

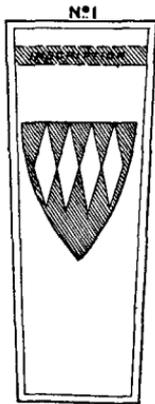
THE TOMB OF PHILIP D'AUBIGNÉ AT JERUSALEM.

HAPPENING some days ago to call on Mr. Schick, he very kindly showed me the communications he lately received from you respecting the tomb of

N^o 3
 CIRCUMACET: PHILIPPO VSIDE
 AVBINGDI: CIVIS: ANIMARE
 Q. VIESCANT: INPA. CE: AUBIGNI.

N^o 4 •

TOP OF SLAB SURFACE
 N^o 2



Scale
 1 2 3 4 5 6 feet

THE TOMB OF PHILIP D'AUBIGNÉ.

the English Crusader, Baron Philippus de Aubigni, and the squeezes and drawings which he had in consequence made of it. As some years ago I made this very tomb, and the name of the person it commemorated, the subject of a letter to the *Athenæum*, I told Mr. Schick of this circumstance; and now, at his suggestion, and by his invitation, I have put down the following notes on the biography of a person, the story of whose fortunes would form a very respectable foundation for a historical novel. I venture to hope that the brief sketch will not prove quite devoid of interest to the readers of the *Quarterly Statement*, in case you should indulge me by inserting it in that periodical.

The name of de Albineto, de Albineio, de Albenio, de Albinio, de Albinei, de Albinie, de Albini, de Albeni (de Ableni), d'Albigni, d'Aubigni, de Aubigni, d'Aubenye, d'Aubenie, d'Aubeny, d'Aubeny, d'Aubinay (for, like many other mediæval and Norman family names, we find it spelt in various ways before it arrives at the form now in vogue, viz., Daubeny), is of frequent occurrence in the pages of old chroniclers.

The first five of the above forms are all found in the "Historia Major" of Matthew Paris (edition of W. Watts; printed by Hodgkinson, London, 1640).

Taking this work as our guide, we learn that a Richard de Albineio, who died in 1119, in the reign of Henry I, was Abbot of St. Albans.

In 1139, that is, twenty years later, a William de Albineto was castellaine of Arundel Castle at the time that the Dowager Queen Adela received the Empress Matilda and her brother, Robert of Gloucester, as guests into the said castle. Later on, in 1215, amongst the names of the

nobles who wrested from John Lackland the celebrated Great Charter of Runnymede, that of Philippus de Albeneio (p. 255) or Philippus de Ableni, probably a misprint for de Albeni (p. 262), occurs, and later historical notices seem to indicate that the tombstone in question marks his grave. The events of the reign of John are, I presume, familiar to every English school-child; it will therefore suffice if I remark, that as he never intended to abide by the terms of the Great Charter he hired a body of foreign mercenaries, and began a war against the barons by laying siege to Rochester Castle, which he captured, in spite of the gallantry of its defenders under Baron William de Albineto, styled by the old historian "vir nobilis et per omnia laudabilis strenuus et in rebus bellicis expertus." As for the garrison, he killed those among them who were of the highest rank, amongst whom were William and Odinevellus de Albineto. During his desolating march northwards, Philippus de Albeneio=Albeneto was with others compelled to accompany him (p. 274). The castle of Belvers=(Belvedere)=Belvoir=Beauvoir fell into the tyrant's hands, its keys being surrendered by Nicolas de Albineto, son of William, who hoped by so doing to save the life of his captive father (p. 275). After the death of John, Philippus de Albeneio was present at the coronation of his son, Henry III of Winchester, a child of eight years of age, whose training was entrusted to his care during the protectorship of the able Earl of Pembroke. He was likewise present at the relief of Lincoln, and the decisive battle in May, 1217 (pp. 289, 295, 298). The Earl of Pembroke died in 1219, and in 1222 Baron (p. 295) Philippus de Albeneio="the English crusading Knight, Philip d'Aubenei (see footnote to page 155 of the reprint of the article "Crusades," by the late Major Proctor, R.E., in the *Encyclopedia Metropolitana*, Richard Griffin & Co., London and Glasgow, 1854), the valiant soldier of honourable and commendable manners, the most faithful teacher and tutor of the King of England, "miles strenuus, ac morum honestate commendabilis, Regisque Anglorum magister et eruditor fidelissimus" (p. 313), having resigned his office of Royal tutor (the King was in the following year declared of age to govern for himself), took his sword and lance and his trusty Norman shield, with its escutcheon of four fusils, and joined one of the expeditions accessory to the Fifth Crusade.

A letter of his to his old friend and brother in arms, Ralph, Earl of Chester and Lincoln, who had taken the Cross at the commencement of the Crusade, but who had returned to England after the capture of Damietta in 1218 (p. 303), is still extant (p. 313). In this letter he tells how, after leaving Marseilles, the band of Crusaders approached Damietta, but were met by many vessels leaving that port in consequence of the disastrous issue of the campaign led by the Papal Legate, which resulted in the evacuation of Damietta. These tidings were, of course, grievous to the pious soldier and his comrades. "Quando vero hos rumores audivimus magnum dolorem habuimus, sicut omnes Christiani habere debent." After due deliberation it was resolved to steer for Acre, which was reached in due time. During his residence of fourteen years (1222-1236) in Palestine

he appears to have taken an active part in the stirring events of that period, and he lived to see what many another gallant Crusader, "cujus anima requiescat in pace," was not destined to witness, viz., the undisturbed possession by the Christians, in consequence of the remarkable treaty of Frederic II, of Bethlehem and Nazareth, with free access to Jerusalem and the holy sites.

Here I must conclude my notice of him (in hope that others will fill in the outline thus briefly sketched) with the following extract from the chronicle already named, and referring to events happening just before the expulsion of the Christians from Jerusalem by the Sultan of Egypt in 1236:—"Circa illos dies, nobilis ac Deo devotus in armis strenuus miles, Philippus de Albeneto, postquam militaverat Deo in *Terra sancta*, peregrinando pluriès, tandem in eadem, diem Claudeus extremum, et finem faciens laudabilem, sanctam meruit in *Terra sancta*, quod vivus diu desideraverat, sepulturam" (p. 432).

It seems a strange coincidence that of the two Crusaders' tombs which till a year or two year ago were still *in situ* at Jerusalem, one, which has now disappeared, should, on good historical evidence, have been identified with that of one of the murderers of Thomas à Becket, and the other, still in position and in excellent preservation, that of a soldier and scholar who helped to secure England's Great Charter.

The mediæval tombstone dug up thirteen years ago by Mr. Maudslay is now in the collection of antiquities at the Church of St. Anne.

J. E. HANAEUR.

JERUSALEM,

January 31st, 1887.

RESEARCHES IN THE PLAIN NORTH OF CÆSAREA.

BY G. SCHUMACHER.

(I.) AN EXCURSION TO THE CROCODILE RIVER.

WITH the object of hunting up one of those famous crocodiles which are said to be found in the swamps of the Nahr ez Zerka, the Crocodile River of the ancients, near Cæsarea, a specimen of which was killed by the German Colonists in the spring of 1878, and invited by the natives of that district to destroy these enemies, who annually look for a prey out of their flocks and herds, I gathered a few friends of the Colony and camped for a week near the marshes of the said river.

After inquiring about the customary haunt of the crocodiles—a question which was warmly discussed among the members of the Ghawârnî tribe of