

**The itinerary of John Leland the antiquary ... / publish'd from the original ms. in the Bodleian library by Thomas Hearne ...**

Leland, John, 1506?-1552.

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*Casaubon* notes that in the above-said Verses out of *Alcæus* some read *χαλκιδικαὶ ἀράται* for *χαλκιδικαὶ ἀράται*. Which Emendation he by no means allows. For the Ancients call'd Instruments made of Brass *opera Chalcidica*, because Works of this kind began first to be wrought at *Chalcis* in *Eubœa*, as 'twas thought. Thence *Stephanus de Urbibus*: *Τινες Χαλκιδεῖς φασὶ κληθῆναι, ὅτι τὸ χαλκουργεῖν πρῶτον παρ' αὐτῆς ὁφθῆναι*. Upon this occasion it may be farther observ'd that tho' the word *Κωϊνὴ* amongst the old Greeks was properly understood of such a *galea* as was made of a Dog's skin, yet that in this Fragment we are to take it in a different Sense, so as to be meant of *galeæ* that consisted of Brass, and were not distinct from the *cassides*. And I do not doubt but that even amongst the Romans in the more early Ages their *galeæ* too were not always made of Leather, notwithstanding the Etymology of the Word, but oftentimes of Brass. I might here enter into Dispute about the Antiquity of the word *cassis*, (which more anciently was written *cassida* or *cassila*) and the true Signification of it, and illustrate several particulars in ancient History relating to Military Affairs. But these are Speculations that require more time than I can command at present; and therefore referring the Reader that desires full satisfaction about the Matter and Form of the Military Arms mention'd by *Homer*, and the other old Authors, to *Everardus Feithius's Antiquitates Homerice* (which is a most excellent, useful Book, and very fit to be recommended to all young Gentlemen that study the ancient Greek Classics) all I shall now farther observe is, that soon after the Publication of the Vth. Volume of this Work, my honour'd Friend Dr. RICHARD RICHARDSON (an ingenious, judicious, and learned Physician of *North Brierly* in the West Riding of *Yorkshire*, and formerly a Member of UNIVERSITY College in OXFORD) was pleas'd to send me a Letter, in which, amongst other Particulars, he hath thought fit to give his Opinion about these old Instruments; which tho' it be different from mine, yet 'tis deliver'd with all that Candour and Modesty which becomes a good Christian and a good Scholar, as will more evidently appear from the Letter it self, which, for the sake of the Publick, I shall here subjoin.

S I R,

Having read over your elaborate Edition of Leland's Itinerary to the End of the Fifth Vol. (for which the curious, especially such as study our English Antiquities, are much obliged to you) I find it adorned with a great many learned Remarks upon the Antiquities of several Counties, most of your own, and some communicated to you by Friends, which add

add a very great Lustre to the Work. This has induced me to look over some dispersed Papers relating to a few of the Antiquities that I have observed in the West-Riding of Yorkshire, which I had chiefly taken notice of some Years ago. If they will be serviceable to you in any respect, I give you free liberty of making what use of them you please; tho' I wish I had time to reduce them into that agreeable Method, as might render them fit for the Publick. The Observations are just, and such as you may depend upon. Mr. Camden has left us a very flight Account of the West-Riding of Yorkshire, especially of that Part joyning upon Lancashire, which affords as many Curiosities both of Art and Nature as any Part of England; and doubtless would afford as great Satisfaction to any diligent and learned Inquirer.

Of British Antiquities, that are certainly such, I can give but a very slender Account, only I have several Heads of Darts that are Flints of several Colours found here by ploughing, and are looked upon as British. And I have met with several British Words that are still in use, such as *Laghton* for a Garden, which I take to be a Bed, or Hillock, of Leeks; *Kaums*, a barren and steep piece of waft Ground, which seems to me to be a Derivative from the Irish Word *Kuanna*, a Mountain; besides many others, which I cannot now remember: tho' I doubt not but a much greater number may be discovered by any Person skilled in the British Language.

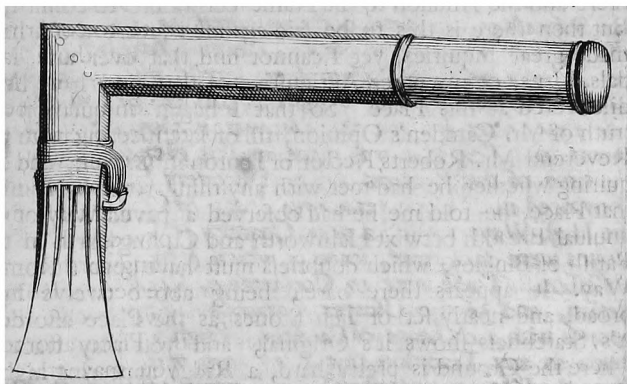
I have now by me one of those Bras Instruments found at Kiddale, and given me by William Ellis Esq;., Proprietor of the Place, which seems exactly to agree with the Draught sent you by Mr. Thoresby, upon which you have with much Learning and Judgment given us your thoughts; but (with Submission to much better Judges) I am induc'd to think, that these Instruments did not belong to the Romans, nor were employed to any use yet assigned them; and that they were not the Heads of staves belonging to the Britains (as Mr. Thoresby believes) I think you have given full Satisfaction.

That these Instruments were cast in a Mould is very evident, not only by the Seams on the Sides, but by the very Sand in which they were cast, this of mine being very nigh half filled with it. The Composition I take to be the same with our Bras Pots, and to consist of two Parts of course Copper, and one of Lead. These Instruments are also too much hollowed, and too thin, to be employed for cutting of Wood or Stone. And withal being fixed to a Handle or Shaft, they must be driven into Wood or Stone by the force

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of a Hammer; which great force not only the Brittleness and Softness of the Metal doth not admit of, but they must also by such Violence be burst in Pieces. And besides I do not see why we should assign such servile uses to a Metal so sacred to the Romans, when this part of Britain affords one much fitter for the purpose you imploy these Instruments to. That Iron was made in this Neighbourhood in the time of the Romans a late Discovery has sufficiently convinced me. Upon removing a heap of Cinders to repair the High-Ways withal, a good Quantity of Copper Roman Coyns were discovered, some of which I have now in my possession. These were of Constantine, Constantius, Diocletian, and of the Usurper Carausius. This Country abounds with such heaps of Cinders, though we have not so much as any Tradition that ever Iron was made there. That the Romans understood the Tempering of Steel to a very great Nicety the stately Monuments of Granate and Porphyry still at Rome are Evidence for us. If it be allowed that the Romans made Iron in these Parts, and understood the Tempering of it, I do not see why a less fit Metal, and also of more Value, should be substitute to it. But I must still own my self at a loss to apply a proper use to them, though I am not satisfied with any that has been assigned. The last Summer I met with a MS. Account *de Antiquitatibus Insulæ Monæ* in the Hands of my worthy and learned Friend Mr. Fowke nigh Ruthin in Denbyshire, sent him to peruse by Mr. Rowland a Clergyman of Anglesey, and Author of it, in which I found the designs of several Brass Instruments of the same Form with ours, having also a Loop at the Side, though not a fourth part so large. These were found in Anglesey, and by him taken to be the Heads of British Darts. Though I cannot believe that these of ours were ever imployed to that use, yet I am inclinable to think they are Remains of the same People. And if liberty of Conjecture may be allowed, perhaps they have been Axes used in sacrificing some of the smaller Quadrupeds by the ancient Britains, and might have been fixed to a crooked Handle after the manner here meanly designed, the Loop on the Side serving to make the Instrument more firm by putting a Wire through it, and tying it to the Shaft; but this I wholly submit to your Judgment.

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As for Roman Antiquities, that are certainly such, there have been great Quantities of their Coyn discovered in this Neighbourhood within the memory of Man; but none of very early Date. The first I met with was discovered at Sowerby within the Parish of Hallyfax, a little above the Town, nigh the High-Way, and some of them were given me by Mr. John Hargraves of Hallyfax, one of Nerva, one of Vespasian, one of Trajan, and one of Hadrian, all of Silver, and well preserved, but nothing material in their Reverse. About twenty Years agoe were found several Hundreds of Coyns of the following Emperors nigh Heaton within the Parish of Burfball, in a Field called Hedleshaw. Being Proprietor of the Place, great Quantities of them (all of mixt Metal) came to my Hands, *viz.* of Heliogabalus, Severus Alexander, Gallienus, Gallus, Philippus, Decius, Gordianus Pius, the Usurper Postumus, and of several others which I have not time to look out. There were also not long since divers large Copper Medals found at Hoveldge within the Township of Hipperholme in a thick Glas Vessel. Those I got were of Dioclesian, Allectus and Carausius, and doubtless there were divers others, tho' they were dispersed before I had intelligence of them. Some also of later Date I was shown not long agoe found fallen from a Precipice of Stainland, but much defaced by time. Tho' we have many Barrows within the Cumpace of ten Miles from this Place, yet I dare not affirm any of them to be Roman, no Remains of that Nation being found nigh them that have come to my knowledge.

Mr. Camden places Olacana at Ilkley, and the distance from Ilurium agrees with his Opinion. The Roman Altar also found

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there and the Allusion to the Name contribute to confirm it. But then there is this to be said against it, that tho' I have made great Inquiries, yet I cannot find that ever any Medals, Urns, or any other Antiquities of that kind have been discovered at this Place. So that I began to question the truth of Mr. Camden's Opinion, till of late meeting with the Reverend Mr. Roberts Rector of Linton in Craven, and inquiring whether he had met with any thing remarkable nigh that Place, he told me he had observed a paved Way of an unusual Breadth betwixt Hainworth and Cullingworth in the Parish of Bingley, which doubtless must have been a Roman Way. It appears there bare, being above twelve Feet broad, and neatly set of such Stones as the Place afforded. It's Stateliness shows it's Original, and you may trace it where the Ground is pretty hard, a Ridge appearing higher than the Surface of the Earth in some Places being only covered with Grass, tho' I have been informed that it is often met with at several Feet deep upon the Moors in digging for Piets. It crosses the Height of Harding Moor, where it is visible in several Places, and points at a Place called *the Moor House* above Morton, and appears again, as I have been told, upon Rumlesmoore, and thence leads to Ilkley. Nigh this Way upon the Moor before mentioned are two large heaps of Stones called *Skirts of Stones*, one of them still of a Conical Figure, but much the lesser. From the other have been removed vast Quantities of Stones employed in walling the Neighbouring Inclosures within the memory of Man. The Remainders are now thrown abroad, and cover a considerable piece of Ground. If these had been heaps of Earth, or so much as covered with Earth, being so nigh the Way, I should have believed them to have been *tumuli* of the Romans. But being only heaps of Stones, I shall suspend my thoughts till I am informed that the Romans ever erected such Monuments over their Dead. Ilkley now is a very mean Place, and chiefly famous for a cold Well which has done very remarkable Cures in scrophulous Cases by bathing in, and drinking of, it. The last shows it to be a Vitriolike Water, tho' I have made no farther Tryal of it. The Stones Mr. Camden observed in the Church-Yard are now broken down, and much defaced, tho' some Fragments of them still remain in the adjoining Walls, and upon one of them is placed a Dyal, on the West Side of which is an human Figure (tho' much injured by time) with a Glory about his Head, which shows these Monuments not to be of that Antiquity Mr. Camden makes them, and not to claim a farther Date than that of Christianity in Britain. Perhaps this might have been

been the Tutelar Saint of the Place. But I take them to be of the same kind, and erected upon the same account with those Dr. Plot has observed erected in the like Places in Staffordshire. Upon the Tops of Harding Moor, not far from the above mentioned Way, was shown me by Benjamin Ferrand Esq; another Skirt of Stones, much less than the two former, and nigh it a Row of Stones placed in a Line nigh 200. Paces in length; but few of them appear above two Feet above the Heath, and some lye hid under it. That these Stones were placed here by design no Person that sees them can doubt; but for what End I cannot conjecture, having never seen any thing of this kind before. There is no Tradition of them. Besides being out of all Roads, they are known to few. 'Tis probable the Way that leads to Ilkley may be found upon the Moors leading from thence to Ilkium, now Aldburrough, nigh which Place are to be seen those noble Antiquities the *Devil's Arrows*, which I have several times beheld with much Admiration, and had lately an opportunity of taking their exact Dimensions, which I do not remember I have any where observed before. The tallest of them is now 24. Feet above Ground, and in circumference at the Basis about 18. Feet. The second about 3. Feet lower, and nigh the Basis pretty much of the same Bigness. The third, which is much the largest, tho' lower than the second by 3. Feet, is above 24. Feet in circumference at the Basis. The Form of all these is alike from Top to Bottom, being perfect *Parallelograms*. The Tops have suffered very much by Weather. How these came to be called rude and unpolished Stones, I know not. But any Person upon sight of them must confess the contrary. That they are artificial Stones must also be acknowledged an Error, being of the same sort of Gritt our Mill-Stones are usually made of. And indeed of this sort of course Stone most of the Basis Relievo's, Altars, and Roman Buildings now extant are made. I suppose the impossibility of removing these Stones from far was the occasion that they were looked upon to be artificial, and made upon the Place, there being no Quarries of Stone of this kind within ten Miles of the Place where they are erected. One of them now stands in a Garden, and when I took the Dimensions the Gardener told me he had dug to the Bottom of it, and said it was seven Feet within Ground, not standing upon any Pedestal, but had a round Bottom. The Ground being then loose, at my request, he dug three or four Feet deep, where the Stone appeared wrought by Art, the Impression of the Tool being still to be seen. So that I am satisfied that the Inequalities that appear

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upon

upon these Monuments are purely the Effects of Time. I could not hear of any Medals, or any other Remains found nigh them that might give us a clear Insight to what Nation they belonged ; but being within a Mile of Ifurium (an undoubted Roman Colony) and also nigh the Watling-Street, we may reasonably imagin them to be Remains of the same People. Against this there lyes one material Objection, (*viz.*) *If these be Trophies of the Romans, set up in memory of some remarkable Victory over the Britains, why should they not have endeavoured to perpetuate it by some Inscription, which the Romans were vain-glorious enough to do every where upon the like and less Occasions?* But the Regularity of these Monuments shew that they belonged to some polite Nation, which we cannot allow the Britains to be, 'till they became Scholars to the Romans. And of lower Date no Antiquary will allow them to be. In Heaton Fields, nigh the Hedle-flaw where the Roman Coyns before mentioned were found, is a high piece of Ground called *Stunsteads*, where have been ploughed up several Coyns (one of Septim: Severus, and one of Pertinax, both of Silver, I have now by me) and also Foundations of Buildings. I have sometime thought this was Cambodunum, but that the distance from Calcaria to Cambodunum (which Mr. Camden makes to be Almondbury) assigned by Antoninus seems more agreeable. But since I have mentioned Almondbury, I will endeavour to give you a better Idea of the Place than has hitherto been done. In the Town I never met with any thing remarkable. Neither upon Inquiry have I heard of any Altars, Urns, or any kind of *vassa*, or Medals, that have been found nigh it, which might farther confirm Mr. Camden's Opinion. Castle Hill stands at a good distance from the Town, and I believe was the chief motive to fix this Station here. The Top of the Hill, which seems to contain five, or six, Acres of Ground is furrounded with a large Bank of Earth, which remains pretty intire to this Day. The Area, which is of an oblong Figure, inclines to the East, where it was only accessible. This Area is subdivided into three by two deep Ditches, that upon any Attack the besieged might retreat from the first Area to the second, which is higher, and secured by a Ditch, and so, upon Case of Necessity, to the third which commands both the other, upon which a Beacon now stands. Mr. Camden mentions the Foundation of a Castle in this Place; but I am certain if ever there was one, it must have been before the Hill was secured by this Bank of Earth, which, as I have said before, encompasses the whole Hill, and seems to be it's chief Barrier. There is now in an Inclosure

sure nigh Kirkleys (within four Miles of Almondbury) the Seat of Sir John Armytage Baronet, a Camp of a square Form containing two, or three Acres of Ground, secured by a Bank of Earth and a Ditch, which has given Name to the Ground, being called *Castle Field*, tho' there was never any Building in it. Nigh Cullingworth before mentioned there is a Camp of a circular Form called now *Castle-stead*, tho' I am satisfied there was never any Building there. There is one of this kind upon Thorton Height, and another upon Wike More of the same Form. From whence it appears that these Places of Defence were called Castles, tho' never any Building there erected. I am induced to believe that Cattle Hill was a Fortification of the same kind, and nothing more.

The Custom of calling Persons only by their Christian Names, and the Place of Abode of either Father or Grand-Father without naming any Sir-Names is much in use in the Parish of Hallyfax (a Place of great Extent) especially nigh Heptonstall, as v. g. Richard of Christophers, of the Greenwood, Richard of Williams, of Roberts, of the Hoohale. So that a Person may dwell amongst them for some Years, and not know their Sir-Names. This seems to me to be introduced by the Saxons.

This is the Substance of what I have met with amongst some neglected Papers, and also what at present occurs to my memory. If I meet with any thing farther worth your Notice it shall be communicated to you by

Your Servant,

RIC. RICHARDSON.

P. 99. l. 28. Leg. *the Reverend Mr. Ralph Trumbull.*

P. 106. l. 9. *in Yorkshire.*] Leg. *in Norfolk.*

P. 110. l. 7. of the Notes, *is more truly publish'd &c.*] Since this Discourse was publish'd my learned Friend ROGER GALE Esq; hath written me word (in a Letter dated Sept. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1711.) that tho' there be many *Errata* in his *Antoninus* (occasion'd by his Absence from the Press) yet that the Inscription here quoted is exactly copy'd in p. 23. of that Work from the Original (which he hath seen several times) except that the word *voL* in the second Line should have been wrote *voT*, which was an Omission of the Ingravers. And whereas in my Answer to him, I desir'd to know whether *Signif.* in the same Inscription be cut in the Stone in this manner *SIGNIF.* (as he hath represented it) or (as I have exactly printed it in my *Livy* from Mr. THORESBY's Copy) *SIGNF.*, he assur'd me soon after in another most obliging