

## NINTH REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

NINTH REPORT *of the Barrow Committee—consisting of Mr. P. F. S. Amery, Mr. G. Doe, Mr. P. O. Hutchinson, Mr. E. Parfitt, Mr. J. Brooking Rowe, and Mr. R. N. Worth (Secretary), to collect and record facts relating to Barrows in Devonshire, and to take steps where possible for their investigation.*

Edited by R. N. WORTH, F.G.S., Hon. Secretary.

(Read at Plympton, July, 1887.)

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THE Committee regret that they have not been favoured with the communications that had been anticipated. There is a large quantity of information relating to the Barrows of Devon requiring record, and it is earnestly hoped that all members of the Association will assist in bringing it together. The notes appended deal merely with Plymouth and its vicinity.

J. BROOKING ROWE, Chairman.

R. N. WORTH, Hon. Sec.

### PLYMOUTH HOE.

Human remains have been found during the present year on Plymouth Hoe, in the course of the excavations for the removal of the outworks of the Citadel and the erection of the Marine Biological Laboratory. Only in one instance, however, did the conditions seem to imply remote antiquity, and that was in the case of an interment, at length, on the very edge of the cliff. Nothing, however, appears to have accompanied the remains, which were examined by the Secretary, but presented no peculiarity.

## MOUNT BATTEN.

The low-lying isthmus of earth and shingle which connects the limestone hill of Mount Batten with the mainland of Staddon Heights, has been the place of hundreds of interments of various periods, and some of these appear to date back to very early times. Mr. F. Brent, F.S.A., found a number of fragments of a burial urn of the rudest type, associated with human remains, while investigating the kitchen midden exposed in the bank on the northern face; and there can be no question as to the claim of this discovery to find a place in the Barrow Record. Other interments are occasionally exposed as the tide encroaches; but there is no reason to assign to them a very great antiquity. Not only have burials of drowned sailors taken place on the isthmus, but there is evidence that the bulk of the men who fell here during the hard fighting between the Roundheads and Cavaliers at the siege of Plymouth, when Mount Stamford and Hoe Stert (the older name of Mount Batten) were the scene of several desperate and bloody encounters, were interred on the spot. Upwards of forty skeletons were dug up in putting in the foundations of the public-house at Batten beach, and in adjoining graves the remains were associated with fragments of clothing and iron cannon-balls. Some years since a large stone was uncovered in digging, a short distance off, which raised hopes of buried treasure, but was found to cover a pit filled with bones, probably a re-interment.