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HALSWAY NEAR CROWCOMBE, SOMERSET.

SOMERSETSHIRE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
and
NATURAL HISTORY

SOCIETY'S PROCEEDINGS 1868-9



VOL. XV

TAUNTON

FREDERICK MAY, HIGH STREET
LONDON: LONGMANS GREEN READER AND DYER
MDCCCLXX

Preface.

THE Members of the Society are indebted to Wm. Long, Esq., for the two illustrations of Christon Church, given in the present volume ; and to the Council of the Geological Society for the use of the plate to illustrate Mr. Sanford's Paper, on the Rodentia of the Somerset Caves.

The Publication Committee regret that they have not been able, as they intended, to give the Somersetshire Glossary in this present volume. It will be in print early next year.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEARS 1868-9.

PART I.

THE Twentieth Annual General Meeting was held at WILLITON, on the 25th August, 1868, under the presidency of Sir ALEXANDER ACLAND HOOD, Bart. The President on taking the chair expressed the pleasure he felt in presiding at the annual meeting, and after recapitulating the archæological wonders he had visited in different countries, and saying that with reference to natural history the neighbourhood was strong, called upon Mr. DANIEL BADCOCK, (in the absence of the hon. secretary), to read the Report of the Council for the past year :—

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1868.

“The Council have the honour to report on this the twentieth anniversary of the establishment of the Society, that, a considerable number of members not having paid their subscriptions for four years and upwards, they recommend that their names should be removed from the

list. It will be seen that this will not affect the real condition of the Society. They further recommend that in future any member who shall not have paid his subscription for three years, shall be struck off the list, and be subject to a fresh entrance fee in case he should wish to rejoin the Society.

“It is evident that any comparison between the number of members in past and present years will, if this recommendation be adopted, be fallacious; but the Council have every reason to believe that the Society has lost no material strength during the past year.

“They report that the Volume of Proceedings for the year 1867, is for the most part printed, and they have reason to believe that it will be in the hands of members in the course of a few weeks; and that the contents will be found to be of considerable interest.

“By the courtesy of the Council of the Palæontographical Society, the paper on the Feline remains in our Museum by Mr. Sanford, will be furnished with a limited number of copies of illustrations. These will be issued to such members as require them at the price of 4s. per set of twenty-five folio and quarto plates.

“A considerable amount of wall casing for the Museum has been provided by a local subscription. This has enabled the Curator to improve the arrangement of the collection, though much still remains to be done in this respect.

“Considerable progress has been made in a minute and critical examination of, and mounting and arranging, the valuable cave collection, which proves to be of greater interest the more closely it is examined.

“A considerable portion of the rough catalogue of the whole Museum is finished by the Curator. It is hoped that this may be completed during the ensuing year.

“ Mr. Stradling has deposited a miscellaneous collection of objects in the Museum, some of them are of considerable historical and antiquarian interest, including a valuable addition to the geological collection.

“ Annexed is the Treasurers’ Report for the year ending August 20th, by which it will be seen that there is a balance of £32 1s. 5d. in favour of the Society.

“ In conclusion the Council beg to tender their thanks to the President, and the Local Committee at Williton, for their exertions on the present occasion.”

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Treasurers in Account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society. Cr.

1867.		1867-8.	
	£ s. d.		£ s. d.
August 20.		By Annual Meeting at Bristol	5 19 6
To balance of former account	8 16 4	„ Repairs, Glass, &c. ...	6 15 0
„ Subscriptions for 1868 ...	148 10 0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c.	10 3 8
„ Ditto arrears ...	138 11 6	„ Coal, Gas, &c. ...	8 2 8
„ Entrance Fees ...	12 10 0	„ Curator’s Salary to Aug. ’68	37 10 0
		„ Rent to Midsummer, 1868	30 0 0
		„ Insurance ...	15 0
		„ May, balance of Account for Printing Vol. 13 ...	68 17 6
		„ May, on account of Printing Vol. 14 ...	25 0 0
		„ Lithographic drawing and printing illustrations for Vol. 13 ...	46 9 11
		„ Subscription to Palaeontographical Society 1868	1 1 0
		„ Subscription to Ray Society, 1868 ...	1 1 0
		„ Subscriptions to Archaeological Institute, 11 years—to 1867 ...	11 11 0
		„ Original drawing of Taunton Castle Gateway ...	4 4 0
		„ Postages, Carriage, &c.	7 18 8
		„ Postage of Volumes of Proceedings ...	9 6 7
		„ Sundries ...	1 10 11
		„ Balance ...	32 1 5
	<u>£ 308 7 10</u>		<u>£ 308 7 10</u>
August 20, 1868, Balance ...	£ 32 1 5		

H. R. H. J. & D. BADCOCK,
Treasurers.

August 21st, 1868, Audited and found Correct,
Wm. P. PINCHARD,

The Report of the Council and the Treasurers' Account were unanimously received and adopted.

Proposed by the PRESIDENT, and seconded by MR. MARSHALL, and resolved, "That the Committee be empowered to make arrangements for the next meeting of the Society and for the appointment of President."

The Vice-Presidents were re-elected.

The Treasurers were re-appointed.

The General Secretaries were appointed as follows:—
Rev. W. A. Jones, Dr. Pring, Mr. W. A. Sanford.

The Local Secretaries were re-appointed.

The following gentlemen were elected members of the Committee: H. J. Alford, J. E. Anderdon, W. Meade King, T. Meyler, J. F. Norman, W. P. Pinchard.

Moved by DR. WOODFORDE, and seconded by MR. DICKINSON, and resolved "That the best thanks of the members be presented to Wm. Ayshford Sanford, Esq., F.G.S., for the valuable services rendered by him in the arrangement and classification of the Mendip Cave Bones, in the Museum of the Society, and for the elaborate catalogue of *Felis spelæa* recently completed."

MR. E. A. FREEMAN then made some remarks upon Dunster Church. The fabric had originally been divided between the monks and the people; he only knew of one other where the arrangements remained so perfect, and that was at Ewenny, in Glamorganshire.

The Excursion.

Bicknoller Church

was first visited, and attention drawn to the elaborately carved bench ends, some of the finest remaining in this part of the county. The church consists of a nave, chancel, north aisle, tower, and south porch with parvis. In the church-yard is the shaft of an old cross. The manor of this parish was given to the Dean and Chapter of Wells, by Bishop Bytton, in 1271. The name Bicknoller is supposed to be derived from the ancient British words *Bychan*, small, and *Atwar*, a treasury. It has been said that the Romans had here one of the smaller repositories for their money.

The party then proceeded to

Galsway Manor House,

supposed to have been originally the residence of Cardinal Beaufort, there are however no heraldic insignia on any part of the building which would bear testimony to this tradition. Internally the house has been much altered, still the remains of the old ceilings bespeak its former grandeur. The three towers, one in the centre, and the others at the ends of the front, give it a picturesque appearance, being battlemented and pinnacled. There are several quaint gurgoyles, one representing the devil carrying away a lawyer.

Hence to

Crowcombe Church,

a fine Perpendicular building, dedicated to the Holy Cross, having a chapel on the north side containing several monuments to the Carew family, and a small portion of stained glass. In the church-yard is a fine cross having a canopied niche, the centre of the shaft containing the figure of a bishop vested in a chasuble. Another cross stands in the village; both these are in an excellent state of preservation. The visit proposed to Crowcombe Court was unavoidably deferred owing to the illness of the proprietor, Lieut. Colonel Carew.

The Church of St. Mary, Stogumber

was next inspected. Bishop Bytton gave this church to the Dean and Chapter of Wells on condition that a yearly stipend of fifty shillings should be paid to a chaplain to say daily mass for the repose of his soul. Here is a fine monument to Sir George Sydenham, Knight, of Combe Sydenham, and others to the family of Musgrave.

The party then returned to Williton where an Ordinary was held at the Egremont Hotel, after which the Rev. T. HUGO, M.A., read a paper on "Taunton and King Ina;" and Mr. J. H. PARKER made some observations on the Cistercian Abbey at Old Cleeve.

Second Day: Excursion.

The members of the Society started from Williton and went direct to

Monksilver Church,

which is supposed to have been built in the 15th cen-

tury, and contains some early Perpendicular work of the reign of Henry VII, and a good number of carved bench ends, some of which have been judiciously restored.

The ancient Manor House of

Combe Sydenham,

once the residence of Sir F. Drake, was then inspected. It was held of the Dean and Chapter of Wells by the tenure of knight's service, and is a fine example of an Elizabethan mansion, having a gabled tower in the centre. The porch bears date 1580, and has this inscription :—

“Porta patebo tuis semper generose Georgii ingratis animis janua clausa patens.”

Above are the arms of Sydenham, Quarterly 1st & 6th Three rams, for Sydenham—2. defaced—3. A cross—4. Barry of six—5. A bend between six escallops (? fountains) for Sturton. There were two crests placed on helmets affronté, both now defaced.

Nettlecombe Court and Church

were next visited. The church, dedicated to St. Mary, contains some fine monuments to the Raleighs, and some 15th century glass with figures of SS. Mary, Catherine, Urith, John, Laurance, and Peter. Round the font are sculptural representations illustrative of the seven sacraments. A fine old chalice, portion of the Communion plate, was shown, and, after the great hall of the court with its numerous portraits of the Trevelyan family had been viewed, the Society proceeded *viâ* Fair Cross to

Old Cleeve Abbey,

where they were joined by several members of the Exeter Naturalists' Society. The ruins were examined under the

guidance of Mr. J. H. Parker, who made some observations on the history and architectural features of the building. It has not been considered necessary to give a report of them here as our readers will find that the history and antiquities of the Abbey are already fully detailed in the Proceedings of the Society, Vols. VI and VII.

Hence to

Dunster Castle

where an excellent luncheon was provided in a marquee on the lawn, by the liberality of its noble owner, G. Fownes-Luttrell, Esq. After inspecting the castle, which was built in the year 1580, though the gate-way appears to be about the time of Richard II, and the inner gate-way and bastions of that of Edward III, the Rev. T. Brown read as follows :—

It was in the spring of 1646 that the Parliamentary army was besieging Dunster castle, which was then garrisoned for the King under the command of Col. Wyndham, the Parliamentary General sent the following message to him :—“ If you will yet deliver up the castle you shall have fair quarter, if not, expect no mercy. Your mother shall be in front to receive the first firing of your cannon.” To which the gallant Colonel replied—“ If you do what you threaten, you do the most barbarous and villanous act that ever was done ! My mother I honor, but the cause I fight for, and the masters I serve—God and the King—I honour more.”—“ Mother, do you forgive me, and give me your blessing ? and let the rebels answer for spilling that blood of yours which I will save with the loss of mine, if I have enough both for my masters and yourself.” The mother replied, “ Son, I forgive thee, and pray God to help thee for this brave resolution. If I live, I shall

love thee all the better for it. God's will be done." Lord Wentworth, Sir R. Greswell, and Col. Webbe rescued the mother, relieved the castle, and took 1,000 prisoners, and put the enemy to flight."

Dunster Church

was the next object, and Mr. E. A. Freeman made some observations respecting it, which it is unnecessary to repeat here, as he has contributed a very valuable account of the building and other contiguous remains to the sixth volume of our Proceedings.

Viewing

Carhampton Church

on their way, which contains a fine old roodscreen, and to which a handsome tower has been recently added, the members returned to Williton where an ordinary was provided at the Egremont Hotel, after dinner Mr. EMANUEL GREEN read a paper on the "Civil War in Somersetshire," and the Rev. T. BROWN drew attention to Mr. Coryat, son of one of the rectors of Odcombe, near Yeovil. In 1612 he made a journey to Turkey, Aleppo, and the West Indies, which took him three months and cost him only £3.

Third Day : Excursion.

The members left Williton a little before ten o'clock for

East Quantoxhead Church

which contains some good bench ends of geometric patterns, and a fine canopied altar tomb bearing this inscription :—

“ Here luyt hugh luttrell knyght wyhe departed 1522 the fyrst day of february, here lyt andro luttrell knyght his sone wyhe departyd the yere of our lord god mccccxxxviii the iiii day of may on whoys souly' ihu have mecy.”

Above are the arms with supports, and the curious canting crest of Luttrell, an otter (*loutre*) passant holding a fish in its mouth. The ancient manor house close to the church was then carefully examined. It is a building of the Elizabethan period, and is exceedingly curious having suffered scarcely any alteration since it was built. The principal rooms have fine chimney pieces with sculptures of scriptural subjects. The old staircases, the steps of which are solid blocks of oak, the old glazing of the windows, the leaden roof, the dais of the great hall, and even some of the hooks used to support the tapestry in the upper rooms, all remaining together much in their original condition, seem to carry the visitor back to the days of his long forgotten ancestors, and place their every day life vividly before his mind.

Stringston Cross

was next seen. It is one of the few perfect churchyard crosses still remaining in this neighbourhood. The finial of the shaft which is really the cross has on its eastern side the figure of our Lord on the cross, with kneeling figures of Mary and John; on the western the Virgin crowned and Child; on the southern the figure of a Bishop, episcopally vested, bearing a crozier, and having his hand in the attitude of benediction; on the northern the figure of a saint, probably St. James the patron of the church. These are protected by canopied niches. Hence to

Stogursey Church,

which contains much Norman work; the font is decora-

ted with the cross of St. Andrew, to whom the church is dedicated, and has a heavy cable moulding. The nave was re-built in the 15th century. The tower is central, contains a fine peal of bells, and has a spire covered with lead. The whole has been recently repaired.

The Society then returned to Fairfield, the seat of Sir Peregrine Palmer Fuller Palmer-Acland, Bart., where the venerable owner had provided an excellent luncheon for them in the great hall, around which hang the portraits of many of his ancestors. After luncheon Sir A. Acland-Hood, Bart., mentioned the persons they represented. The healths of Sir P. P. F. P. Acland, and Sir A. A. Hood, Barts., were proposed with thanks for the hospitable entertainment provided, and having been duly honoured the party started for Dodington.

It had been proposed to visit the ancient camp on Douseborough and site of the old mines at Dodington. This was however omitted owing to the lateness of the hour at which the party arrived there.

Dodington Church

is small and possesses little to interest the antiquary. The parish register which commences in 1538 has this curious entry :—"Feby 25th 1770 was buried James Protherow (a welchman) as he was travelling from Carnarvon too Westminster in London his parish being eaten up by lice through the Inhumanity of the Parish Officer through which he came. all possible kindness being shown him in this parish, but he lived in it but a few days and died a most Miserable Spectacle as was ever seen aged 67."

The Manor House stands hard by the church, and was erected in the year 1581. It has been recently repaired by Sir P. F. P. Acland, Bart., the present proprietor. The

old hall retains its minstrels' gallery, and in the windows may be observed the arms of Dodington, Sable three hunting horns Argent, impaling Sable, a bend Or between six fountains, for Stourton. Over the chimney piece are the arms of Dodington, quartering Wyndham, Trivet, and Sydenham.

Hence passing through St. Audries park the Society inspected the church of

West Quantoxhead,

a modern erection in the gothic style, and returned to Williton, which brought the annual meeting to a close.



The Twenty-first Annual Meeting.

THE Twenty-first Annual Meeting was held at AXBRIDGE, on the 7th September, 1869, under the presidency of WM. LONG, Esq. The Rev. WM. ARTHUR JONES, Secretary, read the following Report :—

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL, 1869.

“ The Council, in presenting their Annual Report, have the pleasure to congratulate the members of this Society on its having attained its Twenty-first Anniversary. While much has been already done through the operation of this Society, to illustrate the history of the County by the series of volumes they have published, and by the objects of Antiquarian interest, and of Natural History collected in your Museum, they feel that very much more remains to be done; and your council would again earnestly solicit a more active co-operation on the part of all those who have it in their power to promote its objects. They are especially desirous to afford every facility for the publication in the Proceedings of original unpublished Documents relating to the County, such as may be found in the Archives of ancient Boroughs, like that in which we are now assembled, and likewise in

private collections, of which there are many in the County of Somerset of great local and public interest.

“Considerable progress has been made in the Glossary of the Somersetshire Dialect kindly undertaken for the Society by the Rev. Wadham P. Williams, assisted by one of your Secretaries, and it is hoped, that members residing in various Districts will assist in furthering this object, before the fleeting forms of the language of our forefathers pass away and become entirely lost.

“Under the supervision of Mr. Wm. Ayshford Sanford, aided by the curator, Mr. Bidgood, the valuable collection of Mendip Cave Bones in your Museum is now arranged and classified, so as to be available for students of that branch of scientific research, and for all such as are interested in the early history of the district. The Museum has been visited during the past year by several of the most distinguished men of Science, all of whom have expressed their high appreciation of the extreme value of the collection, and of the skill and care with which the classification has been carried out.

“In the early part of last Spring, your Council were pleased to have an opportunity of allowing to be placed in the Museum an apparatus for hatching Salmon-ova with the view of introducing them into the River Tone. By this means a thousand young Salmon have been set free in Somersetshire waters, and it is believed under very favourable circumstances.

“The Council desire to record with deep sorrow the recent loss by death of the Rev. F. Warre, one of the founders of this Society, and for many years one of its most active and most highly-valued officers. They feel assured that all the members would desire to join in paying a grateful tribute of respect and esteem, to the memory

It was moved by Mr. R. G. BADCOCK, seconded by Mr. R. K. MEADE KING, and carried unanimously, "That a copy of the paragraph relating to the late Rev. F. Warre, be sent to Mrs. Warre."

On the motion of the Rev. WM. HUNT, seconded by Mr. W. B. DAWKINS, the Vice-Presidents were re-elected.

Moved by the Rev. PREBENDARY HORNER, seconded by the Rev. PREBENDARY SCARTH, it was resolved:—"That the Treasurers and General Secretaries be re-elected with thanks for their services.

The Local Secretaries were re-appointed with the addition of the Rev. Wm. Hunt, Congresbury, and Mr. G. W. Marshall, of Bicknoller.

On the motion of Mr. PLEYDELL P. BOUVERIE, seconded by Mr. T. T. KNYFTON, the following gentlemen were elected members of the Committee:—Rev. W. P. Williams, Mr. O. W. Malet, Mr. H. Alford, Capt. Doveton, Mr. Cecil Smith, Mr. E. B. Tylor.

Mr. Wm. Bidgood was re-elected as Curator, and the value of his services in connection with the arrangement and classification of the Cave Remains in the Museum duly acknowledged.

Moved by Mr. F. H. DICKINSON, seconded by Mr. R. N. GRENVILLE, and resolved:—"That the Council of the Society be empowered to fix the time and place for the next Annual Meeting, and to make the necessary arrangements."

On the motion of Mr. JOHN BATTEN, it was resolved:—"That the Council be authorized, if they think fit, to arrange that the Meeting be held out of the boundaries of the County of Somerset."

The PRESIDENT then read the following address:—

Ladies and Gentlemen,—As Archæology abhors all looseness

of statement, and exacts from its students the most rigid attainable exactness of thought and expression, I have committed to paper the few remarks respecting the antiquities of this neighbourhood, which I thought might with propriety be made by one filling the honourable office of President of this Society at an Axbridge meeting.

The previous annual meetings of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, have been held at the following places:—Taunton (2), Wells (2), Weston-super-Mare, Bath, Yeovil, Dunster, Bridgewater (2), Bruton, Glastonbury, Clevedon, Langport, Wellington, Burnham, Shepton Mallet, Ilminster, Bristol, Williton. When the Society met at Weston-super-Mare in 1851, the excursionists from that place visited Banwell Church, and the Banwell Caves, (which were lighted up for the occasion by Chancellor Law); and the Corporation of Axbridge kindly exhibited their interesting collection of charters in the temporary museum. From Clevedon in 1860 an excursion was made to Wrington, Congresbury, and Yatton, which although not included in the programme of the present meeting, may fairly be considered to belong to our Axbridge district. The Cheddar Cliffs, and Cheddar Church, were visited from Glastonbury in 1859, but with these exceptions the Society has not crossed the limits of the area which we may claim as our own.

But although the Society, in its collective character, has not hitherto explored this particular portion of the county, much attention has been bestowed upon it by individual members, and with good reason. For if we consider the Mendip Hills with reference to their picturesque features, it would be hard to find any of our highland tracts with outlines of a more varied and pleasing character; and if we regard them, from an antiquarian point of view, there is no portion of South Britain, (with the exception perhaps of the Devonshire coast and the neighbouring county of Wilts), which, in its pre-historic traces of man and his works, can surpass it in interest and importance. The geologist finds ample materials

for the study of his favourite science on this vast limestone range, and in its riven sides; and the ecclesiologist sees with admiration in our valleys, such a tower as that of Wrinton, which has been pronounced by an eminent authority to be entitled to the designation of "the finest square western tower, not designed for a spire or lantern, in all England, and therefore probably in the whole world."

The results of the investigations of this neighbourhood by members of the Society have been embodied in papers, published from time to time in the Society's Journal, and among the most important of them are the following:— On the Mendip Bone Caverns, by the Rev. W. A. Jones; on Wookey Hole Hyæna Den, and on the Burrington Combe Caverns, by Mr. Boyd Dawkins; on the Mining Operations of the Romans, by Mr. Yates; on Ancient Chambered Tumuli, by the Rev. H. M. Scarth; on the Geology of the Mendip District, by the late Mr. W. Baker, and by Messrs. Charles Moore and McMurtrie; on the Feline Fossils and Pleistocene Mammalia in the Taunton Museum, by Mr. Sanford; and on the types of Ancient Earth Works, by the late Rev. Francis Warre.

The mention of this last name reminds us of one who has recently passed away, but whose labours to promote the success of this Society, and the intelligent study of the antiquities of the county, will not soon be forgotten.

In this our Axbridge district, we have indications of those different periods of man's existence and civilization, which have been, of late, more or less accurately defined by the investigators of the traces of pre-historic times. Caves have been discovered during the present century on the sides of the Mendip Hills, at Banwell, Uphill, Hutton, Bleadon, and Sandford, which have yielded up the bones of the mammoth, the rhinoceros, the hyæna, the bear, and the reindeer. The important collections of these bones, which were made by the Rev. Mr. Williams, of Bleadon, and by Mr. Beard, of Banwell, have fortunately been secured by the Society, and

are now deposited in the most suitable place for them, the Museum at Taunton. When compared with those of the same species which are to be seen at the present day, these bones appear to have belonged to animals of gigantic dimensions; and there is good reason for the belief that these huge creatures lived and died upon the neighbouring hills, during that much colder period, which at one time prevailed in these islands, and of which we have such abundant evidence in the striated rocks of our more mountainous districts.

It does not appear from the accounts which have come down to us of the discovery of these animal remains, that any remains of man were found in juxtaposition with them; but it seems to be clearly established, from the recent discoveries, in English and foreign bone caverns, of flint implements and other traces of man indiscriminately mixed with bones of the mammoth, bear, hyæna, rhinoceros, Irish elk, &c., that, in the words of Sir John Lubbock, "man was coeval in Europe with the great group of quaternary mammalia."

The examination of the Hyæna Den, at Wookey Hole, near Wells, by Mr. Boyd Dawkins (described in his interesting paper in the Journal for 1861), and which resulted in the discovery of several rude flint implements, interspersed with bones of the extinct fauna of Somersetshire, led him also to the conclusion that man was here a contemporary with the mammoth and rhinoceros.

We cannot, I think, err much if we suppose the condition of the human beings of this very early period to have differed but little from that of the Esquimaux tribes in the present day.

This age, however, whatever may have been its duration, in course of time passed away; the mammoth and hyæna disappeared from this part of Europe; and the traces of man are next found in connection with the bones of the wolf, fox, badger, wild boar, goat, roebuck, bos longifrons, and horse. A cave at the head of the Cheddar pass, explored by Mr. Boyd Dawkins in 1859, produced the bones of all these animals, together with a human skull. In one of the upper

caves in Burrington Combe Mr. Boyd Dawkins found, with bones of the above named animals, the fragments of a rude urn and much charcoal, proving that the cave was inhabited by man for some considerable time. The lowest cave in this Combe was discovered at the end of the last century; and within it were found nearly fifty skeletons, arranged in order, and near them, a considerable quantity of flint knives and bones of sheep and deer. It is much to be regretted that the skulls and flints from this cavern have been dispersed, and are no longer available for examination.

In 1863 Mr. James Parker found human bones, along with rude pottery and charcoal, and the bones of the wolf, fox, badger, *bos longifrons*, pig, red deer, dog, and water rat, in a cave in the lime house cliffs at Uphill.

There are, doubtless, other caves in the Mendip range which will, ere long, be brought to light; and we may hope, that a careful examination of their contents will furnish us with additional materials for estimating the condition of man, in the two periods which we have just been considering.

We now come to traces of pre-historic man in these parts of a different character, possibly coeval with, but probably posterior to, the second cave-dwelling period. On the northern side of the Mendip range, near Butcombe, but in the village of Nempnett, there was, a few years ago, a remarkable specimen of the long barrow, very similar to those, which are somewhat numerous found in the region of the Dobuni, who in the adjoining county of Gloucester, seem to have held with much pertinacity, their position as an aboriginal race. It was 150 feet from north to south, 75 from east to west, and 40 feet high at its highest elevation. It was opened by a farmer in 1788, who was in search of stones, and was found to contain a series of stone chambers of a somewhat similar character to those in the other Somersetshire long barrow at Wellow. Like that, it appears to have been constructed with unhewn stone, and to have contained many human skulls and bones, but no trace of metal, and nothing of an ornamental

character. The animal bones found in it, were those of the *bos longifrons*, the red deer, and the horse. Here again, we have cause for regret, that none of these skulls were preserved, as the examination of those from the long barrows in the adjoining counties of Wilts and Gloucester, and in Yorkshire, has shown that they possess a marked character, and one which Dr. Thurnam and Canon Greenwell consider to be typical of a distinct race. "The long barrows," says the latter, "have hitherto universally produced the dolicocephalic (or long) skull, which taken in connection with the shape and method of the mound, the absence of metal and perhaps of pottery, and the manner of the burial, affords strong grounds for believing, that, in them, we have the place of sepulture of a different and an earlier race than the bronze-using people, to whom the round barrows belong." (*Archæological Journal*, Vol. XXII, p. 108.) This remarkable difference between the length of the skulls found in the long barrows, and that of those found in the round barrows, has led Dr. Thurnam to the conclusion that the long-headed race, were either derived from the ancient Iberians, who had this peculiar form of head, or from a common source with that people. "These long-heads," says he, "are the earliest people, whose sepulchral monuments can be shown to remain to us. The exploration of their tombs—the long barrows—shows that they buried their dead entire, and almost without cremation; that they possessed herds of small short-horned oxen—the *bos longifrons* or *bos brachyceros*; that they subsisted largely by the chase of the red deer and wild boar; that some of their customs were barbarous in the extreme; and, in particular, that, if not addicted to anthropophagism they at least sacrificed many human victims, whose cleft skulls, and half-charred bones, are found in their tombs." (Paper on the Ancient Barrows of Wiltshire and the adjoining Counties, read at the opening of the Blackmore Museum, Sept., 1867). The number of instances, in which, during his examination of long barrows, Dr. Thurnam found, with one skull unutilated,

many others which showed marks of cleavage by some blunt weapon, and with evidence from examination of the fractures, that the violence had been inflicted before burial, and probably during life, forced him to the conclusion, that human sacrifices had formed a portion of the ceremony of interment when a chieftain was buried. In his history of the Gallic war (vi. 19), Cæsar mentions, as does Pomponius Mela, also (iii. 2), that the Gauls were in the habit of sacrificing human victims at their funerals.

The charge which has recently been brought against our British ancestors of indulging in the savage practice of cannibalism, will, I fear, as times go on, be less and less capable of disproof. The chief accuser at present (and he is not without support from Dr. Thurnam and Mr. Stevens of Salisbury) is Canon Greenwell, who, in his examination of Yorkshire barrows, has found such remarkable indications in the broken skulls and disjointed bones, as to lead him to the conclusion, that "in these we have the results of feasts at the interment, where slaves, captives, and others were slain and eaten." He supports his conclusion by reference to Diodorus Siculus, who expressly states that, even in his day, "it was reported that some of the more savage of the Gauls living in the north, near Scythia, ate human flesh, as also the Britons who inhabit Ireland, (Diod. Sic. v. c. 32); and to Strabo, who (iv. c. 5, s. 4) in the first century of our era, repeats the statements (as to the authority for which he did not vouch), that the inhabitants of Ireland, who were more savage and barbarous than those of Britain, fed on human flesh, and deemed it commendable to devour their deceased fathers." From the discovery in some of these long barrows of polished flint implements, Dr. Thurnam is of opinion that they belong to the later stone period.

Before we return to the tops of the hills to notice the traces of their occupation by the bronze-using Belgæ who over-ran and occupied this part of Britain, about 400 years before the Christian era, I should be glad to say a few words respecting

the Megalithic Remains at Stanton Drew, and the Camp on Worle Hill, both of which, may, I think, be not unreasonably assigned to the pre-Belgic period. For more than a thousand years B.C. an active trade in metals seems to have been carried on with Britain, first by the Phœnicians of Tyre, and afterwards by the Carthaginians, and the other Phœnician colonists who were settled on the shores of the Mediterranean Sea, and on the western coasts of Spain and Gaul. Copper they had in abundance in the islands of Elba* and Cyprus, but for tin they were compelled to go beyond the pillars of Hercules. As Pliny says expressly that India possessed neither bronze, tin, nor lead, but exchanged her precious stones and pearls,† for these metals, we may assume that the tin of Banca was not then known, and that as Spain did not produce much, the chief supply of this metal came from our Cornish coast. Tarshish (supposed to be Tartessus in the south of Spain) is spoken of nearly 600 years B.C. by the Prophet Ezekiel (c. xxvii, v. 12) as being the channel through which Tyre was supplied with silver, iron, tin, and lead. Considering that the Phœnician sailors were the boldest and most experienced of the mariners of old, and that they did not shrink from encountering the perils of the Land's End, is there any improbability in the supposition that as they went to Cornwall for their tin, so they would visit our Bristol Channel for their supply of lead? ‡ and

* See Jervis' Mineral Resources of Central Italy pp. 60, 62. At page 63, he gives an interesting account of the old workings for copper by the Etruscans at Temperino, in the Tuscan Maremma. In some parts of this mine Mr. Jervis found a large quantity of "black jack," in others very perfect crystal of dark blende.

† India neque ces neque plumbum habet, gemmisque suis ac margaritis hoc permutat (xxxiv. 49). The word 'plumbum' seems to be used here generically, and to apply both to 'plumbum album,' (tin), and to 'plumbum nigrum,' (lead).

‡ Etruscan leaden antiquities are still in existence. Antonio Filippo Giachi, a chronicler of the last century, mentions among the antiquities of the museum of Volterra certain sheets of lead with Etruscan inscriptions, of which Gori (*Istoria litteraria dell' Italia*, 1784) has given an account. He ranked them, after the Eugubian tables, among the most remarkable antiquities of the kind.—(Jervis' Mineral Resources of Central Italy p. 70.)

if this be conceded as probable, would it not be a very natural proceeding that with a view to the better working of the mines of this district, and to the greater security of their collected ore, they should establish a settlement on the neighbouring shore, and that Worle Hill should be selected as a fitting site for such a settlement? There is something so peculiar in the construction of the defences of that Camp, and so unlike what we usually see in camps of the pre-Roman period in this part of England, that it is not difficult to believe it to have been the work of foreign hands.

With respect to the stone circles and avenues at Stanton Drew, I would merely submit to your consideration, whether we may not reasonably assign their origin to Phœnician influence reaching these shores through that energetic maritime people, the Veneti, who inhabited a portion of the coasts of Armorican Gaul; who were still carrying on a brisk trade with Britain in the time of Cæsar; and in whose district were the remarkable stone structures of Karnac and its neighbourhood.

The traces of the Belgic occupation of this district are to be seen in the camps, barrows, circles, hut circles, trackways, and cattle enclosures which abound on the Mendip and neighbouring hills. Their extreme western boundary, the Wansdyke, may be very distinctly seen in many places between the Bathampton Camp above Bath, and Maesknoll above Keynsham; but from this point, in its supposed course either to Portishead, or to the Clifton Down Camps, Mr. Scarth and I have sought for it in vain.

It is probable that, although the use of bronze, both in the east and on the continent of Europe had prevailed for a considerable previous period, the Belgic race was the first which introduced the bronze age into Britain. Even in the time of Cæsar, bronze was an imported article ("Cere utuntur importato," B. G., v. 12); and it is not likely that the Phœnicians, if they found it to their advantage to have settlements on these coasts, would allow the native population to possess any weapons of a more formidable character than their sling stones and arrow heads of flint.

Of this Belgic race, which drove westward, and reduced to slavery the previous and long-headed occupants of this district, Dr. Thurnam, the great authority on the craniology of our early British races, says, "The brachycephalous people or round-heads, who buried in the round barrows were more civilised than the dolicocephali or long-headed race; and may be inferred to have brought with them the more common use, if not knowledge, of bronze. The exploration of their tombs, shows that burning the dead was with them the prevailing and fashionable, though not the exclusive, mode of burial; and the appearances are consistent, with what we are told of the funerals of the Gauls (their supposed congeners) by Cæsar and Pomponius Mela. From the same source, or the appearances in their tombs, we should infer, that they had advanced from the nomadic, hunting, and pastoral condition, to a more settled agricultural stage of culture; and that if they had not altogether abandoned the more barbarous customs of their ancestors, and in particular that of human sacrifice, (which all history tells us, was at one time, everywhere prevalent) they had at least restricted them within narrow limits." "These British brachy-cephali of the bronze period," Dr. Thurnam adds, "are to be regarded as an off-shoot through the Belgic Gauls, from the great brachycephalous stock of central and north eastern Europe and Asia, in all the countries of which—France, Switzerland, South Germany, Bohemia, Poland, Russia, and Finland—the broad and short cranial type is still the prevailing one." (Paper on the ancient British Barrows of Wiltshire and the adjoining counties, read at the opening of the Blackmore Museum, Sept. 1867.)

This race of Belgæ carried on, doubtless, in this district a considerable traffic in the Mendip lead ore, and their trackway to the channel probably passed over Banwell Hill, on which are the remains of a British Camp; and over Bleadon Hill, on which are the remains of a British Settlement. Dolebury Camp would serve as an emporium for their metal, before it was conveyed to the coast. High enough to command a view of

the entire bay from Uphill to Worlehill, large enough to contain many hundred defenders, and strong enough with its double ditch and rampart to defy attack, this hill fortress was admirably adapted for a store house of the mineral products of the neighbourhood, until an opportunity offered of shipping them off to foreign parts. Into its eastern entrance would be brought the lead produce of Charterhouse and Shipham, and from its western it would be carried across the valley to the opposite hill, and from thence along the high land to the harbour under Brean Down.*

The Barrows upon the Mendip range, and which may be seen in clusters near Maesbury Castle; at Priddy, near the Castle of Comfort Inn; and on Blackdown, are not nearly so numerous or of such varied form, as those which are to be found on the Wiltshire downs around Abury and Stonehenge. They are the burial places of the more distinguished occupants of these hill tops during this Belgic period. The greater number of them were opened about 50 years ago by the Rev. John Skinner, Rector of Camerton, near Bath. His manuscript account of their examination is in the library of the Bath Literary Institution; but it has been printed *in extenso* by the Rev. Mr. Scarth in the 16th volume of proceedings of the Archæological Institute. The interments were all indicative of the Belgic or bronze period, cremation having been practiced in every case; and the few articles discovered with the burnt ashes consisting of bronze spear heads, some amber beads, and some coarse clay cups.

There appears to have been a considerable Belgic mining settlement at Charterhouse, which from the articles discovered in it, must have been subsequently occupied by the British, who here worked the mines for their Roman masters. I will take this opportunity of commending to the attention of

* It was probably the tradition of this camp having been at some former time a place of deposit for mineral treasure, which occasioned the dog-grel lines recorded by Leland,

“If Dolbyri digged were,
Of gold should be the share.”

Somersetshire Archæologists a remarkable and extensive collection of hut circles, which seems to have been hitherto unnoticed by them. It is on the slope of the northern barrier of Cleve Combe. Some of these circles are in the wood on the crest of the Combe, but the greater number are in the open space adjoining. One cannot traverse this ground without wishing to examine some of these circles with pick and shovel.

I will now briefly notice the traces left of the Roman occupation of this portion of Somerset. The desire of possessing and retaining the mineral districts of Britain was, doubtless, the chief incentive to the Roman invasion, and to their prolonged occupation of this island. Although they worked and smelted the lead ore, which is to be found in many parts of England, that which they possessed on the Mendip Hills would, from its proximity to the adjacent channel, be of especial value to them for exportation. The visitor to Rome observes, among the results of the Ostian excavations now in the Lateran Museum, large pieces of leaden pipe which had been used in early imperial times for the conveyance of water. Lead was also used by the Romans for securing the iron bondings with which the large blocks of travertine in the Coliseum and other buildings were fastened together. Pliny (*Hist. Nat.* xxxiv, c. 17) informs us, that whereas lead was extracted from the ground with considerable labour in Spain, and throughout Gaul, it occurs in abundance near the surface in Britain; and we may with reason assume that much of the lead imported into Italy came from this part of Britain. Two Roman pigs of lead have been at different times found on the Mendip Hills; one, stamped with the name of Claudius, was found near Wookey Hole in the time of Henry VIII, the other impressed with the name of Britannicus, son of Claudius and Messalina, was found near Blagdon in 1853. Whether the Romans were successful in extracting the silver from the lead ore we know not, but that they were unable to eliminate the whole of the lead is sufficiently apparent to us of the present day, as their refuse lead heaps or slag are now being worked over again

on these very hills. When the Romans had become absolute masters of this district, they had no need of the British hill forts for the protection of themselves and their mineral treasures; and they accordingly carried their lead away direct, either to their station at the mouth of the Axe, or to a port like Clausentum, which, being nearer to the coast of Gaul, would relieve them from the necessity of making the long and perilous voyage round the Land's End. Their road, which followed for the most part the course of an ancient British trackway, was carefully traced out by Sir Richard Hoare, and his surveyor, Mr Crocker, in its course over the hills between Old Sarum and Uphill. It passed by Charterhouse, the head quarters of the Roman mining district, to the left of Dolebury Camp, through Shipham, skirting the southern sides of Sandford and Banwell Hills, and the north side of Bleadon Hill, till it reached the station at Uphill, designated by Mr. Leman "ad Axium."

Although the iron of Elba was smelted and worked by the Etruscans (Diod. Sic. v. 13. Varro) some hundreds of years before the Christian era, it was not until the Roman conquests had extended into the iron-producing countries that the use of this metal began extensively to prevail, and the use of bronze to decline. According to Cæsar, iron was known to the British, but only in the form of money. The Roman smelting of iron was very extensive in the Forest of Dean, and in Sussex; but although a great deal of iron ore may be dug on the Mendip range, I am not aware that any traces of iron workings are to be found nearer to this district than on the Brendon Hills, near Minehead.

As brass seems to have been known to the Romans* (the

* Mr. Crawford in a paper on 'Cæsar's account of Britain' published in the Volume of Transactions of the Ethnological Society of London, for 1867, says that brass "was unknown to the Romans, who were even ignorant of zinc, one of its ingredients." On the other hand, the analysis of one of several very bright coins of the reigns of Domitian, Trajan, and Hadrian, found three or four years ago at Latton, near Cirencester, showed a result of nineteen parts of zinc to eighty of copper. Dr. Ure,

analysis of coins of the Empire, showing the presence of zinc), it is probable that the lapis calaminaris (a carbonate of zinc which, in combination with copper, forms brass), which abounds on the hills at Shipham, and Rowberrow, was not unheeded by them. The gathering of this mineral, until blende or sulphuret of zinc was introduced from Flintshire about thirty or forty years ago, furnished the inhabitants of those villages with constant occupation. I have heard from a neighbour, within the last few days, that the Swansea Copper Workers have been recently negotiating for renewed supplies of the Mendip calamine.

Your attention will be called to-morrow to a very interesting relic of these Roman times. At Charterhouse (so called from there having been at this place a cell of the Carthusian monastery at Witham) there is still remaining a Roman Amphitheatre, in a very perfect state, and with the three entrances well defined. The more sensitive and imaginative portion of the excursionists need not suppose that any of our Belgic-British ancestors were here

“Butchered to make a Roman('s) holiday,”

for as slaves and mine-workers for their foreign masters their lives were far too valuable to be thus disposed of. We may be content to believe that here were slaughtered no creatures of greater value than the wolves and the boars, which haunted the large forests which then clothed the sides of the Mendip Hills. Possibly there were also exhibited here some of those brutal pugilistic combats, which, in all their disgusting details are to be seen represented upon the tessellated pavements now in the great hall of the Lateran Palace; for Romans were always Romans wherever they went. That they spent their

in his Dictionary, article ‘Alloys,’ says, “It is not a little curious to find that some of the coins of high antiquity contain zinc, which does not appear to have been known as a metal before 1280, when Albertus Magnus speaks of zinc as a semi-metal.” The probability is that calamine (zinc ore) was known from the earliest times as a peculiar earth, although it was not thought to be an ore of zinc or of any other metal. (See Wilts Arch. Magazine, Vol. 9.)

lives pleasantly enough in our island is plain from the number of villas which they built in the most attractive spots. On their tessellated pavements, as we may see in the Society's Museum at Taunton, they exhibited their fondness for the chase; and we have every reason to believe that in this County of Somerset, with its hot baths, and pleasant valleys, with its hills, and its forests, our Roman conquerors had less reason to regret their southern skies and imperial city than many others of that nation whose lot was cast in less favoured portions of their almost unbounded dominion.

To make our Caves our Downs and our Valleys supply us with knowledge where history fails us, and confirm or explain our knowledge where history speaks, but with feeble accents, is a matter at once of surpassing interest, and of considerable importance. The value of earth-work evidence, even in relation to historic times, was fully recognized by that admirable arhæologist Dr. Guest, when he carefully examined the country between Bath and Wells for traces of the boundaries that separated the Welsh and English races, during the seventy-five years which followed the capture of Bath A.D. 577, (Arch. Journal Vol. xvi.) Our Mendip Hills have not in this respect received the full measure of attention that they deserve, and if any Members of this Society having time at their disposal, would carefully examine the entire range from Maesbury Castle to Brean Down, together with the outlying heights on the northern side, taking note of such traces of man's former occupation as still remain unobliterated, they might yet add considerably to our stock of data for the solution of the questions which still perplex us.

Mr. E. CHISHOLM BATTEN proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his admirable address, which would, he said render the district they proposed to see much more intelligible than it could otherwise possibly have been.

The proposition was unanimously assented to, and the PRESIDENT briefly acknowledged the same.

The REV. W. HUNT then read a paper on the "Muniments of Axbridge," which is printed in Part II.

MR. E. A. FREEMAN made some remarks on the origin and constitution of our Municipal Institutions, and especially on the powers and privileges of Superior Burgesses.

MR. KNYFTON said, that shortly after his appointment to the office of recorder, some thirty years ago, he had examined the muniments belonging to the corporation, and was assisted on that occasion by two barristers, both men of great antiquarian research; and also by the late Mr. Peter Fry, a solicitor, resident there, an extremely intelligent man, and who took a very lively interest in the past history of his native town, and who himself produced some very old documents. The conclusion arrived at was that the borough was a market town long anterior to the conquest, and that subsequently, through several reigns, it returned two members to Parliament. It also appeared quite clear that a considerable trade was carried on there. In some of the documents produced, reference was made to individuals who were described as merchants. Formerly the river Axe was navigable for coal vessels, and other small craft, as far as Axbridge, and so continued till the beginning of this century, when its navigation was stopped at Bleadon, under the provisions of the "Axe Drainage Act," which was passed in 1802. Down to the time of Elizabeth the town was one of considerable importance, and there was every reason to believe that it was as large then as it is now.

MR. T. SEREL then read a paper on the "Manors of Axbridge and Cheddar." Mr. Serel stated that Cheddar originally consisted of one great manor, but at the time of the Norman survey there were three smaller manors. The manors of Axbridge and Cheddar were granted by King

John to Hughe de Welles, by charter. The manors did not long continue in the holding of Hugh de Welles, as it seems certain that he had granted the property to his kinsman, Thomas de Welles, before 1209, (in which year he became Bishop of Lincoln) on a reserve rent. Soon after Thomas de Welles granted the town of Axbridge to Maurice de Gaunt, who subsequently transferred it to Bishop Joceline to whom also his brother Hugh of Lincoln made a release of the half mark reserved on the grant to Maurice de Gaunt. Both manors continued in the possession of the Church of Wells for a very long period, probably before the reformation. The manor of Cheddar was undoubtedly held by the church until 1548, when Bishop Barlow surrendered it with other estates to Edward VI, who in 1552 gave them to Sir Edward Seymour, and he, in 1556, sold the manor of Cheddar, usually known as Cheddar Episcopi, to Sir John Thynne, ancestor of the Marquis of Bath, the present owner.

Mr. Serel then gave particulars of the smaller Cheddar manors, known as the Cheddar Berkley, Cheddar Hannam, and Cheddar Fitzwaters, as well as of the Rectory Manor, leased by the Dean and Chapter of Wells Cathedral. The extent of this latter property is about 250 acres, the rectorial rent charge is about £400 per annum, and the reversion is now vested in the Ecclesiastical Commissioners. Cheddar Hannam was owned by the great family of Cheddar. In late years the manor, stripped of a considerable part of the lands formerly held with it, came into the possession of Mr. Walter Long, whose descendant is still the owner. A portion of the estate seems to have constituted the small manor of Cheddar Berkley, and this was obtained by Mr. Alexander Popham, who sold the property to different persons.

The manor of Cheddar Fitzwalter or Fitzwaters was granted by King Stephen to Walter Malerbe. In the 15th century it was held by an old Cheddar family named Roo or Roe. In the early part of the 17th century it was in the family of Lancaster. The estate became heavily encumbered and all the charges were centred on Mr. James Birch, of the Middle Temple, in the year 1740, and by a deed dated 27th August 1748, the owners conveyed the entire freehold in the estate to him.

Notes on an Old Cross.

Mr. CHARLES POOLEY, F.S.A., of Weston-super-Mare, author of "The Old Crosses of Gloucestershire," communicated some notes on the head of an old cross, found in July of the present year.

The stone, which was found in pulling down an old cottage at East Harptree, and formed the front part of the basement of the chimney stack, is evidently the head of an old churchyard or village cross, probably the former, and is remarkable, in Mr. Pooley's opinion, as being the work of the early part of the 13th century. On one side the Crucifixion is represented, the figures being carved in bold relief. That of the Saviour is remarkably well depicted, and is very characteristic of the date of its execution. The head is thrown a little to the right side, and is crowned with a twisted wreath. The hair is parted and flows in long wavy locks to the neck. The eyes are closed in death. The upper part of the body is nude to the navel. Below this the figure is draped by a cloth round the loins, which falls in a graceful fold to the knees. The legs are crossed in a painful position, in order that one nail only may be made to fasten both feet. On the right side of the cross stands Mary, the mother of Jesus,

dressed in a long robe, which reaches in twisted folds to the ground. St. John stands on the left side, his arms apparently crossed, and habited in alb and cope. In the other compartment the figures of the Virgin and child and a young person kneeling in the act of adoration, are distinctly visible.

The stone is grey lias, and the angles and chiselling are as sharp as when first executed. A peculiarity worthy of notice is that the dresses of the figures have been coloured; remains of the colouring (red) are still to be seen on the loin cloth of the Saviour and on part of St. John.

Axbridge Church.

The members then visited this church, the architectural features of which were described by Mr. FREEMAN. It is a cross church with a central tower. The nave has no clerestory. The transepts are very small, the projections being swallowed up by the aisles and chapels which exist at the east ends. The chancel is a very inferior composition to the rest of the church, which is a common feature throughout the churches in Somerset. The niches have the statues left in them. The parapets are characteristic of the north part of the county. South of the Mendips, heavy battlements sometimes panelled, take the place of the pierced parapets. The church in the interior appears a well-arranged and harmonious whole, mainly because the tower is part of the design itself, and is not a tower preserved from an older building. Although the nave has no clerestory and has not the majesty of Wrington, the pillars and arches are very well worked. The coved roof is a very creditable work of the 17th century. If the church were restored it is hoped the roof will be preserved.

The altar cloth attracted much attention. It is a piece of needlework by Mrs. Abigail Prowse, to whose family there are several monuments in the church. Its date is 1720.

A large party then visited the CHURCHES of CHEDDAR, and RODNEY STOKE, when the Rev. PREBENDARY FAGAN gave an interesting account of the family of Rodney, whose monuments are in the church.

The members returned to Axbridge to dinner. After the usual toasts, the health of the Mayor, the Alderman and the Corporation of Axbridge was proposed by the President, and formal thanks presented to them for the courtesy extended by them to the members of the Society, to which Mr. G. MILLARD, Mayor, and Mr. TREW, the Alderman of Axbridge, responded.

Evening Meeting.

The Rev. PREBENDARY SCARTH read a paper by Mr. Atkinson, on the British Stations at Clifton, Bower Walls, and Stokeleigh, to which Mr. Scarth added observations on the Structure of Ancient Ramparts.

Mr. MOORE read a paper on the Geology of the Mendips.

The Rev. J. EARLE made some interesting remarks on the Muniments of Axbridge.

A paper on the "Rodentia of the Somerset Caves" by Mr. W. A. SANFORD, closed the proceedings.

Abstracts of the forgoing papers will be given in Part II.

Second Day: Excursion.

A large party left Axbridge on the excursion at an early hour, and following the line of the old coach road to Bristol, reached

Rowberrow Church,

the greatest part of which has been recently restored. The tower, which was a part of the original building, was pronounced to be of the time of Richard II. A carved stone inserted over the door way, was supposed by Mr. Parker to be of the 11th century, others thought it belonged to the 9th or 10th century.

From here the excursionists proceeded to

Dolbury Camp,

which is separated from Rowberrow by a deep ravine with steep and almost precipitous sides. The President pointed out the tracks leading to Charter-house, and the principal mining districts of Mendip, to which he had referred in his address. The earth-works all round the Camp, which are for the most part in excellent preservation, were carefully examined, and a general wish expressed that an accurate plan should be prepared by a competent surveyor, for publication in the proceedings.

Hence the party proceeded to

Burrington Church.

This church was rebuilt in the 15th century, the tower of earlier work having been retained. The south aisle is of the same date as the tower, and the east window of a very much earlier type than the rest of the building.

On their way through Burrington Combe, the party halted at the mouth of a cavern known as Aveline Hole,

when Mr. BOYD DAWKINS gave a most clear and interesting account of the results of his excavations in this cavern in conjunction with Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford. The members will find an account of the caverns of Burrington Combe by Mr. W. A. Sanford, and Mr. W. B. Dawkins, in vol. xii. of the proceedings of this Society, p. 161.

On reaching the summit of the Mendip range a section of the excursionists, under the guidance of the President, diverged in order to inspect the remains of Hut-circles, and of what appeared to be a small Amphitheatre, situated on the slope looking down upon Charter-house. Ultimately the whole company assembled in the School-room, at Charter-house, where they sat down to a bounteous repast provided by the President. The health of Mr. and Mrs. Long was proposed by Mr. R. Neville Grenville and the cordial thanks of the Members of the Society presented to them for their courtesy and hospitality.

The Charter-house Mining Company's works were then visited, and the various operations explained by MR. ROGERS, the Captain of the Mine, whose kindness and intelligence added much interest and profit to the visit.

At the mouth of a deserted shaft sunk for lead, Mr. C. MOORE explained his views on the probable post-liassic age of the lead-mines of the Mendip, on which a discussion arose in which Mr. Boyd Dawkins, Mr. W. Arthur Jones and others took part.

Here the company dispersed, a large portion descending through the Cheddar Gorge, on their way to Axbridge and other places.

Third Day : Excursion.

The first place visited this day was

Winscombe Church.

which has been extensively restored. The tower is of the same type as those of Cheddar and Axbridge, but was considered better. Mr. PARKER directed attention to the genuine English glass of the 16th century in some of the windows, which was so admirably suited to the English climate, and far superior to the Foreign glass so much in use in the present day.

Thence the excursionists proceeded to

Loxton Church,

which presents many architectural features of great interest, Norman and Early English. A small window in the porch, originally commanding a view of the altar, would seem to have been designed to enable the attendant to ring the sanctus bell on the elevation of the Host. The stone pulpit rests on a large corbel taking the form of a man. On each side of the piscina there are stone brackets, and in the two-light Pointed windows there are portions of stained glass of the 14th century. The stone font is of the same date, but the cover is Jacobean. Drawings and illustrations of this curious little church will be found in the present volume.

The next church visited is equally interesting, of which also illustrations are given.

Christon Church.

The south door way of the Norman period is richly decorated, as also are the arches supporting the tower, the western arch having twisted shafts.

The excursionists then proceeded to the Banwell Caverns, which, by the courtesy of the proprietor, Major Law, had been thrown open to the members of the Society.

Mr. W. BOYD DAWKINS gave an interesting account of the various animal remains which had been found in this cave : pointed out the more interesting features in the general conformation of the cavern, and the various fissures which probably opened into it ; and explained how the immense mass of animal remains became accumulated in this and other caves of the same character.

On reaching Banwell, the members assembled in the Hall, where SIR PETER STAFFORD CAREY read a paper on "The use of the Year Book," in matters of Family History, as exemplified in the case of the family of Plukenet of Haselbury, in the County of Somerset.

The thanks of the meeting having been presented to Sir P. S. Carey for his paper, the members proceeded, under the guidance of Mr. Freeman, to examine the beautiful and stately

Church of Banwell.

The grandeur of the nave and aisles excited great admiration, as also did the wood screen and stone pulpit.

The members and their friends subsequently partook of an excellent repast, provided for them by the liberality of several gentlemen in the neighbourhood, at which the Rev. W. H. Turner, Vicar of Banwell, presided.

Addresses were delivered by the President, Mr. W. Long, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Dickinson, the Rev. J. Earle, Mr. Boyd Dawkins, Mr. Parker, Mr. Wm. Arthur Jones, and others.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Local Committee,

and to the Local Secretary, the Rev. W. Hunt, for their valuable services ; to the gentlemen, who had entertained the Society, for their hospitality ; to Mr. Parker, Mr. Freeman, Mr. Boyd Dawkins, Mr. Moore, and others for their valuable observations on the places visited.

The cordial thanks of the meeting having been carried by acclamation to the President, the Annual Meeting was declared to be concluded.

Conversazione Meetings.

1869.

February 22nd.

On the Study of Civilization, by E. B. TYLER, Esq.
 Historical Sketches of Taunton : on The Western
 Circuit and the Assize held at Taunton A.D. 1597,
 —A.D. 1600, by the Rev. W. A. JONES.

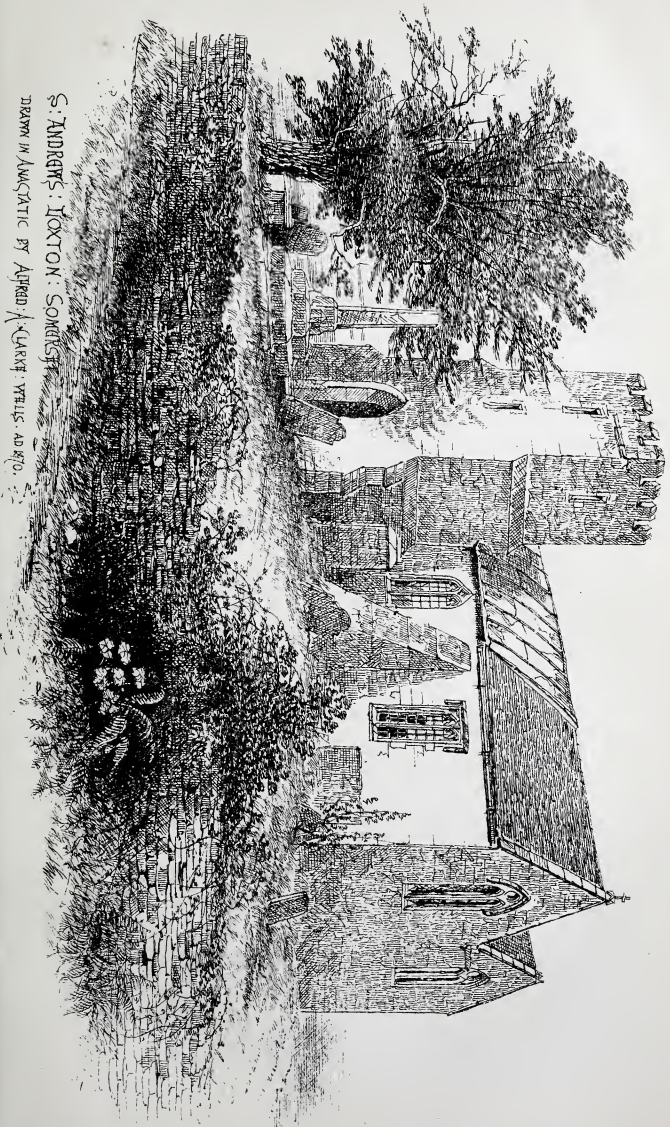
On the Scilly Isles, by H. J. ALFORD, Esq.

March 29th.

On the Danes in Somersetshire, by the Rev. W. A.
 JONES.

On the Rainbow, by H. TOOTELL, Esq.

On the Somersetshire Dialect, by the Rev. W. P.
 WILLIAMS.



S. ANDREW'S: DOXTON: SOMERSET.
DRAWN IN ANTIQUARIAN STYLE BY ALFRED A. CLARKE. WELLS. AD 1870.

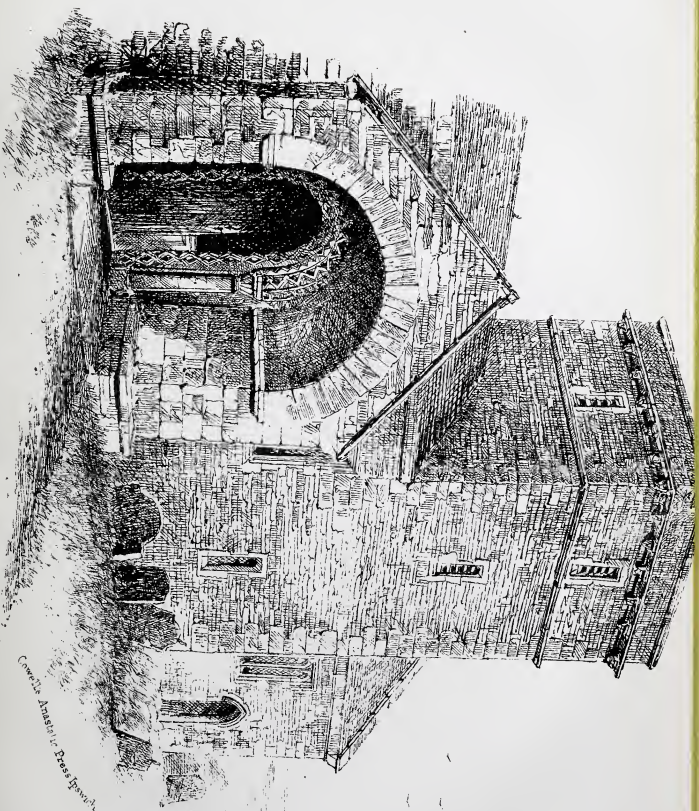


COWELLS ANASTATIC PRESS IPSWICH

LOXTON CHURCH. THE SOUTH DOORWAY AND HAGIOSCOPE.

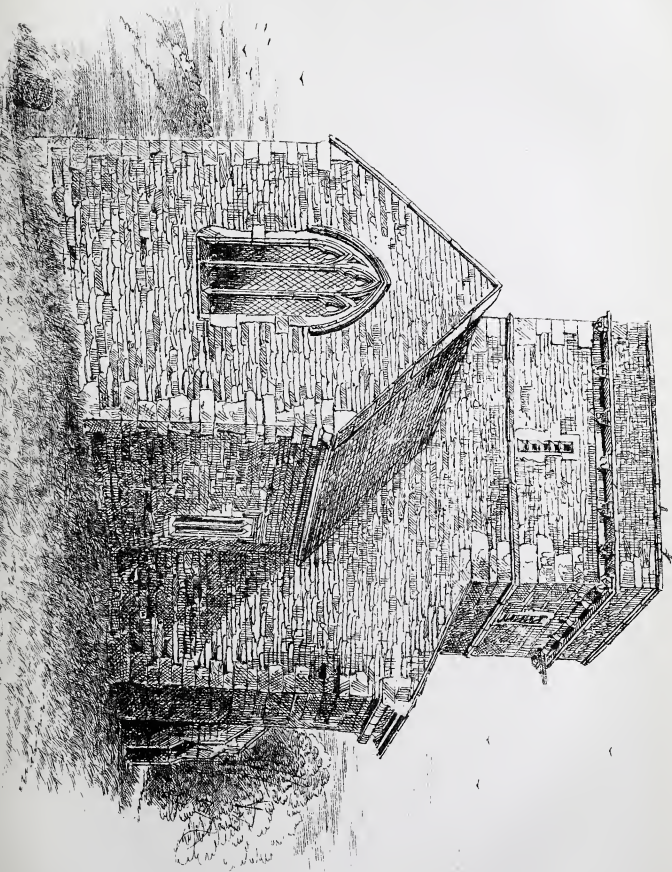
DRAWN IN ANASTATIC BY ALFRED A. CLARKE & WELLS. A.D. 1870.

CRISTON CHURCH: SOMERSET. FROM THE SOUTH-WEST.
DRAWN IN ANAGNOSTIC BY ALFRED A. CLARKE WEDNES. AD. 1870.

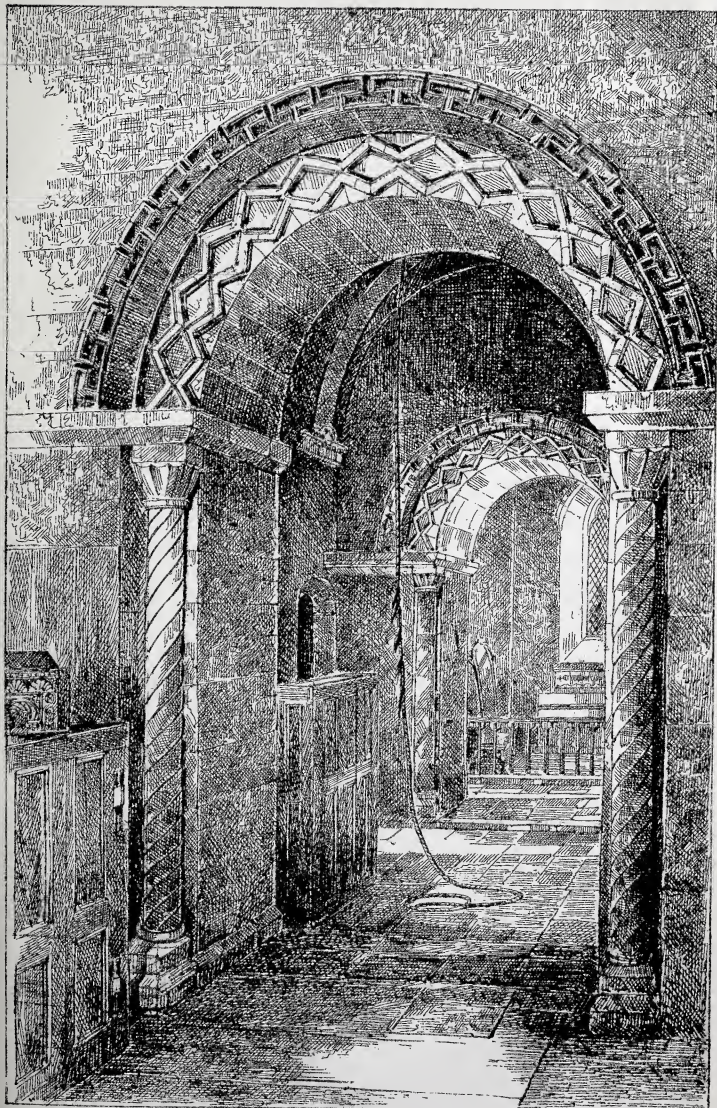


Cornwall, Anaglyphic Press, Ipswich.

Cowell's Analytical Press, Ipswich



CHRISTON CHURCH, SOMERSET, ENGLAND.
DRAWN BY J. H. STUBBS, ESQ., AND ENGRAVED BY G. H. WALLIS.



CHRISTON CHURCH, SOMERSET. THE INTERIOR LOOKING EAST.

DRAWN IN ANASTATIC BY ALFRED A. CLARKE, WELLS. A.D. 1870.

Local Museum.

Among the objects of interest exhibited were the following:—

The Charters and Muniments of the Corporation of Axbridge. Roman Coins found in the neighbourhood, by Miss HALLAM: Encaustic Tiles found at Athelney, by Mr. R. K. MEADE KING: Piece of Roman Glass found at Bath, by the Rev. Prebendary SCARTH: Fossils, &c., of the district. A very interesting Pedigree of the family of Jones, of Mendip Lodge, with armorial bearings, exhibited by Miss SOMERS of Mendip Lodge: A bronze Spear-head, by Mr. TREW, &c.

The Museum.

Additions since the publication of last Volume:—

Journal of the Royal Dublin Society.

Journal of the British Archæological Association.

Journal of the Historic and Archæological Association of Ireland.

Quarterly Journal of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History.

Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalist's Society.

Surrey Archæological Collections, vol. 4.

Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club. No. 3. by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD.

Memoirs of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, vol. 3, third series

Proceedings of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Manchester, vols. 5, 6 7.

The Archæological Journal.

Nature, from the Proprietor.

Sussex Archæological Collections, vol. 20.

Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire, new series, vol. 7.

Report for 1867 of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.

Proceedings of the Essex Institute, Mass, U.S.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London, second series, vols. 1, 2, 3 and 4.

Almanac for the year 1683, by Mr. H. H. BALL.

Index to Pedigrees contained in the printed Heralds' Visitations ; Catalogues of Pedigrees hitherto unindexed ; Pedigree of Sir Philip Sydney ; Handbook of American Genealogy ; and Rubbing of Palimpsest Brasses from Paston Church, Norfolk, by Mr. G. W. MARSHALL, L.L.M.

Collectanea Antiqua, vols, 1, 3, 4, 5 and 6 ; *On the Scarcity of Home-grown Fruits in Great Britain, with remedial suggestions ; and The Principles of Agriculture*, by the Author, Mr. C. ROACH SMITH.

The Birds of Somersetshire, by the Author, Mr. C. SMITH.

The Old Crosses of Gloucestershire, by the Author, Mr. C. POOLEY F.S.A.R.

Mémoires pour servir à la Connaissance des Crinoides Vivants par M. Sars : *Etudes sur les Affinités Chimiques* par M. Goldberg et M. Waage : *Le Glacier de Boium* par M. Sexe : *Various species of Balæna* by M. G. O. Sars : *Ægyptische Chronologie von Herr Lièblein* : *Fortælling om Thomas Becket, Erkebiskop af Canterbury*, presented by the Royal University of Norway, Christiania.

Two teeth of Indian Elephant, and piece of Rhinoceros hide, by Mr. O. W. MALET.

Mountain Limestone fossil, from the conglomerate bed at Halse, by Dr. PRIOR.

Skull of *Bos primigenius* and skull of *Bos longifrons* from the Clay Pits, Bridgwater, by Mr. JNO. BROWNE.

Elephant's teeth, and other teeth and bones, from Wookey Hyæna den, by Mr. W. A. SANFORD.

Portrait of the Rev. Joseph Hunter, F.S.A., by Dr. HUNTER.

Pottery and bones and specimens of Kimmeridge Coal Money, from the Brick Clay Pits, Burnham, by Mr. J. P. ESTLIN.

Bronze Hand found among the Roman remains at Wadeford, near Chard, by Mr. R. WALTER.

Albatross, two Lizards, and Fish from Australia, by Mr. J. CLODE.

Impression of a brass Seal found near Helston, Cornwall, by Mr. R. WALTER.

Flint Arrow-head found on Dolbury Camp, by Mr. S. ALFORD.

Pedigree, and Coats of Arms in the chapel at Lytes Cary, by Mr. H. MAXWELL LYTE.

Flying Fish from the coast of Brazil, by Capt. R. R. LANGDON.

Coins of the Roman Emperors Lucinius, Constantine

the Great, and Constantine the Younger, found in the Turbery at Shapwick, by Mr. G. WARRY.

Coffin and Mummy from the neighbourhood of Thebes, by Capt. ELLIS.

Purchased :—

Palæontographical Society's Journal.

Ray Society's Publications.

Deposited :—

Model of a New Zealand War Canoe, by Mr. W. CULLEN.

Bust of the late J. H. S. Pigott, Esq., by Mr. EDWIN S. FOX.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY.

1868-9, PART II.

PAPERS, ETC.

Mendip Mining Laws.

“THE Laws and orders of the Mendip Miners, commonly called Lord Choke’s Laws,” are printed in the “General View of the Agriculture of the County of Somerset, &c., by John Billingsley, Esq., of Ashwick Grove, near Shepton Mallet,” published at Bath, 1797. As that work is but little known in these days, and the Mining Laws of Mendip therein given contain several inaccuracies, it has been thought desirable to reprint them verbatim from a MS. exhibited by Mr. C. Edwards, of Wrington, at the Meeting of the Society held at Axbridge, in 1869.

The most striking variations are the following :—Lord Benfield—for Bonvill: the addition of “the Lord Chief Justice of England” to the name of Lord Chocke: “to go down and sit in concord and peace in the said County,”

instead of "and settle a concord of peace in the County" the Earl of Chewton, instead of "Lord of Chewton," "lead-reeve," instead of "head-reeve," : "hackes," for "harcks," "groofs," for "grooves."

The Mendip Laws are likewise given in "Notes on the History of Shepton Mallet, &c.," by Mr. J. E. Fairbrother, copied from an ancient map, painted on panels, entitled "Meyndeepe with its adjacent Villages and Laws." The original was exhibited at the meeting of the society held at Shepton Mallet.

WM. ARTHUR JONES.

THE LAWS OF MENDIP

SETTLED BY LORD CHOCKE, IN OR NEAR THE YEAR 1470.

Be it right well known that this is enrolled in the King's Exchequer, in the time of King Edward the Fourth : Of a great Debate that was in the County of Somerset between the Lord Bonvil's Tenants of Chewton and the Prior of Green Oar. The said Prior of Green Oar complaining to King Edward of great injuries and wrongs that he had on Mendip, being the King's Forest : The said King Edward commanded my Lord Chocke to go down into the Country of Mendip and settle a concord of peace in the County upon Mendip upon pain of his high displeasure. The said Lord Chocke sate upon a place of my Lord of Bath's, called the Forge upon Mendip, when he commanded all the Commoners to appear, and in especial the Four Lords Royal of Mendip, (viz) : The Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, my Lord of Glastonbury, my Lord Bonvill, Lord of Chewton, and my Lord of Richmond, with all the appearances to the number of ten thousand people. A Proclamation was made to enquire of all the said company how they would be

ordered. They all with one assent agreed to be ordered and Tried by the Four Lords Royal. Then the said Lords agreed that all the Commoners of Mendip, dwelling in their Tenements, being within the bounds of Mendip, shou'd turn out their cattle at their outlets as much the summer as they be able to keep the winter without Hounding or Pounding upon whose ground soever they went to take their course and recourse. To this the said Four Lords did put their Seals, and also were agreed that whosoever should break any of those bounds should forfeit to the King a Thousand Marks, and all the Commoners their Bodies and Goods at the King's pleasure that either Hounds or Pounds.

* IRROT' IN SCCO' DUCC' REGINÆ

THE ANCIENT CUSTOM OF

The occupation of the Mineries in and upon the Mendip within His Majesty's County of Somerset, being one of the Four Staples of England, which hath been exercised and continued through the King's Forest on Mendip aforesaid time out of mind before the memory of man, as hereinafter doth particularly ensue, &c.

Imprimis :

That if any man whatsoever he be that doth intend to be a workman to tenure his life in the Minery occupation, he must first of all require a Licence from the Lord of the soil where he doth propose to work, or in his absence, of his officer, or head Reve, or Bailiff, and neither the Lord nor his officers can deny him.

Item :

That after the first Licence obtained, the workmen

* In a M.S. copy of these Laws in the possession of Mr. Serel, of Wells, "Irrot' in Staneria Dni R's."

shall never need to ask leave again, but to be at his free will to pitch within the said Forest, and to break the ground where and in what place he shall think most for his advantage.

Item :

That every man that doth begin his Pit or Groove, shall have his Harcks thrown two ways after the Rake ; and Note, that he that doth throw the Harck, must stand in his said Groove, to the girdle or waist, and then no man shall, or may work, within the compass of his said Harcks throw.

Item :

That when a man hath landed any Oar he may carry the same to Cleansing and Blowing to what Minery he shall think fit, for the more speedy making the same, so that he do truly pay the tenth thereof to the Lord of the Soil where it was landed.

Item :

That if any Lord or his officer have given Licence to any man to build or set any Hearth or Washing House, to wash, cleanse, and blow their Oar, He that hath once leave shall for ever keep sell or give it to whom he please, so that he doth truly pay the Lot Lead, being the tenth pound that shall be blown at the same Hearth, and also if he keep it tenable as the Craft doth require.

Item :

That if any man of the occupation do Pick or Steal any Lead or Lead Oar to the value of Thirteen pence half-penny, the Lord or his officer may arrest all his Lead and Oar, House or Hearths, with all his Grooves and works, and keep them as forfeit to his own use, and shall take the person so offending and bring him where his House or work and all his Tools and Instruments belonging

to the same occupation are, and put him into his House or work and set Fire in all together about him, and banish him from the occupation before all the Mineries for ever.

Item :

That if ever that person do Pick or Steal there any more, he shall be tryed by the Common Law, for this Custom and Law hath no more to do with him.

Item :

That every Lord of the Soil or Soils ought to keep two Minery Courts by the year, and to swear twelve men or more of the same occupation for ordering all misdemeanours and wrongs, touching the Mineries.

Item :

The Lord or Lords may make three manner of Arrests (that is to say) The First is for Strife between Man and Man, for their works under the Earth. The Second is for his own duty for Lead or Oar wheresover he finds it in the said Forest ; and the Third is for the Felon's Goods of the same occupation wheresoever it may be found within the same Hill.

Item :

That if any man by means of this doubtful and dangerous occupation do by misfortune take his death, as by falling in of the Earth upon him, by Drowning, by Stifeling with Fire, or otherwise, as in time past may have been : The workmen of this occupation are bound to fetch the body out of the Earth, and bring him to Christian Burial at their own costs and charges, altho' he be three score Fathom under the Earth, as heretofore hath been seen, and no officer at large shall have to do with him or them.

These are the Laws of Mendip, made between the years 1470 and 1480.

On the Charters and Municipal Government of Axbridge.

BY THE REV. WILLIAM HUNT, M.A., VICAR OF
CONGRESBURY WITH WICK.

BEFORE I begin to attempt an account of what I believe to have been the state of the internal government of Axbridge in different stages of its history, I will briefly enumerate some of the curious and important muniments which the courtesy of the Burgesses has placed before us. First in importance are the four Royal Charters of the town, viz. : that granted by Henry VI, which in some way escaped the notice of Mr. Smirke when he inspected the records of the Corporation ; the Charter of 3 and 4 Philip and Mary; that of 41 Elizabeth, the one held as the present governing Charter of the town; and lastly, one of 21 James I.

Next to these in importance, and almost before them in interest, is the curious MSS. we have before us, one copy of which is of the early part of the fifteenth century. Mr. Jones, yesterday in looking through the municipal records, found an earlier MS. than the one which has, as far as we know, been heretofore received as the only copy. I do not myself think that it is earlier than quite the end of the fourteenth century. They begin with a short treatise on

English boroughs, and then tell the story of the miraculous escape of King Eadmund while hunting in the royal forest of Cheddar, the later MS. ends with an account of the government of the borough of Axbridge and an extract from the Domesday Book, but the earlier one adds a copy of the Charter of John which is referred to in the *Inspeximus* Charter of Henry VI.

Most unfortunately the two translations belonging to the Corporation are disfigured by some strange mistakes, especially one which has turned Eadmund into Eadward, and in one case adds in brackets, "the Confessor," no doubt from a sort of strange superstition, which one has met with before, that every one before the Norman Conquest was either Alfred or St. Eadward, and which may possibly be corrected by a careful reading of Mr. Freeman's first two volumes of the Norman Conquest. Mr. Smirke read a very able paper on this Treatise before the Archæological Institute, which is printed in one of the volumes of that society, and to which I gladly acknowledge my obligations. I venture to hope that this society will, with the permission of the Corporation, print this most interesting document in our volume for this year, together with one or two entries of a later date in the Convocation Books, which I have been encouraged to think we shall be allowed to extract.

Besides the two MSS. of this treatise, we have before us a valuable collection of deeds and grants of various dates, amongst which I may mention one of Henry III, granting freedom from toll to the tenants of the churches of Glastonbury and Wells. And lastly the Convocation Books, Rolls of the Court Baron, &c., which contain many interesting and amusing entries.

Before I go on, I must express my warmest thanks to the Mayor, the Alderman, and other Burgesses of the town for the great courtesy which they have shown me in allowing me to burrow amongst their valuable records, and in so kindly bringing them before us to-day. Their kindness makes me hope that without offending them, I may point out that an iron safe would be a far better place for their documents than the present wooden cupboard close by the fireplace. I am sure that there is not a Burgess in the town who will not agree with me, when he considers the irreparable loss which an accidental fire would occasion.

I will now pass on to the facts which I have gathered from these and other authorities, and the opinions which I have been led to form from them. Two years ago, when we met in Bristol, I endeavoured to trace the causes of the growth of that borough, and we saw how intimately its history was affected by its foreign commerce; but Axbridge, though at least as ancient a borough as Bristol, has never, as far as I know, been distinctly commercial, and for this reason it has less history, and we have not the same power of fixing the date of the changes in its constitution as we have in the case of those boroughs which were more strongly affected by the great changes of thought and of style of living, which were brought in by each commercial wave. The earliest notice which we have of Axbridge shows us that before, and at the time of, the Conquest it was a part of the King's demesne land, and it seems implied that it was a part of the royal demesne of Cheddar. It then contained thirty-two burgesses, who paid a rent of twenty shillings to the crown, two mills, three fisheries, and some land, all which also paid to the King. It is not, I think, difficult to determine the political condition of these

burgesses. They were of course freemen, and more than this they were freeholders like the other freeholders of the county, that is to say, they held their land at a fixed yearly rent which they paid to their lord. This lord was the King, who held Axbridge, Cheddar, Somerton, and some other neighbouring places as his own private estate, and this was no small advantage to the borough, for the crown was always the best lord, and so long as the burgesses paid their fixed rent they were far less interfered with, and tyrannized over than the tenants of other lords. Like all freeholders, they had their own reeve, for the portreeve was to the borough what the shirereeve was to the county; he was the representative of the crown, and his Court was the Court of the freeholders or burgesses, who were in Axbridge, and in all 'royal boroughs', tenants of the crown.

We must not, I think, be led by the phrase, "in dominio," to think too little of the position of the burgesses of the eleventh century. They held their land by a fixed tenure. They possessed, we cannot doubt, rights of heirship, and such rights of alienation as belonged to the freeholders of the kingdom in general, they were amenable to the jurisdiction of their lord, but this jurisdiction was exercised by an officer chosen from amongst themselves, his court was held in accordance with their own customs, and in it they were assessors as well as suitors. It is difficult to say when our English towns first enjoyed the right of electing their reeve, it is possible that they may have done so in some degree from very early times, the lord having a right of negative, and also, no doubt occasionally putting in his own men, but still it seems to me more likely that he was at first regularly appointed by

the lord, whose representative he was, and that the right of election was gradually gained by our towns. The MS. of the end of the fourteenth century before us, boldly asserts that in the eleventh century the portreeve of Axbridge was elected by, and from out of, fourteen socmen, wardmen, or aldermen. I venture to believe that this is altogether a mistake, as I cannot but think that the reeve was more generally appointed by the lord, and that his office was chiefly to look after his interests ; and as to the fourteen aldermen, '*seniores principales*' it seems impossible that there should have been so many who exercised jurisdiction, when the whole number of the burgesses was only thirty-two ; and the very fact of the right of electing the portreeve being confined to a certain number of the burgesses, seems to point to a far later state of things of which I will speak directly.

This town, probably, owed its existence to the fact that many of our early English kings had a hunting seat in the royal forest of Cheddar ; and in the time of Eadward the Confessor, the royal manours of Cheddar and Somerton, with their appendages, of which Axbridge was one, yielded to the crown, as part of their yearly rent, one night's entertainment, which was no doubt levied when the royal saint pursued his favourite amusement of hunting. But at the same time I do not, of course, for a moment agree with our MS. in the statement to which Mr. Smirke seems to give a sort of assent, that our kings established the borough of Axbridge, and other boroughs, in order that they might have so many country houses or hunting seats throughout the kingdom. Of all the many theories which have been put forward about the rise of boroughs this is the most grotesque. Our English towns grew of

themselves, and were not established by any particular decree, or because of any special council. Purely English towns, by which I mean those whose known history is confined to English times, came into being either because men chose to dwell at some spot which had special natural advantages, such as Bristol once had for trade, or else they grew from a few houses near the castle or house of some great man, as Axbridge grew round the royal hunting seat of Cheddar, or else from those which clustered round some cathedral church or abbey ; but in any case we may be quite sure that their birth was natural.

The town did not remain in the king's demesne after the twelfth century. The manour of Cheddar and the Borough of Axbridge, together with the hundreds of Wynterstoke and Cheddar were granted by King John to Hugh, Archdeacon of Wells, at the rent of £20 a year. Henry III granted Cheddar and Axbridge to Joceline, Bishop of Bath and Wells, in free alms. From that see they passed in the reign of Edward I to the Bishop of Lincoln, who granted the advocacy of Axbridge church to his brother of Bath, and in the next reign, Axbridge and Cheddar passed again to the see of Bath and Wells, to which they belonged till Bishop Barlow changed them away with Edward VI. I am sorry to say that I have not yet been able to discover any records of the dealings of the town with its ecclesiastical lords. Churchmen were, I fear, not generally such good landlords as laymen, and a town which belonged to a bishopric or abbey, in most cases gained its franchises later than those which belonged to the crown or to lay nobles. But there is no reason to suppose that this town was in any worse condition for these alienations ; we have seen that when it

belonged to the crown the burgesses were without doubt freeholders, and enjoyed the privileges which belonged to those who held by freeholding; and when the town was alienated they simply changed their lord, indeed at the very time that this change was made, we find that the rights of the borough were considerably increased. The Charter of John, copied in the fourteenth century MS. before you, and quoted by the Charter of Henry VI, exempts the burgesses from serving on juries, it quits them from all suits of the shire, and from the interference of the sheriff, and frees them from the fines for murder; and then the town, with the adjoining manour, is distinctly recognized as possessing an existence independent of the rest of the county, with an exemption from county burdens and jurisdiction. About the same time we have a proof of the increasing material prosperity of the borough, given us by the establishment of a fair to be opened on the eve of the feast of St. Barnabas, and held for three days following. This fair was granted by Henry III to William Longsword, grandson of Henry II, and afterwards by Edward I to the Bishop of Bath and Wells by a deed of grant still preserved here. An annual fair was at that time a far more important institution than it has ever been since. It is almost impossible for us to realize how difficult and how dangerous it was to travel in those days. Very few inhabitants of Axbridge ever went more than a very short distance from their own town, and very few consignments of goods were ever made to them. The annual fair was the great opportunity of buying and selling for the town and the neighbouring population. Traders from all parts of the land would probably flock hither, bringing with them wares which the good men of

the town had never seen before ; and they took back with them the produce of the industry of the borough, of which tanned hides probably formed an important part ; for two leather searchers were annually elected as borough officers until quite modern times, whose duty it was to test the bundles of hides sold in the borough. The importance of such fairs as this would be greatly increased, if, as I believe was probably the case, the burdensome restrictions on our home trades and manufacturers were but laxly observed at such times. All tolls were paid to the lord of the fair, and he held a court called Pie Poudre, presided over by his steward, for trying all cases which might arise during its continuance. The burghers of Axbridge had not only this opportunity of trading with strangers within their own walls, but by a Charter granted 19 Edward III, they, in common with all tenants of the churches of Bath and Wells, were made free of all toll throughout the kingdom. This was no small exemption at a time when toll was levied everywhere ; when a man could not take a bale of goods from one town to another without paying numberless vexatious demands either for crossing a bridge, or entering a gate, or passing a ferry, or going through some lord's demesne which lay in his way. Many such tolls were collected in the king's lands, and in those of his lords. A grant, however, of exemption by royal Charter even when the words 'per totum regnum' are used as here, and as in the Charter given to London by Henry I, and to Bristol by Henry II, could not convey exemption from tolls save those which were taken on the king's demesne.

In the sixth year of King Henry VI this borough received the first of the four royal Charters of which the

originals are still known to be extant. It states and confirms the previous position of the town, and begins with the entry in Domesday Book, which has I think a special significance. As one town after another received great Charters from the crown, those whose rights depended chiefly on immemorial prescription, on the fact of having been held by burgage tenure, were most probably especially anxious to assert their legal status and for this reason the ancient position of the burgesses of Axbridge is stated at length. It then gives an Inspecimus of the Charter of John, which I have already mentioned, and of his grant of the town to Hugh of Wells.

To a rather earlier date belongs the curious MS. which lies before us, of the story of the miraculous escape of King Eadmund. It is certainly not older than 1386, and may be within about thirty years of the same date as that which has usually been received as the oldest copy. It tells us that in the time of the early English kings there were in this town fourteen burgesses of superior rank to the rest, (for this I think must be the meaning of '*principales*') by whom, and from whom alone, the portreeve was chosen. Now I venture to submit that such a state of things is entirely unlike what we know to have existed in our English boroughs in very early times. Whether the burgesses were united as in this borough, by being all freehold tenants of one lord, or as was generally the case in great trading cities, by being brethren of some merchant guild, (a bond which superseded the older, and I believe once universal, one of tenure), they were all of equal rank and had equal rights. But gradually throughout England the richer burghers, men perhaps of families in which civic dignities had become almost hereditary, began to shut out

the rest from their fair share in the management of the town, and to form a sort of select body which usurped to itself the rights which of old belonged to each and all. In London this began early, and in 1256 the greater burghers and the lesser—contemptuously called ‘*minutus populus*’—were engaged in a sharp struggle for the mastery; the great contest in Bristol came to a climax in the rebellion in the reign of Edward II; other towns were the scene of the same struggle, but in all cases the oligarchy had the victory, and there was established either by consent or by special act, a select body of men, who afterwards became the Common Council, who arrogated to themselves the common right of deliberation and the common right of election.

These fourteen capital burgesses seem to have been a body of this sort, for it is hard to believe that they could even have been aldermen of wards over which they exercised a separate jurisdiction as the MS. before us seems to imply. But no doubt they became to the exclusion of the other burgesses the sole assessors of the mayor not only in his ordinary court, but also in the court Baron which leased the lands of the commonalty; and by them and out of them alone the chief magistrate of the borough was chosen, who is called mayor instead of portreeve for the first time in the history of our borough in this fourteenth century MS. But if the inferior burgesses had for a time no voice in the election of their mayor, in this borough at least they have to a certain extent regained their ancient right: for when according to immemorial custom and royal Charter the burgesses meet together on the Monday after the Exaltation of the Holy Cross to choose their mayor, the inferior burgesses first nominate

and then the council proceeds to elect, and I am told that this nomination has hardly ever been disregarded, but at the same time it is provided by Charter that the nominee must be one of the fourteen capital burgesses. I am inclined therefore to think that here the ordinary burgesses of Axbridge never lost the right of giving that tumultuary vote, which was so long the recognized expression of the will of the people, but which has in this case become sobered down to an unromantic presentment which is carried upstairs to the council.

In the sixteenth century Axbridge received two great Charters—the one granted 3 and 4 Philip and Mary, made it a corporate town; the other of 41 Elizabeth, finally settled its government. The incorporation of a borough of ancient prescription, though an important era in its history, added nothing to its rights. The burghers had, before their incorporation, as full rights of jurisdiction, and of holding and transmitting property in common, as they had afterwards, either because they were united by a bond of tenure, all being freehold tenants of one lord, as we have seen to be the case here; or because they were amalgamated by what we may almost call a more artificial tie, because they all belonged to one great guild merchant, as in Southampton, Wallingford, and many other places. But incorporation gave a town these two great advantages. It established beyond dispute the rights which it already had by prescription, and though such a title was more honourable, still it was of course more difficult of proof than one which rested upon Charter. It also gave a town an existence recognized in law under some special denomination, such as the mayor and bailiffs, or, as in this town, the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses; and under this title the

borough could hold lands, and sue, and be sued, as a *corporate body*, endued with perpetual legal succession, and having representatives recognized by law. It made just the difference between an aggregate body and a corporate body.

The custom of incorporating existing communities or townships began I think about the middle of the fifteenth century, and received an immense impetus by the confiscation of the lands of religious houses. The king and his party were anxious to gain the approval of the middle class at this critical time, and to secure their favour, they made them to a certain extent sharers in their ill-gotten spoil. The towns received a very great increase to their estates and many became for the first time large land-owners. The property consecrated to religious uses and administered by religious bodies was handed over to secular communities. I leave to any one tolerably acquainted with the later history of our municipalities before the Reform Act, or even to any one who can form an opinion on the present administration of the old municipal Charities, to pronounce judgment on the wisdom, I will not say the righteousness, of such a policy. The incorporation of towns was a natural, almost a necessary, consequence of this great increase of their estates, because though it did not as we have seen enlarge their right of holding land, it gave them greater facilities for doing so. Axbridge was somewhat later than most towns in receiving its Charter of incorporation probably because it so long remained a Bishop's town. But in 1548, Edward VI, by the advice of the Duke of Somerset, with an insolent injustice, of which in this case the youth of the king must clear him, seized nearly all the temporalities of the see of Bath and Wells,

Axbridge among the rest, and left Bishop Barlow almost houseless and penniless. The town then returned to the crown and was incorporated early in the next reign by the Charter of 3 and 4 Philip and Mary, which we have before us. This Charter still recognizes the thirty-two burgesses, and it is curious to find that this limited number recorded in Domesday Book still remains in the Borough, so that the present burgesses of Axbridge are the actual successors, man for man, of the freehold tenants of the crown who dwelt here certainly more than eight hundred years ago ; their number has never been lessened, and they have never added to it by admitting others to the enjoyment of their rights. With these thirty-two burgesses the fourteen aldermen are thus mentioned—‘*de discretioribus et magis probrioribus,*’ from whom, and by whom alone, the mayor was to be chosen. This Charter also grants the town the right of holding the assize of bread and ale, but this like some other of its clauses, is simply confirmatory, for you will find a record of this assize being held by the town as far back as the reign of Henry IV.

This Charter was soon followed by another, granted 41 Elizabeth, which is that by which the borough is still governed. The most important clause in it is that which establishes the Common Council, which at last took the place of the fourteen principal men, so oddly called aldermen, of whom I have already spoken. Instead of them there was to be but one alderman, and eight capital burgesses, and these with the mayor form the Common Council, to whom pertains the right of electing the mayor and alderman and of supplying vacancies in their own number, though the inferior burgesses enjoy their ancient right of giving their collective vote at the election of

mayor. In this newly constituted body was vested the whole government of the borough, the keeping of the peace, and the management of the corporate property; and these large powers remain still as the borough was not affected by the Municipal Reform Act. This Charter also granted the right to elect a recorder, who sits with the mayor and alderman to enquire of all minor offences, and it confirms the exemption from serving on juries and from the jurisdiction of the county magistrates granted to the burgesses by King John.

The last Charter, which the town has received, is a Confirmation Charter of 21 James I, which also adds West Street to the bounds of the borough, and grants it two serjeants, and maces bearing the royal arms.

The Convocation Books of the borough, in the seventeenth century, contain some curious entries, two or three of which I will mention.

It had been the custom of the borough to pay the mayor £16 a year wages, in order that he might provide feasts for his fellow burgesses, but in time men began to consider this sum extravagant, and in 1666 the wages were brought down to £8, and a little later to £4 a year, which is the present sum paid, and which I fear is not enough to give the electors much of a dinner.

On the 6th April, 1666, we find an order made by the Common Council, forbidding any inhabitant from going to Bristol for fear of the plague, which seems to have lingered long in that city, and any one who disobeyed was to be shut up in his own house for one month, which was at once a punishment and a preventive against infection, although one would think barely wholesome, especially at such a critical time, for the sufferer.

The last entry which I shall notice, is the letter of the Council, dated November 29, 1684, addressed to some nobleman, whose name I cannot discover, which describes the consternation which they felt when they heard of the forced surrender of the borough Charters to the crown. This iniquitous proceeding was to secure the ascendancy of the Tory party throughout the kingdom, and was carried out by the Attorney-General, Sawyer, and the lawyers of the court faction. The Council of this town heard with dismay that all their highly prized franchises were to be laid at the feet of the king ; and they sent three of their fellow burgesses to Lord Fitzharding to ask his advice, but he was only able to confirm their fears, and they, like many a more powerful town, had no choice but to submit. I have not been able to find any entry which speaks of the restoration of their Charters, or any great Inspeximus Charter of King Charles ; but it is certain that the borough lost none of its franchises. The Common Council still retain the powers vested in them by the Charter of Queen Elizabeth ; they still look for the rights of their town to the mass of valuable documents which they have in their own possession, which they have so justly prized, and which they so kindly show to all who are interested in such matters.

In conclusion, I must again thank them for their kindness to this Society and to myself, and beg to assure them that I most heartily join in the prayer inscribed on the old window of their council chamber—

“God that’s Lord of all,
Save the council of this hall.”

Early Historical Document

AMONG THE MUNIMENTS OF THE TOWN OF
Axbridge.

BY WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A.

THE following extracts from the MS. referred to by Mr. Hunt (see paper, p. 6, pt. ii), are published in the Proceedings, through the courtesy of the Mayor and Corporation of Axbridge.

The MS. is on parchment, and consists of 14 closely written folios, 6 in. by $3\frac{1}{2}$ in., the last six of which are here given entire. The Chronicle opens with "In principio creavit deus celum et terram &c," and about the middle of the fourth page the following entries occur :

Anno Dxyj Coronacio Arthuri regis qui regnavit annis xxvj de cuj' obitu vel sepultura certū non referunt historie.

Anno Dlxxxvj ab angl' dicitur anglia divisa per octo regna, idest, Canciam, Southsexiam, Westsexiam, Merciam, Estsexiā Estangliam, Durham, et Bernicia n.

Then follow the dates of the coronation and death of the Kings of England, the last entry being :

"Anno Mccclxxxix t'cio Idus octobr' apud Westm' coronacio illustris regis Henr' quarti."

From this it appears that the MS. belongs to the earlier

part of the 15th century, and was compiled before the death of Henry IV, A.D. 1413. The remaining portion of the MS. consists of entries such as the following :

Anno domini C xl. Invenio ymaginis crucifixi ad ostiū boriale in magno fluvio Thamisie per Luciū p^{imū} Regem anglie xpianū.

Anno Mccxxvi Idus April' combusta erat civitas London' ex maxi'a pte ex igne Gilberti Beket.

Anno M. cl. tā valida erat glacies qd Thamisia potuit p equestres ptransiri.

Anno Mccclviij apud Teuksbury quidm̄ judeus ꝑper diem Sabb'ti cecidit in latrinā nec pmsit se extrahi pppt'r reverenciam sabb'ti. Ricardus de clara Comes Glov'nie non pmisit eum extrahi ppt' reverenciam sui sabb'ti et sic mortuus est.

Anno Mcccxvi magna lues a'i'aliū et hoīm maximaque inundacio ymbriū fuit ex qua pvenit tanta bladi caristia qd quarteriū tritici p q'draginta solid' vendebatur.

Anno Mcccxlviij incept mag' pestilencia London' circa festū sci Mich'is et duravit usq' ad f'm sti petri ad vincula px' sequens.

Anno Mccclxj. xvij Kalend' ꝑfebr' festo Sci Mauri abbatis accidit ventus vehemens et terribilis per totam Angliam. Eodem anno fuit ij pestilencia in qua obiit vir nobil' et strenuus Henricus dux Lancastrie.

Anno Mccclxviij erat ij pestilencia in qua obiit dna Blanchia Lancastrie ducissa que in psenti Ecce'a honorifice jacet tumulata.

Immediately after this follows the account of the Hunting of King Edmund on the Mendip Hills, and the dissertation on the supposed origin of English Boroughs, which was published from another copy by Mr. Smirke, in the Archæological Journal, vol. xxiii, p. 224 : and also a copy of the Charter of King John, which, it will be observed, is left incomplete, though several pages of parchment had been duly prepared for the continuation of the manuscript.

TEMPORIBUS Adelstani, Edmundi, Edredi, Edgari et sancti Edwardi, alior'que Regum Anglie antiquor' gubernatio quidem regni hec fuit' videlicet qd per consilium sanctor' Dunstani et Alphegi alior'que spectabilium viror' ordinatum fuit ut fieret burgagia, id est maneria sive mansiones regie, nam 'Borw' Anglice, latine sonat 'mansio' seu habitacio, unde in presenti foveas vulpium appellamus 'borwys,' que constructa fuerunt diversis in locis in qualibet regni parte prout regie magistrati tempus et loci situs commodi' delectarent. Et eciam qd fierent Custodes in quolibet Burgo, qui tunc temporis vocabantur 'Wardemen,' idest 'Porterewys' Constabularii ceteriqu' officarii qui regio nomine ordinarent victualia : videlicet frumentum vinum et ordeum oves et boves ceteraqu' pecora campi et volucres celi piscesque marinos pro tempore quo Rex in Burgo prefixo moram cum suis trahere decretaret. Namque per regni consilium assignatum erat cuilibet Burgo tempus certum spaciumque temporis q'mdiu cum suis in hujusmodi demoraretur. Si vero contingeret illuc regem non adesse tunc omnia preordinata in foro predicti Burgi venundari deberent et pecunia inde recepta in fiscum regium per officarios predictos inferri liceret. Preterea per dictum consilium forent villagia per circuitum dict' Burg' adjacentia in quibus essent villani et nativi qui terram incolerent animaliaque nutrent et cetera que ad opus supradictum necessaria forent ad victum officiar' burgor' supradictor'. Vixit itaque Rex in illis diebus de propriis dominiis sive maneriis sicut ceteri domini modo faciunt. Et hoc omnino ne regnum in edie gravamine incurreret.

Interdum vero estivabant Reges circa fforestam de Minndep venandi gracia in qua tunc temporis fuerunt cervi non pauci ceterarumque ferarum genera diversa. Nam, ut legitur in vita Sancti Dunstani, Rex Edmundus qui Glastonie requiescit accessit venaturus ad fforestam supradictam, Burgo regio tunc apud Axebrygge existente. Idem vero Rex triduo perantea beatum Dunstanum a curia sua cum magna indignatione ac sine honore abjecerat quo facto Rex in silvam venaturus ivit. Silva autem ipsa montem magne altitudinis occupat. Qui mons in summitate sui interruptus, ingens precipicium et horridum abissum spectantibus offert quod ab incolis *Cedderclyff* appellatur.

Cum ergo fugitantem cervū Rex hac et illac insequeretur, cervus ad preruptum montis hiatū perveniens introrsum ruit ac in partes discissus interiit. Insectantes canes par ruina involvit. Equus autem quem Rex sedebat ruptis habenis effrenis effectus obstinato cursu regem post bestias portat et ultimam sortem Regi pre se patens baratrum intentat. Ille trepidat et angustiatur. Occurrit interim a'īo ejus injuria Dunstano nuper illata. Ingemuit et se q'm citissime illam multiplici emendatione correcturum, solomodo imminentem sibi mortem ejus meritis ad horam Deus avertat, Deo celeri mentis sponsione promittit. Cuju' cordis preparacionem aur' Dei evestigio audiens illius misertus est. Equus namque illico substitit et Regem a periculo mortis liberatum valde magnificas Dno grates ex intimo cordis persolvere.

Inde ad hospicium, s' ad Burgum de Axebrygge, Rex adunatis principibus suis rei que acciderat ordinem pandit et Dunstanum cum honore ac reverencia adduci precepit et eum postea fidelissimum amicum in omnibus habuit.

Et sic in Axebrygge fuerunt xxxij burgences quibus concessum fuit a supradictis regibus jus venandi atque piscandi in omnibus locis warennis exceptis, videlicet a loco qui dicitur Kotelliasch usque ad petram que vocatur le Blacston in mari occidentali. Et de predictis xxxij burgencibus fuerunt xiiij seniores principales qui tunc vocabantur Sokmanni s. 'Wardemen' sive 'Aldermannii,' ex quibus omni anno ipsimet eligerent unum 'portereve,' qui modo per statutum regium 'Major' vocatur et j ballivum et ij constabularios ceterosque officarios qui in gubernatione illius Burgi forent necessarios ut veniente regio Senescallo in festo videlicet Sancti Michaelis facerent coram eodem fidelitatem Regi et regno de hujusmodi gubernacione et de pace servanda; et sic villa de Axebrygge cum manerio de Ceddir fuit pprium dominium Regis.

Et nota quod hec duo Maneria, videlicet Somerton et Ceddir, cum apendiciis suis reddebant firmam unius noctis tempore Sancti Edwardi Regis et Willielmi conquestoris prout patet in libro qui dicitur Domysday, folio scdo, ubi agitur de Comitatus Somersete sub titulo Terre Regis in libro supradicto ubi continet' sic :—"Rex tenet Ceddir. Rex Edwardus tenuit numq'm' gildavit nec

scitur quot hide sunt ibi. Terra est viginti car' In dominio sunt tres car' et duo servi et unus colibertus et xvij villani et xx Bord' cum vij car' et vij gablatores redd' xvij solid'. In Alsebruge triginta et duo burgences redd' xx solid' ibi duo Molini red' xij solid' et vj denar' et iij piscarie redd' x solid' et xv acre prati, pastura j leu' longitudine et tantundem lat' redd, per annū xxj lib' et ij denar' et obulum de xx mora silva ij leu' longitudine et dimid' latitudine. De hoc Manerio ten' Gyso Epc' unū membrum Wetimore, quod ipse tenuit de Rege E. pro eo computat Willms Vicecomes in firma Regis, xij lib unoquoque anno. De ipso Manerio est ablata dimid' virgat' terre que fuit de dominico firma Regis E. Robertus de Otburguile ten' et xv denar' val. Hec duo Maneria Som'ton et Ceddar cum apendiciis suis reddebant firmam unius noctis tempore Regis Sancti Edwardi.

Et sic Willms Rex et omnes successores sui Reges habuerunt dictam villam de Axebryg' cum manerio de Ceddar in proprio dominio usque ad annum quintum Regis Johannis, quo anno idem Johannes Rex concessit dictum Manerium de Ceddar cum villa de Axebrygg' et hundredis de Wyntestoke et Ceddar Hugoni Archid' Wellensi pro xx lib ad t'rminos Michaelis et Pasche, ut patet per cartam sequentem.

JOHANNES dei gracia &c. Sciatis nos dedisse et p'senti carta confirmasse dil'c'o n'ro Hugoni de Well Archid' de Well Maneria de Ceddar et Axebrygg' cum Hundredis de Wintestok et de Ceddar et cum om'ib' suis, Habenda et tenenda ad feodifirmam sibi et hered' suis vel illis quibus concesserit in hereditatem de nob' et heredibus n'ris inppetuū respondendo inde ad Scacc' n'rm per annū de viginti libr' nu'o' pro om'i servicio et demanda videlicet ad scacc' sti Mich'is de decem libr' n'u'o et ad Scacc' Pasch' de decem libr' n'u'o unde solebat respondi ad scacc' per vic' in corpore Com' Soms' de xvj. li. Blanc' per annū. Quia volumus et firmiter precipimus qd' predictus Hugo et heredes sui vel illi quibus ea concesserit in hereditatem habeant et teneant inppetuū ad feodifirmam predicta maneria cum predictis hundredis et mercato de Axebrygg' et omnibus aliis pertin' suis libertatibus et liberis consuetudinibus in t'ris hominibus redditibus homag' revelevūs

escaetis custodiis maritag' et omnibus exitibus in Bosco et plano viis et semitis pratis et pasturis apris marisc' aquis et molendinis vinaris et stagnis piscaris et pumagus et in omnibus rebus et locis cum Soc & Sac & Toll et Theam et Infangthef et utfangenthes et cum quietancia de passaug' pontag' Stallag' Taillag' lestag' et Theloneo. Volum' eciam et concedimus qd predictus Hugo et heredes sui vel illi quibus predicta maneria concess'it et homines pdictor' manerior' numqm̄ ponantur in recogniciones vel juratas faciendas et qd tam pred'ca maneria et pred'ca hundreda qm̄ omnes homines in eis manentes sint quiet' inppetū de Sectis Com̄ et de Sectis Hundredor' ad vic' pertinentibus. Et de Auxiliis vic' et Ballivor' suor' Et precipim' et volum' qd nullus vic' vel minister ej' se numqm̄ intromittat de eis vel ad maneria illa vel ad hundr' pred'ca vel ad homines in eis manentes manūmittat in aliquo. Et qd sint quieti inppet' de pecunia pro murdro danda. Cum autem placita corone ibidm̄ adven'it per Coronarios Comt's Som'set et Ballivos predictor' manerior' et hundredor' attachientur. Et cum aliqui prisonos capti fuerint in maneris et hundredis illis quor' Justic' sp'aliter ad coronā nram pertineat, liberentur Vic' Som'set vel ministris suis ad eos tenendos et custodiendos quamdiu in prisona esse debuerent. Et precipim' super forisfacturam nram qd vic' vel minister ej' qucumq' eis oblatis fuerint eos sine dilacione et omni excusacione recipiant et custodiant. Pecunia itaque siqua forte nobis debet' in pred'cis maneris et hundredis per manū Ballivor' predictor' manerior' et hundred' colligi volum' et Vic' Som'set.

NOTE.—The foregoing extracts have been given, as far as possible, literally from the MS., and no attempt has been made to alter or correct the obvious errors which occur in the original.

Clifton Camps.

BY MR. G. M. ATKINSON.

THERE are three British stations on the Avon, one at Clifton, and two on the Somersetshire side opposite, called Bower Walls, and Stokeleigh.

That on Clifton Hill is placed on the highest point of St. Vincent's Rock, which rises nearly perpendicular 285 feet over the river at high water. It consists of a plot of ground on the very top of the hill, now covered with turf, and containing between three and four acres. It is surrounded by two ditches, which form three aggers, or ramparts. The inner rampart is 293 yards in circuit.

It rises about three or four feet above the level of the area, probably there was once a wall upon it. When the turf is removed, a quantity of lime or soft loose mortar is seen among the stones, and traced to the depth of two or three feet, and a slight layer of charcoal is found under this mortar in some places.

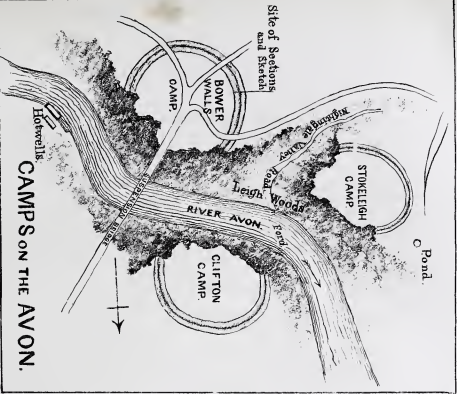
The ramparts are formed in most places by digging out the natural rock and finishing with earth, or loose stones. The entrance is on the north-eastern side. In the western corner is an inclosure, about 40 yards square, from this corner, a foot-way slopes down towards the river with a regular descent, and in this place at low water, during

spring tides, the river may be easily forded. The remains of an artificial ford founded on a natural ledge of rock, is here intended to form a communication between the camps on each side of the river. On quitting the river there may be seen a piece of hard road leading up the valley, now called the Nightingale Valley. On following up this valley, the other two camps are situated on the very summit of the precipices, one on the right, and the other on the left hand. The easternmost, that nearest to Bristol, is called Bower Walls. It is bounded to the east by a precipice, which renders all artificial defence unnecessary, and measures about 270 yards. The northern point appears about a quarter of a mile from the nearest point of Clifton Camp, in a straight line across the river. On a still day a man may speak across. It is about the same distance across the valley to the nearest point of Stokeleigh Camp. On the north-west side this camp is bounded by another valley, about 155 yards long.

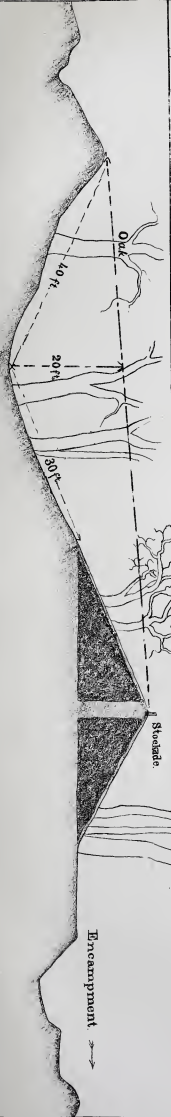
These precipices are connected by three ramparts, enclosing an oval space, now overgrown with forest trees, and containing about seven acres. The highest rampart was about 18 feet above the area inside. It is in the parish of Ashton. The suspension bridge cuts into it at Clifton. Bower Walls is synonymous with "Borough Walls," derived from Saxon "Burgh," and proves that the memory of habitation there had reached Saxon times.*

The western is called Stokeleigh Camp, it measures 280 feet, and is calculated to contain about eight acres. The north side rests on the precipice. The top of the rampart is from 10 to 14 feet high above the area, and from 25 to 30 above the bottom of the ditch, and overgrown with forest trees. Beyond this ditch is another, 12

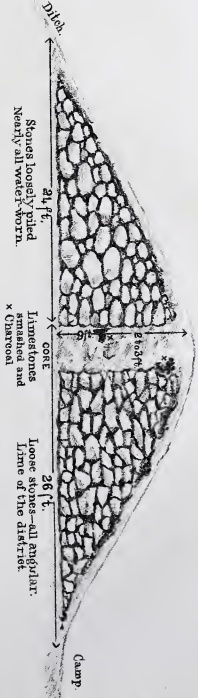
* See the plan of river Avon, and three camps.



CAMPS ON THE AVON.



SECTIONS—BOWER WALLS CAMP.



feet deep, and 36 wide ; and also a third. These ramparts and ditches gradually sink into the declivities on each side. There are evidences of buildings by the mounds, stations for signals perhaps, as it commands an extensive prospect. Within the area, near the north-western entrance, is a subsidence of the ground, perhaps the mouth of a well. Somewhere in this camp (Barrett's His. p. 20), was once found a stone with a hole in the middle, probably a hand-mill. Of the three camps, Clifton is unquestionably the parent of Bristol, the Caerodor, and by the Roman coins found down the hill can be traced the expansion of the settlers. It is strange to find a return to the old spot now taking place.

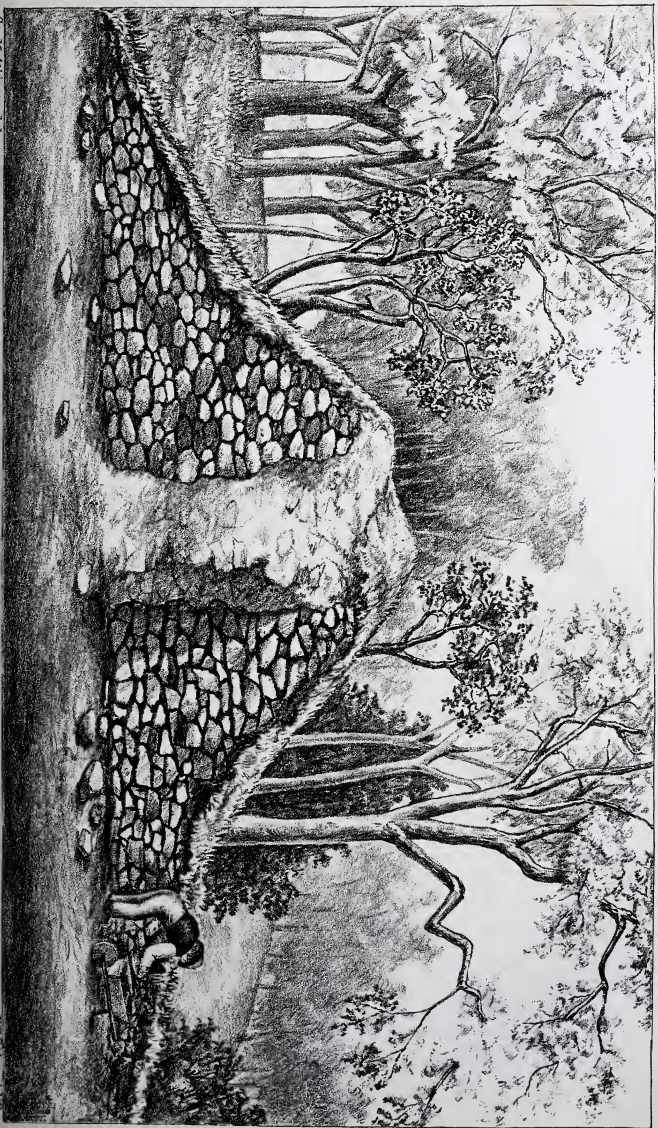
Borough Walls.

*Abstract of description given by the Rev. Prebendary SCARTH,
of the construction of the Ramparts, with general observations
on the methods of forming them.*

THE Ramparts of the camp on the river Avon, called Borough Walls, have lately been destroyed for the purpose of building villas.

The innermost and highest of the three Ramparts which parted the camp on the western side, is formed of a compact mass of concrete, and when cut through, showed a core of solid lime, and burned wood, banked up on each side with stones, and coated with turf. When the work was examined as the process of removal continued, it was evident that large fires had been kindled at intervals of from 9 to 15 feet apart, and covered with lime-stone which was calcined, and that wood and stones had been burned together in the centre of the wall, while the sides were banked up with stone and earth. This had become solid by the infiltration of rain water, and so formed a solid core.

Mr. Scarth then went on to describe the construction of the Ramparts of the other two camps. That on Clifton Down, as far as could be ascertained at present, appeared to have been similarly constructed to that at Borough Walls. The Rampart of Stokeleigh Camp was quite perfect, and did not shew any appearance of lime having been used in



Geo. M. Atkinson, del.

BOWER WALLS CAMP, N^o. BRISTOL.

W. E. D. good, ill.



its construction, but no section had been exposed at any time, so as to exhibit the interior of the Rampart.

Having described the situation of these camps, he went on to classify the different modes of construction found in the Ramparts of camps in this Island under six heads.

1. The *simple earthen rampart* formed by casting the earth and stone out of the ditch, so as to form a bank on which a stockade could be placed.

2. That formed of *loose stones, put together without lime.*

3. The *dry walling*, where the stones were laid in regular order. The camp on Whorle Hill, at Weston-super-Mare, exhibited good specimens of this kind of entrenchment.

4. The Rampart where the core was formed of solid concrete, as at Borough Walls.

5. The *vitrified forts* found in Scotland, and in Brittany, where the Rampart is formed of blocks of granite mixed with timber, and coated with clay, and the whole having been covered with heather, and then set on fire, has become a compact mass of vitrified scorium by the fusing of the granite and the hardening of the clay. Examples of this kind of Rampart may be seen at Inverness,—on Dunsinane Hill, Perthshire,—at Howden Moor, near Jedburgh, and other places in Scotland.

6. The *Roman construction* of walls where bonding courses of brick were carried at intervals through the wall, the face of which was of hewn stone, set in regular course, but the interior formed of concrete, consisting of lime, powdered brick, and small stones.

Mr. Scarth inclined to the idea that the camp at Borough Walls was a rude imitation of the Roman mode of constructing their fortified city walls, and probably subsequent to the Roman period.

Note on the existence of a French Colony in the Mendips.

BY MR. GEORGE SMITH, SURGEON, AXBRIDGE

I HAVE often been struck with the marked peculiarities of some of the individuals I have, from time to time, met with on the Mendip Hills. There is, in some of them, a mobility of frame and gracefulness of action, coupled with a softness and refinement of manner, which at once arrests attention, and forces the conviction on the mind that they must be of French extraction, and such an enquiry appears to be the case; indeed it would seem from the following details copied, the first from a monument in the Church of Hinton Blewitt, and the second from one in that of Axbridge, that such is the case :—

IN MEMORY OF

Dr. Lewis Thiery, who was born in France, and being persecuted, for true religion came over to this free and happy kingdom about the year of our Lord 1650, and was buried under this stone about the year 1680. He had by his wife, Grace, five sons and one daughter, who were, most of them, buried near this place. Bevis Thiery, hosier, one of the sons of the above Lewis and Grace,

died at Coley, and was interred here, 23rd April, 1746, aged 82 years. He had by his wife Mary three sons, Richard, Lewis, and Bevis; and five daughters, Grace, Hannah, Dorothea, Mary, and Betty, who all lived to be married, and left a numerous offspring.

Dorothea, who was the last of that line, died at Lytton, and was buried here the 24th of November, 1788, aged 88 years. She lived to see sixty-four great grand children, forty-four of whom are now living, and by her particular request eight of her grandsons carried her to her grave.

The above family, though not all of them possessed of abundant riches, lived well by honest industry; respected by their superiors and equals, and beloved by all men.

READER,

Let their bright examples provoke thy imitation.

Near this place, in hopes of a blessed resurrection, lyes the remains of the late Rev. Elias Rebothier, who was rector of this parish (Axbridge) forty-five years. Dyed 19th December, 1765, aged 88 years. He was born at St. John De Gardonnengue in the Cevannes, in the province of Langudock, and at the great persecution of Protestants in France fled from that place and left his family, fortune and friends to seek after the most pure religion of the Church of England. He followed his studies for some time in Geneva, Holland, and Germany, and after enduring many hardships and vicissitudes of fortune he came to England, where he was, by that great and good prelate, George Hooper, Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, taken into his palace as chaplain, and promoted to many favours in the Church by his Lordship.

Though nearly two hundred years have elapsed since

these men took up their abode in this country, and although the marriages have been exclusively English, there are still evident tokens of the peculiarities of their race amongst them. Many of the surnames are no doubt lost, still the Thierrys and Maugres are represented by Thiery and Moger of the present day ; and the prefix of Lewis (Louis) is not uncommon. Moreover the Thierys and their descendants are taken from Charter House to Hinton Blewitt for interment to the present day.

Geology of the Mendips.

BY CHARLES MOORE, F.G.S.

ONE of the advantages connected with Geological investigation to him who pursues the science arises from the fact that, in whatever part of the world he may be placed, there is certain to be open to him many points of interest, either physical or otherwise, upon which the imagination may be exercised. Whether he be investigating the extended plains of our alluvial or tertiary deposits, or the table lands of the chalk or oolite, or the low levels occupied by the liassic deposits, or his look-out be from one of the glorious peaks of the carboniferous limestone or the old red sandstone of the Mendip Hills, many questions crowd upon him, and he has to endeavour to realise, as far as possible, amongst other points, the physical history of the district at its several epochs; the relative ages of the beds, and their connection with one another; the evidences they may present of unconformability and disturbance; what mineral wealth they contain, and also the palæontological treasures the deposits may severally yield on a patient investigation of their contents.

I believe there is no county in England which is privileged to possess so much Geological variety as the county of Somerset, and resulting chiefly from this, I am certain

there is not one, which presents so great an amount of palæontological interest. On both these points the Axbridge district, in which this year the society assembles, will afford ample illustrations. Before noticing these more in detail, let me mention the different geological formations found within the borders of the county, some of which are in no part of the world to be studied under more favourable conditions—Alluvial deposits, recent marine beds, post glacial drifts and clays, chalk, chalk marl, upper green sand, gault (?), lower green sand, Kimmeridge clay, coral rag, Oxford clay, cornbrash, forest marble, great oolite, fullers' earth, inferior oolite, upper lias, middle lias, lower lias, the Rhætic beds, new red sandstone, dolomitic conglomerate, coal measures, millstone grit, carboniferous limestone, Devonian beds, old red sandstone, eruptive basalts. This lengthened list of geological formations, therefore, shows, what I doubt cannot be said for any other county, that in Somerset, with the exception of the tertiary beds, the Wealden, the Portland oolite, and the Silurian strata, and those following, every Geological horizon is represented in it.

The great geological feature not only of the district in which the society meets, but also of the county of Somerset, centres in the fine range of the Mendip Hills, which are chiefly composed of the old red sandstone, and the carboniferous limestone, whose physical elevation has tended in a very considerable degree to influence and modify many of the younger stratified deposits by which they are seen to be surrounded. The Mendips commence on the east near Frome, where in this direction they pass under and are covered up by secondary rocks, and from thence continue through the centre of the county for a distance of 35 miles, forming the boundary on the south, of the

Somersetshire coal field. They have on their southern escarpments the towns of Shepton-Mallet, Wells, Cheddar, Axbridge, and Weston-super-Mare. From the latter point the beds of which they are composed cross the channel, and are found skirting the South Wales coal field, their western extension being near the town of Bridgend. The old red sandstone is the oldest member of the Mendip range, and makes its appearance near Frome in a narrow belt at Oldford, with an equally narrow strip of carboniferous limestone resting against it, both formations at this place being very much disturbed and contorted. The old red sandstone has then its greatest superficial development to the north of Cranmore and Shepton Mallet, where it is continuous for several miles, it having been brought up through the carboniferous limestone, by which it is bounded both to the north and south, the whole of the rocks forming an anticlinal, the beds of which dip in either direction at a very considerable angle. The old red is then found at Pen Hill, and North Hill, near Priddy, beyond which it is covered up by a large superficial development of carboniferous limestone, which separates the formation from the Black Down Hills above Axbridge, the most westerly point the old red sandstone reaches in this district. The carboniferous limestones are continuous throughout the range, resting sometimes vertically, and always at high inclinations upon the sides of the equally inclined old red beds, having their greatest breadth of six miles north of Wookey, or from Rodney Stoke towards Blagdon, including in their area Stoke Warren, Priddy, Charter House, and Ubley. To the west the limestones continue in two spurs, embracing the old red of the Black Down Hills, the one to the north passing by way of Burrington, Sandford, and Banwell, that to the south including

the Cheddar Cliffs, Shutshelve Hill above Axbridge, and Wavering Down above Compton, Crook's Peak at this point yielding one of the most interesting panoramic views that can be imagined, and from which the greater part of the physical geology of the county may be gathered. Beyond this may be seen the isolated outcrops of the carboniferous limestones of the Bleadon and Worle Hills, with Brean Down and the Steep, and Flat Holmes in mid-channel. The older rocks of which I have been speaking form the boundary within the borders of which, so far as we at present know, the coal measures are confined. The outlines of the Somersetshire and Gloucestershire carboniferous series by the outcrops of the carboniferous limestone are on the whole very well defined. Even on its eastern border, where only any doubt can exist, and where the carboniferous limestones are generally covered up by later deposits, its area may still be traced, as it is known that the carboniferous limestone occurs under the secondary beds at Batheaston, and at the surface over very small areas at Grammar rocks near Bath, and at Wick and Codrington in Gloucestershire, Cromhall being their northern extremity, whilst the grand escarpments of the Mendips form their southern boundary. It is true that whilst we have the carboniferous limestones of this range dipping rapidly to the south, on its eastern side passing under the oolite and lias, in the Axbridge and Cheddar districts they apparently pass under the moor lands towards Bridgwater and Cannington, near that town, where there is a small outcrop of limestone, which until lately was supposed to belong to the carboniferous series, in which case it would indicate the continuation of these beds in that direction; but it has lately been suggested by Mr. Etheridge, though with some doubt, that the Cannington limestone is of Devonian age.

The question of the continuance of the coal measures south of the Mendips is one surrounded by very considerable difficulty. Under any circumstances, though I should not be sanguine of success and should rather incline to the opinion that workable coal would not be found in that direction, I think the time has come when the Somersetshire landed proprietors should combine and provide a fund, which with the improved means now attained for boring operations need not be a very large one, in order to settle a point which, if successful, would not only be of great importance to themselves but to the country generally. I shall presently point out some of the difficulties they would have to meet, but they chiefly resolve themselves into a question of cost, and nothing would give me greater pleasure, as soon as they are ready, than to offer them any assistance I can render as hon. consulting engineer, keeping them informed of their prospects as their mining operations proceed. The coal measures which overlie the carboniferous limestone are in the Somersetshire basin calculated at the enormous thickness of 12,000 feet. In a paper I have lately published on "the Abnormal Conditions of the secondary deposits when connected with the Somersetshire and South Wales Coal Basins," I have suggested that it was probable the carboniferous limestone, which is now seen to surround our coal fields, formed the edges of an atoll-like basin, within which the vegetation flourished from which the coal has been derived. It is certain that with our carboniferous deposits there have been many mixed, or rather alternating physical conditions of the area within which they are found, which have not yet been satisfactorily worked out. Take for example one of the coal beds on the north of the Mendips. There are there found on a single horizon of only a few feet or inches in

thickness, indications of a land area, from the vegetation, of which it has been probably formed; this may be succeeded by shales or other deposits of greater or less thickness, in which there may be traces of either marine or brackish water organic remains. The land again emerges from the water and is once more clothed with vegetation, and, with the same physical conditions repeated from time to time, still higher coal beds are deposited, each in its turn being covered up by interposed shales or other deposits which have been brought into the area by the continued depression of the district in which they have been accumulated. No doubt some of the beds were deposited more or less rapidly, though this could not be the case with the coal itself. It has been calculated that the vegetation necessary to the formation of one yard of coal would, even in the tropics, take a thousand years in its growth. If this calculation be anything like correct, we shall require thousands of years for the formation of the true coal beds alone, which in the Somersetshire coal field are about twenty-four feet in thickness, and if so, what date are we to assign to the intercalated shales and rocks of which the carboniferous series a few miles on the north side of the Mendips is in great part composed? In illustration of the period that might be occupied in the formation of some of the coal series, I may mention an incident which has just occurred to myself. Lately I found several minute seeds of a coniferous plant named *Flemingites gracilis*, in a lead mine in Yorkshire, next I found it in the carboniferous series in Staffordshire, and lately, when visiting the Radstock coal works, I discovered a bed of shale almost entirely composed of this little seed alone. Although as I have above indicated there must have been a continued depression of the area within which the coal measures

were being deposited, the fact that the same thin veins of coal are generally to be traced over the whole coal field is sufficient to show that there were uniform periods of rest within which the same conditions everywhere prevailed ; what those several physical conditions were, will still afford ample scope for the imagination of geologists.

But I want once more to return to the Mendip Hills, and to refer to some most interesting phenomena, which appear to have occurred after the close of the coal period. It must not be forgotten that the old red sandstone, the carboniferous limestone, and the coal beds within the basin were laid down horizontally, and that their present physical elevation has been due to subsequent uplifting by volcanic agency. Whatever doubt there might be of former changes there can be none regarding the cause of their elevation, the time it was effected, and the modifications that have been caused thereby, especially to Somersetshire geology. The rocks which form the Mendip Hills, and including the coal measures also which have been brought up by the same movement, cannot be estimated at less than 30,000 feet in thickness. Their length, from near Frome to Weston, where they cross the channel, to beyond Bridgend in South Wales, where the carboniferous limestone terminates, is about 72 miles. Meeting as we do at the foot of this mountain chain, and seeing, as we shall in our excursion, the magnificent Cheddar gorge, the Burrington Coombe, and the other ravines that have been caused by the elevation of this chain of hills, you may the more readily imagine the enormous forces exerted in early geological periods by such convulsions. Grand, indeed, as compared with their present appearance, must have been the ragged peaks of the rocks as they were first brought up from the ocean's depth, since which time through long

geological ages they have been modified by denudation and other causes. So great has been the power of denuding forces, especially to the east, that the dense limestone of the range, which must have gone up into peaks of considerable elevation, have been worn down quite horizontal, much of the material thus removed forming the conglomerates along the Mendip range and covering up the coal within the basin. The presence of the agent, by whose power this has been effected, is to be found in a basaltic dyke near Stoke Lane, under the Ridgeway and one of the most elevated portions of the Mendips. A north and south section there shews the protrusions of the volcanic matter, and that the old red sandstone and the carboniferous limestone have been brought up vertically by it, and as the convulsion was subsequent to the coal period those beds have been equally affected thereby. Nothing in geological history can be clearer than the time when the Mendip hills were up-lifted. The fact that no beds subsequent to the coal measures have been disturbed, and that all the secondary formations which repose on them on either side of the Mendips are horizontal, shew that the date of the volcanic movement is to be fixed at about the middle or latter part of the triassic era.

The uplifting of the Mendips, I have before remarked, has tended very much to modify the general geology of the district, and I know of no part of the world in which there are so many interesting physical phenomena to be studied. In my paper before referred to, and from which I am compelled to quote, I have suggested that, through the greater part of geological time since the coal measures the Mendips have presented an island barrier, which to a great extent has prevented the irruption of the secondary seas within the coal basin to the north, and I have given

comparative sections which I think clearly establish this fact. I have shown that whilst on the south of the Mendips there have been deep sea deposits, in which the secondary beds attain very considerable thickness, on the north they are often entirely wanting or have a very insignificant development which the following table will show :—

	Without coal basin	Within coal basin
Triassic beds ..	2,000	50
Rhætic beds ..	50	50
Lower lias ..	700	2
Middle and upper lias	500	42
Inferior oolite ..	170	25
	3,420	169

This comparison, as showing the different physical conditions under which the beds on either side of the Mendips were deposited, is most instructive. The new red sandstone in a coal boring at Compton Dundon, was sunk into for 600 feet, whilst within the coal basin the dolomitic conglomerates and the "red ground" are often under 50 feet, and in a very curious section of the lower lias at Munger less than two feet represents this important formation, which sometimes numbers to the south many hundred separate beds. These facts will serve to show that in any attempts made to discover coal in the latter direction great care must be exercised in the selection of suitable spots for experiment. Another point of interest which I have only recognised along the flanks of the Mendips, and their continuation through South Wales, is that when the secondary rocks come in contact with those of earlier ages or lie in any small basins on their surface

they present all the conditions of an ancient coast line, and are so changed in their general character, that it would be difficult to recognize them as the equivalent of liassic or other beds, that were deposited under ordinary or more tranquil circumstances, in the deeper seas beyond. Thus towards Frome, and at Shepton Mallet, the Rhætic beds are composed of a dense conglomerate analogous to the pebbly coast line of our present shores, and occasionally contain an association of remains of several geological periods. Thus in one block I have a vertebra of *Plesiosaurus*, *Acrodus* teeth, *Avicula contorta*, of Rhætic age, and *Encrinites* of the age of the carboniferous limestone. The liassic beds also, where their edges meet the carboniferous limestone, are likewise conglomeratic, and the beds are lithologically different, presenting a white or crystalline aspect instead of the usually dense gray or blue appearance under which they are otherwise found. At Harptree these beds are very siliceous, and, but for their fossils, would be difficult to recognise as belonging to the liassic series. These facts I think assist in the conclusion that the Mendip range was at the time of the deposition of the secondary beds an island barrier, producing abnormal conditions of deposition when the latter beds came within its influence. Before I leave this part of the subject I must refer to another most interesting point, which is not only intimately connected with the Mendips but is also a new feature in Geological phenomena. I allude to the age and mode of the mineral deposits in its area. There can be no doubt that the carboniferous limestones which form an anticlinal from their original line of elevation, dip more or less rapidly to the south under the secondary rocks. Over a large surface of the sea bottom they formed the floor of the ancient ocean to the south when the Rhætic and liassic

beds were being deposited, and we have the curious fact that in consequence of some physical disturbance they then became fissured and received within their walls not only the organic remains that were then living, but also various minerals of the same period, with which in the veins they are now to be found associated. In consequence of this, whenever a vein of whatever breadth is met with in the carboniferous limestone of the Mendips, it may fairly be inferred that the vein is either of Rhætic or liassic age, which is often to be clearly established by the presence of remains of those periods. A complete network of veins and fissures in this way occupies the whole line of the Mendip Hills, some of which, of considerable breadth, are to be traced for some distance. In one open section at Holwell fifteen of these are present, nearly one-third of what was supposed to be carboniferous limestone belonging to the younger age. A good example again occurs in a wide vein at Gurney Slade, where in a quarry of carboniferous limestone the vein infilling has been left standing up like a wall with liassic shells in its matrix, shewing the hematite iron ore there seen to be also contemporaneous. Other examples might be mentioned, but I shall only refer to the one of greatest interest which happens to be at Charter House, within a few miles of where we are assembled, and which will be visited in one of the excursions.

On the carboniferous limestone table land at this place a shaft has been sunk for the discovery of lead ore, and I was surprised to find at its mouth blue clay and conglomerates containing organic remains of the age of the lower lias, a formation not to be found within some miles of the spot. This came from the bottom of the mine at a depth of 270 feet. It affords another remarkable illustration of the liassic seas having occupied the fissures of

older formations, and from the fact that this liassic infilling is found either below or associated with the minerals in the vein, it proves conclusively that the latter are of liassic age. Mixed with a few species of organic remains from the carboniferous limestone, not less than eighty five species of the age of the lias were obtained, some of these being of the highest palæontological interest. The genera *Helix*, *Proserpina* and *Vertigo* thus found are with one exception the oldest land shells, and *Valvata*, *Hydrobia* and *Planorbis* the oldest freshwater genera ever discovered.

Before leaving the subject of minerals I should remark that in what are mapped as dolomitic conglomerates to the north of Axbridge, at Rowberrow, and Shipham, large quantities of calamine were formerly extracted, and hematite iron ores occur at Wrington and other localities. These conglomerates usually fill up basins in the limestone or rest against their sides, but owing to their not yielding any organic remains it is difficult to determine their exact age. It is not improbable they are younger than has been supposed, especially as it is seen that the other minerals of the district are of a later date.

Whilst within the coal basin to the north of the Mendips, as I have before intimated, there is an extraordinary thinning out of all the secondary deposits, on the south and south-west the beds above the coal, where they have been clearly deposited in deeper seas and beyond the modifying influences exercised by the Mendip range, assume their normal conditions and attain great thickness.

The triassic beds have not a large superficial development, from the fact that they are to a great extent covered by the lias or by the moorlands of the district. The upper beds of the new red sandstone can be best studied along the lines of the numerous escarpments by which the

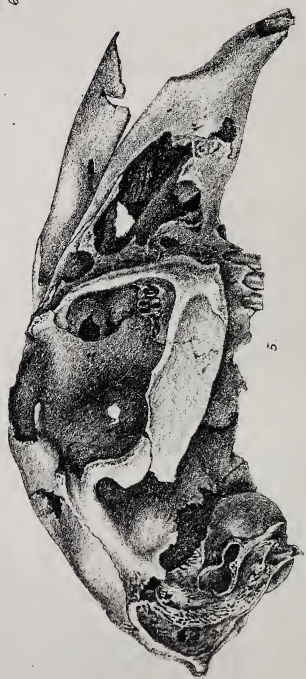
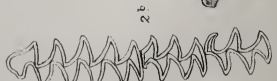
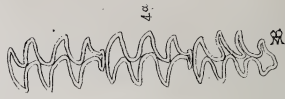
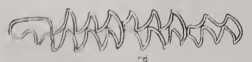
moorlands are generally surrounded, especially to the north of Wedmore, on the south flanks of the Polden Hills, and around Somerton. In ascending from the upper beds of the new red sandstone, usually seen at the base of these escarpments, the Rhætic beds may generally be detected, their upper horizon being bounded by the cream-coloured beds of what have been termed the "white lias," but which are now included in the Rhætic series. These beds in the south-west of England, as I have shown in my paper on the "*Avicula contorta* and Rhætic series," forming a most marked and persistent horizon between the lower lias and the new red sandstone. Probably in no part of the world are the beds of the lower lias more finely developed than in this direction. Instead of the altered conditions they present when they meet the outcrop of the older Mendip rocks against which they rest as they pass into the deeper ocean, the uniformity of their depositions is most remarkable. If a good typical section of lias be carefully studied it may be seen not only that the beds present certain lithological distinctions, and are of varying thickness, but that almost every bed has its peculiar assemblage of organic remains, and these conditions throughout the south-west of England are so persistent they are to be recognised in every liassic quarry over an area of hundreds of square miles. The horizons of the middle and upper lias are in this district but feebly developed in the solitary island in the moor towards Bridgwater of Brent Knoll, in the Tor Hill at Glastonbury, and in its continuation in the Pennard Hills, whilst the inferior oolite, but for a thin capping on the Tor Hill, would be scarcely represented. From this date, as we have none of the secondary or higher tertiary deposits, the revolutions recorded on the leaves of the great stone

book have been entirely obliterated in this district, and we come to the later pages of the world's most wonderful history. On it are recorded changes, which in the Mendip district, and for our own county have their special interest. I allude to the period of the post pliocene deposits, within which are included most of our superficial gravels, and the infillings of our limestone caverns, with the abundant remains of extinct mammalia they contain.

These bring us forward from the time when shoals of *Ichthyosauri* and *Plesiosauri* swarmed in the seas which washed the base of the Mendip Hills, to the remote but still more recent one when the liassic sea bottom had become dry land, and the cave lion, the rhinoceros, the hyæna, the elephant, the wolf, the musk sheep, and other extinct animals swarmed in the district, roaming through its tangled forests, and retreating to the caves of Banwell, Hutton, Loxton, and Wookey, and others not yet discovered, where their remains are now so abundantly found. There is little doubt that at this time the general physical contour of the country was very similar to the present. The Mendip range stood out as boldly as at this day, and the various islands of new red sandstone and lias in the low ground occupied the positions in which they are now found. So recently in geological time was this great change effected, it must have been within the period when the human race existed, for there can now be no doubt that man was contemporaneous with these extinct mammalia. It is also certain that many of the shells which are found associated with their remains have lived on to the present time ; and yet within this comparatively short Geological period what revolutions must have occurred in this immediate district. Its climate has changed from a temperate to that of an arctic one, and has again returned to its

former condition, and within this yesterday of geological time an arctic fauna existed and has passed away. An attempt has been made by an eminent mathematician to fix the date of the last great change, who has calculated two periods of great cold, in which we had arctic climates in this latitude, one of which he shews extended from 980,000 to 720,000 years ago, the other from about 240,000 to 80,000 years ago, and should his calculation be correct, we must carry back man's advent and that of the extinct mammalia, since which no great physical change has occurred in the Mendip district, to at least the lesser of the above periods. When I remark that the great physical outlines of the Mendips and the country beyond were in glacial and post-glacial times much what they are at present, it does not follow that there have not been since those periods influences at work which have to some extent been modifying and altering the condition of the district. It is impossible for instance to say how far the waters which now occupy the Bristol channel have encroached over the low levels; possibly they reached nearly to the foot of the Mendips on the south-west, still more probable is it that they were not far removed from Glastonbury and the numerous escarpments of the new red sandstone and the lias in that direction. Certain is it that the waters of the ocean overspread the moors so far up as Burtle, Sutton, and Middlezoy, for at these places are to be found recent marine deposits containing organic remains still living in the channel, and but for the alluvial covering they have since received there is little doubt they might be recognized in many other localities. The last and most recent change in the district to be noticed is the great extent of the turf moors and rich alluvial lands to the south of the Mendips, and also on the west in the direction of Bridgwater and

Burnham. Since the recession of the ocean these low levels appear to have been receiving their accumulations of alluvial deposits by the drainage into them of materials brought down into the basin they occupy by the rivers Axe, Brue, and Parrett, the overflow of whose waters in early times, as occasionally at the present, probably converted a great part of the country into an inland lake. During this time the rhinoceros, the *bos longifrons*, the reindeer, and a few of the post-pliocene mammals still lingered. In the same deposits we find traces of the ancient Briton and of Roman occupation, and thus we insensibly graduate from the pre-historic into historic times—from the dim eras of the past into the present. My object has been rather to treat of the physical revolutions that have been in progress in the area in which we are assembled than to refer at any length to the still more interesting palæontological facts they have involved. The laws by which these changes have been effected in the past are as surely in operation at the present, and who can say in what bold relief, as compared with the past, the footprints we are now leaving in the sands of time may stand out to record our world's history in the future.



On the Rodentia of the Somerset Caves.

BY W. A. SANFORD, ESQ., F.G.S.

ALTHOUGH at first sight the addition of the knowledge of a few small animals in the fauna of a given period in a particular country may not be, in the opinion of many, of general interest, I hope to show that it really constitutes a fact bearing on the physical geography, and therefore on the history of the world, during what must, in the present state of our knowledge, be deemed an early portion of the history of our race; and which therefore

EXPLANATION OF PLATE.

- Fig. 1. *Arvicola ratticeps*. Upper jaw, lateral aspect.
1 a. Dentition of the upper jaw, magnified six diameters.
1 b. Lower jaw, external aspect.
1 c. The same, internal aspect.
1 d. Dentition of the lower jaw, magnified six diameters.
2. *Arvicola Gulielmi*, n. s., lower jaw, external aspect.
2 a. The same, internal aspect.
2 b. Dentition of the same, magnified six diameters.
3. *Lemmus norvegicus* (var.), lower jaw, external aspect.
3 a. The same, internal aspect.
3 b. Dentition of the same, magnified six diameters.
4. *Lemmus torquatus* (var.), anterior part of the skull, lateral aspect.
4 a. Dentition of the same, magnified six diameters.
5. *Lepus diluvianus*, skull, natural size, lateral aspect.
6. *Cricetus songarus*, anterior portion of skull, lateral aspect.
6 a. Dentition of the above, magnified six diameters.
6 b. Lower jaw, external aspect.
6 c. The same, internal aspect.
6 d. Dentition of the lower jaw, magnified six diameters.

equally belongs to both departments which occupy the attention of our society.

It has been long known that the mammoth is found in great abundance in Siberia, which country may indeed be considered the metropolis of the animal, as well as its last retreat. It is therefore of the highest importance for us to know, while investigating the climate of its existence, what animals were co-existent with it in other countries as well as in Siberia itself.

Our knowledge in this respect in Siberia is singularly defective, but it is hoped that energetic naturalists like Brandt may devote themselves to this study and carry on a series of observations parallel to those which are now being worked out by many observers in this country, Germany, and France.

The observations I am about to make are confined to one order, the Rodentia, comprising such animals as hares, rats, squirrels, voles, and the like, and the information they afford is singularly important.

Naturalists have hitherto reckoned three species of hare as post-glacial forms ; the common hare, the Irish hare, and the rabbit ; besides a closely allied animal, the pika or tailless hare of Siberia. I believe all these to be of great rarity in the cave deposits ; I have never seen but one, or at most, two specimens of the rabbit, which I could in any way consider as fossil, and even with respect to these I have considerable doubt. It is now well known that bones in contact with particular earths and rocks rapidly acquire the condition of ordinary cave bones, and when the burrowing habits of the animal and its highly southern distribution are considered, as well as its probable non-existence during the early historical period in Europe, we may well doubt whether the rabbit really co-existed with the mam-

moth in this country. Bones greatly resembling those of the common hare are also extremely rare, their size is such as to render them conspicuous fossils; and in my recent report to the British Association, I have mentioned that in the earlier deposits in Kent's Hole they are of extreme rarity, whereas in these deposits are animals I am about to mention, which evidently represent this species. With regard to the Irish hare, I have seen but half a lower jaw which I can with some confidence ascribe to this species, this is from Hutton cave. But I have found the bones of a hare which must have been one of the most abundant animals of the period; its presence is universal in all the caves which contain any of the extinct mammoth fauna. It was much larger and more powerful than any wild hare with which I have been able to compare it—the skull pretty equal in size to that of the largest lop-eared tame rabbit I have seen. It is also distinguished by some slight but very constant anatomical peculiarity; it is closely related to the black hare of the Altai mountains, but is nearly double the size of that animal. I believe it to be extinct as a species, and to be that which the French naturalists have described under the name of *Lepus diluvianus*. I have recognised its bones as very rarely occurring in the upper black bed of Kent's Hole, which contains abundant remains of domestic animals and of man. It therefore became extinct in this county during the period of domestic animals, at the same time the common hare became abundant; so that as I said before, we have evident proof of the replacement of one closely allied species by another, and some intermediate specimens give us some reason to suspect that we have here an instance, not only of replacement, but also of transition.

With regard to the many species of *Leporina*, the cave

pika—I can only repeat Professor Owen's observation—which the more abundant materials we now have enable me to confirm, that the cave tailless hare, which was little larger than a mouse, was most closely related to, but possibly not absolutely identical with, the *Lagomys pusillus* of Siberia. A jaw from Kent's Hole more closely resembles this Siberian animal than either of the Hutton specimens at Taunton. On the whole I am inclined to consider it a local variety rather than a distinct species. It will be however convenient to retain Professor Owen's specific name *Lagomys spelæus*.

The next division of Rodentia are the voles, best known to non-naturalists by our common water rat, which appears to have been abundant in the caves. There are three other species, or sub-species, which inhabit Europe—to which of these our animal belongs may be doubtful, as we have no entire skulls, by which alone they can be discriminated.

Our common short-tailed field mouse is also represented with a singular variation, the anterior portion of the lower jaw is invariably longer and straighter than that of our own little animal. This approximates it to a Siberian and North European form—*Arvicola ratticeps*. We have here also a trace of a transition of species.

This *A. ratticeps* I have also found in the Hutton collection. It has not hitherto been described as fossil, but it does not appear to have been a rare animal, it is larger than our short-tailed field mouse, and the teeth differ constantly but not to any great degree. It may be easily recognised by the figure in the plate which accompanies this paper. I have found this animal also in Kent's Hole.

The other British species—the little bank vole—is also represented in the Hutton collection by a single lower jaw. It is rare, but from its small size it has probably been overlooked.

But I have found five jaws in the Hutton collection, and one or two in Kent's Hole, of a fifth species which I believe to be undescribed. Among the European species there is a very small animal having very complicated teeth—*Arvicola subterraneus*. This is represented in our cave deposits by an animal which must have been nearly as large as our water rat, and therefore of comparatively gigantic size. It resembles nothing with which I have been able to compare it either in size, or figure of the jaw. I give figures of the lower jaw, no other part of the animal having occurred. I call it *Arvicola Gulielmi* after Mr. Williams, to whom we owe the collection of the specimens on which the species is founded. I have met with no notice of the discoveries of the Norway or migratory lemming as a fossil, but in the Hutton collection several upper and lower jaws occur which are indistinguishable from that species. A smaller lemming closely allied to, but possibly not identical with, the White Sea *Lemmus torquatus* has occurred at Fisherton near Salisbury, in company with the mammoth, and has been described by Dr. Blackmore.

Dr. Falconer has described the jaws of a ground squirrel, closely resembling a Siberian species, which he has named *Spermophilus erythrogonoides*. The original specimen figured by him is in our collection ; a second was erroneously named by a former curator *Spermophilus citellus*, and the mistake was transferred to the catalogue of Pleistocene fossils published by Mr. Dawkins and myself in the preface to our monographs on *Felis spelæa*, and a third has since been discovered in a box of fossils which belonged to Mr. Williams. We have reason to believe that these fossils are from Hutton.

The last animal that I shall mention belongs not only to

a species, but also to a genus, which has not hitherto been recognised as a fossil in Great Britain, namely, the hamster. But the size of our specimens is much smaller than of the animal now found in central and western Europe. It closely agrees in every respect with *Cricetus songarus*, a minute representative of the genus which now inhabits Western Siberia.

We have therefore, extinct animals—*Lepus diluvianus*, *Lagomys spelæus*, *Arvicola Gulielmi*, *Spermophilus erythro-genoides* : animals now found in Norway, Russia, and Western Siberia, and not in England—*Arvicola ratticeps*, *Lemmus Norvegicus*, *Cricetus songarus* : animals still living in Great Britain—*Lepus timidus* (very rare), *Lepus Hibernicus* (very rare), *Lepus cuniculus* (very doubtful), *Arvicola amphibius* (common), *Arvicola agrestis*, *Arvicola glareolus* = *pratensis* (rare.)

Putting aside therefore, the common hare, and Irish hare, as too rare, and of too doubtful occurrence in their deposit to afford any certain indication of climate, and the rabbit, of which I very much doubt the co-existence with the mammoth, we have only three species of rodents which appear to be identical with those now living in Great Britain—the water rat, the short-tailed field mouse, and the bank vole ; the second shews an evident variation in the direction of a more northern and eastern form. With regard to the rest, the three species which I had recently described for the first time as fossil are all Siberian or North European forms and of the four extinct, or quasi extinct species, three are most closely allied to, though in size and some other slight particulars differing from, Siberian forms. All these are found in the Hutton and in Kent's Hole caves, where the mammoth is the only species of elephant, but as far as we know they are absent

from those deposits in which the *Elephas antiquus* has been discovered.

We can hardly then refuse our assent to the proposition that the climate of England at the period when the mammoth was the characteristic mammal, as far as these animals throw light upon it, resembled that of Eastern Europe and Siberia, that is, that it was extreme and continental, and the migratory habits of the Norway Lemming require an uninterrupted communication with a northern continent, so that in all probability the North Sea did not exist except as a strait or estuary between us and Norway. We also have in the cases of the larger and smaller hare, in *Lagomys spelæus* and *pusillus*, in *Arvicola ratticeps* and *agrestis*, in *Spermophilus erythrogonoides* and *erythrogonys* apparent traces of the transition of one of those forms which we call a species to another.

I may mention that no trace of the beaver has, as yet, occurred in the Somerset caves, though several specimens have been found in Kent's Hole, near Torquay, indicating species resembling both the *Castor faber* of Europe and *Castor Canadensis* of America.

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Rules

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the County of Somerset.

II.—The Society shall consist of a Patron, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General, and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* Members) which shall hold Monthly Meetings for receiving Reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; five of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. All Manuscripts and Communications and the other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings as an Annual Subscription, which shall become due on the 1st of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

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XIV.—When any office shall become vacant or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the Laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve

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XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society and considered by the Committee of sufficient interest for publication shall be forwarded (with the author's consent) to such periodical as shall be determined by the Committee to be the best for the purpose, with a request that a number of such papers may be printed separately, for distribution to the Members of the Society, either gratuitously or for such payment as may be agreed on.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—That any person contributing Books or Specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of the property of the Society ever being sold or transferred to any other county. Also, persons shall have liberty to deposit Books or Specimens for a specific time only.

N.B.—One of the objects of the Society shall be to collect, by donations or purchase, a Library and Museum, more particularly illustrating the History (Natural, Civil, and Ecclesiastical,) of the County of Somerset.

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 King, Walter Meade, *Taunton*
 Kinglake, R. A., *Weston-super-Mare*
 165 Kinglake, J. H., M.D., *Taunton*
 Knatchbull, W. F., *Babington House*
 Knott, John, *Ilminster*
 Knowles, C., *Bridgwater*
 Knyfton, T. T., *Uphill*
- 170 Lace, Rev. J. W., *Pill, Bristol*
 Lambert, W. C., *Misterton, Crewkerne*
 Lance, Rev. J. E., *Buckland St. Mary*
 Lang, Robt., *Hallen Lodge, Henbury, Bristol*
 Langton, W. H. P. G., M.P., *Hatch Park, Taunton*
 175 Langworthy, V. Upton, *Ilminster*
 Leigh, Henry, 3, *Plowden Buildings, Temple, London*
 Lethbridge, A. G., *Eastbrook, Taunton*
 Liddon, H., *Taunton*
 Long, W., *West Hay, Wrington, Bristol*
 180 Lovelace, the Earl of, *Ashley Combe, Porlock*
 Luttrell, G. F., *Dunster Castle*
- Malet, Arthur, *Pyrland Hall, Taunton*
 Malet, Octavius W., *Haygrass House, Taunton*
 Marshall, Rev. W., *Ilton*
 185 Marshall, G. W., LL.M., *Weacombe House, Bicknoller*
 Marwood, J. B., *Montague House, Weston-super-Mare*
 May, Frederick, *Taunton*
 Mayhew, T., *Glastonbury*
 Meade, Rev. R. J., *Castle Cary*
 190 Medlycott, Sir W. C., Bart., *Ven House, Milborne Port*
 Meyler, T., *Taunton*
 Michell, Rev. R., B.D., *Magdalene Hall, Oxford*
 Miles, Sir W., Bart., *Leigh Court, Bristol*
 Mitchell, W. S., LL.B., F.G.S., *St. George's Lodge, Bath*
 195 Moor, Rev. J. F., *Sion Place, Sion Hill, Bath*
 Moor, Rev. W. R., *Stoke St. Gregory*
 Moore, C., *Cambridge-place Bath*

- Moss, Rev. J. J., *East Lydford*
 Moysey, H. G., *Bathealton Court*
 200 Munckton, W. W., *Curry Rivel*
 Murch, Jerom, *Cranfields, Bath*
- Naish, W. B., *Ston Easton*
 Neville, Rev. F., *Butleigh*
 Newton, F. W., *Barton Grange*
 205 Norman, J. F., *Staplegrove, Taunton*
 Norris, Hugh, *South Petherton*
- Ommanney, Rev. G. D. W., *Brislington, near Bristol*
- Paget, R. H., M.P., *Cranmore Hall, Shepton Mallet*
 Palairet, Rev. R., *Norton St. Philip*
 210 Parfitt, the Very Rev. C. C., *Cottles, Melksham, Wilts*
 Parsons, James, *Drayton, near Taunton*
 Paul, W. Bond, *Langport*
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 Perrin, Rev. George, *Naillsea*
 Philpott, Rev. R. S., *Chewton Mendip*
 Pigott, Mrs. M. J., *Weston-super-Mare*
 Pinchard, W. P., *Taunton*
 220 Pinchard, J. H. B., *Taunton*
 Pinney, W., *Somerton Erleigh*
 Plowman, T., *North Curry*
 Poole, G. S., *Bridgwater*
 Poole, J. R., *Cannington*
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 Robinson, Walter, 7, *Furnival's Inn, Holborn, London*
 Rogers, G., *Bishops Hull*
 Rowcliffe, Charles, *Milverton*
 245 Rowe, J., *Taunton*
 Ruegg, Lewis H., *Sherborne, Dorset*
 Rutter, John, *Ilminster*
- Salmon, Rev. E. A., *Martock*
 Sampson, Thomas, *Houndstone House, Yeovil*
 250 Sanford, E. A., *Nynehead Court*
 Sanford, W. A. "
 Scarth, Rev. H. M., *Bathwick, Bath*
 Scott, Rev. J. P., *Staplegrave*
 Scratchley, Rev. C. J., *Lydeard St. Lawrence*
 255 Serel, Thomas, *Wells*
 Sewers, Robert, *Curry Rivel*
 Seymour, Alfred, *Knogle, Wilts*
 *Seymour, H. D., *Knogle, Wilts*
 Sharp, J. C., *Ilminster*
 260 Shepherd, J. W., *Ilminster*
 Sheppard, A. B., *Torquay*
 Sheppard, J., *Frome*
 Shore, J., *Whatley, near Frome*
 Shout, R. H., 35, *Coleman-street, London, E.C.*
 265 Slade, Wyndham, *Munty's Court, Taunton*
 Smirke, Edward, 18, *Thurloe-square, London, S.W.*
 Smith, Rev. Gilbert E., *Barton St. David*
 Smith, Cecil, *Bishops Lydeard*
 Smith, Richard, *Bridgwater*
 Smith, Lady *Somerton*
 270 Solly, Miss L., *Bath*
 Somerville, J. C., *Dinder, Wells*
 Sotheby, Rev. T. H., *Milverton*
 Sowdon, Rev. Fredk., *Dunkerton*
 Sparks, William, *Crewkerne*
 275 Speke, W., *Jordans, near Ilminster*
 Spicer, R. W., *Chard*
 Stanton, Rev. J. J., *Lovington, Castle Cary*
 Stayner, James, *Ilminster*
 Steele, Rev. Thos., D.D., *Bathwick Terrace, Bath*
 280 Stephenson, Rev. J. H., *Lympsham*

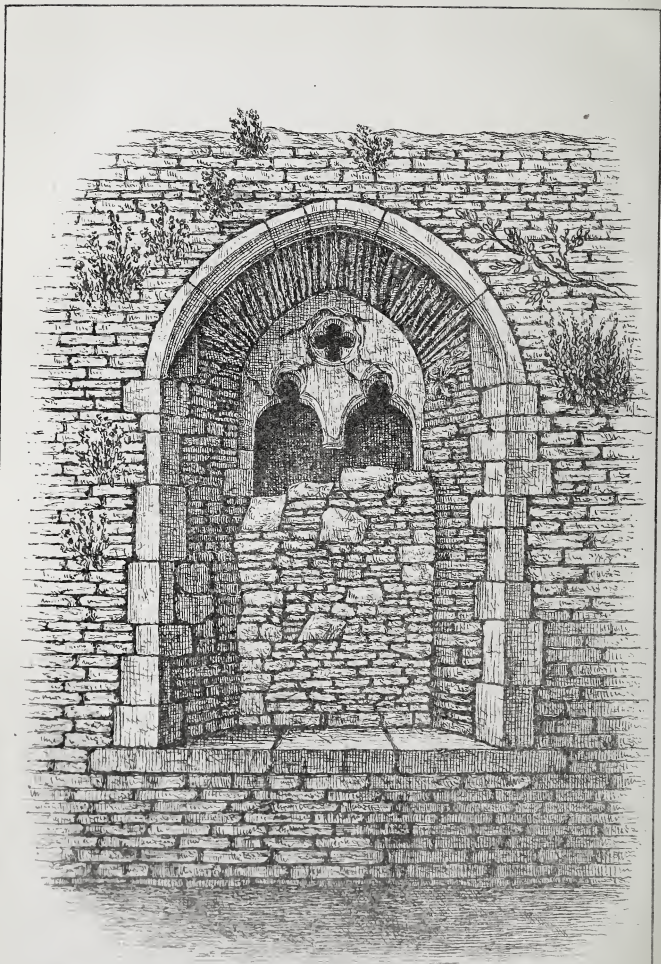
- Whitfield, Rev. E., *Ilminster*
 Whitmash, E., 12, *Lansdown Terrace, Bridge Road, Battersea, London*
 Wickham, Rev. H. D., *Horsington Rectory, Wincanton*
 Wilks, Rev. Theodore C., *Nately Scures, Hants*
 325 Williams, —, *Watchet*
 Williams, Rev. Wadham Pigott., *Bishops Hull*
 Winterbotham, W. L., M.B., *Bridgwater*
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Members are requested to inform either of the Secretaries of any errors or omissions in the above list ; they are also requested to authorise their Bankers to pay their subscriptions annually to Messrs. Badcock, or Messrs. Stuckey, Taunton ; or to either of their branches ; or their respective London Agents, on account of the Treasurer.



WINDOW IN THE RUINS OF THE CHAPEL OF THE KNIGHTS TEMPLARS,
AT TEMPLE COMBE, SOMERSET.

SOMERSETSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL
and
NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY'S PROCEEDINGS, 1870



VOL. XVI

TAUNTON

FREDERICK MAY, HIGH STREET
LONDON: LONGMANS GREEN READER AND DYER

MDCCCLXXI

Preface.

The following illustrations have been presented to the Society : The Window from Stowell Manor House, and the Horsington Cross, by the Rev. Hill D. Wickham : two illustrations of the Monument in Castle Cary Churchyard, by the Rev. Canon Meade : and the Coats of Arms of Dyer and Farewell, by Mr. Jones.

The Somersetshire Glossary is printing, and will be completed with all possible speed.

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PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR 1870.

PART I

THE Twenty-second Annual Meeting of the Society was held at WINCANTON, on Tuesday, August 23rd, 1870, under the presidency of Sir WILLIAM C. MEDLYCOTT, Bart.

The PRESIDENT thanked the members of the Society for the honour they had done him in selecting him as Chairman of the meeting. He had not attended so many meetings of the Society as he could have wished, but by the interesting annual reports which he had read, he found they had visited nearly every part of the county, and he was glad they had not omitted that little corner. They had not there a Dunster Castle, nor ruins like those of Cleve Abbey ; but he thought to-morrow they would be amply repaid by a visit to Cadbury Camp, one of the most remarkable remains in the county. One of the most interesting places in this part of the county had been already visited, namely, the Priory of Stavordale, or it might have been included in their excursions. He trusted to see a large party at Milborne Port on Thursday. At Milborne Port they had a very ancient church, as ancient, he be-

lieved, as that of Stoke-under-Ham, which was one of the finest specimens of the Norman period. The church at Milborne had, however, the additional advantage of having been recently restored. Sir William concluded by reading a passage from Macaulay, which refers to the first encounter at Wincanton between the hostile armies of the Prince of Orange and the King.

Mr. Wm. ARTHUR JONES (hon. sec.), read the following

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

“Your Committee, in presenting their 22nd Annual Report, have the satisfaction to state that the operations of the Society have been well sustained during the past year, and that the volume of proceedings, which is in the press, will be in the hands of the members before long.

Many valuable additions have been made to the Museum of the Society, which is every year becoming more and more recognized as the most suitable depository for all objects calculated to illustrate the Archæology and Natural History of the county.

With a view of preserving, as far as may be, all the more interesting monuments of antiquity which are scattered over the country, your Council are strongly impressed with the necessity of placing them under the supervision of the State, and they would, therefore, recommend that a memorial be forwarded from the members of this Society to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, to urge on Her Majesty's Ministers to take such steps as shall effectually preserve and protect the more important remains of past ages from injury and decay.

The Council have the pleasure to present the Dictionary of the Somersetshire Dialect, on which the Rev. P. Wadham Williams, and one of your secretaries, have been

engaged during the past year, and they earnestly solicit the co-operation of members of the Society, in different parts of the county, to render the publication complete.

As the statement of account, now presented, shows a balance in favour of the Society, the Committee deem it necessary to observe that the cost of the volume of proceedings, now in the press, remains to be provided; and they would urge on all members the importance of not allowing their subscriptions to fall into arrears.

The Council regret to have to report that Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford finds it necessary to resign the office he holds as one of your general secretaries, and they desire to place on record their grateful sense of the valuable services rendered by him to the Society."

In the absence of the Treasurers, the Secretary presented the following

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

The Treasurers in Account with the Somersetshire Archaeological and Natural History Society.

1869.		1869-70.	
	£ s d		£ s d
September 1		By Expenses attending Annual Meeting	13 8 0
To Balance of former account	35 17 7	„ Glass Case, Painting, Glazing, Repairs, &c.	7 17 3
„ Subscriptions	174 11 0	„ Stationery, Printing, &c.	9 10 2
„ Entrance Fees	9 10 0	„ Coal, Gas, &c.	9 7 2
„ Sale of Volumes	6 11 0	„ Curator's Salary, 1 year, to Aug. 3, 1870	37 10 0
„ Excursion Tickets	9 2 6	„ Rent, 1 year, to Midsummer, 1870	30 0 0
„ Museum Admission Fees	11 13 9	„ Insurance	7 6
		„ Lithographic Printing, Drawing, &c.	8 6 6
		„ Subscription to Ray Society, 1870	1 1 0
		„ Subscription to Palæontographical Society, 1870	1 1 0
		„ Postages, Carriage, &c.	5 19 8
		„ Sundries	1 4 7
		Balance	121 13 0
	<u>£ 247 5 10</u>		<u>£ 247 5 10</u>
August 17, 1870, Balance	£121 13 0		

H. R. H J. & D. BADCOCK,

Treasurers.

August 18, 1870, Audited and found correct,

W. M. KELLY.

Resolved "That the Reports now read be received and adopted."

Moved by Mr. BATTEN, seconded by the Rev. Canon MEADE, and carried unanimously:—"That it be an instruction to the Council, to procure a list of such memorials of the class referred to in the Report, as it will be desirable to place under the care of the State, and to obtain, if possible, the co-operation of the proprietors of these memorials, in carrying out the wishes of the Society."

On the motion of the Rev. Canon MEADE, seconded by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM, it was resolved:—"That the Vice-Presidents be re-elected, with the addition of the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and Wm. Long, Esq."

Moved by Mr. P. P. BOUVERIE, seconded by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM, and carried:—"That the Treasurers be re-elected; and that Mr. W. Arthur Jones, and Dr. Pring be the General Secretaries."

Moved by Mr. JONES, seconded by Mr. BATTEN, and carried:—"That the Local Secretaries be re-elected, with the addition of Mr. W. Ayshford Sanford, and the Rev. H. D. Wickham."

Moved by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD, seconded by Mr. JAMES BUSH:—"That the following gentlemen be members of the Committee—Mr. W. P. Pinchard, Mr. W. Meade King, Mr. Jno. Marshall, Mr. J. F. Norman, Mr. T. Meyler, Mr. J. E. Anderdon."

Moved by Mr. JONES, seconded by the Rev. H. H. WINWOOD:—"That Mr. W. Bidgood be re-elected Curator."

At the request of the Chairman, the Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM, Rector of Horsington, read a paper, of which the following is an abstract, on

Historical Recollections of Wincanton and its Neighbourhood.

So favoured a site as the slopes of these hills, facing the south, and overlooking the fertile and extensive valley, stretching far into Dorsetshire, was not likely to be overlooked by the Romans, during their long residence in this island, and Stuckely informs us, that an urn full of Roman coins, some of which he had seen, and implements used by the same people, were found here.

Further proof of their residence has recently been added, in digging the foundations for a farm house, on a hill side, about a mile from the town, when a tessellated pavement, painted in chequer work, was uncovered. Unfortunately it was not preserved, but some of the stone tesserae, rude and unequal in size, may be seen in our temporary museum. A large slab of freestone with edges bevelled, and ornamented with the "dog-tooth" pattern, and pedestal of the same material, were likewise found on the spot, and pronounced by a competent judge to be also Roman. The building had been destroyed by fire, as evidenced by charred wood, the ends of burnt posts, and blackened wheat. An abundant and never-failing spring flows from the hill side,—a powerful attraction to a people so fond of the bath.

Without dwelling on the subsequent settlements of the Saxons, as shown by the monosyllable "ton," or "town," the termination of many villages in the locality, and the derivation of the word "Wincanton," called in Doomsday Book "Wincaleton," from "Win," a height, and "Cale," the name of the river which flows below it; or the more remote occupants of the Pen Pitts, which he considered under-ground dwellings, the writer passed on to the most marked event in English history, the subjugation

and division of the country, by William the Conqueror. The manor was granted by the Norman, to one high in his favor, as Wincalton was given to Walter de Dowai, with thirty-three other manors in this county.

Before the time of the Plantagenets, it passed into the hands of the Lovells, Lords of Cary, and from them, by marriage, to the St. Maurs, and the Zouches. He would not, however, trace this part of its history, or show what side the families took in the Wars of the Roses. The last direct representative marched with Richard III to Bosworth field, and, more true than Stanley, adhered to the losing side.

A property in a distant part of the parish called "The Marsh," significant of its situation, still flooded by the river, escaped confiscation, as belonging to the mother of the attainted Lord, and was long the residence of the family of Zouche. The site is now occupied by a more modern house, probably built from the ruins of the former one at the restoration of Charles II, as over the chimney-piece in a large room on the first floor, the letters "G. T. K." and 1661, are embossed. The property then belonged to George Thomas, styled "Knight," and passed, by the marriage of his daughter Elizabeth, in 1682, to Thomas Wickham, of Horsington, whose descendant of the same name sold it at the end of the last century, to an ancestor of the present Grant Dalton, Esq. A part of the moat surrounding the residence of the Zouches still remains, and the house continues to be known as Marsh Court. There were other families of note residing in the 16th and 17th centuries in this parish.

In the account of lay subsidies, paid into the Exchequer in the 32nd of Henry VIII, we find in the tithing of Wincanton:—

Richard Zouche pays for his lands	...	50s
Thomas Hungerford for his goods	..	20s
Richd. Devyn do.	10s

At the visitation of the Heralds' College, in 1623, John Ewens, of Wincanton, was entered as entitled to bear a coat of arms, and his pedigree is given. John Dyer, of the same place, and Robert Glyn, who married a daughter of Robert Huson, of Wincanton, are also entered.

In the immediate neighbourhood we have, in those parishes we purpose to visit, the following names entered in the books of the same visitation, as entitled to armorial bearings :—

- “Stowell, - Lawrence Hooper, Gent.
- ” - Richd. Daccomb, Gent.
- Milborne Port, - Henry Gifford, Gent.
- Horsington, - Christopher Foster, Gent., entrd.”

N.B.—Foster was his ‘alias,’ his true name being Wickham, eldest son of James Wyckham, of Horsington, by his wife, n^ee Margaret Servington. See Court Roll, &c. ;

- And “Gawen - Ar.
- Charlton - Wm. Pointer, Gent.
- ” - George Hussey, Gent.”

The chief Justice Dyer, whose portrait we see on the walls of this hall, and of whom we are about to hear more, was connected with this town, as by the pedigree of John Ewens, above alluded to, we find that his grand father, also John, married a daughter of Alexander Dyer, of Wincanton.

The time was now approaching when other arms were sought, than those which the Heralds' College granted,

When civil dudgeon first grew high,
 And men fell out they knew not why ;
 When hard words, jealousies, and fears,
 Set folk together by the ears,

and in those civil troubles Wincanton had some share.

Before the King raised the Royal Standard at Nottingham, on the 25th August, 1642, he sent Sir Ralph Hopton, Sir John Berkeley, and others to the west to aid the Earl of Hertford, if matters came to extremities. Hopton raised a troop of horse at his own cost, and as his residence was at Witham Friary, his troopers must have been recruited from this neighbourhood.

The Royal forces assembled at Wells, where they remained inactive, unwilling to strike the first blow, and thus they allowed a superior force to be collected from Bristol and other towns, on the heights of the Mendip, under the command of Sir John Horner and Alexander Popham. As the enemy were increasing in strength, and the loyalty of their own men was not to be depended on during this state of inaction, Lord Hertford retired to Sherborne, where he was followed and besieged for four days. The enemy then drew off to Yeovil, and he, having left a strong garrison in the Castle, retired towards the Bristol Channel, followed by the Parliamentary Army, but before he reached the coast his force had almost dispersed, and he himself, with some of his officers, passed from Minehead into Wales. He ordered Hopton to conduct the few remaining cavalry, called 100 horse, and 50 dragoons—the men he had probably raised in this neighbourhood—into Cornwall, which he effected successfully, and these men formed the nucleus of that brave army of Cornishmen, which at Stratton, Landsdowne and other places, rendered such good service in the following year to the royal cause, and with the fall of Bristol, regained all the west to the authority of Charles. At this, the most prosperous time for the King's cause, the whole of Somerset, with the exception of Taunton, was reduced to obedience.

After the self-denying ordinance was passed, and the

Parliamentary Army was remodelled, the fortune of war took a different turn in the west, as elsewhere. Sherborne Castle, which appears to have remained unmolested, was now threatened, as forces were collected at Wincanton to harass the garrison. Not much importance appears to have been attached to this force, as it is not mentioned by Clarendon, but tradition says the camp was formed on a hill about a mile from this town, on the Sherborne road. It was an active little garrison, proofs of which have often been found.

About two years ago, at the junction of two roads on the Down near Charlton Horethorn, in a little mound, a quantity of human bones were found, which were collected and interred in the churchyard.

Whilst the garrison remained in Sherborne Castle, skirmishes must have been frequent, and an attack which was made on the enemy at Wincanton, on the 1st of April, 1654, is particularly mentioned, on which occasion Sir Jno. Digby, with a brigade of horse and dragoons, made 200 prisoners, and took two colours and 300 horses, suffering but little loss. The Castle was taken by assault on the 15th of August following, by Sir Thomas Fairfax.

Mr. Wickham then entered into some details he had obtained from the MSS. at the Rolls Court, concerning the confiscation of the Gawen property at Horsington, alluded to in Phelps' History, and the supposed peculations, and "malignant" proclivities of one Benjamin Mason, the Parliamentary Commissioner, who married the daughter of George Dodington of Nether Stowey, to a branch of which family, the estate, in part, now belongs. The writer produced an item in the account Mason gave to the commissioners at Goldsmith's Hall, as follows:—

Allowance to self as Treasurer ..	£	10	9	8
For 3 journeys to London ..		180	0	0
For self and servant, and 2 horses		152	16	0
		<hr/>		
		343	5	8
		<hr/>		

Hard measures had been dealt to the Gawens. By an act 43rd of Elizabeth, "To restrain the Queen's Majesty's subjects in due obedience," a heavy fine was placed on Thomas Gawen, who was a Roman Catholic, for not attending his parish church; and after this, being found to be a "Popish recusant," two parts out of three of the annual value of his estates, were seized for the Queen's use. On his death this was restored to his son William, by Charles I, but not long enjoyed, for being denounced by the Parliament as "a Papist in arms," the whole was confiscated. Where he fought we do not know, but his young neighbour, Thomas Wickham, great nephew of the aforesaid Christopher, was a cornet with John Byam, and other Somersetshire men, in Sir Thomas Bridge's loyal regiment, and returned to Horsington, where he long survived the civil troubles.

The Rev. Gentleman followed the course of history up to 1665, when an attempt was made to disturb Cromwell's power, on which account the owner of Zeals was brought to the scaffold. He then mentioned, in connection with the town, that the Prince of Orange passed through it, and concluded by reading a copy of a document he had discovered this spring at the Rolls Court, relating to the termination of the civil troubles, being the loyal address sent from this county to Charles II, with the sign manual of the principal gentry of Somerset.

Abate the edge of traitors, Gracious Lord,
 That would reduce these bloody days again,
 And make poor England weep in streams of blood.

Let them not live to taste this land's increase,
 That would with treason wound this fair land's peace;
 Now civil wounds are stopp'd, peace lives again,
 That she may long live here—God say "Amen."

Mr. WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A., read a notice of Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice, which is given in part ii.

Mr. T. E. ROGERS, of Yarlington, referred to the absence of any direct evidence of the identity of James Dyer, who was speaker of the short Parliament, and Judge Dyer. The probabilities amounted almost to certainty, that James Dyer, who was Speaker for that month, was the same who was afterwards Sir James Dyer, a Puisne in Queen Mary's time, and immediately afterwards Chief Justice. Yet one would have supposed that in the records of Parliament he would be called Sergeant Dyer, he having been Sergeant-at-law at that time. He threw out this point for consideration. There was one feature in the character of Judge Dyer which no one would have suspected on viewing his portrait. He was devotedly fond of music, and it is recorded of him that :—"When he was wearied with his legal labours, the only joy to repose his spirit was music sweet." Mr. Rogers then referred, among the worthies of Wincanton, to Richard Fitzjames, Bishop of London, whose nephew was Lord Chief Justice in Henry VIII's time; and Cottington, who was born at Godminster, close to Pitcome, and who had played a most important part in history during the early part of the reign of Charles I. With Laud and Strafford he conducted the whole administration, and was wise enough to get out of the scrape when his two colleagues were called to the block. The government having fallen into the hands of these three men, their counsels were called "Cabinet" Counsels, and that was the origin of the term now in use.

The Rev. Canon MEADE read a notice of "Castle Cary Church," which is given in part ii, and also of Stavordale Priory.

The Rev. J. HALE read an account of the Parish of Poyntington; and the Rev. W. BARNES a paper on "Somerset and its Language," which are given in part ii.

Votes of thanks to gentlemen who had read papers having been passed, the company visited the Church, and an old house, the residence of Mr. Biggin, in which the Prince of Orange slept on his progress through Somerset. The Local Museum, which had been arranged with great care, and enriched with a large collection of very interesting objects, attracted many visitors.

Evening Meeting.

Mr. CHARLES NOEL WELMAN read an interesting notice of incidents in the Civil War in Somersetshire, extracted from broad sheets published by order of Parliament.

Mr EMANUEL GREEN read an abstract of a paper on the "Civil War in Somerset."

Mr JOHN BATTEN read a paper on "Sequestrations in the Hundred of Catash," which is given in part ii.

Mr. EDWARD T. STEVENS followed with a paper on

Flint and Stone Implements.

In the course of his interesting address, which was illustrated by many valuable specimens, he said that in almost every part of the world evidence existed of a period during which people were fain to supply their wants by means of implements formed of natural substances—such as wood, stone, bone, horn, or the teeth and claws of animals.

This period is now usually known as the "stone period ;" and he had been asked to say a few words upon it, in reference to the series of stone implements exhibited in the temporary museum that day. He desired to state, that in speaking of the stone period, he wished it to be understood that he regarded it simply as a test of culture, perhaps the best test we possess. Some savages are now living in, or have but recently emerged from, their stone period ; whilst other stone-using people lived in times so remote from our own, that history and tradition were alike silent respecting their existence, and we had to seek our information through the science of geology. Examples of stone implements, obtained from the drift, the earliest evidences of man's existence on the earth, were shown in the Museum ; so are specimens belonging to the later stone, or neolithic, period. Numerous implements were fashioned from other substances than such as possessed a conchoidal fracture, and were accordingly wrought into shape by other methods than "flaking," such as "pecking," or grinding. Then there were stone implements shown from New Zealand, and various Melanesian and Polynesian Islands, as well as from British Guiana and other localities in the New World, in which countries the use of stone implements was retained until very recently, and, indeed, in some districts is still retained. Mr. Stevens also spoke of some of the typical forms of stone implement, concluding by making some remarks upon the myths which prevail, almost universally, with reference to stone hatchets being thunderbolts, and stone arrow heads being elf-arrows ; citing the occurrence of such legends in the North of Europe, the West Indies, India, China, Japan, and the Malay peninsula. He classed such legends as myths of observation, the origin and development of which might be traced to the attempt

to explain natural phenomena. They were to be regarded as inferences from observed facts, taking the form of positive assertions, and might have originated independently in different parts of the world.

Votes of thanks to the gentlemen who had read papers, and to the President, having been passed, the meeting was closed.

Excursion : First Day.

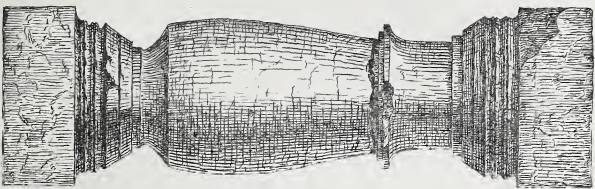
A large party started from Wincanton at 10.30 a.m.

Roman Remains.

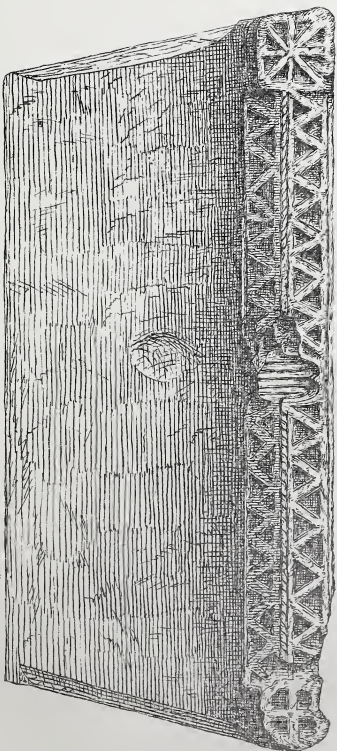
About a mile from Wincanton, on the road towards Cadbury, the first halt was made. It was to examine the remains of a Roman villa discovered at Old Barn, the property of the Rev. S. Dendy. The excursion party were courteously welcomed and escorted by the proprietor.

In digging out the foundations of some new farm buildings, an ornamental stone column and slab, portions of a tessellated pavement, &c., were found, about four feet below the surface. The column is about four feet in height, by ten inches in diameter, moulded, but fractured about a foot from the top. The stone slab is about three feet six inches by two feet, three edges being chamfered and ornamented, and the fourth left square and plain. The front edge was curiously carved with triangular-shaped indentations, with a scallop in the centre, and double crosses at the ends, and twisted bead borders.

In a trench, excavated at a little distance, other evidences of Roman remains were found by Mr. Winwood and Mr. Parker : A number of small tesserae, bits of black pottery,



Height
3ft. 2in.



3ft. x 2ft. 4in.

Stone Pillar and Slab, dug up on the site of a Roman Villa, near
Winarban, Somerset.

Wm. Bidgood, Taunton.



charred wood, masses of burnt earth, in which grains of wheat were discernible, and a lozenge-shaped stone tile with remains of an iron nail, were also brought to light.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH said there was little doubt that this was the site of a Roman villa, and that if it could be thoroughly investigated they would find tessellated pavements here, and perhaps extending over a considerable area. Those tesserae were never found except on the site of a Roman villa; and, moreover, the site was just such an one as would be chosen. There was a good spring close at hand; it was on the declivity of a hill; and it was in a very fertile part of the country. It was about seven miles from the main Roman road; but that did not show that there was not a vicinal road near it, as villas were always situated on a good road. Mr. Scarth proceeded to show the points of resemblance between this site and that of one of the most interesting Roman villas discovered in this country—at Chedworth, near Cirencester—and also described the general appearance of such remains. The walls, when uncovered in a previously undisturbed site, were generally found to be about four feet in height; the rest of the edifice had originally been formed of a framework, filled in with wattles, similar to the “cob” walls still found in Devonshire, and other parts of the country.

Upon the site of these Roman villas there were found a great quantity of hexagonal tiles, which had covered the roofs. The area of the villas was very considerable. They were long, low buildings, sometimes taking the form of a square, and sometimes of an L. Sometimes there were three ranges of buildings, and these were again enclosed in a large quadrangle or court. Within the enclosure were found burials in stone sarcophagi or in rough clay black urns. They had found at least a dozen of those rough

urns near Bath, which were at first supposed to be ancient British, but were nothing of the kind—they were Roman. They found in Roman villas some of the coarsest pottery.

The speaker went on to describe discoveries of Roman remains near Gloucester, and at Lydney, Cirencester, and other places; and next referred to the stone column which had been found here. It was a very curious fact that nearly every villa which he had had the opportunity of seeing opened, produced one of those short pillars. He was inclined to think the present one Roman. Very lately there were some stone slabs found at Cirencester which had a pattern very much like that on the stone slab found here. Those were said to be mediæval, and not Roman; but it was proved afterwards that they were found on the level of the Roman city. Cirencester was a Roman city that was constantly producing remains. Many of the remains which were considered mediæval he believed to be Roman. He thought this pedestal, as well as the stone slab, was Roman; the pillar was turned in a lathe.

A pleasant and picturesque drive brought the excursionists to

North Cadbury,

where the party was joined by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bath and Wells, and many other members of the Society from the surrounding district.

The Rector of the parish, the Rev. H. Castlehow, kindly produced the old parish registers—two volumes in parchment, beginning with the year 1558, in excellent preservation, and full of beautifully executed initial letters. The following entry occurs in the register—“About the yeare of our Lorde 1567, in drawinge up the great bell into the tower, y^t fell downe by some mischance, brake downe the loftes before y^t, and brake the marbell tombe

in the bellfrye, bearynge the picture of John Fferroure, in brasse or copper, wh sometyes was Rectore of the P'sonage of this P'yish of North Cadburye, about wh tombe was wryten in brasse or copper thease words :—
 'Heare lyeth the bodye of John Fferroure, sometyes parson of thys place, whiche builded this tower at his owne proper coste'—wh then was playnlye to be read of anye, and was read by me

GILES RUSSELL,
 then minister of this p'yshe."

The Church,

dedicated to St. Michael, was rebuilt by Elizabeth Lady Botreaux about 1417. In restoring the chancel, a few years ago, a flat stone was found on the top of the wall plate, when the old roof was removed, with the date 1417 scratched on it, and under it a mason's chisel. The church was formerly collegiate. A copy of the charter granted by Henry V appears in Dugdale's Monasticon. The church is a fine specimen of the Early Perpendicular style, and consists of a tower, nave, chancel, north and south aisle, and north and south porch. There is a tradition in the parish that the tower was first built, and stood alone for some time. This is borne out by the appearance which the junction of the side aisles with the tower still presents. Both aisles appear to have been joined on to the tower, and of later construction. The wall of the south aisle encloses a portion of the string-course of the tower above the clerestory windows; and the north aisle encloses one of the tower buttresses with the old string-course as far upwards as the roof. There are four clustered columns on each side of the nave, and clerestory windows over them. The roof of the nave, side aisles, and chancel is of oak,

covered with lead ; and that of the nave and chancel rests on fine carved stone brackets. The reredos of Bath stone, containing the four Evangelists, in Painswick stone, coloured, and the sedilia, are new. The oak benches in the nave are unusually massive, and the ends give specimens of early carving. On the back of one bench is the date, "Anno Domini, Mill^{mo} cccccxxviii." There is an ancient stone font at the west end of the nave ; and in the tower a richly-sculptured altar tomb, with two recumbent figures upon it—a knight in armour, and a lady by his side, and at their feet a lion and a dog. There is a deeply carved canopy at the head, but no arms or inscription. On each side of the reredos is a lofty niche with a fine sculptured canopy over it, apparently coeval with the chancel. The north and south porch, each with two windows, and fire places, and the former with a parvise, are striking features in the church.

Cadbury Camp

was next visited. Colonel Bennett, the proprietor, had arranged for inspection a collection of interesting objects found in the Camp, including horseshoes, bones, Roman coins, querns, and a stone in the form of a hatchet.

The Rev. H. W. WINWOOD described the bones as those of *bos longifrons*, deer and swine.

Mr. STEVENS stated that the quern was of an early and very interesting form.

Mr. JAMES PARKER thought the stone hatchet very doubtful. One very like it from Cambridge had been recently examined by himself, and Dr. Rolleston, and they had come to the conclusion that it had never been manufactured.

A gentleman present observed that two stone hatchets, very similar, had lately been found near Congresbury.

Mr. JONES remarked, that he believed there was no classical authority to prove that the Romans ever used horseshoes. There certainly was no Latin word for horseshoe, and he did not know that any illustration of their use occurred in any ancient sculpture. The only instance he had himself seen, was a faint trace on one hoof of one of the horses in a *biga*, basso relievo, in the Museum at Avignon, but this he was sure was accidental. Columella, the great Roman authority on rural affairs, in his treatise on the choosing and rearing of horses, makes no reference to horseshoes. It was, therefore, he thought by no means certain that the horseshoes were of the same date with the Roman coins.

Having enjoyed the magnificent view, embracing a district, it is said, with a radius of 30 miles, the company assembled on the camp under the presidency of Sir W Medlycott.

The LORD BISHOP pointed out how that the ancient occupants had, in this camp, according to their usual custom, taken advantage of the natural formation of the ground in constructing this strong-hold.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH, at the request of the president, described the camp and its fortifications. He remarked that the subject was one which was full of interest, but which it was very difficult to say anything certain about. He thought that all he could say, after examining this camp, and looking round the fortifications of the encampment, and comparing it with the other camps of a similar kind in this country, but more especially in South Wales, and all that line of country which was occupied by the Britons previous to the Roman conquest, when Caractacus so nobly defended his country—having himself examined those defences, he was inclined to think

that everything showed this to have been an ancient British earthwork; and he thought the remains found within it tended to confirm that opinion. The chief features of this were the very strong ramparts with which it was surrounded, and more especially the entrances. The entrances were particularly curious from the way in which they were fortified, showing that they were of particular importance. He knew of no camp which showed the entrances so well defined as this, except that wonderful work, Maiden Castle, near Dorchester, which was one of the noblest and most wonderful works that existed in this country. He thought the earthwork they were now examining was only second to that. It did not appear to have had any Roman camp within in, as was sometimes found. There was a Roman camp within the British fortification at Clifton, for example. Again, the construction of the ramparts here, so far as he had been able to examine them, was very different from what they found at Clifton, where there was an inner core composed of lime and stone, a mass which could not be cut through.

At the Society's meeting last year he had the opportunity of saying something on the camps at Clifton Down, and on each side of the Avon. Their ramparts were a solid mass of concrete, and that led us to suppose that the Romans must have had a hand in the formation of two of those camps at least. Here there was nothing of the kind; the ramparts were composed of lias stones and earth—the simplest kind of ramparts; the sort you would find at Maiden Castle. Then this did not lie at all in the line of a Roman road, so far as he could make out. It lay a considerable distance from the great fosse road, and also the road which ran along the top of the Mendip Hills; and although there might have been vicinal roads near it, it

did not appear to have been a main point of occupation in Roman times. That was another confirmation of the opinion that it was an ancient British fortress. He thought on examining the ancient British fortresses they would find that the earlier ones were really the stonger. The indications we had of the way the Britons fortified themselves in ancient times showed that they were by no means an unskilled people. He thought we very much depreciated their condition at the time they were conquered by the Romans. He thought the very fact that a chief like Caractacus could stand against the whole Roman force seven years, and could for that time defend himself, showed that our ancient British forefathers were a people not at all to be despised.

One point it was necessary to clear up. He did not know if there was a spring to be found within this camp—(a Voice: Yes, three springs)—there might be; but the truth was these great fortresses were not long occupied. They were only occupied in times of national danger, when the cattle were driven in, and when perhaps the inhabitants of the whole district took refuge. It would have required a very large force to have besieged a camp of those times; and he did not think they were long held as places of permanent occupation, but only for temporary refuge. That belief was suggested to him by an inspection of Maiden Castle; and he saw points of resemblance in the New Zealand pahs. He wished he could have thrown more light upon the camp.

Mr. Wm. ARTHUR JONES said he wished to supplement the interesting observations which Mr. Scarth had made, by reminding them of what had been said by his late much respected colleague, Mr. Warre, who was one of the best authorities we had ever had in this county on earth-

works. In papers communicated by him to the Proceedings, he had described three types of encampments, and he had placed this camp of Cadbury among those which were mainly occupied during the time of war as strong-holds. They would notice here the absence of anything like a cattle enclosure. Most of the ancient British camps in Somersetsshire were composed of three enclosures,—first, the cattle enclosure; then an enclosed and fortified space for dwellings; and lastly the strong-hold, which corresponded to the keep of a Norman castle. Mr. Jones further observed, that when the ditches were of their original depth, and the mounds loftier and steeper, and bristling with sharp-pointed stakes, it would have been no easy matter to take this place by storm.

The Rev. W. BARNES, who was next called upon, made a few observations upon a discovery which had been made at Maiden Castle, inasmuch as he believed that discovery might give hints for other such discoveries in such strong-holds as this and others.

Some time ago the farmer who held the land was trying to make a sheep pond at the top of the hill, that is, in the outer camp, the one we might assume to be the cattle enclosure; and within the space of a square sheep pond he found no less than seven round pits—very round, very clearly cut, and about the size of wells, and from four to seven feet deep. All of them were filled with a very black, loose, fatty earth, and that earth was found to be mainly of animal and vegetable substances. In the earth were found many interesting objects—pieces of pottery; one of the stones of a quern; many bones, especially the bones of the red deer; those bones showing at the same time what their animal food was in those days.

Among the things found in one of those pits was a comb,

which, it was shown, could not have been Roman, but belonged to a very early time. It was made of a flat bone—a sheep's, he believed—ground down, and the teeth were cut in the end, not in the side of it. Well, he believed that if the turf were taken off there would be found scores, if not hundreds, of those pits, for they were very close together. He was of opinion that the pits were made at various times. He had seen one instance where a pit was begun to be excavated, and evidently abandoned, because it cut into the circle of another, which was an older pit, but still not so old that they could think fit to dig into it. He made these notes because he dared say they might readily find such pits here, and he hoped it would be tried. It was only to take an iron bar and try over the ground.

The BISHOP inquired what Mr. Barnes thought those pits were for?

Mr. BARNES : Refuse pits, and not dwellings.

The BISHOP : But that was one of the common forms of the earliest dwellings—pits where the circles touched one another, and I suppose were covered over with branches. Is that not the earliest acknowledged form of British dwellings?

The Rev. Canon MEADE mentioned Pen pits; and another gentleman referred to those of Worle.

Mr. BARNES said they were filled with what was no doubt animal and vegetable matter; and the farmer found it very productive when applied as manure. Proceeding to offer a few notes on the "Stone Age," he said it so happened that speech tallied with history in so many points, and that our history as well as the Celtic speech ran back to the stone age. Now, we had the word flint, and the word chisel; both these words belonged to the stone age, and expressed a solid Saxon

image. Thus, the Teutonic word for arrow was *flean* (to fly), and *et* was a diminutive added, making *fleanet*, or flint; therefore flint meant arrow. Chesil—such as the Chesil Beach near Weymouth—meant hard stone, pebble, or flint; therefore that word was used when a chisel, or *ceosel*, was of stone. The word hammer, meant a hard knob, a stone. These words, and many others he might mention, went back to the stone age, and were proofs of the Celtic age of our race.

Mr. E. T. STEVENS followed with some remarks on the pits on Maiden Castle. Within the last week he had been negotiating for the purchase of those specimens found there. He would mention that he had particularly stipulated that if there should be any local museum or collector, he would waive all claim. He had lately examined in the neighbourhood of Salisbury a great many of those pits; and he had found remains almost identical with those which occurred at Maiden Castle. He had found three combs, and, if indications of workmanship, and also slight indications of shape, had anything to do with it, they would belong to three periods.

Mr. Stevens gave a detailed description of the specimens, and also referred to discoveries at another place near Salisbury, and in the Hebrides, and at Grimes' Graves, Norfolk. He enlarged at some length upon the interesting evidences of ancient excavations for flints and chalk. The pits at Salisbury were clearly not of that form. He would give them a brief statement of the means by which those discoveries had been made. The ground was trenched for garden purposes, and they found all over the field that black patches occurred. The idea was that they had been burning weeds there. The owner cut into the black earth, and he was not satisfied with that explanation. He went

to work and found himself in a chamber of a bee-hive shape, not at all of the straight sides which were found at Maiden Castle and elsewhere. It was a chamber of earth, about six feet in height, and eight feet in diameter. He not only found that, but on working out one corner he worked into a second, a third, and a fourth chamber of similar shape, and all communicating with each other; and there was likewise a semi-recess, with what object he was not prepared to say. In the course of some recent excavations it was found that the aperture was about two feet six inches at the upper portion; it was enlarged downwards, and then swelled out into the chamber; and that was the invariable way in which the approach to these pits was made. Found in those pits were articles the same as they always rendered. There were a bone of *bos longifrons* worked into a hook, a bone ring, bone combs, a bone needle; very few flint tools; pottery, all hand-made, and the ornamentation of which was of a very peculiar and singular character. But while they found, until a recent date, no evidence of an iron implement, all the flint tools that they found had been flaked by means of iron implements; and there were rust-marks upon them in almost every case. Mr. Stevens went on to speak of trenches which had been found around some of the pits, containing specimens of Roman pottery.

Mr. SCARTH pointed out how very strongly the entrance to the camp was protected. There were eight mounds or ridges, each with a ditch between them; and the road in was curved, so that the attacking force might be taken in flank. Of course had that camp been well garrisoned it would have been almost impossible for any force to have

taken it. In order to get a full idea of the strength of the place, he advised them to keep along the ridge on which they were now standing for some distance.

Attention was called by Colonel BENNETT to a cottage near the church (South Cadbury); which Mr. Scarth suggested to have formerly been the "priest's house."

At Compton Pauncefoot the company halted to partake of a collation, which had been prepared in the National School-room.

The Church of Compton Pauncefoot

was then visited, when the Rev. James Senior, the Incumbent, pointed out its principal features. Four modern painted glass windows, of Belgian work, were much admired.

By the courtesy of Captain Sandford the cavalcade passed through the beautiful grounds of Compton Castle on their way to

Blackford Church.

Mr. SCARTH briefly pointed out the interesting points of the church. The doorway was a Norman arch of very early character, although not the earliest. It was almost a *fac simile* of a Norman arch at Langridge, not far from Bath, and was in fact a type of doorway which had been copied into a good many churches; he had found them in various parts of England. The next point was the font, which was Norman, and of a very early character; and then the staircase which formerly led to the rood loft. In one of the side windows was a little stained glass, one pane having a chalice, with I H S on it. It was an interesting church, and well worthy a visit. The corbels still exist, which formerly supported the beam that bore the

rood loft. There was an instance in Wales of a rood loft still remaining as it was in the olden time; it was in Montgomery, and was the only one he knew of.

Maperton.

The handsome church of SS. Peter and Paul was re-built about two years ago under the direction of Mr. Hall, architect, and is very highly decorated in its interior; the windows being also all filled with stained or painted glass. There is some very fine Bath-stone carving in the reredos and other parts of the chancel. Fixed in its place in the chancel, and in strong contrast with the elegant decorations, is a quaint old piscina, which

The Rev. G. SAUNDERS informed the Society was found built into one of the old walls that was pulled down. It showed, he thought, that there must have been a Norman church standing on this site before the one which is now rebuilt, and which was in the Early Decorated style. Some very curious bits of old stone carving have been built into the walls of the porch to preserve them.

Mr. HALL, the architect, described the work which had been done, and gave it as his opinion that the tower, which remains untouched, was built in the latter part of the fifteenth century.

Mr. SCARTH acceded to a request that he would explain the origin of the largest fragment of old carving amongst those to which we have referred as being preserved in the porch. The fragment is rather more than a foot square, and it was examined with much interest.

He said that some years ago a very interesting Saxon cross was found near Scarborough, and he took a very great deal of pains with it, which resulted in his discovering the names of six or seven Saxon abbesses. In the

north of England there were some Saxon remains, and also in Devon and some parts of Somerset. When he saw this carving here, at first sight he took it to be a part of the stem of a Saxon cross. Those crosses were much more common than was now supposed ; in the north some of them actually remained in their original positions. They were put at the heads of graves, and were principally composed of three stones ; sculptured, often with three figures in a row, and below and above those figures were Runic knots, or representation of basket-work. This piece had all those characteristics when you first saw it, but when you looked closer into it, it would be found that the ornamentation was of a later period. It was Early English. There was the trefoil, which was not found in the Saxon carvings ; but when you looked closer into it, you found traces also of the shape of the cross. He apprehended, therefore, that instead of being part of the stem of a cross it was a portion of the cover of a coffin—about the thirteenth century work. It was interesting, showing that the church had an early foundation.

Second Day's Excursion.

On the second day's excursion the members from various directions assembled around the

Village Cross of Horsington,

where they were courteously received by the rector of the parish, the Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM, who made the following remarks on the early history of the parish and cross.



SUPPOSED PORTION OF A SAXON CROSS,

Embedded in the wall of the Porch at Muperton Church, Somerset.





SCULPTURES ON THE CROSS AT HORSINGTON, SOMERSET.

W. Ridgway Tuxton

The earliest possessor of Horsington, whose descent we can trace, is James de Newmarch, whose daughter Isabel conveyed, on her marriage, this manor to Ralph Russell, the heir of a powerful family then settled in Dorsetshire, and ancestors to the ducal family of Bedford. Of the two sons who sprung from this union, Robert, the elder, died without issue, and was succeeded by his brother William, who obtained from Edward I, A.D. 1284, a free warren of his lands at Dyrham, Gloucester, and at Horsington. This grant appears to have been coextensive with the Anglo-Saxon charter of "Soc, sac, toll, team, and infangthef," as it conveyed the right of holding a fair, market, a court, to which all free men (*liberi servatores*) should repair, a view of frankpledge of all his tenants, assize of bread and beer, &c., tumbrel, pillory, thief fines for the shedding of blood, hue and cry within his manors, and infangthef, or a gallows for the capital punishment of a thief taken in the fact, within the limits of the manor. To this grant of free warren, I attribute the erection of the cross, believing it to have been built where the fair and market were held, though it does not offer the convenience of shelter, afforded by those beautiful specimens of market crosses, of later date, we have elsewhere in this county. The space around it is sufficiently large for a village fair or market, as the the enclosures of the pond and garden in which the cross stands are modern.

To the west is the Church House, with the date 1631, which, as a board in the church states, was exchanged by the parish with Thomas Gawen, in 1722, for some cottages, and adjoining this is the old Manor House of the Gawens, now modernised, but still retaining the strong oak door, with the little trap in the centre, by which letters were received during the troublesome times he yesterday alluded

to. On the east of the cross are some picturesque cottages, evidently of ancient date ; and to the north, the space beyond the pond, was, within the memory of man, more open. He hoped, for the credit of the village, that the gallows were never erected ; but the stocks were placed beneath the cross, and only lately removed.

The "free men" were long summoned to the court ; at that held 29th Elizabeth, Margaret Wickham, widow, does homage "pro terris in Horsington," and in 1639 the "liberi servatores" were Henry Berkley, John Bampfield, Gilbert Huddy, Henry Tarent, James Wickham, James Hussey, Thos. Hannam, and Robert Gilbert.

The cross stands on a circular platform eight feet high, reached by four rows of steps, and is a monolith of Hamhill stone, at present nine feet in height, placed on a square base three feet wide. On the south front of the shaft a sculptured figure, a good deal decayed by time, is carved under a canopy, the whole five feet high ; a drawing of which is given. The bracket appears to be a ram's head ; the figure that of a layman of the thirteenth century ; and above is a death's head, surmounted by a crown, on which rests a leg bone, supporting another skull. The device is very singular. It may have been erected more as an emblem of faith, than as a convenience to the market people ; and as a pulpit, from which the preaching friar might address them, and declaim against the cupidity and ignorance of the parish priest. A portion of the shaft was broken off several years ago, by the weight of a sundial, placed on it in 1708, by Thomas Wickham, the then rector. The whole was in a dilapidated state, and the present rector being told in vestry, shortly after his institution, that it belonged to him, now keeps it in repair.

The next place visited was the Church of St. Mary, at

Abbot's Combe,

which has recently been restored, but the old waggon-roof had been happily retained. The square Norman font of Purbeck marble was examined with much interest. The Rev. Mr. FOX, the incumbent, stated that when the church was restored, the four corner pillars of the font were found to be of wood, and that columns of Purbeck stone had been substituted. The piscina in the side chapel, and the opening in the wall behind the pulpit, which probably led to the rood loft were specially noted as interesting features.

The company then proceeded to the Manor Farm, the property of Mr. Bailward, which stands upon the site, and consists of remains of an ancient establishment of the the Knights Templars, which gave rise to the name of

Temple Combe.

A very large fire-place remains in one of the out-houses. Portions of the walls, some windows, and a doorway of the chapel are almost all that remains of this religious house. In the adjoining orchard a somewhat deep excavation, with a mound of earth in the centre, was described by Mr. Jones as evidently the site of the fish pond of the Knights Templars. It is known in the neighbourhood as the cock-pit, and believed to have been constructed for that purpose.

The Rev. HILL D. WICKHAM remarked that this was the only establishment held in Somersetshire by the Knights Templars, he only wished there was more of it left for them to see. He had hoped they might have had the privilege of learning its ancient history from a member of the Society, who was also a member of the order of the Knights of St. John. Major de Havilland had intended to be with them, but he had unhappily been called away to discharge those duties among the sick and

wounded in war, which devolved upon him by the vows of his order. There was very little known of this house further than it was a Commandery, and that on the suppression of the Knights Templars in England, it was conferred upon the Knights Hospitallers.

The chapel, of which so little now remains, had been used until comparatively recent times for the offices of the church. Mr. Keniston who died in the parish of Combe within the last ten years, had told him that he had heard his mother speak of a marriage which she had witnessed in that chapel.

From here the excursionists proceeded through the fields to the

Old Manor House of Stowell.

This old mansion, now a farm house, though in very bad repair, retains many of its original features, and in many respects is full of interest to the students of ancient domestic architecture.

The Rev H. D. WICKHAM said he had this morning put together a few notes which he thought might be interesting to the company.

The manor of Stowell was possessed by the family of Hody, before the reign of Henry VI, as a son of Sir John Hody, Kt.—the latter being called of Stowell—was appointed Lord Chief Justice of England in the 8th year of that reign (1441).

In Campbell's "Lives of the Lord Chief Justices" he is classed among those who do not call for any particular remark. He was Knight of the Shire for this county in 1434, and in 1440, and married a daughter of John Jew, of Wiveliscombe, an heiress. Tradition says he was the builder of this old mansion. Here the family continued to reside for many generations, intermarrying with the families

of Thornbury, Burnell of Pointington—(by the lay subsidies for Somerset, preserved in the Rolls Court, we find, 37th Henry VIII, John Burnell of Pointington, armiger, assessed for his lands in that parish at 40s)—Yarde of Bradford, Lyte of Lyte's Cary, Burland of Steyning, &c., till the year 1709, when a Hody conveyed to Martha Wickham of Sherborne, the mansion and certain lands adjoining.

A few years later—1720—Hody sold the manor and the advowson of the church to Robert Knight, who was cashier of the famous, or infamous, South Sea Bubble ; and as an Act of Parliament was obtained, April 1720, to buy up certain Government annuities with South Sea Stock, it is probable that the manor of Stowell was purchased by Knight with the money thus fraudulently obtained. When the bubble burst, an Act was passed to sell the property of the guilty parties ; and this Act probably obliged Lord Luxborough, who, Mr. Wickham thought, was the son of Robert Knight, to part with the manor, which was bought by George Doddington in 1753.

Robert Knight himself was remanded, and without further evidence being obtained from him, he, after a partial examination, escaped from confinement and fled to France, as it was supposed at that day, with the connivance of certain influential personages—carrying with him the books which would have compromised them. He afterwards went to Brabant, where the authorities of the States General arrested and confined him in the castle at Antwerp, refusing to deliver him to the Parliament of England.

Among the caricatures of that day is one representing the Duchess of Kendall handing from behind a screen a bundle of papers to Knight, who is booted and spurred for

a journey ; and beneath are many verses, of which the following are a specimen :—

In vain Great Britain sues for Knight's discharge,
 In vain we hope to see that wretch at large ;
 Of traitors *here*, the villain *there* secure,
 Our ills must all increase, our woes be sure.
 Should he return the *screen* would useless be,
 And all men then the mystery would see !

The Manor house purchased in 1709 by Martha Wickham, continued in this family till the year 1849, when it was sold by the late Rev. Trelawney Wickham, with 470 acres of land, to the late Mr. Bailward. He was restoring a family house near Bradford, and removed to it the oak pannelling in this mansion. Spoliations had been going on long before. One was made several years earlier, when the Perpendicular window, of which a drawing is given in this volume was removed to the curious old pigeon-house of the rectory of Horsington.

The steel plate of the engraving of this window has been presented to the Society by the Rev. Hill D. Wickham.

From Stowell the party proceeded to the earthwork of
 Milborne Wick,
 close to the Milborne Port railway station.

Mr. SCARTH said there was no doubt of its being a military work. They would observe the lie of the ground, that all round there was a deep valley, which was cut off by this very large earthwork. And it was certainly one of the largest earthworks, after that they had seen yesterday at Cadbury. It was of a totally different character to that. Here they had a portion of ground naturally protected on three sides—protected on the most assailable side by a very high mound of earth thrown up, but without a ditch to it. They could see on looking at the outside the place from which the earth was taken. This mound cut off



ANTIENT GOTHIC WINDOW,
at the Rectory,
HORSINGTON, SOMERSET.

a triangular portion—a sort of peninsula—and, therefore, it was only fortified by art on one side; and there seemed to be a causeway or road leading to it: the entrance to which he pointed out.

The Rev. Prebendary referred to similar earthworks near Bristol, and in Yorkshire, and said it was very unusual to find an earthwork of this kind inland. They were often found on the sea-coast, and on the border of a river; but he did not know of another inland, and therefore this was very interesting. No doubt it was for purposes of fortification; but by what people it was done he could not say.

The Rev. W. BARNES observed that the name of *Wick* in this case was of Saxon origin, the root-form signifying a “bend” or “bending,” such as that formed by a stream, or by the coast-line in bays. He instanced *Schlesvig*, *Greenwich*, as illustrations. The *Vik-ings* were so called from their haunting bays for purposes of robbery: a *wick-ed*, man was one who turned away from the *straight* course. *Milborne Wick* took its name from the bend of the river, or burn, close by.

Mr. JONES suggested the Latin *Vicus*, as the probable origin of most, if not all, the towns and villages which bear the name of Wick.

Under the guidance of the respected President the company then wandered through the picturesque village to the source of the Parrett, a beautiful spot where a considerable stream gushes forth from a never-failing spring.

Again taking to the carriages, the company proceeded to Milborne Port, where the President, Sir W. C. MEDLYCOTT, read the following paper on Milborne Port and Church.

Milborne Church.

The church is of great antiquity, with a large square tower, supported on Norman arches, added to at different periods, and containing six bells, to which two were added in 1842, when the south transept was rebuilt. A considerable portion of the building is of early Norman work, and the south doorway presents a fine specimen of the ancient toothed Norman moulding. The belfry staircase is also of very early date. On the original oak screen is the text, "Where the word of a king is, there is power, and who may say, What doest thou?"—Ecclesiastes 8, 4, which is supposed to have been added after the restoration of Charles II in 1660. The arms of Charles I are also suspended in the church. In 1855 the churchyard was enlarged and consecrated by Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells, the grant of land being given by Sir William Medlycott, Bart., and a row of lime trees planted thereon. The foundation stone of the new nave and aisle was laid on the 6th of September, 1867, by the Rev. Hubert Medlycott, curate of Brington, Northamptonshire, and the church was re-opened on the 24th June, 1869, by Bishop Chapman, commissary for Lord Auckland, Bishop of Bath and Wells. Five newly-painted windows were added to the nave, painted by Clayton and Bell, representing the birth, life, and miracles of our Saviour. The window painted by O'Connor, was presented by the Rev. Prebendary W. H. Turner, of Trent, Somerset. The north transept was also rebuilt, and the monuments to the Medlycott family placed therein at the same time. The organ was also renewed, and placed in the chancel aisle, with the choir in the chancel, in lieu of the old gallery removed from the west end at the restoration. The register of the parish, dates from 1538, one of the earliest

being Austin Prankard, baptized 6th day of March, 1539.

The following names of vicars are recorded in the register :—

1781, John Butt. 1765, William Addisworth Purnell. 1770, Philip Williams. 1774, John Ballard. 1778, John Lucas. 1778, G. Huntingford. 1778, Charles Blackstone. 1785, Daniel Williams. Bishop of Hereford; curate, William Owen. Mr. Bowles, of Wimborne; curate, William Gane. 1836, Edward Walter West; curates, Mr. Lyon, Mr. Penny, and Mr. Gillam.

At the death of the Rev. W. West the living was held by the Rev. C. Gillam, as vicar, for the Rev. Hubert Medlycott.

In 1641, Colonel the Hon. John Digby, second son of John first Earl of Bristol, was Member of Parliament for Milborne Port, and Forster gives us an account of a scene in the House of Commons, in which his name appears :—
 “ In 1641, before the recess, Mr. Richard King, member for Melcombe Regis, Dorset, took upon himself to declare that, in a particular rebuke which Mr. Speaker had addressed to another honourable member, he had transgressed his duty in using so disgraceful a speech to so noble a gentleman, and, though the House interfered to protect their Speaker, and Mr. King was commanded to withdraw into the committee chamber, the matter ended in but a conditional apology, with which the house was *not* satisfied, but the Speaker *was*. The noble gentleman whom it vexed Mr. King to see treated with disrespect, was the younger brother of Lord Digby, Mr. John Digby, who, on the day when his brother would have been expelled the House of Commons, if the King’s letters patent had not issued the night before, calling him to the House of Lords, came into the house, and, getting upon

the ladder that stands at the door of the house, by which the members thereof usually go up to those seats which are over the same door under the gallery, he sat still upon the same ladder, whereupon the Speaker, doubtless coupling the act as a sign of disrespect, with a display of insubordination by the same young gentleman on discussion of his brother's case the previous day, called out to him, and desired him to take his place, and not to sit upon the same ladder as if he were going to be hanged; at which many of the house laughed, and Mr. King, as aforesaid, was indignant." Colonel Digby, in 1643, commanded a force of 500 horse and dragoons at the battle of Stratton, in Cornwall. In 1644, he received a wound with a rapier in his eye. When the King's cause finally declined, General Digby, with the rest of his family, retired to France, to Pontoise, where he became a secular priest, and said mass daily to the English nuns, until his death after the Restoration. Besides the keenness of his courage, he had a more composed understanding, and was less liable to fumes than some of his family, who had sharper parts.

Milborne Port.

This ancient borough, bordering on the Vale of Blackmore, is watered by a rivulet rising at Bradley Head, about two miles north-west of the town, which is one of the "Seven Sisters," and is the chief source of the river Yeo, and falls into the lake at Sherborne Park. The name is derived from *Mylen*—a mill, and *Bourne*—a spring, the word *Port* signifying a town. The Doomsday Book, compiled by William the Conqueror, states that there were six mills within the precincts of the town. Milborne Port returned two members to Parliament as early as 1307—upwards of 560 years ago, but, as it was then the custom for electors to maintain their members during the

sittings of Parliament, and possibly finding the burden a heavy one, the electors petitioned to be excused from sending any. The borough was then virtually disfranchised till 1640, when Charles I restored the franchise, and two members were again returned. The privilege continued till 1831, when it was disfranchised by the Reform Bill on account of its small population. A list of members from 1641 include the following :

1641, Col. Hon. John Digby, second son of first Earl of Bristol.

1660, Michael Mallet, and Francis Wyndham.

1661, Sir Francis Wyndham, and Michael Mallet.

Michael Mallet, and John Hunt.

1678, John Hunt, and William Lacy, jun.

1679, John Hunt, and Henry Bull.

1685, John Hunt, and Henry Bull.

1688, John Hunt, and Thomas Saunders (on the Prince of Orange's landing, in the Convention Parliament).

1689, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1695, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1698, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Sir Charles Cartaret, kt.

1700, Sir Thomas Travel, and Sir Richard Weconman, kt.

1701, The Hon. Henry Thynne made way for Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and John Hunt.

1702, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and John Henley.

1705, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and Thomas Medlycott.

1708, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., (Thomas Medlycott, elected for Westminster, waved) and Thomas Smith.

1710, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and James Medlycott.

- 1713, Sir Thomas Travel, kt., and James Medlycott.
 1714, James Medlycott (John Cox, dead, and Michael Harvey, not duly elected), and Charles Stanhope.
 1722, Michael Harvey, and George Speke.
 1727, Thomas Medlycott, (an Off. Exc.) and Michael Harvey.
 1734, Thomas Medlycott of Ven, and Michael Harvey.
 1741, Thomas Medlycott, and Jeffery French.
 1747, ditto ditto.
 1754, ditto ditto.
 1761, ditto ditto.
 1763, Thomas Hutchings, (assumed the name of Medlycott in 1765).
 1768, Thomas Hutchings Medlycott.
 1774, Candidates—the Hon. Temple Luttrell, and Charles Worsley, elected—87; Edward Walter, and Isaac Hawkins Browne, 37.—Majority of votes, 50.
 1780, Thomas Hutchings Medlycott.
 1791, William Coles Medlycott, (bart. in 1808).
 1801, Viscount Lewisham, (son of Lord Dartmouth), and Edward Paget, (Lord Stafford).
 1802, Henry Lord Paget, and Hugh Leister.
 1804, Hon. Charles Paget.
 1806, Henry William Lord Paget, and Hugh Leister.
 1807, ditto.
 1811, Sir Edward Paget.
 1816, Sir Edward Paget.
 1818, Sir Edward Paget, and Robert Matthew Casberd.
 *1819, Lord Uxbridge, and Robert Matthew Casberd.
 1820, Lord Graves, and Berkeley Paget.

* Petition to Parliament against the nine capital bailiarites in 1820. Lord Darlington opposed Lord Anglesey's interest, and built the New, alias Blue Town, afterwards sold to Lord Anglesey.

1825,* Sir Edward Paget, and Hon. Stourges Bourne.

1826, Mr. Casberd (Welsh judge), and Hon. Thomas North Graves.

1830, Mr. Stourges Bourne, and Mr. George Stephen Byng.

1831, Capt. George Byng, (three times chosen).

1831, Mr. Philip Crampton.

1831,† Mr. Lalor Shiel, and Mr. George Stephen Byng.

1832, Disfranchised by the Reform Bill, 2nd William IV, cap. 45.

There were nine capital bailiffs, two of whom, by rotation, presided annually, and at a Court Leet appointed two deputies. The returning officers of the borough were not required to reside in the borough, or pay taxes, as other voters. Their rights were petitioned against by Lord Darlington, in 1819, but Parliament confirmed their rights, and the petition was lost. They were chosen by a rota, or wheel. The constitution of the borough was by scot and lot, and the payment of respective rates and taxes, so that the landlords, who paid the rates and let their houses free of taxes, virtually disfranchised the electors."

As time would not admit of visiting Henstridge Church, the President exhibited a fine drawing of the monument, and read the following paper contributed by THOMAS BOND, Esq., of Tyneham, on

The Monument in Henstridge Church.

The short notice by Collinson, in his History of Somerset, of the fine monument of the Carent family in Henstridge church is inaccurate. He says the tomb was erected to

* Mr. Barrett and Mr. Sharpe were the candidates, but were never returned for the borough

† The Hon. Stewart Wortley, and Mr. Lockhart canvassed without success.

the memory of Sir William Carent, and Alice his wife, the last of the Toomers, but this is clearly a mistake. The heraldry alone points out that the individuals commemorated are William Carent, Esq., and Margaret his wife, the daughter of William Stourton, Esq., and sister of John first Baron Stourton, and the archives of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, prove that the tomb was erected by this William Carent, in his lifetime, to the memory of his deceased wife and of himself. He was son and heir of William Carent, by Alice his wife, sister, and ultimately heir of Richard Toomer, of Toomer, in this parish.

From the register of Bishop Beckynton, it appears that on 20th November 1463 (3 Edward IV) the Bishop granted forty days' indulgence to all true penitents, who should go to the tomb of that worthy man, William Carent, Esq., erected in the prebendal church of Henstridge, (*qui ad tumbam probi viri Willielmi Carent, armigeri, in ecclesia prebendali de Hengstrigge, erectam et fabricatam accesserint,*) and should devoutly repeat "Pater noster" and "Ave" for the welfare of the said William Carent, and of the venerable Mr. Nicholas Carent, and John Carent, senior, his brothers, and also of John Carent, junior, his son, during their lives, and for the soul of Margaret, late wife of the said William Carent, and the souls of the other persons aforesaid, after their deaths.

The monument consists of an altar tomb, of Ham-hill stone, surmounted by an arched canopy of the same material. Underneath the canopy rest the effigies of the Esquire and his lady, which, with the slab on which they lie, are of grey sandstone. The tomb and canopy are still in good preservation; but the heads of the effigies are much mutilated. The male figure is habited in a complete suit of the armour commonly in use at that period, with

the exception of the hands, which are joined and elevated in the attitude of prayer, and the head, which is also uncovered, rests on a cushion. The hair is cut short round the face. On the left side is a sword suspended from a belt which passes round the body; and on the right side are a misericorde, or dagger, and gauntlets. The feet have broad toes, and rest on what appears to be a lioness couchant regardant. There is a little shield on each shoulder, on which are depicted the arms of Toomer, viz. *gules, three bars wavy argent*. The female figure is a good specimen of art and execution. The features, however, are much mutilated, the hands are raised in the attitude of prayer, and the head rests on a cushion. The mantle is fastened across the breast with a cord, and the dress descends in straight folds, entirely covering the feet, which rest on an animal, apparently muzzled, but it is much mutilated. On each breast are painted the arms of Stourton—not in the form of a shield but on the mantle—viz. : *sable, a bend or, between six fountains*. An inscription, which was probably commemorative, ran round the verge of the slab, but is now utterly illegible. Another inscription occupied the moulding which runs up the side and across the head of the canopy—only a few words are now legible, but from these it appears to have consisted of the lines so frequently met with on monuments of this period :—

Sis testis Xste, quod non tumulus jacet iste
Corpus ut ornetur sed spiritus ut memoretur.

Collinson thought the Toomers of Toomer, and the Domers of Pen Domer, near Yeovil, in this county, were one and the same family, but in this also he was certainly mistaken. The Domers or Dummers were quite a distinct family, and bore a different coat of arms. They

sprang from the village of Dummer, near Basingstoke, in Hampshire, where they were seated shortly after the conquest, and a branch of them continued there till the latter end of the 16th century. The elder branch removed into Somersetshire, having become possessed of Penne by marrying an heiress of that manor. She was living a widow in the reign of King John. The Domers continued in possession of Pendomer till the reign of Henry IV. The Toomers took their name from the manor of Toomer, in the parish of Henstridge, and Richard De Toomer purchased lands in Henxtrigge, in 31 Edward I.

The Carents first appear in this county and in Dorsetshire in the early part of Edward III's reign, when they held lands in Hinton S. George and Kingston, in Somerset, and in Marnhull and Todbere, in Dorset. At one period, during the reign of Henry IV, they resided at Carent's Court, in the parish of Swanage, in the Isle of Purbeck, but after becoming possessed of Toomer by their marriage with an heiress of that place they made it their principal residence. William Carent, who erected the monument above described, was some time high sheriff of Somerset and Dorset, and member of Parliament for the former county. He died on the 8th of April, 1476 (16 Edward IV). His brother, Mr. Nicholas Carent, was elected Dean of Wells 22nd August, 1446 (24 Henry VI), being then a Canon of that Cathedral, and he died 3rd May, 1467 (7 Edward IV). John Carent, senior, their brother, was seated at Silton, in Dorsetshire, in right of Alice his first wife, who held it in jointure from a former husband. His second wife was Isabel, daughter and heir of Robert Rempston, of Godlingston, in the Isle of Purbeck, Dorset, and he died 4th April, 1478 (18 Edward IV). The manor of Toomer continued in the Carent family till James Carent,

Esq., of Toomer, conveyed it, together with the manor of Venn, in 1675, to trustees, to the use of himself for his life, and after his decease in trust to raise money for payment of his debts. He died before 25th March, 1676, and the estate passed to Edward de Carterett, Knt, gentleman usher of the Black Rod, whose son, Sir Charles de Carterett, and Elizabeth his wife, afterwards wife of Alexander Waugh, Esq., sold it in 1696 to James Medlycott, Esq., of the Middle Temple, ancestor of Sir William Coles Medlycott, Bart., the present owner.

Mr. BATTEN observed that it was satisfactory to find that what he had come prepared to suggest to the meeting was confirmed by so high an authority as Mr. Bond. He produced a copy of the Indulgence referred to, taken from Hutton's Extracts, which document, by stating the Christian name of the wife of the entombed Wm. Carent to be Margaret, clearly identified him as the son, and not the husband, of Alice Toomer. He was satisfied that Collinson had, as Mr. Bond said, confounded the two families of Dommere or Dummer, and Toomer. The Dummors of Chilthorne Domer and Pendomer were no doubt one family; he had charters in his possession showing this. But he could not trace any connection between them and Toomer, or that they were ever known by that name. In every variety of spelling the initial D is preserved. The arms of Toomer are said by Collinson to be *three bars wavy*, whereas those of Dummer were—*Az billey, and in fesse a crescent or*, ascribed to "Joan Domare" in Charles' Roll. This coat is borne also on the shield of the recumbent effigy of one of the family—perhaps Sir John Dummer, temp Edward III—in Pendomer Church; and Mr. Batten exhibited a letter of attorney, dated 19th November, 9th Hen. IV, from Edmund Dummer, Esq., to William Staunton and

others, to deliver seizin of his manor of Pendomer to John Stourton and others, to hold to them and the heirs and assigns of John Stourton, to which is attached a seal, with a fine impression of the same arms, and an inscription—*Sigillum Edmundi Dummere*. Mr. Batten mentioned also, that the Carents were owners of a manor and estate in Yeovil Marsh and Kingston juxta Yeovil, which in the reign of Elizabeth, passed to the Comptons, and the greater part was conveyed by them, 2nd Jac. I, to John Harbyn, Esq., lineal ancestor of the present Mr. Harbin, of Newton.

Having visited the church, and examined the varied and valuable Museum of objects of interest collected in different parts of the world by Mr. Medlycott, the members and their friends, by the courteous invitation of the President, assembled in the beautiful grounds of Ven House, where they were sumptuously entertained by Sir William and Lady Medlycott.

The courtesy and hospitality of the President and his lady having been duly acknowledged, votes of thanks unanimously carried, were presented to the Rev. Hill D. Wickham, and Mr. Herbert Messiter, for their valuable services as Local Secretaries; to the Rev. Prebendary Scarth, Mr. T. E. Stevens, and other gentlemen who had read papers; to the General Secretaries, and to Sir William C. Medlycott, as President. The Annual Meeting was then declared to be closed, and all the members present could not fail to have considered the proceedings as in every respect among the most successful and agreeable in the annals of the Society.

NOTE—In reference to a statement made during the ex-

cursion as recorded (p. 19), the editor begs to add that while these sheets were passing through the press, he was favoured with a note by Mr. W. A. Franks, from which it appears that there is authority for the use of metal shoes for mules and asses in Roman times, and that iron "slippers" which seem to have been used for the hoofs of animals have been frequently found with Roman remains. The specimen in the British Museum however, would seem to have been designed to protect the sides of the hoof as well as the base. In the article SOLEA, by Mr. James Yates, in Smith's Dict. of Greek and Roman Antiquities, it is stated, "iron shoes (*soleae ferreae*) were put on the feet of mules, (Catullus xvii. 26); but instead of this, Nero had his mule shod with silver, (Sueton, Nero, 30), and his Empress Poppœa her's with gold, (Phi. Hist. xxxiii. 11. 3. 49)."

Conversazione Meetings.

1870-1.

December 12th, 1870 :

- On the Castle and Manor of Taunton Deane, by W. A. JONES, Esq.
- On some Rare Birds recently taken in the neighbourhood of Taunton, by CECIL SMITH, Esq.
- On the Origin of the word "Junket," by W. P. PINCHARD, Esq.

January 9th, 1871 :

- On Charles II in Somersetshire, by E. CHISHOLM-BATTEN, Esq.
- On the Somersetshire Dialect, by the Rev. W. P. WILLIAMS.

February 6th, 1871 :

- A Summer on the Quantocks, by the Rev. W. TUCKWELL, M.A.
 - On the Great-Bustards recently killed in Devonshire, by CECIL SMITH, Esq.
 - On the Manor of Taunton Deane : its Lords and its Customs, by W. A. JONES, Esq.
 - On the Dialects of Somersetshire, by R. C. A. PRIOR, Esq., M.D.
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The Museum.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST
VOLUME :—

Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society.

Journal of the British Archæological Association.

Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.

The Archæological Journal.

Proceedings of the Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club.

Associated Architectural Society's Reports and Papers.

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Report of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.
1868.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute, vol. 1 ; and Proceedings of the Essex Institute, vol. 6, part i ; Salem, Mass., U.S.

Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History.

Collections of the Surrey Archæological Society.

Journal of the Royal Dublin Society.

Transactions of the Historic Society of Lancashire and Cheshire.

Crania Britannica, 6 parts, by Mrs. PLOWDEN C. WESTON.

On the Rodentia of the Somerset Caves, by Mr. W. A. SANFORD.

Memoranda Illustrative of the Tombs and Sepulchral Decorations of the Egyptians, by Mr. E. JÉBOULT.

First Report of the Royal Commissioners on Historical Manuscripts, by Mr. E. CHISHOLM-BATTEN.

Flint Chips, and Some Account of the Blackmore Museum, Salisbury, by the Author, Mr. E. T. STEVENS.

Glossary of the Dialect of Forth and Bargy, by the Author, the Rev. W. BARNES.

Black-letter folio Bible, by the Rev. J. W. WARD.

Visitation of Somerset, 1623 ; Copy of Old Deed of Bamfield ; Gloucester Monumental Inscriptions, &c., by Sir THOS. PHILLIPPS, Bart.

M.S. Church Notes of Horsington, by the Rev. H. D. WICKHAM.

First Report of the American Museum of Natural History.

Engraved copper plate of St. Mary Magdalene, Taunton, by Mr. SAMUEL SHEPPARD.

Ancient key found in the churchyard at Cricket St. Thomas, by Mr. WILLS.

Ammonite from the chalk at White Horse Hill near Wantage, by Mr. CHAS. HARTE.

Engraved copper plate of a window at Horsington, by Rev. H. D. WICKHAM.

Stones of an Australian fruit, and copper ores from Australia, by Miss CAVILL.

Coal fossils from Ashton-under-Lyne, by Mr. GEO. WEBBER.

Specimen of the Clifton "Landscape Rock," by Mr. COLMER.

Iron and magnetic ores from Dartmoor, by Mr. C. D. FOX.

Head of a cross found at East Harptree, by Mr. F. W. NEWTON.

Ornaments and articles of dress, weapons, and shields, and musical instrument, from the Dyak tribes of Borneo ; an armadillo and other animals, by His Exc. RAJAH BROOKE, Sarawak.

Fifteenth century abbey token found at Wiveliscombe, by Mr. E. SLOPER.

Opium pipe, comb, and tail of a fish from India ; arrows from the Feejee Islands, by Mr. O. W. MALET.

African quiver with arrows, by Mr. CROSS.

Old tobacco pipes found at Taunton.

Purchased—

Palæontographical Society's Journal.

Ray Society's Publications.

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR 1870, PART II.

PAPERS, ETC.

Historical Notes of the Church of
Castle Cary.

BY THE REV. CANON MEADE.

THE following notes on the history of Castle Cary Church are designed to supplement the paper read in 1856 before the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society, and printed in the Society's report of 1857.

That paper described the manorial history, and that of the proprietors of the manors, but did not include any notice of the church. The few particulars I now can give for the first time are but scanty, and are chiefly taken from the Registry of the Bishops at Wells, from old churchwarden's accounts, and the parish register.

Previous to the Conquest the manor of Cary, with the advowson, belonged to the Abbot of Glastonbury, having been given to him by Kentwine, a king of the West Saxons. It was taken from the monastery by the Conqueror, who appears to have allotted it first to Walter de Douai, or Dowai—his name appears as proprietor of Castle Cary in the Domesday Book.* In a short time subsequent to the Conquest all the rights of the manor, excepting the patronage of the church, are found in possession of the family of Perceval. Robert de Perceval, Lord of Breherval, Yvery, Montinny, and Vasse, in Normandy, came over with the Duke, on his successful expedition to England in A.D. 1066, and received a grant of the manor of Cary. Returning, however, to his own country he devoted himself to a religious life, and was succeeded in his English estates by his son Ascelin.† It will be remembered that this family afford a curious instance of the capricious origin of surnames, and that William Gouel de Perceval being called “Lupellus” or the young wolf, after Ascelin his father, who from his warlike qualities had been called “Lupus” the wolf, the word Lupellus anglicized became Lupel and Lovel, and was transmitted as the name of two noble families‡ in the ancient peerage of Great Britain.

It appears that the patronage and rectory of Cary was given, by the wife of Walter de Douai,§ to the Benedictine Priory at Bath, founded by King Edgar about 970; and remained in possession of the Monastery until the dissolu-

* Vol. I, page 95a.

† Anderson's Genealogical History of the House of Yvery.

‡ Lovell of Castle Cary, and Lovell of Minster Lovell, Oxfordshire, and Titchmarsh, Norts.

§ Temp John de Villulâ, A.D. 1090. This medical bishop re-built the Monastery at Bath, and appointed a prior over them, they having had abbots before for 100 years. He also translated the See from Wells to Bath, and called himself “Bishop of Bath” only.

tion. In 1548 King Edward VI granted the rectory and advowson to the Bishop of Bath and Wells, in exchange for some lands which belonged to the See. The ecclesiastical estate remained in possession of the bishops until the year 1810, when the rectorial estate was sold in fee to Sir Richard Colt Hoare, Bart., who had previously held it under a lease for lives from the Bishop ; but the patronage of the vicarage continued in the Bishops of Bath and Wells. The church is dedicated to All Saints, and consists of a nave with two aisles, a chancel, and tower at the west end, with a vestry attached to the north wall of the chancel.*

No vicar having been resident in the parish for more than one hundred years, before 1845, the church had fallen into decay, and was disfigured by most unseemly contrivances for room—supplying not more than forty free seats for a population of about two thousand. No tradition exists as to where the vicarage house formerly stood, although it is recorded in the Terrier at Wells that there was a vicarage house, with a cottage, barn, and orchard ; these had all passed away from remembrance. In 1845 about seven acres of rectorial glebe were obtained by exchange from Sir Hugh R. Hoare, Bart., then the Lord of the Manor, and proprietor of the rectorial glebe,† and upon that, annexed to a few lugs of garden ground, called the

* There are no documents remaining which show at what period the church was built, but the architecture indicates that it was in the reign of Hen. VI. The nave has a clerestory, which was probably raised some time subsequently to the building of the church and the tower. The latter was in a ruinous state previous to the restoration of the church, and was the oldest portion of the structure. The principal features of the church are of the Early Perpendicular period. The pulpit, and portions of the rood screen, which now enclose the organ chamber, are beautifully carved, and have been well restored.

† See supra.

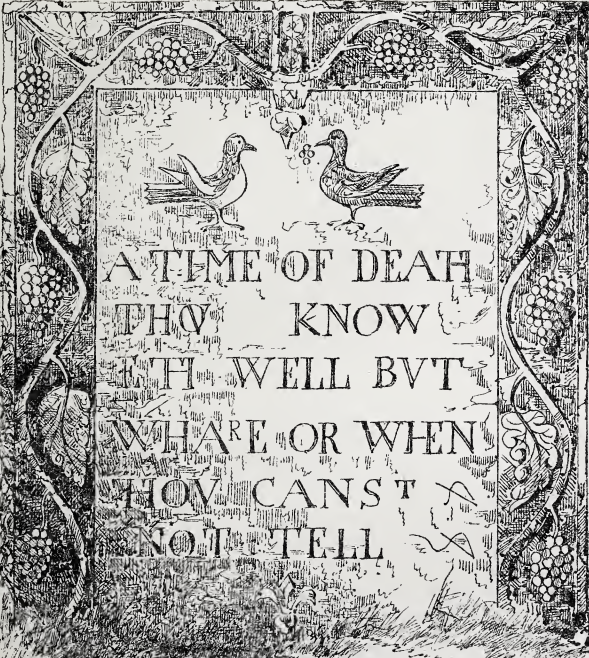
“Vicarage plot,” a new and convenient vicarage house was built under the “Gilbert Act,” chiefly with money borrowed by mortgaging the rent charge. In 1856 the church was also enlarged and restored.* It is now 110 feet long, and 42 feet wide; the spire is 139 feet high; and the church contains when quite full 730 persons; 363 of the sittings being free and unappropriated.

There is, in the churchyard of Castle Cary, an old tombstone which has somewhat unjustly cast a stigma upon the parishioners. The late Mr. Russ, when at Southampton, fell into conversation with a gentleman who told him that he, Mr. R., came from the most barbarous place in England, as being the only place, it was believed, existing where cock-fighting was thought to be a practice fitting to be recorded on a tombstone in a churchyard. Mr. Russ heard this statement with some surprise, and on returning to Castle Cary hastened to the churchyard, where, after some search, he found an old headstone, a good deal out of the perpendicular, but containing apparently a representation of two birds standing opposite, ready to peck at one another. Not satisfied, however, with appearances, Mr. Russ had the long coarse herbage cleared away from the opposite side of the tombstone, and there he was pleased to find an inscription, shewing that the stone was erected in memory of a respectable family of the name of Swallow, who are mentioned in Collinson’s History of Somerset, as having given some gates to the the church. The birds, therefore, mistaken for cocks, were intended probably for swallows, forming a rebus upon the family name.†

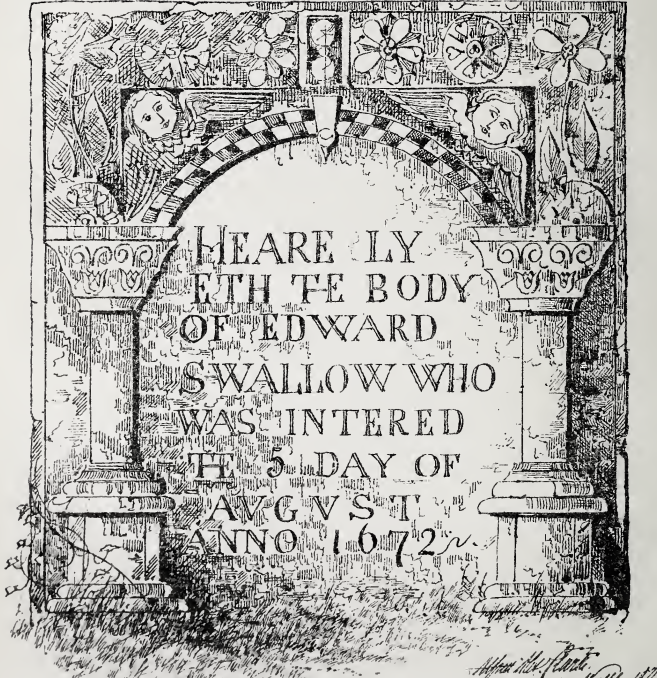
It will be remembered that in September, 1651, King

* On plans of Mr. Ferrey, the Diocesan Architect.

† See the lithograph taken from a rubbing of the stone and inscription.



A TIME OF DEATH
THOU KNOW
EST WELL BUT
WHERE OR WHEN
THOU CANST
NOT TELL



HEARE LY
ETH TE BODY
OF EDWARD
SWALLOW WHO
WAS INTERED
TE 5 DAY OF
AVGVST
ANNO 1672

Alfred Hill. Carver. W. Hill. 1872.

Charles II, on his escape after the battle of Worcester, slept at Castle Cary, in the house of Mr. Edward Kirton, or Kyrton. This Mr. Kyrton is said to have been resident agent of the Duke of Somerset at Castle Cary, or, as is supposed by Mr. Batten, in his able and interesting paper on Somersetshire Sequestrations, was lessee of the parks under the Marquis of Hertford,* and lessee also under the Bishop of the rectory and rectorial glebe. That he (Mr. Kyrton) was a man of some eminence is clear from his being a Member of Parliament in 1623 for Ludgershall, and in 1628 for Great Bedwyn. In the Parliament of 1640 it appears also that he sat for Milborne Port.

In the account of Somersetshire Sequestrations, by Mr. Edward Curle, it is recorded that Mr. Edward Kyrton was one of those proceeded against as a "royalist delinquent," and made a composition for his estates, at a reduced fine, in consideration of his settling £50 a year out of the rectory for the augmentation of the maintenance of the minister of Castle Cary. I am sorry to say that no trace of this augmentation now exists.

In the old churchwardens' accounts for the years 1633

* A MS. note of the late Right Hon. Henry Hobhouse, of Hadspen, formerly "Keeper of the State Papers," informs us that "The manors of Castle Cary and Almesforth (Ansford) were settled 24 Car. 1, 1649, on the marriage of Henry Lord Beauchamp, eldest son of Willm. Marquis of Hertford, with Mary, eldest daughter of Arthur Lord Capell, in trust to pay £1600 per annum to the said Mary for her jointure. On the death of John Duke of Somerset, in 1675, without issue, these manors descended to his niece, Lady Elizabeth Seymour (only surviving issue of the said Lord and Lady Beauchamp), who married, A.D. 1676, Thomas Lord Bruce, eldest son of Robert Earl of Ailesbury, and were conveyed in the same year to t'tees, in trust to sell or pay off the jointure of the said Lady Beauchamp, then Marchioness of Worcester; and also certain annuities charged by the will of Duke John. In 1684 they were sold to Ettrick, Player, and others. Player made partition in 1703." [Cart. orig. H. H.]

and 1634 we find an item among payments for church rates in these years :

Edward Kirton vii^s 6^d

Another entry is as follows :

Ite' laide forth for taking downe the }
 vicarage barne } ix^s 6^d

This account is signed by

JOHN COSENS and } Church-
 STEPHEN RUSSE } wardens.

The family of Russ have held an estate at Clanville, in this parish, for a long period of years.

John Tompson who, as will be seen in the list of vicars which I give below, seems to have been Vicar of Castle Cary for 33 years, signs the vestry book in 1628 and 1651. After the latter date his name does not appear for ten years ; but after the restoration he signs again, A.D. 1661.

The following entries occur in the parish accounts in 1662 :—

Ite' laid out for a gallon of muscadine }
 and 2d bread for Easter Day .. } viii^s 2^d
 For a quart of sack for Mr. Tompson .. i^s 8^d
 Ite' laide out for three quarts and a pint }
 and a half of muscadine, and 2d bread } vii^s 8^d
 the Sunday after Easter .. }

Query, was the second item intended as a special rejoicing on the return of Mr. Tompson to his parishioners ?

LIST OF THE VICARS OF CASTLE CARY,

FROM THE REGISTERS OF THE BISHOPS AT WELLS.

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1312	John, Vicar of Castle Cary	Jno. Drokenford, 1309 to 1329	The Prior and Convent of the Benedictines at Bath	John, Vicar of Castle Cary, was appointed <i>Penitentiary</i> of the Deanery of Cary. See Appendix I
1328 July 8	Walter Hayne -	The same	The Prior and Chapter of Bath	
1347 Aug 3	Robert Godard -	Ralph de Salopià, 1329 to 1363	The same	
1348 Dec 3	Stephen de Kynar	The same	The same	He is called "Priest"
1402 Jan 11	Richd. Cranbourne or Cranbury	Ralph Ergum, 1388 to 1403	The same	He is called "Chaplain"
1413 Aug 13	Richard Brook -	Nicholas Bubwith, 1407 to 1424	The same	Rector of Stafford, in the Diocese of Sarum, exchanged with Richard Cranbury
1427 July 20	Walter Harris -	John Stafford, 1424 to 1443	The same	

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1443 April 14	Nicholas Westhill-	Thomas de Beck- yngton, 1413 to 1464	The Prior and Chapter of the Convent at Bath	
1492 Nov 10	William Lutte -	Richard Fox,* 1492 to 1494	The same	W. Lutte resigning, a pension of £4 was assigned to him
1498 Oct 13	John Morris -	Oliver King, 1495 to 1503	The same	
1518 Mar 19	Henry Kensycke -	Card. Adrian de Cas- tello, 1504 to 1518 (deprived 1518)	The same	See Appendix No. II
1546 Oct 10	Ambrose Marshall	William Knight (deprived 1553)	On the presenta- tion of Thomas Clerk, Esq.	Bishop Knight became a con- vert to the reformed religion
1554 Nov 20	Richard Chevers by deprivation of the preceding	Gilbert Bourne, 1554 to 1558 (deprived 1559)	On the presenta- tion of William Crowches, Esq.	

* Two Bishops were intermediate between Bishops Beckynton and Fox, viz: Bishop Freeas or Free, and Bishop Stillington.

VICARS OF CASTLE CARY.

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A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1564 Aug 31	John Furse	Gilbert Berkley, 1559 to 1581	Collated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells	On the death of the last Incumbent
1592	John Taunton	Thomas Godwin, 1584 to 1590	On the presentation of Francis Kirton of London	John Taunton was appointed after the death of Bishop Godwin, but before the episcopate of Bishop Still in February, 1592, probably by a commission. There is no institution of this Vicar in the Registry at Wells; his name occurs in the parish book
1623	John Tompson	Arthur Lake, D.D. 1616 to 1626	Edward Kyrton, Esq.	John Tompson is the Vicar mentioned in the parish accounts, (<i>vide supra</i>). The advowson was granted to Kyrton by Bishop Montagu
1663 Aug 2	John Creed	William Pearce, D.D. 1632 to 1670	On presentation of "Kingsmilli Ar- migeri"	

A.D.	NAME	BISHOPS	PRESENTORS	REMARKS
1721 Nov 1	Samuel Woodforde A.B.	George Hooper and John Wynne from 1703 to 1743	On presentation of Rachel Ettricke	Thomas Wickham was also Rector of Shepton Mallet
1771	Thomas Wickham (died 1786)	Edward Willes, D.D. 1743 to 1773		Collinson says that when he wrote his history Mr. John Taylor was Vicar. He must have mistaken this name for Turner: no such name as Taylor is found among the Vicars
1787	John Turner -	Charles Moss, D.D. 1774 to 1802	The Bishop	
1795	Charles Moss, Sub- Dean of Wells	The same	The same	
1801	William Hunt -	The same	The same	
1845	Richd. Jno. Meade 25th Jan, 1845; Prebendary of Wells 7th May, 1844; Canon of Wells 29th May, 1863	George Henry Law, D.D. 1824 to Sep. 1845	The Bishop, acting by the Bishop of Salisbury his Commissary	In the 20th Edw. I (1292), the Church of Kari or Carie was taxed in xx marcs. In 1426 the Vicarage is valued at £10 or xv marcs. The same value is given of it 1431, 1445, &c.

APPENDIX No. I.

John, Vicar of Castle Cary in 1312, was Penitentiary of the Deanery of Cary. As everyone may not know what this word means, I give the interpretation of it from Webster's Dictionary "One who prescribes the rules and measures of penance."

The following account of a penance at Rome, Barcelona, &c. is given by Dr. T. Forster, F.L.S., a gentleman of the Roman Catholic religion, and author of a very useful and entertaining work, called the "Perennial Calendar." The ceremony, he says takes place on Holy Friday, at the time of Vespers. It is preceded by a short exhortation, during which a bell rings, and whips, or strings of knotted whipcord, are distributed quietly among such of the congregation as are on their knees in the middle of the nave. . . . On a second bell the candles are extinguished, and the former sermon having ceased, a loud voice issues from the altar, exhorting to think of unconfessed, unrepented, or unforgiven crimes. This continues a sufficient time to allow the kneelers to strip off their upper garments, the tone of the preacher is raised more loudly, and he vehemently exhorts his hearers to recollect that Christ and the martyrs suffered much more. . . . The flagellation then begins. The darkness, the tumultuous sound of blows in every direction, "Blessed Mary pray for us," bursting out at intervals, the whole scene fixes you to the spot in a trance of horror beyond expectation or bearing. The scourging continues ten or fifteen minutes, and when it sounds as if dying away, a bell rings which seems to invigorate the penitents, for the lashes beat about more thickly than before. Another bell rings, and the blows subside. At a

third signal the candles are re-lighted, and the Minister (the Penitentiary) who has distributed the disciplines, collects them again with the same discretion. The penitents appear too much ashamed of their transgressions to make a show of their penance, so that it is difficult to say whether even your next neighbour has given himself the lash or not.

Perennial Calendar for March, p. 111.

APPENDIX No. II.

Mr. Robert Lemon, of the State Paper Office, in a letter dated November 21st, 1828, and addressed to the Right Honorable Henry Hobhouse, (then keeper of the State Paper Office), states that he found at the Chapter House, Westminster, where many of the State Papers were then preserved, a very curious paper, viz:—"A Petition from certain inhabitants of Wincanton to Lord Cromwell (who in 1536 had been appointed Vice-Gerent of the Kingdom in Ecclesiastical matters,) complaining of the conduct of the Curate of Wincanton, who led a very dissolute life, and would not allow them to read the Word of God in English; they were, therefore, obliged to seek spiritual comfort from the Parson of *Castle Cary* (Mr. Kensycke*), which so exasperated the Curate of Wincanton, that he threatened to fight any of his parishioners who did so; and he was so continually practising his "schole of fence" that they were all frightened to meet him."

R. L.

* See the List of Vicars, A.D. 1526.

Somersetshire Sequestrations.

BY JOHN BATTEN ESQ.

Part II.

THE following paper (read at the Wincanton Meeting) is a continuation of one published in the Society's volume for the year 1853, detailing from the original MS. the proceedings of Edward Curl, one of the Parliamentary Sequestrators for the Hundred of Catsash in this county, in executing the ordinance against Royalist delinquents and their property in that Hundred.

Of the Somersetshire Royalists none paid more dearly for his strenuous adherence to King Charles than *Sir John Stawell* of Cothelstone—the head of one of the most ancient families in the county—originally seated at Stawell near North Petherton. He was Knight of the Bath and Knight also of the Shire in the Long Parliament, from which he was dismissed in 1642, for putting in force the Commission of Array in this county. Lord Clarendon characterizes him as “a gentleman of the largest estate that any man possessed in the west, who, from his very great affection for the person of the King and for the Government that was settled both in Church and State, engaged with

singular courage both his own person and two sons in the most active part of the war, and had rendered himself as odious to the Parliament as any man of that condition had done." So odious indeed was he, that although by the Articles on the surrender of the city of Exeter, in the defence of which he had been engaged, he was fully entitled to compound for his delinquency, he was not permitted to do so unless he took the Negative Oath and Covenant which was a condition expressly repugnant to the terms of the Articles; and refusing, when brought before the House, to kneel at the bar in admission of its authority, he was ordered to be indicted for High Treason, kept close prisoner for nearly four years, and on several occasions brought to trial, but fortunately for him without any decisive result. In the meantime sad havoc was made with his property. His fine mansion at Cothelstone was despoiled and demolished, woods to the value, as he says, of £3000 to £4000 felled, and many of his estates sold. He survived however to witness the restoration, and was one of the 100 Knights who at Charing Cross welcomed Charles II on his first entry into London. His eldest son was created Lord Stawell of Somerton, but the title is now extinct.

By his wife, daughter and heiress of Sir David Hext of Low Ham, near Somerton, Sir John Stawell acquired that manor, and there he died; but he was buried in the church of Cothelstone, where his monument records of him—
"Grassante perduellione magnas equitum peditumque copias suis sumptibus in auxilium regis paravit. Post perditam rem familiarem ædium ruinam carceres aliasque calamitates exoptatissimo Regis Caroli secundi reddito lætans diem obiit 21 die Feb 1661 ann æt 61."

Of the horse and foot so raised by him, some probably

were those mentioned in the following entries in Mr. Curl's Diary—

“Thos. Cole of Kingstowne gave a mare worth £15 to Sir John Stawell when he was governor of Taunton, and required Matthew Stile to come to Taunton and bring what weapon he could and go against Lime. And further said to Richard Bennett about three months since, that some would come ere long that would make his shoulders hang downwards, meaning that they would hang him.” And again “John Bickham of Kingstowne came with four souldiers to Matthew Stiles' house, pulled his sonne out of bedd to goe against Lime, being then sick, and because he could not goe, plundered his father's house, and besides sett out a horse worth £10 under Sir John Stawell.”

We may gather too how Mr. Curl obtained his information, as further on he says, “Paid Matthew Stiles of or near Taunton, his expence and paines in discovering malignant estates, 4s.”

Sir John Stawell's property seized in this Hundred was only the Manor of Babcary. He was also entitled to one moiety of the neighbouring Manor of Blackford, and from Curl's Diary it appears that his estates [in] Cothelstone, Bagboro', Bishops Lydeard, Michaelchurch, Durston, Somerton, High Ham, Low Ham, Evercreech, Pressly, Pury, and Littleton, were all under Sequestration.

In collecting the rents of Babcary, Curl says he was obliged to have extraordinary assistance “because of the malignancy of the place.” Perhaps this may be attributable to the influence of the *Overton Family* resident at Babcary, or in the neighbourhood, three members of which—*Mr. Andrews Overton*, a Captain in the King's Army, and Lord of the Hundred of Catsash; *Mr. William Overton*, who was “against the Parliament,” and who had “a fair

dwelling-house and 50 acres of land in Queen Camel," and "another fair house and about 160 acres of land in Keinton;" and *Mr. Christopher Overton*, who refused to acknowledge the Title of the Parliament—were all treated as malignants. The Overtons came into this county from Staffordshire, and there is a pedigree of the family in the Somersetshire Visitation of 1623. A descendant of Mr. Andrews Overton was Vicar of Queen Camel.

Mr. Thomas Gollop's estate at Keinton was sequestered because he was in arms against the State, being a Major in the King's Army. Mr. Curl says, "I received nothing from it, Mr. Gollop producing unto me Articles of the surrender of Portland under Captain Batten's hand, by which he was to enjoy the profits of his estate." This gentleman therefore, must have been "Colonel Thomas Sidney Gollop, Governor for the King of the Castle and Isle of Portland," which he surrendered on the 4th April 1646, to "Captain William Batten, Vice-Admiral and Commissioner in Chief of all the forces by sea for King and Parliament," and the Article referred to is the 5th, which stipulated that the best endeavours should be used with both Houses of Parliament for the speedy taking off the Sequestrations if any on the estates of the officers and soldiers then in the Island and Castle of Portland.*

Papists—and especially Papists in arms were expressly denounced by the Ordinance and seldom escaped Sequestration. How they and their widows and children were hunted out and treated we learn from several entries in the Diary.

One is, "This night at Wellington, received information that Mrs. Cheeke, the relict of Mr. George Cheeke, deceased, is a Papist." In another Curl accounts for rent

* Hutch. Dors. 3rd ed. vol. II. p. 814.

received for a tenement belonging to the children of John Morris, a Papist deceased. And in a third he complains that the receiver of a Crown Rent chargeable on lands of one Margaret Norris, a Papist, which was under Sequestration, refused to distrain upon Mrs. Norris's goods for it, saying "he would not," and further said "what ! shall the poor woman starve ? the State is best able to pay and so levied it on the tenant."

Mr. William Gawen, of Horsington, was charged with being "a Papist in arms against the Parliament." He was one of the Gawens or Goweynes of Norington, Wilts, where they had been seated from the reign of Richard II, and had only recently removed to Horsington. His mother was Gertrude, daughter of Richard Bluet, of Holcombe Rogus, Devon. In the reign of Queen Elizabeth, his grandfather was subjected to a fine of £1380 for absenting himself for 60 months from his Parish Church of Alvediston. One of the editors of the History of Modern Wilts, speaking of this family, alludes to the high and dignified offices held by them in that county, and eulogizes them for the "unmerited sufferings they endured for their attachment to the religion they professed, and for their loyalty to the House of Stuart previous to, and at the time of, the Commonwealth."

There is a pedigree of this family also in the Visitation of 1623. Their arms were—Erm, on a saltire engr. az, 5 fleurs de lys, or.—*Wood* in his Athenæ mentions a Thomas Gawen, fellow of New College in 1632, a learned man who became Rector of Exton, Hants, and was deprived of his living, and as he could not accept the preferment offered him on the restoration by reason of his being a Roman Catholic, we may safely conclude he was of this family.

The property of Mr. Gawen in this Hundred consisted of lands at Hatherley in the parish of Mapperton, but his Manor of Horsington was also under Sequestration. The tenant of Hatherley was allowed amongst his disbursements, "5s paid to the pulling down of Sherborne Castle." This was after the surrender to Fairfax in 1645, and from the entry it appears that the expence was defrayed by a levy or rate not confined to property in the county in which the Castle stood. It took upwards of two months to complete the demolition so far as it extended.

Three other Papists were subjected to Sequestration in the Hundred—*Mrs. Green* of Sparkford; and her son *Gabriel Green*; and *Edward Keynes* of Compton Pauncefoot. Mr. Keynes was the owner of "the Manor House, and one half the demesnes worth in the best of times per ann £100, viz.

The House, Garden, and Orchards con- taining about five acres of ground worth per ann.	} £	s	d
The two Burrow Hills	12	0	0
Broad Meadowe and Kingston Meadowe	7	10	0
Moore Meadowe	7	0	0
Pines Close	4	0	0
In Long Meadowe	5	0	0
North Waddon	9	0	0
The Warren	12	0	0
The Hier East Orchard	7	0	0
The Lower East Orchard, and the Milles	24	0	0
The Hop Garden Meadowes ..	6	0	0
The Coppice 20 acres, felling every year two acres at ten years growth	} _____		
	93	10	0

And the Coppice, and House, and Orchard I conceive

cannot be less worth than £6 10s, which makes up the sum of £100 per annum."

Then comes this entry—"But part of the grounds is conceived to be Mr. Godolphin's, who married Sir Henry Berkeley's daughter, who lived in the house and did carry from the house to Yarlinton to Sir Henry Berkeley's house 16 feather beds not yet seized."

The Keynes family were originally from Compton Martin in this county, and afterwards Lords of Stoke Wake, and Candel Wake, Dorset. Their arms were—az, a bend wavy cotized ar.

The estate of *Mr. Robert Hunt* of Speckington, the owner of the Manor of Compton Pauncefoot and part of the demesnes, was seized "for that being a member of the Parliament he deserted his trust and went to Oxford to the Ante-Parliament," and "The Survey of his Estate" is

Impr. th'old rents of ye Mannor of)	Compton Pauncefoot being per ann.)	£	s	d
		17	17	11
It'm demeasnes in Compton Pauncefoot)	and Blackford worth in the best of)	100	0	0
	times per ann.)			
Due from Wm. Plucknett of Compton)	Pauncefoot, for an arrear of fine)	250	0	0

"The land being claymed by Mr. John Hunt, who promised to make it appeare before ye Coñmitte, and in the meane time the Sequestration taken off by order frō Goldsmith's Hall as I was told."

The successful claimant was, no doubt, John Hunt, the father of Robert, who probably had an estate for life in the property, and who enjoyed it to the extraordinary age of 94.

The Hunts were from Forston in Dorsetshire, where this gentleman was born. I have not been able to ascertain

what place he represented ; and I may mention that a correct list of the members of the Somersetshire boroughs is a desideratum, Collinson, in his History, only giving us the Knights of the Shire, and those not accurately. For instance, he states that in 1614 Sir Robert Phelips and Sir Francis Hastings were elected ; whereas Sir Maurice Berkeley and John Poulet were returned.

Phelps traces the descent of Compton as an entire property from Sir Walter Pauncefote, in the time of Hen. VII, to Edward Keynes, in this reign, and states that it was sold to John Hunt about the year 1630.* This account we see is inaccurate, the demesnes being held in moieties, Mr. Keynes being the owner of one moiety with the Manor House, and Mr. Hunt of the other, with the manorial rents and rights. This is very intelligible when we observe that Sir Walter Pauncefote left two daughters his co-heiresses, between whom the inheritance was divided. Mr. Hunt, however, bought Mr. Keynes' moiety pending the Sequestration, for in enumerating the goods in the house Mr. Curl says—"Mem. There is in the mauling house a great lead cistern that will wet sixty bushels of barley, which I seized. I desire to know whether I shall dispose of it, and to have warrant for it, because Mr. Hunt hath now bought the house." Mr. Hunt was evidently not to be unwarrantably interfered with, for Curl adds—"One close 18a. estimated worth £9 a year, not let or sown this year, Mr. Hunt gave such threatening words that those that desire to have it durst not meddle with it." The fact of Mr. Hunt's purchase is confirmed by the following entry in the Catalogue of Compositions, "Edward Keynes Recusant per Henry Hunt purchaser £37." Henry Hunt was of Oxford, a brother of

Robert, and the purchase was advisedly taken in his name to avoid risk of forfeiture.

An inaccuracy occurs in Collinson with reference to the Manors of North and South Cadbury. He says that Sir Francis Hastings having no children these estates were sold by some family arrangement to Richard Newman Esq. High Steward of Westminster, who, we may mention, was a zealous Royalist, rewarded after the restoration with an honourable augmentation of his coat of arms. We are enabled to correct this account by interposing before Mr. Newman another Lord of these Manors, as eminent as he was in his attachment to the royal cause in its adversity (or it may be its obstinacy), although not surviving as he did to share the honours attending its restoration. This was *Arthur Ducke*, Doctor of Civil Law, simply designated by Mr. Curl, "as a known delinquent," his offence being, as we find from the Royalist Composition Papers in the Record Office, "that he left his habitation and went to Oxford, and was there at its surrender," which he justifies in his petition for leave to compound, on the ground that he was bound to attend on his Majesty's person as Master of Requests. Dr. Ducke was a wealthy man, and his property here was extensive. The ancient demesnes (*i.e.* the lands in hand) in North and South Cadbury were let "15 years ago" at £220 a year, and the reserved rents on tenements still outstanding on lives amounted to £72 1s 1d. He was also, as he says in the Particulars of his Estate, tenant by the curtesy of one moiety of the Manor of Wyke Champflower, the other moiety belonging to William Bull of Shapwick, who married his wife's sister. Dr. Ducke did not reside in Somersetshire, but at Chiswick near London—the Manor House at North Cadbury being in the occupation of his

tenant, Mrs. Willoughby, who must have been distracted by the frequent raids of Parliamentary troopers, detachments being constantly billeted on her, as her bill of charges for quartering them amounting to £49 16s 6d proves.

It may be mentioned in passing, that there is an entry in Mr. Curl's account which enables us to fix the date of the old wall inclosing the Cadbury Castle, as he says, "Imprimis abated Elizabeth Laver for three acres of ground which Dr. Ducke took into the Castle *when he walled it in*, 6d a quarter, the sum is 2s."

Arthur Ducke was a native of Heavitree, near Exeter, and a younger brother of Nicholas Ducke, Recorder of that city. He was first of Exeter College, Oxford, but afterwards Fellow of All Souls, and graduated as LL.D. in 1612. His connection with this county originated in his friendship with Dr. Lake, Bishop of Bath and Wells, by whom he was made Chancellor of this Diocese; and his duties at Wells introduced him to his future wife Margaret, one of the two daughters and co-heiresses of Henry Southworth, Esq. of that place, to whom he was married by the Bishop—the only marriage, it is said, the Bishop ever solemnized. Dr. Ducke was afterwards Chancellor of the Diocese of London, and sat as Member for Minehead in the Parliament of 1640. In the troubles which followed, he took the side of the King, to whom he was a firm friend—advancing him as a free gift at least £6000. So high an opinion had the King both of his loyalty and his learning, that he was selected as one of the two civilians to represent his Majesty in settling the futile treaty of Newport in 1648. He effected his composition in 1646, and the touching appeal with which he winds up his Petition to the Committee will bear repetition. "And lastly, I offer to the consideration of this Honourable Committee,

that I have spent above 40 years in the study of Civil Laws, hoping thereby I might become in some measure serviceable to the Commonwealth, and before these troubles the profit thereof was the better part of my yearly income and livelyhood, all which I have now not only lost, but all further hope of any considerable advantage thereby is now extinguished in England, which, in any other part of the Christian world, would produce to me a comfort, and livelyhood, and respect, after so many years study.”*

Dr. Ducke did not long survive the downfall of his Royal Master, and died at Chiswick, in May 1649, leaving by his will £10 to the poor of North Cadbury. He was the author of a Treatise on the Civil Law, and of a Life of Archbishop Chicheley, the founder of his college.† He bore for his arms—or, on a fesse wavy sab, three lozenges of the field.

The next delinquent on the list, is *Mr. Thomas Cary* of Castle Cary, whose offence is detailed very minutely, viz :

“That he was in actual arms against the forces raised by the Parliament at Brewton and at Ivelchester.

“That he rayled at the Parliament calling them traytors and rebels.

“That when the country did rise and take one Fish, Provost Martiall at Wells, for the violence he did by night unto one William Paine of Weston Bampfylde, he was a means to rescue him from them, by being bound for his appearance to Sir Henry Berkeley.

“That when the country did rise upon the souldiers of Sir Francis Dodington, for wounding of Stephen Ashford of North Cadbury, and Mr. Williams of Barrow, and had

* Royalist Comp. Papers.

† See Wood's Ath. Oxon. Princes' Worthies of Devon.

taken some of them and their horses at Castle Cary, he was a means to rescue them by promising to pay for the healing of their wounds, which he never did.

“That he was always active for the King’s part and against the Parliament.”

His estate was inconsiderable, as he compounded for £38 10s. But Mr. Curl retained as “*spolia opima*,” one carbine, one sword, and one pike, “to be disposed of as the Committee shall please.” I cannot trace any connection between this gentleman and the ancient family of Cary, the original seat of which according to Westcote, the Devonshire Topographer, was at Castle Cary, but at any rate he seems to have been animated by the same spirit as Sir John Cary of that place, Chief Baron of the Exchequer in the reign of Richard II, who forfeited his estate and was banished from the kingdom for refusing to transfer his allegiance to Henry IV.

We will pass over *Mr. James Kyrton* of Ansford, a Captain in the King’s army—who was leniently dealt with by the Committee, “he having proved that he did much service in saving the goods of well affected persons to the Parliament, and because he seemed to the Committee to be a distracted man”—and come to his name-sake, and probably brother, *Mr. Edward Kyrton* of Castle Cary. The charge against him was—“That he being a Member of Parliament, did desert it, and was a Commissioner for the King.” He was lessee* of the park at Castle Cary under the Marquis of Hertford, (noticed in my previous paper) and of the Rectory and Parsonage of the same place under the Bishop of Bath and Wells, both worth as Mr. Curl says, £180 a year, but which he was glad to let to William Oram at £82. It appears from the Compo-

* Royalist Comp. Papers.

sition Papers that Kyrton attempted to justify his desertion by reason of his attendance on the Prince and having taken the Negative Oath and National Covenant. He made his Composition in 1646, at a reduced fine in consideration of settling £20 a year out of the Rectory for the augmentation of the maintenance of the minister of Castle Cary, and subsequently the remainder of the fine was remitted on his agreeing to increase the augmentation to £50 a year. But Mr. Kyrton's troubles were not ended. In 1649, one Benjamin Avery of Frome, had recovered judgment against Kyrton in an action of false imprisonment who complained of being sued after making his Composition, which by the Articles of Exeter indemnified him from all past transactions, and prayed the Committee to stay further proceedings in the action. Avery made a long statement in justification, alleging that he engaged his life and fortune for the Parliament, and being in arms before Sherborne Castle was there shot by the enemy, and lay in danger of his life; nevertheless he was seized by command of Kyrton, one of the King's Commissioners, and cast into prison, and not released until he had paid him a considerable sum of money, otherwise he would have perished in prison,—such was the cruelty and violence of Kyrton and his party; and since it had pleased God to give the Parliament the victory over these merciless enemies, and Parliament not being able to make good their engagements for the repair of his sufferings and losses, he had brought the action against Kyrton and others and recovered some compensation. The Committee declined to interfere, and moreover saddled Kyrton with all the expences of hearing the case.*

Edward Kyrton is believed to have been the Marquis of

* Royalist Comp. Papers.

Hertford's steward. He was a Wiltshire man, and no doubt intimately connected with the Seymour Family, as he sat in the Parliament of 1623 for Ludgershall, and in that of 1628 for Great Bedwyn ; but before this he sat for Newcastle-under-Lime. In the Parliament of 1640, he was Member for Milborne Port. Down to the time of open rupture between the King and the Parliament he strenuously opposed the aggressions of the Crown often speaking with great spirit and effect, and supporting Sir John Eliot, Sir Robert Phelips, and other advocates of the popular cause ; and he reaped the fruits of it as early as 1626, being with Sir Robert Phelips displaced from the Commission of the Peace for this county. The warrant from Lord Keeper Coventry to the Clerk of the Peace for doing so is dated 8th July, 1626, Sir Walter Earl and Sir John Strange-ways being at the same time struck out of the Commission for Dorset.

It was Kyrton who, when the House in 1628 resolved itself in the absence of the Speaker, into a Committee of Safety, exclaimed, evidently referring to the Duke of Buckingham—"The King is as good a Prince as ever reigned ; it is the enemies of the Commonwealth that have so prevailed with him, therefore let us aim now to discover them and I doubt not God will send us hearts, hands, and swords to cut his and our enemies throats"—Strong language this, for which he was at the instance of the Privy Council called to answer for the next morning at the Bar, but adjudged to have said nothing beyond the bounds of duty and allegiance, the House declaring "they all concurred with him therein."

On the actual breaking out of the war we find him one of the King's Commissioners of Array for this county, and Charles II in his escape from the battle of Worcester to

Trent in 1651, had sufficient confidence in his fidelity to make his house at Castle Cary a resting place for the night. Lord Clarendon says that the King and Lord Wilmot rode into Castle Cary together, and that Mr. Kyrton who happened to meet them knew Lord Wilmot but not the King. This is not quite correct, as Lord Wilmot, according to the King's own account, had gone on to Trent to prepare for his reception ; but that Kyrton did not recognise the King may be readily believed if we recollect the complete disguise which concealed him. Mr. Kyrton died in 1653, and was buried at Easton, Wilts, the entry in the Register being "Edward Kerton, officer to Ld. Marquis of Hertford, was buried Jan. 30.*

At Kingweston, besides Dr. Godwin the Rector, noticed in my first paper, we have *Mr. Smith* of Long Ashton, the Lord of the Manor, a known delinquent in arms against the Parliament, *Mr. John Hutton*, "who sate in the Co. Co. at Ilchester and did give his approbation to proclaiming divers gentlemen that adhered to the Parliament outlaws," and *Mr. Butt*, Dr. Godwin's son-in-law, who had served as a Captain in the King's army, and since he came home from Exeter, "did threaten the well affected of the estate." Mr. Smith was Thomas Smith of Long Ashton, one of the Members for the County with Sir Ralph Hopton, in the Parliament of 1639, and a great Royalist. But as he died in 1642, and his son Hugh was only 16 years old, I am unable to account for the continuance of the Sequestration.

The estate of *Mr. Edward Beaton* of Weston Bampffield, consisting of demesnes worth £127 a year, and goods appraised at £306 18s. 8d. was seized upon a grave charge against him, deposed to by two witnesses—"That

* Coll. Top. and Gen. vol. 1, p. 39.

he presented his neighbours to the King's Commissioners for paying money to Colonel Strode.—That he said whoever paid money to Colonel Strode was a rebel.—That he said he had a horse in the King's service against the Parliament.—That his son was in arms against the Parliamentary forces under Sir John Horner and Colonel Strode.—That he said he would give £20 freely to the King's party and would not be fined as a malignant." He was fined however, though moderately, there being some point in his favor, of which the Committee gave him the benefit, and he and Edward his son compounded for the sum of £142.

The composition might not perhaps have been so easily effected had the attention of the Committee been called to a note of Mr. Curl's, "Item taken in the barn shed—three muskets, one sword, and one pistole all denyed" till, as Mr. Curl slyly adds, "they were found."

At this stage of the narrative Mr. Curl mentions an unexpected windfall. One Richard Clothier of Holton, hanged himself, and his goods being forfeited were seized as a Crown Right and sold for the use of the State for £24 6s 8d, the only deduction being £1 1s 8d for the Coroner and the Burial—a charge so moderate that I record it for imitation.

The lands of *Mr. Thomas Bennet* of Pythouse, Wilts, at Hatherley, in the parish of Mapperton, were seized because he had been a known delinquent in arms against the Parliament and a chief actor in the Dorset Club business.

The Clubmen in the Western Counties of Dorset, Somerset, and Wilts, were volunteer bands of country people, who, finding their petitions and remonstrances disregarded, and the power of the law paralyzed, assumed a kind of armed neutrality and enrolled themselves, as they professed, solely for the protection of their property from the plunder and rapine of the soldiers of both the contend-

ing parties. But although they avowed themselves neutrals it is probable they acted under royal influence; at any rate the Parliament thought their number and aspect so formidable, that after pretended negotiations for redressing their grievances, Cromwell himself attacked and routed them at Hamildon Hill, in the parish of Shroton, Dorset, and soon after the taking of Sherborne, which quickly followed, their forces were entirely suppressed.

These complaints of our Somersetshire yeomen were not only narrated in prosy petitions—they were “said or sung” in vernacular ballads. One of them, “The Somersetshire Man’s Complaint,” which is preserved in the British Museum* is worthy of the attention of the editors of the intended Somersetshire Glossary.

They carried their poetic taste also to the field, for on one of the colours taken was this motto—

“If you offer to plunder our cattle
Be assured we will give you battle.”

The estate of *Nicholas Pitman*, of North Cadbury, was sequestered in September 1645, “for that he was in arms against the State, being a Quartermaster in the King’s army and was in arms at Weymouth and Wimborne.” He had lands of inheritance in North Cadbury worth £20 a year, and goods and debts due to him £127 18s 6d.

Of this property Curl says “there hath been nothing made for the use of the State and it is now ordered not to be meddled with for the service Lieut.-Col. Pitman did in delivering up Corfe Castle.” The Colonel was no doubt a brother of Nicholas Pitman. The Corfe Castle story is a very dark one. The place had been long ineffectually besieged by the Parliament but so stoutly defended by

* Lansd. MSS. No. 674.

the gallant Lady Bankes that success was almost hopeless. At this juncture Col. Pitman who was an officer in the garrison, being, it is said, weary of the King's service, offered to deliver the place up to the Parliament provided he had his protection. Having obtained a promise of it, he first proposed to Col. Anketil the Governor of the castle, to introduce a reinforcement of 100 men out of Somersetshire, pointing out to him that he could get leave of Col. Bingham, the Commander of the besieging force, to pass through the lines under the pretence of procuring the exchange of his brother, then a prisoner in the Parliament quarters, for one of the King's officers who was prisoner in the castle. Col. Anketil quite fell into the plan, and Pitman went direct to Col. Bingham but instead of treating for the exchange, he arranged to convey 100 picked men into the castle by night, the besiegers undertaking to make an assault as soon as the men had entered. Accordingly upwards of 100 men were selected out of neighbouring garrisons and led by Pitman to an entrance to the Castle where Col. Anketil was posted to receive his promised reinforcement. When 50 had passed in, Anketil getting perhaps uneasy at their appearance, and seeing more behind, ordered the gate to be shut, saying he had no room for more, upon which Pitman expostulated with the Colonel for using him so ill, bringing men so far at the hazard of their lives and then leaving them exposed to the cold and the enemy. In the meantime those who had entered took up advantageous positions in the King's and Queen's towers and the besiegers advancing at the same time, the garrison soon saw that they were betrayed, and after some resistance a parley was demanded and a capitulation agreed on for the surrender of the castle.

Sir Humphrey Mildmay, Lord of the Manor of Queen

Camel, did not reside at Hazelgrove, his seat in that parish, but at Danbury, in Essex. Hazelgrove was occupied by *Mr Henry Rose*. Both the landlord and his tenant were under Sequestration. The former was a known delinquent. His two sons were officers in the King's service, and the eldest fell in an action in 1644. Mr. Rose too, "set forth horse and arms against the Parliament. He stood up and called divers to go against the Parliament forces at Bruton, and gave money to John Stokes of Marston Magna, for his journey to Bruton." His goods were valued at £400, and his case shews the resistance the Sequestrators often encountered. The goods were all secured, including a fowling piece and musket which were left with Mrs Rose, upon her entreaty, in order to guard the house, her husband not being at home, but (as might have been expected) she soon conveyed them away. Upon Mr. Curl's proceeding to dispose of the goods he met with such resistance that he says "I had troops to assist me, and at night the cattle were all driven away. The next day I overtook 110 sheep one mile beyond Sherborne, and brought them back to Little Marston (which was also in Mr. Rose's possession) where I kept men to guard them." The old rents of Sir Humphrey Mildmay's Manor of Queen Camel were £75 12s 8d, 2 lbs. of pepper, 1 lb. of cinnamon, and one clove,—besides which there was the fair, to which a tolsey court was incident. Some leasehold tenements fell into hand during the Sequestration: amongst them was one third part of Camel Hill, "which contains 127 acres of pasture and arable land, and one quarre of stone"; and in one case the best beast of the tenant seized for a heriot, was an ox appraised at £5, and in another a cow valued at £3 19s. Collinson tells us that an ox,

in the same manor, 14 Hen. III, was reckoned worth 8s., and a heifer 3s. 4d.

Sir Humphrey effected his composition for £1275. He claimed to be charged only on the value of his life interest in the estate alleging that he had settled it after his decease on his youngest son. But the committee requiring the settlement to be produced, found that Sir Humphrey had reserved a power of revocation at his pleasure and consequently valued his interest as in fee simple.

The last delinquent to be noticed is *Sir Robert Banister*, *Kt.* one of the Commissioners of Array, and Lord of the Manor of Sparkford. He was of Bosenham, in Northants, but neither of our county histories informs us of his connection with Sparkford. He must have been a large landowner as his composition amounted to £5195.

A loan negotiated for the King gives us an insight into the difficulty he must have experienced in raising money for his service. Mr Curl tells us that when in London, in May 1649, he received information that Mr. Alderman Hooke, of Bristol, had agreed to lend his Majesty £2000 on the bonds of twenty-two knights and esquires, (as Mr. William Walronde, one of them told him) but only ten of them signed the bond, viz—Sir J. Stawell, Sir E. Berkeley, Sir Edward Rodney, Sir Thomas Bridges, Mr. W. Walronde, Mr. Edward Kirton, Mr. Speke, Mr. Warre, and Mr. Wyndham. Returning home by way of Bristol, Curl received orders from Captain Latimer Sampson to secure the money in those gentlemen's hands, that is, to require them to pay it to the Parliament and not to Hooke. Accordingly he summoned several of them; but the Alderman a true Bristolian, had not been asleep, for on Curl going to Mr. George Speke's house at Dillington, on the 11th of June to serve him and

Mr. Thomas Warre, he found they had been outlawed for the money by Hooke; nevertheless, he says, "I left summonses for both, with old Mrs. Speke and Mrs. Warre, their mothers as I conceive." Curl subsequently states that he was ordered to stay all proceedings in this case, and a letter from Cromwell to Mr. Speaker Lenthall, dated 20th June, 1650, explains this. After stating that at the siege of Bristol in the year 1645, for something considerable done in order to its reduction by Humphrey Hooke, Alderman of that place—which for many reasons is desired to be concealed—General Fairfax and himself had given Hooke an engagement that he should be secured and protected by the authority of the Parliament in the enjoyment of his life, liberty, and estate, he proceeds—"I understand that lately an order is issued out to sequester him whereby he is called to composition, I thought it meet therefore, to give the Honorable Parliament this account that he may be preserved from anything of that nature, for the performance of which, in order to the good of the Commonwealth we stand engaged in our faith and honour." This Sir Humphrey Hooke was of Kingsweston, and married in 1633 Florence, eldest daughter of Thomas Smith Esq. of Long Ashton.

I really feel an apology due to the Society for detaining it so long with a narrative of such a local and trifling character, which has no historical pretensions and little, if any, Archæological interest. At the same time, as it is a fair example of what was going on, not only in every part of this county, but in every other county, these minute details and incidents, relating to places and persons whose names are familiar to us, convey vivid impressions of the scenes of anarchy and confiscation which were the deplorable results of an intestine and unnatural war. But al-

though we may deprecate these results, we are bound to remember that the sturdy and successful opponents of the encroaching prerogative of the Crown, were the pioneers who cleared the way and laid the foundation for that form of government, which we prize as *The English Constitution*, which has resisted successfully trials more severe, and attacks more insidious than those of violence, and which, I trust, it will never be our lot as Archæologists to investigate as a relic of the past.

The Malets of St. Audries.

BY GEORGE W. MARSHALL, LL.M.

THE following pedigree is from the original Visitation of Somerset taken A.D. 1623, by Henry St. George, Esq., Richmond Herald, and Sampson Lenard Bluemantle, marshals and deputies to William Camden Clarencieux. I have made some additions, printed in italics, from the parish Registers of St. Audries, and put in sufficient of the pedigree given by Collinson to show the owners of the St. Audries estate till it passed away altogether from the family in the time of William Malet. Comparing this account with Collinson's, (vol. i p. 91) it will be seen that it gives much additional information though there are still several persons mentioned in the register extracts to whom I am unable to assign their proper place. The Visitation states that Arthur Malet was deceased *s. p.* in 1623, but the registers show that two persons of that name were buried at a subsequent date, and Collinson gives them no place in his pedigree. Much remains to be done before a complete pedigree of the Malets can be compiled. I merely offer the following as a specimen of what might be easily done by the Somerset Archæological Society in illustration of nearly every old family in the county if it undertook the publication of the Heraldic Visitations of Somersetshire.

PEDIGREE OF MALET OF ST. AUDRIES.

FROM THE ORIGINAL VISITATION OF CO. SOMERSET, 1623.

(*Harl. MS. 1141, fo. 61.*)

Thomas Mallett de Enmer=*Johanna filia Sir John Walham (Wadham) of Merefeld, Co. Somerset. Harl. MS. 1385, fo. 12.*

Willms Mallet fil' et her.' = Isabella filia Tho. Michell de Gornestreet of Honiton, Co. Devon, ux. 1. *(Tacle) Fakell* = Sir Baldwin Mallet 2 fil de St. = Anne filia et hæres Audries in Com. Somerset. *Soltitor-General to K. Henry VIII. See Foss's Judges of England, vol. vii, pp. 143-4.*

Michael Mallet de St. Audries = filia Stowell. *Alice dau. of Anthony Marke = Johannes Mallett de Wolley. Thomas. Adam. of Poundridge, Co. Devon.*

Richard Mallet = Joane dau. of Richard Warre of Hestercombe. Buried 12 April 1609. 1614.

Robert = Elizabeth dau. of George Rolle.

Malachi Mallett = Elizabeth dau. of ... Trevanion.

John ob. s. p. Eleanor m. 1 Sr Arthur Acland, and 2 Sr Francis Vincent.

A

B

C

D

EXTRACTS FROM WEST QUANTOXHEAD PARISH
REGISTER.

1563. Jno. Wood Gent. and Dorothy Malet were Married 22 August.

Arthur Malet the Son and Heir of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd the 18 day of January A.D. 1564.

1570. Michael Son of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd y^e 22 day of Janu'y.

1571. Gawen Son of Richard Malet Esq. was Baptiz'd y^e last of Janu'y.

1583. Arthur Malet Arm^r and Mary Coffin were Married the 8 day of October.

1604. Alie Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd the Ninth day of January.

1604. Justine Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd The 20 day of Jnaury.

1606. ffrancis Malett Gent' was Baptiz'd the 30 day of March.

1607. Justine Malett Gent' was Buried the 24 day of May.

1609. Joane Malet Gent' was Buried The 29 day of Janu^{ry}.

1614. Richard Malett Esq. was Buried the 12 day of April.

1630. William Malet Gent' and Jane Meggs were married y^e 5 day of Jan^{ry}.

1630. Ann Malet Gent' was Buried the 28 day of March.

1634. Arthur Malet ju^r was buried y^e 22 of Octobr.

1644. William Malet Gent. was buried y^e 22 of March.

1644. Arthur Malett Esq. was Buried 16 Octob^r.

1655. Anne Daughter of John Malet Esq. died the 30 day of March, Buried y^e 31 of y^e same.

1656. Elizabeth Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Borne y^e 1 of March, bapt. y^e 10 of y^e——(same.)

1657. Anne Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Borne y^e 19 of March, baptiz'd y^e same day.

1658. Katherine Daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 19th day of April.

1658. Joan Malet al's Hooper Gent' was Buried the 2 day of October.

1659. John Son of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his wife was born y^e first day of August and Baptiz'd the second day of August.

1664. Jane daughter of John Malet Esq. and fflorentia his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 26th day of May. Born y^e 24th of May.

1666. Jane Malet daughter of John Malet Esq. was Buried y^e 12 day of November.

1680. William Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd 28 day of April.

1681. Anne Daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 25 day of April.

1682. George Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Ann his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 23 day of June.

1682. George Malet y^e son of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y^e 24 day of November.

1683. Baldwin Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 30 day of July.

1683. Ann daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y^e 26 day of May.

1685. Thomas y^e Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Bapt. y^e 21 day of Septembr.

1693. Thomas y^e Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. was Buried y^e 7 day of August.

1696. John y^e Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was bapt. y^e 20 day of Jan^{ry}.

1696. John Malet Gent. was buried y^e 17 day of July.

1697. Anne y^e daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was bapt. y^e 7 day of Jan^{ry}.

1698. Francis y^e Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Ann his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 9 day of Novembr.

1700. Jane y^e Daughter of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Baptiz'd y^e 27 day of March.

1704. Alexand^r y^e Son of Baldwin Malet Esq. and Anne his Wife was Bapt. y^e 2 day of Novembr.



A List of the Birds of Somerset.

BY MR. CECIL SMITH.

AS no list of our Somersetshire Birds has been published in the proceedings of our Society since that of Mr. Baker, in the first volume, dated 1849-50, it seems now to be quite time for a new list, as naturally in those twenty years some additions to the avi fauna of the county have to be made. I have now been able to add eleven new species not included in Mr. Baker's list. On the other hand I have omitted several which he had included. As I did not think it right to increase the list by adding any of the rarer and more accidental visitants without being able to give a distinct authority for their having been found in the county, I have in all such cases given the place and date, and a reference to the authority on which I have relied. The list therefore, as it now stands, includes 227 species; of these 63 are our ordinary common residents, 27 common regular summer, and 25 common and regular winter, visitants; the rest may be considered only acci-

dental or rare occasional visitants, or such as are now becoming nearly extinct.

RAPTORES.

VULTURIDÆ.

Egyptian Vulture. *Neophron percnopterus*. One near
Kilve, October 1825. Yarrell

FALCONIDÆ.

White-tailed Eagle. *Haliæetus albicilla*. Very rare.
One on the Quantocks, 1825. One on the Mendips.
Montagu

Osprey. *Pandion halicæetus*. Occasional

Peregrine Falcon. *Falco peregrinus*. Scarce and be-
coming more so. Resident

Hobby. *F. subbuteo*. Rather rare. Summer

Merlin. *F. æsalon*. Rather rare. Generally winter

Kestrel. *F. tinnunculus*. Common. Resident

Sparrow Hawk. *Accipiter nisus*. Common. Resident

Kite. *Milvus vulgaris*. Rare and becoming extinct.
Resident

Buzzard. *Buteo vulgaris*. Becoming scarce. Resident

Rough-legged Buzzard. *B. lagopus*. Rare. Generally
Spring and Autumn

Marsh Harrier. *Circus æruginosus*. Becoming very scarce.
Resident

Hen Harrier. *C. cyaneus*. Becoming very scarce.
Resident

Montagu's Harrier. *C. cineraceus*. Rather more common.
Resident

STRIGIDÆ.

Long-eared Owl. *Otus vulgaris*. Rather rare. Local.
Resident

- Short-eared Owl. *O. brachyotos*. Common. Autumn and Winter
- White or Barn Owl. *Strix flammea*. Common. Resident
- Brown Owl. *Syrnium stridulum*. Common. Resident
- Hawk Owl. *Surnia funerea*. One near Yatton, August, 1847, "Montagu's Dictionary," by Newman
- Tengmalm's Owl. *Noctua tengmalmi*. Near Bristol (?) Mr. Edward's collection at Wrington

INSESSORES.

DENTIROSTRES.

LANIADÆ.

- Great Grey Shrike. *Lanius excubitor*. Rare. Generally Autumn or Spring
- Red-backed Shrike. *L. collurio*. Common. Summer

MUSCICAPIDÆ.

- Spotted Flycatcher. *Muscicapa grisola*. Common. Summer
- Pied Flycatcher. *M. atricapilla*. Very rare. Summer. "Birds of Somerset"

MERULIDÆ.

- Water Ouzel. *Cinclus aquaticus*. Common. Local. Resident
- Missel Thrush. *Turdus viscivorus*. Common. Resident
- White's Thrush. *T. whitei*. One at Hestercombe, January, 1870, "Zoologist," S.S. p. 2018. One at Langford, near the Mendips, January, 1871, "Zoologist," S.S. p. 2607. Both by Mr. Cecil Smith
- Fieldfare. *T. pilaris*. Common. Winter
- Song Thrush. *T. musicus*. Common. Resident
- Redwing. *T. iliacus*. Common. Winter

- Blackbird. *T. merula*. Common. Resident
 Ring Ouzel. *T. torquatus*. Rather scarce. Local. Summer
 Golden Oriole. *Oriolus galbula*. Rare. Summer

SYLVIADÆ.

- Alpine Accentor. *Accentor alpinus*. One at Wells, 1833,
 Yarrell
 Hedge Sparrow. *A. modularis*. Common. Resident
 Redbreast. *Erythaca rubecula*. Common. Resident
 Blue-throated Warbler. *Phænicura succica*. One in 1856,
 "Birds of Somerset"
 Redstart. *P. ruticilla*. Common. Summer
 Black Redstart. *P. tithys*. Rare. Generally Autumn
 and Winter
 Stonechat. *Saxicola rubicola*. Common. Rather local.
 Resident
 Whinchat. *S. rubetra*. Not so common. Local. Sum-
 mer.
 Wheatear. *S. ænanthe*. Common. Local. Summer
 Grasshopper Warbler. *Salicaria locustella*. Rather rare.
 Local. Summer
 Sedge Warbler. *S. phragmitis*. Common. Local. Sum-
 mer.
 Reed Warbler. *S. arundinacea*. Rather rare. Local.
 Summer
 Nightingale. *Philomela lusciniæ*. Common. Local.
 Summer
 Blackcap. *Curruca atricapilla*. Common. Summer
 Garden Warbler. *C. hortensis*. Rather rare. Local.
 Summer
 White-throat. *C. cinerea*. Common. Summer
 Lesser White-throat. *C. sylvicola*. Rather rare. Local.
 Summer

- Wood Warbler. *Sylvia sibilatrix*. Common. Local.
 Summer
- Willow Warbler. *S. trochilus*. Common. Summer.
- Chiff Chaff. *S. rufa*. Common. Summer
- Golden-crested Wren. *Regulus cristatus*. Common.
 Resident
- Wren. *Troglodytes europæus*. Common. Resident

PARIDÆ.

- Greater Tit. *Parus major*. Common. Resident
- Blue Tit. *P. cæruleus*. Common. Resident
- Cole Tit. *P. ater*. Common. Resident
- Marsh Tit. *P. palustris*. Common. Resident
- Long-tailed Tit. *P. caudatus*. Common. Resident
- Bearded Tit. *Calamophilus biarmicus*. Said to have
 been found near Bridgwater years ago ; Mr. Baker's
 notes, not published

AMPELIDÆ.

- Bohemian Wax-wing. *Bombycilla garrula*. Rare. Oc-
 casional. Winter

MOTACILLIDÆ.

- Pied Wagtail. *Motacilla yarrellii*. Common. Resident
- Grey Wagtail. *M. boarula*. Common. Rather local.
 Generally Winter
- Grey-headed Wagtail. *M. neglecta*. Rare. Occasional
- Ray's Wagtail. *M. flava*. Common. Summer

ANTHIDÆ.

- Tree Pipit. *Anthus arboreus* Common. Summer
- Meadow Pipit. *A. pratensis*. Common. Resident
- Rock Pipit. *A. petrosus*. Common on coast. Resident

CONIROSTRES.

ALAUDIDÆ.

- Sky Lark. *Alauda arvensis*. Common. Resident

Wood Lark. *A. arborea*. Rather rare. Local. Resident

EMBERIZIDÆ.

Snow Bunting. *Plectrophanes nivalis*. Occasional. Winter.

Lark Bunting. *Emberiza miliaria*. Common. Local.
Resident

Reed Bunting. *E. schæniclus*. Common. Resident

Yellow Bunting. *F. citrinella*. Common. Resident

Cirl Bunting. *E. cirlus*. Rather rare. Local. Resident

FRINGILLIDÆ.

Chaffinch. *Fringilla cœlebs*. Common. Resident

Brambling. *F. montifringilla*. Common. Winter

Serin Finch. *F. serinus*. One, Taunton, January or
February, 1866, "Birds of Somerset"

Tree Sparrow. *Passer montanus*. Rather rare. Local.
Resident

House Sparrow. *P. domesticus*. Common. Resident

Greenfinch. *Coccothraustes chloris*. Common. Resident

Hawfinch. *C. vulgaris*. Rather rare. Winter

Goldfinch. *Carduelis elegans*. Common. Resident

Siskin. *C. spinus*. Common. Winter

Common Linnet. *Linota cannabina*. Common. Resident

Lesser Redpole. *L. linaria*. Common. Winter

Bullfinch. *Pyrrhula vulgaris*. Common. Resident

Common Crossbill. *Loxia curvirostra*. Occasional in flocks

STURNIDÆ.

Starling. *Sturnus vulgaris*. Common. Resident

Rose-coloured Pastor. *Pastor roseus*. One near Taunton,
June, 1835, not recorded. One at Laverton, July, 1869,
"Zoologist," S.S. p. 1866

CORVIDÆ.

Chough. *Fregilus graculus*. Almost extinct in Somerset.
Local. Would be resident

- Raven. *Corvus corax*. Rather rare. Local. Resident
 Carrion Crow. *C. corone*. Common. Resident
 Hooded Crow. *C. cornix*. Rare. Occasional. Winter
 Rook. *C. frugilegus*. Common. Resident
 Jackdaw. *C. monedula*. Common. Resident
 Magpie. *Pica caudata*. Common. Resident
 Jay. *Garrulus glandarius*. Common. Resident
 Nutcracker. *Nucifraga caryocatactes*. One near Bridg-
 water, 1805, Montagu

SCANSÓRES.

PICIDÆ.

- Green Woodpecker. *Picus viridis*. Common. Resident
 Great Spotted Woodpecker. *P. major*. Rather rare.
 Local. Resident
 Lesser Spotted Woodpecker. *P. minor*. More common
 in places. Local. Resident
 Wryneck. *Yunx torquilla*. Common. Summer

CERTHIADÆ.

- Creeper. *Certhia familiaris*. Common. Resident
 Hoopoe. *Upupa epops*. Very rare. Occasional. Summer
 Nuthatch. *Sitta europæa*. Common. Resident

CUCULIDÆ.

- Cuckoo. *Cuculus canorus*. Common. Summer

FISSIROSTRES.

NEROPIDÆ.

- Roller. *Coracias garula*. One near Orchard Portman,
 no date, "Birds of Somerset."

HALCYONIDÆ.

- Kingfisher. *Alcedo ispida*. Common. Resident

HIRUNDINIDÆ.

- Swallow. *Hirundo rustica*. Common. Summer

- Martin. *H. urbica*. Common. Summer
 Sand Martin. *H. riparia*. Common. Summer
 Swift. *Cypselus apus*. Common. Summer
 Alpine Swift. *C. alpinus*. One near Axbridge, "Proceedings" of this Society for 1851, "Birds of Somerset"

CAPRIMULGIDÆ.

- Nightjar. *Caprimulgus europæus*. Common. Summer

RASORES.

COLUMBIDÆ.

- Wood Pigeon. *Columba palumbus*. Common. Resident
 Stock Dove. *C. ænas*. Rather rare. Resident
 Rock Dove. *C. livia*. A few at Weston. Resident.
 "Birds of Somerset"
 Turtle Dove. *C. turtur*. Common. Summer

PHASIANIDÆ.

- Pheasant. *Phasianus colchicus*. Common where preserved

TETRAONIDÆ.

- Black Grouse. *Tetrao tetrix*. Common. Local. Resident
 Partridge. *Perdix cinerea*. Common. Resident
 Quail. *Coturnix vulgaris*. Rather rare. Occasional

GRALLATORES.

STRUTHIONIDÆ.

- Great Bustard. *Otis tarda*. One probable, Sep. 27th, 1870, near Shapwick, Mr. Harting in the "Field"

CHARADRIADÆ.

- Thick-knee. *Ædicnemus crepitais*. Rare. Occasional
 Golden Plover. *Charadrius pluvialis*. Common. Local.
 Partially resident
 Dotterel. *C. morinellus*. Rare. Local. Summer

- Ring Dotterel. *C. hiaticula*. Common on coast. Resident
- Sanderling.* *Calidris arenaria*. Occasional on coast
- Gray Plover. *Squatarola cinerea*. Common on coast.
Winter
- Peewit. *Vanellus cristatus*. Common. Local. Partially
resident
- Turnstone. *Streptilus interpres*. Common on coast.
Generally Winter
- Oystercatcher. *Hæmatopus ostralegus*. Common on coast.
Resident

GRUIDÆ.

- Common Crane. *Grus cinerea*. One Oct. 1865, Stolford,
"Birds of Somerset"

ARDEIDÆ.

- Heron. *Ardea cinerea*. Common. Resident
- Squacco Heron. *A. comata*. Very rare. Yarrell. "Birds
of Somerset"
- Little Bittern. *Botaurus minutus*. Rare. Occasional.
Generally Autumn
- Bittern. *B. stellaris*. Becoming rare. Generally Autumn
to Spring
- Night Heron. *Nycticorax gardeni*. Said to have been
killed near Bridgwater, Mr. Baker's notes, not pub-
lished
- Black Stork. *Ciconia nigra*. One, Sedge Moor, May,
1814, Montagu†
- White Spoonbill. *Platalea leucorodia*. One, Sedge Moor,

* I have never found this bird on our coast myself, but Mr. Gurney informs me his father found it at Minehead, and Mr. Matthews pointed me out one at Weston in a small collection which was said to have been shot there. It is included also in Mr. Baker's list.

† Montagu's Dictionary by Newman, p. 327.

Nov. 1813. One, Curry Moor, Skull and Beak in the Museum of the Society.

Glossy Ibis. *Ibis falcinellus*. One Autumn of 1859 or 1860, "Birds of Somerset"

SCOLOPACIDÆ.

Curlew. *Numenius arquata*. Common on coast in Winter. Partially resident

Whimbrel. *N. phæopus*. Common on coast. Spring and Autumn

Spotted Redshank. *Totanus fuscus*. Rare. Occasional. Generally Autumn

Common Redshank. *T. calidris*. Common. Mostly on coast. Autumn and Spring

Green Sandpiper. *T. ochropus*. Common. Local. Mostly Summer

Wood Sandpiper. *T. glareola*. One, Cheddon, May, 1870, "Zoologist" for 1871, S.S. p. 2441. Cecil Smith

Common Sandpiper *T. Hypoleucos*. Common. Local. Summer

Greenshank. *T. glottis*. Occasional. Spring and Summer

Black-tailed Godwit. *Limosa melanura*. Rare. Occasional

Bar-tailed Godwit. *L. rufa*. Common. Mostly on coast. Autumn and Winter

Ruff. *Machetes pugnax*. Becoming rare. Local. Mostly Autumn and Winter

Woodcock. *Scolopax rusticola*. Common. Local. Winter. A few occasionally remaining to breed

Great Snipe. *S. major*. Rare. Local. Autumn.

Common Snipe. *S. gallinago*. Common. Winter. A few remaining to breed

Jack Snipe. *S. gallinula*. Common. Winter

- Curlew Sandpiper. *Tringa subarquata*. Occasional on coast. Winter
- Knot. *T. canutus*. Common on coast. Winter
- Little Stint. *T. minuta*. Rare. Occasional*
- Temminck's Stint. *T. temminckii*. A small flock at the mouth of the Brue, Sept. 1805. Montagu
- Purre or Dunlin. *T. variabilis*. Very common on coast.
- Purple Sandpiper. *T. maritima*. Rather rare. On coast. Winter
- Grey Phalarope. *Phalaropus lobatus*. Occasional in considerable numbers. Mostly Autumn.

RALLIDÆ.

- Landrail. *Crex pratensis*. Common. Summer
- Spotted Crake. *C. porzana*. Common. Local. Probably resident
- Baillon's Crake. *C. baillonii*. Priory Fields, Taunton, October, 1870
- Water Rail. *Rallus aquaticus*. Common. Resident
- Moorhen. *Gallinula chloropus*. Common. Resident.

LOBIPEDIDÆ.

- Coot. *Fulica atra*. Common. Local. Resident

NATATORES.

ANATIDÆ.

- Bean Goose. *Anser segetum*. Occasional. Winter
- White-fronted Goose. *A. albifrons*. Occasional. Winter
- Bernicle Goose. *A. leucopsis*. One near Bridgwater, Feb. 1809, Montagu
- Brent Goose. *A. brenta*. Common. Mostly coast. Winter
- Egyptian Goose. *A. ægyptiacus*. Rather rare. Occasional
- Hooper or Wild Swan. *Cygnus fesus*. Occasional. Winter

* Mr. Baker in his unpublished notes says it has been met with and recorded.

- Bewick's Swan. *C. bewickii*. Occasional. Winter
 Mute Swan. *C. olor*. Resident. Tame
 Shieldrake or Burrow Duck. *Anas tadorna*. Common
 on coast. Resident
 Shoveller. *A. clypeata*. Occasional. Generally Spring—
 may remain to breed
 Gadwall. *A. strepera*. Rare. Occasional
 Pintail. *A. acuta*. Common. Winter
 Wild Duck. *A. boschas*. Common in Winter. Partially
 resident
 Garganey. *A. querquedula*. Rather rare. Occasional
 Teal. *A. crecca*. Common. Winter
 Wigeon. *A. penelope*. Common. Winter
 Common Scoter. *Oidemia nigra*. Occasional on coast.
 Winter
 Pochard. *Fuligula ferina*. Common. Winter.
 Scaup Duck. *F. marila*. Common on coast. Winter
 Tufted Duck. *F. cristata*. Common. Winter
 Golden Eye. *F. clangula*. Rather rare, especially in adult
 plumage. Winter
 Smew. *Mergus albellus*. Rare, especially in adult
 plumage. Winter
 Red-breasted Merganser. *M. serrator*. Rare. Occasional.
 Generally immature. Winter
 Goosander. *M. merganser*. Occasional. Winter

COLYMBIDÆ.

- Great Crested Grebe. *Podiceps cristatus*. Rare. Occasional
 Red-necked Grebe. *P. rubricollis*. One, North Curry,
 Feb. 16th, 1871, "Zoologist" for 1871, S.S. p. 2563.
 Cecil Smith
 Slavonian Grebe. *P. cornutus*. Rare. Occasional.
 Mostly Winter

- Dabchick. *P. minor*. Common. Resident
 Great Northern Diver. *Colymbus glacialis*. Rare.
 Occasional
 Red-throated Diver.* *C. septentrionalis*. Rare. Occasional

ALCADÆ.

- Guillemot. *Uria troile*. Occasional stragglers on coast
 Black Guillemot. *U. grylle*. One near St. Audries.
 "Birds of Somerset"
 Little Auk. *Mergulus melanoleucos*. Rare. Occasional.
 Mostly November
 Puffin. *Fratercula arctica*. Occasional stragglers on coast
 Razor Bill. *Alca torda*. Occasional stragglers on coast.

PELECANIDÆ.

- Cormorant. *Phalacrocorax carbo*. Rare. One Bridgwater,
 1808. Montagu.
 Gannet. *Sula alba*. Occasional on coast. Generally
 immature

LARIDÆ.

- Common Tern. *Sterna hirundo*. Occasional. Generally
 Spring or Autumn
 Arctic Tern. *S. arctica*. Occasional. Generally Spring
 or Autumn
 Lesser Tern. *S. minuta*. Occasional. Generally Spring
 or Autumn
 Black Tern. *S. fissipes*. Occasional. Generally Spring
 or Autumn
 Sabine's Gull. *Larus sabini*. Rare. Occasional on
 coast. Always in immature plumage
 Little Gull. *L. minutus*. Occasional. on coast. Mostly
 in immature plumage, and in Autumn

* One of these birds was picked up dead near Bishops Hull in
 March 1868.

- Black-headed Gull. *L. ridibundus*. Occasionally numerous.
Mostly in immature or Winter plumage.
- Kittiwake. *L. tridactylus*. Common on coast.
- Ivory Gull. *L. eberneus*. Very rare. Occasional. One
at Weston-super-mare. "Zoologist" for 1865, Rev.
M. A. Matthew
- Common Gull. *L. lanus*. Common on coast. Mostly
Autumn to Spring
- Lesser Black-backed Gull. *L. fuscus*. Not very common.
Coast
- Herring Gull. *L. argentatus*. Common on coast
- Great Black-backed Gull. *L. marinus*. On coast, but
rather scarce
- Glaucous Gull. *L. glaucus*. Rare. Occasional on coast.
mostly Autumn or Winter, and immature
- Pomarine Skua.* *Lestris pomarinus*. Rare. Occasional
- Richardson's Skua. *L. richardsonii*. Rare. Occasional
- Buffon's Skua. *L. buffonii*. One near Ninehead, October
1862. "Zoologist" for 1863, p. 8448, the Rev. M. A.
Matthew
- Fulmar Petrel. *Procellaria glacialis*. Rare. Occasional.
Mostly Autumn or Winter. On coast
- Fork-tailed Petrel. *Thalassidroma leachii*. Rare. Occa-
sional. Generally Autumn
- Storm Petrel. *T. pelagica*. Rare. Occasional. Generally
Autumn

* I have a young bird of the year in my collection said to have been
one of a pair killed at Minehead.

Chief Justice Dyer.

BY WM. ARTHUR JONES, M.A. F.G.S.

AMONG the great men this County of Somerset has produced, Sir James Dyer, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, occupied a high and distinguished position. His eminence as a lawyer, and his integrity as a judge, gained the reverence of his cotemporaries, and secured for his memory the respect of succeeding generations. The meeting of this Society in the locality which gave him birth would seem to present a fit and proper occasion for the following brief biographical notice.

The family of Dyer, Dier, or Dyar from which the subject of our memoir was descended, became possessed of the Manor of Sharpham on the dissolution of the Monastery of Glastonbury and of Roundhill on the dissolution of the Monastery of Taunton. Sir Thomas Dyer held Sharpham, and his cousin Richard Dyer held Roundhill, near Wincanton. The estimation in which the former was held, may be inferred from his being associated with the Bishop of Bath and Wells, Sir Hugh Paulet, and Sir John St. Loo, in a royal precept issued by order of King Edward VI, to provide for, and sustain, certain foreign weavers who had been brought into Glastonbury by the Duke of

Somerset.* According to the Parliamentary returns, Sir Thomas Dyer was chosen as member of Parliament for the borough of Bridgwater in the first year of Queen Elizabeth's reign.

Sir Thomas Dyer married the daughter of Lord Poynings to his second wife, and their eldest son Sir Edward Dyer, Knight, and Chancellor of the Garter, was a prominent member of the Court of Queen Elizabeth, distinguished alike for his courtly manners, and literary tastes. He was the intimate friend and associate of Sir Philip Sydney. A cotemporary says of him as a poet—"Maister Edward Dyar, for elegie, most solempe and of high conceit." He seems also to have established a character for statesmanship and diplomacy, as we find that he was chosen a member of Parliament for the County of Somerset in the 30th of Elizabeth, when Alexander Popham and Robert Blake (the grandfather of the Admiral), were elected for Bridgwater; and also, that in 1596 he was sent as Ambassador to Denmark by the Queen.

His cousin, Sir James Dyer, was a man cast in a different mould: less courtly possibly in his deportment, but leaving behind him a reputation far more distinguished and lasting. His father Richard Dyer, described in the Heralds' Visit-

* The following is an extract from the original in the Public Records Office. Edward VI.

To our very good the Bishop of Bath and Wells, to our very loving friends Sr Hugh Polet, Sr John St. Loo: Sr Thos. Dyer, knight.

Whereas the Duke of Somerset hath caused certain straungers to repaire to Glastonbury, promising them houses, grounds, and certain other reliefs towards their lyving, . . . the said straungers being very honest and godly poor people, . . . very ready and willing to teache young children, . . . their trade and occupations, . . . Our pleasure is you shall appoint a Parecke called Orwell Parcke near Glastonbury, to be occupyed and enjoyed by those strangers, . . . and when they require great sommes of money for the provision of Wolles for the year, &c. His Majesty's pleasure is you shall &c.

ation as of Roundhill, married into the family of Walton, probably the daughter of William Walton of Shapwick, a near neighbour of his relative Sir Thomas Dyer* of Sharpham.

The elder son, John Dyer, was destined to succeed to his father's estate of Roundhill, and the younger son James, afterwards Lord Chief Justice, had the good fortune to be obliged to make his own way in the world. At the early age of sixteen years, as was usual in those times, he was sent to Oxford, and according to tradition, for the early records of that hall are lost, he was entered as a commoner of Broadgate Hall, now Pembroke College.† From Oxford he removed to London, and entered Strand Inn, of the Middle Temple, as a student. At what age he was called to the bar is not exactly known. Judging from the notes of cases which he made, and which were subsequently published, there is every reason to fix the 28th of Hen. VIII (A.D. 1537) as the year. He would at that time be in the 26th year of his age. His name first appears as an advocate in the King's Bench, before Judge Spylman and Judge Portman, in a case of outlawry, when Dyer himself reports, "Et exception fuit pris p James Dyer pur le Roy."‡ In the following year his name again appears as advocate in a case in which the validity of the array was

* On the 7th Nov. 38° Hen. VIII, "William Walton of Shapwike, gent. Deputye Steward" delivered to Thomas Dyer, Esquir, the Deeds and Charters of the Manor of Greyngton which he had purchased from the King on the dissolution of Glastonbury Abbey. See Warner's Glastonbury, Appendix, p. lxix.

† In Wood's Athenæ, Sir James Dyer is described as the 2nd son of Rich. Dyer of *Wymaulton* in Somersetshire, by his wife dau. of . . . Waiton of the said Co'. *Wymaulton* is evidently a clerical error for *Wyncaulton*, and *Waiton* for *Walton*. Athenæ, i, 480.

‡ See Reports : De Term. Pasch. Ano 28. Hen. VIII.

questioned on the ground of near relationship of the High Sheriff Sir Geo. Darcy to the defendant.*

With characteristic minuteness he enters in his notes that on the 19 May, Anno Domini 1552, he received the royal brief requiring him to prepare himself to take and enter upon the post and degree of Serjeant-at-Law the following Michaelmas term.† Meanwhile according to custom, he fulfils the office of Autumnal Reader to the Society of the Middle Temple, and in due course he became Serjeant-at-Law, Michaelmas Term 6° Edward VI.

On the first of the following January, writs were issued for the Second Parliament of Edward VI, to meet on the 1st of March. The Official Return in the Public Records Office shows that on the 26th of January James Dyer, Serjeant-at-Law, and Edward North, Knight, were duly elected to serve as Knights of the Shire for the County of Cambridge, Sir Giles Alington being Sheriff.‡ His election for Cambridgeshire may perhaps have been in part due to his marriage with the widow of Sir Thomas Elyot, the author of the "Boke of the Govenour" who had resided at Carleton in this county. Lady Elyot was the daughter of Sir Maurice A'Barrow of North Barrow, Co. Somerset, and was no doubt well known to him as a neighbour in his youth.

The Parliament duly assembled on the 1st of March, the King's health requiring the greatest care and precaution during the formal opening. On the following day, to adopt

* Idem De Term. Mich. An° 29. Hen. VIII.

† Idem De Term. Mich. An° 6. Edw. VI.

‡ Indentura fact' apud Castru' Cantabrigie in Com' Cant' vicesimo die Januarii an° R. Edwardi Sexti d. g. &c. sexto, int'r Egidium Alington militem vic' Com' pred', &c. et Phylp Parrys &c. . . . elegerunt Edwardum North, militem et Jacobum Dyer S'vientem ad legem milites gladiis cinctos &c. &c.

the quaint wording of the Journal of the House of Commons, "On Thursday 2^o Martii, was chosen to be Speaker first nominate by Mr. Treasurer of the King's House, the Right Worshipful Mr. James Dyer, one of the King's Majestie's Servients at the Law, and set in the chair."* It will be observed that the nomination of the Speaker at that time would seem to have been practically vested in the crown. The Parliament was of brief duration : in fact, it only sat for one month, for on the 31st of March, being Good Friday, the Parliament was dissolved "at the King's Pallace of Whitehall, at seaven of the clock at night." All that the "Records of Parliament" relate of the Speaker is that he closed as he had begun with an "ornate oration before the King." This was the only Parliament in which James Dyer sat, and the rest of his life was devoted exclusively to his professional duties.

It is only needful to recall some of the stirring events of that stirring and eventful period in the History of England to be assured that a thoughtful, studious, and conscientious man could not have failed to form clear and decided opinions on the leading questions which at that time engrossed the thoughts of all the nations of Europe. Without approving of the character of Henry VIII, or of his unconstitutional proceedings, James Dyer became a firm and staunch adherent to the principles of the reformed religion. Yet, with his characteristic, calm, and unbiassed judgment of what was legal and just, he strongly opposed that attempt made by Edward VI, at the instigation of Lord Northumberland, to set aside the succession of his sister Mary to the crown. This opinion he expressed, not-

* In the face of this explicit record it is extraordinary that Lord Campbell should have stated that James Dyer "was elected Speaker, although without the rank of Solicitor-General, or of Sergeant usually considered necessary for that dignity."

withstanding that he had been highly honoured by the King, and in his official capacity had signed the Will of the youthful Monarch as witness.

On the great question of that day, religion, Dyer was opposed to Queen Mary and her immediate adherents, yet, to the honour of Queen and subject alike, it is on record that the appointment of James Dyer, as Queen's Sergeant, was one of the first formal acts of her reign (Oct. 19 1553). He then became Recorder of Cambridge, and in 1556 Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas. In the following year he was made Puisne Justice of the King's Bench, (3 and 4 Phil. and Mary), receiving the oath from Nicholas, Archbishop of York, at that time Chancellor of England,* and thus retained to the last the confidence and respect of the Sovereign. So highly was Sir James Dyer esteemed by all parties alike, that on the very day following the accession of Queen Elizabeth to the throne his Commission as Puisne Justice of the Common Pleas was renewed. And on the following year he was created Lord Chief Justice.

For more than twenty years he discharged the important functions of his high office with such dignity, diligence, thoughtfulness, and integrity, as to command the respect and reverence of all who knew him. Three months only after his death the poet George Whetstone, "moaved with the passion of a common sorrow," celebrated in verse the "pretious vertues, which governed the good Lord Dyer" with a dedication to Lord Chancellor Bromley. Among

* Sir James Dyer himself records the appointment in the following terms in his Reports: "Memorandum quod die Jovis sc.' 20 die Maii An° Dni 1557 recepi Sacramentum unius Justic' de Banco, a Nicholao Archiepiscopo Eborum, Anglie Ca'cellar', una cum literis patentibus d'norum Regis et Reginæ &c: Philippus and Maria d. g. Rex and Regina Angliæ &c. &c. Sciatis qd' co'stituimus dilectum et fidelem nostrum Jacobum Dyer militem unum Justic' nostror' de Communi banco, &c."

the traits of character in private life, Whetstone mentions his fondness for music :

“For publique good, when care had cloid his minde
 The only joye, for to repose his spright,
 Was musique sweet, which show'd him wel inclin'd :
 For he that dooth in musique much delight
 A conscience hath disposéd to most right :
 The reason is, her sounde within our eare
 A sympathie of heaven we think we heare.”*

Lord Chief Justice Dyer had his town house in Charter House Churchyard, and his country mansion in Great Stoughton, Huntingdonshire, where he died March 24th, 1582, in the 72nd year of his age. Having left no children his estates were inherited by Laurence Dyer,† the eldest son of his brother John of Roundhill; but his law books and manuscripts were left to his nephew, Richard Farewell. The distinguished position Sir James Dyer occupied in the legal profession was not without its influence on other members of his family. One of his sisters, Agnes, had married William Rowsell or Rosewell, Solicitor-General to Queen Elizabeth, who resided at Ford Abbey, County of Devon, which he had purchased from Sir Amias Paulet. Another

* A remembrance of the pretious vertues of the Right Honourable and Reverend Judge, Sir James Dier, Knight, Lord Chief Justice of the Common Pleas, who disseased at Great Stawghton in Huntingdonshire, the 24th of Marche, Anno 1582.

The reporte of George Whetstones, Gent. *Formâ nulla fides*. Imprinted at London, by John Charlewood.

Dedicated to Lord Chancellor Bromley.

. I boldlie approach your presence with this simple present, leaving the view thereof to your good Lordship's most convenient leisure, this 17th of Maie, 1582.

Your Honours bounden to do you service.

GEORGE WHETSTONES.

Frondes Caducae. Brit. Mus. Library, Press Mark, 644, i, 15.

† The descendants of Laurence Dyer held Great Stoughton for several generations, but became extinct in the male line long before the close of the last century.

sister, Dorothy, had married Simon Farewell of Hills Bishop, near Taunton, whose second son, George Farewell, and his fourth son, Richard, took to the profession of the law. This Richard Farewell, conjointly with his cousin, James Dyer, son of John Dyer of Roundhill, undertook the publication of the careful Reports of Law Cases which their uncle had compiled, and which they dedicated to Lord Chancellor Bromley as their uncle's intimate friend.

The settlement of the Dyers at Roundhill would seem to have led to the removal to this neighbourhood of a branch of the Farewells. John, the eldest son of Simon Farewell and Dorothy Dyer, sister to the Lord Chief Justice, on the death of his father sold the family mansion and estate at Bishops Hull to his second brother, George Farewell, and settled at Holbrook, probably to be near his cousins. This John Farewell, the first of Holbrook, had married the daughter of Thomas Phelips of Montacute, and three of his sons married the three daughters of Brome Johnson, of Bridge, South Petherton.

In the series of shields with armorial bearings (about fifty in number), removed from the old mansion of the Farewells at Hills Bishop, and now in the possession of the writer, there are several which note the alliance of the Dyers ; and among other families may be named : Ewerne, Hannam, Stowell of Cothelstone, and Rodney of Rodney Stoke.

It will be observed that in the old portrait of the Lord Chief Justice, which has hung upon the walls of the Town Hall, at Wincanton, for so many generations, the arms of Dyer are, *or, a chief indented gu.* These are the bearings on the shields to which I have referred. But on an old engraving of Sir James Dyer by Drapentier, the arms are, *sa. 3 gorts arg.* According to the Visitation of Huntingdon-

shire, A.D. 1613, these arms were granted to Sir James Deyer by Dethick, Garter King at Arms.

The Rev. Hill Wickham has an old deed of conveyance of property to his family, signed and sealed by Thomas Dyer of Sharpham, on which the *three goats* alone appear. This, however, I conceive is an impression of the seal, not of Sir Thomas Dyer, but of his kinsman Sir James Dyer. Over the entrance to the old mansion, and on the monuments in the church of Bishops Hull, the only Dyer bearings which occur are, *or, a chief gules*. I mention these facts in order to prevent it being supposed that these different armorial bearings prove the families to be distinct from each other.

The volume of reports, compiled by Sir James Dyer, is valuable and curious.* Apart from the interest which attaches to the strange and grotesque admixture of Norman French, Dog-latin and Old English, in which the reports are embodied, the cases themselves often throw great light upon the history of families and estates in this and other counties, and the judgments recorded embody principles which are recognised and adopted by our judges to the present day. The manuscript of these reports was left by will to his two nephews, Richard Farewell and James Dyer, by their "most dear and loving uncle," for their own private instruction and benefit, and it was only at the earnest solicitation of the leading members of the bar in those days that they were prevailed upon to publish them.

* Les REPORTS des divers select matters et Resolutions des Reverend Judges et Sages del LEY touchant et concernant mults principal points occurrent estre debate per eux : en le several Regnes de les tres-hault et excellent Princes, le Roys Hen. VIII, et Edw. VI and le Roignes Mar. et Eliz.

Collect et Report per tres-reverend Judge Sr JAQUES DYER Chivaler : Jades Chief Justice del Common Banke en le temps du Roigne Elizabeth.

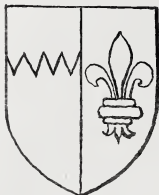
The estimation in which these Reports were held may be inferred from the fact that they were successively reprinted in the years 1585, 1592, 1601, 1621, 1672, and 1688, and I believe they are still referred to in cases bearing on old customs and charters. Judging from the tone and character of the address to the "students of the common laws," and especially to "our Masters the Benchers and Fellow-students of the Middle Temple," prefixed to this volume of reports, we may safely infer that the nephews were not unworthy of their distinguished relative, and possessed the same seriousness and earnestness of purpose. In these words they conclude their address:—"Thus most heartily wishing that the reading of this Work may redound to no less profit and knowledge of them that be Students therein, than was meant and intended unto us by the last and best Will of our most natural and loving Uncle, we commit you to the direction of God's holy Spirit." Among the odes or elegies prefixed to the first edition of this work there is one which embodies in clear and most expressive terms, the estimation in which Sir James Dyer was held both as a judge and a Christian. It is by Gabriel Goodman.

Hunc obiisse putem ? minime. Qui tam bene vixit
 Non obiit, nec obire potest, sed vivet in ævum
 Cum Christo cœlis, in terris ore virorum.

"And can I think a man like him can die? Not so. He who has lived a life so good dies not, and never can, but lives for aye in heaven with Christ, on earth on the lips of men."

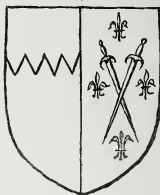
Of such a man, so truly good and great, Wincanton and the County of Somerset may well be proud. May his memory be long cherished here and elsewhere, and may his bright example fill the rising generation in your midst with

1.



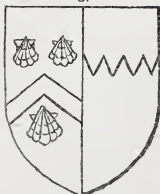
Rich^d. Dyer—Walton.

2.



Sir James Dyer—A'Barrow.

3.



Simon Farewell—Dyer.

4.



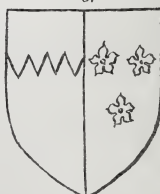
Wm. Rowsell—Dyer.

5.



Rich^d. Farewell—Frie.

6.



James Dyer—Cheeke.

the praiseworthy ambition to strive for like distinction by pursuing the same path of unwearied diligence and inviolable integrity. And when the inhabitants of this ancient town look up upon the too imperfect delineation of the features of their distinguished fellow-parishioner in that picture in their Town Hall, let them bear in mind the words of Wheatstone, a cotemporary of the Lord Chief Justice, who in reference to him said :—

“ Alive, refuge of those whom wrong did payne,
A DYER, such as dy'de without a stayne.”

The Armorial Bearings given on the accompanying plate are copied from the series of shields formerly in the family mansion of the Farewells at Bishops Hull, near Taunton.

No 1 gives the arms of Richard Dyer of Roundhill, near Wincanton, (the father of Chief Justice Dyer) who married . . . Walton : *or, a chief indented gu.* for Dyer, and *ar, a fleur-de-lis gu.* for Walton.

No 2 the arms of Lord Chief Justice Dyer ; *or, a chief indented gu.* impaling *sa, 2 swords in saltyre ar, betw. 4 fleurs-de-lis or,* for his wife, Margaret A'Barrow.

No 3 the arms of Simon Farewell, (the second of that name of Bishops Hull), *sa. a chevron betw. 3 escallops ar.* impaling those of his wife Dorothy dau. of Richard Dyer of Roundhill.

No 4 the arms of William Rowsell or Rosewell of Ford Abbey, (Solicitor General to Queen Elizabeth), *per pale gu. and az. a lion rampant tail forked arg.* impaling those of his wife Agnes dau. of Richard Dyer.

No 5 the arms of Richard Farewell, the son of Simon Farewell, and nephew of Chief Justice Dyer. He married Anne dau. of John Frie of Yarty, County of Devon. *Sa. a chevron betw. 3 escallops ar. for Farewell, impaling for Frie, arg. 3 hobbies courant in pile gu.* He was co-editor with his cousin James Dyer of their uncle's Reports.

No 6 gives the arms of the above named James Dyer, younger son of John Dyer of Roundhill, who married Jane dau. of . . . Cheeke: Dyer impaling *arg. 3 cinque foils gu.* for Cheeke.

Poyntington.

BY THE REV. J. HEALE.

I THINK it cannot be uninteresting to the Somersetshire Archæological Society to have some particulars laid before it of even one of the remotest and most obscure villages of the county. With your permission I will speak of Poyntington, which, little known as it now is, was at one period of its history not without some degree of comparative importance. And though my little village has not the claim which others have to the honor of a visit from your Society, it yet retains some relics of its ancient state which are not altogether unworthy of an antiquarian's notice. I beg permission to bring these before the Society, with the recently discovered indication of that which I have referred to ; and I will do this with as much brevity as possible.

Although its population is numerically very small, and the number of houses in it is now little more than a score, there are records, as well as traditions, which prove that Poyntington was, about 200 years ago, a populous and a much larger village. Not unfrequently the foundations of old dwellings, larger than the majority of the existing houses, have been met with even during the present century,

in the south-east corner of the parish, where it adjoins the county of Dorset.

It is believed to have been, at a very early date, a favourite resort of the old Monks of the neighbouring Abbey of Sherborne. At any rate, the "Monks' fish pond"—an extensive, and still a most clearly and distinctly defined artificial reservoir—marks the place whence, on the old Church's Fast-days as well as Festivals, was drawn a supply for some of the bodily comforts of those good old devotees, for the repose of whose souls we are called upon to pray, at Osborne and elsewhere.

Amongst the remains of the ancient village, two good examples of domestic architecture are to be seen. Especially worthy of notice is the old Manor House, date about the middle of the 15th century—memorable amongst other things as having been the residence, in the 17th century, of Sir Thomas Malet, one of the Judges of the King's Bench, who, for his loyalty and adherence to the cause of his royal master, suffered very severely in both purse and person.*

From those days of civil discord dates the time of Poyntington's decline.

In June, 1645, when Parliamentary troops were in the neighbourhood of Sherborne, and probably en route for Wincanton, a fierce engagement took place between the loyal villagers of Poyntington and a strong force of the Roundhead soldiers, in which Baldwin, the second son of Sir Thomas, lost his life "in the King's service." The scene of the fiercely fought battle, in which he and a large number of combatants fell, is just beyond the limits of the

* Sir Thomas was thrown into the Tower where he remained until the Restoration; his wife, Dame Malet, had her wedding ring taken from her, and, for the remainder of her days wore a horn one, which is represented in the family picture, still preserved at Willaton House, Wiltshire.

parish (within the borders of Dorset), where are still to be seen many mounds marking the graves of those who fell in the contest. To this very day that battle-field is to the villagers of Poyntington and Osborne a place of dread as the shades of night draw on, and very few indeed of either village are bold enough to pass alone near to the spot where headless men and one headless woman are said to be seen in troops, about the time which Disraeli terms "the witching hour of two." And to this very day also my village children listen with trembling hearts and bated breath to the fireside tales in which are handed down, from generation to generation, the deeds of valour done by their village ancestors; and especially by that Knight—the son of the great judge who lived in the big house—who is said to have leaped into the battle over the gate dividing the two counties; leaping on horseback with all his armour on right into the midst of the fight, and, after killing more than a score, to have been within an hour brought back dead to his father's house, and, for fear of the plague, to have been buried the very next day—a fact which is confirmed in the old parish register, to which I shall presently refer.

Passing, however, from secular to ecclesiastical subjects, there are two remains yet existing in excellent preservation of the original Norman church, which occupied the site of the present somewhat dilapidated building of the Decorated period—date perhaps from 1320 to 1350. These Norman remains are worthy of notice—the north doorway of, most probably, the 12th century, with a singular excision on the east capital, supposed to have been used for the hanging of a lamp on Saints' days; and the original font, with cable moulding; good specimens both. The doorway, with its flat, unsculptured lintel, indicates a date probably prior

to any of the Norman work found in Sherborne Abbey.

Passing now over many centuries, and coming to recent facts :—

In the years 1844 and 1845, whilst engaged in clearing away a heap of refuse which defiled a portion of the floor of my church, and which seemed to have been accumulated by an infinite number of generations of village sextons, and whilst removing, at the same time, a thickness of many inches of yellow and of whitewash, which entirely concealed the very fine mouldings which can now be seen in all their beauty, these discoveries were made which brought to light again some objects of interest, about which I may be permitted to make some brief remarks.

The first discovery made was that of the old Parish Register, buried beneath more than a foot of soil and rubbish and in apparently a completely rotten state. With extreme care and caution, which were necessary, for more than 12 months before, leaf by leaf the manuscript was dried, and brought to the state in which I have the pleasure of showing it to day. It dates from the year 1618, and contains many very interesting entries.

The second discovery was that of a fine piscina, in a very unusual position, forming a part of the east face of one of the piers separating the nave and the aisle. Above the piscina was an exceedingly beautiful and perfect, though very small, mural painting of the Virgin Mary, in the act of giving a blessing. The painting was highly artistic and the colours extremely vivid ; but they began speedily to fade on exposure, and portions of the painting dropped bit by bit from the wall, until in a few days the Virgin's figure was almost obliterated.

Some equally beautiful paintings, but less perfect, were found on the several faces of the other octagonal pier between the nave and the aisle. The most beautiful and

perfect of these represented the Virgin Mother seated on her throne, the infant Jesus on her lap, holding in her right hand a dove, with its head downwards and wings expanded, apparently an offering from a figure kneeling before her, from whose mouth proceeded a legend, of which, however, only small and unconnected portions were plainly visible. On another face of the same pier, adjoining the abovenamed painting, was St. Christopher, whose head and shoulders, staff, and one foot were most distinct and beautiful. On a third face two figures side by side; and on all the faces of the piers small portions of figures were more or less distinct. Above all the paintings, in one of the very fine mouldings of the capitals, were fragments of words, as if the name of each Saint had been painted above him. It is suggested that most probably, as the church is dedicated to All Saints, there were paintings of all the Saints of the calendar, or at least as many as the walls afforded space for.

More recently, whilst taking down, five years ago, a very old and dilapidated chancel, which has now been replaced by an entirely new building, a few objects of antiquarian interest were brought to light. At the lowest south angle of the east end was met with a very remarkable and very ancient arch, with a radius of from three to four feet, apparently rough Norman work. All attempts to preserve it, or to remove it without destroying it, I regret to say, utterly failed. No other surmise could be made as to its original purpose than that it was the entrance to an old burial place beneath the ancient chancel. The earliest recorded burial in it is that of Dame Stuckley, who died in 1402, but the arch referred to was apparently of a much earlier date.

In the foundations and walls of the old building was found a very large number of fragments of encaustic tiles,

indicating that the preceding edifice had been richly ornamented with tile-pavement. To a very few of those fragments—exhibited in the Local Museum—I venture to invite the Society's attention, soliciting at the same time some information which I am desirous to obtain as to the presence in my parish of some of the armorial bearings—that of Clare for example—but especially of a hunting scene, and of a knight in armour on horseback. I may be permitted to say that the authorities of the South Kensington Museum have expressed their desire to become possessed of the fragments representing the hunting scene. Some members of your Society will, doubtless, be able to throw some light upon the subject. If I mistake not, King John had a hunting seat not far from Milborne Port, and possibly the representation of the hunt, together with that of the royal arms, may be traced to, and commemorative of, that fact.

I shall trouble you, Mr. President, with only one sentence more. In my church tower are three bells; one bears the modern date of 1770, with, of course, the names of the then churchwardens. Another, without a word to the churchwardens' glory, bears the inscription 'An.no Do.mi.ni, 1595.' The oldest has on it the simple but suggestive legend, 'Maria.'

The following are the Armorial Bearings on the tiles referred to :

De Albini or Daubney, *a fess fusilly, each fusil charged with an escallop* : Stanton of Whitestanton, *fretty. gu. and or* : Beauchamp of Hatch Beauchamp, *vair* : also fragments of *3 leopards in pile, a lion rampant*, and of initial letters.

An interesting notice of Pavement Tiles with Heraldic Bearings existing in Somersetshire churches was contributed by Mr. Lewis Way, to the Proceedings of the Archæological Institute, Bristol, 1851, p. 262. The first coat named above does not occur in his list. ED.

Somerset.

BY REV. WILLIAM BARNES, B.D.

THE word *Somer*, in *Somerset*, is not of clear meaning, as it does not show whether it means the *summer* season or aught else than summer, since it is not clear why *Somerset* is more a land of *summer* than Devon or Dorset, but I think we may get an insight into its meaning and use from the old British speech, the Welsh.

The Welsh call Somerset, *y Gwlad yr Hâf*—the District of *Hâf*; but the primary meaning of *Hâf* is fullness—as of good, or of the produce of the earth for men and cattle, or of cattle for men, or fertility and fullness. Then again Summer is called *y Pryd yr Hâf*—the season of fullness, or in short, *yr Hâf*. Now I think that *Gwlad yr Hâf* should be taken in its first meaning—as the land of fertility rather than the land of *summer*, and that it was called Somerset from a taking of the wrong, instead of the true, one of the two meanings of the word *Hâf*. The Severn is, in British, the *Hâfren*, which might be *Hâfrîn*, the stream of fertility or fertile land. It may, however, be that *Somerset* may have taken its name from *Somerton*, the place of its old Shiremore, and that, as it has been hinted by Mr. John Price of Long Ashton, in a paper which he

has shown me, the element *Somer* may bear the same meaning (whatever it may be) as *Somer* in *Somery* (Somerea?) (Leicester); *Somerby*, *Somercoats*, (Lincoln); *Somerford*, (Cheshire and Wilts); *Somerleyton*, (Suffolk); and *Somerton*, (Norfolk and Oxford). The word *Somer*, *Sumor*, *Sumur*, *Summer*, is unknown otherwise than as the name of the *soft* season of the year, in the Saxon English that has come down to us.

To the inquiry, whence sprang the Somerset-people, we shall find from the history of the Saxon-English settlements, that, as far as they are of the old Holstein and Sleswick stock, they would have sprung from the settlement of the West Saxons, which began on the shore of Hampshire, under the leaders, Cerdic and Cynric, in 495, and spread slowly down through Hants, Wiltshire, and Dorset, into Somerset, and for some years, if not generations, stayed still at the rivers Parret, and the Upper Ax, which were an understood boundary between the Saxon-English and the British races.

Now, in the seeking of historical light from the British tongue, we must bear in mind that the British spoken here was less the speech-form of the Welsh of our time than that of the Britons of Cornwall, the *Cornoak*, in which, happily, we have some writings in a few old miracle plays; and the *Cornoak* differs from Welsh, as Somerset may differ from Book-English or the Yorkshire folk-speech.

The river-name *Ax* is the British *Esc*—water or a stream—though the Saxons put the *c* before the *s*, and of *esc* made *ecs*. The name of the Parret, I take it, was bestowed on it as the *Boundary* stream; and I think that before the Saxon incoming it was called the *Ton*, a name now left on a branch of it, for the word *Ton* means a wave; and if a Welshman were now to see the *Bore* or tide-wave riding

up the Parret he might cry out, "Wele Ton, Ton fawr." "See a wave, a great wave." And when that part of the *Avon y ton*, the Wave or Bore river, became the partition between the two races, the British might have called it *y Parwet* or *Parwyd*, the partition or boundary.

The Saxon Chronicle calls the Parret or Perret the *Pedred* or *Pedreda*, with a *d* before the *r*, and that still points to the same meaning, as we find that the Cornoak often put a *d*, where the Welsh does not, before a liquid, and said *Pedn* for *Pen*, *Badn* for *Ban*, and so *Pedret* for *Peret*.

In Somerset men, as men of Wessex, there may be a little British blood, though I believe there may be less of it in Somerset than in Dorset. In the little code of King Ina's laws for Wessex, are some for Britons of sundry ranks, and the British names of places in Somerset must have been taken by the Saxons from British lips: whether *Avon*, *Avon*, the river; the *Brue*, *Briw*, the cut or channel; *Pen*, *Pen*, a head—hill-head, as in *Pen Zillwood*, *Pen Domer*: *Pill*, a little creek—inlet, as in *Pill*, near *Bristol*, *Huntspill*. Of *Glastonbury* the names and early history are all British, as *Ynys Glas*, the Green-island; *Ynys Gwydwr*, the Island of the Flowing Water. *Ynys Avallon*, or in a couplet which must I think be as old as the time when it was in British hands, *Ynys Avallach*, the Island of Apple Trees,

"Ynys Fôn sydd bywiach

Felly Ynys Avallach."

"The Isle of Anglesea is healthy,

So also is Glastonbury."

Then another proof that Somerset people are children of the West-Saxon settlers, is that they have, down to the *Ax*, the Wessex folk-speech, for Somerset differs from

Dorset only a little in vowel sounds, while in grammatical form and words it is the same. Below Axminster and the Parret, however, I understand that we should begin to find the Devon folk-speech which, in many points, leaves the old Wessex tongue. But here arises a question, whether the old Somerset people have Belgic blood in their veins. Cæsar tells us that Gaul was holden by three sets of men—the Belgæ, Aquitani, and Galli or Celtæ, and that they differed in speech, ways of life, and laws; and he says that the shore of Britain was holden by incomers from the Belgæ;—and Ptolemy places the Belgæ to the east and north-west of the Durotriges of Dorset, and says that their main towns were *Ischalis* (Ilchester), so called from *Esc*, water or stream; *Hydata Therma*, the hot waters or Bath; and *Wenta* or *Caer Went*, which would be Winchester, the Roman *Venta Belgarum*. Thence we may begin to take the Somerset people as being more or less of Belgic blood. But were the Belgæ Teutonic or Celtic? and were they or were they not off driven along with the Britons? If the Saxons had found here in Somerset a people of Teutonic speech, like the Flemish, and at that time almost Saxon, they would surely have found their coming on a body of Teutonic brethren, worthy of a place in their chronicles; whereas they write only that their fights, in West Britain, were with the *Wealas*, or Foreigners, as they mostly called the Britons; and the names of places over the land holden by the Belgæ, seem to have been only pure Celtic and British.

Again, the homeland of the Belgæ or the *Belgium* of Cæsar's time, was that of the Walloons of our time, and the Walloons hold, on good grounds, that they are the Belgæ of the old Romans; and I have had from Belgium a Grammar and Word-book of the Walloon speech, that I

might see what grounds it affords for making the Belgæ Teutonic or Celtic, and they show that the Walloons are surely not Teutonic, but their speech is one of those forms of folk-speech which were formed of a mingling of a Celtic with the Latin tongue, and I infer that the old Belgæ were Walloons, and, in the main, Celtic, and that in Britain they soon melted into the British race, and were overcome as British before the Saxon settlers, and that the Somerset people are no more Belgic than they are Britons.

The Walloons with their speech hold most of the provinces of Hainault, Namur, Liege, and Luxembourg, all Belgium that is not Flemish. I at one time thought that the softer Z and V for the Book-English S and F might be tokens of the early Belgic as a Flemish speech, but no, it is shown by the Prick of Conscience "Ayenbite of Inwyt" written in 1340, in the Kentish folk-speech, that those clippings belong to the old Saxon of the true Saxon settlements, as they differed from the English ones of the Angles.

The names given by Ptolemy as those of the main towns of the Belgæ are Celtic, and Welsh names; as Wenta, *Caer-went* now Winchester, and there is now a *Caer-went* in Wales: *Ischalis*, *Caer-Esc*, or *Escor*, the Watery or River Fastness, and *Hydata Therma*, which was *Caer Badon*, and we shall find British Celtic names peeping up over the same land in the Roman Itinerary, and in the map of the West of England at this day, as well as in the Welsh names of some West English towns: *Salisbury*, *Caer-sallog*; *Ambesbury*, *Caer-Caradog*; *Bristol*, *Caerodor*, (*Godor* breach or split in the rock at Clifton).

Names heard by the Saxons from the lips of the Britons, *Avon*, the river; *Briw*, a cut, channel; *Creech*, *Cruc*, *Crug*, a high mound or hillock; *Cadbury*, *Cad*, *Cat*, a

battle, or stronghold, or keep, from *Cadw*, *Catw*, to hold, keep, strive or fight ; Maesbury, *Maes*, a field, or flat ground ; *Caer ar y maes*, the stronghold on the field ground, not *ar y mynydd*, on a hill ridge.

Somersetshire, as there is good ground for believing, had the honor of the first Christian Church in Britain, and it seems most likely that the first Christian Mission was settled at Glastonbury, which became to the British a most hallowed spot, and among those who sent hither that Mission was, I believe, a British lady, Claudia Rufina. St. Paul in his First Epistle to Timothy, iv 21, says, "Eubulus greeteth thee, and Pudens, and Linus, and Claudia," which Claudia was a British lady, a niece or kinswoman of Caractacus, with whom she went to Rome, and was there wedded to a Roman nobleman Pudens. That she was British we are told by Martial, Lib. xi, Epigram 53.

Claudia caeruleis cum sit Rufina Brittannis,

Edita, cur Latiae pectora plebis habes ?

Quale decus formae ! Romanam credere matres

Italides possunt, Atthides esse suam.

"Since it happens that thou Claudia hast sprung from skinstained Britons, why holdest thou the heart of the Latins? What comeliness of form! Roman mothers may believe thee to be Roman, and Greece to be hers."

The Welsh writings give her name as *Gwladys Ruffydd*, of which the Romans made *Claudia Rufina*, and who should be *Linus*, whose name is put by St. Paul between those of the husband and wife, but their son? and Linus was the first or as good as the first, bishop of Rome, and it is very likely that he and his mother *Gwladys* were promoters of the sending of a Mission to Britain, and no place in Britain would seem to have a better

claim to the first Missionary station than Glastonbury.

It may be asked, is it not much more likely that the first Mission would, like that of Augustine to the English, have begun their work on the eastern shore than down on the west? to which I answer Yes, with nothing to send them to the west. But Caractacus was Tywysog, or Prince of Cornwall, or West Britain, and so Gwladys was a West English lady, and Gwladys might have wished to send the Mission to her own (Gwlad) land.

Of the Somerset folk-speech I would not say much, as it has been handled as well as any man in Somerset or England can treat it by Mr. T. S. Baynes, in a paper which was, I think, written for your Society, and printed in the *Taunton Courier* of Jan. 23, and Jan. 27, 1856; and from thence taken and printed by H. R. H. Prince Lucien Buonaparte as one of his samples of the sundry forms of English folk-speech. His Highness printed only a few copies of it, and it would be well worthy of a place in your transactions if it is not already preserved in print for your members and county people.

I would touch on a point which as it was interesting to Mr. Jennings, who some years ago wrote a word-book of the folk-speech of Somerset, and some poems in that form of West English, would, I think, still be interesting to the Somerset antiquary, namely:—The outgoing of Somerset and Devon men into Ireland as soldiers, and afterwards settlers in the time of Strongbow or Henry II.

General Vallancy had printed in vol. II of the Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, a paper on the old speech of the Baronies of Forth and Bargy in Wexford, Ireland, and Mr. Jennings, as some of you may know, has given in his notes some verses of a Forth song which he

had found in General Vallancy's book, and which he has shown to have a strong tinge of West English, upon which he thought that the English settlers of the Baronies might have been Wessex men of Somerset and Devon, as I can give further proof that many of them were. I conceived from Mr. Jennings's notes a yearning of mind for more knowledge of the Forth people and their speech, and it became stronger as a late friend, Mr. William Tanner of Bristol, had told me that on his reading of some West English Poems in a village of Somerset, an Irish gentleman told him that he understood them, as he knew something of a like folk-speech in Forth in the county of Wexford. I wished Mr. Tanner to make a summer trip over to Forth, but as he could not then leave home, he wrote to a friend in Ireland, Mr. Webb of Dublin, and so as it happened, to the man whose uncle Mr. Poole from about 1824 to 1825 had gathered a wordstore of the Forth speech, and left it among his other papers. It was sent to me and I have printed it through Mr. J. R. Smith, 36, Soho Square. This Glossary, with General Vallancy's song and some others, would show Mr. Jennings to be right in his opinion that the many men of the Strongbow colony were Wessex men, as we should deem them to have been, inasmuch as the Irish King Dermot Mac Merogh, when he was seeking a force of Englishmen to help him to his throne, stayed some time at Bristol with Strongbow, and there, as we may believe, gathered men of Somerset and Devon, if not Dorset, and to them as to some others elsewhere, Dermot most likely gave lands in Forth and Bargy.

The Forth folk-speech has taken the augment to the past participle, and the soft Z for the book-English S. as "Platheares ee-zet in a row," Platters set in a row.

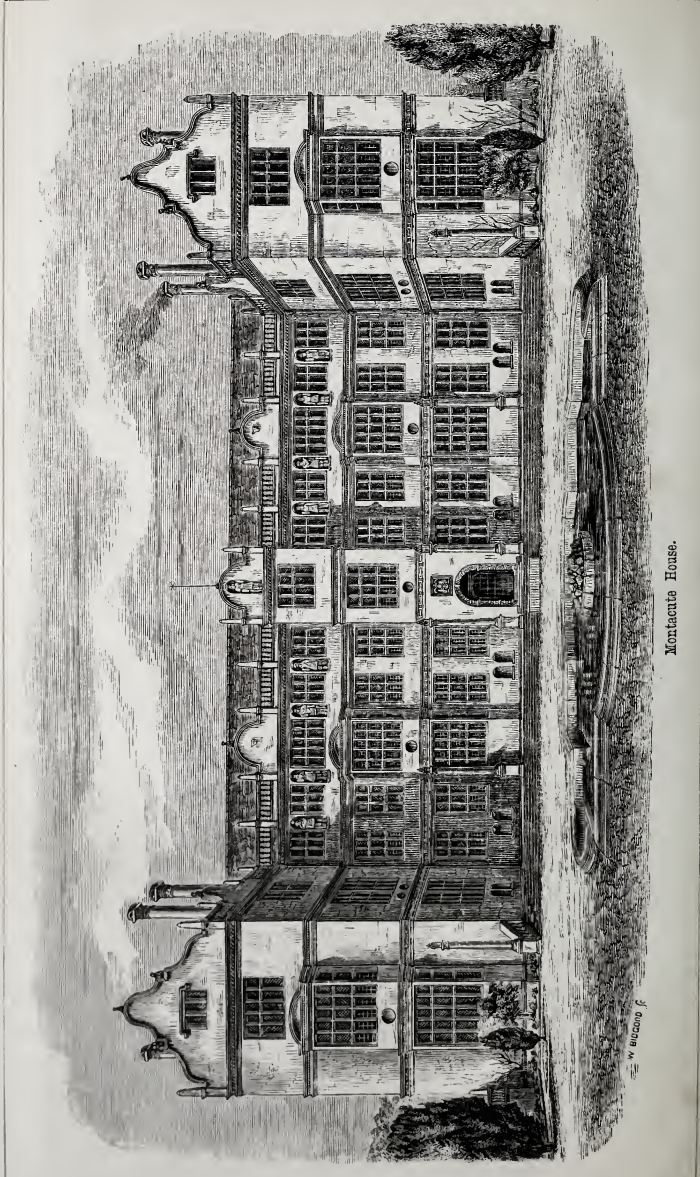
The numerals are :—Oan, Twye, Dhree, Voure, Veeve Zeese, Zeven, Ayght, Neen, Dhen.

The pronouns give a touch of Devon speech as :—'Cham, I am ; 'Chull, I will ; 'Chood, I would.

And many of the words are quite of the West English form : Brazon, Bold ; Brekvast, Breakfast ; Drashel, Threshold ; Koaver, Coffe ; Lear, Empty.

Many of the old Forth surnames were West English ones as :—Carew, Russell, Sutton, Stafford, Rossiter, Turner, Lamport, an old pronunciation of Langport.

T H E E N D



Montacute House.

W. BUCKINGHAM f.

SOMERSETSHIRE
ARCHÆOLOGICAL
AND
NATURAL HISTORY
SOCIETY'S PROCEEDINGS, 1871



VOL. XVII

TAUNTON

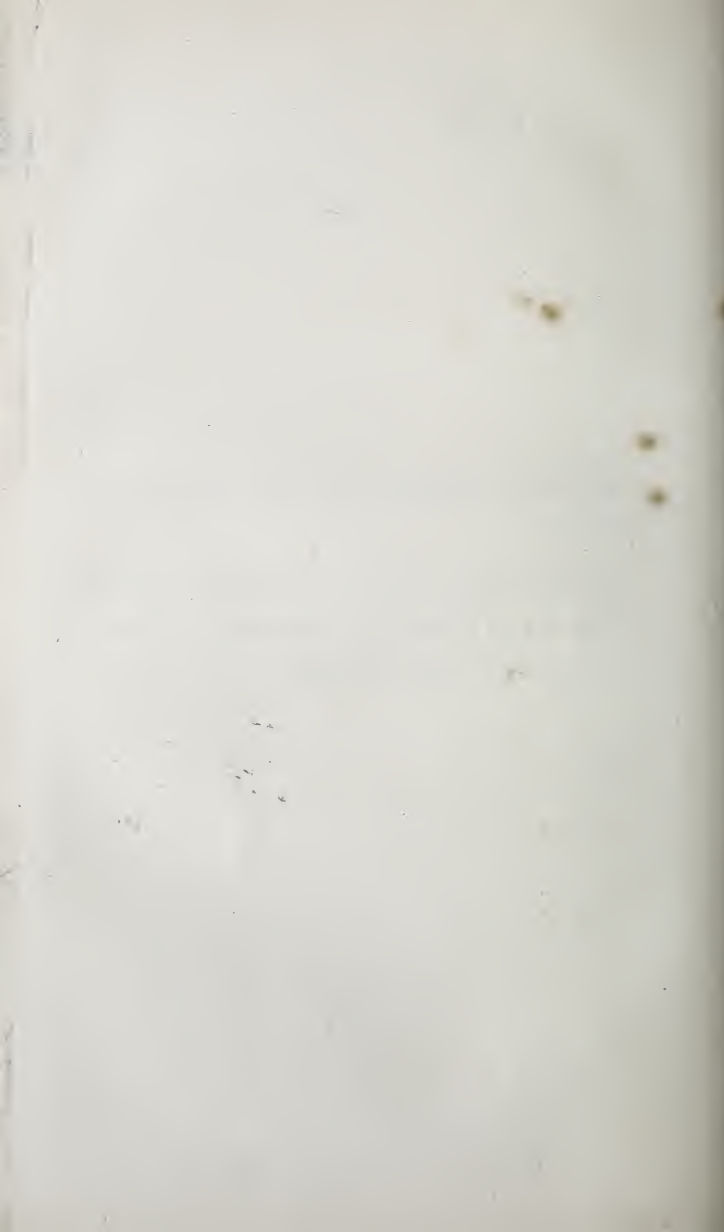
FREDERICK MAY, HIGH STREET
LONDON: LONGMANS GREEN READER AND DYER

MDCCCLXXII



The following Illustrations have been presented to the Society :—

The Monument to Sir John de Dummer, by W. H. Helyar, Esq., of Coker Court; and the Seals of Dummer, by Thomas Bond, Esq., of Tyneham.



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ERRATA.

PAGE 91, LINE 6, for "stands" read "stand."
" 95, " 16, for "it" read "is."
" 107, " 14, for "di" read "de."

PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND
NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY,
FOR THE YEAR 1871.

THE Twenty-third Annual Meeting of the Society was held at CREWKERNE, on Tuesday, August 29th, 1871, under the presidency of EDWARD A. FREEMAN, Esq. M.A. D.C.L.

In the unavoidable absence of the President Sir W. C. Medlycott, Bart. Lord ARTHUR HERVEY, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese, moved that Edward A. Freeman, Esq. D.C.L., the President elect, take the Chair, at the same time congratulating the members of the Society on having chosen as their President a gentleman so eminently qualified to fill the office. The motion was carried by acclamation, and Mr. Freeman took the Chair as President for the year.

The Honorary Secretary, Mr. WILLIAM ARTHUR JONES, read the

REPORT OF THE COUNCIL.

“In presenting their Twenty-third Annual Report, the Council have the pleasure to announce that the Society continues to sustain its position as a valued institution in the county, and that by the accession of new members, the losses occasioned by death and removal are more than made up.

The Museum of the Society has lately received a valuable addition in the series of Somersetshire Minerals, contributed and arranged by Mr. Spencer Geo. Perceval.

The Council have also the pleasure to report that they have received two valuable contributions of objects of interest from His Excellency the Rajah of Sarāwak.

In accordance with a Resolution passed at the last General Meeting, a memorial was duly forwarded to Her Majesty's Secretary of State for the Home Department, urging the importance of placing the more interesting monuments of antiquity under the supervision of the State. The Council regret that Her Majesty's Government have not as yet thought fit to take any steps towards carrying out that object, but they earnestly trust this may be done before the memorials of the past history of the land are irretrievably lost or destroyed.

The Committee, during the past year, have thought it desirable to charge a small entrance fee for admission into the Museum, and they have the pleasure to report that, while the number of visitors has greatly increased, the receipts from this source will go far towards providing new cases required for the more suitable classification of the various collections of interest belonging to the Society.

The Council have the pleasure to announce that a

On the motion of F. H. DICKINSON, Esq., seconded by the Rev. Prebendary SCARTH :—"The Report of the Council, and the Treasurers' Report were received and adopted."

The Vice-presidents were re-appointed, with the addition of Sir W. C. Medlycott, Bart.

The Treasurers and General Secretaries were re-elected.

The following gentlemen were elected as Members of the Committee :—Mr. H. Alford, Mr. Edwards Beadon, Capt. Doveton, Mr. Octavius W. Malet, Mr. Cecil Smith, Rev. W. P. Williams.

The Local Secretaries were re-elected, with the addition of Mr. W. B. Sparks for the Crewkerne district.

On the motion of Mr. WILLIAM ARTHUR JONES, seconded by the Rev. Prebendary SCARTH, who both spoke in high terms of the value of his services, Mr. William Bidgood was re-elected as Curator of the Museum.

Mr. JONES read a letter from Mr. John Batten, regretting his being unable to attend the meeting, and proposing that :—"The Council be requested to take under its consideration the expediency of extending the area of its operations to the County of Dorset."

This proposition gave rise to a long discussion, in which the LORD BISHOP, Mr. TROYTE BULLOCK, Mr. DICKINSON, the Rev. Prebendary SCARTH, and the SECRETARY took part. As no member of the Society seconded the resolution the subject dropped.

ON the motion of Mr. DICKINSON, it was resolved :—"That the Committee be empowered to make arrangements for the next Annual General Meeting, and for the appointment of President."

The President then delivered the following

Inaugural Address.

I AM called on to address you to-day from a different place, and in a different character, from any that I have held among the many meetings of this Society in which I have taken a part. At other times it has fallen to my lot to speak of some particular object, or class of objects, among the various branches of study which our Society takes in hand. But, placed as I am now by the favour of the Society in the chair of its President for the year which has just begun, it seems, for this time, to be rather my business to speak, according to the examples of my predecessors in the office, not so much of this or that particular object examined in detail as of the general aims and objects which the Society sets before itself. The part of the county in which we are now met is rich in objects of various kinds, which open a wide and varied field of study for students of those several branches of knowledge which it is our special business to bring together in friendly union. But, saving one spot which speaks more truly home to myself and to my own special studies than any other in the whole shire, I would gladly, for this year, leave the treatment of particular objects in the hands of others, and rather say what I have to say as to the general ends of the Society and the means by which those general ends may be best furthered.

Our Society then is the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society. It is a Society for the study of certain branches of scientific research. But it is also a

local Society. Its sphere is not the whole world or the whole Isle of Britain, but the one shire of Somerset. Its objects of study are very wide, but its local range is comparatively narrow. It opens to us a great variety of subjects of research, but it lays on us a certain limit in the mode of their study. They are all to be studied with a special local reference. We have to deal, not with Archæology or Natural History in general, but with Archæology and Natural History with special reference to our own shire. Is this local limitation a narrow or an illiberal one? I think not. It may easily be made so, but it is not so in itself. I believe, on the other hand, that special local study, such as it is the object of societies like ours to foster, is a matter of absolute necessity to the full and thorough knowledge of any subject. All that is needed is that, while our studies are local, they should not be purely local. We should study the antiquities and the natural history of our own district as our own personal and immediate business; but we should study them with constant reference to the antiquities and the natural history of other districts. Unless we do this, we cannot really understand the objects to be found within our own district. How can we tell what is really characteristic of Somerset, how can we tell what is really worthy of notice within its borders, unless we compare the phænomena of Somerset, in its natural features, its local speech, its buildings and other works of human skill, with the corresponding phænomena in other districts? It is precisely from neglecting this obvious rule that local subjects have so often been studied in a dull and narrow spirit. A man knows—that is, he has got together in a kind of way—every fact of a particular class bearing on his own town or county. But, because he never turns his eyes to the like

facts in other towns and counties, he fails to get at the real meaning and value of the facts of his own town or county. He knows nothing of their relations to anything beyond his own border; he is constantly liable to set down as characteristic of his own district something which is common to it with many other districts; he is equally liable to pass by something which is really characteristic or even unique. The common county historian never thinks of trying to connect the particular history of his own district with the general history of the country; he is too busy copying fulsome epitaphs and tracing out fabulous genealogies to think that the monuments which exist in his own county, the particular events which happened within its borders, can be so treated as to become contributions to the general history of the nation, and therein to the general history of mankind. But, if local history is studied in this wider and more enlightened way, it becomes quite another matter. No man can spread his personal researches over the whole world; he can hardly spread them over the whole of Britain. But he may study the phenomena of his own district, not as something apart, beginning and ending in itself, but as the phenomena of that part of Britain, of that part of the world, which it is his personal business to master in detail. He may study them with a constant eye to the whole of which his district forms a part, and to the other parts which join with it to make up the whole. Let a man illustrate a Somersetshire church. But let him not try to illustrate it as a fact which has no reference to anything beyond its own parish and its own diocese. Let him deal with its architecture as a contribution, greater or smaller, to the general history of architecture in England and in Europe. Let him deal with its ecclesiastical history as in the like sort a contribu-

tor to the general ecclesiastical history of England and of the Western Church. Let a man illustrate the history of a Somersetshire borough. But let him not illustrate it as something whose political life is wholly isolated, but as one example of a great law, as one instance among many of that twofold revolution which first gave our municipal towns their external freedom and then brought them under the yoke of internal bondage. Nay more, let him remember that the principles which he finds working on a small scale at Ilchester or Axbridge will not only be found working on a greater scale in Bristol and York and London, but that it was simply the fuller and freer play of the same principles which wrought out the history of the mighty commonwealths of Bern and Venice, and which shone forth with yet more undying brightness in old Rome and in older Athens.

I would here give one caution. I do not in the least recommend that he who undertakes the illustration of some particular local subject should of necessity preface it with an introduction going back to the creation of the world, or even to the landing of Cæsar. This is the kind of thing which antiquaries of the elder school were in the constant habit of doing. Nothing was ever more hopeless than the result. Sketches of general history, attempted by men who had never learned to take a general view of anything, are far less to the purpose than the pettiest local detail. A man had better stick to measurements and pedigrees than tell over again, at every place he comes to, the same dull ceaseless repetition about Britons and Romans and Danes and Saxons and Normans, the whole series of the revolutions of our island being gone through on each occasion, and gone through with very much less of life than some of our friends know how to put into the dry

bones of an ichthyosaurus. I certainly counsel nothing of this kind. All that I do counsel is that, if any man is writing about or inquiring into any particular local objects or class of local objects, he will always bear in mind that the real value of local researches consists in the light which they throw on the general study of which they form a part, and also that, without such more general reference, the local objects themselves cannot be understood.

Looked at in this point of view, as helps towards something higher, the value of local researches can hardly be rated too highly. The local antiquary is often a dull dog; but there is no need that he should be so, and in many cases he happily is something quite different. The distinction is an easy one; the local antiquary is a dull dog as long as his thoughts and objects are purely local; he ceases to be anything of the kind as soon as his thoughts and objects are guided by an intelligent eye to something wider. The course of my own work has led me to make minute local researches in many places. I have had to trace out in detail many of the towns and of the battle-fields of England and Normandy. And whenever I have found, as in most places I have found, some intelligent local observer, the gain which I have reaped from his help has been more than I can put into words. The inquirer who looks at the local object simply as part of a greater whole may be able to teach many things to the local observer, but the local observer has many things which he can teach the general inquirer back again. Long familiarity with the spot is sure to bring to light many things which fail to attract notice in the excitement of a first eager examination, but which often prove to be as valuable for the purpose in hand as the features which catch the eye at the first glance. There is no district, no town, no parish, whose history is

not worth working out in detail, if only it be borne in mind that the local work is a contribution to a greater work. The history of some places will be far more interesting, far more valuable, than that of others, but there is none which, if dealt with as it should be, will not have some interest and some value. I know of none which may not be the means of adding something to the mass of our general knowledge.

The object then of our Society is the study of the local history of our own county viewed, I would venture to add, as a contribution to general history. Let not any zealous advocate of the more physical side of our Society's pursuits spring up to challenge the accuracy of my definition, as if I were trying to make a monopoly of the Society for my own studies to the shutting out of his. I trust fully to satisfy him in a very few moments. All that I ask him to do is to take the word History in a somewhat wider sense than usual, but a sense which I think that I shall not find it very hard to justify. Our Society takes in a wider range of subjects than most Societies of the kind, and I hold that it is one of its best features that it does take in that wider range of subjects. We call ourselves, not simply an Archæological Society, but an Archæological and Natural History Society. There is perhaps a little awkwardness in the title. The adjective "Archæological" does not couple very well with the compound substantive "Natural History;" but I cannot suggest any better way of expressing our meaning, and, if we turn from the name to the thing, I hold that the meaning which we wish to express by the name is exactly what it should be. I say that our object is the study of the history of the district; what distinguishes us from most local bodies of the same class, is that we begin our study of the history of the

district sooner than they do—in short that we begin it at the very beginning. If I rightly understand what is meant by Natural History, its introduction simply amounts to what I have just now said, to the beginning of the study of our local history at the earliest possible point. I conceive that we do not intend by the words Natural History to take in the whole range of the natural sciences; I conceive that many branches of natural science would be as foreign to our objects as moral philosophy or pure mathematics would be. I conceive that Astronomy or Chemistry would be subjects as much out of place at one of our meetings as a discussion on personal identity or the nature of the Unconditioned. And this for the obvious reason that it is impossible to clothe any of these subjects with a local character. I speak under correction, as I feel that I am getting quite out of my depth, and I may be saying something which is not a little foolish. But I imagine that the nature of the sun's heat, and the chemical composition of air or water, must be exactly the same in the county of Somerset and in all other parts of the world. It is, I imagine, quite impossible to deal with these subjects in such a way as to give them any specially local interest. Special facts in those subjects may be incidentally clothed with a local interest, as, for instance, if a local historian should record some special celestial phenomenon seen only within a certain range. But it would seem that the sciences themselves, Astronomy, Chemistry, and several others, cannot be clothed with that really local character which would bring them within our proper range. With some other branches of natural science the case is wholly different. Geology, Palæontology, Zoology, and Botany are studies which have an essentially local side. To find out all that the district contains in these several ways is, I hold, an

essential part of its history. Even if we take the word history in the narrower sense, to denote the history of man only, these are subjects which cannot be neglected, because all of them, except perhaps Palæontology, have more or less direct bearing on the history of man. The social and political condition of a country is largely affected by its physical condition. And what determines the physical condition of a country except the constitution of the land itself, the plants which clothe it, and the animals which dwell in it? The connexion between the two branches of our studies is forced upon us at every step and from every point of view. The study of history is nothing without a mastery of historical geography; historical geography is every moment dependent upon physical geography; and physical geography, the knowledge of the earth's surface, at once carries us up to geology, the knowledge of the earth itself. Or, from another point of view, the condition of man in all ages has been largely affected by the *fauna* and the *flora* of the district in which he lives, by the nature of the animals and plants which he either turns to his own use and sustenance or else sweeps away as rivals with him for the possession of the land which he claims as his own. In all stages of man's history, some knowledge of the lower forms of creation by which he is surrounded will always form a part of the perfect knowledge of man. But in the early stages of his history, the closeness of this connexion increases tenfold. Between the provinces of Palæontology and Primæval Archæology it is impossible to draw any well defined line. When we find the fossil elephant with its bones showing the mark of the flint weapon of the primæval savage, we have indeed reached a point which the antiquary and the naturalist may each, with equal right, challenge as his own.

And I may add, though this point of kindred has less of connexion with any aspect of local research, that the study of antiquities and the study of natural history are studies which follow much the same method and which call for the exercise of nearly the same faculties of the mind. Both study phænomena, both classify them, but neither professes to discover actual physical laws, neither claims for its conclusions the certainty of mathematical demonstration. Both are studies to be followed by the same kind of process and in the same spirit. They are studies which have a wide field of subjects in common. They are studies which are alike needful for the full mastery of history, general or local. The political historian deals with the history of man in ages for which he has the witness of written documents. The primæval antiquary deals with his history in ages whose only records are the tombs, the weapons, the other relics, of days earlier than documents, earlier than legend itself. The palæontologist carries the tale further back into days when man had not yet trod the earth, or at least had not yet made good his lordship over it. The geologist plunges deeper still into præ-historic lore, and, from the witness of the earth itself, he draws forth a chronicle of ages when as yet no living thing had found a dwelling-place on its surface. Yet surely all deal only with successive acts of one great drama. The work of each still goes on by the side of those who are less his successors than his younger fellow-workers. The labours of all join together to form the continuous record of the earth and the dwellers upon the earth from the days of chaos to our own time.

It is in this sense then that I say that the object of our Society is the study of the history of the district from the beginning, the history of the land itself and of all the living things which have dwelled on its surface, from the

earliest fact that geology can reveal to the latest piece of local history which is removed enough from our own ken to be clothed with any share of the charm of antiquity. It is the geologist who begins the work, and his work has a direct bearing on the work of all who come after him. I need hardly say that the nature of the land itself, which it is his business to set forth, has had much to do with determining the character of its later history. A land of hills and valleys, a land of marshes dotted with fertile islands, was of necessity a land hard to conquer, a land which, if conquered, could not fail to be conquered piece-meal, a land which supplied places of shelter for faithful hearts till the hope of brighter days dawned upon them. The revolutions of the earth which gave the land its present form, the stirrings of primæval forces which threw up the great hill-wall of Mendip, the isles of Avalon and Athelney, and the loftier and wilder heights to the further west, did but call into being the theatre of the events of the seventh century and of the ninth; they provided the fastnesses which in due time were to shelter the Briton against the Englishman and to shelter the Englishman against the Dane. The unwritten record of the Titanic powers which called into being the land in which their deeds were to be wrought becomes, hardly by a figure, a part of the history of Ceawlin, of Cenwalh, and of Ælfred. From the studies of those who set before us the revolutions of the land itself, we pass on—if we can be said to pass on, if the two studies are not absolutely one and the same—to those who tell us of the successive forms of animated life which have appeared on its surface, who tell us of races of beings which have passed away, of the elder forms which have left their relics embedded in the very stone, and of the younger forms whose bones we find buried in the dens and caves of the hill-sides where they dwelled.

It is surely a part of the history of the land to call up the days when the deep holes of Mendip were the home of the hyæna and the cave-lion, and when man, far feebler than they in natural strength, and furnished as yet with the feeblest of tools and weapons, had to strive how he might to win and hold the land against rivals so far mightier than himself. In our gropings into these unrecorded times we are not dealing with men of our blood, we have not yet reached the days of our own forefathers, nor of those whom our forefathers overthrew. But still we are dealing with the history of man, the history of his earliest culture, the history of those rude strivings which grew into the useful and ornamental arts, of those first rude stirrings of the mind which grew into philosophy and religion and political life. All these, in whatever corner of the world, among whatever race of men we find them, are all alike essential parts of man's history. And such contributions as our own district can make to this great study, such traces and relics of primæval man as are to be found within its borders, form a part of our studies which supplies the natural link between the time when the land was undwelled in, or dwelled in only by the lower forms of life, and the land dwelled in by the men of recorded history, the men of our own blood and speech, and the men of another blood and speech whom they found within it. In contrast with the primæval savage, the successive waves of Aryan settlement seem but as generations of one great family. The Celt, the Roman, the Teuton, all who played their part in the great drama of written history, their laws and their language, their arts of war and peace, the strongholds which they reared for defence and the temples which they reared for worship, all form one vast whole, one great group of subjects, parting into countless branches, but still forming in its essence one great study, the study of

man, to be traced no longer only in unrecorded relics, but in the surer witness of written history. All these various objects, from the ancient rivers and the everlasting hills to the latest work of the craft of man's hand and the cunning of his heart, all come within the scope of our study, because all join to form one vast volume, in which is written, in different tongues and in different characters, but in tongues and characters none of which fail to find an interpreter among us, the history of the land itself and of those who from the earliest times have dwelled within it.

I breathe more freely on coming within the range of written history. The early history of our nation is one to which the contributions of our own district are large and important. We live in a shire which really has a history. The shire of the Sumorsætas, like the other West-Saxon shires, is not a mere artificial division mapped out in comparatively late times round a leading town as its administrative centre. It is a district with a being of its own, a substantive part of the settlement of the West-Saxon people, a conquest won bit by bit in hard fighting against the British enemy. There are other shires in which, in later times at least, a greater number of the leading events of English history took place, but, save the shires of Kent, the first English possession, and of Hampshire, the first West-Saxon possession, no part of the land has had a greater share in the work of turning Britain into England. Our land was a border district, a district which was long the battle-field of contending races, a district from which the Briton was not wholly swept away, but where he gradually learned to adopt the language and feelings of his English conquerors, a district the names of whose hills and valleys, and of some even among the settlements of man, still keep some traces of the speech of those who

gave way before our forefathers. It is in all these aspects that the student of early English history finds in Somerset, and in the other western shires, a richer field than in some other parts of the island whose name is oftener found in the later history of our country, but which have not, as the western lands have, a distinct history of their own. The first English settlement in what became the land of the *Sumorsætas* marks one of the most important stages in the progress of English conquest. The fight of Deorham gave Ceawlin the three great Roman towns of Bath, Cirencester, and Gloucester. It gave him the frontier of the *Axe*, and that fierce struggle of which many of us have seen the speaking relics first planted the West-Saxon Dragon upon the heights of Worlebury. It was then that northern Somerset, up to that time British and Christian, became for the first time English, and, in becoming English, became for a while once more heathen. But this was not all. The victory of Ceawlin, which gave him the land of Gloucester and Somerset, decided the fate of Britain for ever. The long continuous line of British possessions, taking in the whole western side of the island from the Land's End to the Firth of Clyde, was now cloven asunder. Wales, in the modern sense, was cut off from *Damnonia* or West-Wales, and the isolated British states were left, with strength enough indeed to keep up a stubborn resistance, but not with strength enough to keep back for any long time the destined advance of the English invaders.

In the next stage of our history, in the seventh century, our own shire, earlier than any other part of England, gives the first example of conquests in a new form. The West-Saxons are now Christians, and, though Christianity has not put a stop to wars and conquests, it has

caused them to be carried on in a far milder way. The vanquished are no longer slain, enslaved, or driven out; they are allowed to sit down as fellow-subjects with their conquerors, subjects indeed of a lower rank, but still no longer enemies or wild beasts, but men living in the King's peace and under the protection of the law. It was in our own shire that the conquests of Cenwalh called into being that state of things which is set before us in the laws of Ine, a state of things in which Englishman and Briton could live in peace side by side, but in which the Englishman of every rank is recognized as being, in the eye of the law, of higher value than the Briton of the same rank. It was in our own shire that the English conquerors, now become the fellow-believers of the conquered, for the first time learned to spare and honour their temples and their ministers. The British Ynysvitrin rose to higher wealth and fame as the English Glastonbury, and the burying-place of the half legendary Arthur became the burying-place of Eadmund the Magnificent and Eadgar the Peaceful. Side by side with the more ancient monastic house of Glastonbury presently arose the secular foundation at Wells, a foundation of purely English birth and purely English name, which, as the Church of the West-Saxons grew and prospered, became the seat of a bishoprick, cut off from the wider jurisdiction of the elder mother churches of Winchester and Sherborne.

We pass on to the proudest moment of our local history, when one single spot of our shire, one single island in a Somersetshire fen, remained the only independent England; when Ælfred went forth from his shelter at Athelney to overthrow the invader at Ethandun, and to come back within our own borders, leading with him his foe, at once conquered and converted, for the rites of his baptism at Aller and of his

chrisom-loosing at Wedmore. But, before the days of that great struggle and deliverance, the land and its folk had become one. The distinctions of conqueror and conquered, which stand out so plainly in the laws of Ine, find no place at all in the laws of Ælfred. Before his days the first struggle was over; the land in which we dwell had become wholly an English land, a land of men who, whatever they were in strictness of blood, knew no name and no speech but that of Englishmen. We pass on from the days of Ælfred to the days of his not unworthy successors, and we find along our coasts many a point where Danish invaders landed only to learn what was the might of Englishmen in the days of England's hero-Kings. At last the days of peace come under the rule of the mighty Eadgar, and one of the two great ceremonies of his reign, the solemn rite of his crowning, is held within our own borders, in the old borough of Acemannesceaster, which by another name men Bath call. A gloomier time now comes, the days of unrede and of unlaw, when the strength of England was paralysed by the misrule of Æthelred and the treason of Eadric. We had our share, though less perhaps than some other parts of ourland, in those dark days of shame and sorrow. Yet a few gleams of light here and there relieve even those days of darkness. It was a day of sorrow, but it was no day of shame, when the men of Somerset marched forth to help their brethren of Devonshire, when they met the Dane face to face in open battle and gave their lives for England on the fatal heights of Penhow. It was a brighter day when the men of Somerset were among the first to press to the banner of Eadmund Ironside, and helped to win on their own soil, on the happier heights of Penselwood, the first fight of that year of battles which called to mind, if not the lasting success, at least the

heroism and the glory, of Æthelstan, Eadmund, and Ælfred. And, before that year of wonders had come to its end, it was a day of awe indeed and sorrow, but not a day wholly without hope, when the last champion of England was gathered to his fathers beside the high altar of Glastonbury. There slept the mightiest champion of the Briton against the Englishman and the mightiest champion of the Englishman against the Dane. And thither came the Danish conqueror himself, Cnut the Lord of six kingdoms, to pay his vows at the shrine of his sworn brother, and to bring to the holy place of Briton and Englishman the offerings of yet another race of conquerors and converts.

A district which plays such a part as this in our early annals has indeed no mean contributions to make to the general history of our country. We may look at them in two aspects. It is plain that a large proportion of the great events of our early history took place within the borders of our own shire. It is no less clear that our own shire itself has a history of its own in a sense in which a mere artificial division, like most of the midland counties, cannot be said to have a history. The scenes of all these events are among the fittest objects of study for the local historian. Every one of these spots should be examined, every detail of their physical features, every trace which they have yet to show in the way of earth-works or other signs of man's presence, should be carefully searched out, and, if it may be, brought again to life in the way in which the earliest and greatest of all, the vast hill fort of Worlebury, was brought to life under the hands of Mr. Warre. But at every stage of the hurried sketch which I have made of the early history of the district, some incidental point of study is suggested to us. The hill of overthrow at Penhow, and the hill of victory at Penselwood alike bear names which

have lived on from the speech of the conquered Briton. Nowhere is a richer field opened to the student of local nomenclature and local dialect than in a district like this, a district conquered bit by bit, and from which the earlier inhabitants were never wholly driven out. The mention of the Old Borough, the Roman *Aquæ Solis*, the English Bath, the great prize of victory of Ceawlin and the scene of the peaceful splendours of Eadgar, at once suggests two fields of local enquiry. It suggests the study of such traces of Roman occupation as are to be found within our borders, not in the dull and lifeless spirit of the elder school of antiquaries, but as a help towards solving the great problem of our early history, what was the state of our Island at the time when our fathers set foot upon its shores? It suggests too the careful study of our municipal antiquities and the general history of our towns. This is no small subject in a district so full of towns of various sizes, and towns whose origin and history fall under so many distinct heads. The Roman city of Bath, the King's town of Somerton, the Bishop's town of Wells, the Abbot's town of Glastonbury, Taunton springing into being as a border fortress of the English against the Briton, Dunster rising at the foot of a fortress reared by the Norman to curb the Englishman, Bridgewater keeping in its corrupted name the memory of its Norman lord, all these and a crowd of others have each their own tale to tell. Each has its own contribution to make to the history of the district and therein to the history of the nation. Wells and Glastonbury again, the heads of two great classes of ecclesiastical foundations, suggest the vast stores which are open to us in the ecclesiastical buildings of the county and its ecclesiastical antiquities in general. Large as is the stock of writing which has been brought together on the history of

Wells and Glastonbury, a stock to which I have myself added somewhat, the history of neither place is as yet exhausted, nor can it be exhausted till some one finds at once the will, the skill, and the opportunity for a fuller and more intelligent study of manuscript records than they have as yet come in for. For the general ecclesiastical architecture of the county I have myself striven to do somewhat in the course of the various meetings of our Society. And what I have mainly striven to do has been to put the two local forms which have at different times prevailed in this county in their due relation to the forms which prevailed elsewhere. The early Gothic of Somerset is a style of its own, a style which has more in common with contemporary continental work than with the work usual in other parts of England. It is a style not absolutely peculiar to the district, but one which appears beyond its borders in Gloucestershire and South Wales. The later Gothic of Somerset is what we may call the central and culminating form of a style which, in less fully developed shapes, is common to the whole West of England, and which again appears in South Wales. Its peculiarities cannot be so well understood as by comparing it with the style common in the other district of England which is equally rich in the later Gothic, the distant land of East Anglia. This comparison I tried years ago to draw out before our own Society, but I feel that there is still much to be done. The causes local, personal, or accidental, to which the architectural diversities of different districts are owing, is a subject which has never yet been worked out as it deserves to be.

But ecclesiastical architecture is not the only form of architecture in which Somersetshire is specially rich. Our ancient domestic buildings, our manor-houses and our

parsonages, chiefly of the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, but in some cases of much earlier date, are among the most characteristic antiquities of the county. In fact we need not stop at the sixteenth century. A very respectable style of house-building went on, chiefly in smaller houses, all through the seventeenth century, and even far into the eighteenth. Indeed it might not be too much to say that the old feeling in the way of house-building never wholly died out; that the late revival of better taste in these matters was in this district something not utterly new, but simply the giving of a new strength to something which still lingered on, though in but a feeble guise. But the elder houses are among the most precious remains that we have, and they are among those which are the least understood and valued. The wanton havoc which has been wrought in this way, within the last ten years, in the one city of Wells is enough to make us tremble for the buildings which have still been spared there and elsewhere. This is a class of antiquities to which our Society, chiefly under the care of Mr. Parker, has for a long time given special attention. It will be something if we can awaken in the public mind enough care for these things to save what is still left to us. It will be something if we can even persuade people in general that domestic buildings are domestic buildings, that every mediæval house was not necessarily a dwelling-place of monks or nuns, that the laity and the secular clergy of those times sheltered themselves within walls and roofs just as their successors do now, and that, in the days when our great parish churches were rising, the patron and the parish priest did not dwell in tents or in dens and caves of the earth, but were to be found in houses—in this district in goodly houses of stone—beneath the shadow of the greater building on which they lavished all the wealth and skill of their age.

The prevalence of stone building in Somerset at once carries us back to those præ-historic studies at which, some time ago, I glanced as nearly as I dared. Stone building was common here at a time when wood was commonly used in many other districts, because Somerset supplied good building stone in abundance. The ancient basilica of Glastonbury, the British temple which had lived on through the English Conquest, was marked as something strange in its material of wood or wicker, and the charter which Cnut granted within its walls was specially marked as being signed "in the wooden basilica." But when the same King built a church to commemorate his victory at Assandun, it was noted as something worthy of record that it was a minster of stone and lime. A wooden church was something which seemed strange among the rich quarries of Somerset, and a stone church was something which seemed strange among the thick woods and chalky soil of Essex. And as with churches, so with houses. Ages after the days of Cnut, the houses, in a large part of England, were still largely of wood, while in Somerset—as, for the same reason, in Northamptonshire—stone was freely used both in the towns and in the open country. Here is a case in which the physical character of the country has had a direct influence upon its style of art, a case in which the lore of the geologist is called in as a friendly comment on the lore of the antiquary.

The mention of the houses of the district naturally suggests those who dwelt in them, and we are thus at once brought to the subject of family history and genealogy. Now nothing can be more repulsive and unprofitable than the study of genealogy and heraldry as they commonly are studied. When the arbitrary rules of heraldry venture to claim the rank of a science, when we are called upon to believe that they have existed from all eternity, we are

tempted to turn away from the whole thing with contempt. But the fact that, from the twelfth century onwards, men did mark their shields with personal devices, and that those devices became hereditary in their families, is a fact which deserves our attention as much as any other fact in the history of armour, or costume, or custom of any kind. It is in one way worthy of more attention than other facts of the same class, because, as these devices came to be used according to a certain fixed system, they constantly enable us to fix the dates of buildings, and to ascertain other points of historical detail. A knowledge of the costume of various ages gives exactly the same help, and, like heraldry, like the knowledge of prevailing customs in any age, it rightly takes its place among the secondary branches of historical study. All these studies come directly home to us. All of them, as applied to our own district, form part of the object for which we are come together. As for genealogy and family history, nothing indeed can be duller than a pedigree as we commonly see it in a peerage or a county history, with the mythical generations at one end and the obscure generations at the other. But family history can have life breathed into it as well as any other subject. The mere list of names, the Christian names, surnames, and titles used at various stages, the cause of their adoption and the various forms which they take, all form contributions to the study of nomenclature, and even to the direct study of history. And the real records of a family, whenever we can get at them, their manner of life, their correspondence, their private quarrels, their lawsuits, their wills and inventories, all combine to throw a light on social and legal history, on the way in which men lived and thought and acted, which can hardly be thrown upon it by any other means. Nothing, in short, which calls up

the state of things in any past age more vividly before us can be called foreign to our objects. The slightest notice of local feelings and local customs never comes amiss. It is something when we read in the life of the first Earl of Shaftesbury a letter addressed to his illustrious Somersetshire friend Locke, in which he tells him,

“Somersetshire, no doubt, will perfect your breeding. After France and Oxford you could not go to a more proper place. My wife finds you profit much there, for you have recovered your skill in Cheddar cheese, and for a demonstration have sent us one of the best we have seen.”

It is pleasing to find that our local cheese had already won a reputation which it still keeps. But the last sentence of the letter is, I confess, more mysterious. The statesman winds up with this strange blessing on the philosopher:—

“Thus recommending you to the protection of the Bishop of Bath and Wells, whose strong beer is the only spiritual thing any Somersetshire gentleman knows.”

It were heresy to doubt that “zider” was known and valued in those parts for ages before the time of Shaftesbury. Are we then to suppose that the palace ale in the time of Bishop Peter Mews was of such special strength and goodness as to drown in the minds of the gentlemen of Somerset, not only the thoughts of things spiritual, but the very memory of their native drink?

I go back again for six hundred years. I cannot end this address without at least a word or two as to the special associations of the place in which we are met, and of its immediate neighbourhood. On no part of our county, or no part of the whole kingdom, is the mark of the great crisis of English history more deeply impressed than on the spot where we now stand, and on the spot which we are to tread on the morrow. The town in which we are gathered together formed part of the

endowment which the Norman Conqueror gave to the great church of his foundation in his own land, that mighty minster of Saint Stephen where Lanfranc bore the staff of the Abbot, and where he himself at last found the seven feet of ground which was all that the land of his fathers and the realm that he had conquered had to give him. And the first stage of our journey to-morrow will lead us to a spot than which two spots only within the whole realm of England ought to speak with a more living voice to the hearts of Englishmen. After the hill of Senlac and the vanished choir of Waltham we may fairly place the wooded hill of Montacute. No spot has more to tell us, none more directly suggests the memories of the great struggle which brought England for a moment under the yoke of the stranger. Our whole land indeed is full of memories of those days, but round that one spot they gather beyond all others. It was there, when the place yet bore its English name of Leodgaresburh, when King Cnut reigned over the land, that men found the wonder-working Rood which has left its name behind it on the further side of our island. The relic which was found on the peak of Leodgaresburh was borne by the Sheriff Tofig to his distant East-Saxon home. There his bounty raised the first lowly church, and gathered together the first band of votaries, which grew into the minster and the town of Waltham Holy Cross. There the relic, so strangely translated across the whole breadth of England, received worthier honours in the greater foundation, the more stately church, which displaced the works of Tofig at the bidding of Earl Harold. The Cross of Waltham, in our eyes rather the Cross of Leodgaresburh, became the special object of the devotion of his life, the rallying cry of the men who fought around his standard. It was before

that Cross that the King knelt in the great crisis of his life, on his march from his northern field of victory to his southern field of overthrow; and it was from the awful form wrought on the sacred stone that he received, so men then deemed, the mysterious warning which told of his coming doom. And it was that Cross which gave England her war-cry. It was at the name of the Holy Cross, the Holy Cross of Waltham and of Leodgaresburh, that men's hearts rose high on the day of battle. It was in its name that Englishmen clave through the Norwegian shield-wall by the banks of Derwent, and that they bore up around their chosen King against the charges of the Norman horsemen and the more fearful thunder-shower of the Norman arrows. And we may deem that no hearts beat higher to its call, that on no tongues the war-cry rose more loudly, than on those of the men who marched from the first resting place of the Holy Rood to fight and die for England on the far South-Saxon hill. And, before long, the war-cry of the Holy Cross was heard around the spot where the Holy Cross itself had been first revealed to the eyes of men. Three years after the great battle, when the whole West was conquered, when Exeter itself, the centre of the great Western struggle, was held in fetters by the castle reared on its own Red Mount, the hill of Leodgaresburh, now bearing its French name of Montacute, had, under that foreign name, become the object of the bitterest hatred of the men of the Western shires. The peak which had sheltered the relic so dear to Englishmen was now crowned by the vulture's nest of the stranger. The Castle of Montacute now stood on the height, the fortress of Robert of Mortain the brother of the Conqueror, the man who had received a greater share than any other man of the spoils of England, and whose hand was pressed

with special heaviness upon the whole of the Western lands. Among those isolated movements against the Norman power, which, had they been guided by a single head and a single hand, might have driven back the stranger from our shores, the men of Somerset and Dorset rose with one heart and one soul to attack the stronghold which was at once the speaking badge of their bondage and the living instrument of their oppression. It was around the walls of the castle on the peaked hill that Englishmen dealt the last blow for freedom in the Western shires. It was there that the last patriotic rising was crushed by the heavy hand of Bishop Geoffrey of Coutances, by the help, one blushes to say, of the English forces of the shires and cities which were already conquered. The doom of the vanquished was heavy. Hands lopped off, eyes torn from their sockets, bore witness to what was then deemed the mercy of a prince who in his sternest moments was ever sparing of human life, though he scrupled not to inflict punishments than which we should deem death itself less frightful. And after all, the vengeance which the foreign Conqueror wreaked on the men of Somerset and Dorset was not heavier than the vengeance which came on their sons in a later day at the hands of Kirke and Jeffreys.

Those days are past. The peak of Montacute is no longer crowned by the stronghold of the oppressor. The castle of Robert of Mortain has utterly vanished, and its memory seems well nigh to have vanished with it. The later history of Montacute gathers, not around the castle on the peak, but around the more peaceful buildings at its foot. The Priory, the parish church, the stately Elizabethan mansion, are the objects which the name of Montacute now most commonly suggests. But it is well to go back to earlier times, to think of the days when that spot beheld

one of the last hopeless struggles of conquered England, and to the earlier days when the Holy Cross, the Cross alike of Waltham and of Montacute, was the last cry which rose from the lips of the men who died around the Standard of Harold.

The BISHOP proposed a vote of thanks to the President for his extremely able, interesting, and eloquent address. It was rather tantalising, sometimes, to those whose reading was less extensive, to find what an enormous amount of instruction, interest, and pleasure was derived by those whose minds were well stored, as was that of their learned President, with historical information. Although it was tantalising to feel that they had in some respects lived so unprofitably and had done so little compared with what they might have done, yet he was not discouraged. When he found that a well-stored mind could afford such pleasure to itself and diffuse such information to those around it, although many of those present were not young he felt that they might take encouragement and devote a little more time to such studies. The President had, throughout his address, continually shown them that the great interest of all those subjects was their relation to man. That was the real truth, and he was very much struck with it. The subject of deepest interest to all was man himself, the particular position which he occupied in God's creation, and the close relation in which he stood to his Creator. Those wonderful gifts—mental, intellectual, moral, and spiritual—with which God had endowed him made him the object of such stirring interest. He believed that they would find that when they were most deeply interested it was in the consideration of subjects connected with the happiness and moral being of

man. It was a magnificent view if for a moment they carried back their thoughts to prehistoric times and saw how the prescient mind of the Creator in those great geological revolutions ; was preparing the earth for man ; how, in the various disturbances and arrangements of earth, sea, rock, and so on, He moulded the character of man and furnished him with extraordinary powers. It did give man a wonderful, instructive, and interesting example of those long successive links in the chain which ran through the whole of the works of God—showing that there was a connection between the troubles, battles, and conflicts which formed so much of history, and the geological revolutions which had formed the earth. In this way he believed he had caught the spirit of the address, which had interested him deeply. He begged, in the name of the company, to tender their thanks to the President.

The Rev. H. T. ELLACOMBE, Rector of Clyst St. George, Devon, then read an elaborate and interesting paper on the “Mediæval Church Bells of Somerset,” which was extensively illustrated with casts and rubbings from a great number of bells of churches in different parts of the county. It is hoped that this paper, with suitable illustrations, may in due time be published in the Proceedings of the Society.

Mr. THOMAS BOND followed with a valuable notice of the Church of Pendermer, and of the Monument erected to Sir John de Dummer, temp. Edward I and Edward II.

The following notice was then read of

Wells Cathedral Statutes.

BY F. H. DICKINSON, ESQ.

WHILE I was examining some books in the Archbishop's library at Lambeth, Mr. Kershaw, the very obliging sub-librarian, shewed me a copy of the Gospels written in Ireland, which Athelstain gave to Christ Church, Canterbury. As the library closed before I could examine it, I referred to Dr. H. J. Todd's catalogue, not finding it there, and having therefore to pay another visit to the library, I looked over the catalogue to see if there were any MSS. relating to Somerset, and was surprised to find the Statutes of Wells Cathedral and Elizabeth's Charter. The latter I had always understood to be among the "secreta capituli" and to be the code according to which everything was regulated, and whenever I had enquired about old statutes had always been referred to the Charter. I lost no time in calling for the MSS, and was shewn two parchment books copied for Archbishop Laud when he visited Metropolitically in 1636, by order of the Chapter whose names appear on the first leaf of each.

The Statutes consist of about 104 pages, rather more than half of which are occupied by a code very similar to the *De officiis ecclesiasticis tractatus* of Salisbury, published by Dr. Rock at the end of the last volume of his work on Ritualism, so similar that it is not impossible the one may have been copied from the other. The remainder

of the volume contains nearly the same matter as the Harleian MS, 1682, the contents of which are given in Dugdale, vol. ii, p. 284, and the Psalms which each member of the Cathedral body was to recite daily, certain particulars about property and rules for the colours to be used for the vestments and altars on different days, to which I shall refer presently.

I conclude that the code in the original form must have been made previous—perhaps long previous—to the other documents which follow and bear dates. The earliest of them is of 1241. In its present form the code is later, for the feast of Corpus Christi, which seems to have been instituted about 1263, is mentioned in its proper order. It seems only reasonable to suppose that as copies of the code were made from time to time they would be altered—it would by no means be fair to say interpolated—according to the changes that had been made about the services, just as now the clergy are required to alter the Prayer Books in church as changes occur in the Royal Family.

Mr. Bernard, the Chapter clerk, has most kindly given me access to all the MSS at Wells in his possession, but I cannot find among them any document from which the Lambeth MS can have been copied. Dean Cosyn has given the Chapter a book written in 1506, which contains at the beginning nearly the same matter as the Harleian MS, and after that a fragment of the code, ending abruptly and not at the end of a page, consisting of less than half; the rest of the book contains other matter.

As the Statutes appear therefore to exist complete in no other copy than that at Lambeth it may be worthy of consideration whether they should not be printed in a future volume of our Transactions; at present I propose to give a translation of the last, or almost the last, document

in the book, the rules relating to colours. These are followed by a calendar of Saints' Days to which I need only refer, as they give perhaps a clue to the time when this part of the original MS was written. It does not contain the feasts of St. David and St. Chad which were ordered to be observed in the province of Canterbury, by letters of Archbishop Walden in 1398, or that of St. John of Beverley, which was ordered by Archbishop Chicheley in 1416. If this kind of evidence is to be depended on, it would follow that the end of the original MS from which that at Lambeth was copied, and probably also the rest, was written some time before the close of the fourteenth century.

The Chapter possess also two copies in MS of a History of Wells written by Nathaniel Chyle, who was secretary to Bishop Peter Mew nearly 200 years ago. In this work are copious extracts from the ancient Statutes, the Charters, the Registers, and Accounts of the Dean and Chapter, and the Vicars Choral. The book is disfigured by the bitterness caused by the civil war, but it contains a mass of curious matter tolerably put together, and it may be worthy of consideration whether the Society should not ask to be allowed to print it, a thing which some of those who have examined the book have urgently pressed on the committee. I do not feel sure that Chyle had a copy of the ancient statutes before him. He quotes generally from a book he calls Mr. Creighton's MS, which appears to have contained copies of many of the more curious documents relating to the cathedral, which it would be very desirable to identify now if it lies hid in some public library. Chyle's book seems to me of less importance than the Statutes.

My friend Mr. Chambers has been good enough to give me the following more accurate summary of their contents.

Notice of the MS No. 729, in the
Lambeth Library respecting
Wells Cathedral.

BY J. D. CHAMBERS, ESQ.

THE volume is on parchment, of a large quarto in size, 113 pages, on an average 34 lines in each page, and 11 or 12 words in each line.

First page has this :—Statuta Antiqua Ecclesie Cathedralis Wellensis Reverendissimi in Christo Patris providentia Divina Archi-Episcopi Cantuarensis cum metropolitice visitavit Anno 1634, mandato transcripta, eidemque omni cum reverentia humillime consecrata. Georgius Warburton Decanus, and the names of seven others said to be Canons Residentiary.

George Warburton, Dean

Dr. Wood, Archdeacon of Wells

Dr. Young, Chancellor

Dr. Reuet, Archdeacon of Bath

Dr. Warde, Archdeacon of Taunton

Dr. Godwyn, Prebendary of Holcomb

Mr. Crichtone, Treasurer

Mr. Abbot, Precentor

Canonici
Residentiarii

The first page is entitled *Ordinale et Statuta Ecclesie Cathedralis St. Andreæ Wellensis*. The first part, the

Ordinale, extends from p. 1 to 55 inclusive. The *Antiqua Statuta* (the second part) from p. 55 to the end.

The whole MS is written apparently in a hand intended to imitate closely the original MS. The characters are very distinct, but the scribe was probably ignorant of the exact meaning of many of the ancient Ritual terms. He writes "Respondium" for Responsorium, "Trinitas" for Tractus, "Gratias" for Gradale and "Medius" for Indicus, probably Indigo, and in some places he makes nonsense of the passages.

The date of the original "Ordinale" is most probably from 1310 to 1320. It contains directions for the celebration of the Festivals of Corpus Christi, of St. Thomas of Canterbury, and of the Assumption, all of which were instituted in the course of the thirteenth century and are not to be found in the Sarum Ordinale, made for the use of the new Cathedral about A.D. 1241. Orders are also given for genuflection of the clergy and choir at the elevation of the host and cup after consecration, which custom began on the Continent, in the twelfth or thirteenth century, according to Le Brun, (*des Ceremonies de la Messe. I. p. 470*), but is not noticed in the Sarum Ordinale. Besides this, in the second part, p. 58, is a Statute made A.D. 1241, temp. Bishop Jocelin, and again in the time of Bishop William de Button, Bishop A.D. 1273, requiring the Ordinale to be corrected, and a subsequent Statute of later date—the early part of fourteenth century—directs this corrected Ordinale to be rigourously observed.

This Ordinale closely corresponds with that of Sarum but is shorter. The directions for performing the Ordinary of the Mass are the same word for word. There are some additional orders, as for instance for the three days before Easter and All Saints, which are not in that of Sarum.

On the other hand there are some things contained in the Ordinale of Sarum which are not in this, but are found in the second part, or "Antiqua Statuta :—" for instance, as to the luminaria and as to turning to the altar at Gloria Patri. The whole Ordinale consists of 121 chapters or headings, the Sarum of 105.

The order in choir was as follows, beginning on the west side :

Decanus			Cantor
Archdeacon of Taunton			Abbas of Muchelney
if a Canon			Succentor
Abbas Beccensis			Præpositus Cumbæ
Sub-decanus			Canonici
Canonici			Clerici, &c.
Magister Scholarum			
Vicarii Presbyteri			Abbas Aylington
Diaconi seniores			Thesaurarius
Chancellor			Archdeacon of Bath
Archdeacon of Wells	(Second Form) Younger Canons, Deacons, and Choirmen.	(Third Form) Boys.	

The order in Chapter was nearly the same. The choir-men and boys changed sides every ordinary week. But special rules are given for their positions on great festivals.

The list of double and minor festivals differs in several particulars from that of Sarum. Those of Wells being some of later origin and more numerous, and a distinction is made between the Ferial and Sunday Mass not to be found in the Sarum. The Ferial was to be said *sine dalmaticâ et tunicâ*.

The duties of the Treasurer are set forth at very great length, one half of which at least were to provide lights, the number and weight of which are minutely set forth. He was, in fact, the main organizer of the public services and the custodian of the vestments, treasures, ornaments, &c.

He was to find and pay the Sacristan c. 116. It was the duty of the Dean to take the principal part in the service, to look after and instruct the boys.

The Chancellor was the schoolmaster who had a *magister scholarum* under him, and he had the care of all the books.

This chapter also defines the share which each Dignitary (Quinque Personæ) were to have of the "Communia," viz. "Decanus, Cantor, Archi-diaconus, Cancellarius, et Thesaurarius" were to receive a double portion each. The remainder of the Canons a single portion—and they together with the sub-cantor and sub-dean were bound to perpetual residence except in case of absolute necessity or with leave. Chapters 120 and 121 give formal rules for the celebration of the obsequies and praying for the souls of brethren who had died. An actual funeral was to be said "immediate post pulsationem *ignetegü*,"—curfew.

Misplaced about the middle of the volume is found a long office for "chrismate faciundo" nearly resembling that of Sarum; and pages 104-5, the form for the "reconciliatio penitentium" also closely resembling that of Sarum.

The second part beginning p. 56, is entitled "*Antiqua Statuta de officiis cujuslibet Personæ Ecclesiæ Cathedralis Wellensis.*" They extend from the time of Bishop Jocelin 1241, to Radulph 1348, (De negotiis et ministris Eccles. Wellensis). They are copied in an imitative hand generally resembling that of the Ordinale, but varying somewhat in each piece. The last three or four pages are in a different hand and clearly more modern.

I. The first chapter contains a repetition nearly verbatim of c. 116 of the Ordinale, as to the dignities and duties of the different personages.

II. *Statuta edita per Decanum et Capit^m tempore Jocelin, Episcopi* on the morrow of St. Augustin Angl. Ep. 1241,

contains rules as to the residence and pay of Canons, for the reform of the Ordinale, and rules for the institution and precedence of the Dignitaries, the same as those in the Ordinale 1 and 2.

III. P. 58, Statutes of the Dean and Chapter in the time of William de Button, the second, 7th June, 1273, the same Bishop being present : They reiterate order for correction of the Ordinale and observation of it : Canons and vicars, to have a year's probation.

IV. Statutes in time of Walter de Haselshaw, Dean, morrow of St. Andrew, 1298.

1. As to behaviour of vicars who were to attend at all the Canonical hours : Not to wander about the pillars of the church whilst the divine offices were celebrated, but to attend upon their Lords (*Dominos*.)

3. No buying and selling in church. The Sacristan to ring the bells according to the ancient rule, and he was to keep order in choir.

5, 6. Vicars not to go to market in their clerical dress, and not to come into church without it : to forewarn their Lords (*Dominos*) if written in the Tabula for any duty.

7, 8. As to the behaviour of the rectores and choirmen at Gloria Patri : "Summâ devotione et reverenter vestant se psallentes sicut moris est ad magnum altare."

8 to 12. Various rules as to their vestments, &c. from which it appears that at the ordinary hours they all wore black copes as at Sarum, and were not to put their silk copes when used over the black.

12. Contains directions for saying the Bidding prayer on Sundays after the procession, "Ebdomadarius statim indutus vestimentis et capa serica vadat in pulpitem lumine precedente et ibidem preces pronunciat consuetas."

13. As to behaviour and correction of vicars : How they were to celebrate their *annalia* : No vicar allowed to remain alone in church : Several stringent canons against those who have concubines, against them or any other clerk who introduces meretrices, &c : A subsequent canon directs how they are to be paid, and they seem to have been numerous. Who these vicars were, and what their peculiar duties, is not stated more than above : they existed also at Sarum, and at St. Paul's, London ; they were equal in number to the Canons at St. Paul's, at Sarum, and at Exeter, and attended always one on each of the Canons and performed his duties when from any cause the Canon to whom the vicar was attached was absent.

P. 69, it is said, "Bydesam prebenda St. Andreae cujus vicarius est Magister Scholarum."

98 to 99. The "Altaristæ dicant Psalterium singulis diebus pro episcopo et capitulo et benefactoribus." If any one failed to do so he was to be removed.

The "Tabularius" or clerk, usually the precentor, or sub-cantor, whose business it was to mark in the Tabula at the end of the week the order of services for the next seven days, and who were to perform them, was to see that these Altaristæ performed their duty.

Who these "Altaristæ" were appears p. 73. The Bishop and Prebendaries, 54 in number, had to say the Psalter among them once every day for the Bishop, Chapter, and Benefactors, and they might be the substitutes for those who were absent, and did not, or might not have performed that duty for themselves. They were probably the same persons as those who were afterwards called Chantry Priests.

Statutes were also made tempore Johannis de Godele Decani Anno 1331, which order (p. 75) "Volumus et ordi-

namus quod in Magna Missa omnes presentes in choro canonici, vicarii, cujuslibet gradus ministri in elevatione Corporis Christi ob reverentiam tanti sacramenti et laici et circumstantes ad majorem devotionem ad hoc frequentius provocentur, sicut olim in ipsa ecclesia fieri consuevit, flexis ad terram genibus et cum omni humiliatione provolutis suas ex corde devotas ad Dominum fundant preces." This order is a repetition of what is found in the Ordinale (see p. 36, ante) a gesture which would seem to have been then recently introduced and imperfectly observed.

Another set of Statuta are in p. 81, et seq. in the time of Radulph, Bishop, A.D. 1343. By one of these it was ordered that before every hour from Matins to Compline the Lord's Prayer and Ave were to be said devoutly. Also (p. 87,) that the reserved Eucharist and Chrism were always to be kept under lock and key in the church.

The remainder of the Statutes relate to the morals and behaviour of the vicars and to the mode of managing and dividing the revenues of the church, which contain many curious particulars respecting them, and shewing particularly the respective values of each prebend and office which are summed up in a Taxation Summary which gave the share which each was to contribute towards the expenses of the church. In 1339 an imposition of a tenth was made for this purpose, and for repairs, to raise £300 (*libras*) to be payable in five years.

Another table, p. 73, describes "omnes anniversarios et presbyteros seculares in Ecclesia Well. et ad quæ Altaria et pro quibus animabus tenentur celebrare et quantum quilibet percipiet et qua forma debet conferri vel admitti Holy Cross, (2); St. Stephen, St. Calixtus, St. Martin, B. V. M., St. Mary Magdalene, Corpus Christi, (2); St. Edmund, (2); St. Catherine.

P. 95. In a different hand, but apparently of the early part

of the fourteenth century, is a long and particular calendar of all the colours used in the church of Wells on Sundays, Festivals, Seasons, Fasts, and Saints' Days.

During Advent all were "omnia indica" or indigo, except on Thursday in Ember week when the Deacon and Sub-deacon wore white: Christmas, all white except in the Second Mass: St. Stephen, all red: St. John Evángel. all white: St. Silvester, green and yellow: On the Circumcision, the principal Rulers of the Choir in white, Secondaries in red: At the Mass one of the Secondaries in red, the other white: The Epiphany, white: Septuagesima to Passion Sunday, all (colour omitted, probably indica): Passion Sunday, red: Palm Sunday, all red: Thursday in the Cena Domini, all red, with white banner: Good Friday, all red, but Deacon and Sub-deacon may be of (colour omitted), or "purpura:" Easter Eve, all red: Easter week, all red: Sunday after Easter, white, and so on to the Ascension on Sundays: Ascension Day, and on Vigil and Octave, white: The next Sunday, red: The Season of Pentecost, and Trinity Sunday, all red, and so on to Advent: Dedication of Church, red and indica: Corpus Christi, red: Apostle or Martyr, red: Confessor, all indica and green, or as best may be adapted to the feast: Virgin not Martyr, white: If Martyr, red and white: Confessors, yellow, or green and yellow: St. Gregory, green and yellow: St. Benedict, omnia indica: St. Mary Magdalene, ditto: St. Anne, ditto: All Saints, red and white: The Blessed Virgin, always white: In Funerals, and All Souls, and Commemorations, all black. The appropriate colour is given for every Feast Day in the year. *Festum Reliquiarum rubea et alba.*

The last in the book is the oath of the Bishop on his installation which seems to have been written in the days of Laud.

A paper was then read on

Public Records in the County of Somerset.

BY MR. T. SEREL.

Having commented upon the interest centred in old documents, and to the fact that a complete history of Somerset had not been published, he alluded to the taste which had of late years been manifested to investigate the Records belonging to private bodies and in private repositories. He spoke of the efforts of Lord Romilly, the present Master of the Rolls, who had, by the issue of several volumes, materially added to their knowledge of by-gone generations. They had also to thank Lord Romilly for the Royal Commission appointed in 1869 under the name of "The Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts." The Commission recites "that it would be of considerable public advantage in its being generally known where such papers and manuscripts are deposited, and that the contents of those which tend to the elucidation of history and the illustration of constitutional law, science, and literature should be published." The Commissioners accordingly engaged the services of some experienced persons, and two gentlemen—one, Mr. Henry T. Riley, who had published several works on the Corporate Records of London, and on other subjects, had inspected the Records belonging to Bridgwater, Glastonbury, and Wells, as well as those of the Bishop and Dean and Chapter of Wells.

Mr. A. Howard had also inspected the contents of the muniment rooms at Dunster Castle and Montacute House, and the result of those researches had been published in a Blue Book, which could be purchased at the low price of 1s 6d. Mr. Riley had visited Wells a second time. An old list of documents belonging to the Dean and Chapter having been found, a communication was made to Mr. Dickinson, who instituted diligent enquiries, but at first without success. Perseverance, however, rewarded his efforts, and the result was the discovery of a large box full of "rubbish" (as it was described), which proved to be documents not only included in the old schedule, but also many others. The "rubbish" consisted of more than a thousand documents, mostly original, and many of a most interesting and valuable character. He was sure that all would join with him in thanking Mr. Dickinson for his perseverance, the Dean and Chapter for allowing free access to the Records, and Mr. Bernard, the Chapter Clerk, for the facilities he rendered. Mr. Serel having detailed the documents in the possession of the Cathedral dignitaries and the corporations of Wells and Axbridge, said—"Now you will probably wish to know my reasons for thus noticing these old and dusty parchments and papers. My earnest wish is that an effort should be made to put some of the members of this Society in motion, and through them to bestow some of the "ways and means" at our disposal in making a systematic and careful examination of the Records with the view of compiling a Calendar, or Index of the contents of such as may be "new" to us, and useful in the preparation of a work deserving to be called a "History of Somersetshire." In thus employing our revenues we should be performing one of the most important, one of the main objects for which this Society was formed, and for which it has been

kept up. The task once entered on with a real desire of accomplishing it, difficulties would disappear. So important a work must, of course, require careful consideration and deliberation, and many preliminary enquiries must be made before its actual commencement. But "where there's a will, there's a way." Once begun, progress would of necessity be gradual, and perhaps slow, but that ultimate success would be the result I have no doubt.

To prove the value of Calendars, or Indexes, such as I have suggested, needs no argument. If anything were wanting to convince us on that point, I need only refer to the recently compiled Calendars of the contents of the public Records in London and elsewhere, which convey to us in a plain and intelligible form the pith and marrow, so to speak, of almost every document of importance now to be found in our national repositories.

Calendars of our Somersetshire Records could be made to form part of the contents of our periodical reports, and I am sanguine enough to believe that these Reports would thereby become so interesting, and thereby so increase the numbers who would desire to possess and read them, as to enable us (with judicious management in publishing) to produce at least two volumes yearly, instead of, as at present, one in two or three years.

As a means of conveying unquestionable and authentic evidence, and a true and correct knowledge of past events, of the habits and customs, social and political, of past generations, nothing can be more clear, certain, and important, than documents of contemporaneous dates."

To prove how necessary it was that some effort should be made for preserving the Records of the county, Mr. Serel mentioned that three or four years ago a butcher at Wells was using the leaves of a book to wrap meat in for his

customers, which book was a Register of Wills—150 in number—dating from 1537 to 1541. Another still more lamentable instance was the destruction of the contents of the Dean's Registry over the west cloister of the Cathedral. For two or three years the manuscripts were used in lighting fires in the College Lecture Room, and thousands of documents were thus destroyed. Those were not the only instances of Records being irretrievably lost. The county has also lost a large number of manuscripts which were sold at the sale of the late Lord Auckland's effects as waste paper. For a few shillings several boxes full of papers and parchments were knocked down—a small portion of which was within a few minutes passed over to another person for a consideration of £15 or £16! These Manuscripts had remained concealed in boxes since the time of Bishop Law, to whom they had belonged. Mr. Serel concluded by asking that a committee might be appointed to consider the subject and for maturing a plan for effecting the objects he had in view.

Mr. Dickinson proposed, and the Rev. Mr. Scarth seconded, that the council be empowered to appoint a special committee to carry out Mr. Serel's suggestions. Carried unanimously.*

The Parish Church

was then visited, and its main features pointed out and described by the President and others.

It was described as one of the great cross churches of the county. The west front, often neglected by architects,

* The committee for this purpose subsequently appointed consists of—the Rev. Canon Meade, Mr. Dickinson, Mr. John Batten, Mr. Serel, and the Secretary, Mr. W. A. Jones.

is here a fine specimen of architectural design. The gable of the nave is flanked with octagonal turrets, embattled, with vestiges of small pinnacles. Following the almost universal rule in the county, the nave is of better work than the chancel. It is also much higher. The majority of the churches in the district were built in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, when the people of the neighbourhood were wealthy. There was a good deal of trade going on, and the parishioners made the nave without considering the ecclesiastical owners of the chancel. There is a porch on the south side of great size, something similar to the south transept. One of the curious changes which had been made, was that the porch had been converted into a transept, and the transept into a sort of porch. The windows in the nave are very wide, so that there are only three bays where usually there would have been five in a nave of that length. The extreme flatness of the windows in the transept was noticed, and it was observed that the north transept is the most elaborate portion of the church. Special attention was directed to the indications of a vestry projecting below the east window. The building itself has been destroyed, but the door-ways are still left, as they are also at Ilminster. The niche in the south-east corner of the church is deserving of notice. Indications still remain of an iron grill by which the figure of the Saint placed there was originally protected. It was clearly proved not to have been a pulpit but a shrine.

At 4 o'clock the *Annual Dinner* took place at the George Hotel, the President in the chair, after which the usual loyal toasts were given and duly honoured.

The Evening Meeting.

A valuable and interesting paper on "The CROSSES OF SOMERSETSHIRE" was read by Mr. CHARLES POOLEY, F.S.A., the author of the "Crosses of Gloucestershire," which will prove a valuable contribution to the history and archæology of the county.

Mr. Pooley likewise made some remarks on a paper on "Pig Cross," Bridgwater, published in the Proceedings of the Society for 1859, in which Mr. Sealey maintained that "Pig," in this and other cases connected with crosses, should be taken as a form of the Saxon "*piga*," and the Danish "*pige*," which signifies "Maid;" and hence, associated with the Blessed Virgin, "Pig Cross" becomes "the cross of the blessed Lady."

In reference to this hypothesis Mr. Pooley showed that "*pige*" is never used to express the Virgin in Danish, and this view was confirmed by communications on the subject received from Mr. Max Müller, and M. Gudbrand Vigfassen. And hence the obvious conclusion was drawn, that a cross in the market was called "Pig-cross," because it stood close to where the pig-market was held.

The Rev. R. KIRWIN then gave an interesting account of discoveries made in some of the ancient fortifications of Devonshire, and showed that the strongholds of the south of England were native erections, which implied the existence of a numerous population who lived at a time long anterior to the Roman invasion.

A paper was then read on

Two Ancient Embroidered Copes now changed into Altar Frontals.*

BY MR. M. J. C. BUCKLEY OF BRUGES.

THE art of depicting, or working, the delineation of flowers, fruits, human or animal forms by means of the needle, has been known and practised since the pre-historic times. The designs on the dresses of the figures painted on the Etruscan vases are those of embroidered patterns. We see also that the Israelites embroidered their sacrificial garments—"And thou shalt make a hanging . . . wrought with needlework." EXODUS xxvi, 36. The Romans also wore richly broidered dresses, as Virgil mentions such in the *Æneid*, where he represents the Queen Dido as bringing forth very richly dight garments from amidst her treasures, and presenting them to her warrior guests. Several places in antique civilisation were famous for their embroidery. I will just cite the names of Phrygia and Babylon. Gold embroidered tissues were first introduced from Phrygia or Western Asia, hence all such gold stuffs were called "Phrygian"—hence the word "Auriphrygium" or orphrey, which was applied to the bands of a cope, on account of their being composed of such gold tissue. Josephus, the Jewish historian, mentions that in his time there was a very rich curtain of Baby-

* These copes were exhibited during the meeting. One is now in use in the Parish Church of Chedzoy, and the other is deposited in the Museum of the Society, by the Rev. J. Coleman, of Chapel Allerton.

lonian embroidered stuff, hung in the temple; this was in the second century of our era.

Now if we descend to more recent times we find that art progressed in Europe, so did the design and workmanship of embroidery. Moved by the purest zeal for the glory and splendour of God's church, the Christian artists of the Middle Ages produced the most marvellous works of this kind. It was during this period (thirteenth century) that we find embroidery first getting technical names, and being divided into various branches. In an inventory of vestments, in the Church of St. Paul, at London, in the year 1295, we read of the various sorts named "Opus plumarium," or feather work; of "Opus pectineum," or comb work; of "Opus pulvinarium," or cushion work; and of "Opus consutum de serico," or cut silk work. Now all true embroidery was called "feather work," because the stitches were always laid down lengthwise, and so lapping as to resemble feathers; we see examples of this work in the copes before us, of which the flowers and figures are composed of long stitches. The "cushion work" or cross stitch was the same as our modern Berlin-wool work, and was generally used in working heraldic designs on cushions. The comb work was a most curious and beautiful manner of employing the threads of the tissue, so as to produce various designs, and was so called from the comb which was used in working them.* The cut silk work was the same as is now called, "Appliqué," and was much used for banners and knights' surcoats. It was also employed for faces, as you may see in the beautiful modern cope, worked by our German artists.† If we now examine our two copes, at present mis-called "Altar

* It was usually employed in linen tissues.

† A large collection of richly embroidered copes, etc., was shown by Mr. Buckley in the Museum.

Frontals," we find that all the work is "Opus plumarium." The cope from Allerton Church, as well as that from Chedzoy, I consider as having been made in Flanders. In our Cathedral of St. Saviour, at Bruges, we have two copes of precisely the same character and style of work. Large mercantile relations existed between Bristol and Flanders, on account of the staple trade in Irish wool, which was woven by the Flemings. So that those two copes may very probably have come from the old "Citie of Bryges" or Bruges.

The ground of the Allerton cope is white satin, or rather "Baudekyn" in the old phraseology. The "trame" or weft is of linen, as the silk still woven in Lyons and Vienna for ecclesiastical use, called "*Lampas*." We find such stuff mentioned in an inventory of Haconbie Church, A.D. 1566, which speaks of "one white vestment of Bruges satten." And again in 1520, York Cathedral possessed a "vestment of Baudekyn, and a cross of green satyn of Bryges." Now I consider that this Allerton cope belongs to the latter part of the fifteenth century. In the centre is represented the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. Two angels support her on either side; a glory and a nimbus surround her body and head; thirty-one rays, mixed with spangles, dart from the glory; three kerubim, standing on wheels, are at her feet, thus representing one of the nine choirs of angels. The rest of the ground is powdered over with pomegranate flowers, of which the green and blue colors are still remaining in parts. These pomegranate flowers were much used in Flemish work, as they are copied from Spanish stuffs, in which this flower figures as emblem of the Conquest of Granada, by Isabella, who was so popular in Spain, as also in Flanders, which was also one of the Spanish allies.

In the Chedzoy cope you will notice that there is a very beautiful detail introduced into the workmanship of these flowers, namely: that the centres are diversified with "chevrons" of raised work, formed by a cord underneath. This is another instance of how the artists of those days gained good effects by very simple means. These flowers of pomegranate, or rather the leaves of the artichoke, and the petals of the pomegranate, are very common in the Sicilian woven stuffs, of which we have a specimen in the splendid tissue of one of the modern copes in the Museum. It has often been inaccurately called the pineapple pattern, but such a thing as an anana or pine was quite unknown in Europe up to the fifteenth century, and was even regarded as a great rarity in the days of Lady M. W. Montagu; and was never seen in Sicily or Italy till the close of the sixteenth century, having been only recently introduced from Peru, whilst these stuffs were woven in the ninth century. The figures of the kerubim on the Chedzoy cope were formerly powdered or spread over the surface of the velvet tissue on which they were worked. They bear phylacteries or scrolls, with the words "Sanctus, sanctus, etc." Bradshaw, a monk of St. Werburga's Monastery at Chester, at the end of the fifteenth century, speaks of tapestry, with the nine angelical choirs, "not cessynge to call Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus, Blessed be ye Trynité, Dominus Deus Sabaoth, three persons in one Deityé." Such kerubim are very common in all late English works, and such formerly stood over the reredos of the high altar in Westminster Abbey, the wheels under their feet representing their swiftness in executing the commands of God.

The tabernacle work of the Chedzoy cope is of a late date, almost "renaissance" in its character. I am inclined

to assign to it the date of circa 1500. An effort is made at perspective in the groining of the arches at the back, and the lines of the roof. The working of the gold shows some curious examples of different stitchings. All the gold consists of thin gilt silver ribbons,* twisted round silk thread, and the work is "Opus plumarium." No traces of the former faces and hands are remaining; all is of modern restoration, and of a most deplorable description is this same restoration. In consequence of this I cannot decide whether the work be Flemish or English, but I am inclined to say it is Flemish on account of the style.

The famous "Opus Anglicum" or English work for embroidery, was produced by a process of heated bulbs of iron, by which the appearance of raised lines was given to the outer sides of the faces and robes, and the stitching was executed in circular lines which began in the centres of the faces, as we may see in the beautiful Sion cope, now in the South Kensington Museum.

This Chedzoy cope when intact must have been a very sumptuous one, similar to that which was in the Chapel of Charles de Bourgogne, "Une chape de bordeuré d'or façon d'Angleterre, à plusieurs histoires de N. Dame, et anges et aultres ymages, estans en lanceurs escriptes, garnie d'un orfroi d'icelle façon fait á apôtres, desquelles les manteux sont tous couverts de perles, et leurs diadesmes parfilés de perles, estans en manières de tabernacles, etc., etc."

Copes as a garment for Church use are first mentioned in the reign of St. Edward the Confessor, and they continued to be used in Durham Cathedral up to the middle of the eighteenth century. We read of hundreds of superb copes and other vestments in the rolls of Abbeys and Churches in this county alone. There was amongst others a cope

* Gold thread known in 1271.

of silk, beaten or sheathed all over with silver lions, given by a well-wisher to Glastonbury Abbey.* Henry III in 1241 paid £360 for a cope for Hereford Cathedral. There was a cope of rich red Bruges velvet, covered all over with stars and archangels of gold in Lincoln, in 1437. Magnificent copes and tapestry, now in the Cathedral of Aix en Provence, were given by Prior Goldston, in 1595, to his Church at Canterbury. These superb trophies of old English art were sold out of England, (as were the superb candlesticks of Whitehall to our Cathedral at Ghent) in the days of the devastations of the reigns of Edward VI and of Cromwell.

Commissioner Giffard in the reign of Henry VIII, on being sent to expel them, said that he found that the monks of Wolstrop Priory in Lincolnshire, as well as of many other houses, excelled in "embroidery, in painting, and in all useful arts." Edward II paid 100 marks, a goodly sum, to one Rose, wife of John de Bureford, citizen of London, for one choir cope, that he sent to Rome, as a present to the then Pope, on the part of the Queen. There are some ancient copes and vestments at Florence still in the church of San Giovanni, which cost 26 years of labor to finish in 1498. And in this English land of ours there were famous workers too, as we see by the splendid execution of the famed Sion cope, and the magnificent cope formerly in Westminster Abbey, and now in Stonyhurst College. The English ladies were amongst the most famous workers of mediæval times; amongst others I may mention the name of Helisand waiting maid of Maud, wife of David of Scotland in 1150, who was renowned for her skill. And now once more many fair and noble-minded English maidens rival

* See John of Glastonbury's Chronicle.

their sisters of old for their skill, witness many of their beautiful works in our village churches such as at Curry Rivel, Taunton, and at Bristol. The glory and beauty of the dear old churches, of the venerable shrines of this land, is once more reviving, and many earnest minds are striving to render them beauteous, and fair, and fitting for all the æsthetic feelings that are attached to the most hallowed associations of the human soul. May they be endowed with much knowledge and skill, and may their labors give us many things of beauty to be joys for ever.

A paper on Montacute by Mr. John Batten was then read, after which the meeting broke up.

Excursion : Wednesday.

A large party proceeded to

Montacute House

which by the courtesy of Mrs. Phelps was thrown open to the members of the Society. This magnificent specimen of English domestic architecture was examined with great interest by all present. The illustrations which are given in the present volume render a formal description needless. The family portraits, and the original documents relating to the Gunpowder Plot were inspected with much interest and pleasure ; and the illustration in the hall in bass relief, of the Somersetshire custom of Skimmety, or Skimmerton-riding was explained by the Rev. Hill Wickham.

The members then inspected several interesting specimens of domestic architecture in the village, and proceeded to

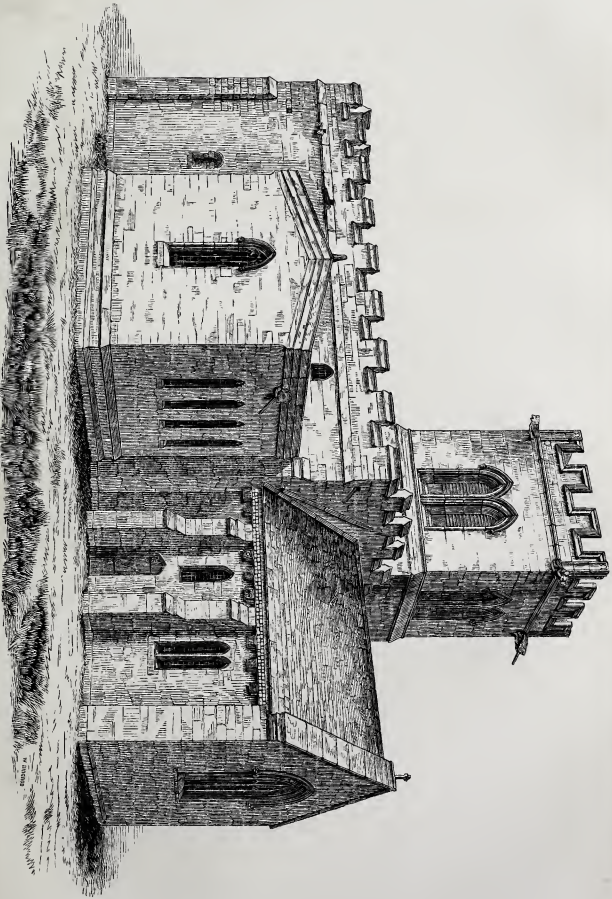
Montacute Church.

This is a cross church without a central tower, a by no means unusual form in the district. The tower is very elegant in its workmanship—is not so tall nor so stately as some, but the work is singularly graceful. It belongs to that class which is found at both ends of the county—near Bristol and in the south-western part of Somerset. There is a prominent staircase turret which runs up the whole way and springs from the ground. The church is mainly of the thirteenth century. One of the perpendicular windows on the south side of the nave is new. The Norman chancel arch has been happily left.

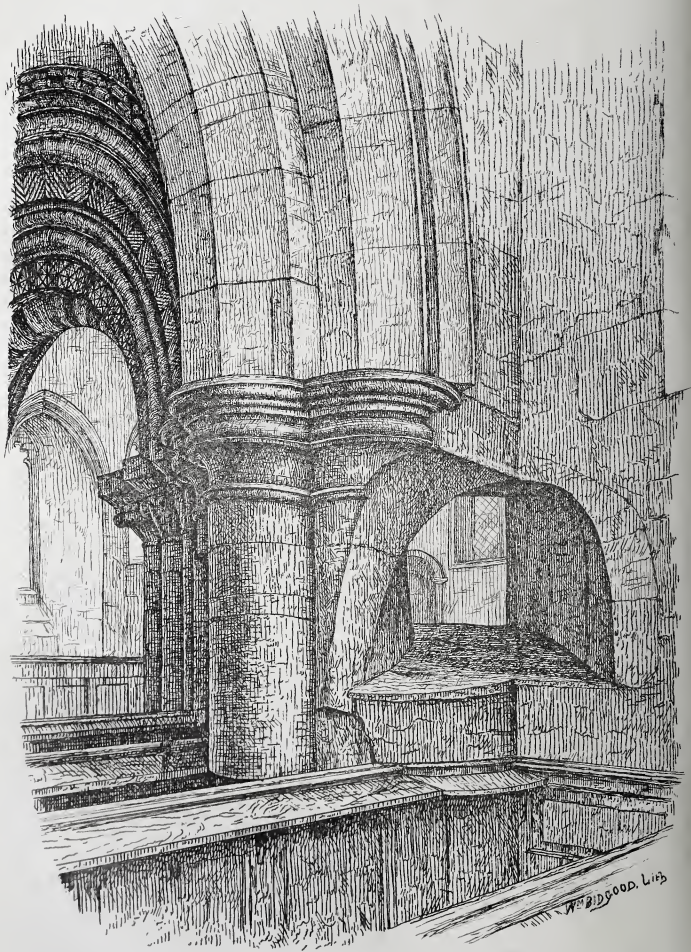
Stoke-sub-Hambdon Church.

The original church was Norman, to which period the north and south doorways, and the chancel arch, clearly belong. The chancel was remodelled and the transepts added in the Early-English period; the northern transept forming the tower. The range of trefoil lancets, in the south transept and in the chancel, are worthy of note, as is also the decorated vaulted porch, which was built over the original Norman doorway. The peculiar features of this interesting church are given in detail in the *Proceedings of the Society*, 1853.

Attention was drawn to the partial removal of the plastering from the west side of the chancel arch, which had the effect of cutting in two the angels painted upon the plaster. It is very important that something should be done to preserve these ancient relicts. People now-a-days have a great fancy for taking away the plastering and leaving the bare stone. The old builders never did that. It is not at all wise to get rid of the rich plaster and paintings which were upon it.



Stoke-sub-Hamdon Church, South-East View.



SQUINT, STOKE-SUB-HAMBDON CHURCH.

TYMPANUM OF DOORWAY IN STOKESUBHAMPTON CHURCH, SOMERSET.



Waddington, Lith.

The members then ascended

Hambdon Hill

for the purpose of examining the ancient earthwork by which it is encompassed, and which is one of the most interesting and best developed in that neighbourhood.

The Rev. Prebendary SCARTH, who accompanied the party, had quitted the carriages in passing under the hill that he might be ready to receive the party on their arrival and point out to them the peculiar features of the camp.

On the party reaching the summit of the hill, they were conducted along the rampart to the extreme north-east corner, where there is a hollow, and the President having called on Mr. Scarth to address the party, they placed themselves along the slope of the embankment, within the small amphitheatre at the north-east angle of the camp.

He began by saying that it might be regarded as a superfluous work to say anything about a camp which had already been described very carefully in their Proceedings, and a plan of which had been given ; but as it was often possible to add something to the information of others, and each man who had studied a subject could bring distinct ideas to bear upon a doubtful point, he would venture to say a few words, not by way of undervaluing what had hitherto been said, but rather of adding to it, for the account given by Mr. Walter (*Somersetshire Archæological Journal*, 1853), was really a very valuable paper. There was, however, one mistake in it, and that was as to the length of time during which the Emperor Claudius continued in this country after he had landed, subsequent to the victories of his general, Vespasian ; his stay had been only sixteen days, he had not remained as long a

period as was asserted in that paper. (See Proceedings 1853, p. 84.)

It appeared very evident from the form of the rampart and from the very large space of ground inclosed, being a circuit of three miles, that this had been an old Celtic earthwork, formed long before the Romans set foot in this island. He would not venture to pronounce how long. There were remains of ancient habitations, which had been traced, and these had been recorded. The Romans had, however, occupied it at a later period, and the portion of the camp where they then were, was the part fixed upon by the Romans as a point of occupation, which they probably had continued to hold possession of for several hundred years—for this camp was placed on the line of one of their great roads, the Foss, the line of which could clearly be traced from the rampart of the camp and ran at a short distance below it. The Foss road went from the sea coast at Seaton (the ancient Muridunum) through Ilchester to Bath and on through Cirencester, until it reached Lincoln, and touched the east coast of England. It therefore cut the island diagonally, and along that road would be found stations at certain intervals (as on all the lines of Roman road) which had been carefully fortified, as well as the towns of larger growth. It appeared to him that this camp was one of these fortified stations; undoubtedly Roman remains had been found in it; these were described in the paper to which he had alluded, also in the *Archæologia*, volume xxi, p. 39. For further confirmation of Roman occupation they had only to look around and consider the spot on which they were. It was a Roman amphitheatre, a small one indeed, but such were not uncommon in Roman stations as well as cities. He could instance three of these small camp amphitheatres,

viz: that in which they now were assembled—one at Charterhouse on Mendip, which they had visited two years ago, another at Housesteads (Burcovicus) on the line of the great northern barrier in Northumberland. There were also larger amphitheatres in the neighbourhood of Roman towns, as at Caerleon on Usk, called Arthur's Round Table, at Dorchester, at Silchester, at Cirencester. These, though small in comparison to those met with abroad, were nevertheless very good specimens. In France, Germany, and Italy, you found the ancient stone facing still remaining, but probably those in England were simple turf constructions and had not been faced with stone. It could be shown that the Roman legions had their gladiators, but it was not necessary that gladiatorial spectacles only should take place in these amphitheatres; sports of different kinds, and exercises of skill and strength might take place there, and they were very suitable appendages to military stations.

Mr. SCARTH mentioned the Roman coins* that had been discovered in and near the camp, and also the Roman villas, as at East Coker, which existed in the neighbourhood. An account of this villa and the pavement uncovered there, will be found in the pages of the Journal of the Archaeological Association, vol. iv. He pointed out the stones with square holes through them, placed at regular intervals, not far from the amphitheatre, but said he would not attempt any explanation of them, as he had not found them in any other Roman camp. They need not necessarily belong to the Roman period. They had been supposed to be placed there for the purpose of picketing the Cavalry.

* Coins of the third century, very little worn, have been found in the camp, viz. :—Philippus, sen, and jun. ; Decius, A.D. 251 ; Gallus, A.D. 254 ; Volusianus, &c.

Having pointed out the course of the rampart, and shown how much of the camp had been defaced by quarrying, and also pointed to the spots where remains had been found, he ended by expressing a very ardent hope that the entire surface of the camp might not be destroyed by quarrying, but that some portion of this old historic monument might still be suffered to remain. It was sad to see the wanton destruction of many of these noble old earthworks, a destruction which might often be averted, and which would really be beneficial to the owners of property. At Clifton, on the down opposite the Observatory hill, and on the Somersetshire side of the Avon, a camp called Bowre-walls had been very wantonly destroyed, simply for the sake of material. The camp if allowed to remain would have imparted great historic interest to the spot, as the remains of one of the ancient earthworks which had protected the navigation of the river Avon, and been the birthplace of the trade and prosperity of the city of Bristol. The rampart, composed of hard concrete covered with earth, had now been carted away, and very little of it remained to show the former strength and importance of the position.

Happily the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society had got a record of it, and soon we should have to trust rather to printed records of these historical monuments than see the monuments themselves. He hoped the portion of the earthwork which they had just examined might be permitted to remain uninjured.

Having partaken of lunch in the schoolroom kindly placed at their service by the Rev. G. J. Blomfield, the members visited

Notton Church

the exterior of which was greatly admired as a work of art. In the interior objections were made to some of the alterations made during recent restorations and especially to the removal of the plastering whereby the walls were laid bare. The incumbent of the parish differed from this view, while Mr. Irvine and Mr. Buckley both having had great professional experience as ecclesiastical architects expressed themselves in favour of retaining and preserving the plaster on the interior walls.

From hence the company proceeded to the old interesting Manor House of

Wigborough

This mansion is a fine specimen of an Elizabethan Manor House. By the courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Moody the members of the Society were allowed to inspect the interior. Several of the old rooms and chambers are in excellent preservation. Over the fire place in one of the reception rooms was noticed an elaborate coat of arms in plaster, with the following armorial bearings: *A bend fusilly ermine, a dexter hand and arm issuant in chief* (said to be Grundy) impaling 1 and 4, *three Helmets*, (for Compton.) 2, *A trivet* for Trivet. 3, *A dove (or lapwing) within a bordure ermine.* The Manor of Wigborough occurs in Domesday in the form of Winchberie—"John himself holds Winchberie. Alward held it in the time of King Edward, and gelded for two hides." According to Collinson the owners subsequently took the name of De Wiggebere, and held of the King by the service of keeping the door of the King's hall or chamber. Sir Richard Cogan of Huntspill, became possessed of this Manor by marriage with the heiress of Sir Richard de Wiggebere,

temp. Edward III. Subsequently it passed to the family of Bouchier who sold it (temp. Henry VIII) to John Selwood. John Broome held the Manor 23rd Eliz. (A.D. 1580.*

The members then proceeded to

Hinton House,

where they were courteously received and hospitably entertained by Lord Westbury, and the Hon. Miss Bethell. Having been conducted through all the chief apartments and reception rooms, and having had ample opportunities of examining the valuable works of art, and the numerous objects of historical interest with which the house abounds, the company assembled in the Saloon, where Mr. Hoskins read the following notice of

* By a Will bearing date 24th April 1586, and proved at Taunton, on the 8th October in the same year, it appears that "Brome Joneson of Bridge, within the parish of South Petherton, gent," was "Seased of and in the thirde parte of the Manor of Wigbeare . . . and of all the lands, tenements, meadows, and pastures thereto belonging, with the appurtenances." This, with lands in Netherstratton, Over-stratton, Compton, Seavington, Dolis Wake, and other places, he leaves by the said Will in trust for his son Emorbe, and his three daughters Elizabeth, Katherine, and Margaret, who were all minors, subject to the life-interest in "my manor or capital messuage of Bridge, and of all my houses, lands, and tenements in Bridge," settled on his wife Dorothe as "jointure." The three daughters subsequently married James, George, and John Farewell, sons of John Farewell, of Bishops Hull, (afterwards of Holbrook, Co. Somerset) and Ursula, daughter of Thos. Phelps of Montacute. The deed of settlement referred to bears date 20th Jan., 18th Elizabeth.

The Executors appointed by the will are "My well-beloved father-in-law John Hoskins, gent.; my uncle James Compton, Esq.; my uncle Adam Martin, gent. (of George Hinton); my uncle James Bale, gent. (of Seaborough); my brother-in-law P. Hoskins, gent.; and Francis Saundys, gent."

W. A. J.

Sir Amias Paulet

—
BY THE HON. AUGUSTA BETHELL.
—

WHEN in the year 1134, Geoffrey Plantagenet, Earl of Anjou, landed in England to claim the crown from Stephen in right of his wife Maud, there came among his followers a Knight of Picardy, Hercules Sieur de Tournon. Shortly after the accession of Henry II, the services of the Sieur de Tournon appear to have been rewarded by a Grant in fee of the Lordship of Paulet near Bridgwater, where he took up his residence and from which he assumed the surname of Paulet.

There is little trace of the descendants of Sir Hercules until in the 5th generation, we come to Sir John Paulet, who served under Thomas Plantagenet, Earl of Buckingham, in the army that went from England, in aid of the Duke of Brittany against the French, and who afterwards married a daughter of Sir John Creedy and had issue, two sons: Sir Thomas Paulet, Knight, and William Paulet. From this William are descended the Paulets, some time Dukes of Bolton, and also the Paulets Marquises of Winchester. It was through the eldest son, the above-mentioned Sir Thomas that the Manor of Hinton came into possession of the family, his son William marrying Elizabeth, daughter and heir of John Deneband, at that time owner of the estate.*

* At the time of the Conquest the Manor of Hinton belonged to one William de Ow, and was then called Hantone.

The son of this marriage was the first Sir Amias Paulet who was knighted for his gallant behaviour on the field of battle at Newark-upon-Trent, in the year 1487. He deserves notice in this sketch having probably built the most ancient part of Hinton House which appears to have been in the shape of a low quadrangular building with square turrets at each angle. We may mention that the only peculiarity now observable in this building is that the slabs of the sandstone of the country forming the outer walls are cut in the shape of the rounded stones of the sea shore.

The last named Sir Amias was the grandfather of the well-known Sir Amias Paulett so much employed by Queen Elizabeth in diplomatic and other services, and who enjoyed the friendship and esteem of the great statesmen of that day.

A large collection of the letters written and received by this Sir Amias during his official career is still preserved at Hinton House. One of them written by Lord Treasurer Burleigh to Sir Amias upon his departure as Ambassador to France is strongly characteristic of the style of the time as well as of the peculiar disposition of the writer. He writes :—

SIR,

I am very sorry that the letts arise in both our parts to hinder both our desires, in me in repaying to the Court, in you by the sickness happened to your family so that I could not with words bid you farewell, as I had a desire, nevertheless our minds have no lett where good will is free and at liberty ; and therefore I pray you continue in assurance of my largest friendship to my power.

I can give you no better council than yourself hath in store, change not your manners with the soile you go to, confirme by your actions abroad, the good opinions you have at home, namely for your Religion and Discretion—that which I most

fear is, that with desire to serve well, you shall enter into over great expense: I am bold with you, I hear your number is great and without good need had, it will increase, at least the charge of their sustentation will grow in Ffrance. It may be I am herein too curious with another man's purse, but it is to spare it and not to spend it. I have this morning scribled out a cypher, which you may use as you see cause, and if you will increase it with names you may do, as Experience by writing shalt give cause, sending me a note thereof. And so God send you health, strength, and a good passage with a safe re-passage to your own country. From my house at Westminster, the 16th of September, 1576.

Yours at command to use. W. BURGHLEY.

The answer to this letter by Sir Amias is in its turn equally interesting as indicative of the style of correspondence between the statesmen of the day. It is in these words:—

MY VERY GOOD LORD,

I have received your letter of the 16th of this present, and with the same your good, honourable, and friendly council for the which I do most humbly thank your Lordship, and do take it as a sure testimony of your good affection towards me. And like as I shall not faile during my life as well herein as in all other things to conform myself to the best of my power to your good advice. I must confess that in this little journey between London and Dover I finde already your Lordship's words trew, and do feel the weight of my heavy trayn, and shall feel it more deeply bëfore my coming to Paris, yet I will aske nothing unreasonable. If ever I do pass again into Ffrance I will seek my passage at some other Porte, the Haven of Dover being in such utter ruine as the passage thereby is utterly decayed.

The Queen's ships as likewise the other barkes appointed for me and my horses were forced to seek their safety at Sandwich, when the wind did serve to have passed into Ffrance. It were to be wished for her Majesty's Service that Dover were provided of a better Harbour. Having attended four days at Dover for wind and weather to pass me over, I was forced now at the last by occasion of a scant wind to

arrive at Calais, from whence I will make my Repaire to Paris with all convenient speed, where I will remain at your Lordship's commandment, and so do commit you to the mercifull protection of the Almighty who grant your Lordship a long and a happy life.

Written at Calais, y^e 25th of September, 1576.

In the year 1585, Sir Amias was appointed successor to Sir Ralph Sadler in the office of keeper or jailor of the unfortunate Mary Queen of Scots. There are striking proofs of his honour and integrity in the discharge of the duties of this dangerous office, and which at the same time exhibit the cruel and unprincipled conduct of Sir Francis Walsingham, Secretary of Queen Elizabeth.

A proposal was made to Sir Amias to suborn one of his servants to be bribed by Queen Mary in order to obtain evidence of her plotting against Elizabeth, but which proposal Sir Amias courageously refused. Again after the warrant for Queen Mary's execution had been signed, a letter was written under the direction of the Queen by her secretaries Walsingham and Davison to Sir Amias complaining of his want of zeal and love for the Queen's service in not having found some way to shorten the life of the Scottish Queen, and the letter entreats Sir Amias to consider what he owes to the preservation of his religion, to the public good, and to the prosperity of his country; and the letter reproaches Sir Amias for professing a love for the Queen, at the same time that he has the unkindness to cast a burden upon her, knowing as he does her indisposition to shed blood, especially one of the sex and quality of the Queen of Scots, and who by the ties of consanguinity was so nearly connected with her. Sir Amias did not fail to understand that the object of this letter plainly was to incite him without warrant or authority to put the Queen of Scots to death, and with the indigna-

tion of an honest man, he, within an hour after he had received this wicked suggestion of the Queen's wishes returned the following answer to Sir F. Walsingham :—

SIR,

Your letter of yesterday coming to my hand this present day, at five in the afternoon, I would not fail according to your directions to return my answer with all possible speed, which shall deliver unto you with great grief and bitterness of mind, in that I am so unhappy to have lyven to see this unhappy daye, in the which I am required by direction of my most Gracious Sovereign to do an act which God and the law forbiddeth. My good living and life are at Her Majesty's disposition, and I am ready to loose them this next morrow, if it shall so please Her, acknowledging that I hold them as of Her meete and most gracious favor, and do not desire to enjoy them, but with her Highness's good liking. But God forbid that I should make so fowle a shipwracke of my conscience, or leave so great a blot to my poor Posteritie, to shed blood without law or warrant. Trusting that Her Majesty of Her accustomed clemency, and the rather by your good mediation, will take this my dutiful answe in good parte, as proceeding from one who will never be inferior to any Christian subject living in dutie, honor, love, and obedience towards his Sovereign. And thus I commit you to the mercy of the Almightye.

Your most assured poor friend,

A. POULETT.

It is said that on the receipt of this letter Queen Elizabeth called Sir Amias a "dainty and precise fellow, who would promise much but perform nothing, and this is confirmed by the confession of Davison, who states that perceiving that the Queen wavered in her resolution to put Mary to death he asked her whether she had changed her mind, She answered, 'No,' but another course said she 'might have been desired,' and withal she asked me whether I had received any answer from Poulett. Whose letter when I had shewn her, wherein he flatly refused to undertake that

which stood not with honour and justice, she, waxing angry accused him and others (who had bound themselves by the association) of perjury and breach of their vow, as those who had promised great matters for their Prince's safety but would perform nothing "yet there are" said she "who would do it for my sake."

Elizabeth had no more faithful or honourable subject than Sir Amias, but this did not prevent her treating him with ingratitude when things were not exactly as she desired.

In vain Mary Stuart tried her enchantments upon him. The rigid Puritan at once blighted any hopes she might have had of corrupting him. "No hope of gain, fear of loss, or any private respect whatever shall divert me from my duty," he told her, and in every way these words were borne out by deeds.

Sir Amias died in 1588, and was buried in the Church of Saint Martin in the Fields in London, where a magnificent monument was erected to his memory, but on the church being taken down this monument was removed to the church of Hinton St. George. One of the inscriptions is supposed to have been written by Queen Elizabeth herself, who caused her initials to be inscribed above it in token of its authorship. It runs as follows :—

E. R.

Never shall cease to spread wise Poulet's fame,
 These will speak, and men shall blush for shame.
 Without offence to speak what I do know,
 Great is the debt England to him doth owe.

The grandson of Sir Amias was created a Baron of the Realm, by the title of Lord Paulet, of Hinton St. George, in the third year of Charles I. He was a devoted loyalist, commanded a portion of the Royal troops, and entertained Charles I at Hinton in the month of September 1644.

After the execution of the King he made his peace with the Parliament, and under the articles of Exeter compounded for his estates for the sum of £4200, his eldest son also paying a fine of £3760.

A curious document is preserved at Hinton being the passport granted to this Lord Paulet by the Parliamentary General Fairfax, authorising Lord Paulet to travel from London to Hinton with a retinue of six servants, and the necessity of getting such a document shows how completely the country was in the possession of the Parliamentary authorities. The Earldom of Poulett was created shortly after the accession of Queen Anne when John 4th Baron was created Viscount of Hinton St. George and Earl Poulett. He appears to have greatly improved the park and house, having added to it the large suites of apartments still called Queen Anne's rooms, which were finished and prepared in expectation of a visit from that Queen, from whom the Earl had received many honours and marks of favor. The Queen's visit however was prevented by her death. It is difficult to reconcile the existing building with the account given of it in old works. Thus Leland speaking of Hinton St. George observes, "here hath Sir Hugh Poulett a right goodly manor place of free stone with two goodly towers embattled in the inner court." Of these "goodly towers" no trace now remains. The Duke of Monmouth appears to have stayed some time at Hinton immediately before the battle of Sedgemoor, and his visit is said to have been celebrated in the park by a feast of junket. In conclusion we may add that Hinton was also visited in 1669 by Cosmo III, Grand Duke of Tuscany, who speaks of it as the villa of my Lord Poulett, and describes its gardens, terraces, and parterres as being "very different from the common style."

Monumental Inscriptions.

THE following inscriptions on the monument to Sir Amias Poulet, now in the Church of Hinton St. George, are not given in Collinson. They are now published as a suitable addition to the foregoing biographical notice, and as affording a curious and interesting illustration of the style of the period. The monument was first placed in the Church of St. Martin's, Westminster, and removed to Hinton by the first Earl Poulet, A.D. 1728 :—

HONORATISSIMO PATRI D. AMICIO POULETO EQUITI
 AURATO INSULÆ PREFECTO APUD CHRISTIANISSIMUM
 REGEM QUANDAM LEGATO NOBILISSIMI ORDINIS
 GARTERII CANCELLARIO ET SERENESSIMÆ PRINCIPIS
 ELIZABETHÆ CONSILIARIO ANTONIUS POULETIUS
 FILIUS HOC PIETATIS MONUMENTUM POSUIT.

CONJUGIS EST (TESTANTE DEO) PARS ALTERA CONJUX
 VIR CAPUT EST UNUM CORPUS UTERQUE REFERT
 UNA CARO MENS UNA THORO SOCIATA JUGALI
 SOLAMEN VITÆ PRÆSIDIUMQUE SUÆ
 ERGO ME LUCTUS QUIS PAR QUEAT ESSE DOLORI
 CUI VITÆ PARS EST ALTERA DEMPTA MEÆ
 SED QUID FLERE JUVAT? NON SIC REVOCABERE CONJUGEM
 NAMQUE TIBI PIETAS STRAVIT AD ASTRA VIAM
 HÆC SPES SOLA JUVAT, QUI NOS CONJUNXIT IN UNUM
 HUNC SIBI POSTREMO JUNGERE VELLE DIE.

THE FORMER AGE CEASED NOT THEIR PRAISE TO SOUND
 IN WHOM ONE SPECIAL VIRTUE MIGHT BE FOUND
 ALL VIRTUES IN THIS NOBLE KNIGHT DID DWELL,
 WHAT AGE MIGHT THEN SUFFICE HIS PRAISE TO TELL.

E. R.

NEVER SHALL CEASE TO SPREAD WISE POULET'S FAME
 THESE WILL SPEAK AND MEN SHALL BLUSH FOR SHAME ;
 WITHOUT OFFENCE TO SPEAK WHAT I DO KNOW,
 GREAT IS THE DEBT ENGLAND TO HIM DOOTH OWE.

*Passant arreste Icy voy l'Honneur d'Angleterre
 La Foy La Pieté, La Bonté, La Valeur,
 Bref, des autres Virtus le plus Beau le Meilleur
 Que ce petit tombe au dedans la Terre enserre
 Non, Non, Je ne croy pas qu'un si petit de Terre
 Couvre tant de Virtus Ait esteint tant d'Honneur
 Que ce preux Chevalier, ce Renomme Seigneur
 Avoit acquis en paix, Avoit acquis en Guerre
 Ce nestoit que Douceur, Savoir, Integrité
 Prudence et Bon Conseil, Constance et Gravité,
 Dont le Ciel honoroit ce Cœur cette Ame Belle
 La Vertu ne meurt point Son los est eternell
 Ce Tombe autient Ses os : Sa belle ame est au Ciel
 Sa Louange Icy Bas est Grande et immortelle.*

QUOD VERBO SERVARE FIDEM (POULETE) SOLEBAS
 QUAM BENE CONVENIUNT HÆC TRIA VERBA TIBI
 QUOD GESTIS SERVARE FIDEM (POULETE) SOLEBAS
 QUAM BENE CONVENIUNT HÆC TRIA SIGNI TIBI.
 PATRIA TE SENSIT, SENSIT REGINA FIDELEM
 SIC FIDUS CIVIS SICQUE SANATOR ERAS
 TE FIDUM CHRISTUS, TE FIDUM ECCLESIA SENSIT
 SIC SERVAS INTER MULTA PERICULA FIDEM
 ERGO QUOD SERVO PRINCEPS, ECCLESIA NATO
 PATRIA QUOD FIDO CIVE SIT ORBA DOLET
 INTEREA CHRISTUS DEFUNCTI FACTA CORONAT
 A QUO SERVATAM VIDERAT ESSE FIDEM.

MARGARETA POULET HOC EPITAPHIUM MOERORIS
 SIMUL ET AMORIS IN PERPETUUM TESTEM AMICIO
 CONJUGI SUO CHARISSIMO CLARISSIMOQUE DICAVIT.

The allusion in the first lines of the last inscription,
 “*verbo servare fidem*,” is evidently to the motto of the
 family, “gardes la foy.”

The effigies of Anthony Poulet, and his wife Katherine, only daughter of Henry Lord Norris, lie under a canopy between the the north aisle and the nave. On the panels of the canopy are the arms of Poulet alternately with those of Norris : *Sa. 3 swords in pile Ar. hilted Or.*, and *Quarterly : Ar. and Gu. a fret Or. with a fess Az.*

The "blue flat stone" monument to Anastase de Saint Quentin, described by Collinson as being in the north chapel, is now lying outside the vestry door, and the inscription is almost entirely obliterated. The following note, on a scrap of paper (apparently written about A.D. 1700), is pasted into the Parish Register.

"The inscription round about the flat stone in the y^e north chappel in the Church of Hinton St. George—

YCI GIST ANESTEISE DE SEINT QUENTYN FILLE SIRE
 JOHAN MUTRAVERS FEMME HERBERD DE SEINT QUENTYN
 PRIES PUR ALM EYT
 MERCY.

Another inscription of a much later date, and different character, occurs on an altar tomb outside of the church as follows :

ELIZABETH POWLET GENT. DIED 28 FEB. 1691, IN THE
 40TH YEAR OF HER AGE.

ELIZABETH POWLET LIES INTERRED HERE
 A SPOTLES CORPES, A CORPS FROM SCANDAL CLEARE
 DENY HER NOT THE TRIBUTE OF YOUR EYE
 SHE A SAINT IN HEAVEN FREE FROM MISERY
 BELOVED SHE LIV'D, SHE DY'D A MAIDEN PURE
 A SHAME TO DEATH HER PRAISE SHALL STILL ENDURE.

W. A. J.

The interesting Church of Merriott was visited on the way to Crewkerne, but owing to the lateness of the hour, and failing light, it was felt that full justice could not be done to this interesting building.

Evening Meeting

The Rev. Mr. BARNWELL, Secretary of the Cambrian Archæological Society, gave an interesting *resumé* of the proceedings of the day.

Mr. W. A. JONES, Secretary of the Society, expressed his regret that papers on Natural History had been crowded out. He had prepared a paper on the geology of Crewkerne and its neighbourhood, but there was no time to read it. He thought that some arrangement should be made for devoting a second day to the reading of papers.

Mr. DICKINSON suggested that if the excursion on the second day were shortened there would then be plenty of time in the evening.

Ancient Boundaries

Mr. DICKINSON then proposed that an Index to certain boundaries recorded in old documents, the charters from which they came, and the names of the kings who granted them, be printed in the Society's publication. Great benefit would result, as the original boundaries of various parishes might then be traced.

Mr. JAMES PARKER spoke of the importance of having such an index, and referred to a piece of land adjoining his property, the boundary of which he hoped to be able to trace by means of two documents which had recently come into his possession.

Mr. HUGH NORRIS, of South Petherton, read the following

Notice of the
Discovery of a Leaden Heart-Case

DURING THE RESTORATION OF MERRIOTT CHURCH,
A.D. 1862.

THE fact of the members of this Association having visited the adjacent village of Merriott to-day, affords me an opportunity of presenting for their inspection one of the rarest relics of mediæval times, to be found in their Museum at Taunton.

It consists of a leaden Heart-case, which, during the restoration of Merriott Church in 1862, was discovered in a square cavity, specially constructed for its reception, in the north wall of the chancel, near the Communion table. Its place of sepulture was about four feet from the ground, but there was no accompanying brass, or tablet, or apparent inscription of any kind whatever. It appeared to have been hermetically closed, but it contained merely a little dust and small decayed fragments of some linen fabric; possibly the remains of cere-cloth investing its contents.

On the ground underneath the wall there was a much worn inscribed stone slab, but it was so defaced that it was utterly impossible to decipher even the smallest portion of the legend thereon.

On its discovery it was obligingly placed at my disposal by the Rev. J. H. Evans, the vicar, and I at once secured for it a welcome reception in its present resting place.

The fact that no similar relic has, so far as I know, come to light, during the alteration and re-construction of a large number of churches in the west of England of late years,

would lead to an inference of its extreme rarity, and this circumstance makes it all the more unfortunate that there existed no inscription or record which could possibly lead to its identification.

But, as history is said to best elucidate itself, so, curiously enough it happens that the records of this Association serve to throw strong light on the present obscure matter; for at page 11 of the eleventh volume of the "Proceedings of the Somersetshire Archæological and Natural History Society," in an elaborate paper on Cannington Priory, by my friend the Rev. Thomas Hugo, we read the following interesting description of the place of sepulture of the heart of a distinguished lady belonging to the De Merriet family.

"One of the sisters (of Cannington Priory) at this early period was a daughter of the knightly family of De Merriet, of Hestercombe. A most interesting memorial of this lady is still to be seen in the church of Combe Florey. It is an inscribed slab, of early thirteenth century work, inserted in the wall of the north aisle, and marks the spot where was deposited the heart of Dame Maud De Merriete, a nun of Cannyntune." The legend runs:—

†: LC: DUCK: DAME MAUD: DE: MERRIE
 CEC: DDYDDE: DE: CANNYNTUNE:

"The act to which the inscription refers was exemplified only in the case of a few persons of superior rank and consequence; and, although the Sisterhoods of that day included an abundant proportion of such, a similar instance is of *the greatest rarity*. Nor did the Church ever look kindly upon a practice which necessarily involved a violation of that body which had been the recipient of the Sacraments, and was consigned to the grave in sure and certain hope of a future resurrection. It would appear, however, that the members of the lady's family were more than ordinarily in favor of it, for singularly enough, I have found in Bishop John De Drokenesforde's Register the

discharge of a sentence of excommunication passed on Sir John De Merriet for the removal of the heart from the corpse of his deceased wife, when a penance was enjoined for the same, by order of Berengarius, Bishop of Tusculum, the Pope's penitentiary, and it was further directed that the heart should be interred with the body from which it had been taken. The absolution was dated at Woky, the 28th of March, 1314."

Now the De Merriets of Hestercombe derived their name from the ancient Manor of Merriott where also they at one time resided, and it appears to me that it would not be straining the imagination too far, were we to conclude that this identical case once contained the heart of some distinguished member of the honourable family above-mentioned, and that the date of its deposit was at all events *prior* to the period at which the ban of excommunication was removed from Sir John De Merriet, viz : in A.D. 1314, since it can scarcely be believed that either himself, or any member of his family would be found truculent enough to brave the pains and penalties of a *second* excommunication for a similar offence against the strict Canons of the Romish Church.

Excursion: Thursday.

On this day's Excursion the first place visited was

Odcombe Church

an interesting Early English building remodelled in Perpendicular.

The members will be interested in the following notice of

Thomas Coryat

BY J. J. HOOPER, ESQ.

THOMAS CORYAT, ‘the Odcombian Legstretcher,’ was born in the parsonage of Odcombe, 1577; named Thomas after his godfather, Sir Thomas Phelips of Barrington; said to have been educated at Westminster; entered at Gloucester Hall, 1596, where he stayed three years; was then admitted into the household of Henry, Prince of Wales; left England on his first expedition on Whitsun Eve, May 14, 1608; returned after traversing a distance of 1975 miles on October 3rd in the same year; published an account of his travels in 1611, under the title “Coryat’s Crudities hastily gobled vp in five Moneth Trauells in France, Sauoy, Italy, Rhetia, comonly called the Grisons Country, Heluetia, alias Switzerland, some parts of High Germany, and the Netherlands; newly digested in the hungry air of Odcombe in the county of Somerset, and now dispersed to the nourishment of the travelling members of this Kingdom;” left England again October 20th, 1612; entered Jerusalem April 12th, 1614; died at Surat, in December 1617.

His father, George Coryat, a man of some note as a scholar, was born in St. Thomas’s parish, Salisbury; educated at Winchester; became Fellow of New College; was

instituted to the Rectory of Odcombe on the presentation of John Sydenham, Esq. June 10th, 1570; was chaplain to the Earl of Pembroke, and Prebendary of Warthill, York; died March 4th, 1606; and was buried in the chancel of Odcombe Church, April 14th following, his body having been kept above ground during the intervening period by his eccentric son.

His mother, Gertrude, (maiden name unknown) survived her husband many years, living at or near Odcombe. A letter from her son written at Agra, "the last of October, 1616," is superscribed "to be conveyed to my dear and loving mother, Mrs. Garthered Coriat, at her house in the town of Evill in Somersetshire." I know not what authority there is for the report that she ever married again. The Odcombe Registers do not begin before 1669. They might otherwise have thrown light on this unimportant point, as Anthony Wood was informed by the celebrated Humphrey Hody, himself born in the parsonage of Odcombe, that she was buried near her husband, George Coryat, April 3rd, 1645.

Thomas Coryat says that he claimed kindred to the distance "of fourth degree" with the head of the Devereux family, the Earl of Essex; and in one of his letters he mentions his uncle Williams, who is probably the same person spoken of in another letter as Mr. Williams, the goldsmith.

T. Coryat owed no doubt a good deal of his contemporaneous repute to the "sireniacal fraternity," as he calls them, "that meet the first Friday of every month at the sign of the Mere-maide in Bread Street," whose satirical verses were by order of Prince Henry, to whom his work is dedicated, prefixed to the first edition, quarto, 1611. Shakespeare at that time no longer frequented the Mermaid, but among the satirists were Ben Jonson, Inigo Jones, Sir John

Harrington, Michael Drayton, Dr. John Donne, Taylor the Water Poet, Lawrence Whitaker, high seneschal of the fraternity and secretary to Sir Edward Phelips, and of Coryat's country neighbours, Robert Phelips, George Sydenham of Brympton, John Poulett of Hinton St. George, and John Strangways. This same fraternity gave him general letters of introduction for his second expedition which he speaks of as his "safe conduct," and, when he entered Mahomedan countries, left behind him at Aleppo. With this first edition are bound up the Latin poems of his father. The later and better known edition of his works in 3 vols. 8vo. 1776, contains his orations, including two to the Evillians; his answer to the bill in Chancery whereby after his return from the continent Joseph Starre of Evill, linen-draper, endeavoured to set aside his debt to Coryat for 100 marks; some letters from India; copious extracts relating to him from Purchas's Pilgrims, and John Taylor's works; and a short account of his later travels and death taken from a "Voyage into the East Indies," published 1655 by the Rev. Edward Terry, "chaplain to the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Rowe, Knight, Lord Ambassador to the great Mogul." Coryat had made the friendship of Rowe, during his first journey, at Frankfort, and Terry was his chamber fellow for some months while he was entertained at the embassy. He left the embassy at Mandoa and "turned his face towards Surat, which was then about 300 miles distant from us, and he lived to come safely thither; but there being over-kindly used by some of the English who gave him Sack, which they had brought from England, he calling for it as soon as he heard of it, and crying '*Sack, Sack*, is there any such thing as *Sack*? I pray you give me some *Sack*''; and drinking of it, though I conceive moderately, (for he was a

very temperate man), it increased his flux which he had then upon him ; and this caused him within a few days after his very tedious and troublesome travels, (for he went most on foot), at this place to come to his journies' end ; for here he overtook Death in the month of December 1617, and was buried under a little monument like one of those are usually made in our churchyards."

Sir Thomas Herbert, in his "Relation of some years Travels begun 1626," mentions (p. 29, ed. 1632) the spot where "sleep Tom Coryat's bones consumed in his pedestrial ill contrived pilgrimage :"—and J. Fryer, M.D, in his "New account of East India and Persia" says (letter III, c. 12, ed. 1698) that going out of the Broach gate of Surat "on a small hill on the left hand of the road lies Tom Coryat our English Fakeer, as they name him, together with an Armenian Christian, known by their graves lying east and west." Both Herbert and Fryer speak of him as buried at Surat and identify his grave as near the tomb of a Persian Ambassador. Mr. Bellasis, in an article on the Tombs in the Cemeteries of Surat, in the Journal of the Bombay branch of the Royal Asiatic Society, 1862, thinks there is an inconsistency between these accounts and that of Terry who elsewhere says "we came to an anchor in Swally road within the bay of Camboya, the harbour for our fleet, while they make their stay in these remote parts. On the banks whereof, amongst many more English that lie there interred, is laid up the body of Mr. Thomas Coryate." But it is clear that Terry did not pretend to indicate the exact spot. Mr. Frere, to whom I am indebted for these references, and who had many opportunities for investigation while holding the highest civil appointments at Surat, tells me he is satisfied that Coryat was buried at Surat outside the old Broach gate, near what is called

Seyd Edrov's mosque, and inside the present Veriow gate erected 1595, on the road to Broach.

Coryat's journals, written during his eastern expedition, were not in the possession of Purchas when he wrote his fourth book (which only contains the letters from Ajmere), but in book x, c. 12, Purchas says that "his own books" have "since come into my hands," and "out of his large journal" "have briefly presented this." What has become of this journal I know not.

It is an article of common faith that Coryat performed all his journeys on foot, and that his first journey was made on only one pair of shoes, which were only once cobbled during the whole time, and on his return were hung up in his parish church of Odcombe. He says himself, in his answer to the bill in Chancery, that he "walked with one only pair of shoes from Venice to Flushing," and in the satirical verses there is mention of them, and of his having hung them up in the church. Odcombe folks talk as if they had been taken down not very many years ago, but by a note in Bliss's edition of the *Athenæ Oxon.* it appears that when Browne Willis visited the church in 1746 they were not there, and he was told that they had been taken down in 1702. A tradition still survives that when he set out on his last journey he made a speech at the village cross, and promised, on his return, to make Odcombe a town. In a letter from Ajmere he says, "I spent in my journey betwixt Jerusalem and this Mogul's Court fifteen months and odd days; all which way I traversed a foot, but with divers pairs of shoes."

The introduction of eating-forks into England from Italy has been ascribed to Coryat, but in the passage referred to in support of his claim, (vol. i, p. 106) he appears to speak only of his use of the carving-fork. It seems from a pas-

sage in Heylyn's *Cosmography*, that eating-forks were not used in England till many years after Coryat's time.

There are many local allusions in Coryat which render his writings interesting to Somersetshire readers. For instance, he compares the rocks in a lake in Savoy to the "exceeding great stone upon Hamdon Hill in Somersetshire, so famous for the quarre, which is but a mile of the parish of Odcombe, my dear natalitial place." Vol. i, p. 84. Mr. Walters, of Stoke, tells me that this huge mass stood on Ham Hill on the left of the road leading from Stoke to Odcombe. Within the memory of man it was sawn up for building purposes, although so shaken by frost as to be nearly worthless. Specially interesting is his repeated mention of the great man of the neighbourhood, Sir Edward Phelips, and his house at Montacute, built during Coryat's boyhood. A correspondent is asked to send a letter to his mother, for "greater safety by some other man than a carrier, and to "take advice of some of the Master of the Rolls his people that are to ride to Evill." (The Yeovil carrier, in those days, seems to have been one Christopher Guppie, to be heard of at Gerard's Hall). In his letter from Ajmere, 1615, to the Right Honourable Sir Edward Phillips, Knight, and Master of the Rolls, at his house in Chancery Lane, or Wanstead, (observing that Sir Edward was 53, "when I took my leave of you") he says, "Your father, that was my godfather, who imposed upon me the name of Thomas, lived more than 80 years," and he humbly recommends himself to "your honour and virtuous lady, your well-beloved son and heir apparent, Sir Robert, and his sweet lady," &c. In vol. i, p. 219, he wishes that the Piazza of Venice had been paved not with brick, but "either with diamond pavier made of free stone, as the halls of some of our great gentlemen in England are

(amongst the rest that of my honourable and thrice-worthy Mœcenas Sir Edward Phillips, in his magnificent house of Montague, in the county of Somerset, within a mile of Odcombe, my sweet native soil), or with other pavier ex quadrato lapide, which we call Ashler in Somersetshire." And upon being shewn the palace of the Elector of Cologne, at Bonn, and asked whether there was any palace in England to equal it, he says, vol. ii. p. 483, "For besides many other English palaces that do surpass that of the Archbishop of Colen, there is one in mine own county of Somersetshire, even the magnificent house of my most worthy and right-worshipful neighbour and Mœcenas Sir Edward Philippes, now Master of the Rolls, (whom I name honoris causâ) in the town of Montacute, so stately adorned with the statues of the nine worthies that may be at least equally ranked with this of Bonna, if not something preferred before it."

With this contemporaneous evidence of what these nine statues were intended to represent, one of which is still called "Little David," though the common folk call them the Master Mason and his eight sons, I conclude my notice.

From Odcombe, which is situated on a hill commanding an extensive and beautiful view, the party descended through green lanes and avenues of oak to

Brympton D'Evercy

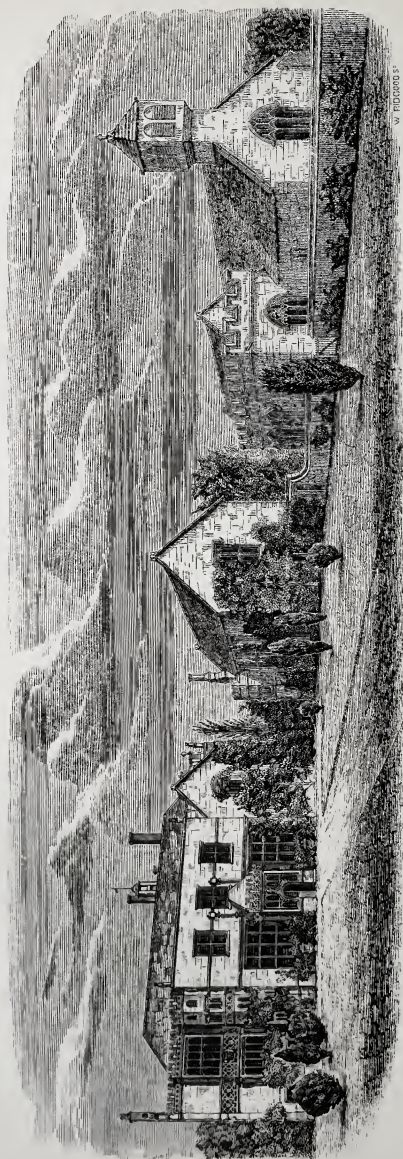
the residence of Lady Georgiana Fane. This most interesting house, with all its treasures of antiquity and art, were generously thrown open to the visitors, who gratefully

acknowledged the courteous and generous hospitalities extended to them.

The following description of Brympton by Mr. Freeman appears in the Proceedings of this Society for 1853, p. 7.

The church is small, and was originally a Decorated cross church, without aisles or tower. The south transept, with a beautiful Geometrical window to the south, and a foliated arch connecting it with the nave; the foliated south door, and a piscina in what was the north transept, are all pleasing examples of that style, and enable us to form a good notion of a Somersetshire church of the earlier period. But some benefactor of Perpendicular times, some inhabitant doubtless of the adjoining mansion, whose name and exact date some local antiquary will, I doubt not, be able to supply,* founded a Chantry for three priests. He built for their dwelling-place the house which still remains on the north side of the churchyard, and modified the church to adapt it to his purpose. He made an eastern addition to the north transept, and altered the direction of its gable, so as to give it the external appearance of an aisle, while internally it makes two chapels, the south transept being doubtless the third. A stone roodscreen, that uncommon feature in a parish church, must date from the same period; so also must the western bell-cot of a very distinctive character, a wiser addition, I think, than either a meagre tower, which would have been of no beauty in itself, or a

* It appears, from Mr. Batten's account, that the architectural changes were all made about the same time, in the reign of Henry VII, by a benefactor of the name of Sydenham; but that the original foundation of the Chantry was due to an earlier family, named D'Everey, temp. Edward I.



Brynpton D'Evercy.

magnificent one, which would have destroyed the beauty of the rest of the church. I cannot speak with equal praise of the addition of a flat panelled ceiling, which, though very good in itself, cuts off the head of the beautiful south window. The Chantry House is an oblong Perpendicular building of two stages, chiefly remarkable for the octagonal turret which gives access to the upper one which is so large as to have quite the air of an oriel. A good open roof and some fine plaster ceilings of later date, will be found above. The great house, to which the Chantry House now forms a horticultural appendage, presents a west front of great splendour, which is throughout essentially of good Perpendicular architecture, though extensive portions have been altered in later styles. The north-west portion is untouched, and presents a magnificent display of oriels, turrets, chimneys, and open battlements. The central part, containing the hall, has been altered in Elizabethan times, but it retains its original basement, and a curious kind of oriel, which, now at least, acts also as a porch.*

The south façade was built after a design by Inigo Jones, and is a beautiful and interesting specimen of that style.

The accompanying illustration will help the members to realize the beautiful and striking architectural group with which all the members were enchanted on their arrival at Brympton D'Evercy.

The Society is favoured with the following notice of

* Mr. Batten says this oriel was added in 1722. I should like to look at it again ; but speaking without book, I should have thought this was rather the date when the door, which looks like an interpolation, was cut through.

The Supposed Chantry House.

BY MR. J. J. HOOPER.

AT the north-east corner of the Brympton churchyard and between it and the present mansion, stands an old building commonly called the Chantry House, of which there is a brief notice by Parker. I am permitted by a gentleman of considerable experience in the study of early Domestic Architecture to send you the results of a more careful examination than has yet been bestowed upon it by our Somersetshire Archæological Society.

The communication with the upper floor is on the north side by an external staircase with an arrowhole in the higher part: the fireplace and cusped windows of the upper floor, west of the staircase, are of the same date with it: the roof is of the same character as that of the Fish-house at Meare, and a room in the Vicar's Close at Wells, a type not uncommon during and after the time of Edward III. At the east end of the upper floor is a smaller room partitioned off with two lancet windows to the east, (not cusped but probably of the same date as the others), a fireplace probably of the time of Henry VII, and a ceiling of the time of James I. On the south side of the larger room is a small doorway which was the entrance to a wardrobe. The wardrobe itself projecting from the south wall,

and furnished with a wooden shoot, was removed not many years ago. I am told that there were two such projections, but it is difficult to trace the position of the second.

On the ground floor we find a doorway at the north-west corner, of the same date as the earliest part of the building, with an arrowhole at its side, three parts of which have been blocked up by modern masonry. Two of the windows on the north side, one of which is cusped, may, judging by the form of the including arches, be co-æval with the doorway. The others are evidently insertions not earlier than the time of James I. This part of the building has evidently undergone many changes, but the close growth of the ivy renders a minute examination of the walls almost impossible. Some doorways have evidently been built up and others opened. An old print in the possession of Lady G. Fane shews more doorways than at present exist. It is well to remember that this ground floor was turned by a former Lord Westmoreland into stables.

Taken as a whole the building presents the common type of a mansion house of the fourteenth or beginning of the fifteenth century. The external staircase constructed for defence : the hall occupying the greater part of the upper floor ; in this instance, that to the west of the staircase ; with fireplace and garderobe : the solar, or perhaps in this case two chambers, to the east of the staircase, probably screened off from the hall : the ground floor, with few or no windows, serving as offices for domestics, or, if need were, for securing cattle.

There seems no ground for supposing that this building was ever a Chantry House, except its proximity to the church. It appears from the *Inquis. ad quod damnum*, as quoted by Collinson, that 34 Edward I, Peter D'Evercy gave a messuage and forty acres of land in this parish to a

chaplain to perform Divine Service in the Church of St. Andrew of Brimpton, for the soul of the said Peter, his ancestors and successors, and for the souls of all the faithful deceased. But the message so given was evidently the farm-house on the forty acres of land: no mass priest was ever favoured with such quarters as this mansion house afforded: the external staircase is on the side away from the church: and the architecture, though not the arrangement, of the building is of a later date than that of Peter D'Everey's foundation. At the same time it is of much earlier date than can be ascribed to any part of the present mansion house. Peter D'Everey, who founded the Chantry in 1306, was the last male representative of the family of that name, who held their lands at Brympton under the more important house of Furneaux of Ashington. On his death, in 1325, the manor passed by the female line to the family of Glamorgan, and it appears afterwards to have come for a time into the custody of the crown, for by an entry in the *Inquis. ad quod damnum*, 33 Edward III, it appears that John de Gildesbrough "qui tenet manerium de Brumpton juxta Ivole ex commissione domini regis pro certa firma" had been guilty of divers oppressions and extortions on the tenants of the said manor. Two years later, on the death of Nicholas Glamorgan, 1362, the manor passed to his numerous sisters. One of these married Peter Veer, and I am told by Mr. Batten that the arms of Veer appear with those of Stourton* and Beauchin on the rood loft beam in the church. We now approach the probable date of the building, viz. :—between the extinction of the name of D'Everey and the erection, by the Sydenhams, of their more stately mansion in the time

* I believe the manor belonged to the Stourton family before it was acquired by the Sydenhams.



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NASH HOUSE, EAST COVENTRY, SOMERSET.

of Henry VII, and the conclusion seems almost irresistible that it is the old manor house of Brympton, built, to judge by the details of the architecture, in the early part of the fifteenth century. After the Sydenhams had built their mansion this older manor house seems to have fallen into neglect, but early in the seventeenth century it became necessary to make use of it again as a place of residence. This may have been on account of the alterations made at this time in the mansion house, when the greater part of the west front was built, and the hall was made or enlarged by bringing forward the outer wall. (To the architects of the same period may, perhaps, be ascribed the bell turret of the church, and the chancel screen over which the old rood loft beam was placed.) For the purpose of residence more windows were now inserted in the lower walls of the building, the solar was repaired and newly ceiled, and perhaps the fireplace was brought from the mansion house adjoining. There is a tradition that the upper floor was used at one time as a place of confinement for a mad woman, and certainly the wooden shoots of the garde-robe, but lately removed, indicate comparatively recent occupation.

From hence the party proceeded to

West Coker

where the Rev. Mr. Penny read an elaborate paper on the church, and pointed out some portions of the masonry which he considered to be Saxon work.

Through narrow lanes the excursionists proceeded to the few and interesting remains of

Nash Court

an illustration of which is given in this volume.

From here the party went on to Coker Court, the resi-

dence of W. H. Helyar, Esq. who kindly exhibited some very interesting early family deeds ; passports and papers of the period of the Great Civil War ; and curious ancient jewels. Here all the members were sumptuously entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Helyar. The courtesy and hospitality of the Squire and his Lady having been duly acknowledged, and a brief visit paid to the church, the members went on to Pendomer Church which has been recently restored. The tomb of Sir John de Dummer, of which an engraving is given in this volume, was carefully examined and fully explained by Mr. Bond.

Afterwards assembling in front of the Manor House, votes of thanks were duly presented to the Local Secretaries, Mr. Sparks, and Mr. John Perry : to the General Secretary, Mr. Jones : to those who had contributed to the Museum, and finally, on the motion of Colonel Pinny to E. A. Freeman, Esq. as President

These votes of thanks having been duly acknowledged, the President declared the Annual Meeting closed.

Pendomer, Co. Somerset.

—
BY T. BOND, ESQ.
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THE parish of Pendomer, in the hundred of Coker, anciently written Penne Domer, derives its original name from the peculiarly shaped hill, in British called Pen, on the summit of which stands the church and old manor house in close proximity to each other. Its distinctive appellation was acquired from the family of Dummer or Dommer, who for many generations were lords of the manor. The church, which is a conspicuous object from the line of the Salisbury and Exeter railway, is situated about four miles from the town of Yeovil. It is of small dimensions and simple character, and has no architectural features of more than ordinary interest. Its style is "Perpendicular," but it contains a very interesting monument of much earlier date, which no doubt occupied the same spot in some older building.

In an arched recess in the north wall, immediately opposite the original door way, surmounted by a kind of canopy, lies a recumbent effigy of a knight clad in a complete suit of ring mail. The figure rests on a slab of stone six feet one inch long, and four inches thick, raised by common masonry about nine inches above the present pavement. It does not lie entirely on its back, but is turned a little

on the right side, by which means its characteristic features are more fully exhibited.

The hands are joined in an attitude of prayer, the legs are crossed, and the feet rest on a lion couchant. A flowing surcoat, confined at the waist by a strap or cord, reaches five inches below the knees, and a slit or opening at the bottom in front permits the corners to fall back, exhibiting the *hauberk* or shirt of mail. Below this again is seen about an inch of the *haqueton* or quilted under garment. A *coif de mailles* takes the form of the head, the face alone being exposed to view through an opening of oval form. This portion of the armour extends to the points of the shoulders, and falls over the upper edge of the surcoat. The hands are protected by gauntlets of peculiar character, reaching two inches and a half above the wrists. The outsides are protected by gads or lames, being small oblong plates of steel, of which each finger has a separate series. The fronts of the knees have *genouillières* or knee plates, but there is no corresponding protection at the elbows. The head reposes on a helmet which is secured to the neck of the figure by a cord fastened at each end to a small staple or loop. The helmet, like the *coif de mailles*, takes the shape of the head and has a projecting rib running up the middle of the face and passing over the crown, but slightly pointed above the forehead. On either side of this rib are horizontal slits for the eyes and five cruciform openings for respiration.

The feet are armed with what seem to be the remains of long pointed spurs. The shield, 20 inches long, is not suspended from the shoulder by a *guige* but is secured to the left arm above the elbow by a strap or *enarme*. A long sword suspended from a waist belt hangs on the left side and reaches below the bottom of the surcoat.



Monument to Sir John de Dummer in Pendermer Church.

Both the surcoat and the shield exhibit the armorial bearings of the knight, viz. a crescent between six billets 3, 2, and 1, though on the surcoat the three lower billets are supposed to be concealed by the folds of the garment.

The mouldings at the verge of the recess are projected so as to form a cinquefoil headed arch. The cusps are pierced and the two lower ones terminate in figures of half angels, both of which have lost their heads. That on the right bears in its hands a small human figure intended to represent the soul of the deceased, which is thus being borne towards heaven.

On either side of the recess, four feet six inches above the floor, a plain corbel seventeen inches wide and projecting about eight inches from the wall supports a slender pannelled pier or buttress terminating in a crocketed pinnacle. The pier and pinnacle together measure five feet. An embattled cornice, eight inches deep and ornamented with rosettes in the principal hollow moulding runs across above the point of the arch and joins the piers at their junction with the pinnacles. The battlements of the cornice are surmounted by small spikes or prickets of iron probably intended to support wax lights on the anniversary of the obit of the deceased.

Immediately within each pier or buttress, and on the same corbel, stands a small male human figure about two feet five inches high, habited in a loose garment (probably the "bliaus" or blouse—the smock frock of the present day) confined at the waist by a cord and reaching to a little below the knees, close fitting hose and boots, the latter being laced or buttoned in front and drawn up about an inch and a half above the ankle. The hair is long and wavy, and a cap covers the head. Both hands of the left figure, and the right hand of that on the right are elevated to support the cornice, whilst the left figure has

the left hand resting on the thigh as if to increase the power of sustaining so heavy a weight. The left foot of each figure rests on a little mound. The faces of the men have a coarse and vulgar expression, almost grotesque, which was perhaps intended by the artist as a conventional mode of showing that he intended to represent peasants.

The canopy above described is very remarkable, and is perhaps unique in monumental art of the period at which it was erected. The monument is of stone from the neighbouring quarries of Ham Hill. It was till lately disfigured by accumulated whitewash and dirt, but it has recently been carefully cleaned under the direction of the Rev H. Helyar, the Rector, who has judiciously abstained from all attempts at "restoration."

Sir Walter Scott considered heraldry to be one of the eyes of history, and by the help of this eye we have no difficulty in appropriating the monument to a member of the Dummer family, whilst the character of the armour in which the knight is clad warrants the assumption that the effigy represents Sir John de Dummer of Peane Dommer, who flourished in the reign of Edward I, and part of that of Edward II.

Collinson (History of Somerset) confused the family of Domer with that of Toomer of Toomer, in the parish of Henstridge, considering they were one and the same, notwithstanding the names were thus variously written. It is clear however he was mistaken. The Toomers, by that name, were in possession of lands in Henstridge as early as 32 Edward I, when Richard de Tomere was quarent in a fine respecting them,* and it appears by a monument in Henstridge Church that their arms were totally unlike those of Dummer. The Dummers were never called Toomer.

* Final Concord, Somerset, 32 Edward I, No. III.

The village of Dummer, anciently called Dumere, Dumere, and Domer, which is situated near the town of Basingstoke, in Hampshire, was the bergeau from which the Somersetshire Dummers originally sprung.

At the Domesday survey "Penne" was held by Alured of the Earl of Moreton, and was taxed for five hides, so it was a considerable lordship. It afterwards was the property of a family which assumed its name. Agnes de la Penne, the heiress of this family, brought it to Radulphus de Domer, her husband, who in the 12th of Henry II held two knights' fees in Somersetshire of Richard Fitz Wm.*

Radulphus de Domer seems to have been a son or grandson of Henry de Dommere who possessed rents issuing out of three houses in Winchester between 7 and 28 Henry I, 1107—1128.† It is not improbable that Henry was a son of Hungar, who held Dummer of Odo de Winchester at the Domesday survey, when it was found that three "hagæ" or houses with curtilages in Winchester paid two shillings rent to the lord of Dummer. Radulphus de Dumera had a rent of 5s 7d issuing out of lands in Tanner street in Winchester, 1148, 13 Steph.§ By deed, without date, he gave a garden at Dummer to Godsfield Priory, Co. Hants.

Agnes his wife survived him, retaining her maiden name in her widowhood, as was not unfrequently the case with territorial heiresses at that early period. In 3 John as Agnes de Penne, she paid six marks to the king's Exchequer "ne transfretet"—being a commutation for non-performance of military service in person in the king's expedition beyond the sea—for two knights' fees which she held of John de Montacute of the honor of Moreton,¶ and in the 7th year of King John, by the name of Agnes de la

* Liber Niger.

† Liber Winton.

§ Ibid p. 554.

¶ Rot. de oblatiis 3 John.

Penne, she accounted at the exchequer for five marks for the same two knights' fees then held as before, paying 50s 8d, and owing 28s 2d.*- John de Montacute was the heir of Richard Fitz William, chief lord of this manor in 12 Henry II as mentioned above.†

Radulphus de Dommer seems to have divided his lordship of Dummer between two of his sons Henry and Robert, the descendants of each of whom continued to hold a separate manor, or a moiety of the same manor in that vill for many generations.

Henry, eldest son of Radulphus, died in his mother's lifetime leaving William de Dumer his only son and heir.

In 10 Richard I, 1198, Robert de Dumer (the second son of Radulphus) granted half a hide of land in Dumere to Geoffry his brother parson of Dumere, to be held in francalmoigne by the parsons of the church there,§ and he likewise was a benefactor to Godsfield Priory. In Trinity term, 15 John, he claimed a knight's fee in Penn, Co. Somerset, against William de Dummer his nephew. William responds that the said knight's fee was the inheritance of Agnes, wife of Radulphus de Dummer, by whom she had two sons, Henry, father of the said William the respondent, and the said Robert the plaintiff, but that Henry was the eldest. After the death of Radulphus de Dummer, Agnes his widow permitted Henry her son to take a wife whom he took to his mother's house by her permission. By this marriage he had issue the said William and two daughters, but he died in the lifetime of his mother, who thereupon took charge of his infant children, and out of her own inheritance gave a dower to

* Rot. Cancell. 7 John. † Rot. Pipæ Somerset and Dorset 13 John
§ Fin. conc. Southton.

his widow. Agnes afterwards lived to a great age and wishing to secure the said land to the heir of Henry she so importuned John de Montacute, chief lord thereof, that he accepted the homage of the said William as son and heir of Henry in respect of the said lands, and thereupon Agnes demised the whole of the fee to the said William and remained in his charge up to the time of her death. Robert on the other hand denied that Agnes ever made such a demise, and pleaded that she was seized of the premises at her death. Judgment was given in favor of William but the case is curious as seeming to indicate that the law of primogeniture was not generally known as fully established at this early period.*

The posterity of Robert de Dumer in the male line continued to own a moiety of the manor of Dummer, Co. Hants, for three generations till Robert de Dummer died without male issue between 4th and 15th Edward III, leaving Alice his daughter and heir married to John de Astwick or Estwick of Estwick, Co. Beds. Their grandchild and heir, Alice de Astwick, with her husband John de Drayton conveyed all their right in the manor of Dummer to John de Popham, 43 Edward III. This branch of the family also possessed property in Leicestershire and Northamptonshire.

In the reign of King John, *anno incerto*, William de Dummer above mentioned son and heir of Henry was summoned to do homage to Henry Hosato for two knights' fees in Dummer, Co. Hants,† and having joined the rebellious barons against the king he obtained pardon and a restoration of his lands in Somerset, 1 Henry III, 1217.§

* Plac. corom Rege. Anº. 15 John, rot. i, in dorso.

† Placita de Banco Mich. temp. Reg. Joh.

§ Rot. Claus. 1, Henry III, m. 21.

As "William de Dummer Knight" he witnessed a charter of William de St. John relating to Andwell Priory, Co. Hants, after 1212, and he was also a witness to a deed *sans date* relating to Melbury Osmond, Co. Dorset,* and to another of Walter Abbot of Hyde near Winchester, to Herbert de Calna, relating to Drayton, Co. Hants.† In 1219 he was one of the knights attesting the liberties of the church of Yeovil. In 27 Henry III, 1243, he was in a fine relating to Bishopston (in Montacute), Co. Somerset.§

By Sibilla his wife, sister of Herbert de Calna, or Caune, lord of the manor of Drayton,¶ he had issue, John de Dumer his son and heir who in 3 Edward I was accused of having, seven years previously, viz. 53 Henry III, 1269 committed a perpresture or trespass on the king's Highway leading from Montacute to Ilchester.‡ He appears to have had a dispute with his cousin John de Dummer, who at one time is styled of Eston, Co. Leicester, and at another of Watford, Co. of Northampton, and who owned the other moiety of the manor of Dummer, respecting the advowson of the church there. It was ultimately agreed An°. 3, Edward I, 1275, between John, son of William de Dummer, and John, son of Richard de Dummer, that they and their heirs respectively should present alternately to the said Rectory,|| and this arrangement continued to be carried out between the two branches of the family and their representatives for many generations.

At a court of Regard held for the forests of Pembre and Everle, Co. Hants, 8 Ed. I, John, son of William de Dunmere, was amerced half a mark for having committed waste in

* Orig. penes. Com. Ilchester.

† Cartulary of Hyde Abbey, MS Cott. Domitian xiv, f. 96 b.

§ Fin. conc. No. 59. ¶ Plac. coram Rege. pasch. 20 Edward III, m. 71.

‡ Rot. Hund. vol. ii, p. 131. || Fin. conc. Southton, 3 Edward I, No. 19.

his wood of Dunmere. And at the same court John, son of Richard de Dunmere, having been taken into custody for committing waste, *de novo*, in his wood of Rowell, appeared and claimed to be quit of waste and regard, and of the lawing of his dogs at Dunmere, because he held that place of the Earl of Cornwall, as of the honor of St. Waleric. A day is given him to produce the charter of the said Earl under which he claims the said franchise.* In 23 Edward I, 1295, John, son of William de Dunmere was defendant in a suit with the Abbot of Waverly concerning common of pasture in Dunmere.†

In 25 Edward I, 1297, John de Dommere held lands in Somerset of the value of £20 per annum, and was summoned to perform military service in person with horse and arms beyond the seas, and in the same year he was summoned as a knight to appear with horse and arms at a military council at Rochester before Edward the King's son Lieutenant in England.§ In 28 Edward I it was found by inquisition that it would not be prejudicial to the king if license was granted to Thomas, Bishop of Exeter, to give to the Prior and Convent of Bruton one acre of land in Chilterne and the advowson of the church of the same vill which he had by the gift of John de Dommere.¶ This gift however seems never to have been completed and the Bishop of Exeter was probably only a trustee, for the patronage of

* Placita Forestæ, Southton, Bag 1, No. 5, m. 17. The court of Regard was held every third year for the lawing or expeditation of mastiffs, which was done by cutting off the ball of the fore feet, to prevent them running after deer in the king's forests. It was supposed that mastiffs were necessary for the defence of a man's house, but no other dog was permitted to be kept within the precincts of the forest.

† Abbrev. Rot. orig. § Parl. writs.

¶ Inquis. 28, Edward I, No 115.

the church of Chilthorne Domer continued in the Dummer family after this period.

On the assessment of the aid for marrying the King's daughter, 31 Edward I, 1303, John de Dommere was assessed for one fee in Penne,* and in the same reign, and probably in the same year, he held one-fourth of a knight's fee in Chilterne Dummer, co. Somerset, and one fee in Dummer, co. Hants.†

In 1306, 34 Edward I, he was returned to Parliament as a Knight of the Shire for Somerset, and on 30th May in that year he obtained his writ "de expensis" for attendance at the same Parliament.§

As John de Dommere Knt. he presented to the Rectory of Penne Domer, 4 Edward II, 1311.¶ In 7 Edward II, 1313, John de Dommere, Miles, was again returned to Parliament as Knight of the Shire for the County of Somerset, and on the 18th May in that year he obtained his writ "de expensis" for attendance at the same.‡ On 28th of the same month he was appointed one of the assessors and collectors of the County of Dorset, of the "twentieth" and "fifteenth" granted in the same Parliament.|| By a charter dated at Penne, on Wednesday next before the feast of St. Luke the Evangelist, 8 Edward II, John de Dommere "Miles" granted six acres of arable land and half an acre of meadow together with 4s rent in Chilterne Dommere, to Walter Isaac of Hull, for his life. A seal is appended but it is somewhat injured and is rather indistinct. It has a plain heater-shaped shield bearing a crescent between 6 billets 3, 2 and 1 the upper three indistinct. Legend ✠ S. IOHANNIS DE DVMER.** A roll of arms of the time of Edward I

* Aid roll public records. † Ibid. § Parl. writs.

¶ Harl. 6964, f. 13. ‡ Parl. writs. || Ibid.

** Original in possession of the trustees of the Almshouse at Ilchester.



Seal of Sir John de Dummer, Knt., 1314.—See page 100.



Seal of Sir Edmund de Dummer, Knt., 1363.—See page 108.



Seal of Edmund Dummer, Esq., 1407.—See page 109.

gives the arms of "Joan de Domare" Azure, billité and a crescent Or.* On 1st September 9 Edward II, by the name of John de Dunmere, he was one of the supervisors of the assize of arms and array in the County of Somerset. On 5th March following, as John de Dommare he was certified as being lord of Chilterne Dommare. On 26th of the same month, as John de Dommer, he was appointed one of the commissioners to raise foot soldiers in the County of Somerset pursuant to a grant made in the Parliament of Lincoln. On the 27th of May following he was commanded to proceed with such levy the day of the muster first appointed having been prorogued. On the 26th June further instructions were addressed to him concerning the levy in the County of Somerset and on the 5 Aug. following, 10 Edward I, he was directed to surcease from raising foot soldiers in Somersetshire, and instructed concerning the armour provided for them, &c.†

By a fine levied in the octaves of St. Hilary 11 Edward II in which John de Dunmere senior was querent, and Stephen de Dunmere and John de Dunmere junior were deforcients, the manor and advowson of Penne were settled on the said John de Dunmere senior for his life, to be held of the said John de Dunmere junior and his heirs by the rent of a rose at Midsummer, remainder to Richard de Dunmere for his life to be held of the said John de Dunmere junior and his heirs, reversion to the said John de Dunmere junior and his heirs.§ It will be seen hereafter that John de Dunmere junior and Richard de Dunmere were sons of John de Dunmere senior. In 12 Edward II, John de Dommere, Knight, and John de Dommere, Esq. (who

* Archæologia vol. 39, p. 389.

† Parl. writs.

§ Fin. conc. Somerset 11, Edward 11, No. 106.

was no doubt his son), were witnesses to a charter made at Romseye by Walter de Romseye, Knight, giving lands in Hylle, near Chilthorne Domer, to Matilda Isaac and others.*

In Easter term 11 Edward II, John de Roche claimed a moiety of the manor of Doumère, Co. Hants, against Johanna, relict of Thomas de Doumère who is proved as will be seen hereafter to have been another son of Sir John de Dommer. Johanna thereupon called to warranty John de Doumère. The latter did not put in an appearance, whereupon the court ordered that lands belonging to him should be taken equivalent in value to the said moiety of the said manor, and in order to ascertain how much the said moiety is worth, the Sheriff of Hants was ordered to extend the same which he did by a jury who valued it at £65 5s. The cause coming on again for hearing in Trinity term 12 Edward II, the Sheriff of Hants returns that he has done nothing in the matter for that the said John had dispossessed himself of all the lands which he had in his bailiwick. Evidence however is produced in court to show that John in the quinzine of Easter, 11 Edward II, when the said Johanna first called him to warranty, had lands at Penne in Somersetshire sufficient to answer the claim. The Sheriff of Somerset therefore is commanded to seize into the King's hands lands of the said John to the value above-mentioned which he had in the last named county on the aforesaid day and year, into whosesoever hands such lands had come. In Michaelmas term 13 Edward II, the cause was again brought on when the Sheriff of Somerset returned that he had received the precept too late, whereupon it is again adjourned till the Easter term following, but no further proceedings have been met with on the rolls of the court.†

* Ilchester Almshouse deeds.

† Placita de Banco, 11 Edward II, m. 214.—12 Edward II, m. 15, in dorso—Trin. 12 Edward II, m. 13.—Mich. 13 Edward II, m. 136.

Sir John de Dummer seems to have been still living in Michaelmas term 14 Edward II, when by the name of John de Dommere senior he was involved in litigation with the executors of William Lord Paynel who claimed from him £60 which they alleged he unjustly detained,* and on the other hand he called on Peter de Worleham, one of the said executors, to render an account as his receiver.†

It is probable that he died soon after this time for we do not meet with him again subsequently to the latter date.

There is every reason to suppose that all the foregoing notices of John de Dommer relate to the same person, and there can be no doubt he was the Knight whose monument is above described.§

Sir John de Dommer seems to have married a sister of Sir William Paynel, Knight, who was summoned to Parliament as Baron Paynel from 32 Edward I to 8 Edward II.¶ This William Lord Paynel having no issue, settled the manor of Kynnore in the parish of Sidlesham,

* Plac. de Banco, Mich. 14 Edward II, m. 332.

† Ibid m.m. 182, 277.

§ But there was a John de Donmere or Dommere, contemporary with the above who probably sprung from a younger branch, perhaps from one of the younger sons of William, son of Henry of Penne. He died before 19th Jan. 18 Edward II, on which day an extent was made of his lands when it was found that he held at his death in fee simple of the heir of Elias De Albinaco then under age and in the King's wardship, the hamlet of Dumet (in Buckland St. Mary, adjoining the Forest of Neroche, Co. Somerset), as of the manor of South Petherton, by service of one-fourth part of a Knight's fee. Johanna, aged 30 and more, wife of Benedict Arundel, and Margery, aged 28 and more, wife of William de Condensham were his sisters and co-heirs (Esch. 18 Edward II, No. 74).

Thomas de Dummer acquired a messuage and five acres of land in Montacute, Co. Somerset, from Richard de Cinnoc, by fine 11 Henry III, 1227. William de Dommere was a witness to a charter of Richard de Mandevill relating to the Priory of Montacute, 1262, 1280, and Stephen de Dummer witnessed a charter of lands in Chilthorne Dommer, circa 1280. He was living in 1318. These three may have been younger sons of William de Dommer, son of Henry of Penne.

¶ Dugdale's Baronage.

Co. Sussex, in manner hereinafter mentioned, and died in 10 Edward II. In Michaelmas term 11 Edward II, Edward de St. John and Eva his wife, relict of William Lord Paynel claimed as the dower of the said Eva one-third of the manor of Kynnore, and 60 acres of land in Bridham and Colkham, Co. Sussex, against Richard de Dommer ("de Dunmere") who thereupon called to warranty John Paynel brother and heir of the said William.* In Easter term 13 Edward II, the cause coming on again for hearing, Richard de Dunmere made default, but Thomas de Dunmere appeared and pleaded that the said Richard had nothing more than an estate for his life in the said manor in Kynnore by gift of Sir William Paynel, Knight, who gave the same to the said Richard for his life, with remainder to John Paynel and the heirs male of his body, remainder to Thomas de Dunmere his nephew ("nepoti predicti Willielmi)," and his heirs; moreover that the said John Paynel had died without issue male, whereupon the reversion of the said premises fell to the said Thomas the claimant, son of the said Thomas de Dunmere, and he prays that the default of the said Richard may not prejudice him, and that he may be admitted to defend his right; this he is now allowed to do, and thereupon he calls to warranty Nicholas de Eye, of Upton, and Matilda his wife, daughter of the said John Paynel, and cousin and heir of Sir William Paynel.†

Thomas de Dummer the plaintiff appears to have been at this time under age, for Geoffrey de Shureburn was admitted as his "custos" to prosecute his suit.‡

Thomas de Dummer the elder must have obtained the

* Plac. de Banco. Mich. 11 Edward II, m. 268, dors—Pasch. 11 Edward II, m. 123, dors.

† Ibid Pasch. 13 Edward II, m. 4. ‡ Ibid 13 Edward II, m. 23.

manor of Dummer by gift of Sir John de Dummer his father (probably on his marriage) before 1315 as in that year he presented to the Rectory, but it was not long before, for it belonged to John de Dummer in 1303, 31 Edward I, as already mentioned.

Thomas, son of Sir John de Dommer had besides Thomas before mentioned a younger son named John, who by the description of John, son of Thomas de Dummer, released to Henry Wysshe all his right to the manors of Keynore, Co. Sussex, and Datchet, and Fulmere, Co. Berks. 11 Edward III, 1337.*

In Easter term, 20 Edward III, Thomas de Dummer, the son, claimed the manors of Drayton, Co. Hants, Bromley, Co. Dorset, and Ashe Herbert, Co. Somerset, under a settlement made by a fine levied between Baldwin de Kaune and Herbert de Kaune in 56 Hen III, whereby the said manors were limited in reversion, in case of the death of the said Herbert without issue, to the said Baldwin and his heirs. Thomas de Dummer alleged that the said Baldwin died without issue and afterwards the said Herbert likewise died without issue whereupon the said Thomas became the next heir of the said Herbert being the son of Thomas de Dummer, son of John de Dummer, son of Sibilla sister of Herbert, father of the said Baldwin de Caune; † but it was pleaded on the other side that John de Roches was descended from Eufemia, a sister of the said Baldwin and Herbert, and as the Roches and their descendants afterwards possessed Bromley, it may be presumed the claim of Thomas de Dummer to the property was groundless. The claim, however, shews us that he assumed to be the eldest son and heir of his father.

* Rot. Claus. 11, Edward III, m. 3 in dorso.

† Placita coram Rege 20 Edward III, m. 71.

According to a pedigree by Vincent in the College of Arms, the last-mentioned Thomas de Dummer was the last heir male of this branch of the family, and Ellen his sole daughter and heir having married Sir Nicholas Atte More (who was assessed in Dummer 1 Edward III), their posterity assumed the name and arms of Dummer, and continued to own their moiety of the manor till on the death of William Dummer in 1593, this branch also became extinct.

Sir John de Dummer was succeeded at Penne Domer and Chilthorne Domer by Richard de Dommer, by virtue of the settlement already mentioned. This Richard was one of the executors of William Lord Paynel, and in 14 Edward II, 1320, he was involved in litigation with his co-executors. In the record of those proceedings he is styled Richard son of John de Dummere* and Richard de Dummere de Kynnore.† He was one of the men-at-arms returned by the Sheriff of Somerset, pursuant to a writ dated at Westminster 9 May, 17 Edward II, as summoned by general proclamation to attend the great council at Westminster on the 30th May following.§ On collection of the "twentieth," granted to King Edward III in the first year of his reign, he and Stephen de Dummer were assessed in Penne, and the former was also assessed in Chylterne Dummer; and they were both assessed again in Penne for the "fifteenth" and "tenth," granted to the King in the 7th year of his reign.¶ Richard de Dummer presented to the Rectory of Penne Domer as lord of the manor there 19 Edward II, and 14 and 16 Edward III.|| He must have died before 20 Edward III, for in that year John

* Plac de Banco Mich. 14 Edward II, m. m. 48. 194 dors.—Hil. m. 71 dors. m. 171.

† Ibid Mich. m. 194.

§ Parl writs.

¶ Aid roll pub. rec.

|| Institution books of the Bishop of Bath and Wells. MS Harl. 6964 f. 95.

de Dommer is found in possession of Penne and Chilthorne, the former, no doubt, under the entail above mentioned. That he was a son of Sir John de Dommere we have direct evidence in a charter relating to the same lands in Chilthorne which were granted as above mentioned by Sir John de Dommer 8 Edward II. By this charter, which was dated at Chilthorne Dommer on Monday next after the feast of St. Augustin the apostle of the English, 20 Edward III, John de Dommere, "son of Sir John de Dommere," released to Walter Isaac, of Hull, archdeacon of Bath, all his right to the lands in Chilterne Dommer, which the said Walter, and Isabella daughter of William Isaac of Hull, held of him (*di me tenent*) for the term of their lives.* In the same year he was assessed for the aid granted for knighting the Black Prince, in respect of the same knight's fee in Penne, and the fourth of a fee in Chilterne, which were formerly (i.e. in 31 Edward I) held by John de Dommer.† He was probably the same John de Dommer who was witness to charters relating to lands in Chilthorne Domer in 1323, 1328, and 1341. It is probable he died before 23 Edward III, because in that year Sir William Fitzwaryn presented to the church of Pendomer by reason of the guardianship of the lands of John de Dummer.§

The name of John de Dommere was returned by the Sheriff of Somerset amongst the men-at-arms (in a separate list from the "nomina militum") summoned by general proclamation to attend the great council at Westminster on Wednesday after Ascension-day, 30 May, 17 Edward II, 1324.¶ Whether this was John son of Sir

* Original deed in possession of the trustees of Ilchester almshouse.

† Aid roll. pub. rec.

§ Institution books of Bath and Wells. MS Harl., 6964, p. 243.

¶ Parl. writs.

John, as is most probable, or the John who died 18 Edward II, mentioned in note page 103, is not quite clear.

John de Dommer was succeeded by Edmond de Dommer or Dummer, who in the 28 Edward III, settled the manor of Penne Dommer, with eight messuages, one carucate of land, fifteen acres of meadow, six acres of pasture, and 100 s. rent in Chilterne Dommer, together with the advowson of the church of the said manor, upon himself and Agnes his wife in jointure.* He is styled Sir Edmond Dommer, Knight, in 37 Edward III, when by a deed dated at Chilterne Dommer, on Tuesday next before the feast of St. Bartholomew the Apostle, he released to Walter Isaac and his brother Stephen Isaac, all the right which he had in the lands in Chilterne Dommer, which Walter Isaac and Isabella Isaac, daughter of William Isaac of Hull, at one time held of John de Dommere, his father, for the term of their lives. Seal, on a shield, suspended from a tree, a crescent between six billets, 3, 2, and 1. Legend **Sigillū : Edmundi : Dummere.**† Sir Edmond was dead on Sunday next after the feast of St. Michael, 47 Ed. III, for by a deed then dated at Chilterne Dummere, James Dummere recites that the late Edmond Dommere, Knight, his kinsman, had been seized in fee of the manors of Penne Dummere and Chylterne Dummere with the advowson of the church of Penne Dummere, which in default of heirs of the body of the said Edmond ought to descend to him the said James, and he thereby grants the reversion of the said premises to Thomas Mareschal, Knt. in fee.§ Agnes, relict of Sir Edmund de Dummer was living in 10 Richard II, when Felicia, who was the wife of Roger Warmwell, held

* Fin. Conc. No. 74.

† Original in possession of the trustees of the Almshouse at Ilchester.

§ Original deed in possession of W. H. Helyar, Esq.

at her death lands in Chilterne Dummer of Agnes de Dummer as of the manor of Chilthorne Dummer.*

It is probable that Sir Edmund Dommer gave Chilthorne Domer to a younger son named John, for we find that in 6 Henry VI a John de Dummer was assessed for the one-fourth of a knight's fee in Chilterne Dommer, which John de Dommere formerly held.†

Sir Edmond Dommer was succeeded at Penne Dommer by his son, who bore the same name, and on Tuesday next after the feast of St. Matthew 4 Henry IV, 1403, Edmond Dommere, son and heir of Edmond Dommere, Knt. granted to John Derby and Agnes his wife for their lives, a close of land within his demesne of Penne Dommere.§

Edmund Dummer, son and heir of Sir Edmund, having four daughters and no son surviving, sold the manor and advowson of Penne Dommer, together with all his lands, &c., there and in Hardington and Coker to John Stourton, Esq., of Preston Plucknett near Yeovil, uncle of the first Lord Stourton, and conveyed them to him and his trustees by charter dated 18th November, 9 Henry IV, 1407. This deed is sealed with the same arms as those on the deeds of his father and greatgrandfather before described. Legend **Sigillu Edmudi Dummer.**¶

Upon this sale a fraudulent attempt appears to have been made on the part of his daughters to impeach the purchaser's title; but on an assize of novel disseisin tried at Taunton on Thursday next after the feast of St. James, in the same year, it was defeated and Stourton had a verdict.

According to the record the daughters who were the

* Inq. p. m. Harl. 4120.

† Aid roll. pub. rec. § Original in possession of W. H. Helyar, Esq.

¶ Original in possession of W. H. Helyar, Esq.

plaintiffs, set up a settlement, by which, as they alleged, their father entailed the estate in default of issue male of himself and Isabel his wife, on Elizabeth or Isabel their daughter in tail male, with remainder to the other daughters in like manner,—whereas Stourton, the defendant, denied the existence of such limitations to the daughters, and asserted that, failing the male issue of Edmond Dummer, by Isabel his wife the estate was limited to his right heirs. If the plaintiff's case was correct, the vendor, whose wife was then dead, would have no right to sell. If defendant's account was true he would, in the event, which happened, have full power to do so.

The record does not set forth the evidence given at the trial, but we may assume we have the most material fact preserved in a deed poll without date, under the hands and seals of the feoffees in trust of the settlement and verified on their oaths. They say that Edmund Dummer, Esq. enfeoffed them of the manor of Penne Dommere upon trust to enfeoff the same to him and Isabel his wife, and the heirs male of their bodies, and in default of such issue to the right heirs of the said Edmond, which feoffment they afterwards made and delivered to Robert Boton the father of Isabel.

Four years afterwards Boton came to them and stated that the feoffment had been accidentally torn by dogs, and he begged them to execute another which he fraudulently put before them, and which they sealed without reading it, on the faith that it was to the same effect as the previous one, whereas there had been introduced limitations in favour of *Isabel*, the daughter of said Edmond and Isabel, in tail male, with remainder to the other daughters of said Edmond in like manner. The daughters were four in number—Elizabeth also called Isabel, Joan senior and

Joan junior, and Roberta. Elizabeth was married to John Duk, who 25 Oc. 10 Henry IV, 1409, released all his right in the property to John Stourton, the purchaser and his trustees. Edmund Dummer was one of the witnesses. His daughters were under age.

The arms of John Stourton, in stained glass, still remain in one of the windows of Pendomer church. He died before 1455, having settled Penne Domer on his daughter Alice, wife of William Daubeney, son and heir apparent of Sir Giles Daubeney, Knight, and her issue by him, with remainders over in favour of his two other daughters, Johanna, wife of John Sydenham of Brympton, and Cecily, wife of Sir Thomas Kyryell, and their issue, with successive remainders in tail to the heirs of the body of Edith late wife of Robert Shottesbroke, Knt. to John Lynde, nephew of the said John Stourton, ("nepoti predicti Johannis Stourton,") and to William Carent of Tomer.* Alice Daubeney was succeeded by her son Giles Lord Daubeney, and he by his son Henry, created Earl of Bridgwater. The latter barred the entail 26 Henry VIII, and in 32 Henry VIII, having no issue, conveyed the manor and advowson of Penne Domer upon favourable terms, to John Bevyn, of Lufton, in the County of Somerset, Esq., in consideration of his marriage with Elizabeth his wife, "nigh kinswoman of the said Earl," in fact, his first cousin, being the daughter of his father's brother, James Daubeney.

John Bevyn, by settlement 5 Edward VI, entailed the estate on his daughter Mary Kymer, wife of Ellis Kymer of West Chelborough, in the county of Dorset, Esq., whose grandson William Kymer, sold it in 1630 to John Lord Poulett. It continued in that family down to the year 1803, when John the 4th Earl sold it to William

* Original deed in possession of W. H. Helyar, Esq.

Helyar, Esq., of Coker Court, the grandfather of the present owner, William Hawker Helyar, Esq., of Coker.

The old manor house at Pendomer, now used as a farmhouse, is favorably situated close to the church. It probably dates from the sixteenth century, but has no architectural features of great interest.

The church has been recently restored. After the sale of this manor to John Stourton in 1407, we meet with little further notice in Somersetshire of the family of its previous lords which probably soon either became extinct or dwindled into insignificance. But the Dummers long continued to hold a place amongst the gentry of Hampshire, and a family of this name, whose pedigree has been traced from the early part of the 16th century, when they held property in Overton, a few miles from Dummer, and who were, in all probability, an offset from the parent stock there, still held considerable estates in that county down to the latter part of the last century. Thomas Dummer, of Cranbury Park, Esq., died without issue in 1784, leaving his estates to his wife, a daughter of Sir Cecil Bisshopp, Bart., and sister of Lord de la Zouch, for her life, with remainder to Mr. Chamberlain, his steward, thus disinheriting all his own relations. His great uncle Edmund Dummer, of Swathling, Esq., left two daughters, who, in 1748, became the co-heirs of John Dummer, Esq., their brother. Mary, the eldest of these, married John Bond, of Grange, in the county of Dorset, Esq., grandfather of the present Mr. Bond, of Grange, who has inherited from his grandmother considerable estates in Hampshire; and Elizabeth, the youngest, married Valentine Knightley, of Fawsley Park, county of Northampton, Esq., great grandmother of the present Sir Rainald Knightley, Bart., of Fawsley.

Edmund Dummer, of Swatheling, Esq., in a petition to the Earl Marshal for a confirmation of his arms in 1711, claimed descent from the Dummers of Dummer, but the connecting link has not been discovered.

Chilthorne Domer

THE parish of Chilthorne Domer three miles north-west of Yeovil anciently contained two distinct manors called respectively Chilthorne Domer, or Dummer, and Chilthorne Vagg, from the two families who were their lords. As the parish acquired its appellation from the first-named family who also possessed the advowson, it is probable theirs was the principal manor, and for this reason it is not unlikely that an interesting monument which still remains in the church was erected to commemorate one of the Dummers. The monument consists of a recumbent effigy raised very little above the floor and placed in a recess in the north wall, having a plain segmental arch with chamfered margin. The figure is habited in a complete suit of chain mail with gauntlets of the same, and a long flowing surcoat. The legs are crossed, and the knees are protected by *genouillières*, the head rests on a helmet. The right hand grasps the handle of a sword, whilst the left hand holds the *guige* by which a long heater-shaped shield is suspended from the shoulder.

This monument has the appearance of rather greater antiquity than the one at Penne Domer, and may have been erected in the time of Edward I. It is possible therefore it may commemorate Sir William de Dummer, the father of the knight at Penne Domer whose tomb has been more fully described. This, however, is purely conjectural. The heraldry which has been found so useful in the former case is wanting here, and we have no direct evidence to guide us. The Vaggs were a family of some consideration, but of less prominence than the Dummers.

The effigy at Chilthorne Domer is partly covered by a pew which almost conceals the head, and it is unfortunately in a most dirty and neglected condition.

PEDIGREE OF DUMMER, OF PENNE DOMER, CO. SOMERSET,
AND OF DUMMER, CO. HANTS.

Arms, Az. a crescent between six billets, 3, 2 & 1 Or.

Henry de Domera, between 7 & 28 Hen. I, 1107, 1128=

Radulphus de Dummera 13 Steph. 1148, = Agnes de la Penne, heiress of Penne, Engelram de Dumar, = Matilda s. p. 31 Hen. II, ob. ante 8 Joh. Co. Somerset, living 7 Joh, ob. ante 31 Hen. II, 1185 1185

Henry de Dummer, s. & h. = Robert de Dumere, 10 Ric. I, 13 Joh. = Adeliza Geoffrey parson of the church of Dumere, Co Hants, 10 Richard I

Sir William de Dummer, = Sibilla sister of Herbert de Caune Lord of the manor of Drayton, Co. Hants Two daughters Sir Richard de Dummer, = [Qu. Margery, 40 H. III, Qu. da. of Adam de Spineton?] 13 Joh. 33 H. III William

Sir John de Dumer, = sister of Sir Thomas William Steven Sir John de Dummer = Agnes of Eston, Co Leicester and of Watford, Co. Northants, 3 Ed. I, ob. ante 15 Mar. 32 Ed. I Alice m. Luke Rop of Bristol both living 3 Stratfield Richard de Dumere, of

Richard de John de = Thomas de = Richard de = Dummer, 11 Dummer, eldest son held lands in Dummer, Co. Hants 1316 Dummer, 11 Ed. II, of Kynore, dead, 1351, Co. Sussex, 25 Ed. III 14 Ed. II John de Joan, wife of Benedict Arundel. Margery m. William de Condenham Robert de = Dummer set. 28, 32 Ed. I. living 4 Ed. III. William 9 Ed. II Robert de = Dummer set. 18, 35 Ed. I. living 8 Ed. II

Sir Edmund de Dummer Knt. = Agnes,
23 Ed. III, ob. ante 47, Ed. II living 10 Rich.
111, 1373

Thomas, son of Thomas =
John,
11 Ed. III,
1337

Alice, da. & br. m. John de
Astwick, or Estwick of Est-
wick, Co. Beds.



Edmund de Dommere, = Isabel, da. of Robert
s. & h. 4 H. IV, sold Boton, 9 H. IV
the manor of Penne
Domer 9 H. IV

John de Dummer
6 H. VI, 1428

Sir Nicholas Atte More, = Ellen, da. & h. = William Farley,
1 Ed. III 2nd husband
18 Ric. II, 1395

Isabel, also called
Elizabeth, under age,
9 Hen. IV, m. bef.
10 H. IV, to John
Duk

Joan 9 H. IV
Joan junr. 9 H. IV
Robert
9 H. IV

Thomas At More, *alias* Dommere =

Henry Dommere held 1 knight's fee in Dommere 6 H. VI, 1428 =

Robert Dummere presented to the church of Dommere =,
14 Dec. 1450, - 20 Ap. 1453, and 23 Sep. 1462

..... = George Dummer, s. & h.
died before 1510 ?

1st wife da. of = Henry Dummer or Dommere = 2nd w. Alice, da. of
Thomas Starling 4 May, 1510. Will dat. 15
Aug. 1516 Frankline, living a widow
14 H. VIII

John Dummer, 2nd son =
died 1 Jan. 1570

Ann m. Totteshurst
26 Feb. 1524-5

Richard Dummer, s. & h. =

Thomas
1516

Margaret

Joan
s. p.

William At More, *alias* = Kenborow, da. of
Dummer, Esq. b. 13 Feb. Edward Brydges,
1508, bu. at Dummer, 11 of London
July 1593, Lord of the
manor of Dummer

Rose m.
John Edwards,
of London

Joan m. John Cox,
of Dummer, who
was bu. there 1613.
She was bu. there
1605

George bap.
at Dummer,
9 May, 1541,
bu. there 12
Feb. 1544
Henry bu. at
Dummer, 7
Jan. 1545

Richard ob. inf.

Dedications of the Somersetshire Churches.

BY W. LONG, ESQ.

BELIEVING that a Classified List of the Dedications of the Somersetshire Churches would be interesting and useful to the members of the Society, I have arranged them under the names of the several Patron Saints as given by Ecton in his "Thesaurus Rerum Ecclesiasticarum," 1742 :—

ALDHELM, ST.

Broadway, Doultling.

ALL SAINTS

Alford, Ashcot, Asholt, Ashton Long, Camel West, Castle Cary, Chipstaple, Closworth, Corston, Curry Mallet, Downhead, Dulverton, Dunkerton, Farmborough, Hinton Blewitt, Huntspill, Ile Brewers, Kingsdon, King Weston, Kingston Pitney in Yeovil, Kingston Seymour, Langport, Martock, Merriot, Monksilver, Ninehead Flory, Norton Fitzwarren, Nunney, Pennard East, Pointington, Selworthy, Telsford, Weston near Bath, Wolley, Wotton Courtney, Wraxhall, Wrington.

- ANDREW, ST. Aller, Almsford, Backwell, Banwell,
Blagdon, Brimpton, Burnham, Ched-
dar, Chewstoke, Cleeve Old, Cleve-
don, Compton Dundon, Congresbury,
Corton Dinham, Curry Rivel, Dowlish
Wake, High Ham, Holcombe, Loxton,
Mells, Northover, Stoke Courcy,
Stoke under Hambdon, Thorn Coffin,
Trent, Wells Cathedral, White
Staunton, Withypool, Wiveliscombe.
- ANDREW, ST. AND ST. MARY Pitminster.
- AUGUSTINE, ST. Clutton, Locking, Monkton West.
- BARNABAS, ST. Queen's Camel.
- BARTHOLOMEW, ST. Cranmore West, Ling, Ubley,
Yeovilton.
- BRIDGET, ST. Brean, Chelvy.
- CATHERINE, ST. Drayton, Montacute, Swell.
- CHRISTOPHER, ST. Lympsham.
- CONGAR, ST. Badgworth.
- CULBORNE, ST. Culbone.
- DAVID, ST. Barton St. David.
- DENNIS, ST. Stock Dennis.
- DUBRITIUS, ST. Porlock.
- DUNSTAN, ST. Baltonsbury.
- EDWARD, ST. Goathurst.
- ETHELDRED, ST. Quantoxhead West.
- GEORGE, ST. Beckington, Dunster, Easton in
Gordano, Hinton St. George, Sand-
ford Bret, Wembdon, Whatley.
- GILES, ST. Bradford, Cleeve Old Chapel,
Knowle St. Giles, Thurloxton.
- GREGORY, ST. Filton, Stoke St. Gregory, Weare.
- HOLY CROSS Babcary.

- JAMES, ST. Ashwick, Camely, Chilton Cantelo, East Cranmore, Langford Chapel, Milton Clevedon, South Stoke, Taunton St. James, Winscombe.
- JOHN, ST. Cutcombe, Milborne Port, Weston-super-Mare, Wheathill.
- JOHN BAPTIST, ST. Axbridge, Batheaston, Bedminster, Brewham South, Carhampton, Cheriton North, Churchill, Farringdon Gurney, Frome, Hatch Beauchamp, Hinton Charterhouse, Horsington, Ilchester, Keynsham, Midsomer Norton, Pawlet, Pitney, Wellington, Yeovil.
- JOHN BAPTIST, ST. AND ST. BENEDICT Glastonbury.
- JULIAN, ST. Wellow.
- LAWRENCE, ST. Cucklington, Harptree East, Road, Stanton Prior, Wick, Woolverton.
- LEONARD, ST. Butleigh, Chelwood, Farleigh Hungerford, Marston Bigot, Misterton, Otterford, Pitcombe, Rodney Stoke, Shipham.
- LUKE, ST. Brislington, Priston.
- MARGARET, ST. Babington, Middle Chinnock, Queen's Charlton, Spaxton, Thorn St. Margaret, Tintinhull.
- MARTIN, ST. Charlton Mackrell, Coker West, Elworthy, Fiddington, Fivehead, Kingsbury Episcopi, North Stoke, North Parret, Paulton, Worle.
- MARY, ST. Ashill, Batcombe, Bathwick, Berkeley, Berrow, Brent East, Bridgwater, Brompton Ralph, Brompton Regis, Bruton, Buckland Dinham, Canning-

ton, Chard, Charlecombe, Charlinch, Chedzoy, Chesterblade, Chilthorne Domer, Clatworthy, Cloford, Compton Dando, Compton Paunceford, Cossington, Croscombe, Donyat, Elm, Emborow, Harptree West, Hemington, Huish Episcopi, Hutton, Ilminster, Kilvington, Kilve, Laverton, Limington, Luckham, Luxborough, Lydiard Bishops, Marston Magna, Mere, Milverton, Moorlinch, Mudford, Nempnet, Nether Stowey, Nettlecombe, North Petherton, Oare, Pilton, Portbury, Quantoxhead East, Rimpton, Saltford, Sevington St. Mary, Shapwick, Stanton Drew, Stowey Nether, Stocklinch Ottersey, Stogumber, Swainswick, Timsbury, Wanstrow, Witham Friary, Wedmore, Weston Zoyland, Woolavington, Yatton, Yarlinton.

MARY, ST. AND JOHN, ST. Lamyat.

MARY, ST. AND ST. PETER Winford.

MARY ST. MAGDA- Berwick, Chewton Mendip, Cricket
LENE Malherbe, Ditchheat, Exford, Kington,
Load, Sparkford, Stawel, Stocklinch
St. Magdalene, Taunton, Winsford.

MATTHEW, ST. Wookey.

MICHAEL, ST. Angersleigh, Blackford, Brent
South, Brushford, Burnet, Butcombe,
Cadbury North, Chaffcombe, Clapton
in Gordano, Coker East, Combe St.
Nicholas, Compton Martin, Creech St.

- Michael, Dinder, Enmore, Greinton, Haselborough, Milverton, Minehead, Penselwood, Puriton, Runnington, Rowberrow, Sevington St. Michael, Somerton, Stawley, Timberscombe, Twerton.
- NICHOLAS, ST. Barrow North, Bathampton, Brockley, Dinnington, Henstridge, Holton, Kelston, Kilton, Kittisford, Pennard West, Radstock, Sandford Orcas, Stoke Lane, Uphill, Withycombe.
- PAUL, ST. Kewstoke, Walton in Gordano, Weston in Gordano.
- PETER, ST. Barrow South, Bleadon, Camerton, Decumans St., Evercreech, Exton, Freshford, Goathill, Hornblotton, Marksbury, Milton Puddimore, Redlinch, Shepton Montacute, Staple Fitzpaine, Treborough.
- PETER, ST. AND PAUL, ST. Bath Abbey, Bishops Hull, Charlton Adam, Charlton Horethorne, Chisselborough, Combe Florey, Kilmersdon, Luston, Maperton, Muchelney, North Curry, Odcombe, Shepton Mallet, South Petherton, Wincanton.
- PHILIP, ST. AND ALL SAINTS Norton St. Philips.
- QUIRICUS AND JULITTA, SS. Tickenham
- SAVIOUR, ST. Puxton.
- STEPHEN, ST. Charlton Musgrave.
- SWITHIN, ST. Bathford, Walcot.
- THOMAS, ST. Cricket St. Thomas.
- THOMAS BECKET, ST Cadbury South, Lovington, Pill.

TRINITY, HOLY	Bagborough, Binegar, Bratton Seymour, Burrington, Chilton Trinitatis, Crowcombe, High Littleton, Long Sutton, Newton St. Loe, Paulton, Street, Sutton Montis.
VIGOR, ST.	Stratton on the Foss.
VINCENT, ST.	Ashington.

The Dedications of Churches which have been erected in the Diocese of Bath and Wells since the publication of Ecton's "Thesaurus" will be printed in a future Number of the Society's Journal.

The Museum.

ADDITIONS SINCE THE PUBLICATION OF THE LAST
VOLUME :—

Proceedings of the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Archæological Journal.

Journal of the British Archæological Association.

Journal of the Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland.

Transactions of the London and Middlesex Archæological Society.

Surrey Archæological Collections.

Bulletin of the Essex Institute.

Wiltshire Archæological and Natural History Magazine.

Proceedings of the Bristol Naturalists' Society.

Proceedings of the Geologists' Association.

The Associated Societies' Reports and Papers.

Various Publications from the Royal Norwegian University, Christiania.

Domestic Architecture of the Middle Ages, XV Century, parts i and ii, Architectural History of Canterbury Cathedral, Introduction to the Study of Gothic Architecture, and The Railway Traveller's Walk through Oxford, by the Author, J. H. PARKER, C.B.

Report of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington, U.S.A. 1869.

Ramblings, Roamings, and Recollections, by the Author,
Mr. G. P. R. PULMAN.

Early Annals of the Episcopate in Wilts and Dorset, by the
Rev. H. D. WICKHAM.

Guillim's Heraldry, by Mr. O. W. MALET.

The Bloody Assizes; History of the Rebellion, and Engravings of Hereford and Hereford Cathedral, by Mr. H. H. WHITE.

Rustic Sketches, by the Author, Mr. G. P. R. PULMAN.

Second Report of the Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts, by Mr. CHISHOLM-BATTEN.

Catalogue of the Library of the Society of Antiquaries, by
Mr. G. W. MARSHALL.

Notes of an Excursion to Ducklington, Cokethorpe, &c. 1871,
by Rev. PHILIP HOOKINS.

A Nieuwe Herball or Historie of Plantes: translated out of French into English, by Henry Lyte, Esquyer, London, 1578,
by Mr. J. DANIEL.

The Popular Names of British Plants, by the Author,
Dr. PRIOR.

Collection of minerals from the Brendon Hills, Blue Anchor, Quantocks, &c. by Mr. SPENCER GEO. PERCIVAL.

Florin, 1st issue without the letters "D.G.," by Mr. SURTEES.

British pottery, flint implement, portions of stag's horn, bones, and human skull found at Wincanton, by Messrs. G. SWEETMAN, RICHARDS, and BIRD.

Silver coin of Edward I found at Taunton, by Mr. RIGDEN.

Upper stone of a quern found at Halse, by Dr. PRIOR.

Encaustic tiles found at Weacombe, by Mr. G. W. MARSHALL.

Portions of a human skull with Roman coin, found in

the mouth, and bead of coal money, found on the Manor Farm, Ilchester, by Mr. HUSSEY.

Portfolio of dried ferns, by Mr. LAWRENCE.

Spur dug from a chalk cliff near Keynstone, and key found at Charlton Marshall, by Rev. H. H. BASTARD.

Taunton farthing "by the Constables," found at Burlescombe, by Mr. CHAS. WINTLE.

Old horse-shoes found near Glastonbury by Mr. W. S. BRITTON.

Vegetable ivory by Mr. OATEN.

Roman coins found at Chipping Norton, by Mr. S. SHELMERDINE.

Taunton farthing found at Banwell, by Mr. WADE.

Copper ore found at Kingston, by Mr. SURTEES.

Six Roman coins (copper, Antoninus Augustus), found on Combe Farm, near Crewkerne, by Mr. PENNY.

Bones, &c. found in the clay at Bridgwater, by Mr. P. HEADFORD.

Cannon ball from Sedgemoor, by Mr. C. BARTLETT.

Shilling of Queen Elizabeth, by Mr. A. H. HARTNELL.

Double-shell egg, by Mr. O. W. MALET.

Purchased:—

Phelps's History of Somerset, vol. ii.

Palæontographical Society's Journal.

Harleian Society's Publication.

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The Associated Architectural Societies of Northampton, &c., &c.
The Sussex Archæological Society
The Suffolk Institute of Archæology and Natural History
The Surrey Archæological Society
Société Vaudoise des Sciences Naturelles, Lausanne
The Lancashire Historic Society
The Chester Local Archæological Society
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The London and Middlesex Archæological Society
The Royal Dublin Society
The Royal Norwegian University, Christiania
The Royal Historical and Archæological Association of Ireland
The Essex Institute, Salem, Massachussets, U.S.
The Bristol Naturalists' Society
The Bath Natural History and Antiquarian Field Club

Rules.

THIS Society shall be denominated "THE SOMERSETSHIRE ARCHÆOLOGICAL AND NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY;" and its object shall be the cultivation of, and collecting information on, Archæology and Natural History in their various branches, but more particularly in connection with the county of Somerset.

II.—The Society shall consist of a Patron, elected for life; a President; Vice-Presidents; General, and District or Local Secretaries; and a Treasurer, elected at each Anniversary Meeting; with a Committee of twelve, six of whom shall go out annually by rotation, but may be re-elected. No person shall be elected on the Committee until he shall have been six months a Member of the Society.

III.—Anniversary General Meetings shall be held for the purpose of electing the Officers, of receiving the Report of the Committee for the past year, and of transacting all other necessary business, at such time and place as the Committee shall appoint, of which Meetings three weeks' notice shall be given to the Members.

IV.—There shall also be a General Meeting, fixed by the Committee, for the purpose of receiving Reports, reading Papers, and transacting business. All Members shall have the privilege of introducing one friend to the Anniversary and General Meetings.

V.—The Committee is empowered to call Special Meetings of the Society upon receiving a requisition signed by ten Members. Three weeks' notice of such Special Meeting and its object shall be given to each Member.

VI.—The affairs of the Society shall be directed by the Committee (of which the Officers of the Society shall be *ex-officio* Members), which shall hold Monthly Meetings for receiving reports from the Secretaries and sub-Committees, and for transacting other necessary business; five of the Committee shall be a quorum. Members may attend the Monthly Committee Meetings after the official business has been transacted.

VII.—The Chairman, at Meetings of the Society, shall have a casting vote in addition to his vote as a Member.

VIII.—One (at least) of the Secretaries shall attend each Meeting, and shall keep a record of its proceedings. All Manuscripts and Communications and the other property of the Society shall be under the charge of the Secretaries.

IX.—Candidates for admission as Members shall be proposed by two Members at any of the General or Committee Meetings, and the election shall be determined by ballot at the next Committee or General Meeting; three-fourths of the Members present balloting shall elect. The Rules of the Society shall be subscribed by every person becoming a Member.

X.—Ladies shall be eligible as Members of the Society without ballot, being proposed by two Members and approved by the majority of the Meeting.

XI.—Each Member shall pay Ten Shillings on admission to the Society, and Ten Shillings as an Annual Subscription, which shall become due on the 1st of January in each year, and shall be paid in advance.

XII.—Donors of Ten Guineas or upwards shall be Members for life.

XIII.—At General Meetings of the Society the Committee may recommend persons to be balloted for as Honorary or Corresponding Members.

XIV.—When any office shall become vacant or any new appointment shall be requisite, the Committee shall have power to fill up the same; such appointments shall remain in force only till the next General Meeting, when they shall be either confirmed or annulled.

XV.—The Treasurer shall receive all Subscriptions and Donations made to the Society, and shall pay all accounts passed by the Committee; he shall keep a book of receipts and payments which he shall produce whenever the Committee shall require it; the accounts shall be audited previously to the Anniversary Meeting by two Members of the Committee chosen for that purpose, and an abstract of them shall be read at the Meeting.

XVI.—No change shall be made in the laws of the Society except at a General or Special Meeting, at which twelve

Members at least shall be present. Of the proposed change a month's notice shall be given to the Secretaries, who shall communicate the same to each Member three weeks before the Meeting.

XVII.—Papers read at Meetings of the Society and considered by the Committee of sufficient interest for publication shall be forwarded (with the author's consent) to such periodical as shall be determined by the Committee to be the best for the purpose, with a request that a number of such papers may be printed separately for distribution to the Members of the Society, either gratuitously or for such payment as may be agreed on.

XVIII.—No religious or political discussions shall be permitted at Meetings of the Society.

XIX.—That any person contributing Books or Specimens to the Museum shall be at liberty to resume possession of them in the event of the property of the Society ever being sold or transferred to any other county. Also, persons shall have liberty to deposit Books or Specimens for a specific time only.

N.B.—One of the objects of the Society shall be to collect, by donations or purchase, a Library and Museum, more particularly illustrating the History (Natural, Civil, and Ecclesiastical) of the County of Somerset.

* * * *It is requested that Contributions to the Museum or Library be sent to the Curator, at the Society's Rooms, Taunton.*

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