

Lerwick, in the Orkneys; I remarked in reference to such notices that some of them were certainly suggestive of the little Elfin pipes belonging to a remote era. When, however, my esteemed friend Dr. Bruce, quoted me in seeming confirmation of, at least the possibility that the old Roman Legionary of Hadrian or Severus occasionally solaced himself with a pipe, as he kept watch and ward on the ancient barrier which in the first centuries of our era marked the outer verge of the Roman world, he took from the page just as much as sufficed to give a delicate flavor of possibility to the fancy, so pleasant to the mind of a genuine devotee of the luxurious weed, that the tobacco-pipe is a classic institution!

I doubt not but the learned Roman Antiquary of Pons Ælia, in his zeal to provide the Tungrian Legionaries of old Borcovicus, or the Spanish Varduli of Bremenium, with the consolations of a pipe, to beguile their dreary outlook from that bleak Northumbrian outpost of Imperial civilization, most honestly and unwittingly overlooked whatever failed to square with the manifest fitness of so pleasant a conceit; nor did it ever occur to me to think of putting the old Tungrians' pipe out, by continuing the quotation, until now when, in the tardy access to British periodicals, I find myself quoted as an authority for the antiquity of the tobacco-pipe,—not only by those who, favouring such an opinion, are willing to count even the most lukewarm adherent on their side, but by others who treat me as Oliver Proudfoot, the bonnet maker, did his wooden soldan, which he set up merely for the pleasure of knocking it down; or as the gallant Bailie and bonnet maker of Saint Johnstone says: "Marry, and sometimes I will place you a bonnet (an old one most likely,) on my soldan's head, and cleave it with such a downright blow, that in troth, the infidel has but little of his skull remaining to hit at!" Far be it from me to interfere with the practice of those who, like the valiant bonnet maker, wish to make themselves familiar with the use of their weapon on such easy terms, even though, perforce, made the wooden soldan on which it is applied; but I must confess to a decided objection to being held responsible for opinions quoted only for the purpose of refutation, when as it would seem, these are read through such a refracting medium as the Roman spectacles of an antiquary, who may be assumed without any disparagement to be a little *wall-eyed*.

Quotations at second hand are never very trustworthy, and it seems difficult to credit with more direct knowledge than such as may be derived from the partial quotation in the "Roman Wall," such