

## STRAY NOTES.

A ROMAN BATH HOUSE.—A newspaper cutting states that a Roman bath house has been discovered at Ribchester, near Blackburn, where excavations in an orchard belonging to Dr. Leo Patchett have been conducted for the past three weeks by the Manchester branch of the Classical Association.—28/4/27.

EELS AT NORTH MEOLS.—In 1278 Robert de Coudrey notified that he had been enfeoffed by his lord, Henry de Lacy, earl of Lincoln, of the whole fishery of eels in North Meols, for which he was to render 2 marks yearly. The witnesses were John Bek, Alexander de Montefort, William le Vavasur, Adam de Hochtton and Adam de Hoylandia, knights; Peter de Cestria, and Gilbert de Clifton. Dated at Ictenhulle (Ightenhill), 26 August, 6 Edward I. From Duchy of Lanc. Great Cowcher, vol. ii, f. 245d, no. 65.

DISCOVERY OF ROMAN COINS NEAR FLEETWOOD.—The following paragraph, which appeared in the *Daily News* of 12 Nov., 1926, deserves reproduction here. "Professor R. G. Collingwood, the greatest living authority on the Roman occupation of Britain, in an interim report on the large number of Roman coins found at Knott End, Fleetwood, in September, states that the importance of the discovery is so great that it may necessitate the entire re-writing of the history of Roman Britain. There are a number of coins struck in Rome among the hoard, and these are not only a rarity, but are exceedingly important because they are likely to throw light upon the problem of 'coin drift,' the new theory amongst archæologists who maintain that the speed of travel of coins in those days could be judged just as to-day the progress of a bottle flung into the sea may be forecast. Two coins bear the names of the Emperors Valerian and Gallienus, and were minted in Rome, so that by the 'coin drift' theory the date of the occupation of the North-Western regions of England by the Romans may be definitely fixed, and it is likely to revolutionise all previous ideas."

NORRIS AND BOARDMAN.—Henry Norris of Bolton made his will, 22 May, 1674, and gave William Boardman, clerk, father of Alice, wife of Thomas Chesshyre, £30 for his children. This was duly paid. There were three children, Alice, John and Elizabeth

(now wife of Abraham Lyon). William Boardman died 10 Oct., 1688; Agard his widow and Thomas Boardman his brother were his executors. Alice claims her part of the £30. Alice Starkey, widow, is mentioned. The above is a note of a suit in the Chester Exchequer in 1691, in which the Chesshyres were plaintiffs and Thomas Sutton and Agard his wife, and Thomas Boardman, clerk, were defendants (Chester 15/97).

ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL, CHESTER.—Some deeds passed by the Masters of this hospital are copied in Harl. MS. 2079, ff. 48-51, with rough drawings of the later seal, making a clear description of it possible. St. John stands in the centre (with the Lamb at his left side), between two angels and having a third angel below his feet; Above his head is the symbolic Cross erect over the Crescent. The legend is SIGILLVM . HOSPITALIS . SANCTI . IOHANNIS . CESTRIE.

HERMITAGE AT CHATBURN.—The existence of a hermitage at this place is shown by a grant made by John of Gaunt as Duke of Lancaster, to the following effect: " Know that I have granted to Brother Robert de Goldbourne, hermit, the custody of the hermitage of the chapel of St. Martin in Chatteburn, with its lands and meadows, in the same form as the hermit his predecessor held the same, so long as he behaves himself well and decently, in order that he may pray for ourselves and the souls of our predecessors." It is dated at the Savoy palace in London, 23 June, 1372. From *John of Gaunt's Register* (Camden Soc.), No. 437.

*The Genealogists' Magazine* states that *Miscellanea Genealogica et Heraldica*, which has been in progress since 1866, is in danger of ceasing publication owing to lack of support, and says: " This valuable quarterly is engaged in publishing a class of genealogical material which is not covered by any other periodical. It would be a serious blow to genealogical students if it were allowed to follow so many other pre-war publications into oblivion for lack of sufficient subscribers to cover the cost of production." For similar reasons *The Ancestor*, *The Genealogical Magazine* and *The Genealogist* have all disappeared in the past. It is to be hoped that genealogists will not allow a like fate to overtake the *Miscellanea*. The publishers are Messrs. Mitchell Hughes and Clarke, 11 and 13 Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.4., and the subscription, 15s. 6d. per annum.

F.C.B.

