

**A CATALOGUE OF THE
SCULPTURED AND INSCRIBED
STONES IN THE CATHEDRAL
LIBRARY, DURHAM**

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A Catalogue of the Sculptured and Inscribed Stones in the Cathedral Library, Durham by F. J. Haverfield & William Greenwell

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F. J. HAVERFIELD & WILLIAM GREENWELL

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CATHEDRAL LIBRARY, DURHAM.

THE ROMAN SERIES BY
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THE ANGLIAN SERIES BY
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P R E F A C E .

THIS Catalogue of the carved and inscribed Stones in the Library of Durham Cathedral has been drawn up for the help of those who are interested in, and who desire to study, the art and institutions of early Northern England. The collection is formed partly of Roman Stones, purchased long ago by the Chapter, and partly of sepulchral memorials of Anglian origin, some found within the precincts of the Cathedral, but the greater part discovered in the rebuilding of church walls at various places within the area settled by the Angles. A number of these have been collected and deposited in the Library through the care of the Rev. William Greenwell; others have been given by different persons, chief among them being the valuable group from Gainford, presented by the Rev. A. W. Headlam, M.A., Vicar, and the Churchwardens of that Parish.

It has been the singular good fortune of the Chapter that they have had the willing help in the making of this Catalogue of two gentlemen who, each in his own department, are among the highest authorities on lapidary archæology. Mr. F. J. Haverfield, M.A., Senior Student of Christ Church, Oxford, is a recognised master in Roman inscriptions and antiquities; and the contribution of our learned Librarian, Dr. Greenwell, so well known for his knowledge of Anglian and Saxon remains, will be of great value to students of the early history and institutions of our country. To the description of these stones he has added a very interesting account of the remains of St. Cuthbert's Coffin, which have been kept locked up in cupboards in the Library since 1827. Time has made them very fragmentary and imperfect; so that it has not

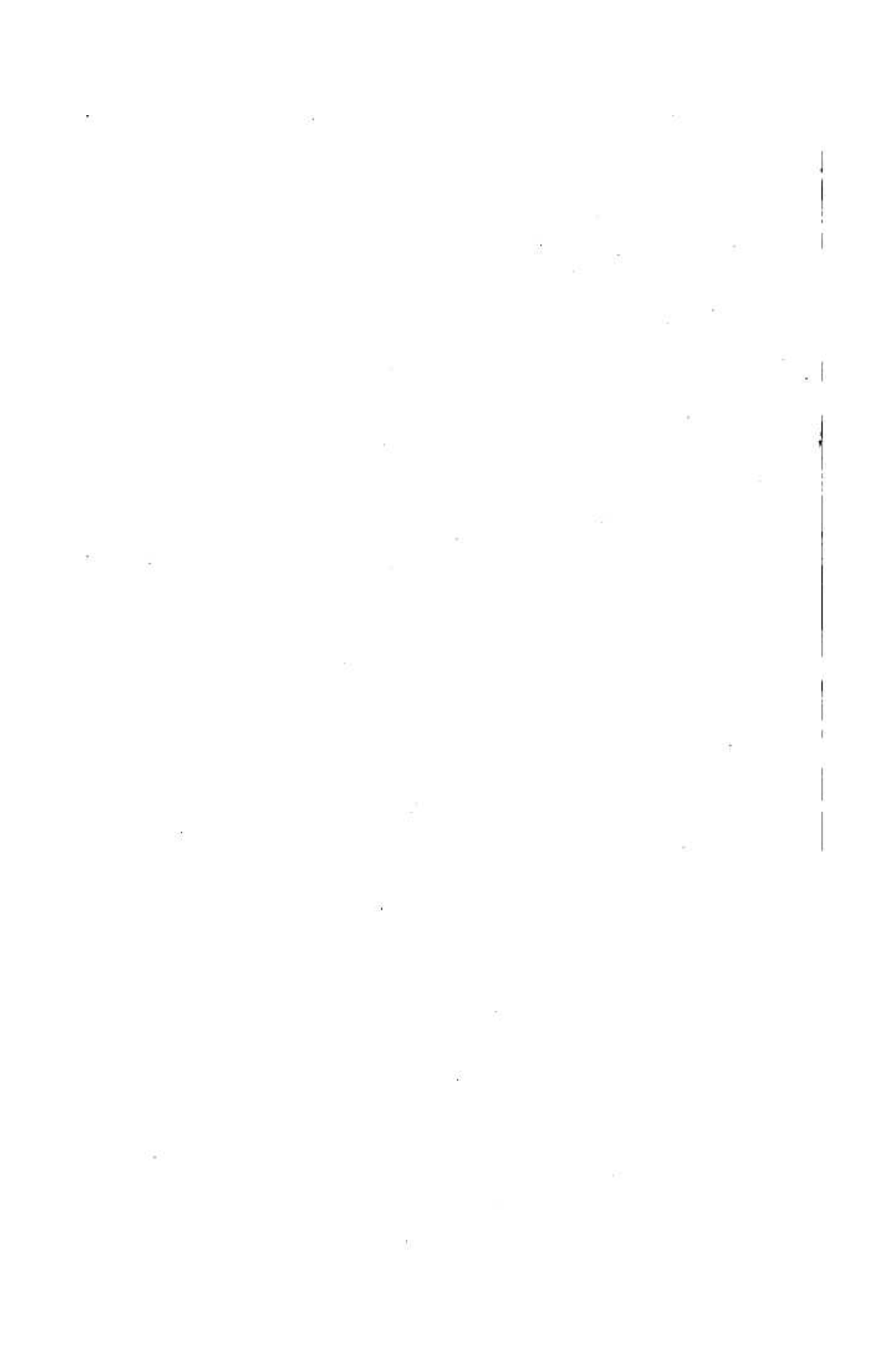
been possible to re-construct the original coffin, in which the Saint's body was borne from place to place, before it was ultimately brought to Durham. On the task of making out and piecing together this valuable relic, and of discovering all that could be known about it, the utmost care and patience have been given by Dr. Greenwell and Dr. Fowler, with the valuable assistance of Mr. Footitt. After more than twelve centuries, this remarkable specimen of Northern art and piety is at last restored to the world: it is a unique record of the skill of those Northumbrians who, in their love for their Saint, carved the coffin, and have left to us a most interesting example of seventh century decoration. The elucidation of the Runic characters by the side of the figures is due to Dr. Fowler, to whom the Chapter owe their best thanks.

They are also glad to have this opportunity of thanking the Newcastle-on-Tyne Society of Antiquaries for permission given to use the blocks made for Dr. Bruce's "Lapidarium Septentrionale"; they have also to thank Mr. W. G. Footitt, who has enriched the Catalogue with a large number of most accurate drawings, in which the characteristic work of the original is admirably represented.

G. W. KITCHIN, DEAN.

18th May, 1899.

ROMAN
SCULPTURED STONES.



INTRODUCTION.

THE collection of some fifty inscribed or sculptured Roman stones, now preserved in the Cathedral Library at Durham, was formed principally in the course of the last century. Many of the stones came singly, like No. 24, rescued from a barn at Ebchester by Dean Montague about 1700 or after. Some belonged to Horsley, the author of "Britannia Romana" and one of the ablest archaeologists of his day in England and in Europe. Others, notably those from Lanchester, were first collected by Dr. Hunter, of Durham. The inscriptions from the Roman Wall were principally collected by John Warburton, surveyor and genealogist and Herald, while perambulating the Wall about 1720 or while engaged on the great Military Road, which General Wade built from Carlisle to Newcastle after the insurrection of 1745. It is unfortunate that Warburton seldom preserved any accurate information as to the origin of his stones. A few additions have been made in the present century; the Binchester altar, rescued by Dr. Raine, the two Hexham stones, once the property of Mr. Joseph Fairless, of Hexham, and the three Gainford stones, added to the collection in 1896, are instances of these additions.

The inscriptions may be divided into two classes. Some were found in the forts which guarded the Roman "Great North Road," the (so called) Watling street in its course through Durham and Northumberland. Others were found in or near to forts along the Northumbrian part of the Roman Wall, commonly called Hadrian's Wall. In the following pages, the order thus geographically indicated is followed.