

of arms (already stated on the authority of Gregson, to have been granted in 1516,) on exhibiting the arms with a border engrailed, borne by his father, which were not in accordance with those of his ancestors as seen on the porch of the Chapel. Norroy, King of Arms prohibited and afterwards granted under the seal of his office the augmentation assumed, charged with pelletes, viz. Gules, a spear in bend, or, headed argent, the head pointing to the sinister base point; at the other end a pennon pendant of the third, between six fleur-de-lis of the last, all within a border engrailed of the second, pelletté.\* Edward Ireland married Margaret, daughter of Edward Norris, of Speke, and died 13 Charles the First, 1637-8,† leaving two daughters. The eldest married her maternal cousin Sir Charles Anderton, of Lostock, the second baronet of that family, who in right of his wife became Lord of the Manor of Lydiate. In this family it remained till the death of Sir Francis Anderton, the sixth and last baronet in 1760, when it passed by marriage to the Blundells, of Ince Blundell, to the representatives of whom it now belongs.

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IV.—ON THE BRITISH URNS FOUND AT WEST KIRBY.‡

*By Joseph Mayer, Esq., Hon. Curator.*

The rare occurrence of finding anything relating to the ancient inhabitants of this part of the island,—which at the time Doomsday Book was written, is supposed to have been nearly covered with one large forest,—is not only interesting in itself, but adds another confirmation to the received opinion, that the inhabitants of Britain dwelt chiefly in woods and fastnesses surrounded by woods. Probably the people whose ashes are contained in the Vases now laid on the table before you, were the leaders of a portion of the ancient inhabitants whom the Romans drove before them in their conquest of the island, and after their expulsion from Chester, chose that situation as being ready of access to the coast, that

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\* The original book of this Visitation containing one hundred and nineteen pedigrees, subscribed by the gentry of the county, is in the British Museum. Harl. MSS., 1437.

† Calend Inq. post mortem.

‡ Want of time prevented the reading of these remarks, which were prepared for the former meeting.

in case of an attack being made upon them by the Roman army, they could easily cross over to Wales. Here, being joined by their brethren and friends, they could make a resistance or wage war on the invading foe.

It is well known that for several centuries after the Romans had possession of Britain, numerous tribes of Britons had stations on the coast, where they made frequent inroads on their oppressors, carrying away their children and females as captives, and destroying their habitations and husbandry, amongst which was the neighbourhood of which I am now speaking;—and indeed so late as the time of Henry the First, they maintained an independence which caused the English much trouble. They were not subdued until the reign of Edward the First.

These Vases which are preserved in the interesting museum of John Robin, jun., Esq., of Grove Hill, West Kirby, a member of this Society, were found in 1840, whilst enlarging the garden of that gentleman's father, on the north-west side of the house, about fifty yards above the old road, and about ten yards from the present road; and about two hundred and fifty yards from the column erected on the top of the hill above, as a sea mark, by the Dock Corporation of Liverpool. There were several Vases found, but only three of them were perfect, the others having been broken in digging. All were turned with their mouths downwards and very near the surface, with the exception of one which was placed in a sunken space in the red sandstone rock made to receive it. They are composed of a coarse clay of the district, and have been subjected to heat. All of them were filled with burnt bones, pieces of charcoal, and ashes, and all appeared very similar in form to the one represented in the cut.





Through the kindness of John Shaw Leigh, Esq., the owner of the adjoining property, who, on application, at once granted me permission to make a further search in the neighbourhood, I hope during the summer to be enabled to lay before you something more on the subject, as I think, by a careful examination of that part of the country, to find other remains, with works of the Romans.

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V.—CLOSING ADDRESS,

*By the Rev. A. Hume, LL.D., F.S.A.*

On the first evening of this Session, I had the honour to address a few remarks to the Society, stating somewhat in detail what had been sketched but briefly in the Prospectus. Some of those who had gladly enrolled themselves along with us, knew little but the general *objects* of the Society, and it was necessary to mention for their and the general information, such principles of procedure as were most likely to be followed up. We then looked forward to the future; and though seven months have not elapsed we can now speak of the "past" Session. We then spoke with timidity, and ventured only to indulge in a feeling of hope; we can now speak with confidence, and address each other in terms of honest congratulation.

During the first Session, there are difficulties to be overcome which are not likely to present themselves again; while on the other hand, facilities for the discharge of ordinary routine duties have not yet been acquired. On the present occasion, we have held only nine meetings; we have not yet obtained apartments of our own; our library and museum are not yet available to the members; many who are anxious to be useful to us do not know how to act; our tracts of queries and instructions are still only partially distributed; several of our members have not yet had leisure sufficient to furnish the papers which they contemplate and have promised; and hundreds of the best and most intelligent people