

"in pale *gules*, and sometimes *sable* a sword in pale *argent*. 15 is a very strange coat, but I conjecture it was meant for paly *vair* and *gules*, (or *vair* three pallets *gules*,) on a chief *argent* a label *gules*—which is St. Pal. 16 may have been intended for Lisle, which is *gules* a lion passant guardant armed *or*. On glass, crowns are often omitted (but not often added) by mistake. With the exception of St. Pal, I cannot account for the last four quarterings. The presence of St. Pal may be accounted for, though not justified. Jaquetta, wife of John, Lord Strange of Knockin, was an ancestress; one of the daughters of Sir Richard Woodville, by his wife Jaqueline of Luxembourg, daughter of John, Count of St. Pal; and as nobility in France was not restricted to the eldest son, or even sons, but extended to daughters also, the Earl might have supposed he was entitled to the coat of St. Pal. It was one of the quarterings of Queen Elizabeth Woodville; but none of her other quarterings appear in this coat. St. Pal more commonly has the chief *or* and the label *azure*.  
 "You will see that I cannot reconcile these quarterings with the Earl's pedigree. According to that, Barneville, Harrington and Gonshill might have been quartered; but not one appears in this coat.

"Yours very truly,

"WESTON S. WALFORD."

"Nov. 3rd, 1873."

2. Arms of Henry Stanley, fourth earl of Derby, *ob.* 1593. It contained eight quarterings with an inescutcheon of pretence bearing four more, viz. :—(1) Stanley, (2) Lathom, (3) Man, (4) Warren, (5) Strange, (6) Woodville, (7) Mohun, (8) Montalt. On the inescutcheon—(1) Clifford, (2) Brandon of Suffolk, (3) Burgh of Rockley, (4) Clifford.
3. Arms of Ann, daughter of Edward, Lord Hastings of Hungerford, wife of Thomas, second earl of Derby. *Quarterings*—(1) Hastings, (2) Hungerford, (3) Botreux, (4) Botreux, (5) Moels, (6) Pole, baron Montague, (7) Clarence *i.e.* Plantagenet, countess of Salisbury, (8) Neville of Abergavenny, (9) Montague, (10) Beauchamp, (11) Le Despencer, (12) Clare.
4. An eagle's foot. Badge of Stanley.

[A practical glass painter would understand at once that the *azure* in the Stanley and Warenne coats had flown in the burning, and some other colours also in shield 1.]

The following papers were read :—

I.

MEMORIAL OF THE LATE T. T. WILKINSON, F.R.A.S., OF BURNLEY,  
 by *W. A. Abram, Esq.\**

II.

MEMORIALS OF THE LATE DR. ROBSON, OF WARRINGTON. HIS LIFE  
 AND WRITINGS.

By *Wm. Robson, Esq., and Dr. Kendrick.*

Dr. Robson was the second son and third child of Robert and Margaret Robson, of Warrington. He was born September 23rd, 1802.

\* Transactions, p. 77.

Thomas, the artist, was the eldest; and the second, a daughter, who died before she was two years old. Dr. Robson's father was a native of Etterby, near Carlisle, where his ancestors had been copyholders in the Barony of Bourgh for many generations. The name appears in the first Liber Curiarum Baronie de Bourgh, dated 33rd and 34th Queen Elizabeth (1591-2); now preserved amongst the archives of the Lowther family. They appear successively in every generation to the year 1788, as copyholders of the same estate, on the banks of the river Eden, to the holders of which also appertained the right of fishery, "*liber pro piscariis*," and throughout this period every holder of the estate, except the last, who died in possession of it, was named John. In this case it was inherited by the second son, Robert; the eldest, John, having died in the life-time of his father.

Dr. Robson's mother's family were descended from Irish Protestants, who fled from Kilkenny to save their lives, from what is now popularly known as the Irish massacre of 1641.

He received the rudiments of his education in Warrington, first under Mr. William Birtch, whose school-room still remains in Academy Court; and then at the Free Grammar School, kept by the Rev. W. Boardman. After this, he received lessons in the classics from the Rev. Joseph Saul, incumbent of Trinity Chapel, Warrington. With the sanction of the Committee of the Warrington Dispensary,—then not long before established, by the zeal and energy of the late Dr. Kendrick,—he was articled to Mr. Heath, who had charge of the Institution. He subsequently studied at Glasgow and London, where he finished his medical education in 1824; when he returned to Warrington, and commenced practice.

In the winter of 1825, he, in connection with his friend Mr. Kean—who was then resident medical officer at the Warrington Dispensary—and a few others, commenced *The Butterfly*, a weekly periodical, printed and published in Warrington till 1827. To this Dr. Robson largely contributed both in poetry and prose.

In the year 1828, Dr. Robson succeeded Mr. Kean as resident medical officer of the Dispensary, and retained the office until his resignation in 1842; when he commenced practice on his own account.

In 1847, he was requested by his friends to offer himself for a seat in the Town Council, and was elected by the North-east Ward in November of that year. He served on the Sanitary Committee for three years, doing good service during that time. He was also an active member of the Free Library and Museum Committee till the year 1864.

He was Secretary and one of the chief movers of the Footpath Society, formed for the preservation of the ancient footpaths in and around Warrington in 1854. He took the degree of M.D. at St. Andrews in 1856, and continued practising in his profession until the progress of an attack of "paralysis agitans" or "shaking palsy," compelled him to relinquish both it and all other public business about 1868-9, when he retired into private life, going first to reside at Broom Edge, Lymm, and then to Holly Bank, Heatley. He spent his time here in reading his favourite classics—Homer, Lucretius, the Faust of Goethe, and the Greek New Testament, which he studied critically and devoutly for many years.

In the early part of 1873, his friends in Warrington initiated a public subscription, and, through Dr. Kendrick, requested him to sit for his portrait, which was taken by Mr. Crozier of Manchester, with the view of presenting it to the town, on the completion of the Gallery of Art, then in progress. The life-like picture which the artist has produced will long pleasantly recall the features of one to whose *amor loci* alone we owe so much, which neither money nor favour could elsewhere obtain. He died at his residence, Holly Bank, Heatley, near Lymm, on the 9th of December, 1873, aged 71 years.

His remains were interred in the family grave at Hill Cliff burial ground, near Warrington, on the 13th of the same month.

Dr. Robson's great study and enjoyment through life was scientific archæology. As far as opportunity served, he visited almost every county in England and Wales, and a good part of Scotland, in pursuit of his object; walked on foot over the sites of the old Roman roads of Lancashire and Cheshire, and brought a vigorous mind, fully impregnated with "cold" common sense, into his investigations and researches. Locally, he fixed the Roman *Condote* at Wilderspool. He was the first to point out and expose the forgery of the *Itinera* of Richard of Cirencester, said to have been found in the Royal Library at Copenhagen; and so helped to clear away a mass of rubbish that lay in the road of honest investigation.

But it was not for any dilettante purpose that Dr. Robson carried on investigations. He himself believed, and showed again and again to others, the value of these studies for the purpose of re-writing the ancient history of Great Britain, from the time of Julius Cæsar to that of the Heptarchy. He demonstrated the true character of Cæsar's despatches to the Roman senate, after his unsuccessful invasion of Britain; that, in point of fact, he was beaten by the native tribes, and only too glad to get away from the dangers in which he had involved himself by his rash expedition; that the Welsh people were not the aborigines of England, driven into the mountain fastnesses of that country by the Romans; that the story of Hengist and Horsa, in our older histories, is a fable; and that it is to scientific Archæology alone that we can look for an intelligent and enlightened comprehension of the problem of ancient English history.

Dr. Robson once seriously contemplated writing the history of this country to the 8th and 9th centuries; but was unable to spare the time required for the task from his professional duties; and as he would never do anything by halves, he reluctantly gave up the project. The general results he arrived at in connection with this he gave to the world in three papers, read at meetings of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, "On the Materials for the History of the two Counties, and how to use them," and in an article, printed in the *Gentleman's Magazine* for November, 1866, entitled "Julius Cæsar in Kent."

Amongst the best known literary men of this country and of the present time, Dr. Robson had acquired a reputation which secured for him their esteem and regard. His naturally clear and strong intellect,

improved by deeply persevering research, and unbiassed by any pre-formed theories, rendered his opinion valuable, and, therefore, often sought. Amongst his many correspondents at a distance he numbered as friends, Mr. Charles Roach Smith, Mr. Albert Way, Sir Henry Ellis, Sir Frederic Madden, Mr. Rolfe, Mr. Furnivall, all of London; Dr. Hume and Mr. Mayer, of Liverpool; Dr. Holme, Mr. Jordan, Mr. Harland, Mr. Crossley, Mr. Langton, and Mr. Jones, of Manchester, the last-named being his long-trying friend, the librarian of the Chetham Library.

The earliest literary productions of Dr. Robson's own pen appear to be contributions to a witty and amusing periodical called *The Butterfly*, which was printed and published in Warrington in 1825-7. To this we can only say positively that Dr. Robson contributed several sonnets, and a romantic story of a "Prior of Warrington." No doubt other articles flowed from his pen, for he was one of the *trio* who professed to form a single editor.

In the year 1842 he first came prominently before the literary world by editing, for the Camden Society of London, "Three Early English "Metrical Romances," comprising the Anturs (adventures) of King Arthur and his Knights at Tarn Wathelan (near Penrith). The curious manuscript whence these were taken had been discovered by Dr. Robson in an old quarto parchment volume, containing also the records of the Manorial Court of Hale, near Warrington. The learning and research shewn by Dr. Robson in the Introduction and Glossary of this otherwise unintelligible poem, secured for him the notice and regard of some of our most celebrated philologists. Albeit, our deceased friend's hobby did not escape the quizzing of *Punch*, which perhaps led to the "Metrical "Romances" being read and studied more by general readers, and adding to the fun and the fame of our late friend, who could take and enjoy a good joke in his turn.

In 1863 Dr. Robson edited, for the Early English Text Society, the ballad of "Sir John Butler," then for the first time discovered in Bishop Percy's celebrated Folio Manuscript. Whilst fully establishing the general truth of the tradition of the foul murder by knightly hands of this former Lord of Warrington, Dr. Robson's intimate acquaintance with our local history enabled him to clear up some trifling discrepancies, and thus to render the old ballad a very interesting record of a truly historical fact.

He joined the Archæological Association of Great Britain when it was first formed by his friend, Mr. Albert Way, and was for many years its local secretary at Warrington. Though a very regular attendant at its annual congresses, he does not appear to have read any paper before its members until their visit to Chester in July, 1857, when he read an essay on the "Allelujah Victory, and the state of England in the Fifth "Century."

But in the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire he was from the first a most useful and influential member, and for many years no session of the Society passed without some contribution from his pen. These are, indeed, so numerous that a mere list of them must suffice. It will serve to direct our readers to the articles themselves, which were always printed in full in the current volumes of the Society's *Transactions*. Thus, to the second volume he contributed a detailed account of his discovery at Wilderspool, near Warrington, of a distinct Roman station,

which he identified, as is now generally admitted, with the *Condate* of the 2nd and 10th *Itinera* of Antonine. To this spot he led a party of the members at a later period of the session, and the result of the visit has been fully given by the Hon. Secretary, Dr. Hume, in the same volume. In the third volume of the *Transactions* Dr. Robson gives his reasons for doubting the genuineness of the Roman *Itinera*, as said to have been written by the monk, Richard of Cirencester; describes an antiquarian "Visit to Heysham and its Rock Graves;" reads a masterly paper on "The Cheshire Watling Street;" and prints several early documents which he had discovered amongst the muniments in the possession of John Ireland Blackburne, Esq. In the fourth volume we find his paper "On the Ancient Parish Church at Winwick," read at a very pleasant gathering of members of the Historic Society, and others, at Fairfield, Warrington, the residence of his friend, Mr. Marsh. This was on the evening of a day (May 7th, 1852) on which he had acted as chief guide to this antiquarian party northwards and southwards on the line of the Roman roads from Warrington, or rather Wilderspool (*Condate*), near it. In the fifth volume of the Society's *Transactions* we find the first of three most valuable papers, entitled—"The Materials for the History of the two Counties, and the mode of Using them." This was succeeded in subsequent volumes by two other papers in continuation of the subject, and we learn with regret from the biographical notice of our late friend, communicated, as before stated, to one of our contemporaries, that these papers were only an outline sketch for a larger historical work, which he had laid out for himself, but lacked the leisure time to carry out so fully as to satisfy his own idea of its value and importance. Brief as they may therefore be considered, compared with the magnitude of the undertaking, they are yet complete in themselves, and cannot fail to direct the course, and lighten the labours of any future local historian. At the same time they will form a lasting and characteristic memorial of the deep research and unbiassed judgment which our deceased and lamented fellow-member brought to bear upon every subject which he once seriously undertook.

Subsequent to these more important contributions to the *Transactions of the Historic Society*, Dr. Robson read papers, which are also printed, "On the Faussett Collection of Antiquities," purchased by Mr. Mayer for presentation to the town of Liverpool, and later still "On the Excavation of two Tumuli at Winwick, near Warrington."

In the *Journal of the Chester Archæological and Architectural Society* a paper, by Dr. Robson, appeared, read before a meeting of its members a few years ago, entitled "The Roman Occupation of South Lancashire and North Cheshire;" and within a week of his decease he was occupied in dictating to a friend the commencement of an essay on "The Doomsday Account of South Lancashire." This was intended to be ready for the Historic Society during its present Session.

It will thus be seen that to the last moments of his life his active mind was occupied in pursuits which circled about his native town of Warrington. Though for some years past incapable of taking walking exercise, he had in earlier life made himself personally acquainted, step by step, with our surrounding district, and knew it well. His romantic burial-place at Hill Cliff embraces a prospect of the whole district which was the most prominent subject of his enquiry, and close at its

base lies the *Condote* of his discovery. There is nothing wanting to render his name, and fame, and memory peculiarly dear to Warrington, and they will doubtless be lasting.

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November 25th, 1875.

F. J. BAILEY, Esq., in the Chair.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By Mr. C. T. Gatty, of the Mayer Museum.

A selection of Peruvian antiquities from the cemetery of an ancient fishing village on the coast, about three and a half miles south of Pisagua, obtained by Mr. Edward Bald, of Wells, near Jedburgh, in Scotland. Among these is a remarkable bunch of fishing-tackle, composed of bones, thorns, and string; also a harpoon with quartz head and bone barb, both bound with string to a wooden stem. No trace of any metals was found in the cemetery.

The Rev. Canon Hume sent—

1. A drinking-cup made from an ox horn; carved by a convict in Australia, by the fire-light in his log-hut.
2. A sword-like apparatus, formed apparently of the tooth of a young elephant. The handle is carefully carved; but the remainder is in a rough state, merely blocked out. It has an orifice on the convex curve at the middle; and is said to be used as a horn for sounding, on the banks of the Niger.

By Mr. Dixon.

A model of the restored font in Ormskirk Church, in illustration of his paper.

The following paper was read :—

ON THE RESTORATION OF ORMSKIRK CHURCH, *by James Dixon, Esq., F.R.H.S.*

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December 9th, 1875.

REV. CANON HUME, D.C.L., Vice-President, in the Chair.

C. T. Gatty, Esq., was duly elected a Member of the Society.

The following objects were exhibited :—

By the Rev. Canon Hume.

1. An ancient spear-head, found in the churchyard of Kirkby, part of the ancient civil parish of Walton. His attention had been drawn to it by the Rev. Canon Gray, the Vicar, who had lent it for exhibition. Since the erection of the new church, the churchyard had been re-arranged, and one of the ancient pathways had been broken up. It was here that this object was found. The length of the whole is sixteen inches, and about half an inch appears to have been broken from the