

we do, within this immediate neighbourhood buildings of sufficient character and importance to illustrate the subject fully; and having mentioned to you the principal buildings of the style in the kingdom, I will endeavour to explain more fully to you its minuter characteristics by reference to the different diagrams which I have prepared for that purpose.<sup>1</sup>

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NOTICE OF A SAXON BROOCH, FOUND IN WARWICKSHIRE.

IN the Museum formed during the meeting of the Institute at Bristol, a remarkable fibula of gilt bronze was exhibited by the Rev. W. Staunton, recently found at Myton, near Warwick. No precise account of the discovery could be ascertained; the ornament was deposited with human remains, apparently a single interment, one skull only being found, the teeth in a very perfect state. With the fibula was found a large perforated crystal of quartz, of which a representation is here given; also, a slender band of silver, ornamented with small heart-shaped punched impressions, and forming a spiral ring, apparently for the finger. It was broken into several pieces, and its original intention may be doubtful.

These interesting relics of the Saxon period have been deposited in the Warwick Museum. The brooch, although unfortunately fractured by the finder, is a specimen of uncommon size and elaborate workmanship; it presents the rare, if not unique, peculiarity, of vitrified ornament, or coarse enamel, fixed by fusion in cavities on its surface. The chased design represents monstrous heads of animals, combined with foliage, in bold relief. Fibulæ of this type, sometimes termed cruciform, have frequently been described both in England and in Germany. I am not aware that any example has occurred in Scotland or Ireland. It may be questionable whether their form was influenced by any allusion to the Christian emblem of the cross. There is, moreover, no distinct evidence regarding the position in which they were attached to the dress. There is evidence for the



<sup>1</sup> The rest of the paper consisted of a detailed description of the Presbytery of Lincoln Cathedral, and a comparison of

its principal features with those of the choir and nave of the same Cathedral, and with those of the Choir of Ely Cathedral.



supposition that they were frequently worn in pairs,<sup>1</sup> although in many instances, as in that now noticed, a single fibula only may have been brought to light. Amongst specimens found in England, may be noticed those represented by Douglas in the *Nenia*, (plates 2, 4, 6, and 15) disinterred in tumuli in Kent, some of them of small dimensions; one found at Rothley Temple, Leicestershire, now in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries, and another from Great Wigston, in the same county, both represented in Nichols' History;<sup>2</sup> the fine examples from *Cataractonium*, in the possession of Sir William Lawson, Bart., figured in this *Journal*,<sup>3</sup> and the highly curious assemblage of varied forms, produced by Mr. Roach Smith in a memoir on "Anglo-Saxon Remains," in his *Collectanea Antiqua*.<sup>4</sup> These brooches were attached to the dress by means of an iron *acus*, which fell into a small recurved catch, and the intention of the embowed neck, an almost invariable feature of the larger ornaments of this description, appears to have been for facility in passing the finger under it, when it was desired to relieve the *acus* from the fastening. The face of the brooch is very often thickly gilded, in some examples silvered, and occasionally it is set with a few small pieces of bright red glass.

A very interesting display of rich examples existing in the Museums at Mayence, Wiesbaden, Augsburg, &c., may be seen amongst the illustrations of German Antiquities, produced at Mayence by the Society for investigating Rhenish History and Archæology, a beautiful work, well deserving the attention of English Antiquaries.<sup>5</sup> From these foreign examples we learn the curious fact that occasionally a pendant, possibly regarded as an amulet, was attached to the smaller extremity of this kind of fibula, tending to indicate that it was worn, not transversely placed on the dress, as might have been supposed, but with the broader end uppermost. In the Wiesbaden Museum a large brooch of this description, found at Kreuznach, may be seen (5½ in. in length), having at the smaller end a loop, to which a ball of red ferruginous stone is appended, in a light frame of metal wires.<sup>6</sup> This adjustment strikingly recalls the crystal ball suspended in a frame of silver, attached to two rings of the same metal, found by Douglas in a tumulus on Chatham Lines.<sup>7</sup> Another fibula, found at Frankfort, now in the same Museum, has a small ring on the reverse of its smaller extremity, doubtless for the suspension of some object of an ornamental or talismanic nature. The conjecture seems not inadmissible, that the large perforated crystal found with the fibula at Myton may have been an amulet appended to it by means of a string or thong, which might readily be attached to the *acus* on the reverse of the brooch. A similar perforated crystal of quartz, of much smaller dimensions, may be seen in the Museum of the Society of Antiquaries. It was found with ashes, in an urn, near Hunsbury Hill, Northamptonshire.<sup>8</sup> ALBERT WAY.

<sup>1</sup> Compare the accounts of interments in Germany given in the interesting work of Lindenschmit, "Das Germanische Todtenlager bei Selzen, in der Provinz Rheinessen," Mayence, 1848; pl. 10, 11.

<sup>2</sup> Nichols' Hist. of Leicestershire, vol. iii., p. 956, pl. 129; vol. iv., part 1., p. 377. An imperfect specimen, of large dimensions, may be seen in the Leicester Museum.

<sup>3</sup> *Archæol. Journal*, vol. vi., p. 216.

<sup>4</sup> *Collect. Ant.*, vol. ii., p. 155. See

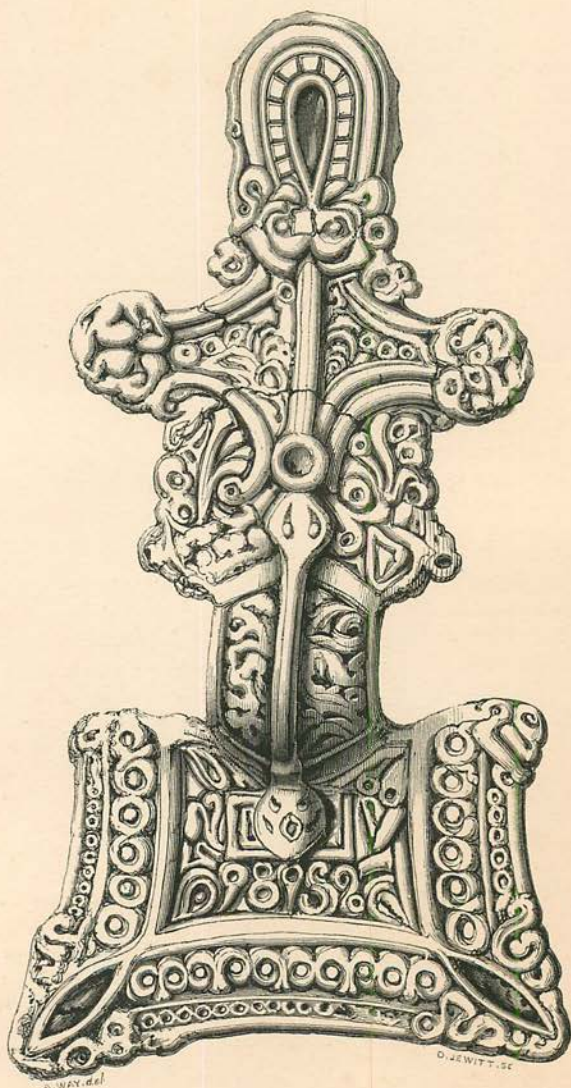
also *Journal of Brit. Archæol. Assoc.*, vol. i., p. 61; vol. ii., p. 311.

<sup>5</sup> *Abbildungen von Mainzer Alterthümern, &c.*, No. 3. Mayence, 1851. 4to.

<sup>6</sup> See Lindenschmit's Memoir, *ibid.*, p. 11.

<sup>7</sup> *Nenia*, plate iv., p. 14.

<sup>8</sup> Catalogue of the Museum of Soc. of Antiqu., p. 20. This crystal measures about 1½ in. greatest diameter. Another is figured by Mr. Wylie, Fairford Graves, pl. 4.



Bronze Fibula, found in 1851, at Myton, near Warwick. Now in the  
Warwick Museum.

(Orig. size.)