

thereof it was terror and feare unto him to behold it; and soe retyred both he and his people." The Church of S. Peter was standing when Dowsing paid his destructive visits in 1643, and several images were broken.

Rev. Dr. Raven added one observation to those already made concerning All Saints Church—viz., that Davy, who was at Dunwich on October 24th, 1839, reported that the steeple appeared to be in tolerable repair, and that he remembered a man being convicted and transported for stealing one of the bells and some of the lead. Dr. Raven then addressed himself to the subject of "Roman Dunwich." Dunwich, he said, had a good claim to be considered a Roman town, and he believed it could be identified with the Sitomagus mentioned as a Roman station through which one of the Roman roads passed. After some trouble he had at length obtained in Berlin a copy of "Antonine's Itinerary." The text had undergone a most exhaustive revision. The ninth route in Great Britain was recorded to be 128 miles in length, and started from Venta Icenorum, which he identified with Norwich, although the Roman remains found in Norwich were very scanty. A little outside Norwich was a railway station, called Trowse, and this he identified with the Welsh word *traws*, which was a corruption of the Latin *trajectus*, a ford. Passing through Trowse there was a country very partially investigated. Then there was a magnificent piece of road that went by the name of Stone-street, from Ilketshall S. John nearly to Halesworth. His theory was that the Romans made the best pieces of road where the country was the worst, and a piece of light land like that between this point and Dunwich, where a track could easily be made, would be left to take care of itself. The first distance, thirty miles, brought the ninth route to Sitomagus, with which, by adopting this route, Dunwich could be identified. Beginning from the opposite end the route was clear from London to Stratford S. Mary on the Stour. The question then arose, did it go to the east or to the west? Unquestionably, in his opinion, it went to the east, for it was known that there was another road to the west, leading through Bury S. Edmund's. Suckling remarked that the adoption of the eastward course would charge the Romans with leaving the heart of the province untraversed by its principal military way, and was of opinion that the road passed through the centre of the county, but provision had been made for this district by the fifth route. He contended that the distance to Norwich proved that it must have diverged considerably one way or the other. Camden placed Sitomagus at Thetford, but appeared to have little authority for doing so. A further argument in favour of Dunwich was that between Stratford S. Mary and Dunwich lay another Stratford—a name which indicates a Roman origin. It was undoubtedly the case that three rivers had to be forded between Sitomagus and London, and Stratford S. Andrew completed the three, one being Stratford, near London, and the other Stratford S. Mary.

Mr. Prigg remarked that the Roman mile was shorter than the

English in the proportion of eleven to twelve, and that this ought to be taken into consideration.

Mr. Hope explained the architecture of the ruined church, pointing out that the greater part of the nave was Norman work. He was not quite sure that part of the bottom of the tower was not also Norman. The chancel was in the Early Decorated Style, with brick jambs to the windows.

The next visit was paid to the convent of Franciscan Friars or Grey Friars. Of this ruin, fine as it is, very little is known. It seems to have been founded by Richard Fitz John and Alice, his wife, and enlarged and endowed by Henry III. A little over a century ago it was disfigured by the erection of ungainly buildings, but these have been removed, and the ivy-clad ruins left alone in their native grandeur. Perhaps the principal features are the two very fine entrance gates, one for ordinary use and the other for a carriage way. A mass of ruins in the centre is difficult to account for, and the difficulty remains unsolved. Dr. Raven stated that in going over these ruins he had found a specimen, probably the only one known, of the token worn by pilgrims known as "shells of Galice." There was a curious poem extant depicting the inconveniences of a pilgrimage to S. James at Compostella, which was in Galicia, and these little three-scalloped tokens were brought home by pilgrims to that shrine. The "shell" was made of copper, with a slight admixture of gold. The rev. doctor showed the trinket, which was examined with much interest.

The last place in Dunwich visited by the party was the ruined chapel of S. James's Hospital. In the midst of this interesting enclosure is a large tombstone enclosing the vault of the Barne family. Here, only two days before, the remains of the late Mrs. Fredk. Barne had been laid in their last resting place. Notes upon the ruined chapel were read by Mr. H. Watling, after which the party prepared for the return journey.

The only halt on the way back was at

#### WESTLETON CHURCH,

concerning which the Rev. F. Haslewood read the following paper:—

This church is dedicated to S. Peter. It has suffered so much at different times, that at first it appears to contain little of archaic interest. Several features, however, survive.

The building consists of chancel, nave, and south porch. Formerly it possessed a tower, containing eight bells, but it fell in 1770. The style of the chancel is Decorated; earlier, that is, than the nave, which is Perpendicular. In the usual place, namely, the south wall of the chancel, are good examples of a piscina with three sedilia, dated about the 14th century. The great length of the chancel is not observed in consequence of its having been parted off by a screen, to form a vestry. The roof of the chancel is plastered over, and appears to be what is vulgarly termed a "waggon-roof."