

Having had an opportunity last year of waiting on Major Rooke and viewing this Roman villa, I was first struck with the appearance that Mansfield was probably a Roman station, from whence the villa was not above a mile distant, and indeed was in sight of it; and I thought I saw traces of some Roman roads running near it. On viewing the villa itself (which I found well worth the view), I saw a post still nearer it which had all the appearance of a Roman camp, from its form and other circumstances; but on inquiry from Major Rooke, he assured me there was no such thing there, nor Roman road in the neighbourhood. However, having communicated to him my sentiments grounded on observations which I had occasionally made on Roman roads, stations and camps, from whence I had formed a decided opinion that there was a uniform system of such roads, camps and stations throughout the kingdom, and all connected with each other as *diverticula*, I entreated Major Rooke to look a little more narrowly into this point; and ventured to prophesy that, on searching further into this particular spot, which wore the name of Pleasley Wood, he would not only find *that* to be a Roman station, but would probably from thence be able to trace a connected chain of them through the country. The time and the season not allowing of it *then*, he promised to do so as he had leisure and opportunity; and the result of his labours is contained in the treatise herewith enclosed. I hope I shall be forgiven if I take this opportunity, fortified by this experiment of the truth of my ideas on the subject, humbly to submit it to the Society whether they would not think it advisable to direct some encouragement should be given to an investigation of all the Roman roads, camps and stations throughout the kingdom, county by county, for the purpose of ascertaining the connected military system and principles on which they were formed, which may lead to a curious discovery of the extent and situation of the many Roman towns, camps and villas which must have existed in this country during the period of four hundred years for which Britain was a very distinguished member of the great Roman Empire. Such investigation, gradually but regularly pursued, would neither be expensive nor laborious, there being very little doubt but that there are ingenious persons in every county, who, on such a wish being properly communicated to them by the Society, would readily second those wishes, and, with very little assistance in having plans or drawings made by