

CHAP. ii.

Monuments of Antiquity to be scene in Jersey.

I obserue in this Isle three sorts of ancient remainders or Monum^{ts} of antiqty, the first and doubtlesse the most ancient are those wee call Poquelayes, which consist for the most part of foure huge stones, whereof three planted on end Triangle-wise at foure, five or six foot distance from each other, & the fourth flatter then y^e rest & soe large as being layd on y^e top of them three to beare on them all, and to make a vault vnder: then at ten or twelve foot distance, sometimes more sometimes lesse, another great stone sett vp in y^e manner of a pillar. Of these Poquelayes some are yet entire, others are fallen and some peeces of them sunck into y^e ground. There are in y^e Island about halfe a hundred of them. I obserue two different in forme from the rest; one in a place called *Les Landes Palot*, not farre from the Free Schoole, consisting of one onely massiue entire stone, & therefore not hollowe vnder as y^e rest, which seemes to be y^e naturall rock growne upon the place, & by art hewed and fashioned into a naturall Poquelaye; but yet it is separated from y^e rock under it with such a counterpoise, that at a certaine place a boy with his finger's end can moue it; which a hundred men could not otherwise doe. The other is to be scene neere y^e old Castle as you goe towards S^t. Catherines. This stands iust at the Top of a round hillock made of hands and is supported, not by three, as the rest, but by five stones, which by lenght of time are suncke soe deepe into the ground, that a man must creepe to goe vnder it; y^e couering being exceeding large and

waightly. I shall hint at y^e vse of these Poquelayes, when I speake of the Religion of those times. The second kind of monuments, and which I take to be next to y^e Poquelayes in antiquity, are by y^e Islanders called Hogues; which are nothing else but round hillocks or eminencies raised vp with mens hands: the most part of them not much higher then those which are to be seene in many parts of England, thought to be the Sepulchers of eminent persons slayne there in Battaile. Those in Jersey seeme to haue ben made for a furro differing vse, that is for Speculae or hills to espyo a furro off from y^e land into the sea, which necessity tought y^e Islanders to prouide for their security, at the time when y^e Danes, Vandalls & other northerne people infested y^e Coast of France and other Southerly parts of Europe, not long after the time of Charles the Great, to y^e end that the Inhabitants discovering their shippes afarre off, might haue time to hide such things as they desired to preserue. It may be objected that the sea is not to be seene from some of them; which is against my coniecture, but y^e cause of it is y^e improuement made since those times of y^e ground by planting of trees, & inclosing of ground, which haue quite changed y^e surface of the Island; whereas in ancient times it was all Champion and open ground. Of these Hogues there are two of more speciall notice: the one more commonly knowne standing almost in y^e roade from S^t: Helery to Montorgueil, soe high, that it is seene from some leagues into y^e land of Normandy, hauing a Chappell at y^e topp of it, built not long since after the modell of y^e Sepulcher at Jerusalem, by one Mabon, who had ben a pilgrim there, concerning which there is a fabulous report, That a Gentleman of Normandy whose Title or Surname was de Hambye hauing killed a Dragon, w^{ch} had don much hurt in y^e Island, & being afterwards treacherously killed by his servant, & being buried there, his Lady caused y^e sayd Hogue to be raised ouer him to y^e end she might behold it from her House beyond y^e Sea, & y^e from the latter part of y^e Gentlemans name, viz. Bye, it was called afterwards Hogue bye. Some part of which story may very well be true: but for y^e other, "sit fides penes authores."

The other is in the north part of the Island, taken notice of but by few persons, as being quite out of y^e waye in a corner of y^e Island; though in my opinion as considerable, if not more, then y^e former. Wee call it Castell de Leck, placed on y^e top of a natural eminence iust over the sea of a much greater height & compasse then y^e other; from whose top one may discover very farre towards Guernezey. The very name implyes that it was made for defense; but it might alsoe serue for a Watch tower, as well as for a place of retreat; however I dare say that it caryes the face & stateliness of a Roman worke, trench't & bulwarek't from y^e land side, according to y^e manner of those times; which appears yet very plainely. The number of these Hogues is not soe easy to be knowne, some hauing been defac't & ruined by y^e proprietors of y^e ground. I guesse them to have ben about a douzen more or lesse.

The third sort of monum^{ts} of Antiquity are to be seene in Trinity parish towards the Northeast part of y^e Island, hard by Dielamen one, & another nearer y^e sea. The first is by y^e people thereabouts called *Le Chasteau de Sedman*, Sedmans Castle; nobody can tell why; for who this Sedman was, or when he liued appears not. Sure, the forme of this worke is farre differing from y^e of a Castle; unlesse perhaps our Ancestors called all fortifications Castels; especially those that are made to encampe in, from y^e Latin word *Castra*, w^{ch} signifyes a Camp fortified after y^e Roman waye, as this seemes to haue sometime ben. It is a great work raised in the manner of a Bulwarke with a deepe ditch without it, making a square whose lenght is neere an Aker, & y^e Breadth about halfe an Aker. In y^e foure Corners were, as I conceiue, foure Hogues or round hillocks, whereof y^e one is yet entire, y^e rest with a great part of y^e worke haue ben euened by y^e owners, for their benefit.

It is of y^e one side vpon euen ground, & then it falls by degrees till it meetes a bottom, where a Gentleman there hath two Fish ponds. About the midle of it is a spring, & close by it the remainder, that is the best halfe of another worke

fectly round, a pike high & proportionally thick with a ditch on y^e outside; part of it is throwne downe & levell'd. This is y^e part of it which is call'd *Le Chasteau de Sedeman*. It seemes to haue ben as it were y^e Prætoriū, fort or Retiring place upon occasion of disorder in y^e Camp. At another place called *Le Vallet* close to y^e shore not farre from Bouley bay in y^e same Parish beginneth another worke, reaching frō thence all along the Browe of steepe hills as farre as Rosell hauen very thicke high & strong about two or three hundred paces in lenght where it begins; because nature hauing ben sparing to fortifye that place, it was necessary that Art should supplye it: but in other parts the hills are a sufficient fortification, except close to that hauen, where the worke is continued downe to the sea. It hath the sea of y^e one side, & a deepe valley on y^e other, & soe makes a peninsula about a mile in lenght, but not aboue halfe soe broad: y^e ground none of y^e best, with a good spring of water, but noe appearance of any ancient building within that compasse. The people thereabouts will haue it to be the Retrenchment of some who had inuaded the Island. But I take it to be y^e worke rather of a flying then pursuing enemy, it being made for deffense & not for offense.