

Irrespective of whether Professor Hauck is correct in assuming that the figure in the Torslunda version has only one eye, the eagle- or raven-headed terminals to the horns and the regular attribution of a spear to these dancing figures provide sufficient evidence for their identification either as types of Wodan himself, or votaries of the god engaged in some mimetic performance in his honour (Hauck, 1954, 47, taf. II). Those who allude to these mid-winter dances, perhaps naturally, omit to mention the detail of the spears. But there is at least a hint of this in an anonymous, but probably eighth-century North Frankish homily 'de sacrilegiis' which mentions in connexion with the stag-play *arma in campo ostendit* (Caspari, 1886, 10). And from further north, where we might have expected a knowledge of pagan customs to have survived in a more pristine form, we are forcibly reminded of the account of a demonstration of a Viking mid-winter dance performed before the emperor in Byzantium, in which warriors from the Varangian guard danced dressed in animal skins and masks, carrying shields and poles and chanting 'Yule, Yule' (Bay, 1954, 120-21).

The notion of a horned beast leading a frenzied ritual dance was still alive in thirteenth-century France (Vitry, 131). And it might be assumed that, increasingly trivialized, their origins and significance long forgotten, such customs persisted into relatively recent times. The Highgate horn-swearing, Stourton 'bull' and Abbot's Bromley horn-dance are simply the better-known examples of a very widespread tradition (Alford, 1968). The equations of folklore are notoriously treacherous, but it would

be pleasing to suppose that the mid-winter 'hoodenings' which survived in living memory at Eastry, Saree, Finglesham and elsewhere in rural East Kent represent the final reflex of Finglesham Man (Field, 1967; Maylam, 1909).

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## The Tolley marbles

*Mr Martyn Owen of the Geological Museum sends us the following note on the Tolley marbles. He points out that the Geological Museum has always been most keen to aid archaeologists in*

The fine collection of ancient Roman marbles and other ornamental stones collected in Rome by Henry Tolley in the middle of the last century, and presented to the British Museum by his daughter in 1903, has been transferred

*their investigations of building material and feels that this collection, which has lain dormant in the British Museum for many years, is sure to prove of great use to archaeologists.*

to the Geological Museum, Exhibition Road, London SW7 2DE, on extended loan. Consisting of over 700 specimens the collection is an invaluable aid to the identification of similar material found at archaeological sites.

The Geological Museum has, in addition to its exhibited series of Building and Decorative Stones, extensive reserve and reference collections with which the Tolley Marbles are now housed. These collections include representative building stones from most quarries now working stone in Great Britain; specimens from

many British sources now disused; and marbles and other ornamental stones from most countries of the world. These collections, to which the Tolley Marbles have now been added, can be inspected by appointment. It would be of help to give details of the purpose and scope of the enquiry.

## Symposium: Archaeometry and Archaeological Prospection

A Symposium on Archaeometry and Archaeological Prospection will be held in Oxford from 19–22 March 1975. Information available during February from the *Secretary, Symposium on Archaeometry, Research Laboratory for Archaeology, 6 Keble Road, Oxford OX1 3QJ* (please enclose s.a.e.). Intending speakers

are asked to send a short abstract before 15 January to the Symposium Secretary. Limited accommodation available at St Edmund Hall on payment of £10 deposit before 15 January. A registration fee of £6 is required payable not later than 5 March.

## Book Chronicle *continued from p. 282*

**Corpus of hieroglyphic inscriptions in the Brooklyn Museum, Vol. I** by T. G. H. James.

*Brooklyn: The Brooklyn Museum, 1974, 241 pp., 89 pls. (1 in colour). \$10.00.*

**Fort Jesus: a Portuguese fortress on the East African coast** by James Kirkman. *Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1974, 337 pp., 44 pls., 86 figs. £12.50.*

**The moated sites of Yorkshire** by H. E. Jean Le Patourel. (The Society for Medieval Archaeology Monograph Series: No. 5.) *London: The Society for Medieval Archaeology, 147 pp., 12 pls., 42 figs. (4 pull-out). £3.50 (subscribers £2.50). Obtainable from Mrs A. F. Morley, 6 Church Grove, Little Chalfont, Amersham, Bucks. HP6 6SH.*

**Le Malpas rockshelter: a study of late paleolithic technology in its environmental setting** by Anta Montet-White. (University of Kansas Publications in Anthropology Number 4.) *Lawrence: University of Kansas, 1973, 143 pp., 55 figs., 37 tables. \$3.50.*

**The Greeks: their legacy** by Janet Van Duyn. (Cassell's Early Culture Series.) *London: Cassell, 1974, 192 pp., numerous pls. (many in colour). £2.50.*

**The Egyptians: Pharaohs and craftsmen** by Janet Van Duyn. (Cassell's Early Culture Series.) *London: Cassell, 1974, 176 pp., numerous pls. (many in colour). £2.50.*

**Gotland** by Arthur Spencer. (The Island Series.) *London, Newton Abbot, Pomfret (VT), Vancouver: David & Charles, 1974, 175 pp., 32 pls., 8 maps. £3.75; US \$12.00; Canadian \$11.50.*

**The spearheads of the Anglo-Saxon settlements** by M. J. Swanton. *Thornton Heath: Royal Archaeological Institute, 1973, 228 pp., 88 figs. Non-members £5.00; members £4.00.*

**Radiocarbon and Indian archaeology** edited by D. P. Agrawal and A. Ghosh. *Bombay: Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, 1973, 550 pp., 27 pls., numerous figs. and tables. Rs.45.00; \$10.00; £4.00.*

**Mesoamerican writing systems: a Conference at Dumbarton Oaks, October 30th–31st, 1971**, edited by Elizabeth P. Benson. *Washington, D.C.: Dumbarton Oaks Trustees for Harvard University, 1973, 226 pp., 114 figs., 13 tables. \$10.00 postpaid. Obtainable from The Center for Pre-Columbian Studies, Dumbarton Oaks Trustees for Harvard University, 1703 32nd Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.*

**The deterioration and conservation of painted glass: a critical bibliography and three research papers** by R. G. Newton. *Corpus Vitrearum Medii Aevi, Great Britain-Occasional Papers I. London: Oxford University Press, 1974, 101 pp., 3 pls., 4 figs. £4.00.*

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