

By J. B. Earwaker, B.A., F.S.A.

1. Two Roman toilet boxes, very rare, in which the worm and screw, by which the lid is affixed, are in perfect order.
2. Handle of a bronze patera.
3. Handle of a bronze vessel.
4. Roman ring fibula.
5. Head of Medusa.
6. Female head, in lead.
7. Bronze fibula, plated with silver or tin.
8. Bronze rings.
9. Part of a Roman speculum or mirror.
10. Bronze object, apparently used for suspending the sword to a leathern belt.
11. Two specimens of mail armour in bronze.

All found at Dorchester, a Roman station, near Oxford, as turned up by the plough.

By F. J. Bailey, M.R.C.S.

1. A relic of the Royal George, in the form of a snuff-box.
2. A narrative of the loss of that vessel, bound in a portion of the wood of the Royal George, and a narrative of the loss of the Mary Rose, sunk July 20th, 1554, and raised about 1840.

Mr. Ald. T. T. Wilkinson, F.R.A.S., of Burnley, gave the following description of two magical charm tablets:—

Towards the close of the last century, two leaden tablets were found by William Hawksworth, Esq., in a tumulus on Gatherley Moor, about four miles from Catterick, and on the line of the Roman road. Each tablet contains an inscription—various cabalistic symbols—and on the obverse of each is inscribed a magic square, with the names of the spirits invoked. An engraving of these tablets, shewing both sides, was published shortly after their discovery; and another imperfect representation of them is given by Dr. Whitaker, in the first volume of his *History of Richmondshire*.

The first tablet contains the following words and signs, deeply cut in the metal; those which have suffered from corrosion being enclosed in brackets:—

“ I do make this that James Phillip John Phillip his son Christopher Phillip and Thomas Phillip his [son] shall flee Richemondshire and “ nothing [prosper] with any of them [in] Richemondshire.”

At the foot of this plate are engraved the cabalistic signs of “ The Spirit of the Spirits of the Moon”; the last symbol being left imperfect by the person who manufactured the spell. On the obverse there is “ The Magic Square of the Moon in her Compass.” It is a square of eighty-one compartments, nine on each side, and the sum of the numbers inserted being, either vertically or diagonally = 369. This face

also contains the names of the Spirits Hasmodai and Schedbarschemoth, answering respectively to the "Spirit of the Moon," which corresponds to the number 369; and to the "Spirit of the Spirits of the Moon," which is represented by $369 \times 9 = 3321 =$ the sum of all the numbers in the magic square.

The second tablet contains a somewhat different inscription, and is as follows:—

"I did make this [that] the [father] James Phillip John Phillip and
"all the kin of Phillip and all the issue of them shall come [presently]
"to utter Beggery and nothing Joy [or] Prosper with them [in]
"Richmondshire."

The two symbols on the first tablet are here repeated, and are more perfectly formed. There is also a third symbol added, which indicates that the "Spirit of the Moon" has again been invoked. All the symbols on the second plate are inverted, as compared with those given by Barrett in page 144 of his *Talismanic Magic*. The obverse contains the same magic square of eighty-one numbers, and is signed "J. Phillip."

According to writers on Magic, when all these signs and numbers are engraven on *lead*, and the aspects of the Moon are malevolent, wherever "they shall be buried, it makes the place unfortunate, and also the inhabitants thereabouts. . . . It makes every man "unfortunate against whom it shall be directly done; making him fly "his place of abode, and even his country where it shall be buried." (*Barrett's Magus*, p. 145.) Dr. Whitaker, in his account of Brignall, states that on inquiry it was found that this diabolical charm had a curious confirmation in the fate of the Phillips family. On an application being made to John Charles Brooke, Esq., Somerset Herald, he stated that:—"From the Visitation of the County of York, by William "Flower, Norroy, A D. 1575, it appears that James Phillips was then "living at Brignall and entered his pedigree; whence it also appears "that he had five sons, John, Richard, Henry, Christopher, and Thomas. "James was son of Henry Phillips, of Brignall, by Agnes Aislaby his "wife, who had an elder brother Charles; which Charles had two sons, "John and Cuthbert. Now, as James is styled 'of Brignall,' though "the younger, the most probable account which can be given of the "matter is that he had supplanted John, the son of Charles, in his "birthright; who drew down upon him and his family this secret "execration. It is observable that Henry, the third son of James, is "not included in the curse, of which the most likely reason which can "be assigned is that he was then dead. But the anathema denounced "against the family must have had its full effect, as these brothers and "their children all died without issue." Their estate, which seems to have been considerable in Brignall, is now the property of Sir Robert Eden, Bart. (*Whitaker's Richmondshire*, vol. I, pp. 195, 6.)

The following paper was read:—

THE ARCHÆOLOGY OF EAST CHESHIRE, by J. B. Earwaker, B.A., F.S.A. The paper was illustrated by a series of Photographs, early Maps and Drawings.