

Mr. Gray drew attention to a new manure, the basis of which is phosphate of lime. It is a natural deposit on some of the islands of the Gulf of Mexico. He also exhibited a blank marriage certificate from Gretna Green.

Mr. Macfie exhibited a large number of ancient objects in bronze and brass. A detailed description of them on some future occasion, was promised to the Society.

Dr. Hume pointed out peculiar characteristics of some idols of the ancient Mexicans, as figured in a large work illustrative of Mexico.*

Mr. Gray called the attention of the Society to two letters in the *London Times* of that day, one from Walter Savage Landor concerning an aged descendant of Defoe, the other from Charles Dickens, Thomas Carlyle, and John Foster, in reference to the god-daughter of Dr. Johnson. Both of these aged persons required pecuniary assistance; and Mr. Gray noticed the letters for their sakes.

The Rev. John James Moss, M.A., exhibited an interesting case of WATCHES, and read the following remarks descriptive of them.

The watches exhibited, though only the nucleus of a collection, and by no means a complete series, are interesting as individual specimens of the art at various periods, from the time of Elizabeth to the commencement of the last century. They are most of them perfect, and of very elegant design and workmanship. In addition to this, some of them are of historical interest, and they formed part of the late Mr. Bernal's collection.

No. 1 is a *memento mori* watch, of the time of Elizabeth, made by Charles Robinet,—from his name, an English maker. It has Latin mottoes round portions of the skull, which forms the case. The watch is of a similar kind, though differing in size and material, to that presented by Mary Queen of Scots to Mary Setoun of the house of Wintoun, one of the four Maries, maids of honour to their unfortunate Sovereign. This latter is now in the possession of the Lauder family. An engraving of it, in the *Illustrated News Almanac* for 1852, is sufficiently correct for comparison.

No. 2 is a scolloped or padlock locket-shaped watch, with crystal front and ribbed crystal back. The sides are of gilt metal. It is figured in Mr. Bernal's catalogue, and was made by Gio Balt Nascaroni. It belongs to the same period as the last described.

No. 3 is a silver watch purchased at Mr. Bernal's sale, and said to have been given by Charles I to Colonel Hammond at Carisbrooke. I believe there is no account of this gift in any history or memoir of that monarch; but it was alluded to as a relic of him by Mr. Pettigrew, at the last meeting of the British Archeological Association. In the centre of the outer case there is an engraving of the monarch praying as he is represented in the frontispiece of *Eikon Basilike*. At the back of the inner case is the engraving of a man in a gown praying, with our Saviour above, and the legend in a scroll,—“And what I sai to you I sai unto all,—watch.” I may mention it as curious that this quotation from Scripture is not exactly according to our authorized translation, the Geneva version, or that by Cranmer. The watch was made in London, by Richard Bower.

Nos. 4 to 7 are gold watches enamelled by the famous enamellers of Blois. This art, according to Mr. Morgan, in a Paper of his on watches in the *Archæologia*, was first used for such a purpose by Toutin in 1640, and ceased about the year 1680, or towards the close of the century. His most celebrated pupil, Vanguer Piu, painted the watch said to have belonged to Anne of Austria, which I purchased at Mr. Bernal's sale. It is indeed a specimen as worthy of her taste as of the artist's celebrity. (*See plate.*)

Another of Toutin's pupils named Huoud painted the watch representing the Roman lady who nourished her father condemned to starvation. She was permitted to see him daily—and her history has, as you are all aware, been immortalized by Byron.

* “Viage Pintoresco [y Arqueológico sobre la parte mas interesante de la Republica Mejicana, a los años transcurridos, des de 1829 hasta 1834, por le Arquitecto Don Carlos Nebel, 50 laminas Lito grafidas, con su texto explicativo. Paris y Mejico MDCCCXXXIX.”



DIAL



FRONT

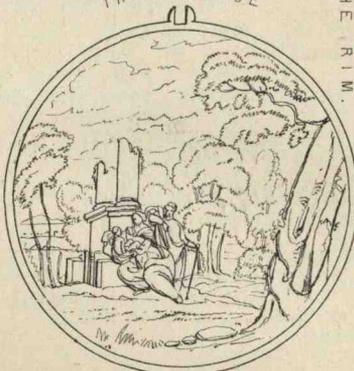


BACK

ROUND THE RIM

ORNAMENT

INNER CASE

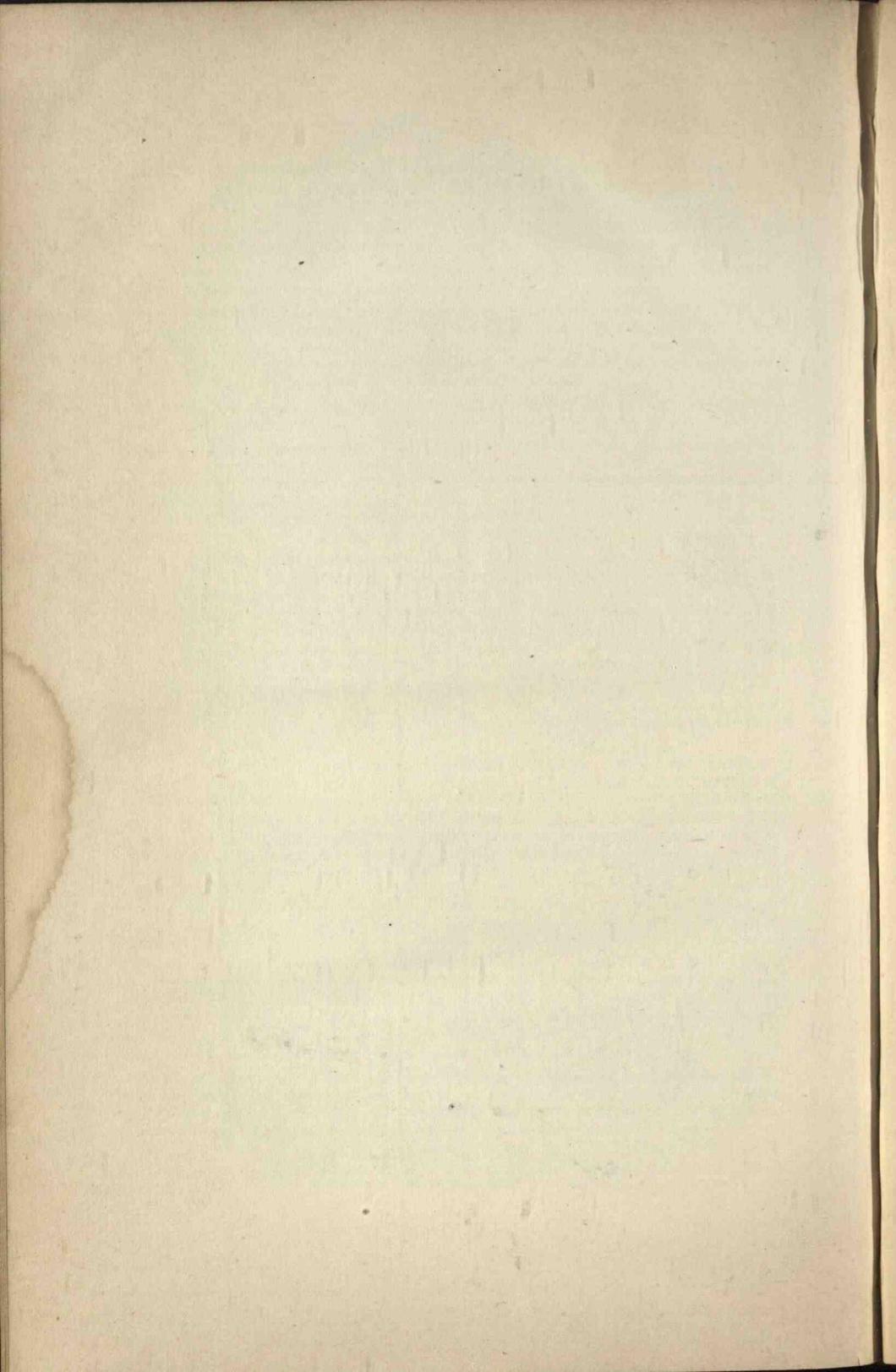


OPPOSITE DIAL

INNER CASE



OPPOSITE WORKS



This watch belonged to Prince Albert's mother, the Duchess of Saxe-Coburg, and was purchased at her sale in 1852. It was made at Geneva, by Abraham Carl Liatte.

The enamelled watch No. 6, is by an unknown artist. The exterior is very minutely finished with classical subjects on the front and back, but the landscapes in the interior are less beautiful. The works were made at Amsterdam by Josephus Norris.

The enamelled watch No. 7 is interesting as containing in the inner case a portrait of the Earl of Rochester, and on the dial one of Charles II. They are probably the work of a less eminent artist than Piu or Huoud, but are nevertheless of considerable merit. The works are by Robert Dingley, London.

No. 8 is an alarum pocket clock. The case is made of brass, with open work for the emission of sound. The maker's name is Pierre Maingot, Paris—date probably early in the 17th century. It has a curious key.

No. 9 an alarum watch of silver. The case is cut in an intricate pattern, for the emission of sound. Date, the end of the 17th century.

No. 10, a gold watch made in Liverpool during the latter half of the last century, by Ralph Eden. The outer case is much older, and of the kind fashionable during the reign of Queen Anne.

The following Paper was then read :—

ON THE SAXON ELEMENT IN THE DICTION OF ENGLISH POETRY. *By David Buxton, Esq.**

8th November, 1855. LITERARY SECTION.

THE REV. DR. THOM, V.P., in the Chair.

The following Donations were laid upon the table :—

From the Society. Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, Part iii, 1855.

From the Society. Journal of the Society of Arts and of the Institutions in Union, Vol. III, Nos. 147, '48, '49, '50.

From the Society. Journal of the Statistical Society, parts 1, 2, and 3, for 1855.

From Lord Londesborough. Miscellanea Graphica, parts 5 and 6.

From James Newlands, C.E., Borough Engineer. List of Sewers in the Borough of Liverpool, 1855.

From Robert Rawlinson, C.E., F.G.S. Report of the Committee of Scientific Inquiries, in relation to the Cholera Epidemic of 1854.+

Appendix to ditto.

Letter from the President of the Board of Health, accompanying a Report of Dr. Sutherland, on the Cholera of 1854 in London.

Report on the Results of the different modes of Treating Cholera in London.

Report on the Results of the different modes of Treating Cholera in the Provinces.

Report of the Medical Council to the President of the General Board of Health, in relation to the Cholera Epidemic of 1854.

Dr. Hume exhibited an ancient sheep-bell, which had been dug up near Llanbadrig, in Anglesea. It is identical in form with the hawk's bell of heraldry; and is supposed to belong to the 15th century.

* Transactions, p. 35.

+ Mr. Sansom drew attention to twenty-seven beautifully executed plates in this volume. They represent the microscopic appearance of the water with which various parts of London are supplied. This led to a notice, by Mr. Boulton, of some peculiarities of the Liverpool water.