

the supporters of the Viscountess Canning, the widow of another prime minister of Great Britain, an illustrious statesman who was at the same time a minister of the Crown, and one of the representatives of this great emporium of commerce in the lower house of Parliament.

Thus exalted to a dignified position in the fields of heraldic blazon, this deformed offspring of an indifferent seal-engraver, baptised by Randle Holme, and adopted by the more recent representatives of his craft, now takes its rank among those other monsters of heraldry, the dragon, the wyvern, and the cockatrice, the double-queued lion, the two-headed eagle, and the legless martlets.

II.—ADDITIONAL NOTES ON THE TENTH ITER OF RICHARD OF
CIRENCESTER,

By T. Langton Birley, Esq.

With reference to Mr. Pidgeon's enquiries relative to the Roman Road in the Fylde, Mr. Loxham, of Dowbridge, near Kirkham, states:—

The way can be traced further west than the farm-house alluded to in Mr. Pidgeon's letter, situate south-east of Poulton, and is supposed to have terminated at a place called Stana, on the River Wyre, about seven miles from the mouth. Some traces are said to have been found there by the Rev. William Thornber, late incumbent of Blackpool, and now residing there.

From thence, proceeding eastward, there are distinct marks at the farm alluded to, called "Puddle House;" thence again over Weeton Moss, which the inhabitants call "Danes' Pad;" and they have used the gravel for mending the highways. Among this gravel sundry things like horse shoes have been found, and pieces of wicker work which crumbled to dust on exposure to the air. Both of these classes of articles Mr. Loxham has seen.

From thence the road is supposed to proceed to Westby Mill, but no traces have been discovered there. Between Westby and Kirkham some apparent traces of the road have been found. The road appears to have gone in a direct line from Westby Mill through Kirkham to Clifton Mill, straight

through the town of Kirkham, and over the Mill Hill on the east side of the town, from thence over Dowbridge Hill, to near Clifton Mill.

At the foot of the Kirkham Mill Hill, and near the brook, John Willacy, an old schoolmaster, of Kirkham, found some coins, and the boss of a shield. The coins Mr. Loxham has seen, and he believes that they are deposited in the British Museum. These were found about thirty or forty years ago in a slip of earth near the brook side. On the same hill James Rogerson, of Kirkham, when draining, found appearances of an encampment or station.

In straightening a brook near Dowbridge, Mr. Loxham passed through the gravel bed forming the road. The material of the surrounding ground was bog, and the gravel bed passed through it, very near the surface of the land; it was so hard as scarcely to be got through with a pickaxe. Spades would not penetrate it. Mr. Loxham found an ivory needle at the depth of about six feet, five inches long, and similar to a flattened quill. In an adjoining field, where bricks are being made, as many as ten or twelve urns have been found together, with evident traces of the same road, within the last two or three years. The urns were filled with ashes and calcined bones, with apparently steel ornaments, something like beads. They broke to pieces with the falling of the clay, and none could be preserved in anything like a complete state. The traces of the road can now be seen in many places at the side of brooks and ditches about Dowbridge, likewise towards Clifton Mill, and also beyond. From Clifton Mill it appears to bend northward, leaving Deepdale Wood a little south. Traces are now visible at a farm called "Ward's House," in Salwick, and many traces are perceptible between Kirkham and Ward's House. Tradition says it went from thence by Cadley Moor to Ribchester, and ended at York, but my informant knows nothing from personal examination of the way beyond Ward's House.

In ploughing many of the fields in Newton and Clifton, the road is perceptible, being hard and stony.

It is supposed that a branch line went southward from Kirkham to Freckleton, a port on the Ribble; but though frequent attempts have been made to discover traces of it in this direction, nothing satisfactory has been found. In excavating for the new Workhouse at Kirkham, traces were found indicative of a road, which were noticed by Mr. Thompson, clerk to the Board of Guardians.

Mr. Thornber, before alluded to, has taken great pains to investigate the antiquities of this district, both on the River Wyre, and also between the Wyre and Ribble; and Mr. Loxham thinks some valuable information on this subject could be obtained from him. Mr. Thornber got from Mr. Loxham the heads of two oxen, taken out of the cutting in the brook at Dowbridge, before mentioned, in good preservation; also something like a battle-axe. The heads were seven or eight feet deep, imbedded in the bog, close to the gravel bed.

In the Ordnance Survey Map, the line in this neighbourhood is distinctly marked out, from Dowbridge eastward, with double lines where traces were found, connected by single dotted lines, where no certain indications are visible.

III.—REMARKS ON THE EVIDENCES OF ROMAN OCCUPATION IN THE FYLDE DISTRICT,

By the Rev. W. Thornber, B.A., Trin. Coll. Ox., of Blackpool.

When I first commenced tracing the Roman Road through the Fylde I was regarded as a mere enthusiast, nor, although in 1832 I had published my researches in the *History of Blackpool and the Traditions of the Foreland of the Fylde*, was it believed that such a road did really exist, until I succeeded in convincing the officers of the Ordnance Survey, as well as Mr. Just, that there was a well-defined agger, not to the Neb of the Naze, but to the Wyre, thus upsetting the hypothesis of Mr. Whitaker, of Manchester, that we must look for the *Portus Sistantiorum* at Freckleton, and no where else.

Dugdale, in 1664, speaking of the remains of a causeway running from Preston towards the west, makes mention of its "largeness and bulk." Dr. Kuerdon also informs us that the same road on Cadley Moor was of greater breadth than the one that stretched north towards Lancaster. These antiquarians, at least the former of them, say nothing of its terminus: this was left to Mr. Whitaker, who, having a theory to support, guessed that it abutted somewhere, and then made for the Neb of the Naze. Dr.