

HISTORIC SOCIETY  
OF  
LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

---

SESSION III.

MAY 1st, 1851.

No. 7.

---

The Seventh ordinary Meeting of the Society was held in the Collegiate Institution,

JOHN ROBSON, Esq., in the Chair.

The Minutes of the last Meeting were read and confirmed.

The Secretary having announced that the Council recommended his late colleague, H. C. Pidgeon, Esq., for election as an Honorary Member, a wish was strongly expressed that the Society should depart from its usual practice. On the motion of the Chairman, therefore, Mr. Pidgeon was elected by acclamation.

The following Gentlemen were elected Ordinary Members of the Society :—

John George Woodhouse, of 47, Henry Street, Liverpool.

Joseph Dickinson, M.A., M.D., F.L.S., of 5, Nelson Street, Liverpool.

The following Presents to the Society were announced :—

- |                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| From the Society, | Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London, Vol. ii., Nos. — and 27.          |
| From the Society, | Proceedings of the Numismatic Society, Session 1849-50.                                |
| From the Author,  | History of Liverpool, by Thomas Baines, Esq., Part V.                                  |
| From the Author,  | Collectanea Antiqua; Vol. II., Part V., by Charles Roach Smith, Esq., F.S.A.           |
| From the Author,  | Treatise on the Cure of Cataract, and the best modes of Operating, by Hugh Neill, Esq. |

- From the Author, Roman and other Sepulchral Remains, discovered at the village of Stone, near Aylesbury in Buckinghamshire. By J. Y. Akerman, Esq., Sec. S.A.
- From the Editor, The Castle of Love; a Poem, by Robert by Grosseteste, Bishop of Lincoln. Edited Jas. Orchard Halliwell, Esq., F.R.S., &c.
- From Duncan MacVicar, Esq., Critic of Pure Reason, by Francis Haywood, Esq.
- From Hugh Neill, Esq.,  
F.R.A.S., The following Public Documents, referring to the town of Liverpool, viz.:—Abstract of Treasurer's Accounts, 1850.—Report of Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, 1850-51.—Mr. Newland's Report on St. George's Baths, and Scheme for supplying Salt Water, 1851.—Mr. Hartnup's Report on the Liverpool Observatory, 1849.—The Town Clerk's Report respecting Church payments, 1851.—Bills in their first stage, viz.:—Sanitary, Dock, Building, and Royal Institution Transfer. Amended Copy of the Dock Bill.
- From Joseph Mayer, Esq.,  
F.S.A., Hon. Curator, Nine engravings of Tranmere Hall, or portions of it; to illustrate his own Paper in the Proceedings of the Society.

The following Articles were exhibited:—

- By C. Roach Smith, Esq.,  
F.S.A., A Saxon copper bowl, found in a grave at the ancient cemetery of Fairford in Gloucestershire, excavated by W. M. Wylie, Esq., 1851.
- By Joseph Mayer, Esq., F.S.A. The following articles found at Hoylake during the past month:—Three skulls of oxen; the skull and horns of a deer; the skull of a greyhound; the jaw of a calf; and various other bones.—An earthen jug, apparently of the 13th century; a personal seal of bronze; amulets in stone, metal, and terra cotta; fibulæ; pins; an ear-ring; a key; buckles; a finger ring with two stones in it; handle of a metal spoon, with an ornament at top consisting of a monkey cracking a nut.—Silver coins of Edward II. and Edward III.; pennies

and halves of pennies of King John; and a curious silver coin with a cock on one side and a monogram on the other.—Portions of shoes and boots in leather; one of them formed of an entire piece, fitting round the leg, and another ornamented by cutting, in the style which was usual with the Anglo-Romans.

Part of an Amphora in terra cotta, and a bronze coin of Germanicus from Ribchester.

A wheel-lock musket, richly inlaid with sporting subjects in ivory—date 1616.

A Chinese coin in gold, of the form of a ring, similar to those used by the ancient inhabitants of these islands, and often found in their graves.

By Hugh Gawthrop, Esq.

Curious lid of an early Dutch tobacco box, found within the ruins of Birkenhead Abbey.

By Dr. Hume,

A pike mounted for action, from the Irish rebellion of 1848.

The Chairman exhibited three documents, from the collection of John Ireland Blackburne, Esq., of Hale. They illustrate the condition of the English language in this part of the country, in the 14th and 15th centuries. The following are copies of them :—

This endenture beres witnes that there as certen variance and debate for divers trespas that has byen hade be twene Nicholas of Rysley and Dykone his sone upon the tone party and William of the Breche and Richard his son upon the thother partie of the queche variaunce and desbate the sayd parties ben boundene to abide and performe the ordenaunce and dome of me Richard Stanley Arch<sup>en</sup> of Chestre and as I the sayd Richard have herd the chalanges and vnswares of bothe the sayd parties by gode deliberacion and for als mecul as I fynd the trespas more done to the sayd Nicholas then as done to the sayd William I ordayne deme and awarde the sayd William to deliver to the sayde Nicholas a hoggeshed of Wyn at Weryngton als gode als the sayde Nicholas will chose of Rede or quoyt be twene this and the fest of the annunciacion of oure Laydy next suyng after the date of this awarde or elles to pay to the sayd Nicholas ij marks of monee at the election of the sayd Nicholas and gyf the sayd Nicholas schose to the sayd payment of the ij marcs and refuse the sayd hoggeshed of wyne I ordeigne and awarde the sayd William to pay to the sayd Nicholas the sayd ij marcs that is to wete j marc at the fest of St. Hillare day next suyng after the date of these endentures and j marc at the fest of Pasche then next suyng

and also I the sayd Richard ordene deme and award the sayd parties to be fulle frendes for all maner trespas that has byn hade be twene thayme for the begyninge of the word vnto the day of the gyfing of this sayd awarde excepte ryghte of lond. In wetines of the qwyche thyng I the sayd Richard to aither partie of this endureure have sette my seale. Gyfyn at Wynwhike upon Thursday next after the conception of our Ladye the yere of the reigne of Kyng Harry the sext the tent.

These arne y<sup>e</sup> evidences shewed before Elys of Entwysell by commandment of my lord of Dureme for Richard of Radclif agaynes Nicholas of Risley of certeyn londs be twene hom in debate yat is for to say of a certyn more and mosse and j mese and XV acre of lond y<sup>t</sup> was sumtyme parcell of y<sup>e</sup> forsaid more and mosse.

Richard Wylkynsone the Wryght sworne and examynt sais on his othe y<sup>t</sup> he was XL yere olde at y<sup>e</sup> forine dethe and born within y<sup>e</sup> town of Culcheth and dwellet there LX yere and sais yat he was by qwen Richard of Radclif and Robart of Risley acordet y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> forsaid XV acre parcell of y<sup>e</sup> forsaid more and other XV acre y<sup>e</sup> wheche Robart of Risley had & yis Nicholas has nowe of y<sup>e</sup> queche y<sup>e</sup> ton ende lys to y<sup>e</sup> Redysghaghe shuld be departed of yat wast yat was in comyn bytwene home: and there vpon he sais he saghe home cast cawle and loot so y<sup>t</sup> y<sup>e</sup> XV acre y<sup>t</sup> arne now in debate fellon to Richard of Radclif and yis was done by fore the grete dethe. And he sais all yat more and mosse was in comyn bytwene y<sup>e</sup> forsaid Richard of Radclif and Robart and he herd never say y<sup>e</sup> contrary ther of er this debate fell and the forsaid Robart sayd he wold nocht for his X exyn yat y<sup>e</sup> cauell had fallen other was then hit did for hit legh so neghe his tenautes.

John Atkynson sworne and examynt says he was XVI yere old at y<sup>e</sup> forine dethe and acordet in all thyngs to the forsaid Richard Wylkynson sane y<sup>t</sup> he sais he was born in Neuton within ij myle to the forsaid lond and has dwellet in Culchethe xxvij yere sane y<sup>t</sup> he was nocht by at the departesone.

Atkyn Jakson sworne and examynt says he was XVI yere in the forine dethe borne and alway dwellend in Culchithe acordes to the sayng of Richard Wylkynson in all thynges and awre y<sup>t</sup> sais yat he was by when Margery Richardes moder of Radclif made to take certayn cappulles of tenautes of Sotheworth vpon the forsaid mene mosse and send hym to Robart of Risley to bid hym come and help to penyssh for pasturyng on hor mene mosse and he said there was more and mosse enoghe for hir and all her kyn and hym and his kyn for euer more and he wold penysshe no pore folke ther fore.

Adam of Longshaghe sworne and examynt sais he was iiij yere olde in the forine dethe and sais he was seruaunt to Robart wyf of Risley sone after the forine dethe and sais yat he herd neuer say before this debate but y<sup>t</sup> this more and mosse werne in comyn bytwene the hayres of Radclif and Risley and y<sup>t</sup> the lond was departyt in the maner as Richard Wylkynsone sayde.

Faint, illegible text at the top of the page, possibly a header or title.

First main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Second main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Third main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Fourth main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Fifth main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

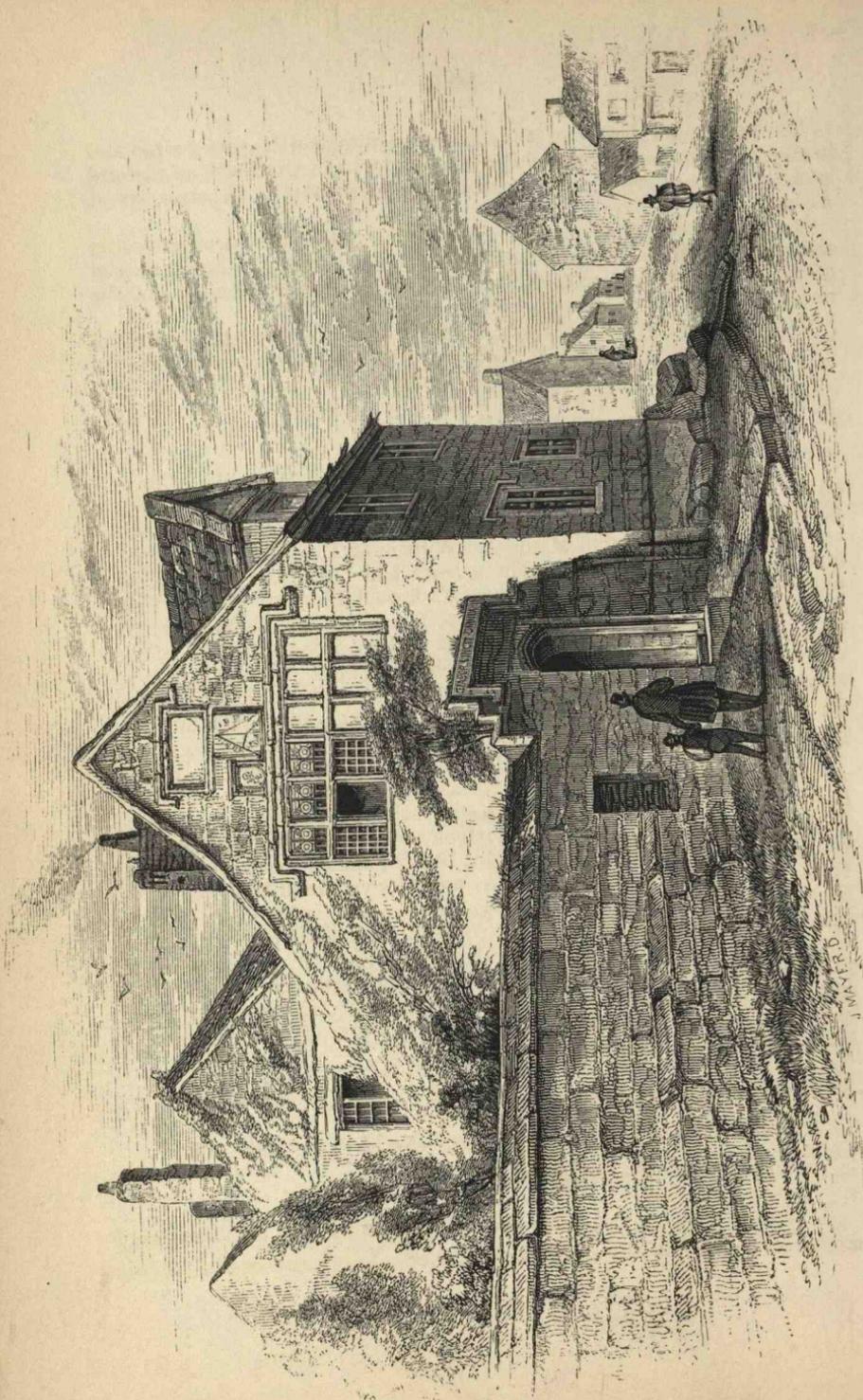
Sixth main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Seventh main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Eighth main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Ninth main paragraph of faint, illegible text.

Tenth main paragraph of faint, illegible text at the bottom of the page.



Entrance and Garden Front, Trarimere Hall.

Ric. the hunter borne in Culchithe and dwelland lx yere sworne and examynt sais he was iij yere old in the forine dethe acordes in all thynges to Adam of Longshaghe sane y<sup>t</sup> he was not seruaunt to Robartes wyf of Risley.

Roger Atkynson of L yere olde borne and dwelland in Culchithe sworne and examynt sais y<sup>t</sup> Atkyn his fader told hym y<sup>t</sup> he was by at the departeson of the lond before said and mete and mesuret hit with his hond and of the remenant acordes to Richard the hunter.

And all these byfore said sayn vpon hor othe y<sup>t</sup> Richardes tenauntes of Radclif and James tenants of Radclif hauen delven turves contynule fro yere to yere and y<sup>t</sup> the forsaid Richard and James han sold turves contynuely fro yere to yere to hor vse.—Date of endenture appended 2 Feb. 12 Henry 4, at Howden.

Yis endenture heres witnes for as mecal as Richard Jamessone of Radclif and William of Heton on yo toon parte and Nicholas of Risley on yo tother parte arn bovnden be certain obligacions to stonde to yo awarde and yo ordenaunce of hamonet yo Masey and William of Heton henry of Kyghley and Thomas of Holcroft of certain debates and querels as be yos certain obligacions more fully hit in contenet. Yo forsaid Hamonet William Henry and Thomas ordanen and demen yat yo forsaid Richard shal bere yo pees for him and al his to yo forsaid Nicholas and to al his tenauntes and seruauntes: And also yat yo forsaid Nicholas shal bere the pees for him and al his to yo forsaid Richard; and to all his men and his tenauntes fro yo day of yo makyng of yes endentures vnto yo next session quen hit haldes at Lancastre or els vnto yo tyme yat yo forsaid awarders with avice of Thomas of Langley Bysshope of Duram hauen made ful ende. And also yo forsaid awarders awarden yat yo forsaid Nicholas and his tenauntes shyn hooly occupy yo pasture of yo Redeshaghe mosse undebated be yo forsaid Richard or be his tenauntes in amendement for yo skathe and harmes yat was done to yo forsaid Nicholas at his hous be James yo son of yo forsaid Richard and his men abregyng nonn amendes yat shuld be to yon forsaid Nicholas. And yo forsaid Nicholas yo same pasture in yo maner beforsaid with his tenauntes shal occupy vnto yo next session beforsaid or els til we mon make ende in yo mene while with avice of yo Bisshope beforsaid. In yo wittenes of queche to yis endenture yo forsaid Hamonet William Henry and Thomas awarders hann set hor seals. Geuen at Lancastre in yo fryday next befor yo fest of Palme seuenday. In yo yere of ye regnyng of yo kyng Henry yo fift after ye conquest yo fift.

The following Paper was read:—

ON THE OLD HALLS OF CHESHIRE.—NO. I. TRANMERE HALL.

*By Joseph Mayer, Esq., F.S.A.*

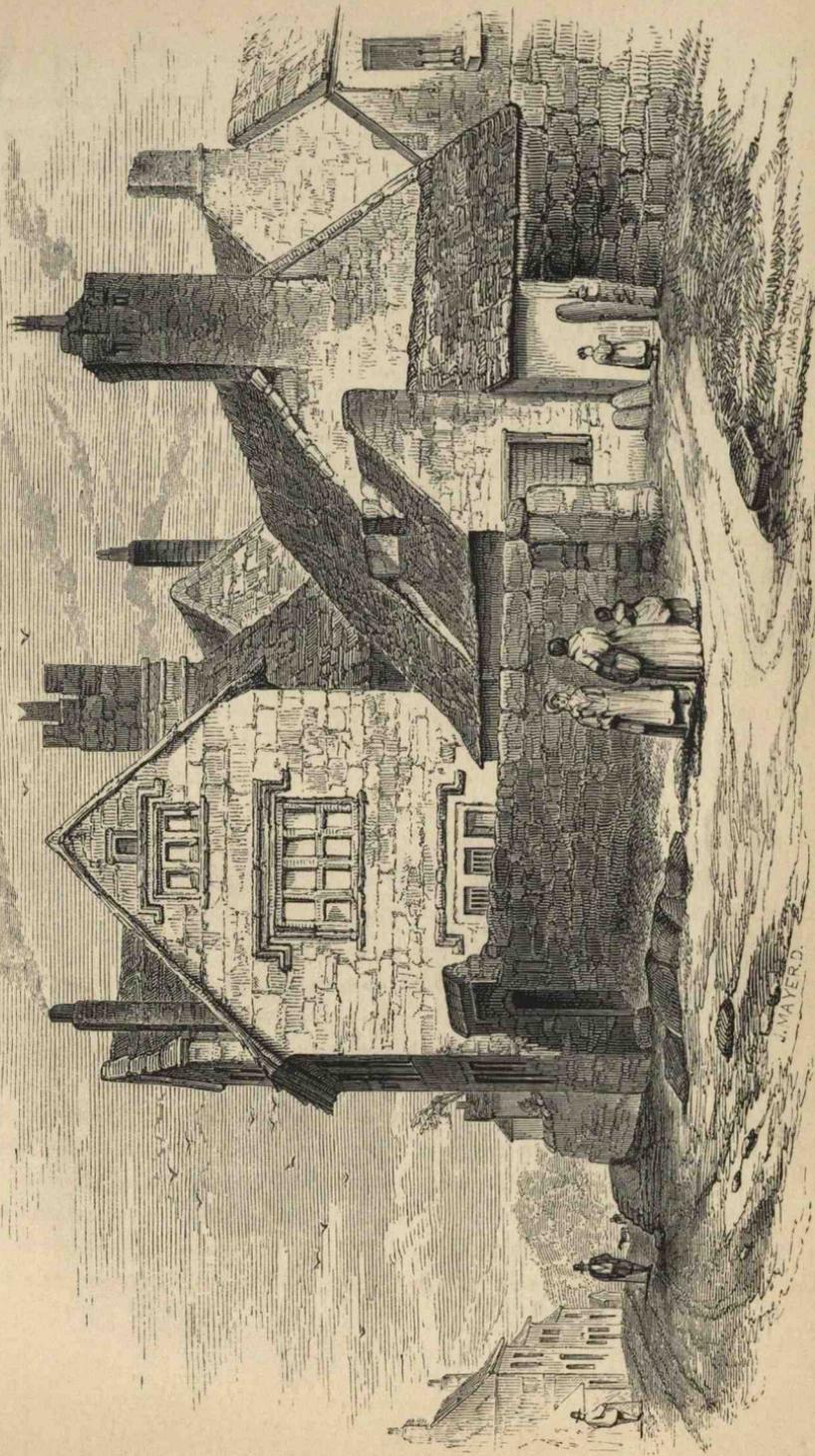
In endeavouring to find some account of the old Hall of Tranmere, I much regret that my researches have hitherto been unsuccessful, as it is

not named in the great Cheshire historian, Mr. Ormerod's valuable work; nor is it noticed by Mr. Mortimer, in his more recent work on the Hundred of Wirrall, not, I am sure, because it was unworthy of their attention, but, I presume, from the fact of their not finding any materials of sufficient historical interest to induce them to give a description of it.

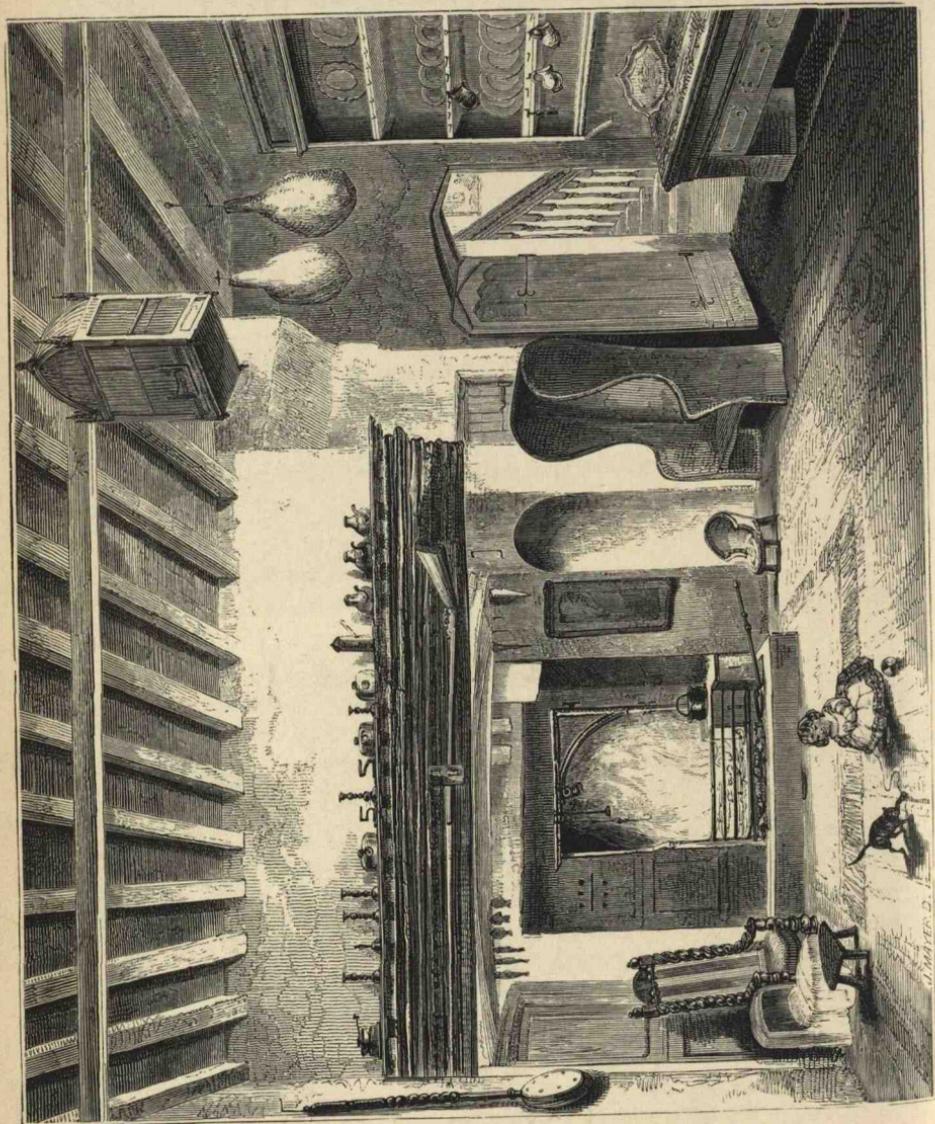
I shall, therefore, merely premise, that in all probability the present structure occupies the site of a much more ancient house, as we find that in the reign of Henry III. it gave name to a local lord, Bernard de Trammoll, who held it in possession until the reign of Richard II.; but the present edifice was built in the latter part of the sixteenth century, or the commencement of the seventeenth, and perhaps during the time it was in the possession of the Holme family, respecting whom Mr. Mortimer, our indefatigable brother member, read an interesting paper in the last Session of the Historic Society's meetings.

The Hall is situated on the brow of the hill, overlooking, like a mother, the picturesque village which surrounds it, and commanding a grand view of the river Mersey, whose expansive waters make a beautiful feature in the scene as they pass by the great "city of ships," seen in the distance. It is of the usual style of the period, with the centre recessed, the wings having the customary high pitched gables; the stone work of that character which was introduced after the *Post and Petrel*, mouldings and mullions of windows, plain fillet and ovolo, with addition of ogee for jamb; and with the prevailing larger and lesser projections of offices belonging to the domestic affairs of the family, which add to the effect of the outline of the whole, though not remarkable for any external display or architectural features.

In front of the house is a large garden, the entrance to which is from the high road, through an ornamental door-way, over the top of which, on the right side, are the initials **GL** and the motto **LABOR VINCIT OMNIA** with the date **1614**, and on the left of it the initials **AL**. This door leads into the garden, surrounded by a high wall on the road side, in which are evidences of its having been prepared with loop holes, for defence in case of an attack by an enemy from without. Crossing the garden you arrive at the "big door" of the house, approached by a flight of steps, which takes you into the great hall, more remarkable for its heaviness than for any picturesque effect or peculiarity. Crossing to a side door you get to the staircase which is of modern construction, and ascending it you come to a



Back View, Trammere Hall.



Great Hall at Westminster.

J. WAITE, D. L.

large room, no doubt used on state occasions, or else the principal private room of the lord's family. It has a very large Palladian chimney-piece, lower column fluted and reeded, upper plain Doric, very bold cornice and frieze, on front, and the slab is carved very deeply in writing, "Edward Markland." The ceiling is divided into six square panels, by oak beams, and ornamented with lions, fleurs de lis, &c., in paquety.

In this room is a curiously decorated window, of large proportions, divided into six compartments or oblongs, all of which were formerly filled with stained glass; but only the three upper ones now contain the old panes. These are divided down the middle of each, and are filled with six lozenges and six circles, as shewn in the accompanying wood-cut. As the devices and mottoes or poetry are quaint and in accordance with the decorations of most of the houses of any note belonging to our forefathers, I shall here quote them as they follow one another, beginning on the dexter side. In the first is a lozenge-shaped pane, on which is a soldier painted in a buff jacket and hat with a plume of feathers; he has a sword, and holds in his hands a musket, with rest lying alongside the stock of the piece; and the motto, "Blow yo<sup>r</sup> Panne", is on the field of the glass. Under this figure is a circular pane of plain glass, surrounded by a smaller circle of painted scroll-work and foliage, beneath which, on a square formed pane, are the following words:—

"this Round we laugh, we drink we eat,  
 es tells you that we want noe meate:  
 al sorrow is in good liquor drownde  
 as Circle soth the cupps goe Round."

The form and arrangement of the others are of the same kind, and the objects are stained in colours of various hues; but the devices differ; the second lozenge having a soldier in a jerkin helmet and plume, with sword, &c., in the act of advancing or receiving the enemy's charge, with his pike brought to the level of the height of his breast. The words are "The third motion," under which, on a square pane as before noticed, is written:—

"Heere Mrs. Idle lays her sickle by  
 And listens to the Bagpipes mellop  
 Shees like ten thousand more that libes and gaines  
 Eates drinks, and sleepes, but neuer can take paynes."

The third division has a soldier in the full military costume of the day—

View of the Hall at Westminster.

with cuirass, plumed helmet, gloves, sash, sword, &c. He is standing with his left arm a-kimbo, whilst the right holds the pike erect, having one end rested on the ground. Inscription, "Order yo' Pike," and underwritten:—

*"Thou pretty wench thats plucking of a flower  
Keepe close the flower of thy virginity.  
Beware, for oathes and promises have power  
And woers many times will sweare and lye."*

The fourth quarrel exhibits a gallant-looking musketeer, with his loose tunic and puffed shoulders, gartered breeches, and rosettes to his shoes, to the points of which are attached pieces of cord fastened to the garters in order to keep them from slipping off the knee—his broad linen collar, hat and feather seemingly very unfit for a man of hurts. He holds the musket and its then necessary accompaniment, the rest, in his hand: and the sentence is, "In the left hand carry the Musket with the Rest." Below are the following words:—

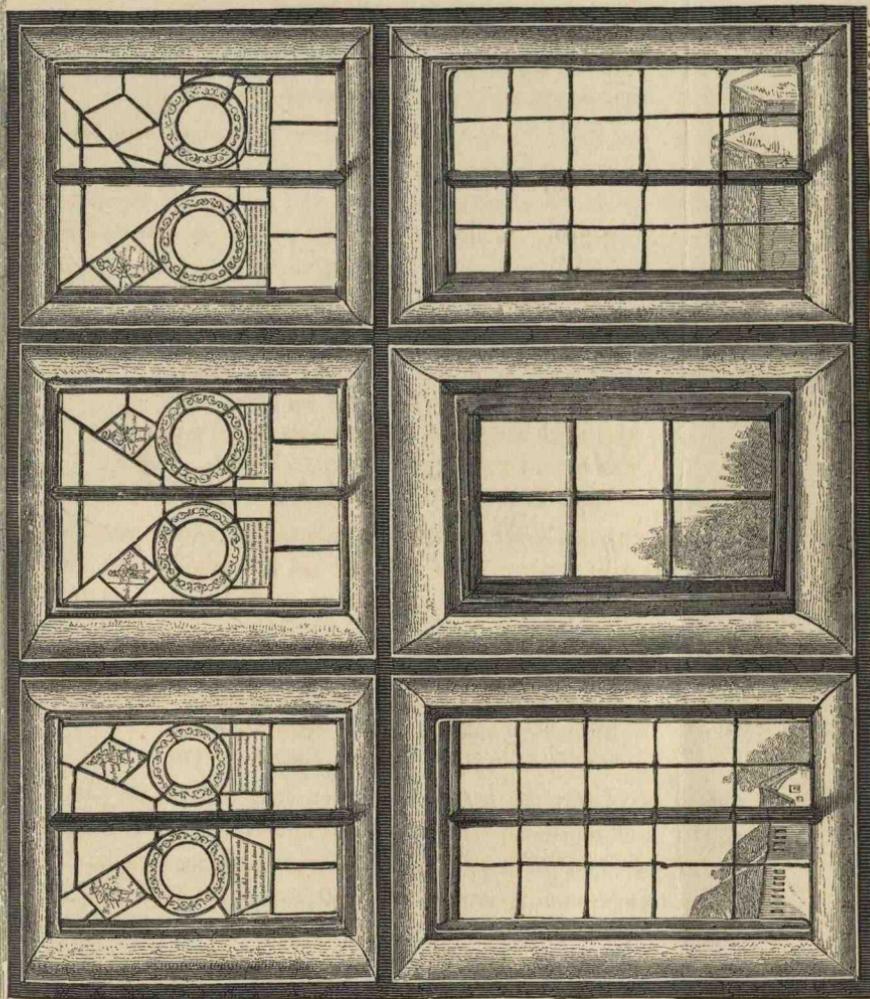
*"Hoggs like to mizers loathsom are alive,  
But when death doth their noysom Lives deprive,  
One getts a puddinge, tother getts a flitch,  
Much like the goods of wretches that dy riche."*

The fifth part has a soldier attired in cuirass and sword, with hat and very large bunch of feathers. He is in the act of changing his position, accompanied by the words, "Recover Pike by Palming," and the following doggerel:—

*"The Lad and Lass are both exceeding blithe  
Downe lyes the ravening Rake and shabeing Sithe  
As amongst gallants lobe oft keeps a rackett  
Within a leather Breech and Russett plackett."*

From the sixth part the figures have been removed, but the poetry remains, and I well remember that some of the circles were filled with figures appropriately designed to illustrate the writing placed beneath them. These were taken away however, by some despoiler of the reliques of bye-gone days—most likely to be stuck up in some staircase window of his own, where they would be quite out of place, and illustrate nothing better than the bad taste of the man who removed them from their original site.

In a thin 4to. work printed in 1623, entitled "Instructions for Musters and Armes, and the use thereof; by order from the Lords of his Majesties



A. J. MASON, SR.

J. MAYER, D.

Window in Trammere Hall.



this Round we laughe, we drinke we eate,  
 es tells you that we wante noe meate:  
 al sorrow is in good liquor dyuonde  
 as Circle soth the cupps goe Round.



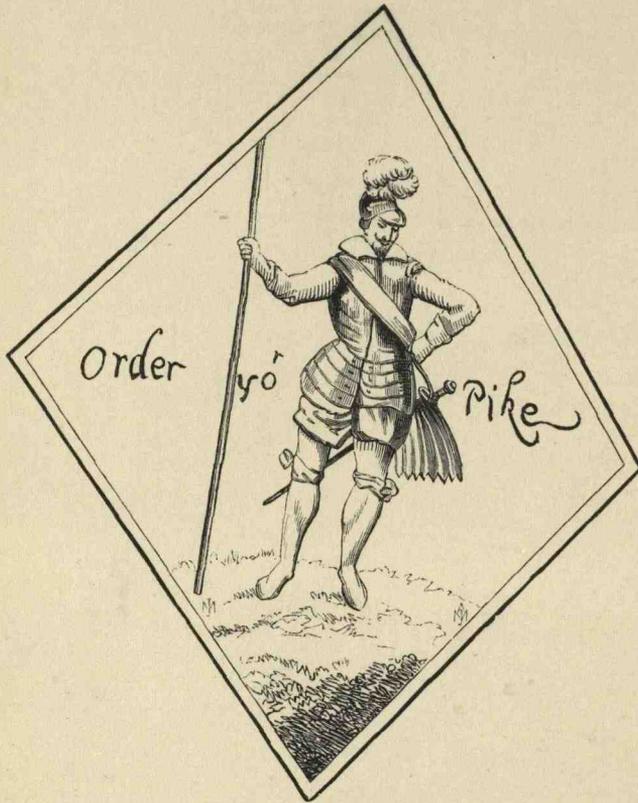
Faint, illegible text or markings at the bottom of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.



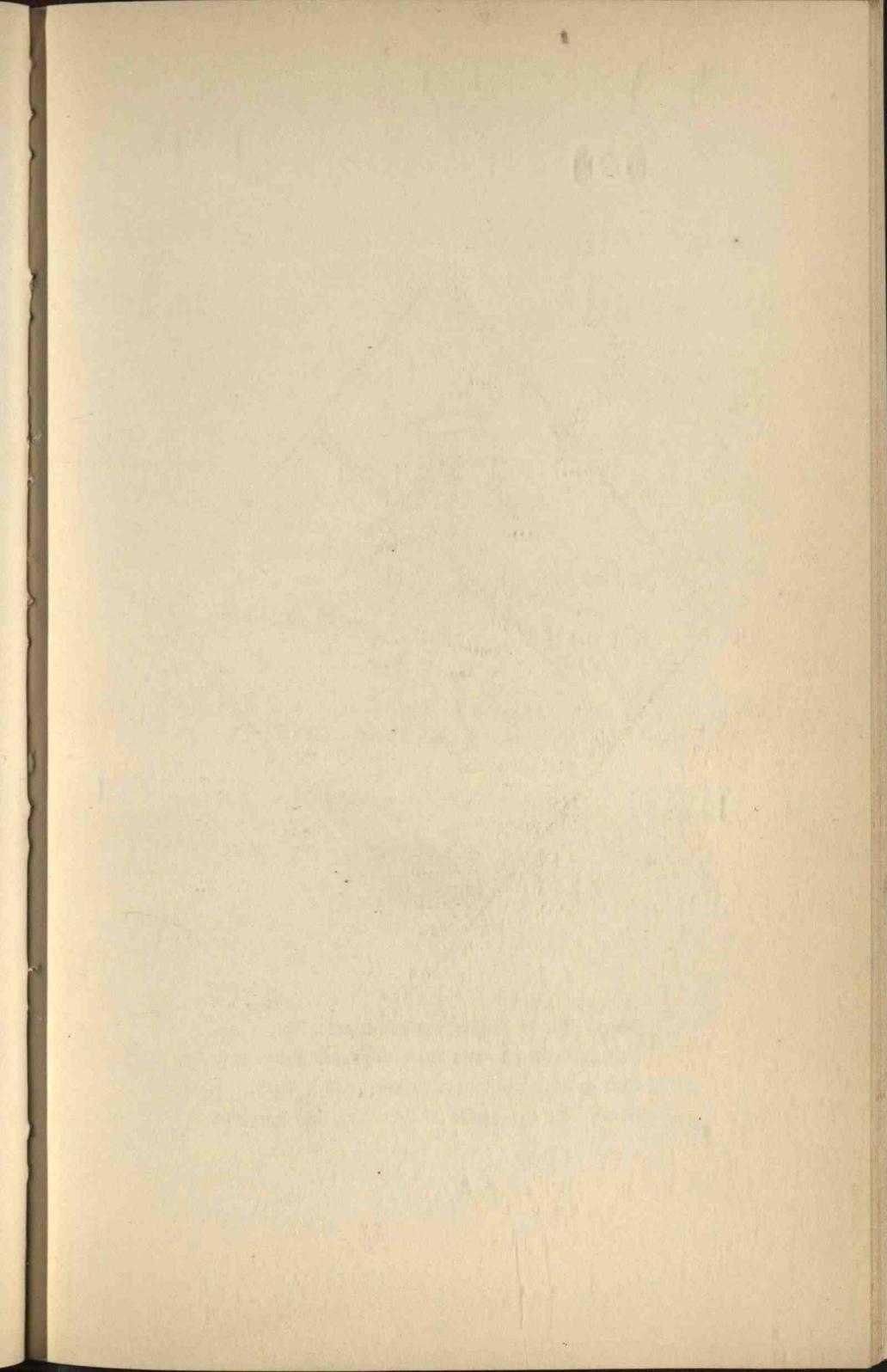
Heere Mrs. Idle layes her sickle by  
 And listens to the Bagpipes mellodye  
 Shes like ten thousand more that lides and gaines  
 Eates drinks, and sleepes, but neuer can take paynes.



Faint, illegible text or markings, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.



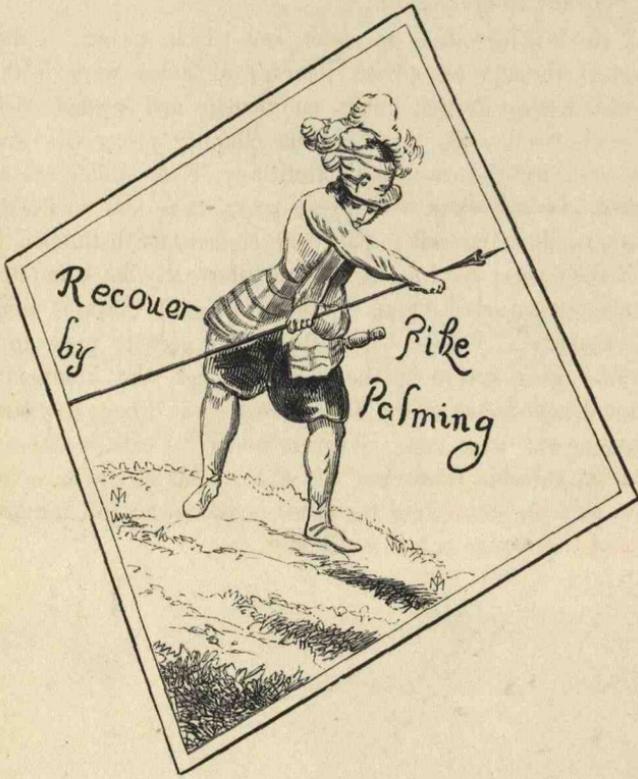
Thou pretty wench thats plucking of a flower  
 Keepe close the flower of thy virginity.  
 Beware, for oathes and promises habe power  
 And woers many times will sweare and lye.





Hoggs like to mizers loathsom are alive,  
 But when death doth their noysome Lives deprive,  
 One gets a puddinge, tother gets a sitch,  
 Much like the goods of wretches that dy riche.

008



The Lad and Lass are both exceeding blithe  
 Downe lyes the ravening Rake and shabeing Sithe  
 As amongst gallants lobe oft keeps a rackett  
 Within a leather Breech and Russett plackett.

most Honorable Privy Counsayle," are some plates representing soldiers in exactly the same attitudes, costume and weapons, and having the same mottoes or orders written to them; so that we may reasonably imagine the window to have been glazed some years after the building was erected, as noticed over the outer gate.

In one of the lodging-rooms, up stairs, and which appears to have been approached through an arched doorway of stone work, with a fine old oak door having its iron hinges and handle and key-hole richly ornamented with floral work, is a curious chimney piece, the whole painted over with bars chevron-wise, alternately, blue, white, red and black, engrailed, over all seme, with roses, pinks, bees and snails, with arms in centre, two lions passant in pale, with crescent for distinction, the family coat of the Glegs; the frieze is painted alternately block and flute, with very rude cornice overhanging. This fire-place, I think, is unique in style of ornament. I hope before this paper goes to press to be enabled to find some record of the house, through the kindness of Mr. Black, the deputy-keeper of the Palatinate records, who is now busily engaged arranging the large mass of papers under his care, to whom we owe much for his valuable researches into the records of Cheshire, from which he gave us some interesting fragments at the meeting of the Archæological Association Congress held at Chester.