

smallness of the altar, not more than "10 inches high, and 5 inches square." The only point, which remains to be noticed, is DE in the first line. It may be the preposition, *i.e. de militibus legionis sextæ victricis*, used purposely to avoid calling him a *miles*; or it may stand for *delicium*, *delicia*, or *deliciæ*, "the pet," MIL., of course, if this be adopted, standing for *militum*.

61. In Dr. Bruce's *Roman Wall*, p. 209, 2nd Ed., a stone, bearing the following fragment of an inscription, is figured:—

ESTRA.A
RIANO
EGII

Dr. B. remarks:—

"The Milking Gap slab, to which it has a very close resemblance, enables us to supply the parts that are wanting. The only difference seems to be, that the emperor's name is in the dative case instead of the genitive as in the other example.

[IMP CAJES TRAIA[NO]
[HAD]RIANO [AVG PP]
[L]EG II [AVG]
[A PLATORIO NEPOTE LEG PR PR]."

This restoration is justified by "the Milking Gab" slab, except in one point, and that an important one, *viz.*, the addition of the letters PP, which do not appear on that slab. This title, *Pater Patriæ*, cannot be introduced *ad libitum*; its presence or absence as a designation of Hadrian may make a difference of eleven years in the date, for it was not assumed by that emperor until 128 A.D. The two* slabs, given by Dr. Bruce, in pp. 202, 203, indicate a period between 117 and 128 A.D., about 124, in which year, as we know from the diploma found at Stannington, Aulus Platorius Nepos was Legate in Britain. The inscriptions, found at Great Chesters, *Æsica*, and Moresby, *Morbium*?, which have the addition of P·P· give a date between 128 and 138 A.D.

The Leicester mile-stone marks the year between August 11, 120, and August 11, 121, within which time Hadrian was probably in the island. The altar already noticed in 59, mentioning *L. Ælius Cæsar*, gives either 136 or 137 A.D.; and Horsley's, n. lxi. *Cumber-*

* I suspect that some pairs of slabs, bearing the same inscription, were set up to mark the beginning and the end of work done on the Southern barrier as there were on the Northern. See *Brit. Rom. Inscript.* p. 235.