

cites almost the same passages in illustration. Subsequently, however, whilst retaining the opinion that the *Nodinus* of Varro, otherwise the *Nodutus* of St. Augustine and Arnobius, was originally the same deity as the *Nodens* of the inscription, he identifies him with *Æsculapius*. "The emblems," "he remarks, "said to have been found " along with the inscription, serpents, cocks, and dogs, seem strongly to " confirm, nay, even to prove, the truth of this supposition" [originally advanced by Mr. Bathurst, that the deity in question could be no other than *Æsculapius*]. This leads him to search for another etymology for the name of the god as given in the inscriptions, and, with the help of certain peculiarities of the Etruscan language and letters, to which he believes the Latin "bore a considerable resemblance until about the 5th century after the foundation of Rome," and the further aid of the fact, that the worship of *Æsculapius* was introduced into Rome about that period, scil. 461, A. U. C. ; he arrives at the conclusion that *Nodens* or *Nodons* is a corruption of *Nodunos*, i.e., *νόδυνος*, *alleviator of pain*, than which "no name or epithet was more likely to be given by the Greeks to *Æsculapius*, who was supposed to be the inventor of medicine, and to whose salutary influence was ascribed the restoration of health." Of this theory it seems unnecessary to say more than that there is no authority for the application of the epithet *νόδυνος* to *Æsculapius*, and that there is no ground for questioning the received opinion, that the deity *Nodutus*, or *Nodinus*, derived his name from his office of presiding over the *nodi*. Any doubts, however, which I had as to the influence which *Nodons* was believed to possess over human health, have been removed by a notice of the site of the deity's temple in "*The Proceedings of the Archaeological Institute, Bristol, 1851.*" In a paper on "the British and Roman Roads communicating with Caerwent," Dr. Ormerod observes : "Between the Town of Lydney and Ailburton, it [the road] appears next as a hollow way between the present road and the hills on the right crowned with two Roman camps, of which one contains the remains of the once splendid temple dedicated to a deity of supposed sanitary powers, and is most rich in antiquities."

To this is subjoined the following note :—

"Within the greater camp, when excavated under directions of its owner, the late Rt. Hon. Chas. Bathurst, were discovered the foundation walls of an irregular quadrangle, the sides of which average severally about 200 feet, exclusive of a range of offices along the N. W. side, and of a Palatial fabric on its upper or N. E. side.