

# ANCIENT LATIN INSCRIPTION,

FOUND IN NORTHUMBERLAND.

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At Risingham, in Northumberland, are the remains of a station that during a portion of the Roman occupation of the island must have been of considerable importance. It lies close to the Watling Street, between High Rochester (*Bremenium*) and Colchester (*Cor-stopitum*), at the distance of about 8 miles from the former and 15 from the latter. In the Itinerary of Antoninus, for "some reason as yet undiscovered, it is omitted; and its ancient name is unknown. Camden, on the authority of an inscription found there, as read by him, supposed that it had been called *Habitancum*, and this supposition has been so fully adopted by British Archaeologists, that in the maps and descriptions of Horsley, Bruce, MacLauchlan, and others (including the Editor of the *Monumenta Historica Britannica*, Mr. W. Hughes in his map of *Britannia Romana*, and Mr. George Long in his *Classical Atlas*), this name is introduced as certain. In Bri-

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\* Mr. W. Thompson Watkin, in an article "on the 10th Iter of the British portion of the Itinerary of Antoninus." *Journal of Archæol. Institute*, 1871, p. 110, suggests that "possibly it was built soon after the Itinerary was compiled," (*i. e.* according to his views—between A.D. 138, the year in which Hadrian died, and A.D. 144, the year in which Antoninus Pius completed his third consulship) "destroyed in the insurrection in the reign of Commodus, and rebuilt by Severus." In the map illustrating the article, he gives *Eburocassum*, with a query, as the name of the station. See p. 125 of the *Journal*. Ebechester seems to have an etymological (if no better) claim to the ancient designation—*Eburocassum*—*Eburocastrum*.

† The altar bearing this inscription was (and, I believe, is) in the vestibule of the library of Trinity College, Cambridge.