

THE STONES OF LIVERPOOL.

By E. Cuthbert Woods.

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ANYONE who was familiar with the residential streets of Liverpool, thirty to forty years ago, will remember how almost invariably cobblestones were used for paving. The lower part of Hunter Street, Byrom Street, is still paved in this way. Recently I discovered the origin of some of these stones. An old gentleman told me that as a small boy he spent much of his time in the Bootle district of Cumberland, and one of his earliest recollections was being taken to the funeral of a man who was one of the leaders in the "Battle of Annaside" there in 1838, but he could give me no details. Mr. W. G. Collingwood very kindly sent me an extract from *The Gosforth District*, by C. A. Parker, quoting the *Whitehaven News*. This is an account of a fight on Saturday, 18th August 1838, between the inhabitants of Annaside and the crews of three vessels who were loading stones picked up from the seashore for Runcorn and Liverpool. It appears that the inhabitants resented the removal of the stones as the sea was making considerable inroads on the parish, and from the newspaper account the crews of the raiding vessels were successfully repulsed. Probably other coasts near at hand were denuded in a similar manner.