



NINE MAIDENS, BELSTONE.

*Photo, R. H. Worth.*

## FORTY-SECOND REPORT OF THE BARROW COMMITTEE.

FORTY-SECOND REPORT of the Committee—consisting of the Rev. S. Baring-Gould, Mr. T. Cann Hughes, Preb. J. F. Chanter and Mr. R. Hansford Worth (Secretary)—appointed to collect and record facts relating to Barrows in Devonshire, and to take steps, where possible, for their investigation.

Edited by R. HANSFORD WORTH, Secretary of the Committee.

(Read at Salcombe, 11th July, 1923.)

### NINE STONES, BELSTONE.

THE Circle known as the *Nine Stones* or *Nine Maidens* at Belstone consists, as is well known, of sixteen stones still standing, and one which has fallen. It is obviously the retaining circle around a barrow or cairn, the barrow has been almost entirely removed. The diameter of the circle from out to out of the stones is 25 ft. 2 in. The stones are not large, the largest standing 28 in. high and being 29 in. in breadth and 13 in. in thickness. One other stone is 28 in. high, 28 in. broad and 11 in. thick; three more stand each 28 in. in height, and yet another is 29 in. by 27 in. by 9 in. Thus there is an unusual uniformity in the height of the principal stones. As usual the breadth of the stones lie in the circumference of the circle, thus making each stone most effective as part of the enclosure. But there is an unusual feature that two small stones interpolated between the larger point their breadths radially to the centre. So rarely is a retaining circle well placed for photography that this example, which is exceptional in that respect, is here illustrated. Fig. 1 shows a general view of the circle with the camera pointing N. 97° W. Fig. 2 is a nearer photograph of the north circumference, taken from near the centre, and showing the two small radially disposed stones above referred to. The *Nine*

*Stones* are situate in longitude  $3^{\circ} 57' 57\frac{1}{2}''$ , latitude  $50^{\circ} 43' 5''$  and will be found marked on quarter sheet, LXXVII, S.W. of the six-inch Ordnance Survey of Devon.

## SHARP TOR, MEAVY VALLEY.

In Part VII of *The Stone Rows of Dartmoor* (Vol. XXXVIII, 1906) I described the remains of a stone row at the foot of Sharp Tor. I have now to add that 'at about 95 ft. N.E. from the eastern end of the row there lies a small cairn or barrow, hitherto unrecorded, the exact location being longitude  $4^{\circ} 1' 44'$ , latitude  $50^{\circ} 31' 8\frac{1}{4}''$ .

R. H. WORTH.