in Lincolnshire. He held these two livings from 1789 for over twenty-five years, but he was non-resident for thirteen years (1792-1805). At this period he was troubled with indifferent health whilst living at Parham, Great Glemham, and Rendham, all of which were near his native Aldeburgh in Suffolk. He returned to Muston in 1805, where he remained until 1814, when he was introduced to the living of Trowbridge, Wiltshire, 3 June, 1814. He died here in February, 1832, in his seventy-eighth year. Some of the rarer plants recorded by Crabbe have disappeared through drainage from the Belvoir district, but others have been found since that were unknown to him when his list of Belvoir district plants was published. A few of his localities in Nichols's *History* are outside the county.

The Rev. Andrew Bloxam, M.A., was born at Rugby, 22 September, 1801, entered Rugby School 1809, Worcester College, Oxford, 1820, of which he was afterwards Fellow. In 1824-5 he was naturalist on board the frigate *Blonde* in the Pacific Ocean. He published papers on



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

botany, conchology, and ornithology in various periodicals, and contributed the 'List of Leicestershire Plants' to Potter's *Charnwood Forest*. He devoted himself, as no other botanist has hitherto done, to the investigation of the brambles, mosses, lichens and all other kinds of fungi. Most of Mr. Bloxam's life was spent in and on the border of this county. Before he became perpetual curate at Twycross he had resided at Calke, where he made a collection of Leicestershire and Derbyshire plants. This collection was examined and criticized by his friend, the Rev. W. H. Purchas, in the *Journal of Botany*, 1887, p. 145. When, in 1871, Mr. Bloxam became rector of Harborough Magna, near Rugby, he was still quite near enough to continue his study of Leicestershire plants. He died in 1878 at the last-named place (Harborough Magna).

The Rev. W. H. Coleman, M.A., was an assistant-master at the grammar school at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, where he died about 1864. His knowledge of flowering plants was exceptional. The *Flora of Leicestershire*, 1886, was based on the MS. which Mr. Coleman had written, as stated in the preface to the *Flora*. This MS. was placed in the hands of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society in 1875 by the late Mr. Edwin Brown, of Burton-on-Trent. Mr. Coleman rendered great service to future investigators by collecting and very carefully drying excellent examples of the brambles of the county, many of which have proved to be exceptionally interesting. Without this material it would have been impossible to have correlated them with any of the forms which have been distinguished during the past quarter of a century. Mr. Bloxam was Mr. Coleman's chief colleague in the preparation of the MS. *Flora of Leicestershire*.

The Rev. Churchill Babington, D.D., Fellow of St. John's, Cambridge, son of the Rev. M. D. Babington, of Thringstone, in this county, was born at Roecliffe, Swithland, in 1821. He contributed the article on ornithology, and assisted Mr. Bloxam with the article on botany in Potter's *Charnwood Forest*. He died in 1889 at Cockfield in Suffolk.

Miss Mary Kirby, formerly of Friar Lane, Leicester, published a *Flora of Leicestershire* in 1850. She was born in Leicester 27 April, 1817, married the Rev. H. Gregg in 1860, and lived at Brooksby near Melton Mowbray, where she died 15 October, 1893.

Mr. Frederick Bates of Leicester contributed a most valuable account of the freshwater algae to the *Flora* of 1886. The importance of this article cannot be over-estimated. Mr. Bates left much to be done in this department of botany, yet after twenty years scarcely anything of importance has been added to his list.

The Rev. W. Moyle Rogers has rendered a great service to the literature of Leicestershire botany by his study of the brambles, not only in the herbarium, but in their homes in Charnwood and other parts of the county.

In the *Flora* of 1886 there are many names of persons who have supplied information, and also a list of works relating to the botany of Leicestershire. The list of 'authorities for recorded stations' is too long to insert here, but some of their names appear in these pages after the names of the plants which they have found.

Since the publication of the *Flora of Leicestershire* in 1886, by Messrs. Mott, Carter, Cooper (E. F.), Finch, and Cooper (C. W.), for



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

streams. Such conditions favour the growth of many submontane plants which could not now exist in Leicestershire.

Of the 38 extinct Leicestershire species, some have not been reported since Pulteney's time, some that were known to Bloxam, Coleman, and Churchill Babington have disappeared, and a few that were reported twenty years ago seem to have shared the same fate. All these extinctions are placed in the list of flowering plants (Phaenogamia) within square brackets, so that it is unnecessary to name them all here, but the most important are: the marsh St. John's wort (*Hypericum elodes*)—this disappeared from Beacon Hill before Pulteney left the county; *Trifolium glomeratum* (Loughborough, Pulteney); *Lathyrus palustris* (Pulteney); two sundews (*Drosera*); *Sium latifolium* (Pulteney); *Antennaria dioica* (Crabbe, not certainly, but most probably, on the Leicester side of the boundary); lesser fleabane (*Inula Pulicaria*); chamomile (*Anthemis nobilis*); marsh gentian (*Gentiana Pneumonanthe*); deadly nightshade (*Atropa Belladonna*); butterwort (*Pinguicula vulgaris*); peppermint (*Mentha piperita*); fiddle dock (*Rumex pulcher*); frog-bit (*Hydrocharis*) (not seen since Pulteney's time, excepting the one which Mr. Hollings planted about 1848); *Luzula (Funcoides) Forsteri* (1791); *Rynchospora alba* and *Schoenus nigricans* (Pulteney); *Carex filiformis* (Bloxam); black spleenwort (*A. Adiantum-nigrum*); marsh fern<sup>3</sup> (*Lastraea Thelypteris*) 'about Croxton Park' (Crabbe in Nichols's *Hist. of Leicestershire*, vol. i, p. cxcix); the royal fern (*Osmunda regalis*); two of the club-mosses (*Lycopodium inundatum* and *L. Selago*). There are seven other plants which have not been seen for a number of years. These are marked in the list as extinct? They are *Sagina nodosa*, not recorded since 1850; *Crepis paludosa*, not seen since 1886; *Hypochaeris glabra*, not seen since Coleman's record, perhaps an alien as in Lincolnshire; the cowberry (*Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea*), discovered by Miss Kidger at the southern foot of High Sharpley, June, 1887, but not seen again, although thoroughly searched for up to 1906; *Senecio campestris*, found at Saltby Spinneys by the botanical section of the Leicester Lit. & Phil. Soc. in 1887, has not been seen since.

The plants which must be regarded, or which are known to be erroneously recorded are *Ranunculus Baudotii*, *Fumaria densiflora*, *Cochlearia officinalis*, *Hypericum Androsaemum*, *Vicia gracilis*, *Apium graveolens*, *Galium silvestre (umbellatum)*; melancholy thistle (*Cnicus heterophyllus*); Crabbe must have mistaken *C. pratensis*, which grows in that part of the county within eight miles of 'bogs at Knipton' and was probably plentiful enough in his (Crabbe's) time in the latter place, although he did not report it, for the submontane plant *C. heterophyllus*; lesser calamint (*Clinopodium Nepeta*), *Lamium intermedium*, *Orchis ustulata*, *Habenaria bifolia* (Pulteney, 1746), the Scottish asphodel (*Tofieldia palustris*), *Scirpus carinatus*, green spleenwort (*Asplenium viride*), and *Rumex sanguineus* type.

<sup>3</sup> There is no reason why this fern should not have been abundant in the wet valley formed by the Devon. The locality is altogether changed through drainage. All the marsh plants disappeared many years ago. 'Shipman's Bog' is now a pasture, meadow, and plantation. There seems to have been a considerable extent of boggy land from the sources of the Devon to below Knipton, and, judging from its appearance during the past thirty years, we think the marsh fern would probably be plentiful along with *Pinguicula vulgaris* and *Parnassia*. These last still grow on similar soil in the neighbouring county of Lincoln, one of them within six miles, the other was close by, but disappeared in 1880. It is still found elsewhere in that county, as is also the marsh fern, but this seems to have gone from Nottinghamshire before 1885. E. J. Lowe in *Our Native Ferns*, vol. i, pt. 218 (1874), says he procured it from Oxton Bogs. That was thirty-five years after the original record (Valentine in Howitt's *Flora*).



# BOTANY

The doubtful records are: the climbing fumitory (*Fumaria capreolata*), *Prunus Cerasus*, *Oenanthe silaifolia* (probably an error),<sup>3</sup> but there was a specimen in the Leicester Museum under that name, *Arnoseris pusilla* (Pulteney, never confirmed, perhaps a casual), *Gentiana campestris*, *Symphytum tuberosum* (an extinct alien), soft shield fern (*Polystichum angulare*), and others, mostly aliens and not reported since Coleman's time.

## BOTANICAL DIVISIONS

The map of the county which was published with the *Flora* of 1886 was divided into twelve botanical divisions each named after its chief town (excepting Division 2, after the largest village, there being no town). These divisions were arranged partly according to the river basins; only one fault can be found with that map—one which the writers of the *Flora* were quite aware of—that small portion which is drained by the Witham affluent was included with the Devon (Belvoir) division. If the map which accompanies this article is no improvement in any other direction, it may be claimed to be more uniform as regards those which have preceded it in this work and more strictly in accordance with the drainage. It would have been far easier to have followed the 1886 map, and the writer is quite conscious of certain drawbacks in the new one; the new division 2 B is too large and might have been again divided, but the desire was to reduce the number of divisions for so small a county; to divide 828 (approx.) sq. miles into twelve divisions gives an average of less than 70 sq. miles for each. It would have been well if Leicestershire could have been divided into six divisions of equal size, that is with about 140 sq. miles in each, with a town as near the centre as possible; this would make a good workable division. One very unsatisfactory reason for dividing counties into river basins is exemplified in both the 1886 and the new maps. Bardon Hill, the chief of the Charnwood hills, has to be placed in a different division from the rest of the forest; this led to some confusions in the 1886 flora: sometimes it appeared in one and sometimes in the other. In the new map it would have been a good thing if Division 4 could have been extended westward to include all the Oolite, but even then the district would be a very small one compared with 2B, which latter might be divided into a north and south division, the Queniborough Brook being the boundary.

Leicestershire is drained by four main rivers or their tributaries; by far the greater part by the Trent and its tributaries, the remainder by the tributaries of the Ouse, Severn, and Witham. The divisions of the new map are as follows:—

### IA. TRENT

This district is drained by two very small brooks and the northern half by the main river. Trias marls and sandstones, Coal Measures, Dolomitic Mountain Limestone, and very small patches of Millstone Grit are represented. The lowest ground by the Trent is about 100 ft. and the highest in the southern half about 300 ft. above the sea. Rare plants are conspicuous by their absence; two only seem to be confined to this division, *Hottonia palustris* and *Rubus Griffithianus*, also one hepatic, *Reboulia hemispherica*, found at Breedon in 1903. The absence of *Salvia verbenaca* and *Arabis hirsuta* is remarkable.

### IB. ANKER

The Anker district includes the Mease, a small tributary of the Trent, and the Sence, the chief feeder of the Anker, which is the largest stream running into the Tame, that joins the Trent less than a mile above the place where the Mease enters the main river.

Coal Measures occur in the north about Ashby, a patch also at Heather, Trias marls and sandstones elsewhere, and thin beds of Permian, which intervene between the first two. The elevation varies from about 260 ft. at Sheepy to nearly 600 ft. in the north-east, rising to 912 ft. at Bardon Hill, which is quite different geologically from the remainder of the area, being composed of ancient rocks (ashy lava, &c.), and is of course part of Charnwood Forest; from this the surface soil is much modified by the drift, which extends in a south-westerly direction in a broad strip capping all the higher ground with gravel, becoming more and more sandy towards the south.

<sup>3</sup> It has been withdrawn, and a note, doubting all the records, is in its place (F. L. Foord-Kelcey in litt. 27 May, 1907).

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The marsh cinquefoil (*Potentilla palustris*) is now only known in this division, and many rare and uncommon brambles (Rubi), lichens and other fungi; some of the last have not however been seen since Bloxam's time.

## 2A. WEST SOAR

The lowest ground in the county, 90 ft., is on the Trent bank in the north corner of this area, and all the highest in the county excepting Bardon Hill is situated in the centre, comprising the well-known Charnwood Forest, whose hills average about 700 ft. From a botanical point of view the glory of Charnwood has long since departed. Between two and three hundred years ago Charnwood was a well-wooded tract, but all the trees were cut down about 200 years since. Older trees may be seen in other parts of the county than any now growing in the forest. Somewhere about the same time as the cutting down of the timber, the forest must have been drained, for when Pulteney explored this area from about 1750 onwards, he never saw any cranberry, sweet gale, or bog asphodel; it is hard to believe that all these were absent before the drainage had made itself felt. Pulteney says he could not again find the marsh St. John's wort (*Hypericum elodes*); this plant very soon disappears from drained ground, whereas the sweet gale can live on comparatively dry sandy soil for many years. The cranberry is a puzzling plant; it is absent from the New Forest, and yet grows in Woolmer Forest not far away, and in the Isle of Wight. It seems to have disappeared from its only Nottinghamshire station since 1886, but not because it was too dry, for it flowered three years ago in Leckby Carr, Yorkshire, which has been drained thirty years. There could not have been any bog in the forest in 1750, but some of the valleys were wet enough for a few plants which cannot live without a continuous supply of moisture. One by one they disappeared, until now it is only in three or four very small patches of damp heath or pool margin that it is any use searching for them. Some parts of this forest are being very extensively quarried, as at Groby, Mountsorrel, Buddon, Markfield, &c. (syenite), and one of the most interesting bits of the old forest is being destroyed by the enterprise of the stone companies at Spring Hill and Peldar Tor (agglomerate). Where there are no quarries or slate pits the land is now highly cultivated, in some places to the bare crags on the tops of the highest hills. Here and there are small tracts of heath, and thanks to the fox-hunter, some covers and good sized woods; in other uncultivated parts there is little to be found now but bracken, the common but beautiful hair grass (*Deschampsia flexuosa*), and in places where the land is almost completely drained the purple hair grass (*Molinia varia*) abounds to such an extent that scarcely any other flowering plant can exist. So monotonous is this, one cannot help wishing it were made into meadow without any further delay; doubtless this wish will be fulfilled in due course. Of the plants which remain in this division, *Capnoides claviculata* grows luxuriously amongst rocks in several places near Whitwick (also outside the division on Bardon Hill and Cole Orton Wood); other plants which are very scarce outside Division 2A are *Cerastium quaternellum*, *Scutellaria minor*, *Euphorbia amygdaloides*; the following are now confined to it: crowberry (*Empetrum nigrum*, *Chrysosplenium alternifolium*, *Cotyledon Umbilicus*, *Polygala oxyptera*, *Campanula patula*, bog pimpernel (*Anagallis tenella*), *Polygonum minus*, *Epipactis palustris*, *Eriophorum latifolium*, *Carex teretiuscula*, the last two at Groby, the best locality in the division for rare plants; it is hoped these will be long preserved. *Rubus pallidus*, W. & N., *Inula britannica*, an alien well established at Cropston Reservoir (not included in the list), also most of the liverworts (hepatics) and the few peat mosses known for the county; two rare mosses formerly found at Swithland slate-pits, *Bartramia ithyphylla*, discovered by J. F. Hollings, and *Grimmia commutata*, Hübn. by Bloxam, have not been observed lately. There were many rare lichens in the forest in Bloxam's time; where are they now? and what is the cause of their disappearance? There are many collieries on the west and south-west side of the forest, the town of Leicester has increased enormously since these lichens were found; can it be the smoke from these which has eradicated them? A fair number of forms are, however, still growing, equal in number to those of counties similarly situated, and there are other conditions no less favourable than those which prevail here. Several very rare fungi are known to have been found in this division.

Besides the igneous rocks and slates of Charnwood, Trias marls and sandstones (Keuper) covered by drift occupy nearly all the remainder (and the greater part of the division); there are small patches of Dolomitic Mountain Limestone at Grace Dieu, 'Greenstone' (Syenite) at Enderby, Croft, Potters Marston, Stoney Stanton, and Sapcote.

## 2B. EAST SOAR

Upper and lower Lias clays prevail throughout, Marlstones at Wartnaby, Ab Kettleby, Holwell, Tilton-on-the-Hill, Owston, Wymondham, &c. The character of the actual surface soil, which often changes somewhat suddenly, is much modified, chiefly on the lias, where the hills are capped



and the valleys more or less thickly covered by accumulations of drift (sands, gravels, and clays), and by a broad strip of alluvium in the valley of the Soar, there is a fringe of lower Oolite along its north-eastern boundary, Lias Limestone at Barrow towards the north-west. The only plants in this large division which seem to be confined to it are *Carum segetum*, found at the last named place by Mrs. Foord-Kelcey,<sup>4</sup> and a bramble; the Oolite is too well cultivated to admit any of the plants which are so characteristic of this formation, excepting the old quarries or stone-pits near Waltham and Stonesby.<sup>4a</sup> Nothing here is absent from Division 4, but close by is a rare bramble (*Rubus dumetorum*, var. *rubriflorus*) found in 1906, but not elsewhere in Leicestershire. Other plants ought to be found in this neglected corner. The highest ground on the east side of the Soar is 700 ft. near Tilton and 570 ft. near Croxton Park and Waltham. The lowest is on the Soar bank, 120 ft. approximately.

### 3. DEVON

The high ground at Croxton Kerrial is capped by the impure Limestone (Lincolnshire Limestone and Northampton sand) of the lower Oolite, to the west is a strip of calcareous sand of the Marlstone, elsewhere Lias clay and Marlstone preponderate. Excepting the famous Belvoir Woods, and the rather numerous fox covers and the barren Croxton Park, this area is highly cultivated, or pasture and meadow land. Some parts are over-drained, as evidenced by the pastures in a hot dry summer. The woods about Belvoir and Stathern are now too dry for variety of wild plants, of which there is very little, even in the damp parts wherever a little spring is allowed to assert itself. If these are advantages to the sportsmen, and doubtless they must be, the botanist must not forget that the fox covers are the homes of a few wild plants that would have to go if the same were converted into cultivated land. This district was first explored by the poet Crabbe, and has had much attention since his time, but much might be done, as some cryptogams have had no attention. Knipton Reservoir and the pond below it will be found to contain many microscopic plants not yet recorded for Leicestershire; the division is very poor in mosses, and hepatics are remarkably scarce. One very promising-looking spot, the source of the Smite, is the only locality where these have any chance of maintaining an existence; it is, however, a most disappointing place for the searcher after mosses and hepatics. Here is a rare bramble, *Rubus Koehleri* (type). Three plants rare in this county were found by the Rev. A. E. Furnival; these are *Cerastium arvense* (at Harston) and *Astragalus hypoglottis* (*A. danicus*, Retz) at Muston, both plants are also in the next division (4), and *Trifolium scabrum* at Muston. *Epipactis media* was reported by Mr. G. C. Druce for Belvoir. From the lowest part of the vale, 140 ft. (approx.), the ground rises abruptly more or less from Belvoir Castle to Old Dalby and beyond the boundary to Six Hills, the highest point, 533 ft., being at Harby Hills; here the wild daffodil (*Narcissus pseudo-narcissus*) has its home, but not elsewhere in Leicestershire. *Ononis spinosa* is very characteristic on grassy roadsides and sometimes in rough pastures. Perhaps the most striking plant is the honeysuckle, which grows most luxuriously in places about Belvoir (and Croxton Park just outside in Division 2B). *Carduus nutans* is luxuriant on Marlstone.

### 4. WITHAM (AFFLUENT)

This very small area being almost all on the Oolite the flora is small and less varied than in the other divisions, but several plants grow here that are not found elsewhere in the county, some occurring in greater abundance than in any other division. A narrow belt of wild ground has been most fortunately preserved by his Grace the Duke of Rutland, the flora of this belt is composed of colonies, some large and others exceedingly small, the representatives of larger colonies which flourished on Saltby Heath before it was reclaimed and converted into meadows and cornfields; it is really most remarkable how some of these plants maintain an existence even on preserved ground, because the smallest have to contend with the largest, and must eventually be driven out by them. Crabbe does not appear to have visited this locality, but must have been very near it; his record of *Antennaria dioica* refers to a place very near if not actually on the eastern boundary of the 'belt'; he also found *Chlora perfoliata* at Saltby and Sproxton. Pulteney first found *Clinopodium acinos*, one of the most plentiful plants to be seen here now, but his reference to two others is too vague; 'chalky soil on the eastern side of the county' may mean any place on the Oolite which extends into 2B and 3. Coleman certainly came here and found *Bromus erectus*, the most abundant and widely dispersed plant in this division. It is usually accompanied by another grass, *Brachypodium pinnatum*, which was first noticed by Pulteney somewhere on this side of Leicestershire. Three conspicuous plants which are known in other parts of the county are *Helianthemum vulgare*, *Cnicus eriophorus*, and *Orchis pyramidalis*. *Cerastium arvense* and *Astragalus danicus* are only known here and in one place in Division 3.

<sup>4</sup> Mr. Harris first found this.

<sup>4a</sup> *Arabis hirsuta* ought to be found here.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The following are confined to this division and all are very scarce; two of them it is feared have been eradicated since 1886:—*Aquilegia vulgaris* (W. Bell, 1902), *Asperula cynanchica*, *Hippocrepis comosa*, *Senecio campestris*, and *Verbascum Lychnitis*, which was found in 1906, looks as true a native as *C. Acinos* and *Ononis*, with which it is associated; nor are there any plants in the neighbourhood that can be suspected as aliens.

Before the heath was reclaimed probably some of the rarer Lincolnshire and Northamptonshire Oolite plants grew there, such as *Linum perenne*, *Anemone pulsatilla*, *Hypochaeris maculata*, *Arenaria tenuifolia*, *Herniaria glabra*, *Thesium*, *Orobanche elatior*, and *Aceras* (the last in Northampton only of the two counties).

Some at least of the mosses which abound on the Oolite in Lincolnshire, and which might be expected, are absent from this Leicestershire portion of the same formation, for the simple reason that there are no suitable places for them; there can be no drier tract in this country than Division 4, whereas  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles to the east, but in Lincolnshire, *Pinguicula vulgaris* still grows, and the handsome moss *Climacium dendroides* fruits so splendidly that probably nowhere else in Britain can be found more fully developed examples; it is very rarely seen in fruit in Britain, too—this must be regarded as a relic of very exceptional occurrence. Excepting the bed of the Gringle Brook in Buckminster Park the ground is almost all about 500 ft. (Buckminster 519 ft.).<sup>6</sup>

## 5. AVON

The Avon and its tributary the Swift drain this area, which is wholly on the Lower Lias clay, deeply covered in parts by drift. Of the 390 or more species recorded none need be specified, as they are not uncommon elsewhere in the county.

## 6. WELLAND

Lower Lias clay, Upper Lias, Marlstone rock and sand and a small outlier of Lias limestone and Northampton sand occur. The northern portion is well wooded and possesses considerable variety of surface. These combinations give rise to an improvement in the flora when compared with the last-named division. Although nothing is absolutely confined to it, there are three very uncommon plants: *Rubus Bellardii* found by W. Bell, 1903, *Vicia silvatica*, and *Campanula Trachelium*. The mosses and fungi are imperfectly known. The reservoir near Saddington and the Welland may be expected to furnish many microscopic plants as yet unrecorded for Leicestershire.

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Although Leicestershire has suffered so much of late from a botanical point of view through drainage, cultivation, and the spread of its towns, and the villages in the coal mining district, the county can still justly claim to possess a greater variety of brambles (Rubi) (71) than any of the counties in the northern half of England, excepting Staffordshire (77). About the year 1830 the Rev. A. Bloxam commenced to study this difficult genus, giving a great amount of his time for the remaining forty-eight years of his life to the investigation of the brambles of this county.

Thirty-four species were found in the parish of Twycross alone, this number being slightly augmented. Two have been added since Mr. Bloxam's time by other students of Rubi, so that now we have a total of thirty-six species, making it appear that this parish contains as many species as several English counties are known to have within their boundaries at the present time.

Mr. Bloxam was joined in the study of brambles by the Rev. W. H. Coleman, and the Rev. Churchill Babington was also a collaborator about the same time as Coleman, but not nearly to such an extent as the latter. Since Mr. Bloxam's decease, a great amount of time has been devoted to the study of Leicestershire brambles, many additions having been made to the older records. The most valuable work has been accomplished during the last fifteen years, especially by the Revs. E. F. Linton and W. Moyle Rogers, the latter having elucidated some very difficult species, either unknown to, or very imperfectly understood, either by Bloxam, Coleman, or their successors. For full descriptions of all known species of Rubi see the *Handbook of British Rubi* by the Rev. W. Moyle Rogers, 1900, and papers by the same author in the *Journal of Botany* for April, 1902, and July, 1905.

The writer's sincerest thanks are due to the Rev. W. Moyle Rogers for giving so much time to the records and collection of brambles (Rubi); also to Mr. William West for naming certain Algae, to Mr. Arthur Bennett for a list (marked !) of the Naiadaceae and Characeae; to Mrs. E.

<sup>6</sup> Sewstern is in this division, not in 2B as indicated in the map.



# BOTANY

Foord-Kelcey of Quorn, for lists of plants, for the loan of her copy of Mr. Preston's MS. and published lists of Leicestershire flowering plants, and for help in many other ways; to Mr. J. A. Wheldon for determining several mosses, to Mr. H. N. Dixon for the number of Northamptonshire plants, to Prof. Carr for latest additions to Nottinghamshire, and the Rev. H. P. Reader of the Holy Cross Priory, Leicester, for a complete list of the mosses and hepatics, with some useful notes. Father Reader's experience of Leicestershire, combined with much knowledge of plants in other parts of England, has enabled the writer to give a representative list of mosses and hepatics.

In the following summary of the vascular plants of Leicestershire species to which no sign is attached are to be regarded as 'wild' in the sense of being natives, colonists, or denizens.

Aliens and plants of recent introduction which maintain their ground more or less successfully are indicated by an asterisk.

Species of merely casual occurrence recorded down to 1886, or which were probably recorded in error, or have long been extinct, are inclosed within square brackets. The sequence of the *London Catalogue* (ed. 9) is followed as far as possible, the brambles (Rubi) in accordance with Mr. Rogers' *Handbook*, the Gymnosperms follow the Monocotyledons, and the Characeae follow the mosses.

Localities are given for all new county records, both of vascular and cellular plants.

The following abbreviations have been adopted:—W. M. R. = W. Moyle Rogers; E. F. L. = E. F. Linton; *Journ. Bot.* = *Journal of Botany*; B. R. = Babington's *British Rubi*; Fl. L. = *Flora of Leicestershire*, 1886.

## PHAENOGRAMIA

### DICOTYLEDONES

#### RANUNCULACEAE

- [*Clematis Vitalba*, L. 1B, 2A, 2B]
- Thalictrum flavum*, L. 1B-2B, 6
- Anemone nemorosa*, L. 1A, 2A-3, 6
- Myosurus minimus*, L. 1A, 1B [2A, 2B, 18+1]
- Ranunculus circinatus*, Sibth. 1B-2B, 6
- *fluitans*, Lam. 1A [1B, 2A]
- *pseudo-fluitans*, 'Bab.' 1B, 2A, 2B
- *trichophyllus*, Chaix. 2A, 2B
- *Drouetii*, Godr. 2A, 3
- var. *Godronii* (Gren.). 2B
- *heterophyllus*, Web. ex. p. 2A, 2B, 6
- var. *triphyllus* (Hiern). 2B
- var. *submersus* (Hiern). 2A, 2B
- *peltatus*, Schrank. 1B-3, 6
- *Lenormandi*, F. Schultz. 1B, 2A, 2B
- *hederaceus*, L. 1A-3, 6
- *sceleratus*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- *flammula*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- *lingua*, L. 1B, 2A, [3]
- *auricomus*, L. 1A-3, 6
- *acer*, L. 1A-6
- *repens*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- *bulbosus*, L. 1A-6
- *sardous*, Crantz. 1B, 2A, 2B, 5
- *parviflorus*, L. 1A-2A, 3
- *arvensis*, L. 1A-6
- *Ficaria*, L. 1A-6
- Caltha palustris*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- var. *Guerangerii* (Boreau). 2A
- [*Helleborus viridis*, L. 2A]
- [— *foetidus*, L.]
- Aquilegia vulgaris*, L. [1B, 2A], 4, [5]
- [*Delphinium Ajacis*, Reich. 2A]
- [*Aconitum Napellus*, L. 1B-2B]

#### BERBERIDEAE

- Berberis vulgaris*, L. 1B-3, 6

### DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

#### NYMPHAEACEAE

- Nymphaea lutea*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- Castalia speciosa*, Salisb. 1B-2B

#### PAPAVERACEAE

- [*Papaver somniferum*, L. 2A, 2B, 3]
- *Rhoeas*, L. 1A-6
- var. *Pryorii*, Druce, 2A, 2B
- *dubium*, L. 1A-6
- var. *Lecoqii* (Lamotte), 1B-2B, 4, 6
- *Argemone*, L. 1A-6
- Chelidonium majus*, L. 1A-6

#### FUMARIACEAE

- Capnoides claviculata* (DC.). 1A-2A
- [— *lutea* (DC.). 2A, 2B]
- [*Fumaria capreolata*, L. 2A, 2B]
- *officinalis*, L. 1A-6

#### CRUCIFERAE

- \**Cheiranthus Cheiri*, L. 1A-2B
- Radicula officinalis* (R. Br.), Groves. 1A-3, 5, 6
- var. *microphyllum* (Reich.). 1B, 2A
- *pinnata*, Moench. 1A, 2A
- *palustris*, Moench. 1A-3, 5, 6
- *lancifolia*, Moench. 1A-3, 6
- Barbarea vulgaris*, R. Br. 1A-3, 5, 6
- [— *praecox*, R. Br. 2A, 2B]
- [*Arabis hirsuta*, Scop. 2A]
- *perfoliata*, Lam. 1B
- Cardamine amara*, L. 1A-2B, 6
- *pratensis*, L. 1A-6
- *hirsuta*, L. 1A-6
- *flexuosa*, With. 1A-3, 6
- *impatiens*, L. 1B (Bloxam hb., Kirby hb.)



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

### CRUCIFERAE (continued)

- Erophila vulgaris*, DC. 1A-6  
 var. *praecox* (DC.), 2A, 2B  
 var. *stenocarpa*. 2A, 2B  
 var. *majuscula*. 2A  
 [*Alyssum calycinum*, L. 2A, 2B]  
 [*Cochlearia officinalis*, L. (casual)]  
 [— *Armoracia*, L.]  
 [*Hesperis matronalis*, L. 1B-2B]  
*Sisymbrium Thalianum*, J. Gay. 1A-3  
 — *officinale*, L. 1A-6  
 — \**Sophia*, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — *Alliaria*, Scop. 1A-6  
 [*Erysimum cheiranthoides*, L.]  
 [*Camelina sativa*, Crantz]  
 [*Brassica campestris*, L.]  
 [— *Rapa*, L.]  
 [— *Sinapioides*, Roth. 2B, 3, 6]  
 — *Sinapistrum*, Boiss. 1A-6  
 — \**alba*, Boiss. 1B-3  
*Bursa pastoris*, Weber. 1A-6 (Sec Fl. L. 1886)  
*Senebiera Coronopus*, Poir. 1A-3, 6  
*Lepidium campestre*, R. Br. 1A-3  
 — *heterophyllum*, Benth. 2A-3 ?  
*Thlaspi arvense*, L. 1B-3  
*Teesdalia nudicaulis*, R. Br. 2A  
 \**Raphanus Raphanistrum*, L. 1A-6

### RESEDACEAE

- Reseda lutea*, L. 2A, 2B-4  
 — *luteola*, L. 1A-3

### CISTINEAE

- Helianthemum Chamaecistus*, Mill. 2A-4

### VIOLARIEAE

- Viola palustris*, L. 1A-2A  
 — *odorata*, L. 1A-6  
 — *hirta*, L. 1A, 2A-6  
 — *Reichenbachiana*, Bor. 1A-2B, 6  
 — *Riviniana*, Reich. 1A-6  
 — *ericetorum*, Schrad. 2A.  
 — *tricolor*, L. 1A-6 (agg.) 2A-3, 6 (segg.)  
 — *arvensis*, Murr. 1A-6

### POLYGALAEAE

- Polygala vulgaris*, L. 1A-4, 6  
 — *oxyptera*, Reich. 2A  
 — *serpyllacea*, Weihe. 2A

### CARYOPHYLLEAE

- Dianthus deltoides*, L. 2A  
 [*Saponaria officinalis*, L. 1A-3]  
*Silene Cucubalus*, Wihel. 1A-6  
 [— *anglica*, L. 1B-2B]  
 [— *noctiflora*, L. 1A-2B, 3]  
*Lychnis alba*, Mill. 1A-6  
 — *dioica*, L. 1A-6  
 — *Flos-cuculi*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — \**Githago*, Scop. 1A-3, 5, 6  
*Cerastium quaternellum*, Fenzl. 2A, 3  
 — *semidecandrum*, L. 2A [1A-3]  
 — *glomeratum*, Thuill. 1A-6  
 — *triviale*, Link. 1A-6  
 — *arvense*, L. 2A, 3, 4

## DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

### CARYOPHYLLEAE (continued)

- Stellaria aquatica*, Scop. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *media*, L. 1A-6  
 var. *Boraeana* (Jord.), 2A-6  
 — *umbrosa*, Opiz.  
 var. *decipiens* (S. neglecta, Weihe). 1A-2B  
 — *Holostea*, L. 1A-6  
 — *palustris*, Retz. 1A-2B  
 — *graminea*, L. 1A-6  
 — *uliginosa*, Murr. 1A-3, 5, 6  
*Arenaria trinervia*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *serpyllifolia*, L. 1A-6  
 var. *leptoclados* (Guss.). 1A, 2A, 2B  
*Sagina apetala*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *ciliata*, Fries. 2A  
 — *procumbens*, L. 1A-6  
 — *nodosa*, Fenzl. 1B, 2A. Extinct ?  
*Spergula arvensis*, L. 1A-6  
*Alsine rubra*, Crantz. 1B, 2A

### PORTULACEAE

- Montia fontana*, L. 1B, 2A

### HYPERICINEAE

- Hypericum perforatum*, L. 1A-6  
 — *maculatum*, Crantz. 1B, 2A  
 — *quadrangulum*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *humifusum*, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — *pulchrum*, L. 1A-6  
 — *hirsutum*, L. 1A-3, 6  
 [— *elodes*, L. 2A. Extinct]

### MALVACEAE

- Malva silvestris*, L. 1A-6  
 — *rotundifolia*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *moschata*, L. 1A-3, 6

### TILIACEAE

- [*Tilia cordata*, Mill. 1B, 2A]  
 [— *platyphyllos*, Scop. 1B]  
 [— *vulgaris*, Hayne]

### LINEAE

- [*Radiola linoides*, Gmel. 2A]  
*Linum catharticum*, L. 1A-6  
 [— *usitatissimum*. 1A-3, 6]

### GERANIACEAE

- [*Geranium phoeum*, L. 2A, 2B.]  
 — *pratense*, L. 1A-6  
 — \**pyrenaicum*, Burm. fil. 1B, 2A, 2B  
 — *molle*, L. 1A-6  
 — *pusillum*, L. 1A-3, 5  
 — *dissectum*, L. 1A-6  
 — *lucidum*, L. 1A-3  
 — *Robertianum*, L. 1A-6  
*Erodium cicutarium*, L. 1A-3, 6  
 [— *moschatum*, L'Herit. 1B, 2B, 3, 6]  
*Oxalis Acetosella*, L. 1A-3, 6

### ILICINEAE

- Ilex Aquifolium*, L. 1A-5



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- Linford*. Sparingly on the rugged bare crags of *High Sharpley* (north side), seen at *Hanging Rocks Lea Lane &c.*, by W. M. R.; *Grobby Pool*, W. Bell! 3: *Holwell Mouth*, 1906
- subsp. *calvatus*,<sup>7</sup> Blox. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! Fraser!; nr. *Packington*, Coleman hb. Mason! as 'sylvaticus'; *Blackfordby*, Routh! *Bardon Hill Wood* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 2A: *Ulverscroft Lane*; *Swithland Wood*, not typical (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906); outskirts of *Cademan Wood*, 1906 —
- *thyrsoideus*, Wimm. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam!; *Moirra*, Coleman hb. Mason!; *Packington*, Routh! 2A: nr. *Kegworth*; *Birstall Gorse*; *Stoney Stanton* (*Journ. Bot.*). 2B: *Barkby* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906.) 3: *Knipton Lodge*; *Branston to Knipton*. —
- *rusticanus*, Merc. 1A-6. Common all over the county. 1B: *Twycross*, B. R. as 'R. discolor' is the first record —
- *macrophyllus*, W. & N. 1A: *Piper Wood* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906.) 1B: *Higham*, Bloxam teste C.C.B. 2A: *Swithland*, in lane near the wood, W. M. R. —
- subsp. *Schlechtendalii* (Weihe). 1B: *Twycross*, B.R. 2A: *Ulverscroft*; by *Swithland Wood*, W. M. R. 2B: nr. *Billesdon Coplew*; nr. *Ingarsby station* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 3: *Lings Cover*. (A plant found on the western side of *Holwell Mouth* is either a form of this or an intermediate one towards *pulcherrimus*, a shade form flowering late). 6: *Tugby Wood* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906) —
- var. *amplificatus* (Lees). 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! —
- *Salteri*, Bab. 1A: *Staunton Harold*, Bloxam hb. Arthur Bennett!; nr. *South Wood*, W.M.R. 2A: nr. *Kirkby*, Bloxam; *Ulverscroft*; by *Swithland Wood*, W. M. R. (*Rogers' Handbook*, p. 102, is the first record). —
- *Colemanni*, Blox. (*Brit. Rubi* (1869), p. 127; *Kirby's Flora*, 38 (1850), Bab. ! Man. ed. 6, 109), W. M. R. 1B: *Packington*, Bloxam! —
- *Sprengelii*, Weihe. 1A: *South Wood*, Coleman!; also seen there by W.M.R. 1B: *Talbot Lane*; *Seal Wood*, Coleman!; *Twycross*, Bloxam, teste Focke; *Boothorpe Lane*, *Nailstone Wiggs* (*Journ. Bot.* Aug. 1906); *Bardon Hill*, Bloxam; still there 1906. 2A: *Grace Dieu Wood*, and outskirts of *Cademan Wood*, 1906. —



DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

ROSACEAE (continued)

- Rubus echinatus, Lindl. 1A: *Newbold*; *Lount Wood* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 1B: *Twycross*; *Sweepstone*, Bloxam!; *Blackfordby* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 2A: *Swithland Wood*, E. F. L. and W. M. R.; *Belton*; near *Buddon Wood*; *Blackbird's Nest*; *Woodhouse Eaves* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 2B: *Billesdon Coplow*, 'forma umbrosissima' (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906).
- rudis, W. and N. 1B: *Owston Wood*, Bloxam hb. Mason! 2B: *Big Spinney*, *Knighton*; *Glen Gorse*; *Wymondham*, W. Bell! 3: *Lings Cover*, 1906. 6: *Tugby Wood*, W. B.
- oigocladus, Muell and Lefv. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! 2A: *Buddon Wood Lane*, W. M. R. 1902?
- var. Bloxamianus, Colan. 1A: *Piper Wood*; *Lount Wood* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 1B: near *Blackfordby*; *Owston Wood*; &c. (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 2A: *Swithland Wood*; *Cropston*; *Thurcaston*; *Uverscroft*; *Roecliffe*; &c. (*Journ. Bot.*); *Bardon Hill*, towards *Whitwick*. 2B: *Syston*; *Scraptoft*; *Lowesby*; *Billesdon Coplow* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906); and *Purchas* (*Journ. Bot.*, 1887, p. 102).
- Griffithianus, Rogers. 1A: *Breedon*; *Lount Wood*, W. M. R.
- Bloxamii, Lees. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! 2A: *Burbage Wood*, Jackson.
- fuscus, W. and N. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! 2A: *Charnwood Forest*, E. F. L.!
- var. nutans, Rogers. 2A: *Charnwood Forest*, E. F. L.! = *Lea Lane*, *Uverscroft*, 1898.
- pallidus, W. and N. 2A: *Swithland Wood*, 1898, E. F. L.; *Grace Dieu Wood*, 24 July, 1906, teste W. M. R.
- scaber, W. and N. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! teste Focke, as 'R. Bellardi—dentatus,' W. M. R. 2A: *Blakeshay Wood* (between *Newtown Linford* and *Uverscroft*), 1898, E. F. L. (Rogers' *Handbook*, 1900, p. 104)
- foliosus, W. and N. 1B: *Ashby*, Bloxam. 2A: *Charnwood Forest*, E. F. L. I; by *Swithland Wood*, W. Bell!; *Buddon Wood*, W. M. R., 1902; *Buddon Wood*, near the large stone pit, Bloxam in *Fl. L.* (as 'saltuum'), (Rogers' *Handbook*, 1900, p. 105).
- rosaceus, W. and N. 2A: *Buddon Wood*; *Blackbird's Nest* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906); *Uverscroft*, W. M. R.
- var. hystrix, W. and N. (Rogers' *Handbook*, 105.) 2A: *Pocket Gate* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906); *Uverscroft*, just beyond *Lea Lane*, W. M. R.
- subsp. infecundus, Rogers. 1A: *Piper Wood*, W. M. R., 1902. 1B: *Twycross*, *Bagnall*!; *Little Orton*, near *Twycross*, Bloxam hb. Mason!; *Sutton Ambien Wood*, W. Bell! 2A: *Shepherd Lane*; *Newtown Linford* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906)
- subsp. adornatus (P. J. Muell). 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam hb. Mason!; *Twycross*, *Bagnall* (most abundant)!
- horridicaulis, P. J. Muell. 2A: lane by *Buddon Wood*, 1902, apparently W. M. R.

DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

ROSACEAE (continued)

- Rubus Koehleri, W. and N. (typical or nearly so). 2A: lane by *Swithland Wood* (= near *Roecliffe*), W. M. R. 3: *Holwell Mouth*, 16 July, 1906, confirmed by W. M. R.
- subsp. dasyphyllus, Rogers. 1B: *Twycross*, B. R. (as 'R. pallidus'); *Ashby*, Coleman hb. Mason! 2A: *Woodhouse Eaves* to *Uverscroft*; *Newtown Linford*; *Copt Oak*; *Whitwick*; *Grace Dieu*, &c. 2B: *Scraptoft*, shade form (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 3: Common about *Belvoir*; *Croxton Kerrial* to *Branston*. 4: *Saltby Heath*.
- viridis, Kalt. 3: grounds below *Belvoir Castle*, Bloxam!
- divexiramus, P. J. Muell. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! hb. Babington (in his 'praeruptorum' packet), W. M. R. (Rogers' *Handbook*, 1900, p. 105)
- Bellardii, W. and N. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam hb. Mason! 'fairly typical,' W. M. R. 6: *Tugby Wood*, W. Bell (1903), typ.!
- hirtus, W. and N. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam! Focke assenting; *Twycross*, hb. Mason!
- subsp. Kaltenbachii (Metsch). 2A: *Rothley Plain*; outskirts of *Buddon Wood*, W. M. R. I; very fine in *Buddon Wood* near the cottages, 1906 (Rogers' *Handbook*, 1900, p. 106)
- ochrodermis, A. Ley. 2A: Outskirt of *Buddon Wood*, 24 July, 1906; seen there in 1902 by Mr. Rogers; not typical, but Mr. Ley agreed to the name.
- velatus, Lefv. 1B: Plantation, *Gopsall*, Coleman hb. Mason! 2A: near the *Railway Station*, *Quorn*, 1899, W. M. R.
- dumetorum, W. and N. (sp. collect). 1A-6: *Twycross*, Bloxam, 'very glandular form'!
- var. ferox, Weihe. 1B: *Altons*, *Ashby* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 2A: *Cropston*; *Charnwood Forest*, E. F. L.; *Anstey*, &c. (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906); *Birstall Copse*, &c., &c., W. M. R.; *Quorn*; *Newtown Linford* to *Copt Oak*; scarce but very fine near the monastery. 2B: *Sibley* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906). 3: *Holwell Mouth*. 6: *Loddington*; *Horningfield*; *East Norton* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906).
- var. britannicus, Rogers. 1B: *Sutton Ambien*, W. Bell. 2A: *Lea Lane*; *Uverscroft*; *Hanging Rocks*, W. M. R.; *Bardon Hill* to *Peldar Tor*. 2B: *Knighton*, W. Bell!
- var. diversifolius, Lindl. 1B: near *Ashby*, Bloxam, teste Focke. 2A: *Swithland Wood Lane*, 1902, W. M. R. 2B: *Glen Gorse* (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906).
- var. rubriflorus, Purchas. 2B: On the *Oolite*, *Bescaby* to *Waltham*, 17 July, 1906, teste W. M. R.
- var. tuberculatus (Bab.). 1B: *Twycross*, B. R.; *Moir Lane*; 2B: *Sutton Ambien Wood*, W. Bell!
- var. fasciculatus (P. J. Muell). 1B: *Twycross*, B. R. 2A: Between *Quorn Railway Station* and *Quorn Village*, W. M. R. 2B: *Knighton Grange Rd.*, W. Bell! 4: *Three Queens*, 1906, W. Bell!
- var. concinnus, Warren. 1B: *Twycross*, Bloxam hb. Mason! *Twycross*, 'most abundant,' Bagnall! 6: *East Norton* (a form), (*Journ. Bot.*, Aug. 1906).







DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

UMBELLIFERAE

- Hydrocotyle vulgaris, L. 1B, 2A, 6  
 Sanicula europaea, L. 1A-3, 6  
 Conium maculatum, L. 1A-6  
 [Smyrnum Olusatrum, L. 1B, 2A]  
 [Bupleurum rotundifolium, L. 2A-3]  
 [Apium graveolens, L. 1B-2B, 6]  
 — nodiflorum Reichb. 1A-3, 5, 6  
     var. repens, Hook. 2A  
     var. ochreatum, Bab. 2A  
 — inundatum Reichb. 1A-2A, 3, 6  
 [Carnum Carvi, L.]  
 — Petroselinum, Benth. \*1A [1B, 2A]  
 — segetum, Benth. 2B  
 Sison Amomum, L. 1A-3, 6  
 [Sium latifolium, L. 2A, 2B, extinct]  
 — erectum, Huds. 1B-3, 5, 6  
 Ægopodium Podagraria, L. 1A-6  
 Pimpinella Saxifraga, L. 1A-6  
     var. nigra (Mill), f. dissecta. 2B  
     var. dissecta, With. 2A  
 — major, Huds. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Conopodium denudatum, Koch. 1A-6  
 Chaerophyllum temulum, L. 1A-6  
 Scandix Pecten, L. 1A-6  
 Anthriscus vulgaris, Bernh. 1A-2A, 3, 4, 6  
 — silvestris, Hoffm. 1A-6  
 Oenanthe fistulosa, L. 1A-2A, 6  
 — silaifolia, Bieberst [1B, 2A, 2B.] 55 *Top. Bot.*  
     (speen. according to T. A. Preston MS. now  
     withdrawn)  
 — Lachenalii, C. Gmel. 1B, 2B  
 — Phellandrium, Lam. 1B-3, 6  
 — fluviatilis, Coleman. 1B-2B, 6  
 Æthusa Cynapium, L. 1A-6  
 Silaus flavescens, Bernh. 1A-6  
 Angelica silvestris, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Peucedanum sativum, Benth. 1A-6  
 Heracleum Sphondylium, L. 1A-6  
     var. angustifolium, Huds. 2A-3, 6  
 Daucus Carota, L. 1A-6  
 Caulis arvensis, Huds. 1B-3 ?  
 — nodosa, Scop. 1A-3, 5  
 — Anthriscus, Huds. 1A-6

ARALIACEAE

- Hedera Helix, L. 1A-6

CORNACEAE

- Cornus sanguinea, L. 1A-6

CAPRIFOLIACEAE

- Adoxa Moschatellina, L. 1A-2B, 6  
 Sambucus nigra, L. 1A-6  
 — Ebulus, L. 1B-[3?] 6, sp. *High Cross* and  
     Div. 5 = 2A or 2B  
 Viburnum Opulus, L. 1A-3, 6 (Yellow fruit at  
     *Narborough*, 'very rare')  
 — \*Lantana, L. 1B-3, 5, 6  
 Lonicera Periclymenum, L. 1A-6

DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

RUBIACEAE

- Galium Cruciatum, Scop. 1A-6  
 — verum, L. 1A-6  
 — erectum, Huds. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B  
 — Mollugo, L. 1A-4, 6  
 — saxatile, L. 1A-4, 6  
 — palustre, L. 1A-6  
     var. elongatum (Presl.), 1B, 2A  
     var. Witheringii (Sm.), 1B, 2A, 3, 6  
 — uliginosum, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — Aparine, L. 1A-6  
 — \*tricornis, With. 2A, 2B, 3  
 Asperula odorata, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — cynanchica, L. 4  
 Sherardia arvensis, L. 1A-6

VALERIAENAE

- Valeriana dioica, L. 1B, 2A, 2B, 5, 6  
 — officinalis, L. (sp. collect.). 1A-3, 6  
     a. Mikanii Syme. 2A, 2B, 6  
     b. sambucifolia, Willd. 2A ('common,'  
     *Fl. L.*)  
 Valerianella olitoria, Poll. 1A-6  
 dentata, Poll. 1A-4

DIPSACEAE

- Dipsacus silvestris, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — pilosus, L. 1B-2B, 6  
 Scabiosa Succisa, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — Columbaria, L. 1A, 2A-4  
 — arvensis, L. 1B-6

COMPOSITAE

- Eupatorium cannabinum, L. 1A-2A, 6  
 Solidago Virgaurea, L. 1B, 2A  
 Bellis perennis, L. 1A-6  
 Erigeron acre, L. 1A-2B  
 Filago germanica, L. 1A-5  
 — minima, Fr. 1A, 2B  
 [Antennaria dioica, R. Br. 4 ?]  
 Gnaphalium uliginosum, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — silvaticum, L. 1A-2A, 3  
 Inula Conyza, DC. [1B, 2A, old records]  
 — dysenterica, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 [— Pulicaria, L. 2A (?) 2B (?)]  
 Bidens cernua, L. 1B-2B, 6  
 — tripartita, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Achillea Millefolium, L. 1A-6  
 — Ptarmica, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Anthemis Cotula, L. 1B-3, 5, 6  
 — arvensis, L. 1B-4  
 [— nobilis, L. 2A, 1B ? Extinct]  
 Chrysanthemum segetum, L. 1A-6  
 — leucanthemum, L. 1A-6  
 Matricaria inodora, L. 1A-6  
 — Chamomilla, L. 1A-6  
 Tanacetum vulgare, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 \*Artemisia Absinthium, L. 1A, 2A, 5, 6  
 — vulgaris, L. 1A-6  
 Tussilago Farfara, L. 1A-6  
 Petasites officinalis, Moench. 1A-3, 5, 6



**DICOTYLEDONES (continued)**

**COMPOSITAE (continued)**

- Senecio vulgaris, L. 1A-6  
 — silvaticus, L. 1A-2A, 3  
 — Jacobaeae, L. 1A-4, 6  
 — crucifolius, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — aquaticus, Huds. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — campestris, DC. 4 (Section 1387. Extinct?)  
 Carlina vulgaris, L. 1A-2A, 3-5  
 Arctium majus, Bernh. 1B-2B, 5, 6  
 — nemorosum, Lej. 1B-3, 5, 6  
 — minus, Bernh. 1A-6  
 — intermedium, Lange. 1B-2B, 4, 6  
 Carduus nutans, L. 1A-5 [6]  
 — crispus, L. 1-3, 5, 6  
 [— — × nutans. 2A-3, 5, 6?]  
 Cnicus lanceolatus, Willd. 1A-6  
 — eriophorus, Roth. 2A, 2B, 4, 5 [1A, 3, 6]  
 — palustris, Willd. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — pratensis, Willd. 1B-2B  
 — acaulis, Willd. 1A, 2A-6  
 — arvensis, Hoffm. 1A-6  
 [— heterophyllus, Willd. 3. Error.]  
 \*Onopordon Acanthium, L. 1A, 2A, 2B  
 [Mariana lactea, Hill. 2A]  
 Serratula tinctoria, L. 1A-3, 6  
 Centaurea nigra, L. 1A-6  
 — Scabiosa, L. 1A-6  
 — Cyanus, L. 1B-3, 5  
 \*Cichorium Intybus, L. 1B-3, 5  
 [Arnoseris pusilla, Gaertn. 2A]  
 Lapsana communis, L. 1A-6  
 Picris hieracioides, L. 1A-2B, 4  
 — echioides, L. 1B-3, 6  
 Crepis virens, L. 1A-6  
 — biennis, L. 1B, 2A, 2B  
 [— setosa, Hall. 1B, 2A]  
 — paludosa, Moench. 1B, 2A. Extinct?  
 — \*taraxacifolia, Thuill. 2A, 2B  
 Hieracium Pilosella, L. 1A-6  
 — sciaphilum, Uechtr. var. 2A, 3 (teste A. Ley)  
 — vulgatum, Fr. (?)  
     var. maculatum. 1B, 2A  
 — acroleucum, var. mutabile, Ley. 2A. *Mountsorrel*,  
     Mrs. Foord-Kelcey, 1906  
 — rigidum, Hartm.  
     var. lineatum, Dahlst  
     var. scabrescens, johanns. 2A  
     var. tridentatum (Fr.). 1A-2A  
 — boreale, Fr. 1B-2B [1A, 6?]  
 — umbellatum, L. 1B, 1A  
 Hypochaeris glabra, L. 2A. Extinct?  
 — radicata, L. 1A-6  
 Leontodon hirtus, L. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3. [5, 6]  
 — hispidus, L. 1A-6  
 — autumnalis, L. 1A-6  
**Taraxacum officinale**, Web.  
     a. Dens-leonis, Desf. 1A-6  
     b. erythrospermum (Andr.). 2A, 2B  
     c. palustre (DC.). 1B, 2A, 2B  
 Lactuca virosa, L. 1B, 2A, [3]  
 — muralis, Fresen. 1A-2A, 5  
 Sonchus oleraceus, L. 1A-6  
 — asper, Hoffm. 1A-6  
 — arvensis, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Tragopogon pratense, L. 2B  
     var. minus (Mill.). 1A-6

**DICOTYLEDONES**

**Campanulaceae**

- Jasione montana*, L. 1B, 2A  
*Campanula glomerata*, L. 2B, 3  
 — *Trachelium*, L. 2A, 6  
 — *latifolia*, L. 1A-2B, 6  
 — *rotundifolia*, L. 1A-6  
 — *patula*, L. 2A  
 \**Specularia hybrida*, DC. 1A, 2A, 3, 5, 6

**VACCINIACEAE**

- Vaccinium Vitis-Idaea*, L. 2A. Extinct?  
 — *Myrtillus*, L. 1B, 2A

**ERICACEAE**

- Calluna Erica*, DC. 1A-2B  
     *f. pubescens*, Koch. 2A  
*Erica Tetralix*, L. 1B, 2A  
 — *cinerea*, L. 1B, 2A (very rare)

**PRIMULACEAE**

- Hottonia palustris*, L. 1A. [1B, 2A]  
*Primula veris*, L. 1A-6  
 — *acaulis*, L. 1A-6  
     *b. caulescens*, Koch  
     × *veris*. 2A, 6  
*Lysimachia vulgaris*, L. 2A, 2B  
 — *Nummularia*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *nemorum*, L. 1A-2A, 6  
*Anagallis arvensis*, L. 1A-6  
 [— *caerulea*, Schreb. 1B-2B. Casual]  
 — *tenella*, L. 2A. [3. Extinct]  
*Samolus Valerandi*, L. 1B-2B, 6

**OLEACEAE**

- Fraxinus excelsior*, L. 1A-6  
*Ligustrum vulgare*, L. 1A-6

**APOCYNACEAE**

- \**Vinca minor*, L. 2A-3

**GENTIANEAEE**

- Blackstonia perfoliata*, Huds. 2B-4  
*Erythraea Centaurium*, Pers. 1A-6  
*Gentiana Pneumonanthe*, L. [2A. Extinct]  
 — *Amarella*, L. [2A-3]  
 — *campestris*, L. [2A-4]  
*Menyanthes trifoliata*, L. 2A-3

**POLEMONIACEAE**

- [*Polemonium caeruleum*, L. 1A, 1B, 2B. Escape]

**BORAGINEAE**

- Cynoglossum officinale*, L. 1B-2B  
*Symphytum officinale*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 [— *tuberosum*, L. 2A]  
 [*Borago officinalis*, L. 2A, 2B]  
 [*Anchusa officinalis*, L. 1B, 2A. Casual]  
*Lycopus arvensis*, L. 1B-3, 6  
 [*Pulmonaria officinalis*, L. 1B-2B]



DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

BORAGINEAE (continued)

- Myosotis caespitosa, Schultz. 1A-3, 5, 6
- scorpioides, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- repens, G. Don. 2A
- silvatica, Hoffm. 1A, 2A, 6
- arvensis, Lam. 1A-6
- var. umbrosa, Bab. 1A, 2A, 2B, 5
- collina, Hoffm. 1A-2B, 6
- versicolor, Reichb. 1B-3
- Lithospermum officinale, L. 1B-3
- arvense, L. 1B-3
- Echium vulgare, L. 1B-2B (mostly as a casual)

CONVOLVULACEAE

- Volvulus sepium, Jung. 1A-6
- Convolvulus arvensis, L. 1A-6
- Cuscuta europaea, L. 1B-2B
- Epithymum, Murr. 2A
- [— Trifolii, Bab. 1A, 2A. Casual]

SOLANACEAE

- Solanum Dulcamara, L. 1A-6
- [— nigrum, L. Casual]
- [Lycium barbarum, L.]
- [\*Atropa Belladonna, L. 1A, 2A]
- [Datura Stramonium, L. 1A-3. An escape]
- Hyoscyamus niger, L. 1B-4, 6

SCROPHULARINEAE

- Verbascum Thapsus, L. 1A-5
- Lychnitis, L. 4 (1906)
- [— nigrum, L. 2A. Casual]
- [— virgatum, Stokes. 2A, 2B. Casual]
- [Linaria Cymbalaria, Mill. 2A-3, 6. An escape]
- \*Elatine, Mill. 2A-3
- [— spuria, Mill. 2B, 3]
- [— purpurea, L. 2A. An escape]
- vulgaris, Mill. 1B-4, 6
- \*viscida, Moench. 1B, 2A, 3
- [Antirrhinum majus, L. 1A-3]
- Scrophularia aquatica, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- nodosa, L. 1A-3, 6
- [Mimulus Langsdorffii, Donn. 2A. An escape, established and increasing]
- [Limosella aquatica, L. 1B, 2B. (Extinct)]
- Digitalis purpurea, L. 1A-2A [4]
- Veronica hederifolia, L. 1A-6
- didyma, Ten. 2A, 2B, 6 [1A, 3]
- agrestis, L. 1A-6
- \*Tournefortii, G. Gmel. 1A-4, 6
- arvensis, L. 1A-6
- serpyllifolia, L. 1A-6
- officinalis, L. 1A-6
- Chamaedrys, L. 1A-6
- montana, L. 1A, 2A, 3, 6
- scutellata, L. 1A-2A, 5, 6
- Beccabunga, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- Anagallis, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- Euphrasia nemorosa, H. Mart. 1A-2B, 4, 6
- Rostkoviana, Hayne. 1B, 2A
- [— stricta, Host. 2B]
- curta, Fr. 2A; f. glabrescens, W. 2A, 2B

DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

SCROPHULARINEAE (continued)

- Bartsia Odontites, Huds. 1A-6 (verna)
- f. serotina. 2B
- Pedicularis palustris, L. 1B-3, 5
- silvatica, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- Rhinanthus Crista-galli, L. 1A-6
- Melampyrum pratense, L. 1B, 2A [2B]

OROBANCHACEAE

- Orobanche major, L. 1B, 2A
- elatior, Sutton. 6
- purpurea, Jacq. 2B Fl. L. !
- Hederae, Duby. 1B, 2B
- Lathraea Squamaria, L. 2A, 6

LENTIBULARIEAE

- Urticularia vulgaris, L. (neglecta in Preston's printed list). 1B, 2A, 5
- [Pinguicula vulgaris, L. 2A, 3, extinct]

VERBENACEAE

- Verbena officinalis, L. 1A-2B, 6

LABIATAE

- [Mentha viridis, L. 1B, 2A]
- [— piperita, L. 1A-2A]
- hirsuta, Huds. 1A-3, 5, 6
- b. subglabra (Baker). 1A (?)
- c. citrata (Ehrh.). 2A or 2B (?)
- sativa, L. 1A-2A
- c. subglabra, Baker. 2A
- gentilis, L. 1B [2A, extinct]
- arvensis, L. 1A-6
- Pulegium, L. 2A [3]
- Lycopus europaeus, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- Origanum vulgare, L. 1A-2B
- Thymus Serpyllum, Fr. 1A, 2A, 2B, 4, 6
- Chamaedrys, Fr. 2A, 2B [1A, 1B, 3, 5, 6]
- Clinopodium vulgare, L. 1A-4, 6
- calamintha, O. Kuntze. 1B, 2A, 2B
- [— Nepeta. 2A, 2B (Pult.), error?]
- Acinos, O. Kuntze. [2B, 3,] 4
- [Melissa officinalis, L. 2A. An escape]
- Salvia Verbenaca, L. 2A, 2B
- Nepeta Cataria, L. 1A-3
- Glechoma, Benth. 1A-6
- Scutellaria galericulata, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- minor, Huds. 1B, 2A
- Prunella vulgaris, L. 1A-6
- [Melittis Melissophyllum, L. 2A]
- Marrubium vulgare, L. 1A-2B, 5
- Stachys Betonica, Benth. 1A-6
- palustris, L. 1A-3, 5
- × silvatica, 1B, 2A
- silvatica, L. 1A-6
- arvensis, L. 1A-2B
- Galeopsis Ladanum, L. 2A, 3, 4
- speciosa, Mill. 2A
- Tetrahit, L. 1A-6
- [Leonurus Cardiaca, L. An escape]
- Lamium amplexicaule, L. 1A-6
- hybridum, Vill. 1B-2B, 5, 6
- purpureum, L. 1A-6
- album, L. 1A-6
- Galeobdolon, Crantz. 1A-3, 6



DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

LABIATAE (continued)

- Ballota nigra, L. *a. foetida*, Koch. 1A-6  
 Teucrium Scorodonia, L. 1A-2B  
 Ajuga reptans, L. 1A-6

PLANTAGINEAE

- Plantago major, L. 1A-6  
 — media, L. 1A-6  
 — lanceolata, L. 1A-6  
 — coronopus, L. 1A, 2A  
 Littorella juncea, Berg. 1B, 2A

ILLECEBRACEAE

- Scleranthus annuus, L. 1B-3  
 var. biennis (Reuter), 2A

CHENOPODIACEAE

- Chenopodium \*polyspermum, L. 1A-2B  
 var. cymosum, Moq. 2A, 2B  
 — album, L. 1A-6  
     *a. incanum*, Moq. 2A  
     *b. viride*, Syme. 1A-6  
     *c. viridescens*, St. Am. 1A-6  
 — \*ficifolium, L. 1A, 2A, 3 (casual ?)  
 — \*murale, L. 1B, 2A  
 [— urbicum, L. Casual]  
 — rubrum, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — \*Bonus-Henricus, L. 1A-3, 6  
 Atriplex patula, L. 1A-6  
 — hastata, L. 2A, 2B, 5, 6  
 — deltoidea, Bab. 2A, 5, 6

POLYGONACEAE

- Polygonum Convolvulus, L. 1A-6  
     *b. subalatum*, V. Hall. 2A, 2B, 5  
 — aviculare, L.  
     *a. agrestinum* (Jord.) *b. vulgatum*, Syme. 1A-6  
     *c. arenastrum* (Bor.). 2A, 2B, 5  
     *e. rurivagum* (Jord.). 2A, 2B, 5, 6  
 — Hydropiper, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — minus, Huds. 2A  
 — Persicaria, L. 1A-6  
     var. *incanum*, Coleman. 2A  
 — lapathifolium, L. 1A-6  
 — maculatum, Trimen & Dyer. 2A  
 — amphibium, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — Bistorta, L. 1B-3  
 Rumex conglomeratus, Murr. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — sanguineus, L. [1A, 2A]  
     *b. viridis* (Sibth.). 1A-6  
 — maritimus, L. 1B-2B  
 — limosus, Thuill. 2A  
 [— pulcher, L. 2A, 3]  
 — obtusifolius, L. 1A-6  
 — crispus, L. 1A-6  
     × *obtusifolius*. 2A [1A-3, 5, 6]  
 — Hydrolapathum, Huds. 1A-[2B], 6  
 — Acetosa, L. 1A-6  
 — Acetosella, L. 1A-6

ARISTOLOCHIACEAE

- [Aristolochia Clematidis, L. 2A, extinct, alien, see *Fl.L.* 1886, 'errata' p. 373]

DICOTYLEDONES (continued)

THYMELAEACEAE

- Daphne Laureola, L. 2A-3, 6

LORANTHACEAE

- \*Viscum album, L. 2A

EUPHORBIACEAE

- Euphorbia Helioscopia, L. 1A-6  
 — amygdaloides, L. 1A, 2A  
 — Peplus, L. 1A-6  
 — exigua, L. 1A-6  
 [— Lathyris, L. 2A, 2B, escape]  
 Mercurialis perennis, L. 1A-4, 6

URTICACEAE

- \*Ulmus glabra, Huds. 1A-6  
 — \*campestris, Sm. 1A-6  
     var. *glabra* (Sm. or Mill ?) 2B  
 Humulus Lupulus, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Urtica dioica, L. 1A-6  
 — urens, L. 1A-6  
 Parietaria ramiflora, Moench. 1A-3, 6

CUPULIFERAE

- Betula verrucosa, Ehrh. 2A, [1A, 1B, 3, 6]  
 Alnus glutinosa, Medic. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 [Carpinus Betulus, L. 1B-3, 6]  
 Corylus Avellana, L. 1A-6  
 Quercus Robur, L. 1A-6  
     *a. pedunculata* (Ehrh.)  
     *b. intermedia* (D. Don.)  
     *c. sessiliflora* (Salisb.)  
 \*Fagus silvatica, L. 1A-6

SALICINEAE

- Salix pentandra, L. 1A (Coleman), [2A (Pulteney), 2B, 3 (Crabbe) extinct]  
 — triandra, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
     × *fragilis*, 2A, 2B  
     × *alba* (undulata, Ehrh.), 2A, 5  
 — fragilis, L. (?)  
     *b. britannica*, F. B. White. 2A-3, 6  
     × *triandra* ? (decipiens, Hoffm.). 2A-3  
     × *alba*. 2A  
 — alba, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
     *b. vitellina*, L. [2A]  
 — purpurea, L. 1A-2B  
     *f. Lambertiana*, Sm. 1A, 1B, 6  
     × *viminalis* (rubra, Huds.). 2A  
 — viminalis, L. 1A-3, 6  
     × *cinerea* (Smithiana, Willd.) [1A] 1B, B [5, 6]  
     × *Caprea* (rugosa, Leefe) 2B  
 — Caprea, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — aurita, L. 1B-2B, 6  
     × *cinerea*. 2A, 2B  
     × *repens*. 1B  
 — cinerea, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
     *b. aquatica*, Sm. 1B, 2B  
 — repens, L. 1B, 2A  
     *f. ascendens* (Sm.). 1B, 2A  
 Populus \*alba, L. 2A, 6  
 — \*canescens, Sm. [1B, 2B, 6]  
 — tremula, L. \*1A, \*1B, 2A [2B, 3, 5, 6]  
 [— nigra, L. 2A, 2B, 6]



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- fluitans, L. 1B [2A, extinct]
- setaceus, L. 1A-2B
- lacustris, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- silvaticus, L. 1A-3, 6
- Eriophorum vaginatum, L. 2A
- angustifolium, Roth. 2A
- latifolium, Hoppe. 2A
- [Rynchospora alba, Vahl. 2A, extinct]
- [Schoenus nigricans, L. 2A, extinct]
- [Carex dioica, L. 2A, 3, extinct]
- pulicaris, L. 1B-[3]
- disticha, Huds. 1A-2B, 5, 6
- teretiuscula, Good. 2A
- paniculata, L. 1A-3, 6
- vulpina, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- muricata, L. 1A-3, 5, 6
- divulsa, Good. 1B, 2A
- stellulata, Good. 1B, 2A, 3
- remota, L. 1A-3, 6
- [— curta, Good. 2A, Pulteney]
- ovalis, Good. 1A-3, 5, 6
- acuta, L. 1B-3, 6
- Goodenowii, J. Gay. 1A-2B, 6
- flacca, Schreb. 1A-6
- pilulifera, L. 1B-2B [3, error]
- verna, Chaix. 1A-2B, 6
- pallescens, L. 1A-2B, 6
- panicea, L. 1A-3, 6
- pendula, Huds. 1A, 2A [2B], 3
- strigosa, Huds. 1A-2A, 6
- silvatica, Huds. 1A-3, 6
- laevigata, Sm. 1B, 2A
- binervis, Sm. 1B, 2A [3, extinct]
- 'fulva,' Good. 1B, 2A, 2B (probably all Hornschuchiana, Bab.)
- flava, L. (aggr.) 1B, 2A, 5
- [— filiformis, L. 2A (extinct)]
- hirta, L. 1A-6
- Pseudo-cyperus, L. 1A, 2A, 3, 6
- acutiformis, Ehrh. 1A-2B, 6 [3]
- riparia, Curtis. 1A-3, 5, 6
- rostrata, Stokes. 1A-3
- vesicaria, L. 1A-2B



MONOCOTYLEDONES (*continued*)

GRAMINEAE (*continued*)

- [*Bromus secalinus*, L. 2A. Casual]  
 — *racemosus*, L. ? 1A, 2A\* ? [1A-6]  
 — *commutatus*, Schrad. 2A [1A, 1B, 2B, 5, 6]  
 — *mollis*, L. 1A-6.  
     *b. glabratus*, Doell.  
*Brachypodium gracile*, Beauv. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 — *pinnatum*, Beauv. 1A, 2B-4, 6  
     *b. pubescens*, Syme. 2B, 4  
*Lolium perenne*, L. 1A-6  
     [*var. italicum*, Braun. Escape]  
*Agropyron caninum*, Beauv. 1A-2A [3], 6

MONOCOTYLEDONES (*continued*)

GRAMINEAE (*continued*)

- Agropyron repens*, Beauv. 1A-6  
     *var. barbatum* 2B  
*Nardus stricta*, L. 1B, 2A [1A, 3]  
*Hordeum nodosum*. 1A-6  
 — *murinum*, L. 1A-6

GYMNOSPERMIA

CONIFERAE

- [*Taxus baccata*, L. Planted]  
 \**Pinus silvestris*, L. 2A [1A-6. Planted]

CRYPTOGAMIA VASCULARIA

PTERIDOPHYTA

FILICES

- Pteris aquilina*, L. 1A-6  
*Blechnum spicant*, With. 1A-2B, 6  
*Asplenium Adiantum-nigrum*, L. [1A-2A, 6]  
 [— *viride*, Huds. 2A. Error]  
 — *Trichomanes*, L. 1B-2B [3]  
 — *Ruta-muraria*, L. 1A-2B [3, 6]  
*Athyrium Filix-foemina*, Roth. 1A-2A, 3, 6  
 \**Ceterach officinarum*, Willd. 2A  
*Phyllitis Scolopendrium*, Greene. 1A-3, 5, 6  
*Cystopteris fragilis*, Bernh. 1A-1B. Extinct?  
*Polystichum lobatum*, Presl. 1A-2B  
     *b. aculeatum*, Syme. 1A-2B, 6  
 [— *angulare*, Presl. 1A-2A]  
 [*Lastraea Thelypteris*, Presl. 3. Extinct]  
 — *Oreopteris*, Presl. 1A-2A  
 — *Filix-mas*, Presl. 1A-6  
 — *spinulosa*, Presl. 1A-2B [3], 6  
 — *dilatata*, Presl. 1A-3, 6  
*Polypodium vulgare*, L. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 [*Osmunda regalis*, L. 2A. Extinct]

PTERIDOPHYTA (*continued*)

FILICES (*continued*)

- Ophioglossum vulgatum*, L. 1A-3,  
*Botrychium Lunaria*, Sw. 1A-2B

EQUISETACEAE

- Equisetum maximum*, Lam. 1A, 2A-3, 6  
 — *arvense*, L. 1A-6  
 — *silvaticum*, L. 1B, 2A  
 — *palustre*, L. 1B, 2B [1A, 2A, 5, 6]  
 — *limosum*, Sm. 1A-3, 5, 6  
     *var. fluviatile* (L) 1B, 2B, 6  
 — *hyemale*, L. 1B, 2A

LYCOPODIACEAE

- [*Lycopodium Selago*, L. 2A. Extinct]  
 [— *inundatum*, L. 2A. Extinct]  
 — *clavatum*, L. 2A

MARSILEACEAE

- Pilularia globulifera*, L. 1B

CRYPTOGAMIA CELLULARIA

MUSCINEAE

MUSCI (*Mosses*)

There are 567 species and sub-species of true mosses in Dixon's 2nd edition *Handbook of British Mosses*. The appended list contains 217 species and sub-species found in Leicestershire and includes 35 additions to the one in the *Flora* of 1886. Nottinghamshire has 207 known species and sub-species, so that as regards 'native' flowering plants and mosses the number is remarkably similar, a difference numerically of 8 species only. Lincolnshire is known to have 196 species and sub-species of mosses; Northants 225. Warwickshire is known to have some 20 or more species than Leicestershire; possibly this excess is due to more thorough search. Derbyshire is far richer in mosses, and has had much more attention from bryologists than any of the other counties mentioned. There are 40 Warnstorffian species of *Sphagnum* in Britain, 9 in Leicestershire, 10 in Lincolnshire, 11 in Nottinghamshire, 4 only in Northamptonshire; Derbyshire has many more, and further north-westwards there are 30 in Lancashire, a similar number







- Orthotrichum affine, Schrad. 1A-2B, 6.  
 — Sprucei, Mont. 1B, 2B  
 [— stramineum, Hornsch. 2B]  
 — tenellum, Bruch. 2B  
 — pulchellum, Sm. 2A  
 — diaphanum, Schrad. 1B-3, 6  
 Schistostega osmundacea, Mohr. 2A (Coleman)  
 Ephemerum serratum, Hampe. 1A, 2A  
 Physcomitrella patens, B. & S. 1B-2B, 6  
 Physcomitrium pyriforme, Brid. 1B-3, 6  
 Funaria fascicularis, Schimp. 2A  
 — hygrometrica, L. 1A, 6  
 Aulacomnium palustre, Schwaegr. 1A-2A  
 — androgynum, Schwaegr. 1A-3  
 Bartramia ithyphylla, Brid. 2A. Extinct  
 — pomiformis, Hedw. 1B, 2A  
 Philonotis fontana, Brid. 1A-2B  
 Breutelia arcuata, Schimp. 1A (Coleman)  
 Leptobryum pyriforme, Wils. [1A-2B, alien]  
 Webera nutans, Hedw. 1A-2B  
 — annotina, Schwaegr. 1A, 1B  
 — carnea, Schimp. 1B-3, 6  
 — albicans, Schimp. 2A-3, 6  
 Bryum pendulum, Schimp. 1A [1B], 4  
 — inclinatum, Bland. 1A-2A  
 — pallens, Sw. 1A, 1B, 2B  
 [— turbinatum, Schwaegr. 1A, Coleman]  
 — \*bimum, Schreb. 1A-2B  
 — intermedium, Brid. 2A  
 — caespiticum, L. 1A-2B  
 — capillare, L. 1A-3  
 — erythrocarpum, Schwaegr. 2A  
 — atropurpureum, W. and M. 1B, 2B  
 — murale, Wils. 2B  
 — alpinum, L. 2A (Bloxam)  
 — argenteum, L. 1A-3  
     var. lanatum, B. & S. 2B  
 — roseum, Schreb. 1A-2A, 6  
 Mnium affine, Bland. 2A  
     β elatum. 2B (Reader, 1907)  
 — cuspidatum, Hedw. 1A-2A  
 — rostratum, Schrad. 1A-2B  
 — undulatum, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — hornum, L. 1A-3  
 — serratum, Schrad. 1B  
 — stellare, Reich. 1B (Coleman)  
 — punctatum, L. 1A-3  
 Fontinalis antipyretica, L. 1A-2B  
 Cryphaea heteromalla, Mohr. 1A, 1B (Coleman), 2B,  
     2A, 6  
 Neckera crispa, Hedw. [1A], 2A (Pulteney).  
     Extinct  
 — complanata, L. 1A-2B, 6  
 — pumila, Hedw. 1B, 2A  
 Homalia trichomanoides, Brid. 1A-3, 6  
 Pterygophyllum lucens, Brid. 1A, 1B, 2A  
 Leucodon sciuroides, Schwaegr. 1A-2B, 6  
 Pterogonium gracile, Sw. 2A (Pulteney)  
 Antitrichia curtispindula, Brid. 1B, 2A  
 Porotrichum alopecurum, Mitt. 1A-2B, 6  
 Leskea polycarpa, Ehrh. 1A-2B, 6  
 Anomodon viticulosus, H. & T. 1A-2A, 6  
 Heterocladium heteropterum, B. & S. 2A  
 Thuidium tamariscinum, B. & S. 1A-2B  
 — recognitum, Lindb. 2A, 2B, 6  
 Climacium dendroides, L. 1A-3  
 Pylaisia polyantha, B. & S. 2B  
 Camptothecium sericeum (L.). 1A-6  
 — lutescens, B. & S. 1A-2B  
 Brachythecium glareosum, B. & S. 2A, 2B  
 — albicans, B. & S. 1B-2B  
 — salebrosum, B. & S. 2A  
     var. palustre, Schimp. 1B, 2A, 2B  
 — rutabulum, B. & S. 1A-6  
 — rivulare, B. & S. 2A, 2B  
     var. chrysophyllum, Bagnall. 2B  
 — velutinum, B. & S. 1A-3  
 — populeum, B. & S. 1A-2B, 6  
 — plumosum, B. & S. 1B, 2A  
 — caespitosum, Dixon. 2A, 2B, 6  
 — purum, Dixon. 1A-6  
 Eurhynchium piliferum, B. & S. 1A-3, 6  
 — speciosum, Schimp.  
 — praelongum, Hobk. 1A-6  
 — Swartzii, Hobk. 2A, 2B  
 — tenellum, Milde. 5, 6  
 — myosuroides, Schimp. 1B-2B  
 — myurum, Dixon. 1A-2A, 3, 6  
 — striatum, B. & S. 1A-2B, 6  
 [— striatulum, B. & S. 2A]  
 — rusciforme, Milde. 1A-3  
 — murale, Milde. 1B-2B, 6  
 — confertum, Milde. 1A-2A  
 Plagiothecium elegans, Sull. 1B, 2A  
 — denticulatum, B. & S. 1A-3  
 — silvaticum, B. & S. 1A-2B  
 — undulatum, B. & S. 1A-2A  
 Amblystegium serpens, B. & S. 1A-3  
 — varium, Lindb. 2A, 2B  
 — irriguum, B. & S. 2A, 2B  
 — filicinum, De Not. 1A-2B, 6  
     var. Vallisclausae, Dixon. 2A  
 Hypnum riparium, L. 1B-2B  
 — polygamum, Schimp. 2A  
 — stellatum, Schreb. 1A, 2A, 2B  
     var. protensum, Rohl. 2B  
 — chrysophyllum, Brid. 1A-2B  
 — aduncum, Hedw. 1B-2B  
     Group Kneiffii, Ren. 1B-2B  
 — fluitans, L. 1A-2B.  
     var. falcatum, Schimp. 2A. 20 July, 1906.  
     ‘a very abnormal form . . .’ Wheldon  
     in litt.  
 — exannulatum, Gumb.  
     var. stenophylloides, Ren. 2A. 21 July,  
     1906, teste J. A. Wheldon  
 — commutatum, Hedw. 1A, 2A, 2B, 6  
 — cupressiforme, L. 1A-3  
     var. tectorum, Brid. 2A, 2B  
     var. ericetorum, B. & S. 1B  
     var. resupinatum, Schimp. 1A-2B, 6  
     var. filiforme, Brid. 1B, 2B, 6  
 — Patientiae, Lindb. 1B, 2A  
 — molluscum, Hedw. 1A-2B  
 — palustre, Huds. 1A-2B  
 — cordifolium, Hedw. 1A-2B  
 — cuspidatum, L. 1A-3, 6  
 — Schreberi, Willd. 1A-2A  
 Hylocomium splendens, B. & S. 1A-2B, 6  
 — brevirostre, B. & S. 1B, Bloxam; 2A, J. F.  
     Hollings  
 — loreum, B. & S. 1B, 2A, 6  
 — squarrosum, B. & S. 1A-4, 6  
 — triquetrum, B. & S. 1A-4, 6



- Frullania Tamarisci, Dumort. 1B, 2A  
 — dilatata, Dumort. 1A-3  
 Lejeunia serpyllifolia, Lib. 1B, 2A  
 Radula complanata, Dumort. 1A-3, 6  
 Porella platyphylla, Dill. 1A-2B, 6  
 Blepharozia ciliaris, Dumort. 1B, 2A  
 Lepidozia reptans, Dumort. 1B, 2A  
 — setacea (Web.). 1B, Bloxam.  
 Kantia trichomanis (Dicks.). 1A-3  
 — Sprengelii (Mart.). 1B, 2A (Horwood, 1905)  
 — arguta, Lindb. 2A  
 Cephalozia bicuspidata, Dumort. 1A-2A  
 Scapania compacta, Dumort. 2A  
 — nemorosa, Dumort. 1B, 2A  
 — irrigua, Dumort. 2A  
 — undulata, Dumort. 1A, 1B, 2A  
 Diplophyllum albicans, Dumort. 1B, 2A  
 Lophocolea bidentata, Dumort. 1A-3, 6  
 — cuspidata, Limpr. 2A  
 — heterophylla, Dumort. 1A-3, 6  
 Chiloscypus polyanthos, Dumort. 1B, 2B, 6  
 Mylia anomala, Gray. 2A  
 Plagiochila asplenioides, Dumort. 1A-2B  
 Jungermania inflata, Huds. 1A, 2A  
 — sphaerocarpa, Hook. 2A. *Oakley Wood* (F. T. Mott, 1898)  
 — Floerkii, Web. & Mohr. 1B, 2A  
 Jungermania barbata, Schreb. 1B, 2A  
 — gracilis, Scheich. 1B, 2A  
 — incisa, Schrad. 1B  
 — bicrenata, Schmid. 1B, 2A  
 — ventricosa, Dicks. 1B, 2A  
 — crenulata, Sm. 1B, 2A  
 — gracillima, Sm. 2A  
 Nardia scalaris, Gray. 1B, 2A  
 — emarginata, Gray. 2A  
 Fossombronia pusilla, Dumort. 1A-2A, 6  
 Blasia pusilla, L. 2A  
 Peltia epiphylla, Corda. 1A-3  
 — calycina, Nees. 1B-2B, 6  
 Aneura multifida, Dumort. 1B-2B  
 — pinguis, Dumort. 1A-2A  
 Metzgeria furcata, Dumort. 1A-3, 6  
 Marchantia polymorpha, L. 1B-2B  
 Conocephalus conicus, Dumort. 1A-3, 5, 6  
 Reboulia hemispherica, Raddi. 1A [2A, Pulteney]  
 Lunularia cruciata, Dumort. 2A, 2B, 6  
 [Dumortiera hirsuta (Sw.) 2A, error]  
 [Sphaerocarpus terrestris, Mich. 1B]  
 Riccia glauca, L. 1A-2A  
 — crystallina, L. 2A (F. T. Mott, August 1894)  
 Ricciella fluitans (L.). 1A (F. T. Mott). 1B (Coleman)  
 Ricciocarpus natans (L.). 2A (F. T. Mott)  
 Anthoceros punctatus, L. 1B, Bloxam ; 2A, Pulteney

## CHARACEAE

### CHAREAE

- Chara vulgaris, L. 1B-2B  
     var. longibracteata, Kütz  
     var. papillata, Wallr.  
 — hispida, L. 1A, 1B

### CHAREAE—continued

- Chara fragilis, Desv. 1B-2B

### NITELLEAE

- Nitella opaca, Agard. 1B-3

## ALGAE

In the *Flora of Leicestershire*, 1886, Mr. F. Bates published a most valuable account of the Fresh Water Algae, several of the species being new to science. The following list of 242 species is arranged in the order of G. F. West's *British Fresh Water Algae*. Doubtful forms are omitted, and those within square brackets require confirmation.

A few additions, including diatoms, have been named by Mr. Wm. West, to whom the writer is much indebted.

### RHODOPHYCEAE

### CHLOROPHYCEAE (continued)



# BOTANY

## CHLOROPHYCEAE (continued)

- Oedogonium Areschougii (Wittr.)  
 — capilliforme (Kütz.)  
 — cardiacum (Hass.)  
 — oelandicum, Wittr. (*Fl. L.* p. 312)  
 — Bernardense, Bates. (*Fl. L.* p. 313)  
 Bulbochaete mirabilis, Wittr.  
 Coleochaete scutata, Bréb.  
 Herposteiron confervicola, Näg.  
 Ulothrix moniliformis, Kütz.  
 — zonata (Web et M.), Kütz.  
 — subtilis (Kütz.) 2A, *Spring Hill*, 1906  
   var. variabilis (Kütz.)  
   var. tenerrima (Kütz.). 2A, *Charnwood Heath; Spring Hill; 1B, Moira; 1906*, K. & K. M. Fisher  
 — tenuis (Kütz.)  
 — moniliformis (Kütz.)  
 — zonata (Web. et M.)  
 Chaetophora pisiformis (Roth.)  
 — tuberculosa (Roth.)  
 — elegans (Roth.)  
 — incrassata (Huds.), Hazen  
 Myxonema nanum (Dillw.)  
 — fastigiatum (Kütz.)  
 — tenue (Ag.)  
 Draparnaudia glomerata (Vauch.), Ag. (Draparnaldia)  
 — plumosa (Vauch.), Ag.  
 Microthamnion striatissimum, Rabenh.  
 — Kützingianum, Näg.  
 Trentepohlia aurea (L.), Mart.  
 Monostroma bullosa (Roth.), Wittr.  
 Enteromorpha intestinalis (L.)  
 Prasiola parietina (Vauch.), Wille. (*Fl. L.* 315)  
   2A, *Temple Hill; 1906*  
 — crispa (Lightf.). (*Fl. L.* 315).  
 Microspora vulgaris, Rabenh.  
 — fugacissima (Roth.)  
 Rhizoclonium hieroglyphicum, Kütz.  
 Cladophora crispata (Roth.)  
 — fracta, Kütz.  
 — glomerata (L.), Kütz.  
 Vaucheria sessilis (Vauch.), DC.  
 — aversa, Hass.  
 — geminata (Vauch.), DC. (Bates in *Fl. L.* 309.)  
   Div. 2B, *Scalford Dyke*, April, 1903  
 — terrestris, Lyngb.  
 Mougeotia genuflexa (Dillw.)  
 — nummuloides, Hass.  
 — parvula, Hass.  
 — viridis (Kütz.)  
 Zygnema cruciatum (Vauch.)  
 — Vaucherii, Ag.  
 — ericetorum (Kütz.). 11A, *High Sharpley, &c.*, 1886  
   (Bates), abundant 1906  
 Spirogyra tenuissima (Hass.)  
 — inflata (Vauch.)  
 — Weberi, Kütz.  
 — insignis (Hass.)  
 — gracilis (Hass.)  
   var. flavescens (Hass.)  
 — communis (Hass.)  
 — porticalis (Vauch.)  
 — condensata (Vauch.)  
 — velata, Nordst.  
 — calospora, Cleve  
 — nitida (Dillw.)  
 Gonatozygon Ralfsii, De Bary

## CHLOROPHYCEAE (continued)

- Spirotaenia condensata, Bréb.  
 Mesotaenium mirificum, Arch.  
 — macrococcum (Kütz.)  
 — violascens, De Bary  
 — Endlicherianum, Nag.  
 Cylindrocystis Brebissonii, Menegh. (Bates in *Fl. L.* p. 335, 1886.). *Charnwood Heath; Spring Hill*, 1906  
 — crassa, De Bary  
 Natrium Digitus (Ehrenb.), Itzigsh and Rothe  
 Penium Navicula, Bréb.  
 Closterium macilentum, Bréb.  
 — angustum, Hantsch  
 — Jenneri, Ralfs  
 — Venus, Kütz.  
 — Leibleinii, Kütz.  
 — moniliferum (Bory)  
 — Ehrenlerghii, Menegh.  
 — acerosum (Schrank)  
 — Lunula (Muller). 2A (Bates in *Fl. L.* p. 333 (1886); 3, *Muston Gorse*, April, 1903  
 — Cornu, Ehrenb.  
 — aciculare, Tuffen West  
 — costatum, Corda  
 — striolatum, Ehrenb.  
 — intermedium, Ralfs  
 — lineatum, Ehrenb.  
 — juncidum, Ralfs  
 — pronoun, Bréb.  
 — acutum (Lyngb.)  
 — Kützingii, Bréb.  
 — rostratum, Ehrenb.  
 — setaceum, Ehrenb.  
 Pleurotaenium Ehrenbergii (Bréb.)  
 — Trabecula (Ehrenb.). 1B, *Moira*, 1906; K. & K. M. Fisher  
 — truncatum (Bréb.)  
 Tetmemorus Brébissonii (Menegh.)  
 — granulatus (Bréb.)  
 — laevis (Kütz.)  
 Euastrum oblongum (Grev.)  
 — didelta (Turp.)  
 — ansatum, Ralfs  
 — elegans (Bréb.) and forma declivis, Reinsch.  
 — binale (Turp.)  
 Micrasterias rotata (Grev.)  
 — denticulata, Bréb.  
 Cosmarium calcareum, Wittr.  
 — melanosporum, Archer  
 — Cucumis, Corda  
 — coelatum, Ralfs  
 — ornatum, Ralfs  
 — reniforme (Ralfs)  
 — margaritifera (Turp.)  
 — undulatum, Corda  
 — bioculatum, Bréb.  
 — Corbula, Bréb.  
 — Turpinii, Bréb.  
 — Kjelmanii, Wille  
 — punctulatum, Bréb.  
 — humile (Gay)  
   var. substriatum (Nordet). 1B, *Moira*, 1906, K. Fisher  
 — Boeckii, Wille (Bates in *Fl. L.* p. 329 (1886). *Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 — nitidulum, De Not.  
 — notabile, Bréb.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## CHLOROPHYCEAE (continued)

- Cosmarium tetraophthalmum (Kütz.)  
 — Botrytis (Bory). 1B, 2A (common)  
 — ochthodes, Nordst.  
 — subspeciosum, Nordst.  
 — biretum, Bréb.  
 — crenatum, Ralfs  
 — abruptum, Lund.  
 — pygmaeum, Arch.  
 — Meneghinii, Bréb. Bates in *Fl. L.* (1886).  
*Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 — laeve, Rabenh. *Moir*a; *Spring Hill*; 1906  
 var. septentrionale, Wille. Bates in *Fl. L.*  
 (1886)  
 Staurastrum mucronatum, Ralfs  
 — Dickiei, Ralfs  
 — Avicula, Bréb.  
 — dispar, Bréb.  
 — Brébissonii, Archer  
 — furcatum (Ehrenb.)  
 — hirsutum (Ehrenb.)  
 — orbiculare (Ehrenb.)  
 — margaritaceum (Ehrenb.)  
 Arthrodesmus convergens, Ehrenb.  
 Spaerzosma excavatum, Ralfs  
 Hyalotheca dissiliens (Sm.)  
 Sphaerella lacustris (Girod), Wittr.  
 Gonium pectorale, (Müll.)  
 Pandorina morum (Müll.)  
 Eudorina elegans, Ehrenb.  
 Volvox globator (L.)  
 Characium ornithocephalum, A. Br.  
 Pleurococcus vulgaris, Menegh.  
 [ — angulosus (Corda)]  
 Urococcus insignis (Hass.), Kütz. 2A, *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 Pediastrum Boryanum (Turp.)  
 var. granulatum (Kütz.)  
 — duplex, Meyen  
 — tetras (Ehrenb.)  
 Coelastrum microporum, Näg.  
 Scenedesmus antennatus, Bréb.  
 — obliquus (Turp.)  
 Ankistrodesmus falcatus (Corda), Ralfs  
 Nephroclytium Agardhianum, Näg. (inclus. N. Nagelii)  
 Eremosphaera viridis, De Bary. Bates in *Fl. L.*  
 p. 300 (1886). *Charnwood Heath*, 1906  
 Tetraedron regulare, Kütz.  
 — enorme (Ralfs)  
 Palmella mucosa, Kütz.  
 Schizochlamys gelatinosa, A. Br.  
 Tetraspora gelatinosa (Vauch.)  
 — lubrica (Roth.)  
 Apicystis Brauniana, Näg.  
 [Palmodictyon viride, Kütz.]

## HETEROKONTAE

- Mischococcus confervicola, Näg.  
 Chlorobotrys regularis (West), Bohlin. 2A, *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 Tribonema bombycina (Ag.), Derb. & Sol.  
 Botrydium granulatum (L.), Grev.

## BACILLARIEAE

### (DIATOMACEAE)

- Diatoma vulgare, Bory. 2A: *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 Fragilaria capucina, Desmaz. 2A: *Ulverscroft*, 1906

## BACILLARIEAE (continued)

### (DIATOMACEAE—continued)

- Synedra Ulna (Nitzsch). 2A: *Grace Dieu*, 1906  
 Ceratoneis Arcus (Ehrenb.) (= Eunotia Arcus, W. Sm.) var. minor, V.H. 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher  
 Eunotia major (W. Sm.). 2A: *Charnwood Heath*; *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 — lunaris (Ehrenb.). 2A: *Charnwood Heath*; *Spring Hill*, 1906. 3: *Muston*, April, 1903  
 — gracilis (Ehrenb.). 2A: *Charnwood Heath*; *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 Achnanthes parvula, Kütz. 2A: *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 — exilis, Kütz. 2A: *Grace Dieu*; *Charnwood Heath*; *Ulverscroft*, 1906. 2B: *Scalford Dyke*, 1903  
 — microcephala (Kütz.). 2A: *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 Cocconeis Pediculus, Ehrenb. 3: *Croxton Kerrial*, 1906  
 — Placentula, Ehrenb. 2A: *Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 Navicula major, Kütz. 2A: *Charnwood Heath*, 1906  
 — viridis, Kütz. 2A: *Grace Dieu*; *Spring Hill*, 1906  
 — lata, Bréb. 2A: *Charnwood Heath*, 1906  
 — Brébissonii, Kütz. 2A: *Charnwood Heath*, 1906  
 — mesolepta, Ehrenb. 2A: *Charnwood Heath*, 1906; *Spring Hill*, 1906. 3: *Muston Gorse*, April, 1903  
 — dicephala, Ehrenb. 1A: *Breedon Cloud Wood*, April, 1903  
 — exilis (Kütz.). 1A: *Breedon Cloud Wood*, April, 1903; 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher. 2A: *Grace Dieu*, 1906  
 — Amphisboema, Bory. 2A: *Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 Gomphonema acuminatum, Ehrenb. 2A: *Charnwood Heath*, 1906  
 — intricatum, Kütz. 2B: *Scalford Dyke*, April, 1903  
 — olivaceum (Lyngb.). 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher  
 Epithemia Sorex, Kütz. 2A: *Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 Nitzschia obtusa, W. Sm. 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher  
 — Palea (Kütz.). 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher. 2A: *Ulverscroft*, 1906  
 Surirella ovalis, Bréb. var. pinnata (W. Sm.). 1B: *Moir*a, 1906, K. & K. M. Fisher

## MYXOPHYCEAE

- Tolypothrix lanata (Desv.)  
 Nostoc muscorum, Ag.  
 — coeruleum, Lyngb.  
 — verrucosum, Vauch.  
 — sphaericum, Vauch.  
 Anabaena Flos-aquae (Lyngb.)  
 — oscillariodes, Bory  
 — Smithii (Thw.)  
 — Thwaitesii (Ralf.)  
 — nitellicola, Bates in *Fl. L.* p. 330  
 Aphanizomenon Flos-aquae (L.)  
 Cylindrospermum stagnale (Kütz.)  
 — majus, Kütz.  
 [Microcoleus chthonoplastes, Thuret. and M. terrestris, Desmaz.]  
 Lyngbya ochracea (Kütz.)  
 Phormidium inundatum, Kütz.  
 — Retzii (Ag.)  
 Oscillatoria limosa, Ag.

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

- Parmelia caperata*, Ach. 1A-3  
 — *conspersa*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
     var. *stenophylla*, Ach. 1B  
 — *Mougeotii*, Schaer. 2A  
 [— *incurva*, Fr. 2A (Bloxam)]  
 — *acetabulum*, Dub. 1B, 6  
 — *exasperata*, Nyl. 2A, 2B, 6  
 — *subaurifera*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *fuliginosa*, Nyl. 2A, 2B, 6  
 — *physodes*, Ach. 1B-2B, 6  
     *f. labrosa*, Ach. 1B-2B  
     var. *platyphylla*, 1A, 1B, 2B  
 [— *olivacea*, Ach. error]  
 — *prolixa*, Nyl. 2A (Bloxam)  
*Parmeliopsis ambigua*, Nyl. 1B  
*Stictina silvatica*, Nyl. 1B  
*Lobarina scrobiculata*, Nyl. 1B, 2A  
*Lobaria pulmonaria*, Hoffm. 1B, 2A  
*Ricasolia laetevirens*, Leight. 1B, 2A  
*Peltigera canina*, Hoffm. 1A-3  
 — *rufescens*, Hoffm. 1A, 1B, 2A (forma, F. T. Mott)  
 — *spuria*, Ach. 2A  
 — *polydactyla*, Hoffm. 1A, 2A, 2B, 5, 6  
 — *horizontalis*, Hoffm. 1B, 2A  
*Physcia parietina*, De Not. 1A-6  
     *f. cinerascens*, Leight. 1B-2B, 6  
     var. *aureola*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *polycarpa*, Nyl. 1B-2B  
 — *lychnea*, Nyl. 2A, 2B, 6 (Reader)  
 — *ciliaris*, DC. 2A, 2B, 6  
 — *pulverulenta*, Nyl. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *\*pityrea*, Nyl. 1A (Bloxam), 2B  
 — *stellaris*, Nyl. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *\*tenella*, Nyl. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *aipolia*, Nyl. 2B  
     var. *cereidia*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *astroidea*, Nyl. 1B (Bloxam)  
 — *obscura*, Nyl. 1B, 2A (Bloxam), 2B, 6  
 — *ulothrix*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *adglutinata*, Nyl. 1B (Bloxam), 2B  
*Umbilicaria pustulata*, Hoffm. 2A  
*Gyrophora polyphylla*, Turn. and Borr. 2A  
 — *flocculosa*, Turn. and Borr. 2A  
*Pannularia nigra*, Nyl. 1A, 2B  
*Leproloma lanuginosum*, Nyl. 1B  
*Lecanora saxicola*, Ach. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *murorum*, Ach. 2A, 2B, 6  
 — *dissidens*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *vitellina*, Ach. 2A, 2B  
 — *citrina*, Ach. 1B-2B  
 — *aurantiaca*, Nyl. 1B-2B  
 [— *\*erythrella*, Nyl.  $\beta$ . *inalpina*, Nyl. 1B (Leighton)]  
 — *ferruginea*, Nyl. 2A  
 — *pyracea*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *luteo-alba*, Nyl. 1B, 2B  
 — *sophodes*, Ach. 1B (Bloxam), 2A  
 — *roboris*, Nyl. 2A  
 — *circinata*, Ach. 1B  
 — *subfusca*, Nyl. 2A, 2B, 5, 6  
 — *galactina*, Ach. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *allophana*, Nyl. 1B-2B  
 — *parisiensis*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *rugosa*, Nyl. 2B  
 — *\*chlarona*, Nyl. 1B-2B, 6  
      $\beta$  *geographica*, Nyl. 2A  
 [— *albella*, Ach. (Bloxam)]  
 — *angulosa*, Ach. 2B  
 — *glaucoma*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
*Lecanora crenulata*, Nyl. 2A (Bloxam), 2B, 6  
 — *sulphurea*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
 — *varia*, Ach. 1B, 2A, 2B, 6  
      $\beta$  *polytropa*, Schaer. 2A  
 — *conizea*, Ach. 1B  
 — *expallens*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
     var. *lutescens*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *symmicta*, Ach. 1B (Bloxam)  
 — *atra*, Ach. 2A, 2B  
 — *effusa*, Ach. 1B  
 — *erysibe*, Nyl. 2B  
 — *badia*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
 — *rhypariza*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *parella*, Ach. 1B  
 — *tartarea* (L.). 2A  
 — *gibbosa*, Nyl. 2A, 2B  
 — *calcareea*, Somm. 1A  
 — *glaucocarpa*, Ach. 2B  
 — *lacustris*, Fr. 2A (Bloxam)  
 [— *squamulosa*, Nyl. ? 1B, 2A (Bloxam)]  
 — *fuscata*, Nyl. 2A  
*Pertusaria multipuncta*, Nyl. 1B  
 — *globulifera*, Nyl. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *velata*, Nyl. 1B, 2A (forma)  
 — *communis*, DC. 1B-2B, 6  
 — *melaleuca*, Dub. 1B  
 — *pustulata*, Nyl. 1B (Bloxam)  
 — *Wulfenii*, DC. 2A  
 — *leioplaca*, Schaer. 1B  
 — *amara*, Nyl. 1A-3, 6  
*Phlyctis agelaea*, Körb. 2A (Bloxam), 2B, 5 (Reader)  
 — *argena*, Körb. 1B-2B  
*Thelotrema lepadinum*, Ach. 1B [2A]  
*Urceolaria scruposa*, Ach. 1B [2A]  
*Lecidea ostreata* (Hoffm.). 1B, 2B  
 — *lucida*, Ach. 2A (Bloxam), 2B  
 — *fluososa* (Fr.). 1B  
     var. *aeruginosa* (Borr.), (Bloxam in Leighton, L. F.)  
 — *conglomerata*, Fr. 1B (Bloxam in Leighton, L. F.)  
 — *decolorans*, Flörk. 1B (Power), 2A (Bloxam)  
 — *vernalis* (L.). 2A (Bloxam)  
 — *quernea* (Dicks.) 'Frequent.' (Bloxam) 2A, 2B  
 — *parasema* (Ach.). 1B-2B, 6  
     var. *elaeochroma*, Ach. 1B (Bloxam in Leighton, L. F.)  
 — *uliginosa* (Schrad.) 2A  
     var. *fuliginea* (Ach.), 1B-2B, 6  
 — *coarctata* (Sm.). 2A (Bloxam), 2B  
 — *tenebrosa* (Flot.). 2A  
 [— *lapidica*, Fr. 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 2B]  
 — *fusco-atra*, Ach. (Pulteney, Bloxam) 2A  
     var. *fumosa*, Ach. 1B (Power)  
 — *contigua*, Fr. *f. leprosa*, Leighton, 1B (Bloxam in Leighton, L. F.)  
 [— *confluens* (Web.). 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 1B]  
 — *canescens* (Dicks.). 2A (Bloxam, Reader), 1B, 2B, 6  
 [— *verruculosa*, Borr. 1B (Power)]  
 — *myriocarpa* (DC.). 1B-2B, 6  
     var. *pinicola*, Ach. 1B, 2A  
 — *grossa* (Pers.) 1B  
 [— *Lightfootii* (Sm.). 1B (Bloxam)]  
 — *tricolor* (With.). 1B, 2B  
 — *anomala* (Fr.). 1B  
 — *cyrtella*, Ach. 1B  
 — *lutea* (Dicks.). 1B  
 — *diluta* (Pers.). 1B  
 — *caradocensis*, Leight. 1B



- endoleuca, Nyl. 1B
- muscorum (Sw.). 2A, 2B
- effusa (Sm.).
  - var. fuscilla, Fr. 1B
  - var. caesio-pruinosa, Mudd. 1B
- geographica (L.). 1B, 2A
  - [f. atro-virens (L.). 1B (Power)]
- petraea (Wulf.). 1B (Power), 2A
- parasitica (Flörk). 1B
- Opegrapha herpetica, Ach. 1B-2B
  - f. rufescens, Pers. 1B
- atra, Pers. 1B, 2A, 6
- varia, Pers. 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 1B, 6
  - f. rimalis (Fr.). 1B
- vulgata, Ach. 1B, 2B
  - var. stenocarpa, Ach. 1B
- lyncea (Sm.). 1A (Bloxam), 1B (Power), 2A (Bloxam)
- viridis, Pers.
  - var. taxicola, Leighton. 1B
- Stigmatidium crassum, Dub. 1B
- Arthonia lurida, Ach. 1B
  - spadicea, Leight. 1B
  - punctiformis, Ach. 1B (Bloxam)
  - astroidea, Ach. 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 1B-2B, 6
  - epipasta, Ach. 'Frequent' (Bloxam)
  - Swartziana, Ach. 1B (Pulteney), 6
  - cinnabarina (Wall.)
- sophistica, Nyl. 2A
  - var. flexuosa, Leight. 1B
  - var. divaricata, Leight. 1B
  - var. pulverulenta (Sm.). 1A, 1B
- Endocarpon rufescens, Ach. 2A
  - fluviatile, DC. 2A (Bloxam) (?)
  - hepaticum, Ach. 1A (Bloxam), 2A (F. Bates)
- Verrucaria epigaea (Pers.). 1B
  - laevata, Ach. var. nigrata, Leight. 2A
  - nigrescens (Pers.). 1B-2B, 6
  - glaucina (Ach.). 2B
  - macrostoma (Duf.). 1B-2B
  - viridula (Schrad.). 1A-2B
  - hymenogonia, Nyl. 6
  - rupestris, Schrad. 1B-2B, 6
    - var. muralis, Ach. 1A, 6
  - epidermidis, Ach. 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 1B, 6
  - immersa, Leight. 1A (Bloxam)
  - cinerea (Pers.). 2A (Bloxam)
  - punctiformis, Ach. 'Frequent' (Bloxam) 2A
  - biformis, Borr. 1B
  - chlorotica (Ach). 'Frequent'
    - var. codonoidea, Leight. 2A
  - nitida (Weig.). 1B
  - olivacea, Borr. 1B
  - [— umbrina, Wahlenb. 2A (Bloxam)]
  - [— clopima, Wahlenb. 2A (Bloxam)]
- Strigula Babingtonii, Berk. 1B

## FUNGI

*The Leicestershire Flora* of 1886 contains 445 numbered species of fungi, of these 299 are Hymenomycetes, 14 are Gastromycetes, 74 are Ascomycetes, the remaining 58 belong to Uredineae, Ustilagineae, Phycomycetes, Hyphomycetes,<sup>10</sup> and the class Mycetozoa. The Rev. A. Bloxam contributed almost all the records, chiefly from the immediate neighbourhood of Twycross;<sup>11</sup> when the other parts of the county have been worked the list will be enlarged considerably, especially in the Uredineae and Ustilagineae. Some very rare Hymenomycetes and Discomycetes were found by Mr. Bloxam as follows.—*Cypella Bloxami*, *Merulius serpens*, *Polystictus hirsutus*, *Hydnum argutum*, *Phlebia radiata*, *Nolanea Babingtonii*, *Mollisia micrometra*, *Lachnella Berkeleyi*, and *Phacidium Rubi* at Twycross. *Calloria auricolor*, *Dermatea livida*, *Patellaria livida*, and *P. pallida* at Gopsall; most of these and the following are still believed to be very rare fungi:—*Geaster mammosus*, *G. rufescens* (Berkeley), *G. hygrometricus* (Rev. Churchill Babington), *Clavaria contorta*, Grace Dieu (Mott), *C. rosea* (Babington), *Psilopezia Babingtonii*, Grace Dieu Wood (Babington), and *Merulius pallens*. A few of these have been found in other places since Bloxam's time. There are some additions to the 1886 list.

### BASIDIOMYCETAE

#### GASTROMYCETAE

- Cyathus vernicosus, DC.
- Scleroderma vulgare, Fr.
  - verrucosum, Pers.
- Lycoperdon pyriforme, Schaeff.
  - nigrescens (Pers.)
  - plumbeum, Pers.

#### GASTROMYCETAE (continued)

- Lycoperdon bovista, L.
  - geminatum, Batsch.
  - caelatum, Bull
  - perlatum, Pers.
- Geaster mammosus, Chev.
  - rufescens, Pers.
- hygrometricus, Pers.
- Ithyphallus impudicus, Fisch.



*Clavaria fastigiata*, L.  
— *muscoides*, L.  
— *coralloides*, L.  
— *cristata*, Holmsk.  
— *rugosa*, Bull.  
— *fusiformis*, Sow.  
— *inaequalis*, Flor. Dan.  
— *fragilis*, Holmsk.  
— *rosea*, Fr.  
— *contorta*, Holmsk.  
*Typhula erythropus*, Fr.

#### THELEPHOREAE

*Thelephora terrestris*, Ehrh.  
— *laciniata*, Pers.  
— *arida*, Fr.  
*Coniophora puteana*, Mass.  
*Peniophora quercina*, Cooke  
— *gigantea*, Mass.  
*Cyphella Bloxami*, B. and Phill.  
— *muscigena*, Fr.  
*Stereum hirsutum*, Fr.  
— *purpureum*, Pers.  
— *sanguinolentum*, Fr.  
— *spadiceum*, Fr.  
— *rugosum*, Fr.

#### HYDNEAE

*Hydnum auriscalpium*, L.  
— *membranaceum*, Bull.  
— *argutum*, Fr.  
*Radulum orbiculare*, Fr.  
— *quercinum*, Fr.  
*Phlebia radiata*, Fr.  
*Grandinia granulosa*, Fr.

#### POLYPOREAE

*Merulius serpens*, Tode  
— *pallens*, Berk.  
— *lachrymans*, Fr.  
*Daedalea confragosa*, Pers.  
— *unicolor*, Fr.  
*Trametes suaveolens*, Fr.  
*Poria vaporaria*, Fr.  
— *purpurea*, Fr. (Mrs. Foord-Kelcey)  
*Polystictus versicolor*, Fr.  
— *perennis*, Fr.  
— *hirsutus*, Fr.



# BOTANY

## HYMENOMYCETAE (continued)

### AGARICINEAE (continued)

- Cortinarius collinitus, Fr.
- elatior, Fr.
- multiformis, Fr.
- glaucopus, Fr.
- calochrous, Fr.
- purpurascens, Fr.
- prasinus, Fr.
- Crepidotus mollis, Schaeff.
- Tubaria furfuracea, Pers.
- Flammula flavida, Schaeff.
- lenta, Pers.
- Galera hypnorum, Batsch.
- Naucoria cucumis, Pers.
- horizontalis, Bull.
- semiorbicularis, Bull.
- Hebeloma crustuliniforme, Bull.
- Inocybe geophylla, Fr.
- Bolbitius Boltonii, Fr.
- fragilis, Fr.
- Pholiota squarrosa, Müll.
- adiposa, Fr.
- spectabilis, Fr.
- mutabilis, Schaeff.
- Claudopus variabilis, Pers.
- Clitopilus prunulus, Scop.
- orcella, Bull.
- Leptonia lampropoda, Fr.
- Nolanea pascua, Pers.
- Babingtonii, Blox.
- Entoloma sinuatum, Fr.
- Bloxamii, B. and Br.
- jubatum, Fr.
- rhodopolium, Fr.
- sericeum, Fr.
- Pluteus umbrosus, Pers.
- cervinus, Schaeff.
- nanus, Pers.
- Lenzites betulina, Fr.
- Schizophyllum commune, Fr.
- Panus torulosus, Fr.
- Lentinus lepideus, Fr.
- Cantharellus cibarius, Fr.
- aurantiacus, Fr.
- tubaeformis, Fr.
- Hygrophorus Colemannianus, Blox.
- laetus, Fr.
- ceraceus, Wulf.
- coccineus, Schaeff.
- puniceus, Fr.
- conicus, Fr.
- chlorophanus, Fr.
- psittacinus, Schaeff.
- pratensis, Fr.
- virgineus, Wulf.
- niveus, Fr.
- cossus, Sow.
- hypothejus, Fr.
- eberneus, Bull.
- Pleurotus septicus, Fr.
- applicatus, Batsch.
- fimbriatus, Bolt.
- ostreatus, Jacq. (Mrs. Foord-Kelcey, 1907)
- Omphalia sphagnicola, Berk.
- umbellifera (L.)
- grisea, Fr.
- fibula, Bull.

## HYMENOMYCETAE (continued)

### AGARICINEAE (continued)

- Omphalia integrella, Pers.
- pyxidata, Bull.
- Clitocybe nebularis, Batsch.
- cerussata, Fr.
- candicans, Fr.
- gigantea, Sow.
- inornata, Sow.
- pithyophilus, Fr.
- infundibuliformis, Schaeff.
- geotropa, Bull.
- flaccida, Sow.
- cyathiformis, Bull.
- brumalis, Fr.
- ditopa, Fr.
- fragrans, Sow.
- Laccaria laccata, Scop.
- Lactarius torminosus, Schaeff.
- [— cilicioides, Fr.]
- turpis, Fr.
- insulsus, Fr.
- blennius, Fr.
- pyrogalus, Bull.
- chrysorrheus, Fr.
- [— plumbeus, Fr.]
- piperatus, Fr.
- vellereus, Fr.
- deliciosus, Fr.
- quietus, Fr.
- glyciosmus, Fr.
- fuliginosus, Fr.
- volemus, Fr.
- serifluus, Fr.
- mitissimus, Fr.
- subdulcis, Fr.
- camphoratus, Fr.
- Russula alutacea, Fr.
- nitida, Fr.
- nigricans, Fr.
- adusta, Fr.
- heterophylla, Fr.
- virescens, Fr.
- vesca, Fr.
- depallens, Fr.
- cyanoxantha, Schaeff.
- fellea, Fr.
- rubra, Fr.
- ochroleuca, Fr.
- citrina, Fr.
- emetica, Fr.
- fragilis, Fr.
- Mycena vulgaris, Pers.
- tenerrima, Berk.
- epipterygia, Scop.
- leucogala, Cooke
- galopoda, Fr.
- sanguinolenta, A. & S.
- iris, Berk.
- filopes, Bull.
- leptocephalus, Pers.
- alcalina, Fr.
- vitrea, Fr.
- galericulata, Scop.
- polygramma, Bull.
- flavo-alba, Fr.
- [— elegans, Pers.]
- pura, Pers.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## HYMENOMYCETAE (continued)

### AGARICINEAE (continued)

- Collybia radicata*, Relh.  
 — *platyphylla*, Fr.  
 — *fusipes*, Bull.  
 — *maculata*, A. & S.  
 — *butyracea*, Bull.  
 — *velutipes*, Fr.  
 — *confluens*, Pers.  
 — *dryophila*, Bull.  
 — *clava*, L.  
 — *caulicinalis*, Bull. (*A. stipitarius*, Fr.)  
*Marasmius peronatus*, Fr.  
 — *urens*, Fr.  
 — *oreades*, Fr.  
 [— *Vaillantii*, Fr.]  
 — *rotula*, Fr.  
 — *androsaceus*, Fr.  
 — *foetidus*, Fr.  
*Tricholoma fucatum*, Fr.  
 [— *equestre*, L.]  
 [— *colossum*, Fr.]  
 — *ionides*, Bull.  
 — *flavo-brunneum*, Fr.  
 — *rutilans*, Schaeff.  
 — *columbetta*, Fr.  
 — *vaccinum*, Fr.  
 — *imbricatum*, Fr.  
 — *saponaceum*, Fr.  
 — *personatum*, Fr.  
 — *nudum*, Bull.  
 — *gambosum*, Fr.  
 — *humile*, Fr.  
 — *brevipes*, Bull.  
 — *grammopodium*, Bull.  
 — *subpulverulentum*, Pers.  
 — *sejunctum*, Sow.  
*Armillaria mellea*, Vahl.  
 — *mucida*, Schrad.  
 — *ramentacea*, Bull.  
*Lepiota procera* (Scop.), Fr.  
 — *rachodes*, Vitt.  
 — *excoriata*, Schaeff.  
 — *clypeolaria*, Bull.  
 — *cristata*, A. & S.  
 — *carcharias*, Pers.  
 — *granulosa*, Batsch.  
*Amanitopsis vaginata*, Roze.  
*Amanita verna*, Bull.  
 — *phalloides*, Fr.  
 — *mappa*, Fr.  
 — *pantherina*, Fr.  
 — *muscaria* (L.), Fr.  
 — *rubescens*, Fr.  
 — *asper*, Fr.

## ASCOMYCETAE

### DISCOMYCETAE

- Morchella semilibera*, DC.  
*Helvella crispa*, Fr.  
 — *lacunosa*, Afz.  
*Leotia lubrica*, Pers.  
 — *acicularis*, Pers.  
*Geoglossum hirsutum*, Pers.  
 — *difforme*, Fr.

## ASCOMYCETAE (continued)

### DISCOMYCETAE (continued)

- Peziza vesiculosa*, Bull.  
 — *reticulata*, Grev. *Welby* to *Melton Mowbray*,  
 14 April, 1903  
 [— *Browniana*, Blox. *Twycross*. 'Position doubtful,'  
 see Phillips' *Discomycetes*, 408  
*Otidea aurantia* (Pers.), Mass.  
*Humatia granulata* (Bull.), Sacc.  
*Psilopezia Babingtonii*, Berk.  
*Hymenoscypha calyculus* (Sow.)  
*Belonidium minutissimum* (Batsch.), Phill. ; on *Hel-*  
*minthosporia*  
*Mollisia cinerea* (Batsch.), Karst.  
 — *micrometra*, B. & Br.  
 — *trifolii* (Bernh.)  
*Helotium ferrugineum* (Schum.)  
 [— *pinodes*, B. & Br.]  
 [— *microspila*, B. & Br.]  
*Dasyscypha virginea* (Batsch.)  
 — *calycina* (Schum.), 3, *Lings Cover*, July 1906  
 — *nivea* (Hedw.), Mass.  
*Tapesia aurelia* (Pers.) = *T. aurata*, Mass. = *Beloni-*  
*dium auratum*, Sacc. 1B : *Twycross* ; Bloxam.  
 1A : *Breedon Cloud Wood*, 17 April, 1903  
 [— *Bloxami*, B. & Br. Rejected by Phillips, 408  
 (no asci)]  
*Lachnella Berkeleyi* (Blox.), Phill.  
*Ascophanus testaceus* (Moug.), Phill.  
*Bulgaria inquinans*, Fr.  
*Calloria auricolor* (Blox.), Phill.  
*Dermatea livida* (B. & Br.), Phill. (*Patellaria con-*  
*stipata*, Blox)  
 — *rhabarbarina* (Berk.). Phillips' *Discomyc.*, 341  
*Cenangium ribis*, Fr. 1B : *Twycross* (Bloxam)  
*Patellaria pallida*, Berk. 1B : *Twycross* (Bloxam in  
*Fl. L.*)  
 — *atro-vinosa*, Blox. MS.  
 — *atrata* (Hedw.) 1B : *Gopsall* (Bloxam in *Fl. L.*)  
*Schmitzomia radiata* (L.), Phill. 1B : *Twycross*  
 (Bloxam in *Fl. L.*)  
*Phacidium rubi*, Fries.  
*Rhytisma corrugatum*, Ach.  
*Hysterium repandum*, Blox.

### PYRENOMYCETAE

- Nectria cinnabarina*, Fr.  
 — *pulicaris*, Fr.  
 — *ochracea*, Fr.  
 — *coccinea*, Fr.  
 — *hirta*, Blox.  
 — *Bloxami*, B. & Br.  
 — *Russeliana*, Mont.  
*Hypocrea rufa*, Fr.  
*Cordyceps entomorrhiza*, Fr.  
 — *militaris*, Fr.  
*Hypoxyton udum*, Fr.  
*Daldinia concentrica*, Bolt. *Mucklin Wood*, Mrs. Foord-  
 Kelcey, 1907  
*Xylaria hypoxylon*, Grev.  
*Diatrype disciformis*, Fr.  
 — *incarcerata*, B. & Br.  
*Dothidea filicina*, Fr.  
*Valsa platanigera*, B. & Br.  
 — *rhodophila*, B. & Br.  
 — *fenestrata*, B. & Br.  
 — *aglaeostoma*, B. & Br.



Sporocybe byssoides, Fr.  
— alternata, Berk.  
Sporidesmium melanopum, B. & Br.  
— opacum, Corda  
— abruptum, B. & Br.  
Coniothecium amentacearum, Corda  
Epicoccum neglectum, Desm.  
Rhinotrichum Bloxamii, B. & Br.

SPHAEROSIDIACEAE

Septoria polygonorum, Desm.

MELANCONIACEAE

Melanconium bicolor, Nees

MYCETOZOA

Ceratiomyxa mucida, Schroet.  
Badhamia utricularis, Berk.  
— nitens, Berk.  
Fuligo septica, Gmel.  
Craterium minutum, Fr.  
Leocarpus vernicosus, Link  
, Rab. ? Didymium farinaceum, Schrad.  
— squamulosum, Fr.  
[ — hemisphericum, Fr. (Bloxam)]  
Dictydium umbilicatum, Schrad.  
Trichia Botrytis, Pers.  
Arcyria incarnata, Pers.  
(Bloxam) Perichaena populina, Fr.







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*Vitrina pellucida* (Müll.). Local. Sheet Hedges and Buddon Woods; Kirby Fields; Birstall; Evington, &c.  
*Vitrea crystallina* (Müll.). Common about St. Mary's Mills; Bradgate Park; Aylestone Meadows; Birstall  
 — *cellaria* (Müll.). Common  
 — *rogersi*, B.B. Woodw. [= *glaber*, auct.]. Young specimen near Anstey; Kibworth  
 — *alitaria* (Müll.) Gopsall Wood  
 — *nitidula* (Drap.). Banks of the Soar; Bradgate Park; Kirby Muxloe; Birstall; Tilton-on-the-Hill; Leicester  
 — *radiatula* (Alder). Charnwood Forest  
*Zonitoides* [*Vitrea*] *nitidus* (Müll.). Saddington  
 — *excavatus* (Bean). Willow stumps below the Castle Mount; Benscliff Wood  
*Euconulus* [*Vitrea*] *fulvus* (Müll.). Very local. Swithland Wood  
*Arion ater* (Linn.). Very common  
 — *intermedius*, Norm. Glenfield; Groby Pool  
 — *hortensis*, Fér. Plentiful  
 — *fasciatus*, Nils. [= *circumscriptus*, Johnst.]. Hatherthorn  
*Punctum pygmaeum* (Drap.). Rare. Aylestone Churchyard; Congerstone; Carlton Brook  
*Sphyradium edentulum* (Drap.). Near Leicester; Gopsall Wood  
*Pyramidula rupestris* (Drap.). Rather rare. Foot of rocks Mountsorrel; Abbey walls  
 — *rotundata* (Müll.). Common everywhere  
*Helicella virgata* (DaCosta). Tilton-on-the-Hill; Ingarsby  
 — *itala* (Linn.). Barrow-upon-Soar; Seagrave; Melton Mowbray; Evington; Fleckney, &c.  
 — *caperata* (Mont.) Wartnaby Quarries; Loughborough; Ingarsby  
 — *cantiana* (Mont.). Saltby; Sproxton; Melton  
*Hygromia hispida* (Linn.). Abundant  
 — *rafescens* (Penn.). Abbey meadows, &c.  
*Acanthinula aculeata* (Müll.). Gopsall  
*Vallonia pulchella* (Müll.). Meadows by the River Soar; Bradgate Park; Evington, &c. With this may be included some examples of *V. excentrica*, a species only recently recognized in this country

*Azeca tridens* (Pult.). Two specimens at Gracedieu Abbey  
*Caecilioides* [*Caecilianella*] *acicula* (Müll.). River Wreak; Breedon; Gracedieu; Ingarsby  
*Jaminia* [*Pupa*] *cylindracea* (DaCosta). Plentiful in Bradgate Park; Evington; Woodhouse Eaves; Leicester Abbey  
 — *muscorum* (Linn.). Three specimens near Aylestone Bridge  
*Vertigo pygmaea* (Drap.). Bradgate Park; near Congerstone; Evington; Ingarsby  
*Balea perversa* (Linn.). Bradgate; Breedon Hill  
 — *bidentata* (Ström.). Spinney Hills; Belvoir; Bradgate; Gopsall; Anstey; Evington, &c.  
*Succinea putris* (Linn.). River Soar; Groby Pool; Bradgate; Saddington, &c.  
 — *elegans*, Risso. River Soar; Groby Pool; Sheet Hedges Wood; near Birstall; Aylestone

#### b. BASOMMATOPHORA

*Carychium minimum*, Müll. Meadows and banks of the Soar; Crown Hills; Evington, &c.  
*Ancylus fluviatilis*, Müll. Bradgate Brook; River Soar, &c.  
*Acroloxus* [*Velletia*] *lacustris* (Linn.). Groby Pool; River Wreak, &c.  
*Limnaca auricularia* (Linn.). Osbaston Pool; Groby Pool; Saddington Reservoir; Aylestone; Wistow; Foxton; Blaby; Abbey Park  
 — *pereger* (Müll.). Common everywhere  
 — *palustris* (Müll.). Local: River Soar and ditches  
 — *truncatula* (Müll.). Common throughout  
 — *stagnalis* (Linn.). Common  
*Planorbis corneus* (Linn.). Common  
 — *albus*, Müll. Leicester Abbey meadows; Groby Pool; Saddington Reservoir; Congerstone, &c.  
 — *glaber*, Jeff. Bradgate Park  
 — *crista* [= *nautileus*] (Linn.). Pond on the Appleby Road near Twycross; Groby Pool; Old Walby  
 — *carinatus*, Müll. Common  
 — *umbilicatus*, Müll. [= *marginatus*, Drap.]. Very common  
 — *vortex* (Linn.). Most abundant



*Bithynia tentaculata* (Linn.). Abundant  
— *leachii* (Shepp.). Aylestone Brook, &c.

Sewstern  
*Neritina fluviatilis* (Linn.). River Soar; Bradgate  
Park; Blaby

## B. PELECYPODA

*Dreissensia polymorpha* (Pall.). Canals throughout  
*Unio pictorum* (Linn.). Plentiful  
— *tumidus*, Retz. Common  
*Anodonta cygnaea* (Linn.). Extremely common  
*Sphaerium rivicola* (Leach). Local: Aylestone;  
Blaby; Mountsorrel  
— *corneum* (Linn.). Plentiful  
— *lacustre* (Müll.). Stable Quarry, Bradgate Park  
*Pisidium amnicum* (Müll.). Common  
— *casertanum* (Poli). [= *fontinale*]. Common

*Pisidium henslowianum* (Shepp.). Aylestone; Sadding-  
ton Reservoir  
— *pulchellum*, Jenyns. Rarely in ditches  
— *pusillum* (Gmel.). Aylestone; Market Bosworth;  
Stable Quarry, Bradgate Park; Congerstone  
— *obtusale*, Pfr. Aylestone; Groby Pool  
— *gassiesianum*, Dupuy [= *miliun*, auct.]. Aylestone;  
Saddington Reservoir  
(The correct identification of most of the species  
of *Pisidium* is questionable.)



# INSECTS

The county of Leicester does not take an important place in regard to the number of its species of insects. Many interesting forms occur both in the Coleoptera and Lepidoptera which have been well worked out, but owing to the absence of specialists in the other orders the records are very scanty.

The greater part of the county is arable and pasture land in a high state of cultivation, but on the whole it is well wooded. Charnwood Forest, which includes well-known localities like Buddon Wood, Bardon Hill, and Bradgate Park, is perhaps the richest district in the matter of records, probably because it has been more worked than other districts. Owston Wood, on the Rutland border, with its varied flora, produces a number of species not found in other parts of the county. Seal Wood, Grange Wood, and the Ambien Wood, in the neighbourhood of Sutton Cheney, are all good collecting ground.

The following abbreviations have been adopted throughout the lists in this article, viz. : c. denotes common ; v.c., very common or abundant ; n.c., not common ; r., rare or scarce ; v.r., very rare ; and gen. dist., generally distributed.

I have to express my thanks, for valuable assistance received, to Mr. H. St. J. Donisthorpe, F.Z.S., F.E.S., Rev. Canon Cruttwell, M.A., Rev. G. W. Whittingham, Prof. Hudson Beare, Mr. W. A. Vice, M.B., Mr. G. B. Dixon, F.E.S., Mr. W. J. Kaye, F.E.S., Mr. C. B. Headly, F.E.S., Mr. G. B. Chalcraft, Dr. W. H. Barrow, Mr. J. H. Wooley, Mr. H. Holyoak, and others, for notes on the various orders. I have also had the advantage of the use of notes made by the late Rev. A. Matthews and Mr. J. Weildt.

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istribution.

About twelve species are confined to the county. *Tetropium castaneum* (since described as *Tetropium gabrielli*, by Weise) was added to the British list by the author, and has been taken in other counties.

*Calasoma inquisitor* occurs at Buddon Wood, rather more north than its normal range. Specimens are darker than those from the south. *Blethisa multipunctata* is very abundant in the various reservoirs.

*Bembidium clarki* and *B. assimile* are both recorded from Thornton, whilst *B. obliquum* and *B. sulcatum* are two of our most abundant species. *Hydroporus longulus*, always an excellent beetle, occurs in the ditches at Bradgate Park, *Hydaticus transversalis* is noted from Gumley, *Hydaticus brevis* from near Leicester, *Dinarda markeli*, with *Formica rufa*, at Buddon Wood, *Leptis quisquiliarius* var. *dimidiatus* has been found at all our reservoirs; the type is one of the most common species, and *Oxyporus rufus* is recorded from fungi in the autumn at Bardon Hill.

The next two species, *Omalium brevicorne* and *O. testaceum*, were added to the British list by Rev. A. Matthews. Both were taken at Gumley, and, so far as we have been able to ascertain, have not been taken since. Another interesting record by the same worker is the first record in England of *Neuraphes sparshalli* var. *minutus*. *Triathron markeli* has been taken from trees by evening sweeping, at Bardon Hill.

In the Tricopterygidae our records are strong. In *Tricopteryx* we have twenty-five records, including *T. fratercula*, the only British record, *T. attenuata*, only taken in two other counties, *T. brevis*, with only one other record, *T. longicornis* from Market Harborough and Gumley, recorded elsewhere; *T. jansoni* three specimens (unique) from Gumley, *T. guerinii*, only recorded from Gumley, *T. fuscata* (unique) from Gumley, *T. variolosa*, added to the British list from Gumley, since taken in several other counties. *Ptilium rugulosum* is only recorded from Gumley, but it occurs, however, in Scotland. *Ptenidium laevigatum*, again, is probably the most common species. *P. kratzii* was taken by Canon Fowler at Buddon Wood out of nests of *Formica rufa*. *Ptenidium* is only recorded from one other locality, viz. Rannoch (Scotland).

*Orthoperus brunnipes*, also from Gumley, and according to Fowler, the only other record known, is in Mr. Wilkinson's collection. *O. punctulatus*, the only example known, was taken by Rev. A. Matthews at Gumley.

*Sphaerius acaroides* was taken at Gumley in 1855 by Rev. H. Matthews. *Scytodes* was added to the British list by Wollaston, who took it out of old ivy at Shenton Hall on 12th August 1872; since then it has been taken in Surrey. *Pediacus dermestiodes* is a recent addition to the county list by the author, from the Bosworth district, *Triplax aenea* from Leicester Frith, *Triplax niperialis* from Bardon, *Corymbites aeneus* on the Charnwood Forest Hills; *Axinotarsus* recorded from Sheet Hedges Wood by Mr. A. R. Wallace. As it is our only record of the genus and the only note of the famous explorer, probably it was taken during one of the excursions made with H. W. Bates and F. Bates before the great Amazon trip was arranged.

*Tillus elongatus* and *Thanasinus formicarius* from Owston, the latter from a Cossus-ivy, from the same wood the author has taken *Molorchus minor* three times, and since in this district in numbers.

*Monochammus sartor* and *M. sutor* are both recorded from Leicester, *Phytoecia cyanea* from Gumley, *Stenostola ferrea* from Sutton Cheney, but on the whole the county is not



# INSECTS

list from the same place, where he got it out of a bag of oak branches, and another specimen has been taken in the New Forest, and is now in the Bates collection. *Rhynchites interpunctatus* occurs on young hawthorn buds at Buddon Wood, and *R. pubescens* on oak. A single specimen of the rare *Otiobrychus ligustrici* was taken at Bradgate by Mr. H. W. Bates, and *Caenopsis fissirostris* in the same locality. *Cryphalus abietis* was first discovered in England at Gumley, by Rev. A. Matthews, but has since been taken in several other localities.

In the space available it is only possible to give a list of the rarer species, with brief notes on the more important ones.

Most of the species not recorded by Fowler for the Midlands are specially mentioned, though it is quite possible many of them occur in our adjoining counties. 'No other Midland record' refers to Fowler's *British Coleoptera*.

The classification followed is that of Beare and Donisthorpe.

## CICINDELIDAE

*Cicindela campestris*, L. *Bradgate*, n.c.

## CARABIDAE

*Cychrus rostratus*, L. n.c.  
*Carabus catenulatus*, Scop. n.c.  
 — *granulatus*, L. Local along *Soar Valley*  
 — *arvensis*, F. *Beacon Plain*  
*Calosoma inquisitor*, L. *Buddon and Seal Woods*  
*Notiophilus substriatus*, Wat. *Market Harborough* district  
 — *aquaticus*, L. n.c.  
 — *palustris*, Duft. n.c.  
*Leistus spinibarbis*, F. r. *Buddon Wood* (Barrow)  
 — *fulvibarbis*, Dej. n.c.  
 — *ferrugineus*, L. Local  
 — *rufescens*, F. Local  
*Nebria brevicollis*, F. v.c.  
*Blethisa multipunctata*, L. At the various reservoirs in some numbers  
*Clivina collaris*, n.c.  
*Dyschirius politus*, Dej. *Market Bosworth*  
 — *aeneus*, Dej. r.  
*Badister unipustulatus*, Bon. *Market Bosworth*  
 — *sodalis*, Duft. *Sheet Hedges Wood*, v.r.  
*Chlaenius vestitus*, Payk. *Syston*, v.r.  
 — *nigricornis*, F. *Groby Pool, Thornton*, n.c.  
 — — var. *melanocornis*, Dej. *Groby Pool*, r.  
*Oodes helopiodes*, F. *Groby, Cropston*, r.  
*Stenolophus vespertinus*, Panz. Reservoirs, v.c.  
*Acupaipus dorsalis*, F. *Market Harborough*  
 — *exiguus*, Dej. *Market Harborough*  
 — *meridianus*, L. Near *Leicester*, n.c.  
*Bradycellus placidus*, Gyll. *Market Harborough*, r.  
 — *cognatus*, Gyll. *Market Harborough*, r.  
 — *verbasci*, Duft. *Bradgate, Market Bosworth*, n.c.  
 — *harpalinus*, Dej. *Bradgate, Market Harborough*, n.c.  
 — *collaris*, Payk. *Market Harborough*, r.  
 — *similis*, Dej. *Bradgate*, r.  
*Harpalus puncticollis*, Payk. n.c.  
 — *rufibarbis*, F. n.c.  
 — *latus*, L. *Buddon, Gumley*, n.c.  
 — *tardus*, Panz. *Gumley* (Matthews)  
*Dichirotrichus pubescens*, Payk. *Gumley*, r.  
*Anisodactylus binotatus*, F. *Groby Pool* (H. W. Bates)  
*Zabrus gibbus*, F. *Gumley* (Matthews)  
*Stomis pumicatus*, Panz. *Bradgate, Leicester Frith*, n.c.  
*Pterostichus versicolor*, Sturm. *Gumley*  
 — *oblongopunctatus*, F. *Sutton Ambien*, v.c., under chips (Bouskell)  
 — *niger*, Schall. *Bradgate*, n.c. (F. Bates)  
 — *anthracinus*, Ill. *Bradgate, Gumley*  
 — *nigrita*, F. *Bradgate, Saddington*

## CARABIDAE (continued)

*Pterostichus minor*, Gyll. n.c.  
 — *picimanus*, Duft. *Soar Valley* (F. Bates); *Glenfield* (Wooley)  
 — *inequalis*, Marsh. *Gumley* (Matthews); *Stoughton* (Headly)  
 — *vernalis*, Gyll, n.c.  
*Amara aulica*, Pz. n.c.  
 — *convexiuscula*, Marsh. *Market Harborough*  
 — *bifrons*, Gyll. *Leicester Frith* (Wooley)  
 — *ovata*, F. n.c.  
 — *similata*, Gyll. n.c.  
 — *lunicollis*, Schiod. *Soar Valley*, r.  
 — *communis*, Panz. n.c.  
 — *plebia*, Gyll. Local  
*Amphigynus piceus*, Marsh. *Bradgate*, n.r.  
*Sphodrus leucophthalmus*, L. Local  
*Anchomenus oblongus*, Sturm. r.  
 — *atratus*, Duft. n.c.  
 — *micans*, Nic. Local  
 — *gracilis*, Gyll. *Bradgate*, r.  
 — *piceus*, L. n.r.  
 — *thoreyi*, Dej. r.  
 — *puellus*, n.r.  
*Bembidium aeneum*, Germ. r.  
 — *fumigatum*, Duft. *Groby Pool*  
 — *assimile*, Gyll. c.  
 — *clarki*, Daws. n.c.  
 — *articulatum*, Panz. n.c.  
 — *doris*, Panz. *Saddington*  
 — *gilvipes*, Sturm. n.c.  
 — *affine*, Steph. Near *Leicester*  
 — *femoratum*, Sturm. n.c.  
 — *bruxellense*, Wesm. v.r.  
 — *flammulatum*, Clairv. c.  
 — *varium*, Ol. r.  
 — *obliquum*, Sturm. At all the reservoirs in countless numbers  
*Tachypus pallipes*, Duft. *Loughborough*  
 — *flavipes*, L. *Swithland*, r.  
 — *Trechus discus*, F. n.c.  
 — *nicros*, Herbst. n.c.  
 — *rubens*, F. v.r.  
 — *secalis*, Payk. r.

## HALIPLIDAE

*Brychius elevatus*, Panz. Local  
*Haliplus flavicollis*, Sturm. r.  
 — *variegatus*, Sturm. Local  
 — *cinereus*, Aubé. Local  
 — *fluviatilis*, Aubé. r.  
*Cnemidotus impressus*, F. *Gumley*, r. There appear to be no Midland records besides this in Fowler



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## PELOBIIDAE

*Pelobius tardus*, Herbst. *Thurmaston*. One of the few records north of London

## DYTISCIDAE

*Noterus sparsus*, Marsh. v.r.  
*Bidessus geminus*, F. *Thringstone*  
*Coelambus versicolor*, Schal. n.c.  
 — *decoratus*, Gyll. v.r.  
 — *confluens*, F. n.c.  
 — *parallelogrammus*, Ahr. r.  
*Hydroporus granularis*, L. v. local  
 — *rivalis*, Gyll. n.c.  
 — *septentrionalis*, Gyll. Stony ditches, r. (H. W. Bates). This is a northern species which one would not expect to find  
 — *vittula*, Er. *Bradgate*, v.r.  
 — *longulus*, Muls. *Bradgate*, in running ditches, v.c. at times  
 — *discretus*, Fairm. n.c.  
 — *ferrugineus*, Steph. *Gumley* (Matthews). This appears to be the only Midland record  
*Agabus didymus*, Ol. r. and local  
 — *femoralis*, Payk. n.r.  
 — *abbreviatus*, F. v.r.  
*Ilybius fenestratus*, F. *Soar Valley*, n.c.  
*Copelatus agilis*, F. *Gumley*  
*Rhantus exoletus*, Forst. n.c.  
 — *pulverosus*, Steph. A single specimen near *Leicester* (T. B. Kirby)  
*Dytiscus circumflexus*, F. *Stoughton* (Bouskell)  
*Hydaticus transversalis*, Berg. v.r.

## GYRINIDAE

*Gyrinus minutus*, F. *Gumley*  
*Orectochilus villosus*, Mull. *Bradgate*, under submerged logs abundant, no other locality in the county

## HYDROPHILIDAE

*Hydrophilus piceus*, L. *Syston*, many years ago  
*Hydrobius oblongus*, Herbst. Usually a coast species, but recorded from *Gumley*  
*Philydrus testaceus*, F. r.  
 — *nigricans*, Zett. *Bradgate*, n.c.  
 — *melanocephalus*, Ol. Local  
*Cymbiodyta ovalis*, Th. c.  
*Enochrus bicolor*, Pk. v.r.  
*Anacaena bipustulata*, Steph. n.c.  
*Berosus signaticollis*, Charp. *Gumley*  
 — *luridus*, L. n.c.  
*Chaetarthria seminulum*, Pk. v.r.  
*Helophorus rugosus*, Ol. c.  
 — *dorsalis*, Marsh. n.c.  
 — *brevicollis*, Th. *Anstey* (F. Bates)  
 — *nanus*, Sturm. Two specimens taken by Mr. T. B. Kirby in the *Leicester* district  
*Hydrochus brevis*, Hbst. v.r.  
*Henicocerus exsculptus*, Germ. v.c. *Bradgate*  
*Cercyon obsoletus*, Gyll. Local  
 — *marinus*, Th. Local  
 — *nigriceps*, Marsh. *Bradgate*, n.r.  
 — *terminatus*, Marsh. Local  
 — *minutus*, F. r. in dung *Leicester* district

## STAPHYLINIDAE

*Aleochara lata*, Gr. *Buddon*  
 — *cuniculorum*, Kr. *Bradgate*, r.  
 — *lygea*, Kr. *Bradgate*, r.  
 — *moerens*, Gyll. r.  
 — *moesta*, Gr. *Desford*  
*Oxygaster formiceticola*, Mark. *Buddon Wood*, in nests of *Formica rufa* (Donisthorpe, Bouskell)  
 — *recondita*, Kr. *Buddon Wood*, in nests of *Formica rufa* (Donisthorpe)  
 — *annularis*, Sahl. Local  
*Ischnoglossa corticina*, Er. r.  
*Ocyusa picina*, Aub. r.  
*Ilyobates propinquus*, Aub. *Market Bosworth*, n.c.  
*Calodera nigrita*, Man. r.  
 — *rubens*, Er. r.  
*Dinarda markeli*, Kies. *Buddon Wood*, with *Formica rufa*, v.c.  
*Atemeles emarginatus*, Pk. v.r.  
*Myrmedonia collaris*, Pk. *Saddington*, r.  
*Notothecta flavipes*, Gr. *Buddon*, with *Formica rufa*, c.  
 — *anceps*, Er. *Buddon*, with *Formica rufa*, c.  
 — *confusa*, Mark. r.  
*Homalota pavens*, Er.  
 — *gregaria*, Er.  
 — *luteipes*, Er.  
 — *luridipennis*, Mann.  
 — *elongatula*, Gr.  
 — *silvicola*, Fuss. *Buddon*  
 — *vicina*, Steph.  
 — *graminicola*, Gr. *Thornton*  
 — *fungivora*, Th.  
 — *picipes*, Th.  
 — *subglabra*, Shp. *Buddon*  
 — *aequata*, Er.  
 — *angustula*, Gyll.  
 — *caesula*, Er.  
 — *circellaris*, Gr.  
 — *immersa*, Er. *Markfield*  
 — *cuspidata*, Er.  
 — *analis*, Gr.  
 — *aenicollis*, Shp.  
 — *Xantopoptera*, Steph. *Ulverscroft*  
 — *fungicola*, Th.  
 — *nigricornis*, Th.  
 — *palustris*, Kies.  
 — *testaceipes*, Heer.  
 — *sericea*, Muls.  
 — *atricolor*, Shp.  
 — *hodierna*, Shp.  
 — *cauta*, Er.  
 — *villosula*, Kr.  
 — *laevana*, Muls.  
 — *intermedia*, Th.  
 — *sordida*, Marsh.  
 — *aterrima*, Gr.  
 — *laticollis*, Steph.  
 — *fungi* var. *clientula*, Er.  
*Gynpeta labilis*, Er. *Bradgate*  
*Ischnopoda coerulea*, Sahl. *Gumley*  
*Falagria sulcata*, Pk.  
 — *sulcatula*, Gr.  
 — *thoracina*, Curt.  
 — *obscura*, Gr.  
*Gryophaena poweri*, Crotch. *Gumley* the only Midland record  
 — *laevipennis*, Kr.



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— striatum, Gr. Local  
 Eusphalerum primulae, Pk. Local  
 Anthobium minutum, F. Local  
 — sorbi, Gyll. *Gumley*, r.  
 Ptoteinus atomarius, Er. *Gumley*, r.  
 Megarthrus denticollis, Beck. r.  
 — hemipterus, Ill. r.  
 Phloecharis subtilissima, Man. *Gumley*  
 Prognatha quadricornis, Kirb. Under bark, local,  
 but n.r.

#### SILPHIDAE

Calyptomerus dubius, Marsh. Local  
 Clambus armadillo, DeG. r.  
 — minutus, Sturm. r.  
 Agathidium nigripenne, Kug. c. Under bark in  
 April  
 — atrum, Payk. n.c.  
 — seminulum, L. *Sheet Hedges Wood*, r.  
 — laevigatum, Er. *Buddon*  
 — varians, Beck. *Gumley*  
 — convexum, Sharp. *Bradgate*  
 — nigrinum, Sturm. Local  
 Amphicyllis globus, F. Local  
 Liodes humeralis, Kug. Under oak bark  
 — orbicularis, Hbst. r.  
 Cyrtusa minuta, Ahr. *Gumley*, one specimen  
 Anisotoma cinnamomea, Pz. Local evening sweeping  
 in woods  
 — oblonga, Er. *Bardon Hill*, September evening  
 sweeping  
 — dubia, Kug. *Bradgate*, r.  
 — ovalis, Schm. Local  
 — punctulata, Gyll. r.  
 — calcarata, Er. n.r.  
 — nigrita, Schm. n.r.  
 Colensis dentipes, Gyll. *Bardon Hill*, evening  
 sweeping  
 Triathron markeli, Schm. *Bardon Hill*, evening  
 sweeping  
 Necrodes littoralis, L. Abundant at times, but n.c.  
 Necrophorus interruptus, Steph. r. *Leicester* (Dr.  
 Barrow)  
 Silpha tristis, Ill. n.r.  
 — nigrita, Cr. c.

— brunneum, Lat.  
 — latum, Kr.

#### SCYDMAENIDAE

Neuraphes sparshalli, Den. r.  
 — — var. minutus, Chaud. First taken at *Gumley*  
 by Rev. A. Matthews  
 Scydmaenus godarti, Lat. *Buddon Wood*, with *For-*  
*mica rufa*; taken again recently after a lapse of  
 nearly forty years (Donisthorpe, Bouskell)  
 — pusillus, Müll. *Buddon Wood*  
 Euconnus hirticollis, Ill. r.  
 Euthia scydmaenoides, Steph. *Kegworth*  
 — plicata, Gyll. *Buddon Wood*, with *Formica rufa*

#### PSELAPHIDAE

Bythinus puncticollis, Den. r.  
 — validus, Aub. r.  
 — curtisi, Denny. r.  
 — securiger, Reich. *Buddon Wood*  
 Rybaxis sanguinea, L. *Saddington Reservoir*, v.c.  
 Bryaxis haemata, Reich. r.  
 — impressa, Pz. r.  
 Biloporus bicolor, Den. r.  
 Euplectus kunzei, Aub. *Gumley*  
 — karsteni, Reich. *Kegworth*, *Gumley*, r.  
 — signatus, Reich. *Gumley*  
 — nanus, Reich. *Gumley*

#### TRICHOPTERYGIDAE

Ptinella aptera, Guer. r.  
 Trichopteryx thoracina, Waltl. *Gumley*, r.  
 — anthracina, Mat. *Gumley*  
 — fratercula, Mat. *Gumley*, 3 specimens; no other  
 British record  
 — grandicollis, Man. n.r.  
 — cantiana, Mat. *Gumley*; only 3 other records  
 — attenuata, Gill. *Gumley*, v.r.; only 3 other records  
 — brevis, Mots. *Gumley*, twice in vegetable refuse;  
 only one other British record from *Repton*  
 (Derby)  
 — bovina, Mots. n.r.  
 — brevipennis, Er. Local; *Gumley*, *Buddon Wood*



- no other locality  
 — chevrolati, All. *Gumley*  
 — dispar, Mat. *Gumley*  
 — variolosa, Muls. The first British specimen was taken at *Gumley*  
 Smicrus filicornis, Fair. *Gumley*; only four other British records  
 Nephanes titan, New. *Gumley*  
 Ptilium rugulosum, All. *Gumley*; no other British locality is given  
 — exaratum, All. *Gumley*  
 Ptenidium fuscicorne, Er. *Gumley*  
 — laevigatum, Gill. *Gumley*; probably the only authentic British record  
 — wankowiezi, Mat. *Gumley*  
 — kratzi, Mat. *Buddon Wood*

#### CORYLOPHIDAE

- Orthoperus brunnipes, Gyll. *Gumley* (Rev. A. Matthews); only one other British specimen known, locality uncertain  
 — punctatulus, Mat. *Gumley* (Rev. A. Matthews); the only example known  
 Sphaerius acaroides, Waltl. *Gumley*; only two other British records

#### PHALACRIDAE

- Phalacrus carieis, Stm. *Bradgate, Market Bosworth, Gumley*  
 Olibrus corticalis, Pz. *Gumley, Kibworth*; no other midland records  
 — aeneus, F. *Leicester* district, n.r.  
 — bicolor, F. } *Leicester* district, herbage near hedge  
 — liquidus, Er. } banks n.c.; no other Midland record  
 — millefolii, *Gumley*; no other Midland record

#### COCCINELLIDAE

- Subcoccinella 24-punctata, L. Near *Leicester*, no other Midland record  
 Hippodamia variegata, Goez. *Gumley, Loughborough*; no other Midland record  
 Anisosticta 19-punctata, L. *Gumley*  
 Adalia obliterated, Muls. Abundant on larch, firs, and other conifers. I have a nearly black form from *Bardon Hill*  
 Mysia oblongoguttata, L. Local  
 Anaitis ocellata, L. *Bradgate*, n.c.; *Bardon Hill*, a nearly black form  
 Coccinella hieroglyphica, L. *Gumley*  
 Hyperaspis reppensis, Hbst. *Sheet Hedges*, r.  
 Scymnus pygmaeus, Fourc. *Gumley*  
 — frontalis, F. *Gumley*; *Birmingham* seems to be its northern limit  
 — arcuatus, Ross. *Shenton Hall*, 24 August, 1872, out of very old ivy added to the British list by Wollaston; since then taken I believe in Surrey, and a record previously doubted confirmed  
 — haemorrhoidalis, Hbst. *Gumley*  
 — minutus, Hbst. *Gumley*, the previous records are

- Mycetaea hirta, Marsh. *Kirby Muxloe*  
 Lycoperdina bovista, Buddon, *Bardon*, n.c.  
 Endomychus coccineus, L. *Gumley*

#### EROTYLIDAE

- Dacne humeralis, F. *Market Bosworth, Owston, Gumley*  
 — rufifrons, F. c.  
 Triplax russica L. Local, but c. where it occurs  
 — aenea, Schal. *Leicester* district, *Gumley*, local

#### COLYDIIDAE

- Orthocerus muticus, L. Fairly c.  
 Ditoma crenata, F. *Gumley*  
 Cerylon histeroides, F. *Bradgate, Buddon Wood*, mahogany coloured form with *Formica rufa*

#### HISTERIDAE

- Hister unicolor, L. n.c.  
 — merdarius r.  
 — cadaverinus, Hoff. n.r.  
 — succicolor, Thoms. *Bradgate*  
 — purpurascens, Hbst. Local  
 — neglectus, Germ. r.  
 — carbonarius, Ill. Local  
 — bissexstriatus, F. *Leicester* district, damp meadows, n.c.  
 — bimaculatus, L. In hot beds, n.r.  
 — 12-striatus, Schr. c.  
 Kissister minima, Aub. *Gumley*  
 Dendrophilus punctatus, Hbst. Local  
 — pygmaeus, L. *Buddon Wood*  
 Gnathoncus nannetensis, Mars. *Sutton Ambien, Gumley*, local  
 Saprinus aeneus, F. r.  
 Abraeus globosus, Hoff. r.  
 Halacritus punctum, Aub.  
 Acritus minutus, Hbst. r.  
 — nigricornis, Hoff. Local  
 Ontophilus striatus, F. Local

#### MICROPEPLIDAE

- Micropeplus porcatus, Pk. r.  
 — Margaritae, Duv. r.

#### NITIDULIDAE

- Brachypterus gravidus, Ill. r.  
 Cercus pedicularis, L. *Gumley*  
 — bipustulatus, Pk. *Aylestone*, r.  
 Carpophilus hemipterus, L. *Leicester*, in figs imported  
 Epurea melina, Er. c.  
 — oblonga, Hbst. *Bradgate*  
 — silacea, Hbst. r.  
 — longula, Er. *Gumley*  
 — deleta, Er. c.  
 — parvula, Stm. v.r.



- *difficilis*, Heer. *Gumley*, r.
- *memnobi*, Er. r.
- *pedicularis*, Gyll. Local
- *picipes*, Stm. *Bradgate* on *hieracium*, n.r.
- *symphiti*, Heer. *Gumley*
- *murinus*, Er. r.
- Cychramus fungicolor*, Heer. *Owston*, n.c.
- Cryptarcha strigata*, F. At sap, local
- *imperialis*, F. *Bardon Hill*, at birch sap, r.
- Ips 4-guttata*, F. c. at sap, and under birch bark
- *4-punctata*, Hbst. *Bardon*, *Buddon*, *Owston*, at sap
- *4-pustulata*, L. *Leicester*, *Gumley*, r.
- Pityophagus ferrugineus*, F. r. ; Fowler says, 'I know of no Midland record'
- Rhizophagus cribratus*, Gyll. r.
- *depressus*, F. *Bradgate*, n.r.
- *perforatus*, Er. *Buddon*, *Gumley*
- *ferrugineus*, Pk. Local
- *nitidulus*, F. Local
- *dispar*, Pk. c. at birch sap and under bark

#### TROGOSITIDAE

- Tenebrioides mauritanicus*, L. *Leicester*, *Ratby*, local
- Thymalus limbatus*, F. Under fir bark (H. W. Bates), *Gumley*

#### MONOTOMIDAE

- Monotoma conicollis*, Aub. *Buddon* with *Formica rufa*, c.
- *formicetorum*, Th. *Buddon*, with *Formica rufa*, c.
- *picipes*, Hbst. n.r.
- *longicollis*, Gyll. *Gumley*

#### LATHRIDIDAE

- Anomatus 12-striatus*, Müll. r.
- Lathridius angulatus*, Man. *Gumley*
- Enicmus testaceus*, Steph. *Gumley*
- Cartodere elongata*, Curt. *Leicester Frith*
- *filiformis*, Gyll. *Gumley*
- *filum* Aub. *Gumley* (2)
- Corticaria denticulata*, Gyll. *Gumley*
- *fenestralis*, L. *Leicester*, c. in old houses ; *Gumley*
- Melanopthalma transversalis*, Gyll. var. *Wollastoni*, Wat. *Gumley*

#### CRYPTOPHAGIDAE

- Antherophagus nigricornis*, F. c. but always occurring by single specimens
- *pallens*, Ol. r. *Sutton Ambien* (Donisthorpe)
- *silaceus*, Hbst. r. *Bradgate* (H. W. Bates)
- Cryptophagus setulosus*, Stm. *Bradgate*, n.c.
- *punctipennis*, Bris. *Leicester*
- *populi*, Pk. *Bardon Hill* (Headly)
- *distinguendus*, Stm. *Bradgate*, *Gumley*
- *acutangulus*, Gyll. r.
- *fumatus*, Gyll. *Buck Hill Lane* (F. Bates); Fowler gives no Midland record
- Paramecosoma melanocephalum*, Hbst. *Leicestershire* (H. W. Bates)
- Atomaria nigriventris*, Steph. *Buddon Wood*
- *umbrina*, Gyll. *Market Bosworth*, &c.
- *badia*, Er. *Market Bosworth*, sweeping under firs (Donisthorpe, Bouskell)
- *fuscipes*, Gyll. *Gumley*, r. inland
- *peltata*, Kr. *Shenton*, *Market Bosworth*
- *nigripennis*, Pk. *Bradgate* (F. Bates)
- *munda*, Er. *Gumley*
- *atra*, Hbst. *Leicester*, r.
- *berolinensis*, Kr. *Gumley*
- *mesomelas*, Hbst. Nr. *Leicester*, *Gumley*
- *apicalis*, Er. *Market Bosworth*, evening sweeping, *Gumley*
- *versicolor*, Er. *Leicester*
- Ephistemus globosus*, Waltl. *Buddon*, *Bardon*, n.r.

#### MYCETOPHAGIDAE

- Triphyllus suturalis*, F. *Gumley*
- Litargus bifasciatus*, F. *Market Bosworth*, *Owston*, *Bradgate*
- Mycetophagus piceus*, F. *Market Bosworth* in dead birch r. (Donisthorpe, Bouskell)
- *atomarius*, F. *Gumley*
- *multipunctatus*, Hell. *Market Bosworth*, *Owston*, *Leicester*, &c., fungi on elms, c.

#### DERMESTIDAE

- Dermestes vulpinus*, F. c. in bones, but local
- *murinus* Gen. dist.
- *lardarius*, L. n.r. in dry skins, &c.
- Megatoma undata*, L. *Market Bosworth*, *Buddon*, *Owston*



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Malachius aeneus, L. *Gumley, r.*  
 — viridis, F. *Gumley*  
 Axinotarsus ruficollis, Ol. *Sheet Hedges (Wallace)*  
 Anthocomus fasciatus, L. *Groby, Bradgate, r.*  
 Dasytes flavipes, F. n.c.  
 — aerosus, Kies. *Bradgate, &c., c.*  
 Haplocnemus impressus, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 — nigricornis, F. *Markfield*  
 Phloeophilus edwardsi, Steph. *Gumley, occasionally*  
     *on oaks*

#### CLERIDAE

Tillus elongatus, L. *Leicester, Owston, Market*  
     *Bosworth, r.*  
 Thanasimus formicarius, L. *Owston, under Cossus*  
     *bored bark (Bouskell); Anstey*  
 Necrobia ruficollis, F. Gen. dist.  
 — violacea, L. Gen. dist.  
 — rufipes, De G. *Kibworth*  
 Corynetes coeruleus, De G. *Market Bosworth in*  
     *Anobium borings; c. Leicester*

#### PTINIDAE

Ptinus 6-punctatus, Pz. *Gumley*  
 — lichenum, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 Niptus crenatus, F. *Kirby Muxloe, in pigeons' nests*  
 Hedobia imperialis, L. Gen. dist. but usually single  
     specimens

#### ANOBIIDAE

Dryophilus pusillus, Gyll. *Market Bosworth, sweep-*  
     *ing under firs; Bradgate, r.*  
 Priobium castaneum, F. *Bardon, Gumley, &c.*  
 Anobium denticolle, Pz. *Leicester district, swept*  
     *from herbage under elms*  
 — paniceum, L. *Gumley*  
 Xestobium tessellatum, F. *Leicester Frith, Gumley*  
 Ernobius mollis, L. *Aylestone, Kirby Muxloe*  
 Ptilinus pectinicornis, L. *Glen Parva, Kibworth*  
 Ochina hederæ, Mull. *Sheet Hedges*  
 Dorcatoma chrysomelina, Stm. *Market Bosworth in*  
     *old birch; Sutton Ambien, v.c. in oak (Bouskell,*  
     *Donisthorpe)*

#### LYCTIDAE

Lyctus canaliculatus, F. *On new oak palings, n.r.*

#### CISSIDAE



## CHRYSOMELIDAE

- Orsodacna cerasi, L. *Gumley*  
 Donacia crassipes, F. *River Soar, c.*  
 — dentata, Hopp. *River Soar, n.c.*  
 — versicolora, Brahm. *Bradgate*  
 — sparganni, Ahr. *Misterton*  
 — dentipes, F. *Misterton, Gumley*  
 — limbata, Pz. *c.*  
 — bicolora, Zsch. *Bradgate, Kibworth*  
 — thalassina, Germ. *Bradgate*  
 — impressa, Pk. *Kibworth*  
 — simplex, F. *c.*  
 — vulgaris, Zsch. *Ulverscroft, Bradgate*  
 — clavipes, F. *River Soar, canal nr. Leicester*  
 — semicuprea, Pz. *Bradgate, canal Market Bosworth*  
 — sericea, L. *c.*  
 — discolor, Pz. *Gumley*  
 — braccata, Scop. *Canal Leicester district*  
 — affinis, Kunz. *Leicester*  
 Haemonia appendiculata, Pz. *Groby Pool (Plant)*  
 Zeugophora subspinosa, F. *Sheet Hedges (H. W. Bates)*  
 — flavicollis, Marsh. *Seal Wood (J. T. Harris)*  
 Crioceris asparagi, L. *c.*  
 Clythera 4-punctata, L. *Buddon, with Formica rufa, c.; Bardon, Sheet Hedges. F. rufa does not occur in the two latter woods.*  
 Cryptocephalus coryli, L. *Gumley*  
 — bipunctatus, L. var. lineola, F. *Swithland, Blaby, Gumley, r.*  
 — aureolus, Suff. *Gumley*  
 — hypochaeridis, L. *Blake Hayes, Gumley, r.*  
 — moraei, L. *Gumley*  
 — fulvus, Goetz. *Anstey Lane, r.*  
 — pusillus, E. *Sheet Hedges*  
 — labiatus, L. *Woods, local*  
 Lamprosoma, concolor, Stm. *Gumley*  
 Timarchia tenebricosa, F. *Anstey Lane, Buddon, &c.*  
 — violaceo-nigra, De G. *Bradgate, c.*  
 Chrysomela marginata, L. *Gumley*  
 — staphylea, L. *c.*  
 — polita, L. *c.*  
 — orichalcia, Mull. *Knighton, Gumley*  
 — varians, Schal. *Buddon*  
 — fastuosa, Scop. *Loughborough, Aylestone, Kibworth, c.*  
 — didymata, Scrib. *Brazil Wood, on Hypericum perforatum*  
 — hyperici, Forst. *Sheet Hedges*  
 Melasoma aeneum. *Swithland Wood, on alders*  
 — populi, L. *Bradgate*  
 Phytodecta rufipes, De G. *c.*  
 — olivacea, Forst. *c.*  
 — v. litura, F. *Swithland*  
 Gastroidea viridula, De G. *c.*  
 Phaedon concinnus, Steph. *Cropston, Groby Pool*  
 Phyllopecta cavifrons, Th. *c.*  
 Hydrothassa aneta, F. *Buddon, damp meadows, n.r.*  
 Phyllobrotica 4-maculata, L. *Bradgate, Buddon, Cropston, c. on Scutellaria*  
 Luperus nigrofasciatus, Goetz. *Gumley*  
 — flavipes, L. *Gumley*  
 Lochmaea crataegi, Forst. *Sheet Hedges, Gumley*  
 Galerucella viburni, Pk. *Swithland Wood, Leicester*  
 — nymphaea, L. *Groby, Thornton, c.*  
 — lineola, F. *Saddington, c.*  
 — calmariensis, L. *Bradgate*  
 — tenella, L. *c.*  
 Adimonia tanacetii, L. *Bradgate, Buddon, local, c.*

## CHRYSOMELIDAE (continued)

- Sermyla halensis, L. *Bradgate, c.*  
 Longitarsus anchusae, Pk. *Leicester district, Kibworth*  
 — ater, F. *Markfield. Buddon, &c.*  
 — holosaticus, L. *Beacon Hill*  
 — 4-guttatus, Pont. *Gumley*  
 — castaneus, Duft. *Evington*  
 — luridus, Scop. *Kibworth, Gumley*  
 — fuscus, Kuts. *Gumley*  
 — suturellus v. fuscicollis, Steph. *Bradgate, on ragwort*  
 — atricillus, L. *Leicester, Kibworth, Gumley, n.c.*  
 — atriceps, Kuts. *Kibworth, Gumley*  
 — picipes, Steph. *Stoughton*  
 — lycopi, Foud. *Gumley*  
 — waterhousei, Kuts. *Gumley*  
 — femoralis, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 — tabidus, F. *Bradgate, c., on ragwort*  
 — rutilus, Ill. *Gumley*  
 Haltica coryli, Al. *Gumley*  
 — pusilla, Duft. *Gumley*  
 Hermaeophaga mercurialis, F. *Gumley*  
 Phyllotreta nodicornis, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 — nigripes, F. *Gumley*  
 — consobrina, Curt. *Kibworth*  
 — punctulata, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 — cruciferae, Goetz. *Narborough*  
 — vittula, Redt. *Leicester Frith, Kibworth*  
 — ochripes, Curt. *Leicester Frith, Kibworth*  
 — sinuata, Steph. *Gumley*  
 — tetrasigma, Com. *Sheet Hedges*  
 Athona nigriceps, Redt. *Gumley*  
 — nonstriata, Goetz. *Gumley*  
 — venustula, Kuts. *Gumley*  
 — atrocoerulea, Steph. *Gumley*  
 — virescens, Foud. *Gumley*  
 — atro-virens, Forst. *Kibworth*  
 — herbigrada, Curt. *n.c.*  
 Batophila rubi, Pk. *c.*  
 — aerata, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 Mniophila muscorum, Koch. *Gumley*  
 Podagrica fuscipes, L. *Gumley*  
 — fuscicornis, L. *Gumley*  
 Mantura obtusata, Gyll. *Gumley*  
 Ochrosis salicariae, Pk. *Gumley*  
 Crepidodera nitidula, L. *Charnwood, on aspens, n.r.*  
 — helxines, L. *c.*  
 Epitrix pubescens, Koch. *Gumley*  
 Chaetocnema confusa, Boh. *Gumley*  
 — hortensis, Fourc. *Anstey, Bradgate*  
 Psyllioides chrysocephala, Ill. *Buckhill Lane*  
 — marcida, Ill. *Gumley*  
 — dulcamarae, Koch. *Gumley*  
 — hyoscyami, L. *Gumley*  
 — luteola, Mull. *Anstey Lane*  
 — picina, Marsh. *Leicester district, osier holts, n.c.*  
 Cassida murraea, L. *Gumley*  
 — vibex, L. *Leicestershire (H. W. Bates)*  
 — flaveola, Thunb. *Sheet Hedges, Gumley*  
 — equestris, F. *Bradgate, n.c., Loughborough*

## TENEBRIONIDAE

- Blaps similis, Lat. *Glenfield (Wooley)*  
 Scaphidema metallicum, F. *Glen Parva, Desford, Leicester Frith, Gumley*  
 Tenebrio obscurus, F. *Leicester Frith, in bone meal*  
 Gnathocerus cornutus, F. *Leicester, Leicester Frith*



*Lagria hirta*, L. c.

CISTELIDAE

*Cistela murina*, L. *Bradgate, Sheet Hedges*

MELANDRYIDAE

*Tetratoma ancora*, F. *Markfield*

*Orchesia micans*, Pz. *Gumley*

*Clinocara tetratoma*, Th. *Sutton Ambien Wood, Gumley*

*Hallomenus humeralis*, Pz. *Leicester, Market Bosworth*

*Conopalpus testaceus*, Ol. *Bradgate, n.c. ; Gumley*

— — var. *vigorsi*, Steph. *Bradgate, r.*

*Melandrya caraboides*, L. *Charnwood Forest, r.*

*Abdera 4-fasciata*, Curt. *Sutton Ambien, in dead oak  
under bark (Bouskell, Donisthorpe)*

*Phlocotrya rufipes*, Gyll. *Bradgate, Market Bosworth*

PYTHIDAE

*Salpingus castaneus*, Pz. *Gumley*

*Lissodema 4-pustulata*, Marsh. *Anstey Lane, Gumley,  
twice*

OEDEMERIDAE

*Oedemera nobilis*, Scop. *Gumley*

— *lurida*, Marsh. *Gumley*

*Oncomera femorata*, F. *Gumley, at sugared trees*

*Ischnomera coerulea*, L. *Sheet Hedges*

MORDELLIDAE

*Anaspis garneysi*, Fow. *Bradgate*

— *geoffroyi*, Mull. *Kibworth, Gumley*

— *subtestacea*, Steph. *Buddon, Gumley*

— *maculata*, Fourc. c.

ANTHICIDAE

*Anthicus floralis*. c.

— — var. *quisquilius*, Th. *Kibworth*

MELOÏDAE

*Meloe proscarabeus*, L. *Bardon, Earl Shilton*

ANTHRIBIDAE

*Brachytarsus fasciatus*, Fost. *Sheet Hedges, Kibworth,  
v.r. —*

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## CURCULIONIDAE (continued)

- Ceuthorhynchus marginatus, Pk. c.  
 — urticae, Boh. *Gumley*  
 — rugulosus, Hbst. *Bradgate*  
 — melanostictus, Marsh. *Leicester* district. v.r.  
 — asperifoliarum, Gyll. *Bradgate*. r.  
 — chrysanthemi, Germ. c.  
 — litura, F. *Loughborough, Gumley*  
 Ceuthorhynchidius floralis, Pk. c.  
 — pyrrhorhynchus, Marsh. c.  
 — melanarius, Steph. *Gumley*  
 — horridus, F. *Gumley*  
 — troglodytes, F. c  
 Amalus haemorrhous, Hbst. *Gumley*  
 Rhinonchus gramineus, F. *Soar Valley*. r.  
 — perpendicularis, Reich. *Damp meadows*. n.r.  
 — castor, F. *Bradgate*  
 Litodactylus leucogaster, Marsh. *Grobby Pool, Buddon*  
 Phytobius comari, Hbst. *Aylestone*  
 — 4-tuberculatus, F. *Woodhouse*  
 — canaliculatus, Fahr. *Thornton, Gumley*  
 Limnobaris t-album, L. *Woods and meadows*. n.c.  
 Baris laticollis, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 — picicornis, Marsh. *Aylestone*  
 — lepidii, Germ. *Gumley*  
 Balaninus venosus, Grav. In floods April 1843  
 (Plant) is our only note of this species  
 — nucum, L. c. On hazels in woods  
 — villosus, F. *Sheet Hedges, Buddon, Sutton Ambien Woods*  
 Calandra granaria, L. *Flour mills, Leicester*  
 — oryzae, L. *Flour mills, Leicester*  
 Stereocorynes truncorum, Germ. *Gumley*  
 Magdalis armigera, Fourc. *Leicester* district on elms.  
 n.c.  
 — cerasi, L. *Buddon, Sheet Hedges*. r.  
 — pruni, L. On blackthorn. n.r.  
 — barbicornis, Lat. *Gumley*

## SCOLYTIDAE

- Scolytus destructor, c. in elms  
 — pruni, Ratz. *Gumley*  
 — intricatus, Ratz. *Gumley*  
 — rugulosus, Ratz. *Gumley*  
 — multistriatus, Marsh. *Owston, Leicester Frith, Gumley*

## SCOLYTIDAE (continued)

- Hylastes ater, Pk. c. in oak.  
 — cunicularius, Er. Near *Gumley*, once (Matthews)  
 — angustatus, Hbst. *Gumley*  
 Hylastinus obscurus, Marsh. n.c.  
 Hylesinus crenatus, F. Ash. n.c.  
 — oleiperda, F. *Gumley*  
 — vittatus, F. *Gumley*  
 Myelophilus piniperda, L. c. in pines  
 Cissophagus hederæ, Schm. *Leicester Frith*  
 Xylechinus pilosus, Ratz. *Leicestershire*  
 Phloeophthorus rhododactylus, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 Cryphalus abietis, Ratz. *Gumley*, out of Scotch fir  
 the first British specimens (Matthews)  
 Pityophthorus pubescens, Marsh. *Gumley*  
 Xylocleptes bispinus, Duft. *Gumley*  
 Dryocaetes villosus, F. *Bradgate, Gumley, Bardon*  
 Pityogenes chalcographus, L. *Gumley*  
 — bidentatus, Hbst. *Buddon, Gumley*  
 Trypodendron domesticum, L. *Buddon, Bardon, Owston*, in oak. c.  
 Xyleborus dryographus, Ratz. *Gumley*

## ABNORMAL COLEOPTERA

### STYLOPIDAE

- Stylops melittae, Kirb. ♀ in various species of *Andrena* no note of ♂

## INTRODUCED SPECIES

### CARABIDAE

- Carabus auratus. *Swithland*, probably introduced with plants (W. Moss)

### DERMESTIDAE

- Anthrenus scrophulariae, L. *Gumley* (Matthews)

### CERAMBYCIDAE

- Monohammus sartor, F. *Leicester*  
 — sutor, L. *Leicester, Aylestone*  
 — titillator, F. *Leicester*, a specimen in the Bates collection  
 Serropalpus striatus, Heil. *Leicester*

## LEPIDOPTERA

### Butterflies and Moths

For Lepidoptera the county of Leicester is hardly an ideal one, though a good many workers at various times have left on record many interesting notes.

A list of the Macro Lepidoptera by Messrs. Bouskell and Headly was published in 1891 in the *Transactions* of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society.

The Micros have not been thoroughly worked, though the Rev. Canon Cruttwell and others have done some good work in this direction.

Amongst those who have studied the county distribution and contributed their notes to the writer, which are comprised in an unpublished list of the Lepidoptera compiled by him, are the late Rev. A. Matthews who worked the Market Harborough district, the late Mr. J. Weildt of Loughborough, Mr. F. R. Rowley of Exeter, the late Rev. J. H. Hind of Quorn, Mr. G. B. Dixon of Leicester, Mr. C. B. Headly, of Leicester, Mr. W. J. Kaye of Ditton Hill, Rev. G. W. Whittingham of Knighton, and the Rev. A. R. Birkenhead of Market Bosworth.



# INSECTS

A number of records are also taken from the Burton-on-Trent list by the late Mr. J. T. Harris and Dr. P. Mason, as their district includes part of Leicestershire.

A number of melanic forms occur in the neighbourhood of Leicester and will be dealt with in the notes to the list.

The classification followed is that of South.

## RHOPALOCERA

### PIERIDAE

- Pieris brassicae*, L. (Large White) } Common every-  
 — *rapae*, L. (Small White) } where  
 — *napi*, L. (Green-veined White) }  
*Anthocharis cardamines*, L. (Orange Tip.) Gen. dist.,  
 larvae on garden rocket; ♀s also at rest on that  
 plant  
*Leucophasis sinapis*, L. (Wood White.) Recorded by  
 Stainton and Coleman; there is only one other  
 record from *Earl Shilton* in 1880  
*Colias hyale*, L. (Pale Clouded Yellow). Recorded by  
 Stainton. I have a specimen taken in the  
*Anstey Lane* in 1877  
 — *edusa*, F. (Clouded Yellow.) Occasionally in  
 numbers, notably in 1877, 1893, and 1900 all  
 over the county  
     var. *helice*, Hb. This pale form has occurred  
     in 1877 *Anstey Lane*, 1893 *Stoughton*, 1900  
     *Cadeby*  
*Gonopteryx rhamni*, L. (Brimstone). Odd specimens  
 always occurring throughout the county, abun-  
 dant in 1900, usually rare

### NYMPHALIDAE

- Argynnis selene*, Schiff. r. *Loughborough*, *Quorn*, *Charn-*  
*wood Forest*  
 — *euphrosyne*, L. *Owston*, *Bradgate*, *Seal Wood*,  
*Quorn*, *Knighton*  
 — *aglaia*, L. v.c. at *Bradgate* forty years ago now  
 extinct, *Market Bosworth* one specimen 1906  
 probably blown over from Staffordshire  
 — *adippe*, L. *Owston*, *Skeffington*, *Billesdon*, *Quorn*, r.  
 — *paphia*, L. *Owston*, c., *Quorn*, *Seal Wood*, *Gumley*, &c.  
*Melitaea aurina*, Rott. Recorded by Stainton, *Charn-*  
*wood Forest* (E. Brown); *Bardon Hill*, 1892,  
 E. S. Pink, is the only recent record  
*Vanessa C-album*, L. (Comma.) No recent records, but  
 notes from *Gumley*, *Quorn*, *Loughborough*, *Blaby*,  
*Anstey*, *Seal Wood*  
 — *polychloros*, L. (Large Tortoiseshell.) *Quorn*,  
*Owston*, *Sutton Ambien*, *Kibworth*, *Tugby*, *Scrap-*  
*toft*, &c., r.  
 — *urticae*, L. (Small Tortoiseshell.) Gen. dist.  
 — *io*, L. (Peacock.) Gen. dist.  
 — *antiopa*, L. (Camberwell Beauty.) *Leicester* a  
 number of specimens in 1873, also from *Lough-*  
*borough*, *Bitteswell*  
 — *atalanta*, L. (Red Admiral.) Gen. dist.  
 — *cardui*, L. (Painted Lady.) Gen. dist.

### APATURIDAE

- Apatura iris*, L. (Purple Emperor.) Recorded by  
 Stainton but no recent record

### SATYRIDAE

- Melanargia galatea*, L. (Marbled White.) A chalk  
 insect; recorded from *Gumley* (Rev. A. Matthews),  
*Quorn* (J. H. Hind)

## RHOPALOCERA (continued)

### SATYRIDAE (continued)

- Pararge egeria*, L. (Speckled Wood.) v.r., *Bardon Hill*,  
*Seal Wood*, *Quorn*, *Gumley*, *Loughborough*  
 — *megaera*, L. (Wall.) *Charnwood*, *Mountsorrel*, *Six-*  
*hills*, *Billesdon*, *Tilton*, *Ratcliffe*, *Quorn*, *Gumley*  
*Epinephele janira*, L. (Meadow Brown.) Gen. dist.  
 — *tithonus*, L. About brambles when in bloom,  
 gen. dist.  
 — *hyperanthes*, L. (Ringlet.) Common in a few woods  
 but local, *Bardon*, *Scraptoft*, *Skeffington*, *Owston*,  
*Sutton Ambien*, *Barkby*, *Sixhills*, *Gumley*  
 — ab. *arete*, Mull. The form without spots on the  
 under side has been taken at *Owston*  
*Coenonympha pamphilus*, L.C. c. on heaths and open  
 spaces

### LYCAENIDAE

- Thecla W-album*, Knoch. Local but abundant in  
 some localities, *Owston Wood*, v.c., *Evington*,  
*Rothley*, *Swithland*, *Buddon*, *Loughborough*, *Seal*  
*Wood*, *Sutton Ambien*, *Quenby*, *Scraptoft*  
 — *quercus*, L. n.c. but found round young oaks,  
*Charnwood Forest*, *Ulverscroft*, *Swithland*, *Quorn*,  
*Bardon*, *Anstey*, *Gumley*, *Seal Wood*, *Owston*,  
*Sutton Ambien*  
 — *rubi*, L. Recorded from *Quorn* (Rev. J. H. Hind)  
*Polyommatus phleas*, L. Gen. dist.  
*Lycaena astrache*, Bgstr. r. near *Gumley* (Matthews)  
 — *icarus*, Rott. c. and gen. dist.  
 — *argiolus*, L. Local but widely dist. *Gumley*,  
*Quorn*, *Kibworth*, *Bradgate*, *Market Bosworth*

### ERYCINIDAE

- Nemeobius lucina*, L. Recorded from *Quorn* (Rev. J. H.  
 Hind); occurs in some numbers in Rutland  
 and Northants, so may be found on that side of  
 the county at *Owston* or other woods

### HESPERIIDAE

- Syrichthus malvae*, L. Very local but abundant at  
*Owston Wood*, has occurred at *Loughborough*,  
*Gumley*, *Quorn*, *Sixhills*, *Market Bosworth*  
 — ab. *taras*, Meig. *Owston*  
 — *Nisoniades tages*, L. Local, *Loughborough*, *Gumley*,  
*Buddon*, *Owston*, *Quorn*  
*Hesperia thauamas*, Hufn. Local but fairly common  
 where it occurs, *Loughborough*, *Quorn*, *Gumley*,  
*Sixhills*, *Owston*, *Tilton*, *Wellesborough*  
 — *sylvanus*, Esp. Fairly common in woody places  
 where it occurs, *Owston*, *Sutton Ambien*, *Quorn*,  
*Loughborough*, *Gumley*, *Sixhills*, *Ratcliffe*, *Ashby*,  
*Barkby*

## HETEROCERA

### SPHINGIDAE

- Acherontia atropos*, L. A number of records from  
 all parts of the county, always rare however



HETEROCERA (continued)

SPHINGIDAE (continued)

- Sphinx convolvuli, L. Many casual records throughout the county, probably occurs every year  
 — ligustri, L. r., recorded from Quorn, Loughborough, Gumley, Leicester, Blaby  
 Deilephila galii, Schiff. Casual visitors recorded from Loughborough and Gumley  
 — livornica, Esp. Stainton and Morris both record; there is a recent record from Leicester, doubtless emigrants  
 Choerocampa celerio, L. Recorded by Stainton and Morris, Leicester, 1885 (F. R. Rowley)  
 — porcellus, L. Buddon at rhododendrons, Market Bosworth at honeysuckle, Gumley, Bardon  
 — elpenor, L. Loughborough, larvae on willow-herb, Quorn, Gumley, Leicester, Syston, Lowesby  
 Smerinthus ocellatus, L. Gen. dist. Market Bosworth, Leicester, Croft, Bradgate, Brooksby, Loughborough, Aylestone  
 — populi, L. Gen. dist.  
 — tiliae, L. r., Loughborough, Gumley, Blaby

SESIIDAE

- Trochilium apiformis, Clerck. Wigston, Gumley, r.  
 — craboniformis, Lewin. Osier beds nr. Loughborough, Cavendish Bridge, Leicester years ago  
 Macroglossa stellatarum, L. Gen. dist.  
 — fuciformis, L. Bardon Hill at honeysuckle, Owston Wood at ragged robin (Bouskell)  
 — bombylifformis, Och. An old record from Earl Shilton  
 Sesia tipuliformis, Clerck. In gardens on currant trees, Quorn, Market Bosworth, Knighton, Carlton, &c.  
 — asiliformis, Rott. Bradgate on ragwort, Buddon on oak trunk (Bouskell)  
 — culiciformis, L. Seal Wood (J. T. Harris)  
 — formiciformis. Loughborough, Groby

ZYGAENIDAE

- Ino stacies, L. Owston Wood, abundant but confined to a small area, Gumley  
 Zygaena trifolii, Esp. Recorded by Stainton (Rev. J. H. Hind)  
 — lonicerae, Esp. Quorn, probably occurs at Charnwood Forest  
 — filipendulae, L. Anstey, Aylestone, Quorn, Saddington, Owston, Shenton, Tilton, Rearsby, but very local

BOMBYCES

NYCTEOLIDAE

- Hylophila prasinana, L. Quorn, Bardon, Sutton Ambien  
 — bicolorana, Fuchs. Quorn, Market Bosworth, r.

NOLIDAE

- Nola cucullatella, L. Gen. dist.  
 — strigula, Schiff. Gumley, Quorn  
 — confusalis, H.S. Bred from larva off oak, Knighton (C. B. Headly)

BOMBYCES (continued)

LITHOSIIDAE

- Nndaria senex, Hb. Gumley  
 — mundana, L. Gumley, Quorn, Bradgate, Market Bosworth  
 Lithosia mesomella, L. Gumley (Rev. A. Matthews)  
 — griseola, Hb. Market Harborough, Loughborough, Kibworth  
     var. stramineola, Dbl. Knighton (Bouskell); Gumley (Matthews)  
 — lurideola, Zinck. Knighton, Oadby, Gumley, Loughborough, Kibworth  
 Gnophria quadra, L. One record from Gumley (Matthews)  
 Deiopeia pulchella, L. One specimen of this migrant was taken near Loughborough (J. Weildt)

EUCHELIIDAE

- Euchelia jacobaeae, L. Common on ragwort at Charnwood Forest, occasionally on groundsel

CHELONIIDAE

- Nemeophila russula, L. Gumley  
 — plantaginis, L. Quorn, Ulverscroft, Bardon Hill, (J. T. Harris); no recent record  
 Arctia caia, L. Gen. dist.  
 Spilosoma fuliginosa. Bardon Hill, Gumley, Quorn  
 — lubricipeda, Esp. Gen. dist.  
 — manthastri, Esp. Gen. dist.  
 — urticae, Esp. Knighton, also Burton-on-Trent district

HEPIALIDAE

- Hepialus humuli, L. Gen. dist. and destructive to herbaceous plants larvae feeding on roots  
 — sylvanus, L. Gen. dist.  
 — velleda, Hb. Charnwood Forest, c.; Knighton, Market Bosworth, Loughborough, Gumley, very variable  
 — lupulinus, L. Gen. dist.  
 — hectus, L. Market Bosworth, Owston Wood, Charnwood, Gumley, usually in woods on the wing before dusk

COSSIDAE

- Cossus ligniperda, Fb. Gen. dist., destructive to timber, especially willows, in the Loughborough district  
 Zeuzera pyrina, L. Gen. dist., not so common as preceding insect

LIPARIDAE

- Porthesia chrysorrhoea, L. Local near Leicester, Loughborough, Gumley  
 — similis, Fues. c. and gen. dist.  
 Leucoma salicis, L. Leicester, Loughborough, Gumley, Anstey Lane  
 Ocneria dispar, L. An old record from Earl Shilton many years ago, now undoubtedly extinct  
 Psilura monacha, L. Quorn, Buddon Wood  
 Dasychira fascelina, L. Gumley  
 — pudibunda, L. Local, Quorn, Loughborough, Market Harborough; larvae, nr. Leicester  
 Orgyia gonostigma, Fb. Loughborough, bred from larvae; Gumley, r.  
 — antiqua, L. c. and gen. dist.



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- fasciuncula, Haw. c. at sugar
- bicoloria, Vill. *Leicester, New Parks, Loughborough*
- arenosa, Haw. *Leicester, Bardon Hill, Owston Wood, Market Bosworth*

#### CARADRINIDAE

- Grammesia trigrammica, Hufn. *Wistow, Quorn, Loughborough, Gumley, Market Bosworth*
- Caradrina morpheus, Hufn. *Loughborough, Gumley, Leicester*
- alsines, Brahm. *Loughborough*
- taraxaci, Hb. c.
- 4-punctata, Fb. Gen. dist.
- Rusina tenebrosa, Hb. *Buddon Wood* at sugar ;  
*Loughborough, Gumley*

#### NOCTUIDAE

- Agrotis vestigialis, Hufn. Nr. *Leicester* (F. R. Rowley)
- puta, Hb. *Market Harborough*
- suffusa, Hb. *Loughborough, Blaby*
- saucia, Hb. *Loughborough, Blaby*
- segetum, Schiff. v.c.
- exclamationis, L. v.c.
- corticea, Hb. *Loughborough, Leicester*
- nigricans, L. *Loughborough, Gumley, Leicester, Market Bosworth*
- agathina, Dup. *Gumley*
- tritici, L. *Gumley, Loughborough*
- praecox, L. *Gumley* (Matthews)
- obscura. *Quorn, Wigston, Kibworth, Gumley*, at sugar
- simulans, Hufn. Near *Market Harborough*
- Noctua glareosa, Esp. *Whitwick*
- augur, Fb. v.c.
- plecta, L. Gen. dist.
- c-nigrum, L. Gen. dist.
- triangulum, Hufn. *Gumley, Buddon Wood*
- stigmatica, Hb. *Gumley*
- brunnea, Fb. *Whitwick, Knighton, Quorn, Blaby, Loughborough, Gumley*
- festiva, Hb. Gen. dist.  
var. conflua, Tr. *Leicester*
- rubi, View. Gen. dist.
- umbrosa, Hb. *Quorn, Loughborough, Whitwick, Leicester, Gumley*
- baia, Fb. *Market Bosworth, Whitwick, Loughborough,*



## NOCTUAE (continued)

## HADENIDAE

- Dianthoecia capsincola, Hb. *Quorn, Gumley, Kibworth*  
 — cucubali, Fues. *Owston, Bradgate, Swithland, Market Bosworth, Gumley, Leicester*  
 — carpophaga, Bork. *Quorn*  
 Hecatera serena, Fb. *Gumley*  
 Polia chi, L. Gen. dist.  
 — flavincta, Fb. Gen. dist.  
 Epunda nigra, Haw. Recorded by Matthews from *Gumley*, no other record  
 — lutulenta, Bork. *Buddon Wood*  
 Cleoceris viminalis, Fb. *Owston Wood* at sugar (Bouskell, Kaye)  
 Miselia oxyacanthae, L. Gen. dist.  
 Agriopsis aprilina, L. Gen. dist.  
 Euplexia lucipara, L. Gen. dist.  
 Phlogophora meticulosa, L. Gen. dist.  
 Aplecta prasina, Fb. *Owston, Market Bosworth, Bardon Hill*  
 — nebulosa, Hufn. *Owston, Market Bosworth, Loughborough, Harborough, Lount Wood*  
 — occulta, L. *Gumley*  
 — tinctoria, Brahm. *Leicester, Gumley, Leicester* district  
 Hadena adusta, Esp. *Leicester, Gumley*  
 — protea, Bork. Gen. dist.  
 — glauca, Hb. *Gumley*  
 — dentina, Esp. *Buddon, Market Bosworth, Gumley, Owston, Kibworth*  
 — trifolii, Rott. *Leicester, Gumley, Quorn*  
 — dissimilis, Knoch. Gen. dist.  
 — oleracea, L. Gen. dist.  
 — pisi, L. *Loughborough, Gumley, Ashby de la Zouch*  
 — thalassina, Rott. *Gumley, Market Bosworth, Brooksby, Wigston, Quorn*  
 — contigua, Vill. *Gumley, Knighton*  
 — rectilinea, *Gumley*

## XYLINIDAE

- Xylocampa areola, Esp. *Knighton, Market Bosworth, Swithland*, larvae *Gumley*  
 Calocampa vetusta, Hb. *Quorn, Knighton* at willows, *Bardon Hill, Loughborough, Gumley*  
 — exoleta, L. *Gumley, Loughborough, Quorn* at willows  
 Xylina ornithopus, Rott. *Gumley*  
 — semibrunnea, Haw. *Gumley, Bardon Hill*  
 — socia, Rott. *Gumley* at ivy  
 Asteroscopus sphinx, Hufn. *Leicester* at lamps, *Market Bosworth* larvae (Bouskell, Birkenhead)  
 Cucullia verbasci, L. *Gumley, Market Bosworth* larvae on various species of verbascum, *Medbourne, Quorn*  
 — scrophulariae, Esp. *Gumley*  
 — umbratica, L. Gen. dist.

## GONOPTERIDAE

- Gonoptera libatrix, L. Gen. dist.

## PLUSIIDAE

- Habrostola tripartita, Hufn. *Market Bosworth, Leicester, Gumley, Loughborough*  
 — triplasia, L. *Leicester, Gumley, Market Bosworth* at valerian

## NOCTUAE (continued)

## PLUSIIDAE (continued)

- Plusia moneta, *Kibworth 1898, Market Bosworth* abundant feeding on six species of aconitum, also delphinium, the former seems to be preferred  
 — chrysitis, L. Gen. dist.  
 — festucae, L. *Leicester, Market Bosworth* larvae on mentha at margin of canal  
 — iota, L. Gen. dist.  
 — pulchrina, Haw. Gen. dist.  
 — gamma, L. v. c.

## HELIOTHIDAE

- Anarta myrtili, L. *Quorn, Gumley, Owston*  
 Heliaca tenebrata, Scop. *Market Bosworth, Knighton, Quorn, Gumley*  
 Heliothis armigera, Hb. *Leicester*

## ERASTRIIDAE

- Erastria fasciana, L. *Gumley*

## POAPHILIDAE

- Phytometra viridaria, Clerck. *Gumley*

## EUCLIDIIDAE

- Euclidia mi, Clerck. *Owston, Buddon, Market Bosworth, Beacon Hill*  
 — glyphica, L. *Aylestone, Owston, Market Bosworth, Quorn, Gumley*

## HERMISCIIDAE

- Rivula sericealis, Scop. *Buddon* (Whittingham)  
 Zanclognatha tarsipennalis, Tr. *Quorn*  
 — grisealis, Hb. *Quorn*  
 Pechypogon barbalis, Clerck. *Kibworth, Quorn*

## HYPENIDAE

- Bromolocha fontis, Thnb. *Buddon* (Whittingham)  
 Hypena rostralis, *Buddon Wood* amongst bilberry, July. v. c.  
 — proboscidalis, L. v. c.

## BREPHIDAE

- Brephos parthenias, L. *Bardon Hill, Buddon Wood*, a fine lemon ab. from the former locality  
 — notha, Hb. *Swithland, Buddon*

## GEOMETRAE

## UROPTERYGIDAE

- Uropteryx sambucaria, L. Gen. dist., larvae off ivy

## ENNOMIDAE

- Epione parallellaria, Schiff. *Earl Shilton, Quorn*  
 — apicaria, Schiff. *Leicester, Loughborough, Gumley*  
 Rumia luteolata, L. v. c.  
 Venilia maculata, L. *Bradgate, Swithland*. Local  
 Angerona prunaria, L. *Loughborough, Gumley*  
 Metrocampa margaritaria, L. Gen. dist.  
 Ellopiopsis prosapiaria, L. *Market Bosworth* (Birkenhead)  
 Eurymene dolobraria, L. *Knighton, Quorn, Gumley*. r.  
 Pericallia syringaria, L. *Leicester*, also larvae, *Market Bosworth, Gumley*



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## GEOMETRAE (continued)

### ENNOMIDAE (continued)

- Sclenia bilunaria*, Esp. Gen. dist., also summer form  
*juliaria*  
 — *lunaria*, Schiff. *Kibworth, Knighton, Quorn, Gum-*  
*ley, Staunton Harold, Oadby*  
 — *tetralunaria*, Hufn. *Loughborough* larvae  
*Odontopera bidentata*, Clerck. Gen. dist.  
*Crocallis elinguaris*, L. Gen. dist.  
*Eugonia autumnaria*, Wernb. *Loughborough*  
 — *alniaria*, L. (*tiliaria*, Bork). Gen. dist.  
 — *fuscantaria*, Haw. *Leicester* district at lamps, v.c.  
 at times, larvae *Gumley*, larvae (Dixon)  
 — *erosaria*, Bork. Gen. dist.  
 — *quercinaria*, Hufn. Gen. dist.  
*Himera pennaria*, L. *Leicester, Gumley, Loughborough,*  
*Market Bosworth*, larvae

### AMPHIDASYDAE

- Phigalia pedaria*, Fb. Gen. dist.; black ab. *Buddon,*  
*Leicester, Market Bosworth*  
*Nyssia hispidaria*, Fb. *Buddon Wood*, abundant black  
 ab. r. *Bardon Hill* r.  
*Biston hirtaria*, Clerck. *Gumley*  
*Amphidasys strataria*, Hufn. Woods, gen. dist.  
 — *betularia*, L. Gen. dist.  
 var. *doubledayaria*. Gen. dist. also inter-  
 mediate forms, commoner than it was twenty  
 years ago

### BOARMIIDAE

- Hemerophila abruptaria*, Thnb. Gen. dist.; a dark  
 form occurs occasionally  
*Cleora glabraria*, Hb. Recorded from *Gumley* (Mat-  
 thews)  
 — *lichenaria*, Hufn. *Loughborough, Gumley*  
*Boarmia repandata*, L. c.  
 — *gemmaria*, Brahm. Gen. dist.  
 — *roboraria*, Schiff. *Gumley*  
 — *consortaria*, Fb. *Gumley*  
*Tephrosia consonaria*, Hb. *Gumley*  
 — *crepuscularia*, Hb. Gen. dist.  
 — *biundularia*, Bork. Gen. dist.; a dark form occurs  
 — *punctularia*, Hb. *Bardon Hill, Swithland, Lough-*  
*borough*

### GEOMETRIDAE

- Pseudopterpna pruinata*, Hufn. *Loughborough, Gumley.*  
 n.c.  
*Geometra papilionaria*, L. *Swithland Wood* and larvae;  
*Seal Wood, Loughborough, Gumley*  
*Phorodesma pustulata*, Hufn. *Knighton, Market Bos-*  
*worth*, probably overlooked (Bouskell, Birken-  
 head)  
*Iodis lactearia*, L. Gen. dist.  
*Hemithea strigata*, Mull. Gen. dist.

### EPHYRIDAE

- Zonosoma punctaria*, L. *Bradgate Park, Loughborough,*  
*Quorn*  
 — *linearia*, Hb. *Owston Wood, Gumley*  
 — *annulata*, Schulz. *Quorn, Gumley*

### ACIDALIIDAE

- Asthena luteata*, Schiff. *Knighton, Swithland, Quorn,*  
*Market Bosworth, Owston Wood*  
 — *candidata*, Schiff. *Gumley, Loughborough, Market*  
*Bosworth, Owston Wood*

## GEOMETRAE (continued)

### ACIDALIIDAE (continued)

- Asthena sylvata*, Hb. *Gumley, r.*  
*Eupisteria obliterated*, Hufn. *Quorn, Loughborough*  
*Acidalia dimidiata*, Hufn. *Quorn, Gumley*  
 — *bisetata*, Hufn. *Gumley, Loughborough, Quorn,*  
*Owston Wood*  
 — *trigeminata*, Haw. *Anstey Lane*  
 — *marginepunctata*, Goze. *Quorn, Gumley*  
 — *immutata*, L. *Gumley, Quorn*  
 — *remutaria*, Hb. *Loughborough*  
 — *imitaria*, Hb. *Gumley*  
 — *aversata*, L. Gen. dist.  
 var. *spoliata*. Gen. dist. but not v.c.  
 — *emarginata*, L. *Quorn*  
*Timandra amataria*, L. Gen. dist.

### CABERIDAE

- Cabera pusaria*, L. Gen. dist. in woods  
 — *exanthemaria*, Scop. Gen. dist. in woods  
*Bapta temerata*, Hb. *Owston Wood, Quorn, Bardon*  
*Hill, Gumley*

### MACARIIDAE

- Macaria alternata*, Hb. *Owston Wood*  
 — *liturata*, Clerck. *Market Bosworth*  
*Halia vanaria*, L. Gen. dist.

### FIDONIIDAE

- Panagra petraria*, Hb. *Charnwood Forest.* Gen. dist.  
*Ematurga atomaria*, L. Open commons, *Charnwood*  
*Forest*  
*Bupalus piniaria*, L. *Charnwood, Bradgate Park, Bar-*  
*don Hill*  
*Aspilates ochrearia*, Rossi. *Gumley*

### ZERENIDAE

- Abraxas grossulariata*, L. Gen. dist. and destructive.  
 — *sylvata*, Scop. *Charnwood Forest, Owston Wood,*  
 abundant; *Market Bosworth, Gumley, &c.*  
*Ligdia adustata*, Schiff. *Loughborough*  
*Lomaspilis marginata*, L. *Swithland, Quorn, Buddon*  
*Wood, Market Bosworth*

### LIGIIDAE

- Pachycnemia hippocastanaria*, Hb. Local, *Quorn*

### HYBERNIIDAE

- Hybernia rupicapraris*, Hb. Gen. dist.  
 — *leucophearis*, Schiff. Gen. dist. in woods, melanic  
 forms abundant  
 — *aurantiaria*, Esp. *Quorn, Gumley*  
 — *marginaria*, Bork. Gen. dist.  
 var. *fuscata*. Abundant near *Leicester, Mar-*  
*ket Bosworth*  
 — *defoliaria*, Clerck. Gen. dist.  
*Anisopteryx aescularis*, Schiff. Gen. dist.

### LARENTIIDAE

- Cheimatobia brumata*, L. Gen. dist. and destructive  
 at times  
 — *boreata*, Hb. *Quorn*, probably overlooked in other  
 localities  
*Oporabia dilutata*, Bork. Gen. dist.  
 — *filigrammaria*, H. S. *Leicester* district



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## PYRALIDES (continued)

### PYRALIDAE (continued)

- Pyrausta purpuralis*, L. *Owston Wood, Bradgate Park, Bardon Hill*  
*Herbula cespitalis*, Schiff. *Ulverscroft (Whittingham)*  
*Ennychia nigrata*, Scop. *Bradgate Park*

### BOTYDAE

- Agrotera nemoralis*, Scop. *Quorn*.  
*Eurrhyncha urticata*, L. Gen. dist. amongst nettles  
*Scopula lutealis*, Hb. Gen. dist.  
 — *olivalis*, Schiff. Gen. dist.  
 — *prunalis*, Schiff. *Kibworth*  
 — *ferrugalis*, Hb. *Kibworth*  
*Botys hyalinalis*, Hb. *Buddon Wood*  
 — *ruralis*, Scop. Gen. dist.  
 — *terrealis*, Tr. *Quorn*  
*Ebulea sambucalis*, Schiff. Gen. dist.  
*Spilodes verticalis*, L. Gen. dist.  
*Pionea forficalis*. Gen. dist.  
*Orobena extimalis*, Scop. *Quorn, Charnwood*  
*Perinephele lancealis*, Schiff. *Knighton*

### HYDROCAMPIDAE

- Cataclysta lemnata*, L. *Knighton, Quorn*, at edges of ponds; *Bardon Hill, Market Bosworth*  
*Hydrocampa nympheata*, L. *Quorn*, near water; *Bardon Hill, Owston Wood, Market Bosworth*  
 — *stagnata*, Don. *Knighton, Bardon Hill, Bradgate Park, Owston Wood*

### PTEROPHORI

#### PTEROPHORIDAE

- Platytilia bertrami*, Rossl. *Market Harborough*  
 — *isodactylus*, Zell. *Charnwood Forest*  
 — *gonodactyla*, Schiff. *Market Harborough, Gresley (Derby)*  
*Amblyptilia acanthodactyla*, Hb. *Kibworth*  
 — *cosmodactyla*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
*Mimaeseoptilus bipunctidactyla*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
 — *pterodactylus*, L. *Market Harborough*  
*Oedematophorus lithodactylus*, Tr. *Kibworth*  
*Pterophorus monodactylus*, L. Common.  
*Aciptilia pentadactyla*, L. Gen. dist.

#### ALUCITIDAE

- Alucita hexadactyla*, L. Gen. dist.

## CRAMBIITES

### CHILIDAE

- Schoenobius forficellus*, Thnb. *Aylestone*  
 — *gigantellus*, Schiff. *Canal, Market Bosworth*

### CRAMBIDAE

- Crambus pratellus*, L. c.  
 — *perlellus*, Scop. *Leicester, Bardon Hill, Bradgate Park, Market Bosworth*  
 — *tristellus*, Fb. *Charnwood Forest, Evington, Owston Wood*  
 — *culmellus*, L. *Quorn, Knighton, Bradgate Park, Bardon Hill*  
 — *hortuellus*, Hb. *Quorn, Knighton, Bradgate Park, Owston Wood*

## CRAMBIITES (continued)

### PHYCIDAE

- Euzophera pinguis*, Haw. *Knighton, Stoughton*  
*Cryptoblastes bistriga*, Haw. *Knighton*  
*Plodia interpunctella*, Hb. *Kibworth*, at rest on out-house  
*Phycis betulae*, Göße. *Buddon (Whittingham)*

### GALLERIDAE

- Galleria mellonella*, L. In beehives, *Kibworth, Market Bosworth (Birkenhead)*  
*Aphomia sociella*, L. *Humberstone*  
*Achroea grisella*, Fb. *Kibworth*, beehives

## TORTRICES

### TORTRICIDAE

- Tortrix podana*, Scop. *Leicester district, Quorn*  
 — *crataegana*, Hb. *Owston Wood*  
 — *xylosteania*, L. *Buddon*  
 — *sorbiana*, Hb. *Bardon Hill*  
 — *rosana*, L. Gen. dist.  
 — *cinnamomeana*, Tr. *Whitwick*  
 — *heparana*, Schiff. *Knighton*  
 — *ribeana*, Hb. n.c., *Bardon Hill, Owston Wood*  
 — *viridana*, L. Gen. dist.  
 — *ministrana*, L. *Quorn, Kibworth*, the dark var. found commonly in the north occurs  
 — *forsterana*, Fb. *Knighton, Kibworth*  
*Dichelia grotiana*, Fb. *Buddon*  
*Peronea schallerana*, L. *Charnwood Forest*  
 — *variegana*, Schiff. *Charnwood Forest*  
 — *ferrugana*, Tr. *Charnwood Forest*  
*Rhacodia candana*, Fb. *Charnwood Forest*  
*Teras contaminata*, Hb. *Knighton, Bradgate Park*  
*Dictyopteryx holmiana*, L. *Grace Dieu, Knighton*  
 — *bergmanniana*, L. *Bardon Hill*  
 — *forskaleana*, L. *Seal Wood*  
*Argyrotoza conwayana*, Fb. *Seal Wood*  
*Ptycholoma lecheana*, L. *Loughborough, Seal Wood, Owston Wood*

### PENTHINIDAE

- Penthina corticana*, Hb. *Seal Wood*  
 — *pruniana*, Hb. *Charnwood*  
 — *ochroleucana*, Hb. *Kibworth, n.c.*  
 — *sauciana*, Hb. *Buddon (Whittingham)*  
*Antithesia salicalla*, L.B.W.

### SPILONOTIDAE

- Hedya ocellana*, Fb. *Kibworth, n.r.*, but uncertain in appearance; *Owston Wood*  
 — *laricana*, Zell. *Kibworth*  
 — *dealbana*. *Seal Wood, Kibworth*  
*Spilonota trimaculana*, Haw. *Kibworth, n.r.* on elm  
 — *rosacolana*, Dbl. *Kibworth, n.v.c.*  
 — *roborana*, Tr. *Kibworth, Bradgate Park*  
*Pardia tripunctana*, Fb. *Knighton*

### SERICORIDAE

- Aspis udmanniana*, L. *Knighton, Kibworth*  
*Sericoris lacunana*, Dup. *Seal Wood, Bardon Hill*  
 — *urticana*, Hb. *Buddon*  
*Roxana arcuana*, Clerck. *Kibworth*  
*Orthotaenia antiquana*, Hb. *Kibworth*, at light  
 — *striana*, Schiff. *Kibworth, n.v.c.*



TORTRICES (continued)

SCIAPHILIDAE

- Cnephasia musculana*, Hb. *Kibworth*  
*Sciaphila nubilana*, Hb. *Kibworth*, lying late in the  
 afternoon  
 — *hybridana*, Hb. *Kibworth*, fairly c.

GRAPHOLITHIDAE

- Bactra furfurana*, Haw. *Kibworth, Saddington*, out of  
 reeds  
*Phoxopteryx biarcuana*, St. *Rocliffe*  
 — *myrtillana*, Tr. *Buddon*  
 — *lundana*, Fb. *Owston Wood, Kibworth*  
*Grapholitha subocellana*, Don. *Ulvscroft*  
 — *trimaculana*, Don. *Kibworth*, n.r. on elm  
 — *penkleriana*, Fisch. *Kibworth*, near canal  
 — *naevana*, Hb. *Kibworth*. c. round holly bushes  
*Phloeodes tetraquetra*, Haw. *Buddon*  
*Hypermezia angustana*, Hb. *Charnwood*  
 — *cruciana*, L. *Owston Wood*  
*Paedisca corticana*, Hb. *Seal Wood*  
 — *occultana*, Dougl. *Charnwood*  
 — *semifuscana*, St. *Bradgate Park*  
*Ephippiphora cirsiana*, Zell. *Ulvscroft*  
 — *pflugiana*, Haw. *Ulvscroft*  
 — *brunnichiana*, Frol. *Kibworth*  
 — *nigricostana*, Haw. *Ulvscroft*  
 — *tetragonana*, St. *Owston Wood*  
*Olindia rufillana*, Wilk. *Kibworth*  
*Coccyx argyrana*, Hb. *Buddon (Whittingham)*  
 — *taedella*, Clerck. *Owston Wood*  
 — *vacciniana*, Fisch. *Buddon*  
*Carpocapsa pomonella*, L. *Kibworth, Market Bos-*  
*worth, &c.*  
*Stigmonota perlepidana*, Haw. *Knighton, Kibworth*  
 — *nitidana*, Fb. *Ulvscroft*  
*Dicrorampha petiverella*, L. *Kibworth*  
*Pyrodes rheediella*, Clerck. *Kibworth*, flying by day  
*Catoptria hypericana*, Hb. *Owston Wood*  
 — *albersana*, Hb. *Buddon*

PYRALOIDIDAE

- Choreutes myllerana*, Fb. *Charnwood*  
*Symaethis oxycanthella*, L. *Charnwood*

CONCHYLIDAE

- Eupoecilia nana*, Haw. *Ulvscroft*  
*Xanthosetia zoegana*, L. *Stoughton Lane, Buddon*  
*Wood*  
 — *hamana*, L. *Leicester district, Quorn, Owston Wood*  
*Argyrolepis badiana*, Hb. *Owston Wood*

APHELIDAE

- Tortricodes hyemana*, Hb. *Buddon (Whittingham)*

TINEAE

EPIGRAPHIIDAE

- Lemnatophila phryganella*, Hb. *Kibworth*, flying at  
 4 p.m.  
*Diurnea fagella*, Fb. *Gen. dist.*, melanic forms  
 abundant  
*Epigraphia steinkellneriana*, Schiff. *Kibworth, Market*  
*Harborough*

TINEAE (continued)

TINEIDAE

- Diplodoma marginepunctella*, St. *Kibworth*  
*Ochsenheimeria bisontella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
*Scardia granella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *cloacella*, Haw. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *arcella*, Fb. *Market Harborough*  
*Blabophanes rusticella*, Hb. *Kibworth*, in hothouses  
 abundant  
*Tinea fulvimitrella*, Sodof. *Ulvscroft, r.*  
 — *tapetzella*, L. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *misella*, Zell. *Kibworth, Bardon Hill*  
 — *pellionella*, L. *Kibworth, c.*  
 — *ruscipunctella*, Haw. *Kibworth*  
 — *argentimaculella*, Sta. *Kibworth*  
 — *lapella*, Hb. *Kibworth*, flying in afternoon  
 — *semifulvella*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
*Phylloporia bistrigella*, Haw. *Grange Wood*  
*Tineola biselliella*, Haw. *Kibworth*  
*Lampronia praelatella*, Schiff. *Owston Wood, Ulvscroft, r.*  
 — *rubiella*, Bjerk. *Ulvscroft, Kibworth*, local  
*Incurvaria muscalella*, Fb. *Kibworth*, flying by day ;  
*Market Harborough*  
 — *pectinea*, Haw. *Ulvscroft*  
*Micropteryx calthella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *seppella*, Fb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *aureatella*, Scop. *Seal Wood*  
 — *thunbergella*, Fb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *subpurpurella*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
*Nemophora swammerdammella*, L. *Kibworth, Market*  
*Harborough*  
 — *schwarzella*, Zell. *Kibworth, Ulvscroft*

ADELIDAE

- Adela fibulella*, Fb. *Grange Wood, Kibworth*  
 — *rufimitrella*, Scop. *Kibworth, r.*  
 — *croesella*, Scop. *Ulvscroft*  
 — *degeerella*, L. *Seal Wood, Charnwood, Market*  
*Harborough*  
 — *viridella*, L. *Swithland, Owston Wood, Buddon*  
*Wood, Bardon Hill*

HYPONOMEUTIDAE

- Swammerdamia combinella*, Hb. *Kibworth*, round  
 hawthorn, rarely seen  
 — *caesiella*, Hb. *Kibworth*  
 — *pyrella*, Vill. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
*Hyponomeuta plumbellus*, Schiff. *Market Harborough*  
 — *irrebellus*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *padellus*, L. *Kibworth, Bardon Hill*  
*Prays curtisellus*, Don. *Kibworth*, dark var.; *Brad-*  
*gate Park*

PLUTELLIDAE

- Plutella cruciferarum*, Zell. *Kibworth, Market Har-*  
*borough, Bardon Hill*  
 — *porrectella*, L. *Kibworth*, flying in hot sunshine ;  
*Market Harborough*  
*Cerostoma sequella*, Clerck. *Kibworth, Market Har-*  
*borough*  
 — *vittella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *radiatella*, Don. *Market Harborough*  
 — *costella*, Fb. *Knighton, Market Harborough, Brad-*  
*gate Park*  
 — *sylvella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *alpella*, Schiff. *Ravenstone*



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

## TINEAE (continued)

### PLUTELLIDAE (continued)

- Harpiteryx nemorella*, L. *Kibworth*  
 — *xylostella*, L. *Kibworth, Bardon Hill, Bradgate Park*  
*Theristis mucronella*, Scop. *Knighton*

### GELECHIIDAE

- Orthotelia sparganella*, Thnb. *Market Harborough*  
*Phibalocera quercana*, Fb. *Market Harborough, Kibworth, r.*  
*Depressaria costosa*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
 — *assimilella*, Tr. *Market Harborough*  
 — *arenella*, Schiff. *Market Harborough, Knighton, Bardon Hill*  
 — *propinquella*, Tr. *Knighton, Market Harborough, Bardon Hill*  
 — *alstroemeriana*, Clerck. *Bardon Hill, Kibworth, n.c. ; Market Harborough*  
 — *conterminella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *applana*, Fb. *Kibworth, abundant ; Buddon Wood*  
 — *albipunctella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
*Gelechia pinguinella*, Tr. *Market Harborough*  
 — *scaella*, Scop. *Buddon (Whittingham)*  
*Bryotropha terrella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *domestica*, Haw. *Kibworth, fairly c. on windows ; Market Harborough*  
*Lita tricolorella*, Haw. *Seal Wood*  
 — *fraternella*, Dougl. *Whitwick*  
*Teleia proximella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *fugitivella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
*Recurvaria nanella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
*Ptocheusa subocella*, St. *Market Harborough*  
*Monochroa tenebrella*, Hb. *Kibworth, flying over stems of uncut grass*  
*Anacamptis anthyllidella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
*Chelaria hubnerella*, Don. *Market Harborough*  
*Dasycera sulphurella*, Fb. *Kibworth, Market Harborough, Bardon Hill*  
*Oecophora minutella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *fulvigutella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *fuscescens*, Haw. *Kibworth, c.*  
 — *pseudopretella*, Sta. *Kibworth, in outhouses abundant*  
*Endrosis fenestrella*, Scop. *Gen. dist.*  
*Butalis fusco-cuprea*, Haw. *Market Harborough*

### GLYPHIPTERYGIDAE

- Glyphipteryx fischeriella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *fuscoviridella*, Haw. *Ulverscroft, flying over grass*

### ARGYRESTHIIDAE

- Argyresthia ephippella*, Fb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *semitestacella*, Curt. *Market Harborough*  
 — *albistria*, Haw. *Owston Wood, unicolorous vars. Market Harborough*  
 — *semifusca*, Haw. *Whitwick*  
 — *glaucinella*, Zell. *Bradgate Park*  
 — *retinella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *curvella*, L. *Kibworth*  
 — *sobriella*, Tr. *Market Harborough*  
 — *pygmaecella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *goedartella*, L. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *brochella*, Hb. *Market Harborough, Bradgate Park*  
 — *arceuthina*, Zell. *Market Harborough*

## TINEAE (continued)

### GRACILARIIDAE

- Gracilaria alchimella*, Scop. *Ulverscroft, Market Harborough*  
 — *elongella*, L. *Market Harborough*  
 — *syringella*, Fb. *Ulverscroft, Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
*Ornix avellana*, Sta. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *anglicella*, Sta. *Grange Wood*  
 — *torquillella*, Sta. *Whitwick*  
 — *guttea*, Haw. *Kibworth, on wing flying by day*

### COLEOPHORIDAE

- Coleophora fuscocuprella*, H.S. *Market Harborough*  
 — *troglydytella*, Dup. *Market Harborough*  
 — *lineola*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
 — *lutipennella*, Zell. *Kibworth, fairly c.*

### ELACHISTIDAE

- Batrachedra praeangusta*, Haw. *Market Harborough*  
 — *pinocolella*, Dup. *Grace Dieu*  
*Laverna propinquella*, Sta. *Market Harborough*  
 — *lacteella*, St. *Market Harborough*  
 — *epilobiella*, Schr. *Kibworth, Gy.*  
 — *ochraceella*, Curt. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *hellerella*, Dup. *Market Harborough*  
*Chrysoclysta aurifrontella*, Hb. *Kibworth, Ulverscroft*  
*Elachista magnificella*, Tgstr. *Ulverscroft, flying in wood*  
 — *albipunctella*, Sta. *Ulverscroft*  
 — *albifrontella*, Hb. *Ulverscroft, Market Harborough, Owston Wood*  
 — *luticomella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *nigrella*, Hb. *Kibworth, v.c. some years*  
 — *obscuraella*, Sta. *Kibworth, flying in afternoon*  
 — *megerlella*, Zell. *Market Harborough*  
 — *cerusella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *rhynchosporella*, Sta. *Market Harborough*  
 — *rufocinerea*, Haw. *Kibworth, Market Harborough, Bardon Hill*  
 — *argentella*, Clerck. *Kibworth, Bradgate Park*  
*Tischeria complanella*, Hb. *Market Harborough, Ulverscroft*  
 — *marginea*, Haw. *Ulverscroft*

### LITHOCOLLETIDAE

- Lithocolletis cavella*, Zell. *Kibworth, feeds on birch*  
 — *pomifoliella*, Zell. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *coryli*, Nicelli. *Kibworth, Market Harborough*  
 — *faginella*, Mann. *Market Harborough*  
 — *viminetorum*, Sta. *Knighton*  
 — *ulmifoliella*, Hb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *quercifoliella*, Fisch. *Market Harborough*  
 — *cramerella*, Fb. *Market Harborough*  
 — *tenella*, Zell. *Knighton*  
 — *sylvella*, Haw. *Bradgate Park*  
 — *emberizaepennella*, Bouche. *Grange Wood*  
 — *frolichiella*, Zell. *Ulverscroft, flying amongst alders in marshy copse*  
 — *nicelli*, Zell. *Kibworth*



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ORTHORRHAPHA (continued)

BRACHYCERA (continued)

THEREVIDAE

Thereva fulva, Mg. Blaby, June, 1871

EMPIDAE

- Hybos grossipes, L. Bradgate Park  
 — femoratus, Mull. Narborough  
 Cyrtoma nigra, Mg. Longcliffe  
 — spuria, Fb. Blaby  
 Rhamphomyia nigriceps, Fb. Longcliffe  
 — sulcata, Fln. Swisbland, Broughton, Blaby  
 — spinipes, Fln. Blaby  
 — flava Fln. Bradgate Park  
 Empis tessellata, Fb. Gen. dist.  
 — livida, L. Somerby, Blaby, Owston Wood  
 — opaca, Fb. Blaby  
 — stercorea, L. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — trigramma, Mg. Anstey, Broughton, Blaby  
 — punctata, Mg. Tilton, Anstey, Blaby  
 — lutea, Mg. Owston Wood  
 — scutellata, Curt. Blaby  
 — pennaria, Fln. Tilton  
 — albinervis, Mg. Blaby  
 — chioptera, Fln. Tilton, Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 Pachymeria femorata, Fb. Blaby  
 Hilara maura, Fb. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — pinetorum, Zett. Saddington  
 — fuscipes, Fb. Blaby  
 — quadrivittata, Mg. Blaby  
 — chorica, Fln. Blaby  
 — nana, Ff. Blaby  
 Ocydromia glabricula, Fln. Narborough, Blaby  
 Leptopeza flavipes, Mg. Braunstone  
 Ardoptera irrorata, Fln. Bradgate Park  
 Tachista arrogans, L. Blaby  
 — connexa, Mg. Braunstone

DOLICHOPODIDAE

- Psilopus platypterus, Fb. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — longulus, Mg. Longcliffe, Market Bosworth  
 — obscurus, Fall. Bradgate Park  
 Eutarsus aulicus, Mg. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 Dolichopus plumipes, Scop. Tilton, Blaby, Bradgate Park, Narborough  
 — pennatus, Mg. Tilton, Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — popularis, W. Braunstone, Longcliffe, Bradgate Park  
 — griseipennis, Stain. Blaby, Longcliffe  
 — trivialis, Hal. Tilton, Blaby, Longcliffe, Bradgate Park  
 — brevipennis, Mg. Tilton, Blaby  
 — aeneus, De G. Tilton, Saddington, Blaby, Narborough  
 Orthochile nigrocoerulea, Str. Bradgate Park  
 Gymnopterus aerosus, Fln. Bradgate Park, Narborough  
 Chrysotus neglectus, W. Bradgate Park  
 — gramineus, Fln. Narborough  
 Diaphorus oculatus, Fln. Narborough  
 Argyra diaphana, Fb. Blaby  
 — argentina, Mg. By. Narborough  
 — leucocephala, Mg. Somerby, Narborough  
 Porphyrops spinicoxus, Lw. Bradgate Park, Longcliffe  
 — elegantulus, Mg. Cropston

ORTHORRHAPHA (continued)

BRACHYCERA (continued)

DOLICHOPODIDAE (continued)

- Xiphandrium caliginosum, Mg. Blaby  
 — monotrichum, Lw. Aylestone  
 — appendiculatum, Zett. Longcliffe  
 Scellus notatus, Fb. Owston Wood  
 Sympycnus annulipes, Mg. Bradgate Park

CYCLORRHAPHA

PROBOSCIDEA

SYRPHIDAE

- Pipizella virens, Fb. Blaby  
 Pipiza lugubris, Blaby  
 — noctiluca, L. Blaby  
 Liogaster metallina, Fb. Blaby  
 Chrysogaster macquarti, Lw. Blaby  
 — splendens, Mg. Blaby, Scraftoft, Woodhouse  
 — chalybeata, Mg. Groby Pool  
 — cameteriorum, L. Groby Pool, Woodhouse, Breedon  
 — hirtella, Lw. Great Glen, Blaby, Somerby  
 Chilisia antiqua, Mg. Blaby  
 — pulchripes, Lw. Blaby, Longcliffe  
 — decidua, Egg. Blaby, Broughton Astley  
 — vernalis, Fln. Blaby, Groby, Saddington  
 — grossa, Fln. Blaby on shallows  
 — flavimana, Mg. Blaby, Bradgate Park, Narborough, Owston Wood  
 — variabilis, Pz. Blaby, Bradgate Park, Burbage Wood  
 — pigra, Lw. Owston Wood  
 — oestracea, L. Owston Wood  
 Leucosona leucorum, L. Blaby, Owston Wood, Bradgate Park  
 Melanostoma ambiguum, Fln. Blaby, Bardon Hill  
 — dubium, Zett. Blaby  
 — scalare, Fb. Owston Wood, Breedon  
 — mellinum, L. Blaby, Longcliffe, Narborough  
 Melangyna quadrimaculata, Ver. Bardon Hill  
 Pyrophana granditarsis, Foster. Blaby, Narborough  
 Platychirus manicatus, Mg. Groby, Blaby, Owston Wood  
 — albimanus, Fb. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — peltatus, Mg. Blaby, Bradgate Park  
 — scutatus, Mg. Blaby, Owston Wood, Bradgate Park  
 — scambus, Stoeg. Blaby, Bradgate Park, Breedon  
 — podagratus, Zett. Cropston  
 — clypeatus, Mg. Blaby, Bradgate Park, Narborough  
 Syrphus punctulatus, Ver. Blaby, Bardon Hill, Longcliffe  
 — compositorum, Ver. Bardon Hill  
 — umbellataum, Fb. Blaby, Longcliffe  
 — auricollis, Mg. Blaby, Longcliffe  
 — cinctellus, Zett. Longcliffe  
 — balteatus, De G. Saddington, Blaby  
 — bifasciata, Fb. Blaby, Bardon, Somerby  
 — arcuatus, Fln. Saddington, Blaby  
 — luniger, Mg. Blaby, Bardon Hill, Breedon  
 — corollae, Fb. Blaby, Longcliffe, Bardon  
 — annulatus, Zett. Bardon Hill  
 — latifasciatus, Mcq. Anstey Lane, Blaby  
 — nitidicollis, Mg. Bardon Hill  
 — vitripennis, Mg. Blaby, Longcliffe  
 — ribesii, L. Blaby, Buddon  
 — tricinctus, Fln. Bardon Hill, Owston  
 — venustus, Mg. Blaby, Longcliffe, Bardon Hill



— pellucens, L. *Blaby, Owston, Bardon, Breedon*  
 Sericomyia borealis, Flin. *Blaby*  
 Eristalis sepulchralis, L. *Anstey Lane, Blaby*  
 — tenax, L. Gen. dist.  
 — arbustorum, L. *Anstey Lane, Blaby, Owston Wood*  
 — intricarius, L. *Blaby, Narborough*  
 — pertinax, Scop. *Blaby, Owston Wood, Market Bosworth*  
 — horticola, De G. *Buddon Wood*  
 Myiotropa florea, L. *Anstey Lane, Blaby, Owston*  
 Helophilus trivittatus, Fb. *Anstey Lane, Blaby*  
 — hybridus, Lw. *Broughton Astley, Blaby*  
 — pendulus, L. *Blaby, Bradgate Park*  
 — lineatus, L. *Arnesby*  
 Meredon equestris, F. *Owston Wood*; as the narcissus does not grow in this wood it would be interesting to know what plant it is attached to.  
 Criorrhina ruficauda, De G. *Swithland*  
 — berberina, Fb. *Owston Wood*  
 Xylota segnis, L. *Swithland, Somerby, Bardon Wood*  
 — sylvorum, L. *Owston Wood*  
 Syrirta pipiens, L. *Saddington, Blaby, Owston Wood*  
 Chrysotoxum sylvorum, Mg. *Blaby, Bradgate Park*  
 — bicinctum, L. *Somerby, Thurcaston, Longcliffe*

#### CONOPIDAE

Siens ferrugineus, L. *Longcliffe, Bardon Hill*  
 Myopa buccata, L. *Blaby, Bradgate Park*  
 — testacea, L. *Blaby*

#### OESTRIDAE

Gastrophilus equi, Fb. *Mountsorrel*

#### TACHINIDAE

Alophora hemiptora, F. *Owston Wood*

#### SARCOPHAGIDAE

Sarcophaga carnaria, L. *Blaby, Longcliffe, Bardon*

#### MUSCIDAE

Lucillia coruicina, Fb. *Blaby*  
 — caesar, L. *Blaby*  
 — sylvorum, Mg. *Braunstone*  
 — sericata, Mg. *Cropston, Blaby*  
 — rufipes, Mg. *Glen Parva, Woodhouse*  
 — illustris, Mg. *Braunstone*

Cordylura pubera, L. *Blaby*  
 Norellia spinimana, Flin. *Blaby, 11 June, 1891*  
 — liturata, Mg. *Bradgate Park, 21 May, 1884*  
 — scybalaria, L. *Ashby*  
 — inquinata, Mg. *Braunstone*  
 Scatophaga squalida, Mg. *Bradgate Park, Blaby*  
 — stercoraria, L. *Blaby*

#### SCIOMYZIDAE

Tetranocera elata, Fb. *Bradgate Park, 9 July, 1885, 23 June, 1895*  
 — laevifrons, Lw. *Blaby, Bradgate*  
 — sylvatica, Mg. *Great Glen, Owston Wood, Bradgate Park*  
 — reticulata, L. *Aylestone, Saddington*  
 — punctulata, Scop. *Owston Wood, Somerby*  
 Limnia unguicornis, Scop. *Braunstone, Tilton*  
 Elgiva albiseta, Scop. *Aylestone, Saddington, Blaby*  
 — dorsalis, Fb. *Bradgate Park, 9 July, 1887*

#### PSILIDAE

Loxocera aristata, Pz. *Narborough Bogs, 23 July, 1885*  
 — albiseta, Schr. *Blaby*  
 — sylvatica, Mg. *Braunstone, Swithland*  
 Calobata petronella, L. *Charnwood Forest, Blaby*  
 — cibaria, L. *Blaby, Thurmaston*

#### ORTALIDAE

Ceroxys gangranosus, L. *Saddington, Narborough*  
 Platystoma seminationis, Fb. *Somerby, Blaby*

#### TRYPETIDAE

Acidia heraclei, L. *Blaby, Bradgate Park, Bardon Hill*  
 Tephrites milliaria, Schr. *Owston Wood*

#### BORBORIDAE

Borborus nitidus, Mg. *Mountsorrel, Blaby, Bradgate Park*  
 Sphaerocera subsultans, Fb. *Blaby*  
 Limosina sylvatica, Mg.  
 — crassimana, Hal. *Blaby, Bradgate Park*

#### HIPPOBOSCIDAE

Ornithomyia avicularia. *Anstey, Longcliffe, Blaby*



as far as I am aware.

*Corizus parumpunctatus*, a rare species, is recorded from Kirby Muxloe.

*Myrmus miriformis*, a southern insect, has occurred at Swithland Wood; there is no other Midland record, neither is it noted from the west or north.

A rare species, *Macrolophus nubilus*, found on *Stachys sylvatica*, was unrecorded for the Midlands till Marshall took it near Leicester.

*Orthotylus bilineatus*, a rather rare insect found on aspens, is recorded from Leicester.

*O. ochrotrichus*, taken at Bradgate, has not hitherto been taken outside the southern and London districts.

*Psallus quercus*, taken at Leicester by Marshall, is only recorded from four other localities.

*Atractotomus mali* is rather local, and there are only four other records; Mr. Stanyon took it at Lea Lane.

*Plagionathus saltitans* is also a rather local species.

The following list must not by any means be taken for a complete record, as much work remains to be done in the county (in common with most of England) before we shall have a thorough knowledge of the Hemiptera.

In the following list the writer is indebted to Mr. John Stanyon for most of the notes; others have been furnished by coleopterists who have taken chance specimens.

## GYMNOCERATA

### CYDNIDAE

Sehirus, Am. S.  
— bicolor, L. One specimen

### PENTATOMIDAE

Pentatoma, Oliv. (Subgenus Carpocoris)  
— baccatum, L. *Charnwood Forest*. Rank herbage  
Tropicoris, Hahn.  
— rufipes, L. *Swithland Wood*  
Acanthosoma, Curt.  
— dentatum, De G. *Swithland Wood*  
(Subgenus Elasmostethus)  
— A. interstinctum, L. *Swithland Wood*

## COREINA

### COREIDAE

Corizus, Fall  
— parumpunctatus, Schill. *Kirby Muxloe*  
Myrmus, Hahn  
— miriformis, Fall. *Swithland Wood* (Marshall)

## LYGAEINA

## LYGAEINA (continued)

### LYGAEIDAE (continued)

Scolopostethus, Fieb.  
— affinis, Schill. v. c.  
— neglectus, Edw. c.  
— decoratus, Hahn. *Bradgate* in turf (Stanyon)  
Drymus, Fieb.  
— sylvaticus, F. In moss.  
— brunneus, Sahlb. *Groby Parks*  
Gastrodes, Westw.  
— ferrugineus, L. *Leicester* (Marshall)

### TINGIDIDAE

Orthostira, Fieb.  
— parvula, Fall. *Newtown Linford*  
Dictyonota, Curt.  
— strichnocera, Fieb. *Croft Hill*  
Derephysia, Spin  
— foliacea, Fall. *Leicester*  
Monanthia, Lep.  
— cardui, L. c.

## HYDROMETRINA

### HYDROMETRIDAE

Hydrometra, Latr.  
— stagnorum, L. Plentiful on running water



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Plagiognathus, Fieb.  
 — arbustorum, F. *Braunstone*  
 — viridulus, Fall. c.  
 — saltitans, Fall.

CORIXIDAE  
 Corixa, Geoffr.  
 — semistriata, Fieb.

## ARACHNIDA

### *Spiders*

The following species have been taken by Messrs. W. J. Kaye and C. B. Chalcraft :—

#### LYCOSIDAE

##### LYCOSA

*Lycosa campestris*, Blackwall  
 Very common. Found running on the ground  
*Lycosa saccata*, Blackwall  
 Very common. Always found in large numbers together ; found in profusion in such places as dung-heaps and places where straw is laid

##### DOLOMEDES

*Dolomedes mirabilis*, Latreille  
 Found running on the ground among long grass, and carries its egg sac under the sternum  
 Owston Wood (G. B. C.)

#### SALTICIDAE

##### SALTICUS

*Salticus scenicus*, Clerck  
 Probably all over the county. Taken off wall covered with ivy, Leicestershire : also Swithland Wood (G. B. C.)

#### THOMISIDAE

##### THOMISUS

*Thomisus cristatus*, Walckenaer  
 Very common in the county ; one of the spiders which has the power of launching itself into the air, and often travels considerable distances in this manner  
*Thomisus citreus*, Blackwall

#### DRASSIDAE (*continued*)

##### CLUBIONA

*Clubiona accentuata*, Latreille  
 Very rapid in its movements ; found in woods.  
 Taken in Buddon Wood

#### CINIFLONIDAE

##### CINIFLO

*Ciniflo atrox*, Blackwall  
 Very common ; found under stones and loose bark ; hunts at night. Varies considerably in the colour of the markings of the abdomen  
 Leicester (G. B. C.), October

#### AGELENIDAE

##### TEGENARIA

*Tegenaria domestica*, Walckenaer  
 Found in houses ; very common. Taken in Leicestershire (G. B. C.)  
*Tegenaria civilis*, Walckenaer  
 Found in houses ; common. Taken in Leicester (G. B. C.)

##### CAELOTES

*Caelotes saxatilis*, Wider  
 Frequents dark hiding places. Common at Bardon Hill and probably elsewhere (G. B. C.)

##### TEXTRIX



NERIENE

*Neriene bicolor*, Blackwall  
Common ; chiefly obtained by beating

WALCKENAËRA

*Walckenaëra punctata*, Blackwall  
Taken at Aylestone (G. B. C.)  
*Walckenaëra pratensis*, Blackwall  
Taken at Buddon Wood

EPËIRIDAE

EPËIRA

*Epëira cucurbitina*, Clerck  
Very common  
*Epëira scalaris* (syn. *Marmdreus*, Clerck)  
Taken at Owston Wood

*Epëira diademata*, Clerck

Common (G. B. C.)

*Epëira callophylla*, Blackwall

Fairly common. Leicester (G. B. C.)

*Epëira ornata*, Blackwall

One taken

*Epëira antriada*, Blackwall

At Saddington reservoir (G. B. C.)

*Epëira inclinata*, Blackwall

Taken in Leicester and Buddon Wood

*Epëira conica*, Pallas

Taken in Buddon Wood

TETRAGNATHA

*Tetragnatha extensa*, Latreille

Taken in Owston Wood and Swithland



# CRUSTACEANS

An interest in this branch of zoology cannot be traced back to a remote past in the annals of this county. *The Description of Leicester Shire*, by William Burton, in 1622, takes no notice of its invertebrate fauna. *A Topographical History of the County of Leicester*, by the Rev. J. Curtis, published in 1831, is equally neglectful. The introduction includes an article on botany, contributed by 'Three Loughborough botanists, Mr. Thomas Hands, Joseph Paget, Esq., and Mr. William Parkinson.'<sup>1</sup> This article begins by saying, 'Leicestershire, comprehending within its boundaries, hills, valleys, and plains, alluvial and secondary strata, bogs, marshes, cultivated and waste ground, together with woods of every aspect, is peculiarly rich in its botany.'<sup>2</sup> There follows a very long list of plants, among which are several pond weeds, these and other circumstances of the description justifying the inference that this county will eventually be found as well supplied with land and freshwater crustaceans as most of our purely inland shires. At length, in 1886, we find one of the species more or less definitely mentioned. A *Report* of the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society says :—

Mr. Garnar exhibited specimens of the small crustacean *Asellus aquaticus*, common at the bottom of ponds, and in which the circulation of the internal fluid was very distinctly seen under the microscope. He read an account of this animal extracted from several works, but stated that the principal work upon the subject was in French, and was not procurable in Leicester.<sup>3</sup>

It is not expressly stated where the specimens were found, but, as they were alive, no doubt they came from the immediate neighbourhood of Leicester itself. The French work alluded to is the *Histoire Naturelle des Crustacés d'Eau douce de Norvège*, published in 1867, by the distinguished Norwegian professor, G. O. Sars. In 1894 a paper on 'the Leicestershire brooks,' by Mr. Mott, chairman of the society just mentioned, contains the calculation that there are about 450 distinct streams in the county, and about 160 species of plants to which their existence is essential, besides a small number of vertebrate animals, and a large number of invertebrates.<sup>4</sup> In the year 1900 Mr. F. W. Rowley, giving his inaugural address to the zoological section of the same society, made the following pertinent remarks :—

I may say that when I and Mr. Elliott arranged excursions to the reservoirs at Swithland, Cropston, and Thornton, it was really with a desire to interest some of the members in a branch of our work almost untouched and with a peculiar fascination of its own. For, indeed, our ditches, ponds, and reservoirs teem with material for study, and study of a serious kind; the forms of life which we meet with have not served their purpose, as some would seem to think, when they have been utilized to compel admiration at a *soirée*. On the contrary they present problems for solution which tax to the utmost the abilities of the most acute and skilful observers.

Further on he says :—

On the zoological side, Mr. Garnar has for some years made a special study of the Entomostraca, and I hope that he will at no distant date consent to let us have his results for publication in the Transactions.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Op. cit. p. vii.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid. p. xxxv.

<sup>3</sup> *The Midland Naturalist*, ix (1886).

<sup>4</sup> *Trans. Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* iii, 399.

<sup>5</sup> Ibid. v, 504 (1900).



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

will yield the *Gammarus*, its gardens and roadsides and bosky dells will supply many species of woodlice or woodland shrimps. These are the Isopoda terrestria, sessile-eyed, fourteen-legged, with short carapace, in all these respects agreeing with the Amphipoda, but differing from them by having some appendages of the pleon or tail converted into breathing organs, instead of having gills attached to the legs of the middle-body. Their abundance and extensive range make it really singular that they should for so long have escaped all notice in this county, where hitherto, so far as public records are concerned, the only malacostracan rescued from the realms of conjecture has been *Asellus aquaticus*, Linn. This, indeed, is our only distinctively fresh-water isopod in England, very abundant, very widely distributed, but not to be regarded as quite a typical isopod, since, of the six pairs of appendages proper to the pleon, the female has lost or dispensed with the second pair.

In contrast with the state of inanition in the great sub-class above-mentioned, the *Entomostraca* are now making their presence known in no inconsiderable variety. The credit of this development is in a large measure due to two investigators, one being the late Mr. Garnar, whose name has already been brought forward, the other, Mr. J. D. Scourfield, whose intimate knowledge of the subject gives exceptional value to the unpublished list of species with which he has generously supplied me. There are, however, as will presently appear, one or two additional authorities to whom the county is indebted for discoveries of special interest.

The three orders among which the Entomostraca are distributed, the Branchiopoda, Ostracoda, and Copepoda, are so remarkably unlike in general facies that some study is required before the propriety of classing them side by side can be appreciated. Yet, in spite of this diversity, there are certain forms which have been bandied to and fro between the first and third orders, without obtaining, even to this day, a quite secure position in either. These are the Branchiura, at present by some accepted as a sub-order of the Branchiopoda, sharing that rank with the Phyllopoda and Cladocera. Alternatively, the three divisions have been raised to independent orders, near to one another. But Mr. Charles Branch Wilson, in his very valuable 'Systematic Review' of the family Argulidae,<sup>9</sup> would again make them a sub-order of the Copepoda. This is not a fitting opportunity for discussing his arguments. Apart from these his definition of the Branchiura may conveniently be quoted. According to this they have a 'flattened body, consisting of a shield-shaped cephalothorax in which the first thoracic segment is fused with the head, a free thorax of three segments, and a two-lobed abdomen without segments; four pairs of swimming feet, long and furnished with two rows of plumose setae; two large compound eyes, movable, and surrounded by a blood sinus; testes in the abdomen; heart present; females without ovisacs, eggs attached to foreign objects.' There is only one family, including three genera.

For instituting a comparison between the Branchiura on the one hand and the malacostracan crayfish or isopods on the other, we may accept the opinion that in the former the paired appendages, apart from the eyes, represent in succession first and second antennae, mandibles, first and second maxillae, maxillipeds, and four pairs of two-branched locomotive limbs, in

<sup>9</sup> *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.* xxv, 701 (1902).



## CRUSTACEANS

which the outer branch is unjointed. In one genus, however, *Chonopeltis*, Thiele, the first antennae are wholly wanting, contrary to the character almost universal in the crustacean class. But this genus shares with *Argulus* the peculiarity that the second maxillae are transformed into suckers. There is a twofold reason for speaking of this as a case of transmutation, because in the third genus, *Dolops* (Audouin), these maxillae form, not suckers, but strong hooks, and in the larval *Argulus foliaceus* the transition stage has been observed from a claw to a sucking-disk. Mr. Wilson very justly suggests that though the uncinat form of maxilla anchors the parasite strongly to its host, the suckers are a better contrivance, because they are so much more easily fastened and unfastened. By alternately holding fast with the sucker on one side while that on the other is released and advanced, the owner is enabled to move rapidly and yet securely over the surface of a fish. Whether *A. foliaceus* (Linn.), which is said to be generally distributed, actually occurs in Leicestershire I am not in a position to affirm, but of the larger and seemingly much rarer *A. coregoni* (Thorell), Mr. Scourfield says, 'Canon Norman possesses specimens of this species, which were taken by Mr. Dodds on the Barbel, in Leicestershire; it has not previously been placed on record as British.'<sup>9</sup> While *A. foliaceus* in the female attains the length of only six or seven millimetres, and has an elliptical carapace, the lobes of which reach the fourth pair of legs, this sex in *A. coregoni* is thirteen millimetres long, fully half an inch, with a nearly orbicular carapace, which leaves the fourth pair of legs entirely uncovered. The smaller male has a still more rounded carapace completely covering all its legs. The respiration appears to be dependent on the general surface, rather than on any special appendages. It should be noticed that the movable eyes, the habit of depositing the eggs instead of carrying them about in ovisacs, and the position of the sucker-disks, are characters strongly differentiating the Argulidae from all uncontroversial families of parasitic Copepoda. The genus *Argulus* is also distinguished by having a venomous stilet in its oral siphon, which apparently prevents a fish from retaliating on its persecutor, when otherwise opportunity offers for swallowing it. To prevent the destructive multiplication of these little vampires in closed waters, Mr. Wilson points out that in such *vivaria* it is inexpedient to keep only valuable fishes. It is the little insignificant kinds that feed with useful voracity on the larval *Argulus*.<sup>10</sup>

The antlered Cladocera owe their title to the two-branched setiferous second antennae, which are their swimming organs. Mr. Garnar's list of the species taken in the immediate neighbourhood of Leicester was sent, in a letter dated 6 April, 1903, to Mr. Scourfield, who has kindly supplied a copy of it annotated by himself for use in this chapter. The number of species is twenty-four, Seddington Reservoir being specified as the locality for three of them, namely, *Macrothrix laticornis*, *Ilyocryptus sordidus*, and *Lathonura rectirostris*. Mr. Scourfield's own collections were made in the Charnwood Forest district at Whitsuntide, 1906, the localities examined being 'Groby Pool, ponds near Beacon Hill and Bardon Hill; Old Fish Pond, Grace Dieu Priory, and various little roadside and farmyard ponds, &c.' Sixteen species are named in this list, seven of them additional to those examined by the late

<sup>9</sup> *Journ. Quekett Micros. Club*, 40, April, 1904.

<sup>10</sup> *Proc. U.S. Nat. Mus.* xxv, 652.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Mr. Garnar, making, after some deductions suggested by Mr. Scourfield, a total of thirty species of Cladocera to the credit of this county. In this sub-order there are two principal divisions, the Calyptomera and the Gymnomera. It is only with the former that we are here concerned. The name implies that the feet are for the most part covered by the carapace. The division contains two tribes, the Ctenopoda, comb-footed, and the Anomopoda, differentially footed. In the former there are six pairs of feet, all thin and leaf-like, and except the last pair nearly alike in structure, not prehensile, having the inner branch furnished with plumose setae in comb-like arrangement.<sup>11</sup> There are two families, one of which, the Sididae, contains the species called by Mr. Garnar *Diaphanosoma brandtianum*. This name was given it by S. Fischer in 1850, but as it had been earlier named *Sida brachyura* by Liévin in 1848, it must now stand as *D. brachyurum*, implying that this little sylph has a particularly short tail and shares with several of her sisters a generally diaphanous structure. In this genus the upper branch of the second antennae is two-jointed and the lower three-jointed, whereas in *Sida* the case is just the reverse.

The Anomopoda, to which most of our Leicestershire cladocerans belong, have five or six pairs of feet, not in fraternal agreement, the first two pairs being more or less prehensile, without the foliaceous character of the following pairs. This tribe is distributed over four families, the Daphnidae, Bosminidae, Macrotrichidae, and Chydoridae, for discriminating which the articulation of the natatory antennae and the intestine supply some useful, but not wholly decisive, guidance. In the fourth family both branches of the second antennae are three-jointed, in the first and third families one branch has four, the other only three, joints; but the small family of the Bosminidae, with only two genera, distinguishes one of them, *Bosminopsis*, by its having the swimming-organs jointed as in the Chydoridae, from the companion genus *Bosmina*, which in this respect agrees with the other two families. The number of these joints, therefore, will not in any case absolutely determine the family. Upon having recourse to the other character, we find that the intestine in the Daphnidae has two coecal appendages in front, but has no loop, in the Bosminidae it has neither loops nor coecal appendages, in the Macrotrichidae it has coecal appendages rarely, and sometimes a loop, but sometimes not, while lastly, in the Chydoridae it always has a median loop, coecal appendages in front rarely, a single such appendage behind often. When both characters are combined there is still some confusion possible between the Daphnidae and some members of the Macrotrichidae. But this chance is much diminished by taking into account the first antennae, which in the female of the Daphnidae are short and almost rigid, except in the genus *Moina*, whereas in that genus and throughout the Macrotrichidae they are long and mobile. As it happens no species of *Moina* is included in our present catalogue, but there are four other genera of the same family with which we have to deal, *Daphne* or *Daphnia*, O. F. Müller; *Scapholeberis*, Schödler; *Simosa*, Norman; *Ceriodaphnia*, Dana. In the first three there is a distinct rostrum which is wanting in the fourth. The head is carinate above in the first, but convex and not carinate in the second and third, and, to distinguish these two, it must be noted that the hinder and lower margins of

<sup>11</sup> Lilljeborg, *Cladocera Sueciae*, 14 (1901).



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# HISTORY

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riety sometimes has the hinder processes much elongated, and the angle produced into a long, straight, acuminate horn, making the appearance very different from the normal, with which it is nevertheless connected by many intermediate gradations in different individuals.<sup>17</sup> *vetula* (O. F. M.) is recorded by Mr. Scourfield under the name *balus vetulus*, which it long enjoyed, until Dr. Norman recently pointed out that the generic part of the title was preoccupied. Flat-head, or snub-head, the meaning of the name, may allude either to the non-carinate character of the head or to the bluntness of the rostrum. In this genus and in the ephippium, as the case for the winter eggs is called, contains one egg, whereas that of *Daphnia* has two. In *Ceriodaphnia* Mr. Garnar records *C. quadrangula* (O. F. M.), for which Mr. Scourfield substitutes *bella*, Sars, with the explanation that Mr. Garnar had relied on one of Scourfield's own papers, in which the two titles were transposed. Scourfield himself records *C. megalops*, Sars, and *C. affinis*, Lilljeborg. These four species are distinguished by the last-named author as follows:—*megalops* [of which the original and therefore correct name is *C. megops*] has the hinder or upper margin of the tail near the apex abruptly notched or crenate, the other three species having no such abrupt notching. But in *quadrangula* the margin in question within the spines is sinuate, while in *bella* and *C. affinis* it is not sinuate. Lastly, the head in *C. pulchella* is inflated, and sometimes angled, but it is not inflated in *C. affinis*.<sup>18</sup> Among the species Mr. Scourfield considers the best acquisition in his list 'from a collector's point of view.'<sup>19</sup>

In the family Bosminidae both our authorities record *Bosmina longirostris*, Scourfield adding that *B. cornuta* is included. Several varieties of the genus have been named. Between the two with which we are here concerned the distinction is given that *B. longirostris* (O. F. M.) in the restricted sense has the first antennae of the female little curved, and not hook-shaped, while *cornuta* (Jurine) has them very much curved and more or less hook-shaped, and after all there are intermediate forms connecting the two. As the species with rounded profile seldom exceeds and does not always reach the length of .5 mm.—that is, the fiftieth of an inch—it will be understood that the marks of variation are tolerably microscopic. It is gregariously distributed, being known not only from most parts of Europe, but also from Siberia, Central Asia, and the United States of America.<sup>20</sup>

The family Macrotrichidae is represented here by the three species which Mr. Garnar obtained from Seddington Reservoir. The three genera



## CRUSTACEANS

only three swimming setae in *Ilyocryptus*, Sars, but four in *Macrothrix*, Baird, and five in *Lathonura*, Lilljeborg.<sup>21</sup> Further, *Ilyocryptus* has six pairs of feet, with the last pair rudimentary, *Macrothrix* has only five pairs, with the last of them not quite rudimentary, and *Lathonura* also has only five pairs, but here it is not only the fifth pair that has dwindled, for the fourth also is so small that its existence has often been overlooked. *Ilyocryptus sordidus* (Liévin) owes its title of 'sordid mud-burrower' to its habits. Lilljeborg states that it occurs pretty frequently in lakes and slow-flowing rivers, where it lives exclusively on the muddy floor. Back downward, the shell-valves open, the feet in movement, it lies generally at rest on the bottom; its second antennae are used only for crawling and burrowing.<sup>22</sup> In spite of its lethargic nature, however, it has spread itself about Europe and Africa, and is known from Australia and North America. *Macrothrix laticornis* (Jurine), which occurs also in Mr. Scourfield's list, owes its specific name to the character of the first antennae in the female. These, instead of narrowing towards the apex, are in this species dilated. The generic name, meaning long-haired, refers in fact to a single hair, or rather seta. In this genus the three-jointed branch of the second antennae, which Lilljeborg calls the inner, and Baird the anterior, has five natatory setae, three on the apical joint, and one seta apiece on the other two. This seta, or filament, on the first joint is described by Baird as 'much longer than any of the others.'<sup>23</sup> The superiority in length does not appear to be constant, but the seta has other distinctive features which still make it of importance. *Lathonura rectirostris* (O. F. M.) has the hind-body small and thick, in the living animal generally concealed between the feet, a 'tail-hiding' propensity of which the generic name is significant. The pair of caudal setae in this species are very long. The ehippial females are said to carry as many as from five to seven winter-eggs in the detachable part of their organism, called the ehippium from its resemblance to a saddle.<sup>24</sup>

Our remaining species of the Cladocera are all included in the extensive family of the Chydoridae, *Eurycercus lamellatus* (O.F.M.) being distinguished from the rest by having to the front of the intestine two short coeca of which the others are devoid. Its hind-body is very large and broad, strongly compressed, so that the hinder or upper part is thin and lamellar, and this is fringed with a single row of little spines or teeth, amounting in old specimens to more than a hundred. It has been taken both by Mr. Garnar and Mr. Scourfield. There are still eight genera to be discriminated. In only two of them, *Camptocercus*, Baird, and *Acroperus*, Baird, is the head carinate above. Of the other six, two, *Alona*, Sars, and *Leydigia*, Kurz, have the free hind margins of the valves little lower than the rest of their height, while in the remaining four they are much lower. In *Chydorus*, Leach, the body of the female is rounded in profile and more or less globose. In the other three genera it is not rounded, and of these *Alonella*, Sars, has the rostrum neither long nor very acute, in contrast to *Peracantha*, Baird, and *Pleuroxus*, Baird, in which the rostral characters are just the opposite. The female *Camptocercus* has a long slender tail, spined on the upper margin, whereas in *Acroperus* this tail is of medium length and breadth, and on its upper margin not spined. *Camptocercus rectirostris*, Schödler, is described as

<sup>21</sup> *Cladocera Sueciae*, 210.

<sup>22</sup> *British Entomostraca* (Ray Soc.), 103 (1850).

<sup>23</sup> *Ibid.* 331.

<sup>24</sup> *Cladocera Sueciae*, 360.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

swimming with regular, sometimes tolerably rapid movements, back upwards, repeatedly striking out behind with the hind-body.<sup>26</sup> It is probably to the latter action that it owes its generic name, which Baird explains as meaning flexible-tailed.<sup>26</sup> It occurs only in Mr. Garnar's list, and *Acroperus harpae*, Baird, only in Mr. Scourfield's. The oblique striation or ribbing of the valves in the latter species suggested the comparison with a harp. The generic name signifying a pointed extremity does not seem especially appropriate, as the body is in profile more or less ovate, or even sometimes sub-rectangular. *Alona*, Sars, which takes the place of the pre-occupied *Lynceus*, is represented in Mr. Garnar's list by *A. tenuicaudis*, Sars, and *A. rostrata* (Koch), in Mr. Scourfield's by *A. affinis* (Leydig), *A. guttata*, Sars, and *A. rectangula*, Sars. The characters used by Lilljeborg for distinguishing these species show that *A. rostrata* has only seven swimming setae on the second antennae, while the other species have eight. Its specific name alludes to the length and acuteness of the rostrum in the female. In that sex the squamiform fascicles of fine spinules at the sides of the tail are well developed, and the last of them overtopping the caudal margin in *A. rectangula*, but they are wanting or rudimentary and not overtopping the margin in the other three species. The hind or upper margin of the female tail is more or less angled in *A. guttata*, but rounded in *A. affinis* and *A. tenuicaudis*. Finally, in *A. affinis* the terminal spines of the upper caudal margin are about equal to those which precede them, but in *A. tenuicaudis* a few at the end are much larger than the preceding. *A. affinis* was first recorded as British by Mr. Scourfield in 1895, and the special marks distinguishing it from *A. quadrangularis* (O.F.M.) will be found given by him in detail on that occasion.<sup>27</sup> *Leydigia quadrangularis* (Leydig), first described by the celebrated zoologist after whom its present genus is named, has features, the interest of which is not diminished by the fact that some of them are common to all of the few species at present comprised in the genus. There are five pairs of feet, of which the fifth is the largest. The intestine forms almost a double loop. The eye-spot, instead of being as usual much smaller than the eye, is here considerably larger. This species belongs to Mr. Garnar's list. The next two are from Mr. Scourfield's. *Alonella nanus* (Baird), being little over a hundredth of an inch or .26 mm. in length, may set up some claim to be a champion dwarf among the Cladocera, in accord with its specific name attached to a diminutive generic title. Small as it is, its residence is said to be by preference in large pieces of water. *Peracantha truncata* (O.F.M.) is named to suit the character of its valves which have a truncate hind margin beset with spines. It is unnecessary to follow Lilljeborg in the refinement of scholarship which leads him to lengthen the generic name into *Peratacantha*. Two species are entered by Mr. Garnar as *Lynceus uncinatus* and *Lynceus denticulatus*. Mr. Scourfield points out that the former should more properly be called *Pleuroxus uncinatus*, Baird, and as to the latter says, 'It is very unlikely that Mr. Garnar had *Pleuroxus denticulatus*; *P. denticulatus* is too close to *P. trigonellus* and *P. aduncus*, to allow us to accept this identification without further evidence.' He subsequently wrote repeating his doubt as to this one species in Mr. Garnar's list, but adding, 'It is a British species, however,

<sup>26</sup> *Cladocera Sueciae*, 409.

<sup>27</sup> *Journ. Quekett Microsc. Club* (Ser. 2), vi, 129.

<sup>26</sup> *Brit. Ent.* (Ray Soc.), 128.



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.F.M.), *C. serena* (Koch), *Cypris fuscata* (Jurine), *Cypridopsis clausi* (F.M.), and *Candona lactea*, Baird. None of these are uncommon in England. As is partly indicated by the generic names, they are rather closely allied one to another, and to make intelligible the generic and specific distinctions would overtax the space at command. In the monographs already referred to as produced by Dr. Brady alone and by that author in collaboration with Dr. Norman, the reader will find his needs supplied. One point, however, should here be noticed. In 1868 *Cypridopsis vidua* was given by Brady as the primary species of *Cypridopsis*, and so retained by Brady and Norman in 1889; but in 1896, when their second volume appeared, they made it the type of a new genus, *Pionocypris*. Recognition of the transfer is declined by Dr. Kaufmann and Mr. Scourfield. On the other hand, Dr. Thomas Scott argues that its removal from *Cypridopsis* became necessary, when it was made clear that the species did not possess the principal character on which that genus was founded. For, whereas the caudal rami were described as 'being quite rudimentary, consisting of two slender setiform processes springing from a common base,' which applied to two associated species, on the contrary in *C. vidua* 'the caudal rami consist of four setiform processes.'<sup>33</sup>

For the remaining order, the Copepoda, Mr. Scourfield's manuscript furnishes a record of fourteen species. The first is *Diaptomus gracilis*, Sars, of the family Diaptomidae. This is followed by ten species and two varieties of the genus *Cyclops*, which is not unfrequently spoken of as if it were a kind of compendium of all the freshwater Copepoda. The names given are *C. strenuus*, Fischer, *C. leuckarti*, Claus, *C. dybowskii*, Lande, *C. bicuspidatus*, Claus, *C. vernalis*, Fischer, *C. viridis* (Jurine), *C. fuscus* (Jurine), *C. albidus* (Jurine), *C. prasinus* (Jurine), *C. serrulatus*, Fischer; *C. vicinus*, Uljanin, being given as a variety of *C. strenuus*, and *C. varius*, Lilljeborg, as a variety of *C. serrulatus*. This last species is distinguished from the others by having the first antennae only twelve-jointed instead of seventeen-jointed. Dr. Brady adopts the name *C. signatus*, Koch, to include both *C. albidus* and *C. fuscus*, regarding the latter as an earlier stage of growth than the former, marked by its having a simple instead of a serrated rib on the last joint of the antennae.<sup>34</sup> In regard to *C. leuckarti*, Dr. Thomas Scott has quite recently observed that specimens in the penultimate or antepenultimate stage of growth have the first antennae furnished with only eleven articulations, an evidence that this useful numerical character itself requires to be used with caution in the determination of species. From the family Arpacticidae, Mr. Scourfield



## CRUSTACEANS

*C. pygmaeus* will be found in Brady's Monograph of British Copepoda under the name of *Attheyella cryptorum*, and that of *C. staphylinus* (Jurine) under the title of '*Cantbocamptus minutus*, Baird.' For authorities and other useful notices about the Entomostraca in Mr. Scourfield's catalogue, his own paper on the Entomostraca of Epping Forest should be consulted.<sup>35</sup> For certain species the practice of washing wet mosses and wet liverworts is strongly commended. Indeed, the relations subsisting between water plants in general and these small crustaceans will be found replete with interest. Judging by recent performance the waters of Leicestershire promise well for the researches of future carcinologists. For land crustaceans they can have the glory of opening up a territory entirely unexplored.

At least, when these words were first printed, such appeared to be a reasonable inference from diligent but fruitless inquiry. Now, however, the statement must be qualified in view of information, accidentally belated, which Mr. A. R. Horwood, curator of the Leicester Museum, under date 30 March, 1907, has kindly supplied. Besides noting the occurrence of the crayfish at Aylestone in the Soar, he mentions that *Gammarus pulex*, *Oniscus asellus*, *Porcellio scaber*, and *Armadillidium vulgare*, are all widely distributed in the county, and that he himself has found specimens of the first three quite recently at different localities. *Oniscus asellus*, Linn., and the two following species, which owe their specific names to Latreille, are, among small creatures outside the class of insects, about the most familiar objects in the British fauna. Yet to the world in general it is far from familiar knowledge that they are Crustaceans. The zealous investigator will assuredly find that of the same tribe many more species than those above named occur in Leicestershire.

<sup>35</sup> *The Essex Naturalist*, x, 313-34.

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# FISHES

The fishes of Leicestershire are those usually found in inland or midland counties, and with the exception of the salmon, which is of accidental occurrence, would be those found in the adjoining counties, and call for no special introduction.

## TELEOSTEANS

### ACANTHOPTERYGII

1. Perch. *Perca fluviatilis*, Linn.

Commonly distributed. In the Leicester Museum there is a cast of a specimen taken at Saddington in 1885 by Mr. J. Benskin, which weighed just under 3 lb. Mr. J. Smith presented one to the Leicester Museum, taken by Mr. Roche at Aylestone, 17 July, 1886, which weighed 2 lb. 2 oz. Mr. Keen, the fishing tackle-maker of Church-gate, reported a fine perch taken at Wistow, some years ago, by Mr. Blakiston, which turned the scale at 5 lb. In the early part of 1888, Thornton Reservoir, which absolutely swarmed with perch, to the entire destruction of the trout-fishing, was cleaned out and netted, when some fine perch were taken, the late Dr. Macaulay reporting a brace which weighed 9 lb. ; and Pinchen showed me, amongst others, one from there weighing 3 $\frac{3}{4}$  lb. I have taken at Thornton Reservoir several specimens with blunt heads or rounded noses, evidently a malformation, which appears, however, persistent.

2. Ruff. *Acerina cernua*, Linn.

*Locally*, Daddy Ruff, Jack Ruff, Pope.

According to Harley, it occurs in most of our canals and small streams, especially in those which take their rise in Charnwood Forest. It has been taken from the Soar at Aylestone, and occurs in other streams throughout the county.

3. Miller's Thumb. *Cottus gobio*, Linn.

*Locally*, Bullhead, Tommy Logge.

Commonly distributed. Harley noted it as common in the stream which flows through Bradgate Park.

### ANACANTHINI

4. Burbot. *Lota vulgaris*, Cuv.

*Locally*, Burbolt, Eel-pout.

Harley recorded it as 'an irregular and uncertain visitant to the rivers of the county, save the Trent, where it occurs plentifully.' It has been occasionally

taken in the Soar about Kegworth, and Harley once saw one caught in an eel-net at Zouch Mills, near Loughborough.

### HEMIBRANCHII

5. Three-spined Stickleback. *Gastrosteus aculeatus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Tiddler, Jack Bannel, Robin, Soldier, Stuttle, Stut, Tittle-bat.

Commonly distributed.

6. Four-spined Stickleback. *Gastrosteus spinulosus*, Linn.

I am enabled to add this to the county fauna, since the publication of my *Vertebrate Animals of Leicestershire and Rutland*, on the authority of Mr. H. Butler Johnson, B.A., of St. George's Lodge, Swannington, who tells me that about 1883 he obtained a specimen in a brook at Thringstone.

7. Nine-spined Stickleback. *Gastrosteus pungitius*, Linn.

*Locally*, Tinker.

Generally distributed, but perhaps not so common as the three-spined Stickleback.

### HAPLOMI

8. Pike. *Esox lucius*, Linn.

*Locally*, Jack.

Commonly distributed, attaining a large size in pools such as those of Bosworth and Saddington. In 1811 Harley saw a brace of pike taken in a pond at Dishley, the property of Mr. March Phillipps, each of which weighed over 25 lb. Keen told me that, sometime about 1845-50 one of 33 lb. (which he saw) was netted at Barrow Mill-dam, after having broken through three trammel-nets. I saw a mounted specimen at Bosworth House, which was captured in April, 1869, in Bosworth Pool, and weighed 26 lb. The Leicester Museum donation-book records, under

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other, caught by Mr. W. Cross, weighing 4 lb. 3 oz.

20. White Bream. *Abramis blicca*, Bloch.

*Locally*, Bream-flat.

Occurs in the Soar and Trent, and Harley reported it as abundant in the Soar at Aylestone, and also at Barrow.

21. Bleak. *Alburnus lucidus*, Hack. and Kner.

Widely diffused, according to Harley. The late Rev. C. H. Wood told me that before the flood-works altered the condition of things, there used to be uncommonly fine bleak in the Leicester waters. He used to whip for them, and took one once which measured 7 in.

22. Loach. *Nemachilus barbatulus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Bearded Loach, Stone-Loach, Tommy Loach.<sup>1</sup>

Generally distributed, and Harley recorded it from the rivers Anker, Sence, Smite, Soar, Trent, and Wreak. In the *Gentleman's Magazine*, December, 1798, an interesting and curious description is given by J. Throsby, of what was evidently one of the present species, which was taken from the mud left on the bank of the River Soar at the Bath Gardens.

23. Spined Loach. *Cobitis taenia*, Linn.

*Locally*, Groundling.

Occurs sparingly in some few streams. Harley wrote: 'Inhabits the Soar, Trent and Wreake.' I took a specimen in a small stream at Aylestone on 14 April, 1883.

## MALACOPTERYGII

24. Salmon. *Salmo salar*, Linn.

Harley stated that this species occurred in the Soar about Kegworth and near Loughborough, and also that it had been taken at Zouch Mills, near Loughborough. At the present day, however, it must be regarded as rare, although I heard of one taken at Ratcliffe Lock in 1883 which was said to have weighed 26 lb.

The *Leicester Daily Post*, of 21 February, 1884, recorded under the heading 'Unseasonable Salmon,' that some men were fined for taking a salmon on 19 January, 1884, which they explained they had seen in the stream at Dishley pursued by a mob of men and boys. The Rev. C. H. Wood reported that it had been taken from Mr. Farnham's brook

Sparingly distributed where it is strictly of a fair size. Thornton time, so I am informed son, of Ulverscroft, 'fishing in England,' Garle Browne, of trout-lake, unrivalled the fish.' His diary records the taking and 4 lb. weight.

1859, of 4 lb. 13 oz of 4 lb. 9 oz. On 1 fish, the total weight 13 May, 1861, he caught one of 4 lb. 10 oz.

13 to 17 May, 1861, only eight of which were these just under 2 lb and the whole twenty able aggregate weight however, killed by Mr 1859, which weighed trout is reported to and of a singular example of Thornton have, ever. First came a *Saprolegnia ferax*, and perch were introduced

Mr. W. J. Horn, of 5 lb. taken by rod Allextion.

In 1887 some trolling Society into the on 16 March, 1887 yearling trout was the Marquis of Exe the manager, who I mention, writes that and *S. ferax*, and game.' The late B seen trout taken by Thornton Reservoir scaled close upon *Mercury*, of 20 Jun trout by Mr. J. which measured late Dr. Macaul 'Mr. C. E. de Tr. trout at Hothorpe, ing ponds. In 1 trout in these pres



## GANOIDS

29. Sturgeon. *Acipenser sturio*, Linn. . . . . Soar below Loughborough, but gave no date. The late Mr. Ingram informed me that, many years ago, a small one was taken in the River Smite near Belvoir.
- A rare and accidental straggler by way of the Trent. Harley recorded a specimen taken in the

## CYCLOSTOMES

30. Lampern. *Petromyzon fluviatilis*, Linn. . . . . county, as is also its larval form, and perhaps the Fringe-lipped Lampern (*Petromyzon branchialis*, Linn), known locally as Small Lampern, or Pride.
- Locally, River Lamprey.
- Sparingly found in some of the streams of the
- <sup>2</sup> *Introduction to the Study of Fishes*, 673.



# REPTILES AND BATRACHIANS

Reptiles and batrachians are, as may be supposed, exceedingly few in the county; there is no record of the smooth snake, and the sand-lizard rests on the authority of Harley only. The natterjack, so far as I am aware, does not occur, nor have I discovered more than the two common species of newts.

## REPTILES

### LACERTILIA

1. Common Lizard. *Lacerta vivipara*, Jacq.

*Locally*, Scaly Lizard, Viviparous Lizard.

Harley considered this species almost confined to the district known as Charnwood Forest, and wrote under date 1845:—'December 10th. "Para" Bates informs me that he has occasionally seen, in his entomological rambles in Charnwood Forest and the neighbourhood around it, a species of lizard which appears to affect the leaves of brambles and other plants. He describes the creature's habits very vividly as being like unto those of a chameleon, especially so when observed basking in the beams of the sun and intent on feeding.' It is well known, however, that this is a common habit with *L. vivipara*, and indeed with most lizards. It occurs commonly in the 'Forest' and in other places in the county.

2. Sand-Lizard. *Lacerta agilis*, Linn.

Rare, and I have no record of it save that furnished by Harley, who describing it under Dandin's specific name of *stirpium*, appears to have met with it, for he wrote:—'If the vernal months be open and warm, accompanied with soft breezy skies, the species comes abroad towards the latter end of March and beginning of the month following. During the spring of the year 1842 the author in his walks met with it, 22 April. In the following year it was recognized by us on 19 April, two days earlier.' He further remarked that it is liable to much variation in colour, he having met with it of a pale greenish-yellow, with the back of an umber-brown colour; others of a darker hue and others again variegated with black spots down the centre of the back. Although I have not met with it, I cannot think Harley could have confused it with the preceding common species, for he expressly stated (speaking of *Lacerta vivipara*):—'The species appears in the spring much about the same time as the sand lizard, but its reproduction is very diverse from it, since it is ovo-viviparous, while *Lacerta stirpium* is oviparous only,' which shows that he recognized the characteristics of the two species,

and was not misled by considerations of colour or habitat.

3. Blind-Worm or Slow-Worm. *Anguis fragilis*, Linn.

*Locally*, Slow-Worm.

Resident, commonly distributed, and variable in colour. There are specimens in the Leicester Museum from Charnwood Forest, Bardon Hill, and other places.

### OPHIDIA

4. Common Snake. *Tropidonotus natrix*, Linn.

*Locally*, Grass-Snake, Ringed-Snake.

Resident and commonly distributed, especially throughout Charnwood Forest; and the Leicester Museum possesses several from there and from other parts of the county. Mr. G. Frisby writes on 29 May, 1906:—'I saw three grass-snakes together in Wood Lane, Quorn; they were all three run over by a milk-cart just previously. Shortly after I secured a live one, and presented it to the schoolmaster.' A year or so ago (*circa* 1905), a newspaper recorded that—during the course of some digging operations—at Eye Kettleby, an albino form of this snake with eyes of a bright ruby red was unearthed. Albinism has hitherto been entirely unknown in connexion with reptiles.

5. Viper. *Vipera berus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Adder, Hether.<sup>1</sup>

Resident and generally distributed, especially about Charnwood Forest, but not so common, fortunately, as its harmless relative. Harley remarked under date 1846:—'*Pelias berus* and *Coluber natrix* came forth abroad very early this season,' viz., during the first and second week of March. On the 13th and 14th of that month he noted both reptiles in Bradgate Park. There are specimens in the Leicester Museum from many localities in the county, but chiefly from the 'Forest,' all of the dark variety.

<sup>1</sup> *Leic. Proverbs*, probably a corruption from Adder.



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# BIRDS

Untraversed by any river of importance and not containing any lakes nor any sheets of water of great extent, Leicestershire is naturally deficient in a number of birds found in more favoured counties, added to which it is also not in the line of any of the routes taken by birds on migration. Hence it follows that the coast and marine birds, together with the rarer birds, are merely occasional stragglers during severe weather on the coasts or at the vernal and autumnal equinoxes. The small and sluggish River Soar, running nearly north and south, and canalized for nearly the whole of its short course, falls into the Trent some considerable distance above Nottingham, at a point where the larger river is of some width, therefore any stragglers from the sea by that water-way naturally pass the restricted mouth of the canalized Soar in following the course of the Trent into Staffordshire. Notwithstanding that the only direct watercourse to the sea, the Welland, forms the south-eastern boundary of the county, rising close to Sibbertoft below Husbands Bosworth (exactly in the southern lobe) yet it is, as may be supposed, but a tiny rivulet, hardly swelling to a brook until it forms the southern boundary of Rutland, and it is in that county that the redshank—merely a straggler to Leicestershire—occurs commonly and breeds. Small streams such as the Anker, the Wagon, the Ise, the Mease, the Sence, the Swift, the Wreak, and others with smaller brooks, together with the reservoirs of Cropston, Saddington, Swiththorpe, Thornton, and the large ponds of Groby, Staunton Harold, and many others, furnish their quota of duck, snipe, and so on, with an occasional rarity; but it is seldom that any large flocks of wild fowl or great quantities of snipe occur. With regard to the latter one exception must be made, for at the sewage farm situated on high ground within two miles of the centre of Leicester more snipe congregate and can be seen in their season in favourable weather than in all the rest of the county taken together. Here also may be seen thousands of lapwings, often in 'stands' of several hundreds, with a fair amount of golden plover.

No hills of greater altitude than 912 ft. (Bardon Hill) occur in the county, nor are there any moors, heaths, commons, or forests of large extent, which are unintersected by public footpaths; added to which railways, collieries, and manufactories throughout the county are now so numerous, and have so cut up the country districts that, taken in conjunction with the enormous growth of the borough of Leicester within the last thirty years, and the consequent increase of population, birds generally, and especially those of any rarity, either cannot find suitable conditions or are so disturbed that many species are not now found or do not remain to breed as formerly. On the other hand, many species neglected by the sportsman, poacher, bird-catcher or collector, such as the sparrow and starling, have in-

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creased enormously, and in some cases are far too common and are doing immense mischief to crops and fruit.

Amongst the Passeres—to take the birds in the order adopted in this volume—the ring-ouzel, said formerly to breed in the Charnwood district and at the present day regularly in the county of Derby, is now but a straggler, and there is no authentic instance of its breeding for the last fifty or sixty years. The nightingale appears to me to be of much commoner occurrence within the last twenty years, which is probably due to protection. The black redstart has occurred as a solitary specimen; on the other hand the Dartford warbler recorded by Yarrell, Macgillivray, Morris, Dresser, and others for the county is founded upon error. No record exists of the occurrence of the firecrest in the county. The reed-warbler, although it has been driven from the precincts of Leicester by the diversion of the old Soar, is still found along the streams of the county; one specimen of the aquatic warbler has, on the authority of Mr. J. E. Harting, occurred in the county. The dipper or water-ouzel, quite common and breeding in Derbyshire, is merely a rare straggler to this county. The bearded reedling has been said to occur, but as it is now rare in its accredited haunts it is not likely to occur here again. The grey or winter wagtail, although fairly common and breeding in Derbyshire, is an occasional visitor, once only recorded as breeding. The great grey shrike and its supposed ally Pallas's great grey shrike have occurred as rare stragglers. The waxwing, of sporadic occurrence in Britain in some winters, has occurred a few times.

The pied flycatcher has not occurred for years, and there is no record of its nesting. The goldfinch has been always considered a scarce bird in the county, but Mr. H. S. Davenport (1906) and Mr. H. Butler Johnson (1907) believe it to be increasing in numbers. The siskin occasionally occurs in winter, generally along the streams, but has not been recorded as breeding. The hawfinch appears to be more common than formerly and nests in some localities. The brambling occurs in some winters, but has never bred; the same remarks apply to the twite, whilst the snow-bunting is a rare winter visitant. The starling has increased alarmingly of late years. The rose-coloured pastor, one of the rarest British accidental visitants, has been said to occur thrice in the county. The magpie appears to have become more common of late years. A few specimens of the hooded crow occur most years, but the raven, fairly common sixty or so years ago, has now disappeared for ever. The wood-lark may occur, but I have never seen a local specimen.

Amongst the Picariae I have grave doubts as to the authenticity of the record of the white-bellied, or Alpine swift, said to have once occurred; whilst the wryneck, fairly common in the south, appears to be a rare bird. The hoopoe has occurred more than once.

About the Striges the most remarkable incident is the growing commonness, and the breeding especially, of the little owl, *Athene noctua*. I should be disposed to attribute its occurrence in this and adjoining counties to the fact that foreign specimens were turned loose in Northamptonshire by the late Lord Lilford and perhaps by some other persons.

As throughout the whole of Britain, the Accipitres have suffered more than most sub-orders of birds from the inroads of civilization, and species quite common a century ago and others fairly common and nesting within the

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of the hobby and merlin, although a few specimens of both are

Of the Steganopodes, always of accidental occurrence inland, one, the shag, is a recent addition to the county fauna.

Of the Herodiones the only resident now is the common heron.

In the Anseres all those recorded are accidental, save the wild duck and the teal, which still breed in the county. Additions to the accidental list are the Bernacle goose, Bewick's swan, the gadwall and velvet scoter.

Of the Gallinae the quail does not now occur, save as a very rare visitor and the black and red grouse are quite extinct.

In the Limicolae all are accidental visitants, save the lapwing and snipe which latter, though far more abundant than formerly—owing to the institution of large sewage works at Beaumont Leys, near Leicester—rarely remains in the county. On this farm are usually to be found thousands of green plover and hundreds of snipe and golden plover, their numbers augmented very considerably in severe weather, for here there are always runnels of warm water which seldom freeze, and carry an abundance of food. Here also many rarities occur, so that examples of the ruff (immature), sandpipers, and others have been recorded.

Amongst the Gaviae all are, of course, of accidental occurrence, but the little gull formerly of doubtful occurrence can now be added through a specimen procured at Bradgate Reservoir in 1889, and now in the museum.

Of the remaining avi-fauna all are of accidental occurrence, save the great crested grebe and little grebe, both of which breed and are fairly common on all the great reservoirs of Cropston, Saddington, Swithland, Thornton, and the larger pools throughout the county.

Until the publication of the *Vertebrate Animals of Leicestershire and Rutland*,<sup>1</sup> late in 1889, no complete work upon the vertebrates of Leicestershire and Rutland had been attempted, although scattered notes had appeared in various natural history journals, and a few lists—more or less imperfect had from time to time been published. Thus in 1840 Macgillivray, in his *British Birds*, printed a 'Catalogue of the Land Birds of the County of Leicester,' by James Harley. In 1842 Potter published in his *History and Antiquities of Charnwood Forest* an appendix including the 'Ornithology of Charnwood Forest,' by Churchill Babington. It is probable that this last was written, if not published, previously to Harley's 'Catalogue.' In 1868 Alfred Ellis published (for private circulation only) *Notes about Birds*. Nothing further I believe was published for many years, until the late Dr. Macaulay contributed to the *Midland Naturalist*, for 1881, 'A List of the Birds of Leicestershire,' to which I added a few notes, and a few years later came my notes in the *Zoologist* for 1885-6-7.



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# HISTORY

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saw in a cage on a cottager's wall, a few days ago, a blackbird with a white head—this was bred in my garden.'

6. Ring-Ouzel. *Turdus torquatus*, Linn.

Of uncommon occurrence, rarely observed except in late autumn and spring, and does not appear to remain to breed now, as formerly. Nevertheless the late Dr. Macaulay wrote that a nest and eggs of this bird were taken in the parish of Mowsley by Mr. C. C. Macaulay on 27 April, 1891, but I did not see it, nor do I know of another instance. Harley wrote that in his day this bird was sparingly met with in the forest of Charnwood, affecting the uncultivated lands, intersected by rough stone walls, near the village of Whitwick, where it bred, and that as autumn drew on the old birds with their young left the bleak hills and retired to the enclosures abutting thereon, where they fed on the fruit of the wild brier, elder, &c., shortly afterwards disappearing for the winter. He was told by a friend that it occasionally bred also in Market Bosworth Park. Some local specimens are preserved in the museum,<sup>5</sup> of which may be mentioned a female shot by Mr. H. S. Davenport, at Ashlands, on 15 April, 1889; a fine male specimen, shot by Mr. Charles Smith at Theddingworth on 29 March, 1890, seen in company with a number of lapwings; and a female from Dunton Bassett 23 Oct., 1891.

7. Wheatear. *Saxicola oenanthe* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Fallow-chat, Gosshatch.<sup>6</sup>

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed and occasionally breeding, recorded by Harley, who met with its nest and six eggs many years ago near Bardon. Mr. H. S. Davenport found a nest with five eggs in a drain-pipe on the road at Skeffington in May, 1875. It is certainly rare, and the last one seen by the writer was at Whetstone, about 1898. Mr. W. J. Horn was informed that it nested at Barlestone in 1895 and 1896, and that the nest and eggs were found. Mr. Horn has seen a few odd birds in April and May, and again in August and September, the earliest occurrence being one, 6 April, 1904, at Lubenham.

8. Whinchat. *Pratincola rubetra* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Meadow-chat, Utick.

A summer migrant, generally distributed; probably double-brooded and nesting in suitable positions throughout the county and not far from the town of Leicester.

The earliest date which Mr. W. J. Horn has of its nesting is 13 May, 1895, when he found a nest

remarked upon by especially rare in it left its ordinary and wild for the c appears to have m parents about Ch: W. J. Horn men On 9 March, 1 25 Nov., 1894, 16 Oct., 1895, o

10. Redstart. *R*

*Locally*, Firet

A summer mig ing; sometimes common as form nested, amongst castle and abbey. in the museum, Mr. John Choyce he states was sho 1892. C. and 5 of 1887 they fou corner of a barn, a stone. It w and appeared to secured the mal being in the do prised to find a female to rear he noted its appear Welland, where pollard willows, 22 April, 1893,

11. Black Redsta

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12. Redbreast.

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Resident and situations, usual being double or an impression, female robin young, which, the red breast and one was



were in full swing in my garden as early as 25 Feb., in 1901.'

13. Nightingale. *Daulias luscinia* (Linn.).

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed and breeding. Mr. E. T. Loseby, of Leicester, has kindly furnished me with the following account of a nightingale which frequented his garden on the 'Freemen's Common,' immediately over the first tunnel, close to the town on the Midland Railway:—The bird began to sing apparently on 29 April, 1889, and sang up to 18 May, when it was reported to have been shot by a man living close by. When singing at night, the bird was quite fearless of its surroundings, and usually sat upon a branch of an elm on the railway embankment, often coming, however, into the apple and pear trees in Mr. Loseby's garden, when it would sing within a few yards of his party. Its song usually continued for an hour or more, and neither trains, steam, nor whistles stopped it for an instant. Mr. H. S. Davenport informs me that on 14 June, 1889, a nightingale was nesting at Ashlands, and the Rev. H. Parry, writing from Tugby on 18 May, 1893, reported a nest with three eggs in that vicinity.

In the spring of 1905 Mr. W. J. Horn noted twenty-five males singing near Market Harborough, where they had apparently taken up their quarters for nesting. Mr. G. Frisby, of Quorn, mentions one singing on 30 April, 1906. I heard one singing near St. George's Lodge, Swannington, at 4 p.m. on 10 May, 1907.

14. Whitethroat. *Sylvia cinerea* (Bechstein).

Locally, Hay-jug, Nettle-creeper (both also applied to the following species), Peggy, Great Peggy.

A summer migrant, commonly distributed and breeding. The song of this bird has often been mistaken for that of the sedge-warbler, which is frequently reported as 'occurring in great numbers this year,' but in 1887, however, I was enabled to bring one of my most positive informants and the so-called sedge-warbler 'face to face,' and the songster turning out to be the whitethroat, as I predicted, upset all the theories based upon the 'abundance of the sedge-warbler this year on dusty roads, far away from water.' Mr. W. J. Horn found a nest with one egg on 30 April—a very early date.

15. Lesser Whitethroat. *Sylvia curruca* (Linn.).

Locally, Little Peggy, White-breasted Fauvette (obsolete).

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed and breeding. Harley considered it very local. It has occurred within two miles of the centre of Leicester, at Aylestone Mill, and a specimen is now in the museum. Mr. W. J. Horn writes: 'Arrives about the same date as the common whitethroat, but commences nesting operations earlier. On 24 May, 1892, I found a nest of this species containing four abnormal eggs—smaller than the usual type—almost round and peculiarly marked; these I took on 5 June. I found about two hundred yards distant another nest containing four eggs precisely similar to the above and evidently laid by the same bird. Both clutches are in

my possession.' On 7 Sept., 1895, Mr. Horn heard one singing.

16. Blackcap. *Sylvia atricapilla* (Linn.).

Locally, Black-headed Peggy.

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed and breeding. Mr. H. S. Davenport writes: 'I was lucky enough to get, on 24 May, 1888, a lovely clutch (four in number) of the pink variety of the eggs of the Blackcap Warbler.' The Rev. Hugh Parry found this bird nesting at Tugby in 1893, and Mr. G. Frisby saw it at Quorn on 23 April, 1906.

The earliest note Mr. W. J. Horn has of its nesting is 9 April, 1906. A nest and six eggs from Tugby were presented to the museum by the Rev. Hugh Parry, 31 May, 1893.

17. Garden-Warbler. *Sylvia hortensis* (Bechstein).

Locally, Greater Pettychaps (obsolete).

A summer migrant, generally distributed, breeding, and more common than the blackcap. Mr. H. S. Davenport remarks that this bird was much less common during the three years ending 1887 than in 1884, when he found as many as five nests in the course of an hour about Keythorpe. He says it is the latest builder of all the warblers known in Leicestershire. Mr. W. J. Horn informs me that it is much commoner than the blackcap, a late breeder, and its eggs are not generally found before the end of May or beginning of June. A nest and five eggs from Tugby were presented to the museum by the Rev. Hugh Parry, 31 May, 1893.

[Dartford-Warbler. *Sylvia undata* (Boddaert).

This bird does not occur in the county, and is only now mentioned because it has, by error, been included in local lists as having occurred at 'Melton Mowbray in Leicestershire.'<sup>8</sup> Harley, however, who wrote a long MS. article about it, contradicted this and said that 'Mr. Yarrell's informant' told him that the example of Dartford-warbler, which he had described as having been captured in the county of Leicester, was brought to him by a countryman, who subsequently admitted having obtained it in Cambridge-shire.']

18. Goldcrest. *Regulus cristatus* (Koch).

Resident, but sparingly distributed; more common in the winter months, when the native birds receive large additions on migration. Mr. Stephen H. Pilgrim writes that there was a flock of about fifty in Burbage Woods one evening about the middle of January, 1890.

Mr. G. Frisby, under date of 15 Jan., 1906, reports a good number observed in Quorn and Woodhouse. Mr. W. J. Horn states that in 1900 three pairs nested in Market Harborough, one pair in a garden in the middle of the town.

[Fire-crest. *Regulus ignicapillus* (Brehm).

The late Dr. Macaulay reported (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 63) a pair of these birds seen by Mr. Davenport at Skeffington in 1890, and relative to this,

<sup>8</sup> See each edition of Yarrell, *Brit. Birds*, also Macgillivray, *Hist. of Brit. Birds*, Morris, *Brit. Birds*, and Dresser, *Birds of Europe*, quoting Yarrell.

<sup>9</sup> No doubt the late Mr. R. Widdowson, who was well known to both Harley and Yarrell.

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Mr. Davenport subsequently informed me that he shot a bird at Skeffington which may have given rise to the above note, but although he thought at the time that it was a fire-crest, he is now convinced that he was mistaken.

To prevent similar mistakes in the future, I may briefly state that this bird is very easily distinguishable by the two black stripes on each side of the head—the lower one passing through the eye—and a white streak under each, giving the head a striped appearance.]

## 19. Chiffchaff. *Phylloscopus rufus* (Bechstein).

*Locally*, Bank-jug (as also the following species), Lesser Pettychaps (obsolete).

A summer migrant, commonly distributed and breeding. Harley remarked that two broods appear to be reared during the season, he having seen the first hatch on the wing early in June, the second in August. Said by the late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1883, pp. 85-6) to have been seen at Langton, 21 Feb., 1882, and also at Gumley, 11 Nov., 1882. The winter of 1881-2 was the mildest ever known in the Midlands, and it is possible consequently that the bird may have arrived earlier than usual. I heard a chiffchaff several times in a small spinney at Aylestone in 1883 so late as 21 September, and on 22 Sept., 1897, Dr. Macaulay and I heard it at Saddington Gorse. Mr. G. Frisby of Quorn saw and heard one on 11 April, 1906.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1905: '22 March, 1896, is my earliest note of its arrival. Three or four pairs breed in Market Harborough.' All nests he has found have been placed from 3 in. to 3 ft. above the ground. I heard it at Cotesbach, 3 April, 1907.

## 20. Willow-Warbler. *Phylloscopus trochilus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Willow-Wren, Yellow Wren (almost obsolete).

A summer migrant, commonly distributed and breeding. I have received nests and eggs of this bird from Aylestone, Belvoir, Bradgate, Knighton, and other places in Leicestershire, much more frequently than those of the chiffchaff. Apparently it is equally common with that bird, and its nest is just as skilfully concealed. Mr. G. Frisby of Quorn heard this bird on 5 April, 1906, and the writer heard it in the wooded part of Coleman Road, Leicester, 16 April, 1906.

Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1906, says: 'The most abundant of our summer migrants—quite six times as numerous as the chiffchaff. Nests in Market Harborough; 26 April, 1896, singing on the wing; 7 Sept., 1895, singing.'

## 21. Wood-Warbler. *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* (Bechstein).

*Locally*, Wood-Wren.

A summer migrant, said by Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) to be 'not uncommon.' Despite this the writer, during a twenty-five years' residence in the county, has not met with it, and the Leicester Museum contains no local specimen.

Nevertheless it is but fair to state that the following letters have been received:—On 22 May, 1891, the Rev. Hugh Parry wrote from Tugby: 'Several (at least six) wood-warblers have lately settled here and I am hoping ere long to find a nest, and if I am successful will let you have it for the museum. There is

no mistake about them, as I have been watching them carefully for the past three days, and I know their note well, as they are common enough in my county, Salop. I think I told you that I saw and heard a pair in Knighton Spinney in May, 1889.' Later on, 19 June, 1891: 'I think you can hear a wood-warbler any day at Stretton Hall, if you were to go over. Yesterday I came here and was almost at once greeted with its note,' and again on 2 May, 1892: 'I heard a pair of wood-wrens on Saturday here (Tugby) and again yesterday. To-day they are quiet, I suppose on account of cold.' Again, on 18 May, 1893: 'I was over at Belvoir Castle lately and heard and saw the wood-warbler.'

Mr. H. S. Davenport, writing on 15 May, 1893, says: 'I have found a wood-warbler at last, although I have invariably said I have never before met with this bird in this county. I detected him at 1 o'clock on Saturday, and the best of it is that the chiffchaff and willow-wren were singing simultaneously. I think it was a great season for warblers, and he is a straggler to these parts.' Mr. Stephen H. Pilgrim writes from Hinckley on 6 May, 1898: 'A genuine and undoubted wood-wren has put in an appearance at the garden of my father's house here, the Castle Hill.'

Mr. W. J. Horn, writing from Market Harborough on 27 April, 1899, says: 'You may be interested to hear that I watched for some time and listened to the song of the wood-wren this morning in some trees at the top of the town. This is my first record for Leicestershire.' He again records its occurrence at Market Harborough on 2 May, 1903.

## 22. Reed-Warbler. *Acrocephalus streperus* (Vieillot).

*Locally*, Reed-Wren.

A summer migrant, breeding, but unevenly distributed. Harley mentioned it as occurring on the banks of the Soar and the reed-beds of Groby Pool, Dishley Reservoir, and Garendon, &c., but the late Dr. Macaulay, though living near Saddington Reservoir, where it undoubtedly breeds in small numbers every year, had no knowledge of its existence save on the authority of the Rev. A. Matthews, who said that it occurred in the northern division of the county, until I came to Leicester, when in September, 1880, I took a few short walks for purposes of observation, and during one of them came to a spot in which I should expect to find nesting the sedge, and possibly the reed-warbler. This spot was a reed-bed just under the castle, and was very difficult of approach to pedestrians; accordingly the following May, I, with a young friend, launched my canoe and paddled through the reeds until we could find a landing-place. The season being very backward, the new growth of reeds was but just springing, and we had an almost uninterrupted view of any birds we might flush. Soon I had the pleasure of seeing and hearing both the birds we came in search of; and in about half an hour we had found eleven nests of four species of birds, three of which were those of *Acrocephalus streperus*. They were not, however, so forward in construction as the sedge-warblers' or the other birds', all of which latter had eggs. On 9 June, 1881, a beautiful specimen of a reed-warbler's nest with five eggs was obtained from this place for the museum, and further nests, all containing eggs, were found there on 13 June, 1885, and 15 June, 1888.



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many years. Those noted are the following:—  
 October, 1885, I purchased from Elkington a pair of these birds, which he assured me were shot by T. Freer, some ten or twelve years before, at the 'back-water,' Bede House Meadows, Leicester; and on 3 Dec., 1885, I succeeded in finding Freer, then a very old man, living in a house next the 'Black Horse' at Aylestone, and he remembered the circumstance perfectly, telling me that there were six or seven birds in the flock, to which he was attracted by their peculiar note—a piping warble—and that he shot three, one of them very badly. This was on 10 Nov., 1870, and he had never seen others before nor since. Of the three birds shot two were males and one female. One male went to the museum and the pair to Elkington. Mr. H. A. Payne of Enville gave me a note of the occurrence of this bird at Groby Pool in July, 1883. He informed me there were about a dozen of them running up the reeds and popping in and out the rushes. Many observers, however, who see the long-tailed tit climbing about reeds, mistake it for the bearded tit.

29. British Long-Tailed Tit. *Acredula rosea* (Blyth).

*Locally*, Bottle-jug, Bottle-tit, Mumruffin.

Resident, but sparingly distributed. Harley wrote: 'Pretty plentiful in thickly-wooded tracts, as, for example, the vicinity of Newtown Linford, Groby, and Anstey.' I have seen it at Whetstone of late years, and it has been seen by Messrs. Stuart Maples and Peter W. Druce, as lately as October, 1906, at Aylestone Mill, whilst Mr. G. Frisby has found its nest in a furze-bush at Quorn, on 16 April, 1906.

30. Great Tit. *Parus major*, Linn.

*Locally*, Blackcap (by error), Ox-eye Tit, Saw-sharpener (in allusion to its note), Tom Tit.

Resident and generally distributed. In June, 1883, I found in an apple tree at Aylestone Hall a nest of this species close to one of the blue tit, both containing young. It is well known what singular situations this bird and the blue tit will sometimes choose for nesting, but never, perhaps, was a more extraordinary spot selected than in the summer of 1887, when a pair of these birds built their nest in an iron post common to the gates of the front garden of two houses on the Aylestone Road, Leicester, close to the Lansdowne Road, and in an extremely exposed position, not more than 2 ft. from the ground, abutting on the causeway, and only, of course, a few yards from the tram-lines, of a very public road. They apparently brought off their brood safely, but so quick and secret were these birds, that the people living in one of the two houses with their children had no idea of their

come every day, with great art table.' Mr. G. Frisby of Quorn found eggs on 2 April, 1906.

32. Marsh-Tit. *Parus palustris*

Resident, but sparingly distributed. It is partial to the decayed boles and branches of it also affects the Scotch fir and when decayed. Two, sent from me were shot on 14 Jan., 1886, and is now in the museum. Mr. Frisby writes on 14 December, 1887: 'This bird in the summer of 1886; the old bird, I grieve to say, is an instance of its nesting in the cavity notice was three or four years ago. The nest was in a hole in a rotten branch in the Wood. The bird was taken on with its occupation entire. Seven eggs were eventually laid.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1887: 'I have seen it from time to time near my house (it comes to the bird table), and I have seen it in the park, Market Harborough. Its nesting site is a hole in an ash in such a position I found one at Hinckley.'

33. Blue Tit. *Parus caeruleus*

*Locally*, Bluecap, Tom Tit

Resident and common.

Dr. C. J. Bond wrote on 27 Nov. 1887: 'I saw a blue tit perch on a lamp-post with a gas-jet and then disappear inside the pipe and then disappear inside the pipe and then disappear inside the pipe. I distinctly heard the young bird chirp and I should hardly have thought it had the hardihood to build a nest in such a position. I saw the bird with his torch; they must have been very bold.'

A nest containing six eggs was found in a hole in a stone pillar; when found it had been dropped into a hole and had fallen to the bottom of the hole.

34. Nuthatch. *Sitta caesia*,

*Locally*, Nut-jobber.

Resident and sparingly distributed. According to Harley...



# BIRDS

little stone boxes which were originally put there for squirrels.' The Rev. Hugh Parry saw many of this species at Belvoir Castle in 1893; and Mr. F. Bouskell observed them on several occasions at Knighton, in May and June, 1889. Mr. G. Frisby saw them feeding from Mrs. Perry Herrick's 'bird-table' as lately as 1906, and thinks they appear to increase in numbers year by year. He has seen them nesting in woodpecker's holes. Several were shot at Glen Magna in the autumn of 1906 and winter of 1907 by Mr. Tom Goddard.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'A pair are generally to be found in the old elm trees in the Park, Market Harborough, where they nest. I have occasionally seen this bird in the woods near Hinckley.'

## 35. Wren. *Troglodytes parvulus*, Koch.

*Locally*, Jenny-Wren, Kitty-Wren.

Resident and common. Harley mentioned its well-known habit of congregating of an evening, in the winter months, and retiring to outhouses, granaries, &c., &c., and said that at one time about a dozen wrens were found, on a cold winter's evening, secreted within the chimney of an outhouse near his father's residence. It builds in all situations: holes in walls, in ivy, in banks; and the museum possesses one built in an old hat, found in a garden on the Hinckley Road, Leicester, in May, 1884, and another built in a dog-muzzle from Long Clawson. Many nests appear to be begun in the spring, and are finished with the exception of the inner lining of feathers. These, which are commonly called 'cock's nests,' are popularly supposed to be built by the cock for amusement, or through some exuberance of fancy. Mr. Dresser's opinion is that they are used as houses of refuge in cold or inclement weather—an opinion shared, as he says, by many other naturalists (see *Birds of Europe*). Harley, however, believed that they were not built by the wren at all, but by the dormouse.

## 36. Tree-Creeper. *Certhia familiaris*, Linn.

Resident and generally distributed. In the museum donation-book I find the following entry:—'Remains of nest of Creeper (*Certhia familiaris*), with ten eggs, found embedded in the solid trunk of an old elm tree containing nearly 150 feet of timber, together with the two slabs of wood, showing the cavity in which they were deposited without any opening to the exterior.—Presented by Mr. Gimson, Saw Mills, Welford Road, 7 May, 1852.' Mr. Ingram showed me a nest containing young in June, 1884, built behind the loose bark of a tree at Belvoir. I saw a bird early in February, 1892, on a tree on the New Walk opposite the museum. Mr. W. J. Horn writing in 1907 says that it nests every year in old pollard willows on the banks of the Upper Welland where he has found the nest.

## 37. Pied Wagtail. *Motacilla lugubris*, Temminck.

*Locally*, Dish-washer, Peggy Wash-dish, Water-Wagtail.

Resident and common. Mr. G. Lillingston Johnson, of Ulverscroft, sent me in June, 1888, the following interesting note:—'For the last four years I have remarked, about 20 March, a flight of wagtails on my lawn; they begin to come by twos and threes, and show on the lawn most punctually at 6.30 every evening, till they accumulate to the number of thirty.

They appear to be holding a matrimonial parliament. After a few days they begin to lessen in numbers, and to my knowledge only two pairs remain here to nest.' Mr. G. L. Johnson writing again on 25 March, 1889, said: 'Wagtails have come; I counted eighteen last night. They come punctually at 5.45 p.m.'

It nests often in extraordinary situations, stacks of coal being frequently chosen, and a pair built in such a position on 'Gulson's Wharf' in 1885.

The Rev. Hugh Parry found a nest with five eggs, on which the bird had been sitting for a week, at Tugby on 18 April, 1894—quite an early date.

Mr. G. Frisby, writing in 1906, says: 'I have put out about 300 pied wagtails, roosting in the bulrushes previous to their autumn migration southwards.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'On 10 April, 1902, I saw a variety of this species with black cheeks and forehead.'

[White Wagtail. *Motacilla alba*, Linn.

I am by no means satisfied as to the validity of this 'species' or its occurrence in the county (see Browne, op. cit. pp. 66, 67); and although Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907, 'Most springs I see one or more,' yet, bearing in mind that, at the best, it is merely a sub-species or Continental form of the preceding, it will be wise until specimens are procured to treat it as non-existent, or doubtful.]

## 38. Grey Wagtail. *Motacilla melanope*, Pallas.

*Locally*, Winter-Wagtail.

A winter migrant, sparingly distributed and not recorded until 1893 as remaining to breed in the county. I have frequently seen and shot it quite close to Leicester, at the Aylestone Mill, and Mr. W. A. Evans saw and shot some specimens at Leicester on the banks of the Soar in 1885, 1886, and 1887. Mr. W. P. Pycraft saw a grey wagtail in the County Ditch, Aylestone Road, on 6 Oct., 1889, and I saw one on the Aylestone Road on 12 Oct., 1889. Mr. W. Pycraft also observed four in the Saffron Lane, near to Underwood's brickyard, on 5 March, 1892, and Mr. H. S. Davenport, writing from Skeffington on 15 May, 1893, reports for the first time the nesting of this species in Leicestershire. One was seen at the Sewage Farm, 3 March, 1907, by Messrs. P. W. Druce and S. Maples. Mr. W. J. Horn reports a pair which were running about on the gravel in front of the 'Elms,' Market Harborough, on 29 Jan., 1905, and says that during the winter 1905-6 one of these birds was frequently to be seen in his stable yard, and although it did not come on to the bird table it ran about beneath it, apparently picking up crumbs which had fallen therefrom. He also gives the following records:—Seen near Hinckley 12 March, 1895; Medbourne 12 March, 1902; on the Welland 14 Oct., 1899 (3), 6 Oct., 1899, 22 Oct., 1899, and 26 Nov., 1899; Lubenham 13 March, 1904; Market Harborough 25 Jan., 1907.

[Grey-Headed Yellow Wagtail. *Motacilla borealis*, Sundevall.

In the *Mid. Nat.* (1881), p. 257, the late Dr. Macaulay stated that he had seen this bird near Kibworth on 2 May, 1880, but in a previous note of his which appeared in *Mid. Nat.* (1880), p. 145, with reference to the same bird he attached the scientific name *M. flava* to the vernacular. The occurrence



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

must therefore remain open to doubt, but if it was a specimen of *M. flava* which Dr. Macaulay saw, that would constitute a new record for the county.]

## 39. Yellow Wagtail. *Motacilla raii*, Bonaparte.

A summer migrant, generally distributed and breeding. Common in the meadows of the Soar around Leicester. I procured one (a male) close to the abbey on 8 April, 1886—the earliest date for forty-three years, Harley having observed it, curiously enough, in the abbey grounds one day earlier in 1843. It usually stays with us well into September, my latest date being 27 Sept. (1887), when I saw several in the meadows at Kibworth.

Although the bird is abundant in the meadows about Aylestone, and undoubtedly nests there every season, it was not found until 1886, when Wilson, haymaking in a field just off the road at Aylestone on 2 July, discovered a nest with six eggs, which I saw *in situ* and secured for the museum. The nest, which was built on the ground on the edge of a cart track, was formed of grass-bents and lined with hair, and contained six eggs, of a uniform drab-brown, suffused with a darker shade toward the large end. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'This bird overlaps the grey wagtail, for on 2 Oct., 1892, I saw about a dozen grey wagtails and twice as many ray's wagtails, feeding in the meadows near my house. In the early spring, this bird is abundant in the meadows of the Welland Valley, and on 19 April, 1905, just below the Market Harborough Sewage Farm, I saw scores, all males. I have several times found its nest in this neighbourhood, on railway embankments and, on 27 May, 1905, with young by the canal side.'

## 40. Tree-Pipit. *Anthus trivialis*, Linn.

A summer migrant, generally distributed and breeding. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 67) wrote: 'Not very rare at Thringstone, and probably found elsewhere near the forest.' Mr. Davenport has found the nest near Billesdon. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'Favourite nesting sites are railway embankments. The eggs vary very much and I possess, probably, twenty varieties.'

## 41. Meadow-Pipit. *Anthus pratensis* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Moss-cheeper, Tit-Lark, Titling.

Resident and not uncommon near Leicester, probably double-brooded. Mr. G. F. Frisby records its song April, 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'Resident, but much more numerous in this district in spring and winter, when flocks of fifty or sixty are occasionally seen. It does not breed in this immediate neighbourhood, although it breeds lower down the Welland Valley. In suitable situations I have found them breeding in colonies. Upon one occasion, this bird feigned injury, when I disturbed it whilst incubating. I frequently see it on the Little Bowden Recreation Ground.'

## [Golden Oriole. *Oriolus galbula*, Linn.

Of very doubtful occurrence, for the only note I have of it is by the late Mr. Widdowson, who wrote that one was seen about the railway gardens (? Melton Mowbray) some years ago.]

## 42. Great Grey Shrike. *Lanius excubitor*, Linn.

*Locally*, Cinerous Shrike, Great Butcher-bird.

A rare winter visitant, not remaining to breed in

Britain. Harley recorded that he received a fine specimen, wounded but alive, on 4 Dec., 1848. Its discovery and capture were attributed to a flock of sparrows and chaffinches drawn together by its appearance. Some days later (11 Dec.) he received a second—a fine male. Both were shot by the same person at Knight Thorpe. Since then Mr. Widdowson informed me of a specimen picked up dead by the gardener at Little Dalby Hall on 25 March, 1883. A specimen purchased for the museum, apparently a female, is said to have been shot by a keeper, between Syston and Queniborough, in the autumn of 1882, and I am informed by Turner that another was shot at Anstey some years since. Mr. Ingram, who informed me that one was shot at Knipton amongst fieldfares by Mr. Brewster, kindly sent me a nice female specimen<sup>12</sup> in the flesh, shot at Belvoir 8 February, 1885. Mr. W. A. Evans shot a fine female specimen (nearly adult) in a market-garden at New Parks, close to Leicester, on 23 Dec., 1885, and he remarked that its jerky motions and general shape and colour reminded him of a wagtail. This bird was brought to me for examination. Mr. Joseph Young, of Leicester, had two brought to him alive in 1891 by bird-catchers. The first was caught at Eaton on 1 November, and the other on some allotments in Gipsy Lane on 9 November. The former was exhibited at a local bird show, and lived for three weeks; the other succumbed in three days. Both were presented to the museum, and were mentioned in the *Field* of 21 Nov., 1891. One shot in Park Lane, Loughborough, was presented to the museum by Mr. W. Truman Tucker on 13 Feb., 1891, who also presented one which he shot on the wing close to his house in Park Lane, Loughborough, on 11 Jan., 1892. (See *Zool.* 1892, p. 76.)

## 43. Red-Backed Shrike. *Lanius collurio*, Linn.

*Locally*, Little Butcher-bird, Red-backed Butcher-bird.

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed, and remaining to breed. I observed a fine male perched upon the dead branch of a tree in Narborough Bogs on 20 June, 1885, and on 15 July, 1886, I watched one for some time at Barrow-on-Soar. In 1888 I saw two specimens (male and female) in the possession of Mr. H. C. Woodcock, of Rearsby, who informed me that they were shot in this county many years ago, and were sent in the flesh to the late Mr. Widdowson. Mr. T. Howett, of Leicester, reported a specimen killed near Syston in 1886. At Belgrave on 27 May, 1886, Thomas Adcock found a nest containing one egg in a hawthorn bush. He considers the species rare. Mr. Davenport, who also considers it rare, found a nest on 3 June, 1888, close to Ashlands, Billesdon, containing five eggs. Mr. G. Frisby, writing on 7 Sept., 1906, says that a nest was built in a hawthorn hedge close to the

<sup>12</sup> This specimen is undoubtedly the form known as Pallas's Great Grey Shrike, *Lanius major*, Pallas, and, according to most authorities, should follow the present as another species. Having, however, worked at this group, my examination of a number of examples convinces me that *L. major* and *L. boremyeri*—the latter not yet recorded for Britain—are practically indistinguishable from *L. excubitor*, and not deserving of even sub-specific rank. Since this was written, Mr. H. E. Dresser has endorsed the writer's conclusions, and has stated that *L. excubitor* and *L. major* are one and the same species.



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47. Swallow. *Hirundo rustica*, Linn.

*Locally*, Chimney-Swallow.

A summer migrant, commonly distributed and breeding. In 1887 I saw a solitary young bird so late as 7 Nov. feebly flying over the houses near Aylestone Church, crossing and re-crossing quite near me several times, this being the latest date recorded for the county since Harley's time. At Aylestone I have found the swallow to be treble-brooded. Elkington received a pure white specimen in 1880. In May, 1885, I saw a curious variety, a young bird, in the possession of Mr. W. Whitaker, of Wistow, in which the wings, tail, and back were greyish-white, the throat faintly rufescent, the under parts almost of the normal colour but paler, the head and nape faintly tinged with dusky brown; the oval spots on the tail-feathers showed but dimly, and were of an isabelline colour. Mr. J. B. Ellis presented to the museum a variety almost precisely similar to that possessed by Mr. Whitaker, which he shot at Bardon Hill 12 Aug., 1886. It was fully plumaged, without, of course, the long outer tail-feathers of the adult, and appeared on dissection to be a female. I think it is, if anything, whiter than the Wistow specimen, but it was not an albino, it having dark or greyish-brown irides. Mr. Palmer, of Leicester, informed me that on 15 Nov., 1891, he saw two swallows on the Melbourne Road, and a fortnight previously he saw a dozen in Spinney Hill Park. I saw a white or isabelline specimen in the hands of Pinchin, who informed me that it was shot at Wistow in the summer of 1889 by Mr. W. Whitaker. Pinchin also stated that a pure white variety was shot at Nailstone in the summer of 1890 by Mr. Henfield.

Mr. G. Frisby, writing in 1906, gives the following records:—'15 April, 1906, a few swallows over Swithland Reservoir; 18 April, 1906, over 200 at Swithland, bitterly cold wind; 8 June, 1906, a pair nested on a hair-broom at Beaumanor.' He adds that they roost on the willows at the osier beds, Mountsorrel. Mr. Frisby saw one at Quorn so late as 4 Nov., 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn says that on 11 Nov., 1905, after a rough night a swallow was flying round his house, and at mid-day it was joined by a house-martin.

48. House-Martin. *Chelidon urbica* (Linn.).

A summer migrant, commonly distributed, and breeding. Being double, and sometimes even treble-brooded, this species occasionally remains with us until very late; and Harley, writing in 1851, said that he had known the house-martin to remain in Leicestershire until 23 Nov., and had met with its nest

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# BIRDS

Hinckley, where the bird was sitting on five eggs, 2 June, 1891. Mr. G. H. Frisby writes 25 July, 1906:—'I saw two young birds (two others escaped) caged, the old bird had nested in an apple tree at Col. Curzon's, Woodhouse.'

Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, says also that he had heard on good authority that two or three pairs nested in an orchard at Lubenham in 1905. He gives the following records:—14 March, 1895, three birds seen at Croft; 1 Jan., 1897, one seen at Market Harborough; 12 April, 1895, one seen near Burbage; 4 March, 1902, a pair seen in the Park, Market Harborough; 21 March, 1896, one seen at Monk's Kirby; 10 March, 1902, a pair seen in the park, Market Harborough.

## 52. Goldfinch. *Carduelis elegans*, Stephens.

*Locally*, Draw-water, Proud Tailer, or Tailor, Thistle-Finch.

Resident, but sparingly distributed. Mr. Ingram wrote that it 'builds in apple-trees; two or three pairs generally in the gardens of Belvoir Castle.' Mr. T. B. Ellis of 'The Gynsils' writes:—'In one or two apple-orchards I know it builds regularly.' Mr. J. S. Ellis tells me that up to 1863, when he left Glenfield Lodge, a nest or two were found every year in the orchard, and always built in a fork at the top of an apple-tree. A specimen was shot by Mr. G. R. Brook at Whetstone in 1898. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, says:—'Nests in Market Harborough. I found the nest in the hedge of our cricket ground.' He adds the following records:—12 March, 1904, three specimens seen on canal bank; 26 June, 1904, seen at Lubenham; 14 April, 1905, seen at Nevill Holt and a dozen other places. By this it appears that the bird is commoner in some parts of the county than others, and Mr. H. S. Davenport, writing from Melton Mowbray in 1906, considers it much more common than formerly, as also does Mr. H. Butler Johnson, in the vicinity of Swannington.

## 53. Siskin. *Carduelis spinus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Aberdevine.

An uncommon winter visitant, not breeding in the Midlands. Mr. Babington mentioned it (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 67) as having been observed in flocks at Thringstone and Rothley Temple, among alders, during 1837. Harley once met with a vast company of siskins (some 400 or 500), in the northern division of the county, among large alder-trees beside a stream at the lower end of Oakley Wood. In the autumn of 1849 the species was frequently met with, but has not appeared since in such numbers in any part of the county. The late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1883, p. 86) saw a flock of about twenty in a lane near Gumley on 15 Nov., 1882. Of the specimens in the museum, one was taken at Thurstaston in 1881, two (male and female) were taken at Kirby Muxloe, 11 Dec., 1885, and three (two males and one female) were shot at Belvoir on 14 Jan., 1886.

## 54. House-Sparrow. *Passer domesticus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Thack (or Thatch)-Sparrow.

Resident and far too common, breeding everywhere; variable as to plumage, colour and size of eggs.

The *Mid. Nat.* of Aug., 1881, contains an account

of some sparrows which were seen at Overseal feeding a canary that had escaped from its cage.

On 6 Jan., 1890, I shot on the Aylestone Road, Leicester, a female variety, chestnut and white, and another, presented to the museum, was shot at Eastfield, Stoneygate, 30 Sept., 1890. As showing the extreme variability of the eggs of this pest, the writer has procured from the ivy covering his house at Whetstone, clutches of five fours, three threes, five twos and one, all taken in one day, 15 June, 1903, and no two clutches were alike in colour—varying from reddish brown to almost white. A curious grey variety shot on the New Estate at Cosby was presented to the museum by Mr. McCartney on 15 June, 1903.

## 55. Tree-Sparrow. *Passer montanus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Mountain-Sparrow, Wood Sparrow.

Resident, but sparingly distributed over the woodlands. Mr. Davenport shot one at Skeffington in Dec., 1876. Mr. H. Ellis shot one at Glenfield on 29 Dec., 1881. The late Mr. R. Widdowson sent me one from Melton Mowbray. I killed one (a female) at Blaby, 25 March, 1884, and others con-sorting with chaffinches and greenfinches in snowy weather at Knighton, 14 Jan., 1885.

A male shot at Melton Mowbray was presented to the museum on 10 Feb., 1894, and two males and one female shot at Whetstone were presented by Mr. L. E. Gill in 1899.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'Several pairs nest in the pollard willows where I have found the nest, 10 March, 1894. I saw a flock of over fifty feeding in Mr. Kendall's stackyard close to Croft Quarry, 17 April, 1900.'

## 56. Chaffinch. *Fringilla caelebs*, Linn.

*Locally*, Pink or Spink, Pye-Finch, Pie-Finch.

Resident and common, breeding in gardens and plantations close to Leicester. With regard to the flocking of hen chaffinches in the autumn, as narrated by Gilbert White, Harley believed that writer to be in error, as the birds might be immature individuals of the year and not females. In confirmation of this theory I have shot many, and found the apparent females to be, as suspected, immature specimens of both sexes. Mr. Ingram wrote from Belvoir that they flock there 'in thousands, and are useful in destroying the seeds of weeds.' The eggs vary: Mr. Davenport notes 'an extraordinary pale-green, elongated egg, taken at Skeffington in May, 1879,' also a clutch of five, shaped like a snipe's and of the colour of a starling's eggs, and two clutches of a delicate pale-blue entirely unspotted; and Mr. W. A. Vice presented to the museum on 9 May, 1885, a nest containing five eggs of this description, taken by him at Blaby. The Rev. G. T. Armitage wrote on 21 Nov., 1892:—'About a fortnight ago one of our farmers shot a white chaffinch, which I am having stuffed.' A female variety, apparently a hybrid with a (?) greenfinch, from Tugby, was given to the museum by the Rev. Hugh Parry on 4 Jan., 1895. Mr. G. Frisby writes, 26 July, 1906:—'A chaffinch was sitting on eggs, using the same nest the second time; both broods were reared.'

## 57. Brambling. *Fringilla montifringilla*, Linn.

*Locally*, Mountain Finch, French Pye or Pie.

A winter visitant, sparingly distributed, and though often found in flocks, does not remain to breed in



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Britain. Mr. Babbington wrote in 1842 (Potter, op. cit. App. 67):—'Several shot twenty years ago at Swannington by Mr. Grundy, who kept a wounded bird for some time in a cage. It lost all its yellow and red plumage and turned brown, after being fed on hemp-seed.' He further stated that the species had since been killed near Glenfield, and that in Jan., 1841, during a long snow, several were shot at Castle Donington; also that in the winter of 1843-4 it was very abundant, and great numbers were shot in various parts of the county. It appeared again in the winter of 1854-5. The museum donation-book records one presented on 29 March, 1860, from Barkby Thorpe. Mr. Davenport obtained one at Skeffington in December, 1880. In the winter of 1884 they were unusually numerous in Leicestershire, and I received specimens in February and March from Thornton Reservoir, Saddington, and from a field on the Groby Road where corn was being winnowed. Mr. W. J. Evans shot five (three males and two females) at New Parks on 1 March, 1886; they were consorting with greenfinches and chaffinches. Mr. A. K. Perkins shot one at Laughton on 10 Jan., 1887.

Mr. S. H. Pilgrim informs me that Puffer reports one shot in a farm-yard at Aston Flamville and taken to him by Mr. Goude, a veterinary surgeon at Hinckley, some years ago. Mr. Ingram wrote on 15 April, 1891:—'There are large numbers of brambling feeding in the Beech Avenue, about a mile from the Castle; they are in beautiful plumage. These birds resort to roost to the evergreen shrubs in the woods.' The Rev. G. D. Armitage reported two, shot in the vicinity of Broughton Astley on 24 Jan., 1891, and the late Dr. Macaulay stated that a male specimen had been seen at Gumley on 25 Nov., 1891. Among the museum specimens are one caught near Leicester, presented by Mr. Oakey on 15 May, 1900, and two from near Broughton Astley, presented by the Rev. G. D. Armitage, 24 Jan., 1891. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'Generally to be found where beech trees abound. On 21 Jan., 1894, I saw one at Burbage. In March last a pair was caught in the nursery gardens, Market Harborough, by a bird-catcher. About 1903 a pair shot in this neighbourhood was brought to me for identification.'

## 58. Linnet. *Linota cannabina* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Brown-Linnet, Goss (i.e. Gorse)-Linnet.

Resident and generally distributed. Harley occasionally found a nest on the lateral branch of an elm, some 6 or 8 ft. from the ground. I found a nest on 13 June, 1884, containing five eggs (now in the museum), built in a magnolia on the walls of Belvoir Castle. A nest and four eggs were taken at Narborough by Dr. Montague Gunning in or about 1900. Mr. G. Frisby writes on 26 April, 1906:—'Over 100 still in flock, and singing in an ash tree most beautifully.'

## 59. Lesser Redpoll. *Linota rufescens* (Vieillot).

*Locally*, Pea-Linnet, Redcap.

Resident, and sparingly distributed. Harley met with its nest and eggs in North Leicestershire, in a rough place known at that time by the name of 'Leake Lings.' The nest was fixed in a thick gorse-bush 5 or 6 ft. from the ground; it was more compact than the nest of the common linnet, smaller and more elegantly woven. He also met with its nest at

Bardon. Mr. Davenport found a nest with three eggs in May, 1883, at Ashlands, and wrote Dec., 1887:—'Has built at Ashlands, in July, three years running.' According to the late Mr. R. Widdowson, it often breeds about Melton. In June, 1883, a nest containing three eggs was found at Kibworth, by Mr. Stuart Macaulay, built on the end of a branch of an elm tree. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'More frequently seen in winter and early spring; one or two pairs remain to breed.' He gives the following records:—8 Jan., 1897, one seen at Market Harborough; 19 April, 1905, several feeding in large trees, Market Harborough; 21 May, 1905, a pair at Lubenham.

## 60. Twite. *Linota flavirostris* (Linn.).

*Locally*. Mountain-Linnet.

A winter visitant, apparently of rare occurrence, although Harley wrote:—'The Mountain-Linnet appears here at times, at the close of the autumn. The little migrant seems partial to wild tracts in which the thistle prevails. We occasionally meet with it in small flocks, its associates being the brown linnet and goldfinch. We think it does not nestle with us, but merely performs an annual, irregular inland migration.' I have no other note of this bird, save that the bird-stuffers, Elkington and Turner, say they have received a few specimens; however, I cannot vouch for their accuracy and should consider it a rare bird. I have no report of its breeding in the county.

Mr. Pilgrim informs me that one was killed near Hinckley, in the autumn of 1889, by some boys who took it to Puffer.

## 61. Bullfinch. *Pyrrhula europaea*, Vieillot.

Resident, but unevenly distributed. Harley remarked that, although the nest of the bullfinch is said by many writers to be built generally in hawthorn hedgerows, thick bushes, and similar places, he had met with it in some of our coniferous shrubs. He also found a nest placed upon a lateral branch of a silver spruce fir in one of the groups of plantations in Charnwood Forest, and several times since 1825 he had met with it in like situations. I have seen its nest in rhododendrons at Belvoir, where this bird is common. Harley appears to have considered that it fed, at times, on the berries of the nightshade (*Solanum dulcamara*). Mr. Davenport finds its nest and eggs every year, and says that it occasionally lays six eggs. Two clutches of eggs taken from Belvoir are very dissimilar in shape, one being long, pointed, and spotted at the large end only; the other short, obtuse, and blotched irregularly over the whole surface, but principally at the larger end.

The museum contains two melanic specimens, one of which was caught in a net at Knighton. A nest and five eggs were taken at Narborough by Dr. Montague Gunning *circa* 1900. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'I have found the nest in laurels, in ivy on the "elm-tree bole," and dozens in its favourite nesting site—a hawthorn hedge. I have never seen more than five in a party.'

## 62. Crossbill. *Loxia curvirostra*, Linn.

An irregular and uncertain visitant from autumn to early spring, but has bred in the county. Mr. Babbington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 67) said:—'In great flocks in the winter of 1839, splitting the fir-cones at "The Oaks," near Charnwood Heath; and in some



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the eaves of a cottage in the village. The young and the male bird were of the normal type, but the female was a curious variety. The wings and tail were of a light brownish-drab, showing in certain lights somewhat of an isabelline tint but all the head, breast, and back were of a dusky greyish-brown, the ochreous tips of the mantle and wing-covert feathers showing dimly through the all-pervading grey—not at all a pretty bird, and irresistibly reminding one of an ancient and faded stuffed specimen, one which had been exposed for a number of years to a strong light. I saw the birds when alive, and the contrast between the almost black male and the female, which looked nearly white or cream-coloured when flying to and from the nest, was very marked. Pinchen told me that a cream-coloured starling had been repeatedly observed close to the Spinney Hill Park during the summer of 1887. It had also been noticed in a flock the previous autumn.

In *The Zoologist* for December, 1846, Mr. Wm. Turner, of Uppingham, reports the occurrence of a white starling at Blaby. It was found in a nest containing other young ones of the ordinary colour. Mr. H. S. Davenport saw a cinnamon-coloured variety at Potter's of Billesdon in 1888. Dr. Macaulay reported four starling's eggs taken from a disused magpie's nest on 5 May, 1892, at Carlton Curlieu. Three eggs of different types from the same nest from Stoughton were presented to the museum by Mr. B. Turner, on 8 May, 1896. Mr. G. Frisby writes, 31 May, 1906 :—'I saw a flight of young starlings, and this before some of the old birds had mated and were still in flock.' Mr. W. J. Horn writing in 1907 says that the strangest place he has known for a nest was a disused pump. The bird entered where the spout used to be, and the nest was not more than a foot from the ground.

70. Rose-coloured Pastor. *Pastor roseus* (Linn.).

This species is inserted on the authority of the late Dr. Macaulay, who stated (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 63) that one was seen near Foxton, about 1870, by the late Rev. H. Matthews. It was in the company of a flock of starlings. Since then Turner has told me that a man named Collins, now deceased, received a specimen in the flesh from Enderby, about 1870-5. Mr. G. Pullen<sup>15</sup> records a specimen as occurring near Castle Donington.

71. Jay. *Garrulus glandarius* (Linn.).

Resident and generally distributed. Mr. Davenport finds their nests and eggs every year, and on 27 May, 1887, he found a nest containing four eggs of a beautiful pink variety, which he considers a great rarity.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :—'I have taken the nest and eggs in Burbage Woods.'

72. Magpie. *Pica rustica* (Scopoli).

Resident and generally distributed. A snuff-coloured variety, purchased by Mr. J. W. Whitaker in 1882, was said by the man who sold it to have been taken at Stoughton. Mr. Davenport reports that a pure white magpie frequented the neighbourhood of Shearsby for a long time in the winter of 1881-2.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :—'On an average three pairs breed in the town of Market Harborough. In this immediate neighbourhood there

are just about as many. Early one morning last May I was aroused by the alarm notes of a pair of black-birds. Looking from my bedroom window I found a magpie was the cause of the excitement, and no wonder, for he was hopping backwards and forwards from a tree to their nest, and at every visit he brought out a nestling, which he gobbled up as one would an oyster.'

73. Jackdaw. *Corvus monedula*, Linn.

Resident and common, breeding in old steeples, &c., in Leicester. I have especially noticed them at St. Margaret's Church, where the sexton informed me that they deposited their sticks in such numbers upon the upper steps of the belfry as to completely block up the passage and necessitate their being carted away. Mr. Davenport reports a variety of the eggs taken by him in Launde Wood in 1881.

The late Dr. Macaulay brought me a curious variety, shot by the keeper at Bradgate Park on 25 May, 1888. The lower parts of the primaries of each wing were umber-brown, becoming lighter, or more drab-like, towards the tips. The lower parts of the secondaries were similar, as also that part which corresponds with the alar bar in most birds. Five, possibly six feathers—one being shot away—in the tail were deep umber-brown. The outer edges of each feather were in every case the lightest, the remainder being of the normal type. The scheme was, however, by no means regular in either wings or tail, although the pattern of each wing was almost exactly like its fellow, and it was rather oddly than well or regularly marked. The gradual fading off from the glossy greenish-blue tint to brown was curious, and gave to the brown somewhat of a purple hue. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, says that 'Many pairs breed in the steeple of Market Harborough Church.' He states that a pair of rooks began to build in a large plane tree in the bank garden (quite in the centre of the town), but this tree being the favourite perching place of the jackdaws nesting in the church spire, they promptly pulled the rooks' nest to pieces and carried the sticks away.

74. Raven. *Corvus corax*, Linn.

Has not occurred for years. Mr. Babington, writing in 1842 (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 67), said :—'Generally to be seen on Sharpley a few years since, still in Bradgate Park, as I learn from Mr. Bloxham,' but Harley stated that the late Mr. Adams assured him that the raven had entirely deserted Bradgate Park, and that the last date of its occurrence at Sharpley Rocks was 26 Oct., 1848. The late Dr. Macaulay reported one (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 64) shot at Saddington, many years since, by Mr. Johnson, whilst it was feeding on a portion of a sheep that had been hung up in a plantation. C. and T. Adcock informed me in 1888 that their grandfather, George Evans, told them that this bird used to breed regularly in Bradgate Park and that when he was a boy (sixty-five years ago) he took the young and reared them and on one occasion sold one to the old Three Crowns Inn at the corner of Horsefair Street. Harley stated that a raven reared its young at Garendon in 1825, which would be about the same date.

75. Carrion-crow. *Corvus corone*, Linn.

Resident, generally distributed, but not so common as formerly. Harley stated that, on the large grass-

<sup>15</sup> *V.C.H. Derb.* i, 132.



obtained a very small dark-green containing one other, near Rolleston, a precisely similar egg in every at the same place in April, 1883, ring four others. Both eggs are in he old birds had frequented the ring the intervening winter. He ird, also similar, taken on 13 April, Murray-Dixon reports this bird as at Swithland in 1906. rn, writing in 1907, says that ts in the neighbourhood of Market alf a dozen about a quarter of a mile and between Market Harborough

. *Corvus cornix*, Linn.

Crow, Grey-backed Crow, Royston dle-backed Crow.

· visitant, sparingly distributed and reed. Mentioned by Mr. Babing- . App. p. 68) as having been seen Heath, and he himself had seen have been killed near Leicester. first appearance at various dates, tober, and extending over a period of l remarked that from then until might be observed on our uplands being chiefly limited to the forest the surrounding district. Mr. In- ve or six pairs generally visit ember, remaining until spring; nels, the smell of flesh attracting e Mr. Widdowson noted the ird close to Melton nearly every reports one shot in the Abbey o; and a specimen which I saw the once celebrated prize-fighter, Bent, was said to have been shot ray, somewhere about the year r. Macaulay recorded one (*Mid.* tained at Skeffington in 1875, ddington Reservoir on 7 Jan., ie museum was obtained from z Feb., 1881, and another was z, close to Leicester. Mr. Ellis wo nearly every winter; and I 1882, near Bradgate, sitting on Adcock informs me that he had been caught in a trap at and Elkington has, in past l from Swithland. *The Leicester*

5 Dec., 1885. The Rev. A. Matthews reports hav- ing seen two at Gumley. Mr. W. A. Evans saw one at Kirby Muxloe on 28 Nov., 1885. One was seen by Mr. H. W. Roberts at Sheet Hedges, Bradgate, on 2 Feb., 1887, and another by the Rev. G. D. Armitage at Broughton Astley in 1887. Among the museum specimens is a female killed at Kimcote on 31 Oct., 1890.

Mr. C. R. Smith writing from Loddington on 5 Nov., 1905, recorded one he had shot there. Mr. G. Frisby writes 5 Oct., 1906 :—‘ First appear- ance this season.’

Two were seen by Messrs. P. Druce and S. Maples on 3 March, 1907, at the sewage farm, Beaumont Leys.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :—‘ In ten years I have seen but two in this district; 8 March, 1902, one seen in Welland Valley near Rockingham.’

77. Rook. *Corvus frugilegus*, Linn.

Resident and common, breeding in rookeries at Stonegate and Knighton, and at Westcotes until its demolition in 1887. Harley appears to have con- sidered that most of the rooks bred immediately around Leicester congregated and rested for the night, during the autumn and winter, in Sheet Hedges Wood, opposite the village of Anstey. He also re- marked upon the hardships to which this species is exposed during seasons of continued drought, such as the summer of 1826, when numbers perished in the fields for want of food. The eggs vary considerably in size. Two taken out of a nest at Stoughton were presented to the museum on 24 April, 1886, one of them being of normal size, the other about the size of a sparrow's egg. This bird is subject to much variety. The museum donation-book records under date 13 June, 1850, a rather uncommon variety, ‘ of a pale brown colour, shot at Stonegate ’; and under date 25 May, 1885, a pied specimen from Gopsall; and one with white wings from Belvoir was presented on 24 June, 1880, by Mr. Theodore Walker. I saw an immature bird shot at Wistow Park 20 May, 1885, the beak of which was yellowish- white, claws white, several of the toes barred with white, part of the head and chin white, as also several of the primaries and secondaries. Mr. W. A. Evans sent me an immature female specimen shot by him at Ingarsby on 3 June, 1889, which has the basal half of the setiform feathers of the nares pure white, as are also many of the vibrissae, the setiform feathers at the base of the lower mandible, the sides of the face, the chin, throat, fore part of the neck—with the exception of five small black feathers in the region of the chin—the major covert of the ninth primary, the distal third of the eighth primary, and the two inner



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## 78. Sky-lark. *Alauda arvensis*, Linn.

Resident and common, breeding in fields close to Leicester. Packs in flocks of many hundreds in winter, but in severe seasons appears to leave the Midlands, probably withdrawing farther south. Mr. Davenport states that it nests as early as the middle of March. The museum donation-book records a black variety from Belgrave, 31 March, 1860 (probably fed on hemp seed). Mr. G. Frisby writes that on 24 June, 1906, he heard one singing sitting upon a wild plum tree.

## 79. Wood-lark. *Alauda arborea*, Linn.

I have no knowledge of this bird save that furnished by Harley, who said that 'it appears to be a permanent resident, but is seldom met with except in the more retired woodlands. Around Newton, Linford, Groby, and neighbouring districts the wood-lark occurs, but even in such places it is not abundant.' He further wrote:—'It nestles with us and builds on the ground in corn-fields and rough places near the sides of thick woods and plantations. Never congregates in the winter months, like the sky-lark, but remains solitary.'

## 80. Swift. *Cypselus apus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Develin, Jack Squealer.

A summer migrant—nearly the last to arrive and the first to leave—commonly distributed and breeding. Harley recorded that in 1842 the swift appeared on 6 May and left on 8 September, and that on 16 Aug., 1848, during cold and stormy weather, it withdrew, leaving not a single individual of the species where, only a few days before, they were abundant; but on 24, 25, and 26 August numbers returned to his own parish and to a small village hard by. During the cold spring of 1886 a correspondent wrote to one of the Leicester papers, under date 15 May, stating that a man had been seen to pick up a swift in the street one day that week, and the writer had picked up another in a factory yard himself the following day, both birds being in an exhausted condition from cold and want of food.

An immature male specimen was killed against the electric tram wires on London Road, Leicester, and was brought to the museum on 25 June, 1906, by Mr. J. Matthews.

## 81. White-bellied Swift or Alpine Swift. *Cypselus melba* (Linn.).

This rare summer visitor has been quoted in nearly every work since 1839 as having occurred in Leicestershire, on what appears to me insufficient evidence. Harley was responsible for its insertion in the Leicester fauna, his exact words being:—'The author in his remarks on the fauna of the county of Leicestershire has this note affixed to a fly-leaf attached to Jenyn's manual of British vertebrated animals: "1839. September 23. Evening serene. Wind southwest. Time half-past-five. Observed a white-bellied swift cross my path, overhead near to the Fosse Lane toll gate. The bird was gliding gently through the soft air in a southerly direction and at a height of 20 yards from the ground, thus enabling me to identify it very correctly."'

## 82. Nightjar. *Caprimulgus europaeus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Fern Owl, Goatsucker.

A summer migrant sparingly distributed and doubt-

less breeding occasionally. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 66) reported it from rocky heaths about Sharpley, Kite Hill, &c. Harley recorded it from Bardon, Gopsall, Grace Dieu, Martinshaw, and Oakley, and stated that he had known examples shot so late as October and November. The late Mr. Wid-dowson wrote from Melton:—'Very few about here.' Mr. Ingram writes:—'Found every summer in Bel-voir Woods, but less numerous than formerly; have not found its eggs.' Mr. T. B. Ellis writes:—'Rare, one or two generally at the "Brand."' The museum donation-book records one from Ashby-de-la-Zouch, shot by Mr. H. T. Everard on 2 Sept., 1874, one from Birstall, 3 Sept., 1876, and one from Belgrave, 26 May, 1877, the last two shot by Mr. G. Hall. One was killed by Harry Throsby with a catapult, in an orchard at Aylestone, 31 May, 1887.

The late Dr. Macaulay saw one in the flesh which was shot at Laughton Hills about 1876, and the Rev. A. Matthews saw one hawking outside Gumley Wood in the dusk on 10 May, 1882; he also stated that one was shot at Quorn on 1 Oct., 1889, by Mr. Farnham and was preserved. Mr. W. B. Farnham, writing from Quorn on 31 Aug., 1890, says:—'During the last three afternoons I have seen a pair of nightjars here on the railings of the park.'

Mr. W. J. Horn reports one near his house at Market Harborough on 12 Aug., 1905.

## 83. Wryneck. *Ijnx torquilla*, Linn.

*Locally*, Cuckoo's Mate, Snake-bird.

A summer migrant, sparingly distributed and less common than formerly. Harley wrote:—'It appears nowhere more common than around Foxton. The ash prevails there and, moreover, ant-hillocks abound to a much greater extent than in any other district known to us.' He further remarked that it nested in the county, breeding in holes in orchard and forest trees. According to the late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1881, p. 255), a pair built in 1881 in a garden at Kibworth and were not disturbed. Mr. F. Bouskell informs me that he saw this bird several times at Knighton, in May and June, 1889. The Rev. H. Parry writes that he found a nest at Kibworth containing six eggs which were hatched in due course, and the pair of birds returned in 1882, but one of them was shot before laying; he further reports having found a nest with seven eggs at Horninghold in June, 1890. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'In 1903 a pair nested in Market Harborough. 21 April, 1905, I saw one at Lubenham.'

## 84. Green Woodpecker. *Gecinns viridis* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Rain-bird, Rind-tabberer or tapper, Wood-spite, Yaffle.

Resident and generally distributed. I have procured specimens from Anstey, Bradgate, Cropston, Kibworth, &c., and a young male was shot so near to Leicester as Wigston Fields, on 17 Oct., 1887, by Mr. J. Waterfield.

Mr. Davenport wrote that on 13 May, 1885, he found a green woodpecker's nest at Keythorpe, in a small hole in a tree not 3 ft. from the ground. On enlarging it he found nothing in it, but passing by five days later to his amazement the bird flew out again; this time there were five eggs, on 22 May four more were laid, on the 27th two, and on 3 June three, making a total of fourteen. Writing again on 8 May, 1886, he says



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A young one in a hedge-sparrow's nest, built in a privet-hedge in a garden off the Saffron Lane, was brought to me by C. Johnson on 24 June, 1889. It was savage at first, hissing and ruffling its feathers, and raising itself repeatedly with a swaying motion in the nest, with other threatening gestures. When hungry it made a note like that of the hedge-sparrow, and although at first it would not take food, it soon learned to eat slugs, which had to be forced down its throat. In about two days it became quite tame, and opened its mouth, uttering a little sibilant, pleasing note, and fluttering its wings to be fed. It died, however, in about ten days. On 25 June, 1889, another young one of a more hepatic cast of plumage, and with white frontal feathers, was sent to me by one Thomas Garrett, who found it in a wagtail's nest built in a wagon under a hovel at Knighton. This one was never tame, and was most spiteful, darting out its head like a snake, and pecking savagely at the hand. Some few slugs were forced down its throat, but it refused all, and gradually becoming tame through weakness, died on the fifth day. This bird was a male by dissection.

Mr. G. Frisby says that he heard the cuckoo on 3 April, 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, states that in 1905 two young cuckoos spent about a month in the paddock adjoining his house, and it was not until 13 September that the last one departed. In the spring of 1906 a cuckoo roosted in a chestnut tree in Mr. Horn's garden, within a few yards of the house.

90. White or Barn-Owl. *Strix flammea*, Linn.

*Locally*, Screech-Owl.

Resident and generally distributed. This bird has more than once visited the portico of the museum at night. In the spring of 1885 I found that it frequented Aylestone Church.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :—"It used to nest every year in Market Harborough in an old elm tree, but the lead which was put on to prevent decay also excluded the owls. In ten years I have seen two alive, one dead—in a gamekeeper's museum—and heard one screech."

91. Long-eared Owl. *Asio otus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Horned Owl.

Resident, but rarer than the short-eared owl. It was included by Mr. Babington amongst the birds of Charnwood Forest as 'not very common.' Harley noted that it occurred at Gopsall Woods, and that it affected well-wooded tracts, especially where coniferous trees and evergreens prevailed, but was not so frequently met with as the 'Brown' or 'Ivy' owl. He wrote :—

ring in the wood, from the fields.' This species, unlike any other owl seen in the daytime, often falling to the sportsman in the autumn, and Harley j that its flight is 'performed in an awkward manner, reeling, as it were, from Mr. Ingram wrote: 'Occurs amongst and low shrubs, generally two or three. The late Mr. Widdowson, from whom several specimens, considered them frequent near Melton. One procured at Leicester 20 Sept., 1882, was given to the Museum. Davenport shot one at Ashlands in September and the late Dr. Macaulay reported Smeeton Hills, 15 Nov., 1882. Mr. writing on 27 Nov., 1905, says: 'I was searching for food over the "allotments." I saw a view of it, and soon after it or another. He saw one also at the same place 28 ]

93. Tawny Owl. *Syrnium aluco* (Linn.)

*Locally*, Brown Owl, Grey Owl, Ivy Owl.

Resident, but not very common. Nestlings (a male and a female by dissection) at Bradgate 15 May, 1885, and an adult at Newtown Linford on 19 Dec., 1885. The stomach of the male contained the beak of a sparrowfinch, a few feathers and bones, and a quantity of mice, including a lower jaw of the bank-vole. The gizzard of the female contained a little remains of the bank-vole, a quantity of two beaks of sparrows. The late Dr. Macaulay reported it as breeding at Kibworth.

Mr. G. Frisby wrote on 17 July, 1905, that on that night I spent round Swithland and listened to the tawny or wood owl very loud and clear, resembling, hoo-and hi-hi-hi. The other note was the huntsman gives out with his horn.

94. Little Owl. *Athene noctua* (Scopoli)

A new record for the county and only for its increasing commonness in the fact that it has nested in the courtyard of the museum.

Mr. G. Gough established a new county when he shot a little owl near on 12 Jan., 1900.

Mr. W. J. Horn saw one in Market Harborough on 24 Sept., 1901, and another on 11 Sept. at Saddington Reservoir. He had also seen it in the immediate neighbourhood.

A female specimen (immature) was shot on 28 July, 1906, by Mr. C. D. Prior.



95. Marsh-Harrier. *Circus aeruginosus* (Linn.).

Locally, Moor-Buzzard.

Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) recorded one seen and another killed at Buddon Wood in 1841, by the keeper of Mr. G. J. D. Butler Danvers. Harley said Adams told him that he used to take it in his vermin traps very frequently before the inclosure of Charnwood Forest (1811), and the species used to be met with more recently about the wild, gorsy land lying above Whitwick, called the 'Waste,' whence he had seen specimens brought, but even in his time it was growing rarer.

96. Hen-Harrier. *Circus cyaneus* (Linn.).

Locally, Blue Hawk.

Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 66) recorded one seen at Thringstone in 1841, and Harley said that he once winged a partridge in barley-stubble, and on the dog attempting to retrieve it the 'blue hawk' carried it away, notwithstanding the discharge of the gun and the shouts of the bystanders. He further stated on the authority of Adams, the keeper, that it used to nest in Charnwood Forest regularly before the inclosure, as also in other parts of the county.

97. Montagu's Harrier. *Circus cineraceus* (Montagu).

This is a new record for the county, and is founded on a stuffed specimen I purchased from Pinchen for the museum in 1893, which he stated had been shot at Heath Farm, Earl Shilton, some years ago.

98. Buzzard. *Buteo vulgaris*, Leach.

Of accidental occurrence, but formerly resident. According to Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 65), two were shot near Charnwood Heath in 1839, one of which came into the possession of Mr. Thomas Gisborne, the other of Mr. Kirby Fenton. One was killed in Dalby Wood in 1879 (Widdowson). Harley appears to have taken its eggs in the outwoods skirting Charnwood, probably in the exact spot where, as he wrote, 'the species used to nestle in some lofty Scottish fir-trees situated on a rising knoll or rounded eminence in the lower parts of the outwoods—near to the brook which passes thereby, and flows onward through the town of Loughborough.' According to Harley it appeared to breed also at Bardon, Belvoir, Donington, Gopsall, Martinshaw, and at Oakley and Piper Woods, but was increasingly rare. Mr. W. T. Everard wrote on 15 Aug., 1899:—'I believe the buzzard was shot in the winter of 1876. I am writing from memory, as I have no note of the date. I remember quite well that the snow was on the ground, when my father's groom, Edwin Middleton, came and told me that a rare bird was feeding at some bullock troughs in a field adjoining Bardon Hill House (the field where the new church is built) and thinking it would make a nice addition to any collection of birds, we took our guns and stalked him. I believe that Edwin Middleton fired the actual shot.'

99. Rough-Legged Buzzard. *Buteo lagopus* (J. F. Gmelin).

A winter visitant of accidental occurrence. Harley recorded that in the autumn and winter of 1839-40 no less than thirty were procured in this county and Nottinghamshire. Of these, five were captured in Charnwood Forest, and three others in Bradgate Park. One of the latter—a female shot on 12 Nov.,

1839—was examined by Harley. In its crop were found rabbits' fur, pieces of flesh, small bones, and the feet of what appeared to be the field-mouse. In the stomach were rabbits' fur and small bones mixed with animal matter. Another (a male) captured by Adams in the grounds at Bradgate two days afterwards was found on examination to contain some elytra of beetles. Probably the third is the one in the 'Bickley collection,' Leicester Museum, which was shot in Bradgate Park, 15 Nov., 1839. There is another in the Bickley collection which the late Mr. Widdowson believed to have been shot at Stathern Hills. Mr. N. C. Curzon, Lockington Hall, writes:—'A rough-legged buzzard was shot here in November, 1876.' One was reported in the *Field* of 21 Feb., 1880, thus:—'It may interest some of your readers to know that I shot a rough-legged buzzard last night, while waiting for wood-pigeons in a small covert near Ashby-de-la-Zouch.—H. G.' Mr. T. Andrew of King's Stand, Leicester Forest East, informs me that he shot a rough-legged buzzard at that place in November, 1888. Mr. W. Whitaker shot one at Thornton on 2 Nov. 1891, and the late Dr. Macaulay stated that Pinchen, who skinned it, said it was a female.

Mr. G. Frisby writing in November, 1906, says:—'Two independent witnesses claim to have seen this bird, although unfortunately I have missed it. Mr. W. Moss twice at Loughborough, and a good observer once at Quorn.'

100. Golden Eagle. *Aquila chrysaetus* (Linn.).

Recorded in the *Field* of 16 November, 1895, by Mr. H. S. Davenport, as having been seen at Skeffington, 24 Oct., 1895.

101. White-tailed Eagle. *Haliaeetus albicilla* (Linn.).

Locally, Cinerous Eagle (the young).

Of rare and accidental occurrence. Harley, in his fair-copied MS., wrote: 'A fine example was captured by Mr. Adams in Bradgate Park on 26 December, 1840.'

In Babington's list of birds (see Potter upon the occurrence of the golden eagle) Harley states that this refers to the present species, and further, that the specimen was in the possession of the late Lord Stamford. Probably Potter is incorrect as to date also, and the late Rev. Churchill Babington told me he was not responsible for its insertion. The latter recorded a specimen killed at Swannington by Mr. William Burton (Potter, op. cit. App. 65). The late Dr. Macaulay saw one which was shot by Sir G. Beaumont's keeper at Coleorton, 6 Nov., 1879 (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 62). It was seen some days before it was killed, feeding on a rabbit. The same authority also recorded that in the autumn of 1881 Sir G. Beaumont observed an eagle soaring over his grounds, but at too great a distance to distinguish the species. The late Mr. Widdowson reported one taken at Stapleford Park, but I have no particulars, and so cannot vouch for its accuracy.

102. Gos-Hawk. *Astur palumbarius* (Linn.).

Now extinct in the county and very rarely visits Britain. Harley wrote: 'As regards the distribution of the Gos-hawk in Leicestershire, I may remark that it used to occur not unfrequently in our woodlands and forest wilds, but of late years it has become exceedingly rare.' He stated that it had been captured

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D. Price, who presented

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Mr. Brewster who once lived at Allextion Hall; this bird was said to be a gos-hawk.' Potter, on being written to, confirmed this, but having since then seen him, he informed me that the gentleman was in America, therefore I am still in doubt whether a large female sparrow-hawk has not done duty in this, as in many similar cases, for the gos-hawk.

103. Sparrow-Hawk. *Accipiter nisus* (Linn.).

Resident and generally distributed. Twice I have seen this bold hawk dash over Museum Square, Leicester; the last time in the spring of 1887, so low as to show the barred chest quite plainly; just topping the houses as it flew over the town.

This species breeds at Knighton, whence I procured a nest and five eggs in July, 1883. Mr. Davenport, who found a sparrow-hawk nesting in Skeffington Wood in March, 1884, wrote: 'She laid her first egg on 30 April, and continued laying in the same nest by fits and starts until the first week in June, making fourteen eggs in all from this nest! This bird laid forty-five eggs in five years: fourteen in 1879, four in 1880, nine in 1881, four in 1882 (in 1883 I was in Cornwall), and fourteen in 1884. All the forty-five eggs were very similar, and the five nests were all within a radius of a hundred yards. In 1885 she disappeared.' On my writing for confirmation, Mr. Davenport replied: 'I am positive the birds are the same in each instance. Each egg betokens a likeness to its neighbour, and each year the brown markings on the eggs were fewer and less defined. Sparrow-hawks I have found patch up, flatten, clean, and enlarge the old nests of magpies and carrion-crows, but I doubt their ever building a new nest, as some authors assert they do. At Keythorpe, from a nest in a fir-plantation, I took fifteen eggs consecutively. After the fifteenth egg I molested her no more. For three consecutive years this bird adapted an old pigeon's nest for use in one of the trees.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'A neighbour brought me a male sparrow-hawk alive and uninjured which he had caught in his garden.'

104. Kite. *Milvus iclinus*, Savigny.

Now extinct in the county. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 66) wrote: 'One was shot from a window at Longcliff, in the act of watching tame young pigeons'; and Harley remarked that when he 'was a boy, the kite was common and very widely known in the county,' it not being an unusual sight to witness one glide overhead towards the forest of Charnwood and its bleak lone hills. He also stated that even in his day it occasionally frequented Martinshaw. Groby Woods.

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

nest on 18 April, containing six eggs, at Slawston Gorse. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—‘I saw one a few days since perched on a tree in my orchard.’

## 111. Osprey. *Pandion haliaëtus* (Linn.).

A rare autumn visitant. Babington recorded (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 65) one shot by the Marquis of Hastings at Donington Park, October, 1841. According to Harley one was shot in Sibley Field in 1840, while sitting on the shafts of an agricultural roller. A third example was obtained by Adams at Groby Pool; and in 1841, during the autumnal months, Sir Oswald Moseley recorded that a fourth was shot at Overseal. The late Mr. Widdowson informed me of one, a male, fired at by George Hack, of Edmondthorpe, to whom I wrote, and who said that it was killed on 13 Nov., 1858. Mr. Widdowson told me subsequently that after the shot was fired the bird flew about fifty yards, and Mr. Hack thought he had killed it, but on skinning it there was not a single fresh shot in it, but an old one through the breast bone, in the cavity of the stomach, and much coagulated blood. Mr. Widdowson remarked that he had ‘no doubt the exertion killed it, and that it received this wound at Stapleford Park, where it was previously shot at.’ I received one shot at the reservoir, Bradgate Park, on 18 Sept., 1879, by C. Overton, keeper to Lord Stamford. It was a fine female specimen. Overton, who had several opportunities of observing it feed, saw it take several fishes with hardly a miss. This specimen was mounted for the late Earl of Stamford and Warrington, and is, I believe, now at Enville. Wesley, keeper at Bradgate, informed me that in March, 1887, he saw a fine example at the reservoir in Bradgate Park, and repeatedly saw it catch fishes. The *Mid. Nat.*, Nov., 1882, records the following:—One seen at Saddington Reservoir on 13 Oct., one over Gumley Wood and Pool on 18 Oct., and another seen by the Rev. A. Matthews flying over his garden at Gumley on 22 Oct.

## 112. Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax carbo* (Linn.).

An accidental straggler from the coast, and the first record was that furnished by the late Dr. Macaulay, who took me to see an immature bird in the possession of Mr. J. Potter, station-master of East Langton, who told me that it was caught alive in a grass-field near Langton Hall on 6 Sept., 1883, after a strong gale the previous day from the southwest.

The Rev. Father Bullen, of Ratcliffe College, wrote in January, 1891:—‘A member of the community assures me that he saw three young birds fly over the square wood on the college property, in a southerly direction, and this was in the first week of last August.’ The late Dr. Macaulay wrote:—‘On 7 April, 1891, I saw a cormorant at Saddington Reservoir. I had my field glasses with me, and watched it for some time on the wing. It came within fifty yards of me, and I could see the colour of the head, neck, and crest, and most clearly the white patch above the leg.’

The *Leicester Chronicle and Mercury* of 21 Oct., 1893, reported the capture of a cormorant in the grounds of Belvoir Castle by a man named Thomas Holmes about the middle of August.

Mr. Otto Murray-Dixon saw one on 17 April, 1904, and another 7 Sept., 1905, whilst on 10 Oct.,

1906, he saw two others, all at Swithland Reservoir. Mr. G. Frisby wrote on 16 Oct., 1906:—‘I saw them settle on Mr. Farnham’s fishpond; two days later (18 October) one was shot. The man who picked it up was followed for a long distance by the bird’s mate, ‘croaking.’’

## 113. Shag, or Green Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax graculus* (Linn.).

This, a new record for the county, is founded upon the head and neck of an immature specimen presented to the museum in 1890 by the Rev. Father Bullen, about which he gave me the following particulars:—‘About thirty years ago, Mr. Goodman, the Ratcliffe miller, caught an immature bird (the head of which you have) in a meadow by the side of the river Wreake, near Ratcliffe village. He says it was wing-tired. It only lived a few days in confinement. The plumage was dark-brown above, and dull-white, mottled with pale wood-brown below.’

Mr. T. A. Macaulay reports that a shag was shot at Saddington Reservoir on 20 Aug., 1892.

## 114. Gannet, or Solan Goose. *Sula bassana* (Linn.).

An accidental straggler from the coast. Harley recorded that a young male of the year was picked up in a dying condition on the borders of Buddon Wood, near Quorndon, date unfortunately not noted. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 70) supplemented this by saying that it was in the possession of Miss Watkinson, of Woodhouse. Potter of Billesdon records a specimen caught alive at Houghton-on-the-Hill, in September, 1869. The late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 79) that an immature bird of this species, which had been wounded, was picked up half dead at Shangton in 1878, and that he saw it, after it was set up, in the possession of Mr. Ward, farm-bailiff, Wistow. Mr. Ingram wrote:—‘A young bird shot between Bottesford and Scarrington, near the River Smite, is in the possession of Mr. H. V. Fowler of Scarrington.’ The late Mr. Widdowson wrote:—‘One killed at Somerby near here’ (N.D.). Mr. A. Dalby, of Castle Donington—which is on the border of the county and near the Trent—has been very careful to distinguish the birds shot in Leicestershire from those of Derbyshire, and amongst other valuable notes gives the following, under date 26 Jan., 1896:—‘An immature specimen in its first year’s plumage was found alive in Tonge Brook, near here, and brought to me in September, 1892. It died, and I had it set up, and it is still in my possession.’

## 115. Heron. *Ardea cinerea*, Linn.

*Locally*, Crane (by error), Frank (in allusion to its note), Hernshaw.

Resident, sparingly distributed and breeding in a few localities. A young male shot at St. Mary’s Mills, 7 Sept., 1881, is now in the museum. Harley recorded that it used formerly to build at Mere Hill Wood near Cotes, placing its nest on the lateral branches of the Scotch fir, from whence he had taken its eggs. It also built in Martinshaw Wood, where in the spring of 1840 the birds were shot down and destroyed. After that date he stated that the species had but one habitat in the county where it nested, viz. at Stapleford, the residence of Lord Harborough, and even there it was not very abundant, only about half



a dozen nests being built there annually. I am informed by Henry Long, keeper at Bosworth Park, that some years ago a single pair of herons built a nest there. Mr. G. H. Storer records a solitary nest built in Buddon Wood in 1885, and Mr. R. Groves another in May the same year at Bradgate. Mr. Ingram writes:—'Occurs winter and summer, and a pair have nested for several seasons in a wood at Belvoir.' On 6 May, 1884, I went over to Stapleford Park, by permission of the late Rev. B. Sherard Kennedy, to see the heronry. I found the heronry had increased since Harley's time, from forty to fifty nests being built in high elms and firs on an island in the lake, to which the keeper rowed me. Nests and old and young birds were procured and are now in the museum.

Harley wrote at p. 423 of his *Synopsis*:—'The most noteworthy and remarkable bird that appears to have visited Groby Pool of late years was a white heron shot by Chaplin a few years ago. It was purely white with black legs and a yellow bill, having also an elongated occipital crest like that of the grey species. The bird when surprised attempted to escape and rose on the wing with several other birds of the cinereous species; but the albinism of its plumage, according to Chaplin, caused it to be singled out and shot. The bird must have been an albino variety of the grey heron or a white egret; but the elongated crest and occipital plumes which Chaplin affirms the example possessed, denote, I conjecture, a close affinity to the former species, rather than to the white egret.' Whilst at p. 266 we find:—'The albino example of heron shot by Chaplin on the banks of Groby Pool, some few years since, and which he described to me very carefully, could not be *Ardea alba*, as I am assured by Professor MacGillivray, to whom I took occasion to communicate the notice of its occurrence. The "elongated crest and occipital plumes denote," observes the Professor, "its true affinity to *ardea cinerea*.'" Harley's opinion therefore appears to have been confirmed by Professor MacGillivray solely on these grounds; but as the size of the bird is not stated it might have been a specimen of *Ardea garzetta* but for the colour of the bill. Mr. Harting, who commented upon this in the *Zool.* 1886, p. 197, thinks it 'more likely to have been a spoonbill,' but surely Chaplin, who appears to have been a fairly competent observer, would have noted the extraordinary bill of the spoonbill—so utterly unlike that of any other bird—and have described this peculiarity to Harley. Mr. G. Frisby writes, 30 Jan., 1906:—'Herons are seen occasionally at Beaumanor Park, about half a dozen regularly at Swithland Reservoir.' He further writes, in 1906:—'It is not unusual to see the heron mobbed by the rooks, and once this summer I saw one mobbed by swallows.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes, in 1907:—'Frequently seen on the Welland.'

#### 116. Night Heron. *Nycticorax griseus* (Linn.).

A very rare visitant, about which Harley, writing 1850-5, said:—'A fine example was shot by a countryman a few years since in the lordship of Ansty as it was sitting on the top of a pollard willow by a pool.' Harley examined it shortly after capture. He also mentions another bird which was shot in 1846, at Donington, and recorded by the Rev. A. Evans.

#### 117. Little Bittern. *Ardetta minuta* (Linn.).

An accidental summer visitant, which according to Harley 'has once occurred, namely on the banks of Groby Pool, at the close of the summer of 1863, as I learn from Chaplin.' Mr. Davenport wrote, in January, 1886:—'One was shot some dozen years ago by a Mr. Allen of Glen, sold by him to Potter and re-sold by Potter to the Rev. J. S. epherd, the then curate of Billesden.' Potter of Billesdon remarking upon this, gives the date as November, 1867, and seems to be quite sure of the species; but as the bird cannot be traced, the record must stand upon its merits. Since then Mr. W. J. Horn has called my attention to the following note in the *Zool.* of 1868, p. 1212, contributed by Mr. Theodore Walker:—'Little bittern, one shot at Billesdon Coplow in January of this year.' This he considers is the bird already referred to.

#### 118. Bittern. *Botaurus stellaris* (Linn.).

A rarer visitant to Britain than formerly. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 68) said:—'One was shot near Ashby, in 1834, by the late Mr. Joseph Cantrell; another, killed at Wanlip, is in the possession of C. Winstanley esq., of Braunstone Hall.' Harley wrote:—'The species occurred during the winter months of the year 1844 at Croft, and it has since been met with on the marshy part of Bosworth pool or "Big River." It has been met with also at Swithland. It occurred in the winter of 1854-5 at Carlton Curliu.' He further recorded that it occurred in December, 1855. A notice appeared in the *Leicester Journal* of 29 Jan. 1847, of the occurrence of a bittern at Swithland a few days before. Mr. W. Brookes of Croft informs me that a friend of his shot one at Elmesthorpe somewhere about 1848. The late Mr. Widdowson informed me that he had known about six killed in his neighbourhood in about twenty-five years. Mr. Theodore Walker, writing in the May number of the *Zool.* for 1868, p. 1212, recorded that a splendid specimen was shot in the snipe grounds of Groby Pool in March. The museum contains a fine example (probably a male) shot at Enderby, and presented by Mr. William Simpson, 21 Dec., 1871. I saw a fine specimen in the possession of C. Adcock, who told me that it was shot at Thurmaston on 28 Dec., 1878. A female bittern, presented to the museum by Mr. E. Willars on 4 March, 1885, was shot at Cropston Reservoir. The late Mr. Thomas Woodcock informed me that Mr. H. C. Woodcock, of Rearsby House, saw a bittern on the Wreak between Rearsby and Ratcliffe Mill, on 26 Jan., 1892.

#### 119. White Stork. *Ciconia alba*, Bechstein.

Of accidental occurrence in Britain. Harley recorded that one was obtained near Melton Mowbray in 1849, and the narrative of its capture was related to him by a resident of that place, Mr. Widdowson, who had the bird in his possession. One in the possession of Mr. T. Morris of Wycombe, near Melton Mowbray, was shot by his brother early one morning as it sat on one of his farm-buildings at Scalford Lodge in 1851. I believe this to be the one alluded to by Harley. Another specimen of this bird was shot in the Narborough Road, Leicester, on 6 March, 1873, and is in the museum.



[Glossy Ibis. *Plegadis falcinellus* (Linn.).

*Locally, Black Curlew.*

This rare bird is now but an accidental visitant to Britain, but was formerly common enough to be mentioned in the old doggerel distich :—

‘A Curlew, be she white or be she black,  
She carries twelpence on her back.’

The ‘Bickley collection’ in the museum contains a fine specimen of this bird, for which the late Mr. Widdowson told me £3 3s. was paid by Mr. Bickley to the fortunate sportsman who brought it to him. The late Dr. Macaulay stated (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 77), in reference to this specimen :—‘I have been recently informed by the donor’s brother that it was killed on the border of the county and within it.’ This, however, is an error, and Leicestershire cannot claim this *rara avis*, for on the back of the case it is thus labelled :—‘This rare and valuable specimen was shot near the Derby Railway Station in February, 1842, H. B.’ Also, ‘Killed near Derby, February, 1842.’]

120. Spoonbill. *Platalea leucorodia*, Linn.

This is a new record for the county, founded upon a mounted specimen purchased for the museum and said by the taxidermist to have been shot by Gervasse Reckless at Cropston Reservoir on 6 July, 1892.

121. Grey Lag Goose. *Anser cinereus*, Meyer.

*Locally, Wild Goose.*

An uncommon winter visitant. According to Harley, this species was shot in the county during the hard frost of the winter of 1842, and the late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1883, p. 86) stated that one was shot at Shangton on 10 Dec., 1882.

122. White-fronted Goose. *Anser albifrons* (Scopoli).

An uncommon winter visitant. I have seen a fine specimen which was shot at Tur Langton on 18 Dec. 1879, by Mr. Owen West (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 2). The late Dr. Macaulay stated that the specimen shot by Mr. O. West was one of three, and that Mr. J. Brown shot another and they ate it. Mr. G. Frisby writes on 28 Dec., 1906 :—‘Half a dozen of these were at some little distance from the Canada geese, but did not mix with them.’

123. Bean-Goose. *Anser segetum* (J. F. Gmelin).

An uncommon winter visitant. Harley observed : ‘The narrow-billed grey goose occasionally visits us, and appeared in the county during the month of October, 1842, making its transit by large flocks in a north-westerly direction.’ Mr. Davenport records a specimen which was shot at Noseley by Mr. A. M. Hazlerigg in December, 1880. The late Dr. Macaulay obtained a specimen (immature), shot at Smeeton, 11 Dec. 1890, by Mr. John Peberdy. The *Report of the Rugby School Nat. Hist. Soc.* (1884) contains the following note by E.E.A. : ‘Wild goose, probably *Anser segetum* : I saw a flock of about fifteen or twenty in flight near North Kilworth, 22 January, 1885 ; a farmer near there told me that he had seen six separate flocks pass over his house one morning a short time before.’

124. Barnacle Goose. *Bernicla leucopsis* (Bechstein)

*Locally, Barnacle.*

A very rare straggler from the coast. This, a new record for the county, rests on one I saw in the hands of a taxidermist, and which Mr. W. Whitaker tells me was shot at Thornton Reservoir during the first week of April, 1891.

125. Brent Goose. *Bernicla brenta* (Pallas).

*Locally, Black Goose.*

An uncommon winter visitant, the occurrence of this species inland at a distance from the sea being very unusual. Harley, however, stated that several were shot at Kirkby Mallory on 31 Dec., 1844. The museum donation-book records one shot at Syston and presented by the Literary and Philosophical Society, 28 Jan., 1854.

[Egyptian Goose. *Chenalopex aegyptiacus* (Linn.).

This species is so often kept in a state of semi-domestication on private waters and so often contrives to effect its escape, that it is very doubtful if any of the specimens which are from time to time shot in a state of freedom are really wild birds. Nevertheless, although not so common as the Canada goose, it may in time, like that, become semi-feral, or feral. Harley stated that one was shot close to Leicester, 4 March, 1843. It bore no sign of captivity, and had three companions, which went away in a southerly direction. This is probably the specimen in the museum, recorded in the donation book as ‘shot on the river Soar, 1843,’ by Mr. H. S. Hamel. Mr. W. J. Horn records that five of these birds visited the ‘Ballast Hole’ at Welham, on 27 Aug., 1898 ; one was shot by Mr. George Thwaites, of Market Harborough, and is now in his possession.]

[Canada Goose. *Bernicla canadensis* (Linn.).

An introduced species often found at large, congregating in large bodies especially in winter, and flying so far afield as to give rise to the conviction that, if not now, it will soon become feral. Mr. Wilfrid Moss, of Loughborough, reported three Canada geese shot on the Soar in April, 1891, and at first supposed to be either brent or barnacle geese. The late Dr. Macaulay informed me that there were three Canada geese on Saddington Reservoir on 29 March, 1892. Both Mr. Otto Murray-Dixon and Mr. Frisby report it from Swithland Reservoir ; the latter gives the following note : ‘At a fishpond near Woodhouse a pair of Canada geese rear their young every year, returning in the breeding season. No sooner, however, have they settled in their old quarters, their young accompanying them, than there arises a great commotion, and the parent birds are seen driving off their young with great noise, excitement, and persistency, which ends in the young birds having to depart and the old ones settling down once more to their all-important duties.’ On 18 Sept., 1906, he saw thirty fly over Quorn in one flock, and on 28 Dec., 1906, over a dozen were on Swithland Reservoir. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 : ‘On 7 May, 1895, a bird of this species flew over my head when I was in the Burbage Woods.]

126. Whooper Swan. *Cygnus musicus*, Bechstein.

*Locally, Elk, Whistling Swan, Wild Swan.*

An uncommon winter visitant. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 69) recorded this swan as

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# HISTORY

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

banks of Groby Pool, in November, 1845, and that during the year several other examples were shot in various parts of the county. Mr. John Hunt, formerly of Leicester, informed me that some time about 1880 he shot one at Kilby Bridge. Early in 1902 Dr. E. Young shot a fine male in Narborough Bogs, which he presented to the museum.

## 134. Common Teal. *Nettion crecca* (Linn.).

Resident, but sparingly distributed. The late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 11) that he had shot this species on Saddington Reservoir and out of the River Welland. Mr. Ingram writes:—'Visits the Knipton Reservoir and the lakes at Belvoir.' Mr. W. A. Vice, M.B., of Blaby Mills, showed me a specimen shot on the mill-stream, and I have also seen a fine male, shot by Mr. Bevans some years ago at the Abbey Meadow. In the spring of 1825 Harley came across a brood in a pond choked with rushes and sedges near Dishley Mill. The nest, composed of rushes and grass and lined with down, was carefully concealed beneath a small shrub which overhung the pond. Both parents assisted in the care of the young. In 1844 there was another nest of this species on the banks of Groby Pool, where the young, seven in number, came abroad early in the month of June. Mr. G. Frisby, under date 24 Dec., 1906, reports 'a good number at Swithland Reservoir.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'I have seen this bird on Saddington Reservoir and the Upper Welland. 1 March, 1902, I saw one at Ashley. I have no record of its having nested in this district, but on 10 June, 1901, I flushed two males from the Welland adjoining the Market Harborough Sewage Farm.' Mr. H. S. Davenport shot a male at Billesdon 12 Dec., 1890.

## 135. Garganey. *Querquedula circia* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Summer Teal.

A rare summer visitant. It is here included on the authority of the late Dr. Macaulay, who (*Mid. Nat.* 1881, p. 256) shot four (at one shot) at Saddington Reservoir, in July, 1868. Unfortunately so little interest attached to these specimens that they were all eaten.

## 136. Wigeon. *Mareca penelope* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Smee, Whew Duck.

A winter visitant. Not uncommon on the rivers Soar and Trent, as well as on large sheets of water, such as Saddington and Knipton Reservoirs. On 28 April, 1886, two were procured at Belvoir; both were males—one a beautiful adult, the other immature—and are now in the museum. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon saw a flock of twenty on Swithland Reservoir 16 Dec., 1903, and Mr. G. Frisby observed it there so late in the spring as 12 May, 1906, and four returned on 20 Sept., 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'I have seen several on Saddington Reservoir. On 1 March, 1902, I saw three on the Welland, near Ashley Station.'

## 137. Pochard. *Fuligula ferina* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Dunbird, Poker-Duck (a corruption).

A winter visitant, occurring occasionally. Harley observed that the species was met with on Groby Pool and other waters in different parts of the county, in the winter of 1841-2. He also stated that Mr.

Babington's MS. notes contain a record of the occurrence of this bird at Kegworth. The late Mr. Widdowson's diary records one killed at Leesthorpe on 29 June, 1867. The late Dr. Macaulay reported one shot at Thornton Reservoir in 1883. The Rev. G. D. Armitage informed me that on 8 Feb., 1884, 'seven came to the mill-dam at Broughton Astley and five were shot by Mr. C. W. Berridge, who has one male bird now stuffed.' A male pochard was obtained at Saddington Reservoir, 15 Jan., 1886, by Mr. A. K. Perkins. Mr. W. A. Evans shot one on Saddington Reservoir on 23 Feb., 1889. Both specimens are now in the museum. Mr. S. H. Pilgrim received from the Rev. A. F. Aylward, of Enderby, a fine male specimen which had been shot by him at that place on 3 Jan., 1893. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot two drakes and a duck on Swithland Reservoir on 8 Oct., 1906, and Mr. G. Frisby reports it there on 16 Oct., 1906, and as being 'fairly abundant recently,' under date 24 Dec., 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'On 18 March, 1899, I saw seven on Saddington Reservoir, and on 20 April, 1903, I saw a male and a female at the same place. On 7 June, 1902, I visited Saddington Reservoir, and Stafford, the keeper, informed me that a pair of pochards had that year nested on the island. The female was sitting on seven eggs on Whit Sunday, but Mr. Evans camped on the island for two or three days, causing her to desert. Stafford placed the eggs under a hen, but without result. I did not see the birds, but Stafford said they were still on the reservoir, he having seen them that morning. I saw the nest, it was composed of dead leaves, but unfortunately there was no down.'

Mr. A. Dalby, of Castle Donington, had a male brought to him 12 Jan., 1895, which is preserved and is now in his possession.

## 138. Tufted Duck. *Fuligula cristata* (Leach).

*Locally*, Crested Pochard, Tufted Pochard, Tufted Scaup.

Not uncommon in winter, but does not appear to remain to breed. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) stated that it had been shot at Groby by Lord Stamford's keeper. Harley recorded that it had been killed frequently on the River Soar, as well as upon several large pools in the county, and that in the winter of 1840 it appeared in small flocks. On Groby Pool Chaplin shot many examples, and Harley was assured it was found no less abundantly in other localities. Again, in March, 1845, several were seen on the Soar and other streams. The thermometer on the 11th and 12th of that month fell to 10 degrees Fahrenheit, and in some localities to 3 degrees below zero—a degree of cold not experienced, he remarked, since 1838. At Groby Pool the wild-fowl tarried late, but on the break up of the frost, on the 14th of the month, they disappeared entirely. Mr. C. Martiott informs me that a male was shot at Cotesbach by the keeper, John Freer, circa 1860. Sir George Beaumont wrote to the late Dr. Macaulay that one was killed at Coleorton Hall in 1865. Dr. Macaulay shot one at Saddington Reservoir on 2 Dec., 1880, and recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1883, p. 85) that one was killed by Lord Boyle at the Reservoir on 11 Jan., 1882. Mr. Ingram wrote:—'Specimen shot on the Belvoir Lake in winter,' and one (a male) was sent by him to the museum, shot by the keeper,



# BIRDS

19 June, 1884. The late Mr. Widdowson wrote :— 'Plentiful some years ago. Several shot at Little Dalby.' I saw a mounted specimen (male) in 1888, in the possession of Mr. H. C. Woodcock, who informed me that it was shot on the Wreak at Syston, many years ago, by his keeper. A female in the flesh was presented to the museum by Mr. John Burgess, who shot it at Saddington Reservoir, on 31 Oct., 1887. Mr. G. H. Storer saw a small flock on 21 May, 1888, at Cropston Reservoir. In 1904 it appeared in numbers on Swithland Reservoir, where on 1 February Mr. O. Murray-Dixon estimated there were fifty pairs to be seen, and on 24 Dec., 1906, Mr. G. Frisby reported that 'a large flock remained during the week.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :— 'I am inclined to think that a few pairs remain to breed; I saw a pair on Blatherwyck Lake (Northants) on 25 May, 1905.'

## 139. Scaup-Duck. *Fuligula marila* (Linn.).

A winter visitant, rarer than the last-named. One was shot at Saddington Reservoir in 1874 by the late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 79). I saw a mounted specimen (male) in 1888 in the collection of Mr. H. C. Woodcock, which was shot on the Wreak, at Rearsby, many years ago by his keeper. Dr. Macaulay had a female specimen, shot at Thornton Reservoir, 4 Dec., 1890, and further reported a male specimen shot at Saddington Reservoir by Mr. L. C. Haward on 24 Nov., 1891.

Mr. A. Dalby, of Castle Donington, shot a female, 6 Jan., 1894, which he had preserved, and he saw a pair killed 26 Dec., 1894.

Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot one (a drake) on Swithland Reservoir on 6 Oct., 1903, and Mr. G. Frisby observed it there 10 Dec., 1906.

## 140. Goldeneye. *Clangula glaucion* (Linn.).

An uncommon winter visitant. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) wrote :— 'Killed at Groby by the keeper of the Earl of Stamford and also in Loughborough Meadows.' Harley recorded that during the severe winter of 1845 it appeared in the county in fairly large numbers, several examples being obtained at Groby Pool. He was informed that it also occurred rather numerous in many other districts, and stated that it was found at Groby Pool, Bosworth, Saddington, and elsewhere during the winter months. I have seen a fine female specimen in the possession of T. W. Tebbs, of the Union Inn, Blaby, shot by him at the 'Big Brook,' Blaby, in the winter of 1880. John Ryder sent to the museum a beautiful adult male specimen, shot on the lake at Belvoir, 28 Oct., 1885. Mr. Thomas Woodcock reported having seen a goldeneye on the Wreak in the winter of 1889-90. The late Dr. Macaulay informed me that the Rev. A. Matthews had a specimen which he shot out of three on Gumley Hall Pond (N.D.). Mr. A. Dalby, of Castle Donington, reported a female, shot in Feb., 1895, which is preserved and in his possession. Mr. G. Frisby saw one on Swithland Reservoir, 16 Oct., 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907 :— 'One was shot at Ulverscroft Priory in January, 1868, and reported in the *Zool.* of that year (p. 1212) by Mr. Theodore Walker.'

## [Harlequin Duck. *Cosmonetta histrionica* (Linn.).

Of this very rare straggler to the British Isles, Harley wrote :— '1845.—The appearance of this

rare bird in the county of Leicester I record with much satisfaction, and I am enabled to do so on the authority of Mr. Chaplin,<sup>15</sup> of Groby, who shot a pair of harlequin ducks on the pool during the inclement season of the early months of the year which we have so recently experienced. These two rare visitors were associated with scoters, tufted ducks, teals, and widgeons, and it must be observed that the manifest difference in the plumage of the birds, so remarkably diverse from their companions, led to their capture as I have already intimated.' I have ere this heard several ducks styled 'Harlequin,' the last time the term being applied to the by-no-means-common long-tailed duck.]

## 141. Common Scoter. *Oedemia nigra* (Linn.).

### Locally, Black Duck.

A not uncommon winter visitant.—Harley wrote :— 'Chaplin has met with the species on Groby Pool.' The late Mr. Widdowson wrote :— 'I shot one at Melton, now in the "Bickley collection."' It has also occurred more than once at Bosworth Park, as I am informed by Henry Long, the keeper. Mr. J. Whitaker possesses two adult males, shot out of a flock at Thornton Reservoir, 18 Sept., 1879, by the late Dr. John Wright, of Markfield (*Zool.* 1879, p. 459).

The late Dr. Macaulay stated (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 79) :— 'Not unfrequently driven in by the easterly gales.' During August and September, 1881, three were obtained at Saddington, one of which (a male) he shot on 3 September out of a flock of twenty and presented to the museum. One in the museum, is said to have been shot near the Abbey Meadow, Leicester, on 9 Feb., 1882. Mr. G. Frisby saw two on Swithland Reservoir, 16 Oct., 1906.

## 142. Velvet Scoter. *Oedemia fusca* (Linn.).

The only occurrence in the county, and a new one, is that recorded by the late Rev. A. Matthews, of Gumley, who informed me that on either 11 or 12 Nov., 1889, one was shot on Saddington Reservoir by Mr. John Burgess, and was in the hands of Turner, the rural postman, 'who had skinned it remarkably well.' The specimen is now in the museum. See also *Zool.* 1889, p. 455.

## 143. Goosander. *Mergus merganser*, Linn.

A rare winter visitant. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 70) noticed one shot near Langley Priory in the possession of Mr. R. Cheslyn, and the late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 79) that a female specimen was killed on the Smeeton Canal in 1862, by Mr. A. Hildebrand. Later he stated that it was in the possession of the Rev. A. Matthews, and was a young male: further that another specimen in the same collection was shot on Saddington Reservoir.

The museum contains a fine male in adult plumage, shot near Blaby, 17 Dec. 1875.

Mr. A. Dalby of Castle Donington shot a female 7 Jan. 1894, which was preserved and in his possession. He also saw a pair 11 Jan., 1895.

<sup>15</sup> Chaplin was the keeper at Groby then, and appears to have been a man of discernment; still, to those who know how few keepers there are who properly discriminate between closely-allied forms, it is probable that he mistook the species, only three specimens said to have been killed in Britain being known (see Mr. Howard Saunders, F.L.S., F.Z.S., *Proc. Zool. Soc.* (1887) 319-20).



145. Smew. *Mergus albellus*, Linn.

A rare winter visitant. Harley reported it as of occasional occurrence. The species occurred in the county during the severe weather of February and March, 1845, and was frequently met with in the society of scoters, pochards, and wigeon. He further added that it occurred at Groby Pool and also on the Trent. Mr. H. C. Woodcock of Rearsby showed me a fine male smew, in fully adult plumage, which he shot on the River Eye, in or near Wyfordby, in March, 1846. At the same time he showed me a female, which the late David North had shot at Syston shortly afterwards. Mr. J. Whitaker of Rainworth Lodge, Mansfield, has an adult male, shot at Thornton Reservoir in 1877 (*Zool.* 1884, p. 52).

Mr. A. Dalby of Castle Donington possesses a female specimen of this variety which he shot 6 Jan., 1894.

146. Ring-Dove or Wood-Pigeon. *Columba palumbus*, Linn.

Locally, Quest, Cushat.

Resident, and generally distributed. In the crop of a wood-pigeon presented to the museum by Mr. J. S. Ellis on 3 Jan., 1882, sixty-one acorns were found. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—‘A pair return every year to breed in a chestnut tree in my garden, the old nest being utilized. The second clutch is laid in an adjoining chestnut tree.’

147. Stock-Dove. *Columba oenas*, Linn.

Locally, Blue Rock (by error).

Resident, but not so common as the wood-pigeon. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 68) wrote:—‘Mr. Grundy has shot ‘rock-doves’ at Bardon many years back, which he thought came from the Vale of Belvoir. This would probably not be *C. livia*, but *C. oenas*, which is still common in Bradgate Park, as I learn from Bloxham.’ Mr. H. L. Powys-Keck informed me that it is common at Cotesbach. I have seen it nesting in hollow trees at Knighton, whence two young birds were procured for the museum on 6 Sept., 1882. Mr. G. Frisby writes in 1905:—‘Immense flocks of these birds were all over the Charnwood Forest, after the acorns which were so abundant.’ Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—‘Resident and breeding in the park, Market Harborough, in tubs placed in trees. I have several times found the nest placed on old thrushes’ nests and many times in rabbit burrows, as well as in holes in trees. In March, 1894, when driving from Hinckley to Market Harborough, I saw a flock of not

1878, in a spinney near Tilton, and another at Ashlands in June, 1884. Mr. G. H. Storer, who saw a pair near Arnesby in 1888, was informed that it bred there.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: ‘Not common immediately around Market Harborough—not sufficient arable land—but I have seen as many as fifty in one ploughed field.’

[Passenger Pigeon. *Ectopistes migratorius* (Linn.).

A very rare straggler from the Nearctic Region. The late Mr. Widdowson wrote:—‘One killed in Scalford village street some years ago. The same year I saw accounts of several killed near Liverpool.’ As there seems little doubt that the latter examples had escaped from confinement, it is highly probable that the Leicestershire specimen may have been one of the same company.]

149. Pallas’s Sand-Grouse. *Syrhaptus paradoxus* (Pallas).

A very rare and irregular visitant, but unusually common in this county during 1888. The late Dr. Macaulay thought he saw a covey of these birds, whilst driving between Saddington and Mowsley, on 23 May, 1888, and Mr. G. H. Storer has communicated the following information:—Whilst visiting Mr. F. F. How at Swithland, in June, 1888, he heard of certain birds which had been seen in the neighbourhood and which, after careful inquiry, he felt convinced must have been Pallas’s sand-grouse. On 3 June Mr. How was walking in a field belonging to Mr. Bates of Swithland when he saw a small covey of birds rise from a field of young barley. From the great length of wing and strength of the birds Mr. How judged them to be some kind of sea-bird allied to the terns, which might have strayed from Cropston, where such birds are not unfrequently seen. The birds flew over into fields belonging to Mr. Pepper. This covey was also seen by a wagoner to Mr. Bates, who said that on 5 June, whilst ploughing, a covey of twelve birds had alighted in the field and come within a few yards of him at his work without evincing the least alarm. They appeared to be searching for grubs or worms. He described them as of a light brown colour, with very long wings, feet feathered to the toes, and a black patch above the legs. On 6 June they appeared on Kinchley Hill Farm, belonging to Mr. Bates, near Buddon Wood, where they were fired at, and one was wounded, but not fatally. The covey flew away, and although a keen look-out was kept for it subsequently, it never reappeared. The land on which all the observers noticed them lies between the village of



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[Barbary Partridge. *Caccabis petrosa* (J. F. Gmelin).

In April, 1842, a specimen of this partridge was picked up dead at Edmondthorpe, near Melton Mowbray (Yarrell, *Hist. Brit. Birds*, ed. 4, iii, 121). The late Mr. Widdowson informed me that he had this very specimen in his possession, and it was from this bird that Yarrell's figure of the species was taken. As these birds are often imported it may have been an escaped one.]

155. Quail. *Coturnix communis*, Bonnaterre.

A rare summer visitant. Mr. Babington, writing in 1842 (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 68), said: 'Several killed one season between Whitwick and Bardon, some years ago, by Mr. Grundy, who kept a wounded bird alive for some time.' Harley wrote: 'Its visits are only irregular and uncertain and appear confined to meadow-lands and fields lying contiguous to our streams. On the banks of the Soar and the meadows abutting thereupon the quail is annually no stranger. It breeds there in small numbers.' He records its occurrence at Cossington, Barrow, Sileby, Thurcaston, and some other villages having low wet meadows, also one captured in the Market-place, Leicester, on 15 Nov., 1846, and an example shot on Mr. Winstanley's estate at Braunstone on 20 Nov. of the same year. Mr. J. Garle Browne, of Leamington, in 1845 killed five quails out of a bevy of nine, which he flushed and marked down close to Husbands Bosworth, and on 24 Dec., 1856, he flushed one at Edmondthorpe. Mr. H. C. Woodcock, of Rearsby, had a quail which was killed on the railway by the telegraph wires; he believed the date to have been about 1865. Mr. Davenport mentions that his father shot quail at Tilton in September, 1867. The late Dr. Macaulay informed me that Mr. R. Symington, of Market Harborough, shot a quail at Great Bowden in September, 1872, which was unfortunately not preserved. Mr. Ingram thought it occasionally bred in the Vale of Belvoir, as he had shot immature birds there with others. According to the late Mr. Widdowson it has often been found and has bred near Melton Mowbray, and I saw, in 1885, in the Melton Mowbray Museum, a case containing a pair of quails, a chick, and eggs, labelled: 'Presented by Plumpton Wilson, January, 1847.'

Mr. Stephen H. Pilgrim, of Hinckley, informed me that Mr. B. H. C. Fox, of Lutterworth and a party, when shooting over a farm at Gilmorton on 7 Sept., 1885, bagged three quails, and further writes: 'There was, I believe, only one bevy. The value of the note is, I am afraid, a good deal detracted from by the addition Mr. Fox makes, viz.: "I have always accounted for the quail being there by reason that they either escaped from or were turned out from Bitteswell Hall." I saw him the other day and he told me that Major Jary, of Bitteswell Hall, said that two or three had been turned out or escaped from there, but there is no doubt that the young birds of the bevy were bred on the farm at Gilmorton, which would, I think, be about 1½ miles from Bitteswell.' The late Dr. Macaulay reported having seen in the possession of Mr. John Capell a quail which he shot at Mowsley, on 17 July, 1891. Mr. S. H. Pilgrim reported one shot at Barwell on 1 Sept., 1893, by Mr. P. Evershed.

A fine male caught on the Cosby Road near Whetstone was brought to me in 1902 and is in the museum.

156. Corn-Crake or Land-Rail. *Crex pratensis*, Bechstein.

Locally, Daker-Hen.

A summer migrant, generally distributed and breeding; remaining sometimes throughout the winter. A nest containing nine eggs was found in July, 1883, in a field close to the main thoroughfare by Aylestone Mill and was purchased for the museum. Mr. W. J. Horn writing in 1907 states that this species is less common in the Market Harborough district than formerly.

157. Spotted Crake. *Porzana maruetta* (Leach).

Sparingly distributed; probably breeding. Mr. F. Bouskell has a specimen which he obtained at Knighton in July, 1883. Mr. C. H. Gadsby, of Loughborough, has two which were found on the Midland Railway half way between Barrow and Loughborough, near the river, having been killed by the telegraph wires in the early part of September, 1889. Mr. G. Frisby writes from Quorn: 'I saw one that had been shot in the autumn of 1906 in the meadows near the River Soar.'

[Little Crake. *Porzana parva* (Scopoli).

Very rare, and the only record I have is that furnished by Harley, who states that one was shot near the town of Leicester in January, 1841, and was afterwards eaten.]

158. Water-Rail. *Rallus aquaticus*, Linn.

Locally, Velvet Runner.

Resident, but sparingly distributed, and from its skulking habits, is thought to be much rarer than it really is. Specimens have been received from Narborough, Lutterworth, Wymeswold, and near Leicester within the past few years. The late Dr. Macaulay informed me that Mr. Farnham shot one out of a turnip-field at Quorn on 7 Nov., 1889. The Rev. G. D. Armitage received a water-rail on 21 Nov., 1892, which had been killed by flying against the telegraph wires near Broughton Astley. It occurs now and then at the Leicester Sewage Farm, where Mr. G. Collins shot one in 1894, which he gave to the museum. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon writes from Swithland, under date 18 Nov., 1906:—'A short time ago I had one that was taken from a cat.' Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, records the following:—Several shot on the Welland in November, 1900, by the Rev. C. J. Cartwright, of Weston-by-Welland; in November, 1900, several seen and one shot by himself near Ashley; on 2 Dec., 1906, he saw one on a small brook near his house.

159. Moor-Hen. *Gallinula chloropus* (Linn.).

Locally, Water-Hen.

Resident and common; breeding quite close to Leicester. Mr. G. Frisby writes that on 19 June, 1906, he found a nest containing thirteen eggs at Beaumanor Park. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'It breeds on the Folly Pond in Market Harborough.'

160. Coot. *Fulica atra*, Linn.

Locally, Bald Coot.

Resident, but unevenly distributed. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 69) reports it from Groby Pool and Barret Pool. One was shot by Mr. J.

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## BIRDS

**Grewcock, at Belgrave, close to Leicester, during a snowstorm on 23 Jan., 1886.** It breeds at Bosworth, 'Frog-hollow' Pond at Belvoir, Groby Pool, Saddington Reservoir, and other places in the county. The museum contains a nest and five eggs taken at Saddington in June, 1885, and another nest with ten eggs which I obtained at the same place on 25 May, 1886. The Rev. John B. Reynardson, of Careby Rectory, Stamford, writing upon the habits of this bird, gives me the following note:—'I suppose you know when the water is rising from flood both birds will work hard with leaves and grass to raise the nest and save their eggs from being flooded. This interesting sight I have seen.' I am not sure if it has ever been recorded that the male often, during the breeding season, arches his wings and ploughs through the water in exactly the same manner as the swan. I am also uncertain whether this singular habit is due to his wishing to ingratiate himself with his partner, or as a mark of defiance to other males. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'Breeding at Market Bosworth Park, Saddington Reservoir, and other places in the county. I have never seen this bird on running water.'

[Crane. *Grus communis*, Bechstein.

Harley recorded, of this very rare straggler, that 'Mr. Chaplin of Groby shot an example on the banks of the pool in the year 1822.' I have no corroboration of this, and it must be remembered that many keepers and some few sportsmen are in the habit of calling the heron a 'crane,' and as Harley did not state that he actually saw this specimen, the record must rest upon its merits.]

161. Stone-Curlew. *Oedichnemus scolopax* (S. G. Gmelin).

Locally, Great Plover, Norfolk Plover, Thick-knee.

Formerly occurring as a summer migrant, but has not been observed for many years. Harley, who considered its visits rare and localized, stated that it haunted the heath-lands at Saltby and prevailed also on the open park-lands of Croxton Kerrial and Waltham, and he appeared to think that its range was limited to such spots by the presence of certain food which it could not obtain elsewhere. The late Mr. Widdowson noted it as having bred annually, many years ago, at Stonesby Heath, but none had been observed there of late.

[Collared Pratincole. *Glareola pratincola*, Linn.

The only authority I have for including this bird in the present list is that in the MS. catalogue of the contents of the museum when handed over to the Corporation on 19 June, 1849, one is mentioned with the remark, 'shot near Leicester.']

162. Cream-Coloured Courser. *Cursorius gallicus* (J. F. Gmelin).

Locally, Cream-Coloured Swiftfoot.

A very rare autumnal straggler. Mr. Babington writing of this species says that the third and last specimen found in Britain was killed near Timberwood Hill, October,<sup>16</sup> 1827. It is in the collection of the Rev. Thomas Gisborne, of Yoxall Lodge. Anxious, if possible, to obtain some

<sup>16</sup> The exact date was 15 October.

particulars of so rare a bird Harley wrote to the late Mr. Gisborne, and received the following reply:—'Yoxall Lodge, Needwood Forest, 4 July, 1840. The example of *Cursorius isabellinus* respecting which you inquire was shot in Charnwood Forest, near Timberwood Hill, in October, 1827, by a tenant of my eldest son. The tenant met my son incidentally directly afterwards and showed and gave the bird to him as an unknown curiosity; and my son, who was on his way to this neighbourhood, brought it forward to me.—Thomas Gisborne.'

Mr. Dresser (*Birds of Europe*) mentions the Leicestershire specimen as being the *fourth* obtained in Britain. According to Yarrell (ed. 4, iii, 240) the present example was the *sixth* recorded for Britain, but the mistake has been made of placing the year 1828 before 1827. However, Mr. Harting's *Handbook of British Birds*, and a letter from Mr. Howard Saunders to me, show it to be the *fifth* noted as occurring in Britain.

163. Dotterel. *Eudromias morinellus* (Linn.).

Formerly occurring in the county as a spring and autumn migrant. Mr. Babington stated that five were brought down at a shot by Mr. Tomlinson, jun., at Charnwood Heath, and that Miss Watkinson, of Woodhouse, had one, taken near Buddon Wood. The Rev. C. H. Wood wrote to me with reference to this specimen: 'That dotterel is still at Woodhouse Hall (as they now call it).' The late Dr. Macaulay reported (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 65) a specimen at Coleorton in the possession of Sir George Beaumont; and Potter, of Billesdon, reports two shot at Illston by Mr. J. Allen, of Frisby Lodge, but no dates are given, and the bird has not visited Leicestershire for many years. Dr. Macaulay informed me that he saw three on a fallow field in the parish of Tur Langton, 29 March, 1879.

164. Ringed Plover. *Aegialitis hiaticula* (Linn.).

Locally, Oxbird, Ring-Dotterel.

An accidental straggler from the coast, usually in spring and autumn. Mr. Babington stated that it had been killed at Groby by the keeper of the Earl of Stamford. Harley recorded its occurrence in the meadows at Belgrave, and elsewhere in the county, early in the spring of 1841. The museum donation-book records the presentation on 24 March, 1869, of one shot in the Abbey Meadow. Mr. Bevans showed me one which he shot there somewhere about the year 1875, and I saw one in the hands of Turner, said to have been shot, in 1881, also in the same locality, where the latter informs me that it was frequently met with some years ago. I shot a specimen (an immature female) at Thornton Reservoir, on 25 Sept., 1884, and an adult and an immature bird were shot in Stretton Fields near Leicester, in 1899, by Captain Robertson-Aitman, all of which are in the museum.

Mr. W. J. Horn saw one at Saddington Reservoir on 20 Sept. 1902.

Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot a ringed plover at Swithland Reservoir on 2 Sept., 1905.

[Little Ringed Plover. *Aegialitis curonica* (J. F. Gmelin).

A very much rarer bird than the preceding, and Mr. O. Murray-Dixon would have created a new record for the county when he shot what he supposed



around. Occasionally, however, it was found on the meadow-lands which fringe the River Soar, such as the meadows about Loughborough and Barrow. T. W. Tebbs of the Union Inn, Blaby, showed me one which he shot at Wigston in 1854. Turner informs me that some time in 1865 he shot a golden plover in winter plumage, in the Abbey Meadow. I have seen in the possession of Mr. J. S. Bevins, of Ingarsby Old Hall, a fine specimen which was shot by his father at Wellsborough about 1865-70. The late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 65) its occurrence at Coleorton, Smeeton, and Gumley some years since. Mr. Standbridge tells me that about 1880 he saw and shot the golden plover at Aston Firs. Mr. Davenport shot one at Skeffington on 26 Dec., 1881, and saw a flock of about fifty on 15 March, 1883. He also reports one killed at Foxton in October, 1884. Mr. Ingram wrote: 'In flocks in the winter season, in the Vale of Belvoir.' Mr. W. G. Adams shot three specimens on 30 Dec., 1885, in a field just off Saffron Lane, Aylestone, and says there were sixty or more in the flock. Mr. W. Brookes, writing from Croft in April, 1888, says: 'Golden plovers are common here in winter, in times of floods; I have shot them frequently in the meadows. There was a flock of about twenty flying over the floods when the snow melted a month since.' Dr. Macaulay wrote on 29 Nov., 1889: 'To-day when snipe-shooting with my son (Tom) we came across a small flock, fifteen in number, of golden plover in Smeeton parish. They were in the company of green plovers, were wild, and got up out of shot.'

It occurs every year in small parties, and more commonly and in larger flocks in hard weather at the Sewage Farm, Beaumont Leys, where I have seen it.

Mr. W. J. Horn saw and shot at one in the Welland Valley, near Rockingham, on 28 Feb., 1900.

166. Grey Plover. *Squatarola helvetica* (Linn.).

A splendid male specimen of the grey plover—a species hitherto unrecorded for the county—was presented to the museum by Mr. Seville, who found it on the morning of 5 Dec., 1892, the bird having been killed by flying against telegraph wires, near the Twelve Bridges, on the canalized Soar, by Leicester.

167. Lapwing or Peewit. *Vanellus vulgaris*, Bechstein.



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# HISTORY

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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Dr. Macaulay remarked upon the increasing rarity of the 'Jack,' but in the winter of 1885-6, it was unusually abundant, so close to Leicester as Knighton and Rowley Fields, where I shot and procured several examples. On 13 April, 1888, I saw a small snipe get up quite silently from the old river at Aylestone and believe it to have been a 'Jack,' and if so, it would be a late date for this bird to be with us. A male specimen was killed by flying against the telegraph wires at Cosby and presented in the flesh to the museum on 3 April, 1906, by Mr. Joseph Johnson. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'A few are nearly always to be found in the Welland Valley in winter, where I have occasionally shot them.'

175. Dunlin. *Tringa alpina*, Linn.

*Locally*, Plover's Page, Purre, Sea-Snipe, Stint.

An uncommon autumn and winter visitant from the coast. Harley recorded it for Bosworth and Loughborough, and also noted several examples killed near the disused reservoir of Charnwood Forest. Mr. Sebastian Evans, writing to the late Rev. C. Babington, who kindly furnished me with the note, quoted from his brother, the late Rev. Arthur Evans's miscellaneous bird notes:—'Dunlin shot at Gopsall, Jan., 1847.' The late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 78) said that it occasionally occurred at Saddington Reservoir, and he had noticed a flock of fourteen there during the winter of 1881. I saw four specimens in the possession of Mr. S. Bevans, shot by him in the Abbey Meadow, about 1878-9; one in the possession of T. W. Tebbs, shot by him at Blaby, about the same time; and two in the flesh in winter plumage shot at Fleckney, by Mr. C. Allsop, 20 Oct., 1885. Harry Throsby shot one with a catapult, on the canal near the gas-works, Aylestone Road, Leicester, 2 Feb., 1888, which he brought to me in the flesh. Mr. A. Dalby of Castle Donington shot two 6 Jan., 1894. Mr. J. T. Hincks shot one at the Sewage Farm in 1899, which he presented to the museum. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot one in 1904, and a female on 1 Sept., 1905, both of which are in the museum, and another 6 Sept., 1905, all at Swithland Reservoir. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'20 Aug., 1902, two seen at Saddington Reservoir.'

176. Little Stint. *Tringa minuta*, Leisler.

A rare autumnal migrant. A Mr. Thos. Goatley, writing in *The Zoologist* for 1867, p. 991, is the first recorder of this species for the county, mentioning one shot in the Abbey Meadow in January, 1867, which he had seen, but whether in the possession of Elkington, who preserved it, or in that of Mansfield, who purchased it, is not clear.<sup>19</sup> Two were shot out of a party of three, on 22 Sept., 1885, at Saddington Reservoir, by the late Dr. Macaulay, who presented them to the museum. The Rev. W. H. Marriott shot one at Saddington Reservoir, which was unfortunately recorded as being Temminck's Stint (see following species).

Dr. Macaulay informed me that a specimen was shot on the brick-yard ponds, Kibworth, in March, 1893. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon reports that he shot a little stint—with plumage approximating to the

<sup>19</sup> See also Little Gull (192), for both of which notes I am indebted to Mr. W. J. Horn.

summer dress—on 22 Sept., 1904, at Swithland Reservoir.

[Temminck's Stint. *Tringa temmincki*, Leisler.

The late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 78) that a specimen of this bird was shot at Saddington Reservoir in 1860 by Rev. H. Marriott, and was seen and identified by Rev. A. Matthews. This statement, after being copied into many publications, unfortunately proves to be an error; for, suspecting the bird might be referable to the previous species, I wrote to the Rev. Henry Marriott, who, replying on 2 Jan., 1888, most kindly sent me the identical specimen to examine. The first glance showed me that it was a little stint in immature plumage; and, indeed, Mr. Marriott himself wrote:—'I have always been under the impression that the bird in question is only the Little Stint,' and again: 'I am not, myself, in any way responsible for the error.' Temminck's Stint must therefore be erased from the Leicestershire fauna. To prevent similar mistakes I may, without giving all the points of difference, point out one unerring test by which the two closely-allied species may be distinguished in any stage of plumage; Temminck's Stint has the outer tail-feathers pure white, the Little Stint has those feathers ashy brown.]

[Curlew Sandpiper. *Tringa subarquata* (Güldenstädt).

*Locally*, Curlew-billed Sandpiper, Pigmy Curlew.

A spring and autumn visitant. Its occurrence in the county rests upon the vague statement of Harley, who wrote:—'The appearance of this species of *Tringa* in the county I am enabled to record on the testimony of a sportsman resident at Loughborough, who shot one on the banks of the Soar.'

[Purple Sandpiper. *Tringa striata*, Linn.

Five skins were purchased for the museum in 1904, said to have been shot at Belgrave Sewage Farm, which, if correct, would establish another new record. The condition of the skins, however, with other hypotheses, suggests that at present the verdict should be 'not proven.')

177. Sanderling. *Calidris arenaria* (Linn.).

A rare straggler from the coast, where it is common in winter. Some years since, according to Harley, who examined them, three or four birds of this species were shot near the reservoir in Charnwood Forest. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'One shot three or four years ago near Gallow Hill, Great Bowden, and now in the possession of Turner, a postman in Market Harborough. This bird has been seen and identified by the Rev. H. H. Slater.'

178. Ruff. (♀ Reeve.) *Machetes pugnax* (Linn.).

A spring and autumn migrant. The first specimen recorded for the county is one shot by Mr. A. K. Perkins, at Saddington Reservoir, on 19 Aug., 1887. It proved on dissection to be a female. A second and much larger example, an immature male, was shot at the Beaumont Leys Sewage Farm on 14 Dec., 1899, by Mr. J. T. Hincks. Both specimens are in the museum.

179. Common Sandpiper. *Totanus hypoleucus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Summer Snipe.

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April to the middle of September and occasionally breeding. Mr. Babington mentioned Grace Dieu and Groby Pool as localities for it, and Mr. Bevans reports it as commonly occurring years ago, in spring, in the Abbey Meadow. I have obtained specimens from Aylestone, Belgrave, Saddington, and Thornton Reservoirs, and Wistow. One which I shot at Aylestone was merely wounded and thereupon swam and dived with ease—a little-known habit of this bird. Mr. W. A. Evans reported that in August, 1885, he saw six common sandpipers fly up the new flood-works cutting into Leicester, but of course they turned back immediately. I saw three at the Flood Works, Aylestone, 30 July, 1888. Harley recorded that it bred on the banks of Groby Pool, as he learned from Chaplin who found it there. The late Dr. Macaulay stated that it bred at Saddington Reservoir (*Mid. Nat.* 1881, p. 256), but his only ground for this assertion was the fact of his having seen immature birds there during late summer. Mr. H. A. Payne, of Elm House, Enville, wrote in August, 1888: 'About three years ago I found a sandpiper's nest in the old walled garden adjoining the brook in Bradgate Park. The bird is what is called about there a summer snipe. Another nest was found the same year at Bradgate, the eggs of which I have.'

One was shot at Potters Marston in 1892 by Mr. J. Choyce, who presented it to the museum. The Rev. Hugh Parry found a nest containing four fresh eggs on a bank of the Eye Brook near Skeffington, 26 May, 1906. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing in 1907, gives the following records:—2 May, 1896, two seen near Hinckley; 20 Sept., 1902, two seen at Saddington Reservoir; 4 May, 1904, one seen on canal, Market Harborough; 17 May, 1904, one seen on canal, Market Harborough; 2 May, 1905, one seen on canal, Market Harborough.

180. Wood-Sandpiper. *Totanus glareola* (J. F. Gmelin).

A rare straggler on migration. Harley characterized this species as more rare and shy than its congener, *T. ochropus*, and stated that it was met with at Groby Pool in 1840, and also occurred during the winter of 1852-3.

181. Green Sandpiper. *Totanus ochropus* (Linn.).

A spring and autumn visitant, not common, but sometimes remaining during winter. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 69) recorded its occurrence at Groby Pool. A mounted specimen was presented to the museum, 7 April, 1851, by Mr. Job Glover, 'killed in Leicestershire,' presumably at Bagworth. This species was noticed by Harley on the Wreak, who also reported that 'it had also been shot on the banks of the Soar and Trent, and had occurred in several instances during the autumn and winter of 1853.' I saw in the possession of Mr. J. S. Bevins, of Ingarsby Old Hall, a specimen shot by his father at Wellesborough, sometime about 1865-70. The Rev. G. D. Armitage shot one at Broughton Astley on 6 Sept., 1878. The late Dr. Macaulay showed me a specimen shot by Mr. John Peberdy at Smeeton Brook about 1882. He also informed me of two shot by Mr. A. K. Perkins at Saddington, August, 1883, and now in the possession of Mr. Douglass, of Market Harborough. A fine female in the museum was shot at Saddington Reservoir on 19 Aug., 1887, by Mr. A. K. Perkins. Dr. Macaulay also informed me that his son, Mr. T. A. Macaulay, shot one out of

the Smeeton Brook on 16 Dec., 1889, and there was another with it. Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot one at Swithland Reservoir at the end of October, 1901. The late Dr. Ogle shot one on the Swift near Lutterworth in 1902, which he presented to the museum. Mr. G. Frisby saw five on 1 Aug., 1906, and some every week until 1 November, at Swithland Reservoir. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'I have seen this bird on the Welland in every month of the year except June and July. It wintered on the Welland near the Market Harborough Sewage Farm in 1899, 1900, 1901, and 1902. On 27 Aug., 1898, Mr. W. H. Symington shot one at Ashley which he presented to me. I shot a young bird in the autumn of 1902; two were seen on the Welland, near Market Harborough Sewage Farm, on 6, and five on 14 October, 1899; whilst up to 14 April, 1904, I saw eighteen others.'

182. Common Redshank. *Totanus calidris* (Linn.).

This new record for the county I am able to add on the testimony of several competent observers, viz., Mr. A. Dalby of Castle Donington, writing 26 Jan., 1891, says:—'The redshank breeds every year near the Trent, generally several pairs. I have seen a nest and young birds, the latter several times. They come here at the beginning of April and leave in August. One spent several days in our garden three springs ago, feeding on the worms and insects on the grass plots.' Mr. E. L. Ferrall observed it near Market Harborough, 18 May, 1906; whilst its nesting is placed beyond dispute by the Rev. Hugh Parry, who found a nest—with four incubated eggs—in a tuft of grass in a meadow in the Welland Valley between Great Easton and Medbourne, 17 May, 1906.

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'On 21 April one was seen at Welham. The Rev. A. W. Pulteney reports it having bred on two occasions in the Welland Valley near Ashley (it certainly breeds—several pairs—a few miles lower down the valley at Seaton).'

183. Spotted Redshank. *Totanus fuscus* (Linn.).

A rare straggler on migration. Inserted in this list on the authority of Mr. J. Whitaker, of Mansfield, Notts., who informed me that he had a spotted redshank, shot by Mr. W. Whitaker, in 1880, on the side of Thornton Reservoir.

184. Greenshank. *Totanus canescens* (J. F. Gmelin).

A rare spring and autumn visitant. Harley wrote:—'It has been shot on the banks of Groby Pool and also at Swithland. Yarrell, on the authority of a resident at Melton Mowbray,<sup>20</sup> stated that 'it is not uncommon in the more eastern parts of the county.' I saw a specimen in the hands of Elkington, said to have been shot at Enderby. Writing to Mr. Joseph Burchnall of the Cottage Farm, Enderby, for confirmation, he replied:—'I shot the Greenshank some time in August, 1885, in Shenton Meadow, parish of Enderby.'

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'On 29 August, 1898, T. Turner, the postman, and a good naturalist, reported to me that he had seen the Greenshank at Saddington Reservoir (I think this very probable, as I have seen the bird at the neighbouring reservoir of Naseby, and in the fishing cottage there, a pair is set up which was shot on that water).'

<sup>20</sup> Probably the late Mr. Widdowson, who was often in communication with Yarrell.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

[Bar-tailed Godwit. *Limosa lapponica* (Linn.).

Finding this bird recorded by Mr. Babington as having been shot near Swarkeston, I, thinking that this place was in the county, included the note in my list, published in the *Zoologist*, 1886, p. 331. As Swarkeston is, however, in Derbyshire, it is the latter county which must lay claim to this record. The late Dr. Macaulay, writing under date 19 Feb., 1892, reported one taken in a snare on the Sewage Farm, Beaumont Leys, on whose authority cannot now be discovered, hence this must ever remain a doubtful record.]

185. Black-tailed Godwit. *Limosa belgica* (J. F. Gmelin).

A rare spring and autumn visitant. On the authority of Mr. (the Rev. Arthur?) Evans, of Market Bosworth, Harley recorded a specimen shot near Market Bosworth, and a second at Osbaston. He said further that it was erroneously described by Mr. Evans, in one of our oldest local papers, as the 'red-breasted snipe,' or 'brown snipe' of Jenyns and Yarrell, and I record the fact lest this note of the 'red-breasted snipe' should crop up at some future time and cause it to be added to the Leicestershire fauna. There is a specimen in the museum, in summer plumage, marked 'Leicestershire, 1869,' but I am by no means sure that it is a local example. A specimen, in nearly adult summer dress, was shot by Mr. Thomas Beck, of Newtown Linford, at the reservoir, Bradgate Park, in August, 1887, which he has since presented to the museum.

186. Curlew. *Numenius arquata* (Linn.).

An accidental straggler from the coast. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 69) said:—'Shot at Ben's Cliff; now at Rothley Temple.' Harley wrote: 'Before the Forest of Charnwood was enclosed this wader was very plentifully diffused over its uneven surface.' The museum donation-book records the gift, on 2 Oct., 1865, by Mr. H. B. Chamberlain, of a curlew shot at Desford. On 16 Aug., 1887, the late Dr. Macaulay saw one at Saddington Reservoir. A fine young male was shot out of a ditch by a small spinney at Arnesby, on 1 Nov., 1887, by Mr. A. Langton, and presented to the museum, being the only authentic local specimen, the 1865 one having disappeared. Mr. A. Dalby saw a curlew at Castle Donington in July, 1894, and as this is the last note appearing by him, it should be known that he particularly stated, 'All birds mentioned are from the Leicestershire side of the Trent.'

Mr. C. Marriott told me in 1907 that he had seen specimens more than once during the past twenty years in the meadows bordering the Swift at Cotesbach.

187. Whimbrel. *Numenius phaeopus* (Linn.).

An accidental straggler from the coast. 'One shot near Charnwood Heath' (Potter, op. cit. App. 69). Harley wrote:—'The whimbrel occurs occasionally in sparing numbers, as for instance in the meadows about Loughborough, at Bosworth, and elsewhere in the county. Killed near Leicester 23 April, 1856.'

188. Black Tern. *Hydrochelidon nigra* (Linn.).

An occasional straggler from the coast, chiefly in spring and autumn. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit.

App. 70) wrote:—'The black tern frequently occurs in the vicinity of our rivers and pools during the summer months.' The late Dr. Macaulay recorded (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 80) that one was shot at Saddington Reservoir in December, 1865, by Rev. A. Matthews, and was in his collection. A black tern was shot by Mr. W. A. Heap, of Melton Mowbray, on 4 Aug., 1884, as it was flying about a ballast-hole filled with water, about two acres in extent, close to Melton. Mr. Heap said it kept darting at the water as swallows do, and every time it brought out a small fish (stickleback or minnow). Mr. Edward Bidwell, of East Twickenham, informed me that he bought a specimen in Leicester, which was said to have been killed in the Abbey Meadow many years ago. Among the museum specimens are two adult mounted examples which were shot near Belgrave, 24 April, 1886, out of a flock of over forty. Dr. Macaulay reported two adult black terns on Saddington Reservoir on 2 June, 1887, which were seen and identified by the Rev. A. Matthews, who watched them for over an hour. A most interesting example, an adult in change to winter dress—having a white forehead, face, and throat, a partially black head, and a grey breast thinly barred with white—was shot by Mr. R. Henfield on a flooded meadow at Nailstone, in September, 1888, and presented to the museum. A young bird in the plumage of immaturity—i.e. with forehead, face, throat, and remaining underparts pure white; head and hind-neck black; and with wing-coverts and some of the secondaries broadly marked with light-brown—was shot in the Abbey Meadow during the first week of October, 1888, and passed into the possession of Mr. F. F. How, of Evington Street, Leicester.

Mr. O. Murray-Dixon shot an immature bird in September, 1904, and Mr. G. Frisby saw one, also at Swithland Reservoir, 4 April, 1906, and writes that they are rare but regular visitants to the reservoir during the spring and autumn migrations. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'On 3 May, 1903, I watched for some time through my glasses a single bird of this species in a flooded meadow near Lubenham.'

[White-winged Black Tern. *Hydrochelidon leucoptera* (Schinz).

A rare straggler, in spring, summer, and sometimes in autumn. Harley related that on 24 May, 1852, while driving close to Groby Pool, he observed a pied-coloured tern skimming over the surface of the water in pursuit of *Tipulidae* and small dragon-flies. He was of opinion that the specimen referred to was either *S. leucoptera* or *S. fuliginosa*, and not *S. nigra*, especially as *S. fuliginosa* had occurred on the Trent in May, 1852, coincident in point of time with his pied tern. The late Dr. Macaulay told me that Stafford, the water-keeper at Saddington Reservoir, described to him a white and black bird—evidently a tern—which he saw there on 13 June, 1883, and Dr. Macaulay thought this must have been *H. leucoptera*, because one shot three days before on one of the Norfolk Broads was in company with another. I would remark, however, that both observers may have been correct in seeing a *white* and *black* tern, and yet it need not follow that it was the white-winged black tern in either case, the immature black tern being pied, as is also the adult in winter. Again, I should be chary of claiming this rare bird for the county.]

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194. Common Gull. *Larus canus*, Linn.

Of accidental occurrence, especially after stormy weather on the east coast. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. p. 70) said: 'Often seen and shot; flocks of gulls, probably *L. rissa* as well as this, frequently fly over Thringstone after violent storms. None except the common gull have fallen into my hands.'

I am sorry I cannot endorse this statement, very few but kittiwakes having come under my observation. I saw at Pinchen's a fully mature specimen which was shot at Wigston on 16 Aug., 1889, and two days later I saw five gulls of some kind fly over Wigston. Mr. How informs me that he saw at Pinchen's a specimen said to have been shot at Frisby early in December, 1892. Mr. G. Frisby writes on 27 July, 1906:—'A young common gull was shot upon the Fishpond here and brought to me for identification.' Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'Three gulls of this species were seen by me on 5 May, 1903, on floods below Medbourne, in the Welland Valley.'

195. Herring Gull. *Larus argentatus*, J. F. Gmelin.

Potter, the taxidermist of Billesdon, reported a specimen caught alive by Mr. W. Hart, of Rolleston, in September, 1869, and if this be correct it creates a new record, whilst it is highly probable that some of the large gulls which I and others have seen every spring flying over Leicester are of this species. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907:—'In April, 1901, numerous in the flooded meadows near Rockingham, in fact they are nearly always to be seen in the valley when the Welland is in flood. In the last week of February, 1902, it was reported to me, "Scores of gulls in the Welland Valley. They were probably of this species."'

196. Lesser Black-backed Gull. *Larus fuscus*, Linn.

A rare straggler from the coast. The late Rev. A. Evans recorded in his notes the occurrence of a specimen on Groby Pool in 1850. In the autumn of 1880 I saw an adult specimen, said to be from Bradgate, in the hands of a man named Donnell. Three immature specimens, one shot at Somerby in 1880, one at Melton in 1881, and another obtained at Claybrook in 1900, are in the museum.

197. Greater Black-backed Gull. *Larus marinus*,  
Linn.



state of captivity.<sup>21</sup> Another, an immature bird, killed near Hinckley in the autumn of 1879 and secured for the collection of Mr. R. W. Chase, of Birmingham, has since been presented by him to the museum, for which also has been purchased an immature specimen (mounted) almost identical in plumage with that last mentioned, said to have been shot at Somerby in November, 1881. I saw at Pinchen's on 2 Feb., 1891, a specimen which had been picked up by Mr. Sharp at Bradgate Reservoir, in October or November, 1890, and which, until I saw it, Mr. Pinchen had believed to be the great skua and had sold as such, at a high price to the late Dr. Macaulay, in whose possession it was, and who considered it to be the common skua. A bird of this species was found exhausted in a pigstye, at Wigston, after a great storm (circa 1900); and though slightly injured, was kept alive by three different persons until 1906. It would come for food if called by its name 'Jacob,' but was rather timid and afraid of dogs and fowls.

200. Arctic or Richardson's Skua. *Stercorarius crepidatus* (F. Gmelin).

Also a rare straggler from the coast. In the autumn of 1880 I saw in the possession of a man named Donnell a nearly adult specimen said to have been shot at Enderby.

201. Razorbill. *Alca torda*, Linn.

Of very unusual occurrence inland. I saw an adult specimen in 1888 in the collection of Mr. H. C. Woodcock, who assures me that it was shot on the Wreak, at Rearsby, many years ago by his keeper.

202. Common Guillemot. *Uria troile* (Linn.).

Locally, Willock.

A very rare and accidental straggler from the coast. The late Dr. Macaulay stated (*Mid. Nat.* p. 79) that he had a specimen shot many years since on the River Soar, at Cossington, by the miller who then resided there. This specimen I have seen. Elkington showed me one in the skin said to have been killed at Husbands Bosworth, 1883. One was reported to have been shot at Belgrave, Leicester, on the water, 21 July, 1893.

203. Little Auk. *Mergulus alle* (Linn.).

Locally, Rotche.

A rare straggler from the coast, driven inland by severe weather. According to Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) a pair of these sea-birds were taken alive at Nanpantan, 6 Nov., 1837, in a turnip field, by Mr. J. Cartwright, of Loughborough, who endeavoured, without success, to keep them alive on fish and insects. Writing, probably, of the same pair, Harley stated that during the autumn of 1838 a pair in a semi-exhausted state was picked up among the hills of Charnwood Forest; and further that in the autumn of 1840 this species again occurred in the county and adjoining districts. The late Mr. Widdowson wrote to me, circa 1885, from Melton:—'Several have been picked up at different times near here.'

The late Dr. Macaulay presented to the museum a specimen in the flesh which had been found alive at Smeeton Westerby 18 Nov., 1893, and Pinchen

<sup>21</sup> Mentioned also in the late Rev. A. Evans's *Miscellaneous Bird Notes*, in the possession of Mr. S. Evans.

received one in the flesh which had been shot near Belgrave, Leicester, 20 Oct., 1894. One was picked up alive by either Mr. B. or Mr. W. L. Fosse in the former's garden at Barkby, 4 June, 1903 (an unusual date), and I saw the specimen.

[Great Northern Diver. *Colymbus glacialis*, Linn.

The only authority I have for including this species in the present list is a statement by the late Mr. Widdowson that it 'has been killed here in immature plumage'; but as both of the following species, especially *C. septentrionalis*, so often do duty for this much rarer bird, I am inclined to think that, in this case as in many others, the species have become confused one with another.]

204. Black-throated Diver. *Colymbus arcticus*, Linn.

A rare straggler from the coast, and seldom found inland in mature plumage. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.) reported its occurrence at Donington Park, communicated by the Rev. Thomas Gisborne. Upon this Harley remarked that a second was reported to have been killed at Mountsorrel;<sup>22</sup> that another—a male in mature plumage—was procured in a meadow below Leicester Castle on 4 Jan., 1854, but although shot was alive when seen by Harley; and another—a female in the plumage of the lesser imber of Bewick—was shot in the Abbey Meadow on the same day; the two last examples, he considered, being probably driven inland by the gale which prevailed on 4 January, and the severity of the north-east wind, which brought a hurricane of snow. The museum donation-book contains an entry under date 4 Jan., 1854, to the effect that an immature male was shot at a mill near the Abbey Meadow; and that another—also immature (sex not stated)—was shot at Aylestone on 10 Jan., 1854, and presented by Mr. N. C. Stone. The late Dr. Macaulay stated (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 72) that one was shot at Saddington Reservoir in February, 1874.

205. Red-throated Diver. *Colymbus septentrionalis*, Linn.

A straggler inland, chiefly in winter, and nearly always in immature plumage. According to Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App.), one in immature plumage was killed at Groby, by the keeper of the Earl of Stamford. Harley wrote:—'Captured during the storm which prevailed on 4 Jan., 1854, in several parts of the county; but in no instance, I believe, in its perfect state of plumage.'<sup>23</sup> It has been frequently met with on the Soar, about Loughborough, and also on the Trent. It has likewise been shot on the Wreake, and on such pools as those of Groby, Saddington, and Dishley.' T. Freer, of Aylestone, showed me a fully adult specimen (red-throated) which he shot in 1869 (10 Sept.) in the canal between the 'West' and 'Mill Lane' Bridges, Leicester. In October, 1885, at Carlton Curlieu Hall, I saw an immature specimen obtained at Saddington Reservoir 16 Dec., 1840, shot by Mr. Hayes Marriott. Mr. G. H. Storer informs me that two (probably a pair) in winter plumage, shot

<sup>22</sup> Harley's informant appears to have been the late Rev. A. Evans, in whose *Miscellaneous Bird Notes* the date 1850 is given.

<sup>23</sup> Probably Harley did not know that in winter its plumage is similar to that of the immature bird, the red throat persisting only in rare cases.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

on Cropston Reservoir, are preserved at the Reservoir Hotel, but he did not know the date and I cannot obtain any further information. Mr. Davenport informed me that on 2 March, 1889, 'as the wife of a man named William King, living at Burton Overy, went out at the back door to feed her ducks and chickens she found amongst them a strange bird, which she succeeded in capturing by throwing her apron over it. It was kept for a few days, fed fairly well on such food as could be procured for it, did not appear to be at all shy, and although helpless on the ground, when put into a tub of water its motions were very graceful, and it swam and dived with freedom.' Before it died, however, Mr. Davenport rode over to see it and kindly notified me of the occurrence, thus putting me into communication with the possessor, and enabling me to acquire for the museum a fine male specimen of the red-throated diver in winter plumage.

A fine specimen—an immature male—was shot on Swithland Reservoir on 10 Jan., 1907, by Mr. O. Murray-Dixon, who kindly presented it to the writer.

## 206. Great Crested Grebe. *Podiceps cristatus* (Linn.).

*Locally*, Tufted Grebe, often called Eared Grebe by error.

A spring visitant, sometimes remaining until winter. The late Dr. Macaulay was the first to record its breeding in the county—at Saddington Reservoir—whence he received, in 1874, a male and female and one young in the down. On 7 May, 1883, he showed me a pair nesting at Saddington Reservoir, which brought off their young. In the spring of 1884 a pair nested there and brought off four young, which remained until late in the summer, but finally left owing to the dry weather. In 1885 the same or another pair nested again and laid five eggs, but three of them being taken on 23 May the birds deserted the nest and left the water entirely. In 1886 several pairs nested at Saddington, and on 1 June a nest of four eggs and a male bird were procured for the museum. Mr. H. A. Payne informs me that he has taken several nests on the Bradgate Reservoir, the last being in 1879. Mr. G. Frisby writes in 1906: 'I have seen eight pairs at one time on our reservoir, and one day watched one land. No sooner was it out of the water than it squatted down, being apparently unable to walk, and stayed there until ready to take to the water again. Young ones were successfully reared this year. Always with us except in hardest frosts. Two families of young grebes seen this year. On 2 May, 1906, eight pairs were seen at Swithland.'

Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1907: 'Breeding on all the lakes and reservoirs in the neighbourhood. It appears to be greatly increasing in numbers. In one week in May, 1905, I saw twenty-six of these birds. 13 May, 1895, one seen on Thornton Reservoir; 21 March, 1900, five seen on Saddington Reservoir; 7 June, 1902, two seen on Saddington Reservoir; and 1 April, 1905, two were seen on Saddington Reservoir.'

## 207. Red-necked Grebe. *Podiceps griseigena* (Boddaert).

According to the late Dr. Macaulay (*Mid. Nat.* 1882, p. 79), one was shot on Saddington Reservoir in 1874, and it appeared from his MS. notes that it was shot by Mr. F. Kemp in March. Thinking

there was probably some mistake and that the bird might have been the little grebe in spring plumage, I wrote to Mr. Kemp to ask if he were certain about the bird, and was confirmed in my supposition by the fact that he was unable to answer my query, merely saying that he thought the date was 1876. After some trouble—Mr. Kemp having removed to Great Yarmouth—he fortunately visited the museum in January, 1888. On looking around at the specimens, he could not see one like his own, and said it certainly was not the red-necked grebe, but seemed to think it might be the Slavonian. Nevertheless, Mr. W. J. Horn writes: 'I saw a red-necked grebe so recently as Saturday, 18 March, 1899, floating upon the waters of Saddington Reservoir. This is, I think, the first record for the county.'

## 208. Slavonian or Horned Grebe. *Podiceps auritus* (Linn.).

A rare winter visitant. Harley recorded that it visited us 'in the severe winter months of 1844-5, when a fine example was shot by Chaplin on the waters of Groby Pool. The species has also been met with by gunners and sportsmen on the waters of the Soar, Trent, and Wreake.' The late Mr. Widdowson reported the occurrence of one, in immature plumage, at Melton, but the claim of this species to have a place in the county fauna rests upon an immature female specimen shot by Mr. W. A. Evans in December, 1896, at Saddington Reservoir, and presented by him to the museum.

## 209. Black-necked or Eared Grebe. *Podiceps nigricollis* (Brehm).

A rare visitant, usually in spring, and probably Harley was mistaken when he wrote of this species:—'Formerly more abundant and pretty well distributed over the county. Occurs on the Soar and Trent; he most likely having been told of the 'eared grebe,' which in gamekeepers' language means the great crested grebe. Later, however, he recorded:—'1844, December. This species of grebe has occurred this winter on Groby Pool, since Chaplin has carried me an example for private examination.'

## 210. Little Grebe or Dabchick. *Podiceps fluviatilis* (Tunstall).

*Locally*, Didopper.

Resident, but sparingly distributed. Mr. Babington (Potter, op. cit. App. 70) said:—'Rothley, Groby, &c.; but not abundant.' Harley, however, appears to have considered it common in his day, on the Soar, Trent, Wreake, and other streams, as well as on most large waters, as Saddington, Groby, and Bosworth Pools; and remarked, under date 14 July, 1842, that 'young grebes have a shrill call-note, which they almost incessantly keep up when they first come abroad on the surface of the water.' I saw one on Bosworth Pool, on 6 Dec., 1884, and shot one—a male—at Belgrave, by the sewage weir, on 10 Feb., 1886. Mr. G. H. Storer informs me that he saw a pair on the fish-pond at Ulverscroft Priory on 28 June, 1888. The late Mr. Ingram wrote that it 'breeds in Frog Hollow Pond, near Belvoir,' and Mr. W. A. Evans presented to the museum a nest and three eggs, taken by him at Thornton Reservoir on 9 June, 1881, when he found as many as five nests in one day that were all placed on the roots or

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# MAMMALS

From its inland position and the absence of large tracts of moorland or forest, Leicestershire is naturally deficient in the larger mammals which occur in seaboard or wilder districts of Britain; for although the red deer is found in the county it is in no sense *fera naturae*, but is confined in a few parks—notably at Bradgate—where it is of course quite tame.

No trace of the wild cat has yet been discovered, although records of tame cats which are leading a wild life and have become savage are constantly occurring.

The pine-marten has been extinct for forty or fifty years, and the polecat is no longer found. Badgers are, however, fairly common, and the otter is to be found occasionally in the Soar and other streams.

Only seven of the British bats have occurred in the county, so that all specimens procured should be carefully examined for new or allied species. No authenticated record of the black rat exists, nor of the wild boar, which probably occurred here up to mediaeval times.

## CHEIROPTERA

1. Long-eared Bat. *Plecotus auritus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Horned Bat.

Resident, but unevenly distributed, therefore not common. Several have reached the Leicester Museum from various parts of the county, the last one in 1903, from the Victoria Road Church, Leicester.

2. Barbastelle. *Barbastella barbastellus*, Schreber.

Bell—*Barbastellus daubentonii*.

Rare. The late Rev. A. Matthews showed me a specimen which I recognized as this curious little bat, procured at Gumley about 1876; this is the only record.

3. Noctule. *Pipistrellus noctula*, Schreber.

Bell—*Scotophilus noctula*. White—*Vespertilio altivolans*.

*Locally*, Great Bat, High-flier, Rat Bat.

Resident and generally distributed. Harley remarked that this species appeared to be most common in the vicinity of the town of Leicester, and was often observed on still summer evenings. The Rev. A. Matthews told me in March, 1885, that one broiling hot day in July, some years before, at mid-day, when the air was perfectly bright and clear, he observed swallows circling at an immense altitude, and above them, at a much higher elevation, four large bats, which he supposed to be of this species.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Although Gilbert White named this bat *altivolans*, from this very habit of feeding high in the air (see Letter 36 to Pennant), yet his remarks did not apply to its doing this before the evening, and the observations of the late Rev. A. Matthews are, I believe, unparalleled in the history of this species.

On 8 July, 1885, I shot one flying over the canal by St. Mary's mills, Aylestone, which fell into the water, and on examination I found it to be a female containing a naked foetus. I have seen it so late as October, but on 1 November, 1886, a fine specimen was brought to me, which had been shot by the canal at Aylestone, this being a very late date for its appearance, only paralleled, I believe, by Mr. Harting's date.<sup>2</sup> In June, 1887, I shot a male and a female by the mill at Aylestone. The latter specimen appearing gravid, I carefully opened it, and discovered two well-developed but naked foetus. I cannot find in any notice of this species that it is credited with having more than one young at a birth.

4. Pipistrelle. *Pipistrellus pipistrellus*, Schreber.

Bell—*Scotophilus pipistrellus*.

*Locally*, Common Bat, Flitter-Mouse, Hat Bat.

Resident and commonly distributed. Harley noticed that this species is often observed on the wing during the day, and remarked that in this it differs from the 'Great Bat.' I received twelve from Belvoir on 13 July, 1885, and have procured several at Aylestone, Kibworth, Broughton Astley, and various parts of the county, this species appearing indeed to be *par excellence* the 'common' bat. Its strange name of 'hat' bat, which is commonly applied, appears to be founded upon the childish rhyming invitation to come under the would-be captor's hat and be feasted upon bacon!

<sup>2</sup> *Zool.* 1887, p. 169.

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church ; but choosing the inside, I stationed myself by one of the windows of the chancel, between which and a stove-pipe the bats were flitting. After two hours' work and several misses, I managed to catch three pipistrelles and one natterer's bat. The flight of the two species varied much, the pipistrelles flying quicker, and constantly changing the direction of their flight, in a zig-zag kind of manner, whereas the flight of the natterer's bat was more fully sustained and much more direct, though somewhat slower. The specimen, which was a male, was very amiable in captivity, and we fed it two or three times with pieces of raw meat soaked in water, which it greedily seized when hungry, making, however, very little progress, a small piece the size of a barleycorn lasting it a quarter of an hour.

After considerable search, extending over many years, aided also by a large number of observers, and getting a great many pipistrelles, this rare little bat has been found in the county, through the exertions of Mr. G. Kirby, of Lubenham Lodge, who kindly forwarded to the Leicester Museum a young male specimen, taken in his garden on 17 September, 1888.

The writer received another (a female) from Mr. Ernest Neale, caught on Manor Road, West Leigh, Leicester, on 24 April, 1889. A male specimen, caught in the drawing-room at Broughton Astley rectory on 19 July, 1889, was sent to me the following day, dead, by the Rev. G. D. Armitage, who sent me another, also a male, on 24 July, from the same place.

## INSECTIVORA

### 8. Hedgehog. *Erinaceus europaeus*, Linn.

Resident and generally distributed. I have received several from Knighton, close to the town of Leicester, where it breeds. On 13 September, 1883, an old female hedgehog and four young ones were brought to me from there. Another, caught also at Knighton, we endeavoured to keep. It remained for some time in the workroom at the Leicester Museum, hiding itself during the day under the box of a step leading from one room into another. It, however, refused all food, though apparently very hungry, and soon died.

### 9. Mole. *Talpa europaea*, Linn.

Resident and common, though seldom seen above ground. Harley wrote : 'Buff and white, or parti-coloured individuals occasionally occur,' although a mole-catcher of more than fifty years' experience once told him that he had never met with any such varieties. One in the Leicester Museum is labelled 'From Belvoir. Mr. Jno. Ryder.' This specimen I find noted in the old MS. donation-book as being presented on 25 April, 1862. It is of a uniform cream-colour, inclining to ferruginous on the limbs. The

Curiously enough, Mr. Matthews procured another on 20 March, 1885, which had been caught in a trap at Laughton Hills. He described it as being the handsomest he ever saw, a large male of an amber colour, with the nose white nearly to the eyes, cheeks and back of the head and neck bright orange. Mr. Ingram sent one to the museum, caught in Barkestone Wood, Belvoir, on 10 June, 1887, and precisely similar to the one sent from the same locality twenty-five years previously. I saw in the hands of Pinchen, the taxidermist, a similar variety, taken at Anstey in December, 1887 ; and Mr. John Burgess, of Saddington, presented to the museum a very fine one which was caught there on 10 March, 1888. This specimen was also like the others, but rather more reddish-orange on its ventral aspect ; again, on 12 December, 1890, he presented another, a male, from the same place, and a third in 1893, both precisely similar. It would thus appear that there is a constant variety of the mole in which part of the head and the joints of the limbs are ferruginous, and the remainder of the body cream-coloured. Mr. H. B. Oldham, of Saxby, presented to the museum a female variety caught by a mole-catcher at



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

to a bright patch. The tail was distinctly tipped with white. Another buff-coloured variety, from Wanlip Lane, reached the museum through Mr. A. Merrall in 1861. One, of a curious pale silver-grey colour, the first observed in the county, from South Croxton, was presented to the museum in 1902 by the Rev. F. E. Horwood. The latest record is a 'perfectly white mole' captured at Hathern.

## 10. Common Shrew. *Sorex araneus*, Linn.

Resident and generally distributed. Harley remarked upon the great numbers found dead every autumn, in pathways near farms and outbuildings—a fact well known, but which has not yet, I believe, been satisfactorily explained. Mr. W. Whitaker, of Wistow Grange, informed me in September, 1885, that a man named Storer had a white shrew, killed at Market Bosworth.

Mr. Horn, writing in 1906, said that two had been found dead in his house recently, which he assumed had been killed and brought in by the cats.

## CARNIVORA

## 12. Fox. *Vulpes vulpes*, Linn.

Bell—*Vulpes vulgari*s.

Resident and generally distributed. The following incident, related by my friend the late Dr. Macaulay, of Kibworth, occurred on the farm of Mr. J. Perkins at Laughton, who vouches for the facts: A labourer at work in a ploughed field saw a fox come through the hedge with a rabbit in his mouth, proceeding some distance into the field he laid the rabbit down, and scratching a hole placed the rabbit therein, covered it over, and then departed. When the fox was gone the man went to the place and took up the rabbit. About an hour afterwards he saw two foxes come into the field and go straight to the spot where the rabbit had been buried. One of them began to search for it, being joined in this operation by the other. After a few minutes had thus been spent in fruitless search, the two foxes fell upon each other and a fierce battle ensued until the spectator approached the combatants and separated them. Probably the first fox had invited his friend to dine, and the latter, thinking himself the victim of a hoax, endeavoured to be revenged on his friend by thrashing him. The late Mr. R. Widdowson, a well-known taxidermist of Melton Mowbray, writing to me in February, 1885, said that he had lately set up a fox shot in his neighbourhood whilst attempting to carry away three large fowls at once. That the fox and badger will live on terms of amity one with the other is borne out by the late Mr. Alfred Ellis, who recorded this as occurring at 'The Brand' for at least six years.<sup>5</sup> This also occurs at Hungerton 'Foxholes,' near Ingarsby.

I saw at Pinchen's in February, 1891, a mounted specimen in which all the under parts, which are usually white, were of a sooty black.

Mr. W. J. Horn, writing to me at the beginning of 1907, says: 'A vixen not long since laid up her cubs in a stick-heap in the town of Market Harborough.

## 11. Water-Shrew. *Neomys fodiens*, Pallas.

Bell—*Crossopus fodiens*.

Harley wrote:—'Not common. Occasionally met with on the banks of water-courses and drains in the meadow-lands near Loughboro'.' The late Mr. Widdowson wrote in February, 1885: 'I know one locality they frequented a few years ago—namely, Sysonby, about a mile from Melton.' Mr. F. Bates told me in 1885 that he had found them some years before at Narborough. Mr. J. S. Ellis informed me in 1885 that some five-and-twenty years previously, when he lived at Glenfield Lodge, he remembered one day seeing a water-shrew swimming and diving in a small pond, endeavouring to capture a frog, but although successful in bringing it to the bank half a dozen times, was unable to drag it out. Mr. W. H. Thomson has noticed the water-shrew in a brook which runs past Stoughton Grange, close to Leicester. He appears to know the animal well, as he says: 'It had its habitat in a small hole in the bank. They were called water-mice by us.'

In August last I was present when a field of wheat was being cut—five foxes were put out.'

## 13. Pine-Marten. *Mustela martes*, Linn.

Bell—*Martes abietum*.

Locally, Marten-Cat.

Now quite extinct. Harley wrote of this species (which he called *Mustela foina*<sup>6</sup>): 'Annually becoming rare. Occurred a few years since in the woods at Gopsall. The writer had an opportunity afforded him some years since of examining a female and young of this species of *mustela*, which had been captured on Earl Howe's estate, situate on the western side of the county. The occurrence of the marten in any district around Leicester must be considered rare and unusual. Affects decayed and hollow trees in which it brings forth its young. Preys much on young birds and small Mammalia.' I can find no recent notices of its capture in Leicestershire; there is, however, an old specimen in the Leicester Museum, supposed to be from Wellesborough, and another I had an opportunity of examining at Bradgate House is reported by Mr. H. A. Payne, of Enville, to have been killed at Bradgate about 1868 by Thomas Mennell. The late Mr. R. Widdowson wrote: 'When I first came to reside in Melton, I went over to Leicester several times and used to call on a Mr. Pickard, a hairdresser who lived in the little lane leading out of the market-place, just above the White Swan Inn. He was a taxidermist also, and I well remember seeing some martens which he had just stuffed, an adult female and two young ones which he told me were killed a few miles away, I believe at Bradgate. He had the adult a long time and used to exhibit it in his window, and was very fond of talking about it, declaring that it was brought to him alive. I also remember hearing that one was

<sup>6</sup> *M. foina*, of Linnaeus, Gmelin, Erxleben, Jenyns, &c., is, however, the continental beech-marten, and, despite the records of the older British naturalists, has never occurred in Britain, but has been confused with the pine-marten, which was at one time considered the rarer animal. (See R. Alston, in *Proc. Zool. Soc.* 1879; also *Zool.* 1879, pp. 441-8.)

<sup>4</sup> *Daily Mail*, 18 Jan. 1907.

<sup>5</sup> *Zool.* (1880), pp. 5-9.

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the note for what it is worth. One—a male—was killed by a dog at a rick at Aylestone Mill on 2 October, 1885, and was purchased for the museum on account of a slight variation, the upper surface of the left paw being white. Mr. W. Whitaker, of Wistow, informed me, in January, 1886, of a light yellow variety killed by a cat at Market Bosworth, and in the hands of the bird-stuffer there, to whom I wrote for details, only, unfortunately, to find that he had died.

Pinchen received a white one on 14 December, 1889, procured, he believes, at Cropston. Mr. Horn wrote to me that on 22 May, 1905, he saw a weasel carrying something in its mouth; and upon chase being given, it promptly went to ground in a mole-run, dropping its burden, which proved to be one of its young, naked and blind.

17. Badger. *Meles meles*, Linn.

Bell—*Meles taxus*.

Locally—Brock.

Resident and generally distributed; apparently more common than formerly, for writing of this animal (1840-50) Harley appears to have found it rare. He wrote:—‘Formerly well distributed over the county, abounding in most large woods, especially those verging on the forest of Charnwood. The woods of Gopsall and Oakley also bore marks of its retreat, even till a very recent date. Used also to occur at Mere Hill Wood, near Loughborough. Not common.’ His opinion as to its scarcity is shared up to the present by most observers, but probably the animal is more common than generally supposed, owing to its retiring, nocturnal habits. The Leicester Museum possessed two specimens marked ‘Leicestershire,’ presumably those recorded in the donation-book, one as having been presented by Sir A. S. Hazlerigg, bart., on 22 August, 1849, and the other shot at Keythorpe Hall, and presented by Lord Berners on 2 April, 1860. The Rev. Andrew Matthews, M.A., rector of Gumley, forwarded a half-grown living specimen—a male—to the Leicester Museum on 28 June, 1884. It was taken alive by a farm servant in the parish, who found it asleep, and cleverly contrived to get its neck between the prongs of a fork, pinning it to the ground whilst he tied its legs together, when he carried it



## MAMMALS

7 February, 1891, an account is given of the capture of a badger in a wood-yard in Thornton Lane; and the *Saturday Herald* of 30 May, 1891, reports the capture of another specimen of 40 lb. weight by Mr. C. J. Isaac, at Loughborough, on 27 May. The late Mr. T. Spencer informed me on 28 August, 1891, of four badgers being caught at Norton by Galby (Norton Gorse), two old and two young; three were killed, the other, an old one, escaped. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing to me in 1906, says: 'There is a badger-earth at Thorpe Langton, and there must be others in the fox-coverts, as one reads occasionally of a badger being killed by the fox-hounds—so recently as in November, 1906, in Sheephorns, a fox-cover near Kibworth.'

Mr. H. Butler Johnson informs me that a badger was caught in the autumn of 1906 in a drain on the Belton Road near Grace Dieu.

That badgers will live in amity with foxes is vouched for by Col. J. M. Fawcett, who told me (January, 1907) that many inhabit Hungerton Fox-holes, and their hoarse cries may often be heard at night.

### 18. Otter. *Lutra lutra*, Linn.

Bell—*Lutra vulgaris*.

Resident, but rare. Harley recorded that, in his day, it was occasionally found on the banks of the Rivers Soar, Trent, and Wreak. He was present at the capture of a female otter and four young ones in the spring of 1817. The young otters were taken from a rude lair, matted with rushes and flags, which the dam had carefully conveyed through a hole and concealed within a decayed pollard willow on the banks of the River Soar near to the upper mills in the parish of Loughborough. On being surprised, the old otter fought the dogs furiously, and was with difficulty overcome. The young, which had attained to the size of a large water-rat, were still blind. 'J. B.', writing in the *Leicester Chronicle and Mercury*, 28 February, 1885, mentioned that a large otter, stuffed and in a case, had been at the Narborough Inn for many years past, and was believed to have been shot by the late Mr. W. Sansome. In 1885 I called at the Narborough Inn, when the late Miss Sansome kindly showed me the above-mentioned specimen—large, but wretchedly mounted; it was shot between fifty and sixty years before. The Leicester Museum formerly possessed one killed near Enderby, on 28 September, 1849. Mr. N. C. Curzon, of Lockington Hall, informed me that a large female otter was killed there in October, 1877. Loughborough seems to have kept up its breed of otters since Harley's time; for seeing a notice in the local papers as to the

shooting by the water-keeper of two young otters in the River Soar, near the 'Big Meadow,' Loughborough, one evening in March, 1884, I sent a telegram on the 22nd to Mr. Dakin, a fishmonger of that town, hoping to get the specimens for the museum, and received a reply: 'Two were killed, but only one obtained. There are more about.' The late Mr. R. Widdowson, writing on 6 February, 1885, said; 'I heard last week of one being seen at Brentingby; I had one some years ago from the same locality.' Mr. H. Smith, of Burton Street, Melton Mowbray, informed me, in November, 1885, that there were a good many otters in that neighbourhood, both above and below Bishop's Mill.' The late Dr. Macaulay sent me a note given by the Rev. H. Parry, of Tugby Vicarage, of a fine dog otter killed 19 December, 1888, in the Eye Brook, between Loddington Redditch and 'Tugby Bushes.' Lucas, the keeper at Stapleford Park, appears to have seen several there, and reports that in 1887 he shot a female, and saw as many as five at one time during that year. He also caught one on 8 March, 1889, and saw a very fine one on 7 April of the same year. On 25 April, 1889, a female and two cubs were killed at Narborough Bogs, and were chronicled in the Leicester papers. A female specimen in the Leicester Museum was killed whilst coming from its lair on land belonging to Mr. Hill, on the banks of the Soar, 'Old Nook,' Syston, on 12 August, 1891. Mr. H. Smith, of Mill Lane, Melton Mowbray, obtained a young specimen, about one stone in weight, on 28 January, 1892. Mr. F. Bouskell informed me that he saw an otter in the canalized River Soar, halfway between Barrow and Loughborough, on 10 April, 1892, when in company with Messrs. S. and W. Harris. Mr. W. Hubbard, grazier, of Brentingby, shot a very fine otter on the River Eye, near Burbage's new covert, in October, 1892.<sup>8</sup>

The late Dr. Macaulay informed me that there was an otter in the brook at Kibworth on 27 December, 1893, and the brook being in flood, he thought the animal had probably come up from the Welland, some eight miles below. In 1892 a male otter, and in 1894 a female, were shot in the Narborough Bogs, and presented to the Leicester Museum by Mr. J. Taylor. The Rev. Hugh Parry told me that the keeper, Charles Spencer, killed a fine dog otter on 23 April, 1894, at Tugby. Mr. T. B. Cartwright, writing circa 1895 from the Mill House, Loughborough, informed me that he had secured two otters shot in the Soar at Loughborough. Mr. F. Crick records a dog otter caught in 1897 by a shepherd and his dog in the small brook running by the golf-links, Cosby. It had killed fourteen young ducks.

## RODENTIA

### 19. Squirrel. *Sciurus leucourus*, Kerr.

Bell—*Sciurus vulgaris*.

Resident and generally distributed, and has been seen so near Leicester as in a field close to Aylestone Mill on 24 October, 1885. A curious, though not very uncommon, example, exhibiting malformation of the teeth in this animal, was presented to the Leicester Museum by Mr. R. Wingate, on 18 April,

1876. In this specimen the upper incisors have become prolonged and curved into a half-circle. No locality is given with the specimen, and I therefore assume it to have been a caged animal, fed, doubtless, upon food too soft to allow the natural grinding of the teeth necessary to prevent such malformation. A young squirrel caught near Narborough was kept in captivity for about six years, in the family of

<sup>8</sup> *Daily Mercury*, 12 Oct. 1892.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Mr. Lees, of Castle Street, Hinckley, being fed on sopped bread and other soft food. Towards the end of its life, so I am informed, an extra claw or two appeared on one of its fore-feet (the left one my informant believes), and this grew to about three times as large as any of the others. I addressed Mr. Lingham Lees on the subject, and he replied: 'The growth on the squirrel's foot was a perfect toe with an abnormally large claw. All who saw it will agree with me that this was the case.' Mrs. Perry Herrick, writing in April, 1889, informed me that squirrels used to come for some years to take nuts from little stone boxes which had been placed for them outside the windows at Beaumanor, but they had then left off coming for some years. The last one I saw ran across the road, when I was driving between St. George's, Swannington and Staunton Harold, in October, 1906. It afterwards returned to a large ash-tree overhanging the road, and watched my progress from his coign of vantage. Mr. W. J. Horn, writing to me in 1906, mentions having once watched a squirrel searching the ivy of a dwelling-house. When it found a house-sparrow's nest it apparently searched the interior for eggs. The late Dr. Macaulay reported 'a pure white squirrel, with pink eyes (albino), in the possession of the Rev. A. Matthews, which was caught by a spaniel in Gumley Wood on 25 November, 1891.'

20. Dormouse. *Muscardinus avellanarius*, Linn.

Bell—*Myoxus avellanarius*.

Locally, Hazel-Mouse, Tufted-tail Mouse.

Rare. Harley wrote:—'Not common. Met with in a small wood which lies against Ravenstone and Normanton-on-Heath,' but in no other woods of the county did he discover it. The late Mr. Widdowson wrote, in 1885:—'Not heard of for a certainty, save one brought in a load of oak-bark.' The late Mr. Ingram informed me in 1885 'that he had never met with it.'

21. Brown Rat. *Mus decumanus*, Pallas.

Locally, Common Rat.

Its distribution in the county is unfortunately too general. Varieties occasionally occur. Mr. H. A. Payne informed me that a very light cream-coloured rat was killed in Martinshaw Wood, in 1876, and was in the late Lady Stamford's possession. The late Mr. A. Paget presented to the museum a white example, which was captured in his garden in West Street, on 6 November, 1886. The specimen was a female. Varieties such as these must not, however, be confounded with the white rats so often kept as pets; these singularly enough—so Mr. Oldfield Thomas tells me—being albinos of the black rat.

Relative to the latter species, Mr. F. T. Mott recorded a rather interesting young, dark variety of the common rat caught at 'New Parks,' in the early part of 1886 as a *bona-fide* example of *Mus rattus*.<sup>9</sup> This he exhibited to section 'D' of the Society on 15 September, 1886. The specimen, which by the kindness of the owner, C. Adcock, I have been enabled to examine, is dark brown above and light brown underneath, and except in size of body, does not resemble the black rat, the length of the ears being  $\frac{6}{10}$  in. as opposed to  $\frac{9}{10}$  in. occurring in two of the

latter species which I received in the flesh from London; the less breadth of the ears is also very marked, and the length of the tail is only  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. as opposed to  $8\frac{1}{8}$  in.

An enormous male specimen shot with a bullet from a .410 walking-stick gun at Blaby Villa on 7 March, 1889, by Mr. W. A. Vice, was presented by him to the Leicester Museum.

Mr. W. J. Horn, writing at the end of 1906, said that he had recently seen a rat running about the upper branches of a high oak tree with the agility of a squirrel, and when his terriers surprised one in a hedge-bottom, it ran to the topmost twigs of the thorn fence. He adds: 'Rats also dive well, keeping under water even longer than a water-vole, in fact till quite exhausted.'

[Black Rat. *Mus rattus*, Linn.

Not mentioned by Potter, and probably long extinct in the county, despite the assertion of its having been 'seen in some old cellars in Leicester within the last twenty years.'<sup>10</sup> The late Rev. Andrew Matthews, who resided in Leicestershire thirty-four years, had never heard of its occurrence, and the late Mr. Widdowson and Mr. Ingram, writing in February, 1885, were likewise agreed as to its extinction in this county. Indeed, anyone acquainted with the history of the black rat in this country must know how unlikely it is to occur, except in ancient seaports. Vide note on the preceding species.]

22. House-Mouse. *Mus musculus*, Linn.

Far too common. Several specimens of a curious variety were caught at Kibworth on 23 March, 1885, in taking down a cornstack belonging to Mr. Buzzard. One of them was of a dingy white, with the exception of the back, which retained faint traces of original mouse-colour, caused by the tips of the hairs being of a dusky whity-brown. As the specimen was placed in spirits I was unable to judge if the eyes were pink or black, but they appeared to be of the latter colour—and indeed this has since been stated to be the case. Whether a cross between escaped albino mice and the common mouse, or merely an accidental variety, it is hard to say, but as the owners of the house do not appear to have ever kept 'white mice,' the presumption is in favour of the latter supposition. Mr. W. J. Horn writes in 1906:—'These also climb well. Many people who have creepers trained all over a house wonder how it is mice are found in the bedrooms.' Two curious nests made from tow and string and built in poppy-heads, were presented in 1899, to the Leicester Museum, by Mr. E. W. Squires of that place.

23. Long-tailed Field-Mouse. *Mus sylvaticus*, Linn.

Locally, Wood-Mouse.

Resident and generally distributed. Harley recorded that, in 1846, he examined the winter retreat of one of these mice near Bradgate Park, and was astonished at the quantity of stores which had been carried in, and which he computed at the fourth part of an imperial bushel. I received one from Belvoir on 4 July, 1885, and since then I found one dead on a small grass plot at a house, so near to the town as the Aylestone Road, and another on 11 December, 1888. Mr. J. Whitaker records a pale cream-coloured

<sup>9</sup> *Trans. Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* Jan. 1887, p. 39.

<sup>10</sup> *Mid. Nat.* 1884, p. 302.



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into the Abbey Park, Leicester, these pests became so numerous in 1887, that it was necessary to exterminate them, and hence resulted the novel spectacle of small shooting parties in the heart of Leicester; and as, through the existence of brushwood and the presence of onlookers — chiefly street arabs — the rabbits were not very easy to hit, the unsuccessful gunners were considerably cheered and refreshed by the running fire of criticisms indulged in by the spectators.

Malformations and varieties constantly occur, and the museum donation-book records the presentation, on 18 October, 1851, by Mr. J. Knight, of Ayle-

## UNGU

### 30. Red Deer. *Cervus elaphus*, Linn.

*Locally*, Stag, Hart (male), Hind (female), Calf (young).

Of early Pleistocene Age, and has survived as a species until the present time, being semi-domesticated in a few parks in the county; nowhere more numerous than at Bradgate Park, where it breeds. Nothing apparently is known of its introduction, and it is extremely probable that the deer now to be seen there may be the descendants of ancient herds. Some interesting figures of these deer are given in a book written about 1840 by a Mr. John Martin of Steward's Hay.<sup>15</sup> A fine specimen of a 'Royal Stag' was shot at Bradgate in 1881, expressly for the Leicester Museum, for which it was subsequently mounted.

### 31. Fallow-Deer. *Cervus dama*, Linn.

*Locally*, Buck (male), Doe (female), Fawn (young).

Resident and breeding in semi-confinement in the

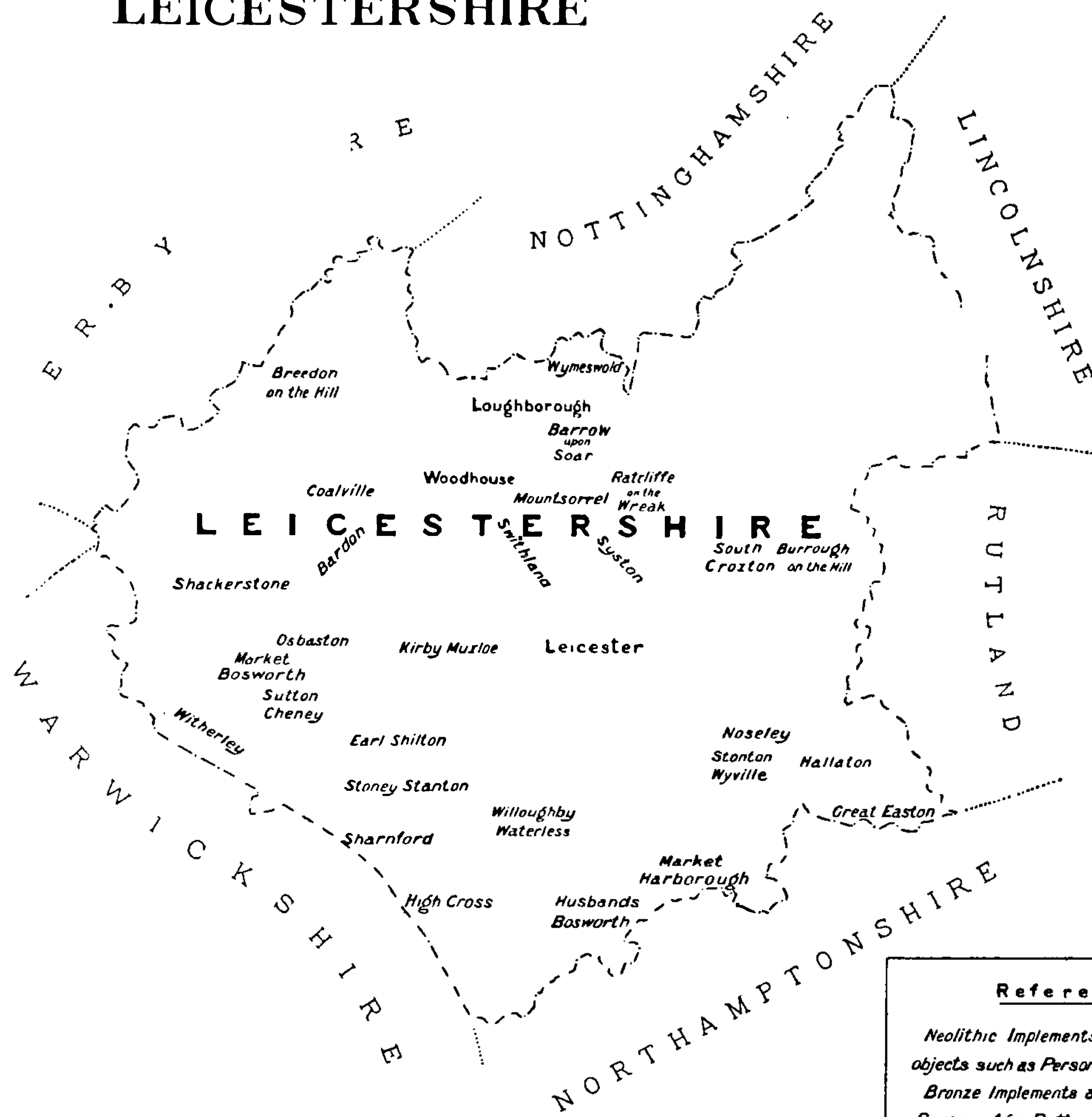
<sup>15</sup> *Sketches of Deer in Bradgate Park, by an Amateur.*







PREHISTORIC MAP  
OF  
LEICESTERSHIRE



**Reference**  
*Neolithic Implements & Miscellaneous objects such as Personal ornaments coins & Bronze Implements and Weapons and Bronze Age Pottery: also Late Celtic Antiquities*

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Leicester, are both suggestive of the latter end of the Stone Age, or even the early part of the Bronze period. The polished flint celt, with flat sides and measuring  $5\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length, found near Loughborough, is perhaps more nearly related to the Neolithic than to the Bronze Age. But it is difficult to pronounce positively upon separate antiquities found at different parts of the county, and without data as to their environments. At Leicester, however, we have the important record of a discovery which indicates the survival of an object of the Stone Age through many centuries. A fragment of a flint celt was there found buried in the earth at a depth of 12 ft., but it occurred in association with objects of the Roman, and perhaps even Saxon, period. Sir John Evans discovered at Osbaston a muller for crushing corn, which, perhaps, may be attributed to the Neolithic Age, but it might equally well belong to the same period as the quern-stone of bee-hive shape found at Breedon, whose period is sufficiently indicated by the iron pins which were found in association with it.

Arrow-heads of flint, and presumably of the latter part of the Neolithic period, or the earlier part of the Bronze Age, have been found at Spinney Hill, near Leicester, and at Mountsorrel; the former being leaf-shaped, the latter barbed.

Various other forms of flint and stone implements, of regular Neolithic type, have been found at Aylestone, South Croxton, Kirby Muxloe, Noseley, Shackerstone, Stoney Stanton, Swithland, Witherley, and elsewhere, and particulars of them will be found in the topographical list at the end of the present article.

The only trace of megalithic remains in Leicestershire, apparently, is, or rather was, the monolith standing 7 ft. high and 3 ft. in the ground, which formerly existed near the ruins of Leicester Abbey. It was popularly known as St. John's Stone, and local topographers<sup>3</sup> were inclined to regard it as an object in some way connected with Druidical rites.

### THE BRONZE AGE

The Bronze Age is a convenient term now generally used to distinguish the stage in advancing culture when man employed metal tools, implements, and weapons in his various pursuits. It must be regarded as one of the progressive steps by which man advanced from ignorance to an early stage of civilization. Although various suggestions have been made as to the period which is covered by the Bronze Age, it is at once safer and more convenient for our purpose to treat it as a phase of civilization rather than a definite period of time.

The following are particulars of some of the more important objects of this period found in Leicestershire :—

In the monumental *History of Leicestershire*, by John Nichols, F.S.A., (vol. iii, pt. 2), there is a folio plate on which are engraved illustrations of twelve bronze objects, all of which apparently were found at Husbands Bosworth. They comprise four looped and socketed celts; two socketed celts without loops; three socketed gouges; two spear-heads; and a curiously-shaped object of bronze which may have been the flat ferrule of a spear-

<sup>3</sup> Mrs. T. F. Johnson, *Glimpses of Auct. Leic.* (1891), p. 5.

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## EARLY MAN

handle. Generally speaking the forms are elegant and rather more elongated than one usually finds in articles of this period found in England. It is possible, of course, that the drawing may be somewhat inaccurate. There is little known about these bronze objects beyond the fact that they were discovered on 23 December, 1801, by Matthew Grocock and James Allam, of Husbands Bosworth, about 6 ft. below the surface, in a piece of land belonging to Mr. F. F. Turvile, called Gravel Pit Close. Recent inquiries of the present representatives of the family have tended to show that they are not now preserved in Leicestershire.

A flanged bronze celt of small size and quite early type is figured in Nichols's *Leicestershire*,<sup>3</sup> and is therein stated (p. 605) to have been found near the Foss Road in Croft parish. The engraving, like so many in this book which represent early antiquities, is by no means accurately executed, but it offers so many points of resemblance to a bronze celt now in Leicester Museum, and of unknown provenance, that one feels little hesitation in regarding it as having been intended as a picture of that implement.

Nichols<sup>4</sup> also figures two typical spear-heads of the Bronze Age, each socketed and furnished with two loops, found on Bosworth Field.

Another discovery of a Bronze Age object worthy of being recorded is the palstave found at Bardon Hill,<sup>5</sup> in or about 1875, and now preserved in the Leicester Museum. It is 6½ in. in length, and weighs three-quarters of a pound.

A bronze dagger of unusual interest was found in Leicester some years since, and is now preserved in the museum of that town.<sup>6</sup> The pommel consists of two pieces of bone riveted on either side of a bronze plate, which, however, does not appear to have been continuous with the blade. Nine rivets remain attached to the base of the blade, and they are of different lengths, indicating that the handle was made thicker in the middle than at the sides, a very natural and convenient arrangement. Of nine rivets in the bronze plate near the pommel eight remain. The handle was probably made of wood, but it has entirely perished.

A palstave of the common form, with curved stop-ridge and a loop which had been worn or broken about the middle, is figured in Potter's *Charnwood Forest*.<sup>7</sup> It was found in 1818, during planting operations, at Benscliffe. The writer in describing the implement remarks that it is supposed to belong to an era much anterior to that of those having sockets.

The most important discovery of Bronze Age remains in Leicestershire was the hoard found in 1858 at Beacon Hill, Charnwood Forest. The objects, which comprised two spear-heads, one celt, one gouge, and an armlet, all of bronze, were found by workmen engaged in cutting a drive through the encampment on Beacon Hill. The antiquities were exhibited at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries of London<sup>8</sup> in May, 1859, when it was

<sup>3</sup> Vol. iv, pt. 2, plate opposite p. 606.

<sup>4</sup> Op. cit. iv, pt. 2, plate opposite p. 557. To his brief mention of the discovery Nichols adds a footnote on the use of bows and arrows in warfare, from which it is evident that he considers the spear-head to be of mediaeval date.

<sup>5</sup> *Trans. Leic. Phil. and Lit. Soc.* pt. 9, p. 29 (1888).

<sup>6</sup> Evans, *Bronze Imp.* 231.

<sup>7</sup> Plate opposite p. 42. He adds: 'My own opinion, from a close examination of the peculiarity of form and the small size (5½ in. long) . . . is, that it was inserted in a long cleft shaft, and used by the Druids for cutting off the mistletoe growing on branches too high to be reached from the ground.'

<sup>8</sup> *Proc.* (ser. i), iv, 322-3.



explained that the spear-heads and celts were found within a space measuring 6 ft. by 3 ft., and occupied by earth which differed from the surrounding soil. On examination it was found to contain bone, pottery of well-burnt clay, and charcoal.

The two spear-heads were socketed and pierced with rivet-holes through the socket. One,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, was perfect, and the other, which was broken, had apparently measured about  $6\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length. A gouge, also socketed and measuring  $3\frac{1}{2}$  in. long, was found with the spear-heads. The celt was of the socketed variety, narrow and tapering in the waist, with an almost semi-circular cutting edge, and provided with a single loop.

The armlet referred to was unornamented and of small size, being only 3 in. in diameter. It was found outside the inclosure, at a distance of about fifty yards from the other objects. Its shape is what is known as penannular, and the two terminations have been considerably thickened so as to form irregular knobs. According to an account published in 1842<sup>9</sup> it appears that 'an ancient battle-axe' was found in ploughing a field at the foot of Beacon Hill, and that it passed into the possession of Miss Watkinson, of Woodhouse. Subsequently this object was brought to London and exhibited at a meeting of the Society of Antiquaries. It was then found to be a bronze celt of plain, flat, early type, measuring little more than 5 in. in length.<sup>10</sup> It doubtless belongs to an early period of the Bronze Age, whilst the other implements provided with sockets must be placed at the latter end of that age. The armlet, or bracelet, may belong perhaps to the early Iron Age. Roman coins and other remains have also been found in the immediate vicinity, so there is good reason to believe that this naturally strong and easily defended site may have been continuously inhabited by successive tribes from the Bronze Age down to the historic period; and, indeed, judging from the character of the earthworks, it is not improbable that it was inhabited and artificially defended in the Neolithic Age.<sup>11</sup>

The site now known as Beacon Hill must always have been one of considerable importance when defence against foes was a consideration, and it is unlikely that the Neolithic people would have ignored such an eminently desirable situation.

In the Bronze Age it was certainly a place of importance, and from the evidence of bronze casting in prehistoric times which the local discoveries have furnished, there seems no reason why Beacon Hill should not be added to the curiously limited number of Bronze Age settlements or villages known in the kingdom.

The particular discovery referred to is a portion of a bronze celt mould containing traces of lead, and now preserved in the museum at Leicester.<sup>12</sup> The lead was doubtless part of a model used in the making of clay moulds in which bronze celts were cast, the lead having first been heated and then poured off. It is clear that work such as this implies a very considerable amount of skill and knowledge of metallurgical processes, and indicates that the craftsmen were persons of advanced culture. Some of the best castings of the Bronze Age, especially castings in the form of socketed spear-heads,

<sup>9</sup> T. R. Potter, *The Hist. and Antiq. of Charnwood Forest*, 49.

<sup>10</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (ser. ii), i, 44; Evans, *Bronze Imp.*

<sup>11</sup> A plan is given in Potter's book just quoted, p. 49, and in the article on 'Earthworks' in this volume.

<sup>12</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (ser. ii, xx), 258.



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series of punctures at regular intervals on the waist and at the top and bottom edge of the rim. Here again, however, the artist may have added details in a somewhat different way from the original.

The pot or urn was discovered in the year 1849 in the grounds of the rectory house at Market Bosworth during the work of grubbing up a hedge. It was broken into a number of pieces, and afterwards deposited by the Rev. N. P. Small in the museum at Leicester. In 1854, when the urn was figured in the publications of the Anastatic Drawing Society, the fragments could not be found. No particulars are forthcoming as to the size of the urn, but the general form, as shown in the drawing, suggests a cinerary urn of about 12 in. or 15 in. high.

Pottery of the Bronze Age is not particularly abundant in Leicestershire. It is probable that some has shared the fate of that found at Market Bosworth; but there are a few interesting pieces in Leicester Museum. These include a cinerary urn nearly 6 in. high, found at Aylestone Park; an urn of red earth, 4½ in. high, probably a vessel belonging to the class known as incense-cups, found at Mountsorrel; a cinerary urn of the regular Bronze Age type, 16½ in. high, found at the same place, and now in the museum at Leicester; and a cinerary urn 13 in. high, found at a barrow called Round Hill, at Syston. In addition to these there were two vessels of pottery, presumably of the Bronze Age, found at Noseley, and exhibited at a meeting of the Leicestershire Archaeological Society in 1863.<sup>18</sup>

### THE EARLY IRON AGE

This period, which may be said to commence with the introduction of iron implements, utensils, and weapons in England, and to end with the Roman invasion and occupation, is at once the latest and the most interesting of the archaeological divisions of the prehistoric period. No definite date can be ascribed to the beginning of the early Iron Age, because although it is known to have commenced in central and western Europe at about the same time, and possibly about five centuries before the Christian era, there are no certain data upon which a precise opinion on the subject can be formulated. In Britain, separated as it is from the European continent, it is extremely likely that the knowledge of iron may have arrived somewhat later than in other regions of western Europe.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE .

There is reason to believe that the art of working iron, and the knowledge of its immense superiority over bronze, were brought hither by a tribe or division of the great Celtic family, known as the Brythons, a name which is perpetuated in that of the people who still flourish in these islands.

Gaulish and other continental influences are clearly shown in the arts and industries of the people of the early Iron Age in Britain, and it is this interesting fact, perhaps, which gives the chief importance to the discoveries in Leicestershire now to be described.

In this county there have been found several objects characteristic of the late Celtic period, and of the greatest archaeological importance. The first to be recorded, both on account of rarity and interest, are the remains of the bronze mounts of a wooden bucket found at Mountsorrel in what has been considered a Roman well. Articles of this class and period are so very rare that only two had been previously known as having been found in England,<sup>14</sup> namely, one found at Marlborough, and one found in the late Celtic cemetery at Aylesford. Both of these are considered by Dr. Arthur Evans to be foreign productions, and in both we find ornamentation of anthropomorphic and zoöomorphic character. In the case of the Aylesford bucket the terminals of the handle by which it is attached to the bucket are human heads. In the Marlborough bucket there are also human heads arranged in pairs. In the Mountsorrel example, however, and also in that next to be described, the handle attachments are in the form of bulls' heads. Zoöomorphic forms of this character are rare, but a bull's head cast in solid bronze was found at Ham Hill, Somerset,<sup>15</sup> in which is displayed great artistic skill, although convention is carried almost to the verge of caricature.

The vertical bronze straps of the Mountsorrel bucket are decorated with a debased form of spiral scroll-work in relief, interrupted at intervals by raised rings. The main portion of the bucket, which has been restored, was of course composed of wooden staves. The handle is of particularly good workmanship, and consists of elegant bead and reel moulding.

Another bucket, or rather the broken remains of the bronze mounts and some fragments of the wooden staves of one, were found between Twyford and Burrough Hill, Leicestershire, in association, it is said, with a socketed spear-head of iron. The fragments of wooden staves are fairly well preserved, and amongst the various pieces of metal is the bronze head of a bull from which project the ears and horns of the animal. This was manifestly a part of the attachment of the handle to the bucket, and it furnishes an interesting parallel to the similar, if not quite identical, form on the Mountsorrel specimen just described.

In general character the Leicestershire buckets are clearly of later date, and of more debased art, than the examples found in Kent and Wiltshire; and there is good reason to believe that they may be of native British workmanship.

The curious bronze object found at High Cross is another characteristic relic of the late Celtic or early Iron Age. It consists of two disks of metal connected by a tube, and may possibly have served as the ornamental boss of the nave of a chariot wheel. Examples of these objects have been found

<sup>14</sup> J. Romilly Allen, F.S.A., *Celtic Art in Pagan and Christian Times*, 116.

<sup>15</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* xxi, 133.



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## EARLY MAN

elsewhere, notably in the East Riding of Yorkshire, at Ham Hill, Somerset, in Cambridgeshire, and at Putney, in Middlesex, and the general belief is that they were in some way attached to chariots, although it must be confessed that the precise method of attachment and the exact purpose equally require fuller explanation.

A horse's bit of bronze, somewhat similar to the example found near Hull, was obtained during excavations in Bath Lane, Leicester, in the year 1876. It is of late Celtic character, and possesses three conical points on the central neck, arranged triangularly.

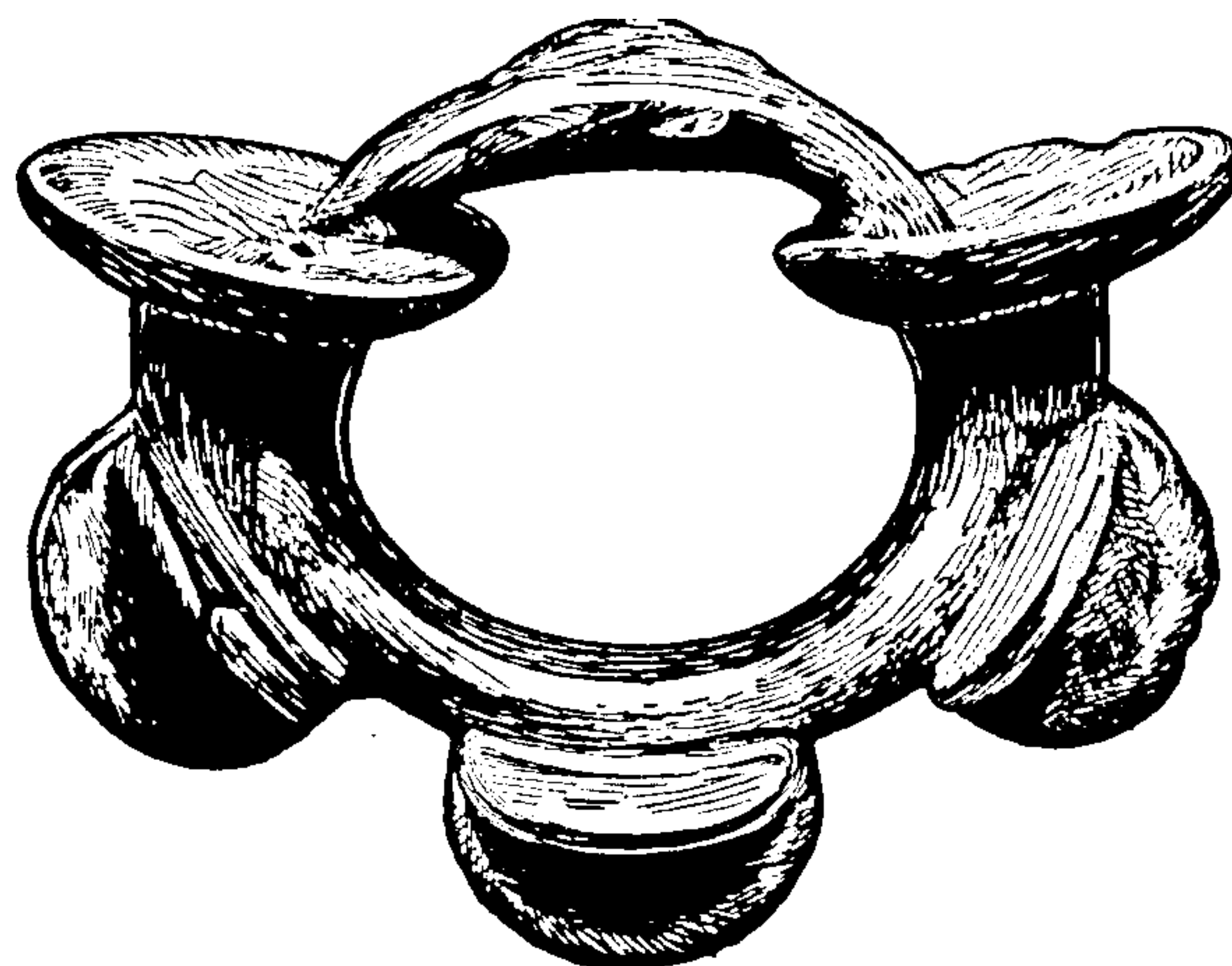
Part of a snaffle-bit of bronze, likewise of the late Celtic period, was found at Great Easton. It was at one time regarded as the guard of a sword, but the late Sir A. Wollaston Franks identified it as similar to several objects found in association with horse trappings at Polden Hill, Somerset.

It is a noteworthy fact that a large proportion of the metallic antiquities of the early Iron Age are parts of the harness of horses or of the fittings and mountings of chariots.

The British Museum possesses one of the bronze harness-fittings known as terrets, the purpose of which was both to serve as a guide-ring for the reins, and to add some kind of ornamental enrichment to the harness. Whether they actually served the purpose of the terrets of modern times in acting as guides or supports of the reins affixed to the collar or saddle of a horse in shafts is, however, somewhat doubtful. Generally they were loose rings of bronze, ornamental in character, sometimes enamelled, attached to and possibly depending from some part of the leather gear of the horse. They may, indeed, have been purely ornamental accessories of the harness, similar in some respects to the brass ornaments with which modern carters and wagoners delight to bedeck the harness of their horses; but there is no reason to doubt that they formed parts of horse furniture, as they are usually found in association with interments which contain other clear proofs of chariot burials, &c.

Some examples, such as those from Bapchild<sup>16</sup> and Westhall, Suffolk,<sup>17</sup> are, or have been, enamelled. The example in the British Museum which was found at Leicester, however, has never been enriched in this way, and in general character represents a rather late development, or perhaps degradation, in late Celtic art.

Of the characteristic forms of pottery of the early Iron Age Leicestershire has furnished but few examples. Nichols, however, in his history of the county,<sup>18</sup> figures a vessel of somewhat peculiar form, which in its general appearance, and from the cordons or raised bands, and very small base, is



BRONZE TERRET FOUND IN LEICESTERSHIRE (NOW IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM)

<sup>16</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* xx, 57-9.

<sup>18</sup> Vol. vi, pt. i, pl. lx.

<sup>17</sup> *Arch.* xxxvi, 454-6.



A cist burial, probably of the prehistoric age, was discovered at Stonton Wyville<sup>19</sup> in the year 1869. The grave consisted of slabs of stone set up in the form of a stone cist, and contained the skeleton of an adult person, with the leg-bones gathered up, lying on the side, whilst some charcoal and ashes were found near it. The size of the cist was 3 ft. 6 in. in length, and 1 ft. 10 in. in greatest width ; at the east end it narrowed to a width of about 1 ft., whilst the west end terminated in the form of the bow of a boat. Three slabs of ironstone, ingeniously put together, inclosed the north side of the grave ; another slab of stone was placed across the eastern end, and the south part was built up of small stones, making a kind of rubble wall.

The cist was found at a depth of 6 ft. below the surface of the churchyard, and on the spot where the south aisle of the Norman church formerly stood—a situation which suggests the possibility of the burial being of Norman or mediaeval date. The circumstances of the burial, however, the crouched-up position of the skeleton, the associated ashes and charcoal, and the method in which the cist was constructed, all point with conclusive unanimity to a prehistoric origin.

#### ANCIENT BRITISH COINS

Of the few ancient British coins found in Leicestershire one or two are of considerable interest.

An uninscribed gold coin found at Hallaton belongs to a type which is particularly worthy of note from the fact that it proves the derivation of the cruciform ornament which occurs on the coins of Tasciovanus and Androcomius from the laureate busts of the early coins. Sir John Evans points out that the obverse (consisting of cruciform ornament of two wreaths with two open crescents back to back, and locks of hair in the angle spaces) resembles the coins found at Wonersh ; whilst the reverse (comprising a fairly well-shaped horse, a radiated pellet, perhaps the sun, and a wheel below the horse) is more nearly connected with the Whaddon Chase coins of Buckinghamshire.



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ne celt, 6½ in. long and 3 in. wide at the cutting edge, found in the Abbey Meadow, [M. Browne, op. cit. 33.]

ent of flint celt found buried 12 ft. deep accompanied by objects of Roman or even n age. [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (ser. 2) i, 249; Evans, *Stone Imp.* 144.]

ated axe 7 in. long, found in the cemetery at Leicester. [Evans, *Stone Imp.* 200.]

-heads, both leaf-shaped and barbed, have been found in the neighbourhood of [Evans, *Stone Imp.* 389.]

dagger, with pommel composed of two pieces of bone riveted on either side of a . This specimen belongs to the early part of the Bronze Age. [Evans, *Bronze*

e dagger, 12¼ in. in length, found 12 ft. deep in the Abbey Meadow, Leicester. ceister Museum. It is chiefly remarkable for the large size of its rivets.

f a horse-bit of late Celtic workmanship (resembling the fine example found at Rise, found about 1876 in Bath Lane, Leicester. [*Trans. Leic. Archit. and Arch. Soc.*

of burnt clay similar to that found at Barrow-on-Soar, but rather more oval in form. inker for fishing.

n of Tasciovanus, uninscribed, but otherwise resembling those inscribed TAXCI, ceister. [Evans, *Brit. Coins*, 229, 535.]

2 HILLS.—Flint scraper found here. [M. Browne, op. cit. 34.]

1Y HILL.—Flint arrow-head, of leaf shape, and flint scrapers found here. e, op. cit. 34.]

—Ground flint celt, with flat sides, 5½ in. long. [Evans, *Stone Imp.* 111.]

1 stone celt of oval sections found near Loughborough. [Evans, *Stone Imp.* 129.]

cient British gold coin of the type pl. A, No. 11, of Evans, *Brit. Coins*, was found 4. [Evans, *Brit. Coins*, 56.]

1RTH.—Bronze Age vessel, probably a cinerary urn, now lost. [*Anastatic Drawing* tion for 1854.]

-Barbed flint arrow-head, of rather heavy type, was found here, 7 or 8 ft. [M. . cit. 34.]

2 Age vessel of red earth 2¾ in. high, and 4½ in. external diameter, probably an . It has ornamental incisions on the outside of the regular herring-bone type, so c of the Bronze Age. It is now in the museum at Leicester. [M. Browne,

excavation here, generally known as a Roman well, were found a fine Bronze Age high, and fragments of two very important late Celtic buckets, consisting of bronze s, and a well-shaped handle, with ornaments in the form of a bull's head at the e the handles were attached to the buckets. These articles are now in Leicester

celt and two vessels of pottery found here, drawings of which were exhibited at a the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society, 30 November, 1863. s were at that time in the possession of Sir A. G. Hazlerigg, bart. The pottery was of the Bronze Age, the ornament being in the form of zigzags and parallel ns. *Leic. Soc.* ii, 275.]

ie muller for crushing corn, &c., found by Sir John Evans. [Evans, *Stone*

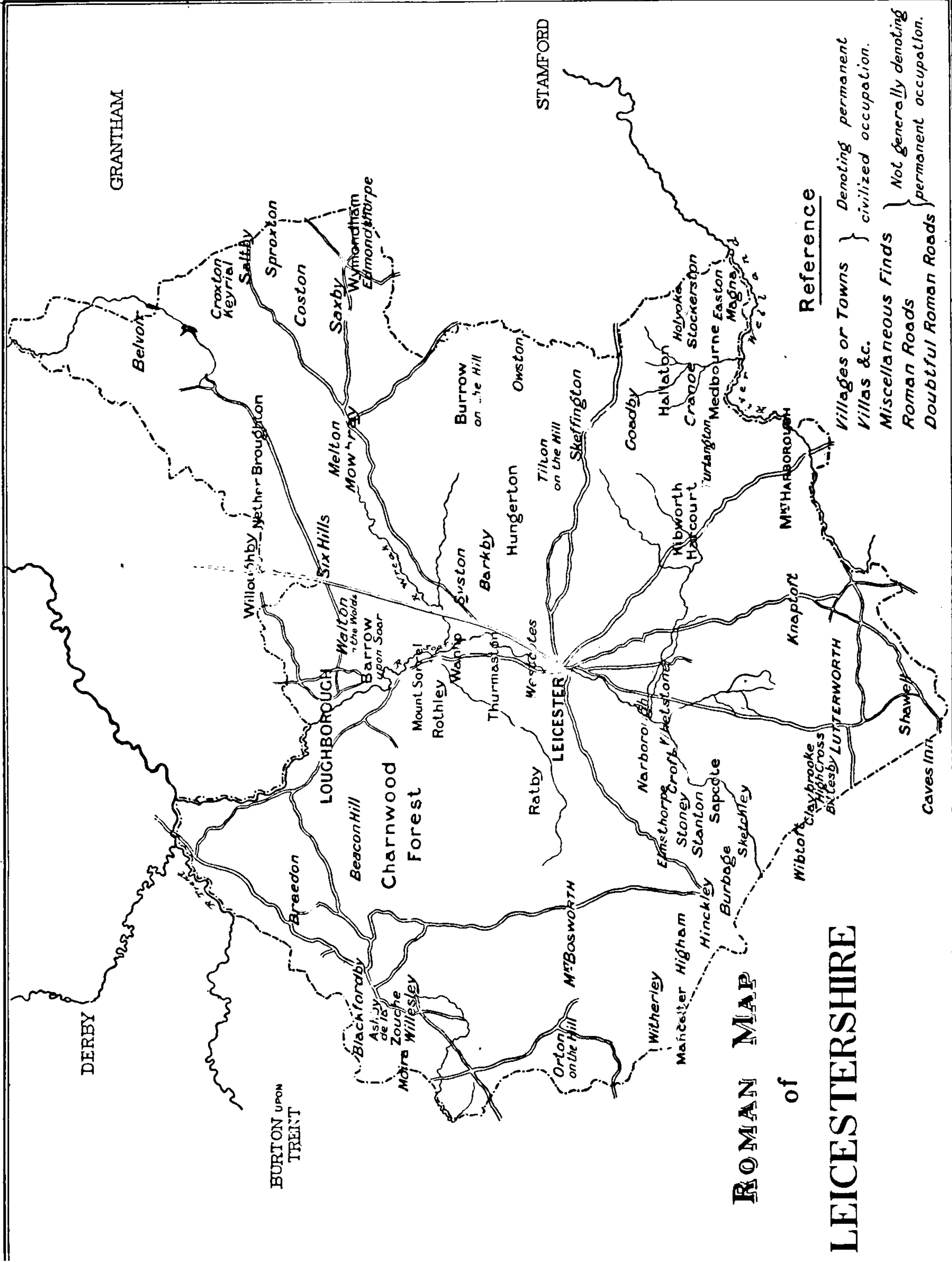
Old Fosse Road).—Greenstone celt found here in 1859, now in Leicester

-Ground stone celt, formerly in the possession of Mr. S. E. S. Perkins. [Nichols, *Hist.*



WILLOUGHBY WATERLESS.—Late Celtic urn. [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, pt. 1, pl. lx, 400.]  
WITHERLEY—HASTWELL COMMON.—Chipped and ground flint celt, and perforated stone axe.  
[Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, pt. 2, p. 1031.]  
WYMESWOLD.—Witch stone, a natural pebble, perforated by a natural hole, now preserved in  
Leicester Museum. [Evans, *Stone Imp.* 470.]





**Reference**

Villages or Towns } Denoting permanent Villas &c. } civilized occupation.

Miscellaneous Finds } Not generally denoting Roman Roads } permanent occupation. } Doubtful Roman Roads }



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

forest land, and beyond the valley of the Soar we have evidence of nothing denoting occupation during the Roman era but the hoards of coins buried in Charnwood Forest, and small miscellaneous finds such as spear-heads and odd coins, which do not denote any settlement. Along the course of the Roman roads, however, remains are naturally to be found. On the Watling Street, which forms the south-western boundary of the county, are the stations of Tripontium, Venonae, and Manduessedum, which, lying on both sides of the road, are each partly in this county and partly in Warwickshire. On the Fosse Way, which also passes through Venonae or High Cross, there is the town of Ratae or Leicester, and along the valley of the Soar, west and north of Leicester, there were probably villas of some importance at Danett's Hall, Westcotes, Rothley, Mountsorrel, and Barrow-upon-Soar. The eastern side of the county is almost as equally devoid of remains of the Roman period as the western. There are traces of villas at Market Harborough and Medbourne, in the valley of the Welland, and at Wymondham. With the exception of Wymondham all the villas mentioned lay in the valleys of the Soar and the Welland, sites selected no doubt in order that the produce of the lands might be distributed by water. These villas were the properties of large landowners, sometimes Romans, but more often probably Romanized Britons, who lived in the houses, caused the lands immediately round them to be cultivated by their slaves, and let the rest to the half serf *coloni*. The houses were of types suitable to this climate, and only to be found in Britain and northern Gaul. The simpler, and generally the smaller, of these was the corridor house, which consisted of a row of rooms with a passage or corridor running along one side of it. The other type was the courtyard house, consisting of three rows of similar rooms, and passages forming three sides of a square, with an open courtyard in the middle. Both types were seldom, if ever, carried higher than the ground floor.

No less than ten hoards of coins have been found in the county; of these the dates of the coins have not been recorded for two, Kibworth and Market Bosworth; that at Hinckley cannot have been hidden earlier than A.D. 180; one at Edmondthorpe possibly as late as A.D. 383, and one at Leicester A.D. 423; one at Lutterworth not earlier than A.D. 138, and another one at Leicester not later than A.D. 337. The remaining three, those found at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Loughborough, and Lutterworth, comprise coins dating between A.D. 257 and 275.

It is perhaps worthy of remark that hoards, of which the date of the latest coins is approximately the same as that of those last referred to, are not infrequent.<sup>5</sup> The natural reason to be assigned for the depositing of hoards is that they were hidden as treasure, to avoid loss by plunder during a disturbed condition of the country. A systematic investigation of the evidence of such hoards would probably throw considerable light upon the history of the times to which they refer. Those, however, now under consideration

<sup>5</sup> In Derbyshire, at Crick, two such hoards have been found, the covering dates being respectively 250-70 and 265-8; at Eyam one hoard, 253-82; at Langworth, 253-75; and at Wirksworth, B.C. 29-A.D. 275; *V.C.H. Derb.* i, 256-62. In Warwickshire, at Knowle, 253-73; at Chalveston, 253-83; and at Nuneaton, 70-267; *V.C.H. Warw.* i, 247. In Northants, at Hardingstone, 250-80; and at Wootton, 253-68; *V.C.H. Northants.* i, 217, 222. In Bedfordshire, at Flitwick, 268-73, and at Luton, 196-270; *V.C.H. Beds.* ii. In Yorkshire, at Nunburnholme, 3,000 small brass, 253-75; and in Sussex, at Eastbourne, near Beachy Head, 253-75; *Suss. Arch. Coll.* xxxi, 201.



as that to which hidden hoards of coins may be expected to belong.

Several camps with earthen defences exist in the county and are attributed to the Roman period because of their shape or for some other reason ; in some cases, however, they are probably of an earlier date, and were utilized perhaps by the natives as habitations, or possibly only as cattle shelters ; among these may be mentioned Burrow-on-the-Hill, Hallaton, Hungerton, and Market Harborough, which, from the remains found in them, seem to have been inhabited.

The history of Romano-British Leicestershire, however, centres round the chief town Ratae or Leicester, of which a detailed account will here be given.

### LEICESTER

The position of Leicester is well adapted for the site of a Roman town, being situated on the great Roman track known as the Fosse Way, and protected and supplied with water by the Soar on the north and west sides. Its identity with the Roman city of Ratae seems to have been universally acknowledged since the discovery of a milestone at Thurmaston in this county.<sup>1</sup> There seems to be little evidence of any permanent settlement at Leicester before the time of the Roman occupation, although it is probable that such a settlement existed, as the Romans generally built their towns on sites previously occupied by the Britons, and Lindum (Lincoln) and Rhage or Ratae (Leicester), according to Ptolemy, as before mentioned, were the two towns of the Coritani or Coritavi, a British tribe. A portion of what is probably a boundary bank of the late Celtic period, known as Row or Raw Dykes, exists to the south of the town, but nothing has been discovered which would indicate more than a general occupation of the district before the Romano-British period.<sup>2</sup> We may dismiss the fabulous story of the city of King Lear built in B.C. 800, as having no surer foundation than the fertile imagination of the twelfth-century chronicler, Geoffrey of Monmouth. What evidence we possess seems to point to the Roman settlement having been of an early date. It may perhaps be conjectured that such a settlement existed before the middle of the first century from an inscription on a roof tile found at Leicester in 1854, which has roughly scratched upon it the letters L. VIII, for Legio VIII. Herr Hübner suggests that the inscription should be read L. VIIII, as there is no evidence that the Eighth Legion was ever in Britain, but the Ninth Legion (Hispana) was at Lincoln under Ostorius

<sup>6</sup> Gibbon, *Roman Empire*, cap. xi.

<sup>1</sup> See under 'Thurmaston' in Topographical Index at the end of this article.



which was administrative and commercial.

Ratae had not the privileges of the *municipium* of Verulam or the *coloniae* of Colchester, Lincoln, Gloucester, and York, but it had a municipal organization of a lower kind, and was governed probably by the senate and magistrates of the tribe.<sup>4</sup> No doubt it had a forum with a basilica for the accommodation of magistrates, traders, and others, and possibly also baths; and in the fourth century the town was protected by a wall. In size it was perhaps one of the smaller towns of its type, being about half the size of Silchester and much smaller than Wroxeter and Cirencester, but almost twice as large as Bath. Of its inhabitants we are practically without information. From the remains hitherto found there is nothing to indicate particular wealth or poverty, if anything they would point to prosperity without great wealth. The only indications of the occupation of the townsmen are three crucibles and bone-work which refer to trades which are common to all towns.

The references to Ratae by Ptolemy, and that on the milestone at Thurmaston, show that the town was in existence in A.D. 120-1 and this is corroborated by the evidence of the archaeological and architectural remains. The series of Roman coins begins with those of Caligula (A.D. 37-41), but coins are not found in any quantities till we reach those of the late part of the first and the early part of the second centuries. The potters' marks on the Samian ware, which have been recorded, show a predominance of recognized marks of the first century (thirty-eight in number), but there are also a considerable quantity of the second century (thirty in number). The architectural details show more surely that probably by the time of Hadrian (A.D. 117-38) Ratae had buildings of some architectural pretensions. The prosperity of the town apparently continued, and reached its height about the time of Constantine (A.D. 306-37), for it is to this period that the greatest number of the coins and the greater but not the better part of the architectural details belong.

*Plan and Architectural Remains.*—Ratae appears to have been rectangular in shape, measuring from north to south 2,780 ft. and from east to west 1,740 ft., the area being between forty and fifty acres, and the circumference nearly two miles. The mediaeval walls of Leicester ran along Soar Lane and Sanvy Gate on the north, Church Gate and Gallow-tree Gate on the east, Millstone Lane and Horsefair Street on the south, and there seems no reason to doubt that they were built on the foundations of the Roman walls, if indeed the Roman walls were not themselves utilized. Dr. Stukeley, writing



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

traced, especially at Sanvy Gate, where the ditch outside the wall could be seen in the gardens thereabouts,<sup>5</sup> and in his plan of the town he marks the site of the Roman walls along the streets above mentioned. With regard to the site of the west wall there has been some doubt, but the general consensus of expert opinion is that it ran in line north and south with the great mass of Roman masonry called the Jewry Wall still existing, and traces of foundations which are supposed to have been continuations of the same to the north and south have been found, but unfortunately have been insufficiently recorded.<sup>6</sup>

The sites of the Roman gates on the north, east, and south sides are uncertain, but it is probable that the gates of the mediaeval town, namely, North Gate, East Gate or Humberstone Gate, and South Gate, corresponded in position with those of the Roman era. The Western Gate of the mediaeval town is shown in Speed's map of 1660 to be standing at the Jewry Wall, and there can be little doubt that this Roman building, still in existence, was the West Gate of the Roman town. 'As this has a plan'<sup>7</sup> quite unlike that of the usual type of city gates, and is also the only existing relic *in situ* above ground of Roman Ratae, it may be well to give some little detail of it.

'It must be understood that the town wall ran for its length in a continuous line from north to south, but in the centre of that line for a space of 74 ft. it was carried on at a less thickness than usual, viz. about 4 ft. Against this length of 74 ft. an arcade of four arches was built, either butting against the diminished wall or bonded into it. These arches are about 5 ft. in depth;<sup>8</sup> the southern is 14 ft. 6 in. in width, the next two 12 ft. each, and the northern is only 6 ft. 3 in. wide. Between the two middle ones the pier dividing them is of considerable size, showing a face 11 ft. wide in which is a niche probably intended for the statue of some divinity, possibly of Minerva, the protectress of the gates of cities.<sup>9</sup>

'In the back wall of these two middle arches are the two gateways. They are of small size, only about 7 ft. 6 in. wide, and are very singularly placed, for instead of piercing the back wall in the centre of each arch, in the south arch the gateway is jammed against the south angle, while in the north it is similarly butted against the north angle. The reason for this arrangement may be found perhaps in the necessity for providing sufficient room for the doors of these gateways when they were thrown open to lie back against the masonry. One fact seems to confirm this view, which is that the plinth or base, having a general projection of 1 ft. 2 in., which ran at the foot of the arcade, is cut off at the north and south angles of the middle arches respectively. Had it been continued without these breaks it would have blocked the gateways. How the doors of the gateways were hung it is now impossible to say from the injuries the structure has received. Of the two outer arches little can be said. The southern is somewhat wider than the others, but does not differ from them except in depth. It has been supposed

<sup>5</sup> Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.* i, 103.

<sup>6</sup> In 1876, whilst making a tunnel from Messrs. Rust's yard, St. Nicholas Street, to the River Soar, it is said that the ancient ditch or fosse was pierced which marked the western boundary of Ratae. A massive stone wall was, it is said, cut through at a depth of 33 ft. from the surface, and was thought to be part of the west wall; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 41 n.

<sup>7</sup> The following account of the Jewry Wall or West Gate has been contributed by Mr. G. E. Fox, Hon. M.A. Oxon. F.S.A.

<sup>8</sup> With the exception of the southernmost, which is 7 ft. 6 in. deep.

Such a niche may be seen at the Sea Gate of Pompeii; it originally held a statue of Minerva.



## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

that it served as a guard-house, but it is too shallow for any wall to have inclosed it for this purpose. The northern arch is much narrower than the others. The back wall is pierced by two loops, evidently intended for the purpose of watching the approaches. The height of the arches is 19 ft., the wall above them another 6 ft., making altogether 25 ft. to the rampart-walk—about the usual height of Roman city-walls in this country. To this must be added 4 ft. for the height of the parapet walls and embrasures.

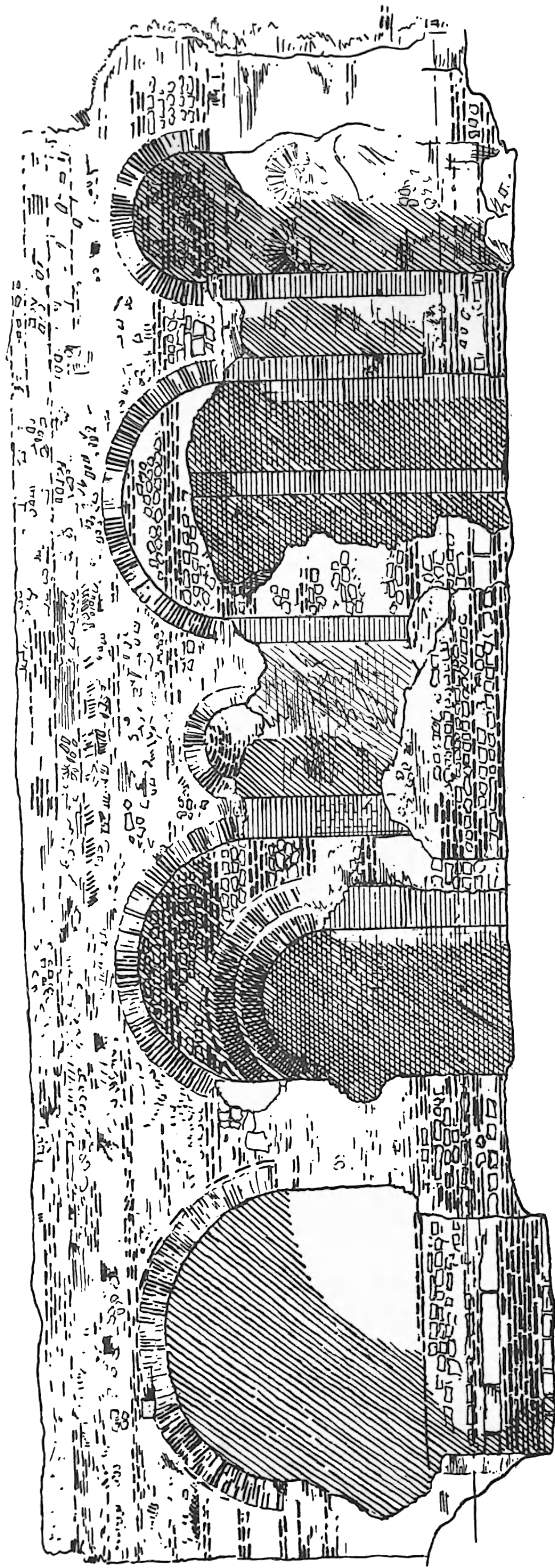
‘The wall is of the usual construction, viz. the body composed of rubble having a facing of small squared stones banded at short intervals by wide bonding or lacing courses of tiles. All the arches are turned with tile. No doubt a ditch ran in front of it, access to the gateway being obtained by wooden trestle-bridges on to each portal. Similar arrangements have been noted at the two posterns of the town wall at Silchester (*Callewa Attrebatum*), and the gate in the Roman wall of London, known in mediaeval times as Aldersgate, was reached across the moat in the same way. A road led up to the gate of Ratae from the direction of Watts Causeway, which connected the town with the Fosse Way.

‘The date of this gate cannot be fixed with certainty, but perhaps it may have been erected under Constantine. The late Mr. J. H. Parker judged it of that period, being guided to his opinion by the size of the tiles and thickness of the mortar joints of the bonding courses; but Roman construction in Rome, on which he based his judgement, does not always give the rule for similar work in Britain. Possibly a safer guide to date may be found in the narrowness of the gateways—only 7 ft. 6 in.—and their distance apart, for the later in date a fortified inclosure may be, the narrower are the entrances. In fact, the two portals in the Jewry Wall have more the appearance of a couple of posterns side by side than one of the main entrances to a city. The best idea of what this gateway was like is to be obtained from the views in Stukeley’s *Itinerarium Curiosum*. The elaborate drawing to scale made by Mr. A. Hall in 1870, in the possession of the Leicester Architectural and Archaeological Society, shows all that we are likely to know of this relic of Roman Leicester. It has been reproduced in vol. viii of the *Transactions* of the society, and from it the plan and elevation here given has been made. It is a satisfaction that so excellent a record has been made of one of the few remains of Roman antiquity standing above ground, as to whose ultimate fate it would be hazardous to venture a prediction. Wrecked, not by time but by the hand of man, with blocked portals and its western side covered by workshops, while the eastern is more than half hidden by a pathway, it is no wonder that it has proved a puzzle to antiquaries until excavations and more careful research than was formerly possible had revealed the true character of the remains.’

Judging by the structural details of the Jewry Wall, already referred to, the town walls of Ratae were probably erected at a late date of the Roman occupation. Mr. Haverfield has pointed out that in the western provinces of the empire, town walls seem to have been principally erected after A.D. 250, when the barbarian invasions grew formidable,<sup>10</sup> but this would not probably have affected Britain till a later date, as the reason for the building of walls here was as a protection against the attacks caused by local disturbances in

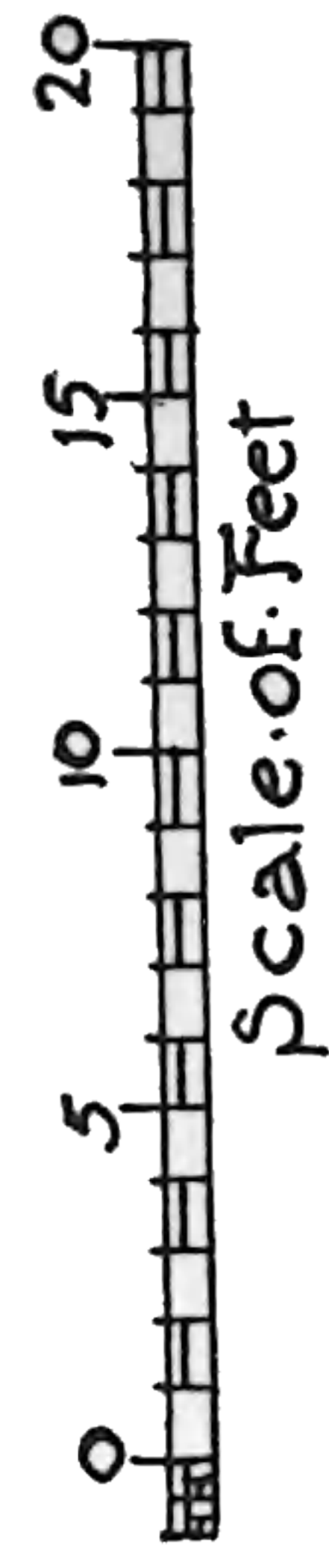
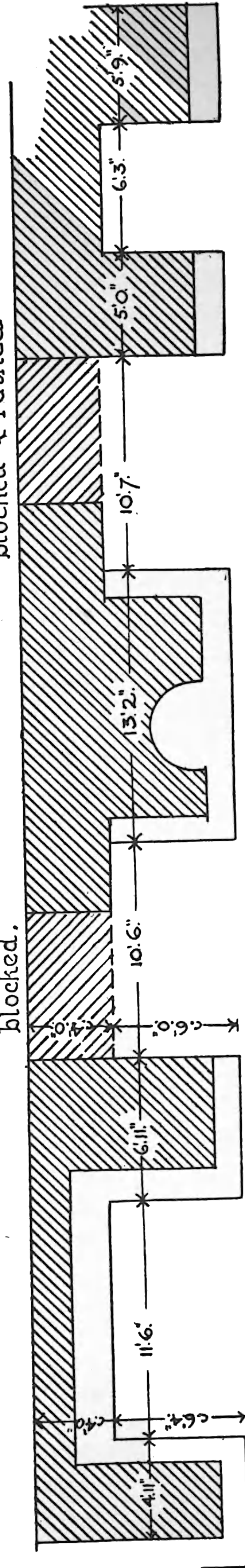
<sup>10</sup> *V. C. H. Somers*, i, 228.





Gateway blocked.

Gateway blocked & ruined.



PLAN AND ELEVATION OF THE JEWRY WALL OR WEST GATE, LEICESTER

(Adapted from a drawing by Mr. A. Hall)

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

fragments of a moulded capital and base of a smaller column, and a large weather-worn stone, circular moulded in one part, are also to be seen there. In 1888 the remains of two walls were discovered in the churchyard of St. Nicholas. One ran at right-angles north and south, about 8 ft. from the buttress supporting the tower at the east end of the north aisle of the church, and about 4 ft. 4 in. below the surface. The bottom of the wall was not reached at 8 ft. to 12 ft. from the surface. The other block of masonry, 3 ft. 4 in. away, lay edgewise, and had apparently fallen. The coins found at this time were a second brass of Licinius (A.D. 307-24) and a third brass of Delmatius (A.D. 335). Both wall and roof tiles were among the débris.<sup>20</sup> In 1898 an interesting discovery was made in digging some cellars in St. Nicholas Street, about fifty yards from St. Nicholas' Church, of two pavements. These have fortunately been preserved and remain *in situ*. The larger appears to be a square of about 14 ft. Its great peculiarity is that as far as the main divisions go it is a duplicate in design of the pavement in Jewry Wall Street (plate I), being composed of nine octagonal panels with, it seems, a border similar in design to that of the floor just named. The centre panel, instead of geometrical ornaments as in the others, has the image of a peacock, within a circle of elaborate braidwork, standing with tail displayed, a rare representation of this bird. The head, neck, and legs are of blue-grey *tesserae*, the tail is red, dark brown, and yellow, with blue-grey eyes. The other panels, as mentioned, are filled with bold geometrical forms which are coarser than those of the Jewry Wall Street example. Both floors may well be the work of the same hand (plate III.) The smaller pavement near this elaborate one has a simple diagonal pattern in white on a grey ground with white and grey borders, beyond which are traces of red *tesserae*. Another portion has a grey ground diapered with white crosses and apparently with bounding lines of brick *tesserae*. All these fragments are perhaps part of the pavement of a corridor.<sup>21</sup> At the same time were found some Roman coins, principally bronze, in bad condition, with small pieces of tiles, and potsherds of various wares, mixed with bones, oyster shells, and various other refuse. Part of a silver denarius of Severus Alexander (A.D. 227-235) and a small brass of Victorinus (A.D. 265-7) were also found on the same site.<sup>22</sup>

Nichols<sup>23</sup> mentions 'a plain Roman pavement' found at the Recruiting Sergeant Inn, St. Nicholas Street, at a depth of 8 ft. from the surface, 'of a lightish close grain, friable, and by the side of it a thick wall built with very hard stone like that of the Jewry wall, and in a direct line with it.' About forty yards off in the same direction this wall was apparently used for the foundation of a house by the churchyard side on the south-west of the church. Another wall ran towards the west at right-angles with the first.<sup>24</sup> In 1839 a pavement was found in the street leading from St. Nicholas Street to Talbot Lane,<sup>25</sup> and further foundations of buildings were said to have been discovered near the church.<sup>26</sup> In 1889 a fragment of tessellated floor was found, but was covered up before it could be inspected.<sup>27</sup>

<sup>20</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vii, 17.

<sup>21</sup> *Ibid.* viii, 375; *Journ. Brit. Arch. Soc.* (new ser.), iv, 289.

<sup>22</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* viii, 375; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxiv, xcix; Haverfield, *Antiq.* xxxiv, 234.

<sup>23</sup> *Hist. Leic.* i, 12.

<sup>24</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 12.

<sup>25</sup> O. S. xxxi; Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 62.

<sup>26</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 207.

<sup>27</sup> *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vii, 285 (1900).





PLATE I  
FIG. 1. — THE GREAT COURT, PALACE OF THE SULTAN, ISTANBUL, 1898.

PLATE I







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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Nichols<sup>33</sup> describes a coloured tessellated pavement found in 1794 at the Grey Friars, on the south side of St. Martin's Churchyard, at a depth of 6 ft. below the surface. No design, he says, could be seen on it.

Near to St. Martin's Church, on the site of Wyggeston's Hospital, a small column was found in 1875, which is now in the Leicester Museum (No. 15). Mr. Fox mentions that this 'looks very like the column of a colonnade of the upper storey of some buildings which had a hand-rail from shaft to shaft. The hole for the tenon of the rail cut as small as possible so as not to weaken the shaft and the little bracket worked on the shaft under it to carry the greater width of the rail are noteworthy.'<sup>34</sup>

A portion of a coarse tessellated pavement was discovered in Southgate Street in 1866, with the fragment of a column, thought to be No. 20 in the Museum. Lower down the street, near to Bakehouse Lane, fragments of painted wall-plaster were found at a depth of 18 ft. below the present surface.<sup>35</sup>

In 1871, 3 ft. or 4 ft. below the surface, several square feet of concrete, from which *tesserae* had evidently been removed, were discovered on the south side of Silver Street, and a little later an extensive portion of tessellated pavement in good condition was revealed within 2½ ft. of the present street level; it was described as being of the guilloche pattern, within a square border all of black, white, and red *tesserae*. The peculiarity of the find was its nearness to the present surface, most of the Roman discoveries in Leicester being from 8 ft. to 12 ft. below the street level.

Near to this discovery, in the same street, on the site of the new Opera House and about 12 ft. below the present level, a tessellated pavement was found in 1876 about 20 ft. by 14 ft. in size. The *tesserae* were of a rough make, and strewn about on the floor were several pieces of pottery, fragments of Samian ware, and a few coins much corroded. Other remains of the foundations of this building had been uncovered some years before. Relics have frequently been discovered between this spot and St. Martin's Church.<sup>36</sup>

During 1889 some excavations made for new buildings between High Street and Silver Street disclosed the existence of a Roman wall running due east and west for a considerable distance, but it was unfortunately destroyed before it could be properly inspected.<sup>37</sup> Later (in 1902) a wall was again found under High Street, which was thought to be part of that discovered in 1861 in St. Martin's and Townhall Lane.<sup>38</sup>

Turning now to the remains of buildings in the northern part of the Roman town, if the evidence of Carte can be relied upon, it would appear that High Cross Street very closely followed the line of one of the main Roman streets. He mentions that during excavations for waterworks in 1685, a wall of stone and Roman tiles was discovered, which extended from Redcross Street to the elm trees near the North Gate and followed the line of the street, 6 ft. or 7 ft. from the houses on the west side, 'many loads of stone' being carted away from it. In 1716, 'at the second house beyond Blue Boar Lane,' a little out in the street in front of the house, a similar wall was found, standing upright to within 3 ft. of the surface. The height of

<sup>33</sup> *Hist. Leic.* i, 619.    <sup>34</sup> *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 49.    <sup>35</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 22; Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 62.

<sup>36</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xiii, p. cii; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 106; v, 49, 55.

<sup>37</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xx, p. lx (Rep.); *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vii, 207.

<sup>38</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 461.





IONICIAN CAPITAL, FOUND IN TALBOT  
LANE, LEICESTER



COLUMN, FOUND IN 1907 IN BLUE BOAR LANE,  
LEICESTER



STONE TANK, FOUND IN HIGH CROSS STREET, LEICESTER









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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

the wall was uncertain, as the workmen did not reach the foundations. It was 4 ft. thick, and the upper part had fallen. Carte concluded from the depth of the previous excavation that it would have been 12 ft. high, and was certainly part of the wall found in 1685. On the east side of it in the street the made earth was 2 ft. thick, and 'below it was a pavement of stone like a street.' This wall apparently extended almost the whole length of High Cross Street.<sup>39</sup> A granite and sandstone 'walk' is said to have been discovered running down the middle of the street from near All Saints' Church to the gaol.<sup>40</sup> A tessellated pavement and hypocausts were found under what is now No. 18, High Cross Street, and also under another house in the possession of Mr. King, afterwards of Mr. Collier.<sup>41</sup> At the corner of High Cross Street and High Street, when excavating for cellars under the new High Cross Coffee House in 1901, three pieces of pavement (now in the Leicester Museum), a portion of a stone column, and part of a wall of masonry about a foot high were found.<sup>42</sup> The pavement shows a border of elaborately twisted braidwork within which, on a white field, are closely set knots of braidwork in lines perpendicular to the border. The colours and materials are, apparently, for white a limestone, brown an ironstone, grey or slate colour lias limestone, and red, as always, a brick. The sizes of the *tesserae* range from  $\frac{3}{8}$  in. to  $1\frac{1}{8}$  in. square (plate VII). The pavement is one of a class in which the field is covered by a geometrical diaper. Other specimens have been found at the Blackfriars. Another tessellated pavement was also found on the site of the county gaol, where Free School Lane turns from High Cross Street.<sup>43</sup>

Some carved impost mouldings and other carved fragments, perhaps from an arch, were found at the junction of Blue Boar Lane and High Cross Street (Nos. 21-26 in Leicester Museum) (plate II). Also a stone fountain (No. 12 in Museum), found at No. 52, High Cross Street, at a depth of 10 ft., which may, as Mr. Fox says, have been a street fountain, or perhaps, if considered too small for that purpose, may have stood in the peristyle of an important house. Traces of a lining of pink cement were found in it (plate II).<sup>44</sup> A wall with bases and shafts of columns was discovered in 1859 in Blue Boar Lane, not far from the place where the carved mouldings were found.<sup>45</sup> Another base of a column was discovered in June, 1907, in Blue Boar Lane, 12 ft. from the surface, and is now in the Leicester Museum. The base is 2 ft. square and the diameter of the column 18 in.; the mouldings are of an early type (plate II).

In making the cellar of a house (which belonged then to Mr. Worthington) opposite the elm trees near All Saints' church, about 1675,<sup>46</sup> a piece of tessellated pavement, a little over a yard square, was discovered about 5 ft. below the surface. It is interesting as being the only figure subject yet found in Leicester, and is now in the Leicester Museum (No. 1). It was discovered at a time when few thought or cared for such things, otherwise it is

<sup>39</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, pt. i, 11; Thompson, *Hist. Leic.* App. p. 447; Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 61.

<sup>40</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 23; Fox, op. cit.

<sup>41</sup> Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 20; *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 62.

<sup>42</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 459.

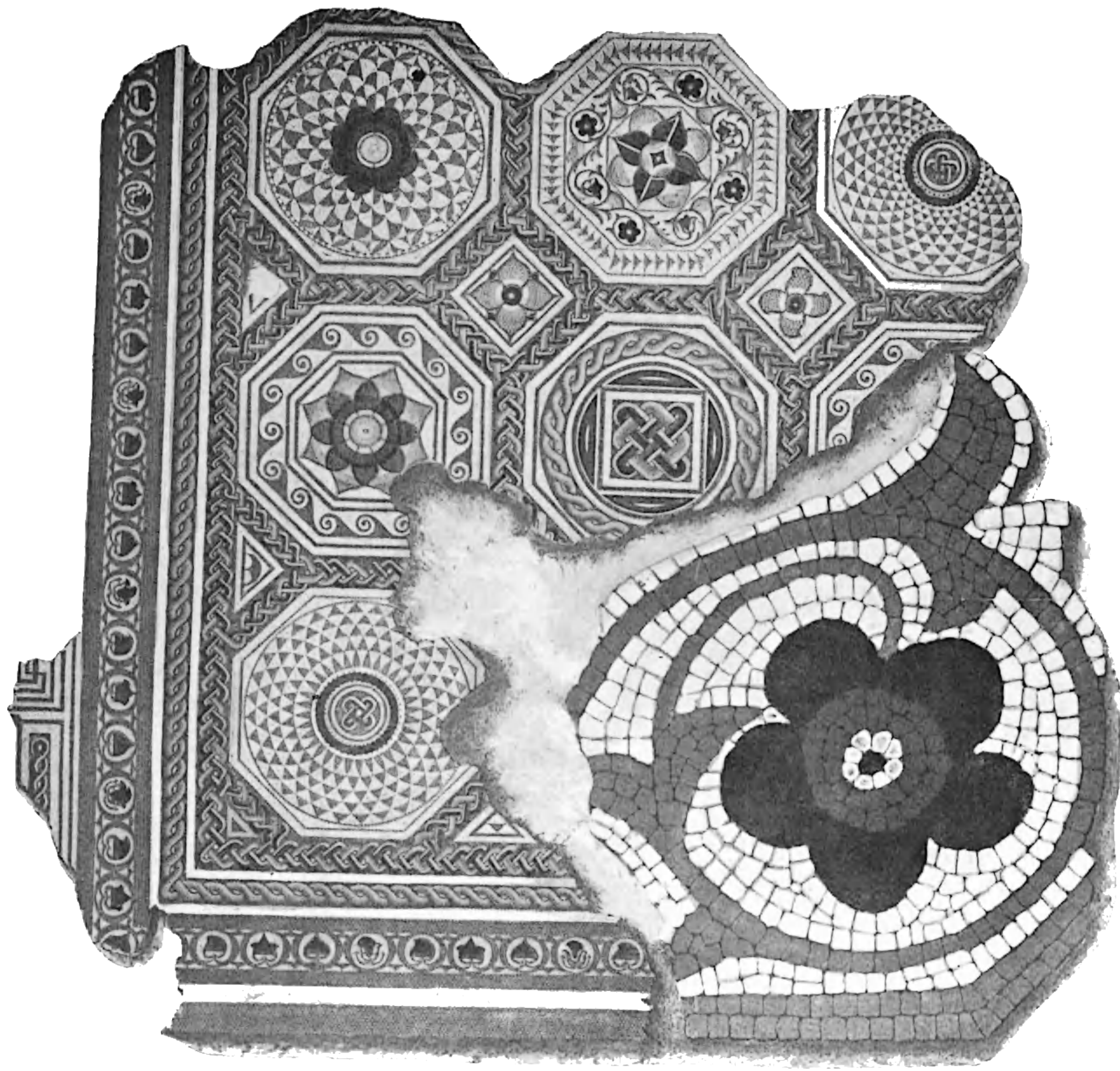
<sup>43</sup> Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 383.

<sup>44</sup> Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 51. Mr. Fox had made out the finely-moulded outline of the tank which is shown on plate II.

<sup>45</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 23, 24 (1866). Information of the discovery of 1907 has been kindly supplied by Mr. H. Pickering.

<sup>46</sup> Carte in Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 9; *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* iii, 136.





PAVEMENT FOUND IN JEWRY WALL STREET, LEICESTER



PAVEMENT FOUND IN HIGH CROSS STREET, LEICESTER  
(From Fowler's *Pavements*)







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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

or abroad. A certain amount of interest lies in the fact of the unusual number of differently coloured marble *tesserae* worked up, for the employment of marble is quite exceptional in Romano-British mosaics.<sup>47</sup>

In 1667-8, near the 'Water House,' being the corner house, where the street grows narrower, next to the west end of 'The Friars' (the site of 'Johnson's Buildings'), 12 ft. below the surface, was discovered a floor of lime mortar 6 in. or 7 in. thick, 16 ft. long and about 14 ft. wide, and some remains of the walls of a house. On the north side of this room, about 4 yds. apart, stood what Nichols calls 'two chimnies, as high as to the mantel tree'; which may be traces of a hypocaust. Throsby mentions 'a tessellated floor, a hypocaust and painted walls' found in 1667, which were probably the same.<sup>48</sup>

Under the south side of the room below some gravel a vast quantity of oyster-shells was disinterred, and in the cellar of the same house, underneath gravel 1½ ft. deep, was a large foundation of a wall of forest stone laid dry, without mortar. On the west side of the street 12 ft. deep in loose earth many shoe-soles of large size and a quantity of refuse leather were found.<sup>49</sup>

Nichols, in his *History and Antiquities of Leicestershire*, gives an account of two fine tessellated pavements and a fragment of a third, found in 1754 in 'the Black Friars about 35 yards from the river Soar,' under a stable, the property of Roger Ruding, who wrote an account of the discoveries to the Society of Antiquaries in 1766, and further declared that 'the Pavements had been entirely destroyed, and all the Materials taken away, so that no remains of them were left.'<sup>50</sup> These three pavements were all of the class mentioned in the note on that found on the site of the High Cross coffee-house in 1901. In the minutes of the Society of Antiquaries under date 17 November, 1766, is the following note, which explains these floors and their disposition with sufficient accuracy. The note says that the first pavement (plate IV) was found in 1754.

The most elegant square of this pavement consists of a corded line enclosing an area of curved and regular figures somewhat resembling crossed S.S. with a true-lovers' knot in the centre of them. The second pavement consists of a corded line enclosing an area divided into double Frets, with Five small Squares in the Quincunx border containing each a true-lovers' knot within them. The third pavement consists wholly of plain circles intersecting each other, with small squares lozenge fashion in the centre. The colours of the first two are composed of a deep mazareene blue (probably a slaty blue nearly black), red, yellow, and white; of the other of white, slate colour, and a muddy red (plate V).

Each pavement was 9 ft. square and there were some traces of others in continuation. They appeared to be laid in line with each other, and probably formed the floor of the principal corridor of some important mansion. In 1885 a large piece of pavement was discovered near the river in Blackfriars Street, which probably belonged to the same house and is thought to be a part of the building of which<sup>51</sup> a tessellated pavement was discovered in 1830 at the corner where Friars' Causeway formerly met Jewry

<sup>47</sup> Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 53; *Phil. Trans.* (1711), xxvii, 325; Soc. Antiq. MS. Min. (1782), xviii, 271.

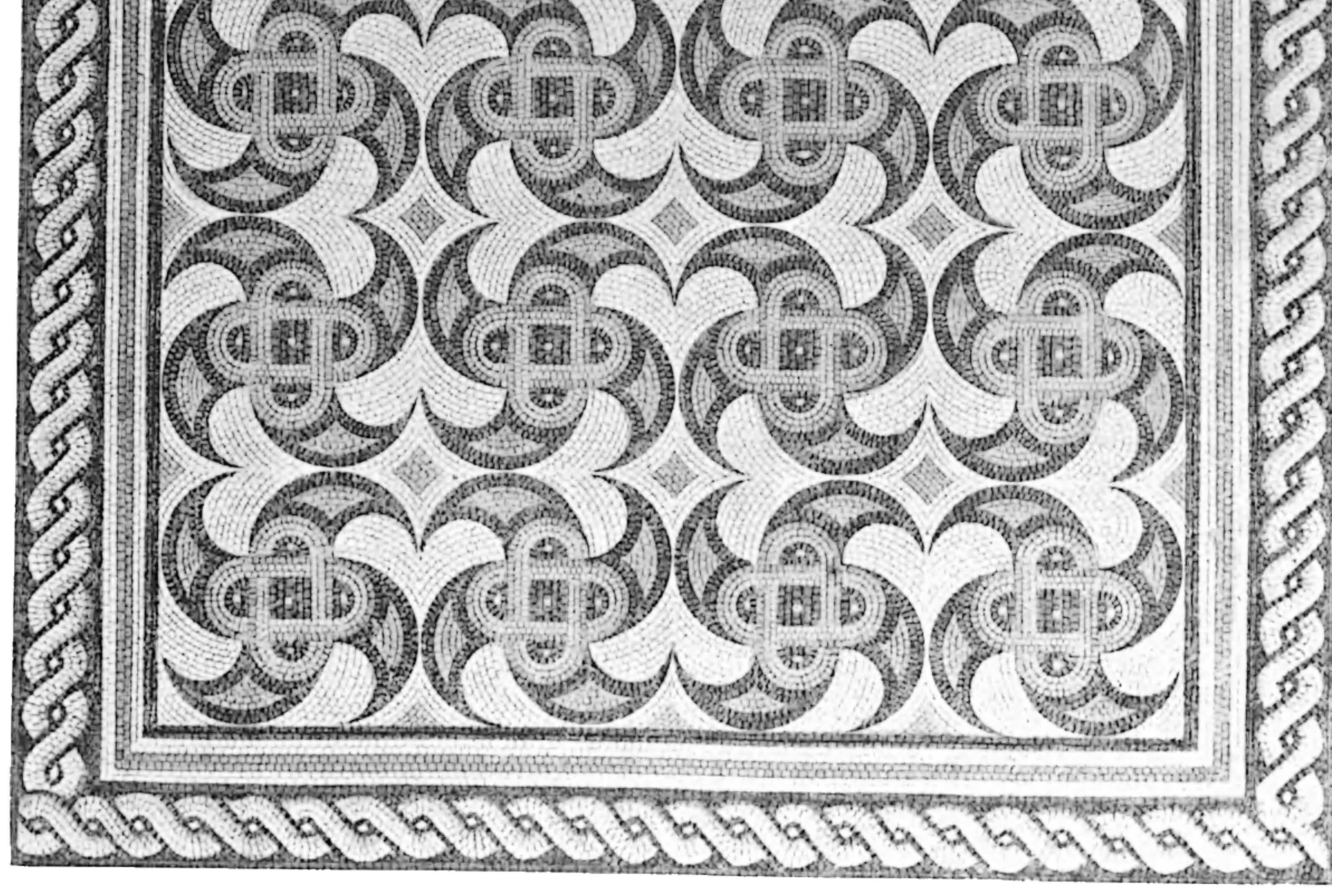
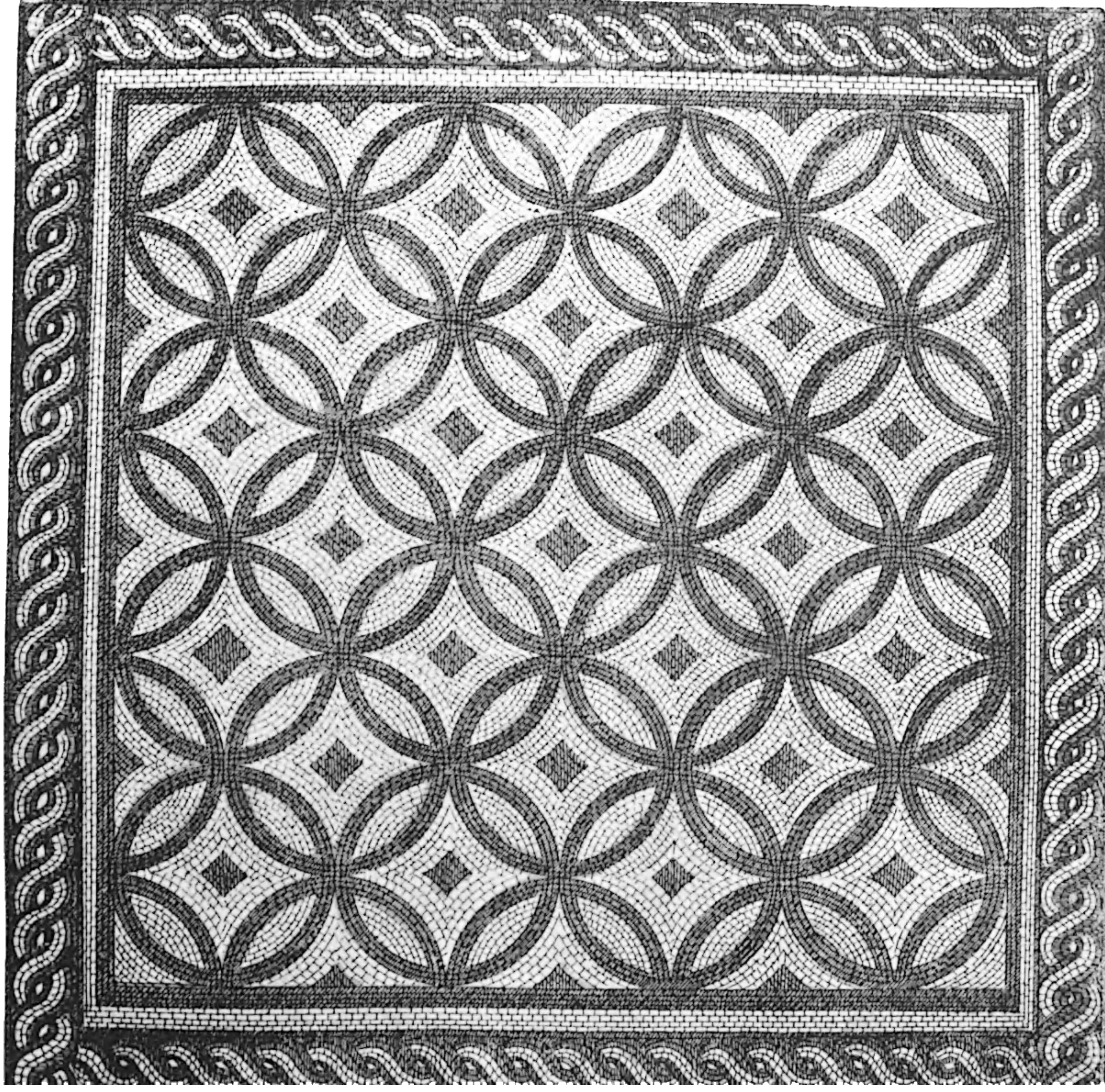
<sup>48</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11; Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 19; Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 61.

<sup>49</sup> Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 61; Thompson, *Hist. Leic.* 448; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11.

<sup>50</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11, 12; MS. Mins. Soc. Antiq. vii, 163; viii, 170; x, 196; *Arch.* lv, 247, note a; Thompson, *Hist. Leic.* 445.

<sup>51</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 208; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xviii, lix.





PAVEMENTS FOUND IN BLACKFRIARS STREET, LEICESTER

(From *Nicholas Pevsner*, p. 10)







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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Nichols mentioned some tessellated pavements found at Vauxhall Wharf in 1747, 'in a bathing-room near the river, which now rises over and damages them.'<sup>66</sup>

In 1839 the traces of a small pavement about 11 ft. square were discovered in Vine Street at a depth of 6 ft. 6 in. below the level of the street. A drawing of it was presented to the museum by Mr. J. Horsepool. The pavement consisted of a central circular panel with semicircular ones joining it on each side, with a quarter of a circle filling each corner, the dividing lines being the usual braidwork bands. In each angle panel was a vase, and three heart-shaped leaves filled each of the semicircular ones. The central arrangement was lost. The colours were the usual black, red and yellows, all on a white ground. Other pavements very like this have been found elsewhere. For example, one was found at Lincoln, another at Silchester. The design, however, is cheap and poor, and the execution distinctly bad (plate V).

The remains of a large villa were discovered at Danett's Hall in 1782, in a field called the Cherry Orchard, about three-quarters of a mile west of the old town, on the opposite side of the Soar. It was probably connected with the town by a lane called Watt's Causeway, now King Richard's Road, the site of the villa being 25 ft. from the road, opposite the Newfound Pool Inn. It was re-opened in 1851, and again in 1868. According to Nichols's account the cherry-trees which gave the site its name were planted early in the eighteenth century. In 1782, when digging up one of the trees, part of the floor of a corridor was discovered, and a continuation of it in a northerly direction was traced. In 1851, and again in 1868, the Literary and Philosophical Society of Leicester, conjointly with the Architectural and Archaeological Society, undertook further explorations, before the site was built over and all traces of the original building destroyed. A plan of the villa was made and preserved in the Leicester Museum, which indicates the disposition and colouring of the floors, as well as the supposed lines of the walls.<sup>67</sup> It seems to have been a house of the courtyard type, a series of rooms placed round an open court, and connected by corridors looking into the open space. The fragments discovered in 1851 were the floor of a room about 15 ft. square, the *tesserae* being of red brick and a greyish drab stone, each about 1 in. square. The pattern consisted of interlaced circles of red on the grey ground. To the north of this another room was found, measuring 28 ft. by 18 ft.

A semi-circular pattern was disclosed at the western end of this room, executed in very small *tessellae* of four colours: blue, red, brown-pink (or yellow), and white; representing in the centre a shell pattern, in the two divisions of which, next the line of the diameter of the semicircle, are dolphins swimming towards the centre. The shell pattern is bounded by the guilloche ornament, outside of which is a vandyke of black and white, surrounded by strips of grey and red *tessellae* about 1 in. square.

A fragment of a guilloche border at the eastern end of the room marked the extent of this apartment. (This pattern is No. V in the Leicester Museum.) On the south-western side of this pavement a pedestal and short column of

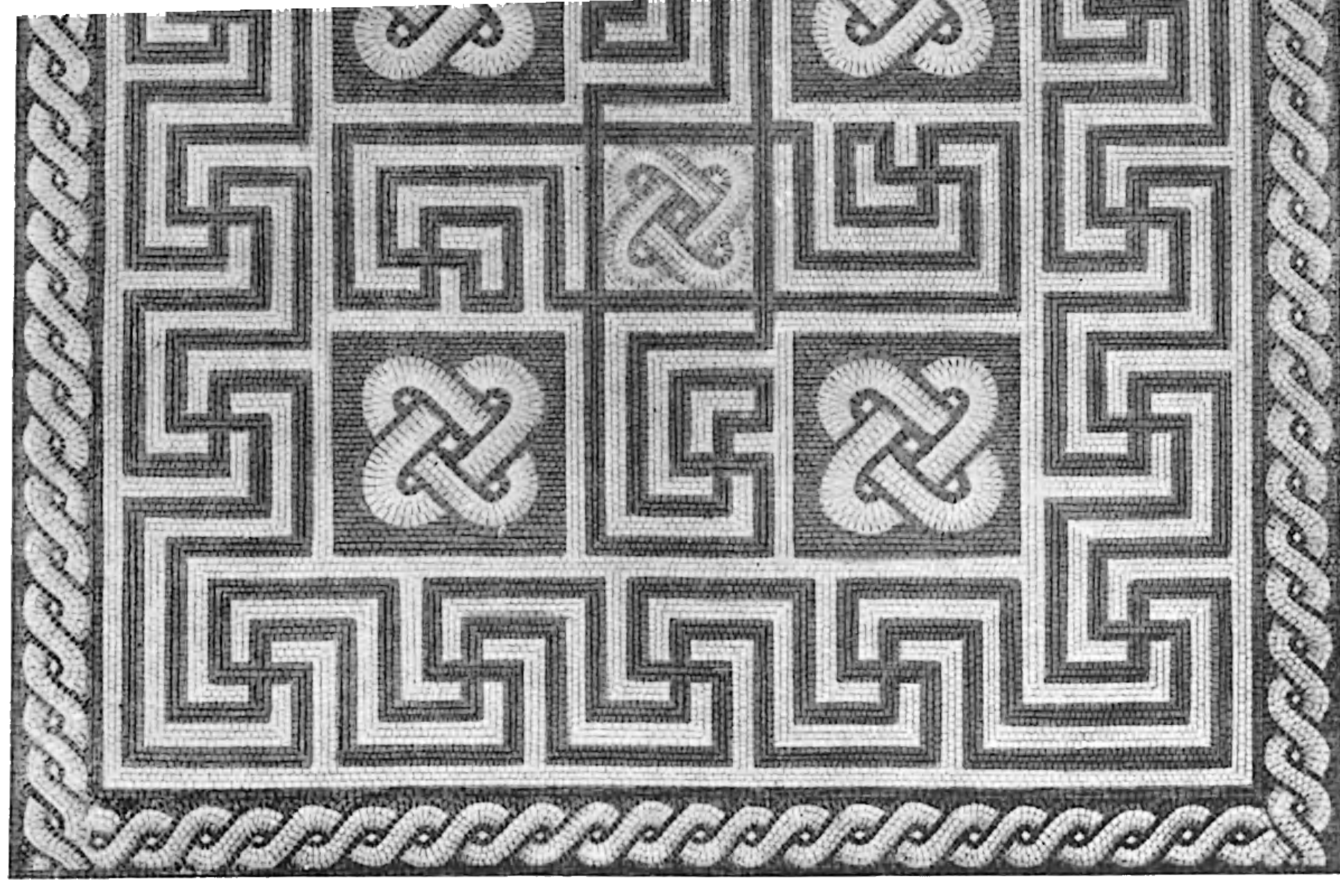
<sup>66</sup> *Hist. Leic.* i, 11; Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 19; Fox, *Arch. Journ.* xlvi, 62.

<sup>67</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, pl. ix; *Gent. Mag.* Oct. 1786; *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vi, 439, 442; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* ix, pp. cxviii, 2; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* iv, 183, 185; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 387.





PAVEMENT FOUND IN VINE STREET, LEICESTER  
 (From a Drawing in the Leicester Museum)



PAVEMENT FOUND IN BLACKFRIARS STR  
 (From Nichols' *Hist. Leic.* v.)







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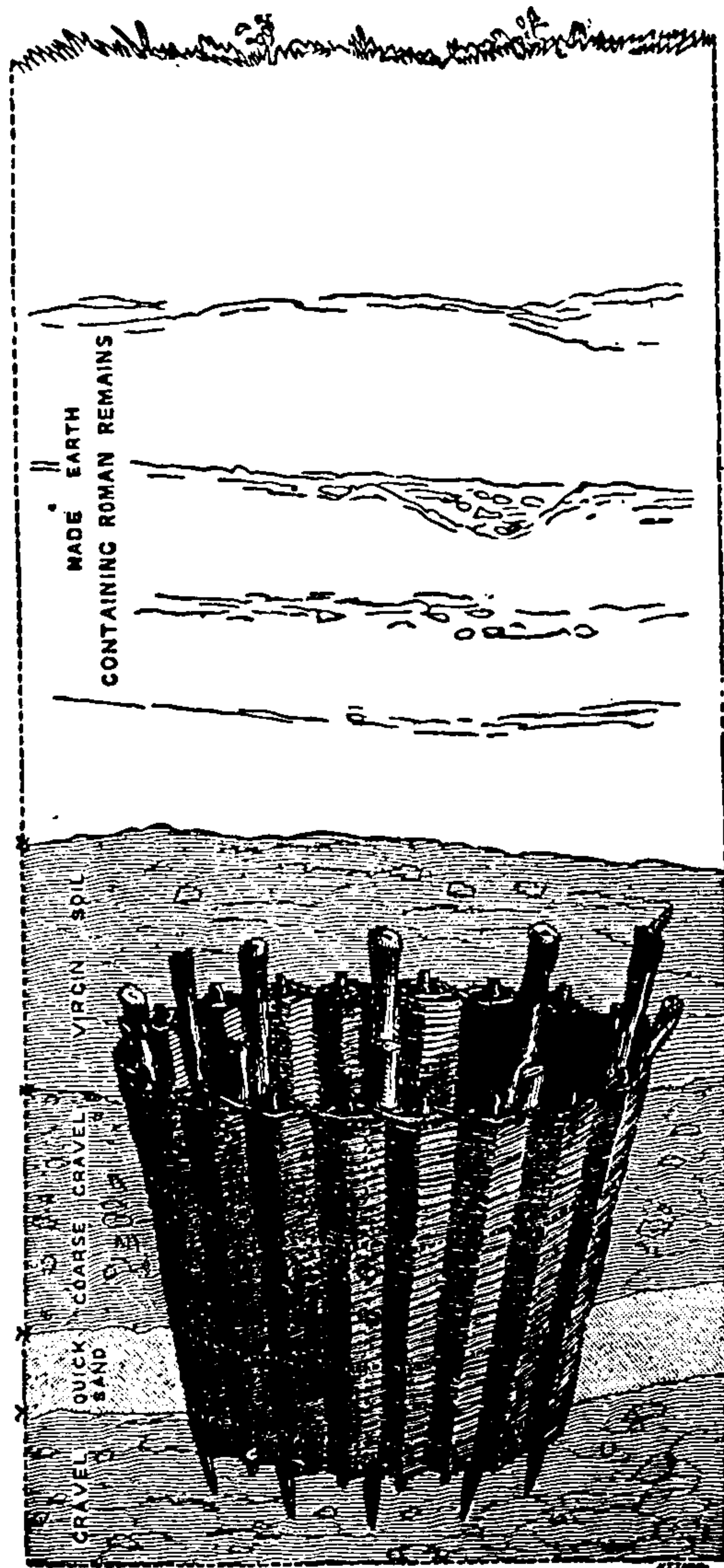
## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

A sewer or *cloaca* is supposed to have run from the east gate of Ratae, where a piece of it has been found,<sup>62</sup> across the town to the west gate through the Jewry Wall, then in a due westerly direction almost to Talbot Lane, where it is thought to have turned in a north-westerly direction to the River Soar. Remains of it were discovered in Talbot Lane in 1793 at a depth of 5 ft. from the surface. Some very large blocks of freestone, half a ton in weight, having been removed, a kind of tunnel, 2 ft. across and 4 ft. deep, was found. It was made of the same materials as the Jewry Wall, the bottom of the tunnel being also of freestone. Throsby stated that the commencement, as far as could be discovered at the time, was in the cellar of a house near the south end of the Jewry Wall, and continued with a considerable descent north-westwardly to the river. This house stood in St. Nicholas Square, where the south-east end of Messrs. Rust's factory now is, but later discoveries tend to prove that the sewer turned slightly towards the centre of the wall. The contents of this passage seem to have been earth, light on the surface,

heavier lower, and gravelly at the bottom, mixed with broken pottery, some Samian ware with potter's marks, a few bones of animals, a fragment or two of glass vessels, and a coin of the Augustine age (B.C. 29—A.D. 14), the earliest coin yet found in Leicester.

A yard from the sewer (at the end near the Jewry Wall) lay the columns already described in St. Nicholas Street.<sup>63</sup> In 1887 the sewer was again opened and found to be entirely filled with earth. The direction towards the river, if carried straight, would show that it emptied itself where the old Soar joins the present canal, which increases the doubt whether the stream now used as a canal existed in the time of the Roman occupation. Throsby thought that it was a new cut made by the Romans themselves. It seems more probable that it was mediaeval, contemporary with the mill and the castle, the space between the bottom of the hill (from Talbot Lane) to the old Soar being probably a swamp. By sinking shafts to ascertain the upward direction, it appeared that the sewer bent towards the Jewry Wall, and apparently passed through it.<sup>64</sup>

In 1890, at a different part of Talbot Lane, the sewer was again opened,



SECTION OF ROMAN WELL FOUND AT LEICESTER,  
SHOWING BASKET

<sup>62</sup> Thompson, *Hist. Leic.* App. A 447.

<sup>64</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 312.

<sup>63</sup> Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 388.

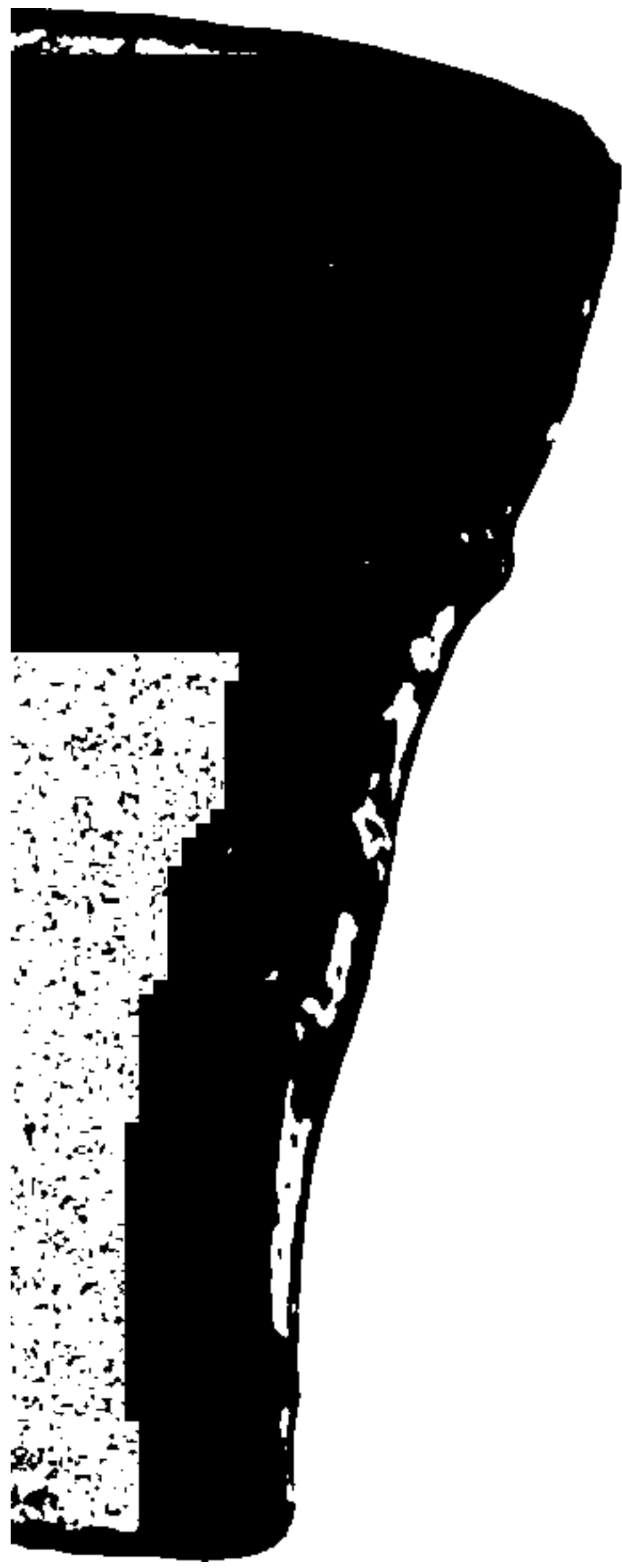




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among them a good specimen of an indented Castor-ware pot about 7 in. in height, and it is said that some black and white *tesserae* were found here in 1885. Adjoining the Abbey Meadow in Oxford Street, some distance outside the line of the south wall, a large glass jug was found in 1865 covering a deposit of burnt bones. It contained a solution of salts of lime, and its mouth was closed by a leaden cap firmly fixed with hard cement, and a piece of syenite had been placed upon this covering. The vessel was of an unusual hexagonal shape, and had the ordinary handle on one side. A similar glass vessel<sup>68</sup> was found in the grounds of the abbey in 1830. Both vessels are now in the Leicester Museum.<sup>69</sup> In Newarke Street in the same district many burials have been found. In 1840, whilst excavating for the foundations of a warehouse, there was discovered an urn of coarse, dark ware 4 in. high and 7 in. diameter, with a crimped border below the rim.<sup>70</sup> Later, six skeletons were found, each with a large stone over it, and round the neck of one was a brass chain. Some 2 ft. or 3 ft. below the skeletons, which may have been of a later date, a Roman pot was discovered. Other skeletons and urns have been found, notably a cinerary urn containing bones and ashes, 9 in. high by 10 in. in diameter, covered with a broken tile, under the Drill Hall, 7 ft. from the surface. But what is perhaps of more interest is a series of Roman lead coffins found here and in Millstone Lane at different times. In 1873 three of these coffins were discovered just outside the site of the south wall, under 15, Newarke Street, about 7 ft. from the surface. The first was empty, and Mr. C. Roach Smith, who examined it, was doubtful, but probably without sufficient cause, as to its being Roman. Two others discovered later on the same spot contained skeletons, and were associated with fragments of Roman pottery and glass.<sup>71</sup> Other similar coffins are said to have been found on this site at different times, and in July, 1899, one was found at the corner of Marble Street in Millstone Lane containing a skeleton and associated with Samian, Castor, and other kinds of Roman pottery and a small brass of Hadrian (A.D. 117-38).<sup>72</sup> These coffins were formed out of a large sheet of lead  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. thick, which was cut to the required shape, and the sides and ends bent up and hammered together, apparently without the use of solder. The lid, which was supported by three iron bars, was bent down over this about 2 in. all round. One coffin at least had been inclosed in a wooden chest.<sup>73</sup>

Burials have been disinterred outside the East Gate, and it has been suggested that there was another Roman cemetery on this site. Skeletons were discovered lying north and south associated with brass fibulae, and an armlet and sword blades which may have been Saxon, though the pottery which was found at the same time was undoubtedly Roman.<sup>74</sup> Some coins were also found, one of which was of the time of Domitian (A.D. 81-96). A cinerary urn and other pottery were discovered with a leaden coffin containing a skeleton at Humberstone Gate in 1783.<sup>75</sup> Also urns with

<sup>68</sup> Glass vessels of a similar shape have been found at Barnwell, near Cambridge (now in the Brit. Mus.), and in St. Stephen's Churchyard, St. Albans.

<sup>69</sup> *Arch. Journ.* xxiii, 70; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* viii, cxi; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 112.

<sup>70</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 113.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.* iv, 246; *Illus. Lond. News*, lxiii, 326; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xii, xli.

<sup>72</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ix, 15, 16.

<sup>73</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>74</sup> Bickerstaffe, in Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 5.

<sup>75</sup> *Ibid.* and i, pt. ii, 619.



## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

several skeletons were found there in 1846, and another urn containing burnt bones in a gravel pit in 1886.<sup>76</sup> A skeleton was exposed in 1872 about 8 ft. or 9 ft. from the surface in Sanvy Gate, outside the north wall. At the head was a pot of Castor ware ornamented with a pattern, and the word VITA in white slip, and at the feet was another pot of ordinary Romano-British ware which appeared to have been subject to the action of fire on the inside. Both pots are now in the Leicester Museum.<sup>77</sup>

In the town itself, among others, a cinerary urn covered with a piece of slate, containing burnt bones, was found in Horsefair Street, near the line of the south wall in 1876.<sup>78</sup> In Butt Close Lane, near the east wall, a cinerary urn was discovered in 1854-5.<sup>79</sup> In Church Gate, also near the east wall, an urn containing human bones, covered with what appeared to be the iron boss of a shield, and two skeletons were found in 1866. The remains of Saxon burials have also appeared in this part.<sup>80</sup>

*Pottery.*—As is to be expected on the site of a Romano-British town, great quantities of pottery and other miscellaneous articles have been from time to time discovered over the whole area. It would serve no purpose to record here exactly all the finds which have been made, but it will be well to call attention to the important features of the discoveries of this nature. With regard to the Samian ware a considerable quantity has been found, to some extent indicating the wealth of the inhabitants. The Samian pottery has the usual embossed designs of hunting scenes, figures, &c. One fragment of a *patera*, with a hole in it probably for suspension, now in the Leicester Museum, has scratched upon it VERECUNDA LYDIA LUCIUS GLADIATOR. It was found in Bath Lane in 1854, and may be a love token from Lucius the gladiator to the blushing Lydia (plate VI). Another piece was found, which is also in the Leicester Museum, with VIIR—or VER—scratched on it. The potters' marks, however, are of considerable interest as they cover a wide area.

The following names<sup>81</sup> are of the first century (La Graufesenque fabric) :—

ABITI. ALBINI. M. } ALBINVS. F. } OF. APRI. APRO. F. AVITI. M. CARILLI. OF. CEN (SORIS) } OF. CENS. } OF. CRESI (? CRES(T)I.) DONTI. OFFIC. GERM. } GERM(A)NI. } JUCUNDI.	LOGIRNI. M. OF. LUCCE(I.) MACRINVS. OF. MAPOMI. (?) MARCI. M. MARTI. M. OF. M(A)TUG(EN)I. METHILLVS. OF. MODESTI. OF. MONTANI. OF. PASSIENI. PATRICI. MA. OF. PONTI. OF. PRIM(I.)	OF. RUFINI. OF. SABI(N)I. SECUN. F. SECUNDI. M. L. TER. SECU(NDUS.) OF. SEVERI. } SEVERI M. } OF. SEVER(I) PUD(ENTIS.) SILVANI. SILVI. OF. SILVINVS. SILVI. PATRICI. VITALIS. M.
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<sup>76</sup> *Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*

<sup>78</sup> *Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*

<sup>80</sup> Post, 'Angl.-Sax. Remains'; *Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*

<sup>77</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 185.

<sup>79</sup> *Ibid.*

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 ce. Skeletons  
 fibulae, and an  
 ough the pottery  
 Some coins  
 in (A.D. 81-96).  
 a leaden coffin  
 Also urns with  
 now in the Brit. Mus.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The following names are of the second century (Lezoux fabric):—

ALBUCI.	CRACIS(A).	MATERTI.
APOLAUST.	CRECIRO. OF.	MEDETVS.
ARICI. MA.	CRICIRONIS.	{ MOSSI. MAN.
ATILIANI. M.	DAGOMA(RUS.)	{ MOXI(N)I. (MOXII?)
BORILLI.	DOCCUS. F.	NAMILLIANI. MA.
BUTRIO ( <i>circa</i> 150)	DONNANCUS.	PATERCLINI. M.
CARATILLI.	GEMINUS.	PATERNI.
CELSIANI. F.	GENITOR.	TITURO.
CINNAMUS. F. ( <i>circa</i> 120)	JVLLINI.	VERECU(NDUS.)

The following are German potters (of Rheinzabern, 2nd century):—

AUGUSTINUS.	MERCATOR.	REGINUS. F.
BUCCUS.	MATERNINUS.	

The following names are unidentified :—

AETERNI. M.	DOMI(T)ATAN.	OF. PASSIEN.
ALBI. M.	DOMINCI.	PATE . .
AMICUS.	DOMITVS.	PATERNI. M.
ANAILL.	DOMS . . .	PATERATI. OF.
ANNIOS.	DONV . .	PATERCLO(S. FE.)
ARDU.	DUPPIUS. F.	PATRI.
ASURIV.	EPPN . .	PATRICI. M.
AVIF.	ESCUSI. M.	PA . T . RI . CI . MA.
BACCATU —	ELVILLI (? ILVILLI.)	PAULI. M.
BALELAS (? BATELAS.)	GIPPI. M.	PEPP . . . .
BIGA. FEC.	HABILIS. F.	OF. PISSIA.
BISSV . . .	HABIT —	OF. PONTI.
BITVRIX.	IBERI. M.	POR. P. M. H.
BONOXUS. F.	INCOLVA.	PORP . . S.
CA . . . . M.	— IRNI.	POTITINI. M.
CAMPANIO.	IMPRITO.	POT—TACUS.
CANTOMALLI. M.	IVCANIA. M.	PRIMANI. M.
CAP . . . .	IVLI.	PRIMVLI.
CAPELLINAI.	IVLI. LALLISSA.	PRISCI. M.
CAPILLIO.	LOLLI. M.	PRISCUS.
CAPIIR. O.	LVPPA.	QUADRA.
CARU(S)SA. F.	LVLVA.	QUINTILIANI. M.
CATILLVS.	MACRINI.	REGINUS. F.
OF. CATUS.	MALLIACI.	RICCI. (? BRICCI.)
OFF. CE . . .	MALLVR.	RISPI. M.
CICVR . .	MANVS. (?)	ROPPUS. FE.
CINT. . VGE .	MAR . .	OF. RVFINI.
CIPPI. M.	MARCILLIANI.	RVFIVS. FE.
CLEMENS.	{ MAR . . . . NI.	RUFIANI. M.
CLEMENTI.	{ MARTINI.	SABIA. MA.
CNATOS.	MARFNH.	SABINI. M.
CON . . .	MATHI(?E)RNINVS.	SACCERO. M.
CONDOLLUS. F.	MAXIM. IN.	SACERO.
CORIN . .	MEDITI. M.	SACR . . . .
CRASSIACUS. F.	MIMANNIO.	SACROT. M. S.
CROBISO. F.	MINVLI. M.	SARRI . .
CUCILI. M.	OF. MODE.	SAXA.
DANVILLI. M. (? SANUILLI.)	MUXTULLI. M.	SENNIUS, F.
DIV . . . .	OF. NIGR. (? OF. FIGR.)	O]F. SEVERPVD.
DIVICATVS.	NIGRI. AND.	SEVERIAN. M.
DIVICI. M.	NOM . .	SEXTUS. F.
DOCCALI. M.	PA . .	SIIXTI. MA.
DOCCI. M.	PANIC. M.	SIIXTIN.
DOMETOS.	PASSIE.	SVOBNI. M.



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# HISTORY

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Bond Street.<sup>95</sup> In the Leicester Museum there are also an octagonal glass vessel with two handles containing human bones, a hexagonal one (plate IX) and a square one; the two latter closed with leaden caps, and were associated with burials.

*Miscellaneous Antiquities.*—Opposite the Arcade in High Street there was found in 1904 a ring with a gold bezel representing Rome as a female figure, which is said to be of the first century.<sup>96</sup> In 1873 a silver ring set with an engraved cornelian stone was found in Silver Street, and is now in the Leicester Museum. The bronze articles which have been found from time to time in Leicester consist of a considerable quantity of *fibulae*, bracelets, pins, toilet implements, rings, spoons, *styli*, and steelyards. Occasionally ornaments or pendants with traces of enamel have been discovered. In 1858 a bust of bronze 3 in. high and somewhat corroded was found; it probably represents a faun or young satyr, the features being semi-African, with flat nose and round face.<sup>97</sup> With it was a *bullæ*, also in bronze, the shape of a heart, attached to a chain with long narrow links. In 1898 a bronze boss or ornament in the shape of a grotesque mask was found at Newarke Bridge.<sup>98</sup> (These are all in the Leicester Museum.) The figure of ‘Apollo or Jupiter’ found on the site of the villa at the Cherry Orchard is noted elsewhere.<sup>99</sup> An eagle’s head in bronze was found on the site of the Royal Arcade in High Street,<sup>100</sup> and a small bronze cross 2 in. long with a coin of Valens (A.D. 364–78) in Belgrave Gate.<sup>101</sup> A finger-ring of bronze of the key type was discovered in Blackfriars Street.<sup>102</sup> The iron framework and chain of a large bucket, said to be Roman, were found at a depth of 25 ft. when sinking a well in Southgate Street.<sup>103</sup> A bone spoon, now in the Leicester Museum, was found in Causeway Lane,<sup>104</sup> some bone discs in St. Nicholas Street,<sup>105</sup> and many bone pins have been found in different parts of the town. A quern of pudding stone was found in Butt Close Lane in 1862.<sup>106</sup> A seal or stamp of blue lias was found in High Cross Street bearing a grotesque face and the inscription in two lines, C. PAL. GRACILIS,<sup>107</sup> which Hübner reads c[AIVS] PAL[FORIOS] GRACILIS.<sup>108</sup>

*Coins* have been found in considerable quantities in the town, separately and in hoards.<sup>109</sup> Burton records isolated finds made as early as 1622, dating from Vespasian (A.D. 70–9) to Antonine (A.D. 138–61).<sup>110</sup> In 1718 a hoard was discovered near the North Gate, in an earthenware pot capable of holding 3 pints or 2 quarts, and containing a considerable number of coins, first and third brass, dating from Titus (A.D. 79–81) to Honorius (A.D. 395–423).<sup>111</sup> In 1730 600 brass coins were found, presumably together, ‘near the town,’ dating from Diocletian (A.D. 284–305) to Constantine Maximus (A.D. 306–37).<sup>112</sup> In 1797 the *Gentleman’s Magazine* records the find of many consular coins in the ploughed lands north-west of the town,<sup>113</sup> apparently all silver. A great number of coins were found near Bow Bridge

<sup>95</sup> C. Roach Smith, *Illus. Rom. Lond.*

<sup>97</sup> *Ibid.* i, 214.

<sup>99</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* ix, p. cxviii; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), iv, 183–5.

<sup>100</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 169; vi, 113–14.

<sup>103</sup> *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xii, p. xli.

<sup>106</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 178; v, 59.

<sup>109</sup> Hollings, *Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* 364.

<sup>112</sup> Camden, *Brit.* ii, 209 (ed. Gough); MS. Min. Soc. Antiq. ii, 200; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 4.

<sup>113</sup> *Gent. Mag.* 1797, i, 203; *Arch.* liv, 494.

<sup>96</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ix, 225, 238.

<sup>98</sup> *Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*

<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.* ii, 247.

<sup>104</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 92.

<sup>107</sup> *Ibid.* vi, 96.

<sup>110</sup> *Descr. of Leic.*

<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.* iv, 328.

<sup>105</sup> *Ibid.* ix, 175.

<sup>108</sup> Hübner, *Corpus Inscrip.*

<sup>111</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 4.



## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

in the same garden, but at different times up to 1855, including coins of almost all the emperors from Caligula (A.D. 37-41) to Valens (A.D. 364-78),<sup>114</sup> with the exception of a break of about sixty years between Albinus (A.D. 193-7) and Posthumus (A.D. 258-68), for which period there are no representative coins. Scattered in various parts of the town at different times have been found coins, chiefly first and third brass, dating from Claudius (A.D. 41-54) to Gratianus (A.D. 375-83).<sup>115</sup> Coins of the earlier Caesars are rare, but those of Hadrian (A.D. 117-38) and Antoninus (A.D. 138-61) are sometimes found in considerable numbers. Silver denarii of Nero (A.D. 54-68) and of Domitian (A.D. 81-96) have occasionally been brought to light. Silver coins have also been found of Vespasian (A.D. 70-9), Hadrian (A.D. 117-38), Antoninus Pius (A.D. 138-61), Severus Alexander (A.D. 222-35), and Aurelian (A.D. 270-5). The coins of Constantine (A.D. 306-37) constitute perhaps half the total number of those found.<sup>116</sup> The only gold coins that have been recorded are one of Trajan (A.D. 98-117) and one of Honorius (A.D. 395-423).<sup>117</sup>

### ROMAN ARCHITECTURAL REMAINS IN LEICESTER

The letters and numerals on the Plan indicate remains the site of whose discovery has been ascertained as nearly as possible. This list is compiled, with a few additions, from a similar list by Mr. G. E. Fox, in *Arch. Journ.* xlvii, 61.

- A.—Floor of mortar, walls and traces of a hypocaust (?) and large foundations of a wall of Forest stone, laid dry. Near Water House, High Cross Street, next west end of the Friars (site of Johnson's Buildings). Found 1667-8. [Carte in Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11.] A tessellated floor, a hypocaust and painted walls, site of Johnson's Buildings. Found 1667. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 19.]
- B.—Large Sewer from East Gate, found at end of seventeenth century. [Thompson, *Hist. Leic. App. A.* 447.]
- C.—Wall and pavement of stone like a street. Found 1716. [Carte in Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- D.—Tessellated floor, White Lion Inn. Found 1723. [Carte in Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- E.—Tessellated pavements on site known as Vauxhall, close to the River Soar. Found in 1747. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 19; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- F.—Tessellated pavement found under south aisle of St. Martin's Church, 1773. [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 12.]
- G.—Tessellated pavement found on site of County Gaol. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 383.]
- H.—Tessellated pavement and hypocausts, under Mr. Stephen's house, now No. 18, High Cross Street. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 20.]
- I.—Tessellated pavement under Mr. King's house, afterwards in possession of Mr. Collier. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 20.]
- KK.—Concrete floor, large foundations, columns, and large drain. Found 1793. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 388 et seq.] And foundations at the Talbot Inn. Found 1793. [Throsby, *Hist. Leic.* 2.]
- L.—Concrete floor, and massive wall in line with the Jewry Wall, at Recruiting Sergeant Inn. [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 12.]
- M.—Tessellated pavement, *in situ*, found 1830. Jewry Wall Street, now under Great Central Railway. [Thompson, *Hist. Leic. App. A.* 445. *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 22.]
- N.—Pavement found in 1839, St. Nicholas Square. [O. S. xxxi, 10. Thompson, *Hist. Leic. App.* 445.]
- O.—Wall and bases and shafts of columns. Found 1859. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 23, 24.]
- P.—Painted walls of a room. Found 1866, in the street, Southgate Street, near Mr. Warren's premises. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 22.]

<sup>114</sup> Hollings, *Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* 364.

<sup>115</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 4; Thompson, *Hist. Leic. App.* 446-7; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* i-ix.

<sup>116</sup> Hollings, *Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* 364 et seq.

<sup>117</sup> Thompson, *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vii, 151; Hollings, *Leic. Lit. and Phil. Soc.* 364 et seq. A considerable list is given in the *Reports* of the Museum Committee, p. cclxii, of coins found in St. Nicholas Street in 1899, but it is stated that 'there is every reason to believe that the site was "salted" with intention to deceive.'

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is the find of  
the town,<sup>115</sup>  
at Bow Bridge

<sup>114</sup> Hollings, 364.

<sup>115</sup> Nichols, 15.

<sup>116</sup> Hollings, 364.

<sup>117</sup> Thompson, 151.

<sup>118</sup> Hollings, 364.



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

- Q.—Coarse pavement and fragment of column. Found 1866, in Southgate Street, in street, between Mr. Johnson's malt offices and Mr. Collier's house. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 22.]
- R.—Rough tessellated pavement. Found 1876. Site of Opera House, Silver Street. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 106; v, 55.]
- S.—Concrete floor, foundations, and drain. Found 1859 and 1876, in Bath Lane. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 22; v, 41.]
- T.—Inscribed tile, *Primus fecit*, Wyggeston's Hospital. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 96.]
- VV.—Columns found in 1885, now placed in St. Nicholas Churchyard. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 161.]
- W.—Tessellated pavement, Blackfriars Street. Found 1885. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 208.]
- X.—Tessellated pavement, Sarah Street. Found 1885. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 210.]
- Y.—Foundation of wall, roof tile, and fragments of ornamented, stamped flue tiles. Found 1888, in St. Nicholas Churchyard in digging foundations for new north transept to church. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vii, 17.]
- Z.—Large drain to west of Jewry Wall, mentioned by Throsby [*Hist. Leic.* 388], re-discovered and its direction traced towards the Jewry Wall. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 312.]
- (In Museum, but not numbered.—a a to ff inclusive, except b b)
- a a.—Fragment of stone carved with a niche, containing a portion of a rude figure in relief, Townhall Lane.
- b b.—Two tessellated pavements from St. Nicholas Street, found in 1898, preserved *in situ*. [*Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* (New Ser.), iv, 289; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxiv, p. xcix; *Antiq.* xxiv, 234; *Reliq. Jan.* 1899;] *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ix, 6.]
- c c.—Part of a column, found 7 ft. deep, in Freeschool Lane turning out of High Cross Street. Found 1882-4. [*Cat. Arch. Specimens in Leic. Mus.*]
- d d.—A piece of carved stone moulding from the Flood Works opposite the castle. Found in 1889. [*Rep. Mus. Com.*]
- e e.—Inscribed stone column, found 3½ ft. deep between St. Nicholas' Church and the Jewry Wall. Inscription very much defaced, but as far as can be deciphered,
- MER - C (?)  
PRD - P
- Found in 1897. [*Cat. Arch. Specimens in Leic. Mus.*]
- f f.—Part of a stone column from the corner of High Street and High Cross Street, found in 1901. [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 459.]
- Remains of a stone wall about 1 ft. high (with column and pavements). Found in 1901. [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 459.]
- h h.—From about Red Cross Street down to the Elm Trees (near All Saints' Church), 6 ft. or 7 ft. from the houses on west side of street, an old stone wall, fallen down towards the houses. Found in 1685. [*Carte in Nichols, Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- Found next the 'King's Arms' (formerly in High Street), a stone wall running to the street, 1710. [*Carte in Nichols, Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- Found, a wall in the cellars of Mr. Carter's house, and, in next house, a drain of stone, 1717. [*Carte in Nichols, Hist. Leic.* i, 11.]
- l l.—Fragment of tessellated pavement, found on site of Grey Friars. [*Throsby, Hist. Leic.* 396.]
- Foundations and remains of floors, near the Peacock Inn, High Cross Street, 1858. (?) [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 215.]
- m m.—Foundations south and west of Jewry Wall. Found in 1864. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 305.]
- Granite and Sandstone Walk, from near All Saints' Church to near gaol, running in middle of High Cross Street. Found in 1866. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 23.]
- n n.—Foundations on Mr. Sarson's premises, near St. Nicholas Street. Found in 1869. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 207.]
- o o.—Sites of excavations along the east front of Jewry Wall in 1867 and 1875. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 202 et seq.; iv, 54, 79.]
- p p.—Foundations and town ditch. (?) Messrs. Rust's yard, near Jewry Wall. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 41.]
- q q.—A wall running east and west between High Street and Silver Street, with a tessellated pavement. Found in 1889. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 23, 24. *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xx, lx.] Foundation of a wall, from the same place. Found in 1902. [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 461.]
- r r.—Continuation of tessellated pavement found at the corner of Jewry Wall Street and St. Nicholas Street in 1830. Found in 1843. [*Thompson, Hist. Leic.* 445.] Some masonry also found in St. Nicholas' Street in 1902. [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), xix, 245.]
- ss.—Tessellated pavement in St. Nicholas Square. Found in 1853. [*Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*]
- Fragment of pavement in St. Nicholas Street. Found in 1889. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vii, 207.]
- tt.—Part of a paved road in Talbot Lane, of considerable width, leading to the Jewry Wall. [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 202.]



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One of the first duties of the Romans in the occupation of this country was to provide for easy communication to all parts of it by the construction of roads. In doing this they connected the principal tribal towns they found already established, and formed posting stations at convenient distances between them. With regard to the roads of the Romano-British period, the sources of information available are of two kinds, written and archaeological. The archaeological evidence is supplied by actual remains such as Roman milestones or ancient metalling, and occasionally by the persistent straightness with which a still existing track runs from one Roman site to another. The chief written evidence is the *Itinerarium Antonini*, a Roman road-book which gives the distances and 'stations' along various routes in the empire. Its exact age is uncertain, though it is supposed to have been written about A.D. 320. Its accuracy is by no means unfailing, and it is more useful in showing that a road proceeded in a particular direction than in testifying its precise course and the exact sites of the stations along it. Two of the Itinerary routes (Itin. vi and viii) passed through Leicestershire, on the same road from north to south, and one (Iter ii) along the south-western border of the county. These follow the line of two well-known and indisputably Roman roads—the Watling Street and the Fosse Way.

1. Watling Street is the name in use since Saxon times to describe the Roman road which ran north-west from London, past Verulam (St. Albans) to Viroconium (Wroxeter) (part of Iter ii of Antonine). The course of the Watling Street in general is certain, and not least in Leicestershire, where it forms the boundary between this county and Warwickshire.<sup>1</sup> It enters from the south, crosses the Avon at the place called Tripontium in the Itinerary (Shawell and Cave's Inn), proceeds from there to Venonae (High Cross), where it is crossed by the Fosse Way. Thence it continues to Manduessedum (Witherley and Mancetter), where it crosses the River Anker and leaves the county.

2. The Fosse is the name used since Saxon times for the roads or series of roads which ran from Lincoln through Leicester, Cirencester, and Bath into the west. Its general course is no less certain than that of Watling Street.<sup>2</sup> The Fosse enters Leicestershire from the south-west, out of Warwickshire, at Venonae (High Cross), where it crosses Watling Street, and proceeds north-east to Ratae (Leicester), passing Narborough and Whetstone, where Roman remains have been found, and crosses the River Soar at Langham Bridge. It is once or twice lost in fields, though traces of the road are generally visible, and merges into the present Leicester and Narborough road  $3\frac{1}{4}$  miles from Leicester. It is conjectured that the Fosse crossed the Soar again at Bow Bridge, continued by the causeway now known as King Richard's Road, entered the city by the West Gate<sup>3</sup> (Jewry Wall), passed along what is now High Street, and left by the East Gate (Humberstone Gate), following the course of the present road to Melton Mowbray, as far as

<sup>1</sup> Haverfield, in *V.C.H. Warw.* i, 242-3.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* i, 243.

<sup>3</sup> Codrington, *Roman Roads in Britain*, 252; *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vii. 269-74.



## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

Thurmaston, where a Roman milestone was discovered,<sup>4</sup> whence it proceeds for 6½ miles to Six Hills, where it leaves the county.

3. The Gartree Road or Via Devana does not appear in the Itinerary of Antonine. It has been laid down by many English antiquaries on their maps or in their books as running more or less directly from Colchester by Cambridge and Huntingdon to Leicester, and finally to Deva (Chester). There is no evidence for the existence of the whole of this road, and the name Via Devana is a modern invention. Parts of the route, however, may be accepted as independent roads of Roman origin, and in particular it is credible that a Roman road connected Leicester and Huntingdon. It enters the county at Medbourne on the boundary of Northamptonshire,<sup>5</sup> and can be traced for 15 miles to Leicester, which it enters by the South Gate, here probably to be identified with the existing Southgate Street and High Cross Street. It leaves Leicester by the North Gate,<sup>6</sup> from whence its course is uncertain but probable, and ran it would seem through Markfield and Coalville to Ashby de la Zouch and Blackfordby, where it would leave the county. From thence it continued to Burton on Trent, where it joined the 'Ryckniel Street' on its route from Lichfield to Derby.<sup>7</sup>

The other roads in the county are less certain, and in some cases are based upon very slight evidence. A straight road which leaves Watling Street at Mancetter, pointing for 5 miles to Leicester, and continuing in the same line by other roads, represents, it has been suggested, a possible Roman route to Leicester.<sup>8</sup> In the north of the county there is a suggestion that the road from Little Chester (Derby) to Sawley crossed the river at the point where the Derwent and Soar join the Trent, and proceeded to join the Fosse Way either at Willoughby in Nottinghamshire, which is perhaps the more probable, or at Six Hills in Leicestershire, but the evidence either way is not conclusive.<sup>9</sup> An equally uncertain route sometimes called the Salt Way is supposed to have started at Six Hills and to have branched off to the north-east to join Erming Street, near Ponton, in Rutland.<sup>10</sup> In evidence of this it is said that from Six Hills a straight road is followed by a parish boundary for 3 miles to the high ground near Dalby Tunnel, continuing with a slight turn to the line of highways on the north of Croxton Park, which it followed, and leaving Leicestershire at Croxton Kerrial.<sup>11</sup>

A route has also been suggested which would join the Ryckniel Street at Derby to the Erming Street at Stamford, in Northamptonshire, passing through Sawley and Willoughby (Verometum).

<sup>4</sup> See Thurmaston, in *Topog. Index*.

<sup>5</sup> Existing roads and boundaries tend to prove that this road ran on in the same straight line from Medbourne to Stanion in Northants, where its traces are lost, but are thought to be re-discovered on the eastern side of that county, and to join the Roman road at Alconbury, in Huntingdonshire; Haverfield, in *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 206.

<sup>6</sup> *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vii, 274.

<sup>7</sup> Haverfield, in *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 206; in *V.C.H. Derb.* i, 251.

<sup>8</sup> Codrington, op. cit. 75.

<sup>9</sup> Haverfield, *V.C.H. Derb.* i, 246; Stukeley, *Iter Boreal.* 25.

<sup>10</sup> Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* cxlviii.

<sup>11</sup> Codrington, op. cit. 250; *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* vii, 274; this road is also supposed to have proceeded in the direction of Barrow on Soar to the south-west of Six Hills.

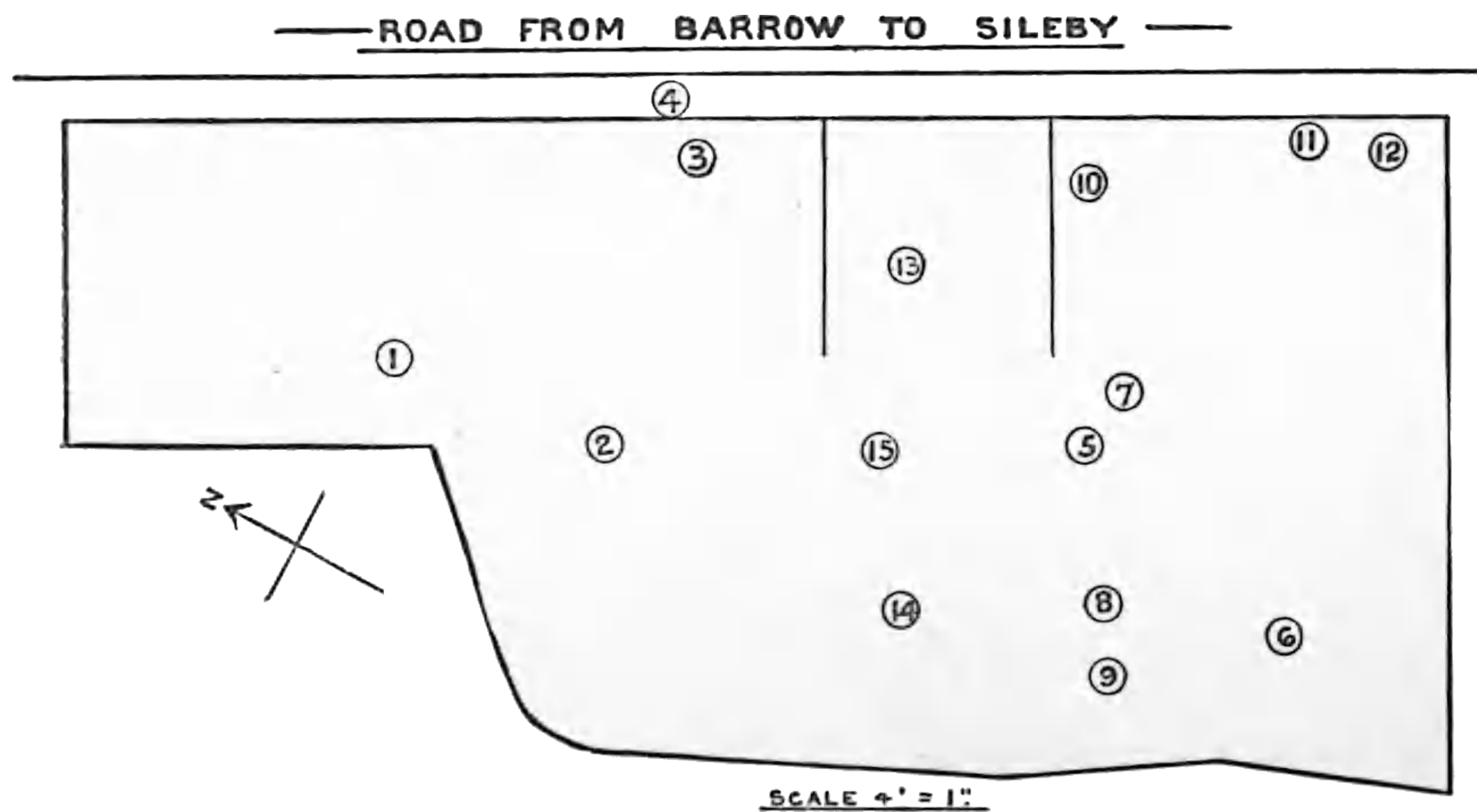
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BARROW UPON SOAR.—The remains of a Roman cemetery, containing a considerable number of skeletons, urns, and other relics of burial, were opened in 1867, and again in 1874. It is about 7 miles north of Leicester, not far from the river Soar on the west, and from the Fosse road on the east; the lane from Sileby to Barrow passes the spot where a barrow formerly existed, since levelled, as the present elevation is not more than 3 ft., and the remains were found 2½ ft. below the surface. A floor of rubble granite was disclosed, measuring 10 ft. by 6 ft., near the road, by labourers digging in 1867; it is conjectured that this may have been the site of the funeral pyre. In the cists of this, except where the road passes, remains were discovered of burials (vide plan)—five skeletons, five glass vessels containing calcined bones, or, according to account, at least eight vessels and remains of from ten to twelve persons [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* 448–61]; also a large amphora full of ashes mixed with iron nails and another cinerary urn were found. Two of the skeletons and some of the glass vessels were in cists made of stone and tiles. Two iron lamps suspended from long jointed handles were discovered. The jars had apparently been buried in separate small pits, in various distances from each other. Three of the glass vessels, the large amphora, and the cinerary urn are now in the Leicester Town Museum. In the following list the numbers given correspond to the accompanying plan and show the positions where the objects were found.

(1) Hexagonal green glass vessel, 10 in. high, with ribbed handle, the mouth secured with sheet lead. (2) Square green glass vessel, the mouth also secured with lead. (3) Two iron lamps, suspended from handles 20 in. and 14 in. long respectively, evidently inserted into a beam or holdfast. (4) Another square glass vessel, found in a cist. (5) Hexagonal glass vessel, long shape, with two handles (nearly complete). (6) Amphora, containing ashes and iron nails, 2 ft. 6 in. in height, capacity 15 gallons. (7, 8, 9, 10) Human skeletons. (11, 12) Skeletons in cists. (13) Fragment of Samian bowl. (14) Clay cinerary urn. (15) Fragment of Samian bowl. No persons of any kind were discovered except part of a bronze fibula found later, now in the Leicester Museum, but some large bones of oxen and horses were dug up and several iron pins, &c., which are also in the museum [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), iii, 448–61; *Antiq.* 214, 220; *Illus. Lond. News*, April, 1867, l, 380; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 1874].

In 1874 a further discovery was made in close proximity to those found in 1867 of another large amphora, now in the Leicester Museum, also containing iron nails; four *ampullae* of light-coloured ware; three lamps of the same ware,



glass vessels, those found in the whole of the barrow, a cist which was found within the walls of the barrow, 15 ft. below the surface, containing vessels, lamps, and other relics, than those found in the surface of the barrow, were discovered in 1867.



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

forest stone, 'joined with admirable mortar'; very narrow, without a parapet of any kind, and much overgrown with moss and weeds. Throsby considered that they were undoubtedly Roman [*Views of Leic.* ii, 519-20].

**CROXTON KERRIAL.**—One or two small Roman coins (bronze) were found here with a British arrow-head, &c., in a field called 'Egypt' [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 423].

**EASTON MAGNA.**—Roman pottery was exhibited to the Leicestershire Archaeological Society in 1858, which was thought to come from here [Information from Mr. Freer; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 176].

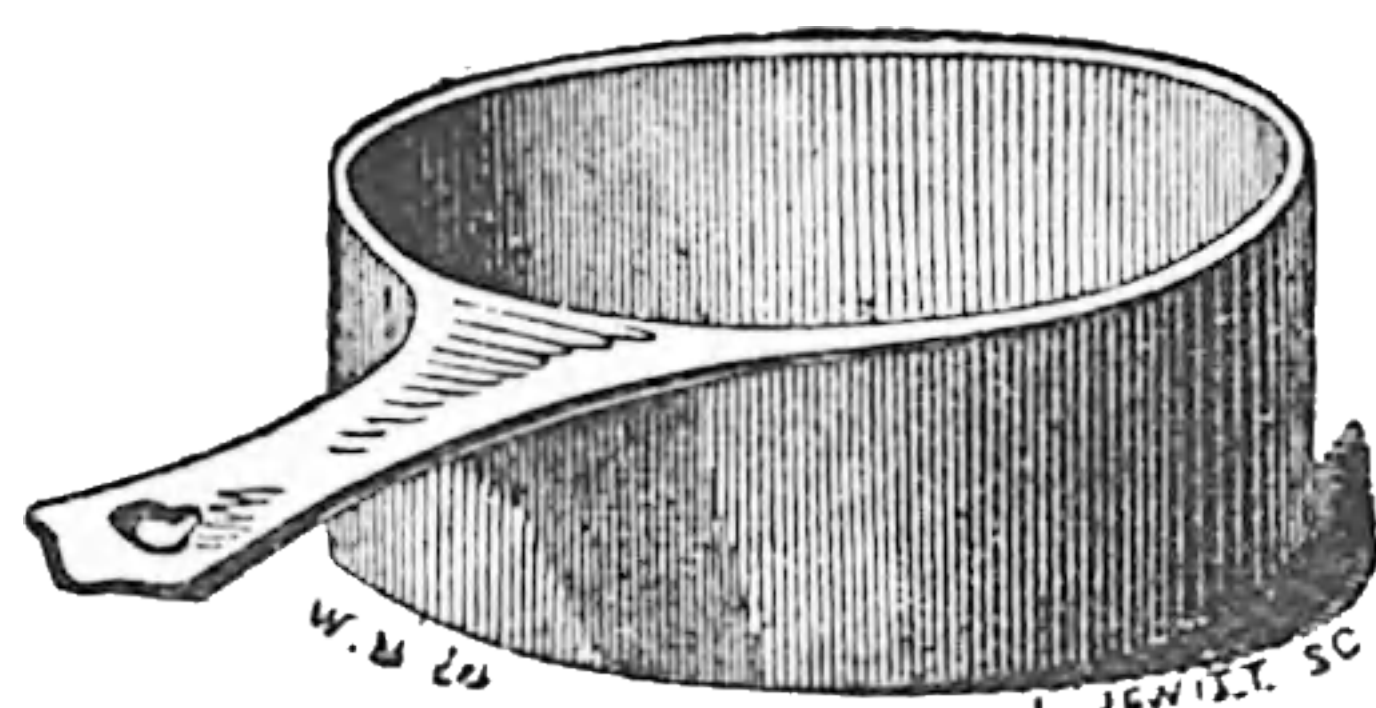
**EDMONDTHORPE.**—A great variety of potsherds have been found here, and in the neighbouring villages of Cottesmore and Barrow (Rutland) [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), xix, 194]. Between the villages of Edmondthorpe and Teign a hoard of Roman coins was found in 1797, in a square hole formed in the rock, 3 ft. below the surface. The coins were of Marcus Antoninus (B.C. 44-30), Trajan (A.D. 98-117), Constantius (A.D. 291-306), Constantine II (A.D. 317-40), Magnentius (A.D. 350-3), Valentinian (A.D. 364-75), Valens (A.D. 364-78), Gratian (A.D. 375-83) [*Gent. Mag.* 1797, i, 95].

**ELMESTHORPE.**—A stone coffin with a lid was found near the infirmary, Elmesthope, and is now in the Leicester Museum [*Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*].

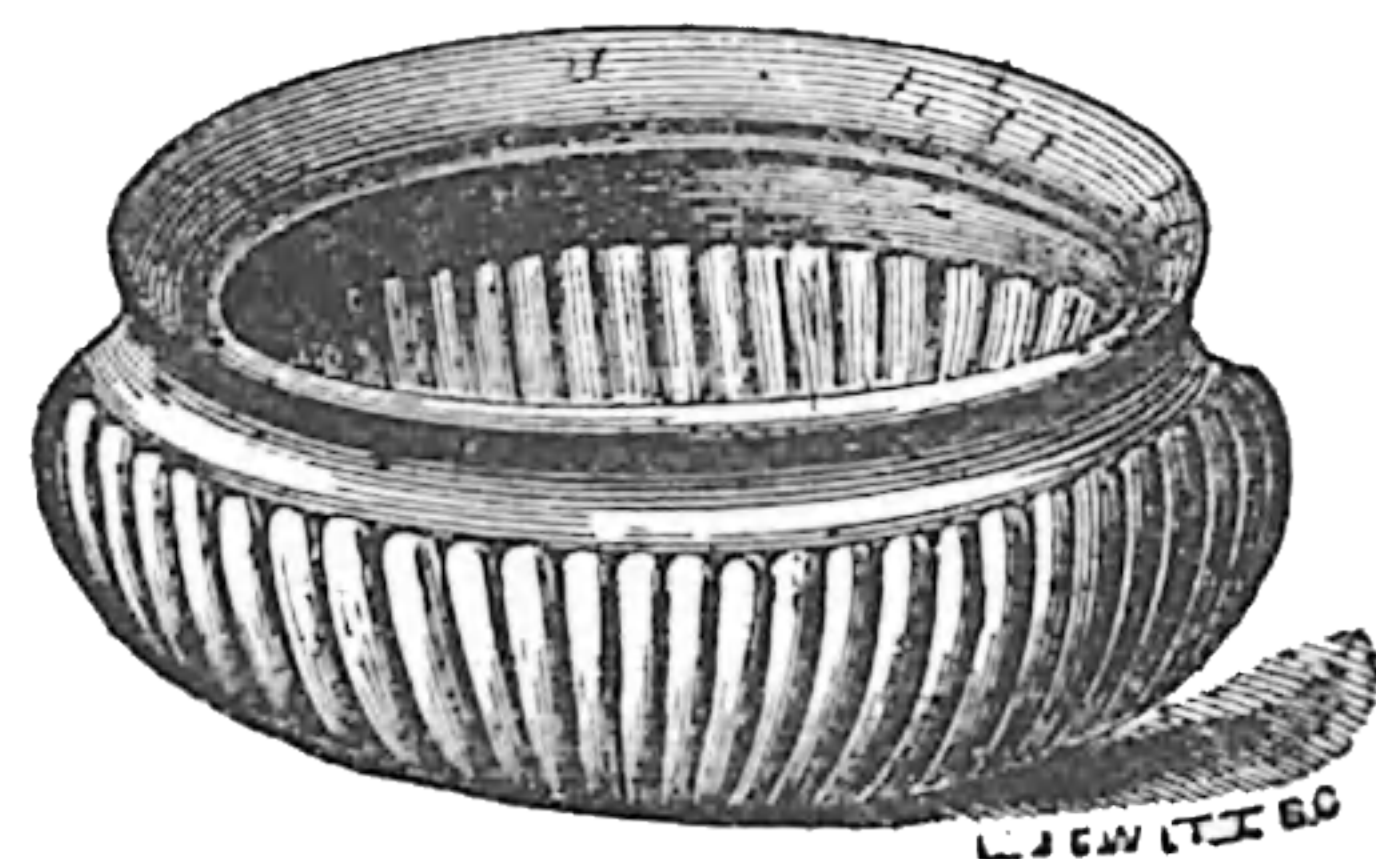
**GLEN PARVA.**—Several specimens of pottery, including a small Roman *mortarium* and part of a square flue tile, were found here [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 187].

**GOADBY.**—A piece of gold, a gold ring, a fibula, and various coins found in a mound in Goadby Park were exhibited in the temporary museum at Melton Mowbray in 1865. It is also said that numerous coins and human bones have been discovered in the locality [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 39].

**HALLATON.**—There are two so-called 'camps' at Hallaton (*post*, 'Ancient Earthworks'). 'Castle Hill Camp,' to the west of the village, is a large conical mound, 630 ft. in circumference at the base, 118 ft. in diameter at the top. Evidences of Roman occupation have been found, fragments of cinerary urns and other pottery, crucibles, smelted iron ore, &c., but it has not afforded decided tokens of earlier occupation, though the generally received opinion has been that it was British [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), vii, 317; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 75].



PATELLA OF BRONZE, FOUND AT HALLATON



GLASS BOWL, FOUND AT HALLATON



BRONZE HANDLE, FOUND AT HALLATON

On the Ordnance Survey map it is marked 'Saxon'; a considerable quantity of pottery and other remains, Danish, Saxon, and Norman, have been found [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 75; Hill, *History of Gartree*, 284; *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* i, 173]. Excavations were made in 1878 without any very striking results being obtained. No traces of building or building material were discovered, no weapons, coins, or human bones [*Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), vii, 316-21]. There is a smaller rectangular camp, about 1,600 ft., to the west of 'Castle Hill,' which measures 300 ft. by 220 ft. An uninscribed gold coin of early date was found in 1848, about 500 yds. from the place [*ante*, 'Early Man'; *Arch. Journ.* vi, 403; Evans, *Anct. Brit. Coins*, 75-6].

In 1856, on the property of Lord Berners, on a spot where it appears that two ancient roads crossed (indications of these roads can be seen), remains, probably sepulchral, were found. They occupied a space of about 5 ft. by 2 ft. 6 in. There were no indications of a barrow, but they had evidently been inclosed in a wooden cist, and were found encrusted together in a mass, with some bones [*Midl. Hist. Coll.* ii, 66, 154]. The articles found were: four green glass vessels or lachrymatories, one perfect, the others in fragments; fragments of a ribbed green glass bowl, and of a long-necked dark blue glass bottle; several pieces of Samian bowls

and *paterae* of different shapes, without potters' marks, in a much broken condition; a bronze *patella*, the only entire vessel found; portions of a jug with a foliated ornament round the neck; a bronze ladle, and several handles, one representing a youth dancing, and one terminating in a ram's head, like those found at Shefford in Bedfordshire, and at Bartlow and Topesfield in Essex [*Arch. Journ.* xiii, 409; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 75; Brayley, *Graphic and Hist. Illustrator*, 344; *Arch.* xvi, 24]. There are said to be traces of a Roman encampment on an adjacent hill called 'The Ram's Head,' in the parish of Keythorpe [*Arch. Journ.* xiii, 409].

**HIGHAM ON THE HILL.**—A find was made in 1607 on the Watling Street, which passes through Higham; a large square stone was lifted, and under it lay two or three silver coins of Trajan (A.D. 98-117), with coins and other relics of a later date. Burton suggests that this was 'an altar stone, dedicated to Trajan' [Burton, *Descr. Leic.* 131-2; Thompson, *Assoc. Arch.*



... - 32]. No traces of Roman camp or town are now to be seen. It is mentioned in the Domesday Book, and the text mentions that numerous coins were found, and that foundations of hewn stone were seen under the furrows on both sides of the road [*Brit.* ii, 297, ed. Gough, 1806]. It spoke of 'many ancient coins, great square stones and bricques and other rubbish of man building'; and added that the coins dated from Caligula (A.D. 37-41) to the Great (A.D. 306-37) [*Descr. Leic.* 67]. Dugdale described 'large stones, with ovens and wells, and coins of silver and brass,' and stated that the earth was darker and richer than elsewhere [*Warw.* i, 71]. Elias Ashmole in 1657 saw a measuring 18 ft. by 12 ft. which he thought was the site of a temple [Nichols, *Antiq. Leic.* cli; *Bibl. Topog. Brit.* vii, 287]. Stukeley, Horsley, and Nichols mention further a few coins only, a denarius of Mark Antony (B.C. 44-30), another of Domitian and copper coins of the late third and fourth centuries, down to Gratian (A.D. 375-393) [Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.* 110 (ed. 2); Horsley, *Brit. Rom.* 385, 420; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, 117]. Laverfield considers that it is now impossible to decide the precise position, the size, or the character of the Roman station, it may have been a village, or a posting station [*V.C.H. Leic.* i, 117]. Venonae being on the edge of several parishes, Claybrooke, Wibtoft, Copston, has been variously described as being in one or other of them, and this has led to confusion, and a mistaken idea that the site is uncertain or disputed [*V.C.H. Warw.* xlviii, 2].

Seven miles south-west from Leicester, near to the Watling Street, and about half-way between Venonae (High Cross) and Manduessedum (Witherley and Mancetter), there are a rampart and fosse, and Roman relics have been found near the site, chiefly a hoard of coins discovered in 1871; but the earliest evidence concerning this 'Castle Hill,' as it is called, is a small earthen castle [post, 'Ancient Earthworks'; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 305; vi, 325]. In 1871, on the Hinckley branch of the Nuneaton and Ashby Railway, about 18 in. from the surface, a Roman vessel of brownish ware, holding rather more than a quart, full of coins, was discovered by some labourers who unfortunately dispersed the contents which could be examined. Some of these coins were seen by Mr. Thompson, the antiquary of Leicester, who estimated that the jar must have held several hundreds [*Assoc. Arch.* 1871].

They were described as being in good preservation, dating from Otho (A.D. 69) to Marcus Aurelius and Lucius Verus (A.D. 161-80), the most numerous being those of Trajan (A.D. 98-117) and Hadrian (A.D. 117-38). The following is a list of the numbers as far as they could be ascertained:—Otho (A.D. 69), two; Vespasian (A.D. 70-79), one; Domitian (A.D. 81-96), three; Nerva (A.D. 96-7), three; Trajan (A.D. 98-117), twelve; Antoninus Pius (A.D. 138-61), eight; Faustina the Elder (A.D. 143-41), three; Faustina the Younger (A.D. 161-75), three; Lucius Verus (A.D. 161-83), one. Total fifty-eight [*Proc. Soc. Antiq. Leic.* 1871; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 325; O.S. xlii, 7].

(ton).—In October, 1799, an urn was found in a ditch, in Holyoke Wood, containing silver coins of Julian (A.D. 355-62), Gratian (A.D. 375-83), Theodosius (A.D. 379-395), and Arcadius (A.D. 395-408). Many of them were said to be in good preservation, [*Hist. Leic.* iii, 535].

There seems to be no doubt that a manorial defence, known as 'Old Ingarsby Moat,' was the site of a strong rectangular camp of an early period. Its proximity to Billesdon, and the discovery of spearheads and other implements and Roman coins, lead to the same conclusion. [*Ancient Earthworks*; O.S. xxxii, 6-11].

NOTE.—A large bell-shaped barrow surrounded by a ditch is in Hall Field, near the village and east of the Gartree Road or Via Devana. It was opened early in 1863, and again in 1863, when fragments of bone and of Samian pottery were found. A cutting was cut through from north to south, the depth of the cutting being about 5 ft. deep a layer of black soil, ashes, and pieces of burnt wood were found, and one or two pieces of Roman pottery. On the same level a large stone 4 ft. by 2 ft. was discovered, probably part of a cist and with it



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

a regular layer of black soil, which appeared to be the natural level of the ground [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 230, 1863; *post*, 'Ancient Earthworks.']. A hoard of coins is said to have been found at Kibworth, but there is no recorded description of it, and it was removed from the county [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* ii, 310]. An inscribed stone is said to have been found here, but has been since lost [Reynolds, *Itin. Brit.* 448; *Arch. Journ.* xxxiv, 146]. In 1723 a gold coin of Julian (A.D. 355-62), found at Kibworth, not in the barrow, was exhibited to the Society of Antiquaries [MS. Min. Soc. Antiq. i, 12; O.S. xlv, 6].

**KNAPTOFT.**—A Roman vase was found in a gravel pit at Knaptoft [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, pt. ii, 136].

**LEICESTER.**—See separate account.

**LOUGHBOROUGH.**—In the part of Charnwood Forest which now forms the little estate of Mount St. Bernard, near Loughborough, was found in 1840 a Roman urn containing a great number of coins. It was turned out of the ground and broken by the plough, at a depth of from 10 in. to 12 in. from the surface. The land had never been previously cultivated, as far as is known. The urn measured 22 in. in circumference, and weighed 12 lb. The coins dated from *circa* A.D. 254 to *circa* A.D. 273:—Gallienus (A.D. 253-68), four coins, with different reverses; Postumus (A.D. 258-68), eleven coins, seven different reverses; Claudius Gothicus, (A.D. 268-70), four coins, three different reverses; Victorinus (A.D. 265-7), seven coins, five different reverses; Tetricus (A.D. 268-73), fifteen coins, seven or eight different reverses. Specimens also of the following other emperors' coins are said to have been among them:—Salonina (A.D. 254-8); Saloninus (A.D. 254-8); Victorinus (A.D. 265-7); Marius (A.D. 267); Tetricus, junr. (A.D. 268-73); Quintillus (A.D. 279); Aurelianus (A.D. 270-5); Probus (A.D. 276-82); but a particular examination was made only of the coins previously mentioned [*Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* (Ser. 1), vii, 1-5; *Num. Chron.* iii, 674]. Some upper and lower stones of querns found here are in the Leicester Museum [*Rep. Mus. Com.*].

**LUTTERWORTH.**—At this place, which is situated near the Watling Street, and not far from High Cross, quantities of Roman coins have been discovered at different times. In 1725 Stukeley saw a number, found between Bensford Bridge and Lutterworth, dating from Vespasian (A.D. 70-9) to Hadrian (A.D. 117-38), 'all well cut, indicating that they were hidden early' [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 4; Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.* i, 112]. In 1869 a large hoard of coins was found, of which only 254 came under examination. The numbers of each type were as follows:—Vitius Volusianus (A.D. 251-4), one coin; Valerianus (A.D. 253-60), three coins; Gallienus (A.D. 253-68), three coins; Salonina (A.D. 254-8), one coin; Saloninus (A.D. 253-9), one coin; Postumus (A.D. 258-68), thirty-seven coins; Victorinus (A.D. 265-7), one hundred and thirty coins; Marius (A.D. 267), one coin; Tetricus, senr. (A.D. 268-73), one coin; Tetricus, junr. (A.D. 268-73), three coins; Claudius Gothicus (A.D. 268-70), thirty-three coins; Quintillus (A.D. 279), seven coins; total, two hundred and fifty-four. There is reason to suppose that more than these were discovered [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xi, 200; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 36; *Num. Chron.* (new ser.), xi, 169, 181]. In the Lutterworth Museum are a sword, said to be Roman, dug up in Watling Street Road, and some of the coins mentioned above [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 66].

**MARKET BOSWORTH** (13 miles west from Leicester).—In 1871 Roman coins were found here, but were unfortunately dispersed before they could be examined. In 1890, on the site of Bosworth House, 2 ft. 6 in. below the surface, a spearhead and a gold coin were discovered [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iv, 197; ix, 243].

**MARKET HARBOROUGH.**—Until the site was recently built over the remains of a camp were visible in a field to the east of the town, sloping upwards from the River Welland. Roman pottery and other relics were found there [*post* 'Ancient Earthworks']. In 1873 what was thought to be a cemetery used by both Romans and Saxons was discovered, indicating the probable existence of a villa near it. A large collection of pottery and glass, several *fibulae* of different shapes, and an iron pot-hook were preserved. Some of them are in the Market Harborough Museum [*Pub. Camb. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 133; *Arch. Journ.* xxxi, 86; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* viii, 386-401; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 153-69].

**MEDBOURNE.**—A tessellated pavement was found in 1721, in a square entrenchment on high ground near a stream, about  $\frac{1}{4}$  mile north-west from the village, to the north of the Gartree Road (or Via Devana), which passes through the parish on its way from Cottingham to Leicester [MS. Min. Soc. Antiq. 1721]. The pavement, which probably formed part of a villa, was reopened in 1793, and in 1877 was again disclosed, and the tesserae removed to the South Kensington Museum (plate VII) [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* ii, 717; Camden, *Brit.* ii, 301 (ed. Gough, 1806); Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.* i, 109; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), vii, 315; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 209; v, 70, 170]. It measured 42 ft. by 22 ft., and was laid due north and south, at a depth of



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## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

about 4 ft. from the surface. The pattern was geometrical, the inner *tesserae* being  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. square, the outer ones double that size. It was thought to be of late date, about the beginning of the fourth century, and probably the *atrium* of a Roman villa. The materials used were whinstone (blue), brick (red), oolitic stone (drab), and composition (white) on a bed of ordinary mortar about 2 in. thick, laid on the ground, which gave no indication of being otherwise disturbed. The pavement showed signs of having been destroyed by fire. Numerous coins, bones, pieces of pottery and wall-plaster, and a stone quern were also discovered. Silver coins of Vespasian (A.D. 70-79), Domitian (A.D. 81-96), Antoninus (A.D. 138-61), Honorius (A.D. 395-423), and Arcadius (A.D. 395-408) were identified [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 209; v, 70, 170; vi, 42; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xiv, lxii; *Leic. and Rutl. N. and Q.* ii, 209; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 2), vii, 196, 197, 315]. Between Medbourne and Port Hill, a few hundred yards to the west of the village, were three tumuli. Two of these have been removed, the third is now surmounted by a mill [*post*, 'Ancient Earthworks'; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 70]. Coins have also been found in other parts of the village. A small silver one of Arcadius, found on the Gartree Road (A.D. 395-408) [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 290], a coin of Constantine (A.D. 306-37), found at Ashley on the Medbourne boundary [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 42], and two third brass Consular coins, found near the Manor House [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 295].

**MELTON MOWBRAY.**—Near Melton Mowbray, in 1863, a gold coin of Valentinianus I (A.D. 364-75), and two brass coins, the larger of Allectus (A.D. 293-96), the smaller undecipherable, were discovered [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 185]. Two gold coins of Valens (A.D. 364-78) were also found in the neighbourhood in good preservation [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 207; O.S. xx, 5].

**MOIRA.**—The remains of a paved roadway, thought to be Roman, were discovered here [*Reliq.* ii, 209].

**MOUNTSORREL.**—In June, 1881, in clearing away soil to find granite, a Roman sepulchral chamber, about 1 ft. below the surface, was unearthed. It was nearly a parallelogram in shape, the largest side being 8 ft. 3 in., the shorter side 7 ft., the ends 3 ft. 7 in. and 2 ft. 7 in. The walls averaged 4 ft. in height, and about 1 ft. 4 in. in thickness. They were coated inside with plaster from 1 in. to 2½ in. thick, divided into panels of unequal size by bands of red 2 in. wide, with a dado of the same colour 8 in. from the ground. Within the panels a wide pattern in colours could be discerned, made by brush markings in red, black, and amber. One of the panels on the shorter side was ornamented with a figure resembling the letter A.

Outside the chamber, and independent of it, about 1 ft. below the present surface, a band of mortar, 3 in. to 7 in. thick, was to be observed. Two years before, another chamber had been opened about 12 yds. away. It was of rude construction, and not plastered. The floor was of rough Swithland slates, laid in clay or very bad lime concrete. Inside it were found bones, probably of deer, a stag's antlers showing saw-marks, some pieces of dark pottery and tiles, and fragments of coloured wall-plaster. A small iron arrow-head was also discovered [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* v, 345]. Near this spot were found a small bronze gouge, a stone quern, and some pieces of pottery [*Camb. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 133; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 106]. A well was opened at Mountsorrel in 1898, containing Celtic and Roman remains; a mass of concrete with pebbles, portions of roof and flue tiles and *tesserae* were considered Roman; a bronze bucket and other utensils of the late Celtic period [*ante*, 'Early Man']. Several of these things are in the Leicester Museum [*Camb. Antiq. Soc.* viii, 133; *Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.* 1891-1902]. These remains point to the existence of a Roman villa in the neighbourhood.

**NARBOROUGH.**—A coin (third brass) of Antoninus (A.D. 138-61) was found near the Fosse Way in 1862 [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 82].

**NETHER BROUGHTON.**—The Fosse Way passes between Upper and Nether Broughton and Willoughby-on-the-Wold in Nottinghamshire, and Nichols states that many mosaic pavements were found in Broughton, 'sometimes for as much as five yards together,' also pot-hooks, other utensils, and a great quantity of brass coins. 'Broad stones' and foundations were also found by the side of the Fosse. Stukeley decided that this was the Roman station of Margidunum (on the west side of the Fosse Way), but more recent opinion has decided that Verometum and Willoughby are the same [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* ii, pt i, 121; Stukeley, *Itin. Cur.* i, 107; Haverfield in *V.C.H. Warw.* i, 243].

**ORTON-ON-THE-HILL.**—Coins were found here in laying the foundations of a house at the west end of the village [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, 852].

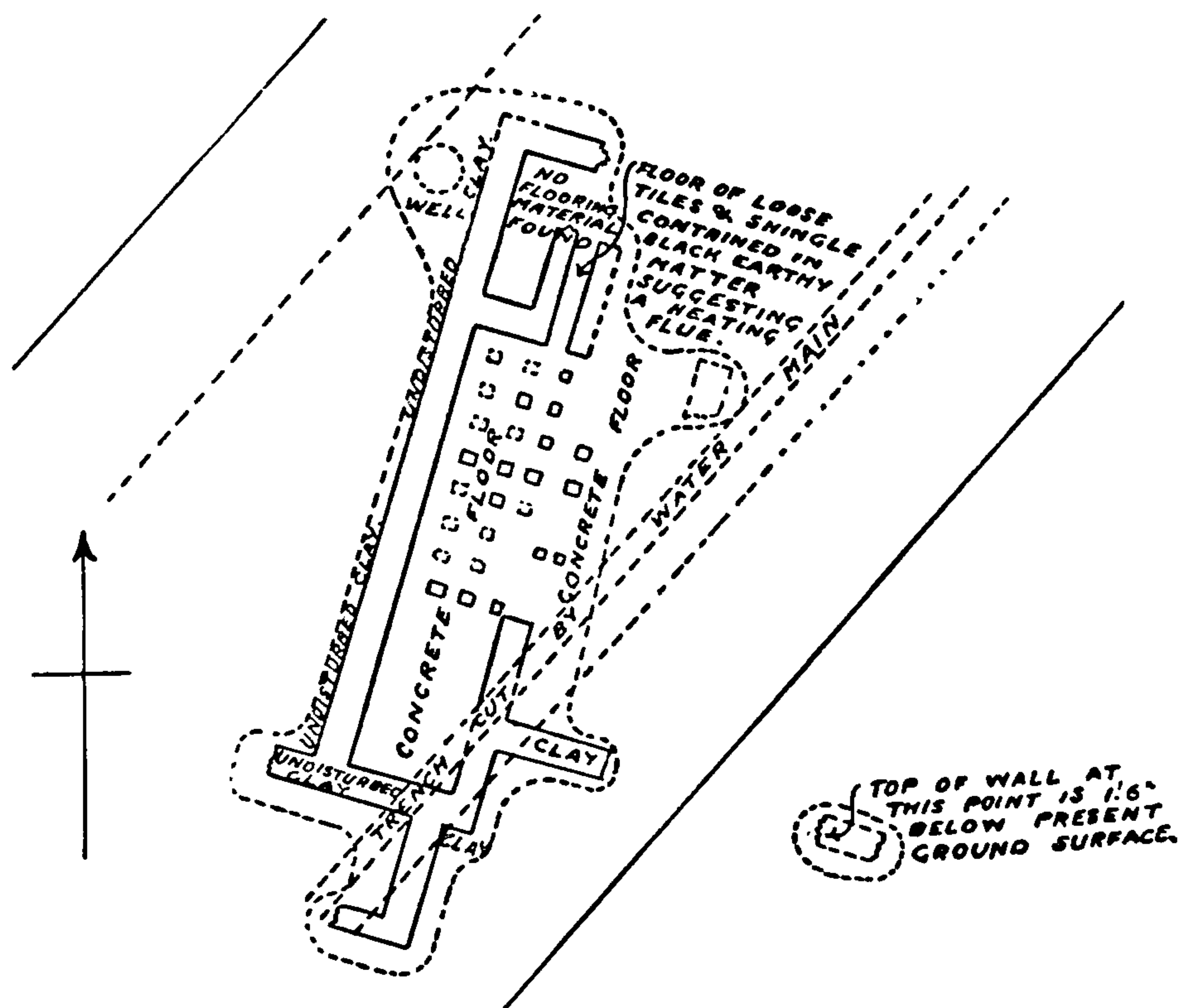
**OWESTON.**—Pottery was discovered here, some of it said to be cinerary urns [Throsby, *Views of Leic.* ii, 390.]

**RATBY.**—Five miles north-west of Leicester is a rectangular camp of single vallum and fosse, known as 'Ratby Burrow,' or 'Bury' Camp; it lies a mile west of the village of Ratby, and occupies an area of over nine acres [*post*, 'Ancient Earthworks'; *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* (new ser.), vii, 24; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 62; *Gent. Mag.* 1773, p. 76].



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

ROTHLEY.—The remains of a Roman villa were discovered in 1901 near Rothley Temple, 5 miles north of Leicester, about 50 yds. from the Great Central Railway station, at the junction of the roads leading to Swithland and Rothley. The walls, so far as they were traced, inclosed an area of 45 ft. by 30 ft.; the floor was composed of concrete, still sound and hard, from 4 in. to 6 in. thick, and lay from 3 ft. to 4 ft. below the present surface. The walls, 2 ft. thick, were of large-sized granite rammel made solid with mortar, from 1 ft. 6 in. to 2 ft. in height. On the floor were hypocaust piers of red tiles embedded in mortar, varying from 3 in. to 3 ft. 6 in. in height. The tiles showed clay of the sandy nature common in the locality, and were from 11½ in. square and 2 in. thick, to 8 in. square 3¾ in. thick. The inside of the building to the level of the walls was filled with debris, including granite, stones, clay, mortar, and red clay tiles which were thought to be roof and floor tiles; fragments of pottery, bone, and horn were also found. A well was discovered at the north-east corner; it was roughly circular, 3 ft. in diameter, and lined for a distance of 3 ft. from the top with limestone slabs 3 in. thick, and for the remainder with granite rammel, no jointing material being used. The well was also filled with rubbish, containing fragments of bone, and was



SCALE-4 FEET TO AN INCH.

PLAN OF VILLA AT ROTHLEY

covered with stone slabs to the same level as the walls (*vide* plan). Mr. Haverfield considered that 'the plan showed a furnace-room, hypocaust, and the adjacent walling of a Roman villa, but the area uncovered is only a small part of the whole building; there is much more to be discovered' [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 458]. At a later date, not far from the east side of the portion uncovered, a coffin made of limestone slabs was disinterred, but was considerably broken in digging it up. The bones inside it were collected as far as possible. It was lying east and west, 2 ft. below the surface. Pieces of many different kinds of pottery, a quern, and fragments of *tesserae* were found, also an iron knife, probably Roman, and a Saxon spearhead (both now with other things from this place in the Leicester Museum) [*post*, 'Anglo-Saxon Remains'; *Assoc. Arch. Soc.* xxvi, 458; *Leic. Arch. Soc.* ix, 157; *Antiq.* xxxviii, 108]. In 1904 an urn containing bones and ashes was found in a sandpit, not far from the stone coffin [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ix, 239]. Nichols reported the discovery in 1722 of a pavement of small red and white *tesserae* with some human bones and roof tiles, which were found 'near a hedge,' at Rothley [*Hist. Leic.* iii, 956]. In 1784-5 a small piece of pavement, about 4 ft. square, made of limestone cubes, a cross 'plated with silver and gilt,' with a hook behind it, some coins of

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# HISTORY

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Mr. Haverfield has given the following expanded reading—Imp[eratore] Caes[are], div[i] Traian[i] Parth[ici] f[ilio], d[ivi] Nervae] [N]ep[ote Tr]ajan[o] Hadrian[o] Augusto patre patriae tribunicia] pot[estate] iv, cons[ule] iii. A. Ratis [millia passuum] ii.

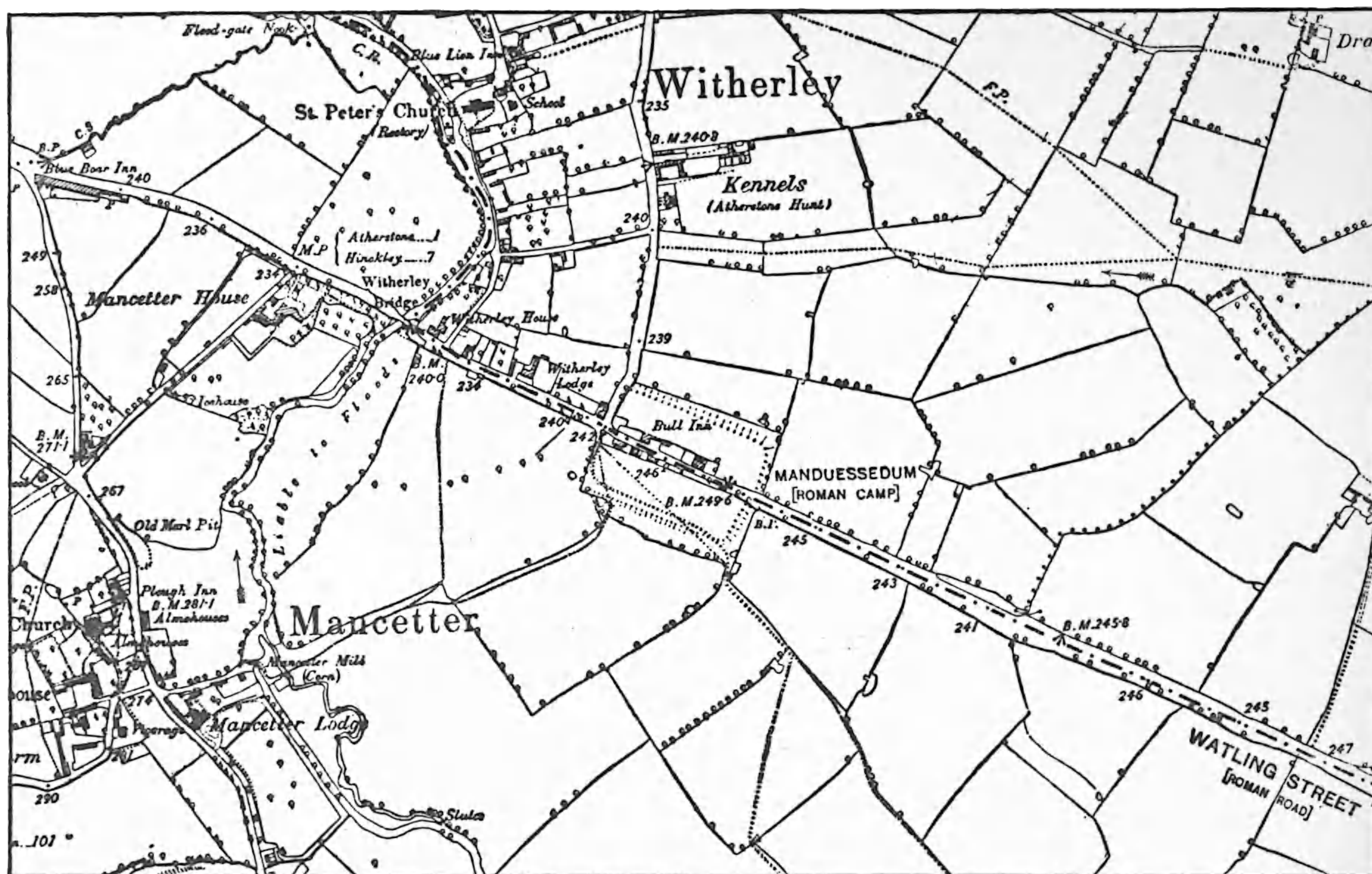
[*Bib. Top. Brit.* viii, 723; Thompson, *Hist. Leic.* 5; Hollings, *Leic. Lit. Soc.* 327; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 5; *Arch. Journ.* xxxi, 353; xxxiv, 400; *Arch.* vii, 84; *Gent. Mag.* 1773, p. 16; Codrington, *Rom. Roads in Brit.* 250-1; MS. Min. Soc. Antiq. xviii, 3.]

'The date given by the Emperor's titles is, of course, the date when the stone was erected, A.D. 120-1.' Mr. Haverfield considered that the stone had been to some extent erroneously recut [*Guide to the Leic. Mus.* 1899].

**TILTON ON THE HILL.**—There are said to have been some earthworks on Honbank Hill, and two small entrenchments further south. Coins have been found here in considerable quantities. [Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* i, 330].

**TUR LANGTON.**—A small brass of Arcadius (A.D. 395-408) was found here in 1865 [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* iii, 15].

**WALTHAM ON THE WOLDS.**—Two stone coffins were found here in 1860 [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* i, 397].



MANDUESSEDUM

**WANLIP.**—It has been stated that the remains of a Roman villa were found at Wanlip, but the only evidence forthcoming is Nichols's reference to many coins of Constantine (A.D. 306-37), with broken urns, a human skull, &c., having been found 'on the other side of the Soar, near Wanlip' [*Hist. Leic.* i, 4; Jewitt, *Reliq.* xiii, 18].

**WHETSTONE.**—During excavations for the railway in 1864 a large quern was found [*Leic. Arch. Soc.* ii, 312].

**WESTCOTES.**—On the east side of the Fosse Way, near Leicester, traces of a cemetery, containing both Roman and Saxon remains, were found in 1887. Several skeletons, lying nearly north and south, and with them some *fibulae*, an armlet, sword-blades, fragments of coarse pottery, two vases of Castor ware, and some coins were preserved. Two of the *fibulae* were large, brass, of the 'fiddle' pattern, two were smaller, the same shape, one had traces of enamel and pieces of glass set in it [*post*, 'Anglo-Saxon Remains']. The five brass coins were undecipherable except one of Domitian (A.D. 81-96) [Bellairs, *Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 339]. A fragment of a stone inscribed—

IS. T. R. A.

A. N.

was found near the Old House, Westcotes, and is now in the Leicester Museum [*Rep. Com. Leic. Mus.*].



## ROMANO-BRITISH LEICESTERSHIRE

**WITHERLEY.**—Eleven miles north-west of High Cross, the remains of a rectangular earthwork lie half on each side of Watling Street, in the parishes of Witherley (Leicestershire) and Mancetter (Warwickshire). The name of Mancetter and the mileage of the Antonine Itinerary justify the identification of the site as that of Manduessedum. The northern or Leicestershire part is called the 'Old Field,' or 'Oufort Bank,' the Warwickshire side 'Castle Bank.' The earthwork measures about 600 ft. by 450 ft., and encloses an area of nearly 7 acres, but it is not clear whether it comprises the whole or part only of the Roman settlement. Burton, in 1622, thought that it extended as far as half a mile to the west near Mancetter church, where he stated that foundations were discovered [Burton's MS. quoted by Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, 1027]. He also mentioned coins found in different parts, a bronze of Nero (A.D. 54-68), and one of the elder Faustina (A.D. 138-41) from Oufort Bank, Witherley; a Carausius (A.D. 287-93) also from Witherley; and others from Mancetter and towards Atherstone. Stukeley, who visited the place in 1725, heard of 'great stones and mortar-work—Roman brick, iron, and great numbers of coins, brass and silver, and some gold' [*Itin. Cur.* i, 20]. More recent writers only mention coins [Dugdale, *Warw.* 1076; Horsley, *Magna Brit.* 420; Nichols, *Hist. Leic.* iv, 1027]. The character and extent of the permanent occupation of the site is therefore uncertain, but it was probably a village or posting-station [Haverfield in *V.C.H., Warw.* i, 233-4; *post*, 'Ancient Earthworks'].

**WYMONDHAM.**—A few yards of tessellated pavement, the *tesserae* being  $\frac{1}{4}$  in. square, and smaller, discovered in a field adjoining Wymondham House, about 4 ft. from the surface, probably indicated the existence of a villa at this spot. Portions of pavement and pieces of painted wall-plaster have been discovered from time to time, also human bones [*Assoc. Arch. Soc.* viii, lxiii; MS. Min. Soc. Antiq. xxxiii, 15; *Gent. Mag.* 1797, i, 75; O. S. xxi, 9].

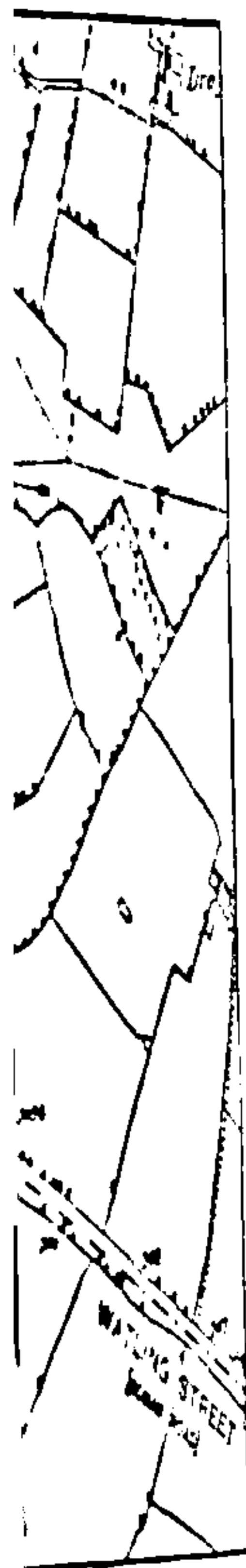
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63 [*Leic. Arch.*

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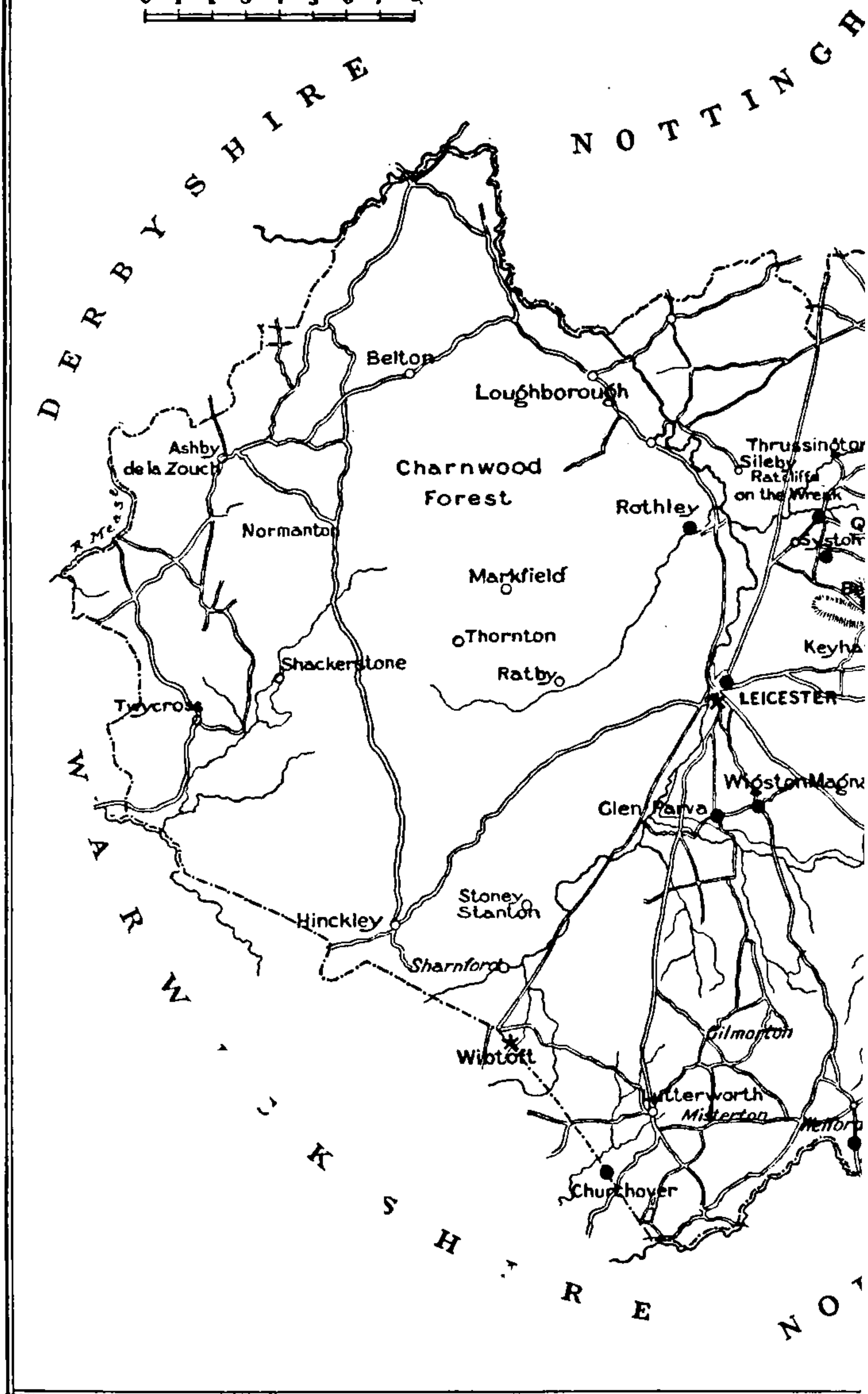
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# LEICESTERSHIRE

Scale of Miles





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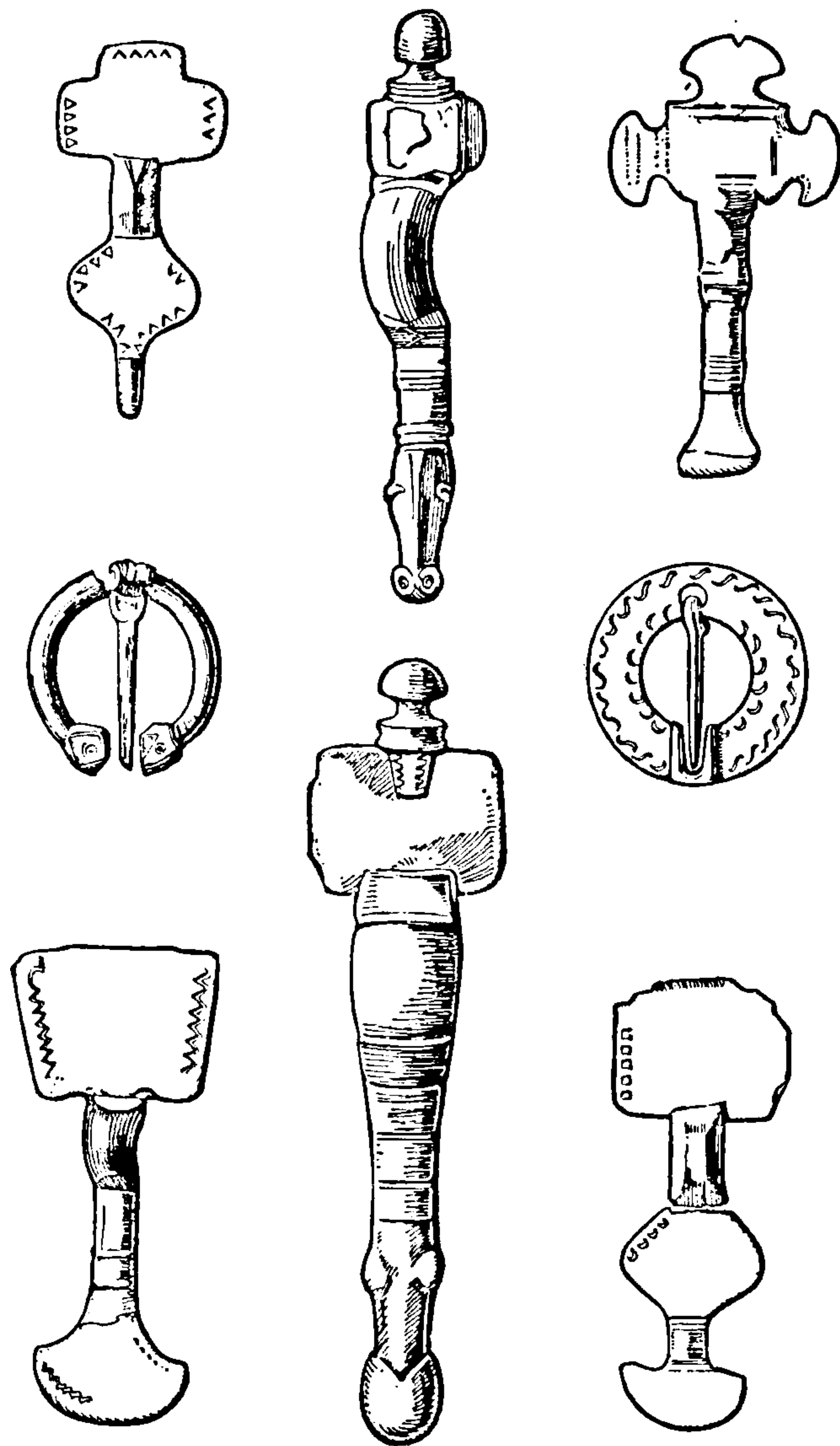


## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Street which borders the county on the south-west for a distance of twenty-one miles might have afforded access from the lower Thames, while to the north-west it passed through territory that remained in British hands at least till the seventh century, and was therefore not available for Teutonic immigration. Right through the heart of the county runs the Fosse Way, from its junction with Watling at High Cross through the county town to its exit on the high ground on the north side of the Wreak valley, forming the county boundary there for nearly three miles. A third road, evidently

of Roman origin, can be traced from Leicester south-east to the Welland, near Medbourne; after passing through Rockingham Forest to Titchmarsh it turns eastward and joins the Ermine Street north of Godmanchester. Another link was thus formed with London, but even with these facilities progress into the interior does not seem to have been at all rapid. The splendid directness of these highways is a standing testimony to the skill of the Roman surveyor and the energy he could command, but it must not blind us to the real difficulties of travel and transport off the beaten track at that early period.

A discovery of interest in this connexion may here be noticed. In 1824 the Watling Street was under repair between Bensford (Bransford or Beresford) Bridge and the turnpike road leading from Rugby to Lutterworth; and at a point about one mile from Cesters-over the labourers excavated a number of human skeletons which lay buried in the centre and on both sides of the high-



BRONZE BROOCHES, FOUND NEAR BENSFORD BRIDGE (2/3)

way, at a distance of 18 in. or 2 ft. below the surface.<sup>1a</sup> With them were found weapons, shield-bosses, and spear-heads varying from 6 in. to 15 in. in length and retaining traces of the wooden shaft in the socket; also knives and iron buckles, clasps, rings, tweezers, and feminine ornaments, but above all in interest a series of brooches well illustrated in colours by Akerman.<sup>2</sup> They comprise two 'long' specimens which are characteristic of this country in having had at least the side-knobs not cast in

<sup>1a</sup> *V.C.H. Warwickshire*, i, 253.

<sup>2</sup> *Pag. Sax.* pl. xviii.

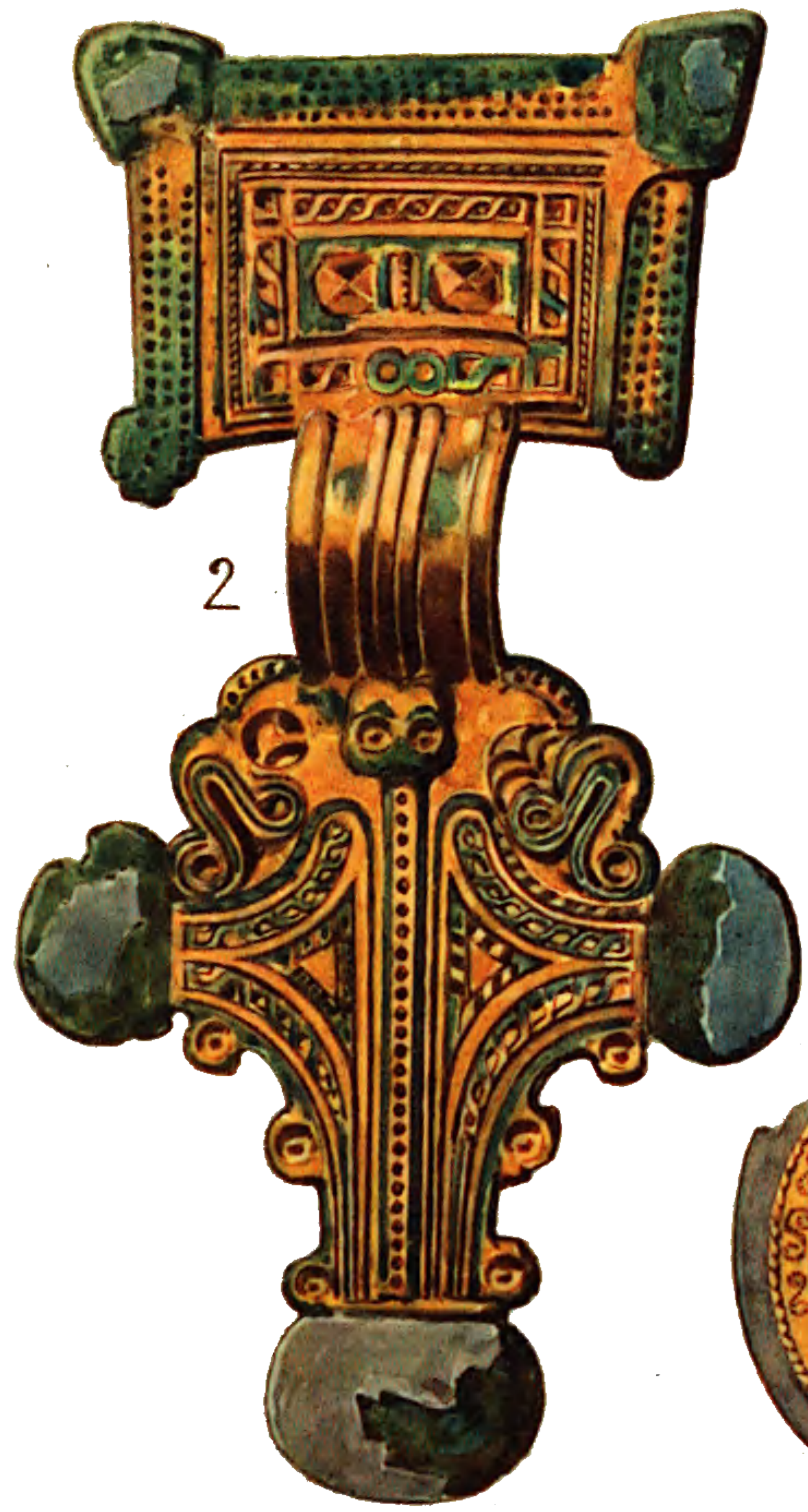


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ANGLO-SAXON  
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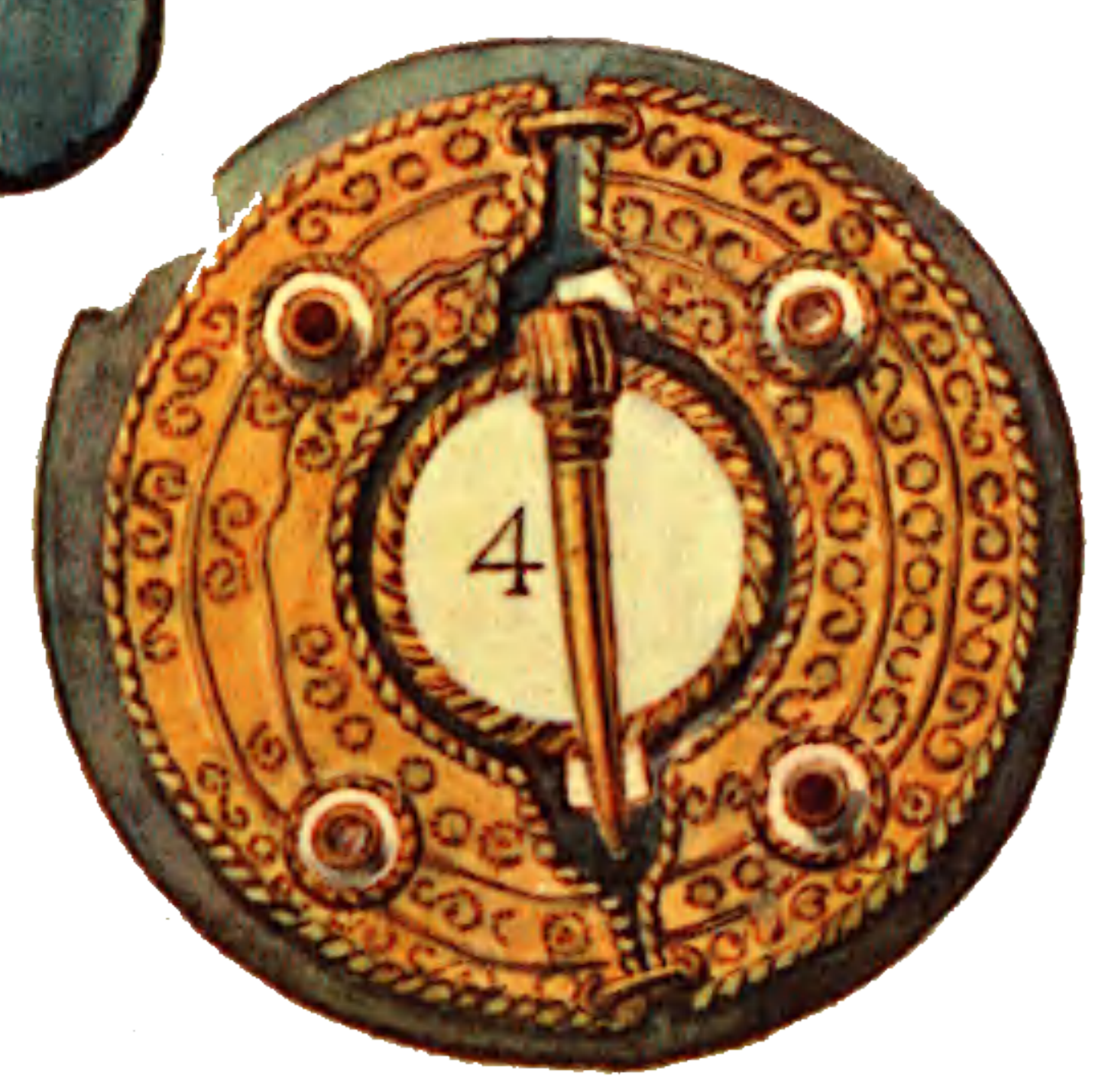
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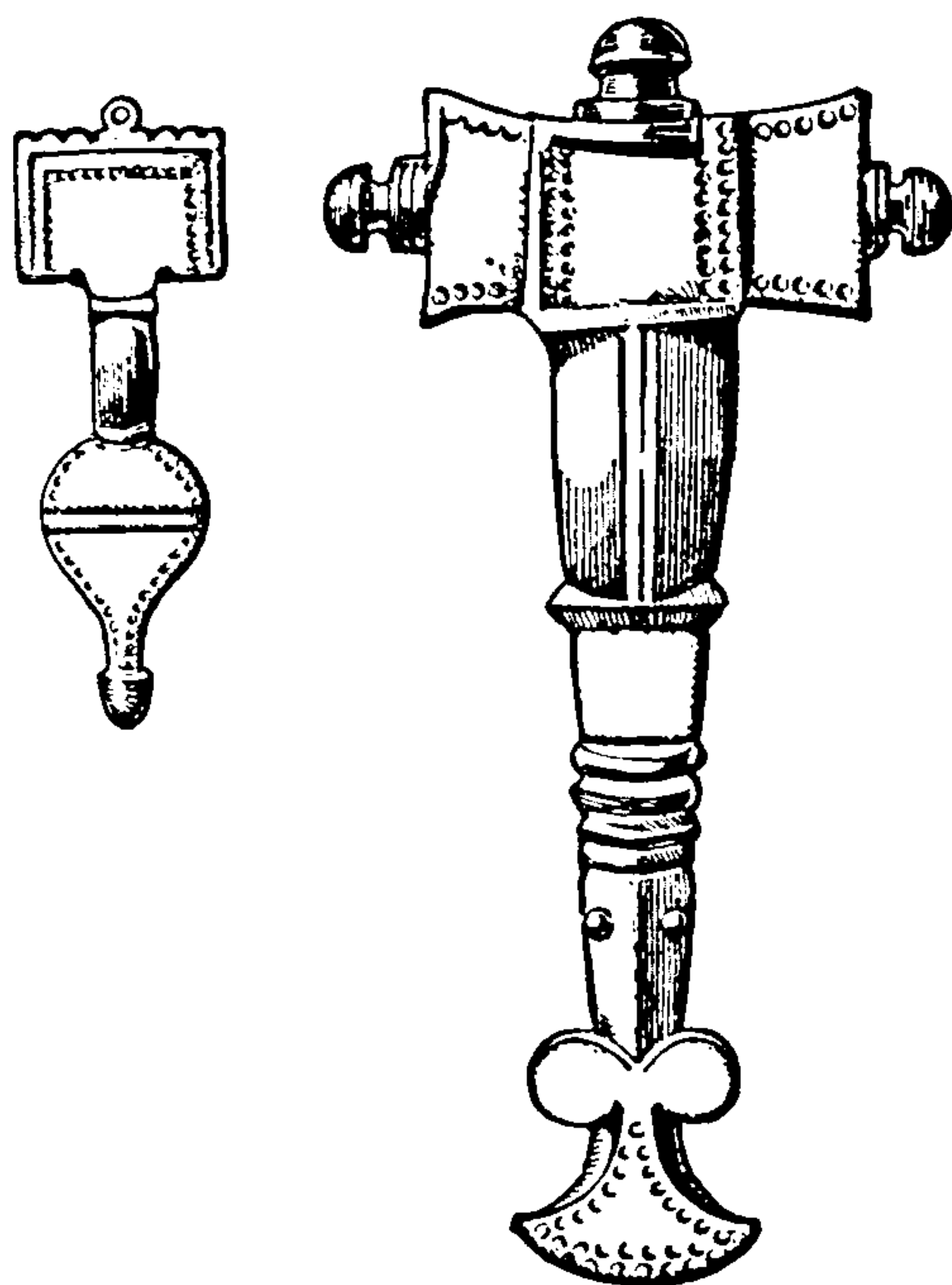
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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

and frequently found in localities yielding Anglo-Saxon relics. The original setting of the centre may have been a carbuncle or glass paste, and it should here be mentioned that an oval specimen of the same type, set with marbled glass, was found on the site of the London Road railway station at Leicester, and is now preserved in the Municipal Museum there. This kind of brooch has been found at Canterbury<sup>5</sup> in association with ornaments richly enamelled in the Roman manner, and the national collection includes both round and oval examples from Roman and Anglo-Saxon sites.<sup>6</sup>

A similar discovery has been made on the other principal Roman road of Leicestershire.<sup>7</sup> On the eastern side of the Fosse Way opposite West Cotes, near the county town, a burying-place was found in 1897, and attributed to the late Roman and Saxon periods. Some Roman vases were found and several skeletons, lying nearly north and south (position of the



LONG SQUARE-HEADED BROOCHES,  
WEST COTES, LEICESTER ( $\frac{2}{3}$ )

head not stated), with brooches, armlet, swords, and coarse pottery, the last being fragments of an urn (possibly cinerary). Whether the Roman vases were found in these graves is uncertain, but there can be no doubt as to the Anglo-Saxon character of three brooches, nor of the swords, as the Romans did not bury weapons with their dead. Two of the brooches are figured, one belonging to the common 'long' type, the comparatively broad head betokening a late date and the form of the foot proclaiming its home manufacture, as the nostrils of the horse were greatly exaggerated in many English examples. The other illustration, though peculiar, bears some resemblance to two of the Bensford Bridge group, and both may be assigned to the late sixth century.

Ten miles south of the county border, at Norton in Northamptonshire, a very similar burial-place came to light about 1844, during the excavation of a mound two or three yards wide and about a yard high, which ran by the hedge along this same Watling Street. The level at which the bodies had been deposited was about 6 ft. below the crown of the Roman road, and about 25 ft. from its centre, just outside the original embankment. The graves were in a single line, and contained, besides the skeletons—which, it is believed, lay with the heads to the south—some formless pieces of metal, and one rude bead of amber.<sup>8</sup>

While burials by the side of a great Roman highway may have been due to the same motives that lined the Via Appia near Rome with monuments of a more pretentious kind, burials in the centre of the road show that the traffic along it had declined at the time of the interments, or had perhaps

<sup>5</sup> *Coll. Antiq.* vii, 202, pl. xx, fig. 3.

<sup>6</sup> Long Wittenham (*V.C.H. Berks.* i, 222) and East Shefford, Berks.; and Haslingfield, Cambs.

<sup>7</sup> *Leic. Trans.* vi, 339.

<sup>8</sup> *Arch.* xli, 479; *V.C.H. Northants.* i, 234.

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<sup>9</sup> *V.C.*  
<sup>10</sup> *M.S.*  
*Saxondam,*  
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## ANGLO-SAXON REMAINS

ceased altogether. Such a disturbance of the road-metal would not of course impede an advance from the south by this route, but burials with brooches of the sixth century below the crown of the road illustrate in a graphic manner the changes that had taken place during the century and a half since the Roman officials withdrew from Britain and left the province to its own resources in face of Teutonic invasion.

The Trent is known to have passed through Mercia just as the Thames passed through Wessex of the sixth century, the river no doubt affording the easiest means of access and communication in both cases. Though in Saxon times the lower valley of the Trent was practically one vast morass, access to its course above Newark was rendered easy by the existence of the Fosse Way from Lincoln, which was itself readily approached by river from the coast. What slight indications there are of the manner in which this area became English ground, suggest that the main body passed up the river past the future Nottingham to the junction with the Soar, and there divided, part going westward towards the site of Burton and burying their dead at Melbourne, Foremark, and Stapenhill,<sup>9</sup> and others passing up the tributary and leaving traces of their occupation in such burial-grounds as that adjoining Kingston Hall.<sup>10</sup> Little more than ten miles southward along the valley is the site of the first Anglo-Saxon discoveries recorded in Leicestershire.

The value of discoveries at Rothley Temple has been much impaired by careless excavation ; but there can be no doubt that the site was occupied in early Anglo-Saxon times. As long ago as 1784 a number of Roman coins, chiefly of the Emperor Constantine (306-37), and a circular piece of bronze, being perhaps part of a brooch, were found by a labourer digging a ditch in a field near Rothley Temple. A few yards distant, remains of a building and the cruciform brooch here illustrated (coloured plate, fig. 3) were met with at a depth of 2 ft. ; and 60 yards from the spot was a tessellated pavement about 4 ft. square, lying about 1 ft. from the surface and consisting of limestone and burnt clay cubes, this latter of several colours. These discoveries were reported to the Society of Antiquaries of London<sup>11</sup> by the occupant of Rothley Temple, Thomas Babington, the uncle of Lord Macaulay, and the brooch was presented by him in 1788 to the society, by whose permission it is reproduced.

This unwieldy and barbaric ornament is practically the final form in England of the 'long' brooch common in the Scandinavian countries and in parts of England, but its parentage could hardly be divined, so extensive are the changes introduced both in outline and decoration. The three limbs of the head represent the knobs attached to the edges of the square or oblong plate of the Scandinavian brooch, which was of stout bronze with faceted foot terminating in a 'horse's head,' and with the head sometimes raised across the centre and lightly stamped with rings or other simple patterns. The tendency in England was to flatten the knobs and the bow, and to broaden the extremities. For the plain surface of the bronze was substituted gilding, engraving, and silver plates or discs attached to the terminals and

<sup>9</sup> *V.C.H. Derb.* i, 272-5.

<sup>10</sup> *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 201.

<sup>11</sup> MS. Minutes, vol. xxii, 433 ; *Arch.* ix, 370 ; Nichols, *Hist. of Leic.* iii, 956, pl. 129 ; Akerman, *Pagan Saxondom*, pl. xx, fig. 2 (brooch), 40. For further Roman discoveries, see *Leic. Trans.* ix, 157, 239 (1901) ; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* xix, 245.

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Another brooch, from almost the same spot, was found in 1791 and engraved in Nichols's history<sup>13</sup> of the county. From comparison with the cruciform specimen mentioned above, the length should be about 7·4 in. ; and though no doubt contemporary and derived from the same prototype, it presents some interesting peculiarities. While the other is truly cruciform, this has a square head with projections at the angles that betray its comparatively late date ; and the essential features of the brooch are again those of the 'long' brooch of Scandinavia. In the present case the somewhat severe outline and ornamentation of that type have been modified through the influence of the English square-headed brooch which is if anything over-decorated, and the result is without a parallel on the Continent. As the wings below the bow do not appear on the original Scandinavian 'long' brooch till the sixth century, there can be little hesitation in assigning both these brooches to the seventh century and regarding them as among the latest developments of pagan Teutonic art in England.

The neighbourhood was further investigated in 1896 by Mr. W. Trueman Tucker, who presented an illustrated report to the Leicester Literary and Philosophical Society.<sup>13</sup> The Manchester, Sheffield, and Lincolnshire line to London (now known as the Great Central Railway) was then being constructed at the cross-roads five miles both from Leicester and Loughborough at the meeting-point of roads from those towns and Charnwood Forest. At this spot many human skeletons were disinterred, but most were removed with the excavated earth to form the embankment. Some of the burials were more closely observed, and probably all were not more than 2 ft. deep, the floor being lined with Charnwood Forest slates and the bodies laid at full length, though the direction is not stated. Several of the graves contained a large quantity of charcoal which was taken to indicate cremation of the body in some cases, but this is not in itself conclusive evidence. Nor is it certain that the pottery fragments also found in these graves belonged to cinerary urns, as there is no mention of burnt bones. At Frilford, Berkshire, for instance, graves of Romans or Romanized natives frequently contained, in addition to the skeletons, bones and teeth of animals, oyster shells and potsherds, all perhaps the refuse of funeral feasts ; and here as well as at Long Wittenham charcoal was also noticed in many of the interments.<sup>14</sup>

It is probable that most, if not all, the sherds of Roman ware mentioned from the site came from the Roman villa of which the tessellated floor was

<sup>13</sup> Vol. iii, pl. 129, fig. 16 *a, b* ; for other finds, see figs. 17-20 (round brooch with central stud, and rings of metal). A similar brooch with stud from Offchurch, Warwickshire, is figured (in section only) *Journ.*



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length, is of the large square-headed variety with gilt plate I, fig. 1,) common in the midlands and East dates from about A.D. 600; the other is of Scandi- bronze stem and square head-plate, the latter having moulded in one piece with it, the other two knobs, the edges, having disappeared.

workmen, the skull was in each case lying at some distance from the remainder of the skeleton, but in the absence of other evidence it is not necessary to suppose that the bodies had been buried in a separate chamber. Some of the skulls, though fragmentary, were found chiefly at Cambridge, and the longitudinal indices of 70.8, 79-82, and 73. The third is the only one likely to be of Saxon<sup>16</sup>; and comparison with the Frilford and Reading specimens shows that the others belonged to Roman or Celtic subjects.

It is interesting to find that two complete querns or hand-mills for grain were discovered in the railway excavations. They might be as early as the Anglo-Saxon period, but it may be that a large number were found in the Late-Celtic camp at Winton, Wiltshire; and examples have been found in a grave at Reading,<sup>18</sup> and in Anglo-Saxon interments on the coast at Holme Pierrepont, Nottinghamshire.

As we go up the valley we arrive at the centre of the county where several important discoveries have been made, though no cemeteries have yet been brought to light. The antiquities now in the Municipal Museum are:—two urns from the town: one of rather graceful form discovered in 1866, 3 ft. deep, at the back of Court A, Church-street, containing human bones and is of grey ware with four incised lines round the neck. The height and diameter are both 8 in., and the vessel was protected by an iron shield-boss of the usual Saxon pattern, between the heads of two skeletons buried at the same time. The other is more distinct in character from the other, which was found on the site of Messrs. G. & Simpson's factory, Belgrave Gate. It has a wide rim and a shoulder, the ornament consisting of lines round the neck and four lines on the shoulder. Both these urns point to the existence of a cemetery in post-Roman times.

Another object of notice is of black glass, resembling a large bottle, with red and white circular spots irregularly placed. It was found at the same place, and resembles somewhat closely a specimen in the

<sup>16</sup> & iii accompanying Mr. Tucker's paper.

<sup>17</sup> illustrated by Mr. Tucker, pl. ii.

<sup>18</sup> *Berks.* i, 237.

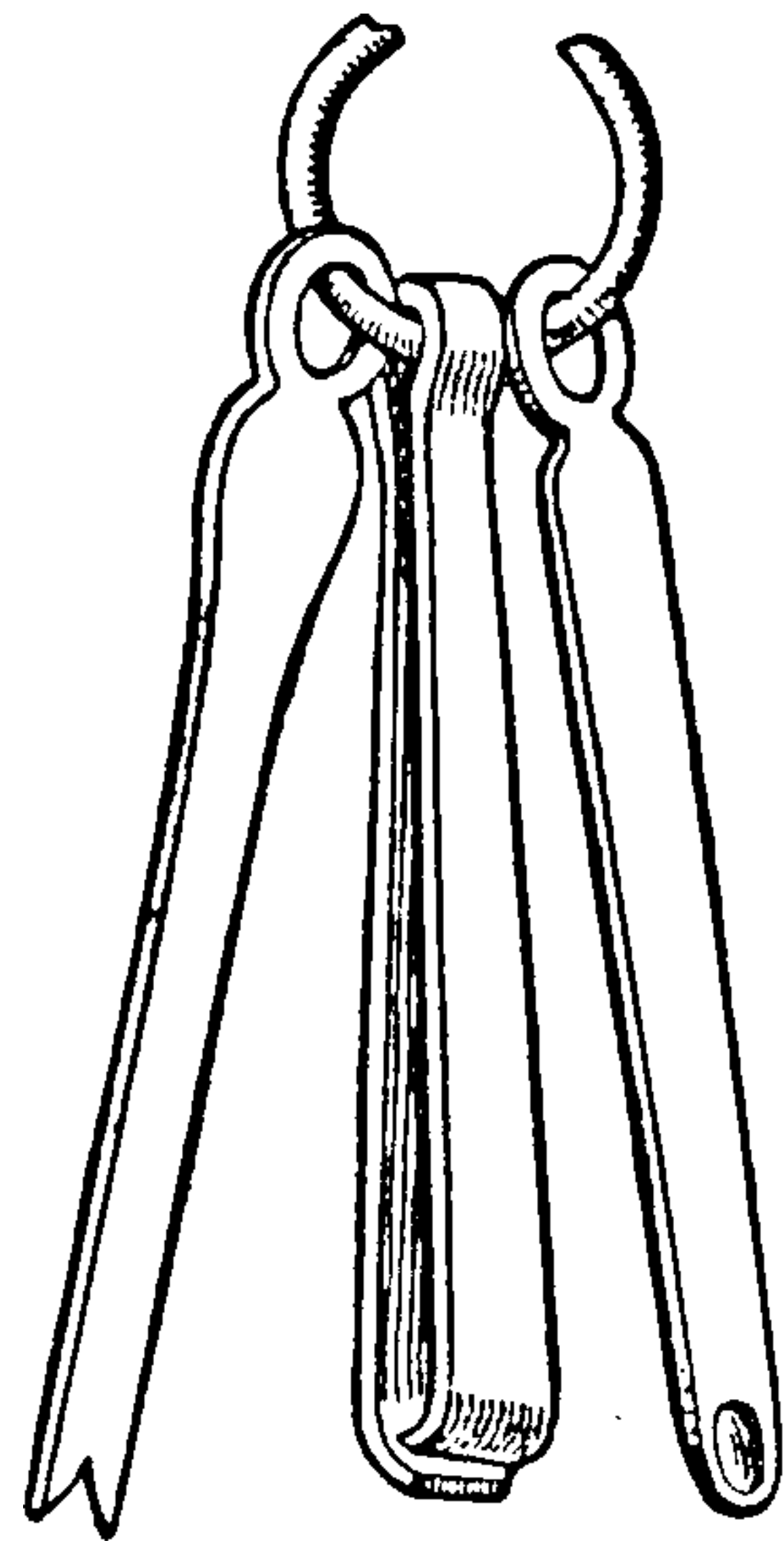
<sup>19</sup> for references; *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 195.

<sup>20</sup> *ibid.* iii, 100, for a specimen from the



British Museum from a Frankish cemetery at Herpes, Dépt. Charente, France, probably of the sixth or seventh century.

A set of toilet articles attached to a ring, in a manner reminiscent of the Roman period, has been found near Butt Close Lane and is here illustrated.<sup>19</sup> Annular or quoit-shaped brooches are common in the county, and examples have been found both in High Cross Street and Butt Close; but a penannular specimen (plate I, fig. 4) from the town is somewhat of a rarity. This well-defined type is seldom found with any objects that enable us to date it with certainty, but it is somewhat widely distributed, and the terminals suggest a transition between the Roman and Anglo-Saxon styles of ornament that is also observable on certain Irish antiquities. Indeed, it is commonest on the further side of St. George's Channel; but two are known from Wales, and single specimens have come from Derbyshire, Berkshire, and Kent, the last-named county furnishing an indication of date, as the bifrons specimen<sup>19a</sup> was associated with a spoon and brooch dating from about A. D. 500.



TOILET ARTICLES, LEICESTER  
(†)

The date of another brooch found in Leicester is not quite clear, though several specimens are extant. It consists of a heavy bronze ring of circular section, to which is attached a ring-headed pin, likewise of solid workmanship, with characteristic transverse lines just below the head. Four were found at Nottingham, and the available evidence has been detailed in connexion with them,<sup>20</sup> the probability being that they all belong to the latest Anglo-Saxon, or possibly to the Norman, period. With this may be classed an engraved girdle-end of bone, found in 1864 at a depth of 7 ft. in High Cross Street. The illustration (plate II, fig. 2) will render a description unnecessary, and shows the holes at one end by which it was attached to a belt. A very similar piece from London is preserved in the Guildhall Museum, and both exhibit the intertwined animals

and foliage introduced at the time of the Carolingian Renaissance, though there is little to distinguish it from early Norman work.

Three miles further up the Soar Valley, but a little east of the main stream, are the sites of Anglo-Saxon interments, which are of special interest and importance in a county that is rather better known for its isolated finds of brooches. In close proximity to Great Wigston and Glen Parva were evidently Teutonic settlers who in their personal ornaments perpetuated a Norwegian tradition, though all the grave furniture was evidently manufactured in this country. The use of large stones as a covering for the grave on both sites should also be remarked, as the same was observed at Medbourne.

In the parish of Great Wigston about twenty skeletons of the Anglo-Saxon period were discovered in 1795 and recorded by Nichols, who fortunately gave illustrations of the grave furniture.<sup>21</sup> The interments had been made on sloping ground resting on gravel within a square of 10 yds. in different

<sup>19</sup> *Leic. Trans.* ii, 112.

<sup>19a</sup> *Arch. Cant.* x, 303, grave 6.

<sup>20</sup> *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 204.

<sup>21</sup> *Hist. of Leic.* iv, 377, pl. lv.; the figures are also given in *Collectanea Antiqua*, ii, 167, pl. xlii. The site is near Wigston Hall Chapel, and is marked on the 25-in. O.S. Map, xxxvii, 11.



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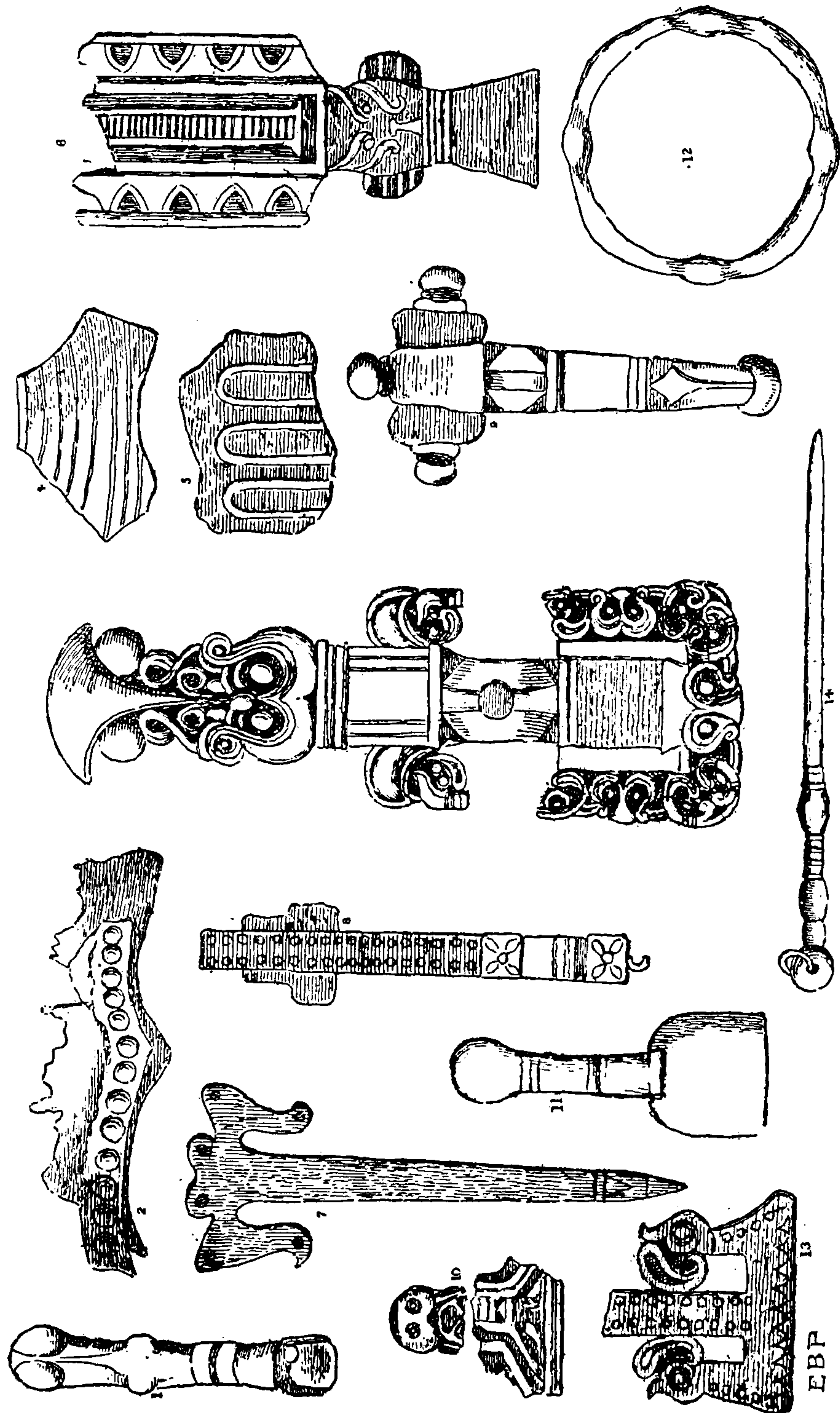
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BROOCHES, GIRDLE-HANGERS, AND FRAGMENTS, FROM GREAT WIGSTON

(Figs. 8 and 13 belong together, forming a girdle-hanger)



England as the 'long' brooch, as cruciform better describes a later stage of development peculiar to England. It is impossible to decide from the drawing whether the bosses attached to the head-plate were round or flattened and cast in one piece with the brooch, but the head-plate is of native form and the date is almost certainly sixth century. The other is gilt and more elaborate but based on the 'long' brooch, which accounts for the spreading foot, the square plate below the bow, and the plain central portion of the head. Other parts of the surface are covered with decoration borrowed from the native square-headed type on which the animal natives of the sixth century were freely employed, and even the rough drawing that survives shows clearly enough beaked animal heads and the device that is sometimes considered to represent the human face. This blend of the two styles seems to date from the latter part of the sixth century, and no doubt continued into the next, while the wings below the bow appear in the latest stages of the Scandinavian cruciform brooches.

In 1866 Major Joseph Knight exhibited to the Leicestershire Architectural and Archaeological Society a series of Anglo-Saxon antiquities found at Glen Parva on a property of his called Rye Hill Close in February of that year. His account<sup>22</sup> showed that they had been discovered by workmen digging for gravel on the summit of a low sand-hill, about 200 yards from the fourth milestone on the east side of the road from Leicester to Lutterworth. About two feet from the surface some stones were found forming a rude arch, which had served to protect a skeleton lying with the head to the south and in excellent preservation. The teeth were as usual perfect, and the skull was that of a woman of about thirty years of age. The grave furniture was comparatively rich, consisting of personal ornaments and utensils of recognized types. A conical glass cup about 6 in. in height and 2½ in. across the mouth, with horizontal ribs below the lip, was found near the head. Though broken in removal from the grave, it was evidently of the tumbler variety, not being made to stand alone. The colour is pale green, like those from Baggrave and High Down, Sussex;<sup>23</sup> twenty-eight beads strung as a necklace are also of glass, the central specimen being of the Roman 'melon' shape, made of a turquoise-coloured frit; an animal's claw was also worn on the necklace. A piece of crystal regularly faceted and perforated, 3½ oz. in weight, was perhaps used as a spindle-whorl, but such crystals may have been occasionally worn as beads or pendants. Specimens may be cited from Worcestershire,<sup>24</sup> Warwickshire, Gloucestershire, Northamptonshire, and Cambridgeshire, while



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triangular ears projecting from the top, pierced for attaching a handle ; both are well-known Anglo-Saxon forms, but the presence of a small glass jug, possibly of Roman manufacture, is quite unusual. A shield-boss of common form, portion of a long broad sword-blade, lance-head, buckles, and a fragment of cloth complete the list, and all came from a bed of dry sand below the surface at a spot on (or near) which there once existed a long rampart running north and south, possibly the side of a camp.

Nearly four miles up the same valley is Sysonby, where in 1859 some human bones, with spear-heads and shield-boss, bronze ring and buckle, were found by labourers on the ground of Mr. Wright, near Melton Mowbray. These remains were presented in 1859 to the Bede House Museum at Melton Mowbray, but there is nothing further known of the discovery, except that there were no grave-mounds marking the site.<sup>29</sup> A lance-head from this find measures about 13 in., and has a split socket of unusual length in proportion to the blade, which is leaf-shaped.

Interesting discoveries have been made from time to time upon high ground to the north of Melton Mowbray, where gravel is dug and the underlying clay used in brick-making. In 1860 a number of human skeletons were met with at a depth of 2 to 3 ft. resting on the gravel, some with stones placed as pillows under the heads. The bodies had been placed in rows 3 to 4 ft. apart, and one at least had the head at the west end of the grave. Spear-heads, beads, a knife, and some pottery were found, indicating burials of both sexes, and one skull was isolated—a not unfrequent occurrence in cemeteries of the period. Two years later seven skeletons were carefully uncovered on this site, and were observed to be 2 ft. from the surface, with the head to the west ; but no relics were discovered on this occasion. In 1866 more productive discoveries were made by Mr. Fetch's workmen, and Mr. Ingram's report<sup>30</sup> supplemented by a paper<sup>31</sup> by Mr. North. The skeletons lay as before, and one was that of a warrior who had been buried with a spear at his right side, the blade and socket measuring together 22½ in. A knife was found close by the ribs on the right side, and upon the middle of the body had been laid a shield, the iron rivets, brace, and boss of which alone remained. In other graves, not specified precisely, were found a second shield-boss and spear-heads of various lengths, also two urns, the larger of which was 5½ in. high with a maximum diameter of 6½ in. This was found within a grave, and cannot therefore be regarded as a cinerary urn. One

<sup>29</sup> *Hist. of Leic.* i, App. p. 136, pl. 50.

<sup>30</sup> *Journ. Brit. Arch. Assoc.* xvi, 311 ; *Leic. Trans.* iii, 39.



sword was found, of the usual Anglo-Saxon type, straight and double-edged, measuring  $34\frac{1}{2}$  in. in length and  $2\frac{1}{8}$  in. at the widest part of the blade, and retaining traces of its wooden scabbard. Another specimen was recovered later in 1866, with a length of 39 in., and again traces of the scabbard were found with it in the grave, but no skeleton. On the middle of this sword lay the shield-boss; and two spear-heads, of which one measured no less than  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ft., were on the right of the sword. The remains of a bucket are also recorded from this site; the staves had perished, but enough metal remained to give a clear idea of its original appearance. The two upper hoops were of bronze, the lip being turned over an iron rod and having a depth of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in., while the band below was  $\frac{1}{2}$  in. wider. Towards the bottom of the bucket were four hoops of iron,  $\frac{3}{4}$  in. wide and placed at intervals of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  in. Eight bronze rivets with circular heads more than an inch across were arranged in the space between the bronze and iron hoops; and the vessel had been carried not as usual by a semicircular handle, but by two stout iron rings, nearly 5 in. in diameter, attached at the rim, the whole being strengthened by iron uprights. The mean diameter was 20 in., and its capacity was calculated at about 4 to 5 gallons. These dimensions much exceed those of the ordinary sepulchral bucket of the period, but correspond fairly well to that found in the well-known Taplow barrow,<sup>82</sup> which dates from about A.D. 620.

In the Leicester Museum, presented in 1870, are four double glass beads, of a type sometimes found, as at Ipswich recently: a few of amethyst and some small disks of shell, all apparently belonging to a necklace or bracelet, but found with swords and other weapons at Beck Mill, Melton Mowbray. This seems to be all that remains of several interments.

Two miles to the east is the site of the largest Anglo-Saxon cemetery as yet discovered in the county, close to the Rutland border. In 1857 Mr. James Thompson described certain Anglo-Saxon antiquities discovered in 1823 on ground afterwards thrown into Stapleford Park, the seat of Lord Harborough.<sup>83</sup> They were found about 3 ft. below the surface, having at one time been covered by a low mound; and consisted of pottery, ornaments, and weapons. The four urns were evidently of the kind usual in cremated interments, two having bosses round the body, and all containing bones and earth. The brooches retained traces of gilding,<sup>84</sup> and were two in number, belonging to different types, generally known as the square-headed and cruciform. Without going into detail it may be stated that the former is allied to a South German type, and though in a damaged condition, shows the degenerate animal ornament of the Teutonic world, dating from about the year 600; while the cruciform brooch is a native development or caricature of the Norwegian 'long' brooch, and belongs to the same period. It is, like the other, of bronze, and measures  $7\frac{1}{2}$  in. The beads were as usual of glass or glass-paste, inlaid with various colours in striped patterns, and one half of a hollow metal globular bead like one found at Sleaford, Lincolnshire,<sup>85</sup> was included among them. Tweezers and other toilet articles were found, as well as portions of two iron shield-bosses, spear-heads and lance-heads, a buckle, and what looks like the pommel of a sword:<sup>86</sup> the knife was for every-

<sup>82</sup> *V.C.H. Bucks.* i, 203. <sup>83</sup> *Leic. Trans.* i, 159; *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* xiii, 331, puts this discovery in 1833.

<sup>84</sup> These are illustrated in Anastatic Society's vol. for 1858, plates xxvi, xxvii, and indifferently in *Leic. Trans.* iii, 39. <sup>85</sup> *Arch.* i, pl. xxiii, fig. 8. <sup>86</sup> Anastatic Soc. 1858, plates xxv, xxvi; see p. 5.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

day use, and occurs frequently in graves of both sexes. These remains are now preserved in the Bede House Museum at Melton Mowbray, which also contains four annular brooches and a bronze pin with faceted head and ring from this site.

In the national collection is a patinated bronze brooch (plate I, fig. 3), which recalls the 'long' brooch of Scandinavia, but has the head bordered in the same style as a larger specimen from the same site just described, and has a spreading foot that is common among English examples of this period, and may have been derived from a Baltic source.

More extensive discoveries were made in 1890-1 during the construction of the railway from Saxby to Bourne, in Lincolnshire. The site of what was evidently a mixed cemetery is close to a small pond to the south of the railway line, about 250 yards east of the road that crosses the railway at the new Saxby station. It was visited by Dr. J. C. Cox, who questioned the workmen, and furnished an account, without illustrations or full details of the objects, to the Society of Antiquaries.<sup>87</sup> He exhibited and described the finds of April, 1891, which included six tolerably perfect cinerary urns (plate III), one being of unusually large size, 11½ in. high. Many others had been broken by the navvies, but the majority of these rough hand-made vessels contained calcined human bones in small pieces closely packed together, and thus agree with a large number found in the Anglian districts of England. Several specimens were decorated with vertical bosses formed by pressure from the inside, and by the impressions of stamps bearing different geometrical designs of simple character; and all were of coarse dark-coloured paste interspersed with particles of white flint and spar. They range between 9 in. and 4 in. in height, and the smaller ones are plain and roughly made in bowl-form, like specimens from Rothley Temple. They were in most cases heaped round with large-sized pebbles at Saxby.

The site was one of many north of the Thames in which burnt and unburnt bodies had been buried side by side; and was a small plot of ground about 30 yards long, situated a few yards north of the find in 1833 already mentioned. A considerable number of skeletons were exposed, lying within a few feet of the urns and at about the same level—15 to 36 in. in a light soil resting on a harder gravel; the males having knives, daggers, and spear-heads or the remains of shields by their side, and the females, brooches, beads, or other ornaments. Several smaller urns, not of cinerary character, were uncovered near the skeletons, apparently at the head, and the bodies had been placed in the graves with the head at the east end. This position is very unusual, the opposite being the rule, but exceptions occur even in Kent, where the burials are uniformly by way of inhumation.

The weapons included a fine spear-head of iron and several smaller lance-heads, all but one having the split socket characteristic of the Anglo-Saxon period. One complete shield-boss of iron, 6 in. in diameter, and some fragments of others were found. There were two pierced Roman coins used as pendants, a pair of tweezers, various beads of glass and amber, and a fine series of 'long' brooches (plate IV), some of which are damaged. Two ornamented fragments belonged to the feet of larger specimens of the same general character. An iron rod 7¾ in. long with double hook at one end, generally

<sup>87</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* xiii, 331; repeated in *Leic. Trans.* viii, 74.



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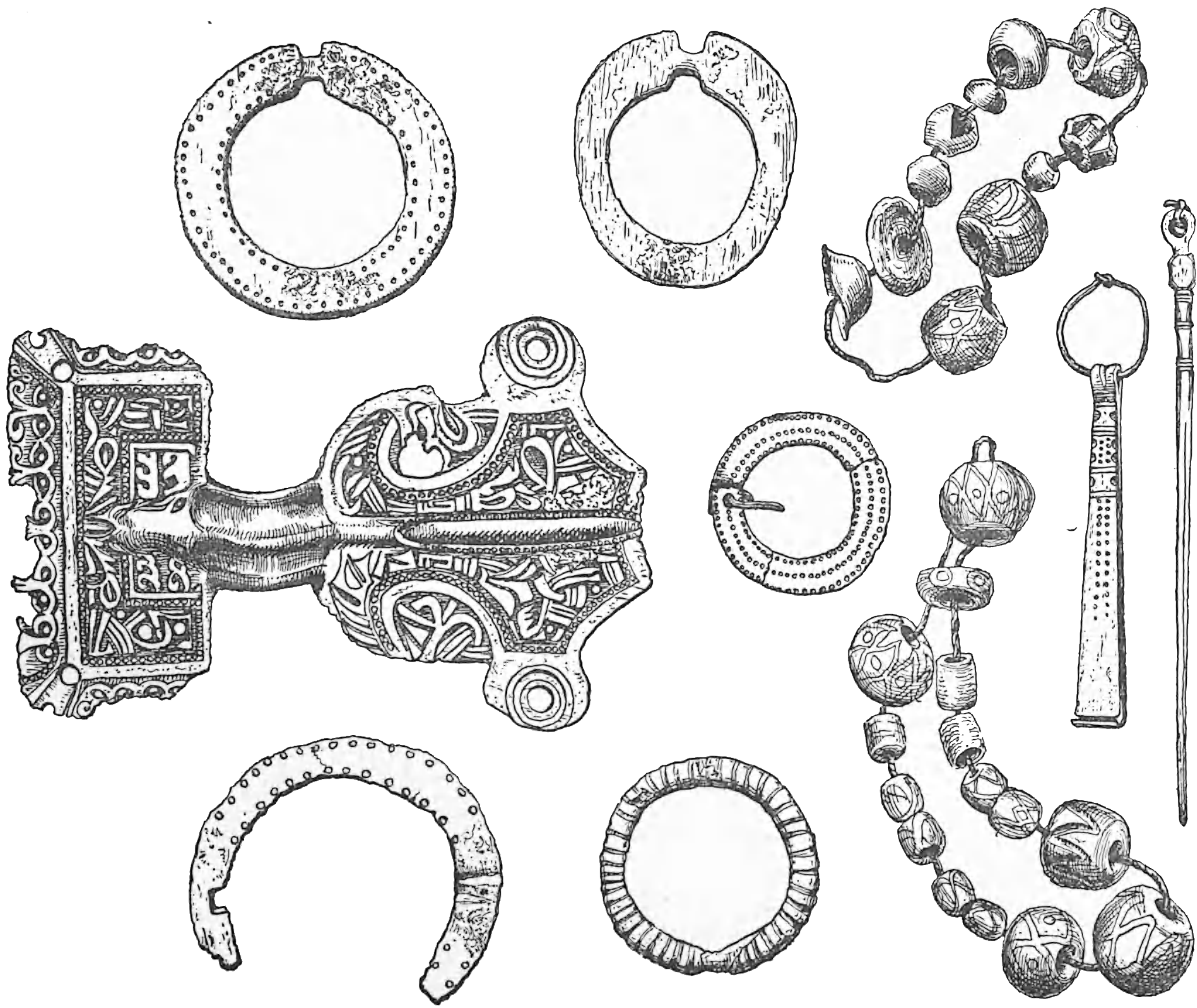
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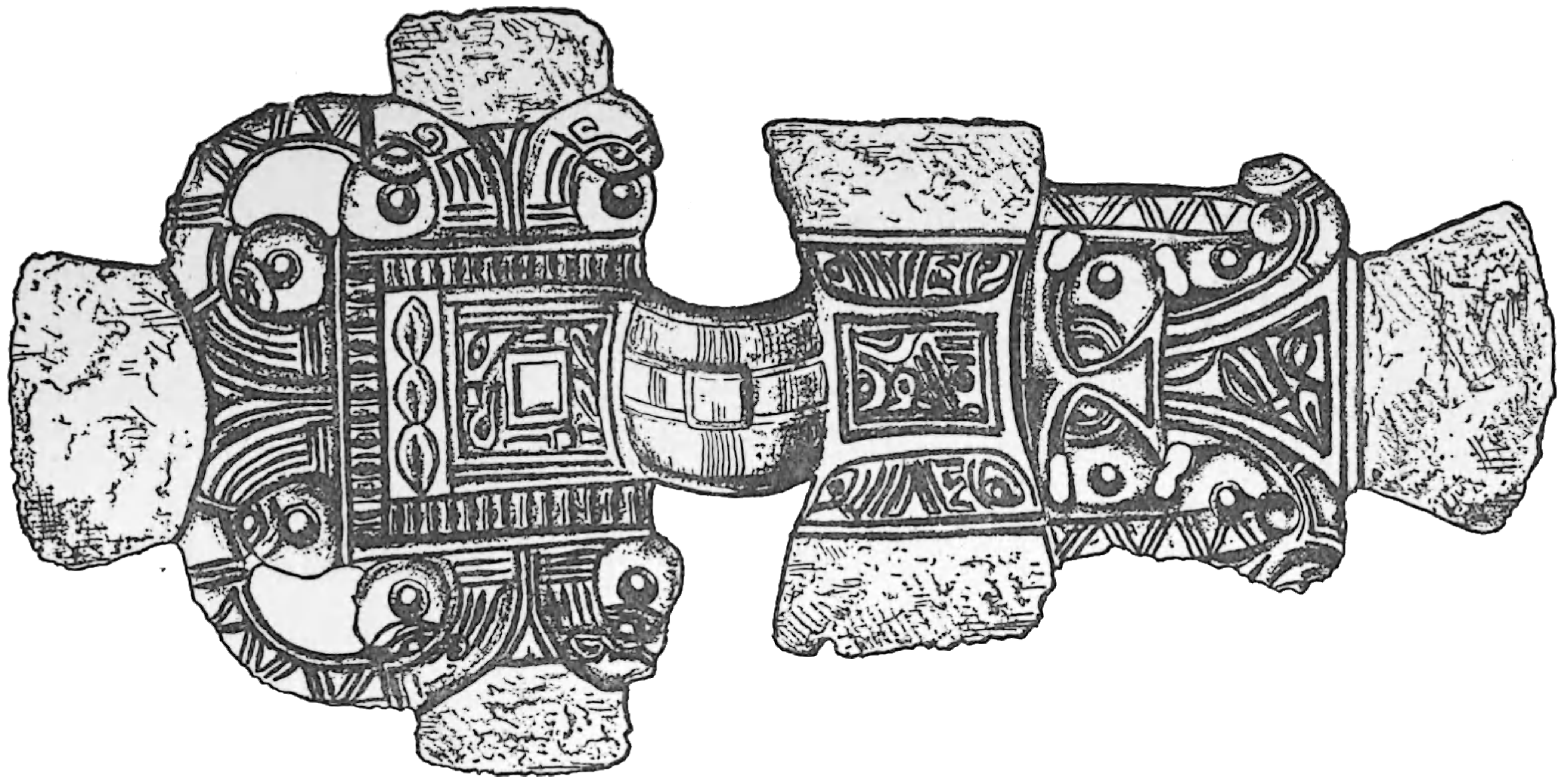








SQUARE-HEADED AND RING BROOCHES, BEADS, TWEEZERS, AND PIN, FROM SAXBY



CRUCIFORM BRONZE BROOCH, FROM SAXBY



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

known as a girdle-hanger, but of uncertain use (unless to work a primitive bolt), completes the list of discoveries at Saxby, most of which are in the possession of the Midland Railway Company at Derby. Access to the collection and permission to photograph specimens for reproduction were readily accorded by the engineer-in-chief, Mr. W. B. Worthington.

Between Saxby and the county town lies the district that seems to have most attracted the earliest English inhabitants of the county, and there are traces at Twyford of British influence. Two trefoil escutcheons (plate I, fig. 2) of bronze with hooks at the top are in the museum at Leicester, with the base of a bronze bowl, perforated apparently for the rivet that attached a disc to the outside or inside of the vessel. The mounts are not a pair and are of unusual form, but their peculiar hooks indicate their use, for attaching chains to the rim which had a hollow moulding. Such attachments are generally circular in this country and enamelled with red and other sunk enamels in the peculiar eccentric patterns of Late Celtic art, and the recent find of a very early bowl so fitted confirms their British origin. The exact use of such elaborate bowls is still a mystery, but that the majority belong to the post-Roman period is evident, and two moulded annular brooches and part of a bucket of regular Anglo-Saxon manufacture come from the same site, though there is no record of the discovery. The two civilizations are again represented by objects found between Twyford and Burrough Hill and now at Leicester; the bronze mounts of a bucket, of somewhat fragile make, are preserved along with a necklace of amber beads and two silver bars between 5 in. and 6 in. long, together forming a clasp, which may be of Anglo-Saxon origin; somewhat similar fastenings are seen on long chains found in Frankish graves of the eighth century.<sup>37a</sup> Anglian settlement on this site is further indicated by a pair of silver-wire loops with the ends spirally coiled, like specimens from Beeby in this county and from Kenninghall, Norfolk.<sup>38</sup> They were doubtless attached to the dress and used for fastening it, like the modern hook-and-eye. Similar fastenings, but of bronze, were in use at least a thousand years earlier, as several have been found on Late Bronze Age sites in Switzerland and France.

There is a bare record<sup>39</sup> of another discovery in the same neighbourhood. In 1852 or earlier a skeleton was found in digging for gravel near Lowesby Hall, the residence of Sir Frederick Fowke. With it was a sword of ordinary type, a spear-head of unusual length, and an iron arrow-head. This last is of rare occurrence in this country, but if properly described may be compared with specimens from the Isle of Wight,<sup>40</sup> now in the armoury of the Tower of London. The bow was more frequently used by the Franks and Alemanni of Bavaria. Perhaps the only record of a find near Hungerton is to be found on the Ordnance map.<sup>40a</sup> The site is just north of the road from Keyham (which is  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the west), at the south-east corner of Foxholes Spinney. A spear-head and clasp were found, and probably belonged to an interment, but details are wanting.

An iron spear and shield-boss found on the estate of Dr. Burnaby (of Greenwich) at Baggrave, with other fragments of iron and sepulchral relics, apparently from the same barrow, were presented to Rev. James Douglas,

<sup>37a</sup> Boulanger, *Le mobilier funéraire*, pl. 45, fig. 1.

<sup>38</sup> *Proc. Soc. Antiq.* (Ser. 1), ii, 255.

<sup>40</sup> *V.C.H. Hants*, i, 388.

<sup>39</sup> *V.C.H. Norfolk*, i, 340, fig. 1.

<sup>40a</sup> 25-in. O.S. xxxii, 6.



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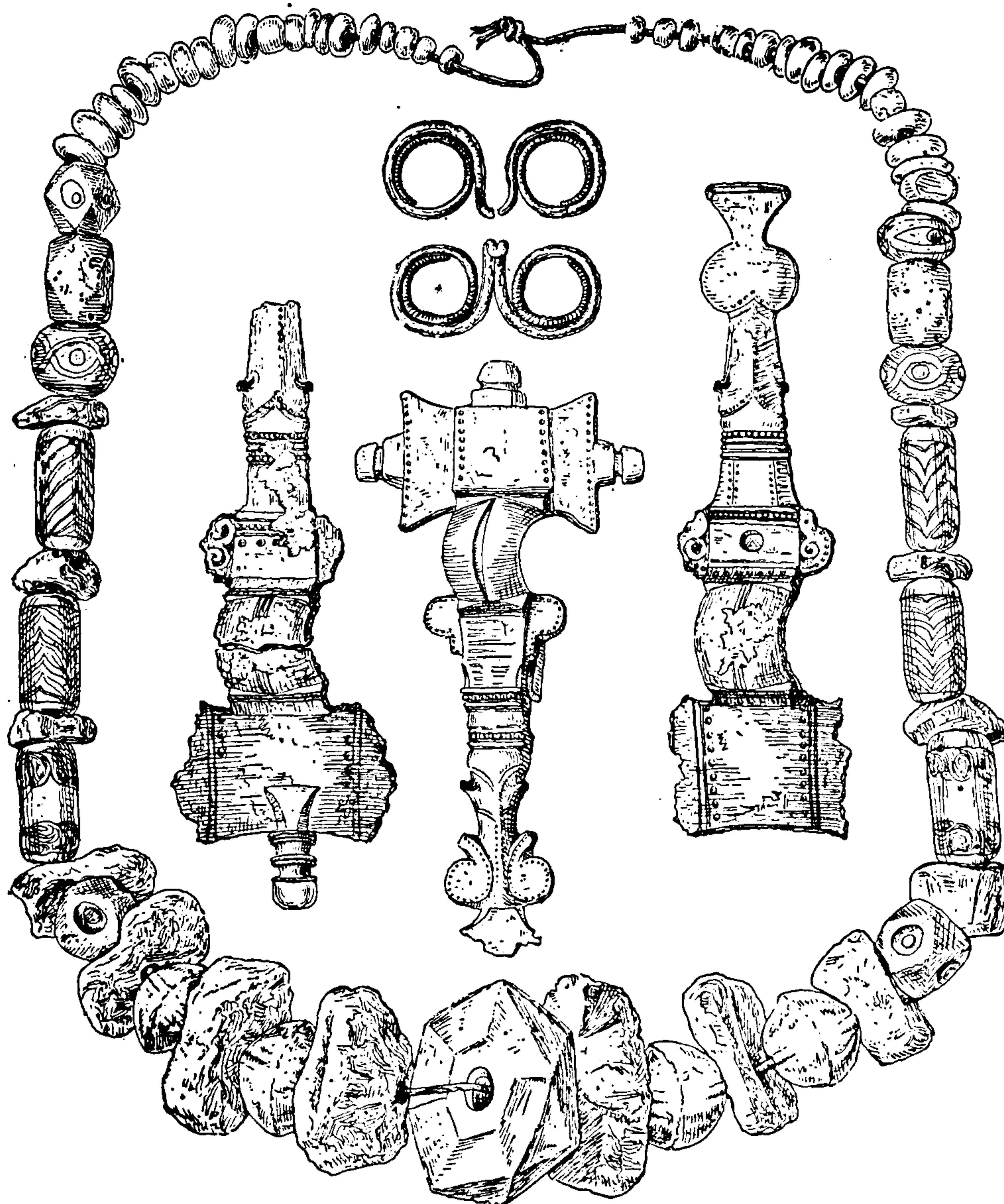






## ANGLO-SAXON REMAINS

who illustrated some of them in his *Nenia Britannica*.<sup>41</sup> The boss had five rivets in the rim and wood on the under part, showing the material of the shield. The interment had apparently been made in stiff marly soil, and from the same range of grave-mounds was recovered a bead of spindle-whorl form, made on the lathe from the epiphysis of some large animal (probably the ox) and ornamented with the ring-and-dot pattern. Plain specimens of the same material are known from such British sites as Glastonbury, but the present example may have been worn like those of glass, crystal, or amber,



BROOCHES, CLASP, AND NECKLET OF BEANS, FROM BEEBY

frequently found in Anglo-Saxon graves. Nichols<sup>42</sup> was further informed by Douglas that there were probably two graves on this site, one with the spear and shield-boss, the other containing two iron hoops, 9 in. in diameter, bronze rims, bracers, and rivets attached to a wooden bucket, of which the diameter is given as 6 in., but it probably tapered towards the mouth.

<sup>41</sup> Published in 1793 : pp. 27, 88, pl. 7, figs. 2, 4 and pl. xxi, 9.

<sup>42</sup> *Hist. of Leic.* iii, pl. 42, p. 289.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

In the winter of 1844 an interment, evidently of a woman, was found during drainage operations 2½ ft. below the surface in a field known as 'The Gorse Close,' fifty yards from the highway, in the parish of Beeby.<sup>43</sup> Only a few teeth remained of the skeleton, but the grave-goods comprised seventy-one beads of various shapes and materials, including amber and glass, the latter of translucent blue and opaque colours, while at the centre of the necklace was a large faceted bead of crystal, of the kind often found in graves of this period, as at Glen Parva, in the same county, and St. Nicholas, Warwick.<sup>44</sup> Found apart, this would naturally be taken for a spindle-whorl, more for ornament than use, but specimens of similar dimensions are known to have belonged to necklaces, and have the perforation worn by friction with the thread. The grave further contained three hooks-and-eyes of stout silver wire, evidently for fastening the dress, as at Twyford. But the chief feature of the grave was a trio of brooches, all of the same Scandinavian type, but with minor differences of outline and ornament. Of these the central specimen is the purest in style and corresponds best of all to the Norwegian pattern, while the other two, which constitute a pair, but are in part defective, show insular workmanship. One of the knobs still remains in position on the square head-plate, and, as on the majority of English specimens, was fastened by clasping the thin edge of the plate. The side pair as well as all those on the other brooch are wanting but were evidently affixed in the same way, serving originally to hold the ends of the spiral spring-coil of the pin behind the head. The third specimen shows the method common at the time in Norway and Sweden, as opposed to Denmark and England, whereby the knobs were reduced to a purely ornamental feature and cast in one piece with the head. The extravagant development of the so-called horse's head at the foot probably marks a stage beyond any represented in Scandinavia, where this type of brooch (there known as cruciform) went out of fashion in the latter part of the sixth century. The Beeby burial may therefore date from the last quarter of that century, but in view of further developments in this part of the country, the type probably did not survive into the succeeding century.

The Ingarsby brooch<sup>45</sup> (coloured plate, fig. 1) has been well published and is remarkable not only for its unusual size but also for its settings of garnets and blue glass. When perfect it must have been about 6½ in. in length and the width of the head is 3·8 in. It belongs to the square-headed type common to this country, Scandinavia, and South Germany, but bears unmistakable signs of English manufacture. The appearance of jewels on this kind of brooch is itself an indication of a comparatively late date, and while the Billesdon specimen (coloured plate, fig. 2) presents the type in an early and almost pure form, the brooch under discussion must mark an advanced stage of decadence, and dates probably from the early part of the seventh century. The animal forms characteristic of Teutonic art in the sixth century are barely represented on the earlier brooch, while on the Ingarsby fragment they are so dismembered and distorted as to be beyond recognition, and mark a time when mere hugeness of form had become the aim of the bronze-worker in place of

<sup>43</sup> Anastatic Society's vol. for 1858, p. 10, pl. lii; *Leic. Trans.* i, 42, 64.

<sup>44</sup> *V.C.H. Warw.* i, 258.

<sup>45</sup> Akerman, *Pag. Sax.* pl. xvi; *Coll. Antiq.* ii, 168, pl. xliii.

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

chester to Derby may be those of the earliest Anglo-Saxons to enter the district, but unfortunately there is nothing to suggest a more precise date; and while some of the Roman remains may possibly date from the fifth century, it should be pointed out that nothing distinctively Anglo-Saxon has been found in Leicestershire older than the sixth.

Two small but costly relics from the southern border of the county remain to be described. A jewelled brooch of considerable interest was found with human bones at the end of the eighteenth century in gravel-digging at some point between Husbands Bosworth in Leicestershire and Welford, Northants, which are two miles apart. As the county boundary runs nearer the latter, the discovery probably took place to the north, and is so indicated on the map. The jewel (coloured plate, fig. 4) has been illustrated twice in the *Gentleman's Magazine*<sup>49</sup> and worthily presented in colours by Akerman.<sup>50</sup> The late Sir Henry Dryden made a drawing of it now among his papers at Northampton, and called it 'the Naseby brooch'; but no particulars of



JEWELLED GOLD  
STUD, WIBTOFT  
( $\frac{1}{2}$ )

the discovery are given in the sale catalogue of the Baker collection (1842) to which he refers, and the name may be a simple error, as Naseby occurs on the line above. An alternative explanation is suggested by the following quotation from the magazine already mentioned (1800, p. 121): 'it seems to have been found in or very near the route of retreat of part of Charles I's army to Leicester after the defeat in Naseby Field, 14 June, 1645.' When found the pin was evidently in place, lying across the opening in the centre, and the brooch belongs to the annular type generally made of bronze, but an elaborately engraved specimen in silver is preserved from Sarre, Kent.<sup>51</sup>

The front is of gold ornamented with filigree and four pearl bosses each set with a slab of garnet, and is fastened with gold wire to a thin plate of silver forming the base.

The other piece of jewellery referred to was formerly in the collection of Mr. Bloxam of Rugby and is now preserved in the School Art Museum. It was said to have been found near the town and has therefore been described under Warwickshire;<sup>52</sup> but when exhibited to the Archaeological Institute at Worcester in 1862, it was catalogued<sup>53</sup> as coming from Wibtoft, on the Watling Street, which there divides the two counties. It consists of a gold stud now somewhat damaged, with the centre ornamented in quadrants, and garnets inlaid in imbricated and step patterns, while the edge has oblong pieces of the same stones. This jewelled boss was probably intended to ornament a circular brooch, a buckle, or even a cup,<sup>54</sup> and may have been subsequently attached as a pommel to a sword-hilt, as rough holes at the bottom and at two opposite points on the rim show that an unskilled hand had fastened it by means of a wire or metal band.

As immovable objects, such as stone carvings or details of architecture, are reserved for treatment elsewhere, the list of Anglo-Saxon finds in the county is now completed, and tells a fairly consistent story. Tentative dates

<sup>49</sup> 1800, p. 121, pl. iii, fig. 1, and 1815, p. 209, pl. ii, fig. 4; see also de Baye, *Industrial Arts*, pl. ix, fig. 5; *Arch. Journ.* xi, 59; and *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 254.

<sup>51</sup> *V.C.H. Kent*, i.

<sup>52</sup> *V.C.H. Warw.* i, 254.

<sup>50</sup> *Pagan Saxondom*, pl. xxxii, fig. 2.

<sup>53</sup> *Arch. Journ.* xix, 279.

<sup>54</sup> Compare the Kentish jewellery, the Taplow buckle, and the Ardagh chalice.



have been given to several of the finds, which for the sake of convenience have been described in geographical order; but a few lines may now be devoted to the task of arranging them in chronological sequence. Before doing so it may be remarked that cremation seems to have been the common practice in Britain from the time of the Roman conquest till about 250 A.D., and in the south-east even before the time of Claudius. After the middle of the third century, many years before the official recognition of Christianity as the religion of the empire, the dead were buried unburnt, usually in stone cists or coffins, and it seems necessary therefore to assign cremated burials in mixed cemeteries, even when Roman cinerary urns were used, to Teutonic immigrants and not to the Romanized natives. There were probably numerous exceptions to all these rules, but in Leicestershire the above theory finds some confirmation. Thus Rothley was evidently occupied in Roman times and yielded brooches of the sixth and seventh centuries. Some of the pottery is Roman, some Anglo-Saxon (as at West Cotes), and may have been used to hold the ashes of the dead. From Leicester there is a well-made cinerary urn with narrow mouth, incised round the shoulder in Anglo-Saxon style, and again near Bensford Bridge was found a well-made vessel of similar form, highly ornamented, that may have been a cinerary urn, a spear-head being found across the mouth. On this site, however, there were certainly several skeletons, and with the important exception of Saxby, inhumation seems to have been the rule in the county, at least during the sixth and early seventh centuries. Only a few graves of women have been distinguished, but the shield and spear are present in nearly all the graves of men, and the other grave furniture is remarkably uniform. As to the orientation of the graves little can be said, and the presence of arms negatives the idea of Christian burial, even when the head lay at the west end, as at Melton Mowbray. The opposite was the case at Saxby, and north-and-south burials are recorded at West Cotes and Glen Parva. It may therefore be concluded that all the burials described in this chapter were of the heathen period, and this is also clearly indicated by the history of the time.

Christianity was introduced, or perhaps re-introduced, after a wave of barbarism had swept the country, in the year 597, and reached Leicestershire in 653, on the marriage of Peada, ruler of the Middle Angles, with the daughter of Oswy, king of Northumbria. Wulfhere, who succeeded after a short interval (658) to the throne of Mercia, was supported by the pagan population, but Christianity was again encouraged by his successor Ethelred, who came to the throne in 675. Further than this it is unnecessary to follow the course of events, as the practice of burying weapons, ornaments, and utensils with the dead would soon cease under the influence of the new religion, and burial in the open country soon went out of favour as cemeteries under the protection of the Church were provided adjoining the sacred buildings; and the bones of converts are therefore not so liable to disturbance and discovery in the course of agricultural or building operations.

The antiquities described above may therefore be considered as the relics of an Anglian population dominated early in the seventh century by Northumbria before being welded into a kingdom by Penda (626-55), and possibly forming part of the East Anglian kingdom under Redwald before the rise of Northumbria. Still earlier the Middle-English who settled in the

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south, we may assume that Cuthwulf's conquests did not extend north of Buckingham, which was overrun from the south in 571.

In the matter of dialect, the whole of Leicestershire belongs to what is known as the eastern south-midland district, including Shropshire east of Wem and the Severn, Staffordshire south of Stone, a slip on the north of Worcestershire, most of Warwickshire, and the south point of Derbyshire, all these being just to the north of a line beyond which the southern pronunciation of the test-word 'some,' *sum*, is not heard.<sup>55</sup> Philological evidence is therefore in striking agreement with what can be deduced from the archaeological material in the county.

Though less important from the ethnological point of view, mention must be made in conclusion of the Leicester mint, which seems to have been founded by Edgar (959-75). Though not mentioned in Athelstan's Regulation of Mints, A.D. 929, it was evidently maintained by Canute and his successors down to the Norman Conquest. It is a question whether certain coins of Athelstan should be attributed to Leicester or Chester; and the probability that many of the doubtful pieces belong to Leicester is increased by the fact that Derby and Nottingham, belonging to the same confederation of the Five Burghs, were privileged to strike coins in his reign.<sup>56</sup>

<sup>55</sup> A. J. Ellis, *English dialects, their sounds and homes*, p. 101 and map.

<sup>56</sup> *Numismatic Chron.* (Ser. 3), xi, 16; B.M. *Cal. of Eng. Coins*, ii, lv. Local moneyers represented in the Chancton hoard are given in *Assoc. Arch. Soc. Rep.* xii, 140.



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# ANCIENT EARTHWORKS

The configuration of Leicestershire does not lend itself to the construction of great hill fortresses such as were erected by the early inhabitants of many other districts. Some heights, however, were crowned with earthworks which were probably links in the chain of strongholds, found in the adjacent counties, which commanded the valley of the Trent.

That the Romans spread over this part of their province of *Flavia Caesariensis* is evident from the numerous relics of that people, other than earthworks, which have been found; but their camps, if at any time numerous, have succumbed to the plough; Leicestershire being essentially pastoral and agricultural. Their principal settlement *Ratae* (Leicester) will be referred to in the following pages together with other more or less rectangular works, some of which may safely be attributed to the Roman period.

We know but little as to the fortifications constructed by Saxons or Danes, but may be sure that earthworks were used in 1013, when Sweyn sailed up the Trent and subdued the Five Boroughs and all the Saxon army north of the Watling Street, the boundary of this county on the south-west. It is possible that the traditional name 'Dane Hills' preserves the memory of his invasion.

Around Leicester are remains of various earthworks, 'Dane Hills' and 'Raw Dykes,' and others at Belgrave, Humberstone, Evington, and Anstey Pastures. At what period these military works were thrown up it is impossible to determine; but doubtless they were made or utilized at various times as outworks, or in opposition, to the great stronghold of Leicester.

Norman lords have left definite evidences of their domination in extant earthworks; but the most numerous works of this character in Leicestershire were for the defence and requirements of the inhabitants of the manor houses—the surrounding moat, the division banks of the adjacent offices and fish ponds.

The paucity of prehistoric earthworks is paralleled by the rarity of tumuli, common in that age; they would alike perish in so arable a district, and this destruction unfortunately has occurred during a period when no consideration of historic landmarks prompted the making of a record, or a scientific exploration, before the pitiless march of necessity consigned them to oblivion.

In the classification of these various works of the spade we follow the scheme formulated by the Congress of Archaeological Societies :—

- A.—Fortresses partly inaccessible, by reason of precipices, cliffs, or water, additionally defended by artificial works, usually known as promontory fortresses.
- B.—Fortresses on hill-tops with artificial defences, *following the natural line of the hill*; or, though usually on high ground, less dependent on natural slopes for protection.



X.—Defensive works which fall under none of these headings.

Two examples only exist of Class A and both are greatly mutilated. Agriculture and quarrying have been fatal to Billesdon, and the Castle Hill of Mountsorrel has been subjected to the rough usage of a common playground.

Class B is represented by four good fortresses in a fair state of preservation. The great height and carefully guarded entrances of Breedon on the Hill; and the massiveness of the vallum at Burrough on the Hill, are particular features; while the peculiar position of Sanvey Castle is noteworthy. The defences of Beacon Hill are not so perfect, but the position is unsurpassed for the purpose indicated by its name.

In the examples of Class C, that at Ratby demands special attention, whilst in that at Hungerton the adaptation of early entrenchments to mediaeval defences is dealt with more fully under Class G.

Among the five mounts of Class D, the great variation in height and strength call for attention. Belvoir Castle is the most imposing, and it is still a subject for discussion as to how far the mount is natural or artificial.

Of the mounts with baileys, under Class E, Hallaton stands pre-eminent; but that at Whitwick is interesting in so far as both the mount and court are upon the summit of a natural hill.

Class F contains the most numerous examples. These homestead moats are scattered over the whole area of the county; while some are in a perfect state, the major part have been partially destroyed.

In Class G the defended moats are not generally of great strength, that at Hungerton owes its massiveness to an earlier age; at Kirby Muxloe the revetment has gone and the moat is now being obliterated; and except at the last-named the moats of this class have been drained of water. There is, however, at Kirkby Mallory one of great strength and regularity, unique of its kind, sufficiently unknown to be open to wide conjecture. With many, however, there remain extensive low ditches and banks, surrounding rectangular plots of ground, which have doubtless been reduced in depth and height by agriculture. At Kirby Bellars these are most extensively seen and present an example of works which must be considered as more or less defensive in their origin. Another feature in the earthworks attached to many manor houses and religious establishments is the fishponds; these are most noticeable at the Leper Hospital of Burton Lazars, and they were no doubt provided to stock fresh fish for food for the afflicted. Possibly as a preventive from the



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

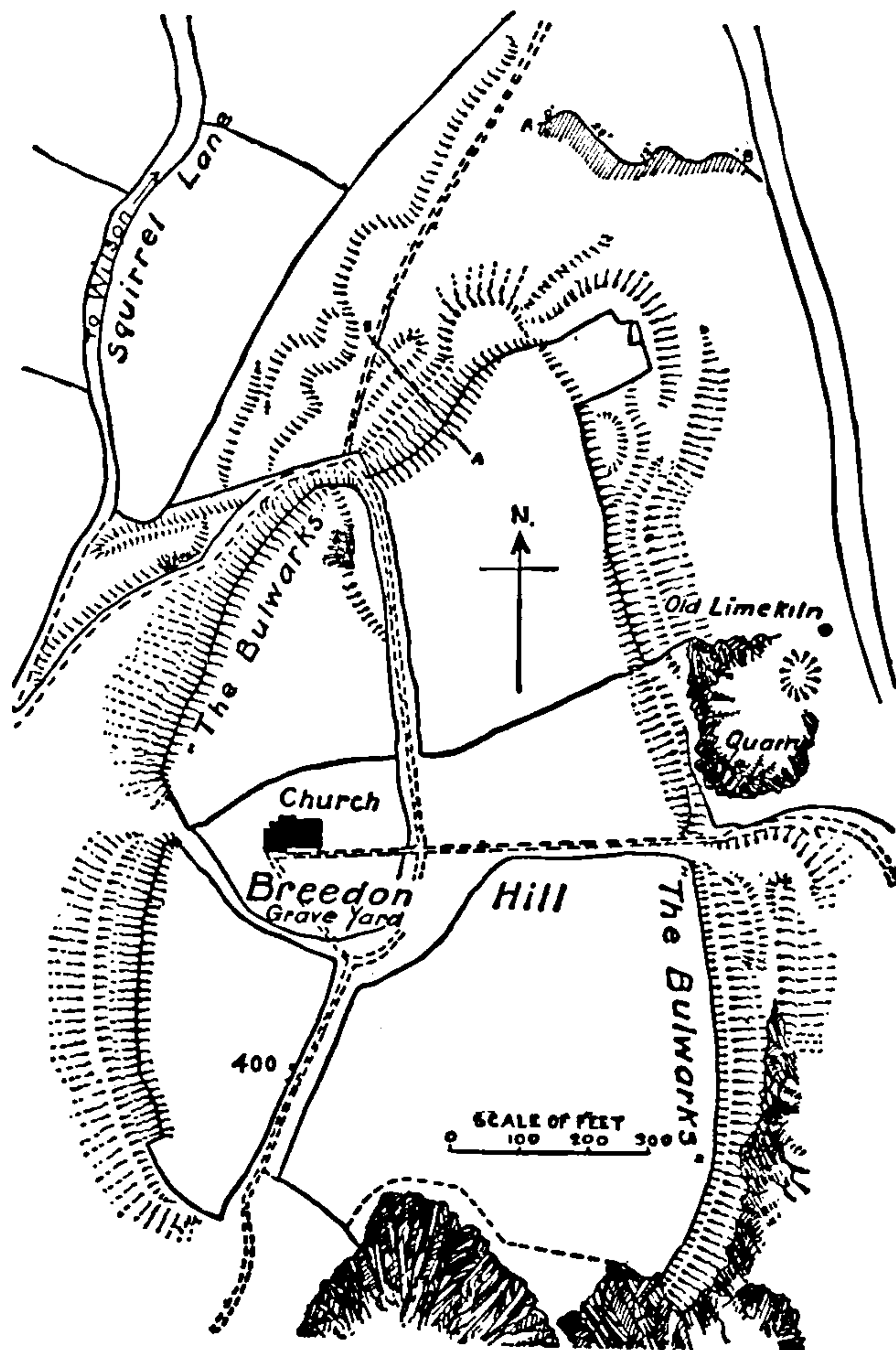
of the hill, which is here 176 ft. in height. At the north-west another path gives access to a narrow terrace three parts of the distance down the hill-side, and thence to the lower ground. The main entrance was on the north, and curves inwards towards the east between two rocky heights which have been fortified, but the quarrying for sandstone has cut the defences almost beyond recognition. The natural fall of the ground on the north of the camp with the sentinels of rock, and the rise of the ground as it joins the chain of hills on which is the high road from Houghton to Tilton, formed a well-nigh impregnable position.

**MOUNTSORREL—'CASTLE HILL' (xxv. 2).** About 5 miles south-east of Loughborough there rises a precipitous rock, described as 'a steep and craggy hill,' high above the River Soar, dominating the town and surrounding country.

The castle of Robert le Bossu which formerly crowned this eminence was razed in the early days of Henry III, but a fragment of the earthen defences is still discernible.

Across the neck of land from which the natural rock arose stretched a wide fosse with an escarpment of 13 ft. and a counterscarp of 15 ft., with a revetment nearly 3 ft. high. On the fortress side of the fosse are two berms with an intermediate scarp of 12 ft.; from the higher of these the rock ascends to its greatest altitude at the north; but the most precipitous part is on the east side.

A winding ascent from the east, around the south, is probably on the original path to this almost inaccessible stronghold. Upon the summit it is impossible to trace the position formerly occupied by the castle keep, although doubtless it was situated on the high rock to the north. Youthful sports and the amateur quarryman have obliterated most of its early features.



THE BULWARKS, BREEDON ON THE HILL

### HILL FORTS

(CLASS B)

**BREEDON ON THE HILL (ix. 15)**—'THE BULWARKS.' Five and a half miles north-east by north from Ashby de la Zouch, on the summit of a lofty limestone rock, with the natural line of the height as its boundary, is the strongest hill fortress in the county. The table-land is pear-shaped, the apex towards the



After a straight course of 230 ft., a semicircular hollow, possibly the site of a guard room, screened by a bank, lies at the base of the first vallum ; the fosse emerges upon the angle of a path to the interior, with another small chamber space in the thickness of the second vallum. This path, hugging the escarpment, ascends from the north to the south, and at the above-mentioned angle turns to the north, at which point the original scheme of defence is lost by the erection of a building. On the north side of the building the vallum incurves towards the south-west, with a wide platform at the angle ; the principal entrance is here, and the road is thus dominated by the direction of the vallum, which, rising 9 ft. from the interior, has a scarp of 28 ft., a counterscarp 12 ft. high, an outer scarp of 7 ft., and the remains of a third vallum now but a foot in height.

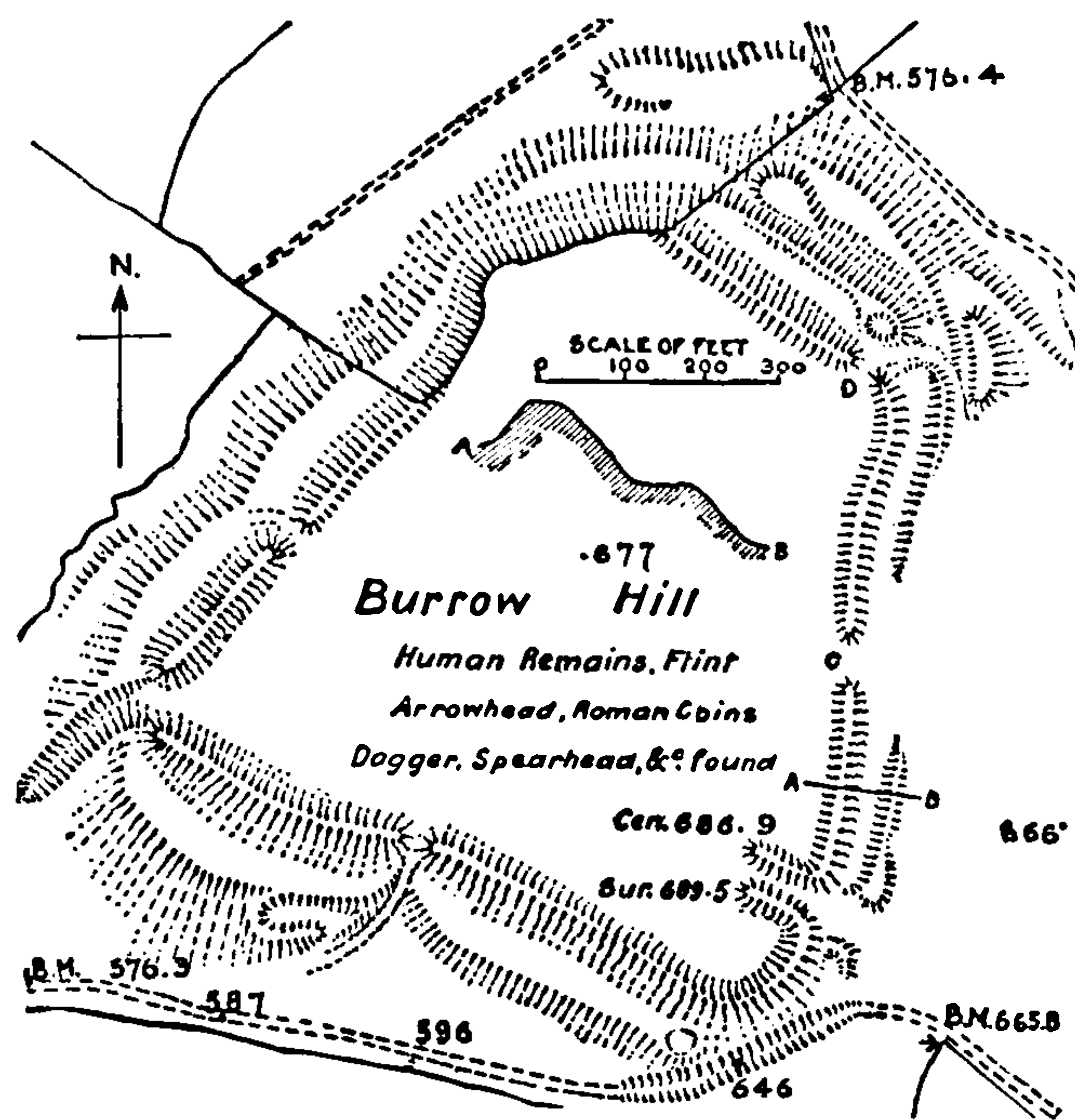
The other side of the entrance road falls away to the depths below, with stages at various levels, but this also is commanded by a vallum and a yet higher platform which branch off from the main defences on the western side.

Interesting as this approach may be at the present time, other details of engineering skill are evidently lost by the displacement of the ground in testing the quality of the limestone at this side.

At the north-west is a single vallum of great strength ; but at the south-west the double vallum and fosse are again in evidence on the verge of a precipitous descent.

BURROUGH, or BURROW ON THE HILL (xxvii, 9 and 10), is 5 miles south of Melton Mowbray, and nearly a mile north of the village.

Burrough Camp, on a commanding hill of limestone and ironstone, is a fortified position of great strength, and the notice accorded to it by the earlier



BURROUGH CAMP, BURROUGH ON THE HILL



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

antiquaries demands our thoughtful attention, as the results of recent investigation may appear antagonistic to their conclusions.

Camden thought Burrough Hill to be the Roman station *Vernometum*, while Hollings inclined to the opinion that it was a British stronghold and the scene of the defeat of the Iceni by Ostorius, 'so closely does its admirable position appear to coincide in its precipitous escarpment on three sides, its vallum of piled stones, its one accessible face, and its single entrance.'

Leland describes it as—

double ditched and containeth within the ditch to my estimation 9 acres, the soile of it beareth very good corn. 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 stone.

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.

This area is now under grass, which facilitates an examination, and it is surprising that its former arable period has not proved more destructive. The earthworks are in a good state, but show no indications of ever having been 'double ditched,' nor that the stronghold has been 'worked about with stone.' The stones employed in the works formed the core of the earthen vallum upon the natural rock; and the lime which Leland thought to indicate a structure of masonry is the disintegration and drift of the limestone.

Natural features governed the irregular circumvallation of this fortress. The principal entrance is at the south-east, between two inturned aggers, which penetrate the camp 120 ft., and rise 18 ft. above the path at the angles of the vallum. At the base of this path a mound lies on the right hand and a curved bank inclosing a hollow on the left.

Following the line of defence towards the north, at the section A—B, the rampart rises 26 ft. from the interior, and has an escarpment of 34 ft. to a berm 26 ft. wide, and a further scarp of 27 ft. The vallum at C is broken away, but this is no part of the original scheme; the single escarpment immediately to the north of it is 63 ft. Some 300 ft. from this point the fosse, with an outer bank, becomes more pronounced; and at D a winding path severs the vallum, but its inimical use is prevented or hindered by an agger containing a sunken site for a guard. Turning towards the south this path descends between the vallum and a mound.

At the base of the second scarp on the north is a wide but shallow mound upon a platform; and due north the natural escarpment has been altered so far as to provide a berm; while at a lower level is another position for a band of warriors.

On the eastern side the vallum—which for a space has been destroyed—is again in evidence, rising 10 ft. from the interior it has a 26 ft. scarp on to a berm with the precipitous hill-side beyond. An indication of a postern here gives access to the platform, and a little to the south-west the vallum is 42 ft. on the scarp.



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Sanvey Castle is oblong in plan, with an open area around three sides, almost a courtyard, so broad and level is the space between the escarpment and the foot of the neighbouring hills. On the fourth, or western side—the most vulnerable—a wide fosse is at the base of an escarpment of 68 ft. with a counterscarp of 28 ft., a strong rampart also defends this side and its angles. At the section C—D the rampart is less pronounced, but the escarpment is 74 ft.; and the former is lost on the north and south sides.

The entrance is on the north-east; ascending between two strong aggers, it continues as a passage through the whole width of the camp to the southern edge, where a mound defends a path to the flat court and leads to a water supply. On the west of this passage is the entry into the larger interior area, commanded by a mound above a sunken space, which appears to have been a fictitious entrance, or *cul de sac*, within which to entice an invading enemy.

On the east of the passage a smaller area is well defended by a rampart and scarp, the latter varying from 48 ft. to 70 ft. Within this area—despite the ages which have passed and the rank growth of vegetation—is an arrangement of banks, nearly 4 ft. in height, which point to the provision of primitive dwellings.

A gap in the encircling hills, through which flows a brook, is guarded by two aggers, between which an oblique path provides egress. On the outer side of this barrier a cutting supplies a steep path by which the precipitous hill beyond is ascended.

WOODHOUSE.—‘BEACON HILL’ (xxiv, 3) is a rocky height towering above its neighbours and commanding an extensive view of the country. Its name betokens the use that it served in mediaeval and more modern times, and from its formation and position there can be little doubt that it was utilized for the same purpose in prehistoric ages.

A double line of entrenchments surrounded its crest, and although now badly mutilated, enough is extant to indicate the outer line with certainty. The lower cincture, of an irregular elliptical form, consists of a double vallum and fosse; the inner vallum rises but little more than a foot and descends into a fosse 24 ft. wide by a scarp of 10 ft.; the counterscarp is of the same height, the fosse being 4 ft. deep, perpendicular measurement. The value of the second vallum is greatly enhanced by the natural decline of the precipitous hill-side. This is at the most perfect part towards the east, at other points the defences are almost obliterated, and the western side of the hill is not nearly so invulnerable; but it is here strengthened by a quarried steep for a length of about 500 ft.

The other vallum, of no great strength, apparently surrounded the stony summit at a higher level; but very little of it can be traced. Celts, spear-heads, and a battle-axe, which have been found here, testify to its early use.

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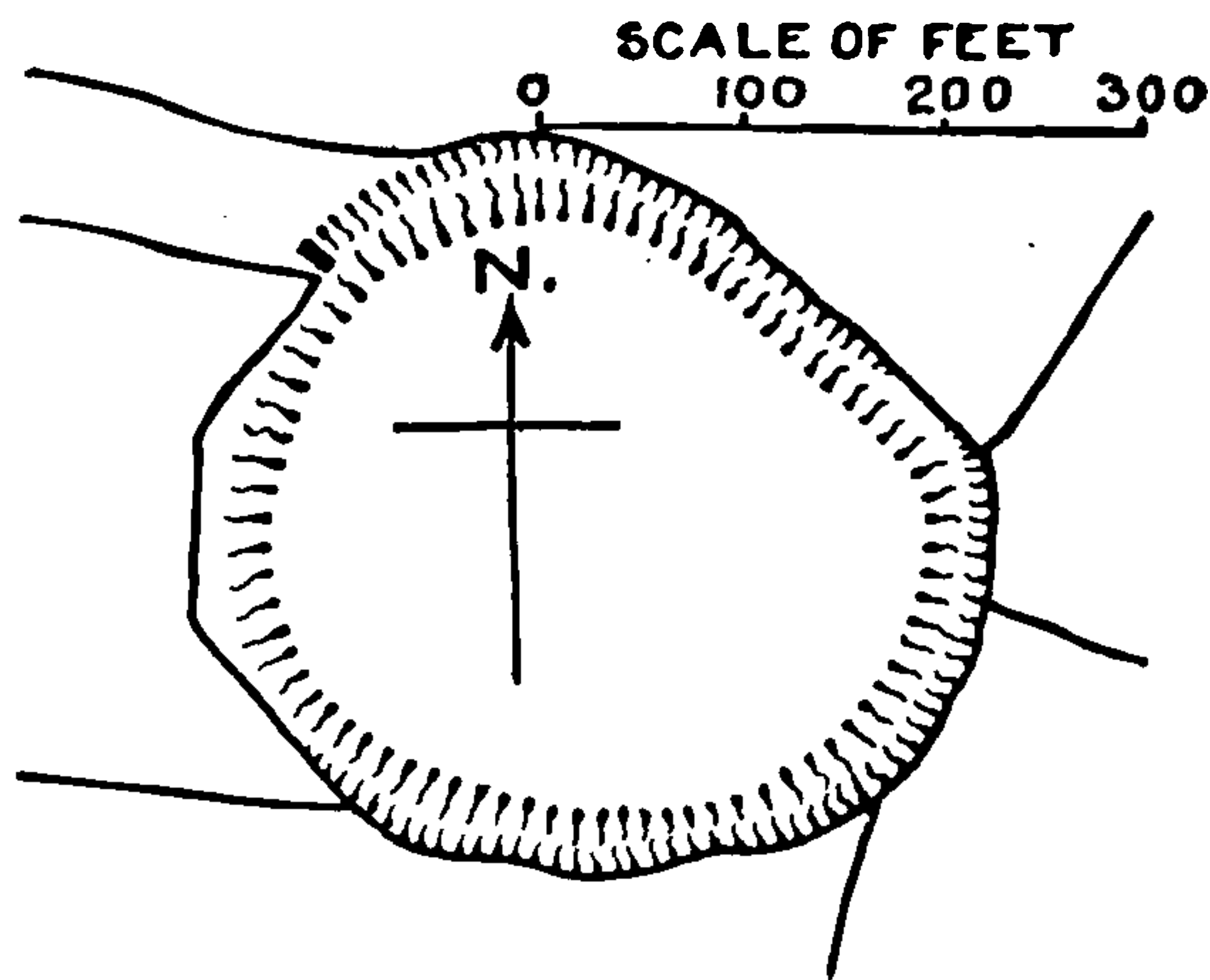
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# SIMPLE DEFENSIVE INCLOSURES

## (CLASS C)

**BELTON (xvii, 5).**—Four miles north from Whitwick, on the gentle slope of a hill, near the highest part, and facing north, is a circular camp. It is now a simple plateau with no breastwork, but surrounded by a fosse 15 ft. wide and 3 ft. deep, except on the west, where the counterscarp has been destroyed. To the west of the camp flows the Grace Dieu Brook.

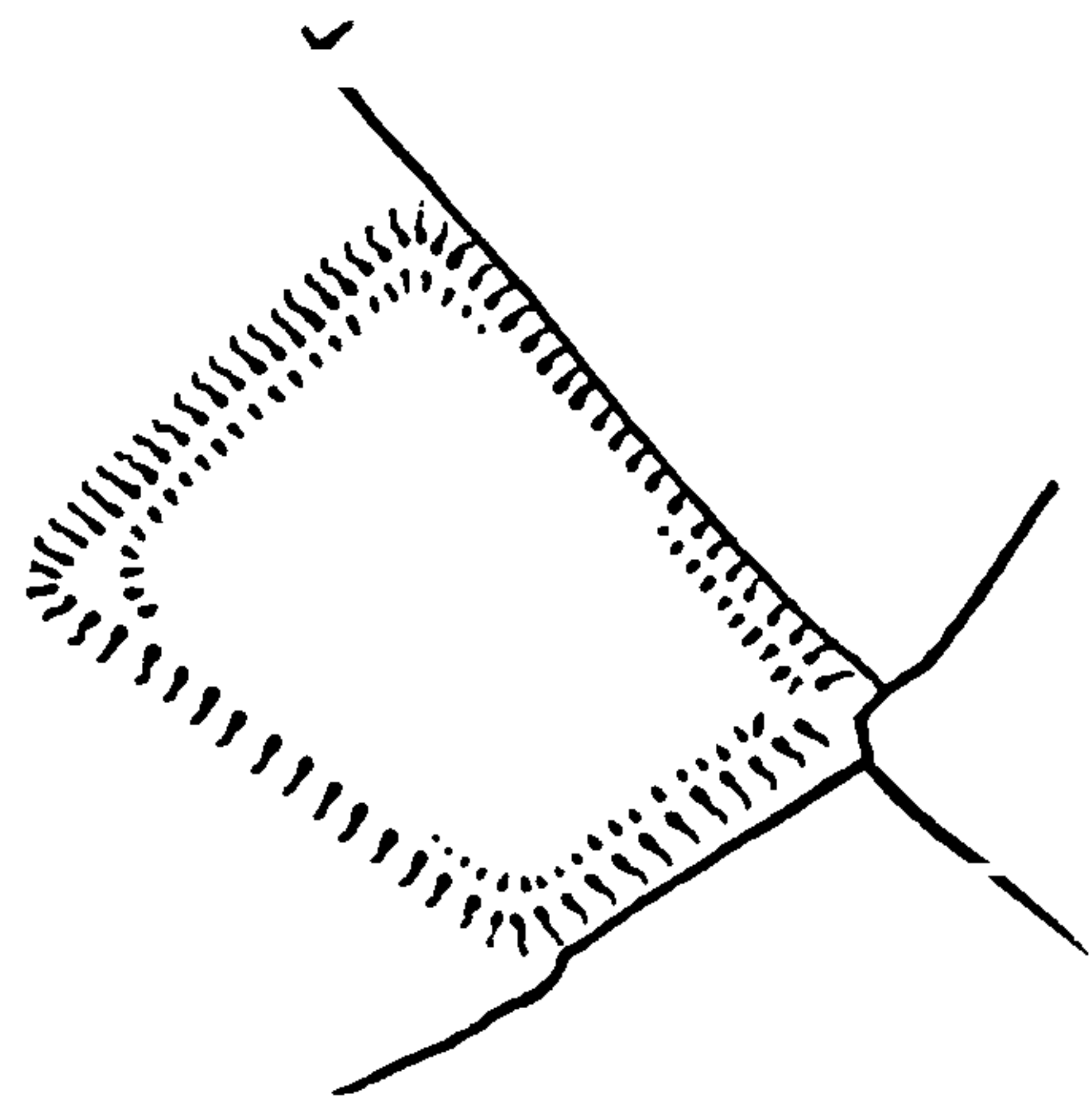


THE CAMP, BELTON

**BURTON OVERY (xxxviii, 10).**—Seven and a half miles south-east from Leicester. In a field south-west of the church, on gravel soil sloping down to a rivulet on the west, are the vallum and fosse of a square camp. The eastern and western sides are clearly defined for about 300 ft., the vallum on the west is 5 ft. high and 12 ft.

wide, that on the east is 4 ft. high and 12 ft. wide, the latter being strengthened by a fosse 20 ft. wide and 4 ft. 6 in. deep at its most perfect point. The southern vallum, 10 ft. wide and 2 ft. high from the interior, with a shallow external fosse, is most pronounced at the south-west corner, where apparently the main entrance was situated. The northern vallum has almost gone, but enough remains to show what appears to have been a minor entrance at the north-west angle, although it is now too indistinct for definite decision.

From the north-east angle an agger, 4 ft. in height, runs parallel to the interior of the eastern vallum for a distance of 80 ft., looking towards the higher ground from which the camp was most easily assailed.



THE CAMP, HALLATON

**HALLATON (xxxix, 14).** About 1,600 ft. south-west from 'Castle Hill Camp' (see Class E), upon the height of a gently undulating hill is a rectangular camp with a long axis of 300 ft. and a short axis of 220 ft. It has been surrounded by a vallum rising 2 ft. from the interior, with an escarpment of 5 ft. 6 in.; the rampart, however, has been destroyed in the middle of the two long sides. The entrance at the eastern angle is defended by the vallum rising a foot above the general height, and is situated at the point nearest to the Castle Hill.

**HUNGERTON (xxxii, 10).**—The remains of a strong Roman camp north-west of the British stronghold at Billesdon have been utilized as a manor-house defence, and are therefore described in Class G.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

KNAPTOFT (xlix, 4).—In Nichol's *Leicestershire*<sup>1</sup> two widely divergent plans are given of a supposed camp with extensive defences. The plan of the outer trench takes the form of an irregular isosceles triangle with sides about 750 ft., containing a mound 8 ft. high in the rounded apex at the north. Towards the southern base of the area is a quadrangular camp or 'principal entrenchment and fortress' 108 ft. square internally, surrounded with a vallum and fosse, the former with an escarpment of 9 ft., and the latter 10 ft. wide at its base. A tumulus is also depicted north-west of the camp.

This site became the property of the Knights Hospitallers of St. John, to whom the outer trench may be assigned. The domestic defences (see Class G) and modern disturbances of the ground have left but a fragment of the original entrenchments.

LEICESTER (xxx, 10).—Town walls. The site occupied by the county town is such as would be selected for a fortified position; the irregular course of the River Soar, with the marsh lands beyond, protected the north and west, and from the east the Willow Brook passes to its confluence with the Soar on the north. We are told that the 'Raw Dykes' are the remains of the oppidum of 'King Leir,' but the first reliable knowledge of its habitation is of the period of the Roman occupation.

Ratae, by which name Leicester was known to the Romans, appears to have been a parallelogram in plan, and distinct traces are still left of the ancient boundaries in Millstone Lane and Horsefair Street on the south, Gallowtree Gate and Church Gate on the east, and Sanvey Gate and Soar Lane on the north. It is now considered that there was a western wall extending from Soar Lane on the north to South Gate Street, and that the Jewry Wall is composed mainly of the remains of the West Gate.<sup>2</sup> These boundaries represent the lines of the earliest earthen vallum.

Under the Saxons the ancient defences of Leicester must have been frequently manned, and probably strengthened, for this town was repeatedly the scene of strife with the Danes.

LUBENHAM (1, 7).—Two miles west from Market Harborough. To the north-east of the village, on the crest of a hill are the fragments of an irregular camp. A broad but shallow agger may be traced, but utilitarianism has conquered antiquities, so mutilating it that no definite description is possible. The entrance was apparently on the slope towards the village.

It has been suggested that this camp, with that at Farndon in Northamptonshire, were outworks to the camp at Market Harborough.

MANCETTER.—See Witherley.

MARKET HARBOROUGH (1, 8).—In a field on the east of the town, rising gently from the River Welland, vestiges of a camp were visible until the recent growth of the town. Roman pottery and other antiquities have been found here.

RATBY (xxx, 7).—Five miles west by north from Leicester. 'Ratby Burrow,' or 'Bury Camp,' by both of which names it is known, is within a mile west of the village. It is a rectangular camp of single vallum and fosse, situated on ground somewhat high and undulating, but not much higher than its surroundings, the north only having a declivity approaching steepness. The area occupied by the camp is over 9 acres; on the north side the

<sup>1</sup> Vol. iv, 1, p. 219.

<sup>2</sup> 'Roman Leicester,' by G. E. Fox, F.S.A., in the *Arch. Journ.* vol. xlvi.



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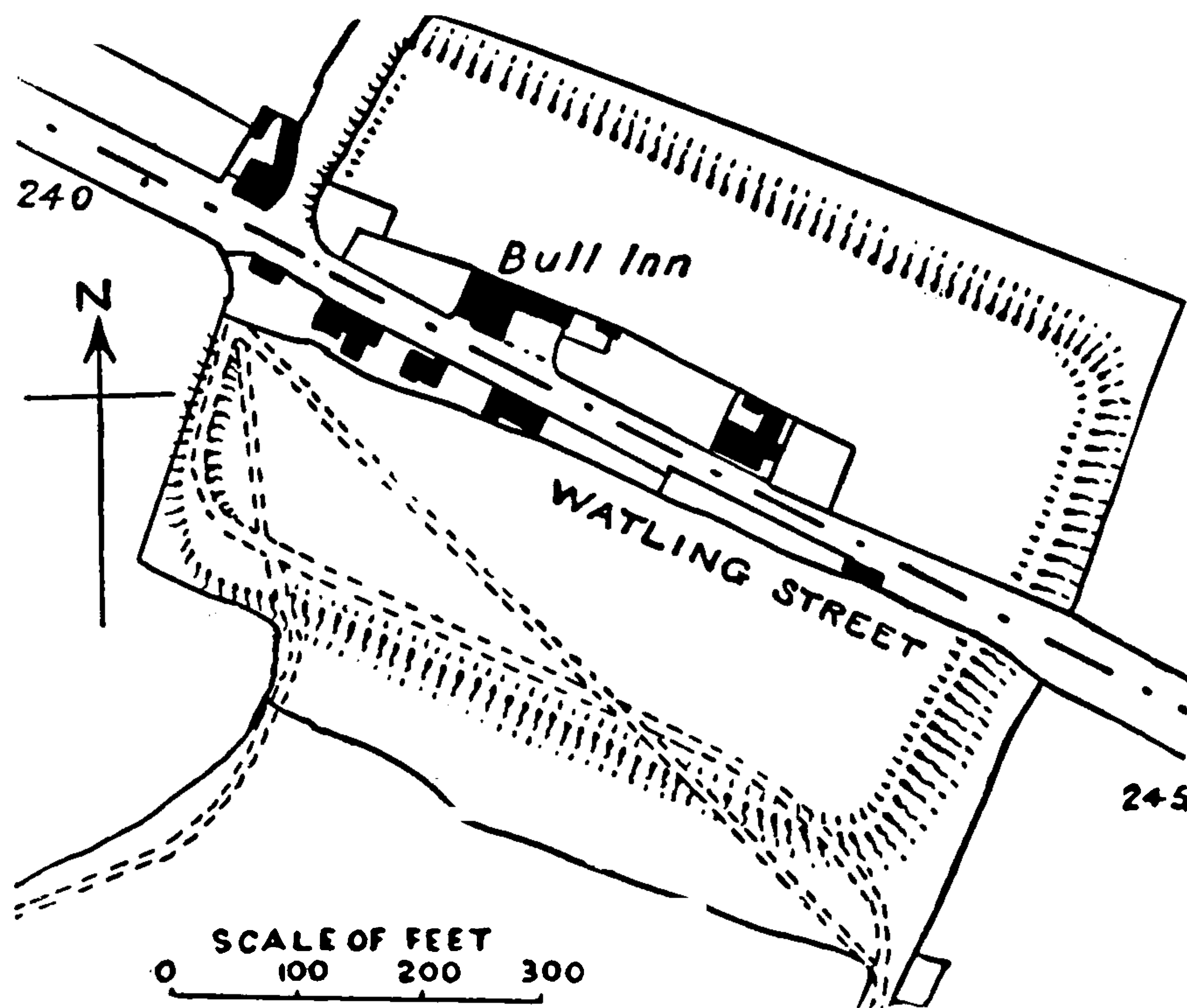
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MANDUESSEDUM CAMP, NEAR WITHERBY

here divides Leicestershire from the county of Warwick — is a camp which has been identified with the Roman station of *Manduessedum*, one half of which is in the parish of Mancetter, Warwickshire. It is rectangular in plan with an area of nearly 7 acres. The ancient road passes through the middle of it on the line of its longer axis ;

the half which is in Leicestershire is called 'The Old Field,' and the other moiety in the adjacent county is known as 'Castle Bank.'

Dr. Stukeley, about 1724, described both ditches and banks as in a good state of preservation<sup>1</sup> ; and Nichols tells us that the vallum was perfect in the year 1811.<sup>2</sup> At the present time no vallum is extant on the north, a scarp 7 ft., perpendicular measurement, only remains, and that a feeble defence, for it is 19 ft. on the slope. On the other three sides is a very low bank, unworthy the name of vallum, which, indeed, is scarcely visible on the south. The strongest part is on the east, facing the long stretch of road as it gradually declines to the former station at High Cross.

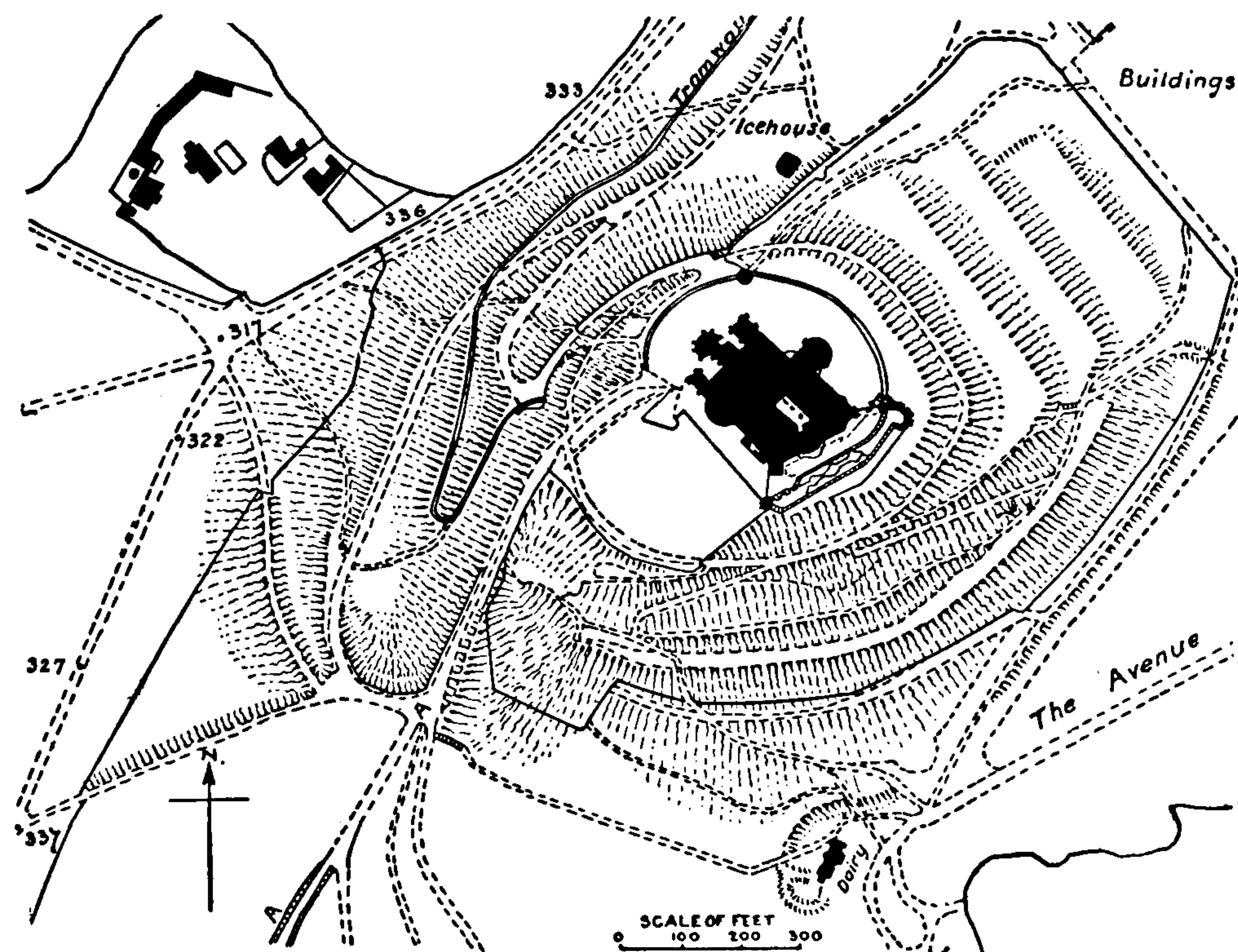
The River Anker flows about 850 ft. distant on the north-west side, and turning to the north-east a short distance from the camp it provided an additional protection to this its weakest side ; a spring rises outside the northern boundary.

Memorials of the early inhabitants have been found in celts and flint



an isolated hill—a towering height—at the north-eastern extremity of a spur of the Leicestershire Wolds, is the site of the castle of Robert de Toden. It was a position of exceptional military value in ancient times, overlooking a vast stretch of country, including the valley of the Trent, by which this district was open to an invading force.

Much diversity of opinion exists as to whether this mound is natural or artificial, a doubt which the frequent alterations and rebuilding, together



BELVOIR CASTLE, NEAR BOTTESFORD

with continuous residence, do not tend to dispel. Traditionally it is said to be artificial; that it is wholly so need not be considered, the stupendous nature of the work forbids such a conjecture, and the surrounding features of the country suggest a natural height as a foundation for the art of man.

Original spade work may possibly be seen in the four terraces which rise one above another, with escarpments of 25 ft. and 40 ft. on the north-east side.

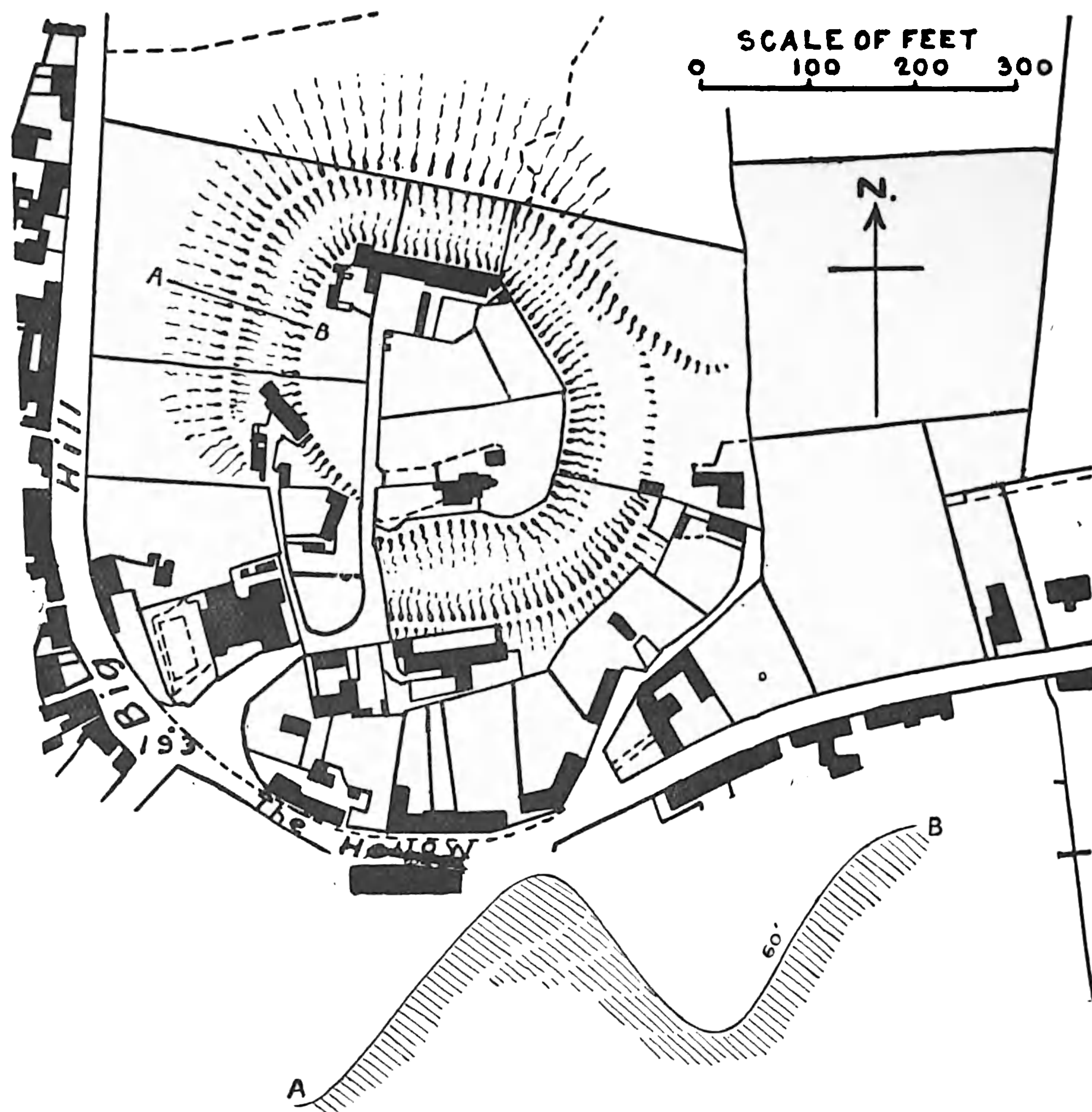
In the early part of the nineteenth century another work of great magnitude altered the earlier formation of the mound, when a raised road A A—a vast earthwork—was made to span the valley between Castle Hill and the hill on which stands the mausoleum.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

An entrenched bank in Old Park Wood, three-quarters of a mile south-east of Belvoir Castle, was probably an outwork used in the Civil War.

**CASTLE DONINGTON (x, 1).**—Nine and a half miles north-east of Ashby-de-la-Zouch. The castle, from which the village derives its prefix, stands high upon a sandstone hill south-east of the River Trent. In Domesday Survey the village is called Donitone, and was the property of the mother of Earl Morcar. The mound upon which stood the mediaeval keep is now divided into small holdings, and the surrounding fosse into miniature



CASTLE HILL AND MOAT, CASTLE DONINGTON

orchards. Notwithstanding the consequent delving and annual deposit of leaves the escarpment of the mound is still about 60 ft., with a counterscarp of almost the same height except on the east, where it is considerably lower, and without doubt marks the entrance to the former bailey. The base-court was probably obliterated by George, earl of Huntingdon, who bought the castlê and park of Queen Elizabeth, 'and hath quite ruined the earth.' The outer scarp is generally of the same depth as the first, which, with the natural hillside made the work a formidable barrier. Buildings have so encroached upon the outer scarp that around its southern portion a great part is lost.

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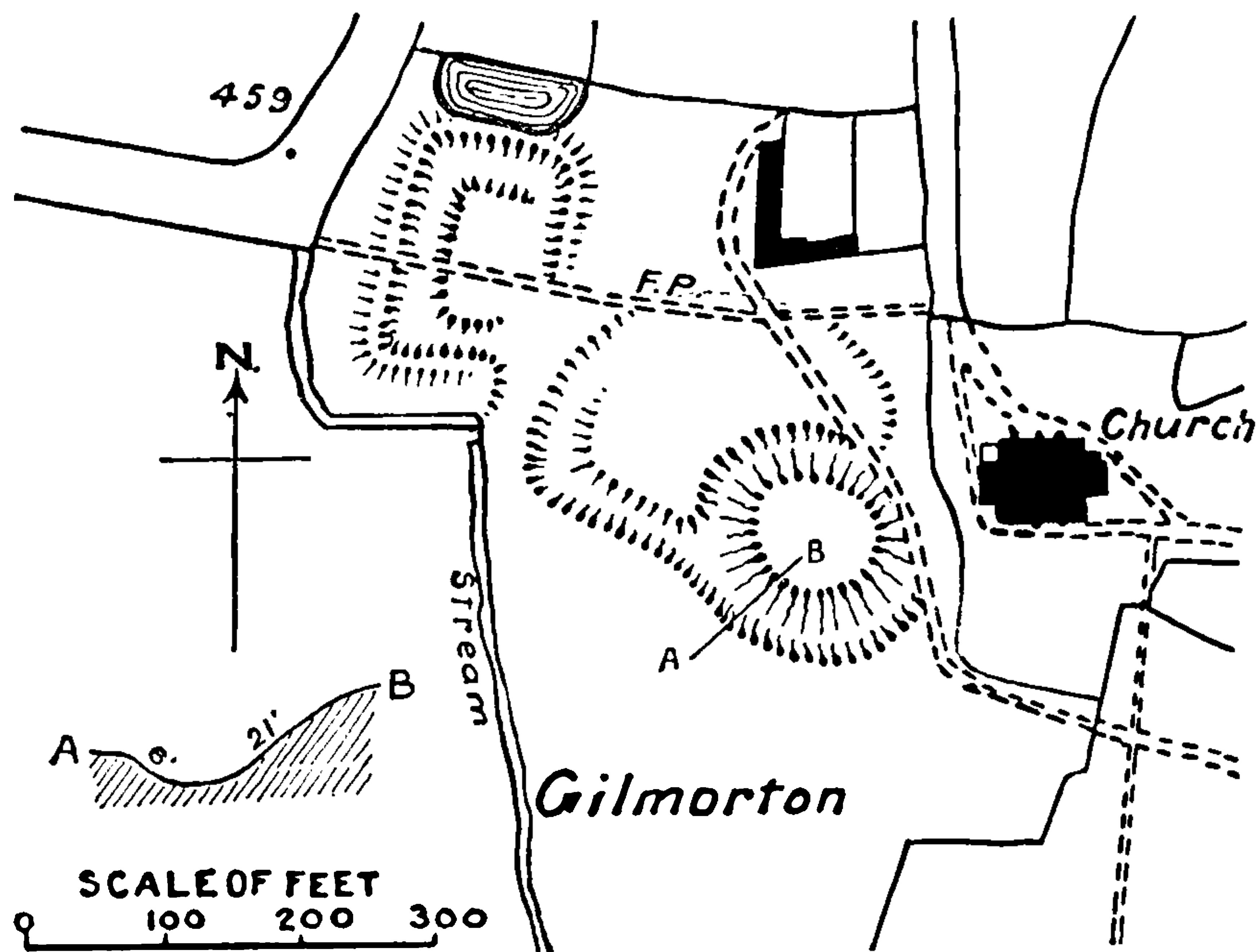
## MOUNTS WITH ONE OR MORE ATTACHED COURTS

(CLASS E)

**EARL SHILTON—CASTLE YARD (xxxvi, 9).**—Four miles north-east from Hinckley. On the west side of the church, in a field locally known as ‘Castle Yard,’ is the mount on which stood a castle of Simon de Montfort. The mount has a decided convex escarpment of 28 ft.; a slightly hollowed top is still discernible, although its use as a kitchen garden must necessarily be hastening the time when it will no longer be distinguishable.

The fosse, 6 ft. wide and 4 ft. deep, was originally far more imposing—as may be verified by a fragment of the revetment at the south-east, where the entrance may be traced—but it has been filled in to a great extent. Buildings have nearly obliterated the fosse on the west and north and the churchyard wall and grave-mounds on the east. The bailey has been extensive, no doubt enlarged at a later period than the mount, and adapted to manorial residence. It is oblong in plan and extends on the south side; a stream forms its western boundary, and small remains of a fosse are on the south-west.

**GILMORTON (xlix, 5 & 6).**—Three miles north-east from Lutterworth, west of the village church, is the mount and bailey of an early castle,



CASTLE MOUNT AND MOAT, GILMORTON

supplemented on the north-west by a manorial moat; which latter will be noticed under Class G. The circular mount has a flat top, and an escarpment of 21 ft. into a wide fosse, with a counterscarp of 6 ft.; the latter however, has been destroyed on the eastern side by a footpath. The bailey is small, of horse-shoe shaped plan, situated on the north-

west of the fortress, and the fosse—which merges with that around the mount—is clearly marked on its western side only, the other portions are but just traceable, being cut up by two paths and generally levelled by the tread of cattle.

**GROBY, CASTLE HILL (xxx, 4).**—Groby, or Grooby, formerly a hamlet of Ratby, is situated four miles to the north-west of Leicester. From the Saxon Ulfi the property passed to Hugh de Grantmesnil after the Norman

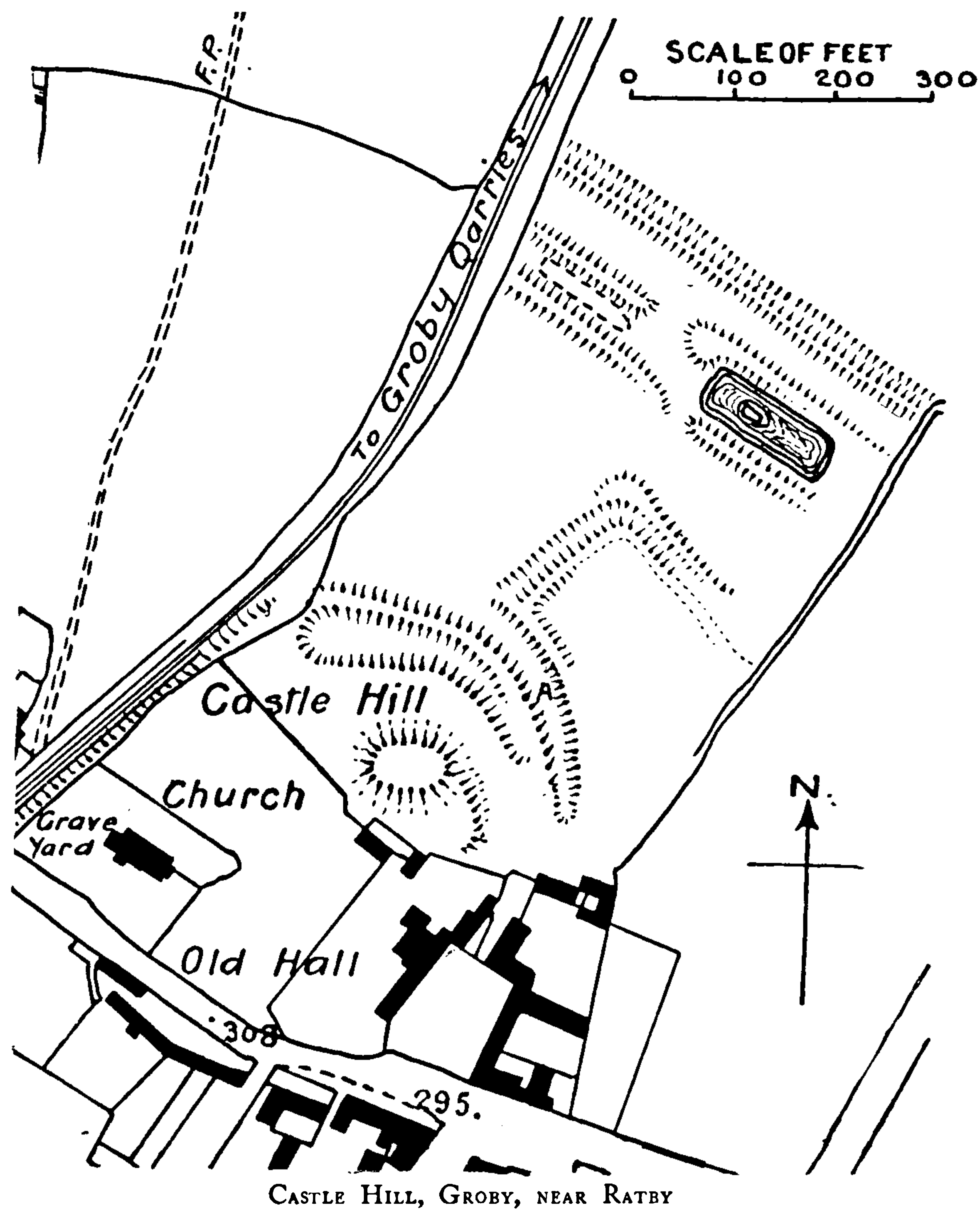


## ANCIENT EARTHWORKS

Conquest, and to the latter the castle mount may probably be assigned. It is elliptical, with the longer axis east and west, and the scarp at the north-east, the highest point, is nearly 22 ft. vertical. From the middle of the eastern side an inclined plane descends southwards from the summit to the ground level; this is probably an original entrance, though possibly it has lost much of its former character through the vicissitudes of later ages. The plan of the bailey is lost, but a portion of a double fosse and vallum remain on the north side, and, from the arc described by them, it is evident that a base court was inclosed on the south-east, between the mount and the church; the building of the mediaeval manor-house—the ‘Old Hall’—on one side and the railway on the other, have, however, effectually combined their ancient and modern requirements to destroy all signs of it. The fragment of the inner fosse is worn to a great width and of no appreciable depth; the vallum has a scarp of 4 ft. into the outer fosse which is 15 ft. wide at point A.

Beyond these works, to the north-east, on declining ground, are other entrenchments; first a quadrangle, and farther down the slope straight lines of triple vallum and double ditch; but as they appear to belong to the manorial defences rather than to the earlier stronghold, they will be treated under Class G.

HALLATON (xxxix, 14).—‘CASTLE HILL CAMP,’ seven miles north-east from Market Harborough, upon a rounded hill among many of similar formation, but somewhat steeper, which rises on the west of the village, is a large conical mount 630 ft. in circumference at the base, 118 ft. in diameter at the top—which has a slight saucer-shaped depression—and



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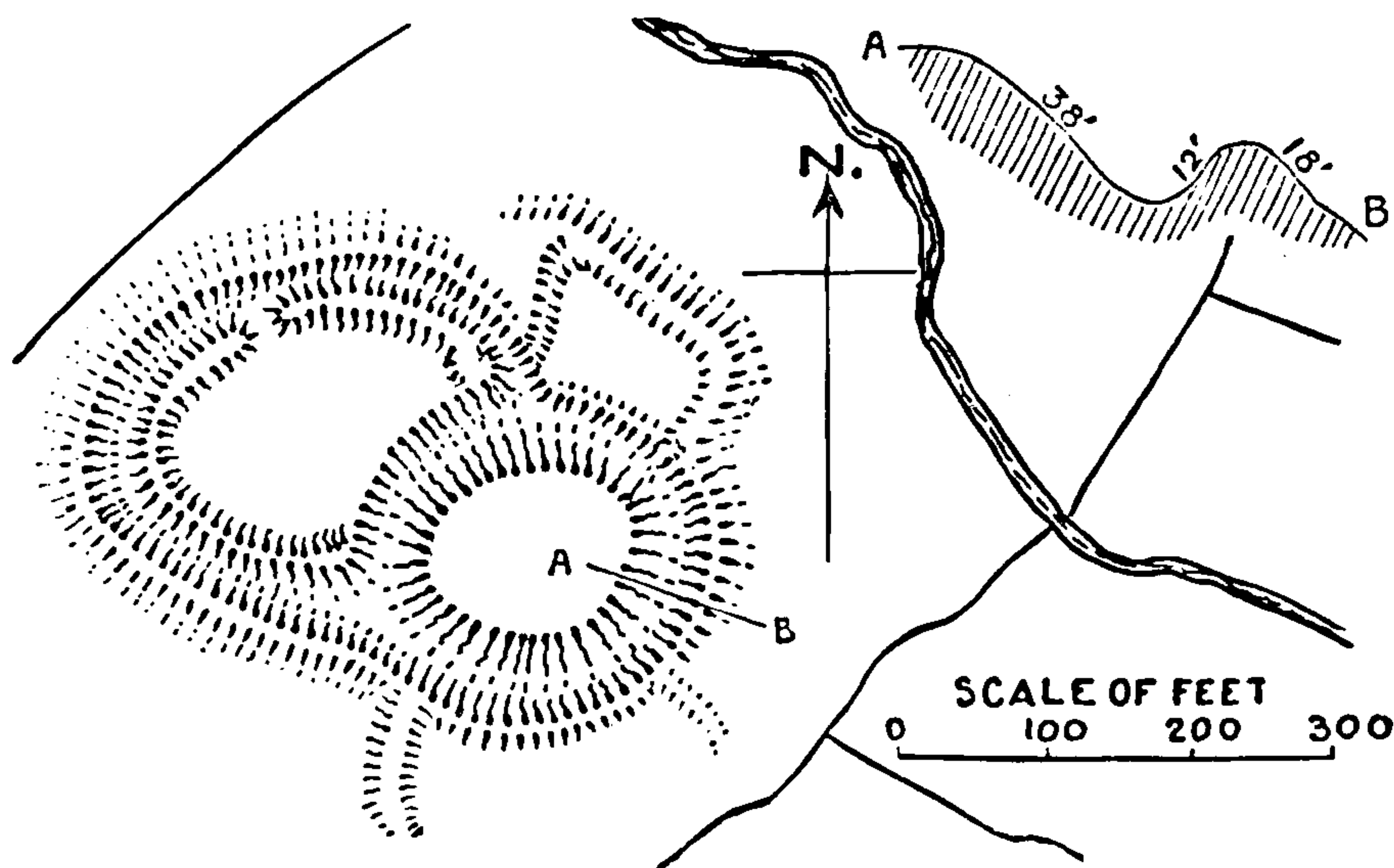
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an escarpment of 38 ft. This is cinctured by a fosse with a counter-scarp of 12 ft., and is partially bounded by an agger which varies in width according to the contour of the ground; on the east this has a scarp of 18 ft., which is continued by the natural declivity to a considerable depth—this being the steepest side of the hill—to a brook.

The base-court is on the north-west, surrounded by a vallum 24 ft. wide at the base; at the two extremities, where it closes in upon the fosse of the mount, it slightly inturns and rises 22 ft. on the scarp from a fosse 12 ft. deep. Except at these points the agger makes a rampart 4 ft. high from the interior. An entrance is on the north-west. A second court (?) on the north-east, possibly a later addition, is but a raised platform on the slope of the hill, rectangular in plan. On the north-west is a shallow ditch which opens on to a terrace 6 ft. wide and 5 ft. below the level of the court.



CASTLE HILL CAMP, HALLATON

On the southern side of the mount two low aggers branch from the main work and descend the hill side; they apparently indicate another court but of inferior importance for defensive purposes. The most assailable side of the castle was the south-west,

and here, 1,600 ft. distant, is a small camp which has been included in Class C—that may have been an outpost, or in some way connected with a stronghold on the site of Castle Hill.

LEICESTER CASTLE (xxxii, 10).—The 'Castle Mount' is situated just outside the south-west angle of the rectangular Roman station of Ratae, upon the right bank of the River Soar, and 20 ft. above its level. The mount is now 30 ft. high; the steepest scarp of 48 ft. is on the south-west, and it is 100 ft. in diameter upon its level summit; its height was much greater until ninety years ago, when it was reduced and levelled for a bowling green. Around the edges of the mount are the remains of masonry apparently of late Norman date. There are but slight traces of a fosse, but the contiguous buildings may account for this. The bailey was on the north of the mount, well guarded on its western side by a steep scarp to the Soar and elsewhere by a fosse now destroyed. The building now called the castle and, perhaps, the beautiful church of St. Mary de Castro stand in the area of the ancient bailey. In the fourteenth century Henry, earl of Lancaster, added an outer bailey—the Newarke—but as its defences were of stone the picturesque fragments which remain will be described elsewhere.



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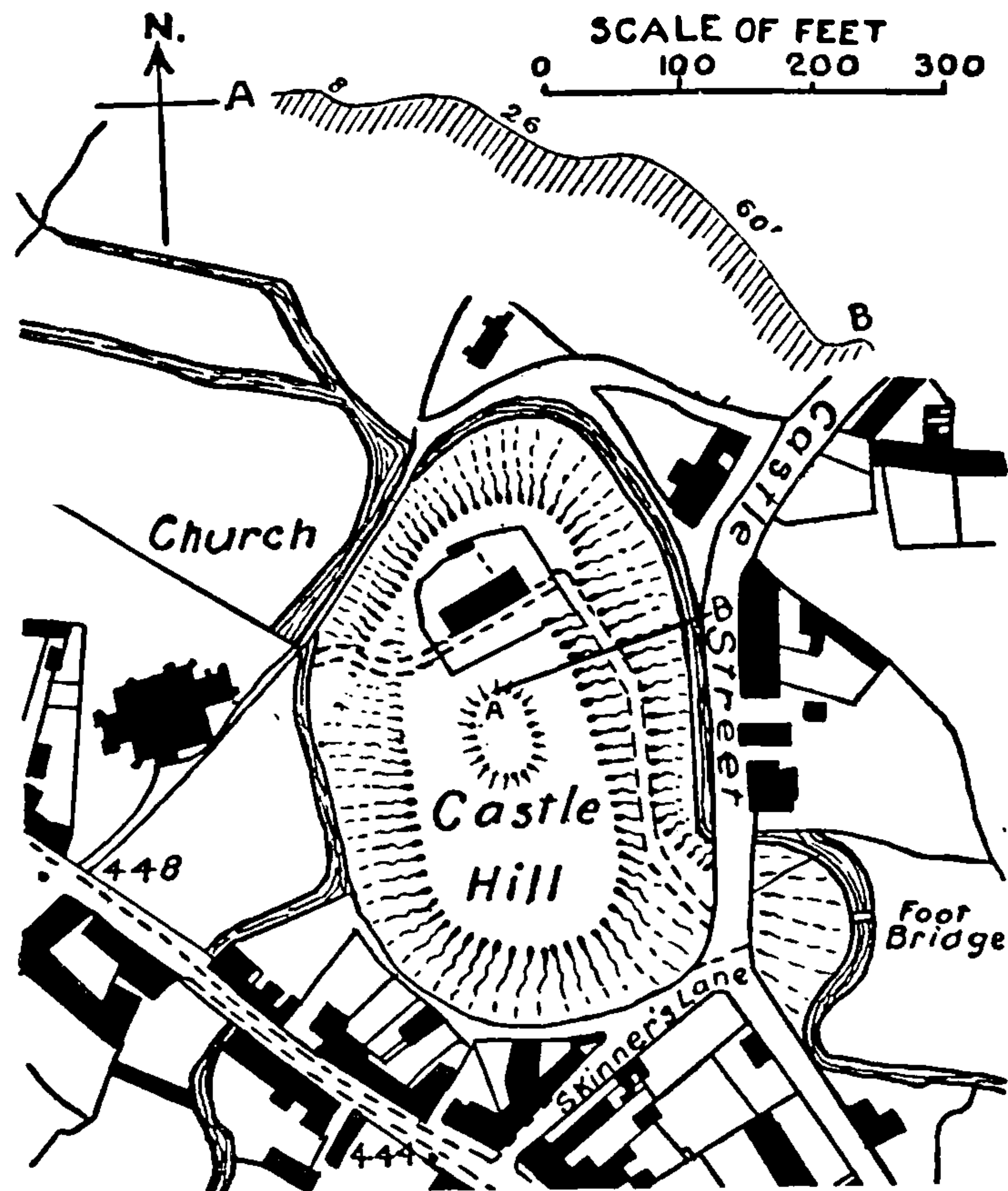
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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

length. Another path has descended the western side, leading down to the brook; but the whole of this side has been mutilated by the railway.



THE CASTLE, WHITWICK

Nearly in the centre of the court is a mount, 8 ft. perpendicular height, the site of the keep of the Norman earls of Leicester. On the northern side of the hill, on the opposite side of the stream, are the remains of a vallum, evidently an outwork to the castle.

## HOMESTEAD MOATS

### (CLASS F)

ARNESBY (xliv, 12).—The site of the manor-house south-east of the church is marked by the remains of a moat; the south and east sides only remain, and these vary considerably in width.

ASHBY FOLVILLE (xxvi, 11).—A portion of a dry

moat remains to the south of the manor-house, and to the south-west of it are three rectangular fishponds.

ASHBY MAGNA (xliv, 13).—On the north-east of the church is an irregular but deep moat inclosing a circular island. At the south-east it is 23 ft. wide, but as it turns on the northern side it considerably narrows. To the south and west are banks marking the site of buildings.

BARDON (xxiv, 5).—A very perfect moat surrounds the rectangular area of Old Hall Farm, to the south of Bardon Hill.

BARWELL (xxxv, 16).—The remains of a moat lie to the south-west of the village. At the south it incloses a small circular island, whence it takes a straight line towards the north-east, varying in width and depth. It is now being cleared out to its original depth.

BARWELL (xxxv, 16).—On the south side of the church the north and south parallel sides of a moat remain. The northern is dry and shallow, the southern both wide and deep.

BARWELL (xxxvi, 9).—A small circular moat is in a field east of Brockley Lane.

BESCABY or BESKABY (xiii, 8).—Fed by the River Eye is a moat nearly 26 ft. wide. To the south of it are a series of low division banks.

BILSTONE (xxix, 9).—In the angle of two roads, to the south of the village, are the remains of a moat consisting of the south-east right angle and a fragment of the south side, some distance towards the west.



depth 4 ft.

BURBAGE (xlii, 12).—In the rectory garden are two sides of a moat ending in a circular curve at the northern extremity; the latter part is most pronounced, being 30 ft. wide and 14 ft. deep.

CARLTON CURLIEU (xxxviii, 15).—To the south-east of the church and close by the roadside a moat 28 ft. wide surrounds a square area.

CLAYBROOKE PARVA (xlvi, 6).—In the vicarage garden the greater part of three sides of a square moat remain; it is 18 ft. wide and 6 ft. deep.

CROXTON KERRIAL (xiii, 4).—A small circular dry moat is at the west of the site of the abbey.

DADLINGTON (xxxv, 10).—Remains of a moat lie on the west side of the village near the railway.

DADLINGTON (xxxv, 11).—On the east side of the road approaching the village from Hinckley was a shallow moat, now being obliterated.

DESFORD (xxx, 9 and 10).—Nearly a mile north-west of the village is a quadrangular moat fed by a small tributary of the Rothley Brook. To the east of this is a dry boundary ditch.

DISHLEY AND THORPE ACRE (xvii, 3).—Two miles from Loughborough and north-east of Dishley Grange is a long stretch of moat 32 ft. wide and 4 ft. deep; which is, however, so trampled by cattle that it has lost its regularity.

DISHLEY AND THORPE ACRE (xvii, 7).—Holywell Hall, north of Burleigh Wood, is surrounded by a moat 26 ft. wide and 8 ft. deep, which was formerly supplied with water from Burleigh Brook, but it has recently been drained.

EVINGTON (xxx, 16).—A large quadrangular moat is situated at Spinney Hill Farm. A stream flows close to the south-east side, by which the moat could be flooded.

FREEBY (xx, 7).—North of the churchyard, the manor-house site, which is bisected by a bank 12 ft. wide and 4 ft. high, is almost surrounded on three sides by a moat. The south-west, the most perfect side, is 13 ft. deep; the north-west has been filled in; the north-east has lost its original outline, and the south-east is obliterated as it nears the southern angle.

GALBY OR GAULBY (xxxviii, 7).—In a field south of the church is a small irregular moat.

GILMORTON (xlix, 1).—At Cotes-de-Val, north-west of the village, are the south and west fragments of a circular moat.

GLENFIELD (xxx, 8).—On the west side of the village a quadrangular moat lies between Rothley Brook and a mill-stream.

GLEN PARVA (xxxvii, 10).—A wide moat surrounds a square site south-west of the present manor house, close to the River Sence.

GLOOSTON (xlvi, 1).—Adjacent to the north side of the ancient 'Gartree Road' is an irregular moat about 18 ft. wide, surrounding a long rectangular site.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

HINCKLEY (xlii, 3)—WYKIN HALL. Over a mile north-west from Hinckley, at the ancient manor-house of the earls of Leicester, granted to the nuns of Nuneaton by Robert Bossu, are the remains of a moat. The western side is 10 ft. wide, the southern part is 24 ft. wide and 12 ft. deep, but it is incomplete, having been partly filled in.

HUNGERTON (xxxii, 7).—In Quenby Park is a small irregular square moat.

HUNGERTON (xxxii, 10).—A small circular dry moat is in a field to the south-west of the great Ingarsby moat.

LOUGHBOROUGH (xvii, 12).—The 'Moat House' is girt by a stream and two sides of a rectangular moat; the latter, which lies on the north and east sides of the house, is 21 ft. at its widest part, but it is of no great depth, the banks being only 3 ft. deep.

MARKET BOSWORTH (xxix, 15).—In Bosworth Park are the south and east sides of a moat of considerable size.

MARKFIELD (xxiv, 6).—A small circular moat west of Copt Oak Wood.

MEDBOURNE (xlvi, 11).—The parish church was formerly surrounded by a moat.

NETHER BROUGHTON (xii, 7).—The north-east angle of a moat remains in a field south-west of The Grange.

NEVILL HOLT (xlvi, 4).—On the site of the Augustinian House of Bradley Priory is a straight dry moat 600 ft. long.

NEWBOLD VERDON (xxix, 16).—Adjacent to the ancient hall is a terrace which descends to the level of the moat which incloses the other three sides of a quadrangle. The width of the moat is 28 ft. The banks on the north-west and south-west descend to a lower level, and the ground generally falls away from the hall. A number of ponds on this lower land has suggested an outer and more extensive moat; but it is more probable that they are to receive the overflow from the moat, and arrest the swamping of the lowlands.

NEW PARKS (xxxii, 5).—'Bird's Nest Moat' is a very perfect quadrangular moat of considerable depth, supposed to mark the site of 'The Bird's Nest,' a reputed hunting box of John of Gaunt.

NEWTOWN LINFORD (xxiv, 16).—The moat of Bradgate Hall may yet be traced, and its fishponds remain.

NORTON-JUXTA-TWYXCROSS (xxviii, 7).—A straight length, 300 ft., of the moat remains on the west side of the manor house.

PECKLETON (xxxvi, 5).—A rectangular moat surrounds the ancient manor-house of the Moton family.

RAGDALE, OR WREAKDALE (xix, 5).—Portions of a narrow moat survive round the north and south-east of the old hall of the Earls Ferrers.

RATBY (xxx, 6).—'Old Hays,' an ancient house, is surrounded by a perfect moat 20 ft. wide.

RAVENSTONE WITH SNIBSTON (xxiii, 7).—The whole of the moat may be traced round Grange Farm; but the south-west only is well defined.

REDMILE (ii, 15).—A dry moat by the side of the road from Barkestone has been partially destroyed by the making of the thoroughfare.

SCRAPTOFT (xxxii, 5).—In a field near the present hall is a small moat irregularly forming three parts of a circle.



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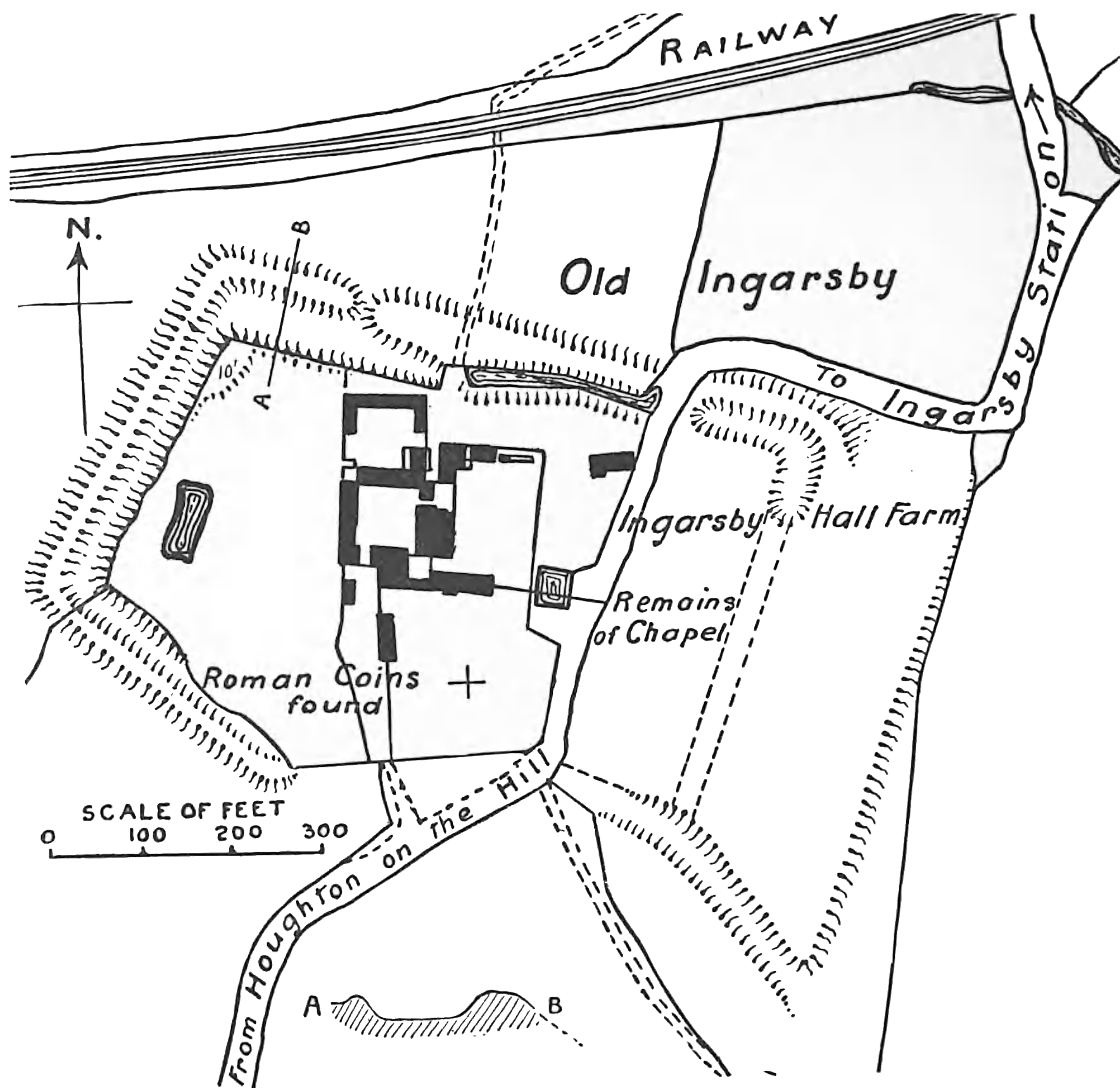


## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

FRISBY ON THE WREAK (xix, 11).—In 'Hall Orchard' are the remains of manorial embankments. Portions of three quadrangular divisions surrounded by moats with banks upon the crests are to be seen; also a large fishpond.

GILMORTON (xlix, 5 and 6).—Almost touching the north-west of the bailey of the castle mount (see Class E) is a small rectangular moat with a revetment.

GROBY (xxx, 4).—North-east of the mount of Groby Castle (see Class E) are the earthen defences of a mediaeval manor house. The quadrangular site, defended by vallum and fosse, is adjacent to the outer fosse of the castle, which latter has been utilized in the south-west side of the later



OLD INGARSBY MOAT, HUNGERTON

works. On the north-east the moat has a revetment which widens at the northern angle; this has been formed not solely for defence but as a support to the outer side of the moat upon ground which rapidly declines towards the north. At the base of the slope is a strong double vallum and wide intermediate fosse, with an oblique entrance passing through all of them. A

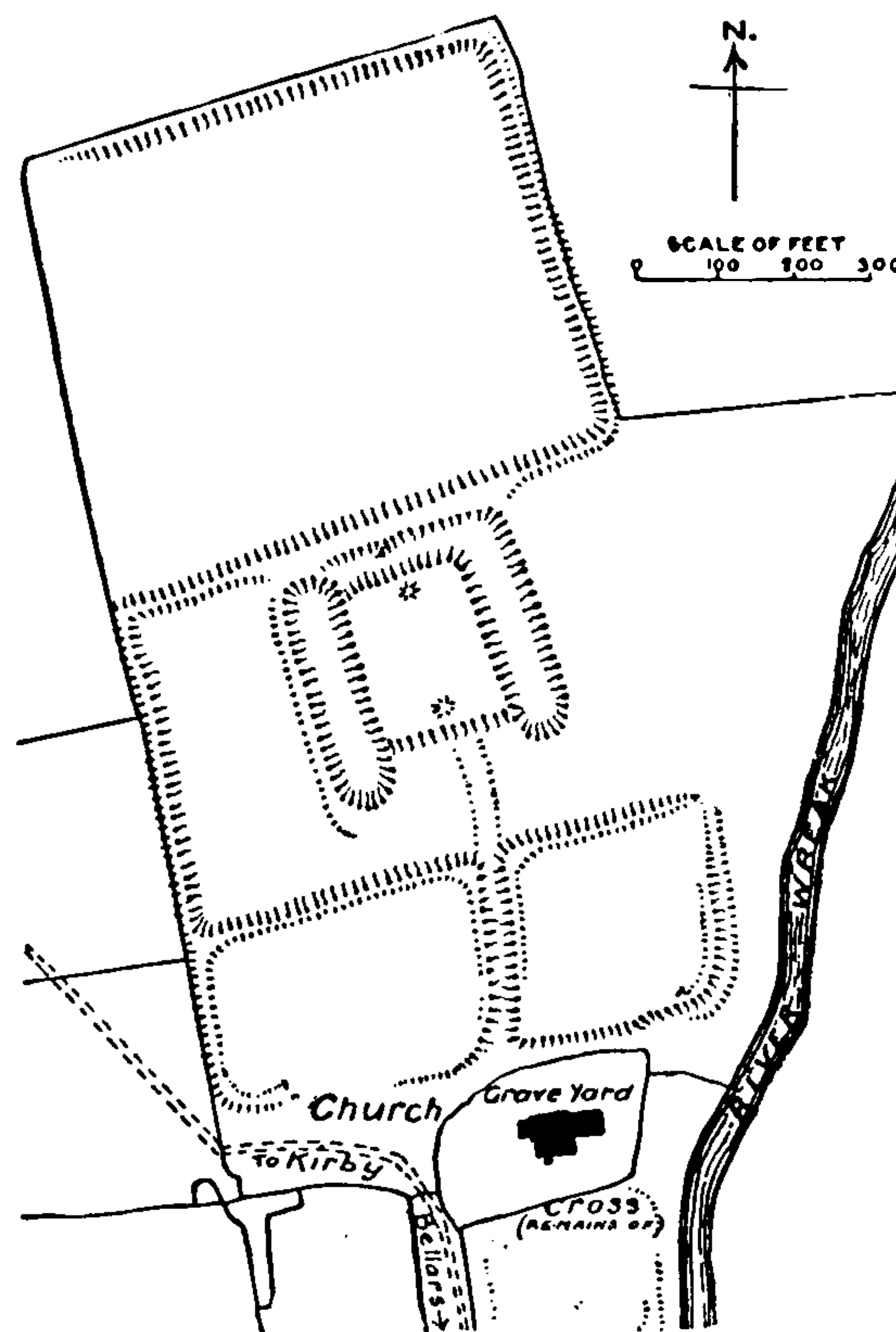


28 ft. wide and 18 ft. deep, with a rampart on each side except the north. Two other banks and ditches branch from the north side and extend in the form of a right angle.

HUNGERTON (xxxii, 10).—‘OLD INGARBY MOAT.’ There is no doubt this manorial defence is an adaptation of a strong rectangular camp of an early period; a conclusion strengthened by its proximity to the stronghold at Billesdon, and the discovery of spearheads and other implements, and Roman coins. The house and chapel are within the vallum, and a moat—of subsequent date to the vallum—has been excavated within the ramparts. The moat at section A–B is 32 ft. wide, and the vallum 18 ft. wide, with an escarpment of 8 ft.; from this the ground descended by a steep declivity to the river, but it is now cut by the railway. Within the north-west angle of the moat is a mound 10 ft. in height from the interior, evidently thrown up to enable a survey to be made of the country beyond the vallum. The vallum has been demolished on the east and south-east, and the exigencies of modern days have caused the moat to be levelled in the same places; but an extension of the latter remains beyond the original circumvallation at the south-east. A short extramural scarp is on the east side. Another river, a tributary of the Soar, flows on the south and east, thereby constituting a strong natural position.

KIRBY BELLARS (xix, 12).—Around the church, the greater part being on the north side, the site of an Augustinian priory is divided into quadrangular areas by banks varying from 1 ft. to 5 ft. in height. In the midst is a plot of land on a higher level than the surroundings, on three sides of which are excavations which probably served as fishponds, though possibly they were parts of a moat; the general depth is 8 ft., but the south-west corner is 20 ft. deep. South of the church is another square site around which was formerly a bank, and a scarp of 25 ft. descended to the River Wreak.

KIRBY BELLARS (xix, 12).—South of the last-mentioned is Kirby Park and the earthwork defences of the old hall. These now consist of a vallum and fosse 600 ft. long, at the north end of which is a rectangular



MOAT AND ENTRENCHMENTS ON SITE OF PRIORY,  
KIRBY BELLARS



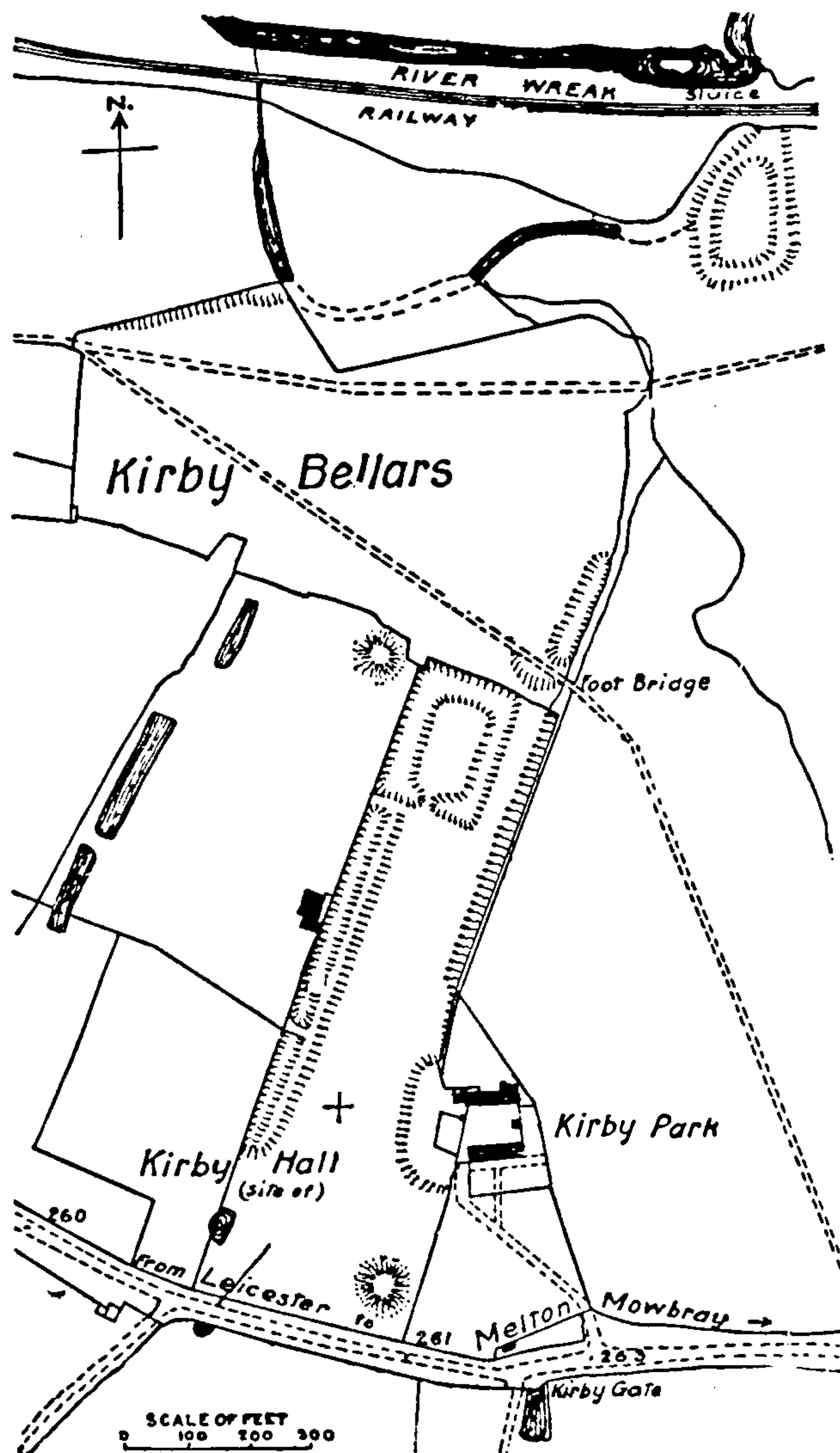
## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

moat 60 ft. wide. Other works may be traced on the north and the east, but they are mutilated. To the north-east is an embanked fishpond close

by the River Wreak, from which it has been fed by an artificial channel. Two tumuli are within the area. The railway now runs between it and the Priory.

KIRBY MUXLOE (xxx, 12).—‘KIRBY CASTLE’ was a fortified manor house of Tudor days. On a rectangular site the walls arose from a moat varying between 30 ft. and 40 ft. wide before the entrance and the south-west side respectively; it gradually widens on the north to 70 ft., and thus continues along the south-east. The Rothley Brook flows past the latter side from which the moat is fed by a channel; on the south is a sluice and a small lake to receive the overflow, with an outlet for the waters to again enter the river. The revetment formerly existing has gone, and the moat is now being filled with rubbish.

Of the defensive buildings there remain the entrance gateway with two flanking towers, and a curtain wall connecting them with a tower and other fragments, but these belong to another chapter in this history.



MOAT AND SITE OF HALL, KIRBY BELLARS

KIRKBY MALLORY (xxxvi, 1).—Five and a half miles north-east from Hinckley, and one mile north of the village, are the ‘Kirkby Moats,’ situated in a wood east of the high road. Enormous labour must have been entailed in the construction of these moats, which are almost square in plan, each side measuring about 500 ft. in length. The central plateau, 90 ft. square, is surrounded by three great ditches and a triple vallum. The innermost moat is 11 ft. deep, and over 45 ft. wide; this is surrounded by a vallum 17 ft. in height; the middle moat, not so wide as the inner one, is filled up on the eastern side for a length of 30 ft., thereby creating a rectangular platform between the two earthen walls. Another platform is found on the same side near the north-east angle, and this is pierced by a short arm of the inner moat which penetrates it eastward to the confines of the outer moat, providing an elongated pit. Immediately north of this branch moat, at the north-east angle of the works, an entrance path curves across the two outer aggers. Indications of two other entrances are at the south-east



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course of the brook, and turning eastward forms the boundary to a large courtyard until lost beneath the action of the plough.

NEWTOWN LINFORD (xxiv, 8).—Banks at Maplewell Hall.

NORTH KILWORTH (liii, 3 and 4).—On the north-east of the church the site of the 'Old Hall' is marked by a moat 18 ft. wide and 3 ft. deep, inclosing three sides of a square. To the west of the moat another square area is surrounded by a bank 4 ft. high at the most perfect point; and to the south-east are the remains of other banks which have been mutilated in digging for gravel.

OWSTON AND NEWBOLD (xxxiii, 3).—In a field to the north of the road from Owston to Knossington is a large dry moat surmounted by a bank.

POTTERS MARSTON (xxxvi, 15).—A moat has here embraced both hall and church. On the north side is a long moat 30 ft. wide, with an outer bank 4 ft. high; a ditch 80 ft. long connects this with another portion of the moat on the east, where it is 15 ft. wide and 3 ft. deep, with an outer bank.

SEAGRAVE (xviii, 12).—Extensive entrenchments defend a manorial site in this village. On the north is a low vallum, and a fosse 4 ft. 9 in. deep and 9 ft. wide. At the turn of the north-east corner and on the east side facing the Fosse Way is a double vallum and double fosse. The outer is 4 ft. deep and 16 ft. wide, the inner 9 ft. deep and 22 ft. wide; but the ramparts have been almost destroyed. At the east the works turn at an obtuse angle and the fosse becomes 11 ft. deep.

STOKE GOLDING (xxxv, 14).—'The Moats.' In a field north-west of the vicarage is an embanked moat which originally inclosed a square area. The principal extant portion on the south is 60 ft. wide and 10 ft. deep. Shallow ditches branch from it towards the north and west with banks 4 ft. in height on the inner side. A spring rises on the south-west.

THORPE ARNOLD (xx, 6).—Near to the vicarage a bank 4 ft. 6 in. high has inclosed a square tract of land, but three sides only are left, situated on the top of a gently sloping hill. On the south-east is a large fishpond, and on the declivity of the hill towards the west are the remains of elaborate defences. Two circular depressions open upon a semi-circular platform, beneath which is a curved agger, part of an outwork; and on the west is another, which is continued in a field on the opposite side of the road, where there is a double vallum 200 ft. in length. Apparently this was an early camp utilized in the Middle Ages.

UPTON (xxxv, 5).—To the south-west of the manor house is the fragment of a moat which on the south is 12 ft. wide and crested by a bank 3 ft. in height; and on the north extend two other low aggers.

WYFORDBY (xx, 11).—A square plateau, 68 ft. square, with a scarp of 7 ft., is surrounded by a dry moat 20 ft. wide, with low banks, which at the north-west corner continue 150 ft. towards the west. Parallel to the west side is a fishpond.



BAGWORTH (xxx, 1).—North-east of the village is a considerable area of embankments and two fishponds.

BELGRAVE (xxx, 7).—A fragment of a vallum, about 800 ft. in length, by the Fosse Way, lying east and west; probably an outwork of Leicester.

BELVOIR (vii, 4).—On the summit of a hill, slightly higher than that on which Belvoir Castle stands, is the mausoleum of the dukes of Rutland. Indications of entrenchments may there be seen, but the successive alterations to which this site has been subjected have destroyed any clue as to their origin.

BELVOIR (vii, 8).—A long vallum 3 ft. high is in Old Park Wood, within a mile of Belvoir Castle.

BURTON LAZARS (xx, 14).—Here was the chief of all the Lazar houses in England; extensive dry moats apparently embraced the buildings of the hospital. A marvellous series of fishponds were for the provision of fresh food for the alleviation of the terrible malady.

BURTON LAZARS (xxvii, 2).—The site of 'The Grange' is seen in a terraced plateau.

BURTON ON THE WOLDS (xviii, 3).—Near the Greyhound Inn is a short length of fosse 12 ft. wide and 7 ft. deep, with a low vallum on each side.

COTES (xviii, 1).—A steep escarpment of 30 ft. descends to within a few feet of the River Soar, above which are two quadrangular areas divided by a deep gully. On the north side rows of banks 3 ft. high form an avenue, while other similar remains are scattered to the north and west.

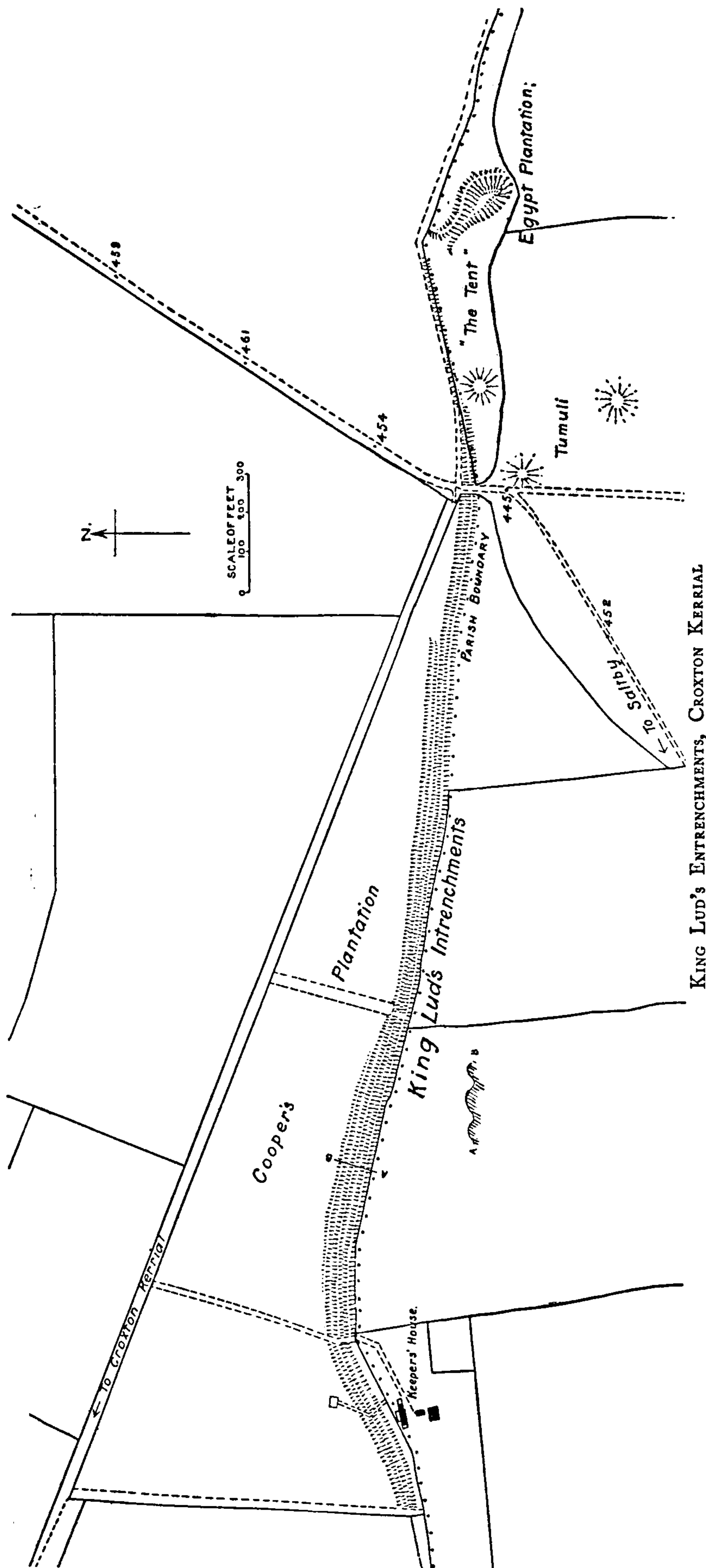
CROXTON KERRIAL (viii, 9).—A portion of an entrenchment lies west of Blackwall Lodge.

CROXTON KERRIAL (xiii, 4).—On the west of 'Old Wood' are embankments on the site of the Premonstratensian abbey. Also a fishpond.

CROXTON KERRIAL (xiv, 2).—'KING LUD'S ENTRENCHMENTS.' A line of entrenchments, 3,050 ft. long, lies due east and west on the southern border of the parish. It occupies ground slightly higher than its southern prospect, in which direction the land gradually falls. The extreme west of the works consists of a double fosse and single vallum, but it has been weakened in recent years; the most perfect section is one-third of its distance from the west, here are a triple vallum and double fosse. From the north side the vallum is 4 ft. high and 10 ft. wide, the first fosse is 8 ft. deep, the second vallum, of the same height, is 15 ft. wide, the second fosse 6 ft. deep, and the outer vallum, 11 ft. wide, is 4 ft. above the exterior level. The eastern third



# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE



'The Tent,' are dealt with under Saltby Parish.

DISHLEY AND THORPE ACRE (xvii, 7).—To the south and east of Garendon Hall, on the site of the Cistercian abbey, are extensive remains of the waterworks, drainage, and fishponds, dyked and embanked, situated near a tributary of the Soar.

EATON (xiii, 3).—West of Croxton Park a vallum 11 ft. on the scarp overlooks a deep valley towards the south.

ELMESTHORPE (xxxvi, 13).—'The Four Pits' are fishponds containing a spring. Within a short distance is a very large angular fishpond.

ELMESTHORPE (xliii, 1).—'Billington Rough' is a fishpond of enormous size, embanked, and containing a large number of rectangular mounds, which, before the draining of the pond in 1710, formed a range of islets.

HARSTON (viii, 5 and 9).—A fragment of a bank and fosse west of the village.

HINCKLEY (xlii, 8).—'The Moats'

KING LUD'S ENTRENCHMENTS, CROXTON KERRIAL

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STAPLETON (xxxv, 12).—The site of the camp occupied by the troops of King Richard before that battle on Bosworth Field which changed the ruling dynasty, and known as ‘The Bradshaws,’ was situated on an eminence south of Stapleton village and along the bank of the stream which flows to Dadlington. Hutton says that the defence was a breastwork 300 yards long, an operation of great labour ;<sup>1</sup> but whatever its original form or extent it has perished so far that the fragments have to be relegated to this class. In Church Close is a portion of a trench 7 ft. deep, following a zig-zag of three short lengths, and farther south, on the edge of the village, are other fragments.

STONTON WYVILLE (xlv, 4).—An elaborate series of fishponds lie to the south of the manor-house.

SYSONBY (xx, 5).—Upon the west bank of the River Eye, south-east of the church, are remains of earthen banks 34 ft. on the scarp, forming the west, north, and part of the east sides of a square. The other portions have perished beneath the hands of the builder.

THORPE ARNOLD (xx, 6).—The remains of a prehistoric stronghold have been utilized for manorial defences.

## TUMULI

BARKBY (xxv, 16).—On the east side of the Fosse Way, north of Thurmaston, is the ‘Round Hill’ ; where, in a field at the angle made by the Barkby road, branching from the ancient thoroughfare, stood a tumulus, now levelled, in which a Roman urn was found.

BARROW-ON-SOAR (xviii, 14).—By the side of the road from Barrow to Sileby are the remains of a tumulus. It was opened in 1867, when numerous Roman funereal relics were found, the excavation leaving it but 2 ft. in height.

CROXTON KERRIAL (xiii, 4).—To the west of ‘Old Wood’ is Windmill Hill, on which is a mound supposed to be a tumulus, which, however, has never been explored.



KIRBY BELLARS (xix, 12).—At a corner of a field abutting on the village road is a round tumulus, 18 ft. in diameter and 5 ft. in height. Two other conical mounds planted with trees are in a line south-east of the church, 900 ft. apart; each of them is about 45 ft. in diameter and nearly 20 ft. high.

LAUNDE (xxxiii, 11).—A tumulus is situated a quarter of a mile south-east from Sanvey Castle.

LEICESTER (xxx1, 14).—In the centre of the inner ward of Leicester Castle was, until recently, a tumulus, in which were found two decapitated skeletons, probably a witness to mediaeval executions.<sup>1</sup>

MEDBOURNE (xlvi, 7).—Three tumuli were formerly to the north-west of the village; two have been destroyed and a mill stands on the third.

MELTON MOWBRAY (xx, 9).—‘The Mound’ at Mount Pleasant, south-west of the town, is a large tumulus planted with trees. It is on the site of an action between the Royalist and Parliamentary troops in February, 1644, when the latter were routed, leaving 170 killed.

PECKLETON (xxxvi, 5).—A mound, or tumulus, stands near the moated Manor House.

RATCLIFFE ON THE WREAK (xxv, 8).—Between the Fosse Way and the river. North of Lewen Bridge is a large tumulus called ‘Shipley Hill.’ It is rectangular in plan—with a slight curve on its long axis—240 ft. long, 60 ft. wide, and 40 ft. high. It has been partially excavated on the east side.

SALTBY (xiv, 2).—Close to the south side of ‘King Lud’s Entrenchments’ are three tumuli; one of them is but 2 ft. in height, the others are 5 ft. and 8 ft. respectively.

SHAWELL (lii, 12).—A large bell-shaped barrow is in a field south of the church, but the ditch is for the greater part lost.

STOKE GOLDING (xxxv, 14).—In a field north-west of the vicarage is a tumulus 7 ft. in height.

<sup>1</sup> *Leic. Arch. Soc. Proc.* and local news.



. . .	F, F, F	Medbourne . . . . .	F, X, T
. . .	X	Melton Mowbray . . . . .	G, X, T
. . .	C	Mountsorrel . . . . .	A
. . .	D, X, X	Nether Broughton . . . . .	F
. . .	F	Nevill Holt . . . . .	F
. . .	A	Newbold Verdon . . . . .	F
. . .	F	New Parks . . . . .	F
. . .	B, F	Newtown Linford . . . . .	F, G
. . .	F	North Kilworth . . . . .	G
. . .	F	Norton juxta Twycross . . . . .	F
. . .	B	Osgathorpe . . . . .	X
. . .	X, X	Owston and Newbold . . . . .	G, X
. . .	X	Peckleton . . . . .	F, X, T
. . .	C	Potters Marston . . . . .	G
. . .	F	Quorndon . . . . .	X
. . .	D	Ragdale . . . . .	F
. . .	F	Ratby . . . . .	C, F
. . .	X	Ratcliffe Culey . . . . .	D
. . .	F, X, X, X, T	Ratcliffe on the Wreak . . . . .	T
. . .	F, F	Ravenstone with Snibston . . . . .	F
. . .	F	Redmile . . . . .	F
re . . .	F, F, X	Saltby . . . . .	X, T
. . .	G	Sapcote . . . . .	C
. . .	E	Saxby . . . . .	X
. . .	X	Scraptoft . . . . .	D, F
. . .	X, X	Seagrave . . . . .	G
. . .	F, G	Shackerstone . . . . .	E
. . .	F	Shawell . . . . .	T
. . .	G	Sheepy Magna . . . . .	F
. . .	T	South Croxton . . . . .	F
. . .	F	South Kilworth . . . . .	F
. . .	E, F, G	Stanton under Bardon . . . . .	F
. . .	F	Stapleton . . . . .	F, X
. . .	F	Stoke Golding . . . . .	G, T
. . .	F	Stonton Wyville . . . . .	X
. . .	E, G	Sysonby . . . . .	X
. . .	C, E, G	Thorpe Acre and Dishley, <i>see</i> Dishley and Thorpe Acre	
. . .	X	Thorpe Arnold . . . . .	G, X
. . .	T	Thringstone . . . . .	F
. . .	D, F, X	Thurlaston . . . . .	F
. . .	X	Tilton . . . . .	C, F
. . .	G, X	Ullesthorpe . . . . .	F
. . .	C, F, F, G	Ulverscroft . . . . .	F
. . .	X	Upton . . . . .	G
. . .	T		



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# HISTORY

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the unit of taxation was the 'carucate,' consisting of 8 bovates, and (probably) of 120 acres; in the south of England these carucates are replaced by 'hides,' composed of 4 virgates, each virgate being probably reckoned to contain 30 acres. But in addition to this difference in terminology there lies a still more important distinction between the Danelaw and the rest of England in the manner in which these fiscal units were distributed among the several villis in the respective counties. It was shown by Mr. Round in *Feudal England* that, whereas a Cambridgeshire or Oxfordshire vill will probably be assessed at some fraction or multiple of 5 hides, a Lincolnshire vill will commonly answer for some fraction or multiple of 6 carucates.<sup>3</sup> In other words the assessment of the hidated counties was decimal in character, that of the Danelaw was duodecimal, and in no part of the latter district is the duodecimal system of reckoning more clearly shown than in Leicestershire. In the following table some of the simplest instances in point are collected :—

Vill	Assessment	Vill	Assessment
Croxton Kerrial .	24 carucates	Kirby Bellars . . .	24 carucates
Harby . . .	18 „	Stathern . . .	18 „
Thrussington .	18 „	Luddington . . .	12 „
Billesdon . . .	12 „	Knipton . . .	12 „
Harston . . .	12 „	Skeffington . . .	12 „
Great Easton .	12 „	Scraptoft . . .	12 „
Noseley . . .	12 „	Burton Overy .	12 „
Carlton Curlieu .	12 „	Ingarsby . . .	12 „
Peatling Magna .	12 „	Peatling Parva .	12 „
Cold Overton .	12 „	Goadby Marwood	12 „
Nether Broughton	12 „	Great Bowden .	12 „
Cotesbach . . .	9 „	Syston . . .	9 „
Sibson . . .	9 „	Shawell . . .	9 „
Bagworth . . .	9 „	Coston . . .	9 „
Hallaton . . .	6 „	Wartnaby . . .	6 „
Tugby . . .	6 „	Ibstock . . .	6 „
Twycross . . .	6 „	Medbourne . . .	6 „
Holwell . . .	6 „	Ab Kettleby .	6 „
Ragdale . . .	6 „	Orton-on-the-Hill	6 „
Cossington . . .	6 „	Tilton . . .	6 „



Domesday Book was compiled, it is drawn up vill by vill, and accordingly demonstrates beyond question the way in which irregular manorial assessments were combined to form an even duodecimal total for each vill as a whole. It does even more than this, for it reveals the existence of a system by which the vills themselves were united to form certain larger groups, designated in this document by the name of 'hundreds,' so that even in those cases where a particular vill may be assessed at a figure which does not suggest any system at all it will commonly be connected with some other vill, also assessed at some irregular number of carucates, in such a way that the assessments of the whole 'hundred' will be duly duodecimal in character. This is not the place in which to discuss the very difficult question of the origin of these hundreds, nor the possibility that a similar series of local divisions may have existed in the other counties of the Danelaw,<sup>5</sup> but we may illustrate the fiscal character of these anomalous bodies by an example in which the figures as recorded by Domesday Book and by this later survey are in complete accordance :

HUNDRED OF WALTHAM-ON-THE-WOLDS					
1086			1124-1129		
	Car.	Bov.		Car.	Bov.
<i>Waltham</i>					
Hugh de Grentemaisnil . . . . .	16	4	Earl of Leicester . . . . .	16	4
Guy de Craon . . . . .	2	4	Alan de Craon . . . . .	2	4
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>			<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
	19	0		19	0
<i>Stonesby</i>					
Guy de Craon . . . . .	8	0	Alan de Craon . . . . .	8	0
<i>Coston</i>					
Henry de Ferrers . . . . .	9	0	Robert de Ferrers . . . . .	9	0
	<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>			<hr style="width: 50%; margin: 0 auto;"/>	
Total .	36	0	Total .	36	0
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It is especially to be noted that as no mention is made of these small local hundreds in Domesday Book, we should, but for the preservation of the 'Leicestershire Survey,' be entirely ignorant of the fact that the irregular assessments of Waltham, Stonesby, and Coston were regarded as forming one duodecimal group of 36 carucates. A similar system of grouping runs through the whole survey as we have it, only at times the regularity of the arrangement has been disturbed by unrecorded alterations in the local incidence of the geld, and by clerical errors on the part of the scribes in dealing with large masses of figures. Both these causes of exception apply with even greater force to the Domesday Survey itself, aggravated, as we have seen, by the fact that the compilers of the latter record, in regard to fiscal as well as economic

<sup>4</sup> Further evidence is supplied in relation to this point by the Croxton Chartulary, 'Belvoir MSS.' *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* iv, 176.

<sup>5</sup> Compare *V.C.H. Derby*, i, 295, and *Notts.* i, 219.



Anstey . . . . .	6	„	Brentingby . . . . .	6	„
Swepstone . . . . .	6	„	Rotherby . . . . .	6	„
Quenby . . . . .	6	„	Shoby . . . . .	6	„

All the above are examples of undivided vills, but in the following cases each villar total represents a number of manorial assessments which are here included within brackets (the figures referring to carucates) :—

Vill	Assessment	Vill	Assessment
Barkestone . . . . .	24 (23 + 1)	Old Dalby . . . . .	12 (9 + 3)
Newton Burdet . . . . .	12 (4 + 8)	Frisby . . . . .	12 (4 + 8)
Hoby . . . . .	12 ( $7\frac{1}{4} + 4\frac{3}{4}$ )	Rearsby . . . . .	12 ( $5 + 2\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{2}$ )
Branston . . . . .	12 ( $7\frac{1}{2} + 4\frac{1}{2}$ )	Eastwell . . . . .	12 (2 + 6 + 4)
Sproxton . . . . .	12 (8 + 2 + 2)	Shangton . . . . .	12 (10 + 2)
East Norton . . . . .	12 ( $1\frac{1}{4} + 6 + 4\frac{3}{4}$ )	Humberstone . . . . .	12 (8 + 1 + 3)
Scalford . . . . .	12 ( $11\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}$ )	Welby . . . . .	12 (9 + 3)
Allexton . . . . .	6 ( $5\frac{1}{4} + \frac{3}{4}$ )	Saxelby . . . . .	6 (1 + 5)
Brooksby . . . . .	6 (5 + 1)	Wyfordby . . . . .	6 ( $4\frac{1}{2} + 1\frac{1}{2}$ )
Ashby Folville . . . . .	6 (5 + 1)	Keyham . . . . .	6 (4 + 2)

Thus far, thanks to the evidence of the Leicestershire Survey, it has been possible to set down a sufficiently convincing list of duodecimal assessments which might be considerably extended, but we must now consider a very curious complication which does not occur in the same form in the old Danelaw outside this county. This is the employment, in this intensely 'Danish' shire, of two fiscal terms which rightly belong to the 'hidated' south of England, namely, the 'hide' and the 'virgate.' The latter does not present much difficulty, for in the hidated counties the virgate was the quarter of the hide just as the bovate was the eighth of the carucate, the substitute for the hide in the Danelaw, and in Leicestershire the virgate merely appears as a compendious expression for the sum of two bovates. But the use of the 'hide' in Leicestershire is quite unique.<sup>6</sup> It does not here denote a term of land-measurement, nor even a simple fiscal unit. The Domesday scribe himself found it necessary to define the word as used in this county, and in the entry relating to Kilby we read 'Oger the Breton holds two parts of one hide, that is, 12 carucates of land.' Unfortunately this explanation itself is somewhat ambiguous, for it leaves it an open question whether the words 'that is twelve carucates of land' were intended as a definition of the term 'hide,' or whether they mean that 'two-thirds of one hide' amounted to the sum in question. As there are sixteen entries in one portion of the survey in which the hide is involved, it becomes important from the statistical point of view to ascertain whether



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of King Edward's time might be retained or thrown out at will in the compilation of Domesday Book. In this way we shall at least account for the manner in which the formula appears in the portion of the survey with which we are concerned, for although there is no Leicestershire entry in which we are given both an estimate of the number of possible ploughs and also a statement of the actual number existing before the Conquest, yet in the three Northamptonshire entries to which reference has been made both formulas are combined, and also there are cases in Leicestershire itself where, in two separate entries relating to the same vill, one will give the number of team-lands and the other the number of pre-Conquest teams.<sup>11</sup> For instance, with regard to Guy de Craon's manor in Sproxton, which is entered on folio 235, we read, 'there is land for three ploughs,' while in the case of the Countess Judith's manor in the same vill, surveyed on folio 236*b*, we are simply told that 'eight ploughs were there.' We may conclude, therefore, in the first place, that in entries of this latter kind we are given a simple estimate of the number of real ploughs at work on a given manor in King Edward's time ;<sup>12</sup> and, secondly, that the singular alternation in the course of the survey of Leicestershire between this formula and the vaguer statement, 'there is land for x ploughs,' has no deeper cause than the personal fancy of the Domesday scribe.

This being the case, it becomes worth our while to consider briefly the relation between the number of ploughs before the Conquest, the number at the time of the survey, and the value of the estate at (presumably) these two periods. And here we are met at once by a very curious fact, for while the value of land in rural Leicestershire had, according to the figures given in Domesday, almost exactly doubled<sup>13</sup> during the Conqueror's reign, yet on manor after manor there were fewer ploughs at work in 1086 than had been the case in 1068. We may give a few instances in point in tabular form :—

Vill	Ploughs T.R.E.	Demesne Ploughs	Villeins' Ploughs.	'Valuit'			'Valet'		
				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Coston . . .	10	1½	7	2	0	0	7	0	0
Bottesford . . .	25	5	16	12	0	0	15	0	0
Slawston . . .	3	1	1	0	6	0	1	0	0
Gilmorton . . .	9	2	7	0	10	0	2	0	0
Shenton . . .	5	1	2	0	1	0	2	0	0
Kilworth . . .	10	3	5	2	0	0	3	0	0
Ragdale . . .	6	1	1	0	11	4	1	0	0
Luddington . . .	12	2	4	0	5	0	1	0	0
Ullesthorpe . . .	6	2	3	0	10	0	1	10	0
Scalford . . .	12	1½	6	0	10	0	3	0	0



when we compare it with the assessment of the manors to which it refers. Thus, taking ten consecutive entries on the fief of the Countess Judith, we find :—

Vill	Car.	Bov.	£	s.	d.	'Valuit'
Heather . . . . .	4	0	0	1	4	
Broughton Astley . . . . .	4	0	0	10	0	
Markfield . . . . .	2	0	0	2	0	
'Elvelege' . . . . .	2	0	0	2	0	
'Ricoltorp' . . . . .	2	2	0	10	0	
Rearsby . . . . .	2	4	0	10	0	
Welby . . . . .	6	4	0	10	6	
Sysonby . . . . .	0	4	0	0	8	
Lubenhams . . . . .	7	0	0	10	0	
Foxton . . . . .	7	4	1	0	0	

Now as the geld was normally levied at the rate of two shillings to the carucate, in six out of these ten examples the whole value of the estate would have been more than equalled by its fiscal responsibilities, and the figures in the list become even more striking if we remember that it has been estimated that, if the whole of England be taken into account, the average value of the hide or carucate will be something very close to twenty shillings.<sup>14</sup> It has, therefore, been suggested, in explanation of the conjunction of extreme poverty with crushing taxation displayed by Leicestershire, that the 'valuit' does not refer to the Confessor's time, but to 'some time of disorder that followed the Conquest';<sup>15</sup> and on the whole an examination of the county vill by vill seems to bear out this view. In the first place, there are four entries in which we are told that the value given for the estate refers to the time when it was received by the Domesday tenant, that is, to some period in the early years of William's reign :—

Vill	'When received'			1086		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Burbage . . . . .	0	2	0	4	0	0
Bottesford . . . . .	6	0	0	16	0	0
Soke of Melton Mowbray . . . . .	4	10	0	15	10	0
Husbands Bosworth . . . . .	0	0	6	1	0	0

to which we may add the cases of Barrow-on-Soar and its 'soke,' of which we are told 'the whole (estate) was and is worth £40, when received (it was worth) £10,' and of Donington le Heath, which had originally been worth £1, but was waste when Nigel de Albini entered into possession of it, and had only risen in value to two shillings at the date of the survey. These figures, few as they are, are enough to suggest that Leicestershire had undergone something very like actual devastation in the period immediately succeeding the Conquest, and it is quite possible that the Domesday 'valuit'

<sup>14</sup> Maitland, *Dom. Bk. and Beyond*, 465.

<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.* 469.



may refer to this latter time as a general rule, the words *quando recepit* being incidentally added in the instance given above. The case of Burbage may even help us to a rough date for the period in question. The vill had been granted to Coventry Abbey by Earl Leofric of Mercia in the latter part of the Confessor's reign,<sup>16</sup> so that the words *quando recepit* cannot refer to the abbey's first possession of the estate. At the time of King Edward's death, the abbey was under the rule of the famous Leofric, the pluralist abbot of Peterborough, who was mortally wounded at the battle of Hastings. The fact that Abbot Leofric had actually taken part in the great battle would enable the new king, without undue straining of the law, to take the possessions of the abbey into his own hands, and there exists an original writ of the Conqueror<sup>17</sup> in which he restores the temporalities of the abbey to Leofwine, Leofric's successor. This writ can only belong to the latter part of 1070, and there is therefore a distinct probability that this is the year to which the first value given for Burbage really refers. But if the Leicestershire 'valuits' in general refer to about the same time we may not improbably connect the wasted condition of the county with the Conqueror's march from Warwick to Nottingham when he suppressed the first revolt of Edwin and Morcar towards the close of 1068.<sup>18</sup> And if we may make due allowance for the general poverty of the county the distribution of the wasted area agrees well enough with the supposition that it was harried in the first instance along a line extending from High Cross, the point at which the road from Warwick to Nottingham would enter the county, to the Soar at Loughborough. If we indicate on a map those manors which have increased four-fold in value between the date at issue and 1086, the point where Watling Street and the Foss Way meet becomes a focus of devastation which extends over the western half of the county to Barrow on Soar and Loughborough, and also along the Welland Valley as far as Slawston and Medbourne. The latter district would readily be reached by raiding parties by way of the Watling Street and Upper Avon; but Framland wapentake, the part of the county most remote from William's line of march on this occasion, was also the part where Domesday reveals the smallest variation in general value. But whatever the validity of this explanation of the depression of one county, we cannot well refer the Leicestershire 'valuit' to a date anterior to the Conquest, and some at least of the difficulties presented by our portion of the survey become more intelligible on that hypothesis.

The last question to demand discussion at this point is the meaning of the Leicestershire 'team-land.' The phrase 'there is land for x teams' is always ambiguous, for it may refer to the amount of arable land actually under cultivation in a manor, or to the cultivated area *plus* unreclaimed waste, or even to the latter quantity alone. Also in certain counties with

<sup>16</sup> See his reputed charter in *Mon. Angl.* iii, 191.

<sup>17</sup> *Facsimiles of MSS. in Brit. Mus.*

<sup>18</sup> Professor Freeman (*Norman Conquest*, iv, 196-7 [ed. 1871]) suggested that Leicester borough had undergone at this time 'a doom . . . which might . . . be spoken of as utter destruction.' He derived this suggestion from a misreading of the History of Leicester Abbey, printed in Dugdale's *Monasticon* (see Round, *Feud. Engl.* 456), and he regarded the displacement of the English landowning class in the shire as almost complete, taking no account of the Englishmen who in 1086 were holding land of Norman lords. But he does not seem to have realized the peculiarities of the Leicestershire valuit and valet, and if the former are due to a devastation of the shire it can hardly be placed at any other date. It cannot be laid to the charge of the northern insurgents of 1065, for Leicestershire was part of the Mercian earldom, and Earl Edwin himself led a detachment of the rebel army.



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Ratio 1 : 2			Ratio 2 : 3			Ratio 1 : 1		
Vill	Team-lands	Car.	Vill	Team-lands	Car.	Vill	Team-lands	Car.
Belgrave . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	Waltham . . .	11	16 $\frac{1}{2}$	Leire . . . . .	2	2
Frisby . . . .	1	2	Thorpe Arnold	10	15	Frolesworth . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
Shearsby and Sutton	2	4	"	2	3	Walcote . . . .	2	2
Cadeby . . . .	1	2	Misterton . . .	3	4 $\frac{1}{2}$	Cosby . . . . .	3	3
'Nevlebi' . . . .	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	Thrussington .	12	18	Dalby . . . . .	1	1
Shangton . . . .	1	2	Starmore . . . .	6	9	Harby . . . . .	1	1
			Peatling . . . .	2	3	Thorpe Langton .	1	1
			Beeby . . . . .	7	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	Sproxton . . . .	3	3
			Potters Marston	2	3	Diseworth . . . .	3	3
			Oadby . . . . .	1	4	Osbaston . . . .	4	4

With the materials at our disposal we cannot hope as yet for any final explanation of these figures, but they will at least become intelligible if viewed in the following way. It is quite possible in view of the heavy rating of Leicestershire as a whole that the jurors in the Domesday Inquest may have been allowed to express the agricultural possibilities of their villas and manors in figures which bore a conscious reference to the carucates of assessment in each case. The above table, for instance, contains twenty-six cases where the carucates stand to the plough-lands as three to two. It is highly improbable that in all these instances the geld carucates exceeded the field carucates, actual and potential, by one-third, but it is very possible that, when this was approximately the case, the jurors may have been permitted to use figures which brought out an intelligible ratio between these quantities. In the event of an abatement being granted the king's financial officials would find it much more convenient to possess figures which expressed the relations between assessment and agricultural fact in arithmetical proportion than to work from a collection of unorganized statements about plough-lands and carucates. It is true that the Domesday scribes did not trouble to include these figures systematically in the completed record, and also that, as the Leicester Survey proves, no change was made in the burden of the Leicestershire geld for forty years at least after 1086, yet the fact remains that over a large portion of the county, so far as our information goes, the replies relative to team-lands were given in a manner which, according to the scheme of the survey, would naturally be construed as a suggestion for a reduction of assessment.

At the head of the roll of Leicestershire landowners stands the name of the king, to whose estates are allotted some two columns of our record. As was commonly the case elsewhere the royal property in Leicestershire was derived from various sources. From his predecessor Edward the king inherited Rothley and Great Bowden with their wide tracts of dependent sokeland, and on the death of Edith, the Confessor's widow, in 1075, he became possessed of her lands in Wadborough, Saddington, Thorpe Acre, and Dishley. Croxton Kerrial and Nether Broughton, with which the description of the king's land opens, had reverted to the crown on the forfeiture of their former owner, Earl Morcar of Northumbria, whose brother, Earl Edwin, within whose Mercian government Leicestershire lay, does not seem to have possessed any land at all within the county.<sup>22</sup> The large manor of Shepshed, comprising probably much of Charnwood Forest, had been held by an unknown

<sup>22</sup> See below, page 298.



The main interest of the royal manors in Leicestershire lies in their structure and organization. Rothley and Great Bowden, in particular, are excellent examples of the straggling, incoherent type of manor, held together by jurisdictional rather than by economic ties, which is eminently characteristic of the Danelaw. The manor of Rothley extended over twenty-one dependent vill, that of Bowden extended over ten. This type of estate produced perhaps its finest examples in the neighbouring county of Lincoln, and in Leicestershire itself the only rivals of Bowden and Rothley in this kind are the manors of Melton Mowbray, which possessed at least nine dependent blocks of territory, and Barrow on Soar, the vill connected with which amounted to thirteen. In the cases of Bowden and Rothley, Domesday distinguishes between the payments made to the king by the central manor and by the 'sokeland,' and the result is not uninteresting. Rothley itself brought in yearly £3 2s., but the men of Rothley soke paid altogether £31 8s. 1d.; Great Bowden alone brought in £3 10s., of which £2 represented the profits of the demesne, the remaining 30s. coming from the men of the vill, but its sokeland produced £14 11s. 6d. These figures clearly represent the addition of a number of irregular payments, and they are in striking contrast with the round sums rendered by the royal manors of the south of England or even, so far as our information goes, by the royal manors of Nottinghamshire and Lincolnshire.<sup>23</sup> They suggest in fact that the sokes of Rothley and Bowden came into existence as the result of gradual accretions from below, and that they do not represent territorial units of any notable antiquity. Individual sokemen and groups of sokemen may have sought the king for purposes of protection and warranty, and thus become gradually incorporated in a manorial group while still retaining a large measure of economic and tenurial freedom. Nor can we doubt that similar forces elsewhere must have contributed largely to produce the heterogeneous, unorganized manors of the type which we are considering.

The royal manors of Leicestershire afford good examples of the way in which the king would at times let out his estates to be held of him at a money rent. Croxton Kerrial and Nether Broughton were thus 'farmed' by Hugh fitz Baldric, a great Yorkshire tenant in chief,<sup>24</sup> and it is highly probable that the sums of £17 and £8, which are set down as the value of these manors respectively, really mean that Hugh paid the king a round sum of £25 in return for them. Robert de Todeni, the lord of Belvoir, held 2 carucates in Blaston belonging to Bowden soke, the rest of the former vill being sokeland. Of these Humfrey the chamberlain held at farm a small portion of the royal sokeland in Priestgrave; the manors which had belonged to Queen Edith were held of the king by a certain Godwin, whose name proves him to have been an Englishman. The manner in which Domesday

<sup>23</sup> Compare Dunham and Orston, Notts, which had been worth £30 each, Caistor and Gayton-le-Marsh, Lincoln, valued at £30 and £15 respectively.

<sup>24</sup> It is worth noting that Casterton (Rutland), which, like Croxton Kerrial and Nether Broughton, had belonged to Earl Morcar, was also 'farmed' by Hugh fitz Baldric, who appears in Domesday as a former sheriff of Notts.



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describes his tenure is noteworthy, for it supplies an early example of a technical distinction which later became of immense importance in English land-law. We are told that, 'Edith the queen held these lands. Now Godwin has them of the king at farm. But Dishley he holds of the king in fee (*in feudo*),' and the record goes on to state that Godwin also holds  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hides and 4 carucates in Shepshed of the king in fee. This case has been noted by Professor Maitland,<sup>26</sup> who remarks that 'as in general a farmer would have no heritable rights,' Godwin's occupancy of Thorpe Acre, Saddington, and Wadborough would be terminable at the king's pleasure. The case of Shepshed is also noteworthy for another reason, for Odo of Bayeux in the time of his regency had ordered that the manor should pay £6 'for the service,' that is, probably, the military service, 'of the Isle of Wight.' Why a manor on the edge of Charnwood Forest should be required to contribute towards the defence of the Isle of Wight may not be very apparent, but the fact illustrates the way in which Domesday often reveals the existence of an unlikely connexion, fiscal or otherwise, between widely separated parts of the kingdom.

The small fief of the archbishop of York, on which the most important manors were in Langton and Lubenham, is chiefly remarkable for the exceptional subinfeudation of the latter vill. Lubenham as a whole was held of the archbishop by a certain Walchelin, and under him by a tenant named Robert. But a nameless knight held 3 carucates in Lubenham of this latter Robert, so that the five villeins and one bordar who cultivated the soil on that portion of the vill had four lords in ascending sequence between them and the king. This fact would be in no way remarkable in the thirteenth century, but it is exceptional in Domesday for more than two lords to intervene between the king and the peasant.<sup>26</sup> It also may incidentally be noticed that the carucate which the archbishop held in Tilton was assigned to the 'alms' of the collegiate church of Southwell in Nottinghamshire.

From the lands of the archbishop of York the survey proceeds to deal with the fief of the bishop of Lincoln, within whose diocese Leicestershire lay. The bishop's estates fall into two divisions: the first, regarded as belonging to the church of Lincoln rather than to the bishop, consisting of land in the borough of Leicester, and a manor of 12 carucates in Knighton; the second comprising a number of manors which before the Conquest had been held by almost as many separate Englishmen,<sup>27</sup> and therefore representing rather the personal estate of Remigius of Fécamp than the lands of the see of Lincoln. Whatever possession may have belonged to the see of Leicester in the old days of the Mercian kingdom had been swept away in the general ruin occasioned by the great Danish settlement, and these few personal grants to Bishop Remigius contrast strongly with the handsome endowment which he possessed, largely as a result of the Conqueror's favour, in Lincolnshire itself.

Peterborough Abbey possessed in Leicestershire the two manors of East Langton and Great Easton. The latter, with its appurtenances in Glaston (Rutland), Drayton, Priestgrave, and Bringhurst, had been given to the

<sup>26</sup> *Dom. Bk. and Beyond*, 152.

<sup>26</sup> *Ibid.* 170.

<sup>27</sup> All the bishop of Lincoln's predecessors in Leicestershire appear to have been quite unimportant people with the exception of the Bardi who had possessed 'Haliach.' He had preceded the bishop in a number of Northamptonshire manors and had been a considerable landowner in Lincolnshire itself, where he had held the great estate of Sleaford.



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were held of him by undertenants are described under a separate heading on folio 237.<sup>30a</sup> In all the lands comprised within the first division the count had been preceded by an Englishman called Saxi, who had also possessed Shawell and Bagworth, which are described in the second division. Aylestone, Huncote, and Market Bosworth were the most important manors on the fief, the first-named possessing dependencies which the count had sublet to two of his men, and in regard to one of which we meet with a formula of great rarity in Domesday Book. Certain land belonging to Aylestone was held of the count by one Turald, and we are told 'Turald holds the land of four villeins and has one plough-land in demesne and 5 sokemen with 1 villein and 2 bordars who have 2 ploughs.' The peculiarity of the case lies not only in the omission of any statement as to the assessment of the land, but in the description of its former owners as 'villani,' a term which can only have been used in a vague and untechnical sense in this instance.

Following the fief of the count of Meulan comes an estate which is described as 'the land of Earl Aubrey.' This person has been proved to be Aubrey de Couci, who had been appointed earl of Northumbria upon the murder of Bishop Walcher in 1080, and after a short time, finding it impossible to govern his unruly province, had resigned his earldom and retired to his Norman lands, forfeiting his English possessions in consequence. His fief in Leicestershire is accordingly described as being 'in the king's hand,' but it is not merged in the general body of the king's lands, and by 1130 part at least of it had come into the possession of the earl of Leicester. As described in Domesday it represents an estate of Anglo-Saxon origin, for all Earl Aubrey's land is said to have been held formerly by a certain 'Harding and his men,'<sup>31</sup> which last expression is interesting as a pre-Conquest example of dependent land-tenure.

Of Anglo-Saxon origin also are the two small estates which follow in the survey, the lands respectively of the Countess Godeva (Godgifu) wife of Earl Leofric of Mercia, and her daughter-in-law Alveva (Ælfgifu) wife of Earl Ælfgar. Both these ladies were dead some years before 1086, but their lands are duly kept apart in the survey, each under a separate rubrication. The elder countess had possessed a smaller estate in Norton near Twycross, Appleby on the Derbyshire border,<sup>32</sup> and Bilstone; the less famous Alveva had held five carucates in Aylestone and the large manor of Castle Donington.

By far the greatest landowner in Leicestershire in 1086 was Hugh de Grentemaisnil, whose manors are accordingly indicated on our Domesday map. A powerful baron in central Normandy, where his original seat of Grandmesnil, a corruption from Grentmesnil (Calvados), lay, he had been a trusted lieutenant of King William in the critical years between 1066-9, when he had held the important government of Hampshire.<sup>33</sup> Somewhere about the latter date he seems to have fallen into disfavour with the king, and judging from the negative evidence of charters

<sup>30a</sup> The survey of Leicestershire occupies the fifteen folios from 230 to 237.

<sup>31</sup> Harding had also been Aubrey's predecessor in three Warwickshire manors.

<sup>32</sup> An interesting reference to the countess's tenure of land in Appleby occurs in the Derbyshire section of Domesday. In the description of the Derbyshire portion of Appleby, 5 carucates of which belonged to Burton Abbey, we are told that 'Abbot Leofric gave 1 carucate of this land to the Countess Gode, which the king has now.' 'Gode' in this passage is merely a contracted form of Godgifu (Godeva), though elsewhere in Domesday it may stand for the distinct name 'Gytha.'

<sup>33</sup> Ordericus Vitalis, *Hist. Eccles.* (Soc. de l'Hist. de France) ii, 167.



reinstate himself Ivo decided to go on crusade, and before his departure he placed his entire estate in the hands of the count of Meulan for fifteen years, on condition that the count should use his influence with the king to procure his restoration. Ivo, however, died while on crusade, and the count of Meulan, abetted by the king, ignored the claims of his son and united the Grentemaisnil fief to his own, and thus becoming the most powerful magnate in Leicestershire he was shortly afterwards created earl of the county.<sup>35</sup>

The estates of Hugh de Grentemaisnil fill two and a half folios of the survey, the first folio describing the manors which he held in demesne, the remaining entries relating to the manors held of him by mesne tenants. As was the case with the count of Meulan, the chief strength of Hugh de Grentemaisnil lay in the south of the county, in the wapentakes of Guthlaxton and Gartree. It is only in regard to very few of Hugh's manors that we are given the name of the pre-Conquest owners, but Wigston Magna and Stockerston, like Great Easton which adjoins the latter, had belonged to Earl Ralf of Hereford. The most interesting statement which we are given in this connexion is contained in a note appended to the account of Wymeswold, to the effect that 'two brothers held this land for two manors, and afterwards one of them bought from the other his share and made one manor out of two that were there in King Edward's time'; a remark which deserves notice not only because we here for once see a manor in the making, but because the transaction recorded would seem to have taken place after the Conquest, as it certainly took place after the Confessor's death.<sup>36</sup> The question whether a single manor represented one or more original estates was also raised in the case of Thurmaston; this Hugh claimed to hold as one manor, but was contradicted by the witness of the shire court. The entry relating to Carlton Curlieu deserves notice because of what it does not contain, for of the 11½ carucates described in it, Hugh had already, eight years at least before the time of the survey, given a carucate and a quarter to the famous Norman abbey of St. Evroult, although Domesday makes no record of the grant.

Of Hugh's undertenants only few can be identified with persons occurring outside our record. But a clear instance in point is Robert de Buci, the first on the list, a prominent tenant in chief in Leicestershire itself, who held of Hugh in Thurlaston, Smeeton Westerby, and Twyford. In the Hugh who was tenant of Shangton and Stonton Wyville we may safely recognize Hugh de Widville, the founder of a family in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire

<sup>34</sup> We have exceptionally copious information about his family and himself, owing to his great benefactions to St. Evroult, of which monastery Orderic the chronicler was an inmate.

<sup>35</sup> Ord. Vit. *Hist. Eccles.* iv, 168. See also below, p. 301.

<sup>36</sup> Professor Freeman believed that the '*postea*' of Domesday was an indirect expression for the time of King Harold. But the terminology of the survey in such a matter cannot be interpreted so strictly as this, and the professor himself gave instances in which *postea* referred to the Conqueror's reign. See *Norm. Conq.* v, App. : 'Notes of time in Domesday.'



which four centuries after the Conqueror's time gave a queen to England in the person of Elizabeth, wife of Edward IV. The description of the tenant of Galby and Braunstone as 'the son of Robert Burdet (misspelled Burdel in the latter entry) is interesting, for we know on the authority of the foundation charter of Monk's Kirby Priory<sup>37</sup> that Robert Burdet himself was alive in 1077, and it is probable that his son was only a minor in 1086. Doubtless the Hugh Burdet who held land in Welby, Rearsby, and Sysonby of the Countess Judith was a member of the same family, and Hugh de Grentemaisnil's tenant in Croft is entered as 'Robert's wife,' which is noteworthy, for land was rarely sublet to females. Probably we may connect the Ivo of Cadeby, Evington, and Ashby de la Zouch, if the same person is meant in each case, with the Ivo who is described as the knight of Hugh de Grentemaisnil in the Monk's Kirby charter, but the rest of Hugh's tenants remain mere names. Four of them, however, were probably men of English birth, namely Ulf of Willoughby Waterless, and Enderby; Edwin of Cotesbach; Alwin (Ælfwine), who held one carucate in Glen; and Suain the tenant of Syston.

The Leicestershire manors of Henry de Ferrers fall geographically into two divisions, the first lying in the neighbourhood of the Upper Wreak and the Rutland border, the second in the extreme west of the county, being connected with Henry's lands in South Derbyshire. The latter district was perhaps the very poorest part of the county at the time of Henry's first possession, and six manors from his fief were selected by Professor Maitland to illustrate the difficulties presented by the Leicestershire 'valuit.' Until quite recently Leicestershire and Derbyshire were closely intermingled in this quarter, and Linton, Stretton en le Field, Donisthorpe, Appleby, and Ravens-thorpe are surveyed in part in each county. But the chief interest of Henry de Ferrers's Leicestershire fief lies in the accidental circumstance that we possess slightly more information about his undertenants here than is commonly the case. Henry himself had founded some years before Domesday a priory at his seat of Tutbury in Staffordshire, and his son Robert de Ferrers, the first earl of Derby, in a charter confirming his father's foundation, specifies the various gifts which the latter's tenants had made to the same.<sup>38</sup> In this way we are enabled to identify the Robert who was the Domesday undertenant of Henry at Burton Lazars with the 'Robertus Venator' of the charter, and to distinguish him from the Robert FitzWidelin who held Over and Nether Seal, Bogthorpe, and one carucate in Appleby. We may also recognize the Roger de Livet who gave to the priory two-thirds of his demesne tithes in Somerby and Little Dalby in the 'Roger' who appears as the Domesday undertenant there and at Burrough, and it is quite possible that the 'Wazelinus' who held Smockington on the Warwickshire border was the same as the 'Vasolinus' who is represented in the charter as possessed of land at Chesterton and Harbury in the latter county. The Leicestershire Survey proves the Nigel who was the undertenant at Linton to be identical with Nigel of Stafford, who was himself a tenant in chief in South Derbyshire and the founder of the family of Gresley, which still continues his descent in the male line. No other record, however, has been preserved of the two Englishmen who appear in the list of Henry's undertenants, namely Godric of Houghton on the Hill and Ardulf of Osgathorpe.

<sup>37</sup> *Mon. Angl.* vii, 996.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.* iii, 392.



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

hand, and was granted out again by him to his minister Richard Basset, a member of one of the families which Henry 'raised from the dust' at the expense of the nobility of the Conquest. The completeness of the transfer is proved by a comparison of the Leicestershire Survey with the documents relating to the Basset foundation of Launde Priory, Leicestershire,<sup>44</sup> and it will be worked out in its own place. The fief had been held before the Conquest by a number of small but independent people, all of whom had been able to 'go (with their land) whither they wished,' with the exception of one Seric, who held three carucates in Ragdale, 'but could not depart with them.'

The small estate of Roger de Busli in Leicestershire was merely a fragment of the great honour of Blyth, and the succeeding fief of Robert Dispensator calls for no special notice here. The land of Guy de Reinbudcurt is more interesting. Guy held in demesne a manor of eighteen carucates in Thrussington on the Wreak, and a number of lands in the extreme south of the county, at Starmore, Misterton, Husbands Bosworth, and Kilworth. The lands in Kilworth, Husbands Bosworth, and Starmore, had been held by a certain Leuric, the pre-Conquest owner of Stanford on Avon just across the Northamptonshire border, and are entered in Domesday as 'belonging' to Stanford. None of them is described as containing any demesne, so that we have here a case in which an estate forming an economic whole is cut by a county boundary. Further, we are told that the land in Starmore and Misterton is held of Guy de Reinbudcurt by 'Abbot Benedict,' and that he had 'bought' from Guy  $2\frac{1}{4}$  carucates of land in Husbands Bosworth. Now the abbot in question is Benedict, the founder of the great religious house of Selby, Yorkshire,<sup>45</sup> and the hero of one of the most romantic of modern legends. On turning to the Selby records printed in Dugdale's *Monasticon*<sup>46</sup> we find a charter of Guy de Reinbudcurt himself, in which he states that, for the love of God and the soul of his lord King William, and for the remission of his sins and those of his wife, sons, and all his relatives, he has given his vill of Stanford with all its appurtenances, including, of course, the Leicestershire lands which we are considering, to Abbot Benedict and the church of St. German of Selby. Were it not for the evidence of Domesday Book we should never suspect that this pious formula covered a commonplace money transaction between the parties concerned; and the fact has a wider bearing in its suggestion that the definite statements of legal documents of the period require careful scrutiny before we can be sure that we are possessed of their real meaning.<sup>47</sup>

The Leicestershire fief of William Peverel, like that of Roger de Busli, was merely an appendage of a larger estate elsewhere. It comprised part of the honour of Nottingham, one of the typical 'escheats' mentioned in Magna Charta. Within twenty years of 1086 the Cluniac priory of Lenton (Nottinghamshire) had been founded on the estate, and several of William's Domesday tenants can be identified as contributing to the foundation. This is not definitely the case with regard to Leicestershire, but the Pagen who held of William in Lubbesthorpe, and the Sasfrid who was tenant of Ashby Magna, may reasonably be identified with the men of the same name who

<sup>44</sup> See *Feud. Engl.* 212-13, and *Mon. Angl.* vi, 188.

<sup>45</sup> See Freeman, *Norman Conquest*, iv, App. 'The Foundation Legend of Selby Abbey.'

<sup>46</sup> *Mon.* iii, 499.

<sup>47</sup> Compare also *V.C.H. Northants*, i, 287.



held Basford, Nottinghamshire,<sup>48</sup> between them. It may also be noted that the entry relating to Arnesby makes an addition to the population of the borough of Leicester, for we are told that 'in Leicester there is one burgess who belongs to this vill,' who nevertheless is not included in the survey of the county town.

'The land of William Buenvaslet,' which is entered next, is perhaps the smallest estate anywhere described in Domesday under a separate rubrication. We are merely told that, 'William Buenvaslet holds two carucates of land in Ravenstone. It was and is waste.' William Loveth, whose fief is described at the head of the next folio of the survey, only held land to the value of 50s. in Leicestershire. In the margin of the MS. against the entry of his fief there is placed the note: 'Stofalde iiii, p', 1, v', W.' Taken by itself this is quite unintelligible, but in the Northants Domesday William Loveth is assigned the third part of a waste virgate in Stotfold (now part of Rothwell) hundred, a sum which exactly answers to the contracted statement contained in the present note. As William Loveth held land in Theddingworth in Leicestershire adjoining Stotfold hundred, it is probable that his small holding in Northants was situated immediately to the south of the Welland opposite this point. Geoffrey Alselin, who follows in the record, is a person of more importance. In Leicestershire, as elsewhere, he had succeeded to the estates of the powerful English thegn Tochi the son of Outi, whose holding in our county had been small but singularly compact. It consisted of land in the adjoining villis of Hallaton, Goadby, Keythorpe, Billesdon, and Rolleston, and so far as our evidence goes, the possession of each of these villis had passed in its entirety from Tochi to Geoffrey. Manor and vill so rarely coincide in the Danelaw that the present instance is worth recording, especially in view of the fact that Tochi had exercised rights of sac and soc over the entire estate.

Geoffrey de Wirce, whose lands are entered in succession to those of Geoffrey Alselin, held one of the largest estates in the county. His lands were mainly situated in the north-eastern wapentake of Framland, and were to a large extent dependent upon the great manor of Melton Mowbray, whose tithes he had already bestowed upon his recent foundation of Monks Kirby Priory in Warwickshire. The description of the fief presents certain difficulties which cannot wholly be explained at present, of which perhaps the most formidable relates to the assessment of Melton Mowbray itself. This instance has already been mentioned for its bearing upon the question of the Leicestershire hides, but the whole passage deserves quotation. We are told that 'Geoffrey holds Melton. There are 7 hides and 1 carucate of land and 1 bovate. In each hide there are 14½ carucates of land. In demesne there are 4 ploughs and 4 serfs and 20 villeins with 2 priests and 14 bordars who have 6½ ploughs.' Now we have seen enough to know that a Leicestershire manor will normally be rated heavily in proportion both to its agricultural condition and to its reputed value, but an assessment of 102½ carucates on an estate of this size would represent a burden of taxation absurdly out of all possible relation to agrarian fact, and the Leicestershire Survey assigns the modest sum of 15 carucates to

<sup>48</sup> *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 270.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Melton Mowbray. It is clear that these 102 carucates must have been distributed over an area much wider than that of any single manor, but it is very difficult to discover to what they were really intended to refer. It will, perhaps, be safer here to attempt no guesses on the subject, but merely to remark that the doubtful attribution of this large number of carucates should be taken into account in any statistical study of the Leicestershire Domesday.<sup>49</sup>

At first sight the Leicestershire fief of Geoffrey de Wirce appears to have been composed of the estates of a number of unconnected Englishmen, but it is really probable that here, as in other counties, he had originally been given the land of a single native landowner, the Leofric son of Leofwine who had possessed Melton Mowbray and its dependencies. We are not given the name of the former owner of Geoffrey's manors in the south of the county, but it is noteworthy that he is said to have received his land in Stoney Stanton, East Norton, Newton Burdet, Little Dalby, and Withcote, from King William 'in exchange for the vill which is called Thurcaston.' Thurcaston is duly surveyed under Hugh de Grentemaisnil's fief, and its former owner is given as 'Lewin,' whom we may reasonably identify with the father of the Leofric who had held Melton Mowbray, and we may also assume that Thurcaston had originally been given to Geoffrey with the other possessions of the vanished English family. We do not know why King William should have interested himself to make the exchange in question, nor why he should have bestowed Thurcaston upon Hugh de Grentemaisnil, but the latter grant must have been made before 1081, for the church of Thurcaston is included among the gifts of Hugh de Grentemaisnil, which the Conqueror confirmed to the abbey of St. Evroult in a charter of that year.<sup>50</sup> As Geoffrey is known to have married an English wife<sup>51</sup> it is very probable that the bulk of his lands came to him through inheritance rather than by the dispossession of their native owner, who must, however, have disappeared before 1077 when Geoffrey endowed Monks Kirby Priory out of lands in Leicestershire. In the foundation charter of the latter house there occur several names which we may confidently assume to be those of Geoffrey's undertenants recorded in one portion of the survey, but unfortunately they are not described with sufficient precision for us to locate them accurately among Geoffrey's Leicestershire manors. We may, however, be reasonably certain that the man who bears the somewhat unusual name of 'Buterus' in the charter is the same as the tenant of that name who held the important manor of Pickwell in Domesday.

The estates which are described upon the succeeding folio of our survey for the most part represent mere fractions of larger possessions outside the county, and do not call for special notice here. These small holdings are, however, immediately followed by another estate of great importance, 'the land of the Countess Judith.' This lady was the daughter of Count Enguerand of Ponthieu and Adeliza the Conqueror's sister, and she had married the unfortunate Earl Waltheof, to whom a considerable part of her Leicestershire

<sup>49</sup> Allowing 15 carucates to Melton Mowbray, the total assessment of Geoffrey's land in Framland wapentake amounts to  $115\frac{1}{8}$  carucates.

<sup>50</sup> Ord. Vit. *Hist. Eccles.* (Soc. de l'Hist. de France), iii, 19.

<sup>51</sup> *V.C.H. Warwick*, i, 275.



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quest owner a man who did not enter into possession until after the Confessor's death. Moreover, a manor of the type of Barrow on Soar, with its great extent of dependent sokeland, would be more likely to be found in the hands of an earl than in those of a private subject, and it is not improbable that Barrow had been a residence of the early kings of Mercia. Unfortunately the description of Earl Hugh's land bears marks of having been written in extreme haste, and we are left in doubt about so important a point as the value of the several manors of which it was composed. Apart from Barrow on Soar the most interesting of these last is Loughborough, which had been held freely by five thegns before the Conquest, and had been sublet by Earl Hugh to as many of his knights, one of whom bore the English name of Godric. Among the earl's tenants elsewhere there appears no less a person than Roger de Busli, the lord of Blyth, but the passage in the manuscript which describes the holding is so corrupt that it is impossible to discover the vill in which it lay.

Mr. Round attaches some importance to the position of Earl Hugh's fief as illustrating the construction of Domesday. It is entered in its right place in the list of fiefs at the commencement, but the scribe forgot it when its turn came, and thus made Hugh de Grentemesnil 'xiii.' Thenceforth, the numbers do not correspond till we come to the fief of Roger de Busli, who is 'xviii,' both in the heading and in the text, but this is because, conversely, the heading omits but the scribe inserts the fief of Robert de Buci, which precedes Roger's. The numbers remain even down to 'xlii,' and then the fief of 'Earl Hugh' has to be entered a second time in the margin of the heading, so that the scribe may insert it on the last folio, and thus repair his omission. But even this was not all. He appears to have detected a final omission due to the practice for this county of entering the lands of a baron's tenants together after those which he held in demesne. The lands of the count of Meulan's tenants had thus been overlooked, and were now entered as 'xliiii' in the second column of the folio. Lastly, on the same folio, at the foot of the first column, there is crammed in the duplicate entry<sup>56</sup> of the lands of Robert the doorward (*hostiarius*), which had already been entered in their right place.

From a consideration of the Norman tenants in chief in a county there is a natural transition to the relation between the social order which pre-



<i>Earl Ralf</i>				<i>Earl Waltheof</i>									
'Valuit'			'Valet'			'Valuit'			'Valet'				
£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.		
Wigston Magna . . .	8	0	0	8	0	0	Houghton on the Hill	1	0	0	1	0	0
Stockerston . . . .	8	0	0	9	0	0	Oadby	}	5	4	13	2	8
Great Easton . . . .	6	0	0	5	0	0	Peatling Magna						
Lutterworth . . . .	7	0	0	7	0	0	Cosby						
Welham . . . . .	0	3	0	1	5	0	Willoughby Waterless						
							Frolesworth						
							Sharnford						
							Heather						
<i>Earl Morcar</i>				<i>Earl Harold</i>									
Croxton Kerrial . . .	10	0	0	17	0	0	Barrow-on-Soar	}	Value not given				
Nether Broughton . .	3	0	0	8	0	0	Theddingworth						
? Saltby . . . . .	9	0	0	10	0	0	Kegworth						

To this table should, no doubt, be added the land of the Countesses Alveva and Godeva, and if we include in our list the possessions of King Edward and his wife we shall find that at least one-quarter of the vills of Leicestershire had stood in some definite relation, tenurial or justiciary, to men of the highest position in the land. But Leicestershire is also distinguished from Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire by the large estates which had been held by Englishmen below the dignity of earl. We have already noticed the number of instances in which a Norman tenant in chief has entered into possession of the undivided lands of a single Englishman, and the estates of such men as Ailric the son of Meriet, Leofric of Melton Mowbray, and Harding, Earl Aubrey's predecessor, all tend to minimize the distinction between the tenurial condition of the county as it existed in 1066 and 1086. But for all this Leicestershire was far from being a fully manorialized county even at the latter date. Some 275 vills are represented in the county survey, and at least seventy per cent. of them are described under two or more distinct headings. So far as we can tell, no steps had as yet been taken towards bringing such great territorial aggregations as the sokes of Rothley, Melton Mowbray, and Great Bowden under the manorial organization with its distinction between demesne and villein land and its regulated system of labour service, although the earl of Chester would seem to have begun the process on the sokeland belonging to his great manor of Barrow on Soar, where Domesday accounts for 7½ ploughs as existing '*in dominio.*' Moreover 45 per cent. of the county population consisted of sokemen, and the sokeman, whatever his origin, represented a type of relationship between lord and man quite other than that which the Normans were trying to express in the universal extension of the manorial formula. On the whole the Leicestershire sokemen seem to have been very uniformly



to the position of these classes in the manorial economy we may assume that the sokeman as a general rule was wealthier than the villein,<sup>56</sup> and there is evidence to suggest that his services were less onerous, and that he would commonly owe an annual money payment to his lord. The co-existence of villeins and sokemen on royal sokeland, which to all seeming had never known any lord but the king, suggests that the main distinction between these classes was one of relative wealth, for so far as our evidence goes neither class can on this land have been to any extent implicated in the manorial system before the Conquest. Nor is there any reason to suppose that the wergild of the sokeman was fixed at a higher rate than that which applied to members of the villein class.

It is more probable that the question of 'wer and wite' enters into the distinction marked in Domesday between the sokemen and the *liberi homines*, who appear in our county at Stoney Stanton, Hallaton, Gumley, Foston, and Theddingworth, to the number of nine in all. It has recently been suggested that these freemen were possessed of the wergild of 1,200 shillings<sup>57</sup> as against the wergild of 200 shillings which was assigned alike 'to villeins and sokemen. This suggestion would enable us to equate the *liber homo* of Domesday Book with the thegn of Anglo-Saxon law, and would to that extent tend to narrow the cleavage between the Old English and the Anglo-Norman social order. On the other hand it is worth noting that the Leicestershire Domesday contains no mention of the class of *censarii* or rent-paying tenants, which appears here and there in the surveys of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, so that we cannot be quite certain that our *liberi homines* are not simply men who were considered more free than the sokemen around them in virtue of holding their land at a money rent without the base associations implied in labour service.<sup>58</sup> Also it would be very unsafe to assume that members of this class were confined in Leicestershire to the six manors in regard to which the Domesday scribes have taken cognizance of them.

From the *liberi homines* we may pass to the other end of the social scale—the *servi* or men who were personally unfree. Leicestershire is the one county of the Danelaw in regard to which members of the servile class appear to be consistently enumerated in Domesday, and in this county they amount to

<sup>56</sup> Professor Vinogradoff regards the distinction between sokemen and villani in Domesday as the result of Norman ideas acting on the undifferentiated mass of the Old English peasantry; *The Growth of the Manor*, 341.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid. 342.



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are assigned to various manors of his scattered over the county. Mr. Round considers that Orderic's description is somewhat misleading, as Domesday shows us the Grentemaisnil share as out of all proportion to the others. Apart from the houses held in common by Hugh and the king, the former held at least 180 in addition to 37 'burgesses' (with houses), as against the king's 45, the countess's 28, and the bishop's '17 burgesses.' And his right to the third penny of the mint implies that he held a privileged position. Excluding the representatives of the four lords mentioned by Orderic the only Leicestershire tenants in chief possessing a stake in the county-town were Robert de Veci, who held nine houses with sac and soc, of which six were appurtenant to Newton Burdet and three to Kibworth Harcourt; Geoffrey de Wirce, with one house belonging to Dalby and another belonging to Pickwell; and Henry de Ferrers and Robert Dispensator, who only possessed one burgess between them. On the other hand Queen Edith's lands in Saddington, Shepshed, and Thorpe Acre were connected with six houses in the county town.

The attribution of urban houses to rural manors, which has just been mentioned, is noteworthy because of its bearing on what has been called the garrison theory of the borough. According to this theory every normal borough had originally been a place of defence for the county in which it was situated, and it is further assumed that the burden of manning these strong places, and of keeping them in repair, was laid upon the landowners of the shire. In the discharge of this duty the theory goes on to assert that each landowner was required to keep up in his county-town a number of houses, inhabited by men-at-arms, roughly proportional to the amount of land which he held in the shire, and that each house was considered as fulfilling this obligation with regard to some particular portion of his rural estate. Thus, when in the description of Leicester we read that Hugh de Grentemaisnil has nine houses in the borough which belong to Stockerston, we are by this theory required to understand that Hugh de Grentemaisnil and his predecessor Earl Ralf of Hereford, in virtue of their possession of this important vill, have been expected to maintain a definite number of men-at-arms in the county-town, and that the houses which they occupied were considered as appurtenant to the manor which they represented. This theory has the merit of coordinating the *burh-bot* of Anglo-Saxon law with the 'tenorial heterogeneity' displayed by the county boroughs in Domesday Book, but the objections to it are serious. In the first place it is only in regard to a small number of county towns that this definite connexion of urban and rural tenure is revealed by Domesday. Leicester itself is the one borough north of Welford in which



There is every reason to suppose that both Anglo-Saxon thegns and Anglo-Norman lords were sensible of the profit which would accrue to themselves if their men were to obtain the freedom of the borough market, and that the connexion here and there, as at Leicester, manifested between town and country property in Domesday has its origin rather in a desire for commercial advantage than in any rule of public law. In this connexion it is very significant that the borough was the seat of the county mint, and was, therefore, the centre of monetary exchange for the district; nor should we forget that in days when the county town was periodically thronged with visitors to the shire court, to which all freemen in theory owed suit and service, it was no small advantage to a lord to possess houses at which he himself and the men from the various manors of his fief might receive entertainment during the sessions of the assembly.<sup>63</sup>

In King Edward's time, however, Leicester had been burdened with a definite if small amount of military service; it was bound to supply twelve burgesses to serve with the king if he led an army by land, and it would send four horses to London for transport work if the expedition were by sea. Before the Conquest the borough—or, as it is described in Domesday, the 'city'—had made the king an annual payment of £30, according to the exceptional scale of 20 pennies to the 'ora' or silver ounce, and 15 sestars of honey. King William derived a revenue of £42 10s. by weight 'from all the renders of the city and shire,' a phrase which leaves it an open question whether the £30 from Leicester itself had been increased or not. Quite apart from the 'farm' of the city came the £20 which was rendered from the mint, one-third of which was in the hands of Hugh de Grentemaisnil, and, in addition to this, the king received from Leicester town and county 20 shillings for a sumpter horse, and the enormous sum of £10 for a hawk, figures which repeat themselves in the description of the neighbouring county of Northampton.<sup>64</sup> With regard to the borough lands of Leicester we only read incidentally of land in, or belonging to, the borough held by the bishop of Lincoln and the Countess Judith; but we need not doubt that in addition to being a centre of trade at the point where the Foss Way crossed the main road from London to the Trent Valley, Leicester was also an agricultural community like its fellows of Nottingham and Derby. It is an unfortunate circumstance that Domesday makes no definite statement as to the assessment of Leicester to the geld, a burden which is generally sharply

<sup>63</sup> The 'Garrison Theory' of the borough was enunciated by Professor Maitland in *Dom. Bk. and Beyond*, section 'The Boroughs,' and was worked out in some detail by Mr. A. Ballard in his book on *The Domesday Boroughs*. The commercial side of the question was expressed by Miss Bateson in a review of the latter work, *Engl. Hist. Rev.* xx, 143-56.

<sup>64</sup> Compare the duty of *hospitium*, not infrequently found at this time in a burghal connexion.

<sup>64</sup> *V.C.H. Northampton*, i, 274, *Warwick*, i, 271, and *Worcester*, i, 242.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

distinguished from the annual farm of a borough, for the several boroughs of the Danelaw varied greatly in this respect. Stamford, to the east of Leicester, paid geld on 150 carucates; Nottingham, to the north, paid geld only on six, which last sum probably represents the geldability of the arable lands belonging to the borough.<sup>65</sup> In view of the heavy assessment of Leicestershire, as a whole, we might expect its county-town to have a proportionate fiscal burden, and the absence of any statement in Domesday to this effect is another of the statistical anomalies presented by this portion of the great survey.

The geographical position of the town of Leicester deserves notice here for its bearing on those ancient divisions of the shire, the wapentakes. In 1086 the county was divided into the four wapentakes of Guthlaxton, Gosecote, Gartree, and Framland, and Leicester is situated at the very point where the boundaries of the first three divisions coincide. It is clear, then, that their outlines were originally drawn with reference to the borough which lay in the centre of the county, and the fact illustrates the artificiality of the local organization of the Danelaw. With the aid of the Leicestershire Survey it can be proved that the boundaries of the Leicestershire wapentakes have undergone no material change since 1086, except that in 1346 Gosecote wapentake was split into the two divisions of East and West Gosecote, the Soar being taken as the line of delimitation, and a new wapentake of Sparkenhoe was created out of so much of Guthlaxton wapentake as lay between the Foss Way and the southern border of Gosecote. In both these cases the new boundaries, like the old ones, met, and still meet, in Leicester borough. In this county the Domesday scribes, in describing each tenant's land, have generally adhered to a consistent sequence in dealing with the several wapentakes in which it may have lain, following the order Guthlaxton, Gartree, Gosecote, Framland. There is always a possibility that the sequence in which these local divisions are entered in the survey may reproduce the order followed by the Domesday commissioners in their progress across the county. This suggestion would agree well enough in the case of Leicestershire, but it would not be well to lay much stress upon it, for in the survey of the adjoining county of Nottingham the disposition of the wapentakes is absolutely prohibitive of any theory of the kind.

In conclusion, in view of the statistical difficulties presented by the section of Domesday Book with which we are dealing, it may be well to give below in tabular form the result of an analysis of the county survey. A double figure is given for the value of the shire, because in regard to much of the king's land we are not given any *valuit*, so that it may be well to leave the *terra regis* entirely out of comparison. The 17½ hides which appear in the table represent merely an addition of all the instances of this unit which occur in the county survey apart from any connexion of the term with the carucates of rating. The total assessment of the shire will stand at 2,534, or at 2,642 carucates, according as we assume the hide to have consisted of 12 or of 18 carucates, the latter appearing to be the more probable. At the lowest estimate the assessment of Leicestershire is in striking contrast with the 600 and 567 carucates laid upon the neighbouring counties of Derby and Nottingham respectively.

<sup>65</sup> *V.C.H. Notts.* i, 236.



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# LEDECESTRESCIRE

fol. 230.

In KING EDWARD'S TIME THE CITY OF LEDECESTRE [Leicester] rendered yearly to the king 30 pounds by tale (*ad numerum*) of 20 to the ounce (*ora*) and 15 sestars (*sextarii*) of honey.

When the king went with his army by land 12 burgesses went with him from this borough. If, however, he went against an enemy by sea they sent him 4 horses from the same borough to London to carry weapons or other things of which there might be need.

King William now has 42 pounds 10 shillings by weight for all the rents (*redditibus*) of the same city and shire. For a hawk, 10 pounds by tale. For a sumpter horse 20 shillings. From the moneyers 20 pounds yearly of 20 to the ounce (*ora*). Of these 20 pounds Hugh de Grentemaisnil has the third penny.

The king has in LEDECESTRE [Leicester] 39 houses.

The archbishop of York, 2 houses with sac and soc, belonging to Cherlinton [Tur Langton].

Earl Hugh (of Chester), 10 houses, which pertain to Barhou [Barrow] and 6 houses pertaining to Cacheworde [Kegworth] and 1 house pertaining to Locteburne [Loughborough].

The abbey of Coventreu [Coventry] has 10 houses.

The abbey of Cruiland [Crowland] has 3 houses. Of all these the king has his geld (*geldum*).

Hugh de Grentemaisnil has 110 houses and 2 churches.

Besides these he has 24 houses in common with the king in the same borough.

Besides these the same Hugh has in Leicester 24 burgesses pertaining to Hanstigie [Anstey] and 13 burgesses pertaining to Siglesbie [Sileby] and 3 houses pertaining to Inwaresbie [Ingarsby] and 10 houses pertaining to Merdegrave [Belgrave] and 4 houses pertaining to Brohtone [Broughton Astley] and 9 houses pertaining to Stotone [Stockerston] and 4 houses pertaining to Wichingestone [Wigston] and 7 houses pertaining to Andretesbie [Enderby] and 3 houses pertaining to Sceltone [Earl Shilton] and 10 houses pertaining to Burstelle [Birstall] and 2 houses pertaining to Burtone [Burton Overy] and 1 house pertaining to Brunestanestorp [Bruntingthorpe] and 2 houses pertaining to Diresford [Desford] and 3 houses pertaining to Legham [ ], which he

bought of Osbern, and 1 house pertaining to Lettone [Thurlaston] and 1 house pertaining to Turchitelestone [Thurcaston].

In the same borough the same Hugh has 2 churches, and 2 houses, and 2 waste houses.

Hugh de Witvile<sup>1</sup> holds 5 houses of the same Hugh with sac and soc. These belong to the exchange (*sunt de mutatione*) for Wadford [Watford].<sup>2</sup>

Robert de Veci has 6 houses with sac and soc pertaining to Niwetone [Newton Harcourt] and 3 others with sac and soc pertaining to Chiborne [Kibworth Harcourt].

Geoffrey de Wirce (has) 1 house pertaining to Dalbi [Little Dalby] and another pertaining to Pichewell [Pickwell].

In Leicester are 4 houses pertaining to Seepehefde [Shepshed] and 1 pertaining to Sadintone [Saddington] and 1 pertaining to Torp [Thorpe Acre].<sup>3</sup>

In the same borough Henry de Fereires and Robert Dispensator have 1 burgess.

The Countess Judith has 28 houses in the same borough and 5 shillings and 4 pence from the half of the mill. Without the borough she has 6 carucates of land belonging to the borough, and has there 1 plough and her men (have) 3 ploughs. There (are) 7 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. The whole is worth 40 shillings.

The wood(land) of the whole sheriffdom called HERESWODE [ ] is 4 leagues in length and 1 league in breadth.

## HERE ARE ENTERED THE HOLDERS OF LANDS IN LEDECESTRESCIRE

i KING WILLIAM

ii The archbishop of York

iii The bishop of Lincoln

iiii The bishop of Coutances

v The abbey of Peterborough

<sup>1</sup> From this family was descended Elizabeth Wydvile, the queen of Edw. IV. Hugh de 'W.dville' also held 2 houses in Northampton.

<sup>2</sup> In Northamptonshire, in which county Hugh de Grentemaisnil held 3½ hides at Weeden Beck 'in exchange for "Wadford."'

<sup>3</sup> These were manors of Queen Edith, now in the king's hand.











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In TILTON [Tilton], 2 carucates of land and 4 acres of meadow and 5 acres of wood (land).

In OSFERDEBIE [Asfordby], 12 carucates of land and 2 mills rendering (*de*) 8 shillings and 20 acres of meadow.

In CAIHAM [Keyham], 4 carucates of land and 8 acres of meadow.

In WORTNODEBIE [Wartnaby], 6 carucates of land and 10 acres of meadow.

In TUIVORDE [Twynford], 4½ carucates of land and 8 acres of meadow.

In SUMERLIDEBIE [Somerby], 1½ carucates of land and 6 acres of meadow.

In FRISEBIE [Frisby], 8 carucates of land and 4 acres of meadow and 2 shillings from the (third) part of the mill.

In SAXELBIE [Saxelby], 1 carucate of land and 5 acres of meadow.

In GRIMSTONE [Grimston], 3 carucates of land less 1½ bovates.

In BADEGRAVE [Baggrave], 6 carucates of land, less 3 bovates, and 10 acres of meadow.

In GADESBIE [Gaddesby], 8 carucates of land and 3 bovates and 12 acres of meadow.

In these there are 204 sochmen with 157 villeins and 94 bordars having 82 ploughs, and it renders altogether 31 pounds and 8 shillings and 1 penny.

The king holds BUGEDONE [Great Bowden]. King Edward held it. There are 9½ carucates of land. In demesne are 2 ploughs; and 13 sochmen with 8 villeins and 16 bordars have 13½ ploughs, and render 30 shillings yearly. There (are)<sup>7</sup> acres of meadow. The demesne (*dominicum*) is worth 40 shillings yearly.

In MEDBURNE [Medbourne] there are 2 carucates of land and 6½ acres of meadow.

In CRAVEHO [Cranoe], 1 carucate of land.

In SANTONE [Shangton], 2 carucates of land.

In CARLETONE [Carlton Curlieu], 6 bovates of land.

In NELVESTONE [Illston], 2 bovates of land.

In GALBI [Galby], 1½ carucates of land and 4 acres of meadow.

In NORTONE [King's Norton], 3 carucates of land and 5 acres of meadow.

In STRATONE [Stretton], 9 carucates of land and 10 acres of meadow.

In SMITONE [Smeeton], 1 carucate of land and 2 bovates.

In FOXESTONE [Foxton], 2 carucates of land and 5 acres of meadow.

In these there are 60 sochmen with 2 villeins and 16 bordars having 13 ploughs, and it renders 150 shillings and 18 pence.

The king has the soc of 2 carucates in BLAVESTONE [Blaston], and it belongs to BIGEDONE [Great Bowden].<sup>8</sup> Robert de Toden

<sup>7</sup> Blank in MS.

<sup>8</sup> He also held 2 carucates in Blaston which belonged to Medbourne. See below, p. 321.

holds this land. This soc (land)<sup>9</sup> is worth 11 shillings and a halfpenny.

Humfrey the chamberlain<sup>10</sup> holds at rent (*firmam*) 2 carucates of the king's soc (land) in ABEGRAVE [Priestgrave], and has there 1 plough with 4 villeins and 2 bordars who have 1 plough. There (are) 6 acres of meadow. It was worth 12 pence, now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

## IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

The king holds SETINTONE [Saddington]. There is 1 hide, less 1 carucate. In demesne is 1 plough, and (there are) 11 sochmen and 17 villeins with 5 bordars who have 8 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings, and 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 4 pounds, now (it is worth) 9 pounds.

In WETBERGE [Whatborough] there are 3 carucates of land. In demesne there is ½ a plough, and 3 villeins with 1 sochman and 11 bordars have 4 ploughs. Meadow 1 furlong in length and 1 in breadth. Wood(land) 5 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 10 shillings, now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

To Wetberga belongs 1½ carucates of land in Burgo [Burrough-on-the-Hill], and there is 1 plough with 1 villein.

In TORP [Thorpe Acre] there are 5 carucates of land. There 16 villeins with 3 sochmen and 8 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 3 pounds, now (it is worth) 7 pounds.

In DISLEA [Dishley] there is 1 hide. There 16 villeins and 16 sochmen with 1 bordar have 8 ploughs. There 2 mills render 5 shillings, and (there are) 10 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and the same in breadth. It was waste, now it is worth 40 shillings.

Edith the queen<sup>11</sup> held these lands. Now Godwin holds them of the king at rent. Dishley, however, he holds of the king in fee.

The same Godwin holds of the king in fee 2½ hides and 4 carucates of land in SCEPESHEFDE [Shepshed].<sup>12</sup> Osgot held it with sac and soc. In demesne he has 2 ploughs and 2 serfs, and 30 villeins with 12 bordars have 15 ploughs, and 20 sochmen with 2 knights and 6 villeins and 4 bordars have 21 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering 5 shillings and 50 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 1 league in length and 4 furlongs in

<sup>9</sup> The words '*soca ista*' are interlined.

<sup>10</sup> Appears below, p. 331, holding land in Great Dalby and Barsby as a tenant in chief.

<sup>11</sup> Widow of Edward the Confessor. She died in 1075.

<sup>12</sup> Including Lockington, Hemington, and part of Whatton.



6 bordars have 6 ploughs, and there (is) wood(land) 1 furlong in length and  $\frac{1}{2}$  a furlong in breadth. It is worth 20 shillings. The king has it in demesne.

#### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

The king holds BICHESBIE [Bittesby]. Lewin held it in King Edward's time. There are 5 carucates of land. (There is) land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 plough, and 10 villeins with 4 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings, now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

## II. THE LAND OF THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK

#### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

THE ARCHBISHOP OF YORK holds TERLINTONE [Tur Langton] and Walchelin (holds it) of him. There are 13 carucates of land with LAGINTONE [Langton] which pertains there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 4 serfs and 2 bondwomen (*ancillae*), and 20 villeins with 4 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 3 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth.

In the same vill Herbert holds of W(alchelin) 3 carucates of land, and has there 1 plough in demesne; and 5 villeins and 2 sochmen with 2 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. The whole was worth 20 shillings, now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same Walchelin holds LUBANHAM [Lubenhams] of the archbishop, and Robert (holds it) of him. There are 8 carucates of land. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 2 serfs and 2 bondwomen, and 6 villeins with 4 bordars have 3 ploughs.

In the same vill 1 knight holds 3 carucates of land of Robert, and has there 1 plough in demesne, and 5 villeins with 1 bordar have  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. There (are) 36 acres of meadow. The whole was worth 20 shillings, now (it is worth) 40 shillings. Archil and Osmund and Oslac held it with sac and soc.

Osbern holds of the archbishop 2 carucates of land in WALEHAM [Welham]. In demesne there is 1 plough and 3 serfs, and 4 villeins with 1 bordar have 2 ploughs. There (are) 18 acres of meadow. It was worth 4 shillings, now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Archil held it.

Hugh holds of the archbishop 1 carucate of land in TILLINTONE [Tilton], and Friendai (holds it) of him. There is 1 plough with 4 villeins and 2 bordars. It was and is worth 10 shillings. This land belongs to (*est de*) the endowment (*elemosina*) of SAINT MARY of SUDWELLE [Southwell, Notts]. Getda held it in King Edward's time.

## III. THE LAND OF THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN

THE BISHOP OF LINCOLN holds 10 carucates of land in LEDECESTRE [Leicester]. In demesne he has there 5 ploughs and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  mills rendering (*de*) 10 shillings and 8 pence, and 2 churches rendering (*de*) 15 shillings and 17 burgesses rendering 22 shillings yearly. From 1 part of this land, outside the wall, he has 5 shillings and 4 pence, and 3 villeins with a priest and 12 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow.

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The same bishop holds CNIHTETONE [Knigh-ton]. There are 2 parts of 1 hide. There is land for 6 ploughs. There 20 villeins with 4 sochmen have 6 ploughs. There (are) 30 acres of meadow.

The same bishop holds 1 carucate of land in LEGRE [Leire]. There are 2 sochmen with 1 bordar having half a plough.

These lands of SAINT MARY OF LINCOLN are worth 6 pounds and 2 shillings and 4 pence.

Robert holds of the bishop in SCERNEFORDE [Sharnford] 1 carucate of land. There can be 1 plough. There are 2 bordars. It is worth 4 shillings.

Ralf holds of the bishop 2 carucates of land in TONISCOTE [Cotes Deville]. There can be 2 ploughs, and they are there with 4 sochmen. It was worth 20 shillings, now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same Ralf holds of the bishop 4 carucates of land in PONTENEI [Poultney]. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne are 2 (ploughs) and 4 serfs and 1 bondwoman; and 9 villeins and 9 burgesses in the city with 5 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 2 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings, now (it is worth) 30 shillings.



The same holds of the bishop in CHENEMUNDESCOTE [Kimcote]  $13\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land. There is land for 8 ploughs. In demesne is 1 (plough), and 6 sochmen and 6 villeins with 7 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (are) 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings, now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Ulf holds of the same Ralf 2 bovates of land in SUINEFORD [Swinford], and it is worth 12 pence.

Godric had these lands of Ralf's in King Edward's time.

#### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

Rannulf holds of the bishop in HALIACH [Holy Oakes] 3 carucates of land. In demesne there are 2 ploughs with 1 serf, and 4 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 5 shillings and 4 pence. Wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was and is worth 20 shillings. Bardi held it.

#### IN GOSECOT [GOSECOTE] WAPENTAKE

Geoffrey holds of the bishop 8 carucates of land in DALBY [Great Dalby]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 2 serfs, and 7 villeins and 16 sochmen have 6 ploughs. There (is) meadow 6 furlongs in length and in breadth. It was worth 60 shillings, now (it is worth) 70 (shillings). Godric held it with sac and soc. In this vill 1 knight holds 1 carucate of land, and it is worth 10 shillings.

Roger holds of the bishop 4 carucates of land in CROCHESTONE [South Croxton]. In demesne there is 1 plough, and 4 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 12 pence and 6 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings, now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Godric

Chetelbern holds of the bishop 1 carucate of land in HOLEWELLE [Holwell]. There is land for 1 plough; 3 villeins with 2 bordars have this (plough) there. There (are) 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 6 shillings. Ulfiet held it with sac and soc.

### III. THE LAND OF THE BISHOP OF COUTANCES

#### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

THE BISHOP OF COUTANCES holds in ERENDEBERIE [Arnesby]  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land and 1 bovat. Ulfric holds it of him. There is land for  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) with 1 serf, and 3 villeins and 2 bordars have 1 plough. It is worth 20 shillings.

### V. THE LAND OF ST. PETER OF BURG

THE ABBEY OF BURGH [Peterborough] holds in LANGETONE [Langton] 5 carucates of land less 2 bovates. There is land for 5 ploughs. In demesne there is (1 plough); and 9 villeins with 2 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 8 acres of meadow and 5 acres of wood(land). It was worth 10 shillings: now (it is worth) 40 shillings. Ailmar held it freely in King Edward's time.

The same abbey holds in ESTONE [Great Easton] 12 carucates of land. There is land for 16 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 10 villeins with 5 bordars and 12 sochmen have 8 ploughs. Wood(land) there half a league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 6 pounds; now (it is worth) 100 shillings. Earl Ralf<sup>14</sup> gave these lands to St. Peter.



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

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## IX. THE LAND OF THE COUNT OF MELLEND

### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

THE COUNT OF MELLEND holds of the king AILESTONE [Aylestone]. There is one hide and the sixth part of 1 hide. There were 14 ploughs in King Edward's time. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 1 bondwoman; and 24 villeins with 5 bordars have 5 ploughs. There (are) 4 mills rendering (*de*) 48 shillings and 55 acres of meadow. It was worth 3 pounds; now (it is worth) 4 pounds.

Saxi held and Lewin held of him the land of 6 ploughs, so that with 4 of them (*de iiii ex hiis*) he could do (*poterat facere*) what he wished. (But) with 2 (it was) not so.

The same count holds FRELLESWORDE [Frolesworth]. There is half a carucate of land. There 2 sochmen have half a plough. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

The same count holds 6 carucates of land in HUNECOTE [Huncote]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 (ploughs) and 2 serfs and 1 bondwoman; and 20 villeins with 8 bordars have 3 ploughs, and 2 sochmen with a priest are there, and (there is) a mill rendering (*de*) 10 shillings and 15 acres of meadow. Wood(land) half a league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 15 shillings; now (it is worth) 4 pounds.

In COSBI [Cosby] there is 1 carucate of land which belongs to (*iacet*) Huncote.

The same count holds 6 carucates of land in BOSEWORDE [Market Bosworth]. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 7 sochmen with 10 villeins and 7 bordars have 2 ploughs. Wood(land) 1 league in length and half a league in breadth. It was worth 4 pounds; now (it is worth) 50 shillings.

Saxi held all these lands and could go (*potuit ire*) where he wished.

## X. THE LAND OF EARL AUBREY <sup>18</sup>

### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

EARL AUBREY held CNAPETOT [Knaptoft]. There are 2 parts of 1 hide. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 3 serfs; and 10 villeins with a priest and 2 sochmen <sup>19</sup> and 6 bordars have 5 ploughs. There (is) meadow 3 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in

<sup>18</sup> Formerly earl of Northumbria. The fief had reverted to the crown, so the earl's tenure is described in the past tense.

<sup>19</sup> *et ii sochmanni* interlined.

breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 50 shillings.

The same held SCEPECOTE [Sapcote]. There are 1½ carucates of land. There are 1½ ploughs with 2 sochmen and 2 bordars. Uluric holds it. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same earl held HINCHELIE [Hinckley]. There are 14 carucates of land. In demesne there are 4 ploughs and 8 serfs; and 42 villeins with 16 bordars and 3 sochmen have 9½ ploughs. There (is) meadow 6 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 6 pounds; now (it is worth) 10 pounds.

The same earl held 9 carucates of land in SIBETESDONE [Sibson]. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 1 bondwoman; and 30 villeins and 17 bordars have 7 ploughs. Meadow 3 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. In the same vill there are in addition 2 carucates of land. The whole was worth 60 shillings; now (it is worth) 100 shillings.

The same earl held SCENTONE [Shenton]. There are 3 bordars. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 3 shillings. Harding held these lands.

Norman holds 4½ carucates of land in SUEVESBI [Shearsby]. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 4 villeins with 2 sochmen and 3 bordars have 2 ploughs. Meadow 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 15 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Ralf holds in CREBRE [Croft] 4½ carucates of land and 1 bovate. In demesne there is 1 plough and 2 serfs; and 8 villeins with 1 sochman and 4 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 4 shillings and 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 68 pence; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

To this manor pertains 1 carucate of land. Part of it (is) in BROSTONE [Broughton Astley] and part in SUTONE [Sutton in the Elms]. It was waste; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

Almar holds 5½ carucates of land in DRAITONE [Fenny Drayton]. There is land for 5 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs); and 14 villeins with 8 bordars have 3 ploughs. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Robert holds 8½ carucates of land in BETMESWEL [Bitteswell]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 2 villeins with a priest and 14 bordars have 3 ploughs. Meadow 4 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.



The same holds  $6\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in TEVLINGORDE [Theddingworth]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs); and 8 villeins with 10 bordars have 2 ploughs. There is a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

The same holds 3 carucates of land and 2 bovates in TEVLINGORDE [Theddingworth]. There is land for 3 ploughs. There 7 sochmen have  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Ralf holds 2 carucates of land in TORP [Thorpe Parva]. There is land for 2 ploughs. 2 villeins with 1 bordar have these (ploughs) there, and there (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Ralf Carnot<sup>20</sup> holds 4 carucates of land in ANLEPE [Wanlip]. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne is 1 (plough); and 8 villeins with 3 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 8 shillings and 32 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 25 shillings.

The same holds 11 carucates of land in SEOLDESBERIE<sup>21</sup> [Shoby]. There is land for 11 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 4 villeins and 8 sochmen with 2 bordars have 9 ploughs. Meadow 4 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

The same holds 7 carucates of land in WALESTONE [Walton on the Wolds]. In demesne

<sup>20</sup> Mr. Round considers that this word represents 'Carnotensis,' probably meaning 'of Chartres.'

<sup>21</sup> In the Leicestershire Survey the earl of Leicester is entered as holding 5 carucates in Saxelby and 6 carucates in 'Siwaldebia.' Shoby or Shouldby is one mile distant from Saxelby, and it would seem that the 11 carucates above should be divided between Saxelby and Shoby after the manner indicated in the Leicestershire Survey. With the carucate of 'socland' held by the king in Saxelby, the joint assessment of the 2 vills will come out as 12 carucates.

THE COUNTESS GODEVA held NORTONE [Norton juxta Twycross]. There (are) 6 carucates of land. There is land for 7 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs. There a priest with 1 villein and 2 bordars has 1 plough. There (are) 8 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 6 shillings.

The same countess held 3 carucates of land in APELBI [Appleby]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne are 2 ploughs; and 8 villeins with 6 bordars have 2 ploughs. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same countess held  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in BILDESTONE [Bilstone]. There are 3 sochmen with 1 plough. In King Edward's time there were 2 ploughs. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

## XII. THE LAND OF THE COUNTESS ALVEVA<sup>24</sup>

THE COUNTESS ALVEVA held 5 carucates of land in AILESTONE [Aylestone]. In King Edward's time 12 ploughs were there. In demesne there are now 2 (ploughs) with 1 serf; and 18 villeins with 1 sochman and 8 bordars have 6 ploughs. It was and is worth 110 shillings.

### IN GOSECOTE WAPENTAKE

The same countess held DUNITONE [Castle Donington]. There (are)  $22\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land. In King Edward's time 20 ploughs were there. Now there are 3 ploughs in demesne; and 30 villeins with a priest and 5 sochmen and 11 bordars have 12 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 10 shillings and 1 pence. Woodland 12 furlongs in length and 8 in breadth. It was worth 100 shillings; now (it is worth) 11 pounds.

<sup>22</sup> The letters *b* and *a*, which in the original are placed over *tenuit* and *omnes* respectively, indicate transposition.

<sup>23</sup> Wife of Earl Leofric of Mercia.

<sup>24</sup> Wife of Earl Ælfgar of Mercia.



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### XIII. THE LAND OF HUGH DE GRENTEMAISNIL

#### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

HUGH DE GRENTEMAISNIL holds of the king WICHINGESTONE [Wigston]. There is 1 hide and the third part of 1 hide. There is land for 16 ploughs. Of this land the third part of 1 hide is in demesne, and there (are) 4 ploughs and 2 serfs and 1 bondwoman; and 32 villeins with a priest and 12 bordars have 5 ploughs. There 31 sochmen with 1 clerk and 2 knights and 4 Frenchmen (*francigenae homines*) have 8 ploughs. There (are) 50 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 8 pounds. Earl Ralf<sup>25</sup> held it.

The same holds 1 carucate of land in SAPECOTE [Sapcote]. There is land for 2 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 3 villeins with 3 sochmen and 2 bordars have half a plough. There (are) 2 acres of meadow. It is worth 10 shillings. There belongs 1 carucate of land in FRELESWORDE [Frolesworth]. There is land for half a plough. There are 3 bordars. It is worth 5 shillings.

The same holds of the queen's fee, as he says (*ut dicit*) 2 carucates of land in SCERNEFORD [Sharnford]. There is land for 1 plough. There (is) 1 sochman with 3 bordars and half a plough. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. Alwin held it with sac and soc.

The same holds 5 carucates of land in SCELTONE [Earl Shilton]. In demesne there are 3 ploughs with 1 serf; and 10 villeins with a priest and 4 sochmen and 5 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow and a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence. Wood(land) 8 furlongs in length and 3 in breadth. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 70 shillings.

The same holds in ROTEBIE [Ratby] 6 carucates of land less 3 bovates. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs with 1 serf; and 10 villeins with a priest and 5 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 28 pence. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

Of the soc of these (lands<sup>26</sup>) 2 carucates of land are in BRUNECHINESTORP [Bromkinsthorpe] and 3 (are) in DERESFORD [Desford] and half (a carucate is) in CLANEFELDE [Glenfield] and half (a carucate is) in BRANTESTONE [Braunstone].

The same holds in GROBI [Groby] 6 carucates of land less 3 bovates. There is land for

<sup>25</sup> Of Hereford, nephew of Edward the Confessor.

<sup>26</sup> 'Harum' in MS. which must probably be taken as referring to Ratby and Groby, both of which had been held by Ulf with sac and soc.

4 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs); and 10 villeins with 1 sochman and 5 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (is) wood(land) 2 leagues in length and half a league in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings. Ulf held these two lands<sup>27</sup> with sac and soc.

The same holds in CHEREBI [Kirkby Mallory] 2 carucates of land. There is land for 1 plough. This is there in demesne with 1 villein and 5 bordars and 4 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same holds 3 carucates of land less 3 bovates in DERESFORD [Desford]. There is land for 4 ploughs. There 1 villein has 1 plough, and there (are) 4 acres of meadow. Wood(land) half a league in length and the same in breadth. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The same holds in STAPLETONE [Stapleton] 1 carucate of land. There is land for 1 plough. There 2 villeins with 3 bordars have half a plough. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same holds 2½ carucates of land in CHEREBI [Kirkby Mallory]. There is land for 1 plough. There 2 villeins and 8 sochmen have 1½ ploughs. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same holds of the Queen's fee 2 carucates of land in NEWEBOLD [Newbold Verdon] and BROCARDESCOTE [Brascote].

There is land for 3 ploughs. There 3 villeins have 1 plough. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 23 shillings.

The same holds 6 carucates of land in PECHINTONE [Peckleton]. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 serf and 3 bordars. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

#### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

The same holds in ELVESTONE [Illston on the Hill] 9 carucates of land less 1 virgate. There is land for 6 ploughs. There 13 sochmen with 1 villein and 2 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

The same holds in TORP [Thorpe Langton] half a carucate of land. There is land for half a plough. There are 2 men (*homines*). It is worth 3 shillings.

The same holds STOCTONE [Stockerston]. There are 28 carucates of land. There is land

<sup>27</sup> i.e. Ratby and Groby.



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The same Robert holds 6 carucates of land in the same vill. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) with 1 serf; and 6 villeins have 2 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings. Baldwin and Alwin held it.

The same holds 5 carucates of land less 1 bovate in SMITONE [Smeeton]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 2 sochmen with 1 villein and 3 bordars have 1 plough. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

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The same Robert holds of Hugh 2 carucates of land in TAIWORDE [Twyford]. There is land for 1 plough. This is there in demesne with 3 bordars and 5 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings and 4 pence; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Roger holds of Hugh in OLDEBI [Oadby] 1½ carucates of land. There is land for 1 plough. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Huard holds of Hugh in the other PETLINGE [Peatling Parva] 3½ carucates of land. There is land for 2 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 8 villeins with 2 bordars have another. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence and 2 sochmen with half a plough, and 5 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same Huard holds 1 carucate of land in SEVESBI [Shearsby] of the king's alms (*de elemosina regis*) which he has in pledge (*in vadimonio*). There is land for 1 plough. 1 knight has this there. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Fulbert holds 2 carucates of land in SAPECOTE [Sapcote] of Hugh. There is land for 2 ploughs. In demesne is 1 plough; and 2 villeins with 2 bordars and 2 sochmen have 1½ ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings and 16 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 25 shillings.

Ivo holds of Hugh in WILEBI [Willoughby Waterless] 3 carucates of land. There is land for 1½ ploughs. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 3 sochmen with 1 villein and 4 bordars and 1 serf have 1 plough. It was worth 64 pence; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Ulf holds of Hugh in the same vill 1 carucate of land. There is land for half a plough. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

The wife of Robert holds of Hugh in CREC [Croft] 5½ carucates of land less 1 bovate. There is land for 3½ ploughs. In demesne there is 1 plough and 1 serf; and 4 villeins and 4

bordars and 3 sochmen with 3 Frenchmen have 3 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Osbern holds of Hugh 3 carucates of land in BROSTONE [Broughton Astley]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs); and 6 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 7 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Ulf holds of Hugh in ENDREBIE [Enderby] 6 carucates of land less 3 bovates. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs with 1 serf; and 10 villeins with 1 bordar have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 5 shillings and 20 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 55 shillings.

Erneisus holds of Hugh in CLANEFELDE [Glenfield] 6 carucates of land less 3 bovates. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 2 serfs; and 3 villeins with a priest and 2 bordars and 4 sochmen have 3 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence and 8 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 8 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

The son of Robert Burdel<sup>29</sup> holds of Hugh in BRANTESTONE [Braunstone] 6 carucates of land less 5 bovates. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 4 serfs; and 2 sochmen and 4 villeins with 1 bordar have 2 ploughs. There (are) 5 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 5 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

Serlo holds of Hugh 5 bovates of land in CHEREBI [Kirkby Mallory]. There is land for half a plough. There is 1 bordar. Wood(land) half a league in length and 3 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 3 shillings.

Ernald holds of Hugh 1 carucate of land in SUTONE [Sutton Cheney]. There is land for half a plough. This is there in demesne. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Ivo holds of Hugh 2 carucates of land in CATEBI [Cadeby]. There is land for 1 plough. In demesne there is nevertheless 1 plough; and 7 villeins with a priest and 3 bordars have 1 plough. Wood(land) (is) there 3 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

<sup>29</sup> *Rectius*, Burdet, see Introd.



Walter holds of Hugh 1 carucate of land in SCEPEHE [Sheepy]. There is land for 1 plough. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 3 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 10 shillings. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Gilbert holds of Hugh 9 carucates of land in COTESBECE [Cotesbach]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 10 villeins with 2 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Edwin holds of Hugh in the same vill (*villa*) 1½ carucates of land. There is land for 1 plough. There 2 men have half a plough. It is worth 10 shillings.

#### IN GERTREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

Ivo holds of Hugh in AVINTONE [Evington] 10½ carucates of land. There is land for 7 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 6 serfs; and 25 villeins with 2 bordars have 5½ ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 40 shillings; now (it is worth) 100 shillings.

The same holds of Hugh in GERBERIE<sup>30</sup> [Ingarsby] 12 carucates of land. There is land for 8 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 4 serfs; and 1 bondwoman (*ancilla*); and 16 villeins with 7 bordars, and 1 knight with 3 Frenchmen (*francigenae*) have 5 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 4 shillings. It was worth 40 shillings; now (it is worth) 4 pounds.

Huard and Erneis hold of Hugh 4 carucates of land in STOCTONE [Stoughton]. There is land for 2 ploughs. There are 2½ ploughs. It was worth 15 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The son of Robert Burdet holds of Hugh in GALBI [Galby] 13 carucates of land and

<sup>30</sup> It would seem that the scribe omitted the letters 'in,' which had been repeated as a preposition before the name, and that he modified the final 'bi' into 'berie' in a way common in the Leicester Domesday. Hugh de Grentemaisnil held in Leicester 3 houses which belonged to Ingarsby.

1 serf; and 2 villeins with 1 sochman and 3 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 5 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Hugh<sup>31</sup> holds of Hugh 4 carucates of land in SANCTONE [Shangton]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) with 1 serf; and 4 villeins and 4 bordars with 2 sochmen have 1½ ploughs. There (are) 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 16 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

The same holds of Hugh 6 carucates of land in STANTONE [Stonton Wyville]. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 2 serfs; and 15 villeins with a priest and 2 bordars have 4 ploughs. There (are) 2 mills rendering (*de*) 5 shillings and 4 pence, and 8 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 40 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

Osbern holds of Hugh 11 carucates of land in LANGTONE [Langton]. There is land for 8 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 3 serfs; and 12 villeins with a priest and 1 knight and 5 bordars and 1 sochman have 7 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 12 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 40 shillings.

Lovet holds of Hugh in GLEN [Glen Magna] 17 carucates of land and 2 bovates. There is land for 12 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 2 serfs and 3 bondwomen (*ancillae*); and 12 villeins with 6 bordars and 20 sochmen have 6 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings and 30 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 6 pounds.

Alwin holds of Hugh 1 carucate of land in the same vill. There is land for half a plough. This is there, with 2 villeins. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

#### IN GOSECOTE WAPENTAKE

Suain holds of Hugh in SITESTONE [Syston] 9 carucates of land. There is land for 6 ploughs.

<sup>31</sup> De 'Witvile.'



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 17 villeins with a priest and 1 bordar and 11 sochmen have 6 ploughs. There is a mill rendering (*de*) 8 shillings and 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Widard holds of Hugh 2 carucates of land in BURSTELE [Birstall]. There is land for 1 plough. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 2 serfs; and 8 villeins with 4 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 12 pence and 16 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 3 ounces of gold.

William holds of Hugh in TURMODESTONE [Thurmaston] 3½ carucates of land. There is land for 2½ ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 3 villeins have another. There are 7 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Robert and Serlo hold of Hugh 9 carucates of land and 5 bovates in WIMUNDEWALLE [Wymeswold]. There is land for 6 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs with 1 serf; and 11 villeins and 4 sochmen with 4 bordars and 9 French serjeants fol. 233.

(*francigenis servientibus*) have 10 ploughs between (them) all. There (are) 15 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 100 shillings. Two brothers held this land for 2 manors (*pro duobus maneriis*) and afterwards one bought from the other his share (*partem suam*) and made one manor out of the two (that were) in King Edward's time.

Ernald holds of Hugh in SIGLEBI [Sileby] 8½ carucates of land. There is land for 5 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 4 serfs; and 18 villeins with 4 sochmen and 4 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (are) 2 mills rendering (*de*) 30 shillings and 60 acres of meadow. It was worth 60 shillings; now (it is worth) 110 shillings.

Ivo holds of Hugh 14 carucates of land in ASCEBI [Ashby de la Zouch]. There is land for 10 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 2 serfs; and 8 villeins with a priest and 6 sochmen and 4 bordars have 6 ploughs. Wood(land) 1 league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth (sufficient) for (*ad*) 100 swine. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Ernald holds of Hugh 6½ carucates of land in HELETONE<sup>32</sup> [Alton Grange]. There is land for

<sup>32</sup> In the Leicestershire Survey the earl of Leicester is credited with 1½ carucates in Alton, 3 carucates in Blackfordby and 2 carucates in 'Culvertebia.' As these sum amount to 6½ carucates it is probable that 'Heletone' above must be taken to include Blackfordby and 'Culvertebia' which are not entered separately in Domesday.

4 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 4 serfs; and 15 villeins with 1 knight and 4 bordars have 8 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 4 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 1 league in length and half a league in breadth. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same holds 2 carucates of land of Hugh in STANTONE [Staunton Harold]. There is land for 1 plough. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 6 villeins with 1 bordar have 1 plough. Wood(land) 5 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth and on the other side (*ex altera parte*) (there are) 4 acres of wood(land). It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. These two lands of Ernald's belong to (*sunt de*) the fee of Earl W(altheof).<sup>33</sup> Suain held them both freely in King Edward's time.

Hugh holds of Hugh half a carucate of land in WITTEWIC [Whitwick]. There is land for half a plough. There is 1 bordar. Wood(land) 1 furlong in length and half a furlong in breadth. It is worth 2 shillings.

Walter holds of Hugh 16½ carucates of land in WALTHAM [Waltham on the Wolds]. There is land for 11 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 24 sochmen with 1 villein and 1 bordar have 6 ploughs. There 1 knight with 7 bordars and 3 serfs and 1 bondwoman (*ancilla*) has 1½ ploughs. There (are) 100 acres of meadow. It was worth 3 pounds; now (it is worth) 6 pounds.

The same holds of Hugh in TORP [Thorpe Arnold]<sup>34</sup> 15 carucates of land. There is land for 10 ploughs. In demesne there are 5 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 16 villeins with 11 sochmen and 8 bordars have 7 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 5 shillings and 4 pence. Meadow 4 furlongs in length and the same in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 7 pounds.

The same holds of Hugh 3 carucates of land in the same vill. There is land for 2 ploughs, 8 villeins with 3 bordars have these (ploughs) there. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

<sup>33</sup> The phrase 'comes W' is ambiguous, for it may refer either to Earl Waltheof or to Earl William (fitz Osbern) of Hereford. The former is perhaps the more probable, as Waltheof had land elsewhere in the shire, but the matter must be left open. The phrase *de feodo Willelmi comitis* occurs in the Oxon Survey.

<sup>34</sup> This and the following entry attribute a sum of 18 carucates to Thorpe Arnold. From the Leicestershire Survey it appears that Thorpe Arnold alone was assessed at 12 carucates, the remaining 6 carucates belonging to Brentingby, which is not entered by name in Domesday.



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Roger holds of Henry in CUNINGSTONE [Congerstone] 2 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 10 villeins with 6 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill and 3 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Wazelin holds in SNOCHANTONE [Smockington] 1½ carucates of land of Henry. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 serf; and 6 villeins with 2 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 4 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Roger holds of Henry in SCENTONE [Shenton] 2 carucates of land. There is 1 villein. It is worth 2 shillings.

## IN GERETREWES [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

Godric holds of Henry 9 carucates of land in HOHTONE [Houghton on the Hill]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is half a plough and 2 serfs; and 5 villeins with 3 bordars have 3½ ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings. Earl Waltheof (*Wallef*) held it. The Countess<sup>41</sup> Judith claims it.

Hugh holds of Henry 1 carucate of land in ASCBI [Ashby Folville] and it belongs to Niwebold [Newbold Folville]. In King Edward's time 1 plough was there. There are 3 villeins. It was and is worth 3 shillings.

fol. 233b.

Mechenta holds of Henry in OVERTONE [? Coleorton] 1 carucate of land. There he has 1 plough with 1 villein and 2 bordars. Wood(land) 1 league in length and another in breadth. It was worth 6 pence; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

Robert holds SCELLA [Nether Seal] of Henry. There are 7 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. There 4 sochmen with 2 villeins have 2 ploughs. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same holds of Henry another SCCLA [Over Seal]. There are 6 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs; and 21 villeins with 12 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 5 shillings, and 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

<sup>41</sup> The word '*comitissa*' is interlined.

The same holds of Henry 1 carucate of land in BORTROD [Bogthorpe].<sup>42</sup> There 1 villein has 1 plough. It was worth 8 pence; now (it is worth) 4 shillings.

The same holds of Henry 1 carucate of land in APLEBERIE [Appleby]. There 4 sochmen have 2 ploughs and 3 acres of meadow. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 12 shillings.

Nigel holds of Henry 10 carucates of land in SCOPESTONE [Swepstone]. In King Edward's time 10 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 15 villeins with a priest and 8 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Of this land, in King Edward's time, Sbern held 2 carucates of land and could go (*potuit ire*) where he wished. The remaining land Leuric held, whose land bishop Osmund<sup>43</sup> holds of the King.

Gledwin holds of Henry in NEUTONE [Newton Burgoland] half a carucate of land. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 bordar and 2 acres of meadow.

Roger holds of Henry 1 carucate of land in the same vill. It is worth 2 shillings.

John holds of Henry in UDECOTE [Woodcote] 2 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough). Wood(land) 3 furlongs in length and 3 in breadth. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Ardulf holds of Henry 1 carucate of land in OSGODTORP [Osgathorpe]. In demesne he has half a plough, and 3 villeins with 5 bordars have 1 plough. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

Roger holds of Henry in STRETONE [Stretton en le Field] 1 carucate of land, waste, and another in DURANDESTORP [Donisthorpe], likewise waste, and a third in OVERTONE [? Coleorton], likewise waste. They are worth, nevertheless, 2 shillings. Aluric and Levenot held 2 of these (carucates) freely; Cari held the third, but he could not depart (*non potuit discedere*) with it.

Robert holds of Henry 1 carucate of land and 1 bovate in BURSTONE [Burton Lazars]. There is 1 plough in demesne, and 1 villein with half a plough. There (are) 2 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Nigel holds of Henry in WINDESERS [ ] 3 carucates of land, waste. In King Edward's

<sup>42</sup> Or Boothorp, the 'Bocthorp' of the Leicestershire Survey.

<sup>43</sup> Of Salisbury.



Roger holds of Henry in SUMMERDEBI [Somerby] 3 carucates of land and 2 bovates. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough), and 5 villeins with a priest and 2 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 15 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

To this manor belong 5 carucates of land in DALBI [Little Dalby]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. There 16 sochmen with a priest have 6 ploughs. There (are) 40 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Alwold held it freely.

The same Roger holds of Henry in BURG [Burrough on the Hill] 2 carucates of land and 3 bovates. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough, and 4 villeins have 1 plough with 1 bordar. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Alwold held it freely.

Hugh holds of Henry 3 carucates of land in NEUBOLD [Newbold Folville]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 1½ ploughs, and 4 villeins have 2 ploughs. There (are) 8 acres of meadow and a mill rendering (*de*) 12 pence. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. Game held it freely.

Nigel holds of Henry in LINTONE [Linton]<sup>44</sup> 1 carucate of land, waste.

## XV. THE LAND OF ROBERT DE TODENI

### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

ROBERT DE TODENI holds of the king in HORNIWALE [Horninghold] 3 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs. There 8 villeins and 3 sochmen with 2 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 2 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

The same R(ober) holds 4 carucates of land in METORNE [Medbourne]. In King Edward's time 8 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 3 serfs, and 13 villeins with 6 bordars have 4 ploughs.

To this manor pertain 2 carucates of land in BLASTONE [Blaston]. There 15 sochmen have 3 ploughs.

<sup>44</sup> In Derbyshire.

in breadth. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 4 pounds.

The same R(ober) holds 17 carucates of land in HERDEBI [Harby].<sup>46</sup> In King Edward's time 14 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 (ploughs) and 8 serfs, and 24 sochmen with 7 villeins and 3 bordars have 13 ploughs. There (is) meadow 5 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 4 pounds; now (it is worth) 100 shillings.

The same R(ober) holds 15 carucates of land in BARCHESTONE [Barkestone]. In King Edward's time 15 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 7 serfs, and 14 villeins with 2 bordars and a priest and 3 other villeins and 25 sochmen have 11 ploughs. It was worth 4 pounds; now (it is worth) 100 shillings.

The same R(ober) holds 9 carucates of land in BOTESFORD [Bottesford]. In King Edward's time 25 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 5 ploughs and 6 serfs, and 12 villeins and 60 sochmen with 5 bordars have 15 ploughs. There (is) a priest with 1 plough. There (are) 4 mills rendering (*de*) 40 shillings. It was worth 12 pounds; now (it is worth) 15 pounds.

The same R(ober) holds 3 carucates of land in REDMELDE [Redmile]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. This pertains to Bottesford. There 2 sochmen with 2 bordars have half a plough. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

To the same manor of Bottesford pertain 3 carucates of land and 2 bovates in CNIPTONE [Knipton]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. There 5 sochmen have 2 ploughs and a mill rendering (*de*) 5 shillings and 4 acres of meadow. It is worth 20 shillings.

Four thegns, Osulf, Osmund, Roulf, and Levric, held these lands and could go with them<sup>47</sup> (*cum eis ire potuerunt*) where they wished.

Walter holds 2 carucates of land of Robert in LACHESTONE [Laughton]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough and 2 serfs; and 3 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 8 acres of meadow. It was worth 6 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Osbern holds of R(ober) 2 carucates of land in LUBEHAM [Lubenham]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there are 1½ ploughs; and 6 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough.

<sup>45</sup> i.e. in Medbourne.

<sup>46</sup> Including Plungar.

<sup>47</sup> i.e. could commend themselves and their land to any lord.



(it is worth) 4 pounds.

Roger holds of William<sup>48</sup> 5 carucates of land in CROPTONE [South Croxton<sup>49</sup>] and Walter (holds) 2½ carucates of land in QUENEBERIE [Quenby] and in demesne they have 3 ploughs and 4 serfs; and 7 villeins with 4 bordars who have 1 plough. There (are) 24 acres of meadow. It was worth 15 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

In the same vill 1 Frenchman holds 1 carucate of land. It is worth 5 shillings.

#### IN FRANELUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

Ivo holds of Robert 17 carucates of land less 3½ bovates in CLACHESTONE [Long Clawson]. There is land for 17 ploughs. In demesne there are 4 ploughs and 12 serfs; and 14 villeins with 2 bordars and 30 sochmen have 12 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 6 pounds.

Gilbert holds 6 carucates of land of Robert in HOCHES [Hose]. There is land for 7 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 5 villeins and 8 sochmen with 1 Frenchman have 2½ ploughs. There (are) 18 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 40 shillings.

fol. 234.

Osmund and Roger hold of Robert 4 carucates of land. There is land for 4 ploughs. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 4 serfs, and 4 villeins with 3 bordars have half a plough. It was and is worth 40 shillings.

Odard<sup>50</sup> holds of Robert 1 carucate of land in BOTLESFORD [Bottesford] and Baldric 2 carucates of land and Clarebald 2 carucates of land and Robert 1 carucate of land, Helduin 1½ carucates of land, Gilbert 1 carucate of land and 4 other Frenchmen 3½ carucates of land. Altogether

<sup>48</sup> Probably the tenant of Barkby.

<sup>49</sup> Although the form Cropton suggests Cropston rather than South Croxton, the Leicestershire Survey

demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 12 sochmen with 2 villeins and 3 bordars have 5 ploughs. There (are) 40 acres of meadow. It was worth 40 shillings; now it is worth 50 shillings. The said Levruc held it freely. The soc and sac pertain to HOLESFORD [Bottesford].<sup>53</sup>

#### XVI. THE LAND OF ROBERT DE VECI

##### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

ROBERT DE VECI holds of the king MORTONE [Gilmorton] and Geoffrey (holds it) of him. There are 14 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 9 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs with 1 serf; and 24 sochmen and 4 Frenchmen (*francigenae*) have 5 ploughs. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

Norman holds of Robert 6 carucates of land less 2 bovates in SCENTONE [Shenton]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 7 villeins with three bordars have 2 ploughs. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Durand holds of Robert 4 carucates of land in CLEVELIORDE [Kilworth]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 5 villeins with 3 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 6 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

##### IN GERTREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

Geoffrey holds of Robert 4 carucates of land in GODMUNDELA [Gumley]. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 2 serfs; and 3 sochmen

<sup>51</sup> 'de Boisrohard.' See Introd. p. 293.

<sup>52</sup> As 8 bovates went to the carucate the sums mentioned in their entry are really the same, but



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

There is land for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. There are 2 villeins with 3 bordars who have 1 plough. It was worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Warin holds of Robert  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in SUINESFORD [Swinford]. In King Edward's time  $4\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs were there. There 2 men of his have 2 ploughs. It was worth 21 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Three thegns held it.

Hugh holds of Robert  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land less 1 virgate.<sup>56</sup> In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 serf; and 3 villeins with 3 bordars have 1 plough. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Lanbert holds of Robert in the same vill 3 carucates of land and the fourth part of 1 virgate.<sup>57</sup> In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 3 villeins with 3 bordars have 1 plough. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Of the above-mentioned 8 carucates of land Alsî holds  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land and the fourth part of a virgate. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 villein and 1 bordar. There are 15 acres of meadow. It is worth 5 shillings.

Suavis holds of Robert 2 carucates of land and 2 bovates in BARESWERDE [Husbands Bosworth]. There is land for 2 ploughs. There he has 1 villein and 2 bordars with 1 plough. It was worth 2 shillings; it is worth 5 shillings.

Ingeld holds of Robert half a carucate of land in NELVESTONE [Illston]. There is 1 plough, with 1 sochman and 2 bordars. There (are) 2 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

The same holds of Robert in SLAGESTONE [Slawston] 1 waste virgate of land. It was and is worth 4 pence.

Roger holds of Robert 3 carucates of land and 2 bovates<sup>58</sup> in TORP [Thorpe Langton]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough with 1 serf; and 2 villeins with 8 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 4 acres of meadow. It was worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Gilbert holds 6 carucates of land of Robert in WALENDEHAM [Welham]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 7 villeins with a priest have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings and 42 acres of meadow. It was

<sup>56</sup> i.e.  $3\frac{1}{4}$  carucates.

<sup>57</sup> i.e. half a bovat.

<sup>58</sup> It would seem that this represents the 3 carucates and 1 virgate held in the Leicestershire Survey by Richard Basset in Langton.

worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 25 shillings. Earl Ralf held it.

Godwin and Frane held  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in SLACHESTONE [Slawston]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 4 villeins with 4 bordars have 1 plough. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 16 (shillings).

fol. 234b.

## IN GOSECOTE WAPENTAKE

Ingald holds of Robert in RERESBI [Rearsby] 2 carucates of land less 2 bovates. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and half a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 8 acres of meadow. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. Alnod held it with sac and soc.

Gerard holds of Robert 3 carucates of land in GRIMSTONE [Grimston]. In King Edward's time  $3\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 5 villeins with 2 sochmen have 3 ploughs. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

Rotbert holds of Robert 2 carucates of land in SEGRAVE [Seagrave]. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and (there are) 3 villeins with 3 bordars. There (are) 7 acres of meadow. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

The same holds of Robert 12 carucates of land in LUDINTONE [Loddington]. In King Edward's time 12 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 5 sochmen with 3 villeins and 3 bordars have  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. There is a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence.

Gerard holds half of this land and has there 1 plough in demesne; and 4 sochmen and 4 villeins with 4 bordars have  $2\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. Wood(land) half a league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 5 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Ansfrid holds 1 carucate of land in DALBI [Great Dalby] of Robert. There is land for 1 plough. There are 3 villeins with 1 bordar and 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 3 shillings.

Hugh holds of Robert 6 carucates of land in RAGENDELE [Ragdale]. In King Edward's time 6 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 4 sochmen have another. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 16 pence; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.



The wife of Robert Burdet holds of Robert 2 carucates of land in RADECLIVE [Ratcliffe on the Wreak]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. There 3 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 3 shillings and 12 acres of meadow.

#### IN FRANELUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

Girard holds of Robert 5 carucates of land in HOLEWELLE [Holwell] and in CHETELBI [Ab Kettleby] 6 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 10 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs, and 7 villeins with 4 bordars with a priest and 6 sochmen have 5 ploughs. Meadow (is) there, 3 furlongs in length and half a furlong in breadth. It was worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same Girard holds of Robert in HERTEBI [Harby] 1 carucate of land. There is land for 1 plough; 2 sochmen with 3 bordars have this (plough) there. It is worth 5 shillings.

Ansfrid holds of Robert  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in WIMUNDESHAM [Wymondham]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough), and 5 villeins and 4 sochmen with 2 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Ralf pipin<sup>60</sup> held of Robert 6 carucates of land in GOLTEBI [Goadby Marwood] and half a carucate of land in SCALDEFORD [Scalford]. In King Edward's time  $6\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 6 sochmen with 1 bordar have 2 ploughs. It was worth 6 shillings; now (it is worth) 22 shillings. There (are) 26 acres of meadow.

Those who held these lands in King Edward's time could go where they wished (*quo voluerunt ire potuerunt*) except one called Seric who held 3 carucates of land in Ragendel [Ragdale], but he could not withdraw anywhere with it (*non poterat cum ea alicubi recedere*).

<sup>59</sup> In Ragdale parish, now depopulated.

<sup>60</sup> 'Pipin' is interlined.

belongs to a certain sochman of the king's. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 8 shillings.

#### IN GOSECOTE WAPENTAKE

Roger holds of Roger 2 carucates of land in WIMUNDESWALD [Wymeswold]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there; 6 villeins with 2 Frenchmen (*francigenis*) have these (ploughs) there. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It is worth 10 shillings.

#### IN FRANLUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

The same Roger holds SALTEBI [Saltby].<sup>61</sup> There are 2 hides and 3 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 28 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 6 ploughs and 16 serfs; and 24 villeins and 23 sochmen with 14 bordars have 20 ploughs. There (are) 2 mills rendering (*de*) 8 shillings and 40 acres of meadow. It was worth 9 pounds; now (it is worth) 10 pounds. Morcar held it.

Richard holds of Roger WIVORDEBIE [Wyfordby]. There are 5 carucates of land and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  bovates. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 7 serfs; and 12 villeins with 8 bordars have  $5\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. There (are) 14 acres of meadow and 2 mills worth (*de*) 10 shillings. It was and is worth 40 shillings.

The same holds of Roger 3 carucates of land in BURTONE [Burton Lazars]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 (plough); and 5 villeins with 4 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 3 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

### XIX. THE LAND OF ROBERT DISPENSATOR

ROBERT DISPENSATOR holds of the king 5 carucates of land in LEGRE [Leire]. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  (ploughs) and 4 villeins with a priest and

<sup>61</sup> Including Bescaby and probably Garthorpe.



There 3 villeins with 3 bordars have half a plough. There (are) 6 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 5 shillings. Æilmar held it freely.

The same holds 1 carucate of land in SUTONE [Sutton in the Elms]. There is land<sup>62</sup>. There 2 sochmen have half a plough. Wood(land) 3 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was and is worth 2 shillings.

The same holds 2 carucates of land in REDECLIVE [Ratcliffe Culey]. There is land<sup>62</sup>. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 2 serfs; and 6 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same holds 1½ carucates of land in SACRESTONE [Shackerstone]. There is land<sup>63</sup>. There 5 villeins have 1 plough. There Robert was seised (*saisivit*) of 1½ carucates of land. Henry (de) Fereires<sup>64</sup> claims it against (*super*) him. There are 10 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

The same holds half a carucate of land in CUNINGESTONE [Congerstone]. There 1 villein with 1 bordar has half a plough. It was and is worth 2 shillings.

The same holds 1 carucate of land in SNAR-CHETONE [Snarestone]. This is waste.

The same holds 1 carucate of land in ODESTONE [Odstone]. There is land.<sup>63</sup> There 3 sochmen have 1 plough. There (are) 6 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 10 shillings.

Henry de Fereires claims this land. The soc of these 2 carucates belongs (*iacet*) to the above-mentioned vill.

The same holds 1 carucate of land in FLECHENIE [Fleckney]. It is waste, and nevertheless it is worth 12 pence.

The same holds 11 carucates of land and 3 bovates in WISTANESTOV [Wistow]. In King Edward's time 8 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) with 1 serf; and 5 villeins with 5 bordars and 9 sochmen have 4 ploughs; and 2 Frenchmen (*francigenae*) are there, and (there is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 50 shillings.

The same holds 5 carucates of land and 6 bovates in CHIBURDE [Kibworth Beauchamp]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. There 8 villeins with 6 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Edwin and Alferd held these three lands<sup>65</sup> freely with sac and soc.

fol. 235.

The same Robert holds 6 carucates of land in CHIBURDE [Kibworth Beauchamp]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2½ ploughs and 3 serfs; and 9 villeins with 2 bordars have 2½ ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

The same holds 1 carucate of land and 2 bovates in WITENESTO [Wistow]. It is waste, and nevertheless it is worth 2 shillings.

The same holds 3 carucates of land in TIL- TONE [Tilton]. In demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 13 villeins with a priest and 1 bordar have 3 ploughs. There are 8 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings. Æilmar held these lands with sac and soc.

The same holds in NORTONE [East Norton] 4½ carucates of land. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 6 villeins with 2 sochmen and



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The same holds of Guy  $11\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in BARESWORDE [Husbands Bosworth]. There is land for 12 ploughs. There 20 sochmen with 5 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings. These two lands belong to Stanford. Levrice held (them).

### XXIII. THE LAND OF GUY DE CREDUN

IN FRANELUN [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

GUY DE CREDUN holds of the king 8 carucates of land in STOVENEBI [Stonesby]. In King Edward's time 8 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 7 serfs; and 4 villeins with 5 bordars and 11 sochmen have 6 ploughs. There (are) 60 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same holds in WALTHAM [Waltham on the Wolds]  $2\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>65</sup> carucates of land with sac and soc and half a carucate of land without sac and soc. The value (*pecunia*) of this land is entered (*annumerata*) above.<sup>69</sup>

Warin holds of Guy in SPROTONE [Sproxtun] 3 carucates of land. There is land for 3 ploughs. In demesne there is 1 (plough) and 2 serfs; and 7 sochmen with 1 villein have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 4 shillings and 15 acres of meadow. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

### XXV. THE LAND OF WILLIAM PEVREL

IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

WILLIAM PEVREL holds of the king FOSTONE [Foston]. There is half a hide. There is land for 5 ploughs. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 2 serfs and 1 bondwoman (*ancilla*); and 11 sochmen with 8 villeins and 4 bordars have



The same William holds 5 carucates of land in SEWESTEN [Sewstern]. In King Edward's time 5 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 6 villeins with 1 sochman have 1½ ploughs. It was worth 3 shillings; now it is worth 10 shillings. This land is IN FRANELUN [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE.<sup>72</sup>

## XXVIII. THE LAND OF GEOFFREY ALSELIN

### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

GEOFFREY ALSSELIN holds of the king 6 carucates of land in ALCTONE [Hallaton], and Norman (holds) of him. In King Edward's time 8 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 2 serfs, and 19 villeins with 1 sochman and 1 free man (*libero homine*) and 3 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (is) wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 60 shillings, now (it is worth) 100 shillings.

The same Norman holds of Geoffrey in GOUTEBI [Goadby] 3 carucates of land. In King Edward's time 2 ploughs were there. In demesne there is half a plough with 1 serf; and 4 villeins with 2 bordars have 1 plough. Wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same Norman holds of Geoffrey in CHEITORP [Keythorpe] 1 carucate of land. One plough was there in King Edward's time. There 1 sochman with 2 villeins and 1 bordar has<sup>73</sup> 1 plough. There (are) 10 acres of wood(land). It was worth 5 shillings, now (it is worth) 6 shillings.

The same Norman holds of Geoffrey 12 carucates of land in BILLESDONE [Billesdon]. In King Edward's time 12 ploughs were there. In demesne there (neither) was nor is anything.<sup>74</sup> There 4 sochmen with 3 villeins and 2 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 10 acres of meadow.

<sup>72</sup> In the margin is written, 'STOFALDE iii. p'.i.v' W'.

<sup>73</sup> 'Habent' in MS.

<sup>74</sup> i.e. there were no ploughs in demesne.

Tochi held all this land<sup>76</sup> with sac and soc.

## XXIX. THE LAND OF GEOFFREY DE WIRCE

GEOFFREY DE WIRCE holds of the king 3 carucates of land in STANTONE [Stanton under Bardon]. In King Edward's time 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 13 villeins with 5 bordars have 3 ploughs. Wood(land) (is) there 1 league in length and half a league in breadth. It was and is worth 2 shillings. King William gave this land to Geoffrey in exchange (*pro commutatione*) for the vill which is called Turchieestone [Thurcaston], and (he gave) this (land) which follows<sup>76</sup> likewise.

The same Geoffrey holds 4½ carucates of land in NORTONE [East Norton]. In King Edward's time 3 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 1½ ploughs; and 3 villeins with 1 sochman and 1 bordar have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 3 acres of meadow and 3 acres of wood(land). It was and is worth 10 shillings. Alwin and Ulf<sup>77</sup> held (it) freely.

### IN FRANELUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

The same Geoffrey holds MEDELSTONE [Melton Mowbray]. There are 7 hides and 1 carucate of land and 1 bovate. In each hide there are 14½ carucates of land. In demesne there are 4 ploughs and 4 serfs; and 20 villeins with 2 priests and 14 bordars have 6½ ploughs. The merchants (*mercatores*) render 20 shillings; and 2 mills (render) 25 shillings. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 1 furlong in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 100 shillings, now (it is worth) 8 pounds. To this manor there belong (*adiacent*) these members.

In Fredebi [Freeby], (there are) 10 carucates of land and 30 acres of meadow.

In Wordebi [Wyfordby], 1½ carucates of land and half a bovate, and 6 acres of meadow.

In Burtone [Burton Lazars], 12 carucates of land, less 1 bovate, and 12 acres of meadow.

<sup>76</sup> i.e. Geoffrey Alselin's.

<sup>76</sup> i.e. Norton.

<sup>77</sup> 'and Ulf' is an interlineation.



and 13 bordars who have 43 ploughs. The whole was worth when (Geoffrey) received it 4 pounds and 10 shillings. Now (it is worth) 15 pounds and 10 shillings.

Levric the son of Lewin held this land in King Edward's time with sac and soc.

In ALEBIE [Welby] there are 8 carucates of land, less 2 bovates, which belong to Medeltone [Melton Mowbray]. Five ploughs were there. Now 16 sochmen have 5 ploughs there and 6 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings, now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

#### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

Walter holds of Geoffrey 8 carucates of land in ULESTORP [Ullesthorpe]. Six ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 (ploughs) and 4 serfs; and (there are) 9 villeins and 4 bordars with 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence and 16 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings, now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Alfrid holds of Geoffrey 2 carucates of land in LILINGE [ ]. Four ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough and 2 serfs; and 9 villeins with 3 bordars have 2 ploughs. It was worth 10 shillings, now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Robert holds of Geoffrey in BETMESWELLE [Bitteswell] 1 carucate of land. There is 1 bordar. It was and is worth 12 pence.

Alwin holds of Geoffrey in STORMODE [Storworth] 1 carucate of land. One plough was there, and is (there) likewise now with 2 villeins and 1 bordar. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Alwin holds of Geoffrey in SUINFORD [Swinford] 1 carucate of land. It is waste; nevertheless it is worth 2 shillings.

#### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE



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XXXVI. THE LAND OF DROGO DE  
BEURERE

IN FRANLUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

DROGO DE BEURERE holds of the king 12 carucates of land in OVRETONE [Cold Overton] and Fule (holds) of him. 12 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 8 villeins with a priest and 4 sochmen and 4 bordars have 5 ploughs. There (are) 30 acres of meadow and the same extent of spinney (*nemoris*). It was and is worth 50 shillings.

IN GOSECOT[E] WAPENTAKE

Adelem holds of Drogo 4 carucates of land and 2 bovates in HOBIE [Hoby]. 4 ploughs were there. In demesne there is 1 plough; and 8 villeins with 4 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 6 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings. Ulf held it with soc and soc.

XXXVII. THE LAND OF MAINO  
THE BRETON

MAINO the Breton holds of the king LUTRESURDE [Lutterworth]. There are 13 carucates of land. 9 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 3 ploughs and 2 serfs and 1 bondwoman (*ancilla*); and 6 villeins with 7 bordars and 12 sochmen have 4 ploughs. There (are) 12 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 7 pounds. Earl Ralf held there 3 lands.<sup>78a</sup>

The same holds 2 carucates of lands in MINSTRETONE [Misterton]. 2 ploughs were there. Now 1 sochman with 1 bordar has there 1 plough. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

The same holds in TORP [Catthorpe] 2 carucates of land. 2 ploughs were there. Now in demesne he has 1½ ploughs and a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

XXXVIII. THE LAND OF OGER THE  
BRETON

IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

OGER the Breton holds in CILEBI [Kilby] of the king 2 parts (thirds) of 1 hide, that is 12 carucates of land. 8 ploughs were there. In demesne there are 2 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 9 villeins with 7 bordars and 10 sochmen have 4 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 12 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 40 shillings. Eur held it freely in King Edward's time.

<sup>78a</sup> Apparently this refers to Lutterworth, Misterton, and Catthorpe.

XXXIX. THE LAND OF NIGEL DE  
ALBINGI

IN GOSECOT[E] WAPENTAKE

NIGEL de ALBINGI holds of the king in SELA [Seal] 2 carucates of land, and Humfrey (holds) of him. There is 1 plough in demesne. It was worth 12 pence; now (it is worth) 5 shillings.

Turchil holds of Nigel in DUNTONE [Donington le Heath] 3 hides. (There is) land for 6 ploughs. There is 1 villein and 4 acres of meadow. Wood(land) half a league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 20 shillings; now (it is worth) 2 shillings. (Nigel) received it waste.

XL. THE LAND OF THE COUNTESS  
JUDITH

IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

JUDITH the Countess holds in OLDEBI [Oadby] 9 carucates of land and 2 bovates. 9 ploughs were there and 45 sochmen with 11 bordars and 3 serfs have so many ploughs there. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. It was worth 40 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same countess holds in PETLINGE [Peatling Magna] 4 carucates of land. 2 ploughs were there. Now 4 sochmen with 2 bordars have there 1 plough. There (are) 8 acres of meadow.

The same countess holds in COSSEBI [Cosby] 8 carucates of land. 6 ploughs were there. Now 26 sochmen have there 5 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings. Now these two lands are worth 100 shillings.

In FRELLESWORDE [Frolesworth] the countess holds 6 carucates of land. 6 ploughs were there. Now 14 sochmen have there 5 ploughs and 8 acres of meadow. It is worth 40 shillings.

In SCERNEFORD [Sharnford] the countess holds 1 carucate of land. It was and is worth 32 pence.

In WILECHEBI [Willoughby Waterless] the countess holds 5 carucates of land less 1 virgate. 5 ploughs were there. Now 13 sochmen have there 3 ploughs and 14 acres of meadow. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

In HADRE [Heather] the countess holds 4 carucates of land. There were 2 ploughs. Now 4 villeins have there 1 plough. It was worth 16 pence; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.



ton Astley]. 2 ploughs were there. Now 8 sochmen with 2 bordars have there 3 ploughs. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The same holds 2 carucates of land in MERCHENEFIELD [Markfield]. 2 ploughs were there. Now there are 2 bordars. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. The whole was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. Ulf held it freely in King Edward's time.

The same Hugh holds 2 carucates of land in ELVELEGE [ ]. 2 ploughs were there. Now in demesne he has 1 plough with 2 serfs; and there are 2 villeins. Wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings.

The same Hugh holds in RICOLTORP [ ] 2 carucates of land. 2 ploughs were there. Now (there are) 2 villeins and a mill rendering (*de*) 4 shillings and 8 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 10 shillings.

Hugh Burdet holds of the countess  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in RERESBI [Rearsby]. There is 1 plough in demesne; and a priest with 1 villein and 3 bordars and a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The same holds  $6\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in ALEBI [Welby]. 4 ploughs were there. Now in demesne there are  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs; and 7 villeins with 2 sochmen and 3 bordars have  $1\frac{1}{2}$  ploughs. From a share (*parte*) of the mill 3 shillings, and (there are) 12 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The same holds half a carucate of land in SIXTENEBI [Sysonby]. There 1 sochman has 1 plough. It was worth 8 pence; now (it is worth) 2 shillings. Alden held it freely.

#### IN GERETREU [GARTREE] WAPENTAKE

Robert de Buci holds of the countess 7 carucates of land in LOBENHO [Lubenham]. 6 ploughs were there. Now there are 2 ploughs in demesne and 3 serfs; and 8 villeins with 3 bordars and 2 Frenchmen (*francigenae*) have 4 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

The same Robert holds  $7\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in FOXTONE [Foxton]. 6 ploughs were there.

The same holds 9 carucates of land in GURMUNDESLEA [Gumley]. 6 ploughs were there. Now there is in demesne 1 plough and 2 serfs; and 6 villeins with a priest and 5 bordars and 1 freeman (*libero homine*) have 5 ploughs. There (are) 20 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings. Three thegns held it freely.

The same holds 3 carucates of land in BUGEDONE [Great Bowden]. 4 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough; and 4 villeins with 8 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 15 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

The same holds  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in ACTORP [Othorpe].<sup>79</sup> 3 ploughs were there. Now in demesne there are 2 ploughs; and 8 villeins with 2 sochmen and 4 bordars have fol. 236b.

2 ploughs. There (are) 9 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 2 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings.

The same Robert holds of the countess 1 carucate of land in BLADESTONE [Blaston]. There is 1 villein. It was worth 10 pence; now (it is worth) 2 shillings. Robert de Toden has the soc of this land.<sup>79a</sup>

The same holds 3 carucates of land in STOCSTONE [Stockerston]. 4 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough; and 2 villeins with 1 sochman have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings; and 8 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 5 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 7 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Hugh de Grentemaisnil holds of the countess 3 carucates of land in GLORSTONE [Glooston]. 3 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough; and 6 villeins with 2 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (are) 4 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 3 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 3 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings.

Robert holds of the countess 11 carucates of land in SCALDEFORD [Scalford]. 12 ploughs

<sup>79</sup> Near Hallaton in Gartree wapentake.

<sup>79a</sup> He held 2 carucates in Blaston belonging to his manor of Medbourne, to which doubtless the 'soc' of this carucate pertained.



Wood(land) 1 furlong in length and 1 in breadth. It was and is worth 40 shillings.

Robert holds of the countess 2 carucates of land less 2 bovates in OLDEBI [Oadby] and WICHINGESTONE [Great Wigston]. 1½ ploughs were there. Now there is 1 bordar. It was and is worth 2 shillings.

Grimbald holds of the countess 7 carucates of land in OSULVESTONE [Owston]. 12 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there are) 2 ploughs; and 15 villeins with 3 bordars have 6 ploughs. There 1 Frenchman (*francigena*) has 1 plough with 3 bordars. There (are) 30 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 5 furlongs in length and 1 furlong in breadth. It was worth 50 shillings; now (it is worth) 3 pounds. Turchil held it with sac and soc.

Grimbald holds of the countess 5 carucates of land in ADELACHESTONE [Allexton]. 5 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough; and 4 villeins with 4 bordars have 1 plough. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Osbern holds of the countess 2 carucates of land in STANTONE [Stonton Wyville]. 1 plough was there. Now in demesne (there is) half a plough and 10 acres of meadow. It is worth 4 shillings.

Azo holds of the countess 2 carucates of land in CRAWEO [Cranoe]. 3 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough and 4 villeins have another. There (are) 4 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 4 furlongs in length and 2 furlongs in breadth. It was worth 8 shillings; now (it is worth) 20 shillings.

Gilbert holds 1 carucate of land in WELEHAM [Welham]. It is waste and nevertheless it is worth 3 shillings.

Gunduin holds 2 carucates of land in DEDIGWORDE [Theddingworth]. 1 plough was there.

another. There (are) 3 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings.

Feggo holds of the countess 1½ carucates of land in GADESBI [Gaddesby]. 1 plough was there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough with 1 bordar. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 12 pence, and 3 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Othingar holds of the countess half a carucate of land in GADESBI [Gaddesby]. Half a plough was there and is (there) now and (there are) 2 acres of meadow, and half a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings. It was and is worth 5 shillings.

Wlsi holds of the countess in BROCHESBI [Brooksby] 6 bovates of land. 1 plough was there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough with 2 bordars and 4 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 4 shillings.

Godwin holds 1 carucate of land and 2 bovates in ALEBI [Welby]. It is waste; nevertheless it is worth 3 shillings.

Ralf holds of the countess half a carucate of land in ALEBI [Welby]. It is waste; nevertheless it is worth 2 shillings.

#### IN GOSECOTE WAPENTAKE

Grimbald holds of the countess half a carucate of land in ADELACHESTONE [Allexton]. In demesne there is half a plough, and a mill rendering (*de*) 16 pence. It is worth 5 shillings.

#### IN FRANLUND [FRAMLAND] WAPENTAKE

Hugh Musard holds of the countess 5 carucates of land in SAXEBI [Saxby]. 6 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough; and 2 villeins with 6 sochmen have 3 ploughs. There (are) 60 acres of meadow and a mill



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

I bondwoman; and II villeins with 13 bordars have II ploughs. There (are) 3 mills rendering (*de*) 30 shillings. Wood(land) I league in length and 4 furlongs in breadth. Earl Harold held this manor with the appendages underwritten.

In DUNINTONE [Castle Donington] 5 carucates of land and meadow 3 furlongs in length and I furlong in breadth.

In COSINTONE [Cossington] 6 carucates of land.

In HOHTONE [Hoton] 6 carucates of land.

In SETGRAVE [Seagrave] 2 carucates of land and 10 acres of meadow.

In SIGLEBI [Sileby] I carucate of land.

In REDRESBI [Rearsby] 2 carucates of land less I bovat and I acres of meadow.

In BROCHESBI [Brooksby] 2 carucates of land and 7 acres of meadow and a mill (rendering) 5 shillings.

In FRISEBI [Frisby] 1½ carucates of land and 4 acres of meadow.

In PRESTEWALD [Prestwold] 2 carucates of land. Meadow 3 furlongs in length and I furlong in breadth. Wood(land) 6 furlongs in length and 5 furlongs in breadth.

In CERNELEGA [Charley] 4 carucates of land. It is waste.<sup>84</sup>

In GADESBI [Gaddesby] I carucate of land and 4 acres of meadow and a mill (rendering) 3 shillings.

In REDEBI [Rotherby] 3 carucates of land less 2 bovates and 3 acres of meadow.

In FRISEBI [Frisby] 1½ carucates of land and 4 acres of meadow and a mill (rendering) 28 pence.

Of these lands 4 knights hold of the earl 12 carucates of land.

In them the earl himself has in demesne 4½ ploughs; and 30 sochmen and 25 villeins and 13 bordars who have 15½ ploughs with I serf.

His knights have in demesne 3 ploughs; and (they have) 12 villeins with I sochman and 2 bordars who have 3 ploughs.

In LUCTEBURNE [Loughborough] Roger holds of the earl 8 carucates of land.

Ralf 3½ carucates of land.

Hugh 3½ carucates of land.

Godric 3½ carucates of land.

Roger half a carucate of land.

In demesne there are 5 ploughs; and 8 villeins with 15 sochmen and 16 bordars have 12½ ploughs. There (are) 2 mills rendering (*de*) 10 shillings and 45 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 7 furlongs in length and 3 furlongs in breadth; 5 thegns held it freely.

<sup>84</sup> *Require precium* is added in red in the margin at this point.

Lewin holds of the earl I hide in BURTONE [Burton on the Wolds]. The soc belongs to Lucteburne [Loughborough]. In demesne there is I plough, and (there is) I villein with 2 bordars and 20 acres of meadow. In the same vill Godric holds of the earl 2 carucates of land and has there I plough in demesne and 20 acres of meadow. Hugh de Grentemaisnil claims (*reclamat*) the soc of this vill.

Roger holds 5 carucates of land of Earl Hugh in TEDINGESWORDE [Theddingworth]. There he has I plough in demesne, and 4 villeins with 4 bordars have 2 ploughs. There (is) a mill (rendering) 6 pence. The king claims this land<sup>85</sup> (*est in calumnia regis*). Earl Harold held it.

Robert holds of Earl Hugh 15 carucates of land in COGEWORDE [Kegworth]. There he has 5 ploughs in demesne with I serf and 2 bondwomen (*ancillis*); and 25 villeins with 13 bordars have 10 ploughs. Earl Harold held it.

To this manor belong 3 carucates of land in AVEDERNE [Hathern] and DEXLEIA [Dishley]. There are 20 acres of meadow. Wood(land) 1½ furlongs in length and I furlong in breadth.

In all these above-written lands<sup>86</sup> there were 80 ploughs in King Edward's time. The whole was and is worth 40 pounds. When the earl received it it was worth 10 pounds.<sup>87</sup>

In BORTONE [Burton on the Wolds] Hugh holds of the earl 2 carucates of land less I bovat. It is waste. This is reckoned (*computatur*) with the above (lands).<sup>88</sup>

Roger Busli<sup>89</sup> holds of Earl Hugh in<sup>90</sup> I carucate of land. There is half a plough; and 4 villeins with 2 bordars have ½ ploughs.<sup>91</sup> Alnod held it.

<sup>85</sup> Most probably as belonging to his manor of Great Bowden, to which the soke of William Loveth's land in Theddingworth pertained.

<sup>86</sup> Probably including Barrow on Soar and the whole of Earl Hugh's fief surveyed to this point.

<sup>87</sup> This notice is of some interest as suggesting that the abnormally low 'valuit' which prevails throughout the Survey of Leicestershire may refer not to King Edward's time, but to some unexplained depression in value which affected the county after the Conquest. See also Maitland, *Domesday Book and Beyond*, 469.

<sup>88</sup> This entry is referred by a sign (M) to Hugh's holding of 3½ carucates, which comes under the Loughborough heading.

<sup>89</sup> 'Busli' is interlined.

<sup>90</sup> The MS. is unintelligible here.

<sup>91</sup> MS. illegible.



The same Turstin holds of Robert in CLACHESTONE [Long Clawson] 4 carucates of land and Tetbald (holds) 2 carucates of land. There is 1 plough in demesne; and (there are) 3 sochmen and 5 villeins and 4 bordars with 3 ploughs and 1 serf. There (are) 14 acres of meadow. The whole was and is worth 20 shillings.

In King Edward's time Outi and Arnui held these lands with sac and soc.

### XLIH. THE LAND OF THE MEN OF THE COUNT OF MELLENT

#### IN GUTLACISTAN [GUTHLAXTON] WAPENTAKE

OF THE COUNT OF MELLENT Turald holds the land of 4 villeins, and has there in demesne the land of 1 plough; and he has 5 sochmen with 1 villein and 2 bordars who have 2 ploughs. There (are) 5 acres of meadow. It is worth 20 shillings. This land belongs (*iacet*) to AILESTON [Aylestone].

Ulnod holds of the count 4 carucates of land belonging (*pertinentes*) to AILESTONE [Aylestone]. In demesne he has 1 plough; and 2 villeins with 3 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 2 acres of brushwood (*brocae*) of which William Pevrel has the soc (which renders) 2 pence yearly. The whole is worth 20 shillings. Lewin held it in King Edward's time.

William holds of the count half a hide and 1½ carucates of land in BLADI [Blaby]. Nine ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough with 1 serf; and 28 sochmen and

<sup>92</sup> These three entries duplicate the account of the lands of William the Usher on p. 327. The chief differences are that the holders before the Conquest are given here, and that the two entries relating to Long Clawson on p. 327 are here made into one; the details in the two former entries being added together in the total given. In the case of the bordars this is done incorrectly; their total number should be 3 not 4. See *Feud. Engl.* 27.

dering (*de*) 2 shillings and 16 acres of meadow. It was worth 25 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings.

Robert holds of the count 4½ carucates of land in PETLINGE [Peatling Magna]. One plough was there. There 3 sochmen have half a plough. There (are) 10 acres of meadow. It was worth 4 shillings; now (it is worth) 5 shillings. Osmar held it freely.

The same holds of the count BRANDINESTOR [Bromkinsthorpe]. There are 2 parts of 1 hide, that is 12 carucates of land; 6 ploughs were there. Now (there are) 2 ploughs in demesne and 2 serfs; and 9 sochmen and 3 villeins with 6 bordars have 3 ploughs. There (are) 16 acres of meadow. Of this land Osbern holds 3 carucates of land and has there 1 plough. It was worth 30 shillings; now (it is worth) 40 shillings. Bovi held it freely.

Fulc holds of the count 8 carucates of land in CLAIBROC [Claybrooke]. 9 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there is) 1 plough and 2 serfs; and 9 sochmen and 9 villeins and 2 knights with 6 bordars have 5 ploughs. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 55 shillings.

Robert holds of the count SAWELLE [Shawell]. There are 9 carucates of land. 7 ploughs were there, and (there are) 6 serfs; and 23 villeins with 11 bordars have 6 ploughs. There (is) a mill rendering (*de*) 2 shillings and 60 acres of meadow. It was worth 40 shillings; now (it is worth) 60 shillings. Saxi held it freely in King Edward's time.

Robert holds of the count in PLOTELEI<sup>93</sup> [ ] 4 carucates of land. 4 ploughs were there. Now in demesne (there are) 2 ploughs and 2 serfs; and 4 villeins with 1 bordar have 1 plough. There (are) 2 acres of meadow. It was worth 10 shillings; now (it is worth) 30 shillings. Levric held it.

<sup>93</sup> 'In Plotelei' is interlined.



Ralf holds of the count  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of land in CHIVLESWORDE [Kilworth]. 2 ploughs were there. Now (there is) 1 plough in demesne, with 1 serf; and 2 villeins with 5 bordars have 1 plough. There (are) 8 acres of meadow. It was and is worth 20 shillings. Ulchetel held it freely.

The same holds of the count 2 carucates of land and 2 bovates in the same vill. Half a plough was there and so much (*tantum*) is there in demesne; with 1 sochman and 2 bordars and 1 bondwoman (*ancilla*). There (is) a mill rendering (*dē*) 2 shillings and 4 acres of meadow. It was worth 2 shillings; now (it is worth) 10 shillings. The same Ulchetel held it.

Guthlaxton and Gosecote wapentakes were divided in 1346; with this exception the Leicester wapentakes seem to have continued substantially unchanged. The hints given by the Domesday rubrication are, as far as it goes, borne out by the fuller evidence of the Leicester Survey; thus the curious way in which Gartree, Gosecote, and Framland wapentakes are intermingled along the Rutland border appears in Domesday as well as in the later survey. There can also be traced a distinct system in the rubrication, by which the wapentakes referred to in each fief tend to follow each other in the order. Guthlaxton, Gartree, Gosecote, Framland. No hint is given of the series of 'hundreds' whose existence is revealed in the later Leicester Survey.



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# HISTORY

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# LEICESTERSHIRE SURVEY

(TWELFTH CENTURY)

THE Leicestershire Survey, the translation of which forms a natural supplement to the Domesday description of this county, is one of a series of three similar records which were compiled at different times during the second half of the reign of Henry I. The corresponding surveys of Lindsey and Northamptonshire have long been known to antiquaries, but the existence of the present document was never suspected before its discovery in the Public Record Office by Mr. Round, and its publication by him in *Feudal England*.<sup>1</sup> Belonging as it does to the years 1124-9,<sup>2</sup> the middle of the darkest period in all English local history, it affords invaluable evidence in regard to two most important subjects, the assessment of the Leicestershire vills to the Danegeld, and the devolution of the greater fiefs in this county during the obscure forty years which follow 1086. The notes which are appended to the following translation are intended to connect each entry in the survey, whenever possible, with the corresponding entry in Domesday, but there are certain matters of general interest in connexion with the record which can most conveniently be discussed here.

The survey, as we possess it, is merely a fragment, beginning abruptly in the middle of an entry relating to some unnamed vill in Gartree wapentake. The account of Gosecote wapentake follows at length, and it is probable that the survey of Framland wapentake with which the record closes is complete. It ends abruptly, it is true, but so far as can be seen, every vill in the wapentake is accounted for. The same can unfortunately not be said of the description of Gosecote wapentake. A compact block of six vills, Barrow on Soar, Seagrave, Prestwold, Wymeswold, Burton on the Wolds, and Walton on the Wolds, all situated between the Foss Way, the Soar, and the Nottinghamshire border, and with a total assessment according to Domesday of more than eighty carucates, is entirely and inexplicably omitted from the survey.

<sup>1</sup> pp. 196-214. The following translation is made from the survey as printed in *Feudal England*, where its bearing on problems of assessment and on Henry I's disposition of forfeited fiefs is discussed.

<sup>2</sup> The first date is fixed by the mention of King David (succeeded April, 1124); and Mr. Round considers that the shrievalty of Hugh of Leicester, who is described as sheriff in the present survey, ended at Michaelmas, 1129.



With all its imperfection, however, the Leicestershire Survey supplies a most valuable commentary upon the corresponding portion of Domesday. The manner in which it reinforces the evidence for the duodecimal assessment of the county has already been discussed in the Domesday Introduction.<sup>4</sup> On the other hand, it must be confessed that the discrepancies between the assessments of individual villas as recorded in Domesday and in the present document present a very serious difficulty. In part, no doubt, this is due to the combination of villar assessments after the manner described in the Domesday Introduction, but it is also clear that the Leicestershire Survey is no mere re-arrangement of the Domesday figures, but represents the result of a fresh inquiry into these matters. We know in regard to other counties that the assessments recorded in Domesday were in no sense regarded as final, but were subject to constant revision,<sup>5</sup> and a drastic revision must have been needed to produce the figures recorded here. For the real difficulty presented by the assessments entered in the present record lies in the fact that they normally represent an advance, in many cases a large advance, upon the fiscal burden recorded in Domesday. Had Leicestershire, in 1086, been a lightly rated county, an increase in its assessment would have been natural enough, but no shire in England presents such a striking combination of great poverty with heavy taxation as that afforded by Leicestershire. The difficulty is complicated by the fact that in the Pipe Roll of 1130, which is almost exactly contemporary with the Leicestershire Survey, the county appears as paying a sum absurdly below that which would be represented by even the Domesday assessment of the shire. The sheriff of Leicestershire in that year accounts for just £100 as the Danegeld of a county rated, according to the lowest estimate, at more than 2,500 carucates. The neatness of the sum certainly suggests that the sheriff of Leicestershire, in contrast to the practice which obtained in relation to all other counties, had compounded for the shire's Danegeld, and we may at least suggest as a reason for this exceptional treatment of Leicestershire, that it had been found impossible in practice to raise anything like the amount of geld which would be represented by the assessments either of 1086 or 1125.<sup>6</sup> This, however, is only a hypothesis.

But valuable as is the subject-matter of the present survey, its peculiar interest lies in the manner in which it is arranged. Its discovery for the first time revealed the fact that the several wapentakes of Leicestershire were divided into a number of small territorial hundreds, representing a stage in



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Kirby Bellars hundred . . . .	54	carucates	} = 162 carucates
Harby hundred . . . .	36	”	
Waltham hundred . . . .	36	”	
Croxtan Kerrial hundred . . . .	36	”	
Cold Overton hundred . . . .	43	carucates	} = 216 carucates
Nether Broughton hundred . . . .	50	”	
Scalford hundred . . . .	30	”	
Barkestone hundred . . . .	52	”	
Stapleford hundred . . . .	41	”	

Of course the fact that the figures for Framland wapentake permit of this duodecimal grouping may be the result of chance, though the probabilities of the case seem decidedly against this. But even in Gosecote wapentake, the survey of which is incomplete, and includes at least two awkward scribal errors, two similar groups can be constructed on the 18-caracute basis. With such scanty evidence before us we cannot say that the duodecimal grouping of hundredal totals can be definitely proved, but the possibility of such a system should certainly be taken into account in considering the distribution of the Leicestershire assessment.

The Leicestershire Survey is also valuable as helping us to reconstruct the assessments of the several wapentakes of the county. Owing to its fragmentary condition it does not go very far in this direction, but we know so little about this subject in relation to the Danelaw that it is worth while to see if any suggestive facts arise from a combination of the evidence afforded by the present survey with the figures given by Domesday. The present survey assigns 552 carucates to Framland wapentake, and 706 to that of Gosecote, this last figure of course excluding the group of villas on the Nottinghamshire border to which reference has already been made. The three hundreds in Gartree wapentake which are included in the document are assessed at  $43\frac{7}{8}$  carucates, and on completing the assessment of the wapentake from Domesday we obtain a total of 557 carucates, a curiously close approximation to the 558 carucates assigned above to Framland wapentake. The figures for Guthlaxton wapentake have to be compiled from Domesday alone, and the total of 760 carucates which is thus obtained does not at first suggest any system. If, however, we add in the 15 carucates which Domesday assigns to Barrow on Soar we obtain a total of 775 carucates as the assessment of Guthlaxton wapentake. Gosecote wapentake, according to the Leicestershire Survey, answered for 706 carucates, to which must be added a sum of 65 carucates representing the assessment of the omitted villas



respectively to equal the assessments of the two southern wapentakes of Guthlaxton and Gartree. If this were the case the total assessment of the county must have been something very near 2,664 carucates; a sum which would represent 148 of those 18-carucate units which are described as 'hides' in the present survey and in Domesday. It is impossible to attain certainty in regard to matters of this kind, but the evidence of the document we are considering, combined with that of Domesday, undoubtedly suggests that some scheme, such as that indicated here, really underlay the distribution of the Leicestershire assessment.

The changes in the distribution of land in the county which are revealed by the Leicestershire Survey were worked out in detail by Mr. Round upon his publication of the record in *Feudal England*.<sup>13</sup> They are indeed sufficiently far-reaching. The royal demesne had been granted away wholesale, the chief grantees being the earl of Chester, the count of Mortain, Norman de Verdon, and Richard Basset. The latter, a favourite official of Henry I, had received, probably only a few years before the date of our survey, almost the entire Domesday fief of Robert de Buci, from which he endowed the priory of Launde, the documents relating to this house enabling us to trace his succession to Robert de Buci in parts of Leicestershire which lie outside the scope of the Leicestershire Survey as we possess it.<sup>13</sup> Probably the largest fief in the county at this time was that of the young earl of Leicester, whose father had become possessed of the lands held in 1086 by Hugh de Grentemaisnil after the manner described in the Domesday Introduction.<sup>14</sup> The bulk of the Countess Judith's lands had passed to her son-in-law, David king of Scots. At least three important Domesday fiefs had been divided by the date of the survey: Robert de Toden's lands were held by William de Albin<sup>14a</sup> and Robert 'de Insula,' the fief of Robert 'Dispensator' had passed to his heirs Robert Marmion and Walter de Beauchamp, and of Roger de Busli's estate the important vill of Saltby had been given to William Peverel, the remainder apparently being held by the king as part of the forfeited Honour of Blyth. On the other hand the Domesday fief of Henry de Ferrers had more than maintained its integrity in the hands of his son Robert, although certain lands which had been held of the former by Nigel de Stafford were now held in chief of the crown by the latter's son William.<sup>15</sup> Roger de Mowbray appears in possession of the entire fief of Geoffrey de Wirce, upon the most important manor of which he was to confer his surname; William Meschin, the brother of Earl Randulf of Chester, had received part of the land of William Loveth and had also

<sup>13</sup> *Feudal England*, 210-12.

<sup>13</sup> Ralf Basset the justiciar held land in Great Dalby which had formerly belonged to Robert de Buci.

<sup>14</sup> Robert, count of Meulan, had died in 1118, leaving two sons, both minors at the time.

<sup>14a</sup> Cf. Mr. Round's remarks on this succession in his report on the Belvoir charters; Belvoir MSS. (*Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.*), iv.

<sup>15</sup> For Nigel de Stafford, the founder of the Derbyshire family of Gresley, see *V.C.H. Derby*, i, 306.



area the compilers of Domesday have, through design or inadvertence, made no specific mention of more than a dozen vills which undoubtedly existed in 1086. In some cases the assessments of two, three, or more vills are included under one heading: Blackfordby, Kilwardby, and Alton Grange are represented in Domesday by the latter name only; Lockington, Hemington, and Long Whatton are included under the Shepshed heading, and several other cases in point will be discussed in the notes to the survey which follow. With the aid of the present survey it is possible to make a fairly safe estimate of the acreage represented by any place-name in Domesday relating to land in the north of Leicestershire. On the other hand, with this survey before us, it seems impossible to acquit the Domesday scribes of singular carelessness in making their compilation from the original returns before them. There exist, at least, several cases in which a vill, which must have been included in the original returns, is omitted from Domesday, to all appearance without any attempt on the part of the scribes to include the details relating to it under another manorial heading. Eaton, Thorpe Satchville, and Belton are three cases in point taken from different parts of north Leicestershire. In other respects the Leicestershire Domesday bears signs of having been compiled in considerable haste; but the present survey, valuable as is the definite information which it gives, performs an important service in merely adding to the proof that Domesday Book itself, the greatest of all surveys, is no infallible record.

[GARTREE WAPENTAKE]

. . . . . the earl of Leicester 6 carucates.<sup>1</sup>

HUNDRED OF LANGTON

In the same vill the Earl of Leicester 11 carucates and 1 virgate.<sup>2</sup> In the same place Richard Basset 3 carucates and 1 virgate.<sup>3</sup>

The descent of other and less important fiefs in the county will be found tabulated in *Feudal England*, p. 214.

<sup>1</sup> Compare *Domesday Book and Beyond*, p. 500.

<sup>2</sup> The only vill in this wapentake in which Hugh de Grentemaisnil, the earl's predecessor, held this sum is Stonton Wyville, which adjoins Tur Langton and Shangton, surveyed below.

<sup>3</sup> In Domesday 11 carucates are assigned to Hugh de Grentemaisnil in Langton.

In THORP [Thorpe Langton] Eustace 3 carucates and 3 virgates.<sup>4</sup>

In the other (*alia*) LANGETON [East Langton] the abbot of (Peter)borough 4 carucates and 3 virgates.<sup>5</sup> In the same place Henry de Port 1 carucate.<sup>6</sup>

In THURLINGTON [Tur Langton] the same Henry 12 carucates.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>4</sup> The same amount of land was held by Robert de Veci in 1086.

<sup>5</sup> As in Domesday, where the holding is described as 5 carucates less 2 bovates.

<sup>6</sup> See next note.

<sup>7</sup> In Domesday the archbishop of York is represented as holding 13 carucates in Tur Langton, one of which may safely be identified with the carucate assigned



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## HUNDRED OF TILTON

In the same vill 2 carucates less 1 bovate of the king's sokeland.<sup>37</sup> In the same place Walter de Beauchamp 3 carucates.<sup>38</sup> The archbishop (of York) 1 carucate.<sup>39</sup>

In NEUTON [Cold Newton] Walter de Beauchamp 4 carucates.<sup>40</sup> Roger de Mowbray 8 carucates.<sup>41</sup>

In LOUSEBIA [Lovesby] King David 12 carucates.<sup>42</sup>

In WATEBERGIA [Whatborough] 4 carucates (belonging to) the king's demesne (*Dominicum Regis*).<sup>43</sup>

In HALLESTED [Halstead] Norman de Verdon 3 carucates less 1 virgate.<sup>44</sup>

<sup>32</sup> These entries present great difficulty. Thorpe Satchville is not mentioned by name in Domesday, and in view of the tendency for the assessments of 1086 to be lower than those recorded in the present document, it is not easy to believe that the 17 $\frac{3}{4}$  carucates above are distributed in Domesday among other manors in the neighbourhood. It seems more probable that the Domesday scribes have inadvertently omitted the statistics relating to Thorpe Satchville, as they have almost certainly done in the case of Eaton below.

<sup>33</sup> 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates are assigned by Domesday to Twyford as belonging to Rothley soke.

<sup>31</sup> It has not been possible to identify these 10 bovates in Domesday.

<sup>35</sup> Domesday gives 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates here to Robert Dispensator.

<sup>36</sup> Including the 4 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates held in this vill by Geoffrey de Wirce in 1086.

<sup>37</sup> Domesday assigns 2 carucates to the king in Tilton.

<sup>35</sup> Held by Robert Dispensator in 1086.

<sup>39</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>40</sup> This may possibly include the half carucate which Herbert 'serviens' held here in 1086.

<sup>41</sup> Domesday assigns 6 carucates in Cold Newton to Geoffrey de Wirce.

same place the earl of Chester 3 carucates.<sup>50</sup> In the same place Richard Basset 2 carucates.<sup>51</sup> Robert de Ferrers 5 bovates.<sup>52</sup>

## HUNDRED OF BARKBY

In the same vill 5 carucates of the fee of Belvoir.<sup>53</sup>

In HAMELTON [Hamilton] and in THORP [Barkby Thorpe] 6 carucates of the same fee<sup>54</sup> and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of the fee of the earl of Leicester.<sup>55</sup>

In THORMEDESTON [Thurmaston] the canons (of St. Mary de Castro, Leicester) 3 carucates.<sup>56</sup>

<sup>45</sup> Domesday assigns 10 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates here to Crowland Abbey.

<sup>46</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>47</sup> It is impossible to identify these two carucates in the Domesday fief of Hugh de Grentemaisnil.

<sup>48</sup> In Domesday Robert de Toden is assigned 6 carucates in Hungerton as appurtenant to his manor of Barkby.

<sup>49</sup> Including the 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  carucates held by Hugh de Grentemaisnil, in 1086.

<sup>50</sup> Domesday assigns one carucate here to the earl of Chester as part of the soke of Barrow.

<sup>51</sup> Clearly representing part of the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  carucates which Domesday enters as belonging to Rothley soke.

<sup>52</sup> It is probable that these 5 bovates include the 2 bovates out of the 2 $\frac{1}{4}$  carucates mentioned in the previous note, which had not been granted to Richard Basset.

<sup>53</sup> See next note.

<sup>54</sup> Domesday assigns 18 carucates to Robert de Toden in Barkby, but goes on to state that 6 of these carucates were situated in Hungerton. They would therefore be accounted for above, under Beeby Hundred. On the other hand, neither Hamilton nor Barkby Thorpe appears in connexion with Robert de Toden's fief in Domesday, and it is probable that the 6 carucates assigned here to these places were included in the 18 carucates at which Barkby was assessed in 1086. The whole of the latter sum will thus be accounted for with the exception of one carucate.



In NEUBOLD [Newbold near Folville] Robert de Ferrers 1 carucate and a half.<sup>68</sup>

In BARNESBY [Barsby] the king 3 carucates and half a bovat.<sup>69</sup> In the same place the earl of Leicester 13 bovates.<sup>60</sup>

In GADESBY [Gaddesby] 8 carucates and a half and half a bovat (of) the king's land.<sup>61</sup> In the same place the bishop of Lincoln 8 bovates.<sup>62</sup> The earl of Leicester 1 carucate and half a bovat.<sup>63</sup> Richard Basset half a carucate.<sup>64</sup> King David 2 carucates.<sup>65</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF ASHBY FOLVILLE

In the same vill King David 5 carucates.<sup>66</sup> In the same place Hugh of Leicester 1 carucate.<sup>67</sup>

In HUMBERSTAY [Humberstone] Roger de Ramis 8 carucates. In the same place Walter

count of Meulan, and it ultimately passed, with the other possessions of the house, to the abbey of St. Mary du Pré, founded by Robert, the second earl of Leicester.

<sup>67</sup> It has not been possible to identify this sum in Domesday, but see below, note 59.

<sup>69</sup> See below, note 161

<sup>59</sup> Domesday assigns  $4\frac{7}{8}$  carucates here to the king, which gives a discrepancy of  $1\frac{1}{8}$  carucates. But it is quite possible that the Domesday figure includes the assessment of the king's sokeland in the adjoining vill of South Croxton. If we could assume a scribal error in the MS. of the present survey in the entry above relating to South Croxton, and read 'ii car. minus i bov. et dim.' instead of 'ii car. et i bov. et dim.' we should obtain a total for the king's land in South Croxton and Barsby of  $4\frac{7}{8}$  carucates—exactly equalling the Domesday assessment of Barsby.

<sup>60</sup> Not identified in Domesday.

<sup>61</sup> In 1086 the king possessed 8 carucates, 3 bovates as part of Rothley soke.

<sup>62</sup> Domesday assigns no land in Gaddesby to the bishop of Lincoln, but credits him with an estate of 12 carucates in Great Dalby and South Croxton in addition to one carucate in the former vill held of him by an unnamed knight. It is possible that this last represents the carucate here entered as in Gaddesby.

<sup>63</sup> Probably representing the carucate held by the earl of Chester in 1086 as part of the sokeland of Barrow.

<sup>64</sup> Not identified.

<sup>65</sup> Held by the Countess Judith in 1086 in two portions of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates and half a carucate respectively.

<sup>66</sup> Domesday assigns 4 carucates here to the Countess Judith.

<sup>67</sup> This may represent the carucate in Ashby which Henry de Ferrers held in 1086 as appurtenant to his manor of Newbold Folville.

In MARDEGRAVE [Belgrave] the earl of Leicester 12 carucates.<sup>69</sup>

In THURMEDESTON [Thurmaston] the same earl (carucates).<sup>70</sup>

Also in BIRSTALL 9 carucates.<sup>71</sup>

Also in ANLEPIA [Wanlip] 7 carucates.<sup>72</sup>

Also in ANESTINGE [Anstey] 6 carucates.<sup>73</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF REARSBY

In the same vill Richard Basset 5 carucates. In the same place the earl of Chester  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates. King David  $4\frac{1}{2}$  carucates.<sup>74</sup>

In QUENBURG [Queniborough] 12 carucates of the fee of Belvoir.<sup>75</sup>

<sup>68</sup> The only entry relating to Humberstone in Domesday assigns 9 carucates to Hugh de Grentemaisnil, as sokeland of his manor of Earl Shilton. Ralf de Martinwast gave one virgate in Humberstone to Leicester Abbey.

<sup>69</sup> Including the 7 carucates held in 1086 by Hugh de Grentemaisnil and the one carucate possessed by his wife Adeliz.

<sup>70</sup> The MS. is faulty here, the amount of the earl's holding not being stated. Domesday assigns 10 carucates in Thurmaston to Hugh de Grentemaisnil as held by him in demesne in addition to the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates accounted for above in Barkby Hundred.

<sup>71</sup> 8 of these carucates are accounted for in Domesday, Hugh de Grentemaisnil possessing 6 of them in chief, the remaining 2 being held of him by 'Widard.'

<sup>72</sup> Wanlip (assessed at 4 carucates) in Domesday formed part of the forfeited estate of Earl Aubrey of Northumbria, which in this county subsequently passed to the earls of Leicester. Henry II early in his reign confirmed 'six virgates' in Wanlip to Leicester Abbey of the gift of Richard l'Abbé. (*Mon. Angl.* vi, 468.)

<sup>73</sup> Domesday only accounts for 2 carucates in Anstey which were held by Hugh de Grentemaisnil in demesne. That Hugh or his successors possessed a larger estate in the vill is implied by the claim of the monks of Leicester Abbey that Robert, the third earl of Leicester, gave them '24 virgates' (i.e. 6 carucates) there; the exact sum assigned to Anstey in the present entry. (*Mon. Angl.* vi, 464.)

<sup>74</sup> Each of these entries can be identified with a corresponding entry in Domesday, in which, however, the assessments are much lower than in the present survey. The Basset holding above is represented in Domesday by Robert de Buci's manor of  $1\frac{3}{4}$  carucates; King David's estate by  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates which were held by Hugh Burdet of the Countess Judith; the  $2\frac{1}{2}$  carucates possessed by the earl of Chester by the  $1\frac{7}{8}$  carucates held in 1086 by his predecessor as part of Barrow soke.

<sup>75</sup> The only entry in Domesday relating to Queniborough ('Cuinburg') assigns 9 carucates there to Geoffrey de Wirce.



In SIEFTON [Syston] the earl of Leicester 12 carucates.<sup>76</sup>

In BROKESBYA [Brooksby] the earl of Chester 5 carucates.<sup>77</sup> King David I carucate which Pip(er)d holds.<sup>78</sup>

In QUENEBIA [Quenby] 6 carucates of the fee of Belvoir.<sup>79</sup>

In THURKETLESTON [Thurcaston] 8 carucates of the fee of the earl (of Leicester).<sup>80</sup>

In CROPESTON [Cropston] 4 carucates.<sup>81</sup>

In RODELEIA [Rothley] the king's land 5 carucates.<sup>82</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF GREAT DALBY

In the same vill the bishop of Lincoln 9 carucates and a half.<sup>83</sup> Ralf Basset 1 carucate and 3 bovates.<sup>84</sup>

In the same place William the chamberlain ('Gam') 1 carucate.<sup>85</sup>

In FRISEBIA [Frisby on the Wreak] the earl of Chester 3 carucates<sup>86</sup> and (there are) 8 carucates of the king's sokeland.<sup>87</sup>

In REDERBIA [Rotherby] the earl of Chester 6 carucates.<sup>88</sup>

<sup>76</sup> Including the 9 carucates held in Syston by Swegen of Hugh de Grentemaisnil.

<sup>77</sup> In Domesday the earl of Chester is assigned 2 carucates in Brooksby as part of Barrow soke.

<sup>78</sup> Representing the six bovates held of the Countess Judith in 1086 by Wulfsgie ('Wlfi').

<sup>79</sup> In Domesday Robert de Toden is assigned 2½ carucates in Quenby ('Queneberie') and 5 in 'Croptone' (probably South Croxton). These figures probably include the 6 carucates assigned above to Quenby, for the present survey only accounts for 2¼ carucates in Croxton, which in Domesday are probably included in the assessment of Barsby. See above under Barkby hundred.

<sup>80</sup> Domesday assigns 9 carucates in Thurcaston to Hugh de Grentemaisnil. On the other hand it only assigns 8 carucates to him in the adjoining vill of Birstall as against 9 carucates entered in the present survey as belonging to the Leicester fief (see above, Ashby hundred), so that the combined assessments would be equal in both documents.

<sup>81</sup> Cropston is not surveyed by name in Domesday.

<sup>82</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>83</sup> This represents the 8 carucates with which the bishop is credited in Dalby by Domesday, and probably includes part of the 4 carucates which the latter record assigns to him in South Croxton.

<sup>84</sup> Robert de Buci held 1 carucate in Great Dalby in 1086.

<sup>85</sup> Held by Humfrey the chamberlain in 1086.

<sup>86</sup> In Domesday the earl of Chester is assigned 3 carucates in Frisby belonging to Barrow soke, and entered in two portions of 1½ carucates each.

<sup>87</sup> As in Domesday (Rothley soke).

<sup>88</sup> Domesday assigns only 2¾ carucates in Rotherby to the earl of Chester.

In ASFORDEBIA [Asfordby] the earl of Leicester 13 carucates.<sup>89</sup>

In WARTNADEBY [Wartnaby] 6 carucates of the king's sokeland.<sup>90</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF DALBY ON THE WOLDS

In the same vill 9 carucates of the fee of Edward of Salisbury.<sup>91</sup> The earl of Leicester 3 carucates.<sup>92</sup>

In GRIMESTONA [Grimston] 3 carucates less 1 bovat and a half of the king's soke(land).<sup>93</sup> Richard Basset 3 carucates.<sup>94</sup>

In SAXEBIA [Saxelby] the earl of Leicester 5 carucates; <sup>95</sup> also 1 carucate of the king's soke(land).<sup>96</sup>

In SIWALDEBIA [Shoby] the earl of Leicester 6 carucates.<sup>97</sup>

In COSINTON [Cossington] the earl of Chester 6 carucates.<sup>98</sup>

In HORTON [Hoton] Robert de Jor(z) 2 carucates.<sup>99</sup>

<sup>89</sup> In Domesday Asfordby, assessed at 12 carucates, formed part of Rothley soke. It is possible that there is a scribal error in the present MS. (xiii for xii). Henry II's great charter to Leicester Abbey (*Mon. Angl.* vi, 467) confirms the whole manor of Asfordby to the monks, but unfortunately does not state the number of carucates at which it was assessed.

<sup>90</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>91</sup> Held in 1086 by Robert of Ralf fitz Hubert. Edward of Salisbury's connexion with him has been much discussed; see *Feudal England*, 213.

<sup>92</sup> These 3 carucates are not entered separately in Domesday, nor is it easy to account for them among the possessions of Hugh de Grentemaisnil in this part of the county.

<sup>93</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>94</sup> Robert de Buci's in 1086.

<sup>95</sup> See below, note 97.

<sup>96</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>97</sup> 'Siwaldebia' here represents the 'Seoldesberie' of Domesday, which is entered as 11 carucates as part of the forfeited fief of Earl Aubrey of Northumbria. The 11 carucates in question clearly represent the 6 carucates which the present survey assigns to Shoby, together with the 5 carucates with which the earl of Leicester is credited above in the adjoining vill of Saxelby. Earl Aubrey's land in Wanlip had likewise passed to the earl of Leicester.

<sup>98</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>99</sup> These 2 carucates clearly form part of the holding which Robert 'de Lorz' possessed in Hoton (Holetone) in 1086 as one of the king's serjeants, but which according to Domesday he held unlawfully (*Robertus vi possidet*). The present survey contains no entry relating to the 6 carucates in Hoton which Domesday assigns to the earl of Chester as part of the sokeland of Barrow.



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Chester 22 carucates and a half with appendages.<sup>121</sup>

In WITWIC [Whitwick] the earl of Leicester 1 carucate and a half.<sup>122</sup> In the same place Robert de Ferrers 1 carucate and a half.<sup>123</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF DISEWORTH

In the same vill Robert de Ferrers 6 carucates and 1 virgate. The earl of Chester 6 carucates. In the same place the earl (? of Chester) 3 carucates and a half. Norman de Verdon 1 carucate and 2 bovates.<sup>124</sup>

In HANTHIRN [Hathern] 9 carucates.<sup>125</sup>

to account for its 6 carucates among the figures given in the *terra regis* by Domesday. It may also be noted that in the present survey Norman de Verdon appears as holding land in the adjoining vill of Long Whatton, which is not accounted for by Domesday.

<sup>124</sup> Held of Robert de Buci by Warin in 1086.

<sup>125</sup> See above, note 108.

<sup>126</sup> Henry de Ferrers in 1086.

<sup>127</sup> Not entered by name in Domesday.

<sup>128</sup> Hugh de Grentemaisnil held this amount of land in Staunton Harold in 1086, but it is not easy to account for its transfer to the Ferrers family.

<sup>129</sup> The estate represented by this holding cannot be traced in Domesday.

<sup>130</sup> 'Dailecroft' has not yet been identified.

<sup>131</sup> Entered in Domesday as a former possession of the countess 'Alveva.' Domesday, however, assigns 5 carucates in Castle Donington to Earl Hugh of Chester, which do not appear in the present survey.

<sup>132</sup> Domesday assigns half a carucate in Whitwick to Hugh de Grentemaisnil.

<sup>133</sup> Not entered by name in Domesday.

<sup>134</sup> The only entry in Domesday referring to Diseworth by name assigns 3 carucates there to William Loveth. The proportion of this vill which is unsurveyed by name in Domesday, is so large and divided among so many tenants in chief that we cannot sup-

In RAVENESTON [Ravenstone] the same, 1 virgate and a half. In the same place the earl of Chester 3 virgates and a half. Also the Earl Warenne (?) (*comes War'*) 2 carucates.<sup>133</sup>

In SUIPESTONA [Snibston] Hugh the sheriff 2 carucates.<sup>134</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF SEAL

In the same vill Robert de Ferrers 7 carucates.<sup>135</sup>

In another SEYLA [Over Seal] the same, 6 carucates.<sup>136</sup>

<sup>126</sup> In 1086 3 carucates in 'Windesers' (a name which eludes identification) were held of Henry de Ferrers by Nigel. The present entry proves Nigel to be identical with Nigel de Stafford, a considerable tenant in chief in South Derbyshire, and the founder of the Derbyshire family of Gresley.

<sup>127</sup> Held by Nigel of Henry de Ferrers in 1086.

<sup>128</sup> See note 132.

<sup>129</sup> See note 132.

<sup>130</sup> Not identified in Domesday.

<sup>131</sup> Domesday assigns 2 carucates in 'Udecote' to Henry de Ferrers. Possibly the odd half carucate may represent part of the Kilwardby entry above.

<sup>132</sup> Domesday assigns 1½ carucates in 'Heletone' to Hugh de Grentemaisnil, a sum which is exactly equalled by the present 1½ carucates together with the 3 carucates in Blackfordby and the 2 carucates in Kilwardby, assigned above to Hugh's successor, the earl of Leicester.

<sup>133</sup> Of the three distinct holdings specified in this entry Domesday only accounts for the last, which apparently represents the 2 carucates which William Buenvaslet held in 1086 in 'Ravenstorp.'

<sup>134</sup> Hugh the sheriff *alias* Hugh 'of Leicester' appears below as holding land in Packington, which is assigned by Domesday to Coventry Abbey. It is probable that these 2 carucates in Snibston, which does not appear by name in Domesday, were included in the 8½ carucates at which Packington was assessed in



In NEUTON [Newton Burgoland] 2 carucates.<sup>142</sup>

In ACTORP [Oakthorpe] half a carucate.<sup>143</sup>

In CHILTESTON [ ] the earl of Chester 1 carucate.<sup>144</sup>

In ALPELBA [Appleby] the same, half a carucate.<sup>145</sup>

In ASSEBIA [Ashby de la Zouch] the earl of Leicester 3 carucates.<sup>146</sup>

In PAKINTON [Packington] Hugh the sheriff 5 carucates.<sup>147</sup>

In OSGODESTORP [Osgathorpe] the same, half a carucate.<sup>148</sup>

<sup>137</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>138</sup> Domesday assigns 1 carucate here to Henry de Ferrers.

<sup>139</sup> Henry de Ferrers held 1 carucate here in 1086.

<sup>140</sup> Domesday assigns 1 carucate in Donisthorpe to Henry de Ferrers.

<sup>141</sup> Representing part of Henry de Ferrers' holding of 10 carucates.

<sup>142</sup> Domesday assigns  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates here to Henry de Ferrers.

<sup>143</sup> No land is assigned to Henry de Ferrers here in the Domesday Survey either of Leicestershire or Derbyshire.

<sup>144</sup> It would seem impossible to identify 'Chilteston' with Chilcote in this neighbourhood, for the latter appears as 'Caldecote' in the Derbyshire Domesday, but no other place with a name approximating to 'Chilteston' can be found in this quarter.

<sup>145</sup> In Domesday 3 carucates in Appleby form part of the (escheated) land of the Countess Godiva. The present half carucate no doubt was included among these 3 carucates, and it is probable that the carucate in 'Chilteston' above was involved in the same entry.

<sup>146</sup> Domesday assigns 14 carucates in Ashby de la Zouch to Hugh de Grentemaisnil, which were held of him by Ivo. It is very possible that this large figure includes some of the land in the centre of this wapentake, which, though entered in the present survey, cannot be identified in Domesday.

<sup>147</sup> See the previous hundred.

<sup>148</sup> It is possible that this half carucate, like the 2 carucates in Snibston above, being held at the date of this survey by Hugh the sheriff, was included in Domesday among the  $8\frac{1}{2}$  carucates there ascribed to Packington, although the only entry referring to Osgathorpe in Domesday assigns 1 carucate there to Henry de Ferrers.

## FRAMLAND WAPENTAKE

### HUNDRED OF COLD OVERTON (Caleverton')

In the same vill 12 carucates of the fee of William de Albini.<sup>149</sup>

In SOMEREDEBIA [Somerby] Robert de Ferrers 5 carucates.<sup>153</sup> In the same place Roger de Mowbray 6 carucates.<sup>154</sup> In the same place Robert Marmion 3 carucates, and in BURG [Burrough] 3 carucates.<sup>155</sup>

In DALBIA [Little Dalby] Robert de Ferrers 5 carucates and 1 bovat of the fee of Tessun (*de feodo tessun*).<sup>156</sup>

<sup>149</sup> Held by Nigel de Albini in 1086. The curious phrase 'pertinet ad defencionem de Swepeston' means that these 2 carucates formed part of the total assessment of the latter vill for purposes of the Danegeld.

<sup>150</sup> Domesday assigns the same amount of land to the king in Shepshed.

<sup>151</sup> See above under Belton, note 113.

<sup>152</sup> Held in 1086 by Dru de Bevrere.

<sup>153</sup> This entry clearly includes the  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates which Domesday assigns to Henry de Ferrers in Somerby. It is possible that it also includes the  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates of sokeland which the king possessed in that vill in 1086.

<sup>154</sup> No land in Somerby is assigned by Domesday to Geoffrey de Wirce, Roger's predecessor, but he is credited with 7 carucates in Little Dalby and  $3\frac{1}{2}$  carucates in 'Godtorp.' The latter place has not been identified, but is probably represented by 'Gillethorp,' below, to which 3 carucates are assigned here. Including the carucate in Burrough, below, the sum of Roger de Mowbray's land in this hundred amounts to  $11\frac{7}{8}$  carucates as compared with the  $11\frac{1}{2}$  carucates assigned by Domesday to Geoffrey de Wirce in Little Dalby, Burrough, and Withcote.

<sup>155</sup> Domesday assigns  $5\frac{3}{8}$  carucates to Robert Dispensator in Somerby, an amount which probably includes part of the 3 carucates here referred to Burrough. But Domesday also states that Herbert 'Serviens' held 6 bovates of sokeland in the Framland portion of Burrough, which may have passed to Robert Dispensator. See above under Knossington hundred, p. 345.

<sup>156</sup> Representing the 5 carucates held in 1086 by Roger of Henry de Ferrers as an appendage to the manor of Somerby. Roger is proved by the Tutbury Chartulary (see above, p. 292, Domesday Introduction) to be Roger de Livet, but his identification throws no light upon the 'fee of Tessun,' above.



#### HUNDRED OF EASTWELL

In the same vill Robert de Ferrers 2 carucates.<sup>162</sup> In the same place Roger de Mowbray 6 carucates.<sup>163</sup> Robert de Insula 4 carucates.<sup>164</sup>

In AITONA [Eaton] the same Robert 3 carucates and 2 bovates. Also half a carucate and half a bovat belonging to (*de*) Belvoir. In the same place Robert de Insula 8 carucates and 3 bovates and a half.<sup>165</sup>

In BRANTESTON [Branston] the bishop of Lincoln 7 carucates and a half.<sup>166</sup> Robert de Insula 4 carucates and a half.<sup>167</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF MELTON MOWBRAY

In the same vill Roger de Mowbray 15 carucates.<sup>168</sup>

In BURTON [Burton Lazars] the same, 11 carucates and 7 bovates.<sup>169</sup> Also 3 carucates belong-

<sup>157</sup> See above, note 154.

<sup>158</sup> Held by Robert Dispensator in 1086.

<sup>159</sup> See above, note 154.

<sup>160</sup> Held in 1086 by Geoffrey de Wirce, as sokeland appurtenant to Pickwell.

<sup>161</sup> If the present survey can be trusted, Newbold was assessed at  $4\frac{1}{2}$  carucates which were divided equally between Gosecote, Gartree, and Framland Wapentakes (see above, notes 22 and 58). Domesday assigns 3 carucates there to Henry de Ferrers without specifying the wapentakes in which they lay, so that it is impossible to tell whether the present  $1\frac{1}{2}$  carucates are represented among the Domesday 3 carucates, or not.

<sup>162</sup> Not entered by name in Domesday, but possibly included in the figure given for Stapleford.

<sup>163</sup> Held by Geoffrey de Wirce in 1086.

<sup>164</sup> Probably representing part of the  $5\frac{1}{4}$  carucates held of the king by Aschil in 1086.

<sup>165</sup> This important vill is entirely omitted from the Domesday Survey, in which it should have been entered among the lands of Robert de Todeni. It is possible, however, that part of Eaton may be included in the  $5\frac{1}{4}$  carucates assigned by Domesday to 'Aschil' in Eastwell. In the Chartulary of Croxton Abbey it is stated that Eaton and Branston (see below) were assessed at 12 carucates each. (Belvoir MSS. *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* iv, 176.)

<sup>166</sup> As in Domesday. <sup>167</sup> Omitted in Domesday.

<sup>168</sup> For the impossible assessment assigned to Melton

In SIXTENEZIA [Sysonby] 4 carucates and a half belonging to the same fee.<sup>176</sup> In the same place King David 4 carucates and a half.<sup>176</sup>

In ALEBIA [Welby] 9 carucates belonging to the fee of Roger (de Mowbray). In the same place King David 3 carucates.

#### HUNDRED OF NETHER BROUGHTON ( 'DROCTONA ' )

In the same vill the count of Mortain 12 carucates.<sup>177</sup>

In THORP [Thorpe Arnold] the earl of Leicester 12 carucates.<sup>178</sup>

In BRANTINGBIA [Brentingby] 6 carucates belonging to the same fee.<sup>179</sup>

In RINGOLFESTORP [Goldsmith's Grange] 2 carucates and 2 bovates belonging to the same

<sup>170</sup> Held by Roger de Bush in 1086.

<sup>171</sup> Held by Henry de Ferrers in 1086.

<sup>172</sup> Representing the 10 carucates assigned by Domesday to Geoffrey de Wirce in Freeby.

<sup>173</sup> Held by Geoffrey de Wirce in 1086.

<sup>174</sup> This is the 'Chitebie' of Domesday which was held as 8 carucates by Geoffrey de Wirce.

<sup>175</sup> Held by Geoffrey de Wirce in 1086.

<sup>176</sup> The details which follow are given differently by Domesday, but the total assessment of Welby and Sysonby (21 carucates) is the same as in the present survey. Thus the Countess Judith's portion of these villis consisted of half a carucate in Sysonby and  $8\frac{1}{4}$  carucates in Welby as against  $7\frac{1}{2}$  carucates assigned here to her descendant King David. Geoffrey de Wirce in 1086 held  $7\frac{3}{4}$  carucates as against 9 carucates now in the possession of Roger de Mowbray in Welby. It seems evident that  $1\frac{1}{4}$  carucates must have been transferred from the Countess Judith to Geoffrey de Wirce or his successors, and in the description of the countess's land we find a distinct estate of  $1\frac{1}{4}$  carucates which was held of her by a certain Godwin, and probably represents the holding in question.

<sup>177</sup> The king's in Domesday. All the crown lands in Framland wapentake had been given by Henry I to his nephew Stephen, count of Mortain.

<sup>178</sup> Domesday assigns 18 carucates in Thorpe Arnold to Hugh de Grentemaisnil, a sum which represents the present 12 carucates and also the 6 carucates



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In BUCHEMINEST [Buckminster] and SEUSTERN [Sewstern] 9 carucates and 4 bovates belonging to the fee of the bishop of Lincoln.<sup>203</sup> In the same place Robert de Ferrers half a carucate.<sup>204</sup> William Meschin 5 carucates.<sup>205</sup>

In SESSEBIA [Saxby] King David 3 carucates.<sup>206</sup> Robert de Ferrers 3 carucates.<sup>207</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF LONG CLAWSON

In the same vill 16 carucates and a half and half a bovat.<sup>208</sup> In the same place Henry Tuchet 11 carucates less 1 bovat.<sup>209</sup>

In HOUWES [Hose] 7 carucates and a half belonging to the fee of Belvoir.<sup>210</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF STAPLEFORD

In the same vill 10 carucates belonging to the fee of Robert de Ferrers.<sup>211</sup>

In WIMUNDEHAM [Wymondham] and in THORPE [Edmondthorpe] 27 carucates and a half belonging to the same fee.<sup>212</sup> Richard Basset 3 carucates and a half.<sup>213</sup>

<sup>203</sup> As in Domesday.

<sup>204</sup> Not entered separately in Domesday, but very possibly included in the surplus assessment of Saxby.

<sup>205</sup> Held by William Loveth in 1086.

<sup>206</sup> Part of the Countess Judith's 5 carucates in Saxby.

<sup>207</sup> Domesday assigns 5 carucates here to Henry de Ferrers as appurtenant to Stapleford.

<sup>208</sup> Held by Robert de Toden in 1086.

<sup>209</sup> This represents the Domesday fief of Robert 'Hostiarius,' which according to that survey comprised 6 carucates in Long Clawson and  $4\frac{1}{2}$  in Hose:— $10\frac{1}{2}$  carucates as against  $10\frac{3}{8}$  carucates entered above.

<sup>210</sup> Domesday assigns 10 carucates here to Robert de Toden. The Croxton Chartulary, however, puts the assessment of Long Clawson at 16 carucates and that of Hose at 12, giving a total of 28 carucates for the hundred as against  $34\frac{1}{8}$  implied here and  $37\frac{1}{8}$  implied by Domesday.

<sup>211</sup> Domesday assigns 14 carucates to Henry de Ferrers in Stapleford.

<sup>212</sup> Held by Henry de Ferrers in 1086.

<sup>213</sup> Held, as in Wymondham, by Robert de Buci in 1086.

#### HUNDRED OF HARBY

In the same vill and in Plungar 17 carucates belonging to the fee of William de Albini.<sup>214</sup> In the same vill Richard Basset 1 carucate.<sup>215</sup>

In STACTHIRN [Stathern] William de Albini 8 carucates and a half. In the same place Roger de Mowbray 8 carucates. Robert de Insula 1 carucate and a half.<sup>216</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF BOTTESFORD

In the same vill and Muston and Normanton William de Albini 32 carucates.<sup>217</sup> In the same place Agnes de Gaunt 2 carucates.<sup>218</sup>

In MOSTON [Muston] Robert de Insula 1 carucate and a half.<sup>219</sup>

#### HUNDRED OF CROXTON KERRIAL

In the same vill the count of Mortain 24 carucates.<sup>220</sup>

In HARESTAN [Harston] the same count 12 carucates.<sup>221</sup>

<sup>214</sup> Plungar is not mentioned by name in Domesday, which however assigns 17 carucates in Harby to Robert de Toden.

<sup>215</sup> Held by Robert de Buci in 1086.

<sup>216</sup> The 10 carucates which the present entry assigns to William de Albini and Robert de Insula represent Robert de Toden's Domesday estate of  $9\frac{3}{4}$  carucates in Stathern. On the other hand, Geoffrey de Wirce, Roger de Mowbray's predecessor, held  $8\frac{1}{2}$  carucates here as against the latter's 8 carucates, so that the total assessment of Stathern is the same in both surveys. It is noteworthy that the holdings of Robert de Toden and Geoffrey de Wirce in Stathern were held by the same pair of undertenants, William de Boisrohard and an unknown Roger.

<sup>217</sup> In Domesday Robert de Toden is assigned 21 carucates in Bottesford, of which he possessed 9 carucates in demesne, the remaining 12 carucates being parcelled out among ten sub-tenants. There is no mention of either Muston or Normanton in Domesday, but the 3 carucates which Robert held in Redmile, and which are not accounted for here by name, may perhaps be included in the 32 carucates given above for Bottesford.

<sup>218</sup> This holding cannot be traced in Domesday.

<sup>219</sup> This estate probably formed part of the fief of Robert de Toden in 1086, but it cannot be identified among the Domesday entries relating to the latter's lands. <sup>220</sup> The king's in 1086. <sup>221</sup> Ibid.



# ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

THE date of the conversion of Leicestershire to Christianity can be fixed with tolerable certainty. It was in the year 653 that Penda's son Peada, then sub-king of the Mid-Angles, returned from his baptism in Northumbria, bringing with him four Scotie monks, Adda, Betti, Cedda, and Diuna, to preach to his people.<sup>1</sup> The last-named of these four was consecrated bishop of all Mercia in 656.<sup>2</sup> From this time the work of evangelization seems to have gone on quietly and steadily, and we do not hear of any serious lapses from the faith in this part of the country. Of Leicestershire, as distinguished from the rest of the Mercian kingdom, little is known until the coming of Archbishop Theodore in 668. There is little reason to doubt that the five-fold partition of the vast diocese of Mercia was planned by Theodore himself at the council of Hatfield, though it is hard to say when the first steps were taken towards the carrying out of his scheme.<sup>3</sup> At the time of the council (A.D. 679) Sexulf was bishop of all Mercia,<sup>4</sup> but the first bishop of Leicester was Cuthwine, who died some time before the year 692.<sup>5</sup> At his death the rule of the new diocese was offered by King Ethelred to the exiled Wilfrid,<sup>6</sup> who only kept it for a few years. An unbroken succession of bishops of Leicester cannot be shown to begin before the consecration of Torthelm in 737.<sup>7</sup> He was followed by ten others,<sup>8</sup> but the last four must have worked under great difficulties, for the resistance of Mercia to the Danish invaders had practically ceased in 874.<sup>9</sup> The last bishop of Leicester, Leofwine, had nominal charge of Lindsey also,<sup>10</sup> but before his death (*circa* 965)<sup>11</sup> he had settled himself permanently at Dorchester.<sup>12</sup> It would seem that in his day there was more need than ever for a bishop in the northern Midlands, just then recovering from a century of raids and devastations; and there must have been plenty of missionary work for the Church to do amongst the Danes, who remained as permanent settlers. But from this time there was never another bishop of Leicester.

There are no events of great interest connected with the early history of Christianity in this country. The name of St. Wigstan, a prince of the royal

<sup>1</sup> Bede, *Ecc. Hist.* iii, 1, 30.

<sup>2</sup> Florence of Worc. *Chron.* (Engl. Hist. Soc.), i, 36.

<sup>3</sup> Haddon and Stubbs, *Councils*, iii, 127-9.

<sup>4</sup> Haddon and Stubbs, *Councils*, iii, 127-9.

<sup>5</sup> With the flight of Burrhed; Florence of Wore. *Chron.* (Engl. Hist. Soc.), ii, 92.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.* i, 242.

<sup>7</sup> Will. of Malmes. *De Gest. Pont.* (Rolls Ser.), 312.

<sup>8</sup> *Ibid.* 22; Bright, *Early Engl. Ch. Hist.* 181.

<sup>9</sup> Bede, *Ecc. Hist.* iv, 13.

<sup>10</sup> *Historians of the Ch. of York* (Rolls Ser.), i, 65.

<sup>11</sup> Stubbs, *Reg. Sac. Angl.* 224.

<sup>12</sup> Stubbs, *Reg. Sac. Angl.* 224; this is the date of his last signature.



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house of Mercia, is still preserved in the dedication of the church of Wistow,<sup>13</sup> which may perhaps be the traditional scene of his murder by the hand of one of his own kinsmen.<sup>14</sup> The legend is not of much interest in any case, but the year to which his martyrdom is assigned by the chroniclers was certainly a year of ill-omen for Mercia and all England. He is said to have been murdered in 850, and in 851 the Danish pirates, who had been wont to return home after their plundering raids, for the first time settled down to spend the winter in Thanet. Twenty-four years later they had obtained possession of Mercia;<sup>15</sup> and from 874 to 919, when Leicester was again occupied by an English army under the heroic Ethelfled,<sup>16</sup> the churches of the Midlands lay desolate and forsaken.

During the tenth and eleventh centuries there must have been a revival of church life, for the Domesday Survey points to the existence of a large number of churches in this county. There were apparently seven<sup>17</sup> in the town of Leicester; and in forty-one places besides,<sup>18</sup> a priest is mentioned as resident on the manor amongst the serfs, bordars, and other settled inhabitants. Nor could these have been the only churches in the county. The names of Misterton<sup>19</sup> and Buckminster, neither of them included in the above list, imply the existence of important churches; there are three Kirkbys; and the dedication of Scalford, Shepshed, Ratcliffe Culey, Stathern, Braunstone, Great Glen, and Orton on the Hill, to the honour of St. Egelwin, St. Botolf, St. Guthlac, St. Cuthbert, and St. Edith, are suggestive of a Saxon foundation. It is of some interest also to note that at Market Bosworth and at Wigston the Domesday Survey mentions not only a priest, but a deacon or cleric, and at Melton Mowbray two priests; whilst among the forty-two towns or villages which had one priest, Huncote, Earl Shilton, and Newton (Harcourt?) were only small hamlets, and not separate parishes at any time. There is therefore more evidence in Leicestershire than in most counties to prove the existence of a large number of parish churches before the Conquest.

Apart from the parish churches, however, the lands granted to the Church in this county before the survey were comparatively few, and of small value.

The bishop of Lincoln<sup>20</sup> had the largest revenue, but his holdings were small and scattered. The total value of his property was £15 6s. The abbot of Peterborough held in Langton and Great Easton<sup>21</sup> 19 carucates, worth £12. The abbot of Coventry held the manor of Burbage, and 43½ carucates in Potters Marston, Barwell, Stapleton, Scraptoft, and Packington;<sup>22</sup>

<sup>13</sup> Wistanestou in Domesday.

<sup>14</sup> The earliest version of the story is in Florence of Worc. *Chron.* (Engl. Hist. Soc.), i, 72; it is also found in Matthew Paris, *Chron. Maj.* (Rolls Ser.), i, 380; and John of Tynemouth, *Nova Legenda Angliae* (ed. Horstman), ii, 465-7. None mention the place where he was murdered; but all say he was carried thence to be buried at Repton, beside his father Wigmund.

<sup>15</sup> Florence of Worc. *Chron.* (Engl. Hist. Soc.), i, 92.

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.* 128.

<sup>17</sup> Four in the possession of Hugh de Grantemesnil; two in the possession of the bishop of Lincoln within the town; and on the manor of the latter, outside the town, there was a priest, apparently serving the church of St. Margaret. See Domesday translation.

<sup>18</sup> In this number are not included the three priests who held portions of the king's alms-land; only those who appear to be resident.

<sup>19</sup> Minstretone in Domesday.

<sup>20</sup> See Domesday translation.

<sup>21</sup> The statement that these lands were recently acquired furnishes evidence against the charter in Kemble, *Cod. Dipl.* dcccclxxxiv.

<sup>22</sup> These were probably a part of Leofric's original endowment of the abbey. *Ibid.* dcccxcvi, dcccxxxix.



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throughout the century.

Robert Grossetête was himself archdeacon of Leicester and prebendary of St. Margaret's from 1225 to 1231.<sup>34</sup> There are few records of his life and work in this county, but one of his letters written during this period is very interesting. The younger Simon de Montfort, as lord of Leicester, had recently granted to the burghers a charter by which he promised that no Jew in his time, or in the time of any of his successors *in finem mundi*, should live within the liberty of the town.<sup>35</sup> Those already in Leicester were accordingly expelled, and some of them appealed to the countess of Winchester for permission to settle on her lands. She was apparently inclined at first to grant this favour, but Grossetête wrote a letter to dissuade her. It would be unreasonable to expect of him the same spirit of religious toleration which comes naturally to us in England in the twentieth century ; but his treatment of this difficult question is at any rate free from the narrow bigotry so common in his own day.

He argued that the first duty of a Christian prince is to protect his own subjects, not only from open enemies, but from the petty tyranny of unscrupulous usurers. The Jews in this respect are real oppressors of the Christians, and therefore a Christian prince who cherishes them does a wrong to his own people. The Jews are intended to be a living sermon to us—wanderers for ever upon the face of the earth because of the sins of their fathers. Nevertheless the Christian ruler must not kill or do them actual hurt ; he should rather try to provide them with the means of earning an honest livelihood by the labours of their hands, instead of by base gain. Such is the substance of the letter ; and the archdeacon ends by exhorting the countess to see that her bailiffs do not exact tithes too stiffly in the parish of his prebend.<sup>36</sup>

In 1252 died John of Basingstoke, another archdeacon of note. Like Grossetête he was a Greek scholar, a somewhat rare accomplishment in those

<sup>30</sup> Ashby de la Zouch, Tilton, Great Dalby, Queniborough, Barkby, Loddington, Shepshed, Lockington, Barrow-on-Soar, Diseworth, Breedon, Rothley, North Kilworth, Thornton, Ratcliffe-on-Wreak, Long Clawson, Hose, Eaton, Stonesby, Barketstone, Theddingworth, Horninghold, Evington, King's Norton, Foxton, Welham, Billesdon, Thurnby, Wymeswold, Frisby-on-Wreak, Lowesby, Tugby, Hinckley, Shackerstone, Peatling Magna, Cosby, Swinford, Dunton Bassett, Bitteswell, Plungar, Ratby, Thorpe Arnold, Croxton Kerrial, Somerby, Owston, Ashby Magna.

<sup>31</sup> Under Grossetête were ordained the vicarages of Scraptoft and Galby.

<sup>32</sup> Under Gravesend : Saltby, Glen Magna, Packington, Belton, Claybrooke, Scalford, and St. Margaret's, Leicester.

<sup>33</sup> Under Sutton : Melton Mowbray. Enderby was ordained either then or earlier.

<sup>34</sup> *Epist. Grossetête* (Rolls Ser.), Introd. xxxiv-vi.



days; he had not only studied at Paris, but had travelled as far as Athens in pursuit of knowledge. On his return he did all he could to awaken a zeal for learning amongst his friends and fellow-countrymen. He told wondrous tales of the wisdom of the Greeks, and especially of a learned lady, the daughter of an archbishop, who had taught him—so he maintained—everything he knew that was worth knowing. He also translated a Greek grammar into Latin for the benefit of students.<sup>37</sup>

Before Grossetête became archdeacon the first complete list of churches in this county had been drawn up by order of Bishop Hugh of Wells. This record, known as the *Matriculus* of Bishop Hugh,<sup>38</sup> is of great interest; and it was still used as a standard of reference for the churches and chapels of Leicestershire as late as the seventeenth century. It is far more complete than the *Taxatio* of Pope Nicholas, as it gives not merely the churches, but the names of their patrons, and the number of appendent chapels belonging to each, with an exact account of the way in which they were served. We learn from this record that there were at this time 206 churches in the county, and sixty-five of these had parochial chapels for the benefit of villagers in more remote hamlets. These latter were usually served by chaplains from the mother church about three times a week, but Shearsby, Cotes de Val, Burbage, Countesthorpe, Peckleton, Earl Shilton, Barlestone, Stoke Golding, Lindley, Ratcliffe Culey, Twycross, Snarestone, Snibston, Osgathorpe, Staunton Harold, Worthington, Donington, Gaddesby, Wartnaby, Keyham, Grimston, Chadwell, Great Easton, Nevill Holt, Blaston (St. Giles), Market Harborough, Goadby, Thorpe Langton, Tur Langton, Fleckney, Kilby, Hoton, Cotes (under Prestwold), South Thurmaston, Burstall, East Norton, Burton Lazars, and Eye Kettleby<sup>3</sup> were provided with resident chaplains; so that the ordinary spiritual needs of the villagers in these places were almost as well provided for as if they had been separate parishes. Our modern activities in church-building seem cold and languid when we read through lists like these, and reflect upon the scanty population for which such full provision was made.

It has been already remarked that the bishops of this century were careful to see that parish churches did not suffer loss through their appropriation to religious houses. They had to keep an equally watchful eye upon secular patrons and the rectors of the richer benefices. The laymen who had livings in their gift looked upon them very often as nothing more than a provision for younger sons, or for needy relatives and dependents, and there were cases quite early in the century where the bishops had to raise a protest against the presentation of unfit persons. So in 1221, one Ralf de Turville, still an acolyte, was presented by Hugh Despenser to a portion in the church of Loughborough; he had to be admonished three years later to frequent the schools and qualify himself for his work.<sup>39</sup> A successor of his in 1243 needed the same warning,<sup>40</sup> and two rectors of Great Bowden held their benefices for many years without the slightest intention of being ordained to the priest-

<sup>37</sup> Matt. Paris, *Chron. Maj.* (Rolls Ser.) v. 284-7.

<sup>38</sup> A complete transcript of it is contained in Cott. MS. Nero, D. x; another copy of it, with some slight variations, is among the rolls of Bishop Lexington (1254-8), at Lincoln; it is referred to as 'The Matriculus of the bishop' frequently in Charyte's *Rentale* (see Leicester Abbey), and it was evidently in the hands of the visitors of the archdeaconry in 1634 (S.P. Dom. Chas. I, dxxxv, 26).

<sup>39</sup> W. E. Dimock Fletcher, *Rectors of Loughborough*, 10, 11.

<sup>40</sup> Ibid.



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hood.<sup>41</sup> Vicarages had to be regularly arranged at Aylestone, Leire, Whitwick, Bottesford, and elsewhere, so that non-resident rectors might be compelled to make proper provision for the priests who really served their parishes.<sup>42</sup> Another practice which had to be kept in check was the farming of rectories, not infrequently to religious houses. Oliver Sutton seems to have been especially watchful and diligent in this respect.<sup>43</sup> The work of this great bishop has been somewhat cast into the shade by the more striking personality of Grossetête, of whom he was a worthy successor; quite as uncompromising in matters of principle, and quite as free from all self-interest, he knew no respect of persons where his duty was concerned, and his hand was heavy on all transgressors against the order of the church.<sup>44</sup> In his time—an age of strong lights and shadows, as all who study it know well—cases of violence done to clerks had become much too common;<sup>45</sup> it was the bishop's duty to make an example. It chanced that Thomas Bassett, lord of Welham, had roughly assaulted a clerk named Hugh Pepyn in his own parish church. The church itself had first to be 'reconciled,' after this act of sacrilege; and it was appointed that on the following day the offender should appear at the introit of the mass, barefoot, bare-headed, ungirt, holding in each hand a lighted candle, under the great rood cross. There he should stand until the time of the oblation, when he was to offer the candles at the high altar. Hugh Pepyn, who had evidently not been blameless in the matter, was to do his penance also. He was suspended from his sacred functions for a time, and after the reading of the gospel at mass was to receive a stroke of the discipline in the sight of all men, on his uncovered shoulders. The whole scene must have been an impressive illustration of the Church's teaching on the subject of sacrilege.<sup>46</sup>

It was in the time of Bishop Sutton that the Taxation of Pope Nicholas was compiled. In the case of many counties of England this is the first clear list of parish churches that can be obtained; but in Leicestershire, as we have seen, there is an earlier and better record in existence. The *Taxatio* adds very little to the statistics already given. Eleven parish churches are altogether omitted,<sup>47</sup> only three being named in the town of Leicester, which had

<sup>41</sup> The first, Nicholas de Luvetot, was presented under the canonical age, and actually refused to be ordained, though the bishop urged him several times. He was deprived finally; but the second, Robert of St. Albans, who was also rector of Essendon, Herts, obtained a dispensation for his irregularities from Pope Nicholas IV, in consideration of his having taken the vow of a Crusader. Stocks and Bragg, *Parish Rec. of Market Harborough*, 21, 22, from the *Memoranda* of Bishop Sutton.

<sup>42</sup> See Rolls of Hugh of Wells.

<sup>43</sup> The rector of Kirkby Mallory farmed his church to Leicester Abbey for five years on condition that the farm should be given up if the bishop disapproved, but neither party thought it necessary to find out the bishop's opinion till four years after the arrangement was made. Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Sutton, 112 d.

<sup>44</sup> See account of Dunstable Priory, *V.C.H. Beds.* i.

<sup>45</sup> Compare a case of extraordinary lack of self-restraint in 1306—a vicar who killed his clerk for coming late to ring the bells. *Rec. of Boro. of Leic.* i, 369.

<sup>46</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Sutton, iii. There is a case between the vicar of Melton Mowbray and his patron, the prior of Lewes, about this time (1294), which reads unpleasantly. The vicar complained that he had to serve four parochial chapels as well as his church, that he had not a sufficient share of the tithes, and that if a parishioner died leaving only one live beast, the rector claimed it. He finally resigned his claims, in consideration of being allowed to appoint his own holy-water clerk. *Cal. of Anct. D. A.* 7935.

<sup>47</sup> Catthorpe (Thorp Thomas), Swinford, Dalby on the Wolds, Congerstone, and Withcote, besides the six Leicester churches, are found in the *Matriculus* but not in the *Taxatio*. The church of Weston, which in 1220 had neither parson nor patron, and was served three times a week by the monks of Merevale, was probably already abandoned in 1291. The church of Aldeby on Soar, of which we are told by Charyte that it was in the thirteenth century disused and pulled down, and Enderby made the parish church in its place, is not mentioned at all in the *Matriculus*. Nichols, *Leic.* iv, 159.



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

confessions and give absolution, even in cases usually reserved for himself. Other troubles followed. The sheep and oxen wandered through the fields untended, and died in great numbers for want of care; then a murrain broke out among them also. The crops perished ungathered; and in the next year there was famine.<sup>58</sup> Thomas Walsingham, of St. Albans, writes in the same strain: 'Such misery came of all these sorrows, that the world has never since returned to its former state.'<sup>59</sup>

Some doubt has recently been thrown upon Knighton's statistics; and indeed the records of the borough of Leicester a few years later show a degree of prosperity which is hard to understand if nearly a third of the population had been swept away in the plague.<sup>60</sup> But whatever may have been the actual truth with regard to the people generally, there is no question at all about the effects of the pestilence amongst the clergy and religious. The registers of Bishop Gynwell in 1349<sup>61</sup> show a steady rise in the number of deaths from May onwards; by the end of November as many as seventy-two of the parish clergy had perished. The large abbey of Croxton Kerrial was almost emptied of its inhabitants;<sup>62</sup> six of the chantry priests in the college of Kirby Bellars died within the same year;<sup>63</sup> other religious houses which have left no record no doubt suffered in similar ways.<sup>64</sup> In 1361 the registers show a fresh outbreak. Forty-three parish priests died in this year, seven of the canons as well as the dean of Newark,<sup>65</sup> and nearly all the brethren of St. John's Hospital in Leicester.<sup>66</sup> This evidence, which is quite independent of Knighton, tends to prove that though his figures may not be entirely accurate, his picture is not on the whole seriously overdrawn.

The effects of these troubles upon character differed, as might be expected, very widely. To some the visitation brought a deeper sense of sin and fear of judgement; this led to the multiplication of chantries and gild services. The reckless grew more wild and reckless than ever: the year following the pestilence is specially marked by daring thefts and acts of sacrilege. Thieves entered the monastery of Leicester and others in the neighbourhood, carrying off relics, images, and sacred vessels wherever they could lay hands upon them.<sup>67</sup> The rights of sanctuary were so often invaded that the bishop had to issue a special condemnation of this form of outrage.<sup>68</sup> Two notable cases occurred in connexion with the chapel of St. Sepulchre outside Leicester about this time. One Walter Wynkbourn was hanged at Leicester under sentence of the preceptor of Dalby: on his way to burial in the cemetery of St. Sepulchre he revived, and was carried into the chapel for safety. Here he was guarded by the priest in charge until a special pardon could be obtained for him from the king, without which he would certainly have been dragged out and hanged again. The pardon in this case was easily

<sup>58</sup> *Chron. Henrici Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 61.

<sup>59</sup> Walsingham, *Hist. Angl.* i, 273.

<sup>60</sup> Miss Bateson suggests that the totals in Knighton may be made up by adding several years together. *Rec. of Boro. of Leic.* ii, p. lxiv. It is necessary to refer to these facts, which belong properly to the economic and social history of the county, in order to show the importance of the evidence as to deaths among the clergy.

<sup>61</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Gynwell, 294 d. 302 d. Anyone who has studied the episcopal registers knows that they are never quite complete; so that the number given above is certainly below the truth.

<sup>62</sup> Rymer, *Foedera*, v, 729.

<sup>63</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Gynwell.

<sup>64</sup> A chartulary of Garendon Abbey notes five plague years—1348, 1361, 1369, 1374, 1389.

<sup>65</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Gynwell, 333-5.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.* 334 d.

<sup>67</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 120-1.

<sup>68</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Buckingham, 123.



of Christian knighthood was always dear—‘Deus tibi dedit vitam, et nos dabimus cartam.’<sup>69</sup> Poor Peter King, who met with a like fate ten years later, was less fortunate. He revived as he lay before the altar of the chapel, and claimed the right of sanctuary; but a few days after some of ‘Satan’s satellites’ broke in, dragged him out, and hanged him again more thoroughly.<sup>70</sup>

The total effect of the pestilence was, as all acknowledge, not to draw men together, but to widen existing breaches between rich and poor, between higher and lower ranks of the clergy. The town of Leicester was threatened with an invasion of the same rioters who had done so much mischief at St. Albans, and the abbot of St. Mary de Pré was even afraid to shelter the jewels and furniture of John of Gaunt for fear of bringing trouble to his own house. But the whole affair seems to have been only an alarm; there was no actual attack.<sup>71</sup>

One definite result of the depreciation of landed property after the pestilence was the decay of some of the parochial chapels. Those which had always been scantily endowed could no longer maintain a priest; they were first disused and then fell into ruins. Of the chapels of Hameldon, Bescaby, Whellesborough, Whatborough, Baggrave, Mirabel, Altfleetford, North and South Marefield, Newbold Sancey, Odstone, and Othorpe nothing is known after the fourteenth century. On the other hand a few were freshly endowed with chantries, and some were built to suit the needs of shifting population. Mowsley, Knighton, Thorpe Acre, Golte, and the chapel of our Lady on the bridge of Leicester are not mentioned in a list of churches and chapels for the year 1344,<sup>72</sup> and must have been built after the pestilence.

The foundation of chantries and gilds may perhaps be appropriately dealt with at this point; most of them date from the fourteenth century, and their importance and number increase gradually through the fifteenth. In this county the earliest chantry—using the word in its narrower and later sense, as a foundation intended mainly for the benefit of one man’s soul, or the souls of his family and friends—was that founded in the parish church of Stathern in 1292 by Richard de Bosco Roardi;<sup>73</sup> it was

<sup>69</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 119. This was in 1363.

<sup>70</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Buckingham, 123. The proper way of dealing with such a case was to call for the coroner and require the prisoner formally to abjure the realm. There is a case on record of a thief who came to life in the same way in the chapel of St. John’s Hospital (1313), and was called upon to abjure the realm. The hangmen of Leicester in the fourteenth century would seem to have been unskilful craftsmen. *Rec. of Boro. of Leic.* i, 373, 357 (note).

<sup>71</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 142.

<sup>72</sup> This record is printed in Nichols’ *Leic.* i, p. lxiii, from Harl. MS. 6700. It is not a mere copy of the old Matriculus, as it mentions several new chapels which had apparently been built since the time of Bishop Lexington. These are Busby (Thurnby parish), Sysonby in Melton Mowbray, Baggrave and Quenby in Hungerton, Woodhouse in Barrow-on-Soar, and the two chapels of Mountsorrel, Leesthorpe in Pickwell, Woodcote in Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Tonge and Anderchurch in Breedon-on-the-Hill, Naneby in Market Bosworth, Stormsworth in Swinford, Ullesthorpe in Claybrooke, Botcheston in Ratby. Nearly all those mentioned in 1220 are still found, but Burton-on-the-Wolds, East Langton, and the Mythe have disappeared. Osgathorpe has become a parish church. The compiler of the record gives a total of 206 churches and 117 chapels; but as a matter of fact he has counted his own lists carelessly, and there are really 205 churches and 116 chapels. St. Margaret’s, Leicester, is for some reason omitted.

<sup>73</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Inst. Sutton, 72 d.



served continuously until the Suppression Act of 1547. Only one of the Leicestershire chantries<sup>74</sup> appears to have maintained a school, yet these were in no sense selfish bequests; the men who thus strove to secure the offering of masses for their souls after death knew that they had a right to grateful remembrance for providing their parish church or chapel with an additional priest, and often with the means of repairing an old altar or furnishing a new one.

The gilds are usually considered more interesting than the chantries. Of these half-social, half-religious foundations Leicestershire certainly had a goodly number; they came into existence for the most part about the time of the great pestilence. In the town of Leicester itself ten are known to have existed, the gilds of Corpus Christi, founded about 1343,<sup>75</sup> St. Mary in 1346,<sup>76</sup> St. John in 1355,<sup>77</sup> St. Michael about 1361,<sup>78</sup> St. Margaret before 1382,<sup>79</sup> St. George,<sup>80</sup> St. Thomas,<sup>81</sup> St. Katherine,<sup>82</sup> the Holy Cross,<sup>83</sup> and the Holy Trinity,<sup>84</sup> all existing before 1419. At Loughborough in the fourteenth century there were at least five. The gilds of Jesus, Corpus Christi, St. Mary, St. Katherine, and St. George.<sup>85</sup> There was a gild of the Holy Cross at Market Harborough,<sup>86</sup> a gild at Lutterworth,<sup>87</sup> and a gild of the Holy Trinity at Tilton.<sup>88</sup> A careful search in wills of this period would doubtless reveal many more.

To the close of the fourteenth century belongs that outbreak of individualism in religious thought which had its origin in the general unsettlement of the times and found its chief provocation in the luxurious and worldly lives of the higher clergy. As early as 1286 the Court of Arches had pronounced an official condemnation of heresies concerning the Blessed Sacrament,<sup>89</sup> following the lines laid down by Lanfranc in his controversy with Berengar two hundred years before. It was indeed against the dogma of transubstantiation, as understood in the fourteenth century, that the loudest protests of the Lollards were made. But their criticisms went very much further than this; and looking back upon them from a distance which places their protests and general teaching in clearer perspective, few would now fail to see that the underlying principle which bound their varying tenets together was revolt against the authority of the church. Nor were the civil authorities of the time so very far wrong when they scented danger here for their own system also. If the connexion between the riots of 1381

<sup>74</sup> Nearly thirty are known and will be described in the topographical section of this history.

<sup>75</sup> In St. Martin's Church. North, *Chron. of the Church of St. Martin*, 185-7.

<sup>76</sup> Miss Bateson, *Rec. of Boro. of Leic.* i, 391-2; ii, p. lxi. This was in All Saints' Church, and grew out of the laudable desire to supply the church with an additional priest.

<sup>77</sup> In the chapel of St. John's Hospital, connected with a chantry founded by Peter Saddler. *Ibid.* ii, p. lxii.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.* i, 399.

<sup>79</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* i, 561.

<sup>80</sup> In St. Martin's. North, *Chron. of the Ch. of St. Martin*, 237-40.

<sup>81</sup> Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 152.

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>84</sup> In St. Mary de Castro. Nichols, *Leic.* i, 305-7.

<sup>85</sup> Dimock Fletcher, *Chapters in the History of Loughborough*.

<sup>86</sup> Stocks and Bragg, *Market Harborough*, 164.

<sup>87</sup> P.R.O. *Chant. Cert.* No. 31.

<sup>88</sup> Gibbons, *Early Lincoln Wills*, 116. The object of these gilds, their annual feasts, processions, and commemorations have been so often described in recent works that there is no need to enlarge upon them here. The greater gilds of Leicester—Corpus Christi, St. George, and the Holy Trinity—are fully treated in North's *Chron. of the Ch. of St. Martin*, Miss Bateson's *Rec. of the Boro. of Leic.* and Nichols' *Leic.* i. The only ones mentioned in the Chantry Certificate of 1547 are the gilds of St. Margaret and of Corpus Christi at Leicester, and the gild of Lutterworth, possibly because these alone had lands.

<sup>89</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), i, 281.



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to cook their dinner with.<sup>95</sup> When Swynderby joined these two they soon gathered a large following, and the ex-hermit preached in the chapel till the bishop took alarm and inhibited him ; then he made the milestones on the high road his pulpit for a while.<sup>96</sup> The reason for his inhibition was the growing alarm at the boldness of the Lollard preachers. John Aston had preached on Palm Sunday, 1382, at Leicester, and openly denounced transubstantiation, excommunication, the purchase of benefices, the wealth of the clergy, the idleness of the religious.<sup>97</sup> On Good Friday following Swynderby himself preached before the mayor, the vicar of Frisby-on-Wreak, the dean of Goscote, and many others, and went still further : he said that tithes were pure alms and should not be paid to bad priests, and that ordination does not confer priesthood unless a man were inwardly called of God ; nor did God order the mass to be celebrated ; indeed there were too many masses.<sup>98</sup> It was in July of this year that the Oxford leaders of the movement<sup>99</sup> were finally excommunicated, and about the same time, it may be supposed, Swynderby was inhibited. When he disregarded the inhibition and preached in the open air, he was brought before the bishop, and only escaped burning through the intercession of his old friend the duke of Lancaster.<sup>100</sup> Even so his life was spared only on condition that he made full recantation of all his past teachings in seven churches : at St. Margaret's, St. Martin's, and Newark College, as well as at Hallaton, Market Harborough, and Loughborough.<sup>101</sup> It is scarcely to be wondered that after his public humiliation his popularity waned ; in a little while he thought it best to leave the county.<sup>102</sup>

His companions were not dealt with so promptly, and the new teaching still held its own in the neighbourhood of Leicester. Knighton even asserts, that of every two men you might meet in the public street, one was probably a disciple of Wycliffe.<sup>103</sup> Further repressive measures became necessary. In 1389 Archbishop Courtney himself visited the abbey of St. Mary de Pré, solemnly denounced the Lollard teaching, and summoned some of their leaders to trial. William Smyth and his companion, the chaplain Richard Waytestathe, and six others whose names show them to have been ordinary craftsmen and not of the upper classes, were of the numbers of those cited. As they did not appear, but hid themselves, 'desiring to walk in darkness rather than in light,' they were publicly excommunicated on the Feast of All Saints. On 7 November, an order was issued to the mayor and bailiffs for their arrest, and William Smyth, with a certain Roger Dexter and his wife Alice, were brought before the archbishop. They did penance and renounced their errors in the church of the Newark hospital, and in the market-place. William Smyth

<sup>95</sup> There is no reason to doubt this story, as the penance given to William Smyth by the archbishop, without naming this offence, shows that he had been guilty of an outrage to the image of St. Katherine.

<sup>96</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 192.

<sup>97</sup> Walsingham, *Hist. Angl.* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 53, says it was Wiclif himself who preached on Palm Sunday ; but Knighton, who was on the spot, is more likely to be correct.

<sup>98</sup> *Ibid.* 55-6. Knighton does not give any detailed account of this sermon, but he quotes similar teachings repeatedly, saying that he had heard Lollard sermons many times. *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 174. <sup>99</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, iii, 165. <sup>100</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 192.

<sup>101</sup> This account of his sentence given by Knighton is confirmed by Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Buckingham, 240, where 'St. Martin's Church' is substituted for 'The Holy Cross,' a name which would be more familiar to Knighton.

<sup>102</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 198. He is said to have gone next to Coventry ; and in 1391 a warning was issued against his preaching in the diocese of Llandaff. Wilkins, *Concilia*, iii, 215.

<sup>103</sup> *Chron. H. Knighton* (Rolls Ser.), ii, 191.



St. Peter's, Leicester, was found to be guilty of holding heretical doctrines, and after an examination at St. James's, Northampton, was sent back to her cell with a penance.<sup>105</sup> But Knighton owns that these measures were not very effective; the Lollards were silenced 'more from fear of the archbishop than from the love of God,' and their teachings were still cherished in secret.

It seems, however, that in spite of their number, they were all of the lower classes, and had no favour among the county gentry. Among the clergy only a few stipendiary priests like Swynderby and Waytestathe were accused of heresy. It was the same in 1414; among the names of those pardoned for their share in the proceedings in St. Giles's Fields we find only such names as John Scryvener, Simon Carter, William Ward, ploughman; Nicholas Selby, ironmonger; with John Parlibien, chaplain of Mountsorrel; and John Colson of Goadby, clerk. The places from which they came—Kibworth Harcourt, Belton, Shangton—show, however, that they were scattered all over the county.<sup>106</sup> In the same year one Thomas Noverly of Illston purged himself of the accusation of Lollardy in St. Martin's, Leicester.<sup>107</sup> The Parliament which met at Leicester in 1414 issued a special statute against the Lollards,<sup>108</sup> and the bishop of Winchester voiced the general opinion of the church and state at that time when he said, 'No kingdom can exist in safety without due reverence for God and the law of the land, and both of these are endangered by the Lollards.'

During the episcopate of Bishop Chadworth (1452-72), when strong measures were taken against heretics in the Thames Valley, there is no record of any prosecutions in Leicestershire. John Poultney of Misterton, a member of a family usually conspicuous for loyalty to church and state, was accused before the bishop in 1455 for refusing to pay tithes, withdrawing from confession and divine service, inciting others to do the like, and uttering divers speeches against the Christian faith. This, however, is a solitary case; and it may have been only an episode in John Poultney's life, for he died apparently at peace with the Church.<sup>109</sup>

A proclamation was issued by Bishop Repingdon early in the century against a somewhat curious abuse, called the 'Glutton Mass,' in the arch-deaconry of Leicester. On the five feasts of our Lady, which were days of merry-making, parishioners of many churches had been wont to pay a priest

<sup>104</sup> Here again the evidence of Courtney's Register (Wilkins, *Concilia*, iii, 211) corroborates Knighton's account in every detail. It is pleasant to note a touch of real humanity in the orders given by the archbishop for the carrying out of this humiliating sentence. The penitents were to appear clad only in a single linen garment; but since the penance was to be done in November, and they might take hurt from the cold, their ordinary garments were to be put over them while they stood under the crucifix in the church, provided only that their heads and feet remained bare all the time.

<sup>105</sup> Wilkins, *Concilia*, iii, 209; and Knighton. The position of an anchoress in a churchyard laid her specially open to the temptation of idle gossip. In 1346 an anchoress of Huntingdon was accused of introducing doctrines contrary to the catholic faith (Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Bek, 84); and an anchoress by St. Julian's Church, Norwich, was convicted of heresy, taught her by Latimer's friend, 'little Bilney,' under Henry VIII (Blomfield, *Hist. of Norf.*).

<sup>106</sup> Rymer, *Foedera*, ix, 194; and Pat. 2 Henry V, pt. 2, m. 1. Richard Monk, a chaplain convicted of heresy in 1428, said that he was born and bred at Melton Mowbray. Wilkins, *Concilia*, iii, 503.

<sup>107</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Repingdon, 117.

<sup>108</sup> *Parl. R.* iv, 24.

<sup>109</sup> Linc. Epis. Reg. Memo. Chadworth, 10. His will at Somerset House directs that his body should be buried in the Carmelite church at Coventry, and he bequeathed small legacies to other friars.



good deal to find fault with. Record is preserved of visitations in 1510, 1518, and 1530 by Bishops Smith, Atwater, and Longlands.<sup>111</sup> In 1510 the churches of the town of Leicester were returned *Omnia bene*, except St. Mary's, where the abbot had not done his rectorial duty in repairing the chancel; it was also alleged that the prebendaries did not reside, and that divine service was not kept up as fully as it should be. The old chapel of St. Sepulchre without the walls was growing ruinous, and it is probable that the warning to repair it was not much heeded, as it did not survive the abbey very long.<sup>112</sup>

Within the deanery of Guthlaxton the prior of Lenton was accused of allowing the chancel of Wigston Church to remain unrepaired, and of not providing money for the customary doles to the poor. At Bruntingthorpe, Ashby Magna, Glenfield, Enderby, Narborough, North Kilworth, Thurlaston, and Cotesbach the cemeteries were not properly fenced in, and liable to desecration; at Arnesby and Shearsby games were played and other irreverences committed in the churchyard. The chancels of Oadby and Foston, both appropriate to religious houses, were out of repair. There were a few cases brought forward by churchwardens of immorality, of legacies unpaid, and lights not provided. John Wright of Burbage was accused of being a 'sabbath breaker,' for sitting in taverns during church hours. A mother at South Kilworth would not allow her daughter to become a communicant, though she was quite old enough. A good many churches were returned *Omnia bene*.

In Gartree Deanery four chancels were out of repair—Medbourne and Nevill Holt, Market Harborough and Wistow. The vicarage of Slawston was ruinous. The large majority of churches were returned *Omnia bene*, and there were few complaints against incumbents, though the vicar of Foxton was accused of celebrating mass only once a week.

In 1518 the records of visitation include the whole archdeaconry. In Gartree the returns were still good, and Guthlaxton was in improved condition. In the county taken altogether there were twelve chancels out of repair, that of Hose being in an especially bad state, with the rain coming in just over the altar.<sup>113</sup> Thirteen cemeteries wanted fencing. Six rectors were non-resident; the incumbent of Loughborough was thoroughly negligent; four priests were accused of incontinence. Fifteen churches were defective in the leads or windows, by the fault of the parishioners. Vest-



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# A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

Bradgate, is said to have been celebrated as a preacher.<sup>119</sup> No doubt the old Lollard traditions of the county were still alive.

All images, abused or no, had to be removed from the parish churches in February, 1548,<sup>120</sup> but no important changes in the external order of divine service were legalized until 1549, when the new prayer book came into use. There is evidence, however, from some churchwardens' accounts which are still extant, that here and there the changes directed or implied in that book were anticipated and exceeded. At St. Martin's, Leicester, not only the old 'George' and his companions were removed, but the organ chamber and pipes, the sepulchre light, a quantity of brass, and a good many vestments were sold in 1547-8.<sup>121</sup> At Melton Mowbray at the same time the churchwardens sold not merely the pyx and the pax but their censers, organs, cross, and divers vestments.<sup>122</sup> It is quite probable that this example was followed in other places, and there were two reasons why this should be. First there was a genuine eagerness to carry out desires long cherished, but sternly repressed by authority; then there was the more earthly consideration that Church goods which had been already sold could not be swept into the exchequer.<sup>123</sup>

The inventories of church goods taken in 1552 have aroused much interest of late years; but, as so often happens when such statistics are turned to controversial purpose, their meaning and value have been greatly misunderstood. They do not serve to show what was the lawful use of the Church of England after the issue of the First Prayer Book of Edward VI; they simply state what 'ornaments' were still left in the hands of the churchwardens in 1552. Some of these ornaments had been some little time out of use, but had not yet found a convenient market, or else were laid by in hope of better days; but in most cases there is really nothing whatever to show whether they were in use or not. For instance, many parishes retained a holy-water stock, though the use of holy water had been forbidden since February 1548;<sup>124</sup> and almost every parish church of which any inventory remains possessed a set or two of the old eucharistic vestments, as well as the copes allowed by the First Prayer Book. Nevertheless, the inventories do give some solid facts which can be used in the making of history, and in this county they certainly tend to show that extreme Reformation principles had in some important respects already spread far and worked rapidly.<sup>125</sup>

Everyone knows that the First Prayer Book of Edward VI sanctioned the ancient custom of placing lighted candlesticks upon the altar at the celebration of the Holy Eucharist. Nevertheless, fifty-four at least of the

<sup>119</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 843. That he was tutor to Lady Jane Grey is well known; but it is not easy to find out what other influence he had in the county.

<sup>120</sup> Gairdner, *Hist. of the Engl. Ch.* 249.

<sup>121</sup> T. North, *Chron. of the Ch. of St. Martin*, 97, 102.

<sup>122</sup> *Ibid.* 29.

<sup>123</sup> It is specially noted by the commissioners for this county that they found no vestments remaining of cloth of gold or silver, and the total value of plate or ornaments seized in 1552 was only £170 6s. 5d. Trollope, *Ch. Plate of Leic.* ii, 447. Another point worth noticing is the disappearance of the cruets. None were left in 1552 in this county of any better metal than pewter.

<sup>124</sup> Gairdner, *Hist. of Engl. Ch.* 254.

<sup>125</sup> The inventories of Church Goods for Leicestershire in the Public Record Office deal with forty-four churches or chapels, and thirty-one lists are printed in vol. iv. of Nichols' *Leic.* from the Tanner MSS. in the Bodleian Library. All these are collected in an appendix to Trollope's *Church Plate of Leicestershire*; but the inventory of Branston-le-Vale has been omitted, and one which has lost the name of the parish is added to the preceding list. The 'Abbie Gate,' which is numbered with the inventories in Nichols, is evidently another name for St. Leonard's Church.



were used. Such facts are strong evidence for the success and popularity of Reformation principle in this county, and the rubrics of the new book of 1552 would in many cases only serve to authorize changes that had been made already.

The course which these would ordinarily follow is well shown in the churchwardens' accounts of St. Martin's, Leicester. The sales of 1547-8 have been already noticed. In 1549 the expenses of the new books were covered by the sale of vestments;<sup>127</sup> in 1550 the order for the removal of altars was obeyed with cheerful alacrity.<sup>128</sup> Some remaining images, the vaulting of two or three chapels, the holy-water stock, and the altar candlesticks went with the altar, and after their sale follow the entries—'Boards bought 4s. 4d.'—'Posts for the same table'—'glew for the table.' Seats for the table, and mats to be about it, complete the Genevan model,<sup>129</sup> and in the next year we note the 'knolling of the bell for the lecture,' and the mending of glass windows, which had probably been defaced as no longer in harmony with the spirit of the times.<sup>130</sup>

When we remember that in 1547 the parish churches of England were as yet almost untouched, that every one still had its obvious and unmistakable high altar, its candlesticks, crucifix, hanging pyx, and great rood cross, the greatness of the changes wrought in five short years is almost beyond belief. When in 1553 all these familiar objects of devotion were restored to their old places, the more conservative of Englishmen must have felt as if the reign of Edward VI had been nothing but a bad dream. It was the reign that followed, however, which was more like a bad dream to those who favoured the reform; and the patience of churchwardens and congregations was sorely taxed by the order to buy back at considerable expense<sup>131</sup> all the ornaments so recently discarded. The vicar of St. Martin's apparently spoke his mind too plainly on the subject, for he was ordered to appear before the Privy Council in September, 1553.<sup>132</sup> But, popular as the Reformation may have been, there were very few in this county who were ready to face the flames in its defence. Lawrence Saunders of All Hallows, Bread Street, who was burned at Coventry, 8 February, 1555, had been rector also of Church Langton since 1535,<sup>133</sup> and may therefore be fairly reckoned among the martyrs of Leicestershire. But at Cardinal Pole's visitation in 1556,<sup>134</sup> only one case of obstinate heresy was reported. Thomas More, a serving-man, was burned at Leicester on 21 April in that year for holding Zwinglian views as to the Blessed

<sup>126</sup> Of the twenty-one churches or chapels which still had candlesticks, only five certainly had them 'on the altar' or 'before the altar'; in three cases the past tense 'were' or 'did stand' shows that they were disused. Of the remaining thirteen nothing certain can be said; they are merely items on the list. The probability is that in many cases they were discarded or sold, as at St. Martin's (see North, *Chron.* p. iii), when the altars were taken down. Apart from ritual considerations, the candlesticks would be very inconvenient when the table was moved out into the middle of the chancel or church.

<sup>127</sup> North, *Chron. of St. Martin's*, 102.

<sup>128</sup> *Ibid.* 111.

<sup>129</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>130</sup> *Ibid.* 113.

<sup>131</sup> These expenses were, however, lessened by the fact, obvious from the churchwardens' accounts, that the ornaments had not been destroyed in many cases, but sold to private persons. At St. Martin's the cross, censers, holy-water and water stock were all bought from 'W. Syngelton': and the altar-stone had evidently been kept at the mayor's house in hope of restoration. North, *Chronicle of St. Martin's Church*, 127-40.

<sup>132</sup> *Acts of P.C. (Rec. Com.)*, iv, 338.

<sup>133</sup> Hill, *History of Langton*, 56-7.

<sup>134</sup> For details of this visitation see Strype, *Ecll. Mem.* iii (2), 389.



Sacrament. It was noticed at the same time that the incumbent of Elmes-  
thorpe was 'in exile'—probably because he could not accept the principles  
of the Marian reaction. The chief complaint, however, at this visitation  
was not so much of heresy as of the poverty of certain benefices, long vacant  
because no one could be found to serve them for so little. Ten churches  
besides Elmes-  
thorpe were without parson or vicar: and it is a significant  
fact that eight of these had once been appropriate to religious houses. The  
rectors of Waltham-on-the-Wolds, Galby, Kibworth Beauchamp, Coston,  
Higham-on-the-Hill, and Kegworth, and the vicar of Stonesby, were non-  
resident: and there was a report that Medbourne and Higham-on-the-Hill  
had been obtained by simony. Ten chancels<sup>135</sup> were in great ruin—usually  
by the fault of an absentee rector. The chapel of Gaddesby was in very bad  
condition, and its altar had not been restored: but a certificate was handed  
in to show that it was about to be repaired. In other cases a definite time  
was appointed for carrying out repairs; and the absentees were ordered to do  
their duty.

In 1558 the brief triumph of the 'old religion' came to an end. The  
newly-built altars and rood lofts were taken down, the vestments sold, the  
churches white-washed, the commandments and sentences of Scripture were  
written upon the walls. These changes were carried out with varying  
degrees of speed, according to the temper of the different incumbents and  
congregations; but even the reluctant could not long escape notice.<sup>136</sup> At  
St. Martin's the altar was removed at once, but the rood loft was not taken  
down till 1561, and though the eucharistic vestments and a quantity of brass  
were quickly sold,<sup>137</sup> the copes, albs, and towels for use at the altar lingered  
till 1564. The 'reforms' which follow seem to us nowadays too drastic:  
but it must have been very hard at that time to know exactly where to  
stop. In 1562 some windows were defaced; in 1565 the organs were  
pulled down; in 1566 the paintings or sculptures on the pulpit were taken  
away; in 1567 the 'minister's seat' was turned about that he might face  
the people; in 1568 the eagle lectern was sold as suggestive of popery; in  
1569 the last fragments of the great cross, which had once given its popular  
name to the church, were carried off; in 1570 the heads were cut down  
from all images which were part of the fabric and not easy to remove, the  
angels' wings were broken, and all the errors and superstitions of the past  
finally buried in a shroud of white lime.<sup>138</sup>

The churchwardens' accounts of St. Margaret's tell a similar tale. In 1568  
the new vicar, Mr. John Launde, 'with the consent of his loving parishioners  
did extirp and pull down all monuments of superstition out of the said prebendal  
church.' 'I pray God so kepe ytt,' adds the devout chronicler.<sup>139</sup>

<sup>135</sup> Thurlaston, Barkby, Belgrave, Prestwold, Kirby Bellars, Loddington, Owston, Lubenham, Great  
Bowden, Breedon-on-the-Hill.

<sup>136</sup> It is noted in the churchwardens' accounts of St. Martin's that in 1568 'we was suspended for  
lackinge a byble'—perhaps for the use of the congregation, as there was certainly *one* in the church already;  
showing that 'Mr. Commissary' took careful note of the churches he visited. North, *Chronicle of St.  
Martin's*, 170.

<sup>137</sup> Their sale in this year shows how the much disputed 'Advertisements' were understood at the time.

<sup>138</sup> North, *Chronicle of St. Martin's*, 143-73.

<sup>139</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* i, 560, from Peck MSS. Here in 1559 we find, 'for taking down the angels—8d.';  
and vestments, copes, brass, &c. were sold every year till 1565, when the rood loft was taken down. The  
organ was sold in 1569, and the eagle lectern in 1570: so that the whole work was complete about the same  
time as at St. Martin's.



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

were undoubtedly towards Puritanism, with a leaning in some cases to the Presbyterian model, there was in this county and elsewhere a minority to whom the Reformation settlement was less congenial. It has been asserted by some of the best modern historians that the county gentry, more than any other class in England, were inclined to hanker after the mediæval forms of religion; and so long as they were not asked to take part in any political intrigues, many of them all through the sixteenth century would 'prefer the Latin mass, with all its perils, to the security of a dull morning prayer or a dreary homily at their parish church.'<sup>150</sup> This assertion is well illustrated in the history of Leicestershire. The official returns of recusants for this county were very small; not a single inhabitant was ever convicted of taking part in any really doubtful or treasonous proceedings; yet there were not a few who put in occasional attendances at their parish church to escape fine, and had mass said secretly in their own houses for the benefit of their families and neighbours, throughout Elizabeth's reign. Some who had been not displeased with the beginnings of reform in King Edward's day drew back and changed their minds when they saw what the Reformation really meant under Elizabeth. So in 1577 it was reported that Robert Brooksby had once been 'a zealous professor of the truth' and 'had continued so not without some danger' in Queen Mary's time; but soon after Elizabeth's accession he had withdrawn himself by degrees from his parish church.<sup>151</sup> He continued to be returned as a recusant throughout his life,<sup>152</sup> and though under pressure he consented to have morning prayers read in his house, it was always uncertain whether he was present at the reading himself. His son was married to a daughter of Lord Vaux of Harrowden, who with her sister, the more famous Anne Vaux, came to be a part of the innocent framework of the Gunpowder Plot.<sup>153</sup> It is more than probable that Mr. Sergeant Beaumont, of Gracedieu, son of the Recorder and Master of the Rolls, was through the greater part of his life a 'church papist.' He was brother-in-law to Lord Vaux, and in 1591 it was alleged that he had been 'heretofore a large contributor' to the seminary priests ministering in this county.<sup>154</sup> His mother was imprisoned in her own house in 1581 because she would not confess that Edmund Campion the Jesuit had been her guest; and one of the searches so common at this time revealed there a quantity of 'massing stuffe mete to be defaced,' with books and money collected for the support of the proscribed services.<sup>155</sup> Sir George Shirley, of Staunton Harold, with his brother Thomas, was occasionally returned as recusant;<sup>156</sup> and one of his nephews entered the Society of Jesus.<sup>157</sup> Lady Nevill of Holt lent her house to the Jesuits later as a centre for missionary work;<sup>158</sup> and some few other recusant wives of con-

<sup>150</sup> Frere, *Hist. of the Engl. Ch.* 240. See also the works of the late Professor Gardiner, &c.

<sup>151</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. cxvii, 13; cxviii, 34.

<sup>152</sup> *Acts of P.C.* xiii, 239.

<sup>153</sup> Gerard's 'Narrative of the Gunpowder Plot' in Morris, *Troubles of our Catholic Forefathers*, cxxxv; Camden, *Visitations of Leicestershire*, 49.

<sup>154</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. ccxxxviii, 126.

<sup>155</sup> *Acts of P.C.* xiii, 164, 187.

<sup>156</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. clxxxiii, 29, 30; *ibid.* Jas. I, xlvii, 46.

<sup>157</sup> A sister of Sir George Shirley was a nun at Louvain. Foley, *Records of the English Province*, v, 476. One of the Faunts of Foston also became a Jesuit. *Ibid.* ii, 286.

<sup>158</sup> *Ibid.* ii, 300-7. This was at the beginning of the next century; there was no college of Jesuits in this county till 1607. *Ibid.* ii, 273-285. Lady Nevill herself is said to have died from the shock of having her house at Holborn searched at midnight by the pursuivants. Morris, *Condition of Catholics*, 39.



## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

forming husbands contrived to hold their own and bring up their sons also in what they believed to be the only way of salvation.<sup>159</sup>

The agitation caused by Babington's conspiracy is shown by an entry in the records of the borough of the arrest of a serving-man who had dared to say Babington was an honest gentleman.<sup>160</sup> A certain John Palmer of Kegworth was arrested also on suspicion of being concerned in the plot, and bound over to remain for some months in London and report himself occasionally to the Privy Council.<sup>161</sup> His name appears henceforth on every list of recusants for Leicestershire.

In 1588 the alarm of the Armada called for fresh lists ; and at this time 'an old priest' was put in the county gaol, and John Palmer was again under custody.<sup>162</sup> The same families were in trouble once more in 1591.<sup>163</sup> The last list of the reign, made out in 1595, is of much interest ; it will be found quoted in full in an appended note.<sup>164</sup> It gives an impression more vivid than any description of the vigilance of the government, and the discomfort and anxiety under which the recusants of this reign must have lived. Country justices might be willing to shut their eyes to many of the doings of their friends and neighbours ; the government did not always act at once

<sup>159</sup> Notably the wives of Francis and George Smith of Ashby Folville ; the grandson of the latter was the first Lord Carrington, head of a family of recusants. See also the lineage of the Turvilles of Aston Flamville. Camden, *Visit. of Leic.* 55, 131. In connexion with this subject much interest will be found in the study of the pedigrees of this period ; they show very clearly how this cause was kept alive by continual intermarriage between the principal recusant families of England. So in the Brooksby pedigree we meet the names of Vaux, Beaumont, Wiseman, Englefield ; in the Beaumont line we find Vaux, Pierpoint, Faunt, Fortescue.

<sup>160</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* viii, 431.

<sup>161</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. cxcii, 50 ; *Acts of P.C.* xiv, 232, 280. It was noticed in the same year that divers Jesuits and seminary priests were received and harboured in the houses of sundry gentlemen of this county and others of good account. *Acts of P.C.* xiv, 140.

<sup>162</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. ccviii, 66 ; ccxxxviii, 82. <sup>163</sup> *Ibid.* ccxxxviii, 126 ; P.R.O. *Recusant Roll*, 34 Eliz.

<sup>164</sup> S.P. Dom. Eliz. ccli, 13.

'Launcelot Blackborne, a seminary priest, was at Mr. Palmer's house at Kegworth, co. Leicester, the 29 January ; and that house is never without a priest, whether he be at home or abroad.

Near Sawley, two miles from Mr. Palmer's, dwells Mr. Williamson, who was wont to keep a priest called Mr. Tanfield, until a time that he being at mass, Mrs. Williamson having a little dog which barked and made a great noise, the said Tanfield spurned him down the stairs with his foot and killed him ; for which cause she fell out with that priest, but is seldom without one.

At Mr. Merry's, at Barton Park, dwelleth Nicholas Icke *alias* Wood, a seminary priest, and he is often at Mr. Palmer's of Kegworth ; the said Mrs. Merry is sister to Mr. Palmer.

At one Bakewell's house at Awkemorton, a mile from Mr. Merry's, there is a great resort of priests.

At Mr. Whithall's house near Asborne, four miles from Awkemorton, lieth Robert Shewell, a seminary priest ; at the buttery door they go up a pair of stairs straight to the chamber where mass is said, and Tanfield useth thither often.

At one Rawlins' house at Rawson's, three miles from there, let them go into the parlour, and directly before the door there is a spinet where you shall find either priest or church stuff ; many recusants in that town resort thither to mass.

At Mr. Foljambe's house at Throwley there is store of church stuff which was carried thither by A.B.

John Bedford *alias* Tanfield, a handsome man with no hair on his face.

Mr. Ruxby *alias* Pickering, a tall man with grey hair cut near and round.

Robert Shewell hath a bald head and one leg bigger than another.

William Morecock a very little man with a clubbed foot.

Mr. Blackman, a big lean sad man yellow-haired.

Launcelot Blackborne, a black man cut near with some white hair and snaffleth in his speech.

Nicholas Icke *alias* Wade, yellow-haired.'

Lancelot Blackburn was ordained 1575, sent to England 1576, imprisoned a short time, but released in the same year ; so he had been nearly twenty years on the mission. *Douay Diary*, i, 5, 25, 113, 116.

Robert Shewell was ordained 1570, already of mature age, and sent to England in the same year. *Ibid.* 164.

William Morcott, who may be here referred to, was sent to England 1581. *Ibid.* 28.

The other names cannot be identified certainly. Father Gerard of the Gunpowder Plot was sometimes known as Tanfield, but it seems improbable that this is he.



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

on information received ; and the names of some of the priests here mentioned show that it was possible to continue such ministrations for ten or fifteen years without arrest ; but everyone who had mass said in his house knew well that at any time of alarm at home or abroad he might wake at midnight to find his house surrounded by soldiers, and himself called to stand trial for his life. The crisis was real, the danger and the plots were real ; yet at this distance of time we can surely afford a little sympathy for those who were innocent of all plots and clung to their religion at such heavy cost.

The author of the *Anatomy of Melancholy* was born at Lindley in 1576, and died rector of Seagrave, in this county, in 1640 ; but though he speaks with impartial scorn both of Papists and Brownists, it would not be fair to reckon him as a representative churchman of his day. His testimony is of some value, however, when he discourses on the distressed and miserable condition to which many of the Elizabethan clergy were reduced by the covetousness of 'gripping patrons.' He says that it was almost impossible to obtain a benefice without some 'simoniacal compact,' by which the incumbent agreed to pay the patron an annual pension, sometimes amounting to half his income. He declares that no profession was so ill rewarded as this.<sup>165</sup> A visitation of 1585 shows several churches of this archdeaconry in decay, and many other unsatisfactory features besides. There were unseemly brawls in church at Medbourne and Ratcliffe Culey, and cases of immorality were presented very frequently everywhere. The vicars of Stoughton, Barkby-cum-Thurnby, Frolesworth, and St. Martin's, Leicester, refused to wear the surplice at service time ; the homilies and injunctions were also evaded.<sup>166</sup> Nonconformity of the latter type was evidently on the increase in the county ; it had, indeed, some sort of organization as early as 1582.<sup>167</sup> And besides the clergy who held benefices in the Church without conforming to the rubrics of the Prayer Book and the injunctions of their bishops there were in 1590 also some sectaries, probably Brownists or Anabaptists, who were at the next assizes to receive 'such punishment as was due to their deserts in open professing of such dangerous errors.'<sup>168</sup>

Ashby de la Zouch was still a stronghold of Puritanism ; Gilby had been succeeded by Arthur Hildersham, a divine much admired by Fuller, in spite of his persistent refusal of conformity. He was suspended from preaching by the High Commission Court in June, 1590, for six months ; by Bishop Chaderton in 1605 for more than two years ; by Bishop Neile in 1611 for more than ten years ; and, finally, for a short time by the Ecclesiastical Court at Leicester in 1631. His difficulties were the same as those of the ordinary Puritan clergy of the day : the use of the surplice and the cross in baptism, and the order for kneeling at communion.<sup>169</sup> A notable schoolmaster called Brinsley kept school in the same town for many years and brought up his scholars to the same opinions until he was deprived.<sup>170</sup>

<sup>165</sup> Burton, *Anatomy of Melancholy*, pt. 1, sec. 2, m. 3, sub-sec. 15.

<sup>166</sup> From MS. Visit. Rep. Alnwick Tower, Lincoln.

<sup>167</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii (9), 149. (Minute bk. of meetings of Puritan mins. divers cos.)

<sup>168</sup> *Acts of P.C.* xx, 85.

<sup>169</sup> Fuller, *Ecccl. Hist.* xi, 142. Hildersham was leader of a Puritan deputation to King James I in 1604, and was imprisoned in consequence. Frere, *Hist. of the Engl. Ch.* 317.

<sup>170</sup> William Lilly, *Hist. of his own Life and Times* (ed. 1715), 4.



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# HISTORY

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

believe such things may be.<sup>176</sup> And it may be noted that many of the Puritan divines who would have been readiest to deny the value of any appeal to the spirits of the good, firmly believed that evil spirits might be invoked to some purpose.<sup>176</sup> In June, 1616, nine women were hanged at Leicester for bewitching a boy at Husbands Bosworth; they were formally tried before the high sheriff, and grave men like Alderman Robert Heyrick entirely approved the sentence.<sup>177</sup> Six more victims would have been added later but for the intervention of King James, who himself detected the imposture of the child who was said to be bewitched.<sup>178</sup> In spite of the disgrace of two of the justices who acted on this occasion, there was another witchcraft trial in 1618, issuing in the execution of two more women at Lincoln. In this case the poor creatures were not merely the victims of the malice or folly of others; they themselves confessed that they were in league with the devil, and that they had indeed caused the death of Henry Lord Ros, and attempted the life of his brother and sister by magical arts. Three other Leicestershire women were examined at this time by Sir Henry Hastings and a learned doctor of divinity,<sup>179</sup> and made similar statements. They had sold their souls to the devil in exchange for certain occult powers to help and to hurt, and they possessed familiar spirits in the shape of cats, dogs, and rats, who assisted them in their designs.<sup>180</sup>

In 1626 the vicar of All Saints, Leicester, was presented before the ecclesiastical court at Leicester for refusing to wear the surplice, for baptizing without the cross, and for administering the holy communion to some parishioners without requiring them to kneel.<sup>181</sup> He acknowledged his offence, but appealed to Bishop Williams, who let the matter pass and took no proceedings. This case was afterwards brought forward with many others to show that the bishop, and Pregon his registrar, had shown great favour to Puritans in this county<sup>182</sup>: and it was the beginning of the long-continued difficulties between the bishop and Sir John Lambe, as official for the arch-deaconry of Leicester. Many of the points alleged in the accusation brought forward in 1627 by the officers of the ecclesiastical courts were denied by the bishop: but in the light of later evidence it is impossible to doubt that unauthorized fasts and preachings were popular in the county, whether favoured by him or no. Meetings for the exposition of Scripture, not preceded by any office from the Book of Common Prayer, and sometimes conducted by unlicensed ministers and laymen, were said to have taken place at Broughton Astley, Easton, Loughborough, Burrough on the Hill, Croft, Thornton, Wigston, and Leicester. Lady Herrick's chaplain at Woodhouse was a frequent preacher at unauthorized fasts: and one of these gatherings

<sup>176</sup> *Anatomy of Melancholy*, pt. i, sec. 1, m. 1, sub-sec. 3.

<sup>176</sup> Notable illustrations of this curious fact may be found in the history of the Puritan colonies of New England. As late as 1692 there was a great witchcraft case at Salem, Massachusetts; upwards of 100 persons were imprisoned on suspicion, and nineteen actually hanged.

<sup>177</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 471, prints the letters of Robert Heyrick on this subject. The women were had up before the mayor, justices, and the astute 'Docktor Lambe.' See also *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* xii, (11), 422.

<sup>178</sup> *Cal. S.P. Dom.* 1611-18, p. 121.

<sup>179</sup> Dr. Fleming, rector of Bottesford in this county, a good and pious parish priest, who founded in 1620 an almshouse for four poor widows.

<sup>180</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 69-72, where the depositions of the women are given in full. There is a curious note of pride in their confessions. They fully believed in their own powers.

<sup>181</sup> *S.P. Dom. Chas.* I, lvii, 83.

<sup>182</sup> *Ibid.* lxxxv, 99.



had been held at St. Martin's, Leicester, with sermons and extempore prayers from 8 a.m. till 8 p.m. continuously.<sup>183</sup> These religious exercises may seem to us nowadays innocent, and even edifying; but it was not quite the same when they were held within the church, and yet in open defiance of ecclesiastical discipline.

Archbishop Laud was in Leicester himself in 1633,<sup>184</sup> and a metropolitical visitation was held by his direction in the following year. The report made at this time<sup>185</sup> corroborates many of the statements made by the officials of the ecclesiastical courts in 1627. The incumbents of Aston Flamville, Croft, Frolesworth, Shawell, Lockington, and the curates of Burbage and Easton chapels were notable Puritans: the first of these was suspended, as his non-conformity had been continuous for twenty years: the rest were ordered to conform. The curate of Market Harborough had been recently ejected for the same cause; but there were many in the town who favoured his teaching. There were many Puritans, as of old, at Ashby de la Zouch, but the vicar was not presented at this time.<sup>186</sup> There were many at Burrough on the Hill, Buckminster, and Shepshed, who left their parish churches and wandered after preachers who gave them the kind of theology they desired. Not only 'unconformable ministers' were presented. The parish priests of Garthorpe, Kegworth, and Humberstone were accused of immorality and other misdemeanours. Eight churches were seriously out of repair.<sup>187</sup> At Noseley the parish church<sup>188</sup> was appropriated to Sir Arthur Haselrig, who kept the tithes, and provided no curate, though he had a Puritan chaplain residing in his own house. The rectory of Belgrave was abused in like manner: the Lady Morrison had the tithes, providing £50 for the service of the church and two chapels, which were irregularly served by unlicensed preachers. Kirby Bellars had a curate who was only the domestic chaplain of Sir Erasmus de la Fontaine.

Besides the cases above mentioned, Mr. Angel, one of the lecturers at Leicester, known as an 'excellent sweet preacher,'<sup>189</sup> was accused of nonconformity before the High Commission Court in 1635:<sup>190</sup> but he made his submission, and was reconciled to the ecclesiastical authorities so long as they remained in power.<sup>191</sup>

A good many cases from this county were before the High Commission Court in 1634-5, but none were of great interest. Only one case of

<sup>183</sup> S.P. Dom. Chas. I. lxxxviii, 13.

<sup>184</sup> Ibid. ccxlv, 39.

<sup>185</sup> Ibid. dxxxv, 26.

<sup>186</sup> A letter of his dated 1636 shows that he had been under suspicion, and had recently made an oath of conformity. Ibid. cccxxxi, 95.

<sup>187</sup> A careful inquiry was made at this time as to the state of the parochial chapels; but the answers are not often stated. The inquiry is of interest because it is evident from several entries that the visitors had in their hands the old *Matriculus* of Bishop Wells; many of the chapels they asked for had been long since lost sight of.

<sup>188</sup> The parish church had long since disappeared, but the collegiate church was used instead. It was alleged that the Haselrigs had long abused their position in the same way as Sir Arthur was doing. Lately a 'seely blind man' had been presented to the church by the king: he was called at this visitation and admonished to do his duty.

<sup>189</sup> S.P. Dom. Chas. I, dxi, 446 (Morton Papers), 38.

<sup>190</sup> Ibid. 18; cclxxiv, 15.

<sup>191</sup> He went up to London and managed to secure a 'toleration' from Archbishop Laud; but when he came back he showed himself so conformable that William Heaward wrote of him quite approvingly to Sir John Lambe. Ibid.; and cclxxxii, 98. He continued to be a lecturer, and vicar of St. Nicholas, after the disestablishment of the Church, being approved by the committee of Leicester, and no doubt finding the Directory more to his taste than the Common Prayer: but he could not take the engagement in 1651, and so lost his lectureship, and the post of confrater of Wigston's Hospital. Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 501.



was most unsatisfactory. Archbishop Laud was a genuine reformer, and wholly above all thought of self-interest ; but he could not always choose his instruments. The enormous fortune amassed by Sir John Lambe, while dean of Arches and official for this archdeaconry, would be grave evidence against him even if there were no other records of his career. But there are also numerous letters extant which passed between him and the minor officials of the courts, such as Walter Walker, Reginald Burden, William Heaward, and others ; and none of these men seem to have taken a large or generous view of the difficulties of the time. On the contrary, there was much petty arrogance and self-seeking in their manner of discharging their several offices.<sup>196</sup> Sir John Lambe himself had a long suit with Dr. Walker which lasted from 1632 to 1641.<sup>196</sup> Burden complained of the high fees exacted by Walker, chiefly because he was afraid he might be himself a loser in consequence.<sup>197</sup> He related with pride how he had questioned and rebuked the preacher of an assize sermon for the 'gross and pestilent error' of saying that obedience to the 'higher powers' (Rom. xiii) meant only the temporal rulers, not the ecclesiastical.<sup>198</sup> Such men as these might enforce the laws of the Church, but they could carry out no real reform.

It was on 9 September, 1641, that the House of Commons refused to consent to the publication of an order issued by the Lords, 'that divine service should be performed as appointed by the Acts of Parliament of this realm, and that all such as shall disturb that wholesome order shall be severely punished according to the law : ' and substituted in its place an order of its own, that all communion tables should be moved from the east ends of the churches into some other convenient place ; that all rails should be removed and chancels levelled 'as heretofore they were before the late innovations.'<sup>199</sup> This order was not, of course, immediately or universally obeyed : but it was at least a sign that the Laudian reformation was ended for the time being, and that a new era had begun.

The list of sequestrations for Leicestershire is a very long one ; nearly a third of the parochial clergy were on some ground or other dispossessed of

<sup>199</sup> S.P. Dom. Chas. I, cclxi, fol. 124. The living was only worth £6 13s. 4d. a year.

<sup>193</sup> Ibid. fol. 119b.



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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

been actually required by Parliament; but in 1643, at the outbreak of the war in this neighbourhood, all the clergy were called into Leicester to take the covenant, and those who refused were to be sent up to London and have their estates sequestered.<sup>206</sup> Others were accused individually before the Committee for Plundered Ministers, and the work of sequestration by this agency went on till 1649. A few lost their benefices as late as 1651, when required to take the Engagement, and among these were one or two who had been actually approved by Parliament and appointed, like Job Grey, the earl of Kent's brother, in the place of ejected royalists.<sup>207</sup> Here and there the happy accident of possessing a friendly patron enabled some incumbents to continue almost unmolested in the performance of their ordinary duties. The parish registers of Stonton Wyville show us that Joseph Holt went on marrying couples according to the Prayer Book in his church even after 1655, aided and abetted by Mr. Justice Brudenell, who lent his presence to the ceremony to satisfy the requirements of the existing statutes; and in March, 1660, the same rector signed a licence for eating flesh in Lent as naturally and simply as if that holy season were still being observed throughout England.

A few of the ejected clergy may have deserved to lose their benefices, being pluralist and non-resident,<sup>208</sup> or else actually negligent and undesirable;<sup>209</sup> and it may be that the trials of their wives and families have been in some cases a little overdrawn; yet there can be no doubt that the losses and sufferings of loyal churchmen at this time were very real. The Committee for Plundered Ministers would occasionally issue an order for payment of a fifth of the profits of some sequestered benefice to the wife of the ejected incumbent;<sup>210</sup> but it is not easy to find out whether such orders were obeyed. Three of the ejected rectors, at Loughborough, Desford, and North Kilworth, refused to yield their parsonage houses to the intruders, or encouraged their parishioners not to pay tithes;<sup>211</sup> but they could gain nothing by such resistance. Nathaniel Tovey, who had been ejected from Lutterworth, was fortunate enough to get a presentation to Aylestone in 1654,<sup>212</sup> and died there in peace; but such cases were rare.

The military operations in this county between 1643 and 1646 brought losses of another kind. Soldiers were quartered on the rectors, and some-

<sup>206</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, App. p. 33. The clergy are said to have come on the whole freely and cheerfully, but there were a good many sequestrations in this year.

<sup>207</sup> Job Grey was appointed to Wigston's Hospital in 1644 in place of John Meredith, and to Ibstock for a short time in 1647; Shaw, *Hist. of the Engl. Ch. under the Commonwealth*, ii, 306. For his displacement and its cause, see S.P. Dom. Interr. cxxiii, 88 (505). Ralf Hotchkin of Knipton, who petitioned for restoration in 1660, was certainly rector till 1654 (Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 237, notices the burial of his wife in that year). John Angel, confrater of Wigston's, another 'godly and orthodox divine,' and vicar of St. Nicholas', went out at the same time as Job Grey.

<sup>208</sup> John Waybred, whom Walker alleges to have been ejected from Skeffington, appears by the parish registers to have kept that benefice till his death; but he lost Lowesby in 1645. Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 347.

<sup>209</sup> Of Francis Squire, of Queniborough, even Walker fears that he was 'not a very good man.' William Richardson, of Garthorpe, had been before the High Commission Court in 1635 on a charge of immorality. S.P. Dom. Chas. I, cclxi, fol. 284. Old Thomas Pestell of Packington, who wrote such pathetic letters about the sufferings of his two ejected sons, and is said to have been threatened by the Parliamentary soldiers for his use of the Prayer Book, had been found guilty in 1631 of vexing his neighbours with forged citations, and of violent and abusive language against Sir John Lambe and others; and had before this been bound over to keep the peace at quarter sessions. S.P. Dom. Chas. I, ccli, 6. He was not, however, among the actually ejected, as he resigned Packington in favour of his son before 1644. Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 927.

<sup>210</sup> Five such orders are found in Add. MSS. 15669-71; to the wives of the incumbents of Church Langton, North Kilworth, Ibstock, Loddington, and Saddington; another is quoted by Nichols from the *Commons' Journ.* to the wife of Thomas Rawson of Hoby. Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 268.

<sup>211</sup> Add. MSS. 15669-71.

<sup>212</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iv, 28.



between the king's forces and those of the Parliament. If complaints were made of the rough usage of church, parsonage, and parson by the Parliamentary army at Coleorton,<sup>215</sup> the rector of Houghton on the Hill and the vicar of Theddingworth had a like accusation to bring against the king's men ;<sup>216</sup> and it was alleged that Sir Henry Hastings's troopers once rode right into the church at Loughborough and threatened the preacher in the pulpit.<sup>217</sup> In the town of Leicester, when it was stormed, there was a fierce fight in St. Martin's churchyard, and the soldiers of the king broke the locks off the church doors and robbed the poor men's box.<sup>218</sup> These facts cause no surprise to those who are acquainted with the manners of the times, and know something of the history of continental warfare during the seventeenth century. The rough soldiers of those days, whatever their religion might be, were not likely to show much respect for holy places ; and very few commanders of that age were able, even if they wished it, to keep a firm hand upon their troops in the stress of storm and siege. Yet the Civil War in England, with all its horrors, has no records so hideous as those which disfigure the German and Italian wars of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries.

A certain amount of damage and desecration was no doubt wrought by the Parliament men quite deliberately, in the desire to destroy everything that savoured of superstition. And the new zeal for reform swept away some few ornaments in the churches which had survived the iconoclasm of Elizabeth's reign. The eagle lectern at Loughborough was sold in 1646 for old brass, at 6*d.* per lb.<sup>219</sup> The steps before the altar in St. Martin's, Leicester, were taken away, and the font removed ;<sup>220</sup> the font was sold at St. Mary's,<sup>221</sup> and probably in other places also.<sup>222</sup>

A laudable but ineffectual effort was made by the Committee for Plundered Ministers to deal with the difficulties of the Leicestershire vicars. It was indeed a great scandal that so many vicarages and curacies should be so scantily endowed, while the greater tithes went to support the lay rector in luxury and ease. In 1650, when a return was made of the revenues of

<sup>213</sup> Dimock-Fletcher, *Chapters in the Hist. of Loughborough*, 26-7, gives certain items in the Churchwardens' Accts. which show these facts. Payments were made for 'dressing the church after the soldiers, and for frankincense to sweeten it,' in 1644, and there is a similar entry under 1645. Graves, sheets, and women to watch the wounded are also entered.

<sup>214</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, App. p. 33 ; Hill, *Hist. of Market Harborough*, 20.

<sup>215</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, App. p. 927 ; and in a petition quoted in Grosart's preface to the works of Sir John Beaumont (*Fuller Worthies' Library*).

<sup>216</sup> S.P. Dom. Interr. F. 1 (20 May, 1646) ; Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 827.

<sup>217</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, App. p. 38 ; they did much the same at Rothley.

<sup>218</sup> *Ibid.* i, 578. Churchwardens' Accts.

<sup>219</sup> Dimock-Fletcher, *Chapters in the Hist. of Loughborough*, 30. This item stands in the Churchwardens' Accts. for 1646, showing that the sale was carried out just after the ejection of Dr. Hall.

<sup>220</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* i, 578, from the Churchwardens' Accts. The font was replaced by a basin more convenient for the Presbyterian manner of baptism.

<sup>221</sup> Also shown in the Churchwardens' Accts. for 1659. *Trans. Leic. Arch. Soc.* vi, 242.

<sup>222</sup> It is alleged of Captain Yaxley, the last incumbent of Kibworth Beauchamp before the Restoration, that he turned out the font into the street, to be used as a horse-trough. Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 652.



town of Leicester matters were especially difficult to settle. Throughout the Civil War the town had been in a state of spiritual and temporal unrest; in 1649 there was a 'very foul riot' at the time when one Dr. Harding came to preach a probation sermon to qualify himself for the vicarage of Knighton, and 'great insolency' was shown towards the preacher himself.<sup>226</sup> The Council of State reprimanded the local committee a little later for allowing too many public disputations, which led to breaches of the peace.<sup>226</sup> The popular town lecturer, John Angel, refused in 1651 to take the Engagement, and had to resign his post.<sup>227</sup> There were continual changes at St. Martin's and St. Mary's, until in 1656 the mayor and inhabitants complained that they were as sheep without a shepherd, all their churches being at the time vacant, and no minister of the word among them except William Simes the lecturer, who had succeeded Angel. Five churches they had, but the revenues of all put together did not amount to £100 a year. They pleaded the danger they were in, from ignorance and profaneness, if this famine of the word should long continue.<sup>228</sup> In answer to their petition augmentations were ordered for the support of 'three able and fitting ministers,'<sup>229</sup> and these were soon after appointed.<sup>230</sup>

It is refreshing to turn away from these pictures of desolation and discomfort to the memory of one young life spent in unselfish devotion to what seemed a failing cause. The marriage of Sir Henry Shirley to the daughter of the earl of Essex broke the long connexion of one old and honoured

<sup>223</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* i, pp. xcvi–xcviii. These cases are only given as specimens. The return states that as many as eighty churches or chapels in the county have not a competent maintenance; either through impropriations, or through the 'covetousness of them that are pluralitan and non-resident'; these last being twenty-four in number. The date 1650 given above is quoted from Nichols, but it should be noticed here that the original MS. from which he takes the returns—Carte MS. 77, fol. 112–8, Bodl. Lib.—is undated. The document is, however, of a quite similar nature to the parliamentary surveys of livings in the Record Office and Lambeth Library, dated 1650, amongst which Leicestershire is not included. The epithets applied to the clergy—'weak,' 'scandalous,' 'corrupt in doctrine,' or 'sufficient'—show the same point of view as the parliamentary surveys.

<sup>224</sup> Augmentations varying from £10 to £50 were granted to the incumbents of Ashby de la Zouch, Humberstone, Market Harborough, Prestwold, Belgrave, Breedon, Buckminster, Houghton on the Hill, Theddingworth, Twycross, Hungerton, Foston, Castle Donington, Loddington, Orton on the Hill, Great Wigston, Great Bowden, Hinckley, and the Leicester churches between 1642 and 1658. Lambeth MSS. Aug. of Livings, vols. 994, 995; and also S.P. Dom. Interr. F 1 and F 2.

<sup>225</sup> S.P. Dom. Interr.; 11 June, 1649.

<sup>226</sup> *Ibid.* 5 Nov. 1649.

<sup>227</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* i, 501.



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# HISTORY

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## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

convictions were formed and fixed by painful struggle ; and the Church was to them nothing but a new system of persecution more intolerant if possible than that from which they first broke away.

The minister of Fenny Drayton in 1644, Nathaniel Stevens by name, was an orthodox Presbyterian : he was steadfast and sincere enough in his own principles to be willing to resign his cure in 1662.<sup>237</sup> He and his fellows were to Fox in the worst sense 'priests':<sup>238</sup> not because they had been ordained by bishops, but because they desired, as he thought, to stand between God and man. Fox had a message to the world which seemed to him like a new gospel. He had wandered up and down the country for five or six years:<sup>239</sup> he had met and reasoned with Baptists and Presbyterians, with some who said that women had no souls, with others who followed the guidance of dreams, with some who said that there was no God, but all things came by nature, and with others who said that they themselves were God.<sup>240</sup> All these he saw 'where they were'—blind leaders of the blind. Then it came to him, 'not by the help of man but in the light of our Lord Jesus Christ and by His immediate spirit and power,' that 'the manifestation of the Spirit of God was given to every man ; that Christ died for all and enlightened all.' To see this clearly was to have 'come up in the Spirit through the flaming swords into the paradise of God': and one who said it could have no other desire than to lead others into the same light, that all 'might by the inward spirit know their salvation and their way to God.' This theology, familiar and scriptural as it seems to us, was, of course, in direct opposition to the popular Calvinism of the day ; and even in the Church it could find but little sympathy at a time of such keen controversy. The Church of the Interregnum and the Restoration was by its very circumstances forced to hold firmly and to lay stress upon the outward framework of order and discipline : the great Caroline divines had scarcely leisure for much interest in mystical theology. They were fully occupied in defining the limits of religious thought and the relations of the churches ; they could not understand that for men like Fox there was only one question worth asking : 'Can a man meet God face to face, and speak to him as friend with friend ?' In happier days that question might have found a welcome and an answer within the Church,<sup>241</sup> but to George Fox it seemed that he could find no man able to 'speak to his condition.' So in the depth of his disappointment he came to the conclusion that the Church and all the sects had

<sup>237</sup> Calamy, *Nonconformists' Memorial*, ii, 385.

<sup>238</sup> Fox calls all the Presbyterian ministers appointed by Parliament 'priests' without distinction.

<sup>239</sup> From 9 July, 1643, when he was nineteen years old, and left his home at the bidding of a voice which seemed to say 'Thou seest how young people go together into vanity and old people into the earth ; thou must forsake all, both young and old, and keep out of all, and be a stranger to all'—until about 1649, when his spiritual conflicts ended in peace.

<sup>240</sup> For descriptions of all these see his *Journal*. The last-named sect was that of the Ranters, or Family of Love, to whom at first Fox seems to have felt some drawing.

<sup>241</sup> It is precisely the same question which has been asked by the mystics of all ages, within and without the Church ; and the great Catholic mystics from St. Augustine onwards have answered it with quite as much assurance as any of the sectaries. The best of Fox's teachings, found in his letters to the persecuted brethren, e.g. 'Patience must get the victory' ; 'Life and light will outlast all, is over all, and will overcome all' ; 'Be patient and still in the power and in the light' ; 'The good will overcome the evil, the light darkness . . . so be faithful and live in that which doth not think the time long' ; 'Your rest is in Christ Jesus ; therefore rest not in anything else' : all these have hundreds of parallels in the writings of the orthodox mystics. How could it be otherwise ? They are all echoes, conscious or unconscious, from the gospel of St. John.



Lord': their regular meetings began about 1648. Fox himself was in the county in 1646, and again in 1648: at first the minister of his parish was willing to converse with him in friendly fashion, but after a while he changed his attitude, being afraid of what seemed to be 'new lights.' Fox seems to have had a special dislike for the Baptists, with whom he held disputations at Broughton Astley, Barrow-upon-Soar, and elsewhere. At Market Bosworth, in 1649, he and his companions were stoned and chased out of the town at the instigation of 'Priest Stevens,' of Fenny Drayton. From 1653 onwards there were always a few Quakers of this county in trouble for non-payment of tithes, or for addressing 'Christian exhortations' to ministers or congregations in the churches.<sup>242</sup> This latter 'office of love,' as Besse calls it, seems to us in these days very ill-advised, and inconsistent with the meekness which the Quakers professed to value so highly: and it nearly always produced irritation and resentment. In those times, however, public disputation was very much the fashion, and was held to be a valuable means of spiritual profit. In 1654, when Fox visited his native county again, there was a great open-air contest at Swannington between him and the leaders of various sects: every one quoted scripture to prove his own convictions, and the Ranters sang and danced and whistled after the manner of their school. At the end of the year he was arrested by Colonel Hacker for disturbing the peace of the established order, and was sent up to London to interview the Protector; but he was able to visit his friends again before the Restoration.<sup>243</sup>

As many as twenty-four<sup>244</sup> of the ejected Leicestershire clergy lived to see the king's return, though one or two of them had but a short tenure of their restored benefices. One or two obtained higher charges than they had held before. Dr. Bretton, of Church Langton, became archdeacon of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and Michael Honeywood of Kegworth was made dean of Lincoln.<sup>245</sup> This restoration of necessity involved some loss and suffering to the parliamentary nominees recently appointed. Then came the 'Bartholomew Act' of 1662, compelling all those who were still in possession to decide whether they could continue to work under the rule of the English Church. Calamy gives a list of thirty-nine who resigned their benefices rather than conform; but his figures, like those of Walker, need a little examination. Twelve<sup>246</sup> of the thirty-nine he names were simply replaced by the ejected incumbents, and cannot strictly be considered as sufferers for conscience' sake. William Simes was merely the Leicester lecturer, holding no other benefice; Matthew Patchet of Thurmaston was only a curate;

<sup>242</sup> Besse, *Sufferings of Quakers*, i, 330, 331.

<sup>243</sup> For all this see Fox's *Journ.* Fox said in his later days that the Quakers 'began to be a people' in 1644: but he shows himself that his mind was not quite clear as to his mission till 1648-9, when meetings began to be held. All that went before was only desultory teaching and conversation.

<sup>244</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, App. pp. 101, 105; and notices from parish registers in Nichols.

<sup>245</sup> Walker, *Sufferings of the Clergy*.

<sup>246</sup> These were the ministers of Coleorton, Congerstone, Cotesbach, Ibstock, Church Langton, Loughborough, Narborough, Ravenstone, Rearsby, Sibson, Packington, and Long Whatton. See Calamy, *Noncon. Memorial*, ii, 384-410.



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George Greene of Theddingworth<sup>247</sup> died before the fatal day; Yaxley of Kibworth Beauchamp had been engaged in a long suit with Hunt, the previous incumbent, all through the Interregnum, and was ejected in 1660 for causes more political than religious.<sup>248</sup> There were, therefore, only twenty-three who can be fairly said to have resigned on principle, because they would not receive episcopal ordination or accept the Prayer Book. Most of these seem to have been quiet peaceable men, and it is recorded of a few that they willingly went to church on Sunday mornings and preached only in private houses in the afternoons. Only eight were university men. John Shuttlewood, who had been at Ravenstone, was the most prominent among them, preaching in several places in the county, and maintaining some kind of organization among those who were Presbyterian by conviction; he was imprisoned at Leicester for a short time in 1668 under the Conventicle Act. Matthew Clarke, once a chaplain in Colonel Hacker's regiment, and minister of Narborough, continued an active preacher, and was imprisoned three times in Leicester gaol.<sup>249</sup>

The return of conventicles in 1669 shows a number of small gatherings in private houses, mostly Presbyterian, Anabaptists, and Quakers. Only at Stoke Golding, Great Bowden, Kibworth Beauchamp, Ashby Magna, and Market Harborough did the congregations amount to a hundred or more. The Anabaptists are nearly all described as of the 'meaner' or 'poorer sort'; the 'Presbyterians are of the 'middle' or 'ordinary sort'; the Quakers usually of the 'vulgar' or 'poorest sort,' and not numerically very strong.<sup>250</sup> In 1672 licence was granted for the holding of Presbyterian conventicles in thirty-eight places; the Independents received eighteen licences, and the Anabaptists eight.<sup>251</sup> The Quakers asked nothing, as it was contrary to their principles. They received a good deal of rough usage throughout the reigns of Charles II and James II, one of the worst cases being at Long Clawson in 1679, when men and women were dragged along the street by their hair or by their clothes; and in 1680, when a number of rough lads set upon them under a pretended warrant from the parish priest.<sup>252</sup>

The period of the Restoration has many features of interest as regards the Church. It was a time marked not merely by zeal for the repression of Nonconformity, but also by much personal generosity and sacrifice. Clergy and laity alike had suffered heavy losses, yet now the churches were in need of restoration, often at considerable expense. The work seems to have been

<sup>247</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 828. The lecturer and the curate are struck off the list merely to balance the list of those ejected under the Commonwealth, where such cases have not been reckoned.

<sup>248</sup> Hunt was sequestered in 1645, but compounded with the committee to retain his benefice, and though Yaxley was invited by the parish was again settled in his place in 1647. Later Yaxley obtained a presentation from the Protector; but before 1655 Hunt again recovered his rights by law. It was finally agreed that Yaxley should serve the cure, making some compensation to Hunt. These facts are summarized from Add. MSS. 15669-71, and S.P. Dom. Inter. vol. xciv, under 9 Feb. 1655. In 1660 Yaxley was accused before the Lords of having proclaimed in the pulpit, 'Hell is broke loose; the devil and his instruments are coming in to persecute the saints and godly party.' Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 652.

<sup>249</sup> See Calamy in *loc. cit.* and Lambeth Libr. Tenison MSS. 639 (Conventicles in Leicestershire, 1669). Both these authorities show George Fox's old enemy, Nathaniel Stevens, keeping a conventicle at Hinckley, where he lived till 1678, and wrote many books, of which one deserves to be remembered: *A Plain and Easy Calculation of the Number of the Beast!*

<sup>250</sup> Lambeth Libr. Tenison MSS. 639.

<sup>251</sup> S.P. Dom. Chas. II, 1672.

<sup>252</sup> Besse, *Sufferings of Quakers* (ed. 1753), i, 332-46. We can accept Besse's account of the rough treatment without being so ready as he was to suppose that it was instigated by the clergy.



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died in 1618, was thought wonderfully generous because of his bequest of £16 10s. to charitable purposes.<sup>259</sup> A few gifts of plate were made during the Laudian revival ;<sup>260</sup> Sir Henry Hudson of Melton Mowbray restored to the Church some part of his inappropriate tithes for the building of a hospital ;<sup>261</sup> the good deeds of Sir Robert Shirley have been already noted. But the benefactions of the second half of the century were many and generous. Those who were well-to-do founded or endowed free schools and almshouses,<sup>262</sup> where children were to be instructed in Church doctrine, and the aged provided with the consolations of religion. The revived use of sacred symbols, monograms, crosses, and emblems of the passion, upon the vessels offered for use at the altar, is worthy of notice ; showing that the old dread of popery and idolatry, though still alive, was at any rate a little more limited in its sphere of operation.<sup>263</sup> It was indeed still alive, as the troubles of the 'Popish Plot' revealed. Two sons of a Leicestershire vicar<sup>264</sup> who had both entered the Society of Jesus were among the victims of the alarm raised by Titus Oates and his friends in 1678-9 ; one of them, Father Anthony Turner, was executed in London in June, 1679,<sup>265</sup> and the other died in prison two years later. The oath of allegiance was administered to many recusants at this time, in terms which some of them could not reconcile with their consciences ; an aged lady, Dame Mary Smith of Sproxton, complained that she had been imprisoned with her three children in Nottingham Gaol for some weeks on this account, 'to the ruin of her estate and the decay of her health.'<sup>266</sup> But the Bill for disarming Papists brought forward at this time shows only thirteen well-known families in Leicestershire who adhered to the Roman obedience.<sup>267</sup>

The short reign of James II served to show that, however false the statements of Titus Oates, the fear of popery was not altogether groundless ;

<sup>259</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 617.

<sup>260</sup> These may be found in Trollope's *Church Plate of Leicestershire*, where a full description is made of ale gifts, of which memory is preserved.

<sup>261</sup> This was in 1638 ; see Nichols, *Leic.* i, preface, for account of Charities existing in the reign of George III. Other benefactions of this period were : an almshouse for four poor widows, founded 1620 by Dr. Fleming, rector of Bottesford, and his sister ; a free school at Wymondham by Sir John Sedley in 1637.

<sup>262</sup> The bishop of Peterborough in 1690 left £240 to endow a prize of 10s. yearly to twenty poor families which could say the Lord's Prayer and Ten Commandments without missing a word. Dr. Humphrey Babington in 1686 founded a hospital at Barrow-upon-Soar ; Thomas Rawlins a free school at Woodhouse, 1691 ; Thomas Palmer of Loughborough a free school in 1677 ; Valentine Goodman left £200 in 1684 for the benefit of the 'most indigent and decrepit paupers' in Hallaton and the neighbourhood. The smaller gifts and additional endowments are too many to quote ; *ibid.* The last benefaction here mentioned, that of Valentine Goodman, was made quite in the old spirit. He had purposed to leave his estate to his brother Everard, but the latter said to him, 'Brother, you have more need of it for your own soul's good than I.' Hill, *Hist. of Langton*, 219.

<sup>263</sup> See Trollope, *Ch. Plate of Leic.* With the single exception of the gifts of Sir Charles and Sir Robert Shirley, marked with the crown of thorns, the winged heart, and other like symbols, not a single piece of the church plate of Leicester before 1660 has any ornament except coats of arms and conventional foliage. Some of the finest gifts of the Restoration period are those at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, presented by different members of the Hastings family, in 1676-7 and 1701-2 ; others were given later. Almost all the altar plate given after 1700 has some sacred emblem upon it.

<sup>264</sup> Nichols gives the name of Toby Turner as vicar of Little Dalby, 1613-49 ; which fits in well enough with Foley's statement that Fr. Edward Turner entered the Society in 1650. He and his brother are said to have been brought up under Roman influences by their mother, who had been 'reconciled' by one of the Jesuits stationed in the Leicestershire district ; Foley, *Rec. of the Engl. Province*, iii, 308 ; iv, 472-5.

<sup>265</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, App. p. 472.

<sup>266</sup> *Lords' Journ.* xiii, 485. She was released on bail with one of her daughters.

<sup>267</sup> *Hist. MSS. Com. Rep.* vii, App. p. 236. Some of the old names are found here—Turville, Fortescue, Eyre, and those who had married the daughters of Sir Thomas Beaumont. The same names are found again in the list of Papists who registered their estates in 1716 ; Add. MS. 15629, fol. 29.



afterwards stated that he had done so only through the desire of preferment. This was the ill-fated William Paul who, in 1715, when he heard of the Chevalier's march southward, threw aside his cassock and bands<sup>269</sup> and went to join the invading army at Preston. He was sent into Leicestershire with dispatches before the final surrender and collapse of his friends, but was taken prisoner a little later in London. He was tried at Westminster on 31 May, 1716, for high treason, and on 13 July he was drawn, hanged, and quartered at Tyburn.<sup>270</sup> On the scaffold he attempted to read a speech (afterwards printed and circulated), in which he asked pardon of God and the king (James) for taking the oaths, and declared that he died a true son, though an unworthy one, of the Church of England; not the 'schismatical church' usually understood by that name, but the 'nonjuring Church,' which had kept free from rebellion and schism, and had preserved and maintained 'true and orthodox principles both as to Church and State.'<sup>271</sup>

The registers of Bishops Wake and Gibson (1709-23) give a good deal of information as to the state of the Church in Leicestershire at the beginning of the eighteenth century. What is usually called the revival of church life under Queen Anne was confined for the most part to London and the great cities, and did not last long enough to make much impression upon the country at large. But in the matter of church services at any rate there was a higher standard at this period in Leicestershire than in some other counties of which record is preserved. If only at St. Martin's, Leicester, at Loughborough, and at Lutterworth, was there a daily recitation of mattins and evensong, yet almost throughout the county prayers were read on Wednesdays, Fridays, and holy days, as well as twice on Sundays. Nearly everywhere an attempt was made to keep up a regular system of catechizing, at least through some part of the year; though complaints were often made that the people would not come to be instructed. At three of the Leicester churches, St. Martin's,<sup>272</sup> St. Mary's, and St. Margaret's, the holy eucharist was celebrated monthly as well as on the three great festivals. There was a monthly celebration also at Ashby-de-la-Zouch, at Cadeby, Cotesbach, Frolesworth, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray, Norton juxta Twycross, Coleorton, Rearsby, and Sileby. At a few other places, such as Market

<sup>268</sup> Overton, *Nonjurors*, 471 seq.

<sup>269</sup> Nichols said there was an old lady living in his day who still remembered hearing Paul pray for King James in the church of Orton-on-the-Hill just before he left; *Leic.* iv, 850.

<sup>270</sup> Patten, *Hist. of the Rebellion* (ed. 2), 96-9.

<sup>271</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iv, 23-4; where the speech is printed in full from a contemporary record.

<sup>272</sup> St. Martin's has a record to show in this respect which only a few parish churches in England can rival. The Churchwardens' Accounts make it clear that at any rate from the end of the sixteenth century (and if then, probably from the beginning of Elizabeth's reign) there was always a monthly celebration here; continued, as we know from Nichols and the visitations of Archdeacon Bonney, without any notable interval until the time when all services became more frequent. Even under the interregnum an attempt was made to keep up the old custom; it is hard to say with what success. The earlier entries on this subject, and the great quantities of wine paid for (sometimes eight quarts at a time), show a low sacramental doctrine during the early part of the seventeenth century, when we know Puritan influences were strong. Nevertheless the record is an honourable one.



1737–67, ‘perhaps better fitted for this world than any other state’; an excellent whist player, who played for larger sums ‘than is usual in his way of life,’ a wit and pleasant companion at dinner, acquainted with the best of the county, and ‘with such only would be acquainted.’<sup>273</sup> James Hitchcock of Bitteswell (1762–89), ‘a literal bookworm’; ‘never known to apply his great erudition . . . to the glory of God, nor the improvement of his fellow creatures,’<sup>274</sup> was probably an unusual type even in his own day; now he is almost impossible. Neither public opinion nor the activity of our modern bishops could now endure such a man as William Wragge, vicar of Frisby-on-the-Wreak 1769–89, who openly boasted that he would marry any who presented themselves, and lived for thirty years mainly on the fees offered him by runaway couples. He was at last brought to trial, and sentenced to transportation for fourteen years for marrying a man and woman without banns or licence; and left his church in miserable condition, the floor, the pulpit, the pews and all the furniture in ‘shameful neglect and filth.’<sup>275</sup>

These are extreme cases; but there are other types less unpleasing, which have now become almost as rare, such as Dr. Taylor, rector of Market Bosworth in 1740, ‘in size, figure, countenance, and manner like a hearty English squire with the parson super-induced’; a justice of the peace, and deeply interested in cattle breeding.<sup>276</sup> Or Dr. Heathcote, rector successively of St. Margaret’s, Leicester, of Barkby, and Sileby, from 1765 to 1795, but a stranger to Leicestershire nearly all the time; a frequenter of coffee-houses, a lover of epigrams and *bons mots*, and something of a politician too. ‘Contented and resigned, I enjoy myself reasonably well,’ he wrote to Nichols, when a happy conjunction of preferments seemed to ensure him a comfortable old age.<sup>277</sup>

There are many men alive who remember pluralists of the type of the rector of South Croxton, Philip Hacket; a man who did his work energetically and conscientiously according to his lights;<sup>278</sup> riding from parish to

<sup>273</sup> It was Cole the antiquary who summed him up as perhaps better fitted for this world than any other; though he speaks charitably and regretfully of him and willingly undertakes to pray for the repose of his soul; Nichols, *Leic.* ii, 1127, and Appendix.

<sup>274</sup> *Ibid.* iv, 47. It is not surprising to hear that his church was deserted, and those of his parishioners who were devout became dissenters.

<sup>275</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 262. He was allowed to banish himself, instead of being actually transported, in consideration of his age and infirmity.

<sup>276</sup> *Ibid.* iv, 514.



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daughter of the Church of England,'<sup>286</sup> and her sisters, Lady Ann and Lady Margaret, were celebrated for their charity and devotion far beyond the circle in which they were brought up ; their brother the earl of Huntingdon was a sincere churchman of the old school, and there was a time when his countess was apparently quite in sympathy with the devotional system in which she had been trained.<sup>287</sup> She became acquainted with John Wesley, however, while she was still living for the most part at Donington, and as early as 1741 wrote to him that his doctrine on Christian perfection was 'the thing she hoped to live and die by.'<sup>288</sup> The death of her sons in 1743, and of her husband three years later, leaving her a widow still in the primê of life, turned her thoughts more exclusively to religion ; and she was no doubt a woman who needed more scope than the Church of her day could provide.

Her subsequent career is so well known that there is no need to speak of it here. It is only necessary to say that one of the earliest essays in open-air preaching was made in this neighbourhood by David Taylor, a servant of hers.<sup>289</sup> Wesley himself was not at Leicester until 1753, where he found the people serious and attentive,<sup>290</sup> but did not gather a large following : his system does not seem to have been very popular in the county till the end of the century. Thomas Robinson, who came to be curate of St. Martin's, Leicester, in 1774, and was known as a 'Methodist,' was rather what we should now call a churchman of the evangelical school. In his time the name of Methodist was still given to any of the more earnest among the clergy who, though not desiring any separation from the Church, yet instituted in their parishes prayer-meetings and extempore preachings, after the manner of those followers of Wesley and Whitfield who had now become in the strict sense dissenters. Robinson served St. Martin's and St. Mary's till 1813, and was a good, hard-working parish priest, a friend of Venn and Romaine and all the leaders of his school ; he did a great deal of much-needed philanthropic work, organizing charitable societies, visiting schools, infirmaries, and prisons. He became a very popular preacher in his later years, and drew large congregations.<sup>291</sup>

<sup>284</sup> Out of £30 a year, of which £12 to £18 was paid for board and lodging, he saved enough to bequeath £100 to his own kindred, £100 to the farmer in whose house he had lived, in special gratitude for kindness shown to the infirmities of old age, and £40 to the parish ; though he had latterly had to pay an assistant priest to help him with his work.



## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

The eighteenth century is usually looked upon as a time when little care was taken for the outward fabric of the churches of England, and the complaint is no doubt just; but in Leicestershire there was apparently rather a better state of things than in some other parts of the country. Nichols records the complete rebuilding or repair of the churches at Walton on the Wolds,<sup>292</sup> Wymeswold,<sup>293</sup> Saxby,<sup>294</sup> Stapleford,<sup>295</sup> Scraftoft,<sup>296</sup> Lubenham,<sup>297</sup> Ragdale,<sup>298</sup> Market Harborough,<sup>299</sup> and the chapels of Carlton,<sup>300</sup> Rolleston,<sup>301</sup> Mountsorrel,<sup>302</sup> and Stretton Parva;<sup>303</sup> while the Churchwardens' Accounts of Sapcote, Loughborough, and St. Martin's, Leicester, show that a good deal of money was spent in this way during the period in question. Nichols, indeed, makes it plain that he was sadly familiar with the sights we imagine too common in his day—'churches in shameful neglect, the Gothic tracery broken or defaced, the windows for a mere saving to the parish half stopped up with dabs of mortar';<sup>304</sup> but he describes the profusion of hart's-tongue fern which grew under the communion table at Waltham on the Wolds with more interest in the species to which it belonged than indignation at the fact.<sup>305</sup> He only draws special attention to the miserable state of Frisby on Wreak (already described)<sup>306</sup> and of Sysonby chapel, a 'little wretched building, dark and damp,' where prayers were said but once a month.<sup>307</sup>

Of course the standard of requirement, even amongst the devout and earnest, of that time was very different from our own. The terriers of 1708-9 show fairly well what was expected at the beginning of the century. Almost every church had one decent 'carpet-cloth' for the altar (the colour being a matter of indifference), and a pulpit-cushion to match; one surplice, one white linen cloth, and a single napkin being considered amply sufficient. There was usually a silver chalice and paten; but pewter was good enough for the flagon and alms dish, unless some wealthy benefactor replaced it by better metal.<sup>308</sup> A church was 'handsomely furnished' a little later if its altar cloth (and the indispensable pulpit cushion) were of crimson velvet with gold fringe; if it had a panelled 'altar-piece' framing a sacred picture, or more often the Commandments; and perhaps Moses and Aaron painted on the eastern wall.<sup>309</sup> The clergy did not apparently sigh for many changes of altar linen, or a succession of frontals for the seasons. The highest ideal of the time may be seen in the schemes recorded of that eccentric but devoted son of the church, William Hanbury of Church Langton. This worthy man devoted the whole of his life and energy to the project of endowing a great charity, which was to include the rebuilding of the church, the foundation of a hospital, college, and picture gallery—a complete 'Temple of Religion and Science.' To this end he gave himself up to the work of

<sup>292</sup> Nichols, *Leic.* iii, 499.

<sup>295</sup> Ibid. <sup>296</sup> Ibid. 785.

<sup>299</sup> Ibid. ii, 496.

<sup>302</sup> Ibid. iii, 91.

<sup>303</sup> Ibid. 382-4.

<sup>307</sup> Ibid. ii, 283.

<sup>293</sup> Ibid. 504.

<sup>297</sup> Ibid. 498.

<sup>300</sup> Ibid. iv, 514.

<sup>303</sup> Ibid. ii, 738.

<sup>308</sup> In connexion with its vicar, William Wragge.

<sup>294</sup> Ibid. ii, 311.

<sup>298</sup> Ibid. iii, 387.

<sup>301</sup> Ibid. ii, 444.

<sup>304</sup> Ibid. ii, 250.

The churches of Elmesthorpe, Brooksby, Knaptoft, and Wigston (St. Wulfstan's) had been ruins for a long time.

<sup>308</sup> Many of these are quoted by Nichols, and also by Trollope.

<sup>309</sup> There are enthusiastic descriptions of Lubenham and Loughborough churches, which were furnished in this style. Nichols also gives an appreciative notice of the re-casting of the bells at Hinckley. In 1793 they were made to play as follows:—Sunday, *Psalm civ*; Monday, *God Save the King*; Tuesday, *Woodland*; Wednesday, *Highland Laddie*; Thursday, *Grammachree*; Friday, *Jubilee Minuet*; Saturday, *The New German Spa*. It is evident that this arrangement was thought to be suitable and delightful.



picture of the Crucifixion, or of our Lord carrying His cross, like the one in Magdalen Chapel at Oxford. The door of the church should stand always open, and there was to be a fine organ, and a continual round of musical services, performed by singing men and boys trained in a choir school for the purpose. The services were to be strictly according to the rubrics, with no parts abridged or curtailed, and the worshippers should be beguiled into patience by musical interludes. Every Sunday there was to be mattins, with Litany, sermon, and 'Second Service,' at which the Commandments should be sung, with three ministers before the altar. But he did not contemplate the celebration of Holy Communion more than once a month.<sup>810</sup>

Mr. Hanbury died in 1778, having hoped much, but realized little. There is no need to pity him, for such enthusiasm is its own reward. But very few men in his time had any sympathy with his plans ; and his parishioners would not even keep his organ in repair, nor suffer him to build a gallery, for fear of extra expense. They were satisfied to see the church as their fathers saw it, and neither rockets,<sup>811</sup> nor ritual, nor stately music could wake them out of their indifference : the time was not yet come.

The records of the first half of the nineteenth century show indeed how very little change there was in the ordinary course of church services and church life (except in the direction of slow decay), from the time when the first enthusiasm of the Restoration faded until the period in which we still live. We have admirable materials for judging of the state of the Church in this county just before the influence of the Oxford movement began to make itself felt outside the academic circles where it began. Leicestershire was very fortunate in possessing at this time an excellent archdeacon, who thoroughly grasped the duties of his office, and did his work most faithfully. No one could read his reports of visitation from 1832 to 1842,<sup>812</sup> without being struck by the minute care with which he surveyed the fabric of every church committed to his charge, and noticed every detail of church furniture. He points out 'one rotten beam in the roof' at Burton Overy, 'a few loose stones in the parapet' of Loughborough, 'the floor still bad in one place' at Branston after repair. Where all was on the whole well, as in the Leicester churches and at Loughborough or Ashby de la Zouch, small defects are nevertheless noticed ; and when there was serious cause for dissatisfaction, as at Barkestone, Branston, and Ab Kettleby, he gives the most careful directions, and notices at a second and third visitation exactly what still remains to be done. It has



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strictly religious, and the advance of education and science have a large share in it.<sup>318</sup> In the town of Leicester alone fourteen new churches have been built since 1832. The work of supplying the needs of the rural population had begun even earlier, with the building of the Oaks Church in 1815,<sup>319</sup> and since that there have been fifteen more. Modern topographical works, such as Hill's *History of Langton*, show us how church after church has been restored and reopened, mainly by efforts in which the whole congregation took part; and gifts of plate to old and new altars alike have been very numerous.<sup>320</sup> But more remarkable than all these is the new standard of reverence and order, the change in the popular view of the priestly and pastoral office. The fulness of the post-Reformation records for this county makes it possible to measure these changes more accurately here than in some other parts of England. The visitation reports, inventories, terriers, and churchwardens' accounts of the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries bring two points into special prominence. First, it is noteworthy that the general requirements of those in authority have shown very little variation for about two hundred years; the minimum of order and decency set out in the visitation questions of Archbishop Laud in 1634-5<sup>321</sup> being almost exactly the same as that which satisfied Archdeacon Bonney between 1832 and 1842, and corresponding also to the existing facts of the Restoration period, shown in the terriers and inventories of 1708-9 and the churchwardens' accounts. Secondly as to services; there is no evidence<sup>322</sup> that the Holy Eucharist was ever celebrated more frequently than once a month anywhere in the archdeaconry of Leicester from the time when the angels at St. Martin's lost their wings,<sup>323</sup> until within the last half-century. And now a monthly celebration is the minimum not merely in Leicestershire, but throughout England; and the green baize cloths and ragged napkins are almost forgotten.

## APPENDIX

### ECCLESIASTICAL DIVISIONS

Although the see of Leicester was formed in the seventh century, it was not until 737<sup>324</sup> that a regular succession of bishops<sup>325</sup> began with the consecration of Torhthelm. The pressure of Danish invasion resulted in the abandonment of Leicester as the bishop's stool, which was removed before 965 to Dorchester by Leofwine,<sup>326</sup> who united the sees of Leicester and Lindsey.<sup>327</sup> The seat of the bishopric remained at Dorchester until shortly after the Norman Conquest,<sup>328</sup> when Remigius transferred it to Lincoln.<sup>329</sup> Leicester was probably organized as an archdeaconry early in

<sup>318</sup> For instance, very few churches had organs in 1842, and many had no proper heating apparatus; but these things can be had now with very much less expense.

<sup>319</sup> *Leic. and Rut. N. and O.* iii, 187.

<sup>320</sup> See Trollope, *Cb. Plate of Leic.*

<sup>321</sup> See *V.C.H. Bucks.* i. 325-6, and the original printed notes of inquiry among the State Papers.

<sup>322</sup> This must only be understood to refer to Leicestershire; and of course the fact that there is no evidence does not prove that it never happened here; but there is positive evidence of the customs of important churches, such as those of Leicester and Loughborough and Ashby de la Zouch, at many differing dates; and of the whole archdeaconry from 1709 to 1842.

<sup>323</sup> North, *Chron. of St. Martin's*, 173.

<sup>324</sup> Haddon and Stubbs, *Councils*, iii, 127-9.

<sup>325</sup> Stubbs, *Reg. Sacr. Angl.* 224.

<sup>326</sup> Will. of Malmes. *De Gest. Pont.* (Rolls Ser.), 312.

<sup>327</sup> Parker, *Early Hist. of Oxf.* 138.

<sup>328</sup> The date is much disputed, but it was before 1086; *V.C.H. Linc.* ii, 9.

<sup>329</sup> Henry of Huntingdon, *Hist. Angl.* (Rolls Ser.), 212; Dugdale, *Mon.* under Lincoln, vi, No. 3, p. 1270.



## ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY

the twelfth century,<sup>330</sup> and formed part of the diocese of Lincoln until 1837,<sup>331</sup> when it was attached to that of Peterborough. The rural deaneries were fully organized before 1220, when the archdeaconry contained 203 parishes, distributed as follows:—

**DEANERY OF AKELEY**—twenty-three parishes<sup>332</sup>: Ashby de la Zouch, Barrow upon Soar, Belton, Breedon, Castle Donington, Coleorton, Diseworth, Dishley, Hathern, Kegworth, Lockington, Loughborough, Osgathorpe, Packington, Rothley, Seal, Shepshed, Sweptstone, Swithland, Thurcaston, Wanlip, Long Whatton, and Whitwick.

**DEANERY OF CHRISTIANITY OR LEICESTER**—nine parishes<sup>333</sup>: All Saints, St. Mary de Castello, St. Nicholas, St. Clement, St. Leonard, St. Michael, St. Martin, St. Peter, and St. Margaret.<sup>334</sup>

**DEANERY OF FRAMLAND**—thirty-eight parishes<sup>335</sup>: Ab Kettleby, Barkestone, Bottesford, Braunstone, Broughton, Buckminster, Burrough on the Hill, Claxton,<sup>336</sup> Coston, Croxton Kerrial, Little Dalby, Eastwell, Eaton, Garthorpe, Goadby Marwood, Harby, Harston, Hose, Kirby Bellars, Knipton, Melton Mowbray, Muston, Cold Overton, Plungar, Redmile, Saltby, Saxby, Scalford, Somerby, Sproxton, Stapleford, Stathern, Stonesby, Syston, Thorpe Arnold, Waltham on the Wolds, Wyfordby, and Wymondham.

**DEANERY OF GARTREE**—thirty-seven parishes<sup>337</sup>: Billesdon, Blaston, Husbands Bosworth, Bowden, Brighthurst, Burton Overy, Carlton, Cranoe, Evington, Foxton, Galby, Great Glen, Glooston, Gumley, Hallaton, Horninghold, Houghton, Kibworth Beauchamp, Knossington, Langton, Laughton, Lubbenham, Medbourne, Norton by Galby, Noseley, Owston, Pickwell, Saddington, Scraftoft, Shangton, Slawston, Stonton Wyville, Stockerston, Theddingworth, Thurnby, Welham, and Wistow.

**DEANERY OF GOSCOTE**—thirty-two parishes<sup>338</sup>: Allexton, Asfordby, Ashby Folville, Barkby, Beeby, Belgrave, Brookesby, Cossington, Croxton, Great Dalby, Frisby, Hoby, Humberstone, Hungerton, Loddington, Lowesby, Prestwold, Queniborough, Ragdale, Ratcliffe, Rearsby, Saxelby, Seagrave, Sileby, Siwoldby, Skeffington, Thrussington, Tilton, Tugby, Twyford, Walton on the Wolds, and Wymeswold.

**DEANERY OF GUTHLAXTON**—forty-three parishes<sup>339</sup>: Arnesby, Ashby Magna, Ashby Parva, Aston Flamville, Ayleston, Aylmersthorpe, Bitteswell, Blaby, Bruntingthorpe, Broughton Astley, Catthorpe, Claybrooke, Cosby, Cotesbach, Croft, Desford, Dunton Bassett, Enderby, Foston, Frolesworth, Gilmorton, Glenfield, Huncote, North Kilworth, South Kilworth, Kimcote, Knaptoft, Leire, Lutterworth, Misterton, Narborough, Oadby, Peatling Magna, Peatling Parva, Ratby, Sapcote, Sharnford, Shawell, Stoney Stanton, Swinford, Thurlaston, Wigston, and Willoughby Waterless.

**DEANERY OF SPARKENHOE**—twenty-one parishes<sup>340</sup>: Appleby, Barwell, Bosworth, Cadeby, Congerstone, Drayton, Heather, Higham on the Hill, Hinckley, Ibstock, Kirkby Mallory, Markfield, Nailstone, Newbold Verdon, Norton juxta Twycross, Orton on the Hill, Shackerstone, Sheepy, Sibson, Thornton, and Witherley.

In 1291 the deanery of Akeley was formed of the same parishes<sup>341</sup> as in 1220, though Osgathorpe was accidentally omitted. Dishley ceased to be a separate parish before 1428. The chief alteration before 1866 was the formation of the parish of Quorndon in 1757; in 1866 Anstey was formed into a separate parish.<sup>342</sup>

The Matriculus of 1220 gives nine parishes as members of the deanery of Christianity or Leicester, but only three, St. Leonard, St. Mary, and St. Martin, were mentioned in 1291.<sup>343</sup>

In 1535 the deanery consisted of the seven parishes<sup>344</sup> of All Saints, St. Margaret, St. Mary, St. Martin, St. Nicholas, St. Peter, and St. Leonard. After the disappearance of St. Peter's the number was reduced to six, but in 1829 the new parish of St. George was formed from the parish of St. Margaret.<sup>345</sup> The parish of Holy Trinity was constituted from part of the same parish in 1839, and in the previous year a portion of St. Mary's parish had been used to form the new parish of Christ Church.

The arrangement of the parishes in the deanery of Framland in 1220 persisted in all essential details until 1864.<sup>346</sup> Edmonthorpe was not mentioned in 1220, but occurs in the list of 1291, while Withcote was omitted in 1291, though a member of the deanery in 1220 and 1428.<sup>347</sup>

<sup>330</sup> Henry of Huntingdon, *De Contemptu Mundi* (Rolls Ser.), 302.

<sup>331</sup> *Lond. Gaz.* 5 Sept. 1837, p. 2334.

<sup>333</sup> *Ibid.* fol. 150.

<sup>336</sup> Probably Long Clawson.

<sup>338</sup> *Ibid.* fol. 151-2.

<sup>341</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 64.

<sup>344</sup> *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 148.

<sup>346</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 65; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 154; *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>347</sup> *Feud. Aids*, iii, 116.

<sup>332</sup> Cott. MS. Nero, D. x, fol. 150-16.

<sup>335</sup> *Ibid.* fol. 152.

<sup>337</sup> Cott. MS. Nero, D. x, fol. 151 b-2.

<sup>340</sup> *Ibid.* fol. 150b.

<sup>343</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 65.

<sup>345</sup> *Lond. Gaz.* 9 Jan. 1829, p. 43



## A HISTORY OF LEICESTERSHIRE

The deanery of Gartree also remained little changed between 1220 and 1840.<sup>348</sup> Noseley was accounted a separate parish from 1220 to 1428,<sup>349</sup> but was omitted in 1535. In 1840 North Kilworth and Kimcote were considered members of the deanery,<sup>350</sup> but these were transferred in the following year to the deanery of Guthlaxton.<sup>351</sup>

But for the addition of the parish of Mowsley in 1841, the deanery of Gartree remained unaltered until 1864.<sup>352</sup>

The deanery of Goscote was unaltered between 1220 and 1535.<sup>353</sup>

The Valor omits the parishes of Prestwold and Siwoldby, each of which is included in the list of 1428,<sup>354</sup> after which date Siwoldby drops out.

In the deanery of Guthlaxton some differences are evident. Swinford was omitted in 1291; Aylmersthorpe, included in the lists of 1291<sup>355</sup> and 1428, is not mentioned in 1220, 1535, or at subsequent dates, while Huncote is only heard of in 1220; since then it has formed part of the parish of Narborough. In 1841 Kimcote was considered a member of Gartree deanery.<sup>356</sup>

The deanery of Sparkenhoe differed in 1841 from its state in 1220 by the addition of the parish of Peckleton before 1291,<sup>357</sup> when Congerstone was omitted from the list.

The deanery of Akeley was divided in 1865 into two parts, known as the First or Western, and the Second or Eastern Divisions.<sup>358</sup> Various alterations were made in these in 1873,<sup>359</sup> and in 1876<sup>360</sup> the deanery was reconstituted, and the newly-formed parishes of Charnwood Forest (Oaks and Copt Oak), Grimston, Loughborough All Saints, Mountsorrel North and South Ends were added. In 1893 the deanery was reorganized, and the existing threefold division made.<sup>361</sup>

Eastern Division: Barrow upon Soar, Castle Donington, Diseworth, Hathern, Kegworth, Lockington, Long Whatton, Loughborough All Saints, Loughborough Emmanuel, Loughborough Holy Trinity, Mountsorrel Christ Church, Mountsorrel St. Peter's, Prestwold, Quorndon, Swithland, Thorpe Acre with Dishley, Walton on the Wolds, Woodhouse Eaves, Woodhouse St. Mary, and Wymeswold.

Southern Division, containing the parishes of Belton, Charnwood Forest (Copt Oak and Oaks), Congerstone, Heather, Hugglescote, Ibstock, Markfield, Shackerstone, Shepshed, Thornton, and Whitwick.

Western Division, containing the parishes of Appleby, Ashby de la Zouch: Holy Trinity, Blackfordby, Woodville, Breedon on the Hill, Coleorton, Normanton, Osgathorpe, Packington, Seal Over and Nether, Swepstone, and Whitwick.

The deanery of Christianity or Leicester has been altered considerably since 1841, chiefly by the formation of new parishes.<sup>362</sup>

In 1894 the deanery was reorganized, and since that time has contained the parishes of Aylestone, Aylestone Park, Belgrave, Belgrave St. Michael, Evington, Humberstone, New Humberstone, Leicester: All Saints, St. Andrew, Christ Church, St. George, St. John, St. Leonard, St. Luke, St. Margaret, St. Mark, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Matthew, St. Nicholas, St. Paul, St. Peter, Holy Trinity, St. Saviour, St. Mary Magdalene Knighton, The Martyrs (added in 1895), and All Souls<sup>363</sup> (1906).

In 1865 the deanery of Framland was divided into the First Portion, containing the parishes to the south and east, the Second Portion, formed of those to the north and east, and the Third or Western Portion.<sup>364</sup> Some alterations were made in 1872,<sup>365</sup> in 1876,<sup>366</sup> and in 1887, when Normanton was made a separate parish.

The present rearrangement of the deanery of Framland was made in 1893 as follows:—<sup>367</sup>  
First Division: Barkestone, Belvoir Castle, Bottesford, Braunstone, Croxton Kerrial, Eaton, Harby, Harston, Hose, Knipton, Muston, Normanton, Plungar, Redmile, and Stathern.

Second Division: Buckminster, Coston, Eastwell, Edmondthorpe, Garthorpe, Goadby Marwood, Saltby, Saxby, Sproxton, Stapleford, Stonesby, Waltham on the Wolds, and Wymondham.

Third Division: Ab Kettleby, Asfordby, Broughton, Long Clawson, Dalby on the Wolds, Grimstone, Kirby Bellars, Melton Mowbray, Saxelby, Scalford, Thorpe Arnold, and Wyfordby.

<sup>348</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 64; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv. 159; *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>349</sup> *Feud. Aids*, iii, 112.

<sup>350</sup> *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>351</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>352</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>353</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 63; *Valor Eccl.* (Rec. Com.), iv, 163.

<sup>354</sup> *Feud. Aids*, iii, 113-14.

<sup>355</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 62.

<sup>356</sup> *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>357</sup> *Pope Nich. Tax.* (Rec. Com.), 64.

<sup>358</sup> *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>359</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>360</sup> *Lond. Gaz.* 27 Oct. 1876, p. 5695.

<sup>361</sup> *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>362</sup> *Lond. Gaz.* 8 Aug. 1862, p. 3943; 19 Dec. 1854, p. 4131; 13 Nov. 1868, p. 5862; 13 Aug. 1872, p. 3598; 23 Aug. 1867, p. 4725; 23 April, 1872, p. 1997; 11 Aug. 1874, p. 3939; 5 April, 1878, p. 2386.

<sup>363</sup> Some of the modern 'parishes,' especially in the towns, are not parishes in the strict sense of the term, but districts to which churches are attached.

<sup>364</sup> *Clergy Lists.*

<sup>365</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>366</sup> *Lond. Gaz.* 27 Oct. 1876, p. 5695.

<sup>367</sup> *Clergy Lists.*



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