

William Stukeley
Itinerarium curiosum
London
1724

ITINERARIUM CURIOSUM.

Or, an ACCOUNT of the
ANTIQUITYS
AND REMARKABLE
CURIOSITYS
In NATURE or ART,
Observ'd in TRAVELS thro'
GREAT BRITTAN.

Illustrated with Copper Prints.

CENTURIA I.

By WILLIAM STUKELEY, M. D. C M L. & S R S.

*O Patria, O Divum domus, Albion, inclyta bello!
O quam te memorem, quantum juvat usque morari
Mirarique tuæ spectacula plurima terræ!*

LONDON:
Printed for the AUTHOR, MDCCXXIV.

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ITER ROMANUM. V.

*Salve magna parens frugum Britanica tellus,
Magna virum! tibi res antiquæ laudis & artis
Ingredior. sanctos ausus recludere fontes,
Antiquum repeto Romana per oppida cursum.* Virg.

To my Lord WINCHILSEA.

THE journey I here present your lordship is intirely roman, for I went from London full northward to the banks of the Humber, upon the famous Hermen-street road, passing thro' Lincoln. then coasting about a little, at Lincoln again I took the Foss way to its

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intersection of the Watling-street in Warwickshire. upon that I return'd back to London, and pursu'd it to the sea-coasts of Kent. likewise some part of the Icening-street, as it crosses the others, where it lay not too far out of my main route, was the subject of my enquiry. so that in this account is somewhat of all these four great roads of Britan, which our old monkish writers make a considerabl harangu about, but are scarce abl fully to distinguish them, and of the reason of their names say but little to our satisfaction. but the ways themselves as drawn quite a-cross the island in different directions are sufficiently manifest to a traveller of common sagacity. tho' my discoverys herein are mean enough, yet I reckon this an happy æra of my life, because the very day before I undertook it, I had the good fortune to be known to your lordship, and at the end of it enjoy'd the pleasurable repose of your delightful seat at Eastwel, but what is more, your own conversation. since then your many favors, like all other felicitys in life, give me uneasiness in the midst of joy, as sensible of my own little merit. I have no hope indeed of retaliating, and I know that great minds like yours imitate providence, expecting no return from its beneficiarys. but it's consentaneous to human nature to endeavour at it, and offer tokens of gratitude however unequal. the delight you take in rescuing the monuments of our ancestors, your indefatigable zeal in collecting them, your exquisit knowledg in the greek, roman and

british antiquitys, and especially your great love for those of your own country, which you continually commit to writing in your private commentaries, adds a reputation to these studies: and makes the muses hope for a sunshine, when men of your lordship's noble birth entertain them with that familiarity and condescension which was one great glory of the Augustan age.

Ro. roads. For arts military and civil . . .

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. . . branch of the Watling-street.

LONDINIUM.
TAB. LVII.

According to method I should speak of Londinium here, but because the great deal that may be said thereupon, will make a discourse by its self; we content our selves at present with giving the plan of it, as we suppose it might appear in the times of the Romans. and so continuing our tour into Kent will finish the whole continuation of the Watling-street with what few memoirs I could pick up at that time.

As Old-street went on the north of London, so the proper Watling-street we have been upon, since High-cross in Warwickshire, went on the south; from Stane-gate ferry a-cross St. George's fields, so south of the Lock-hospital to Deptford and Black-heath. a small portion of the antient way pointing to Westminster abby is now the common road on this side the nearest turn-pike. but the continuation of it is quite lost since the bridge was made, and all roads meet at that center as so many radii. When London became considerable, the ferry over-against it from being better attended, render'd that at Stangate almost useless. so passengers went thro' the city by Canon-street, Watling-street and Holborn, hence so little appears of it between Tyburn and the Lock-hospital. and probably its materials were long since wholly dug away to mend the highways. upon this way in Southwark many roman antiquitys have been found, particularly a Janus of stone in possession of Dr. Woodward. but our business shall be to prosecute the end of the second journey and the whole third and fourth of Antoninus.

From Shooters-hill the direction of the road is very plain both ways. a mile westward from the bottom of the hill you find vestiges of it just upon the common. some part of the agger is left made of gravel near at hand. from the top of Shooters-hill you see it butts upon Westminster-

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abby where it passes the Thames, and this demonstrates its original direction, and that it was begun from the east. for the turn of the river at Greenwich intercepts it, tho' not observed in maps, so the way is forc'd to deflect a little southward there, and then recovers its point. beyond that hill 'tis very strait as far as the ken reaches. On Black-heath a vast tumulus, now us'd as a butt for archers, hereabouts in great request till H. VIIIth's time. and hence the name of Shooters-hill.

It is to be noted that in the second journey of Antoninus, Madviacis Maidstoni and Durobrivis Rochester are transpos'd, therefore in the whole between London and Rochester it is 28 mile, as in both the next journeys call'd 27, (but more rightly the former.) so that as the Watling-street leads directly over Shooters-hill between London and Rochester, and seeing the whole distance is answerable to fact; we need be in no pain for finding out the intermediate station Noviomagus. doubtless 'twas about Wellend or Crayford, as Mr. Somner judges, where the respective distances on each side point it out: notwithstanding as to matters of antiquity we have nothing to say. so with good reason Dr. Plot settles Pennocrucium at Stretton in Staffordshire, because 'tis upon this same Watling-street, and answers the distances, tho' no roman antiquitys are there discover'd. and the like must we do of other places. no doubt there were two stations between London and Rochester, tho' only one mentioned in the Itinerary.

NOVIOMAGUS.
MAGUS.

NORTH-FLEET.
Ro. town.

Northfleet seems to be the other, where many antiquitys are found. I heard much talk of an old town at Plumsted nearer the Thames, and to which they say the river came up originally. if true perhaps this was the Novio-

magus and the Trinobantum or Trenowydh of the Brittons, i. e. the town of the Novii or Novantes, of which their old writers make a din, and would affix it to London. they say there are much ruins there. East of Crayford all along upon the heath as well as on the other side from Shooters-hill, the ridg of the Watling-street is very visibl. but beyond Dartford the common road leaves it quite on the southside, which induc'd me to follow the roman. it becomes a lane presently, and passes in a very strait line for five or six miles thro' little valleys, woods, and enclosures, and about that distance I lost both it and my self in a wood by Southfleet; which oblig'd me to endeavor again to recover the great road. by the quantity of ground I went for that purpose, I guess this is a branch of the main road directly to Maidston, for the convenience of such as intended to go strait to Lemanis by Durolenum. the soil from London to Dartford is gravel, but the highest ground has sand, beyond to Rochester 'tis chalk full of flints and gravel. the flints lie in strata very black and squeez'd flat like mortar in the course of a wall, and above the chalk is pure sand.

DUROBRI=
VIS.

The river Medway at Rochester is very broad and rapid, foaming most violently. there is a stately bridg built a-cross it. below bridg lye about fifty of our biggest first-rate men of war unrigg'd, such as the Royal Sovereign, Britannia, Barfleur, &c. the Roman city was very strong, being wall'd about and ditch'd. near that angle below the bridg encompass'd by the river, is a large piece of Roman building of the wall, made of rubble-stone laid sloping side-ways, here and there Roman bricks. houses are built upon it, and 'tis broke thro' for a passage, in the inside much flint. Dr. Thorp has great numbers of antiquitys found hereabouts. this city stands in an angle of the river, it seems to have been of a square form, the Watling-street running directly thro' it, most of the walls still remain but re=

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TAB. VI.

pair'd. The castl was built out of one angl by William the conqueror, which together with the cathedral has alter'd the regular ground-plot of the city as at Lincoln. the walls of the great tower now left are four yards thick, the body of the cathedral is of the original structure before the conquest, repair'd by bishop Gundulf an architect, who likewise built the castl. the great tower is now call'd Gundulf's tower. the chalky cliff under the castl wall next the river is a romantic sight. the rapidity of the river wasts it away, and then huge tracts of the wall fall down, in some places you see the bottom of the broad foundation, and which in others is carry'd down to the water. on the north side of the north-west tower of the church is Gundulf's effigies. the front of the church is of the old work, but a new window put in the middl. the eastern gate of the city was pull'd down not long ago. I saw many of the stones distributed among the adjacent buildings, being of a Roman cut.

VAGINACIS.

We must now according to the Itinerary leave the Watling-street, and go to Maidston. the road hither passes by that famous british monument call'd Kits-coty-house. it can't be disputed but that Maidston is the next Roman station, Mædwæg I apprehend signifys the meadows upon the river Vaga, which are here beautiful. whether the latin word be Madviacis or Vagniacis, I see no difficulty in forming it from the british. the archbishop of Canterbury had a palace here, founded by John Ufford, finish'd by Simon Islep. a college or hospital was erected by A. B. Boniface, and a chantry by Thomas Arundel, now the free-school. about 1720, they dug up several canoos made of hollow'd trees in the marshes of the river Medway above Maidston, one is us'd for a boat to this day. I saw in the hands of Dr. Dodd a british coyn of electrum found at Addington near Malling, anno 1720, in the foundation of a stone-wall; on the concave side a british horse rude enough, the convex was plain.

DUROLE=
NUM.

From thence the Itinerary leads us to Durolenum. the learned Talbot first guess'd it to be Charing, and to me he seems to be in the right. 'tis upon a spring of the river Len. the present name is deriv'd from the british Caer, as they call'd all roman towns in after-times. antiently it was wrote Cering with a saxon termination, intimating the meadows it stands upon. Roman antiquities are found all about, but nothing I have yet met

withal that particularly fixes the spot the roman city stood upon. near is a manor call'd Broughton, Chart is the name of the hundred from two little adjoining villages. but at this place the distances answer well, and the roads in many parts appear. that from hence to Canterbury pass'd by Chilham, so over the river Stour by Sharnford, which retains the british name of a causway. the archbishops of Canterbury had a castellated palace at Charing, probably given them by some of the first saxon kings as a royal demesne of theirs. there are large ruins of it still left. here was a chantry founded by Sir John Burley. All the ground upon the river Len at the bottom of the great ridg of hills is sand, sometime exceeding white, between that and the bottom of the hills 'tis flinty. the hills themselves are pure chalk. all Kent consists of large tracts of ground gradually rising from the east to a western ridg steep that way, so succeeded by another of like manner, but any of these tracts are made up of little hills and short valleys quite of a different nature from those on the west side of the island. and Mr. Camden has observ'd this before us, as to the northern part of the island. p. 533. Britannia. we may gather an idea of the natural reason

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of it from what we spoke at first, of the ground hardning upon the instant of the earth's rotation.

After we have made this excursion with Antoninus to take in these two stations, which seems to have been done to conduct travellers the nearest way to the portus Lemanis: we return again to Rochester that we may finish the progress of the Watling-street.

FEVERSHAM

From Rochester the Watling-street continues very strait to Canterbury, by Feversham, whither I went to visit the remains of the monastery founded by king Stephen, and where he was bury'd with his family. at present nothing left but two gatehouses, and they of mean structure. the hall was standing entire within this forty year, but now the whole monastery is level with the ground and converted into orchards, so that I could not so much as guess at the place where the church was. They have a report still that at the dissolution of abbys, they took up the coffin of lead wherein the king was bury'd, and sold it. as for his corps they threw it into the Thames.

TAB.
XXVII.

NEWING=
TON.
Ro. town.

here king Ethelstan enacted laws anno 903. at Newington seems to have been another station. many roman coyns and antiquitys have been found there. vid. large accounts thereof in Burton's Itinerary p. 181. Beyond Broughton, which seems to have been another, you come to a very high hill, steep on the west. the Watling-street here first presents the tower of the cathedral in its line, and both together make a fine show.

*Apparet rursum moles operosa viarum,
Consurgit stratis agger ubique suis.*

DUROVER=
NUM.
TAB.
XCVI.

Canterbury is deservedly famous for religious as well as roman antiquity, being the place where christianity first made its entrance among our Saxon ancestors. here are many remains of roman buildings, many made of roman materials in the saxon times. many antiquitys found in digging about the hop-grounds. your lordship has quantities of them. the city is strongly wall'd about, and many lunets or towers at due intervals, a deep ditch close underneath, and a great rampart of earth within. the original groundplot here, as in many other citys, is spoil'd by churches built in the middl of streets. To the south is an old obscure gate call'd Worth-gate partly wall'd up, 'tis under the castle. This is entirely a roman work, the semicircular arch is of roman brick, beautifully turn'd, the peers of stone, the thickness of it is three roman feet. I suppose this the original gate of the roman city, and from hence went the road which presently divides it self into two. the one goes by Chilham to Durolenum, over the river at Sharnford, as we said. the other goes in a very strait line by the name of Stonestreet to the port of Lemanis. The castle built here in William the conqueror's time, extending its limits beyond this gate, was the occasion of blocking it up, and so Winchup-gate was built a little further eastward to supply its use. The castle is much of the same form as that at Rochester, and the walls of the same thickness. a little further within the walls is a

TAB. LIV.

very high mount call'd Dungeon-hill, a ditch and high bank enclose the area before it. it seems to have been part of the old castle. opposite to it without the walls is a hill, seeming to have been rais'd by the Danes when they besieg'd the city. the top of Dungeon-hill is equal to the top of the castle, and has a fine prospect ore the city and country. the mate=rials of the city walls are chiefly flint. Next to this where the Watling-street comes, is Riding-gate, built by a mayor of the city, but evidently

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in the place of the roman one, for there is part of the roman arch, and the peer of one side still visibl, but much lower than the present gate. and in a yard close by is part of the arch of a postern, or foot-gate, by the side of it. these arches are of roman brick, and there are in the wall here and there some more fragments of the roman work. the draught of it I have given in the plate of the city ground-plot, 96. Hence the Watling-street passes directly to Dover, over Barham downs. Next to East-gate is another gate, opposite to what they call St. Ethelbert's tower, this is the way to the port of Rutupium. Here is the famous monastery of St. Augustin, the first metropolitan, built, as they say, near the palace of the converted king Ethelbert. two gates remain next the city, and both very stately. perhaps one belong'd to the palace, the other to the monaste=ry, which doubtless was as magnificent as richly endow'd. and such its ruins demonstrate, and the great compass of ground it took up, encircled with a very high wall. great vying was ever here between the religious of St. Austin and of Tho. a Becket, both very rich and contentious. At the west end of this church, as I conjecture, were two great towers, half of one is still remaining, call'd Ethelbert's tower; all the whole stones and pillars about it are skinn'd off as far as they can reach, and every year a buttress, a side of an arch or the like, passes *sub hasta*. there is part of the other standing, if it can be so said, that is only not fallen, I call it *muro tor=to*. 'tis a vast angular piece of the tower about 30 feet high, which has been undermin'd by digging away a course at bottom, in order to be thrown down. but it happen'd only to disjoint its self from the foundation, and leaping as it were a little space, lodg'd its self in the ground in that inclining state. to the wonderment of the vulgar, who don't discern the meaning of it, tho' the foundation it came from is sufficiently visible. thus happening to be equally poiz'd, 'tis a sight somewhat dreadful, and forbids a too near approach on any side, with the apprehension of its falling that way. Under St. Ethelbert's tower is the porch where St. Augustin and his six successors, as Bede tells us, were interr'd. the arch'd roof is left, but ready to fall. the pavement is gone, in the middl of which was an al=tar. The adjacent close is full of religious ruins and foundations. one great part turn'd into a stable near the almary. all over they are busy in pulling it up to sell the stones, which generally pays the rent, and yet the tenants of such places thrive never the more. In one corner of this field are the walls of a chappel, said to have been a christian temple before St. Augustin's time, and reconsecrated by him to St. Pancras. a great apple tree and some plum trees now grow in it. the lower part of it is really old and mostly made of roman brick, and thicker walls than the superstructur. there's an old roman arch on the south-side toward the altar, the top of it about as high as ones nose, so that the ground has been much rais'd. the present east window is a pointed arch, tho' made of roman brick, later than St. Austin's time. near it a little room, said to have been king Ethelbert's pagan chappel. however it be, both these and the wall adjoining are most=ly built of roman brick. the bredth of the mortar is rather more than the brick, and full of pebbels; but the marks of the devil's cl aw, there ob=serv'd by the vulgar, is fantastical. the garden and orchard adjoining seem to lye in their antient form. there is a large square mount close by the wall, which it equals in height, and gives a prospect into the fields. your lord=ship has a huge water-pipe dug up among many other antiquitys in a ro=

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man bath discover'd at Canterbury, 'tis five inches and a half diameter at

the smaller end, seventeen long, seven in diameter at the broad end, they were fastned into one another with strong terras cement. the great number of other antiquitys of all sorts found at and about this city, make part of your fine collection.

Eastward of this, and farther out of the city, is the church of St. Martin, said to be the christian place of devotion, where king Ethelbert's queen used to go, and St. Austin's first see. 'tis built for the most part of roman brick. in the middl is a very large old-fashioned font, supposed that where the king was baptised. North of the city is a very small remnant of St. Gregory's chapel, founded probably by Austin to the honour of his patron.

The cathedral of Canterbury is very stately, but neither in length, bredth, nor hight, especially in front, equal to Lincoln, in my judgment. 'tis entirely vaulted with stone, and of a very pretty model of building, but much too high for its bredth, as all Gothic buildings were. I believe they got this ill taste from building upon the old foundations. the ancient churches being much narrower and lower than the succeeding times: when greater riches flow'd in upon them, they carryed their walls and roofs to an unseemly hight. the place where Thomas Becket's shrine stood, is sufficiently known by the mark of the devoted knees quite around it, which have left deep impressions in the hard coarse marble. The black prince has a noble monument of brass. that of H. IV. is a good tomb, and there is a pretty chapel hard by, to say mass for him. There is an old picture of arch-bishop Becket's martyrdom, as call'd, and upon the wall an old painting of the siege of Jerusalem in our old habits. here are several monuments of the bishops. the metropolitan chair is of grey marble, standing behind the high altar. the cloysters are pretty good, and a very large chapel near them call'd sermon-house, wainscotted with Irish oak. The reason of the antient name of this british city, seems intimated in this verse of Virgil,

Divinosque lacus & averna sonantia silvis. Æn. iii.

the poor derivation of the commentators thereon ought to be refer'd to Tuscan original, to which our celtic is a-kin.

RUTUPIÆ.

Leaving Canterbury, I journey'd to find out Rutupiaë. at Wingham I saw a very large barrow, of celtic make, by the road side, call'd the mount. upon enquiry I found there were several more in the parish, and that a lane here is call'd port-lane, doubtless the roman road, for here the common road goes more southward. The roman city and port without peradventure was the place now call'd Stonar or Stanar, as they pronounce it, from the stony foundations I chuse to think: over-against Sandwich, or rather half a mile lower upon the river coming from Canterbury, and almost encompass'd by it. This river at first discharg'd its self into the sea by Ebbesflete, north of the roman city, till the sand pouring so directly upon it, oblig'd the stream to slide under the cliff by Richborough castle, and so by Sandwich. then coming in obliquely by the weight of its waters, it maintains its passage. I conceit the etymology of Rhutupium, about which the learned contend much, is to be sought for in this Ebbesflete, and that this water was originally called Ube or Tyvi: rhyd tyf, or tyvi is the passage over it. the Saxons call'd it Reptacester, a contraction only from Rhutupicester, and so our Ebbe at present came from them; Ruptimuth antiently. hence you see far into the isle of Thanet and Ramsgate-cliff, nam'd

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from the Romans, thrusting its chalky promontory into the sea. This was the chief port for the roman navy. At present there is only a farm-house or two, standing on an elevation in the marshes. they inform'd me that here had been a great city, and that they can discover all the streets when the corn is on the ground, and those streets are nothing but pure gravel laid very deep. innumerabl stones and foundations have been dug up, but now mostly evacuated, and no doubt Sandwich was built out of it. the river runs close by it, with difficulty preserving its current to the sea: but no doubt originally 'twas an open beech or port. perhaps the city its self was an island. the old mouth of the river is now fill'd up by the astonishing quantity of small pebbles thrown into this bay by the rowl of the

ocean. You see here a hundred acres of this flat ground cover'd over with them six or seven foot deep, and looking blue like the water. I fancy'd the peopl that liv'd here in like danger with those that travel the sandy desarts of Africa or Arabia. Here are two elevations, where they say two churches stood. upon one where an elder-tree grows, much rubbl and stone is left, but no part of any building. nor is it easy to distinguish what it was originally.

TAB.
XCVII.

Richborow castle, as now call'd, was the fort as it were to this city, and station of the garrison, which was to watch and defend the port and sea-coast hereabout; or rather one of those castles built upon the *littus saxo-nicum*, in the time of Theodosius. it is a mile off Stanar and Sandwich, scituate upon the highest elevation near hand, and being the only small part of a bold shore in all this bay. the river runs at the foot of it,

— *arvaque & urbem*

Littore diductam angusto interluit æstu. Virg. Æn. iii.

'Tis a most noble remnant of roman antiquity, where in later times of their empire the Legio II. Aug. was quarter'd. the walls on three sides are pretty entire, and in some places still about 25 or 30 foot high, without any ditch. the side next the sea being upon a kind of cliff, the top of the wall is but level with the ground. beside, at the east angle the wall descends to another slope just upon the river, which seems to have been in the nature of an outwork, or gradual ascent into the castle. the ground on the inside is pretty much rais'd. In the middle of the north-east side there is a square work jetting out from the wall, which seems to have been an oblique gate to enter at, for those that came from the water side. and it's not unlikely that gap on the north-west side was another gate. it was a square CV paces one way, CL the other: according to the roman method of making camps, a third part longer than their bredth. there's a foundation within, which has caus'd many words among the Kentish antiquarys: seems to have been a Pharos, or lodging for the commanding officer, a *prætorium*. there are foundations of several apartments, the walls monstrously thick and strong. 'Tis manifest to any one that seriously contemplates the ruins of the walls in divers places, that this castle was destroy'd by great violence and industriously. I guess by the Saxons immediately after the Romans left the island, when they could more boldly make descents upon the coast: the reason why is evident from the intent of these castles. upon the eastern corner especially, great piles of wall lye upon one another like rocks: in other places cavitys are hewn out of its thickness that would make good lodging rooms. the manner of the composition of the walls is seven cour=

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ses of small hewn stone, which take up four roman feet, then two courses of roman brick, which are white like the brick in the isle of Ely. I observe all the brick about Sandwich to be of the same color, made of whitish clay. the walls are 12 foot thick. the inward body therof is made of flint and excessive hard mortar. Sandwich bears directly south. Dr. Holland talks of a carv'd head over one of the gates, but I could find no such thing now. In the way thither upon an eminence is the carcass of a castrensian amphitheatre made of turf, I suppose for the exercise and diversion of the garrison. the soil of it is gravel and sand, and has been long plow'd over, that we need not wonder 'tis so level. there are two roman tumuli before Sandwich gates, one a windmill stands on. 'tis not easy to assign which Contentus was bury'd under.

AMPHITHE=
ATRE.

Contentum tellus quem Rutupina tegit. Auson.

South of Sandwich as we go along upon the sea shore, are six large and broad celtic tumuli equidistant. This flat coast is fenc'd against the ocean by the sand downs, which in Lincolnshire we call meals. but within the memory of man, as they told me, the sea has commenc'd a new method of guarding against its own violence, by covering the shore for a great depth and height with the pebbles aforemention'd, which is an odd mutation in nature, and it's observable that these pebbles come from the south. I rode

from Sandwich as far as Hithe upon the brink of the shore or cliff, in sight of France all the way, and nothing could be more entertaining in this autumnal season, when the weather is generally clear, serene and calm. much sea *tithymal* grows here, and a very pretty plant *papaver cornutum flore luteo*, rock samphire feeding upon *petroleum*, a most excellent pickle, and many more. the murmur of the ocean has a noble solemnity in it, as Homer says when latiniz'd,

Eructante salo raucam dant littora vocem.

More copiously express'd in Virgil,

*Et gemitum ingentem pelagi, pulsataque saxa,
Audimus longe, fractasque ad littora voces.
Exsultantque vada atque æstu miscentur arenæ. Æn. iii.*

which is the exact idea of this place. by listning attentivly I observ'd this noise of the ocean is by fits, at short but equal intervals, which I believe gave occasion to that fancy of the antients, that every tenth wave was the largest, of which Ovid has a distich.

Sandown castle is compos'd of four lunets of very thick arch'd work of stone, with many port-holes for great guns. in the middl is a great round tower, with a cistern at top. underneath an arch'd cavern bomb-proof. a foss encompasses the whole, to which there is a passage over a draw-bridge. Deal castle and Walmer castle are of the same nature, all built by Harry VIII. to guard this naked level coast. moreover lines are drawn along between castle and castle, and at proper intervals round bastions with a ditch and parapet of earth, where cannon may be planted as in the infancy of fortification. these are what Camden calls Rome's works, and fancies to be remnants of Cæsar's ship-camp. the neighbours with as little truth affirm they were thrown up by O. Cromwell, for reduction of these castles. one is close by the northside of Deal, and two between Deal castle and Walmer castle. At Walmer castle the cliff begins for about half

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a mile southward with a gentle rise to a hill, whereon is a tumulus. then the shore is plain again in a valley 'till you come to Kings-wold, which is half a mile's space. Between Walmer-castle and Deal, I take to be the spot where Cæsar landed in his first expedition, because 'tis the first place where the shore can be ascended north of Dover, and exactly answers his assigned distance of eight miles. probably in his second expedition when he came with many more ships, and had a perfect knowledg of the country, he went a littl furdur in the downs whereabouts now is Deal, a town lately sprung up from the mariners. As for his sea-camps 'tis vain to expect a sight of them, they are many ages since absorpt by the ocean, which has so long been exercising its power, and wasting the land away. Even since Harry VIIIth's time it has carry'd off the sea-ward esplanades of the three castles, and one half of two of the three circular forts. Indeed of late years the providential ejection of those pebbles has put a stop to it in some measure, and 'tis amazing to see how it by degrees fills up these fosses and trenches, and sometimes flys over the banks a good way up into the land, with a power well express'd by the poet,

Aut vaga cum Tethys Rutupinaque littora fervent. Lucan vi.

But of this affair of Cæsar's I reserve to my self another opportunity of speaking, when I shall expresly treat of his expedition hither. at Deal-castl is a very good well, tho' close by the sea.

Now my journey lay entirely upon the edg of the cliffs, whose precipitous height with the nobl prospect at sea, and most awful roaring of the waves fill'd the mind with a sense of nature's majesty. about St. Margarets on cliff, near the light-houses, I saw in two places a great number of littl tumuli of unequal bulk close by one another, and the like I found frequently about Barham-downs, and between Hardres and Chilham and other places. I know not that such have ever been taken notice of, the peopl say they were burying-places of the Danes, probably digging into

DUBRIS
PORTUS.

them might give us some satisfaction. I believe 'em celtic, because I saw many sorts of them, and such as appear on Salisbury-plain.

Dover is a most romantic scituation, 'tis a great valley, and t he only one about this coast where water is admitted inwards of the cliff, here very high: and a running brook discharges it self into the sea. the water for=merly came a good way higher up, and made a large port, and they have found anchors above the town. The Roman city of Dubris was to the south of the river, the Watling-street enters it at Bigin-gate coming very strait from Canterbury over Barham-down, where it is very perfect. butting directly upon the great tower of the cathedral, it bears a littl more nor=therly than north-west. this city was an oblong square, and some of the walls are left. the churches are of a very antique make. that of St. Mar=tin is collegiate, founded by Wightred king of Kent, 'tis a venerable ruin. the east-end seems to have terminated in three semi-circular works, 'twas built in form of a cross, as to its main body. much remains of the priory, now a farm-house. the maison dieu over-against it is become a store-house. here the knights hospitallers or templers lodg'd, coming into, or going out of the kingdom. the peers that form the haven or large bason are costly and great works. above is a fort with four bastions of modern date. the broad beach which lys at the mouth of this great valley, and was the harbor in Cæsar's time, is very delightful. 'tis no little part of the diversion in walk=

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ing there, to observe the odd produce of the ocean thrown up under your feet and the sea-plants that grow there. the umbelli, starfishes, many cu=rious fossils and shells, the eringo, sea-lungs, sea-weed or ood as call'd, &c. one long street here is nam'd Snaregate from the most tremendous rocks of chalk hanging directly ore the houses.

DOVER
CASTLE.

The castl is the strongest place in the world, of old fortification; it takes up thirty acres of ground. 'tis an amazing congeries of walls, ditches, ar=ches, embattlments, mounts, and all imaginabl contrivances to render it impregnabl after the old mode. but with highest regret I beheld this most nobl and memorabl fortress, once thought the key of Brittan, and that has divers times had the honor to save the kingdom from conquest and slavery, now become a common prey to the peopl that belong to it. in the late wars with France they kept 1500 prisoners in the great castl, but within this twelvemonth they have carry'd away the timbers and floors, disabling it even from that use. thus much I think out of gratitude is its due; let it stand a monument of antiquity, or sink slowly by its own ruin. the brass gun call'd Q. Elizabeth's pocket pistol, is a great curiosity, twenty two foot long. it requires fifteen pound of pow=der, and carrys a ball seven miles (as the gunner told me;) 'tis excellently well wrought. I saw two very old keys, and a brass horn, which seem to be the ensigns of authority, belonging to the constabl of the castl, or lord warden of the cinque ports. one part of the fortifications consists of a large circular work, in which stands the old church, said to have been built by Lucius an antient king of the Britons, and first christian. Bishop Stillingfleet thinks he's no romantic person, but reign'd in Kent and Sus=sex. however that be, I believe this church is as antient as the time as=sign'd him. there's not much doubt to be made that upon this hill was a castrum of the Romans, like that at Richborough, to guard this haven. 'tis somewhat surprizing that our saxon ancestors should take great pains to demolish roman works, tho' they wanted such in the same places, and were forc'd to build them again. I look upon it as an argument that they had no thoughts of conquering the island at first, and destroy'd these bul=works that such might not hinder their depredations; but espying the na=kedness of the land, thro'ly evacuated of its youth and men of arms by the Romans, they found a conquest practicabl. then were they oblig'd to repair these castles. the church we are speaking of was built in the first times of christianity out of part of the roman ruins, whence there are huge quantitys of roman bricks laid into the work; the arches are entirely turn'd with them, the corners and many parts both within and without are built up therewith, and the remainder is of stone originally cut by the

TAB.
XLVIII.
Roman
PHAROS.

Romans. it is in form of a cross, and has a square tower in the middl. I have represented the drawing of it in plate 48. The stone windows of this church are of later date than the building, they have been put in long since. but the greatest curiosity here is the Pharos or roman watch-tower standing at the west-end of the church. notwithstanding 'tis so much disfigur'd by new daubing with mortar, casing and mending, I discover'd its primary intention the first minute I saw it. and sent the three prints of it, which I here present the reader, to monsieur Montfaucon, at the instances of my most honoured lord the archbishop of Canterbury. I was in hopes they would have been more useful to that celebrated author, for therein at least he might have found that the building which he first took for a Pharos, and whereof he gives us four views, is only the tower of the church we were talking of. the description of this curious work, which I believe the most perfect of any left, in short is thus.

TAB.
XLVII.

In the 47th plate we have shown the groundplot upon which it is form'd, and a section of the work, whence we may readily observe that the design is simple, but admirably contriv'd for its use and purpose; the base is octagonal without, within a square, but the sides of the square and octogon are equal, viz. fifteen roman feet, which reduces the wall to the thickness of ten feet. in this manner it was carried up to the top, which was much higher than at present. but it retires inward continually from all sides, with much the same proportion as an egyptian obelus. upon four of these sides there are windows narrow, handsomly turn'd with a semicircular arch of roman brick six foot high, so that the outside of it appears as in our 46th plate. the door to it is on the east side, about six foot wide, very well turn'd over head, with an arch made of a course of roman brick and stone alternately, 14 foot high. all the stones of this work are of a narrow scantling, and the manner of the composition thro' out, is perfectly the same with that lately describ'd at Richborough castle. there is first two courses of this brick, which is level with the bottom of the windows. then seven courses of hewn stone, which mount up to the top of the windows, then two courses of brick, seven of stone alternately, to the top; every window by this means reaching to a stage or story. there are five of these stages left. they are visible enough to a discerning eye, tho' some be stopt up, others cover'd over, others have modern church-like windows of stone put in. I suppose the inside was intirely fill'd up with a staircase. the height of what is left is 40 foot, I believe there was 20 foot more originally, and the whole number of windows on a side was eight. this building was made use of as a steeple, and had a pleasant ring of bells in it, which Sir George Rook procur'd to be carry'd away to Portsmouth. Since then the office of the ordnance, under pretext of savingness, have taken away the lead that cover'd it, and left this rare piece of art and masonry to struggle with the sea, air and weather. Mr. Degg gave me a coyn of Dioclesian, found here. the Erpinghams arms are pacht up against one side of the Pharos, being two bars and a canton, so that I suppose it was repaired in H. Vth's tme, lord Erpingham then warden of Dover castle. in the roman castle here the Tungrican soldiers had their station. I have heard there is another such Pharos at St. Andrews in Scotland.

TAB.
XLVI.

On the other high cliff opposite to this beyond the town, has been another Pharos; some part of the bottom part of it is still left, call'd the devil's drop, from the strength of the mortar. others call it Bredonstone. here the new constabl of the castl is sworn. If we consider the antient state of Dover, we must imagin that the little river ran directly into the sea, and left a harbour close to the walls of the town; but in process of time, as the sea threw up that vast beach which lys between the town and it, the river was forc'd by an oblique passage to creep along the shore under the southern cliff, and there vent its self where now is the harbor. This is what nature practises in the microcosm in innumerabl instances, as the passage of the gall and pancreatic juice into the intestines, in the duct of the urine from the ureters into the bladder, of the chyle into the torrent of the blood, insinua=

ting themselves for some space between the membranes. And this cau=

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tion may be of service in forming harbors. as in that costly work of the French king's before Dunkirk, where two banks or peers projected for half a mile thro' the sands directly, which ought rather to have gone down=wards a little towards the fall of the tide. the cliffs here are of solid chalk to the very bottom, full of the blackest flints. and those at Calais seem perfectly like them, and no doubt a long vein of chalk is continued from one to the other under the sea, and perhaps thro' many countrys. but that these two places were ever contiguous or join'd by an Isthmus is chimerical.

Tho' the mariners have much mathematics on board, and in all their tackl and machinery, yet here I had occasion of observing a gross error that has not been thought on, in the shape of their oars; where the extremity of that fan-like part which opposes the water in rowing is broad=est. now this is quite contrary to nature's method, who is the best geometician in like cases: in the shape of a singl feather, or in the wings of birds, the extremity is always pointed, and the broadest part is nearest the joint where the power lys, analogous to the fulcrum of leavers, therefore is drawn off to a narrower scantling as the part recedes from it, and the effect of the moving force. thus it is even in the wings of butterflys, and all other insects, as well as birds, and so in the water-beetles that row with oars. tho' the broad part resists the water more as farther distant from the fulcrum, yet it requires more proportionabl strength, and in my judgment therefore, oars ought to be made quite the contrary way, and drawn off into a point, the broadest part nearest the hand; and I doubt not but equal strength will then out-row the other, *cæteris paribus*.

Beyond Dover southward the cliff is exceedingly high to Folkston. in the road two great roman barrows, which will be eaten away in a few years by the sea. here this larger track of cliff ends, as to the ocean, and slaunts off westward towards Wye in a long ledg very steep all the way to the west. the whole county of Kent consists of three or four of these parcels, lying parallel and running nearly north and south; they rise gently from the east as a reclining plain, and then end suddenly on the western side with a quick descent. at bottom begins another such plain, and it ends in like manner after it has gone its proper distance, to be alike succeeded, as we said before. Beyond this we are upon, southward is a lesser ledg of high ground sandy and rocky, but good land especially in the valleys, and full of wood. this is terminated by Romney-marsh, such another country as our Lincolnshire Holland. to the right of us is Eleham, seated in a pleasant concavity. there has been a religious house. upon one end of our upper chalk hills near Folkston is a camp call'd Castl-hill.

Now descending, Folkston offers it self, still standing on a cliff, but not so high as the former, and of a rocky composure, the other being chalk. 'twas antiently call'd Flostane, a lesser rock or cliff of stone. so that it probably was the *lapis tituli* of the Romans. here's a copious spring runs thro' the town. near the church upon the sea-side is a square plain like that I observed at Burgh in Lincolnshire, and was of the same use. I saw two pieces of old wall hanging ore the terribl cliff, seemingly of roman work. here are some old guns, one of iron of a very odd cast, no doubt as old as Henry VIIIth's time. many roman coyns have been found here. a nunnery was built by Eanswide, a religious daughter of Eadbald king of Kent.

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I pass'd by Sandgate castle, another of those built by H. VIII. in a little valley where the shore is plain. then we enter upon the beach. here are many springs which come down from the higher ground, and sink immediately into this beach, rendring it a little boggy, this I thought very odd.

You ride thro' a wood of sea poppy, which is a fine variety in nature, casting all the numerous seeds into a long pod, insted of the common globular head. the leaves look hoary like sea ragwort, and are finely crisped. the flowers of a most delicate yellow, taken notice of by the poet,

LAPIS
TITULI.
TAB.
XCVIII.

Ore floridulo nitens
Alba parthenice velut
Luteumve papaver. Catull.

HYTH.

Hyth stands on the edge of this lesser ridge, but the marsh has intercepted it from the sea. they talk much of their charnel-house full of human bones, said to have been the massacred Danes, but I thought it not worth going to see, nor believ'd their report of it. They say this has been a great city, and reach'd as far as West-hyth, where is an old ruinous chappel, they mean undoubtedly the city of Lemanis. Here were two hospitals, St. Bartholomew's, and St. Leonard's.

I visited Saltwood castle in hopes to find somewhat roman, as is reported. 'tis a very strong seat of the arch-bishop's, the outer wall has towers and battlements and a deep ditch. within, and on one side, stands the main body of the place. two great and high towers at the gate of this, over which are the founder's arms, arch-bishop Courtney, in two scocheons. the first impal'd with those of the see; the other plain, a label over three plates. This inner work has a stronger and higher wall, with a broad embattel'd parapet at top. within is a court, but the lodgings are all demolish'd. the floor of the ruinous chappel is strongly vaulted. in the middl of the court is a large square well, which is the only thing I saw that look'd like roman. 'Tis said that hereabouts anchors are dug up, which if true, is not owing to the sea's coming so high, as the vulgar think, for that's impossible; but to an iron forge of the romans conveniently placed, where so much wood grows, so near the sea, and so many ports. They say too that roman coyns are found at Newington, not far off here.

LEMANIS
Portus.
TAB.
XCIX.

A little way further at the end of the Stane-street the roman road from Canterbury, and at a proper distance from thence, is the port of Lemanis. I am surpriz'd that some Kentish antiquarys should by pretended corrections of the Itinerary, send it farther off to the southern coasts. as soon as I came to Limne church, looking from the brow of the hill to the subjacent marshes, I descry'd the tatter'd roman walls, scituate on this southern declivity, almost at the bottom. one would imagin the name came from the stone-street, for such it literally signifys *via lapidea*. this is a solid rock of stone laid out in a strait line between here and Canterbury. thus in Yorkshire another roman road is call'd Leming-lane, from its stony composure. Ihe signifys a way in british, maen a stone. its present appellation of Studfal castle gives occasion to some uncouth etymologys. without any difficulty I think it deriv'd from stæd-weall, the sea shore, in Saxon, so that it signifys no more than *castrum littoreum*. this fine remnant of roman work, and which was the garrison of the Turnacensian band, hangs as it were upon the side of the hill, for it is pretty steep in descent. the walls include about twelve acres of ground, in form somewhat squarish, without any ditch. a pretty brook

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arising from the rock west of the church, runs for some space on the east side of the wall: then passes thro' it, and so along its lowermost edge by the farm house at bottom. the composition of the wall is similar to that of Richborough, but instead of hewn stone and regular courses as there, the interval between the three layers of roman brick is made of rag stone. the brick too is of the same whitish kind, but remarkably thin. I suppose the clay shrank much in burning. this interval of stone is four feet of roman standard. the walls are twelve foot thick, and have some round holes at equal spaces, that run quite thro', as we observ'd at Sorbiodunum and Verolanium: perhaps to let the air in for drying the wall, being of so great a thickness. here are several of the circular or rather elliptic buttments as thick as the wall, like those at the roman castle of Garionenum, near Yarmouth in Norfolk, in plate 58, which my worthy and learned friend Mr. Hare gave me from his own mensuration. 'tis a piece of masonry I must own unaccountabl to me. they are like round towers or bastions, but solid, and some scarce join to the wall at the sides, but go quite thro' to the inside. the circuit of this wall is manifest enough on three sides, but that southward is levell'd to the ground. every where else where not standing

TAB.
LVIII.

it lys sideways, flat, close by in prodigious parcels: or where standing crack'd thro' the whole solid thickness. as if time was in a merry humor and ruin'd it in sport. but I believe 'tis the effect of design and much labor, as I said of Richborow. probably the Saxons or Danes thus dismantled it, to render it useless against their incursions. where this wall is standing, 'tis ten foot high or more, made with excellent cement. on the eastern side is such another gate, form'd by the return of the wall, as at the place last mention'd. Geo. Hunt, an old man, living in the farm-house, told me he has found coyns here. he says, once the sea bank broke, and his house with all the adjacent marshes was floted. for the level of the ocean is higher than this place, but it has fenc'd its self out by raising the ground continually near the shore, as it does in other like marshes. whether the sea reach'd this lower wall even in the time of the romans, I cannot determine: for I don't believe this was the very port, but the castle belonging to it. that, I rather think was somewhat more eastward about West-hithe; and there, the town that belong'd to it. for they find old foundations frequently under the side of the hill, laid in strong terras mortar. the reverend Mr. Bagnal, minister of the place, informs me, that the field of about sixteen acres of ground, adjoining to the church-yard of Limne, is to this day call'd the northern town; nor do they know that it ever had any other name. which intimates that the roman town was thereabouts, lying upon the slope of the hill, as the castle dos, and to the east of it. This port is now call'd shipway, where the *limenarcha*, or lord warden of the cinque ports was antiently sworn; where their courts were kept, and all the pleas relating to these ports. since the decay thereof, that ceremony is transferred to Dover. this shipway too denominates the lathe or division of the country. Leland says, the people of Limne had an horn and mace, remaining ensigns of their authority.

Thus have we conducted our journey for the space of 500 mile, all upon roman roads, to these three famous ports on the eastern shore, where commonly the great roman emperors and generals landed from the continent. and in which we have run over such notices as occur'd to us in 35 roman stations, many camps and other things of highest antiquity. The

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season of the year for expeditions being far spent, 'tis time to release your lordship's patience, and retire into harbor, concluding with the great roman wit, in his poetical voyage,

Lemanis longæ finis chartæque, viæque.

10 Octob. 1722.

<This is Stukeley's account of an excursion which brought him into Kent in October 1722. It takes the form of a letter (a very long letter) addressed to the earl of Winchilsea, whom Stukeley had been invited to visit at Eastwell. Though doubtless based on a draft written at the time, it was revised for publication. (The passage mentioning Montfaucon, for instance, must have been inserted later.) Nevertheless, the printed text has a deliberately informal appearance. An eighteenth-century compositor would normally have thought that it was up to him to regularize the spelling and the punctuation; Stukeley's compositor was under instructions to make no improvements of that sort. The book is illustrated with a series of 100 plates, engraved from drawings made by Stukeley himself. I have put a list of the ones relating to Kent into a separate file. – C.F. March 2011.>