

RECENT DISCOVERIES IN THE PARISHES OF CHAGFORD AND MANATON, DEVONSHIRE.

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(Read at Totnes, July, 1880.)

PREFATORY.—Chagford and Manaton being included in the group of Parishes which together make up “Dartmoor,” as defined by the Resolution of the Council of the Devonshire Association (See *Trans. Devon. Assoc.*, xi., 28), this communication was offered to the Dartmoor Committee, through Mr. W. F. Collier, their Honorary Secretary, for incorporation in their Report. Mr. Collier, however, suggested that it should rather be submitted to the Council of the Association for acceptance as an independent paper; and as there did not appear to be any objection to it, the suggestion was acted on.

I. KISTVAENS IN THE PARISH OF CHAGFORD:—In May, 1879, Mr. Samuel H. Slade, of Torquay, member of this Association, informed me that he had recently found two stone graves, or kistvaens, in the parish of Chagford, Devon; and, in compliance with my request, he was so good as to hand me, soon afterward, the following written statement on the subject:

“Torquay, 9th June, 1879.

“In November 1878, whilst at Thornworthy in the parish of Chagford, I came upon a mound composed of stones varying from 7 to 56 lbs. in weight, and mixed with black earth. The mound was circular, about 30 feet in diameter, and having an elevation at the centre—the highest point—of from four to five feet.

“Being convinced, by a short examination, that it was a cairn, I secured the consent of Mr. Robert Standerwick, the owner of the estate, and proceeded to investigate it with pick-axe and shovel. We began at the centre, where, after removing stones and soil to the depth of a foot and half, we came upon a large flattish block of granite. This we entirely uncovered; and then, by working round it and to a lower

level, we found that this block was a cover to four blocks standing upright on their edges and forming what appeared to be a rectangular, oblong chest. After clearing away the rubbish sufficiently, a crow bar enabled us to throw off the cover, which I estimated to be at least 600 lbs. in weight, and thereby to expose—just what we had expected—an old grave. It was filled, to within 6 or 8 inches of the top, with very black soil, which in fine weather would have been light and friable. This we removed as carefully as we could, but the weather being very inclement, heavy squalls of wind and rain coming on every five or ten minutes, the soil came up so wet and pasty that we could not thoroughly examine it, and we found no object of interest in it. As I had to return to Torquay the next day, nothing further was done at that time.

“Some weeks afterwards I made another visit to Thornworthy, and resumed the investigation of the mound. I first sifted the soil we had previously thrown out of the grave, and found in it a flint implement only. We then, by removing more of the materials composing the cairn, came upon a second grave. It was of very much the same size and shape as the former one, viz., about 4 feet long, 2 feet wide, and 2 feet deep.

“After clearing away the soil and stones all around it, we decided not then to remove the cover, but to invite Mr. Pengelly to make a personal investigation of it. In this, however, we met with a disappointment, for during the absence of Mr. Standerwick, for two or three days, some one lifted off the cover, and threw out the contents. We afterwards sifted and raked these over, and found a portion of a rude, handmade, sunbaked urn, but nothing else. We found subsequently, however, in the same materials, after some days' exposure to heavy rains, two small flint chips or tools.

“A considerable portion of the cairn remains unexplored, and I propose to satisfy myself, as soon as I can, whether or not it contains any other graves.

(Signed) SAMUEL H. SLADE.”

I accepted most gladly the invitation of Mr. Standerwick and Mr. Slade to visit the cairn as soon as the weather was sufficiently settled for work on a Dartmoor hillside. Settled weather, however, was a very rare phenomenon during the so-called summer of 1879. The June and August of that year were the wettest that had occurred in Devonshire during, at least, 16 years, and though the July was not thus distinguished, its rainfall exceeded the average for that month in the ratio of 5:3.

On the 8th of September, however, Mr. Slade wrote me from Thornworthy, stating that he had finished his inspection of the cairn, but had found no more than the two graves already mentioned.

On the 13th of the same month I had the pleasure of visiting the spot, when I found that the outline of the cairn was still distinctly traceable, and that the side-stones and end-stones of both graves were standing in the ground precisely as they were found. Aided by Mr. Standerwick, Mr. S. H. Slade, and Mr. H. Rowe, of Torquay, I drew up the following statement:—

Thornworthy, the residence of Mr. R. Standerwick, in the parish of Chagford, is about 2·5 miles, as the crow flies, from the “church-town,” and not quite half a mile from Thornworthy Tor, from which it bears slightly east of south. The cairn was on the hillside between Thornworthy house and the left, or north, bank of the South Teign, and about 180 paces from that stream. It consisted of pieces of granite, elvan, schorlaceous rock, quartz, and metamorphosed strata, many of them more or less rounded; and the whole was covered with grass and such small plants as occurred on the adjacent moorland. The cairn was sensibly circular, and as nearly as possible, 30 feet in diameter. From the centre, where it reached its maximum height of about 4 feet, it sloped pretty uniformly in all directions. It was not protected or defined with any stones placed around its margin.

The graves differed a little in size. The centre of the larger was coincident, or very nearly so, with that of the cairn. The smaller grave was a few feet south and east of the larger, and, on account of the natural slope of the hill, at a rather lower level. The stones were all of granite, and set in the ground, on their edges, in a sensibly vertical position with the exception of the southern side-stone of the larger grave, which inclined slightly inwards, that is towards the opposite side-stone, and their upper edges were sensibly horizontal, and, in each grave, reached the same level. Each side and end consisted of one single stone. In the larger grave, the northern side-stone and the western end-stone simply met at their inner edges—neither of them overlapping the other,—but in all other cases the stones at the ends were overlapped by those at the sides. In the larger grave, at the end where, at one of the angles, the adjacent stones met simply, as just stated, there were two parallel stones, the outer one leaning against the inner as if to keep it in position. There was no other instance of what may be called a supporting stone.

Neither of the graves was strictly a rectangle or even a parallelogram; thus, the internal measurements of the larger were, length 43 inches on the southern side, 40 inches on the northern side, and breadth 22 inches from end to end; whilst those of the smaller were, length 38 inches on the southern side, 37 inches on the northern side, breadth 22 inches at the western end, and 20 inches at the eastern end; the depth of each was about 13 inches. The bottom in each, and throughout, was the unbroken surface of the moorland and of a light brown colour.

The graves were by no means placed in parallel lines, for whilst the direction of the north side-stone of the larger grave was from N. 20° W., mag., to S. 20° E., that of the smaller was from N. 50° W. to S. 50° E.; the directions of the corresponding sides were therefore inclined at an angle of 30°. Taking the variation of the compass at 20°, the length of the larger grave was in the direction of N. 40° W. to S. 40° E., true, or N.W. to S.E. nearly; whilst that of the smaller extended from N. 70° W. to S. 70° E., true, or W.N.W. to E.S.E. nearly.

Mr. Standerwick being so good as to present to the Torquay Natural History Society whichever of the graves I preferred, I selected the smaller one; but the stones of both were allowed to remain in the ground exactly as they were found until 15th March, 1880, when those of the smaller grave were dislodged under the superintendence of Mr. Standerwick and Mr. Slade, and on the 17th of the same month were received at the Society's Museum at Torquay, where they have been inserted on their edges in the basement floor, so as to show the exact original form and dimensions of the kistvaen. The Coverstone, which has also been replaced, is tilted, so as to enable visitors to see the interior.

The stones are all thin natural slabs such as are easily obtainable from the granites of Devon and Cornwall, which have a tendency, as was long ago pointed out, to be divided or cleave in a stratiform manner. (See De la Beche's *Report*, 1839, p. 163.) They appear to have been not "tooled" or prepared, but merely selected, for the use to which they were put. It is true that the upper edge of each of the standing stones is almost sensibly straight, but in all probability these edges represent nothing more than the well-defined joint planes so common in the Dartmoor granites. The Cover Stone is an irregular pentagon, in which each side represents a natural joint. The Cover Stone of the larger grave is much less symmetrical in outline.

The following Table shows the principal facts respecting

the size and weight of the stones of the smaller grave, now in the Museum at Torquay. In calculating the weights, the specific gravity of granite was taken = 2.662. (See *Ency. Brit.*, 8th Ed., 1856, vol. xii. p. 88.)

| STONES. | Greatest Length in inches. | Greatest Breadth in inches. | Thickness in inches. | Area of each face in sq. feet. | Volume in cubic feet. | Weight in cwt. |
|--------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| Cover . . . | 60 | 34 | 9 to 5 | 10 | 5.8 | 8.6 |
| North Side . | 51 | 30 | 4.75 to 2.5 | 8 | 2.7 | 4.0 |
| South Side . | 62 | 37 | 6 to 5 | 10.5 | 4.8 | 7.1 |
| East End . . | 38 | 19 | 6.5 to 3.5 | 6 | 3.9 | 5.7 |
| West End . . | 34 | 25 | 6.5 to 4.5 | 4 | 1.8 | 2.7 |
| Totals . . . | | | | 38.5 | 19.0 | 28.1 |

The stones were inserted in the ground so as to have their greatest lengths horizontal in the case of the side stones, but vertical in that of the end stones.

The materials taken out of the larger grave were chiefly thrown between it and the smaller one, discovered subsequently; and when the north side-stone was dislodged on 15th March, a flint implement was found among these materials; and Mr. Slade entertains no doubt that it was primarily among the contents of the larger grave.

It will be seen from what has been stated that of the four flint tools found within the cairn, one belonged certainly, and another probably, to the contents of the larger or northern grave; and the remaining two to the smaller or southern one, now in the Museum at Torquay, to which the earthenware vessel, of which fragments have been recovered, also probably belonged. The dimensions of the graves render it most improbable that they were ever occupied by human skeletons, and this view is borne out by the absence of any fragment or trace of bone. Whether the trespassers who opened and emptied the smaller grave found within it any other object of interest we have no means of knowing, and, unfortunately, we are equally ignorant respecting the condition in which they found the earthenware vessel, as well as the position in which it was placed.

Mr. Standerwick has been so good as to allow me to study the implements and potsherds mentioned above. The imple-

ments are all of the same kind of flint, which has a very dark gray or almost black colour, and a hornlike aspect. It is slightly translucent at the edges, where these are thin.

The specimen certainly belonging to the larger grave, found in November, 1878, has a considerable "bulb of percussion" on one face, which, on the whole, is rather convex, whilst the opposite face is slightly concave. In outline it is quadrilateral, having two comparatively long, and two short, adjacent sides; and all its angles are somewhat rounded. It measures 2 inches long, 1·5 inch in greatest breadth, and ·4 inch in greatest thickness, that is at the bulb of percussion, and very near the angle formed by the two short sides. The convex face was produced by the dislodgement of a single flake, and has on it no indications of dressing or of use; whilst the concave face affords proof of a considerable amount of dressing, especially along the two long sides, each of which has been reduced to a thin knife-like edge, with a slight thickening at the rounded point. The short sides are thick and unwrought; and on one of them are traces of the original surface of the nodule. The implement resembles in form the specimen figured by the Rev. Canon Greenwell, M.A., F.S.A., in his *British Barrows* (1877), fig. 20, p. 39, and which he terms "a knife." The Canon's specimen, however, was larger, being 2·8 inches long and 1·8 inch in greatest breadth. Its angles also appear to be less rounded.

The specimen found in March, 1880, belonging, it is believed, also to the larger grave, is trilateral in outline, and has two of its sides almost rectilinear, whilst the third is curvilinear. The straight sides meet at a right angle, and are of unequal length, one of them being 1·6 inch and the other barely 1·1 inch. It attains its greatest breadth near the middle, where it measures 1·3 inch. The straight edges are square, and ·3 inch thick. The curved edge is variable in thickness, but is everywhere bevelled and dressed. One face has a well-pronounced "bulb of percussion" but is otherwise slightly concave, whilst the other face has a tendency to flatness. This tool undoubtedly belonged to the group known as "Scrapers," but amongst the numerous figures I have examined there is not one having the same outline.

The remaining two implements, found, as already stated, amongst the materials thrown out of the smaller grave, are not so large as the foregoing two. The larger of them is elliptical in outline, nearly flat on one face, whilst the other, whence seven flakes have been dislodged, is very convex. It is 1·2 inch long, barely ·9 inch in greatest breadth, and ·4 inch

in greatest thickness. The edges, almost everywhere sharp, are without marks of dressing or of wear and tear.

Its companion tool, or chip perhaps, is still smaller, being .9 inch long, .6 inch in greatest breadth, and .4 inch in greatest thickness, which it attains near one end. One of its faces is slightly concave, and rudely a trapezium in outline; the other is convex, and has several facets. Its edges are without marks of dressing or of use, but some of them are thin and sharp.

The bits of pottery, found also amongst the materials thrown out of the smaller grave, are very small and fragile, and the vessel they represent was made of coarse reddish-brown clay. The sides appear to have been not more than .1 inch thick, and the exterior was ornamented with lines crossing one another, at least, nearly at right angles, and at somewhat variable distances, but averaging probably about .1 inch. Judging from a portion of it amongst the fragments, the bottom of the vessel was circular, and 3 inches in diameter.

II. HUT CIRCLES IN THE PARISH OF CHAGFORD:—The Devonshire antiquary need not be informed that the district in which Mr. Slade found the graves described above, abounds in relics and objects of the highest interest. A leisurely stroll on a summer afternoon will take the visitor from Thornworthy to the "Longstone Pillar;" to Stone Circles, including the "Roundy-Poundy;" to Rock Basons; and to the "Hole Stone" in the bed of the North Teign—the only specimen in Devonshire having any pretensions—and those very slight—to be called a "Tolmen." I had the advantage of visiting them recently—or, at least, the greater number and most important of them—under the guidance of Mr. Slade, who has not only familiarized himself with all their details, but has discovered, and studied, and pointed out on the Mevill estate, also in the parish of Chagford, but on the south side of the South Teign, several circles of which no known record exists. He has been so good as to favour me with the following description of the Mevill circles just mentioned, and has permitted me to incorporate it in this communication:—

"Torquay, 19th April, 1880.

"Since we met at Mr. Standerwick's in September last, and together inspected the fine group of Hut Circles on Mevill, the estate adjoining Thornworthy, I have had opportunities of examining them more closely, and have now the pleasure of handing you the following particulars respecting them.

"I may, in the first place, say that they are the largest and

best preserved Hut Circles that I am acquainted with on Dartmoor; and are evidence that the district in which they occur has been the residence of some of the ancient inhabitants of the country. The situation and number of the dwellings, their proximity to the river, the traces there are of tin-streaming works a short distance off, and, lastly, the graves that are close by, all point to the existence at a remote period of an important settlement there.

"On Mevill I have found eight circles in all. There were formerly more; as I have been informed by an old lady now resident on an adjoining farm, whose youth was spent at Mevill, that her father, who farmed the estate, had destroyed several circles, when he met with them on the tillage part of the farm.

"The accompanying sketch, prepared by my friend Mr. P. Varwell, of Brixham, who kindly assisted me in taking the bearings and measurements, will give some idea of their situations and relative positions. The bearings are all magnetic.

"The Circle No. 1 is due south from Thornworthy Tor, and the kistvaen discovered in November, 1878, is nearly in a straight line between them. The South Teign runs about midway between the kistvaen and the circle and is 180 paces from each of them. This circle is 24 feet in diameter; the entrance has an E.S.E. direction; it is very perfect, all the stones being erect.

"The Circle No. 2, also 24 feet in diameter, is 5 paces N.E. from No. 1. The entrance has a S.S.E. direction from within. It is very perfect, and has the peculiarity of the wall being on one side laid in courses, four of which are visible; but it is not improbable that still lower courses may be concealed by the accumulated mould and soil. The stones are placed so as not to form a vertical wall, but each overlaps that on which it rests; that is, it projects inwards towards the centre of the circle, so that were the wall continued upward in the same manner the stones would meet at a height of, say, 20 feet, and form a sort of dome-shaped building. My idea is that from the height of, say, 4 feet, where the stones cease, these huts were carried up with Moor turf, thus forming a dome-shaped structure, having a hole at the top.

"The Circle No. 3 is 20 paces E.S.E. from No. 2. It is less perfect than the preceding circles, and the situation of the entrance is uncertain. It measures 34 feet in diameter. There are in this case indications of an inner circle of small stones. The outer wall also is double and its stones are placed horizontally, not vertically, as is the case with most of the others.

"The Circle No. 4 is 150 paces E.N.E. from No. 3, and 30 feet in diameter. The entrance, which is especially well defined, has a S.W. by W. direction. This is the finest of the eight circles, and, as a whole, is best preserved. The stones composing it are very large, and kept in their places by a double outer row of stones and by banking up the earth outside to the level of the top, so that when within it one feels to be in a sunken enclosed space.

"The Circle No. 5 is 100 paces E. by N. from No. 4, and is approached through a stone avenue about 75 paces long, but having most of its larger stones thrown down; those remaining erect are, with one exception only, short and rather small. The avenue begins at a short distance from the river, where it is about 8 feet wide; it gradually widens thence, until on reaching the circle it is 31 feet wide. One side of it runs into the circle, but it widens out on the other, overlaps the entrance, and joins the circle at a point beyond, thus forming a vestibule or enclosure outside the well-defined entrance. This remarkable structure appears to have been entirely overlooked by the Antiquary. I have met with no notice of it in any book treating of the antiquities of Dartmoor, nor have I heard of anyone having investigated it. It had remained unknown to me until one day in 1879, when working in snowy weather at the cairn in which the graves were found, I saw, clear of other objects, and standing out in the snow, on the hill side, the double row of stones forming the Avenue ending in the well-defined circle at the top. This circle is 27 feet in diameter, and its entrance has a W. by S. direction. The kistvaen cairn, about 400 paces distant, bears from it S.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ S., and the avenue is in the straight line from the one to the other.

"The Circle No. 6, 40 paces south of No. 5, is 25 feet in diameter. It consists of very massive stones, and two of them are so very large as to suggest that they could not have been placed there by human agency, but that advantage had been taken of their natural position, and the remaining stones so fixed as to form a circle. This circle is imperfect, and the entrance ill-defined.

"The Circle No. 7, 95 paces S. by W. from No. 6, is 28 feet in diameter, and is a fine circle. The walls have a double row of stones, and the interspaces are filled with soil and vegetable growth. The entrance is ill-defined.

"The Circle No. 8, 70 paces S. by W. from No. 7, is imperfect.

"All the circles described above are within the parish of Chagford.

"I may say in conclusion that the locality is well worth the attention of the Antiquary.

"(Signed)

SAMUEL H. SLADE."

From Mr. Slade's statements and Mr. Varwell's plan (corrected for magnetic variation), the eight circles may be said to be placed, with a few slight irregularities, along two sides of a scalene triangle, of which the angular points are the centres of the 1st, 5th, and 8th circles, respectively. From the 1st the distance of the 5th is about 294 paces (= 784 feet), in a N.E. direction; and from the 1st the distance of the 8th is about 270 paces (= 720 feet), in an E. direction; whilst from the 8th the distance of the 5th is about 220 paces (= 587 feet), in a N. by W. direction. The triangle may be thus said to have a north-westerly, an easterly, and a southerly side. Between the circles at the two angular points there are three circles on the north-westerly side of the triangle, two on the easterly side, but none on the southerly side.

From the cairn in which Mr. Slade found the two graves the 1st circle is 360 paces (= 960 feet) towards E.S.E., the 5th circle is 420 paces (= 1,120 feet) towards E. by S. $\frac{1}{2}$ S., and the 8th circle is 585 paces (= 1,560 feet) towards S.E. $\frac{1}{2}$ E.

The following Table (corrected for variation) will show at one glance the principal facts connected with the circles :

| Circle. | Diameter in feet. | Aspect of Entrance from within. | Condition. | Remarks. |
|---------|-------------------|---------------------------------|--------------|--|
| 1st. | 24 | E. | Very perfect | Stones erect. |
| 2nd. | 24 | S.E. | Very perfect | Wall in courses of stones which indicate a dome shape. |
| 3rd. | 34 | Uncertain | Perfect | Stones laid horizontally. Has an inner circle of small stones. |
| 4th. | 30 | S.W. by S. | Very perfect | Stones very large. Supported externally with stones and earth. |
| 5th. | 27 | S.W. by W. | Very perfect | Has an avenue 200 feet long pointing to the grave-cairn. |
| 6th. | 25 | Ill-defined | Imperfect | Massive stones. |
| 7th. | 28 | Ill-defined | Perfect | Wall double. |
| 8th. | 27 | Ill-defined | Imperfect | |

III. SILVER COINS OF ELIZABETH, JAMES I., AND CHARLES I., IN THE PARISH OF MANATON:—In a letter, dated 11th June, 1879, Mr. P. F. S. Amery, of Druid, Ashburton, informed me that “on 28th May, 1879, workmen engaged in taking off the roof of an old farmhouse at Easdon, Manaton, Devon, the property of Mr. Kitson, of Torquay, discovered a small leathern bag, between the ceiling and thatch, in which were fourteen silver coins in a piece of canvas.”

Mr. Amery stated that he had “seen eleven of the coins,” and that “they were all shillings, viz., 2 of Elizabeth, 3 of James I., and 6 of Charles I.” He added that “some twenty years ago some coins were found in the same building.”

Mr. Kitson, on whom I called at once, kindly lent me the fourteen coins, and consented to my writing and printing any memoranda I might think desirable about them. He stated at the same time that the purse with its contents was lying on one of the ceiling joists.

As already stated the coins are fourteen in number, all of silver. They are four of Elizabeth, three of James I., and seven of Charles I.

The three coins of Elizabeth are shillings, all specimens of one and the same coinage, and answering in every respect to Fig. 7, Pl. vii., in *The Coinage of the British Empire*, by Henry Noel Humphreys, 1854, which, that author states, “is one of the . . . hammered shillings, having the profile young-looking, and crowned, with ‘ELIZAB’. D’. G’. ANG’. FR’. ET. HIB’. REGL.’, and on the reverse the arms traversed by the cross, with the old motto, ‘POSVI. DEV’ ADIVTOREM. MEV.’” [= I have made God my helper.]

The three coins of James I. are also shillings, but belong to two distinct coinages.

Two of the coins appear to belong to the first coinage of James after reaching the English throne. (See *Coin. Brit. Emp.*, p. 98.) On the obverse is the king’s bust in profile, crowned, in armour, and having “xii.” behind the head to denote the value. The titles read “IACOBVS. D’. G’. ANG’. SCO’. FRA’. ET. HIB’. REX.” On the reverse are the arms of Scotland and Ireland, quartered with those of England and France, which, according to Humphreys, “was now done for the first time.” (*Coin. Brit. Emp.*, p. 98.)

The motto is “EXVRGAT. DEVS. DISSIPENTVR. INIMICI.” [= Let God arise, let His enemies be scattered.]

The third shilling of James I. belongs to the second, or a still later, coinage of that monarch. It differs from the pre-

ceding two in having on the obverse "MAG'. BRI'" instead of "ANG. SCO.," "FRAN.'" instead of "FRA.," and in a slight difference in the ornamentation of the crown.

On the reverse the motto is "QVÆ. DEVS. CONIVNXIT. NEMO. SEPARARE" [= Whom God has united, no one shall separate], "allusive," says Humphreys, "to the union of the crowns."

This coin differs from that figured by Humphreys (Pl. ix. Fig. 2) in having nothing above the shield; whereas the figured specimen has the Welsh feathers extending from the top of the shield to the edge of the coin. In all other respects the two appear to be identical.

Of the seven coins of Charles I., one is a half-crown and six are shillings.

The shillings have each, on the obverse, the king's bust, in profile, crowned, with "xii." behind the head to denote the value, and the titles are essentially the same on all, though with differences in the abbreviations employed. On the reverse, they all have the arms of England, France, Ireland, and Scotland quartered in a shield, and precisely the same motto occurs on each: "CHRISTO. AVSPICE. REGNO." [= I reign under the auspices of Christ], which was adopted in the king's first silver coinage. (See *Coin. Brit. Emp.*)

Nevertheless, the six coins appear to belong to as many distinct coinages, for they differ in the abbreviations employed in the titles, in the form as well as the ornamentation of the shields, and in the mint marks. Arranging them, as a matter of convenience only—and without supposing the order to be chronological—as 1st, 2nd, and so on, the titles and mint-marks are as follow, the letters in brackets denoting that they have been effaced:

1st. "CAROLVS D'. G'. MA'. BR'. FR'. ET. HI. REX." A small crown.

2nd. "CAROLVS D'. G'. M[A. BR.] FR'. ET. HI. REX." A tun.

3rd. "CAROLVS. D'. G'. MAG'. BRI'. FR'. ET. HIB'. REX." A portcullis.

4th. "CAROLVS. D'. G'. MAG'. BRI'. FRA'. ET. HI'. REX." [Indeterminable.]

5th. "CAROLVS. D'. G'. MAG'. BRIT'. FRA'. ET. HI'. REX." A triangle in a circle.

6th. "CAROLVS. D'. G'. MA'. BR'. FR'. ET. HI'. REX." An anchor.

Proceeding to the shields, and observing the same order:

1st. Circular, border highly ornamented.

2nd. Identical with the first.

3rd. Oblong, with all the angles rounded off. Border orna-

mented. The letters "C" and "R" outside it, and on the left and right respectively.

4th. Almost square, with the lower angles rounded off. Border almost quite plain.

5th. Much like the fourth.

6th. Much like the fourth; but traversed by a cross extending beyond the border.

The mint marks occur also on the reverses, and correspond with those on the obverses respectively.

All the shillings belong, no doubt, to the period before the civil war.

The half-crown has seen rough usage, and appears to have been clipped in two or three places. On the obverse is a figure of the king on horseback, with sword nearly erect, and having behind him one example of the Welsh feathers. The titles are probably "[CARO] LVS. [D : G : MAG : BR :] FR : ET : HIB : R[EX :]," but the letters I have placed within brackets are effaced or cut off. Humphreys figures three coins having Charles on horseback (Pl. lx. Figs. 12, 16, and 17), but neither of them agrees with the figure on the Manaton half-crown. In figs. 12 and 17 the sword inclines backward, and in fig. 16, though it inclines forward, it is not quite so much inclined as in the coin under notice. Moreover, the left leg of the rider does not in any of the figures exactly correspond with that on the coin, where it is placed in the same line with the foreleg of the horse, even more decidedly than in figure 17; the foot of the rider reaches a lower level than in any of the figures. Indeed, the foot on the coin reaches an incorrectly low level. Again, in figure 16, the city, with the word "OXON" above it, is seen under the horse; and in figure 17 the horse is trampling upon arms and trophies; but on the coin there is nothing beneath the horse, and in this respect it resembles figure 12.

On the reverse of the half-crown there is around the margin the motto "EXVRGAT : DEVS : DISSIPENTVR : INIMICI"—already mentioned as occurring on two of the Manaton shillings of James I. Across the centre of the coin there is, in two parallel lines, the motto "RELIG : PROT : LEG : ANG : LIBER : PAR" [= Religiosus Protector Leges Angliæ Libertatis Parliamenti = The religious protector of the laws of England and the liberty of Parliament], alluding to the king's "declaration at the breaking out of the war," says Humphreys, "that he would protect *the protestant religion, the laws and liberties of his subjects, and the privileges of parliament.*" Above this

motto are three examples of the Welsh feathers placed in a curve concentric with the edge of the coin, and below the motto the date "1643"—the only instance of a date on any of the Manaton coins.

The following passages from *The Coinage of the British Empire* may be calculated to throw some light on questions connected with this coin:—

"Silver was exceedingly scarce during a part of the reign of [James I.] . . . A good deal of silver was refined from the lead mines of Wales,—the coins made from this silver always bearing the Welsh feathers, to denote the origin of the metal.

"There was also established a permanent mint in his [Charles] thirteenth year [1637–8] at Aberystwith, for refining and coining the silver produced from the Welsh lead mines. The coins of this mint may be known by the Welsh feathers." p. 102.

"After the defeat of Edgehill [1642], the king removed the mint of Aberystwith to Oxford, to coin there, in New Inn Hall, . . . all the remaining plate of the colleges; . . . and as it was still considered the Welsh mint, although removed, the Welsh mark of the feathers was continued." p. 103.

From the foregoing statements it may be concluded that the Manaton half-crown was coined at Oxford, the date and the feathers being evidence in favour of the proposition, though Mr. Humphreys neither mentions nor figures any coin of 1643; and it seems not improbable that the college plate supplied the silver it contains.

The "small bag," or purse, was formed of two pieces of leather of different kinds, sizes, and forms. The larger piece was of sheep skin dressed in the manner known as *Basil*. Its form was a segment of a circle of 5 inches radius. The chord of the segment was 6.25 inches and the versed sine 3.25 inches. The smaller piece was also of sheep skin, but dressed in the *white* state. Its form may be described as a vertical section of an irregular pyriform body, 4.5 inches in length, and 3 inches in greatest breadth. The two pieces were stitched together, the vertex of the smaller piece and the rectilineal margin of the larger being alone free, and having a leathern cord passing through a series of holes in them, thus enabling the mouth of the purse to be drawn together and closed.

The stitching has given way; but the very well preserved state of the leather is not suggestive of an antiquity dating from the times of Charles I.

IV. A "JACK-KNIFE" IN THE PARISH OF MANATON:—In the same cottage, and at the same time, there was found, also between the ceiling and the roof, but many feet from the purse mentioned above, a clasp knife, known in the trade as a "Jack-knife," but which was apparently an extinct variety of the species. The "bolster" was .75 inch long; the handle, of buffalo horn, had a very strong back spring. The blade, 4.5 inches long, had the form of a razor rather than that of a knife of the present day. It was .6 inch broad at the "bolster," and increased gradually to fully an inch at the other end; the cutting edge was convex whilst the back was concave. The blade bore a trade mark consisting of a figure of four surmounted with a six-rayed star— $\frac{*}{4}$.

Learning that I was to visit Sheffield in August, 1879, Mr. Kitson allowed me to take the knife with me, in the hope of finding some one there who, aided by the trade-mark, might be able to give some information respecting its probable date.

Soon after I reached Sheffield, Mr. A. Ernest Sorby, of Park Grange, was so good as to undertake the investigation; and before I left he handed me the following statement:

"Bradshaw made this kind of knife in the neighbourhood of Lambert Street, Sheffield, about 150 years ago. He removed to Hollis Croft, Sheffield—the place where he last manufactured them—in 1750. Whithers made this kind of knife, in Sheffield, as recently as 1800. At the present time knives are used in the West of England known as the 'Whithers' pattern.' No such cutlery manufacturer is now in Sheffield. The mark ($\frac{*}{4}$) was granted by the Corporation of Cutlers, Sheffield, to George Broadbent, in 1709. It is probable that he disposed of his business to either Bradshaw or Whithers. [Signed] A. E. S., 27th August, 1879."

From the foregoing statements it is obvious that the knife was not made before 1709, but may have been made at almost any subsequent date.

Since receiving Mr. Sorby's memorandum, Mr. Colley, of the firm of Wade Wingfield & Rowbotham, Sheffield, was so good as to present me with a specimen of one of their "Jack-knives" of the present day, apparently a lineal but modified descendant of the Manaton knife, and intended evidently for the use of a "Jack tar." I learn from the Torquay ironmongers that they do not keep this knife in stock, there being no demand for it in that district.