

2537  
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Chester, Sep 26 1888.

J. A. Pitt Rivers Esq.

Dear Sir

I am writing to thank you for your promised contribution to the "Thompson Walker Fund". It is in every way a deserving case. - The contributions of friends around here have paid off the more pressing debts, but as yet I have nothing in hand for

the education of the two little girls. - Your contribution will assist in that direction. -

When convenient to you I shall be very pleased to receive your donation on behalf of the families. -

Yours very truly,  
Geo W Shrubsole

Cheque for £12 sent 15. Oct. 88

PRIVATE.

The late Mr. W. THOMPSON WATKIN, of Liverpool.

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AN APPEAL.

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A few days ago I was summoned by telegram to the death-bed side of my valued friend, the eminent Antiquary, author of *Roman Lancashire*, *Roman Cheshire*; and also of upwards of a hundred papers of more or less value to his fellow-workers. Probably he had no equal, and certainly no superior in Roman epigraphy in this country.

In addition to his published books, he had by dint of hard, long-sustained work, and much expense accumulated a most valuable collection of facts and details of the Roman occupation of Great Britain. *Roman North Wales* was to have appeared shortly, and certain English Counties were to have been dealt with at short intervals. If his life had been spared he intended ultimately to have published the whole under the title of "Britannia Romana." His comparatively premature death at the age of 51 frustrated those arrangements. With almost his last breath he committed his MSS, and general literary effects to my care.

For the present my appeal is to his co-workers and friends. He devoted his time and spent his patrimony in the ardent pursuit of his favourite branch of Archæology, but was cut down before he could realize the fruits of his labour of love. He has left a widow and two little children, aged respectively four and nine years, to mourn his loss, and with the exception of the value of his books and papers, entirely unprovided for. It was a real comfort to him just before he passed away to

" . . . . . the life elysian,"  
" Whose portal we call death,"

when I readily undertook at his request to do my best for them.

Mr. WATKIN was his own publisher, and unfortunately there is still due a balance for printing and publishing his last book on *Roman Cheshire*. To hasten the sale of his books, and to realize his literary effects at once, would entail a considerable sacrifice at the expense of the widow and children. To obviate this, I have after consultation with certain friends decided to appeal to the Antiquarian world for (say) £200, which sum would justify the Executors in handing over the whole of Mr. WATKIN's literary effects to the Chetham Library, Manchester. The collection will include—

- 1.—The Annotated, and interleaved copy of *Roman Lancashire* in readiness for a Second Edition.
- 2.—Wood Blocks, and copyright of the same.
- 3.—Materials, consisting of Extracts, Letters, Cuttings, and Correspondence, arranged under Counties, for a *Roman History of Britain*.
- 4.—MSS, and Papers intended for a work on *Roman North Wales*.
- 5.—Ordnance Maps, for tracing the Roman Roads.
- 6.—Miscellaneous Papers bearing on the Roman occupation of Britain.

I feel confident that this appeal on behalf of one so long the servant of the Archæological world, will warmly commend itself to your liberality.

A "THOMPSON WATKIN" Fund has been opened at the Chester, Liverpool, and Manchester Branches of the National Provincial Bank, to whom all cheques should be sent, or to the undersigned,

GEORGE W. SHRUBSOLE.

TOWN HALL SQUARE, CHESTER,

MAY 1st, 1888.

*The best of Mr. Watkin's Papers will appear in the forthcoming number of the Journal of the Institute.*

[P. T. O.]

*Subscriptions promised, or received on behalf  
of the "Thompson Watkin Fund."*

|  |     | £  | s. | d. |
|--|-----|----|----|----|
| Sir E. Watkin Bart, M.P., London             | ... | 10 | 0  | 0  |
| Miss S. M. ffarington, Worden Hall           | ... | 5  | 0  | 0  |
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| Mr. F. Potts, Chester...                     | ... | 2  | 0  | 0  |
| Mr Robert Ferguson, M.P., Carlisle           | ... | 2  | 0  | 0  |
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*The foregoing Appeal has the approval, and commendation of the following:—*

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