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**British and Roman Antiquities in the Neighbourhood of  
Cheltenham**

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BRITISH AND ROMAN ANTIQUITIES IN THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD OF CHELTENHAM.

By G. B. WITTS.

*Read at Cheltenham, 10th July, 1879.*

THERE are many local advantages attending the site of Cheltenham and the surrounding district, as the home of the pastoral tribes, which, at the earliest known period, inhabited this country. Surrounded on every side by lofty hills on which to plant their fortresses, and a well watered and fertile valley wherein to feed their flocks, no district could be better suited to their needs.

That the site of Cheltenham, itself, was occupied by a British people we have abundant evidence. British coins, pottery, burial places, urns and bones, flint arrow heads, and other stone weapons and implements, have been found within the area of the town.

The Great Western Railway Station stands on the site of a British burial ground. At a place called Paradise was a hollow surrounded by a bank near which flowed the river "Chelt"—the mound of earth formed by nature was hollowed out and within it a kind of Cromlech was erected, consisting of three large unhewn stones set upright with a massive stone covering them. Within this Cromlech were discovered stone implements, broken urns, and fragments of human bones and personal ornaments; this discovery was made in 1832, but in the construction of the railway, in 1846, the whole was destroyed, and the original character of the locality totally obliterated.

While speaking of British remains in Cheltenham I would add a few words as to the social condition of the original inhabitants; for, as Sir William Guise truly remarked in his address to this Society in 1876,—“The popular notion that our ancestors were in a condition of utter barbarism, and wore nothing but a coat of paint will not bear much examination.”

Cæsar found both civil and military systems, long established, quite able to cope with those of Rome. His description conveys the impression of a country settled for centuries under some kind of government; corn abundant, and easily procured; the population so thick as to strike him with amazement (*infinita hominum est multitudo*); villages and hamlets studding the country in clusters (*creberrima*); and stock of all kinds unlimited. The civilization which produced such a state of security for life and property could not have been of recent origin. Cæsar describes the British chariot system as combining the solidity of infantry with the rapidity of cavalry, and mentions the reserve forces of the British Dictator Caswallan as numbering four thousand chariots, against which the Roman cavalry could not without great peril contend. It must also be remembered that Cæsar invaded Britain fifty-four years B.C., was met in six pitched battles, and though he imposed a tribute he left not a single Roman soldier behind. It was not till forty-five years after our Saviour's birth that Aulus Plautius invaded this country, though during this intervening period of ninety-nine years the Roman empire wielded a force of about 500,000 men. Strabo bears witness to the commercial enterprize of the Britons, and describes them (not as painted savages) but, as "walking with staves, wearing beards, and garments girded at the waist, and flowing down to their heels" (B. III., C. V. § II.).

I will now describe the various antiquities still to be found in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, and, while giving special attention to those hitherto unnoticed, hope to mention most, if not all, the objects of interest, and, in many instances, to give a reference to former descriptions. I purpose dividing my subject into seven heads, under each of which I shall offer a few brief remarks:—

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| I. LONG BARROWS.          | V. BRITISH AND ROMAN   |
| II. ROUND BARROWS.        | CAMPS.                 |
| III. STONE CIRCLES, &c.   | VI. ROMAN VILLAS.      |
| IV. BRITISH DWELLINGS AND | VII. BRITISH AND ROMAN |
| FORTS.                    | ROADS.                 |

## I.—LONG BARROWS.

1.—*Belas Knap*. This is situated between Corndean and Charlton Abbots. It is described in the "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club,"<sup>1</sup> and has also been treated by Mrs. Dent in her charming book on Sudeley Castle. Our interest in it is greatly increased by the very interesting lecture with which we were favoured by Professor Rolleston at the *Conversazione* at Cheltenham (*ante*, p. 31.)

2.—A barrow on the summit of the hill above Shurdington, near the "Crippets," and not far from the Roman villa of Dry Hill. This was examined by Mr. Lysons.

3.—*Crickley Barrow*, about 1½ miles south of Northleach.

4.—Another near Northleach, mentioned by Mr. Playne in the "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club."

5.—*Jack Barrow*, one mile to the west of the Ermine Street, near Duntsborne Abbots.<sup>2</sup>

6.—The *Hourstone* tumulus near Jack Barrow.<sup>3</sup>

7, 8, 9, 10.—Two barrows near Lower Swell, one at Upper Swell, and one near Eyford, examined in the years 1867-1876, and fully described by Greenwell and Rolleston.<sup>4</sup>

## II.—ROUND BARROWS.

The Round Barrows are far more numerous than the Long Barrows. They are to be found on the hills all around Cheltenham. Many have been destroyed within the last few years, and others are now being removed; one at "Dry Heathfield,"<sup>5</sup> in the parish of Leckhampton, was examined by Messrs. Gormonde and Bell, about thirty years ago, and described in a pamphlet written by them.

The one at "Foxcote"<sup>6</sup> is about seventy-five feet in diameter, and ten feet high. It is situate in a commanding position above

<sup>1</sup> 1876, p. 337.    <sup>2</sup> *Archæologia*, Vol. XVI., p. 461.    <sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. XXV., p. 53.    <sup>4</sup> *British Barrows*, pp. 513-541.    <sup>5</sup> See *Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club*, 1876, p. 334.    <sup>6</sup> "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club," 1876, p. 335.

the village, and is marked on the Ordnance Map as *St. Paul's Epistle*. There were several on the top of Cleeve Hill, and between the "Rising Sun" and Nottingham Hill, but nearly all of them have disappeared; one is very conspicuous on the top of the hill above Hewlets, there are others near Chedworth, Cubberley, Hawling, Hazleton, Eyford, Lower Swell, &c.

There are three in a coppice, near to the way-side Inn known as the "Air Balloon," on the left hand side of the road leading from Cheltenham to Birdlip. These, I believe, have never been examined or noticed in any publication. There are so many scattered all over the Cotswold Hills that it would be tedious to mention them all, but I will name one more called "Wagborough," in the parish of Upper Slaughter. It is situate by the side of the ancient road leading from Alauna (Alcester) to Salmonsbury (Bourton-on-the-Water) called Buggilde Street, to which I shall allude later on.

### III.—STONE CIRCLES AND AVENUES.

There is one very interesting work of this description between Cheltenham and Birdlip which has never been noticed or described; but as I purpose taking an accurate survey of it with the view of communicating a separate paper to the Society, I abstain from giving a more particular account of it in this place.

### IV.—BRITISH DWELLINGS AND FORTS.

Mr. Gomonde describes a British village on the slopes of Cleeve hill, not far from the "Rising Sun," and another in the parish of Leckhampton, near "Dryheath field."

This Society had the opportunity of examining a British fort in the valley near Leckhampton Church. This is, in form, rather irregular and surrounded by a deep moat, still full of water. Outside the moat are traces of a bank with an entrance at one angle. Excavations have been made in the interior of the enclosure, but no signs of foundations of any kind have been discovered, thus upsetting the idea, held by some persons, that an old manor house once stood here. Mr. Niblett mentions a similar moated enclosure in the neighbourhood of Haresfield.

## V.—BRITISH AND ROMAN CAMPS.

The Cotswold hills are peculiarly rich in this class of antiquities. Many of them have been described and figured by Mr. Playne, in the "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club," 1875, p. 202. But the following five camps have never before been described.

*Dowdeswell Camp.*—In the parish of Dowdeswell, between Roseley farm and Upper Dowdeswell house, about 4 miles from Cheltenham, is an entrenched enclosure, presumably Roman, of large extent. It is quadrilateral in form, but not rectangular, and measures 420 yards on one side and 320 yards on the other, whilst the average width is 220 yards, its area, therefore, is nearly 17 acres. The entrenchments on the west and north side consist of a high mound and ditch, which are strongest on the west side; on the south there is a mound only; on the east the ground forms a natural defence. The enclosure is divided across, into two nearly equal portions, by a single mound. There is an entrance into the northern portion at the south-west angle, and into the southern there is an entrance at each of the southern angles. In this latter portion there is a tank, and there is a good spring of water just outside the entrenchment on the eastern side. This entrenchment is situate below the summit of the hill, and there was, probably, a look-out at "St. Paul's Epistle," which is within half-a-mile, and commands an extensive view.

About half-a-mile east of the above-mentioned entrenchments are some other extensive earthworks in a field near Upper Dowdeswell house. These latter face east and west, and have no corresponding embankments on the north and south. On recently examining these entrenchments with Sir William Guise, he suggested that they might be connected, in some way, with the Roman station at Wycomb, near Andoversford. He thought however, that the weakness of the defences, in proportion to the extent of the enclosure, when taken in connexion with the division by a mound into two parts, would seem to suggest the probability that this may not have been a fort for military purposes, but

rather for the protection of cattle and flocks against marauding neighbours.

*Hewlets Hill Camp.*—Between Colonel Agg's house, called "The Hewletts," and Northfield farm, there is a small camp, irregular in form, partly defended by having the sides of the hill "scarped" so as to form a steep slope. This camp is situate near the ancient road leading from Cheltenham to Whittington and Shipton Olive. On the west side is a ditch and mound for a distance of, say, 35 yards, defending the camp at its weakest point. Probably this work was an outpost from the large British Camp on Nottingham hill. The greatest length of the Hewlets Hill Camp is about 100 yards and the greatest breadth 60 yards.

*Salperton Park Camp.*—This camp is situate on a very high part of the Cotswold hills, by the side of the "Saltway." The remains are now very indistinct, but there is sufficient to show that there was a small rectangular camp, for though only one side of it is now visible, the angles of the entrenchments indicate the exact size, which is 240 feet by 175 feet. There are several round tumuli in the neighbourhood, one being in the same field as the camp.

*Prestbury.*—There are some earthworks in the parish of Prestbury, about a quarter-of-a-mile to the west of the church. They are divided into two parts. The strongest portion, and that best preserved, is nearly square; it measures 155 yards by 130 yards, and consists of a deep ditch within the bank. What purpose these entrenchments were intended to serve I am unable to explain, nor can I tell by what people they were constructed. Some persons are of opinion that they are British, some that they are Roman, and others, that a mediæval manorhouse stood here. Whatever may have been their origin, there can, I think, be no doubt that they represent a fortified enclosure of some kind, and it is to be hoped that some among the members of this Society will give their attention to the subject and endeavour to settle to what age they belong and for what purpose they were constructed.

*Cleeve Hill Camp.*—This camp has puzzled many people, as it stands on the southern slope of a hill commanded by higher

ground on the north. In examining it, a short time since, I discovered the foundations of four circular buildings, and of a wall, built, without mortar, of very thin stones. The diameter of the first building, which is outside the camp, is 50 feet, and the walls are 3 feet thick. The second building is within the camp, and is 53 feet in diameter. The third is outside the camp on the north, and is 50 feet in diameter, whilst there is also a very small building further from the camp not more than 10 feet in diameter. A wall, several hundred of yards long, encloses all these buildings and extends to the edge of the precipice at each end.

On the summit of the hill, in the rear of the camp, are remains which, I believe, represent two watch towers. A road leads out of the camp on the south, which appears to be a very ancient road extending to Prestbury. It is sunk from 10 to 15 feet below the level of the adjoining lands. On excavating, I found the original pavement in good preservation, and, in addition to the transverse paving of the surface, it was finished with edge stones on each side. This road is mentioned in "*Britannia, or the Kingdom of England and Dominion of Wales, actually surveyed by John Ogilby,*"<sup>1</sup> dated 1698, and is there figured and described (*Plate 70, p. 33*) as part of the main road from Gloucester to Coventry. Its course was direct from Cheltenham, through Prestbury, to the hill fortress just described, and past Postlip to Winchcombe. It is now impassable for any description of wheeled vehicles, being simply a deep ditch overgrown with brambles, and, though disregarded by people generally, is of considerable interest to the Antiquary.

I will now direct attention to the position of many other camps in the neighbourhood, but as they have been fully described elsewhere, my notices will be very brief.

*Kimsbury Castle.*—Above Painswick, very strongly fortified on the south-west, where there are earthworks consisting of 3 high

<sup>1</sup> In the work here referred to it is interesting to note that Cheltenham is described as "*containing near 200 houses,*" while Winchcombe is described "*as a large town containing about 300 houses.*"

mounds and deep ditches. This is described by Mr. Playne.<sup>1</sup>

*Churchdown*.—This has been described as a camp, by Mr. Baker, in *Archæologia*, Vol. XIX., 1821, but Mr. Playne says: "When seen from the neighbourhood of Hucclecote, on the Ermine street, Churchdown Hill has the appearance of a vast fortress. The ledges of marlstone standing out form terraces with steep banks below them; from these terraces arise rampart-like mounds, with moat-like hollows between them. From its commanding position in the vale, and its natural strength, Churchdown Hill was, probably, occupied, occasionally, by the early inhabitants of this country, but the nature of its soil (the damp tenacious lias) must have rendered it unfit for a permanent camping ground."

"*Norbury*," near Colesbourne, was of an irregular form on the summit of the hill (see "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club," 1875, p. 210.)

*Norbury*, near Farmington, enclosing an area of about 80 acres, is described by Mr. Playne on the same page as the preceding one.

"*Nottingham Hill*" Camp is more than 100 acres in extent, formed by a double line of earthworks across the neck of the hill; a British work, described in "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club," 1875, p. 209.

*Charlton Abbots* is a circular camp, and derived little strength from its position—it is nearly obliterated by the Plough.

*Leckhampton Hill*.—An entrenchment on a curved line, cuts off a small area. In Buckman's *Corinium* (p. 5) mention is made of a Roman well in this camp piercing through the oolite rocks to water bearing strata, but no trace of it can now be found.

*Crickley Hill* Camp is formed by a mound and ditch running across it in a curved line.

"*Birdlip*" Camp, formed in the same manner, but now nearly obliterated.

*Cooper's Hill*—Slight traces, though formerly, doubtless, a considerable camp.

<sup>1</sup> "Proceedings of the Cotteswold Field Club," 1875, p. 211.

"*Beckbury Camp*," above Hayles, is fully described in the "Proceedings of the Coteswold Field Club," Vol. iv., p. 207. It commands a most extensive prospect, and from it can be seen 12 other camps.

"*Lidcomb*," above Stanton, on Shenborough hill, fortified with double entrenchments. Mr. Playne says, this has probably been destroyed by cultivation; but such is not the case, the ancient ditch is still very deep.

"*Bredon Hill*."—There are 2 camps here, one at Penbury, and the other above Conderton.

"*Toddington Park*."—The Rev. Mr. Stanton writes that there are defensive earthworks in Toddington deer park.

"*Wolstone Camp*."—It has been stated that there is a Roman camp on the hill, above the church, and when seen from a distance it has the appearance of one.

"*Stainbarrow*."—In Isaac Taylor's Map of Gloucestershire, 1800, there is a camp marked between Notgrove and Westfield. The Rev. Mr. Royce writes: "Stainbarrow is a large open grass field, near Notgrove, skirted on the north by an old way, a branch of which was called "Mylenwæg," leading, it is supposed, to Aston Mill. It has some suggestive tumps and tumuli in it."

"*Cold Aston*," Rudder says, p. 238: "In the camp field, on the right hand side of the road leading to Bourton-on-the-Water, are entrenchments, now much levelled." I believe these are now quite destroyed.

"*Hempstead Camp*."—One mile to the south of Gloucester. This is a very regular Roman camp, being a parallelogram 200 by 110 yards.

## VI.—ROMAN VILLAS.

I will now pass on to the next class of Antiquities—Roman Villas, of which there are no fewer than ten, within ten miles of Cheltenham.

1.—"*Whitcombe*," described by Mr. Lysons, in the *Archæologia*, Vol. xix, p. 178, date 1821; also by the Rev. W. Bazeley, in his

paper read to this Society on the occasion of their recent visit to the villa (ante p. 35.)

2.—“*Withington.*”—This was discovered in 1811 on a piece of land half-a-mile south of the village. The part of the field in which the villa was found is called “The Old Town,” or “Wittington upon Wall Well,” from a fine spring of water so named and which rises near it, about 150 yards from the river Coln. Some beautiful pavement from this villa is now in the British Museum. A description of this villa will be found in the *Archæologia*, Vol. XVIII.

3.—“*Chedworth.*”—This was discovered and explored in 1866, and an admirable description of it has been printed by Messrs. Buckman & Hall, in a pamphlet.

4.—“*Dry Hill.*”—This is  $\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Cheltenham, and was discovered by Mr. Gomonde and Capt. Bell, in 1849. It is situate on the hill-side, south of Shurdington, and not far from Crickley Hill Camp. It appears to have been a *Villa Rustica*, or “Farm,” and presents a great contrast to the villas of Whitcombe and Chedworth. There were no tessellated pavements, and the pottery found included large quantities of sham Samian—no real Samian. I have recently visited the spot, and after some difficulty discovered the actual site. I found large quantities of Roman pottery of various kinds, and though now covered up I could easily trace the outline of the villa. This villa is described by the discoverers in a pamphlet printed for private circulation.

5.—“*Combeul.*”—This was discovered in 1779, and described by S. Lysons, in the *Archæologia*, Vol. IX., pp. 319-322,

6.—“*Bisley.*”—This was discovered in 1847, and described in the *Journal of the Archæological Association*, Vol. II.

7.—“*Stancomb Park,*” near Gloucester.—A tessellated pavement from this villa is now in the Gloucester Museum.

8.—“*Haresford Villa.*”

9.—“*Painswick Villa.*”

10.—“*Wadfield,*” near Winchcombe.—A tessellated pavement from this is preserved at Sudeley Castle, and the villa has been figured by Mrs. Dent in her *Annals of Sudeley*, p. 13.

There are also remains of a Roman Villa at Lower Swell, near Stow-on-the-Wold. I am not aware of any description of it, though it was mentioned to me in a letter from the Rev. David Royce.

At Woodchester, near Stroud, there are extensive remains of a Roman Villa and some of the finest tessellated pavement yet found in England. This villa was discovered in 1793, and described by Lysons in his well-known work on Woodchester, published in 1797, p. 2.

"*Wycomb*" is probably the site of a Roman station. It is situated close to the Andoversford Inn, and the Banbury and Cheltenham Railway crosses the centre of it on a high embankment. The late Mr. Lawrence, in the Gentleman's Magazine for the month of January, 1864, says: "Wycomb is an arable field in the parish of Whittington, Gloucestershire, and has, from time immemorial, been considered to be the site of a Roman town." Coins in large quantities have been constantly found in it. The area is about 25 acres, and over the whole of this foundations have been discovered. The track of a road was distinctly visible in it from a point on the north-eastern side to the centre, where it appeared to the right and left. At the end of this road were two masses of building, intersected by a wall of cut masonry, 145 feet long, running at right angles to the road. A room on the north side of the wall measured 45ft. 6in. by 22ft., with other walls and pavements adjacent to it. The walls of these buildings were 2ft. 6in. and 2ft. thick. The floors were mostly of stone, laid in cement and gravel concrete. Pottery has been found in very large quantities, in good specimens of plain and figured Samians. Several very good fibulæ, styli, sacrificing and other knives, keys, and articles of the toilet have also been discovered.

A Bronze Statuette, 3in. in height, was found in excellent preservation. No position could have been better calculated for the concentration of troops than Wycomb. It was near the point where the ancient road from Cirencester to Cleve Hill intersected those from Campden, Stow, and the higher Cotswolds to Gloucester. It was distant little more than a mile from the large camps at

Dowdeswell, and was only 3 miles from the Watch Towers on Cleeve Hill. It lay in a sheltered and fertile valley, much more capable of permanent occupation than the bleak downs by which it was surrounded, and adjoined an abundant and never failing spring of pure water.

## VII.—BRITISH AND ROMAN ROADS.

It is not possible within the limits I have assigned to this paper to enter fully into the subject of the British Trackways and Roman roads in Gloucestershire ; these are so numerous, and so interesting, that they would need a separate paper for their elucidation, but, in order to complete my record of the antiquities in the neighbourhood of Cheltenham, it would seem to be necessary to mention, briefly, some of the principal roads that traverse the Cotswold Hills and the adjoining district.

“*Ermyrn Street.*”—I believe most antiquaries are agreed in the opinion that this was originally a British Trackway. Its name is thought to be derived from *Ερμης* (Mercurius) who is said to have presided over the highways. The road runs from ‘*Spina*,’ now Speen, near Newbury, through Cricklade, Cirencester, and Gloucester, passing Ross, probably to Abergavenny and St. David’s. It is sunk below the surface of the adjoining lands for a long distance from Gloucester. By Birdlip it has a mound protecting it on the south side. In lowering this road near Gloucester, for the purpose of making an approach to a railway bridge, the engineers found the Roman pavement eighteen inches below the surface.

“*Fosse Way.*”—Antiquaries greatly differ in opinion as to the origin of this road. The Fosse Way extended from Lindum (Lincoln), by Ratae (Leicester), Benonis (Claychester), Corinium (Cirencester), Aquæ Sulis (Bath), Ischalis (Ilchester), to Moridunum (Seaton), on the coast of Devonshire. The terminus beyond Lincoln would seem to have been Portus Felix, at the mouth of the Humber. The Fosse Way, although adopted throughout the whole of its course by the Romans, was, probably, first a British road, as it connected so many British towns above recited. Dr.

Guest, however, states that "the name Fosse has given rise to some very strange hypotheses; it has been supposed that the road was so called because it was one of the hollow ways which marked out the lines of ancient British traffic, but in truth the Roman character of the Fosse is, perhaps, more decided than that of any other highway in the kingdom;"<sup>1</sup> while on the other hand the Rev. T. Leman says:—

"It was a British road running from the north-eastern coast of Lincolnshire, through several important British towns to the great British port of Seaton, in Devonshire." If the Romans made this road it was made to connect British towns, but I cannot help thinking there was a British trackway of some sort long before the days of Cæsar. The Fosse enters Gloucestershire close to Moreton-in-the-Marsh, and runs through Stow-on-the-Wold, near Bourton-on-the-Water and Northleach, through Cirencester, and so on to Bath.

"*The Western Trackway.*"—This Trackway led from Luguballium (Carlisle), by Coccium (Blackrode, Lancashire), Salinæ (Droitwich), Branogena (Worcester), thence by Tewkesbury to Gloucester (Glevum), by the British called Cair-Glou (the fair city). It crossed the Avon at Sea Mills, near Bristol, and then continued to Uxella, near to Bridgwater, then to Isca (Exeter). This road is described, in an old MS. in my possession, as running nearly parallel with the present turnpike road from Gloucester to Bristol, and in the map I have prepared, I have marked it on the turnpike road, there being nothing to indicate its exact course.

"*Ikenild Street.*"—This is so called from the Icēni, or Ikkens. This word is usually pronounced Icēni, with the accent on the "e;" but it was doubtless pronounced Ikkēni, the "ce" being hard in latin. The Akman Street appears to have been applied to prolongation of the road westwards to Bath (Aquæ Sulis, not solis, as usually written), and is thought by some to be an Anglo-Saxon name, signifying the *Sick Man's Road*.

The Ikenild Street runs from the eastern side of the island by Kirklington, Woodstock, and Stonefield, crosses the Eevenlode

<sup>1</sup> *Archæological Journal*, vol. XIV., p. 114.

to Wilcote, and so to Ramsden, a little beyond which village, at a place called Whitty Green, it may be seen for a short distance but from thence to Astally, over Astall Bridge, and so through the fields to Bradwell Grove, it is scarcely visible. Nevertheless, there it is as plain as anywhere holding a straight course into Gloucestershire, by *Coln St. Aldwyns* to Cirencester, then on to Rodmarton, Cherrington, Bag-path, and Symondshall, by Cromhall to Aust, whence passing the Severn, it probably ran through Carewent, Caerleon, and along the coast by Cardiff, Neath, and Carmarthen, to the high post of St. David's.

“*The Salt Way.*”—This is a British road which runs from Droitwich through Worcestershire, under the name of Salt Way, or the Saltero Way.

The road enters Gloucestershire near Ashton-under-Hill, and probably ran by Dumbleton and Toddington to Hayles, and though no trace can be found there now, in Isaac Taylor's map of Gloucestershire, 1800, ‘The Salt Way’ is shown running straight along the line I have described. There is a barn standing on the side of the road just beyond the boundary of the county, near Elmley Castle, called “*Saltway Barn,*” and there is a field between Dumbleton and Toddington, called the “*Salter's Close.*” Near Hayles Abbey the road is very visible in its ascent of the Cotswold Hills, and runs, attended in its course by tumuli, past Hawling, Salperton, and Hazleton, crossing the Fosse Way between Northleach and Stowell Park, thence by Crickley Barrow to Coln St. Aldwyns, where it crosses the Ikenild Street, and pursues its course, as before stated, to the coast of Hampshire.

“*Ryknield Street.*”—This was a British road, stated to commence at the mouth of the Tyne, and passing the Watling Street to Catterick, proceeded thence by Aldborough, crossing the Watling Street at Wall, thence through Sutton Coldfield to Birmingham, King's Norton, Leicester, Bidford, Sedgebarrow, Tewkesbury, Berry Hill, near Ross, and probably by Abergavenny to St. David's. This road is very difficult to trace through Gloucestershire, except from Sedgebarrow to Tewkesbury. It is much to be

desired that the line of way from Alcester to Sedgebarrow, and from Tewkesbury to Ross should be carefully explored.

*"Buggilde Street."*—This ancient road runs out of the Ryk-nield Street, just described, near Bidford, and proceeds by Honey-bourn, Weston-sub-Edge, near Broadway Tower, then above Stanton, and along the ridge of the Cotswolds, above Upper and Lower Guiting, and joins the Fosse Way near Bourton-on-the-Water (Salmonsbury.) The first mention of this road known to me is in a Saxon Charter, printed in the "*Codex Diplomaticus*," No. 61, dated 709. In describing boundaries in this charter, Buggilde Street is mentioned three times as being on the Stanton Hills. At Weston-sub-Edge it is still known as Buckle Street, and it passes near the village of Buckland, also by Brockhill and Buggy Hill, now called Beckyhill. The road is raised in several places near Kineton Thorns, and where so raised it has an uniform width of nearly eight feet; there are many tunuli attending it across the Cotswold Hills. The last has been called Wagborough, before mentioned.

There are many other ancient roads in the district, such as the "*Greenway*," the "*Sarn Way*," "*Green Street*," "*Oakle Street*," "*Pig Street*," "*Jackway*," &c., which must remain for future description.

In conclusion, I need only say that it has been my endeavour, in this paper, to carry out one of the objects of the Society, by putting in a condensed form a statement of the various British and Roman Antiquities to be found in the neighbourhood of the town chosen by the Society for their meeting in 1879; and while drawing attention to many objects of interest hitherto unnoticed, I have made reference to such as occur in scattered publications relating to the district around Cheltenham.