

heraldry in the church, the Rector, the Revd. W. Philpot, has agreed to exhibit them again in the church together with the above-mentioned pedigree.

T. M. FELGATE

The Fornham Sword. This 12th century iron sword (Fig. 23)¹ was found in 1933 in mud at the bottom of a ditch in Fornham Park (Fornham St. Genevieve), the site of the battle of Fornham in 1173 at which the King's men defeated the Earl of Leicester.² Its overall length is 3 ft. 5 ins. The blade is 3 ft. long and is broken 11 ins. from the tip. On each side of the blade is a groove with letters of an inscription inlaid in silver equally spaced along it. On one side is I- I NOMINE DOM . . ., presumably 'In Nomine Domini', with a design towards the tip of the Hand of Providence. On the reverse the inscription reads: +SES BENEDICTVS, the last three letters being upside down. The first three letters, with the elongated cross bar of the E, are a standard abbreviation for 'Sanctus'.

The sword was placed on loan to Moyses's Hall Museum, Bury St. Edmunds, by the present owner, Mr. John Macrae, in 1966.

A. R. EDWARDSON, F.S.A.

A sixth gold torc from Ipswich. On 18 October 1970 Mr. Peter Gorham found an Iron Age gold torc at a depth of 4 ins. in his garden at 50 Holcombe Crescent, Ipswich (TM/13744273) (Plate XI). Two years ago Mr. Malcolm Tricker had found a hoard of five torcs about 200 ft. away when the flank of a hill was being removed by bulldozer to provide level ground for the houses on the west side of the Crescent.¹ Part of the earth thus removed was piled up nearby and later spread thinly over the gardens of nos. 46 to 52; any of these may produce a torc when they are dug over in the spring of 1971.

The torcs found in 1968 were very similar in style; all had hoops consisting of two octangular bars and loop terminals, one faceted the others bearing curvilinear decoration. In contrast the hoop of the latest find is made up of two pairs of bars, though these also are octangular. The terminals are in the form of rings composed of

¹ Cf. London Museum, *Medieval Catalogue* (1967), p. 25.

² See *Proc. Suff. Inst. Arch.*, xxv (1950), p. 134.

¹ J. W. Brailsford, 'A hoard of Early Iron Age Torcs from Ipswich', *Proc. Suff. Inst. Arch.*, xxxi (1968), pp. 158-9 and Elizabeth Owles, 'The Ipswich Gold Torcs', *Antiquity*, XLIII (1969), pp. 208-11.