

## SIXTH MEETING.

*Collegiate Institution*, 6th April, 1854.

THOMAS MOORE, Esq., in the Chair.

### PROCEEDINGS.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Certificates of three Candidates for Membership were read for the first time.

The following gentlemen were duly elected Members of the Society:—

Thomas Hughes, 13, Paradise Row, Chester.

John Gray Bell, 11, Oxford Street, Manchester.

The following DONATIONS to the Society were laid upon the table:—

From James Boardman, Esq. Reports of the Liverpool Sailors' Home from its establishment.

From the Publisher, John Gray Bell. Abridged reprint of King's Vale Royal of England. By Thomas Hughes. Post 8vo., 1802.

Rustic Sketches, or Rhymes on Angling, in the Dialect of the West of England. By G. P. R. Pulman, 1853.

The True Use of Arms, by William Wyrley; reprinted from the original edition of 1592. 1853.

Pedigree of the Family of Scott of Stokoe. reprinted from the original edition of 1783. Edited by William Robson Scott, Ph.D. 1852.

The Heraldic Visitation of Westmoreland, made in 1615, by Sir Richard St. George, Knight. 1853.

From the Editor.

Documents relating to the Priory of Penwortham, and other possessions in Lancashire of the Abbey of Evesham. Edited for the Chetham Society, by W. A. Hulton, Esq., of Hurst Grange, Preston.

From the Committee of the Royal Institution.

Address to the General Meeting of Proprietors ; delivered 10th February, 1854, by William R. Sandbach, Esq., late President.

From the Cambrian Archaeological Association.

*Archæologia Cambrensis* for January, 1854.

From the Author.

Examination of the Theory contained in *Vestiges of the Natural History of Creation* ; by the Rev. A. Hume, D.C.L., 16mo., 1845.

From John Longton, Esq.

A Dutch Tobacco box, takeu with other spoils from a Dutch East Indiaman, by a Liverpool Privateer, off Mostyn Sands, in 1778.

From J. J. Howard, Esq., F.S.A., Blackheath.

Impression of a small Silver Seal, of the arms of the ancient family of Moore, of More Hall, near Liverpool.

The following articles were EXHIBITED :—

Mr. Benn forwarded the following articles for exhibition, in illustration of his own paper. A bronze adze, of primitive manufacture, to be used without a handle. A stone celt, chipped into form, but unpolished. Two other stone celts of rude finish. A stone celt of extremely small dimensions. Another, small and curiously perforated. A bronze awl, with a separable handle of stone, having a hole at each end for the insertion of the awl.

Mr. Broughton, of Bury, exhibited several elegant heraldic paintings, illustrative of the history of the royal arms of the United Kingdom.

Dr. Hume read and exhibited an original letter from a native girl in one of the Australian tribes. It was dated North Adelaide, 21st December, 1853.

Mr. M'Quie, in allusion to the system of carriage by land and water, drew attention to a work entitled, "Carey's Navigable Canals of Great Britain." 4to. 1795.

The Secretary having announced that Mr. Mayer had kindly offered to exhibit to the members of the Society, and their friends, at the earliest opportunity, the Faussett Collection of Anglo Saxon Antiquities, and that Mr. Wright, of London, had promised to write a paper illustrative of them, it was moved by Dr. Thom, seconded by David Lamb, Esq., and resolved unanimously :—

"That the Society having been made acquainted with Mr. Mayer's recent purchase and offer to the members, desires to express its gratification at such a valuable collection being brought to Liverpool; its sense of Mr. Mayer's great liberality in this, as in other instances; and its thanks for his kindness in offering to throw open the collection to the inspection of the members of their Society and others."

Two communications were read from James Boardman, Esq.

1. This was in explanation of a stone on which armorial bearings are engraved, and which has recently been inserted in the front of a cottage, belonging to John Moss, Esq., near Aigburth Church. The stone was originally inserted in front of a private residence on the north side of Water Street. The house was taken down in the latter part of last century, The stone was conveyed to Aigburth, probably by one of the Tarletons, and after remaining for several years suspended on the gable of the late Mr. Bailey's barn, it was presented to John Moss, Esq., Otterspool. The arms are Clayton\* impaling Leigh ; † and refer to the following marriage, which may be found in the Pedigree, Gregson p. 175.

William Clayton, Esq., of Fulwood, =Elizabeth Leigh, daughter of George Mayor of Liverpool, and M.P. for Leigh, of Oughterington, in Cheshire, Liverpool from 1698 to 1702, 1713 ob 1745.  
and 1714, ob 1715; buried at St. Nicholas.‡

2. This states that the "alto relieveo" of the Good Samaritan, by Deare, is the only one of his works in Liverpool. See page 74.

## PAPERS.

### I.—ON THE EDUCATION OF THE DEAF AND DUMB

IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

*By David Buxton, Esq.,*

PRINCIPAL OF THE LIVERPOOL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.

The subject which I have undertaken to bring before the Society, is one which, in all its various relations, is of considerable extent; and, though personal circumstances may perhaps have a tendency to bias one's judgment in such a matter, I certainly think that it is one of great and rewarding interest. Some notion of its extent will be afforded by the mention of its divisions, each of which,—e.g., its history and statistics, its physiological and psychological bearings,—would afford ample materials for separate consideration. Leaving these, however, my present purpose is to deal chiefly with the local aspects of the subject; and following the track indicated in the title of our Society, to treat of the "education of the deaf and dumb in Lancashire and Cheshire."

\* Ar. a cross engrailed sa. between four torteaux.

† Or. a lion ramp. gu. quartered with ar. five lozenges in bend sa.

‡ A monument to him was erected in St. Nicholas' Church; for the inscription on which see Gregson, p. 173.

This county contains two institutions for the deaf and dumb, in closer proximity than any other two, of equal extent and usefulness, in the world. Though locally situate in Lancashire, both of them are within a mile or two of its southern boundary, and are as available for the adjacent county of Cheshire as for this. Both were originated about the same time, though the Liverpool School was not opened as a separate establishment until the 18th of January, 1825, when the Manchester School had been in operation about a year. Thus, the county of Lancashire (and we may also add Cheshire,) has been in possession of its own local agencies for the education of its juvenile deaf and dumb, for thirty years. Previously to this date, the children of these counties, if educated at all, were sent to the Asylum in London; and from Cheshire some have continued to be so sent. The whole number of English pupils received into that Institution, from its establishment in 1792 to the present time, is 2468. Of these, 15 (three-fifths per cent.) belonged to Lancashire; and 24, (one per cent.) belonged to Cheshire.

The first steps towards founding the Manchester School, were taken in the course of the year 1823. It was established through the joint exertions of the late Mr. Robert Philips, father of the first member for the borough, and of the late Mr. William Bateman, a gentleman resident in Manchester, and engaged in a branch of the cotton manufacture there, two of whose children were deaf and dumb. Mr. Philips had been led to take an interest in the welfare of this afflicted class, in consequence of there being a deaf and dumb girl in his own neighbourhood, for whom he had wished to obtain admission into one of the Institutions already existing. Finding that this could only be accomplished, if at all, at great inconvenience, and after considerable delay, he conceived the idea of originating a local School, and on communicating his design to Mr. Bateman, that gentleman says, he "rejoiced at the proposal," and their combined exertions were forthwith employed to carry it into effect. The first objection which they met with, was the doubt whether a sufficient number of deaf and dumb children could be found, to justify the establishment of the projected School, specially for them. The same objection has had to be met everywhere. Deafness is not, like blindness, an *obvious* affliction. You may pass the mute daily, and not know that he *is* mute. The blind person is painfully recognized, under all circumstances, whether accompanied or alone. The deaf person is only noticeable when conversing by signs with those who understand that

language. This is by no means a frequent sight, even now, when educational agencies have been so long in operation, and the distance between the hearing and the deaf has been so marvellously lessened by instruction and training. But at the time we speak of, the deaf and dumb portion of the population were still more un-noticed and unknown than they are at present: and the doubt which the Founders of the Manchester School had to remove, was one which had confronted every other pioneer in the same work of mercy. De L'Epée encountered it, a hundred years ago; and it was shewn, to the amazement of the doubting, that there were then two hundred deaf-mutes in Paris alone. When, nearly forty years later, the originators of the London Asylum entered upon their work, they were told by one\* who became afterwards one of the principal supporters of that magnificent charity, that "he had never seen a deaf and dumb child; and he thought the number would be too small to form the projected Institution." The increasing lists of candidates for admission into that Asylum soon shewed how utterly mistaken was this very common opinion. When, twenty-five years later still, "the establishment of the New York Institution was under consideration, the same objection was urged, and only obviated by researches which proved the existence of no fewer than sixty-six deaf-mutes in seven wards of the city, then containing a population of about one hundred thousand."<sup>†</sup> A similar investigation was set on foot at Manchester, after a meeting of influential persons had been held—on the 11th of June, 1823—and the proposals of Mr. Philips and Mr. Bateman had been laid before them. It was then very soon ascertained, from the various factories and schools in the district, that the number of the deaf far exceeded all anticipation. A like enquiry was made in Liverpool, about the same time, which brought to light the astounding fact that nearly one hundred deaf-mutes were then resident in this town and neighbourhood.

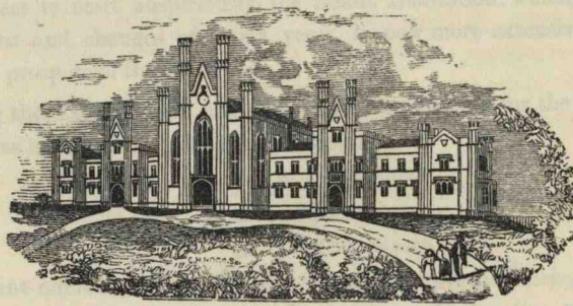
The School with which I have the honour to be officially connected was originated, and for some time exclusively maintained, by a single individual. That gentleman, having heard the Principal of the Institution near Dublin lecture upon the subject, received the impression that it was possible to educate deaf and dumb children "to a considerable extent, if sent, like others of the same age, to a common school, and taught substantially in the same

\* The late Henry Thornton, Esq., M.P. See *Life of Rev. John Townsend*. London, 1828—p. 39.

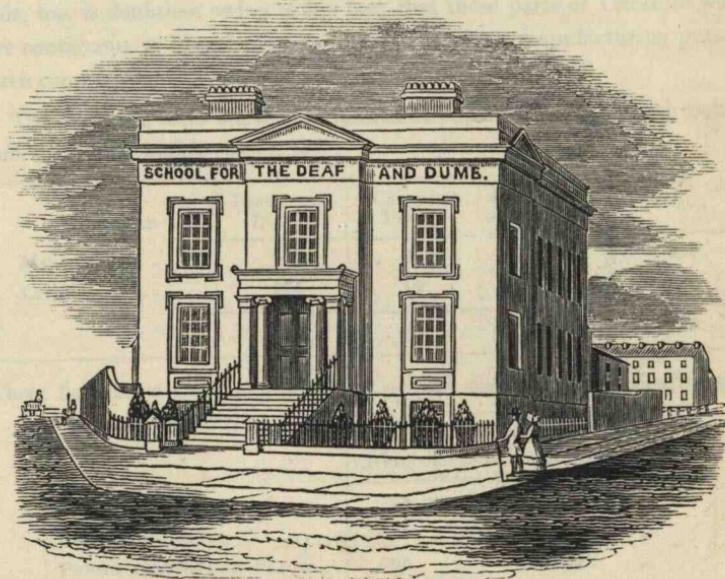
<sup>†</sup> Peet's "Statistics of the deaf and dumb, a Paper read before the Medical Society of New York, June 25, 1852," p. 7.

manner." The opinion, thus benevolently formed, conscientiously entertained, and zealously acted upon, though now proved and known to be quite erroneous, was, about that time, regarded with considerable favour. In Germany, the plan found such advocacy, that it was tried on a large scale in the Schools of Denmark and Prussia; but, in this country, the experiment was confined to Liverpool. Four children were placed in one of the Day Schools of the town, where they remained under instruction about six months, but the difficulties which then became apparent, led to the abandonment of the scheme, and the organization of a special School for the instruction of the Deaf and Dumb. It was opened, as before stated, on the 18th of January, 1825, and at a public meeting held 3rd August, 1826, was formally placed "under the patronage of public benevolence, and its management transferred into the hands of an efficient Committee, by whom it might in future be governed and enlarged."—*(First Report, p. 10.)*

Both the Lancashire Institutions continued for some years to occupy buildings which were not originally intended for such purposes. But when, at length, the Schools became fairly established, their objects more extensively known, and their utility manifest, the necessity for special buildings was acknowledged, and in both places it was supplied, with equal promptness, and liberality. At Manchester, a fund of £10,000 was raised, for the erection of the present handsome edifice at Old Trafford. It forms the West wing of an extensive range of buildings, which includes the School for the Deaf and Dumb, the Blind Asylum, and a Central Church. The cost of these three erections,—for they are essentially distinct establishments, though apparently one structure,—was defrayed out of separate funds, the aggregate amount of which cannot have been less than £25,000. The first stone of the whole fabric was laid on the 23rd of March, 1836, by William Grant, Esq. That of the Liverpool School was laid—on the site of the old Botanic Garden, in Oxford Street East—on the 24th of October, 1839, by the then Mayor of Liverpool, Hugh Hornby, Esq., and on the same day, a Sermon was preached at St. Peter's (Parish) Church, in aid of the Building Fund, by the present Archbishop of Canterbury. The cost of the erection was about £6000; the site—2000 square yards—being the gift of the Corporation of Liverpool, with which was granted permission to sell the reversion of the lease of the premises previously occupied, and to add the proceeds to the Building Fund. The sum thus raised amounted



MANCHESTER SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB, &c.



LIVERPOOL SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF AND DUMB.



to £2,500. And I can further state, that the first donation recorded in the Reports of the School, was one of £300 from the same public body, given at the outset to start auspiciously the infant Institution, which, after the fluctuations and changes of thirty years, is now more extensively useful and more prosperous than ever.

During these thirty years, the two Lancashire Schools for the Deaf and Dumb have admitted 723 children, of whom

452 belonged to Lancashire.

84       ,      Cheshire.

187       ,      other places.

The present number of pupils in each is—in the Liverpool School, 60; at Manchester, 78: a uniform excess of about one-third being due to the local position of Manchester, in the centre of the most populous district of the county. The number of Cheshire children educated there also exceeds those of the Liverpool School, in the proportion of 7 to 2; and this, too, is doubtless owing to the fact that those parts of Cheshire which are contiguous to Manchester are the places where manufacturing pursuits have congregated the thickest population.

The following table shews the number of pupils educated in each School, and their local appropriation:—

EDUCATED AT	LANCASHIRE PUPILS.	CHESHIRE PUPILS.	PUPILS FROM OTHER PLACES.	TOTAL.
MANCHESTER .....	242	65	106	413
LIVERPOOL .....	210	19	81	310
	452	84	187	723

These figures, cast into another form, exhibit the following proportions:—

	EDUCATED IN	
	LIVERPOOL SCHOOL.	MANCHESTER SCHOOL.
LANCASHIRE PUPILS.....	68 per cent.	58 per cent.
CHESHIRE PUPILS .....	6     ,,	16     ,,
PUPILS FROM OTHER PLACES ..	26     ,,	26     ,,
	100     ,,	100     ,,

The Devonshire pupils educated at the Exeter School are precisely in the same ratio as the Lancashire pupils educated at Manchester, namely,

58 per cent. Though the supply of Lancashire children to the London Asylum ceased, on the establishment of the local Schools, the admission of candidates from Cheshire has continued. I knew five such children there within a very few years. From the same county, four pupils have proceeded to the Birmingham School, (established in 1812), but only two from Lancashire. If, then, we may suppose that, in addition to the 84 Cheshire children educated in the Lancashire School, so many more have been educated elsewhere, as will raise this number to 100, and compare this total with the return of Lancashire children, we shall find that the proportion closely corresponds with that of the aggregate population of the two counties, as ascertained by the last census.

The population of Cheshire in 1851 was ..... 455,725

" " Lancashire ..... 2,031,236

the ratio being about 2 to 9; and the proportion of these 100 children of Cheshire, to the 450 of Lancashire, is exactly as 2 to 9.

Since the period when these Schools were founded, new Institutions have sprung up in other places, to supply the wants, not only of their own localities, but of neighbouring districts, from which originally children were sent to us. When the Manchester and Liverpool Schools were established, there were only two others in England: there are now twelve or thirteen. Four years after Lancashire had provided for her own wants, Yorkshire followed her example, by establishing the School at Doncaster. In 1839, the Institution for the Northern Counties was opened at Newcastle. And another, for the Principality of Wales, established at Aberystwith in 1847, now flourishes at Swansea; to which place it was removed in 1850. The natural result is, that the area from which pupils were formerly received is considerably lessened, and the means of instruction afforded by our Schools are now applied chiefly to the supply of local wants.

It is not a little remarkable, however, that though new schools have from time to time risen into existence, and into active operation, the number of pupils in those previously existing has nowhere diminished. On the contrary, last year exhibited a simultaneous increase of applicants at most of the English Institutions. In that of Liverpool, the number of admissions exceeded those of any previous year since the school was founded. The following Table, which shews how many pupils have been received altogether into the larger English schools, will afford some evidence, both as to their necessity and usefulness:—

The London Asylum, established 1722 has had 2544 pupils.

„	Birmingham School	„	1812	„	380	„
„	Manchoster	„	1823	„	413	„
„	Liverpool	„	1825	„	310	„
„	Exeter	„	1827	„	212	„
„	Doncaster	„	1829	„	430	„
„	Newcastle	„	1839	„	105	„
„	Brighton	„	1841	„	119	„

Until the Census Returns, relating to the Deaf and Dumb, are made public, there are no other means of ascertaining the proportion of the Deaf, in any given population, than by the commonly received rule that, in England, the number is as 1 in 1,600. If the aggregate population of Liverpool may be fairly stated at 400,000, this would give 250 as the number of the resident deaf and dumb, of all ages. If, further—as we may on good authority—we take one-sixth to be the number of those who are of the eligible age for admission—children between the ages of 7 and 14 years—we should expect that, if the local school is adequate to its purpose, it will contain, out of the sixty pupils, somewhere about forty-two Liverpool children. I have much satisfaction in stating, that that is precisely the number upon the Register at the present moment, and that it has been stationary at that point for some time past; the admissions of new pupils, and the departure of old ones, having just balanced each other.

The pupils of the Liverpool School are of two classes—Boarders and Day Scholars. At Manchester, as in nearly every other school, all the children are Boarders. If, on the latter system, the course of instruction proceeds without interruption, and its results are more uniform; on the former, its advantages are more freely and widely diffused. In a large and populous community, where, as is always the case, the majority of deaf and dumb children belong to the very poor, you must either admit them free, as is done in Liverpool, or stipulate for a payment which may never be made, and tolerate infractions of your rule which you know to be unavoidable, or else you must exclude such children altogether; that is, you must deprive of education those who most need education. The Liverpool School provides board and lodging for those who require such accommodation, and to those who do not, it affords its advantages free. It says in effect—"If we are put to any extra cost on your account, you must reimburse us: but the education we offer is a free gift, provided by the

beneficent of Liverpool." Acting upon this two-fold system, the School admits all comers. Fifty per cent. of the whole number in attendance are Day Scholars. Eighteen per cent. are maintained in the Institution as Boarders, by local parochial bodies. Others are paid for by their friends; and the total number of Liverpool children amounts to seventy per cent. of the whole. There is not, indeed, another Institution in the kingdom which can claim to be so emphatically a local School as these figures demonstrate the Liverpool School to be at the present time. In the Birmingham Institution, the proportion of the pupils who belong to the town and its suburbs is twenty per cent. of the whole; at Manchester it is twenty-three per cent.; at Newcastle it is twenty-five per cent.; in London it is higher, about one-third of the children generally belonging to the Metropolitan district. Speaking from recollection, I think the average proportion in that Institution may be accurately put at thirty-five per cent., an amount which, though strikingly higher than all the rest, the Liverpool School exactly doubles.

Like all our English Charities, and unlike the kindred Institutions of other countries, these Schools are supported by the voluntary contributions of the benevolent. In France and America, whatever is done for the education of the deaf and dumb, is done almost exclusively at the public cost. In this country, whatever is done for the same end, is done almost exclusively by private liberality. An examination of the most recent data shews that in the United States,\* and in France,† the annual amount of public money thus applied is, in each country, about £24,000 sterling. The cost of this branch of education in Denmark, Prussia, Saxony, Baden, and other Continental States, is not known; but it is defrayed out of the public treasury. Amongst ourselves, the sum raised by voluntary contributions, and annually expended for this object, is £20,000 in England alone, the sums similarly raised in Scotland and Ireland being entirely omitted from the calculation. Under the various Acts for the relief of the

\* "United States." In his *Tribute to Gallaudet*, appendix, p. 101, Mr. Barnard, the Superintendent of Common Schools for the State of Connecticut, gives the following:—

Annual expense of Educating Deaf Mutes in 1851 .....	\$150,000.
Amount paid by the State, or Funds set apart for that purpose	\$120,000.

+ "France." "L'Etat contribue, par une subvention annuelle de 270,350 francs, à l'entretien des deux Institutions nationales des sourds-muets." (Paris and Bordeaux.) *Des Sourds-Muets, &c.* par M. Hubert Valleroux, iv. 18. Paris, 1852—"Les Conseils généraux de l'Empire ont voté dans leur dernière Session en faveur des Sourds-muets une somme totale de 388,656 fr. 25 c. répartie entre les diverses Institutions départementales."—*Le Bienfaiteur des Sourds-Muets, etc.*, No. 1, p. 32. Paris, 1853.

poor, which are now in force throughout the United Kingdom, Parishes and Unions are permitted to advance sums, for "the Deaf and Dumb, and the Blind." This permission has become, to some extent, generally acted upon, one-sixth of the Liverpool pupils being solely, and others partially, maintained from this source: but deducting the probable amount hence arising, I have found that not less than £20,000 is annually raised in England and Wales for the education of the deaf and dumb, from private beneficence alone. Of the Lancashire Schools the total income is about £2,500 per annum; the larger Institution of Manchester collecting about £1,400, and the Liverpool School £1,100.

The London Asylum has not for thirty years received any pupils from Lancashire. Two, since 1812, have been educated at Birmingham, and two more at the Yorkshire Institution, the parents of whom resided in that county while their children were in the School. It will thus be seen that the local establishments do effectually accomplish that for which they were especially intended; and that, if any one in their neighbourhood now grows up without education, the fault cannot be imputed to them. Wherever, from false economy, a deaf and dumb child is withheld from the advantages of instruction, it is not surprising if a heavier penalty follows. I may just mention, as an illustration of this, the case of a poor deaf and dumb man, at present imprisoned in one of the gaols of this county, who has never been in any school, and in whom, consequently, the limited mental faculties with which he was born have become almost extinct for want of exercise. An attempt has lately been made to afford him some instruction, but it is not to be wondered at, under all the circumstances, that it should have failed of success. He is however as happy as a comfortable animal existence can make him; but there he is, without hopes, or fears, or wishes, or purposes of any kind. He knows not where he is, or why, or whence he came, or his age, or his name, or that he *has* a name. When the sun is shining, and the sky is clear over his head, and he feels in common with all animated nature the exhilaration of these influences, he makes a sign, which those about him understand to mean a wish to go home, but that is all. He knows his own place in the ward, his own number among the prisoners, and his own work; he is harmless, orderly, and useful; he will go to the prison chapel like the rest, and take his Bible with him as they do, and as he has seen others put slips of paper between the leaves of books, to facilitate reference, he does the same; his Bible is full of these

marks, and yet not a single character in that blessed volume awakens any idea in his vacant mind. If he were not in prison, where he must continue for life, he would be in the workhouse, or would perish. He knows not, poor fellow, the difference between a prison and palace—they are alike to him—and when I saw him where I did, I said, that as he had been so neglected hitherto, though the inhabitant of a county where there have been for thirty years past two separate Institutions for the deaf and dumb, it was a happy dispensation of Providence which had placed him where so much better care could be taken of him, than he was capable of taking of himself.

It certainly does not follow, nor is it to be supposed, that the want of education will necessarily lead the deaf into crime. Mr. Wright, the well-known prison philanthropist, lately declared in a speech at Manchester, that in his experience of prisoners, (most of which we know is local,) he had met with one only who was deaf and dumb. But for want of education, even those who are well-disposed, must be an anxiety and a burden, either to their friends, or to the community, or both: and if from mismanagement they become vicious, the charge then becomes one for which the cost of early training would have been a most prudent and economical exchange.

I wish, in conclusion, to add, that, for several facts in this Paper I am indebted to gentlemen connected with the various Institutions which have been mentioned, and especially, for the early history of the Manchester School, to my friend and fellow-labourer, Mr. Andrew Patterson, the Principal of that Institution.

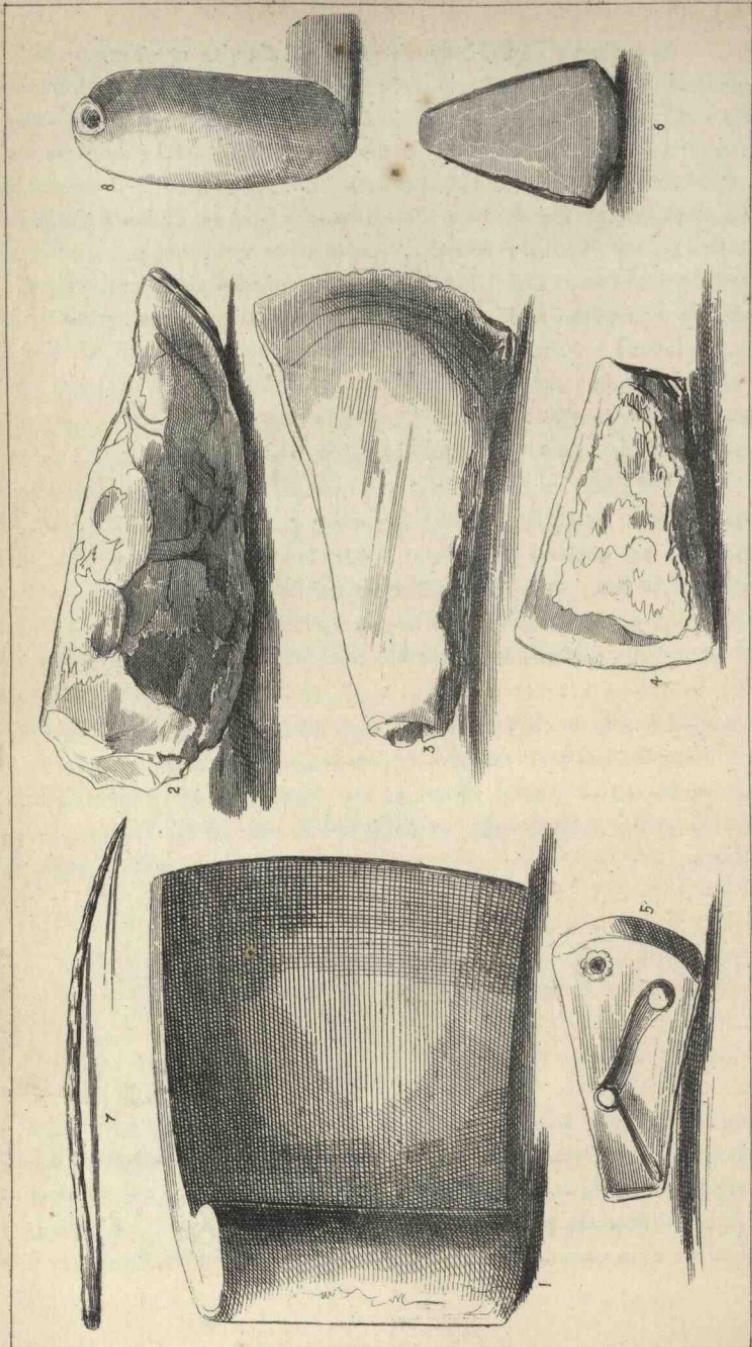
## II.—NOTICES OF BRITISH ANTIQUITIES, No. 1.

*By Edward Benn, Esq.*

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When so many are inquiring into and speculating on the state of civilization in Egypt, Assyria, and other countries, at a very remote period, it is singular that so little investigation has been directed to the condition of these islands previous to the historic period. It is generally considered that our ancestors, before the era of the Roman invasion, were mere bar-

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Hand-shaped Vessel. 2. Hand-shaped Vessel. 3 & 4. Small Cells exhibiting proof of having been used.  
5. Perfumed Stone Case. 6. Extremely small Stone Case. 7. Bronze Art.

barians ; but this does not appear to be the fact. In the absence of written records, we can only form an idea of the knowledge possessed by these early people, by an examination of such fragments of their works as have come down to us ; and the paper which I now offer, and which I will endeavour to follow up by others on the same subject, is little more than a brief statement of the circumstances connected with the discovery or finding of such early remains or fragments. It is hoped that others, who may be in possession of similar information, will add their contribution of facts, to assist in arriving at some definite knowledge on so interesting a subject.

The theory generally received, regarding the inhabitants of the British Islands, and other northern countries, does not appear to me to be a system so tenable as is generally supposed. It is that the weapons or instruments, either for war or domestic uses, which are discovered, indicate certain fixed stages or epochs of civilization, namely, that there was an age, and that the most rude and primitive, when stone was applied to these purposes ; then came another when brass was used ; and then a third when iron came into operation. I consider that Ireland is the best part of the empire in which to investigate this matter, because, not having been occupied by the Romans, nearly all the remains of antiquity which could have connection with this inquiry may be considered British, and in this point of view may assist in determining the difficulty which exists in England in ascertaining what relics are of British, Roman, or Saxon origin.

In Ireland, then, I have found articles of glass, iron, and bronze, in situations that would seem to prove their extreme antiquity ; while, on the other hand, those of stone are met with under circumstances indicating a more recent origin. Flint arrows, and such things, are found generally very near the surface of the ground ; while beads of glass or porcelain, of singular form and manufacture, are found in the subsoil ; and, if my information be correct, as to the place or position of their discovery, in the earth. It is reasonable therefore to infer that these are of higher antiquity than other works of art of more rude character. Articles of bronze or brass are also found under circumstances shewing great antiquity, and the same may be said of iron. Weapons, both of brass and iron, have been found in marl pits, in connection with the remains of the extinct fossil deer of Ireland. I have not heard of instruments of stone being found in such situations. Brass and iron instruments, of ancient character, are also known to be sometimes united by rivets ; besides, articles of brass, iron,

1. Hand Axes of Bronze. 2. Stone Cat-tipped. 3 & 4. Small Beads exhibiting Proof of having been used.  
5. Perforated Stone Gelt. 6. Extremely small Stone Gelt. 7. Bronze Awl. 8. Stone Handie to De-

and stone, are frequently all found together. I have seen many stone hammers, and such like objects, in which the holes are bored with such smoothness and accuracy, that I can hardly think they were made with any thing else than an excellent steel drill. I do not deny the possibility of such work being done by a hard stone, but I cannot help thinking it improbable. The awl which I exhibit at least proves that those who knew the use of bronze did not disdain to apply a stone in connection with it, when convenient for their purpose. This very interesting, and I think *unique* specimen, was found near Randalstown, county of Antrim. It is of bronze, and has exactly the form and curve of the awl at present in use, but a natural stone is substituted for the handle, in which is a hole at each end. It altogether seems to shew a singular want of knowledge of working in wood, and of the most commonplace contrivance for fixing a very simple instrument in a handle.

It must be admitted that there are great difficulties in coming to a conclusion on the subject of the stone and brass ages. One of the greatest is to form an opinion regarding the stone celts, as they are called, which are complete counterparts in form and fashion of those of brass, which are so common. The stone instruments of this kind, however, are rare. I exhibit three. The holes and grooves in one of these are remarkable. Were they made in imitation of those of brass, by persons too poor to purchase the metallic article, or were the brass ones made in imitation of them? The stone instruments of this character are generally supposed to have been hatchets used in war. I would rather conjecture that they have been the every-day tools of a very primitive people. They are commonly about five inches long, and might have been used for cutting and skinning animals, splitting wood, and such purposes. They are found in considerable numbers in some localities, in the county of Antrim for instance. They are generally made of the hard basalt found in the mountain streams. I exhibit a specimen of one, out of about a dozen found neatly piled up together, several inches only below the surface, on the banks of a small stream in the townland of Legagrané, parish of Dunaghy, county of Antrim. I should suppose, from this circumstance, that these instruments were blocked out in convenient places, and carried away to be finished elsewhere. Those to which I refer seemed to have been prepared for removal, but to have been left behind from some cause. This is certainly the first germ of manufacturing industry and division of labour,

as it might be almost supposed that the person who searched the stream for the particular kind of stone required, rough-hewed it, and that it was then transferred to the hands of a more skilled workman. All this is at least probable, as it is not likely the same person would require a dozen celts. I also exhibit a very small specimen of the same character, which would appear to be of a size too inconsiderable to be at all used as an offensive weapon. It has been supposed that these stone instruments were attached to a handle. This does not appear to have been intended. Some few have been found with a hole for the reception of a shaft, but these are very rare. The habit of using instruments with the hand, without a shaft or handle, continued even with those made of brass, as in the case of the very rare bronze adze which I exhibit, and which was evidently used by the hand without a shaft.

It will be observed that I only make, in this paper, such desultory remarks as have occurred to me, as arising from circumstances that have come under my own notice, or that may be suggestive of inquiry to others, and that I do not aim at any distinctive theory on the subject. I merely wish to assert that the generally received system of the stone, the brass, and the iron eras, as illustrative of successive periods of time and civilization, cannot, I think, be well sustained; and that the use of instruments from all these several materials, was in reality to much extent co-existent. Those who have written so much about the Egyptians, and other nations of antiquity, have only exhibited to us these people and their works in a state of civilization, more or less. Did the old inhabitants of the east use stone and other rude materials for metal before becoming civilized? or how far distant from Britain have such things been found? It would be a most interesting subject for inquiry, if, in digging in China, India, or other early seats of civilization, any indications could be found of a people having at any time occupied those countries, so rude as to have resorted, as our ancestors have done, to the use of stone tools or weapons.